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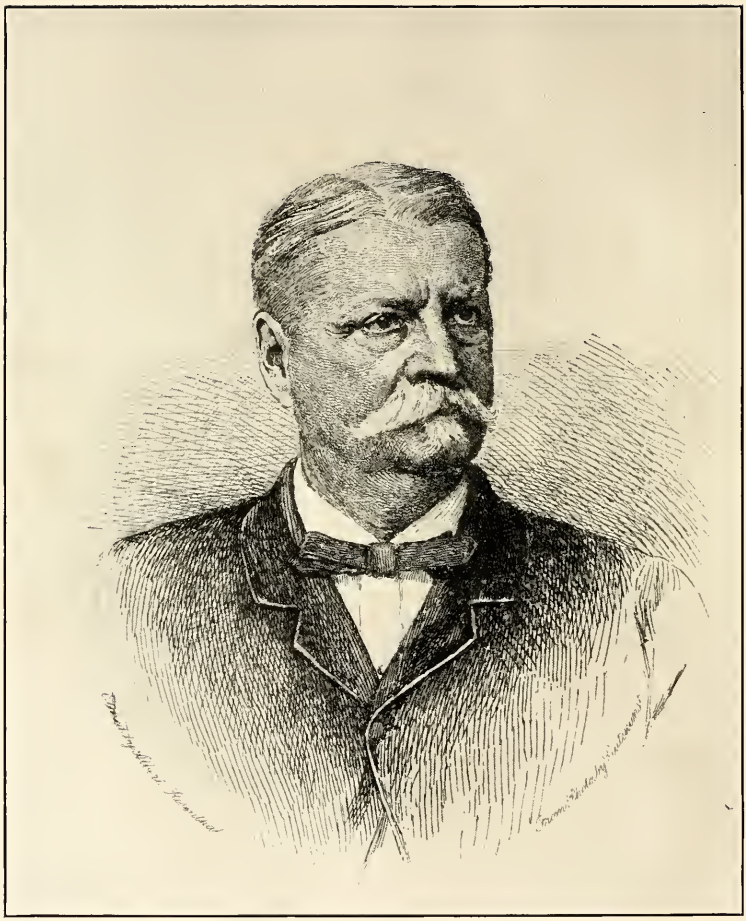

WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

A HISTORY

BY

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WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

VOLUME I

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PUBLISHERS' NOTE

THE Publishers of this "History of Montgomery County" desire to express their obligations to the officiary of the Montgomery County Historical Society for affording their representative all possible assistance through their valuable Library, and in pointing to avenues of information; as well as to Mr. Clifton S. Hunsicker for his intelligent and continued effort. An additional interest attaches to the work for the exhaustive history of the Bench and Bar of the County by William F. Dannehower, Esq. In the general narrative, the History by the late Colonel Theodore H. Bean, and the name of his daughter, Mrs. A. Conrad Jones, most fittingly come into association through her valuable contributions covering Women's Activities from the day in which he concluded his work. Under the Educational head, particularly valuable assistance was rendered by the managements of Bryn Mawr College, the Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo at Overbrook, Ursinus College, and the Hill School of Pottstown, besides other gentlemen in their various towns and boroughs, interested in school affairs. Dr. Herbert H. Bostock rendered efficient aid in the procurement of material which makes up the chapter of Medical History. The very full details of Newspaper History were procured in great part from Hon. D. Whitman Dambly, fittingly supplemented by the ready information afforded by the newspaper men of the County generally, and with few exceptions. A similar meed of appreciation is due Bank officials all over the County, who cheerfully furnished the information called for by our representative on questionnaire blanks. Rev. Father Wachter, of Pottstown, was most industrious in affording general information pertaining to Catholic Churches of the County; while individual ministers of all denominations were also intelligent contributors. To name all who afforded aid would make up a goodly roster of prominent names. Taken all in all, it is believed that this History will be received with favor, and will be a valuable book of reference in years to come.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOGRAPHY.

September 10, 1784, marked the "birthday" of Montgomery county. On that date this now prosperous and enterprising district of Pennsylvania was carved out of Philadelphia county by an act of the General Assembly, which reads as follows:

An Act for erecting part of the County of Philadelphia into a separate county.

Sect. I. Whereas a great number of the inhabitants of the County of Philadelphia by their petition have humbly represented to the Assembly of this State the great inconvenience they labor under by reason of their distance from the seat of judicature in the said county: For remedy whereof,

Sect. II. Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and by authority of the same, That all and singular the lands lying within that part of Philadelphia County bounded as hereinafter described, beginning on the line of Byberry township and the township of the Manor of Moreland, where it intersects the line of Bucks County; thence westward along the northern lines of Byberry, Lower Dublin and Oxford Townships to the line dividing the townships of Cheltenham and Bristol; and thence along the same line dividing Germantown township from the township of Springfield; and thence along said line to the line dividing the township of Springfield, aforesaid form the township of Roxbury to the river Schuylkill; thence down the said river to the line dividing the townships of Blockley and Lower Merion; and thence along said line to the line of the County of Chester; thence by the line of Chester County to the line of Berks County; thence by the line of Berks County to the line of Northampton County; thence by part of the line of Northampton County and the line of Bucks County; thence along the said line of Bucks County to the place of beginning; be and hereby are erected into a county, named and hereafter to be called Montgomery County.

Sect. III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the inhabitants of said County of Montgomery shall, at all times hereafter, have and enjoy all and singular the jurisdictions, powers, rights, liberties, and privileges whatsoever, which the inhabitants of any other county in this State do, may, or ought to enjoy by any charter of privileges, or the laws of this State, or by any other ways or means whatsoever.

Sect. IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the inhabitants of each township or district within the said county qualified by law to elect shall meet at some convenient place within their respective townships or districts, at the same time the inhabitants of the several townships of the other counties within this state shall meet for like purposes, and choose inspectors; and at the time appointed by law the freemen of the said County of Montgomery shall meet at the house of Hannah Thompson, inn keeper, in the township of Norriton,

and there elect representatives; and the freemen of the County of Philadelphia shall meet at the State House, in the City of Philadelphia, and there elect representatives to serve them in Assembly (one counselor), two fit persons for sheriffs, two fit persons for coroners, and three commissioners, as by the Constitution and the laws of this State are directed in respect to other counties, which representatives so chosen shall be members of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and shall sit and act as such, as fully and as freely as any of the other representatives of this State do, may, can, or ought to do; (and the said counselor, when so chosen, shall sit and act as fully and as freely as any of the other members of the Supreme Executive Council of this State do, may, can or ought to do.

Sect. V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the County of Montgomery shall, until otherwise altered by the Legislature of the State, be represented in the General Assembly by four members and the County of Philadelphia shall be represented in the General Assembly by five members.

Sect. VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the justices of the Supreme Court of this State shall have like powers, jurisdictions and authorities within the said County of Montgomery as by law they are vested with and entitled unto in the other counties within this State; and are hereby authorized and empowered from time to time to deliver the gaol of the said county of capital or other offenders, in like manner as they are authorized to do in other counties of this State.

Sect. X. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for Henry Pawling, Jun., Jonathan Roberts, George Smith, Robert Shannon, and Henry Cunnard, of Whitpaine township, all of the aforesaid county, yeomen, or any three of them, to purchase and take assurance to them, and their heirs, in the name of the Commonwealth, of a piece of land situated in some convenient place in the neighborhood of Stoney-run, contiguous to the river Schuylkill, in Norriton township, in trust and for the use of the inhabitants of the said county, and thereon to erect and build a court house and prison sufficient to accommodate the public service of said county.

Sect. XI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That such part of the money as shall arise from the sale of the old prison and workhouse, and lot of ground thereto belonging, in the City of Philadelphia as directed by an act of General Assembly of this Commonwealth to be sold for the use of the City and County aforesaid, be apportioned for the defraying the charges of purchasing the land, building and erecting the court house and prison aforesaid, in the ratio or proportion of taxes as paid between the said County of Montgomery and the County of Philadelphia and this city; but in case the same should not be sufficient, it shall and may be lawful to and for the commissioners and assessors of the said county, or a majority of them, to assess and levy, in the same manner as is directed by the act for raising county rates and levies, so much money as the said trustees or any three of them shall judge necessary for purchasing the said land and finishing the said court house and prison.

Sect. XII. Provided always, That the sum of money so to be raised does not exceed three thousand pounds current money of this State.

Sect. XIII. Provided also, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no action or suit now commenced or depending in the County of Philadelphia against any person living within the bounds of the said County of Montgomery shall be stayed or discontinued, but that the same action or actions already commenced or depending may be prosecuted and judgment thereupon rendered, as if this act had not been made; and that it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the County of Philadelphia to issue any judicial process to be directed to the Sheriff or Coroner of Philadelphia County, for carrying on and obtaining the effect of the aforesaid suits, which Sheriff and Coroner shall and are hereby obliged to yield obedience in executing the said writs, and make due return thereof before the justices of the said court for the said County of Philadelphia, as if the parties were living and residing within the same.

Sect. XXI. And whereas it is represented by petition to the General Assembly, that by the lines hereinbefore mentioned a long narrow neck or point of land, being part of the manor of Moreland, and lying between the townships of Byberry and Lower Dublin, in the County of Philadelphia, would be included in the County of Montgomery, to the great inconvenience and injury of the inhabitants of the said neck of land, who have prayed that they may remain within the County of Philadelphia.

Sect. XXII. Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the boundary line of the said County of Montgomery shall be as follows, that is to say, beginning in the line of Bucks County where the same is intersected by the line which divides the townships of Byberry and the Manor of Moreland; thence southwesterly along the last mentioned line to the first corner or turning thereof; and thence on the same southwesterly course to the line of Lower Dublin; and thence westwardly along the Northern line of Lower Dublin and so on, as the lines of the said County of Montgomery are hereinbefore described, to the place of beginning; anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

Passed Sept. 10, 1784.

Thus, in the more or less quaint phraseology of the time, was Montgomery county created. The boundaries thus erected cause it to be bounded on the southeast by the line of the City and County of Philadelphia; on the northeast by Bucks; on the north and northwest by Lehigh and Berks; and on the west and southwest by Chester and Delaware counties. Its greatest length is thirty miles, running from the southeast to the northwest lines. Its greatest breadth is about fifteen miles from the northeast to the southwest lines. The county has an approximate area of 473 square miles, or by the usual farm measurement, 303,080 acres.

Topographically, the entire county is a series of hills and valleys. Many of the hills attain the eminence of small mountains, chief among the latter being those which constitute the historic and sacred Valley Forge, the presence of which within the boundary lines draws to Montgomery county visitors from not only all parts of the United States, but from all over the civilized world. Also in the "mountain" class are

many which border upon the Perkiomen creek, and which have aided within the last decade to transform the Perkiomen region into a typical summer resort frequented during the vacation months by many thousands of visitors chiefly from Philadelphia, mostly of the working class, who here find means of recreation at a price within their modest means.

With the exception of the hilly country of the character just referred to, the entire rural territory is in a high state of cultivation, although the last twenty years has changed the county from chiefly a rural district of Pennsylvania to a manufacturing and high-class residential district. The many large towns have been built up around great manufacturing concerns, while the lower end is almost solidly built up with the great mansions of the extremely wealthy, interspersed with communities made up of the beautiful but less pretentious homes of the well-to-do but non-plutocratic class. Most of these residents of the county have their business places in Philadelphia, and commute daily.

The Schuylkill river forms the southwestern boundary line between Montgomery and Chester counties until it reaches the Merion townships; from thence it passes through the country in a southeasterly course until it reaches the Philadelphia line. The county is watered by many streams flowing into the Schuylkill—the Wissahickon, Plymouth, Sandy Run, Mill, Rock Hill, Gulf, Valley, Indian, Stoney, Skippack, Perkiomen and Manantawny creeks. The Pennypack and Neshaminy creeks rise in Montgomery county and pass through Bucks county to the Delaware river. The waterflow and fall of these streams and their tributaries, which form a network of irrigation, fed by thousands of perennial springs, rising in every part of the county, were early utilized by the settlers, who erected dams and built on the shores many primitive "manufacturies."

It was reported in a paper published in 1795 that there were within the confines of the county 96 gristmills, 61 sawmills, four forges, six fulling mills, and ten paper mills. Many of these gristmills existed prior to and during the Revolutionary War, doing active service for the contending armies while in occupancy of this section of the country.

Very early in its history as a political entity, Montgomery county was well traversed by public highways leading from Philadelphia to the interior settlements of the State. The Lancaster road, the Ridge Pike and similar highways, with many parallel cartways, opened up the country settlements at a very early period. These trunk thoroughfares were soon intersected by public roads running from the Delaware to the Schuylkill river, increasing in number and importance until the region was accessible from all points by well graded roads leading in the direction of Philadelphia, then the capital of the State, as late as 1799, and the capital city of the nation as late as 1800. Until the advent of the automobile these roads remained in the same general condition as when laid out by the early settlers, but now a number of the State highways

run through this section, and the surfaces of the chief thoroughfares have either been macadamized or concreted by the State Highways Department. The county government has been equally assiduous in giving the traveling public good roads, and many of the county roads have been placed in the same high class condition as the State roads, and more mileage is being added to the class of "good roads" every year.

In miniature the general conformation of the surface of the county repeats that which has rendered the natural scenery of New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia so notable. The ranges of hills run uniformly northeast and southwest, as do the more distant lines of the Catskills, Blue Ridge, and Alleghenies. As the Hudson river forces itself through the Narrows, the Delaware at the Water Gap, the Susquehanna between Harrisburg and Port Deposit, the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, so the Schuylkill river in finding its way to the Delaware, in the same direction, cuts its way through rock hills at Conshohocken and again at Fairmount, Philadelphia.

Originally the county was heavily timbered with oak, hickory and chestnut. The consumption of wood for fuel prior to the introduction of anthracite and bituminous coal, was very great in Eastern Pennsylvania. Large quantities were used in making charcoal for furnaces; lime was made by use of wood for fuel; every household had its woodpile, while the supply for Philadelphia constituted a profitable business for many owning and residing on lands within twenty or thirty miles of the city. There was a time, but it is not now within the memory of any one living in the county, when it was part of the work of each succeeding year to clear one or more acres of woodland, and the wood sold counted as part of the profits of the farm. This wealth of primitive forest was the foundation of many substantial fortunes, the purchase of woodland, its clearage and sale of timber paying for the farm, and incidentally opening up the way for the growing of crops on rich ground that required no fertilization for years. It has been said by a writer of this period that this "new land" as it was called was a test of the character of the owner. If he was a provident, industrious man, his "new land" would soon blossom with crops. If he were thriftless, selling his wood to pay taxes and incidental expenses of his attendance upon militia training, horse races and other functions which made up the "sporting life" of the day, his new land would remain uncultivated and overgrown with briers and brush.

Seventy-five or more years ago farms denuded of woodland were exceptional, and their market value greatly depreciated. The old-time farmer of Montgomery county took a commendable pride in maintaining from ten to twenty acres of primitive forest. It was useful in many ways—for fuel, building and fencing, and probably had a charm for him aside from its utilitarian aspect. It was these patches of woodland that preserved for many years the haunts of game and made the county a

paradise for hunters. But these conditions disappeared a half century ago, and nowadays the owner of a farm or a country estate reverses the ancient process, and spends large sums of money to restore woodlands instead of making money by their sale.

In different parts of the county the surface soil varies greatly. In passing inland from tidewater levels, alluvial flats and submarine formations, rockfaced bluffs are found at Chestnut Hill, four hundred feet above tidewater mark. The northwestern slope of these hills descends to the basin of Plymouth Valley, through which runs a belt of limestone some two miles in width, with rich beds of menatite iron ore, white and blue marble, limestone, soapstone, and large masses of gray rock easily quarried and largely used in heavy masonry. This limestone belt crosses the Schuylkill river between Conshohocken and Swedes Ford, and extends in a westerly direction to Howeltown, in the Schuylkill Valley. The soil of this locality is very productive, and is considered by many the most valuable in the county for agricultural purposes. Contiguous to the Plymouth Valley are the Sandy Hills, a light luminous soil, easily worked and productive, but often seriously affected by drought.

The rolling lands northwest of the valley, drained by Indian, Skippack, Perkiomen, and Manatawney creeks and their tributaries, are principally of the red shales and sandstones of the "middle secondary formation," with many intervening areas of clay soil. The primitive condition of this soil was unproductive as compared with that of the Schuylkill and Plymouth valleys, but under the skillful treatment of long generations of practical and efficient farmers and a liberal use of fertilizers, this vast region of country yields abundant harvests and supports a prosperous farming population.

As a result of generations of successive ownership of the original territory, it has been pretty well subdivided, as the records of any title insurance company will show. In 1681 it consisted of manors and large tracts, or proprietary grants, held by comparatively few persons, who lived a frontier life in almost daily contact with members of various tribes of Indians. Since then its broad acres, due to the operation of American laws which forbid the descent of estates as a whole along a direct line beyond the second generation of the devisee, have been cut into comparatively infinitesimal bits, and now thousands own that which in the early days belonged to but one.

Macadamized highways from tidewater to the interior marked the first era of public improvements. So far as their routes are concerned, these highways still exist, monuments to the early engineers who graded them over hills and mountains. But only the lines of the roads remain as a memorial. The old-time surfaces would not last a day under the stress of modern motor car travel. In their early days, there were but few bridges, most of the highways being directed so as to cross rivers and creeks at shallow water. But the increase of traffic on these roads,

particularly freight traffic in the old Conestoga wagons—the precursors of the modern motor truck—soon induced the bridging of all important streams on the main highways.

The Schuylkill river was next the subject of public improvement, and by a system of dams, locks and canals connected it with the Susquehanna, by means of which lumber, coal and all manner of merchandise found its way through Montgomery county to Philadelphia. There were also passenger boats, known as the "fast packet line," now not even a memory in a human mind, although an occasional freight or coal boat may be seen. Many travelers used these packet boats, which were drawn by frequent changes of horses at a trot; and old letters reveal the fact that the tourists of those days considered this method of transportation a far more luxurious and pleasant way of going from point to point than by stage coach. This system of navigation now exists on the Schuylkill only in theory. Passenger travel was long ago abandoned, and even for freight it is non-existent, except that the canal company runs just enough boats in a year in order to maintain its charter rights and prevent its being seized by a corporation that would run freight boats in competition with the railroads, at a much lower tariff, as is the case in territory where such competition exists. The canal, so far as Montgomery county is concerned, is therefore no longer a rival of the railroad for mail, freight or passenger traffic, not to speak of motor traffic on the highways.

The canal first sank into desuetude when the use of steam opened up a new era of public improvement. The construction of railroads speedily followed until Montgomery county became almost a gridiron of iron rails. The county is traversed by two great systems—the Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia & Reading, with their subsidiaries. Then came electric power, with the result that there are but few communities in the county that are not connected more or less directly by trolley roads. The Philadelphia & Western railroad, which runs between Norristown and 69th street in Philadelphia, is a third-rail electric system that rivals in speed and comfort the steam trains. While steam and electricity are now the main sources of power for the operation of the county's many great industries, the surface elevations and topographical structure of the district in the early days and even up to a comparatively recent period was greatly contributory to the growth and development of the region by utilizing its flowing waters for the purpose of propelling mill wheels.

With great precision the true latitude and longitude of Montgomery county was ascertained by David Rittenhouse and his distinguished scientific contemporaries at some period between 1769 and 1770. The astronomical observations which preceded the terrestrial measurements were made taking the Norriton Observatory as a place of beginning. The extraordinary importance attached at the time to the work of these

learned men, and the high standard of authority conceded to them by their successors, renders some account of their labors and the circumstances connected with the event, of interest to the historical investigator.

By judicial proceedings in 1730, Norriton township was created, at that time becoming a geographical subdivision of Philadelphia, and enjoyed at the time a worldwide celebrity in having had situated within its borders the "Norriton Observatory," at which place astronomical observations were made and reported as "An Account of the Transit of Venus over the Sun's Disk, observed at Norriton, in the County of Philadelphia and Province of Pennsylvania, June 3, 1769."

It was at the point where then stood the Norriton Observatory that David Rittenhouse, assisted by Archibald McKean and Jesse Lukens, met on July 2, 1770, to commence the work of surveying a line from the Observatory to the State House Square in Philadelphia. Mr. Rittenhouse having ascertained the latitude and longitude at the point with acknowledged precision, and his reputation for exactness in all astronomical observations and calculations being duly credited in scientific and official circles in this country and in Europe, he was elected to report the difference of latitude and longitude between the Norriton Observatory and the State House Square at Philadelphia, and harmonize the work with that of Mason and Dixon's observatory at the south point of that city.

The first description and catalogue of the plants of Montgomery county was effected by Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg, and was given in full in Bean's "History of Montgomery County" (1884), found in any public library. There the Doctor classified more than seven hundred species of flowering plants, and thirty-three species of the flowerless plants. This work makes a highly interesting and authentic study of the county's plant life.

The animal life or zoölogy of Montgomery county has only been thoroughly handled by William J. Buck, whose catalogue of quadrupeds contains thirty-five species, embracing eight kinds of bats, three of shrews, five of squirrels, the wild-cat, the rats come in for seven species; the red fox, weasel, mink, otter, skunk, raccoon, and opossum. Mr. Buck gives us in his catalogue two hundred and thirty-two species of birds and embraces thirteen kinds of hawks, two of eagles, eight of owls, two of cuckoos, eight of woodpeckers, six of swallows, seven of herons, nine of fly-catchers, four of thrushes, twenty-one of warblers, eight of wrens, ten of sparrows, three of plover, five of snipe, five of sandpipers, four of rails, fifteen of ducks, three of geese, three of gulls, three of grebes, two of blackbirds, two of crows, two of orioles, two of robins. He also has in his list of birds of this county, the turkey buzzard, humming bird, whip-poor-will, kingfisher, pewee, blue bird, great shrike, or butcher bird, creeper, nuthatch, red bird, yellow bird, linnet, finch, indigo bird, cow bird, meadow lark, wild pigeon, turtle dove, pheasant, par-

tridge, snake driver, killdeer, turnstone, swan, coot, loon, and pelican. Of reptiles is given thirty-three species known to be common here. The rattlesnake and copperhead are quite common, or were in earlier years, but now fortunately are rapidly becoming extinct. Mr. Buck names a dozen kind of snakes, eight of turtles, eight of frogs, two of lizards, and six kinds of salamanders. Of fishes are given twenty-five, including the sunfish, bass, perch, trout, chub, roach, sucker, catfish, carp, eel, and lamprey.

CHAPTER II.

GEOLOGY, MINING, ETC.

From time to time at various places throughout the county, various precious metals have been found, but in such small quantities that their discovery never attained a commercial possibility. Their presence therefore savors more of scientific interest than of practical value to the community. Gold, for instance, has been found by geologists throughout the county, but mainly in what the scientists call the Azoic rocks, the most antique formation known to the student. Particularly has the presence of this metal been detected in the river sands or alluvial deposits which have been formed by the disintegration of these old formations.

The lower end of the county from the Philadelphia city line to Conshohocken is made up almost entirely of strata of these oldest rocks, but only slight traces of gold have been found therein, although, according to tradition, many years ago a number of attempts were made by the "get-rich-quick" promoters of the day to capitalize these finds. According to Bean's history, Dr. Charles M. Wetherill found traces of gold on the property of a Mr. Yoder, in Franconia township. The gold was found in quartz rock and in iron pyrites. In the sand and gravel thrown out while digging a well he found brilliant scales of gold. From an analysis he found that every hundred pounds of gravel contained gold worth 26½ cents.

Of silver, like gold, only traces have been found, associated with a sulphide of lead. This lead ore holding silver was found at the Ecton mine, Shannonville, about four miles from Norristown, but this mine was abandoned about the time of the Civil War. The ores from this mine when they were assayed for silver, yielded only from five to ten ounces of silver per ton of ore.

It was at this mine and the vicinity that the greatest traces of copper have been found. As early as 1800 it was known that copper ore existed in this locality. Neither tradition nor documentary evidence tells with any degree of certainty who first discovered the ore or who it was who sunk the first shaft or mined the ore in this vicinity. On the well known Wetherill estate, ore was first discovered by some teamsters, it having been turned up with the mud by the wheels of their heavy wagons. Stephen Girard, one of the pioneer exploiters of the day, became interested in these surface indications and he had a shaft sunk, but the effort was without practical value. Some ore was taken out, together with some lead ore, but neither in quantities to warrant the continuance of the operation. With similar results, so far as practicality is concerned, Samuel Wetherill sunk shafts along the Perkiomen creek near Wether-

ill's mill. Of the only extensive operation to mine copper in the county, and the only one that gave even a promise of profitable results, Bean's history interestingly narrates:

From time to time copper ore had been found in considerable quantities at Shannonville, along the creek which empties into the Perkiomen. Several parties became interested at different times in these deposits. At last the ore was found in such abundance and the indications were so promising, that the attention of practical miners was directed to this locality. About the year 1829, John and Robert Rowe, who were English miners from the Cornwall mines, became interested in these mines and sunk shafts. They obtained copper ore of a good quality. The mines changed hands several times during the next twenty years. The Ecton mine was managed by the Ecton Consolidated Mining Company, who sunk a shaft two hundred and forty feet deep, and drove a few levels.

The Perkiomen mine was managed by the Perkiomen Mining Association, who sunk a shaft over three hundred feet deep and mined much more successfully and extensively than the Ecton company. They erected Cornish pumping engines of great value, and were provided with all the necessary running machinery. These two companies were finally bought out by a new company, known as the Perkiomen Consolidated Mining Company. They purchased the real estate, mines, machinery and other property of the Perkiomen Mining Association for the sum of $109,000, and the property of the Ecton Association for $111,000. This new company carried on mining operations very extensively.

It was a stock company. George Cadwalader, of Philadelphia, was president, and Samuel Wilcox secretary. The directors were George Cadwalader, Charles Macalester, David Longacre, of Lancaster, and Samuel F. Tracey and Horatio Allen, of New York. The company was organized in 1852, and they issued fifty thousand shares of stock; the par value of each share was six dollars. At the Perkiomen shaft there was some valuable machinery—a fifty-inch cylinder Cornish pumping engine of one hundred horse-power; at the Ecton shaft a one hundred horse-power high-pressure pumping engine, twenty and a half inch cylinder. Besides these pumping engines there was a whim engine at both these mines. Powerful crushers were in the mine, and other machinery at the surface, such as tram roads and wagons, capstans and shears, whims and whim chains, pulley stands, etc. The value of the machinery at the surface was $30,212; the value of the underground machinery—plungers and drawing lifts, main rods, bobs, ladders, bucket rods, etc.—was about $9,842.

The Perkiomen mine was located on low ground near the creek, while the Ecton mine was situated on high ground about eighteen hundred feet distant. The method of mining was to sink shafts and then to drive levels in the direction of the ore. When a bed of ore was reached it would be taken out, and this would leave an open chamber of rock known as a stope. * * * After the main shaft of the Perkiomen mine had been sunk two hundred and forty feet, and the main shaft of the Ecton mine had reached a depth of three hundred and thirty feet, it was determined to connect these two shafts by a level or tunnel which would be eighteen hundred feet in length. This level was afterwards completed, and the mines were connected underground. * * *

But few lodes or mineral veins were found in the Ecton mine. The miners were Englishmen who had been brought over from the Cornwall mines in England. In 1852 about two hundred men were employed at the mines. The miners were not under a regular salary by the week or month, but a number of them would club together and agree to extend a level or a stope so many feet for a certain sum. This method of working sometimes proved profitable to the men, but occasionally they would be losers by the contract. The men went to work in the mines with candles in their hats, which is a rather primitive mode of illumination. One great difficulty they had to contend with was the water which accumulated in the shafts and interfered with their mining. The pumping engines at both shafts were kept at work draining the mines. The farmers in the vicinity, also, were sorely tried, as their wells were drained dry, and no water could be procured unless it was pumped from the mines.

Charles M. Wheatley, who was manager in 1851, says that "all persons acquainted with mining operations that have examined the workings at Perkiomen have expressed astonishment at the regularity, size, strength and productiveness of the veins, and the high percentage of copper ore obtained from them. The Perkiomen is the first regular copper lode opened in this country, and bears a true resemblance to the Cornish system."

Professor H. D. Rogers, former State Geologist, in speaking of the mines says: "I hesitate not to declare that I entertain a very firm belief that your region is destined to become an important mining district and that ores of lead and copper will return remunerative profits upon the exercise of skill and prudence. The remarkable regularity and parallellism of the lodes is an excellent indication of their consistency. Another fact is the exceedingly well defined character of these mineral lodes, which do not spread or lose themselves or their ores in the adjoining strata, but insulate themselves from the rocks of the country by plainly marked parallel walls, between which all the metallic ores of the region and associated gauge stones are found. The veins are true and regular metalliferous lodes. A very important features is the gradation in passing downwards from the outcrops of these veins. First we have only the vein stones, the metals being weathered out or dissolved; then at a few fathoms below the surface we find mingled with these vein stones those metallic ores of lead, copper and zinc which are readily vaporized by heat; and deeper still the same vein stones containing the sulphurets and other permanent ores of copper."

There were no smelting furnaces at the mines and none of the copper ores were smelted in the neighborhood, but were sent to New York and Baltimore for reduction. The ore was first sent to Umpstead's landing at Green Tree, and thence to Philadelphia by canal boats and from there to New York. * * * During the year 1853, 143 tons were raised, and sold for $9989.39. * * *

The mines were worked until the year 1858, when they were closed —not enough ore being taken out to meet the running expenses. The shafts had been sunk much deeper, that of the Perkiomen mine being over four hundred and eighty feet in depth, while that of the Ecton was over six hundred feet deep. The mines from the time they were opened until they were closed never paid the amount of money invested in them. Many interested in the mines were heavy losers. It is said that George

Cadwalader, of Philadelphia, who was president of the company in 1851, invested one hundred thousand dollars, and many others invested large sums in the enterprise. It seems to be the general opinion that the mines were managed extravagantly and without prudence, and that there were too many needless officers drawing high salaries. In 1856 a quantity of refuse ore was worked at a profit by C. M. Wheatley, of Phoenixville, and Captain Cocking, of Cornwall, England.

The property was subsequently purchased by Richard Ricard, of New York, for $40,000. Plain traces of the mining operations can still be seen by the curious in the shape of piles of debris near the openings of the shafts and the latter themselves. The buildings and machinery, of course, long ago fell into decay.

Another copper mining operation of the early days but on a much smaller scale, was in upper Salford township. This vein of copper ore was found on Abraham Kober's farm, in the vicinity of Sumneytown. The ore was first discovered on the surface in a small outcrop, and these surface indications led to further developments. Excavations were immediately begun, and at a depth of fifteen feet a vein eight inches in thickness was discovered. Shortly after this discovery, the farm was leased by Samuel Milligan, of Phoenixville, who set a force of men digging deeper, and finally a rich vein of ore was reached, which at the beginning was only an inch in thickness, but which increased in width until a thickness of three feet was reached. About four tons of copper ore was taken out. Some native copper was also found in small quantities. The mine was also finally abandoned, as the process was expensive, and the manifestation was merely superficial, no ore at all being found below a depth of thirty feet. Operations at this mine were first begun in 1878, and the mine abandoned in 1880. The old reports state that while the ore was of very fine quality, it did not exist in paying quantities. Another locality where copper was found but never mined commercially, was about one and a half miles below Norristown, along the line of the Pennsylvania railroad. This was but a small deposit in the limestone belt, and was thrown out by a dynamite blast when the railroad was being built.

There are but slight traces of tin in Montgomery county, and this was found before the Civil War in a native state of purity in the gravel of Franconia township. The largest pieces were found adhering to the gravel and forming a rounded mass of white malleable metal, which was analyzed and found to be pure tin.

The chief mineral mining industry of Montgomery county is, however, and always was, the extraction from the earth of iron ore. No very important deposits of magnetic ore have been found in the county. At the soapstone quarries near Lafayette, now called Miquon, and on the opposite side of the river, near an abandoned soapstone quarry there have been found some slight deposits. In many of the creeks and in the

Schuylkill at places have been found traces of the crystals. What is known as brown hematite is a common iron ore in the county, and many thousand tons of it have been mined. The ore occurs in the limestone belt from Edge Hill westward to the Chester county line. It is also found in extensive deposits of clay. It is said that the first ore ever dug in the county was near Spring Mill, on the farm of J. Kirkner, in 1828. From the mines near Marble Hall, immense quantities of ore have been taken. Other parts of the county were marked by iron ore deposits, but most of these have been worked out, and only the huge craters remain to tell the tale of what an important industry this once was.

The iron ore belt began in the neighborhood of Edge Hill and Oreland. The next important deposits were in the vicinity of Marble Hall, and were owned by Daniel O. Hitner. The next neighborhood in the limestone valley where iron ore was dug in extensive quantities, was at the Tracey iron ore pit, about one mile east of Conshohocken. There is still one large open pit where the ore was formerly dug, which showed the crude way in which the ore was mined in the early days. Shafts are now sunk vertically, and when a deposit of ore is found, the opening is made in the direction in which the ore extends.

There was also a deposit of iron ore between Potts Landing and Harmanville, and one of the last big deposits to be opened there was in August, 1883. The ore was found a few feet from the surface, in the clay. Another mine that was opened in 1872 that gave more promises than performance was that on the property of William Wills, near the Ridge Pike, on the Plymouth railroad. Ore was first dug here in 1872, and the mines were shortly afterwards bought by the Phoenix Iron Company, who went to considerable expense in erecting machinery and engines. It appeared, however, that the project was not a paying one, and finally the place was abandoned.

West of the Schuylkill river, in Upper Merion township, are or rather, were, extensive deposits of iron ore, which were worked years ago. Between Henderson Station and the Gulf Mills there are many abandoned ore pits which show the direction of the iron ore belt. A short distance from Henderson's marble quarries ore was at one time mined quite extensively. Engines, washers and screen were used, as the ore was mixed with a large amount of clay. It was screened and washed before being sent to the blast furnaces. Many of these pits are exhausted and practically all the remainder abandoned.

Even coal has been found in Montgomery county, but never in workable quantities. One deposit was found in Norristown years ago, on Elm street, near Markley, about twelve feet below the surface when the street was first graded. The vein was in what the geologists call new red sandstone, extended but a few feet, and was not very thick. Samples were sent to the University of Pennsylvania. It burnt very well, was of a deep black color, with a somewhat pitchy appearance, and was very

brittle. Similar traces of coal have also been found in Gwynedd and in Lower Providence.

Many fossil remains of plant and animal life have been found in the red shale and sandstone foundations. This rock covers the upper and middle portions of the county, and the remains are very interesting and instructive. The reptilian relics found in Montgomery county are the teeth and bones of large lizard-like animals which lived in the ancient seas. These remains have been found to a considerable extent in the Phoenixville tunnel. Specimens of coprolite have also been found in the same rock. The vertebral bones of these large lizard-like reptiles are slightly concave, or hollowed out at their articulating surfaces. Remains of fishes, belonging to the order known as ganoids, have also been found in this tunnel. These are fishes which have a cartilaginous skeleton, and are covered with enameled scales or bony plates. The sturgeons and gar-pikes are living examples of this ancient order. Batrician remains, such as bones and teeth, are found in this locality.

Specimens of coniferous wood, either petrified, or having the nature of coal, and still retaining the woody structure, have been found. This substance is technically known as lignite, and has been found in Plymouth creek, below Norristown. In the small coal vein previously referred to, on Elm street, Norristown, a piece of sandstone was found in the bottom of the vein, which bore the imprint of a fossil plant. Near Gwynedd was found on one occasion a bed of carbonaceous shale which contained vegetable remains.

Montgomery county has the honor, geologically speaking, of having given to science the oldest fossil remains yet found in Pennsylvania. It is known technically as *Scolithus linearis,* and was found in the Pottsdam sandstone at Edge Hill and in the vicinity of Willow Grove and Rubicam station. It consists of a straight, cylindrical, stem-like impression in the sandstone, usually smooth, but sometimes grooved transversely to its axis. Its diameter varies from one-eighth to half an inch, and its length from a few inches to two or three feet. Its position in the rock is perpendicular to the bedding, and from this fact many think that the impression was produced by the boring of a marine worm. The end of the fossil terminates in a head, which is always found at the upper surface of the sandstone enclosing it. The impression looks like a large pin.

The most notable find of fossil remains in the county was in the bone cave at Port Kennedy, four miles from Norristown. The following account of the cave is taken from the "American Journal of Science and Arts," Vol I, 1871, p. 235:

Before the discovery of the remains in the Port Kennedy cave, nearly the whole of the walls had been removed in quarrying. A tooth of a mastadon having been found by one of the workmen, Dr. Quick, of Phoenixville, showed it to Mr. Charles Wheatley, and these two gentlemen immediately visited the cave and commenced the search for the

remains. They found one end of the cave still remaining and having the form * * * of an oval. * * * The width at the top is about twenty feet; below it gradually expands to thirty feet, and then there is a rapid contraction downward until at the depth of about forty feet it is ten feet wide. The whole of the space above this level is filled with the debris of the adjoining mesozoic red shale, with occasional angular fragments of auroral limestone, without any trace of organic remains. Where the cave narrows to ten feet, the floor is composed entirely of a black clay eighteen inches thick, filled with leaves, stems and seed vessels of post-tertiary plants. Scattered all through this mass of vegetable remains, and also in a red tough clay underneath for six to eight inches, are found fossils.

The remains were subsequently identified and found to be numerous specimens of animal, insect, reptile and plant life of a prehistoric age. The remains of most of the animals were found in the tough red clay directly under the plant bed, but the remains of the rodents, snakes, tortoises, birds, plants and insects, were mostly confined to the plant bed.

Minerals of the non-precious or profitable commercially type are found in great variety and abundance throughout the county. But few specimens are found in the new red sandstone except in those localities where metallic veins of copper have been found. Here are found not only copper, but ores of zinc and lead. At Henderson's marble quarry near Bridgeport, graphite and crystals of dolomite have been found, and occasionally small pieces of malachite. At Conshohocken, quartz, flint, chalcedony, chloritoid and cacoxenite have been found; at Bullock's quarry, fobrolite, calcite, and occasionally a small seam of iron pyrites have been found. At the iron mines near Conshohocken the hematite is sometimes coated with a manganese mineral called pyrolusite. Edge Hill furnishes specimens of hematite, braunite, pyrolusite, turgite and goethite. The soapstone quarries when they were operated at Lafayette, now Miquon, yielded many mineral specimens to the searcher for geological trophies. On the other side of the river, at the abandoned soapstone quarry, talc, asbestos and very fine octahedral crystals of magnetite have been found.

Montgomery county excels in its production of excellent building stones and marbles, from which many of its homes and public buildings are constructed. The new red sandstone which covers the greatest portion of the county, is much used as a building stone, and nearly all the stone houses in the upper section of the county are built of it. The Potsdam sandstone, which is found in Moreland, Upper Dublin, Springfield, Whitemarsh and Plymouth townships, is a fine grained, white or gray sandstone, with scales of a light colored mica. This stone, however, is not in such general use locally, especially in the country districts, as the new red sandstone, quarries of which are worked in nearly every township in the northern and central portions of the county. In

some localities the stone is white and makes a beautiful building stone. The county's most important building stone, however, is marble, the many quarries throughout the district furnishing this building material not only to the county, but to Philadelphia and other sections. The magnificent court house at Norristown is constructed entirely of local marble, as is the United States post office building.

The soil of Montgomery county is regarded by agriculturists as being normally fertile throughout the county. The two chief constituents of the soil are limestone and sandstone. There are extensive and valuable clay beds in the county. They are found chiefly in the limestone belt, generally in the vicinity of the mica-slates and schists. The principal clay beds are found in Upper Merion, Plymouth, Whitemarsh and Springfield townships. The clay in all these townships is found in the limestone. There seems to be a depression in the limestone, which may have been the former bed of a stream, and the clay is found resting on the limestone and filling up this depression or bed. Most of the clay, however, had been derived from the mica-slates and schists, and the beds are parallel to the limestone and occupy the position of those rocks from which they have been derived. These are the old clays, while the clay which is found occupying the depressions in the limestone, and not parallel to it, is said to be a more recent clay.

Running across Montgomery county is a great limestone belt, referred to several times in the foregoing. It is this belt that has furnished such immense quantities of marble and lime for shipment both at home and abroad. It commences in Abington township, about a mile and a half north of Abington; at this point it is quite a narrow belt, but it widens as it extends westward, entering the northern corner of Cheltenham township, and becoming a broad belt of limestone extends through Whitemarsh, Plymouth and Upper Merion townships. It extends as far south as Conshohocken and Spring Mill, and to within a short distance of the towns of Barren Hill and Edge Hill, continues along the Schuylkill from Conshohocken to Norristown, and crosses the river, extending into Chester county. The general structure of this main belt of limestone is that of a long slender basin or trough, the southern side of which is much steeper than the northern. From the neighborhood of Gulf Mills to a little west of the Schuylkill this formation prevails generally.

So far as rock of igneous origin is concerned, Montgomery county has replicas of the Giant's Causeway in Ireland and Fingal's Cave, Island of Staffa, with the exception that the formation instead of being columnar is in the shape of dykes and boulders. This rock is known as trap, which came to the surface in a melted state through a fissure in the earth's surface in prehistoric days. When an opening was filled with this formation and cooled, it became what is called to-day by geologists, a dyke.

Montgomery county has a trap dyke running through the limestone belt for several miles. This extensive trap dyke commences in Springfield township, at Flourtown, in the limestone belt, and extends westward in a straight line through Whitemarsh township; it follows the southern end of the limestone belt through Conshohocken, where it crosses the river and can be seen in its bed. It outcrops again in West Conshohocken and extends through Upper Merion township, where it can be traced without interruption to the Chester county line, a short distance above the Gulph creek.

From the Chester county line to the Schuylkill at West Conshohocken there is no difficulty whatever in finding excellent exposures of trap, especially along the river at West Conshohocken, where there is an abutment of trap and numerous weathered boulders along the railroad. Between Conshohocken and Marble Hall the dyke can be traced easily. It passes directly through Conshohocken and crosses five of the county roads before it reaches Marble Hall; between these two points there are many loose boulders of rock. From Marble Hall to the Wissahickon creek the dike can not be seen, as it is covered with a deposit of clay; but there is a fine exposure on the Wissahickon creek, where it cuts through the dike, and at one point, by contact with the formation, the creek is turned from its course.

There are numerous evidences of trap rock formations in various sections of the county, but none to approach this one in size, and none to approach in general popular interest that natural curiosity in Pottsgrove township, known for miles around as "The Ringing Rocks," and around which for a decade or more has been maintained a summer park and picnic grounds known as Ringing Rocks Park. These rocks are widely known throughout the country, and are visited by thousands every year. In formation they resemble the débris cast up by a glacier. Some of the rocks are small, while many are of tremendous size. These boulders are scattered around the surface for a considerable area; some are weathered, and many have fresh surfaces exposed. When these rocks are struck with a hammer or any metallic substance, they give forth a musical note. Different tones are produced by striking different rocks, the sound varying with the size of the rock. These rocks are trap rocks of the same formation as those which form the large dike. Near Pottstown can also be found two or three small trap dikes which extend through the new red sandstone, and the boulders which comprise ringing rocks belong to one of these dikes.

There are two extensive belts of serpentine in the county. The longest belt commences on the northern brow of Chestnut Hill, between the two turnpikes, and extends westward across the Wissahickon creek. It passes through Springfield township. This belt crosses the Schuylkill near Lafayette, now Miquon. It extends through Lower Merion township to Bryn Mawr. Along the eastern and central parts of its

course the southern side of the belt consists chiefly of a talcose steatite, the northern side containing much serpentine in lumps dispersed through the steatite, but towards the western side this separation seems to disappear. The serpentine belt is plainly seen from Chestnut Hill to Wissahickon creek, where enormous blocks cover the surface of the bed.

Near the Schuylkill, the large blocks of serpentine and soapstone are again seen, and they choke the bed of the ravine north of the soapstone quarry. On the west side of the Schuylkill this serpentine and steatite rock is still visible in large blocks a little above the soapstone of that bank of the river. Near Merion Square the exposure is prominent, the surface being strewn with large masses. These rocks may be distinguished from others by the enormous size of the loose blocks and by the coatings of lichens and mosses which flourish over them. The rock is visible in the Pennsylvania railroad cut south of Bryn Mawr.

Near the Schuylkill river, about one-fourth of a mile beyond Miquon, to the north, is found the next serpentine belt. It extends east to the brook which flows into the Schuylkill at Lafayette, and begins in Whitemarsh township, whence it extends westward across the Schuylkill through Lower Merion township to the Gulf road, about one-third of a mile north of Bryn Mawr. This deposit occurs along the northern edge of the mica-schists, and runs almost parallel to the first belt described, they being but about a mile apart. South of Gulf Mills is another outcrop of serpentine. This exposure has only a length of a few hundred feet, but it is at least three hundred feet wide.

As has been stated before, the Mesozoic, or new red sandstone, is the chief geological characteristic of the northern and central parts of the county. They extend from the Bucks county line to Norristown and Valley Forge, and the sandstone and red shale can be traced along the Schuylkill river from Norristown to Pottstown. In other words, all that portion of the county north of the limestone belt and north of the Pottsdam sandstone and syenite, is covered with new red sandstone and shale. The shales and sandstones are generally of a red color, which is due to the oxide of iron which they contain. Many varieties of sandstone belonging to this formation are found in the county. In some localities much clay is mixed with the sandstone. Elsewhere the rock is chiefly composed of grains of sand, with scarcely any clay or oxide of iron in it. In the vicinity of Norristown and Bridgeport and in other nearby localities is found white sandstone containing feldspar and mica, and which makes an excellent building stone, extensively used locally.

The principal exposures of Pottsdam sandstone, which geologists call a primal sandstone, are found flanking the limestone region on the north between Valley Forge and the eastern extremity of the limestone basin east of Fitzwatertown. It encircles the eastern end of the limestone belt, and extends westward as a narrow belt south of the limestone to Spring Mill. At Henderson's Station, Bridgeport, Hickory-

town, Cold Point and Oreland, folds of this sandstone are found penetrating the limestone. Pottsdam limestone compose the historic hills of Valley Forge. The formation is well developed at Edge Hill, Rubicam Station and Willow Grove.

Near Chestnut Hill and Bryn Mawr there appear at the surface some curious patches of an ancient gravel, which has been named by geologists, "Bryn Mawr Gravel." It is found at elevations of from 300 to 400 feet above the Schuylkill, and the theory of scientists is that these deposits are the remains of an ancient ocean beach and the remnants of a once continuous formation. The gravel consists of rounded or sharp pebbles of quartzite, or grains of sand cemented by iron. Sometimes the pebbles are coated with a brownish-black glaze. They are very hard. The gravel is ten feet deep, and rests upon the gneiss rock, which is decomposed. This is held by the scientists to be the oldest surface formation in Pennsylvania.

Mica schists and slates are found in the southern part of Upper Merion township. They cross the river at Conshohocken, and extend into Whitemarsh township. Near the Gulph Mills the hill divides into two spurs. The main deposits of clay in the county are found in the vicinity of the slates, and it is supposed that some of the clay beds are derived from the decomposition of the mica in the slates. The rocks of this formation rest on limestone and are of more recent age, according to the scientists, who assign them to the Hudson river age in the geological development of this section of the country.

Syenite and granitic rocks extend from Moreland, at the Bucks county line, westward across the Schuylkill river to the Delaware county line. The hills at Spring Mills are syenite. The cuts in the Pennsylvania railroad at Spring Mill were made through this rock. The Schuylkill river between West Conshohocken and Spring Mill is turned from its course by the resistance offered by this extremely hard rock. It is the oldest formation in the county, and no fossils are ever found in it.

An interesting account of the early quarrying of limestone is given in Bean's history, and is reproduced here in part as follows:

* * * The earliest mention we have been enabled to find of limestone and of lime being made therefrom to be used for building purposes, is in a letter written by Robert Turner, of Philadelphia, dated 3rd of 6th month, 1685, addressed to William Penn in England, from which we learn that "Samuel Carpenter is our limeburner on his wharf. Brave limestone found here, as the workmen say, being proved."

The next mention found is in another letter to Penn, written by Nicholas More, dated "Green Spring, the 13th of September, 1686," wherein he states that "Madame Farmer has found out as good limestone on the Schuylkill as any in the world, and is building with it; she offers to sell ten thousand bushels at sixpence the bushel upon her plantation, where there are several considerable hills, and near to your manor of Springfield." The aforesaid was evidently the wife of Jaspar Farmer, who had arrived here in November, 1685, and had taken up in the pres-

ent Whitemarsh township a tract of five thousand acres of land, but died soon thereafter. His son, Edward Farmer, subsequently became the owner of about three-fourths of this purchase.

For building purposes, the Swedes and other early settlers first used lime prepared from oyster shells, of which we find mention made by several writers. Thomas Budd, in his account of Pennsylvania, printed in 1685, says: "We make lime of oyster shells which by the sea and bayside are so plentiful that we may load ships with them." He further informs us that there is no limestone, "as we yet know of," from which we are led to infer that Samuel Carpenter and Madam Farmer, as has been mentioned, must have been among the earliest to convert limestone into lime. Even prior to the summer of 1685, considerable building had been done in Philadelphia and its vicinity, which required no small amount of the article as prepared from oyster shells.

William Penn, in a letter to the Marquis of Halifax, dated 9th of 12th month, 1683, mentions that "about one hundred and fifty very tolerable houses for wooden ones" had been erected in Philadelphia. In his "Further Account of Pennsylvania," written in December, 1685, he states that the number had been increased to three hundred and fifty-seven houses, "divers of them large, well built, with good cellars, three stories, and some with balconies." He also mentions in the same of "divers brickeries going on, and some brick houses going up." Robert Turner in a letter from Philadelphia, 3rd of 6th month, 1685, states that "we are now laying the foundation of a plain meeting house, sixty by fourty feet," and that "Pastorius, the German Friend, with his people, are preparing to make brick next year." These statements show the necessity for lime, for which purpose no inconsiderable quantities must have been required, and that the discovery of limestone so near the city created at once a demand for its superior quality ranking, as has since been proven, among the best found in the country.

John Goodson wrote from Philadelphia, 24th of 6th month, 1690, "that six carters have teams daily employed to carry and fetch timber, bricks, stone and lime for building, which goeth on to admiration. We have rocks of limestone, where many hundreds, yea thousands of bushels of lime are made in one year for this town." John Holme, one of the judges of the Philadelphia County Court, in his poem on "The Flourishing State of Pennsylvania," written in 1696, mentions therein that a few years previously lime had been burned from oyster shells, but since "a great store" of limestone had been discovered in the ground from which "now is made good stone lime," which was not only superior but cheaper than the former article. * * *

At a meeting of the Provincial Council, held May 19, 1698, a road was ordered to be laid out from White Marsh, for the purpose of hauling lime from the kilns there to the city, and to meet the Plymouth road near Cresheim, or the upper part of Germantown. In 1703, Nicholas Saul, and others, of "Sandy Run," in the "Manor of Springfield," petition that they had formerly received the grant of a road from the limekilns to Philadelphia on the Germantown road, which the court now ordered should be speedily opened. This is evidently the road proposed by the council aforesaid, and the present highway leading from the village of Whitemarsh through Chestnut Hill. In 1713 the road was opened from the aforesaid kilns to Skippack, over which also considerable lime was hauled.

The Plymouth highway was laid out as "a cart road" in the spring of 1687. This is the road leading from Plymouth to Philadelphia and now known as the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, which was laid on its bed and finished in 1804. It is likely that this is the first road opened for the transportation of lime to the city. What is now known as the Limekiln road was laid out from Germantown to Upper Dublin in 1693, and probably first opened for the purpose of obtaining lime from the vicinity of the present Fitzwatertown. The road from the latter place to Abington Meeting House was confirmed in 1724, and opened the following year. From the petition it is ascertained that Thomas Fitzwater carried on there the business of lime burning in 1705.

Gabriel Thomas, who arrived here in 1683, in his account of Pennsylvania, published in London in 1698, mentions that where "there is also very good limestone in great abundance, plenty and cheap, of great use, in buildings, also in manuring lands." The Manor of Mount Joy, containing seven thousand eight hundred acres, was granted by Penn to his daughter Letitia the 24th of 8th month, 1701. This tract was partly situated in Upper Merion, and we have the authority of Oldmixon's "British Empire in America," published in 1708, that it abounded in limestone, which had been made use of for some time. Edward Farmer, whose settlement in Whitemarsh was known in 1708 as "Farmer's Town," supplied lime at various times from there for the buildings of Springettsbury, erected by Thomas and Richard Penn, between the years 1732 to the time of his death in 1745. Francis Rawle, who had settled in Plymouth about 1685, in his "Ways and Means," printed by S. Keimer, of Philadelphia, in 1725, and written the previous year, states on page 54 that "of limestone we have a great plenty, of which stone lime is made, which gives the opportunity to the inhabitants to build good stone and brick houses in town and country."

The lime used in the building of the State House, from 1729 to 1735, was hauled from the kilns of Ryner Tyson, in Abington township, fourteen miles north of the city. Those kilns and quarries have ever since been in the family, and the business of lime burning is still carried on by the descendents.

The county commissioners in March, 1804, invite proposals for hauling by the bushel a quantity of lime from Plymouth to Pottstown sufficient to complete the bridge over the Manatawney, a distance of about twenty-three miles.

In 1810, if not earlier, the limestone burners of the county formed themselves into an association, of which Alexander Crawford was president and John Fitzwater secretary, meeting for several years, in January, at the house of Philip Sellers, White Marsh. In February, 1824, they met in the house of Andrew Hart, Plymouth. The members at this time were George Tippen, Samuel Davis, John Shepherd, Daniel Fisher, Benjamin Marple, Eleazer Michener, Enoch Marple, John Hellings, George Egbert, George Lare, Henry Johnson, Abraham Marple, William Sands, Joseph Harmer, and Daniel Davis. It appears they soon afterwards dissolved, their proceedings being deemed unlawful, but we presume no more so than any other combination of a similar character. Among their objects was to fix the price of lime and the wood they either purchased or received in exchange.

On so great a business as the production of lime, it is to be regretted that there are so few statistics. It should be interesting to possess a list

of the several manufacturers, the number of kilns operated, and the amount respectively made. The quantity sent off by water must be considerable, especially to the States of New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland, as also by railroad to adjoining counties, Philadelphia and other places, for building, manufacturing and agricultural purposes.

The townships of Montgomery that possess limestone are Abington, Upper Dublin, Springfield, Whitemarsh, Plymouth, and Upper Merion. The limestone surface here may probably compose about fifteen square miles. Plymouth no doubt is now the greatest producer; next Upper Merion, followed by Whitemarsh and Upper Dublin. Norristown, Swedesburg and Port Kennedy are extensive shipping points of this material. The lime of Montgomery county for all building purposes possesses a high reputation, and is regarded as the very best produced.

CHAPTER III.

THE ORIGINAL RESIDENTS AND OWNERS.

The first residents and owners of the land that comprises Montgomery county were, of course, like with all the remainder of North America, the Indians.

That section of territory now embraced within the geographical boundaries of the county was purchased in sections by William Penn. The earliest recorded transaction by Penn for a section of what now constitutes the county was made the 26th of June, 1683, of Wingebone, a chief, for all his rights to lands lying on the west side of the Schuylkill, beginning at the lower falls of the same, and so on up and backwards of said stream as far as his right goes. The next purchase was made the 14th of July of the same year, from Secane and Idquoquehan and others for all the land lying between the Manayunk or Schuylkill river and Macopanackhan or Chester river, and up as far as Conshohocken Hill, which is opposite the present borough of the same name. On the same day another purchase was made of Neneshickan, Malebore, Neshanocke and Oscreneon for the lands lying between the Schuylkill and Pennypack streams, and extending as far northwest as Conshohocken, but now better known as Edge Hill. On the 3rd of June, 1684, all the right of Maughhongsink to the land along the Perkiomen creek was duly sold and conveyed. On the 7th of the same month and year, Mettamicont relinquished all his right to lands on both sides of the Pennypack. July 30, 1685, Shakhoppa, Secane, Malebore and Tangoras conveyed all their rights to lands situated between Chester and Pennypack creeks, and extending up into the country in a northwest direction from the sources of those streams, two full days' journey.

These grants from the Indian chiefs as just set forth, comprise most of the territory now embraced within the confines of Montgomery county, excepting that portion lying east of the Pennypack creek. July 5, 1697, another purchase was made from Tamany, Weheeland, Wehequeckhon, Yaqueekhon and Quenamockquid for all their right to lands lying between the Pennypack and Neshaminy creeks, and extending in a northwest direction from the Delaware as far as a horse could travel in two days. The last right and title of the Indians to any portion of Montgomery county, as now constituted, was thus finally extinguished by purchase.

By previous appointment, a council of the Indians and whites was held at the house of Edward Farmer, where is now the village of Whitemarsh, on May 19, 1712. The Governor, Charles Gookin, was present, with the sheriff, John Budd, Conrad Richard Walker, and others. The Indians were represented by a delegation of eleven Delaware aborigines

headed by Sassunan, accompanied by Ealochelan and Scholichy, the latter being speaker. The duties of interpreter were performed by Edward Farmer, who was quite familiar with the Indian language. Scholichy, in his address to the governor, mentioned that as the Delawares had been made tributary to the Mingoes, or Five Nations, many years ago, they had thought proper to call on him previous to their seeing those tribes, and that they had brought their tribute along, which was duly presented to the governor and consisted of thirty-two belts of wampum, and a long Indian pipe called a calumet, made of stone, the shaft of which was made of stone, adorned with feathers resembling wings. Their business was amicably settled to the satisfaction of all parties. On this occasion the journey of the governor and his associates was made on horseback from Philadelphia to Whitemarsh.

It may be of interest in this connection to state that wampum passed as current money between the early whites and the Indians. There were two kinds of it—white and purple. They were both worked into the form of beads, generally each about a half an inch long and one-eighth broad, with a hole drilled through so as to be strung on leather or hempen strings. The white was made out of the great conch or sea-shell, and the purple out of the inside of the mussel-shell. These beads, after being strung, were next woven by the Indian women into belts, sometimes broader than a person's hand, and about two feet long. It was these that were given and received at their various treaties as seals of friendship; in matters of less importance, only a single string was given. Two pieces of white wampum were considered to equal in value one of purple.

The calumet was a large smoking pipe, made out of some soft stone, commonly of a dark red color, well polished, and shaped somewhat in the form of a hatchet, and ornamented with large feathers of several colors. It was used in all their treaties with the whites, and it was considered by them as a flag of truce between contending parties which it would be a high crime to violate. In fact, the calumet by them was considered as sacred and as serious an obligation as an oath among the Christians.

It is also interesting to note that not a single title in Montgomery county, or anywhere else, for that matter, in Pennsylvania, is traced back to these original grants to Penn by the Indians, despite the fact that there is not a foot of ground in the county that could not be reduced by conveyancers to these titles. But even if they were, they would not be in law a good title. Lawrence Lewis, in his "Essay on Original Land Titles in Philadelphia," endorses this contention after holding to the contrary to the first part of the proposition, namely, that "it is impossible to trace with any accuracy" the titles to land in Philadelphia ceded by the Indians. Nor is it necessary, it is further held, to trace a title which is of no value. The Indians could not sell land to individuals and

give valid title to it in any of the colonies; they could sell if they chose, but only to the government. Upon this subject the lawyers are explicit. All good titles in the thirteen original colonies are derived from land grants, made or accepted not by the Indians, but by the British Crown. Thus Chalmers ("Political Annals," 677) says: "The Law of Nations sternly disregarded the possessions of the aborigines, because they had not been admitted into the society of nations." At the Declaration of Independence, every acre of ground in this country was held immediately by grants from the Crown. All our institutions recognize the absolute title of the Crown, subject only to the Indian's right of occupancy, and recognize the absolute title of the Crown to extinguish that right. An Indian conveyance alone could give no valid title to an individual.

CHAPTER IV.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

Among the first settlers in Montgomery county were natives of Sweden, from whom so many prominent residents of the locality are lineal descendants. The events connected with and resulting from the discovery of the Delaware and Hudson rivers by the Dutch from 1609 to 1638 are closely interwoven with the settlements of the Swedes on the shore of the Schuylkill.

A lineal descendant of one of the earliest settlers, Matts Holstein, the late Dr. George W. Holstein, of Bridgeport, in his response to a toast, "The Swedes," at the first annual banquet of the Montgomery County Historical Society, held at Norristown on the evening of February 22, 1882, paid an interesting tribute to an ancestry which pioneered civilization and Christianity in the Schuylkill Valley. Dr. Holstein said in part:

As a lineal descendant of those Swedes who crossed the ocean as early as 1636, I am deeply conscious of the compliment thus paid to their memory, and yet I feel that it is justly due, in view of the results accomplished by them and their influence in moulding the destinies of this great country.

Trained at home in a love for the practical teachings of the "Sermon on the Mount," and the general truths of revealed religion, they early planted the Cross of Calvary upon these shores, and in all their intercourse with the natives and others illustrated the principles heralded thereby. By fair and honorable dealings they gained the confidence of the Indians, and lived among them upon the most amicable terms. Their influence over them was remarkable, as was evinced by many of the natives attaching themselves to the religious and educational institutions established by them, thus rendering much more easy the great work accomplished by William Penn, who came over here later as the representative of the British Crown, supported by all the vast influence of that powerful nation, commissioned by King Charles II to act as Proprietory Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, having received a grant of land lying north of that occupied by Lord Baltimore, and west of the river Delaware. This was in lieu of a claim of sixteen thousand pounds due him for services rendered by his father, Rear Admiral Penn, a distinguished officer of the British Navy. The charter for this grant still hangs in the office of the secretary of the Commonwealth at Harrisburg, dated March 4, 1681. William Penn reached here in October, 1682, and now in this bi-centennial year of that event, when it is proposed to celebrate it with distinguished honors, while I would not for one moment detract from the glory to which I believe he is eminently entitled, yet I do not wish the fact to be lost sight of that the Swedes were among the first to establish friendly relations with the natives, that the first translation into the Indian dialect was the Swedish (Lutheran) Catechism by Rev. John Campanius, a Swedish (Lutheran) missionary.

In 1642, six years after their arrival, Colonel John Printz, of the Swedish army, was sent over as the governor of the colony. His instructions dated Stockholm, August 15, 1642, contain twenty-eight articles embracing his duties—first, in relation to the Swedes; secondly, to the Europeans living in the vicinity; and thirdly, to the Indians. With respect to these latter, the Governor was directed to confirm, immediately upon his arrival, the treaty with them by which they had conveyed to the Swedes the western shore of the Delaware from Cape Henlopen to the Falls of Sanhickan, since called Trenton, and as much inland as should gradually be wanted. Also to ratify the bargain for land on the east side, and in these and future purchases to regard them as rightful owners of the country. He was to treat all the neighboring tribes in the most equitable and humane manner, so that no injury by violence or otherwise should be done to them by any of his people. He had also in charge to accomplish as far as practicable the embracing of Christianity by them, and their adoption of the manners and customs of civilized life.

He was accompanied by Rev. John Campanius as chaplain of the colony. In 1653 Governor Printz was succeeded by Governor John Claudius Rising, who soon after invited ten of the leading Indian chiefs to a friendly conference. It was held at Tinicum on the 17th of June, 1654. He saluted them in the name of the Swedish queen, with assurance of her favor, put them in mind of the purchase of lands already made, and requested a continuation of their friendship. He distributed various presents among them, and gave a good entertainment to them and their company. They were much pleased, and assured him of a faithful affection. One of the chiefs, Naaman, made a speech during which he remarked that "the Swedes and the Indians had been as one body and one heart, and that thenceforward they should be as one head;" at the same time making a motion as if he were tying a strong knot, and then made this comparison, "that as the calabash was round without any crack, so should they be a compact body without any fissure."

Campanius represents the Indians as having been frequent visitors at his grandfather's house in Delaware county, which gave him an opportunity of studying their language, in which he became quite proficient. In the conversation he had there with them, he succeeded in impressing upon their minds the great truths of Christianity and awakening a deep interest among them, hence his translation of the Lutheran catechism. They attached great value to this act, as evincing a deeper interest in their welfare than that indicated by mere lip service, and it thenceforward proved a bond of union, binding them in acts of devotion and fealty to the Swedes. The Swedes gave the great and good Penn a most cordial welcome, and the benefit of their influence and experience, for which he was truly grateful, and which he kindly acknowledged in a letter to his friends at home, in 1683.

This society does itself credit in thus honoring the memory of a people who were among the earliest to locate in this vicinity, and who established regulations and usages that have exercised a refining and elevating influence in shaping the morals and habits of the community around us.

The Swedish government has never lost sight of the Swedes in Montgomery county, for as recently as 1876, during the Centennial

Celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the blood royal of the Swedish government, accompanied by a large number of distinguished guests and citizens, paid a visit to the Lutheran Church of Christ (Swede) in Upper Merion, now an Episcopalian edifice. This unusual event occurred on Sunday, July 2, of the Centennial year. The appearance of the royal delegation, nearly all of whom were garbed in the full uniforms of their respective ranks, seated in the ancient church, was an unusual sight in democratic America. The Prince occupied a front pew, and was of course the center of attraction. His Highness was a boyish-looking lad, according to the testimony of those who saw him, possessing a free and unassuming manner. His name was Prince Oscar, his title, Duke of Gottland, and he was the second son of the King of Sweden.

In his sermon, which threw much light upon the civil and religious history of the Swedish colony, the pastor of the church, Rev. O. Perinchief, spoke in part as follows:

* * * In 1631, or from that to 1638, a colony of Swedes landed and settled upon this side of the Delaware, below the place where now stands the city of Wilmington. There is some uncertainty about the date. The probability is that attempts had been made, or partial settlements, having for their object the necessary investigation preparatory to a permanent occupation, which at least did take effect in 1637 or '38. At any rate, we know the great Gustavus had contemplated the enterprise for many years. The great struggle between Romanism and Protestantism was then at its bitterest, and the hope and purpose of founding here a Protestant colony entered largely into the enterprise. But with this was combined the evangelization of the Indians, and, more than all, the establishment of the people—good, honest Swedes—in comfortable homes, upon lands they could look at and call their own. The persons who came over in this way were of two classes—a small class of government officials to administer order and, as occasion occurred, watch their own individual chances, but a large class of sober and industrious people truly seeking a home. It sometimes happened that persons were sent over partly as banishment and partly in hope of reform; but the people not only of this but of sister colonies sent them back, for they were always worse than useless. Though bound to hard labor, it was a sort of slave labor, and the freemen would rather do their own work, because they could do it better and because they abhorred slavery.

These settlers bought their lands from the Indians, and in later times erected substantial homes. Nearly all the men were husbandmen. They saw their wealth in the soil. Up to 1700 the colony had grown to over a thousand, though they had been subjected to bitter discouragement and sad vicissitudes. But their prosperity had not been accomplished without great care and generosity on the part of their brethren at home. At the very outset the settlers were provided with ministers of the gospel—pious and learned men—to teach and admonish the people and to preserve the spiritual privileges they had enjoyed in their native land. These ministers were supported by the funds of the mother country. The colony was supplied with Bibles, catechisms, and other books. On one single occasion ministers were sent forth bearing books in plentiful

supply, and encouraged by a donation of three thousand dollars from Charles XII.

The Swedes were reminded of the Indians around them, and Luther's Catechism was translated into the Indian dialect, at least as soon and perhaps sooner than the corresponding work of Eliot in regions farther north. The fault of these Swedes, if it may be permitted to speak of such a thing to-day, was a lack of unity of purpose and harmony in action. Their plans lacked breadth and unselfishness. They looked a little ahead or not at all. Before their children they set no greatness, and made little provision for its creation. In narrowed endeavors to save, they very frequently lost, and left us, instead of property and rich advantages, a legacy of sad reflection and bitter regrets. In the nature of things the settlement spread on the other side of the river in New Jersey, and on this side of the Delaware and along the Schuylkill.

The first settlement in this immediate vicinity was in 1702. At that time the nearest church was at Wiaco, now Gloria Dei, in Philadelphia. Gradually their numbers thickened, and in a few years we begin to hear requests for occasional services up here. In 1773 a lot was given and a house built for the double purpose of school and church. Upon the very ground within the very stone walls which enclose our yard, a wooden building was constructed, though we know that prior to 1733 the grounds had been used as a place of burial. No stated minister living nearer than Philadelphia, both religious and educational matters languished until 1759, when there arrived from Sweden a very remarkable man, whose memory is still green and deserves to be richly cherished, Dr. Charles M. Van Mangel. Under him our church here, this very structure, was built in 1760, making this present its one hundred and sixteenth anniversary. The date "1760" was engraved on its walls and stands there to-day.

In 1765 a charter was obtained from the Proprietary government of John Penn, then at the head of affairs. The churches lying within the territorial limits of Pennsylvania were incorporated under the name of the United Swedish Lutheran Churches of Wiaco, Kingsessing, and Upper Merion. This charter continued until 1787, when the new state of things consequent upon the American Revolution rendered it needful to obtain a charter from the State Government of Pennsylvania. The new charter was substantially the same as that of 1765, except that it gave the people the right to elect their own minister, and provided for the formal ending of the Swedish mission. Thus closed the long interval of nursing care which established us here as a church, which through many years must have exerted a vast influence in shaping the destiny of this commonwealth and nation; a period marked by noble generosity, by many sacrifices, enshrined by many holy and exemplary lives; a period which left us stewards invested with no slight responsibility.

The two churches (Kingsessing and Upper Merion) continued with Wiaco until 1842, when each church obtained for itself a separate and independent charter. The other two churches passed into communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church. We remained as we still remain, a separate organization, heir to all the traditions, invested, too, perhaps, in that very fact, with the great responsibility, a witness still of a faith and kindness which never slumbered, a monument of labor which blessed our fathers, still blesses us, and which we believe will go on to bless our children. For it all we lift up our hearts and praise God who made man

of one blood. We greet our brethren to-day from the Fatherland, and thank them, and through them the people to whom they belong, and assure them that whatever things among us their ears may hear or their eyes behold, which at the same time their hearts approve, they have had their part in producing, and that this day as a people we would not be a selfish people taking credit to ourselves, but gratefuly acknowledge our debt, and praying God to return the blessing a thousandfold upon their own people, asking in turn their prayers that we and the whole nation may be faithful in every trust, that we have freely received, we may freely give, until all nations, kindreds, tribes and tongues be gathered into one grand kingdom, under one king, the common Redeemer and Saviour of all.

CHAPTER V.

WILLIAM PENN AND THE FOUNDING OF HIS COLONY.

Montgomery county being such an important unit in the State of Pennsylvania, the history of William Penn and of his colonization efforts in America are themselves an important part of the history of the county. Of the earlier days of the founder of Pennsylvania it is unnecessary to comment here—that is a history in itself, together with his religious beliefs and his ambition to try a "holy experiment" in the New World.

Penn's connection with America and therefore with the State and the county, begins after the death of his father, Admiral Penn, when the son fell heir to estates in England and Ireland, with an income of £1500 a year. The English government was debtor to the estate of Admiral Penn for money loaned amounting to £15,000. The treasury of Charles the Second was not particularly well filled at that time, nor did Penn press for the claim in money. This indebtedness was used by him as a lever with the government for the colonial enterprise he had been for some time projecting, and he therefore proposed to the King to grant him a tract of land in America, situated between the country held under grants to the Duke of York and Lord Baltimore, or between Maryland and the Delaware river. Penn's negotiations were successful, but not without great effort on his part, as his enterprise was considered utopian by influential members of the government, and looked upon with distrust by the agents and proprietaries of the Duke of York and Lord Baltimore.

The draft of the charter of what was to become one of America's greatest commonwealths was drawn by Penn and his confidential advisers, and was submitted to the scrutiny of the authorities of both Church and State. Sir William Jones, attorney general of the realm, the Lords of Trade, and the Bishop of London, all passed upon the form and substance of the grant, which was finally signed by the King on March 4, 1681. This great document is well preserved to this day, and may be seen at the State Department at Harrisburg.

The new colony's name was left blank in the original draft of the charter, historians holding that such a condition was consistent with the innate modesty of the Quaker and his deferential disposition towards his Royal Master, whose favor he evidently sought with extraordinary zeal and judgment. The King, however, filled the blank with his royal penmanship, and named the projected colony in honor of Sir William and Admiral Penn. It is stated by some historians that Penn objected to the name, and offered a tempting "fee" to the Under Secretary of Colonial Affairs to change it to New Wales and, upon refusal,

protesting that he had no vanity or family pride to gratify in the matter, "but it is a just and clear thing, and my God that has given it me through many difficulties will, I believe, bless and make it the seed of a nation."

Penn, once he had obtained his charter, commissioned William Markham his deputy, and sent him promptly to his field of labor. Markham arrived in New York in June, 1681. He secured the advice of Governor Anthony Brockholls, and then hastened to Upland to meet Lord Baltimore, whose friendship he desired to secure in order to arrange the boundary lines on the south and west of the new colony. Markham found that he would be unable to adjust the southern boundary lines of the grant without making concessions which he deemed unjust to William Penn. He therefore deferred further action, and immediately organized the Council of Nine, being the first exercise of duly constituted authority" under the charter. This council was in fact a provisional government with power to make public surveys, establish boundary lines, constitute courts, appoint justices of the peace, constables, sheriffs to suppress violence, and generally to institute and enforce such measures as inured to peace and good order of the Province. The warrant, self-instituted, by this council, was as follows:

Whereas, wee whose hands and Seals are hereunto Sett are Chosen by Wm. Markham (agent to Wm. Penn, Esq., Proprietor of ye Province of Pennsylvania) to be of the Councill for ye sd province, doe hereby bind ourselves by our hands & seals, that we will neither act nor advise, nor Consent unto anything that shall not be according to our own Consciences the best for ye true and well Government of the sd Province and Likewise to Keep Secret all ye votes and acts of us ye sd Councell, unless such as by the General Consent of us are to be published. Dated at Upland, ye third day of August, 1681. (Signed) Robert Wade, Morgan Drewet, Wm. Woodmansee (W. W., the Mark of), Willim Warner, Thomas Fairman, James Sandlenes, Will Clayton, Otto Ernest Koch, and ye mark (L) of Lacy or (Lasse) Cock.

The new arrangement of things was placed in running order by Deputy Markham by September, 1681, and the first court for jury trials was held at Upland. The justices present at the meeting of this newly organized court were William Clayton, William Warner, Robert Wade, William Byles, Otto Ernest Koch, Robert Lucas, Lasse Cock, Swen Swenson and Andreas Bankson, five of them being members of Markham's Council. Thomas Revell was clerk of the court, and John Test was sheriff. The first case to be tried was one in which the charge was assault and battery, that of Peter Ericksen *vs.* Harman Johnson and wife. The first jury consisted of Morgan Drewet, William Woodmanson, William Hewes, James Browne, Henry Reynolds, Robert Schooley, Richard Pittman, Lasse Dalboe, John Akraman, Peter Rambo, Jr., Henry Hastings, and William Oxley. At the next session of the Upland court,

held in November, Markham was present, and he attended all the subsequent sessions up to the time of Penn's arrival.

With all the plans and purposes of Penn, Markham had been made thoroughly familiar before leaving England. He carried with him instructions comprehensive enough to cover all possible contingencies. Meantime Penn in England was devoting all his time and energies to his scheme of colonization. He gave the utmost publicity to his chartered privileges, and invited the coöperation of all classes in founding a free and industrial state. In the course of his colonization propaganda he published a pamphlet entitled, "Some Account of the Province of Pennsylvania in America." It contained a truthful account of the resources of the country. The author was candid in pointing out to all the possible hardships and perils likely to be experienced in the unsettled land, and impressed upon the minds of all who had the idea in view of seeking the fortunes in the colony, the necessity of careful preparations for the long voyage and the life of toil and self-denial essential to their success. In referring to his colony he said: "I shall say little in its praise to excite desires in any. Whatever I could truly write as to the soil, air and water, this shall satisfy me, that by the blessing of God and the honesty and industry of man, it may be a good and fruitful land."

Direct overtures were made by Penn to men and families of all religious persuasions, assuring them of a tolerant government in all things. He invited purchasers and renters of lands, and made special provisions for those without means:

> To the first, the shares I sell shall be certain as to number of acres; that is to say, every one shall contain five thousand acres, free from any incumbrance, the price a hundred pounds and for the quit rent but one English shilling, or the value of it, yearly, for a hundred acres; and the said quit rent not to begin to be paid till 1684. To the second sort that take up land upon rent, they shall have liberty so to do, paying yearly one penny per acre, not exceeding two hundred acres. To the third sort, to wit, servants that are carried over, fifty acres shall be allowed to the master for every head, and fifty acres to every servant when their time has expired. And because some engage with me that may not be disposed to go, it were very advisable for every three adventurers to send an overseer with their servants, which would well pay the cost.

Penn classified his prospective colonists, with special reference to their peculiar fitness for frontier life, as follows: "1st. Industrious husbandmen and day laborers that are hardly able (with extreme labor) to maintain their families and portion their children. 2nd. Laborious handicrafts, especially carpenters, masons, smiths, weavers, taylors, tanners, shoemakers, shipwrights, etc., where they may be spared or low in in the world, and as they shall want no encouragement, so their labor is worth more than here, and their provisions cheaper." 3rd. Penn invited ingenious spirits who are low in the world, younger brothers with small

inheritances and often large families. Lastly, he said: "There are another sort of persons, not only fit for but necessary in plantations, and that is men of universal spirits, that have an eye to the good of posterity, and that both understand and delight to promote good discipline and just government among a plain and well-intending people; such persons may find room in colonies for their good counsel and contrivance, who are shut out from being of much use or service to great nations under settled customs; these men deserve much esteem and would be hearkened to." Penn further enumerated and commended the resources of the province. He set forth: "Timber was abundant, also game, wild fowl, and fish, flax, hemp, cider, wood, madder, liquorish, tobacco and iron, hides, tallow, staves, beef, pork, sheep, wool, corn, wheat, rye, barley, also furs, minks, raccoons, martins, and such like store of furs which is to be found among the Indians that are profitable commodities in England." As to the arrival of colonists in the fall months of the year, Penn said:

Two men may clear as much ground by spring (when they set the corn in that country) as will bring in that time twelve months, forty barrels, which makes twenty-five quarters of corn. So that the first year they must buy corn, which is usually very plentiful. They must, so soon as they come, buy cows, more or less, as they want or are able, which are to be had at easy rates. For swine, they are plentiful and cheap, these will quickly increase to a stock. So that after the first year, what with the poorer sort sometimes laboring for others, and the more able fishing, fowling and sometimes buying, they may do very well till their own stocks are sufficient to supply them and their families, which will quickly be, and to spare, if they follow the English husbandry, as they do in New England and New York, and get winter fodder for their stock.

To conclude, I desire all my dear country folks who may be inclined to go into those parts, to consider seriously the premises, as well the inconveniency, as to future ease and plenty, so that none may move rashly or from a fickle but from a solid mind, having above all things an eye to the providence of God in the disposing of themselves; and I would further advise all such at least to have the permission, if not the good liking, of their near relations, for that is both natural and a duty incumbent upon all. And by this will natural affections be preserved, and a friendly and profitable correspondence between them, in all which I beseech Almighty God to direct us, that his blessing may attend our earnest endeavors, and then the consequences of all our undertakings will turn to the glory of His great name, and all true happiness to us and our posterity. Amen.

Being assured that he would have a large and intelligent following to the New World, Penn was anxious to facilitate trade and commerce between the colony and the mother country. In order to accomplish this purpose, he encouraged the organization of "The Free Society of Traders," looking upon the enterprise as a potent and peaceful agent in maintaining frequent intercourse between the inhabitants of the col-

ony and England, and as an encouragement to further emigration, which he felt sure once opened to the superior advantages of a new and fertile country where religious and political freedom could be fully enjoyed, would never be closed.

In his solicitude for the persons forming his colony, Penn showed his humanity. In the code of government he framed for his colony he showed his statesmanship. In codifying his laws, there were three distinct departments to be taken under consideration: 1. The limitations imposed by his charter. 2. The relations with the Indians. 3. The unrestrained exercise of religious liberty and the institution of self-government among the residents of the colony. The code of laws devised by Penn were free from all repressive measures in relation to religious tolerance; were far in advance of all ecclesiastical or legislative thought in Europe; and, with but one notable exception among the provinces fringing the Atlantic coast in this country, were alike new and startling. The manner of perpetuating evidence of purchase and title to landed estates, their liability for debt, the establishment of courts of justice, the manner of distributing decedent's property, and the practical sundering of Church and State, all marked an era of progressive legislation more radical in those days, perhaps, than any laws that are proposed to-day.

By August, 1682, Penn's work of preparation for his departure from England was completed. The ship "Welcome," under command of Robert Greenway, had shipped her stores, her crew was in service, and the sailors waited for the Governor of the Colony and the adventurous people who were to cross the ocean with them to come on board. Penn's "Valedictory Epistle to England" was written on August 30, and an affectionate farewell given to his wife and children.

By the first of September, Penn was ready to sail in the possession of a charter for a province and future State. Penn's deputy Markham and his associates had been busy preparing the minds of the settlers and the Indian chiefs for his coming. Accompanied by more than a hundred venturesome pioneers, Penn, as indicated by his writings at the time, keenly felt the responsibility that devolved upon him under the circumstances; but with settled purposes, and convictions deepened by years of painful experience, he sought consolation and repose of mind in the hopefulness of a near and still more eventful future among a free people and in a new country. As the time of Penn's arrival approached, expectancy was intense among the settlers on the Delaware. The sale of lands by the agents covered five hundred thousand acres, with ships sailing from Europe for the province every sixteen days. The arrival of over five hundred emigrants, and the site of a great city located, created a stir and excitement among all classes that only needed the presence of Penn to insure a climax. This was reached on October 27,

when his ship anchored off New Castle. The historical account of the event is as follows:

October 28. On the 27th day of October, arrived before the town of New Castle, in Delaware, from England, William Penn, Esq., proprietary of Pennsylvania, who produced two certain deeds of feoffment from the illustrious Prince James, Duke of York, Albany, etc., for this town of New Castle, and twelve miles about it, and also for the two lower counties, the Whorekill's and St. Jones's, which said deeds bear date the 24th of August, 1682; and pursuant to the true intent, purpose and meaning of his royal highness in the same deeds, he, the said William Penn, received possession of the town of New Castle, the 28th of October, 1682.

This delivery was made by John Moll, Esq., and Ephraim Herman, attorneys, constituted by his royal highness as commissioners to act in the formal ceremony, in which the key of the fort was delivered to Penn by one of the commissioners, "in order that he might lock upon himself alone the door," and which was accompanied by presents of "turf and twig, and water and soyle of the river Delaware."

Referring to the voyage and arrival of Penn's ship, Robert Proud, who wrote in 1780, said:

The number of passengers in this ship was about one hundred, mostly Quakers; the major part of them from Sussex, the Proprietary's place of residence. In their passage many of them were taken sick with the smallpox, and about thirty of their number died. In this trying situation the acceptable company of William Penn is said to have been of singular advantage to them, and his kind advice and assistance of great service during their passage; so that in the main they had a prosperous voyage, and in little more than six weeks came in sight of the American coast, supposed to be about Egg Harbor, in New Jersey. In coming up the Delaware, the inhabitants, consisting of English, Dutch and Swedes, indiscriminately met the Proprietary with demonstrations of joy. He landed in New Castle on the 24th of October, and next day had the people summoned to the court house, where, after possession of the country was legally given him, he made a speech to the old magistrates and the people, signifying to them the design of his coming, the nature and end of government, and of that which more particularly he came to establish, assuring them of their spiritual and temporal rights, liberty of conscience and civil freedom, and recommending to them to live in sobriety and peace; he renewed the magistrates' commissions. After this he proceeded to Upland, now called Chester, where on the fourth day of the tenth month (about three months after his sailing from England) he called an Assembly. It consisted of equal numbers of members from the province and the three lower counties, called the Territories; that is, from both of them so many of the freemen as thought proper to appear, according to the sixteenth article of the Frame of Government.

This Assembly chose Nicholas Moore, who was president of the Free Society of Traders, for their chairman or speaker, and received as ample satisfaction from the Proprietary as the inhabitants of New Castle had done, for which they returned him their grateful acknowledgments.

The Swedes, for themselves, deputed Lacy Cock to acquaint him "that they would love, serve and obey him with all they had," declaring that "it was the best day they ever saw."

At this Assembly an act of union was passed annexing the three lower counties to the province, in legislation, on the 7th day of September, 1682; likewise an act of settlement in reference to the Frame of Government, which, with some alterations, was thereby declared to be accepted and confirmed. The Dutch, Swedes and other foreigners were then naturalized; all the laws agreed upon in England, with some alterations, were passed in form.

The meeting continued only three days, and notwithstanding the great variety of dispositions, rawness and inexperience of this Assembly in affairs of this kind, yet a very remarkable candor and harmony prevailed among them.

CHAPTER VI.

THE COLONIAL ERA.

What a few years of man's handiwork can do to change the aspect of a primeval land can best be appreciated by a resident of Montgomery county to-day if he will cast his mind's eye backwards but a few centuries and endeavor to form a mental picture of the topography of this district before the first settlers arrived.

Intense silence prevailed, broken only by the cries of savage men and beasts, and the noises made by wind and water. Traversed from end to end by the Schuylkill and cut up by its tributaries, the land that was later to become Montgomery county offered nothing to the early settler but towering forests, shrubbery and wild game. Rocks and fallen timber encumbered the free passage of man at every point. The fact that beneath were concealed mineral treasures in the shape of limestone, marble, iron, copper and clay, which later on were to enable the settlers to make such progress in turning the wilderness into a civilized place, was unknown to them. There were no roads, as we know them; the rivers and creeks were obstructed by driftwood, rocks and shoals, and the early arrived white man had to have recourse, when traveling from point to point, to the only known means of transportation to the Indian, the light canoe on the waters, or narrow foot trails through the primitive forests.

Fleeing from civil and religious oppression in Europe, the ancestors of all of us who are here to-day, were mainly intent on liberty and food. Most of them were agricultural peasants, with a few artisans indispensable to the farmer. As, however, settlers of various nationalities attracted by Penn's liberal institutions, became seated in our valleys, they were first drawn to the rivers and creeks, not only by the fertility of the land but for supplies of game and fish. They, therefore, set about improving the streams with rude dams, weirs, and other contrivances for catching the migratory species, which soon led to contests with other occupants above who needed the river for transportation and travel. The law soon interfered in favor of the latter, but even thus protected as a highway, the river could only be used safely in spring or in time of high water. Thus, unlike as at present, they were hemmed in and obliged to live almost entirely upon farm products. Still, the territory filled with a constant stream of pilgrim religionists, a rugged, industrious people, who came with two chief aims—civil liberty, and the right to worship God unawed by governmental interference. Thus situated, the early pioneers felt the need of improvements, of all character, very naturally.

As a consequence of the strange environment in which they found

themselves, the early settlers had to learn new habits of life. Most of them, before crossing the sea, had been accustomed to a position of service to masters, charged with no responsibilities beyond doing their daily tasks. Law was left behind them and force substituted therefor, as in all primitive communities within the era of known history.

But these immigrants for the most part came here on a mission of peace and justice for all men. Unlike the Spaniards to the south and west, instead of fighting the Indians, they attacked the forests and rocks, which were removed before them. The first imperative necessity was shelter from weather and wild beasts, but they built no forts or block houses against the Indian. Seeking out therefore near a spring a southern slope to give protection against the cold, they built a rude cabin of logs or rocks or both, and sometimes, for temporary shelter, only a cave hewn out of a bank. With a few tools of iron or steel brought with them and some utensils of tin and wood, their toil began, while the Indian looked on, pleased and friendly with the new comer. A shelter of some such sort finished, a small clearing was made, and with a few domestic animals and a supply of seeds for planting, the immigrant soon felt himself to be really that once much looked-up-to individual, "the Lord of the Manor" himself.

The welfare of his children was next the object of his solicitude. The desire for education, still a dominant factor in the government of the county and State, came over with the first settlers. Wherever a settlement was located, it was not long before a rude school house, which might also serve as a place for religious meetings, was built of logs by the joint effort of the members of the community. Almost at the same time came also the blacksmith shop, chiefly for the making and repair of agricultural implements, and the mill to grind grain into food for man. The next great want was a cart road, so essential for the purpose of intercommunication between settlements for both business and pleasure. Many of these primitive thoroughfares were but well worn footpaths through timber lands or clearings, made before the advent of the cart, and which had to be widened. There is practically no data to show that the Hollanders and Swedes laid out and established any permanent highways previous to the beginning of Penn's government, although their arrival antedates his by many years. But no sooner had Penn landed, and founded Philadelphia, than roads and civilization began to radiate from the "metropolis."

For approximately a century afterwards, Montgomery county was a part of the city and county of Philadelphia, which was founded in 1682. It early began, as indicated, to stretch its arms towards the interior and the district soon began to throng with settlers. As settlements spread, highways were ordered to be surveyed and opened from the city in nearly every inland direction. Of course there were what are now called dirt roads, many of them little wider than sufficient for carts to

pass each other on the way, and often, with the view of accommodating land owners, they were run out of direction to the objective point in order to follow line fences; or if striving to make a straight one, they would carry it over almost untravelable hills or through deep valleys, instead of winding along at a more level grade. In less than half a century after Penn arrived, great highways were laid out leading from the city to the interior, for no sooner had Penn completed satisfactory arrangements with the Indians for their cession of territory, than surveyors were at work laying out roads and running the lines upon the new purchases, until by 1740 most of the land of the present Montgomery county had been parcelled out and nearly settled by Swedes, Welsh and English on the southern and central borders, and by Germans on the northwest, with a sprinkling of Hollanders, French and Scotch-Irish distributed from the Delaware westward to the center.

Having built their homes, and all the territory laid off into townships, the people soon had municipal governments organized. A ready method of crossing streams was early looked after, but beyond canoes, ferries and a few wooden bridges and foot-logs, fords were the only method of transit from one side to another.

VALLEY FORGE—MASSACHUSETTS MONUMENT, NATIONAL ARCH, FORT WASHINGTON AND CONTINENTAL ARMY HUT

CHAPTER VII.

MILITARY OPERATIONS.

Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, being one of the oldest sub-divisions in the Commonwealth, has participated in all of the principal wars which the United States has been engaged in since the War for Independence. These chapters will give a concise outline of the part this county has had in these several conflicts, including the last great World War, in which she became an ally.

The Revolution—This commenced in this State when the Council of Safety was instituted, June 30, 1775, in Philadelphia, by the Assembly of the Province. At that time Montgomery was included in Philadelphia county. On July 3, 1775, Benjamin Franklin was elected president of the Council of Safety. The first Constitutional Convention convened in Philadelphia, July 15, 1776. Besides framing a constitution it also assumed the legislative power of the State. This was followed by the institution of the Supreme Council of Safety, in which reposed the executive powers of the Commonwealth until the first constitution was revised in 1790. The Colonial era closed with the adjournment of the Provincial Assembly, September 23, 1776. Governor Richard Penn yielded reluctantly to the forces of the Revolution, and the last act of provincial authority was a fierce denunciation of the Constitutional Convention in assuming legislative power in the State of Pennsylvania. "God Save the King!" was said for the last time in a Pennsylvania Assembly; henceforth it was to be "God Save the Commonwealth!"

Conspicuous in the annals of Pennsylvania and Montgomery county, as regards the Revolutionary War, were the memorable events associated with General Washington, in the autumn of 1777 and the winter of 1778. The provincial conservatism and peaceful character of the people who had permanently settled in the beautiful Schuylkill Valley, woke slowly and painfully to the warlike preparations which preceded Lord Howe's attack upon Philadelphia; and when reverses befell our army on the Brandywine, a profound sense of alarm pervaded the capital city, shared by many sorrowing homes that lay on the line of march, and within the limits certain to be desolated by hostile armies.

No just conception of the scope and magnitude of the campaign organized for the defense of Eastern Pennsylvania and the capital city in the autumn of 1777 can be realized unless it comprehend the movements and results of the two principal armies of the Middle States, and for whose conduct Washington, as commander-in-chief, was responsible to the Continental government. On the 19th of June, 1775, Washington received his commission and instructions as "General and Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the United Colonies, and of all the forces raised

or to be raised by them, and all others who shall voluntarily offer their services and join the army for the defense of American Liberty."

To disconcert him by strategy, to compel him to battle with troops superior in armament and discipline, and to overwhelm him with numbers, was the general and well-matured plan of the enemy. The preparations of the home government to this end were commensurate with the reasonable hope of success; and the belief that the resources of men and means so lavishly confided to commanders would speedily end the conflict and compel submission to the mother-country, was shared by many of the wayward and doubting of the period.

The effort of Washington through the winter of 1777 to organize a powerful army for the ensuing campaign is a matter of history. The hopes inspired from time to time by the flattering reports which reached his headquarters were cruelly disappointed, and he found himself not only powerless to take the aggressive, but unequal to that measure of defensive warfare necessary to preserve his long lines unbroken.

Having used his best efforts to hasten the concentration of troops from the Eastern States, and overcome in some measure the shock to public confidence resulting from the loss of Ticonderoga and the disastrous retreat of General St. Clair; having strengthened the willing hands of General Schuyler in bringing into the field the militia of New York State, rendering the victory at Bennington and other minor points possible, and witnessed the departure of Lord Howe from New York Bay, he turned the head of his devoted columns toward the Delaware, massing his army at Germantown early in the month of August, 1777.

For days and weeks the work of marshaling new troops, collecting supplies and fitting the command to resist the impending attack by Howe went on. The commander-in-chief was in daily consultation with committees of Congress and heads of departments; and for the first time met the youthful and heroic Lafayette, who was by him assigned to duty on his staff with the rank of major-general. The public mind became feverish and excited in anticipation of events now certain to affect the gravest interests of the colony. War, with its desolation, its bloody horrors, its blighting consequences upon society and sacrifice of life, was at the threshold of a community devoted by sentiment, religion, and pecuniary interests to peaceful pursuits. Evidence of disaffection increased with the certainty of Howe's approach, and when his presence, with fleet and army, in the Chesapeake Bay was announced, it was deemed politic by the government that Washington should march his army through the city as he moved south to meet the advance of the foe. It was accordingly done, and the 24th of August, 1777, was a memorable day in the history of the capital city, as well as in the lives of the patriotic soldiers, who received at every square the most marked consideration at the hands of the populace, who were wild in their demonstrations of joy as divisions marched by them under commanders who had

grown into popular favor On the 11th of September, 1777, the battle of Brandywine was fought. The plan of the engagement, as subsequently revealed, the necessities which induced it, the skilfully executed movement of the enemy upon the right of the patriot army, the inefficiency of Washington's mounted troops in not disclosing the movement of Cornwallis at an earlier hour in the day, the uncertain and embarrassing reports that reached him from sources that should have been reliable, the partial surprise, and the heroic though ineffectual effort to meet and resist a fierce attack from a direction unlooked for, the deeds of valor upon the part of officers who sought to retrieve misfortune by personal daring, and the usual conduct of battle-shocked troops, have gone into history, and been graphically described by Marshall, Botta, Lossing, Headley, Bancroft and others, less distinguished in history, it may be, but by no means less truthful in narrative.

The battle was lost, and its discouraging features were keenly felt by those who left the field in possession of the enemy. But its effects, as measured by them, were by no means as disastrous as intended or believed to be. Marshall, referring to the immediate results of the engagement, in his history declares: "It was not considered decisive by Congress, the general, or the army," and cites the fact that the government upon receiving Washington's report immediately passed vigorous resolutions for reinforcing the army, and directed him to complete the defenses of the Delaware.

On the 15th, four days after this battle, the army was on the march to attack Howe, who, apprised of the movement, immediately put his army in motion, and the opposing armies met between the Goshen Meeting-House and the White Horse Tavern, on the table-land south of the Great Valley. The choice of position was again with Washington. Hostilities had actually commenced, when storm and flood rendered the movement of troops impossible, and disclosed the alarming fact that arms and ammunition were so seriously damaged that to further engage the enemy would be suicidal. This exigency decided temporarily the fate of the capital city, and doubtless hastened the period of occupation by the British troops. The situation was critical, and the day certainly memorable. To retire upon Philadelphia and suffer a partial investment, leaving the country open from the Schuylkill to the Hudson, making a diversion in favor of Burgoyne not only possible, but probable, would be unwise for many reasons; to give up all further defense of the capital was an hour of supreme interest in the struggle, and upon his decision hung the most momentous results. Assuming the entire responsibility, courting the counsel of his subordinates, but acting upon his own mature judgment, he uncovered Philadelphia, detaching General Wayne, and directing him to attack the extreme left of the enemy, in the hope of detaining him until he could refit his army and renew the conflict, providentially postponed.

Pending the movement of reinforcements from the North, the public mind, having recovered from the first effects of the reverses at Brandywine, Paoli and Germantown, perhaps unduly elated by the surrender of Burgoyne and its sequences, clamored for further aggressive movements against Howe. Washington moved his army to the east, taking a strong position at Whitemarsh, from which he was able to watch the movements of the enemy, harass his outposts, cut off his source of supplies, give protection to the agricultural people and confidence to the public mind. Here, after an ineffectual attempt on the part of the enemy to dislodge him, on the 5th and 6th of December, the campaign closed, Howe retiring within his lines of defense, reaching from the Delaware to the Schuylkill river. The war-worn and jaded condition of the patriot troops, the want of supplies, the hopelessness of further operations to repossess Philadelphia, and the approach of winter, all admonished the commander to seek shelter and repose for his army.

The proposition to retire the army for the winter gave rise to well-marked differences of opinion. Within army circles the only question was that of location. Whether it should fortify and remain where it was, or retire to the Perkiomen hills, or move south and occupy the vicinity of Wilmington, was canvassed by leading officers in the army, whose opinions were sought by the commander-in-chief. In political circles, and among a large and influential class of patriotic citizens of Pennsylvania, a different view prevailed. In their opinion, the exigency of the public service demanded a continuation of active operations upon the part of this army. Their hostility to the proposed cantonment of troops culminated in a remonstrance prepared by the General Assembly, and by that body presented to Congress, then in session at York. We recite the remonstrance here in order to illustrate the wisdom and force of character of the great and good man who, in serving the higher interests of his country, disregarded the remonstrance of those whose sensibilities were shocked by the calamities of war, and who, for a temporary respite from its ravages, would have sacrificed the army of hope by denying it that well-earned repose absolutely necessary at that season and period to preserve its existence.

On the 11th of December the camp was broken up at Whitemarsh, and after a painful march over rough and frozen roads reached the Gulf Hills, crossing the Schuylkill river at Swedes' and Matson's ford on improvised bridges. Here the advance division under General Potter, which moved south of Matson's ford to cover the passage of the main army, unexpectedly came in contact with a strong detachment of the enemy under Cornwallis, out upon a foraging expedition. The presence of the enemy in this quarter and in such force was a surprise at the time, and occasioned delay, the counter-movement of troops and some apprehension upon the part of the commander-in-chief, which subsequently proved to be without cause. A camp was established for some

days on the Gulf Hills, fourteen miles distant from Philadelphia, where the army remained until the 18th, when it retired to Valley Forge, going into position with the right resting upon the base of Mount Joy, near the acute angle of the Valley creek, the left flank resting upon and protected by the Schuylkill river, about one-half mile below Fatland ford or Sullivan's bridge.

Historians have uniformly signalized the arrival of the army on this ground as coincident with the famous order of the commander-in-chief dated Headquarters on the Schuylkill, December 17, 1777, congratulating his troops upon the close of the campaign, the results accomplished, the heroic conduct of officers and the endurance of men, counseling them to continue in fortitude and patience, assuring his followers "that while in some instances he has unfortunately failed, that upon the whole, heaven had smiled upon their army and crowned them with success, that the end of their warfare was independence, liberty and peace, and that the hope of securing these blessings for themselves and their posterity demanded a continuance of the struggle at every hazard." This was the pleasing side of the picture, set in the gilded framework of war's seducing blandishments and panoplied with its field-day glories. But there was another,—the shoeless soldiers, the frozen ground, the cheerless hills, the lowering leaden sky that arched them over with gloom. These were the sorrowing and mute witnesses to the true scene of the arrival, and which the artist has thus far failed to place upon canvas. We are not, however, wanting for the pen picture, and I give it in the language of Mr. George Washington Parke Custis:

The brigades had gone into position upon the line of defense indicated by the skillful officer who drew it. The pitiless winter winds swept the hills and valley with unceasing fury as the December sun sank into banks of snow-clouds, presaging the coming storm. The poverty of supplies in food and raiment was bitterly and profanely bewailed by shivering, unpaid officers and half-naked men as they crowded around the comfortless camp-fire of the bivouac, when suddenly the appearance of the Horse Guard announced the approach of the commander-in-chief. The officer commanding the detachment, choosing the most favorable ground, paraded his men to pay their general the honors of a passing salute. As Washington rode slowly up he was observed to be eyeing very earnestly something that attracted his attention on the frozen surface of the road. Having returned the salute with that native grace and dignified manner that won the admiration of the soldiers of the Revolution, the chief reined in his charger, and ordering the commanding officer of the detachment to his side, addressed him as follows: "How comes it, sir, that I have tracked the march of your troops by the blood-stains of their feet upon the frozen ground? Were there no shoes in the commissary's stores, that this sad spectacle is to be seen along the public highway?" The officer replied: "Your Excellency may rest assured that this sight is as painful to my feelings as it can be to yours, but there is no remedy within our reach. When shoes were issued the different regiments were served in turn; it was our misfortune to be among the last to

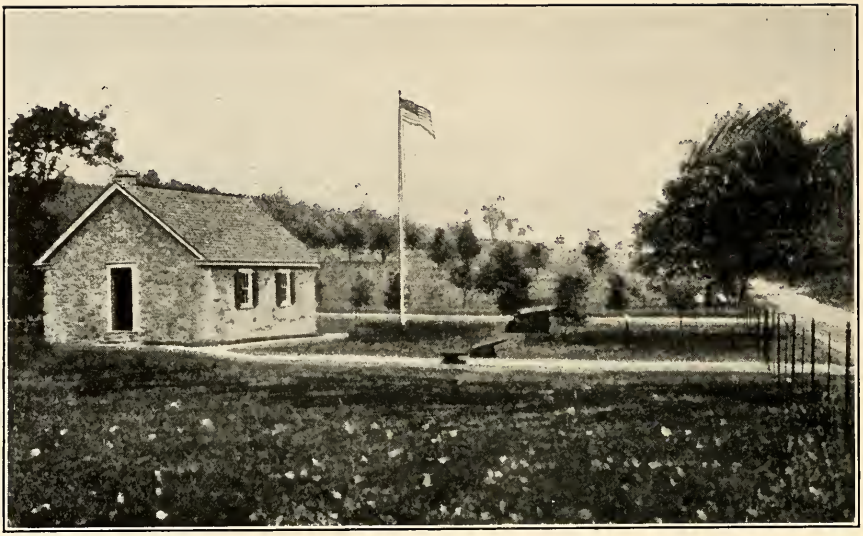
be served, and the stores became exhausted before we could obtain even the smallest supply."

The general was observed to be deeply affected by his officer's description of the soldiers' privations and sufferings. His compressed lips, the heaving of his manly chest, betokened the powerful emotions that were struggling in his bosom, when, turning towards the troops, with a voice tremulous, yet kindly, he exclaimed, "Poor fellows!" Then giving rein to his horse, he rode rapidly away.

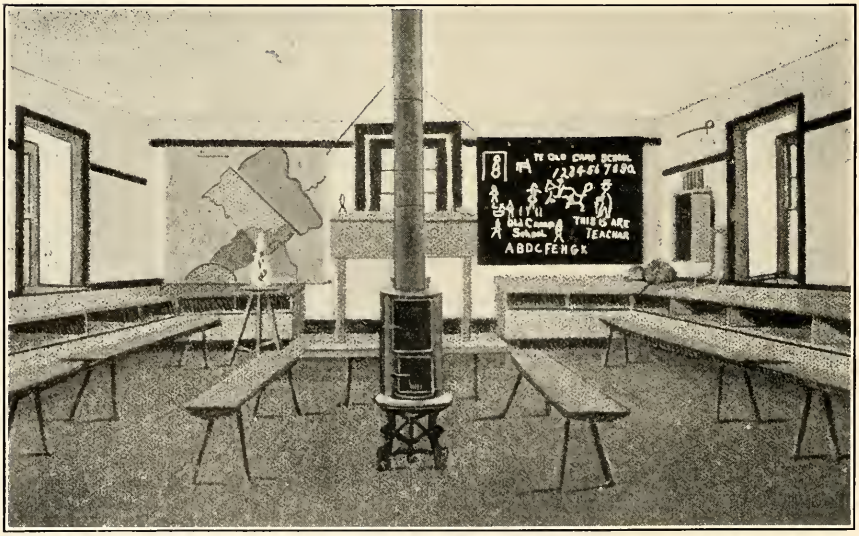
The purpose of the commander-in-chief in taking position at Valley Forge was to give the greatest measure of protection possible to the State, and to circumscribe the operations of General Howe within limits that would seriously affect his source of supply. To this end his line was admirably drawn. On the west side of the Schuylkill he extended his right flank to Wilmington, at which point he stationed General Smallwood with his brigade of infantry, covering the long interval with Morgan's rifle corps and the squadron of cavalry under Major Harry Lee. On the east of the river he occupied the country as far as Whitemarsh, placing General Armstrong with a brigade of Pennsylvania militia so as to cover the principal roads converging at that point; the cavalry under Major Jameson and Captain McLane guarded the highways in the direction of Barren and Chestnut Hills; and to still further prevent the incursions of the enemy northward from Philadelphia, he directed General Pulaski, who was in command of the brigade of cavalry, to go into camp at Trenton, New Jersey. The line of defense from the west shore of the Schuylkill river to the base of Mount Joy, at the angle of Valley creek, occupied commanding ground, and the earthworks and fortifications erected under the direction of General Duportail were extensive in character and skillfully constructed. The interior line of works and abatis were semicircular in form, crossing from north to south, with one star and two square forts, from which the army could have successfully covered a retreat westward, had such a movement become necessary.

An order was given to construct huts for the winter, and its execution followed with dispatch and great exactness. Soldiers became axemen from necessity; before them the forest fell, and hundreds of log houses grew as by magic. The dimensions of each hut were fourteen by sixteen feet, with chimney, fire-place, and door, facing upon company streets, drawn in strict conformity with the rules of military encampments. Quarters for field and staff officers were erected in rear of the line of troops, while still farther to the rear, upon the sloping hills, shelter was sought for the trains of the army. History and tradition alike confirm the fact that the hills were made bare of timber in completing the shelter necessary for men and animals, and the wood necessary for fuel during the long winter was hauled by men a distance of one or more miles from the camp.

Chief Justice Marshall and others in writing of these dark days of



OLD CAMP SCHOOL HOUSE, VALLEY FORGE



INTERIOR OF OLD CAMP SCHOOL HOUSE, VALLEY FORGE

the War for Independence, gave facts as follows, as will be seen in that most authentic history of Montgomery county, by Colonel Bean:

In the absence of blankets, the want of straw as well as grain was sorely felt by the army; farmers in the immediate vicinity had suffered great loss by the presence of both armies in their midst. If the patriot army were considerate to those known to be friendly to their cause and merciless upon the "Tory," the British, who closely followed them, laid a heavy hand upon the supplies of the "Rebel," and between the two the farmers from the Brandywine to the Delaware found an involuntary market. Under these circumstances, it was not surprising that those who had stowed away the grain and hay that was relied upon to keep body and soul together for another year were tardy in threshing it out. The commander-in-chief comprehended the situation, and the order issued went direct to the vital point; it suggested an alternative which brought flails to the front, barn-doors were opened, the golden sheaves were brought in from well-preserved stacks, in many instances by the soldiers themselves, who were glad to exchange the rigors of a starving camp for the toil of the threshing-floor, which exchange yielded bread for themselves and compatriots by day, and afforded the hope of merriment amidst the cheerful homes of patriot mothers and daughters by night. Tradition says that throughout the length and breadth of "Washington's seventy miles" could be heard from morn till night two or three threshers on every barn-floor. Straw was soon in the market, soft as flails could make it, and contributed greatly to the comfort of the men at Valley Forge, and hundreds and thousands of other sick and wounded, who filled every church and meeting-house from Barren Hill to the "Swamp," and from "Birmingham to Reading."

"At no period of the war," writes Chief Justice Marshall, "had the American army been reduced to a situation of greater peril than during the winter at Valley Forge. More than once they were absolutely without food. Even while their condition was less desperate in this respect, their stock of provisions was so scanty that there was seldom at any time in the stores a quantity sufficient for the use of the troops for a week. The returns of the 1st of February exhibit the astonishing number of 3,989 men in camp unfit for duty for want of clothes. Of this number scarcely a man had a pair of shoes. Although the total of the army exceeded 17,000 men, the present effective rank and file amounted to only 5,012. The returns throughout the winter did not effectually vary from that which has been particularly stated."

Dr. Thatcher, in his private journal, states: "That it was with the greatest difficulty that men enough could be found in a fit condition to discharge the military camp duties from day to day, and for this purpose, those who were naked borrowed of those who were more fortunate in having covering for their bodies and shoes for their feet. Yet, amidst the sufferings and privations endured by these devoted troops week after week and month after month, pelted by the storms of one of the severest winters ever known in this region, the love of country, the hope of victory, and an abiding confidence in their great leader, sustained

them until, in the Providence of God, the cause found an ally whose offices of friendship, long and ardently hoped for by the chivalrous Lafayette, were finally assured by the diplomacy of our own glorious Franklin."

Perhaps no more marked spirit of patriotism and loyalty to one's country can be named in connection with the Revolution than is recorded by Bishop in his "History of American Manufactures," Vol. I, in which he says:

William Dunning, a blacksmith of Cumberland County, during the Revolution endeavored to serve his country by the construction of a wrought-iron cannon of a curious description. One of these is said to have fallen into the hands of the British at the battle of Brandywine, and is to this day preserved in the Tower of London, and another unfinished specimen is said to be at the arsenal in Philadelphia. These singular pieces of ordnance were made of "wrought-iron staves, hooped like a barrel, with bands of the same material, excepting there were four layers of staves breaking joint, all of which were firmly bound together, and then boxed and breeched like other cannon." An obituary notice of Dunning, who died in Mifflin township, in 1830, at the age of ninety-four, states that he was an artificer in the Revolutionary army, and that his was the only successful attempt ever made in the world to manufacture wrought-iron cannon, one of which he completed in Middlesex, Pa., and commenced another and larger one at Mount Holly, but could get no one to assist him who could stand the heat, which is said to have been so great as "to melt the lead buttons on his clothes." The British, it is added, offered a stated annuity and a large sum to the person who would instruct them in the manufacture of that article, but the patriotic blacksmith preferred obscurity and poverty in his own beloved country, though the country for which he had done so much kept her purse closed from the veteran soldier until near the close of his long life.

During the British occupancy of Philadelphia county, property was destroyed or damaged in that portion now known as Montgomery county as follows:

Townships and Assessors.	*Amount.*		
	£.	s.	d.
Cheltenham, Peter Rush	210	1	6
Gwynedd, Stephen Bloem	120	0	0
Hatfield, George Sheive	71	12	6
Lower Merion, Hugh Jones	3413	11	0
Moreland, Robert Whitten	2119	13	2
Norriton, Jacob Auld	7076	10	6
Plymouth, Zebulon Potts	1172	12	8
Providence, Benjamin Dismant	679	5	9
Springfield, Baltzer Hydrick	1165	19	9
Upper Merion, John Johnson	1525	9	6
Upper Dublin, John Mann	343	10	0
Worcester, Peter Wentz	125	0	0
Whitemarsh, William Johnson	668	1	6
Whitpain, Daniel Yost	610	0	6

There were no returns received from the townships of Abington, Douglas, Frederick, Franconia, Horsham, Lower Salford, Limerick,

Montgomery, Marlboro, New Hanover, Skippack, Towamensing, Upper Salford or Upper Hanover. Much damage that was done was never made a subject of claim. The whole amount of the assessment for Philadelphia City was £187,280 5s.; the amount for the county £19,300 8s. 10d. These estimated damages were assessed under an act of the General Assembly passed September 21, 1782, and subsequently these claims were filed in the office of the county commissioners and the Supreme Council.

Second War With Great Britain—Thirty years after the colonies had achieved their independence and twenty-three years after the constitutional Union of States was established, Congress declared war against Great Britain. Peace was declared at the end of the Revolution, November 30, 1782, and war was declared by Congress June 18, 1812, hence the title of the second war with Great Britain is styled "War of 1812." The population of the United States was in 1812 approximately eight millions. The event was in the third year of President James Madison's administration, and was supported by the Democratic party as an administration measure, and was resisted by the Federalists. The bill was supported by seventy-nine members in the House of Representatives; forty-nine of the one hundred and twenty-eight present entered their protest against it, and the measure passed the Senate by a slight majority. The cause leading up to this conflict with the Mother country was the conduct of England in insisting upon the right of search and impressment of naturalized American citizens into her naval service. This alleged right was exercised against the solemn protest of the government, and finally, to vindicate the rights of her citizens, the appeal to arms was made.

At this period England had not conceded the right of her subjects or people to absolve their allegiance to the King by the simple forms of American naturalization, while the United States government was in honor bound to protect her foreign-born citizens in the full and free exercise of their rights. At the date referred to, thousands of American citizens were serving out terms of impressment in the British navy, many of them suffering imprisonment and subjected to treatment of extreme cruelty. One among many examples will serve to show the unwarrantable conduct of the British government. We quote:

In the month of June, 1807, the English man-of-war "Leopard" came in sight of the American frigate "Chesapeake" near Cape Henry. At this point the "Leopard" was joined by the British frigates the "Bellona" and "Melampus." The "Chesapeake" was hailed by Admiral Berkley, an officer sent aboard with an order of search, alleging that five deserters from the English service were aboard the American vessel. Commodore Barron refused the officer, saying that he did not know of any deserters on board, that the recruiting officers for the "Chesapeake" had been particularly instructed not to receive any deserters from His Britannic Majesty's service, and that he was directed never to permit the crew of

a ship under his command to be mustered by any officers but his own. Upon receiving this answer the officer returned to the "Leopard," when a heavy fire was opened upon the "Chesapeake," to the surprise and discomfiture of Commodore Barron, who was unprepared to resist the attack. After remaining under fire for thirty minutes, having three men killed and eighteen men wounded, himself among the rest, the ship surrendered. The British officer refused to accept the surrender, but came aboard, made search, claimed four of the seamen as British subjects and deserters, conveyed them to Halifax where they were tried and one of them executed in order to establish the rightfulness of their system of impressment. Subsequently the other three were proved to be Americans who had been previously impressed and made their escape from the British service. The intelligence of this outrage upon the high seas was received by the country with profound indignation.

The citizens of Montgomery county held a public meeting at the court house, July 22, 1807, "for the purpose of expressing their sense of the late unwarrantable and dastardly outrage committed by one of the British ships-of-war on the American frigate 'Chesapeake.'" General Francis Swaine was appointed president, and Samuel Patterson, secretary. Levi Pawling, William Henderson, Israel Bringhurst, George Weaver, Mathias Holstein, John Markley, and James Winnard reported seven resolutions, wherein they state:

That the outrage committed by the British ship-of-war, "Leopard," on the American frigate "Chesapeake," and the murder of our seamen, whether it be considered as the act of the British government, or of individuals who committed it, requires rigid retribution or honorable reparation. That we will, at the hazard of our lives and properties, support the proclamation of the President of the United States, and any other measures that may be adopted by the constituted authorities to obtain redress from the British Government, for the reparation of our national honor and insulted sovereignty. At this crisis, it is the duty of every citizen, who is not conscientiously scrupulous against bearing arms, to arm in defense of his injured country, and to prepare for the event of a war.

Public meetings were called in all the principal cities of the Union, party feelings were forgotten for the time, and all united in resolutions supporting the government in measures deemed necessary to redress the wrong. The President issued a proclamation forbidding British ships-of-war the ports and harbors of the United States, and instructing the American Minister at the Court of St. James to demand satisfaction for the insult. He also summoned Congress to meet and take the subject into consideration.

The act of the British naval officer was promptly disavowed by the English government, but they still persisted in their right of search, nor did they offer adequate reparation for the injury and indignity suffered. The exasperated feelings of national hostility became deep-seated; foreign complications arising out of contentions between France and Eng-

land still further embarrassed American shipping interests. Napoleon, by his Berlin Decree of 1806, had forbidden the introduction of any English merchandise to the continent of Europe, even in neutral vessels that should touch at an English port. Great Britain retaliated by prohibiting the trade from port to port of neutrals belonging to the enemy, and, declaring the whole coast of Europe in a state of blockade, rendering the vessels of all neutrals passing to European ports liable to capture. Upon learning of this measure, Napoleon issued his famous Milan Decree, confiscating not only the vessels that should touch at a British port, but such as should submit to be searched by the English. These measures were very injurious to American shipping interests, and induced the American Congress, in December, 1807, to pass an Embargo Act, prohibiting American vessels to leave their ports. This was admittedly a preparatory step in the direction of war with England, and a cautionary measure to call home all trading vessels and seamen in order to put the country in the best possible condition for the struggle that all sagacious minds saw to be near at hand. In March, 1809, the Embargo Act was repealed, and an act prohibiting all commercial intercourse with both England and France was passed.

The non-intercourse act expired by its own limitation in 1810. In anticipation of this event, the administration invoked France and England to remove their restrictive measures from American shipping. Napoleon promptly responded through his minister directing a suspension of his decrees so far as they affected American interests. Encouraged by this success, efforts were made to induce England to follow the example of France. The British diplomats of the period sought delay in skillfully devised dilatory proceedings, questioning the formality of the seemingly friendly act of France. Mr. Pinckney, the American envoy in London, grew weary and impatient at "the shuffling behavior of the British government," and demanded his audience of leave. Continuous breaches of national amity on the high seas by British naval officers, commented on by a free press, and made the subject of debate in and out of Congress, kept the public mind inflamed and strengthened the President and his Cabinet in their preparatory efforts for actual hostility. On the 20th of May, 1812, the "Hornet" arrived from London, conveying the intelligence that England refused to repeal or suspend her restrictions upon American shipping interests, and further insisting upon her right of search and impressment. This information brought public affairs to a crisis, and in the following June the President transmitted to Congress a special message, disclosing to the nation the unwarranted attitude of England, the necessity of protecting the rights of naturalized citizens, enumerating the grievances suffered, and submitting the question "whether they should be longer endured or immediate resource had to the ultimate resort of injured nations, a declaration of

war." Congress deliberated on the measure with closed doors, and on the 18th of June passed an act declaring war against Great Britain.

The lapse of time and the many remarkable events that have intervened, including the War with Mexico, the Great Civil War, the War with Spain and the last great World War, in which this country became a powerful ally, have all had a tendency to forget the War of 1812-14, but it should here be stated that Pennsylvania and Montgomery county did well in supporting the administration and gave freely of money and men for that second struggle with England. The spirit of those times in Pennsylvania are well illustrated in the words of the Governor of this Commonwealth, Simon Snyder:

> If ever a people had motives to fight, we are that people. Our Government, the watchful guardians of our welfare, have sounded the alarm; they have called upon us to gird on our swords, and to be ready to go forth and meet our enemies. Let us hasten to obey the Government of our choice, and rally around the constituted authorities of the Union. Let an honorable zeal glow in our bosoms as we eagerly press forward to render our services. It would give the Governor inexpressible satisfaction if Pennsylvania would volunteer her quota. May each State animate the others, and every citizen act as if the public weal, the national honor and independence rested on his single arm. The example of the heroes and statesmen of our Revolution, and the rich inheritance their courage and wisdom achieved, cannot fail to urge all who love their country to flock around her standard.

The first year of this war saw many British ships captured or destroyed on the Great Lakes, but no positive proof of victory. In the spring of 1814 the invading army was apprised of the poor defense had of Washington, our national capital. The English knew of our raw recruits there standing guard duty. It was a tempting prize, and General Ross was quick to enter the Potomac river with his fleet and pressed his way up to Washington, where about eight thousand militia were guarding the new Republic's interests. Ross had five thousand men, and they easily disembarked and made an attack on the capital buildings. The hasty retreat made by our forces under General Winder left the city without defense. Not being able to get money as a ransom from those in charge of the government buildings, the British took torches and burned the capitol and the President's mansion, and destroyed the equipment of the Navy Yard, and a late war frigate about completed, and ruthlessly destroyed by fire public archives, library, and works of art. All this on account of the incompetency of General Winder, the commander, whose conduct no historian ever seeks to excuse. Baltimore was better protected and did not suffer as Washington City did.

The pacification of Europe, resulting from the overthrow of Napoleon in 1814, and the joy that pervaded all classes of the people, were shared by the rulers, and had a happy influence upon England in inducing that country to relinquish the right of impressment of American citizens.

This point gained, the object of the war was practically accomplished, and the commissioners concluded a treaty of peace at Ghent on the 24th day of December, 1814, the same being ratified by the Prince Regent of England on December 27th. The news of this event did not reach this country until the following 11th of February (1815), the treaty being ratified on the 27th of the same month by the President and Senate. It will thus be seen that the great battle of New Orleans, that made General Jackson the hero of the war, was fought and won after the treaty of peace had been concluded with England. Truly, an Atlantic cable and telegraphic communication with the British army and navy in the Gulf at this time would have saved that nation from the humiliation of the most disastrous battle of the war, and thousands of lives would have been preserved for the better service of peace.

The population of Montgomery county at this period of the war was about 30,000. The constant apprehension of the enemy's attack upon Philadelphia, and possible incursions into this and the adjoining counties of Delaware and Bucks, kept the people in a state of anxiety. Discussions in political and social circles upon the principles involved in the struggle were animated. Democrats warmly espoused the cause as maintained by the administration of James Madison, while the Federalists boldly criticised many of the leading measures of those in authority, and the manner of conducting the war. The Democrats evinced considerable sympathy towards Napoleon, and looked upon his operations against England at that time with favor. On the other hand, the Federalists proclaimed the French Emperor an adventurer, tyrant, and a leader dangerous to all forms of government and the peace and stability of society.

The stage was the only means of public travel in those days, only two weekly papers were published in the county, mail facilities were limited, and news from the capital and the remote points of active hostilities found its way to the country post office with its weekly newspaper once, and, in some favored localities, twice a week. Volunteer and militia troops, organized in the interior and northern counties of the State, and ordered to report at Marcus Hook, passed down our main highways to Philadelphia, followed by long trains of supplies and munitions of war. The same iron-works on the Manatawny and Schuylkill that supplied the American army during the Revolution were busily employed from 1812 to 1815 in furnishing supplies of common shot and shell, while powder mills and establishments for the manufacture and repair of small-arms were operated at many places in the county. The troops appear to have been militia, dressed in home-spun clothing, and officered by men who seemed to exercise but a limited control while in the line of march. The "stragglers," or that class of men who habitually "fall out by the way," are vividly recalled by an aged friend, who, then a girl twelve years old, lived near the Perkiomen bridge. She says her

father, a miller, fed scores while passing, and that sick, bare-footed and weary soldiers were slowly passing the point for several days after the officers and main body of men had gone by.

It is not known how many soldiers from Montgomery county served in the War of 1812-14, as many enlisted from Philadelphia and were not properly credited to Montgomery county, but suffice to say this county furnished many hundred men and in all ways aided in conquering the British the second time, standing as true supporters of President Madison and Governor Simon Snyder.

The citizen soldiers of Montgomery county responded promptly to the call of the Governor when the strong arm of the commonwealth was required to repress the lawless spirit that rendered the civil authorities and the city of Philadelphia powerless in the summer of 1844. The fire and smoke of burning churches and adjoining buildings in the alarmed city could be plainly seen from the hills in our county, and many of the living still remember the sense of fear that was felt in all the towns in the Schuylkill Valley. The military moved promptly to the scene of danger, and by their presence, discipline, courage and good conduct soon restored order and confidence in the city and surrounding country. The record of their public service is a part of the history of Montgomery county.

At this late date it is not of general interest to give a long roster of names in military affairs that were enacted nearly a century ago, hence this summary is appended: First Troop Cavalry, two officers, 44 men; Second Troop Cavalry, three officers, 48 men; Union Grey Artillerists, three officers, 31 men; First National Dragoons, three officers, 20 men; New Hanover Artillerists, three officers, 21 men; Goschenhoppen Grays, three officers, 22 men; Washington Gray Artillerists, two officers, 34 men; Montgomery Guards, three officers, 27 men; Sumneytown Artillerists, two officers, 14 men; Lafayette Blues, two officers, 38 men; Pennsylvania Defenders, two officers, 26 men; Union Rifle Company, three officers, 24 men. The total number of officers was thirty-one and the number of men three hundred and forty-nine.

The Mexican War—The war with Mexico from 1846 to 1848 did not demand a large army, hence there was no company formed in Montgomery county. The list of names of those who did enter that war from this county has never been properly filed, and cannot be here listed. It is known that a few found their way into the army and aided in subduing the Republic of Mexico. Among these was Andrew H. Tippen, who was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Eleventh Regiment of United States Infantry, and served with distinction. He survived the conflict, and served as a colonel in a Pennsylvania regiment during the Civil War. Two brothers, George and Henry Lower, of Springfield township, served as volunteers. Henry Lower died the first day of the

battle of Cerro Gordo, of brain fever, and was buried at Plano Del Rio. His remains were later brought home by his brother George, and now rest in St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Cemetery, Whitemarsh. Joseph Cleaver and Michael Dougherty were enlisted in the Mountain Howitzer Battery. Benjamin Ehler enlisted in the Eleventh regular infantry, from Springfield township; Louis Monsert enlisted in the Second Pennsylvania regiment; he resided in Norristown many years after the Mexican War; he enlisted from Reading, Berks county. Albert Arthur enlisted and served in the same command with George and Henry Lower, above mentioned.

The Civil War—Public opinion had been divided in this country for many years over the question of States Rights, especially as it related to human slavery. One element, both in the North as well as in the South, declared the right to hold men and women in bondage, while the opposing element (confined very largely to the Northern States), declared against slavery, and against a State within the Union having the constitutional right to withdraw from the Union, or to enact and enforce laws not in accord with the Constitution and decisions of the Supreme Court, as the extension of slavery into the Territories, and into such States as were opposed to such a system. The war cloud became dark and foreboding with the election of the first Republican President in the person of Abraham Lincoln, who was seated March 4, 1861, and whom it was known was by his very nature bitterly opposed to slavery. The North by its majorities insisted upon universal freedom; the South fiercely maintained the right to peaceably secede and establish a rival republic. South Carolina had "gone out of the Union" as she supposed, in December, 1860, but before 1865 found she was still a part of it. Fort Sumter, within her borders, fired upon, was the signal for the opening of what was destined to be a long drawn out and bloody civil strife in which brother fought against brother and father against son. Now that fifty-eight years have gone by since Lee's surrender, it need not be further referred to; but the part taken in this never-to-be-forgotten conflict by the citizens of Montgomery county should not be omitted in a history of the county.

The part taken by the people of this county during the four long years of hostilities can never be but half told. From various military records, together with Bean's and other local histories, the statements found herein concerning the Civil War may be relied upon as true, hence freely drawn from by the author of this Montgomery county's latest history.

The novel and exciting experience of those who responded to the first call of President Lincoln for three months' troops was memorable, if not so important as that which resulted from the long terms of enlistments following the disaster at Bull Run on the 21st day of July, 1861.

The great uprising of the North which quickly succeeded the fall of Fort Sumter was a national impulse, and the movement of men to the defense of the capital was through an excited and indignant populace. Great as the perils of war were known to be, they were extravagantly magnified at the time, and the anxiety and solicitude for those who were the first to march was shown by every household in the county. Few among those who witnessed the memorable scene of the departure of the Fourth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers from Norristown, on the morning of April 20, 1861, will ever forget the event. The several companies from the borough had been hastily recruited to their maximum. Many of the members being residents of the rural districts, had hastened to town, signed the roll, and, returning to bid the dear ones good-by, thoroughly aroused the plain country folks, hundreds of whom came trooping into town, "to see them off." Those who were present when the regiment was in line in front of the court house surrounded by thousands of our best citizens and the families of those in the ranks, will recall the intense excitement that prevailed. The painful solicitude of the hour was deepened as the impassioned and eloquent words of the Hon. Daniel Smyser, then president judge of the district, fell upon attentive ears from the steps of the court yard. The word *country* had a new and deeper significance for the men of that generation than was ever felt before. The beautiful flag presented to these gallant men by the ladies of the county was felt to symbolize hopes and interests paramount to all other considerations, and for the time being all differences of political opinion were subordinated to an exalted love of country. Men of all political opinions were requested to "put out their flags," and it is due to truth to say that in deference to public sentiment, that stood not upon trifles, the request was complied with.

On Saturday, April 20th, the command proceeded by rail to Harrisburg, and reached Camp Curtin at two o'clock p. m. It was the intention to have remained in camp till a sufficient number of men could have been procured from Montgomery county to fill the regiment to its maximum number; but the urgent necessities of the government rendered this purpose impracticable, and orders were issued to form a regiment immediately from such companies as were in camp. This order had the effect to change the command from a militia to a volunteer organization. An election was held, which resulted in the choice of the same field officers as those holding the militia commissions, as follows: John F. Hartranft, of Norristown, colonel; Edward Schall, of Norristown, lieutenant-colonel; Edwin Schall, of Norristown, major. Charles Hunsicker was appointed adjutant.

Scarcely was the organization completed when marching orders were received. Leaving Camp Curtin on the evening of the 21st of April, the regiment proceeded by rail to Philadelphia, where it was ordered by General Patterson to report to Colonel Dare, of the Twenty-third. Tak-

ing one company of his own and the Fourth Regiment, Colonel Dare proceeded by rail to Perryville, Maryland, and took possession of the town, making such disposition of the troops as would prevent a surprise.

On the following day General Patterson ordered the regiment to proceed without delay to Washington. Immediate application was made to Colonel Dare for transportation by steamer to Annapolis, the route by Baltimore being then closed. Not feeling secure from capture, Colonel Dare only gave transportation for one wing of the regiment, which embarked under command of Colonel Hartranft. Arriving at Annapolis, the troops were disembarked and quartered in the buildings belonging to the Naval Academy, by order of Major-General Butler, then in command of the town. The left wing, under command of Major Schall, was detained several days at Perryville for the security of the port.

It was expected that the men would be fully clothed, armed and equipped at Harrisburg before marching. But when the urgent appeals came from Washington for troops, it was not the time for the patriotic citizen-soldier to hesitate, and the regiment marched without uniforms or equipments, the men being armed with muskets, and provided with ammunition, which they were obliged to carry in their pockets. Clothing was sent to the regiment on the 28th of April, but not until some time in June were proper uniforms supplied.

In pursuance of orders, the regiment proceeded, on the 8th of May, to Washington, and was quartered in the Assembly buildings and in a church near by. Transportation and camp and garrison equipage not having been supplied by the State or national government, the regiment was prevented from going into camp. The close confinement of the men in crowded quarters soon produced its legitimate results. Sickness, which, up to this time, had been scarcely known in the regiment, now began to prevail to a considerable extent. As soon as tents were received it was at once established in camp, about two miles from the city, toward Bladensburg. When the necessary equipment was furnished regimental drills and inspections were commenced, and vigorous measures taken to make the regiment effective. On the 24th of June it was ordered to Alexandria, in anticipation of an attack by the enemy, and was soon after placed in camp on Shuter's Hill, where the regular drills and inspections were resumed.

On Sunday, June 30th, at two o'clock in the morning, the pickets of the regiment, stationed on the old Fairfax road, under command of Lieutenant M. R. McClennan, were attacked by about thirty of the enemy. They were repulsed by our pickets, only three in number, who killed Sergeant Haines, previously a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington. Three others of our pickets on the outer post, intending to go to the rescue of their comrades, came in contact with the enemy's force, in which Thomas Murray was killed and Llewelyn Rhumer was severely wounded. The third, dropping upon the ground,

escaped without injury, the enemy, in the excitement and darkness, passing over him. The trails of blood, discovered in the morning, showed that they had likewise suffered in the encounter.

The evidences on every hand pointed unmistakably to an early advance of the army. Inspections were careful and minute. All surplus baggage was sent to the rear, together with knapsacks and overcoats, the men retaining only their blankets. The Fourth Regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division of McDowell's army. The division moved from camp by the Fairfax road, reaching Sangster's Station on Thursday evening. The enemy set fire to his stores and retreated, as the column advanced. Firing was heard in the direction of Blackburn's Ford, occasioned by Colonel Richardson's reconnaissance in that direction. On Friday the division moved to Centreville, where the entire army of McDowell lay encamped. On Saturday, the 20th of July, the question of muster out was freely agitated, the term of enlistment expiring on the following day. Desirous of retaining the regiment in his command till the anticipated battle should be fought, General McDowell made an urgent appeal to the regiment to remain in service at least two weeks longer, saying he could not afford to do without such men. But differences of opinion prevailed in the regiment upon the question of compliance with this request. While many were willing to reënlist for two weeks longer, some were desirous of being mustered out in accordance with their contract with the government. When it was ascertained that unanimity of sentiment was not likely to be secured, it was decided by the commanding general that to break up the organization and to take a fragment of the regiment into battle would not be prudent; orders were accordingly issued for its muster out of service. Several causes conspired to create an aversion to remaining. The regiment had been subject, during its service, to hardships which are, perhaps, inseparable from new and hasty organizations, but which bore somewhat heavily upon the men, a detail of which it is unnecessary here to give. It was at a time, too, when great activity prevailed in the organization of new regiments for the three years' service, the officers of this regiment having already taken steps for making new organizations, in which considerable strife was manifested to get the trained men. Their decision was, accordingly, made more with reference to their own advantage and that of their officers than to any ulterior results.

General McDowell, when he found himself defeated in the battle which ensued, looking about for some causes to which he could attribute his failure, towards the close of his official report drags in this regiment for a share of blame, to whose service he had no more rightful claim, and whose conduct he could no more justly censure, than that of the regiment a week or a month earlier discharged. The subsequent history of the men composing this regiment dispels any doubt that may, at the time, have been raised of the rectitude of their intentions. Under the

command of the lieutenant-colonel, it marched to Washington, from whence it was taken by rail to Harrisburg, where it was soon after mustered out of service. But measures were immediately taken for the organization of new regiments, in which the men immediately enlisted for the war, and fully attested on the bloody fields of Fredericksburg and Antietam, and in numberless hard-fought battles of the war, their patriotism and their valor.

For ready reference, the account of the various organizations from Montgomery county will appear in the order of their formation or departure into the service. They appear as follows:

The 44th Regiment (or First Pennsylvania Cavalry) entered U. S. service for a term of three years. Company B was recruited in Montgomery county, and was trained under that gallant and well versed military man, Colonel George D. Bayard, a West Point graduate of 1856. He fell mortally wounded in December, 1862, at Fredericksburg, Virginia. The second colonel was Owen Jones, of this county, a splendid type of a soldier. This company was recruited at Athensville, in August, 1861, and served three years, having seen much service in the Army of the Potomac.

The 51st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers—Some time before the battle of Bull Run, Colonel Hartranft, who commanded a regiment in the three months' service, received authority to recruit one for the three years' service. Calling around him many of his old officers and warm friends, the ranks of the new regiment were soon filled up with a body rarely excelled as first-class soldiers. With the exception of a few enlistments, companies A, C, D, F and I were recruited from Montgomery county. The companies went into quarters at Camp Curtin, and the regiment was organized by selecting the following officers: John F. Hartranft, of Montgomery county, colonel; Thomas S. Bell, of Chester county, lieutenant-colonel; Edwin Schall, of Montgomery county, major. On November 18th the regiment left camp and proceeded by rail to Annapolis, Maryland, where beneath the venerable elms of St. John's College it was the first time formed in line, its details made and its arms stacked. Burnside's expedition to North Carolina was now being fitted out, and the best drilled and most reliable of the volunteer regiments were selected for that service. The 51st Pennsylvania was early designated as one. Upon its arrival at Annapolis it was at first quartered in the buildings of the college, and subsequently went into camp on the old French burying-ground. On the 1st of December the camp was moved two miles beyond the city, and for six weeks it was subjected to continuous and laborious drill, during which its efficiency and discipline were rapidly improved, and a foundation laid for its future renown. In the final organization of the corps it was assigned to Reno's brigade, and of which General Reno made the following report:

On the 6th of January, 1862, the regiment embarked, and on the 9th the fleet, in three squadrons, set sail from Annapolis, and with sealed orders passed out to sea. No sooner had it reached the open ocean than it was overtaken by a succession of violent storms. It seemed as though a tempest had been lurking in the waste of waters ready to burst upon it the moment it should appear. For nearly two weeks, staggering beneath the giant waves, it was swept about at the mercy of the elements. Braving successfully the tempest, it finally passed Hatteras Inlet, and came to anchor in Pamlico Sound. On the morning of the 5th of February the flag-ship "Philadelphia" was anxiously watched as it moved, followed by the fleet, and it soon became evident that Roanoke Island was the destination. At early dawn on the 7th a landing was effected and the movement commenced. The enemy was found strongly posted in earthworks on the northwestern corner of the island, nearly surrounded by an impenetrable swamp, approached in front by a single causeway, which was swept by the guns of the fort. Upon arriving at the edge of the swamp, Reno's brigade was sent to the left to cut off the enemy's retreat south, while Foster was directed to penetrate the swamp to the right of the road, and attack the enemy upon that flank. Hartranft soon found his way completely blocked, and returned upon the track of Foster, leaving two companies of the 51st, which had the advance, still groping in the mire. But before he had reached the lines Foster had already opened upon the enemy with infantry and artillery, and as the regiment came into position on the right of the line, Foster ordered a final charge, and the enemy was driven from his works, and fled in confusion. The demonstration upon the left seemed to heighten the confusion, as he anticipated that his way of retreat was effectually broken. A hot pursuit was immediately made, and the entire force, with numerous heavy guns and small-arms, was captured.

On the 3d of March the regiment embarked for the expedition to Newbern, and on the 4th changed its muskets for Enfield rifles. The fleet sailed on the 11th, and entered the Neuse river on the 12th, anchoring off Slocum's creek, fifteen miles from Newbern, where, on the following day, the regiment debarked. A portion, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bell, was detailed to assist in moving the artillery. The rain was descending in torrents, and the roads were soon trodden into a stiff mud, which rendered the movement of the pieces next to impossible. Many of the men lost their shoes, and went into battle on the following day barefoot. But without faltering or pausing by the way, they toiled on over the weary miles, and brought up the pieces in time for the attack. For this important service General Burnside personally thanked Lieutenant-Colonel Bell. In the meantime Colonel Hartranft, with the remaining companies, pushed on with the advance column. Upon its arrival in front of the enemy's earth-works, dispositions for attack were made, Foster occupying the right, Reno the left and Parke in support upon the centre. The enemy's line upon the left was masked by timber, and in the thick fog which prevailed the extent of his works was undiscovered. They proved to be of great strength, consisting of "thirteen finished redans" bristling with cannon, protected in front "by an almost impassable morass filled with fallen timber," and stretching away far beyond the railroad, where his right was supposed to rest. Foster attacked upon his left; but the enemy concentrating his strength, proved too much for him.

As soon as he could gain his position on the left, Reno attacked and the battle soon became general, raging with great fury for three and a half hours. The 51st had been held in support, and though exposed to a severe fire had not been allowed to return a single shot. General Reno becoming impatient at the delay and at the losses he was sustaining, ordered up Colonel Hartranft for the decisive charge. Forming within a short distance of the rebel intrenchments, the regiment was led forward through the ranks of the 51st New York, which cheered the column as it passed to a little hill beyond. General Reno in person, his face beaming with an expression seen only in battle, ordered the charge. With determined valor the regiment rushed down a ravine choked with felled timber, up the opposite bank and, without a falter, carried the redan in front, planting the old flag upon the ramparts. "All this," says General Reno, in his official report, "was gallantly executed, and the enemy fled precipitately from all their entrenchments. Some fifty prisoners were captured in these works, many severely wounded. Upon reaching the rebel intrenchments I was rejoiced to see our flag waving along the entire line of the enemy's works." After setting fire to the railroad bridge and a number of factories, the rebels abandoned Newbern.

On August 12 Burnside hastened with his command to the support of Pope, and landed at Fredericksburg, whence he pushed forward two divisions to Cedar Mountain, where they formed a junction with General McDowell. Four companies were detailed for a rearguard, and held the enemy at bay until so far separated from the main body as to excite serious apprehension for their safety; but they succeeded in bringing in their gun with which they had been entrusted and crossed the river in safety. The 51st supported the batteries. On the afternoon of the first day of the battle, the 29th, Lieutenant-Colonel Bell, with part of his regiment, was detailed to advance to the picket line in Kearny's front, and there remained until the morning of the second day. Towards evening, says Reno's report, our forces had been driven back and then began to move from the field. The road was completely blocked with the artillery trains and much confusion followed. It was a critical moment. Graham's pieces were admirably posted for its protection, and were already dealing death blows in constant volleys upon the advancing foe; but should his support fail him all was to be lost. Ferrero saw the necessity of holding these guns at all hazards and keeping them in full play. Undaunted by the masses of the foe hurled against him, he clung to the ground, and poured in double-shotted canister and rapid rounds of musketry until the enemy lines were broken and driven in confusion from the field. But they reappeared stronger than ever, yet Ferrero's column withstood the shock, finally routing the foe. Now Ferrero, with the 21st Massachusetts, moved off, and was separated from the rest of the brigade. The command of the two remaining regiments devolved on Colonel Hartranft.

Retiring across Bull Run, the two regiments filed into the fields to the right of the pike, and bivouacked for the night. In the morning they moved on to Centreville, and rejoined the army. It was soon after discovered that the rebels were in motion to strike the Union column by a movement upon its right and cut off its retreat. Reno's corps was immediately put in motion, with the cavalry in advance, and was soon joined by Stevens and Kearny. Hartranft had the rear of the column, and was moving with two batteries, though under no orders to support them, when he suddenly found himself confronting the enemy. The two armies were moving on convergent roads, and the lines were here first struck. Seeing that these batteries were in peril, he instantly ordered them into a commanding position on the left of the road, and drove back the foe. It was nightfall, and a terrible thunder-storm prevailed; but Kearny and Stevens and Reno, three impetuous leaders, immediately formed, moved upon the foe, and fought in the darkness. They knew nothing of his strength and little of the ground, and contended to a great disadvantage; but the enemy was beaten back, which was the principal point, though Kearny and Stevens both yielded up their lives.

At his own request Pope was now relieved of the command of the Army of the Potomac, and McClellan was restored. On the 3rd of September the Ninth Corps moved through Washington, and on the 11th reached New Market, on the Maryland campaign. The passage of the Monocacy was not disputed. On the 12th the command entered Frederick, and had a brisk skirmish with the cavalry which was covering the withdrawal of the rebel army, now concentrating in the passes of the South Mountain, which it was determined to hold. Before reaching the mountain Ferrero's brigade moved by a country road leading up to the summit on the left of the Sharpsburg pike. Upon encountering the enemy's lines the 17th Michigan, a new regiment, full of enthusiasm, but little schooled in those cardinal virtues of the soldier imparted by veteran discipline, made a most gallant charge diagonally across the road from left to right, in the face of murderous fire, which swept the ranks at every step, and soon disappeared in the woods beyond. General Reno coming up soon after, and supposing that his regiment had established a line in the woods and was holding the ground it had so gallantly won, ordered Colonel Hartranft to lead his regiment across the open field in the rear of the supposed line, and close up to the edge of the woods. While the regiment was thus moving and was stretched out upon the march unsuspicious of danger, the enemy suddenly opened upon it from the wood a most withering fire. The 17th Michigan had advanced and driven the enemy, but had neglected to hold its advantage, and the rebels returning, had awaited until the 51st was upon their bayonet ends, when they deliberately opened fire. The column was instantly drawn under cover of the wall that flanks the road, and soon after was deployed to the left of the road, under a fence that stretches at right angles to it.

Fire was immediately opened upon the enemy, which was kept up until the ammunition was spent, when it was relieved by the 51st New York, Colonel Potter, lying in close supporting distance. Returning again to the contest, fire was continued until the enemy, finding himself hard pressed on all sides and his position rendered insecure, fled under cover of darkness, and in the morning the columns advanced without opposition. General Reno was killed early in the contest.

The battle of Antietam opened on the afternoon of the 16th of September, General Hooker crossing Antietam creek and attacking the enemy's left with great impetuosity and the most triumphant success, and was followed up on the morning of the 17th with even greater impetuosity by the commands of Mansfield and Sumner. In the meantime the left and center of the Union line, stretching away towards the Potomac on the left bank of the creek, remained quiet spectators of the desperate encounter on the right. At nine o'clock on the morning of the 17th, when the struggle upon the right had been four hours in progress, General Cox, in command of the Ninth Army Corps since the fall of Reno, was ordered to advance and carry the stone bridge on the extreme left of the line, firmly held by the enemy. "The bridge itself is a stone structure of three arches, with stone parapet above, this parapet to some extent flanking the approach to the bridge at either end. The valley in which the stream runs is quite narrow, the steep slope on the right bank approaching to the water's edge. In this slope the road-way is scarped, running both ways from the bridge and passing to the higher land above by ascending through ravines above and below, the upper ravine being some six hundred yards above the bridge, the town about half that distance below. On the hillside immediately above the bridge was a strong stone fence running parallel to the stream; the turns of the road-way were covered by rifle-pits and breastworks made of rails and stone, all of which defenses, as well as the woods which covered the slope, were filled with the enemy's infantry and sharpshooters. Besides the infantry defenses, batteries were placed to enfilade the bridge and all its approaches." [General Cox's Official Report, Moore's "Rebellion Record," Docs. Vol. V, p. 454-455.]

Against this position, strong by nature, rendered doubly strong by art, the 11th Connecticut and Crook's brigade, supported by Sturgis' division, were ordered to the assault. As this force advanced up the open valley by the road which leads along the river bank to the bridge, it was exposed to so warm a fire from the opposite heights, alive with the enemy, that it was forced to halt and reply. Sturgis' troops reached the head of the bridge, and the 2nd Maryland and the 6th New Hampshire charged at double-quick with fixed bayonets; but the concentrated fire of the enemy upon it forced them to fall back. After repeated efforts these regiments were withdrawn. Burnside, nettled at the failure of this attempt and the consequent delay of his columns, and knowing full

well in whom he could trust, ordered forward the 51st. General Ferrero dashing up to the regiment, said, "General Burnside orders the 51st Pennsylvania to storm the bridge." Hartranft, avoiding the road by the river bank, led his men in rear of the heights overlooking the river until he arrived opposite the bridge, when he moved boldly down the slope for the crossing. The instant his men came into the open ground in the valley they received a withering fire from the enemy's well-posted infantry, and many fell. A fence skirting the road proved a serious impediment, and in crossing it the men were particularly exposed. Here fell Captains Bolton and Hart, severely wounded, a serious loss at this juncture. Unheeding the enemy's bullets or the obstruction by the way, the column moved forward with a determined front, and made straight for the bridge. As they entered, a storm of missiles swept it, but no danger could stay that tide of living valor. Hartranft, who led the way, paused in the midst, and was hasteneing on the rear of his column when he was joined by Colonel Potter, with the gallant 51st New York. With a shout that rang out above the noise of the battle the two columns rushed forward, and were soon firmly established on the thither bank. The bridge was carried!

A regiment was quickly advanced, and took position on the heights commanding the bridge and its approaches, driving out the enemy and rendering the crossing for infantry secure. The whole corps now advanced rapidly, took position on the heights above the bridge, and immediately advanced to the attack. The 51st was posted on the second range of hills overlooking the creek, some distance below the bridge. Here it was soon hotly engaged with the enemy under cover of a stone wall and in a cornfield on its left. Its ammunition was soon exhausted, and a fresh supply failing to arrive as ordered, the men held their position with the bayonet until relief came. But all this struggle and costly sacrifice was vain. The enemy, relieved by the slackening of the battle on the left and the arrival of a fresh corps from Harper's Ferry, was enabled to concentrate an overwhelming force upon this single corps, and it was forced to yield. The loss of the regiment was 125. Among the killed was Lieutenant-Colonel Bell, a most vigilant officer and most estimable man, and Lieutenants Beaver and Hunsicker. Of the wounded were Captains Bolton and Hart, Adjutant Shorkly, Quartermaster Freedly and Lieutenant Lynch. Upon the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel Bell, Major Schall was promoted to fill the vacancy, and Captain William J. Bolten, of Company A, was promoted to major.

In the subsequent operations of the brigade the 51st, under command of Colonel Bolton, participated, engaging the enemy at Poplar Spring Church, at Ream's Station, at Hatcher's Run and in the final attack on the 2d of April, which resulted in the evacuation of Richmond. On the 27th of July, after four years of arduous service, extending over the whole

line from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, it was mustered out of service at Alexandria, Virginia. This regiment took part in a majority of the greatest battles in the Civil War; it traveled a total of 10,439 miles; marched 1,738 miles; by water, 5,390; by rail, 3,311.

The history of the 51st Pennsylvania contains this bit of pleasantry worthy of becoming a permanent record, and is appreciated by the few remaining veterans of the Civil War, whether of the Confederate or Union forces. The following episode between the pickets on the line of the Rappahannock by men of the 51st illustrates the fact:

The best of feeling was expressed by both parties, and if a stray hog should by chance come within sight, both Reb and Yank would start off in pursuit of the porker, and catch and slaughter it, and then divide it equally between them with many jocular remarks about the mode of living that each army was subject to. The commencement of cessation of hostilities by both sets of pickets began with hallooing to each other, then with the poking up of heads above their rude breastworks, and then by exposing themselves outside of the works, finally feeling some confidence in each other, and no shots being fired along either line, they began by advancing towards one another. Between the two picket-lines flowed a stream of water; this was the Rappahannock of the two parties; when both parties met near the stream the following introductory remarks took place, the Rebs asking: "Hallo, Yanks, what regiment?" Yank—"The Fifty-first Pennsylvania." Reb—"D—— good boys, too." Yank—"Say, Johnnies, what regiments?" Reb—"Eighty-eighth Tennessee, Second Georgia and Fourth Mississippi." Yank—"We've met you chaps before." Reb—"Yes, several times; come across the creek." Yank—"Can't see it; will you reach your hand out?" Reb—"Yes, here; give us your hand; now, jump!" and over one went, and in a few minutes the Fifty-first boys were on the rebel side, and in return the rebels came over to our side, and all the civilities of an enlightened race were extended to one another.

The pickets of both lines made a treaty between themselves not to fire a gun at each other during that relief, which would be until four o'clock the next morning, and with true faith was it carried out, although the flag of truce expired at 5 p. m. There was not a solitary shot fired until the next relief was put on the next morning.

On the 21st of August, 1861, John R. Brooke, of Pottstown, was commissioned colonel of the 53rd Regiment. He had served as captain of the 4th (three months') Regiment. Recruiting was immediately commenced, and on the 28th of September the first company was mustered into the service of the United States. Company A was recruited in Pottstown, B in Chester and Montgomery counties, C in Blair and Huntingdon, D in Centre and Clearfield, E in Carbon and Union, F in Luzerne, G in Potter, H in Northumberland, I in Juniata and K in Westmoreland. During the period of its organization it occupied Camp Curtin, and while here did provost guard duty in Harrisburg. The following field officers were selected: John R. Brooke, colonel; Richard McMichael, of Reading, Berks county, lieutenant-colonel: and Thomas

Yeager, of Allentown, Lehigh county, major. Charles P. Hatch, of Philadelphia, was appointed adjutant.

On the 7th of November it moved to Washington and encamped north of the capitol. On the 27th it crossed the Potomac, went into camp near Alexandria, and was assigned to a brigade commanded by General William H. French. It remained here during the winter of 1861-62, and was constantly drilled and disciplined in the routine of a soldier's duty. It participated in the general advance of the Army of the Potomac in March, 1862, arriving at Manassas Junction, which had been evacuated by the rebels on the 12th. On the 21st it was marched to Warrenton Junction to support a reconnoissance of Howard's brigade, which was being pushed towards the Rappahannock. The object having been accomplished, on the 23rd it returned to Manassas and from thence to Alexandria. Upon the reorganization of the army the regiment was assigned to the Third Brigade, First Division, Second Corps. April 3rd it was transferred with McClellan's army to the Peninsula, and formed a part of the reserve division during the siege of Yorktown. It had numerous and fierce engagements, including those at Peach Orchard, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, then moving via Yorktown to Newport News, it embarked for Alexandria, encamped on the Lee farm, and heard the roar of the guns at Bull Run. At Centerville the regiment did duty in line of battle. When General Burnside assumed command of the Army of the Potomac and projected the movement upon Fredericksburg, the regiment proceeded to Falmouth, performed guard duty until in December, then took quarters opposite Fredericksburg, in support of the batteries. They took an active part in the battle of Fredericksburg, and at eventide after the conflict was ended and the day lost to our forces, what remained of the regiment retired silently from its position and returned to the city. It went into battle with 283 men, and of these 158 were either killed or wounded. Among the former were Lieutenants Cross, McKiernan and Kerr, and the latter, Captains Coulter and Eichholtz, and Lieutenants Potts, Root, Hopkins and Smith.

In April the regiment entered upon the Chancellorsville campaign, and saw hard fighting until the 2nd of July, 1863, when it arrived and took position at Gettysburg at eight o'clock in the morning. Later that day it moved to Little Round Top. It fought bravely, but being much exposed its loss was necessarily heavy. Three companies were still on detached duty, and the remainder had but 124 men; of this number, only 45 escaped uninjured, six were killed, 67 seriously wounded, and six missing.

After many a long march and weary campaign, in December, 1863, the men were granted a veteran furlough and proceeded to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, but on their return in the spring of 1864 they broke camp again and went into active service, including Chancellorsville, Chicka-

hominy, the James river country, also Petersburg, where in a charge it lost 70 men and met with repulse.

On the 28th of March, 1865, the regiment moved on its last campaign, proceeding directly to the Boydton Plank-Road, where, on the 31st, it was briskly engaged. The Fifth Corps was now actively employed in pushing the enemy from his foot-hold about Petersburg, and in this the Second Corps was called to its aid. In the operations at Five Forks the regiment joined, charging the enemy's lines, driving him in confusion, and taking possession of a portion of the South Side railroad. In this engagement Major Pifer led the 53rd, Colonel Mintzer having been placed temporarily in command of a detachment skillfully deployed to deceive a division of the enemy and prevent him from changing his position. For the success attained in this service Colonel Mintzer was promoted brevet brigadier-general. Following up the retreating enemy, the regiment participated in the capture of his wagon-trains at Deep Creek, on the 6th of April, and was at the front on the day of the surrender of the rebel army. Encamping for a short time near Burkesville, it proceeded from thence, through Richmond and Fredericksburg, to Alexandria, participated in the grand review of the armies at Washington, on the 23rd of May, and was finally mustered out of service on the 30th of June, 1865.

The 68th Regiment was recruited in Philadelphia and in the adjacent counties of Montgomery and Chester during the summer of 1862, the first company being mustered in on the 4th of August, and was fully organized by September. A camp was established at Frankford, a suburb of Philadelphia. The field officers were: Andrew H. Tippen, colonel, A. H. Reynolds, lieutenant-colonel; Thomas Hawksworth, major. Though above the minimum, its ranks were not up to the maximum standard, and the men were only partially uniformed and equipped. It broke camp on the evening of September 1st and proceeded to Washington. The army was just then falling back to the heights around the capital. The regiment was immediately ordered across the Potomac, and went into camp at Arlington Heights. Here it was armed, and furnished with a complete outfit for an active campaign. It was assigned to Robinson's brigade of Stoneman's division. Soon after the battle of Antietam the regiment moved from camp, and passing through Georgetown, proceeded to Poolsville, arriving on the 10th of October, the day on which the rebel Generals Stuart and Hampton, with a force of cavalry, made their famous raid on Chambersburg, and a complete circuit of the Union army. Intelligence soon spread of the daring ride, and the regiment was marched rapidly to Conrad's Ferry, in expectation that the bold raiders would attempt to cross the Potomac, on their return into Virginia, at this point. But they made for a ford considerably lower down the stream, and passed over without opposition. After remaining several days in the vicinity of the ferry, it rejoined the brigade and

proceeded southward with the rest of the army. While on the march the rebel cavalry under White suddenly dashed in upon the train moving with the brigade, and captured wagons belonging to the 68th, containing officers' baggage, books, papers and camp and garrison equipage, overpowering and making prisoners of the feeble guard which had it in charge. About forty of the 68th were taken, who were sent to Richmond and kept in confinement several months.

This regiment was in the movement against Chancellorsville and the operations below Fredericksburg. It captured thirty-five officers and men of the 10th Virginia Regiment, with the colors and color-guard. At the opening of the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, the regiment was at Emmettsburg, but rapidly moved forward, hearing the heavy firing in the distance. Its position was between Seminary and Cemetery ridges, finally at Peach Orchard, and there encountered heavy fighting, this point being the real key to the position. Colonel Tippen made this record of the part his command took in that memorable fight—possibly the turning point in the Rebellion: "It was a terrible afternoon, and all were anxious for the Fifth Corps to come up, as we were being decimated by the artillery. In that orchard the lieutenant-colonel and major were wounded and ten other officers killed or wounded, leaving with me but four to bring the regiment out of the fight, having had in all but seventeen present for duty. Just at sunset the rebel infantry charged upon the position and the brigade, weakened by its losses, was forced to yield, yet contesting every inch of ground." On the third day the regiment was held in reserve on the lower part of the entire field, exposed to a terrible fire from the enemy artillery. Colonel Tippen had his horse shot from under him and killed on that day. The loss here was about sixty per cent. of the number engaged. The regiment went into winter quarters at Brandy Station, and early in January, 1864, the few left in the command reënlisted. April 18, 1864, the regiment was ordered to General Meade's headquarters, where it was placed under command of General Patrick, Provost-Marshal General of the army, and employed in guard duty, continuing until the end of the war. After the return of the regiment to Virginia for the last fall campaign, in a sharp turn made by General Meade, Colonel Tippen was taken prisoner and confined in Libby prison for almost nine months. He was exchanged June 25, 1864, and resumed command of his regiment.

Colonel Tippen, of Montgomery county, commander of the brigade, having just got out of prison, in his report says:

The brigade was under my command. Among the prisoners were Lieutenant General Ewell, Major-Generals Custis Lee, Kershaw and other prominent generals of the rebel army, together with about six hundred officers of lesser grade. At a point on the route where we all rested for a short time, I received a dispatch that General Lee had surrendered. I communicated the intelligence to Generals Ewell and Custis

Lee, but both doubted its truthfulness. They could not think it possible. In a very short time, and before leaving our resting-place, General Benham came up with his engineer brigade, and gave the terms of surrender. Young General Lee dropped his head on his breast, and General Ewell threw up his arms, exclaiming, "The jig is up."

In the last charge made upon the enemy's lines at Petersburg, before the final move, the regiment, though employed in provost duty, was of the storming-party. In the sharp conflict which ensued, Major John C. Gallagher was mortally wounded and a number of officers and men were lost.

After the capture of Lieutenant-General Ewell and his forces at Sailor's Creek, this regiment, in conjunction with others then constituting the headquarters brigade, was detailed to guard the prisoners, and proceed with them to City Point. The brigade was under the command of Colonel Tippen, and the order was faithfully executed without the loss of a man. This duty done, the regiment returned to the headquarters of the army, having in charge about 6,000 recruits that had accumulated at City Point. It had been but a short time with the moving column when General Meade ordered it to proceed, in company with the 143rd Pennsylvania, to Hart's Island, near the city of New York, to have charge of rebel prisoners confined there. Here it remained until the 9th of June, when it was mustered out of service.

In the 93rd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, the following officers and enlisted men were recruited in and accredited to Montgomery county. The regiment ranked among the veteran organizations of the State, and was among the best volunteer regiments in the service. There being no company organization accredited to the county, we omit the field and staff roster and the general history of the command. The regiment was organized at Lebanon, November 3, 1861.

The 95th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers was organized as the Pennsylvania Zouaves, then as the 45th and finally as the 95th. It was mustered into the service August, 1861, for three years. The regiment served in the army of the Potomac from its organization to the close of the war, and its losses in the service are reported as the most severe experienced by any Pennsylvania regiment in the field.

The 106th Regiment was organized, with the exception of Company K, between the 14th of August and the 31st of October, 1861, in Philadelphia. Company K was transferred to it from the 67th Regiment on the 28th of February, 1862. A large proportion of officers and men had served in the 22nd Regiment, and previously in the Philadelphia Light Guard, a militia organization of long years standing. The following were field officers: Turner G. Morehead, colonel; William L. Curry, lieutenant-colonel; John H. Stover, major. At Yorktown this regiment participated in the engagement and all that season on marches and travel otherwise. This regiment participated at Fair Oaks, where Lieutenant-

Colonel Curry was taken prisoner, taken to Libby prison, and later to Salisbury, where he was illy treated, but after three months was exchanged. The regiment saw service at Charles City Cross Roads, at Peach Orchard, at bloody Antietam Creek, where in ten minutes time one-third of the entire regiment was stricken down, and at the end of the engagement the dead lay in line as they had stood in the fight. Captain Timothy Clark and Lieutenant William Bryan were among the killed. In all these places named this regiment was known for its bravery.

At Fredericksburg, in the main battle, which was fought on the 13th, the regiment was formed for a charge, with the 69th on its right and the 127th Pennsylvania on its left, and advanced under a terrific fire of artillery to a position within about seventy-five yards of the enemy's works. From midday until nightfall, under a ceaseless fire from two lines of battle, it stood with a coolness and determination rarely paralleled, and though losing heavily, held the ground until darkness closed in upon the combatants and the sound of battle died away. Retiring after the battle to its former camp, it remained, with unimportant exceptions, until near the close of April. At the opening of the Chancellorsville campaign the brigade was taken to Banks' Ford, where it was employed in driving out the enemy and protecting the engineers while laying a pontoon bridge. It was afterwards engaged in guarding the reserve artillery. On the 3rd of May, the regiment crossed the river and advanced to the assistance of Sedgwick, in command of the Sixth Corps, who was struggling against overwhelming odds at Salem Church. Returning to the bridge, entrenchments were thrown up, and the position held until Sedgwick's corps had crossed, when it returned again to camp.

In the battle of Gettysburg, which opened on the 1st of July, the 106th bore a conspicuous part, arriving with the corps upon the field at a little after midnight of the 1st, and taking position on the extreme left of the brigade, behind the low stone wall on the right centre of the line, in front of and to the left of General Meade's headquarters. The fighting commenced on the afternoon of the 2nd, on the extreme left, where Sickles stood, but soon swept around until it enveloped the whole left wing of the army. Fighting in the open field without defensive works, Sickles' men, though contesting the ground with a valor unsurpassed, were forced back, and line after line was crushed. While the conflict was thus raging on the left, the brigade was lying upon the ground in rear of the crest of the little hill which overlooked the field; but as the wave of battle rolled on towards the right, recognizing the danger to which the left wing was exposed, and seeing that there was a gap in the line to the left, General Webb, in command of the brigade, ordered it to march by the left flank, then by the right, and as it reached the crest beheld the enemy not sixty yards in front, marching on, elated by success, as to assured victory. "Fire! Charge bayonets!" rang out

from the voice of the commander. A crash as from a single piece was the response, and in the twinkling of an eye bayonets were fixed, and, with a cheer that betokened the determination which fired each breast, the line went forward, striking the enemy upon his extreme left flank, and hurling him back in dismay. The 106th and two companies of the 2nd New York pursued the retreating foe as far as the Emmettsburg road.

The regiment returned to its place in line, but was scarcely in position when it was ordered to the extreme right, where the Twelfth Corps was engaged. It did not arrive, however, until the fighting at that point had subsided, and soon after was ordered to Cemetery Hill to the support of the Eleventh Corps, where it went into position at ten p. m., on the right of the Baltimore pike, near Ricketts' battery, where it remained under the terrific cannonade of the following day, and until the close of the battle.

On the 3rd of May the regiment broke camp, and after a severe march crossed the Rapidan, and arrived on the 5th on the Wilderness battleground. The fighting for three days in the tangled wilds of that ever memorable field was for the most part at close quarters and very severe. From the Wilderness the regiment marched towards Spottsylvania Court House, but before reaching it encountered the enemy, and the contest was renewed. On the afternoon of the 11th the brigade withdrew from the breastworks in front of the court house, and marched with the corps to the left of the line, where, at dawn of the 12th, Hancock led his columns upon the enemy's works. Delivered in strong force and at an unexpected hour, the charge was successful, the works being taken with numerous captives and guns. The 106th in this encounter suffered severely. Lieutenant-Colonel Curry, in command, was mortally wounded, and Lieutenants Charles S. Schwartz and Joshua A. Gage were among the killed. The regiment was held upon the front line, where constant skirmishing was kept up until the 18th, when another attempt was made to rout the enemy, which was unsuccessful. Again moving by the left flank, the corps encountered the enemy at North Anna and again at Cold Harbor. In the engagement at the latter place the brigade was ordered to charge and drive out the enemy from his intrenchments.

On the 27th of July the veterans and recruits were organized into a battalion of three companies, which was united for field service to the 69th Pennsylvania. The remainder of the regiment was mustered out of service at the expiration of its term, at Philadelphia, on the 10th of September, 1864. The battalion remaining in the field participated in the actions at Ream's Station and Boydton Plank-Road and in the spring campaign which closed the Rebellion. It was mustered out of service on the 30th of June, 1865.

The 129th Regiment only had one company from Montgomery county, Company I. It rendezvoused at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, where on August 15, 1862, an organization was effected and officers elected as follows: Jacob G. Frick, colonel; William H. Armstrong, lieutenant-colonel; Joseph Anthony, major. By August 18th the regiment went into camp at Alexandria, near Washington. Two companies were detailed to build a bridge over Bull Run. In December, 1862, the division crossed the Rappahannock, and proceeding through the town to a position in full view of the field, awaited the order to enter the fight. It was not long delayed, and again advancing by a main road, the brigade halted in low, open ground, where the men were ordered to lie down. Tempted by the easy range and unprotected situation of the brigade, the enemy opened a destructive fire from his batteries, by which Lieutenant Jacob Parvin, Jr., was mortally, and a number of privates severely wounded. Moving to the left of the road, the division was shortly after formed in line of battle on the crest of the hill, the brigade in two lines, the 129th on the left front. In the hopeless and fruitless charge which followed, made under a ceaseless fire of musketry and artillery from the impregnable position which the enemy held, officers and men did everything that true soldiers could do, traversing in good order the lines of dead and wounded left in previous charges, and pressing forward in the gathering darkness until they attained position in advance of every previous charge, and from which it was impossible to go farther. In the brief space that it was in motion the regiment lost one hundred and forty-two in killed and wounded. The caps of some were subsequently found close up to the famous stone-wall, and an officer and seven privates of Company D were taken prisoners. Captain George J. Lawrence and Jonathan K. Taylor were mortally wounded. Captain Taylor was shot through the lungs early in the charge, but refused to leave the field, and retired with his command. Captains William Wren, Jr., Herbert Thomas, E. Godfrey Rehrer and Levi C. Leib and Lieutenant A. A. Lukenbach were wounded. Lieutenant Joseph Oliver was wounded and fell into the enemy's hands. The loss in killed was sixteen.

After dark the regiment was again marched upon the field for guard duty, but was withdrawn towards midnight. On the 14th and 15th it remained in the town, losing one man by the shot of a sharpshooter, and on the morning of the 16th, after having spent the night in throwing up a breastwork on the right of the town, recrossed the river and retired again to camp. The knapsacks which had been thrown aside before going into battle had been carefully guarded, but were not recovered. During the cold, rainy days preceding the 23rd of December, when extra clothing and blankets were furnished to supply the place of those lost, the men suffered greatly from exposure, one dying and many being thrown into hospitals. Drill and picket duty, which was at times severe, the Mud March from the 20th to the 24th of January, 1863, and occa-

sional reviews, filled up the measure of its duty until the opening of Hooker's first campaign.

The regiment marched with the corps on the Chancellorsville campaign, though the time of many of the men had already expired, and took part in the fighting of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of May. In the principal contest on the morning of the 3rd, it was closely engaged in its place in the division line of battle in the wood in front of the Union batteries. After nearly two hours of sharp musketry firing the ammunition became exhausted, and the right flank of the division was turned. The command was given to face by the rear rank and retire, in order that the batteries might have full play upon the rebel columns coming in upon the flank. It was executed in as orderly a manner as the thickly-wooded ground would permit, but the 129th, bringing up the rear, had not left the wood before the enemy closed upon it, and some spirited hand-to-hand encounters occurred. The colors were twice seized, but were defended with great gallantry and brought safely off. Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong fell into the enemy's hands, but made his escape in the confusion caused in his ranks by the fire of the Union batteries. Major Anthony was shot through the lungs, but was assisted off the field, and still survives what was then considered a mortal wound. "The 129th," says General Tyler, in his official report, "was on our left, and no man ever saw cooler work on *field drill* than was done by this regiment. Their firing was grand, by rank, by company and by wing, in perfect order." The loss was five killed, thirty-two wounded and five missing. On the 6th the regiment recrossed the Rappahannock and returned to its camp near Falmouth. On the 12th, its term of service having fully expired, it returned to Harrisburg, where, on the 18th of May, it was mustered out. The return of companies to Easton and Pottsville was marked by flattering and enthusiastic demonstrations on the part of the citizens.

The 138th Regiment at first called for nine months' men, before it was fully recruited it was made known by the government that no more short-term men were wanted, and that three-year men were needed. But this made no difference to the men; they enlisted for the longer term and counted it a pleasure to do "Uncle Sam's" bidding, believing he doubtless knew best what a civil war meant. Companies A, C, I and K were recruited in Montgomery county; B and G in Adams county; D, E and F in Bedford, and Company H in Bucks county. They arrived at Harrisburg in August, and by the 26th had organized and mustered into the U. S. service. Charles L. K. Sumwalt, of Adams county, was appointed colonel, and under his command the regiment moved to Baltimore. It was assigned to guard duty along the then important railroad, the Baltimore & Ohio, with headquarters at Relay House, the Washington Junction. In June, 1863, the regiment was sent to Harper's Ferry, to aid in heading off Lee. On subsequent campaigns they had their full share of camp and battlefield experiences. From Brandy Sta-

tion the regiment entered the Mine Run campaign, and later the Wilderness fight, where many men were sacrificed and but little accomplished. They were in the battle at Spottsylvania, where Grant's movement by the left flank begun. The many engagements in which this regiment made good and proved itself worthy the name of American soldiers, are all too many to here be further mentioned. They were still fighting when Lee surrendered to Grant, and two weeks later made a forced march a hundred miles to support Sherman. But this was not needed, and they returned to Richmond by rail, and thence marched to Washington, where they were present as a part of the Grand Review, being mustered out of service June 23, 1865.

The 160th Regiment, better known as 15th (Anderson) Cavalry, was in various ways unique in its form of organization and after history. It was recruited by officers of the old Anderson Troop, a company named after General Robert Anderson, hero of Fort Sumter. The date of its beginning was the summer of 1862. By an order from the Secretary of War it was finally recruited in the autumn of 1862 and designed for a special military service. The men who joined, waiving the right to vote for such officers as they needed, found later it was not a wise act on their part. They mustered in at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Officers were provided for them by the post officers of the regular army then stationed at that place. They commenced to drill and were soon called out for actual field service. The officers and about three hundred men, under the leadership of Majors Rosengarten and Ward, rendered prompt obedience, but six hundred others of the regiment refused to comply. A fight was had at Wilkinson's Crossing, in which they met a body of rebel cavalry. Major Rosengarten was killed, and Major Ward mortally wounded. The men were forced to retire. Another charge was made but it also failed. The loss was thirteen killed or mortally wounded. Finally, General Rosecrans provided the regiment with proper officers, and a reorganization took place, after which the regiment did wonderful fighting.

Towards the close of April, 1865, intelligence of the surrender of Lee and Johnson having been received, the division of General Gillem, now commanded by General Palmer, was ordered to proceed south for the capture of Jefferson Davis and train. Night and day, with the most untiring energy and skill, the pursuit was pushed. On the 8th of May seven wagons, containing the effects of the banks of Macon, were captured. "On the morning of the 8th instant," says General Palmer, in his official report, "while searching for Davis near the fork of the Appalachee and Oconee rivers, Colonel Betts, 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, captured seven wagons in the woods, which contained $188,000 in coin, $1,588,000 in bank-notes, bonds and securities, and about four millions of Confederate money, besides considerable specie, plate and other valuables belonging to private citizens of Macon. The wagons contained

also the private baggage, maps, and official papers of Generals Beauregard and Pillow. Nothing was disturbed, and I sent the whole in by railroad to Augusta to the commanding officer of the United States forces, to await the action of the government." Two days after, Company G, Captain Samuel Phillips, captured General Bragg, his wife, staff officers and three wagons, which were sent under guard to the headquarters of General Wilson. On the 15th news was received of the capture of Davis and party by Colonel Pritchard, of the 4th Michigan Cavalry, detachments from Colonel Betts' command being close upon his trail. The regiment now started northward, and on the 12th of June arrived at Nashville, where, on the 21st, it was mustered out of service.

In the 162nd Regiment (7th Cavalry), the organization of Company L, composed of men from Montgomery county and some from Chester, was attended with some unusual circumstances. David B. Hartranft, proprietor of the Jefferson Hotel, Norriton township, received authority to recruit a cavalry company, under the call of President Lincoln, July 2, 1862, for three hundred thousand volunteers to serve for three years or during the war. Under this call Pennsylvania was to furnish three regiments of cavalry, and the 16th, 17th, and 18th were raised. Hartranft had been an active member in Captain Leidy's Troop, a volunteer organization in the days of peace, but which melted away, like almost all other before-the-war military organizations. This period was favorable for enlistments. The Peninsula campaign, with that of General Pope in front of Washington, had closed with disaster. The fact was painfully manifest that the struggle was still gathering fury, and if the unity of the country was to be preserved, men from all classes would have to fill up the quota and make good the gap made in front of Richmond and Washington. This call appealed to married men as well as young single men. The romance had already been taken from the war, and men entering into this service felt it a serious matter.

Among those recruited by Hartranft were fifty men in temporary camp at Zeiglersville, Frederick township. These men had been enlisted by John B. Adams, who was authorized to raise a regiment of infantry. Under the pressing circumstances in the month of August, 1862, an order was issued by the Secretary of War to consolidate regiments in process of formation and forward them at once to Washington for assignment to brigades. In the execution of this order the men enlisted by Adams and Ellmaker were organized into the 119th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. Under this arrangement Peter C. Ellmaker was commissioned colonel. This gave offense to Adams, who failed to report the men to camp at Zeiglersville. Hartranft found these fifty men, who represented that the officer recruiting them had abandoned them, and they expressed their desire to join the company of cavalry then forming. They were accepted, fifty in number, and about August

15th, the full company of one hundred men assembled at Zeiglersville, and, after a royal breakfast, provided by the kind people of the little village, the company took carriages, furnished by the farmers and business men, and drove to Pottstown, where they took the cars for Harrisburg. Upon leaving the county their officers were: First Lieutenant R. B. Rhoades; Second Lieutenant Joshua Houck. At Camp Curtin, having been physically examined, they were duly mustered into the U. S. service, September 17, 1862, to serve "three years or during the war." Theodore W. Bean (later colonel) was appointed first sergeant of the company. Clothing was issued to the men, and the work of squad and company drill was about to commence, when an order was received from the commandant of the camp to muster the men in the company street. The order required the men whose names were called to step two paces to the front. All of the Adams troops were called. They were declared under arrest, and escorted by the provost guard of the capital to quarters in the city of Harrisburg, there to await further orders from the Secretary of War.

The fact now became evident to the officers of the company that all the Zeiglersville recruits had been regularly "mustered in" under the order of Adams, and the rolls returned to the Secretary of War under the order to consolidate, and that therefore their men belonged of right to Colonel Ellmaker's command. The manner in which these men were claimed was felt to be humiliating, and the officers and men remaining felt it due to themselves and those under arrest to investigate the facts, and, if possible, have them restored to the command. It is just to the great and good war-Governor Curtin and his Adjutant General Russel to say that both offered every facility to fully investigate the facts and circumstances of the case. Theodore W. Bean was designated by the officers and men in camp and those detained to proceed to Washington to confer with the Secretary of War and Adjutant General of the United States army. Governor Curtin and General Russel united in a strong appeal to the Secretary of War for the restoration of these men to the cavalry service, and the gentleman bearing the dispatches pressed the request of officers and men and the appeal of the State authorities in terms the most considerate his address could command. The matter was referred to Adjutant-General Thomas, U. S. A., who, in a personal interview declined to change or modify their original muster-in roll, but at once relieved the men from the order of arrest, and directed them to be forwarded, under the command of a commissioned officer, to the regiment to which they originally belonged. Sergeant Bean returned from Washington and reported results to the men. They were promptly relieved from arrest, and accepted the situation without murmur or remonstrance. They were gallant and patriotic men, and their record in the noble regiment to which they subsequently became attached is highly creditable to themselves and to the county. Captain Hartranft

still had fifty men in camp, but under the altered circumstances could not be mustered. About this time Lieutenant John Rees, with fifty men from Chester county, reported to Captain Tarbutton; overtures were at once made for a consolidation of the two commands, and a new company organization was effected. The Chester county men were at once transferred to the quarters vacated by the Zeiglersville recruits, and an election of officers was immediately held, which resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen: Captain, David B. Hartranft; First Lieutenant, John Rees; Second Lieutenant, Theo. W. Bean. The non-commissioned officers were then appointed, and the work of dismounted drill and discipline began. By the latter end of September the quota for the three cavalry regiments was in camp, and the organization of twelve companies into the 17th Regiment of Cavalry was effected. Captain Hartranft was promoted first major; Lieutenant Rees succeeded to the captaincy; Second Lieutenant Theo. W. Bean was promoted to first lieutenant, and First Sergeant William H. Wright was commissioned second lieutenant; Edwin A. Bean, of Company L, was appointed regimental quartermaster-sergeant. The regimental organization was effected on the 2nd of October, and completed by the muster of its commanding officer, November 19, 1862. It immediately broke up its dismounted camp under Captain Tarbutton within the line of Camp Simmons, and established itself at Camp McClellan, about two miles north of Harrisburg, where the command received their horses, arms and equipments.

In the work entitled "Conduct of the War," Vol. I, pp. 28, 29, is found an interesting article to all Montgomery county people, even after a half century and more has rolled away. It is in substance as follows:

Only three regiments of cavalry, of which the 17th was one, moved with the columns of Hooker on the Chancellorsville campaign, the major part having been dispatched under Averell and Stoneman to cut the enemy's communications and harass his rear. When, on the evening of the 2d of May, the enemy under Jackson had driven the entire Eleventh Corps, and was pushing on victorious to sever the Union army, and gain its only line of retreat, few troops were in position to stay his course. At this juncture General Pleasanton, who had been out in advance of the line on the centre, in support of General Sickles, then demonstrating upon Jackson's flank and rear, happened to be returning with the 8th and 17th Pennsylvania regiments towards the centre, and had reached the breast-works just as hordes of Jackson's men, who were pursuing the routed Eleventh Corps troops, were approaching that part of the field. Divining the condition of affairs by the evidences of rout in the Union columns, Pleasanton ordered Major Keenan, of the 8th, to charge with all his force and impetuosity, which he knew was an element of the major's nature, full upon the head of the rebel advancing column, though he knew that the execution of the order would involve the sacrifice of that gallant regiment. This he did in order that, by checking for a moment the rebel onslaught, he might gain time to bring his horse artillery into position, and thus interpose some more effectual barrier.

"I immediately ran up," says General Pleasanton, "this battery of mine at a gallop, put it into position, ordered it unlimbered and double-shotted with canister, and directed the men to aim at the ground-line of the parapet that the Eleventh Corps had thrown up, about two hundred yards off. Our artillery, as a general rule, overshoots, and I ordered them to fire low, because the shot would ricochet. I then set to work with two squadrons of the remaining regiment (the 17th Pennsylvania) to clear this field of fugitives, and to stop what cannon and ammunition we could, and put them in position; and I managed to get twenty-two guns loaded, double-shotted, and aiming on this space in front of us for about a quarter or half a mile, when the whole woods appeared alive with large bodies of men. This was just at dusk. I was going to give the word 'fire.' I had ordered those pieces not to fire unless I gave the word, because I wanted the effect of an immense shock. There was an immense body of men, and I wanted the whole weight of the metal to check them. I was about to give the word fire, when one of the soldiers at a piece said: 'General, that is our flag.' I said to one of my aids: 'Mr. Thompson, ride forward there at once, and let me know what flag that is.' He then went to within one hundred yards, and those people cried out: 'Come on, we are friends.' He then started to move on, when the whole line of woods blazed with musketry, and they immediately commenced leaping over this parapet, and charged on the guns; and at the same time I saw from eight to ten Rebel flags run up along the whole line. I immediately gave the order, 'fire,' and the fire actually swept them away; and it seemed to blow those men in front clear over the parapet. * * * We had this fight between musketry and artillery for nearly an hour. At one time they got within fifty yards of our guns. There were two squadrons of the 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry left. This remaining regiment I had was composed of raw men, new troops, and all I could do with them was to make a show. I had them formed in single line, with sabres drawn, with orders to charge in case the enemy came near the guns. They sat in rear of the guns, and I have no doubt the Rebels took them for the head of a heavy column, as the country sloped back behind them."

And thus was the mad onset of Stonewall Jackson's army checked by artillery supported by a single line of raw cavalry. It was a trying position for the regiment, but the firm front presented saved the day, and enabled Hooker to reform his shattered columns, and once more present a solid unbroken line. Early in the evening Sickles' troops came up and took position in support of the guns, and the regiment was relieved. In a general order issued by General Pleasanton, immediately after the battle he said: "The coolness displayed by the 17th Pennsylvania in rallying fugitives and supporting the batteries which repulsed the enemy's attack under Jackson, on the evening of the 2nd instant, has excited the highest admiration."

At Gettysburg, this regiment, being under General Buford, was saluted with shouts and patriotic songs as they marched toward the place, June 30th, and encamped near the Pennsylvania College. Pleasanton's report says: "At a distance of a mile and a half from town he met the enemy in force. Dispositions were immediately made to resist

his further advance, and for four hours, and until the arrival of the First Corps, Buford held at bay a third of the entire rebel army. Buford, with his four thousand cavalry," says General Pleasanton, "attacked Hill, and for four hours splendidly resisted his advance, until Reynolds and Howard were able to hurry to the field and give their assistance. To the intrepidity, courage and fidelity of General Buford and his brave division the country and the army owe the field of Gettysburg."

The regiment saw active service in 1864 at Spottsylvania; was with Sheridan on numerous cavalry raids toward Richmond; at Yellow House fought manfully; was at Cold Harbor, dismounted and fought as infantrymen with final success. At Charles City Court House it met with considerable loss. Sheridan took command of the Army of the Shenandoah Valley in August, 1864, and it was not long before the 17th was ordered to charge and they drove the rebels toward Winchester.

Sheridan reached the army just as it was moving on its last campaign, and he at once took the van. At Stony Creek the cavalry became engaged, and the Second Brigade was hastened forward to the support of Davie's division, which was forced back, the 17th losing a number wounded and missing in the engagement. At daylight of the 1st of April fighting was renewed, the Union lines charging the enemy in his works, the division capturing 600 prisoners and two battle-flags. The loss in the 17th was severe, Captain James Ham being among the killed, and Captains English, Donehoo, Reinhold and Lieutenant Anglun among the wounded. Rapid marching and hard fighting continued until the 6th, when General Ewell, with one wing of the rebel army, was captured. From that point the cavalry kept up a running fight with the enemy's advance until he reached Appomattox Court House, where the whole rebel army was forced to lay down its arms. In securing this joyful result the cavalry, led by Sheridan, contributed largely, the 17th sustaining its hard-earned reputation for gallantry to the last.

From the Appomattox the regiment returned to Petersburg, and after a week's rest marched to the neighborhood of Washington, where it remained in camp until its final muster out of service, on the 16th of June. A detachment of this regiment was consolidated with parts of the 1st and 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiments, forming the 2nd Provisional Cavalry, and remained in service until the 7th of August, when it was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky. In his farewell order to the 17th, General Devine says: "In five successive campaigns, and in over threescore engagements, you have nobly sustained your part. Of the many gallant regiments from your State, none has a brighter record, none has more freely shed its blood on every battlefield from Gettysburg to Appomattox. Your gallant deeds will be ever fresh in the memory of your comrades of the Iron Brigade and the First Division. Soldiers, farewell!"

The 175th Regiment, drafted militia, nine months' men, was composed

of eight companies from Chester and two from Montgomery county. The camp of rendezvous was in West Philadelphia, where the companies assembled in November, 1862, and a regimental organization was effected with the following field officers: Samuel A. Dyer, of Delaware county, colonel; Francis C. Hooton, of Chester county, lieutenant-colonel; Isaac McClure, of Chester county, major. On the 1st of December the regiment broke camp and moved *via* Washington to Fortress Monroe, and thence to Suffolk, Virginia, where it was made a part of the brigade commanded by Colonel Alfred Gibbs. After a month's incessant drill the regiment was transferred to the brigade of General F. B. Spinola, and moved, with other troops, during the closing days of the year, to Newbern, North Carolina, and went into winter quarters. Spinola's brigade here became the First of the Fifth Division (General Henry Prince), Eighteenth Corps (General Foster).

In March, 1863, when the enemy was threatening Newbern, the 175th threw up a strong line of earthworks on the south side of the river Trent and joined in repelling the attack which was sluggishly made on the town. It also made several expeditions in search of Colonel Woodford's guerrillas, but never succeeded in inducing them to risk a fight. After retiring from Newbern the enemy proceeded to Washington, on the Tar river, and laid siege to the town. The defense was directed by General Foster in person, the little garrison consisting of only about 2,000 men. From Newbern to Washington direct was about thirty miles, but by water one hundred and twenty. Prince's division at once moved by water to the relief of Foster. Eight miles below the town Prince found his way impeded by obstructions in the river, here a mile wide, and by heavy guns in earthworks on either side. It subsequently marched to Sandy Hook, where it was attached to Colonel Wells' brigade, of the Eighth Corps. With it the regiment assisted in laying a pontoon bridge over the Potomac to the town of Harper's Ferry, and, crossing, had a brisk skirmish with the 12th Virginia Cavalry, which was driven and the town occupied. Its term of service had now expired, and, returning to Philadelphia, it was, on the 7th of August, mustered out.

In the 179th Regiment, drafted militia, nine months' men, the men were from the counties of Berks, Lancaster, Montgomery, Pike, and Wayne, and the city of Philadelphia. They were organized in companies at periods ranging from the 23rd of October to the 6th of December, 1862, and on the 8th of December a regimental organization was effected, with the following field officers: William H. Blair, colonel; Daniel M. Yost, lieutenant-colonel; William H. Yerkes, major. Colonel Blair was at the time serving as captain in the 51st Regiment, and did not join his new command until January, 1863. Before leaving Philadelphia, Company E was detached and sent for duty to Chestnut Hill Hospital, where with the exception of a short period at Gettysburg, after the battle there, it was retained until the end of its service.

Soon after its organization the regiment proceeded to Fortress Monroe, and thence to Yorktown, where it formed part of the garrison at the fort, and was encamped within its walls. Upon assuming command, Colonel Blair commenced a thorough discipline of his men, with the most flattering results. Colonel Robert M. West, chief of artillery and ordnance at the fort, says of it: "It improved rapidly, and eventually became a first-class regiment, remarkable for its proficiency in drill, the cleanliness and good order of its camp, and the quiet, orderly demeanor of the men. I never saw improvement more marked and rapid than in this case." It did little else than garrison duty until the last of July, when it was called out to join in the movement made by General Dix up the Peninsula. "When the movement upon Richmond was made," says Colonel West, in the document above quoted, "by General Dix, in the summer of this year. I was in command of the 'Advanced Brigade' of the forces that moved up the Peninsula. It became necessary to strengthen my brigade with an additional regiment, and the commanding general authorized me to designate any one I chose. I immediately named the 179th, and, accordingly, Colonel Blair reported to me with his regiment, and became a part of my command. During the march to White House, and thence to Baltimore Cross-Roads, where my brigade was engaged upon two occasions, Colonel Blair's regiment was prompt and ready, and always well in hand. A peculiarity about his command was that it never had a straggler. During the return march—the most severe, on account of a drenching storm, of any I ever performed—the 179th crowned its reputation as a first-class organization by being always closed and promptly in its place, whilst other regiments were scattered for miles along the road."

Upon its return to camp it was ascertained that Lee had invaded Pennsylvania, and though its term of service was about to expire, by the unanimous vote of the men, by companies, their further services were tendered to Governor Curtin as long as he should need them for the defense of the State. This offer was accepted; but by the time the regiment had reached Washington, *en route* to the front, the rebel army had retreated to Virginia. It was, accordingly, ordered to Harrisburg, where, on the 27th of July, it was mustered out of service.

The 197th Regiment, hundred day men, was recruited at Philadelphia and in neighboring counties by the assistance of the Coal Exchange Association of that city, to serve for a period of one hundred days, and was known as the Third Coal Exchange Regiment. It was organized at Camp Cadwalader on the 22nd of July, 1864, with the following field officers: John R. Haslett, colonel; Charles D. Kenworthy, lieutenant-colonel; John Woodcock, major. Colonel Haslett had served as captain in the 66th, and subsequently in the 73rd, of which he had been for several months the acting major; Lieutenant-Colonel Kenworthy had served on the Peninsula, in the 3rd United States Infantry, where he was

severely wounded; and Major Woodcock had just been mustered out of a nine months' regiment. A large proportion of officers and men were well-schooled soldiers. Soon after its organization it proceeded to Camp Bradford, at Mankin's Woods, near Baltimore, where it remained for two weeks. At the end of that time, and when well drilled and in full expectation of being led to the front, it was ordered to Rock Island, Illinois, and upon its arrival there was charged with guarding a camp for prisoners of war. The guard provided was insufficient for the duty required, and the service bore heavily upon this regiment. At the close of its term it returned to Philadelphia, where, on the 11th of November, 1864, it was mustered out.

In order that no organization accredited to Montgomery county should be overlooked (as some of the regiments are not given a descriptive account in the published works), the subjoined list is given:

4th Regiment, Companies A, B, C, D, E, I, K, 90 days' term.
44th Regiment (1st Pennsylvania Cavalry), Company B, 3 years' term.
51st Regiment, Companies A, C, D, F and I, 3 years' term.
53rd Regiment, Companies A and B, 3 years' term.
68th Regiment, Company H.
93rd Regiment, Company G, 3 years' term.
95th Regiment, 3 years' term.
106th Regiment, Company G, 3 years' term.
129th Regiment, Company I, 9 months' term.
138th Regiment, Companies A, C, I and K, 3 years' term.
160th Regiment (Anderson Troop), 3 years' term.
162nd Regiment, Company L (17th Pennsylvania Cavalry), 3 years' term.
175th Regiment, Companies A and H, 9 months' term.
179th Regiment, Companies A and G, 9 months' term.

Independent Cavalry Companies—Capt. Samuel W. Comly's company, organized Sept. 15, 1862; discharged Sept. 26, 1862. Capt. Daniel H. Mulvany's company, organized Sept. 13, 1862; discharged Sept. 27, 1862. Capt. Samuel W. Comly's company, organized June 17, 1863; discharged July 30, 1863.

Independent Cavalry Battalion—Company B, Captain Frederick Haws, organized July 2, 1863; discharged August 21, 1863.

Pennsylvania Militia—11th Regiment, Companies C, D, G and H. 17th Regiment, Companies B and G. 19th Regiment, Company E. 26th Regiment, Company F. 34th Regiment, Companies B, C, E, H, I. 41st Regiment, Company B. 43rd Regiment, Company I 197th Regiment (100 days' men). Companies F and G.

The Grand Army of the Republic—After the end of nearly every American war, its surviving soldiers very naturally and befittingly form societies and hold their reunions. Especially is this true since the close of the Civil War that closed in the spring of 1865. The veterans of that conflict organized that well-known and well-sustained order known as "The Grand Army of the Republic." Since then have been organized the

Spanish-American and the World War posts, and American Legion Posts. It seems appropriate to close this Civil War chapter with a brief account of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The citizens and veterans of the Civil War from Montgomery county emphasize the statement that the first organization of its kind in the entire country was in this county. It embraced within its membership all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who served in the United States. Army societies, composed of surviving commissioned officers and their descendants, followed the Revolution, one of which still exists, the Society of the Cincinnati; army and corps organizations of the War of 1812 and the Mexican War have existed for social and convivial purposes, but none of these have been based on the principle of mutual aid in time of need or comprehended purposes so exalted, as these embraced in the declarations of the Grand Army of the Republic, viz.: "Charity, Fraternity and Loyalty."

Like many popular movements, the inception or original organization is involved in some obscurity. It is clear, however, that its origin was in the West. Adjutant-General N. P. Chipman, in his report to the National Encampment at Cincinnati, May, 1869, says that the originator of the Grand Army of the Republic was Colonel B. F. Stephenson, and that the first post was organized in the city of Decatur, Illinois, in the spring of 1866. Posts increased rapidly among those who had then but recently returned to their homes, and with whom the associations of army life were fresh in mind. A State Department Encampment was organized in Illinois on the 12th of July, 1866. In the month of November, the same year, a National Encampment was organized at Indianapolis, with representatives present from Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, Kentucky, Indiana and the District of Columbia.

The exact time of the formation of the first post in Pennsylvania is a matter of dispute, and will likely so remain, four posts having claimed the distinction of being No. 1—Posts 1, 2 and 19, of Philadelphia, and No. 3, of Pittsburgh. The organization of the Boys in Blue, in 1866, brought many of the rank and file of the army together, but, as this movement had a partisan significance, it was found to be too narrow for the muster of comrades who, differing in political convictions, had fought side by side through the long conflict and were now desirable companions in the fraternal union of all loyal soldiers. Quickened by the martial friendships formed during years of warfare, it was natural that the survivors should come together to recount their remarkable experiences and unite in kindly offices towards each other.

Very soon after the close of the War of the Rebellion, in Pennsylvania, there was formed what was styled the "Boys in Blue." At that date the Grand Army of the Republic had not been organized, but as soon as it had been formed and the news spread quickly to the East.

Pennsylvania was quick to drop the Boys in Blue, which was simply a local society, and become charter members in the various Grand Army posts that were being formed throughout the Union.

The first charter was obtained from the national headquarters for Post No. 1, and bears date October 17, 1866; that of Post No. 2, October 29, 1866, granted by the Department of Wisconsin. An Order No. 1 was issued from headquarters Grand Army of the Republic, Springfield, Illinois, November 22, 1866, establishing a Provisional Department of Pennsylvania and designating General Louis Wagner commander. Upon assuming command General Wagner issued circulars and forms of organization for posts, and the work of "mustering in" recruits was zealously commenced. Posts multiplied rapidly, and a membership of many thousands was enrolled. The transition from the Boys in Blue to the Grand Army was so sudden that many soldiers of strong political faith and convictions were unwilling to believe it was not the same exclusive order of men, having the same partisan object in view. The organization was, therefore, for a time, the subject of severe criticism, which, in some instances, was seemingly warranted by the injudicious utterances of thoughtless members. That the organization should suffer under these adverse circumstances was but natural, and for a time it lost its hold on popular favor with the old soldiers. But time and the devotion of those interested in preserving the spirit of comradeship soon convinced all of its usefulness and absolute freedom from partisanship in the public affairs of the country.

In 1885 a very comprehensive article was written by a member of one of the five Posts in Montgomery county, which appears to the writer to be valuable for future generations to read, hence so much of it as here follows is given: Objects of the Grand Army of the Republic are:

1st. The preservation of those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together with the strong cords of love and affection the comrades in arms of many battles, sieges and marches.

2nd. To make these ties available in works and results of kindness, of favor and material aid to those in need of assistance.

3rd. To make provision, where it is not already done, for the support, care and education of soldiers' orphans and for the maintenance of the widows of deceased soldiers.

4th. For the protection and assistance of disabled soldiers, whether disabled by wounds, sickness, old age or misfortune.

5th. For the establishment and defense of the rights of the late soldiery of the United States, morally, socially and politically, with a view to inculcate a proper appreciation of their services to the country, and to a recognition of such services and claims by the American people.

The organization numbered upwards of three hundred thousand in the United States, between thirty and forty thousand in Pennsylvania, with posts numbering from one to four hundred. At the present time (1923) there are but two Posts left in this county—one at Norristown and one

at Pottstown. There are members residing in various parts of the county, but all other Posts surrendered their charters a number of years since on account of the few veterans left. Posts never take the name of living comrades; this honor is paid the name and memory of those who fell during the war, or who have died since.

General Zook Post, No. 11, Department of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic, was instituted December 12, 1866, under special order No. 1, Provisional Department of Pennsylvania. Comrade William M. Runkle, 3rd Pennsylvania Artillery, mustered James Dykes and George N. Corson. At a special meeting held on the evening of December 14, 1866, William J. Bolton, Joseph K. Bolton, William Allebough, L. W. Reed, Samuel T. Pretty, James B. Heebner and Thomas C. Simpson were mustered; subsequently R. T. Stewart, Thomas J. Owen, Joseph M. Cuffel, Samuel M. Markley, Freeman S. Davis and H. S. Smith were mustered, and together constituted those designated the charter members of the post. The charter is dated December 1, 1866. This Post takes its name after Brigadier and Brevet Major-General Samuel Kosciusko Zook, who fell mortally wounded in the second day's battle at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863. If ever a soldier was truly idolized by his friends in his home county it was General Zook, hence this brief personal notice of him is here inserted as a part of the history of the Grand Army of the Republic in Montgomery county:

This gallant officer was born March 27, 1822, near Paoli, Chester county, Pennsylvania. His father, Major David Zook, moved to Upper Merion township, this county, settling near Port Kennedy, where the son grew to man's estate on his father's farm. He received the advantages of a fair academic education. When twenty years of age he finished his studies and was appointed adjutant of the 100th Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, on the staff of Colonel James Mills, November 3, 1842. In 1844 he was appointed superintendent of the New York and Washington Telegraph Company, and conducted the construction of the first line established by that pioneer organization through the South and West. He took an active part in quelling the great riots in Philadelphia in 1844, and subsequently was transferred by the company referred to to New York City. In 1851 he was commissioned major in the 6th New York Volunteers. In 1857 he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment. He served in the same organization during the three months' campaign in 1861, and upon its return, after the battle of Bull Run, organized the 57th New York Volunteers, a three years' regiment. He was commissioned brigadier-general November 29, 1862, and assigned to the command of First Brigade, Third Division, Second Corps, Army of Potomac. His brevet commission of major-general bears date of July 2, 1863, for "distinguished gallantry on the battlefield of Gettysburg." His remains are buried in the Montgomery Cemetery, and are marked by a suitable and enduring memorial shaft;

a tablet is also erected near the spot where he fell on the battlefield at Gettysburg.

Graham Post, No. 106, at Pottstown, was named in honor of two brothers—Eli H. and William H. Graham—of the 53rd Regiment. The Post was instituted in February, 1868, and was reorganized in 1880. It is still in existence.

Lieutenant John H. Fisher Post, No. 101, at Hatboro, was organized April 28, 1884, and was named for Lieutenant John H. Fisher, of the 138th Regiment, who was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864. He was only twenty-one years of age.

Colonel Edwin Schall Post, No. 290, at Lansdale, was organized November 10, 1882, in honor of Colonel Schall, who fell at the battle of Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864, while gallantly leading the 51st Regiment.

The Spanish-American War, 1898—This was a short but decisive conflict between the United States and Spain, which latter power was completely subdued during the month of April, and November, 1898, their fleet being sunk by our battleships in Manila Bay by our successful Admiral Dewey.

The United States depended largely on the reorganizing of the National Guard system for its soldiers in that war. Montgomery county, then as in all previous warfares, was accounted strong in numbers and quality of men furnished. More than eight hundred men were sent from this county, while many received credit in other counties of the State. These men were all volunteers from the Pennsylvania National Guard. When the war began in April, 1898, there were two National Guard commands in Montgomery county—Company A, 6th Regiment, from Pottstown, with William A. Schuyler, as captain; and Company F, of Norristown, with officers as follows: Captain, Henry Jacobs; first lieutenant, James R. Hunsicker; second lieutenant, James Cresson. Later on, Company M, of the 4th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, went from Pottstown and had these officers: Captain, L. Y. Messimer; first lieutenant, H. M. Ebert, who died and was succeeded by I. V. Elick. Others from Montgomery county found their way into the service in companies from Phoenixville, Doylestown, and other nearby points. The dates of mustering in and out of service were as follows: Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, mustered into service May 9, 1898, mustered out, November 16, 1898; 6th Pennsylvania Regiment, mustered in, May 10-13, 1898, mustered out, October 17, 1898. The 4th Regiment had 47 officers and 1,014 men; lost 32 men by disease; served in Porto Rico. The 6th Regiment had 50 officers and 927 men; lost eight men by disease.

It is not practicable to attempt to give a roster of the men who went to this war from Montgomery county, the records being compiled by the State Department in commands and not by counties. However, it will be of some interest to know where the men from this county oper-

ated during the war with Spain, hence the brief regimental account is given here of the 4th and 6th Pennsylvania regiments of volunteers:

The 4th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry was a part of the Second Brigade, First Division, First Army Corps. Company M, of Pottstown, was attached to the Third Battalion, and was mustered into service July 6, 1898, left Pottstown July 7, proceeded to Chicamauga, Georgia; remained there until July 22, then left for Porto Rico, arriving at Guanica, Porto Rico, August 2nd. The next day they were ordered by General Brooke to proceed to Arroyo, fifty miles to the east and there disembark. When the peace protocol was signed August 27, 1898, the regiment left for home, arriving in Pottstown, September 7, and was given a thirty-day furlough; participated in the Peace Jubilee Parade in Philadelphia, and was mustered out of service November 16, 1898.

The 6th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, of National Guard, reported at Mt. Gretna, Pennsylvania, April 2, 1898. The regiment was mustered into the volunteer service of the United States, May 12, 1898, and May 19th was ordered to Camp Alger, Virginia, where it arrived the following morning, with 50 officers and 928 men. August 24 the regiment was ordered to Camp Meade, Middletown, Pennsylvania. The regiment was paid off September 7, 1898, and returned home, having been given a furlough until October 7th. The regiment was finally mustered out October 17, 1898. That these men did not see actual service on a foreign soil was not their fault, for they were anxious to be sent abroad. Many of these soldiers who were but mere youths in 1898, are now among the elderly business men of Montgomery and adjoining counties. The facts connected herewith have largely been furnished the historian by Messrs. John J. Graham, sergeant, Company B, of the 6th Regiment, from Chester county, Pennsylvania, but now of Norristown; and Charles V. Finley, corporal, Company F, 6th Regiment, now of Norristown; with valuable data sent in by Melvin B. Krause, of Pottstown, who was of Company M, 4th Pennsylvania Regiment.

There are two camps of the United Spanish War Veterans within Montgomery county—one at Norristown, the other at Pottstown. The Norristown Camp is known as the General J. K. Weaver Camp, No. 52, United Spanish War Veterans, who have headquarters at No. 143½ West Main street, and their present officers include Commander George McGiligan; Adjutant George Fullmer. The present good-standing membership is approximately 125. The Camp at Pottstown is Colonel Frederick Funston Camp, No. 81, and has a membership of about one hundred.

The World War—It is to be regretted that the records of the world's greatest war, known as the "World War," involving as it did nearly all nations of the earth, were not properly preserved, and especially is this

true of the smaller units, such as towns, cities and counties. When the War Board who had charge of the drafting of men for service, as well as the numerous departments and committees which had charge of the munitions and food supplies of this country, had performed their work as directed by the general government at Washington, they failed in a majority of counties in the United States, including, of course, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, to retain a copy of their transactions. The State capitals and the War Department at Washington have the only list of soldiers that were preserved, and these lists have never been compiled in regular order, and the public is informed they will not be obtainable for reference for a number of years yet, hence the author of these chapters can in no wise be expected to give the facts about what Montgomery county furnished. Thousands of men went into the service as citizens of this county, but who enlisted or in other ways entered the service of the country from the cities, including Philadelphia, and they have not been properly credited to Montgomery county.

However, this is not the first time in the history of wars that the records in local sections have not been perfect. Immediately after the Civil War in the United States, the adjutant-generals of various States attempted to compile a roster of the Union army soldiers by States and counties, but it was a failure, in that too great haste was made in the compilation of such records. The same was true of the United States Adjutant-General's report of that war. But as time passed and soldiers were seeking pensions, and for other causes, another effort was made, and additional volumes and corrections of old ones were made; and the States also took up the work locally and republished many volumes on the Civil War from 1861 to 1865, which have given us a fair record of all that was important concerning each company and regiment in that great conflict. It took years of time, careful research and vast sums of money in way of appropriations before this could be attained. It is to be remembered, too, that in that war, hundreds of thousands of men only had to be listed; whereas in the late World War, millions of men must needs be accounted for. So it is that no accurate account of the men who served in this war can possibly be given in this work. Had duplicate records been kept by the War Boards and Committees, all would have been different.

It should be said in justice to the local press, that all possible care was taken to publish the names of soldiers going and coming to and from the army from this county. The people were from time to time urged to send in such facts as they personally possessed concerning members of their immediate families and its soldier members. In a few instances this request was granted, but usually resulted in nothing of value toward making up a Montgomery county soldiers' roster. But from what the local newspaper files do contain it is gleaned that something in excess

of two hundred men from this county paid the supreme sacrifice, either "somewhere in France" or in the camps of this country. In this connection let it be said that the last soldier of all to die on foreign soil, as reported in a recent issue of the "Norristown Herald," was Francis W. Lawler, from Trooper, Montgomery county. He passed from earth's shining circle at Coblenz, only a day after the last troops of the American Army of Occupation had sailed for home in America.

There were but few counties in the country furnishing more men and money for this last war (outside the great cities) than did Montgomery county. From Norristown borough there were 1,375 soldiers whose names are already accounted for, besides many others who drifted into the service from nearby cities, hence not credited to their home county.

Montgomery county may well be proud of doing its full share in the purchase of the various series of Government War and Victory Loan bonds, with which this country was enabled to successfully carry on its part of the World War. From figures obtained at the Government Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the headquarters of the War Bond sale for this district, it is shown that there were sold from the various townships and boroughs, through the banks, amounts as follows:*

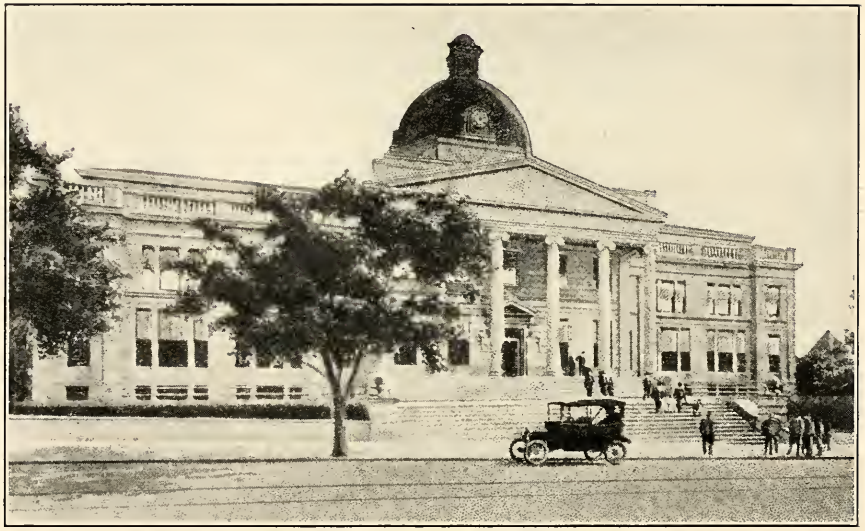
Name of Borough.		
Ambler	Ambler Trust Company	$357,750
"	First National Bank	1,849,300
Ardmore	Ardmore National Bank	2,184,150
"	Merion Title & Trust Company	3,408,050
Bridgeport	Bridgeport National Bank	798,006
Bryn Mawr	Bryn Mawr National Bank	600,550
"	Bryn Mawr Trust Company	1,254,650
Collegeville	Collegeville National Bank	408,750
Conshohocken	First National Bank	2,973,700
"	Tradesmen's National Bank	1,522,350
East Greenville	Perkiomen National Bank	589,200
Glenside	Glenside National Bank	1,405,350
Green Lane	Valley National Bank	707,450
Harleysville	Harleysville National Bank	110,000
Hatboro	Hatboro National Bank	534,000
Jenkintown	Jenkintown National Bank	983,458
"	Jenkintown Trust Company	1,642,800
Lansdale	Citizens' National Bank	234,350
"	First National Bank	892,050
Norristown	First National Bank	1,049,450
"	Montgomery National Bank	1,631,600
"	Montgomery Trust Company	1,076,600
"	Norristown Trust Company	1,178,700
"	Penn Trust Company	2,334,000
"	People's National Bank	876,000
North Wales	North Wales National Bank	597,600
Pennsburg	Farmers' National Bank	496,000
Pottstown	Citizens' National Bank	800,400
"	National Bank of	2,351,650
"	National Iron Bank	1,508,500
"	Security Company	1,033,950
Royersford	National Bank of	689,450
"	Royersford Trust Company	718,400

Note—*It should be understood that all five of the War Bond Drives and the amounts each subscribed have here been added into a total amount, which includes also the last or "Victory Liberty Loan" bonds sold.

Name of Borough.		
Schwenksville	National Bank of	549,006
Souderton	Union National Bank	566,500
Telford	Telford National Bank	160,900
West Conshohocken	People's National Bank	343,500

Total amount of War Bonds purchased in County, $40,409,108.

By the figures just footed, it is seen at a glance that Montgomery county had the wealth to invest in bonds in a government her citizens believed in and were ready to fight for if need be. Remember the figures —forty million dollars to aid in carrying on a war in which we were only helping our allies on a foreign soil.



COUNTY COURT HOUSE, NORRISTOWN

CHAPTER VIII.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT.

Prior to September 10, 1784, Montgomery county was included in Philadelphia county, but by act of the General Assembly on that date it became a separate and independent sub-division of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The act was approved by the Supreme Council composed of His Excellency John Dickinson, Esq. (president), the Hon. James Irvine, Stephen Balliot, George Wall, Jr., Barnard Dougherty, John McDowell, John Byers, Sebastian Levan, John Neville, Samuel J. Atlee, Isaac Mason. The name Montgomery as applied to this county was either in honor of General Montgomery of Revolutionary fame, to please more especially the Welsh settlers; or for William and Joseph Montgomery, of Lancaster and Northumberland counties, both of whom were active in having the bill passed which created this county. Historians do not agree on this, and the record showing the petition asking to have a new county made, is silent as to what name they desired to place upon the new municipality to be taken from the parent—Philadelphia county. It matters but little, for all three of the Montgomeries named were excellent men in their day and generation.

John Dickinson, president of the Council, in his message delivered to the Assembly, January 19, 1784, showed great interest in having the proper laws well executed by honorable citizens. He spoke as follows:

Gentlemen,—It is much to be desired that the system of our jurisprudence may receive every improvement we can give it as soon as such a work can be accomplished. Constancy in the laws, the preservation of domestic concord, order, tranquillity, and a strength sufficiently prepared for defense against injuries, are essential to the happiness of a State. They are also the foundations of a reputation that invites an accession of ingenious and industrious people from other parts of the world to share in the blessings of which such a character offers them an assurance. Every citizen, therefore, who respects his own interests, the welfare of his family, or the prosperity of his country, will desire and endeavor that the vast importance of these subjects may be perfectly understood and religiously regarded.

First Courts—The first judges of the several courts were appointed by the Supreme Executive Council, as follows: Frederick A. Muhlenberg, Esq., James Morris, Esq., John Richards, Esq., Henry Sheetz, Esq., and William Dean, Esq. The first court was held December 28, 1784, in the barn on the premises of John Shannon, then known and licensed as the "Barley Sheaf Hotel," situated in Norriton township, on what is now the Germantown pike, a short distance northwest of Hartranft station, on Stony Creek railroad. This was built of stone in 1735, and still

stands. Zebulon Potts, first sheriff of the county, was elected October 14, 1784, and commissioned by the Executive Council. Thomas Craig was appointed first prothonotary, September 10, 1784, and commissioned by John Dickinson on the following day. He was also appointed to serve as the county's first clerk of the courts. The first recorder of deeds was Augustus Muhlenberg, also register of wills. There appears nothing in the records to show that the county had any commissioners until a board was organized in 1790, at which date the records show the following members: Christian Scheid, Nathan Potts, John Mann. Isaac Markley seems to have been the county's first treasurer.

It should be remembered that at that time there was no Governor for the State of Pennsylvania. In common with other States, it was acting under the Articles of Confederation, adopted November 15, 1777. The United States Constitution had not been adopted; the first Congress did not assemble until 1789. The only representation this county had was in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, and the first members elected to represent Montgomery county in that body were Peter Richards, Robert Loller, George Smith, and Benjamin Rittenhouse. The first senator elected under the revised constitution of 1789, was Linsay Coates.

Quarter Sessions Docket, No. 1, page 1, contains the first minutes of a Montgomery county court, hence it is here inserted, as it is the beginning of a real independent county government for this county:

Montgomery County | ss.

Minutes of a Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in and for the County of Montgomery, held at the house of John Shannon, on Tuesday, the 20th day of December, 1784. Present, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, James Norris, John Richards, Henry Scheetz, William Dean, Esquires.

The Court opened at 12 o'clock m. Proclamation being made enjoining all manner of persons to keep silence. Commissions from the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania were read appointing the following Gentlemen Justices of the Peace, viz.: William Dean, Esquire, bearing date July 14, 1783; Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Esq., March 19, 1784; John Richards and Henry Scheetz, June 24, 1784; and James Morris, Esq., September 20, 1784; and a commission to Thomas Craig, Esq., appointing him Clerk of the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

Proclamation for the Sheriff of Montgomery County to return the Precept to him directed being made; the said Sheriff to wit, Zebulon Potts, Esquire, returns a Grand Jury, to wit: Thomas Rees, Henry Cunnard, James Wotmough, Linzey Coats, Robert Shannon, John Rutter, James Stroud, Lewelling Young, Henry Powling, Samuel Wheeler, Peter Muhlenberg, Archibald St. Clair, Samuel Holstein, William Lain, James Veaux, Robert Curry, John Edwards, Benjamin Markley, Jacob Auld, Anthony Carothers, Frederick Weise, Nathan Pawling, Abe Morgan, Francis Swain, who were all except Archibald St. Clair and Frederick Weise, severally sworn or affirmed.

Proclamation being made for silence, the President, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, delivered the charge to the Grand Jury.

This proceeding was followed by a return of the Constables of the Several Townships.

The only cases adjudicated at this Court were the Overseers of the Poor of New Hanover Township *vs.* The Overseers of the Poor of Providence Township, and the Overseers of the Poor of Whitemarsh Township *vs.* the Overseers of the Poor of Springfield Township.

The office of justice of the peace was an old English office, and naturally was incorporated into our government. Under very early common law in England, justices were judges of record, appointed by the King, to administer justice within certain prescribed limits. During our colonial existence, justices of the peace were appointed by the governors, and during the period between 1779 and 1788 they were appointed by the Supreme Executive Council of the State. Under the constitution of 1790 it became an elective office, when properly certified to the Secretary of State. The old-time "country squire" was a conspicuous character. His influence was second only to the "country parson," and often the two dignitaries were hand and glove in their communities. The statute law imposed upon them some extraordinary duties, and gave them the exercise of very arbitrary power. The "country squire" was esteemed an oracle of the law, and his rules of practice were often suggestive of results greatly at variance with the pretensions of "members of the bar," who in former years frequently rode long distances to conduct important cases before them. It was no unusual experience for a country squire to be in commission for a quarter of a century, sometimes for life. Experience taught them wisdom, and they often adjudicated cases intent only upon doing even-handed justice, without reference to the well understood forms of law and with a seeming contempt for superior courts of review. These senior justices enjoyed the confidence and respect of a wide circle of acquaintances, and in many instances transacted the business of large communities. Many of them were, and still are, practical conveyancers, excellent penmen, correct orthographists, and from long experience were capable of drawing wills and instruments of writing that compare favorably with those of the legal profession.

Time has greatly modified their official duties. As late as 1819 they were required to examine all trappers of wolves and panthers, and certify their returns to the treasurer of the county in order that the reward of twelve dollars for each head could be collected. Prior to the revised constitution of 1838, justices of the peace were appointed by the executive of the State, and for the term of good behavior. At that period they were commissioned for a certain district, embracing several townships.

The county commissioners are important officers in the county government of Pennsylvania. There are three commissioners elected for a

term of three years. A provision of the laws here give the minority a chance to say how county affairs shall be managed. Each elector votes for two persons, but the three having highest votes are elected. Vacancies are filled by appointment by the remaining number on the board. It is the duty of the commissioners to determine the tax rate from statements of the assessors, and levy the county taxes. They must keep in good repair the court house and prison, and build new ones when authorized to do so. They must also construct county bridges and keep the same in good repair. Road damages assessed to property owners for land taken for new roads or streets within the county must be proved before the commissioners. All bills against the county must by them be approved, before paid by the county treasurer. At the close of each fiscal year they publish a statement of the receipts and expenditures. The commissioners' office has charge of the following public records: 1. County Commissioners' tax lien docket; 2. Commissioners' cash book docket; contract docket; bond book docket; register of expenditures of county docket; assessors' valuation of taxable property docket; tax duplicate docket; registry of jurors docket; militia enrollment docket; registry of valuations of surveyors' compass docket; and minute book.

There are three directors of the poor in Montgomery county, who act under a special law; other counties have different systems. These directors have general supervision of the almshouse, or County Home, as now called. They elect the steward and other officers, in whom is vested the management of the County Home and farm property that goes with it. They also make a report of the receipts and expenditures at the year's end.

From the beginning of the government in Montgomery county there have been three auditors, elected for a three-year term (since the amended constitution of 1874). They are elected in like manner to the county commissioners. They meet at the county seat the first Monday in January of each year, and audit, adjust and settle the accounts of the county commissioners, treasurer, directors of the poor and prison inspectors. The chapter on "Bench and Bar" will treat sufficiently on the formation of the various courts within the county.

Court Houses, Prisons, Etc.—By the act locating the county seat at Norristown, September 10, 1784, it was necessary to lay out a town plat, which was accomplished, and the record says it was to be known as "Norris." This platting was executed in 1785 by William Moore Smith, whose father, on behalf of the Pennsylvania University, held the remaining part of a certain tract of land. The law specified that the place should be selected "on the east side of the Schuylkill, near Stony Run." Hence they chose the ridge between that stream and Sawmill run, a half mile eastward, taking what is now known as Main street (then Egypt, after the highway by that name) as a base line. The surveyor then proceeded

to lay off Airy street, sixty-six feet wide, placing the county lot between, and extending to each of these streets, on the dividing line or watershed between those two confluents of the river, making streets at right angles now known as Swede and DeKalb streets.

On this public lot of one hundred and forty feet on Main (then Egypt) the same on Airy, and extending to both, having a depth of five hundred and fifty feet, the prison was erected, at the corner of Airy and Swede streets. It was a low stone building, covering but little of the ground, which extended as an open lawn down to Penn street and the court house. After some years a two-story addition was made to it, much larger than the original building, built up against its southern face. In the rear of the old jail stood the whipping-post, an institution now justly departed forever. Thus Norristown, as originally laid out, consisted of four rectangular streets, one eighty and three sixty-six feet wide, with three rear alleys, east, west, and south, twenty-eight feet wide, and a like bisecting alley between Main and Airy, but only extending from Green to the county grounds. Providing for the public buildings, on the west end of the town plot, with a tier of eleven lots (fifty by two hundred and fifty feet) on Swede street, facing the public grounds (between Main and Airy), Smith laid out the residue of sixty-four lots, uniformly fifty by two hundred and fifty feet, on the said four streets, as follows: Ten on the south side of Airy street, between DeKalb and the county lot, and all the remainder (except five on DeKalb, above Penn), thirty-eight in number, on both sides of Main, between Cherry and Green alleys.

The original court house, a stone building two stories high, was erected a few feet back from the northwest corner of the present public square, it being part of the county lot, but the unoccupied lower part being conveyed also for public use as an open square forever; some years after its completion an addition of twenty or thirty feet was made to the west end of the building, uniform with the original structure, except that a recess on the north face was added to afford a platform seat for the judges. The old prison and court house, as originally built, cost about $21,000, and were finished in 1787. A building similar in form, and also of stone, was erected some thirty feet east of the court building for the accommodation of the public records and the officers having them in charge. This building was put up in 1791, and was also enlarged some years later. The earliest sessions of the court were held, so tradition informs us, in what was known some years ago as the "Dykes house," occupying the site of the first office and dwelling on the northeast side of Penn street, adjoining the court house, the building then being a tavern. The potter's field of the prison, as also the garden of the jailer, was located northwest of Airy and Swede streets. The place is marked on the original plot, two hundred feet on the latter and

two hundred and fifty feet back from the former. This lot is the only ground marked on that draft north of Airy street.

But few boroughs in Pennsylvania, if indeed any, can boast of a superior county jail or prison to that found in Montgomery county. Considering the date of its construction (1851) and its cost, it certainly was in the lead. As the borough grew and all things took on a better air of prosperity, the people felt in the forties that their old original prison house was a disgrace to the county. It was shamefully dilapidated, and the grand jury took action and the court ordered that new county buildings be erected as speedily as possible. The cost of the county prison, all told, was $68,000. It is of durable sandstone, sixty feet front by one hundred and thirty feet deep, and originally had forty cells. It is two stories high, and the upper part was designed for solitary confinement convicts. It was completed late in 1851, and the prisoners all moved to it.

As soon as the jail had been finished in 1851, the same architect planned a new court house, which was badly needed. During 1852-54, the work of construction went forward rapidly. It had one hundred and ninety-six feet front on Swede street by sixty-four on Airy and Penn streets. It was a brick structure, faced with Montgomery county marble. Originally it unwisely had a tall spire, clock and bell. When finished it had cost the county $150,000. At that date it had no superior in Pennsylvania. After a time it leaked around the "spire" mentioned, which was removed and the present neat style of a cupola, containing a new clock and a bell of 3,230 pounds weight, was provided instead of the old spire. This court house served well the purpose for which it was intended, but as the county grew even to the proportion of a "small empire," it was found inadequate for the space demanded by the numerous county offices, courts, and other governmental departments. Consequently in 1902 the building was remodeled and rebuilt in part, with great extensions, giving much more room for the business of the county. And still, with an everincreasing business, there is not sufficient room to properly transact the business with ease and comfort, and the county is looking to further extensions in the near future. At the head of the great stairway leading to the second floor of the court house of to-day, one may read on a bronze plate this inscription: "Montgomery County Court House Constructed 1854; Rebuilt in 1902." The rebuilding of the court house, as it now stands, cost the county taxpayers in excess of three-quarters of a million dollars, and still the quarters are quite cramped for many of the departments.

The controller's report on the finances of the county for the year ending January 1, 1923, contained in substance the following: The balance on hand at the beginning of the new year was $65,592; receipts during the year were $2,094,323; disbursements $2,159,756; the county fund and transfer of sundry items, $1,306,604; dog taxes, $15,088; State

tax, $560,059; treasurer's fees on fishing licenses, $343; liquor license fund, $16,896; mercantile licenses, $66,259; hunters' licenses, $9,907; dog law fines, $1,294; fishing law fines, $40; prothonotary's fund account, $15,568; register of wills, $20,195; recorder of deeds, $52,667; sheriff, $14,427; ex-sheriff Nagle, $53. Included in the disbursements is $1,266,-261 for salaries of commissioners, controller, district attorney, coroner and treasurer's offices. The cost of the prison was $3,347.28. The delinquent taxes since 1914 amounted to $72,303 for State, and for the county, $34,121. The work on the Norristown bridge amounted to $7,126; coroner's salary, $788. The election cost during the year, $27,208; registration, $2,167; primary election, $10,888; general election, $10,479; advertising proclamation, $1,670. The support of convicts totaled $25,-299; insane, $76,000; inmates State Training School, $3,399. Of the $231,227 spent on bridges in the county, the largest items were $94,000 for the Conshohocken bridge; $70,000 for the inter-county bridges; and $50,000 for other bridges not specified. County road repairs aggregated about $194,000; county appropriations to State roads, $46,000; snow removal, $3,700; the Telford road, $6,000. The courts, aside from judges' salaries, cost the taxpayers $50,000; court house expenses—light, heat, janitors, salaries, etc., $12,000. The House of Detention cost nearly $10,000; assessors received $55,000; mothers' assistance fund, $8,177; the entire cost of charitable and penal institutions was $107,230; of bridges, $231,377; road damages, $14,980; roads, $255,171.

According to the latest report issued from the county controller's office, Montgomery county has resources as follows:

Court House and Grounds	$600,000 00
Prison and Grounds	150,000 00
Almshouse and Grounds	450,000 00
House of Detention, Cherry Street, Norristown	10,594 64
County Bridges	2,000,000 00
156 Shares of Norristown Water Company Stock	14,040 00
Outstanding Taxes (Less Exonerations)	125,000 00
Sinking Fund	70,000 00
Due from Various Sources	12,124 68
Cash Balance in Treasury	63,821 04
Total Resources of County	$3,495,580 36

The liabilities of the county are as follows:

Bond Issue, Four Per Cent. Account	$80,000 00
Bond Issue, Three and a Half Per Cent. Account	150,000 00
Outstanding Warrants and Unpaid Bills	63,597 35
Excess of Resources Over Liabilities	3,201,983 01
Total Liabilities	$3,495,580 36

Sworn to by Horace W. Smedley, County Controller, saying the foregoing is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

The disbursement of county funds was as follows:

Commissioner's Office	$63,244 28
Controller's Office	11,697 27

Coroner's Office	1,222 00
Clerk of the Courts' Office	3,698 51
District Attorney's Office	14,771 36
Prothonotary's Office	6,293 21
Register of Wills Office	1,350 38
Recorder of Deeds Office	4,447 49
Sheriff's Office	3,002 00
Treasurer's Office	13,257 88
Bonded Indebtedness	11,620 00
Elections	27,208 93
Charitable and Penal Institutions	107,230 00
Bridges	231,377 34
Road Damages	14,980 70
Roads	255,171 01
Courts	48,589 04
Court House	12,143 34
House of Detention	9,744 08
Justice of the Peace	15 51
Miscellaneous	425,195 92
Total	$1,266,261 45

The following is a list of the persons who have served as officers in Montgomery county since 1880:

Recorders—Henry W. Kratz, 1881; Aaron Weikel, 1884; Benjamin Thomas, 1887; George S. Pauling, 1890; George W. Keys, 1893; M. H. Murphy, 1896; Horace B. Righter, 1899; Earl L. Jenkins, 1902; William Todd, Jr., 1905; T. D. Buckwalter, 1911; T. D. Buckwalter, 1915; S. Paul Sheeder, 1919.

Registers—J. Roberts Rambo, 1881; Joseph W. Hunter, 1887; Albert Helffenstein, 1890; Joseph C. Crawford, 1893; Edward Elsenhaus, 1896; Rhine Russell Freed, 1899; Henry W. Aikens, 1902; Ed J. Caine, 1905; Daniel Stewart, Jr., 1911; R. C. Miller, 1915; R. C. Miller, 1919.

Prothonotaries—John McLean, 1881; William B. Woodward, 1884; George B. Sheetz, 1887; Samuel E. Nyce, 1893; M. S. Kulp, 1897; ——— Brooke, 1900; A. D. Hallman, 1903; same in 1906; S. B. Drake, 1909-13; Harvet S. Frederick, 1917; I. T. Haldeman, 1922.

Sheriffs—Joseph Frankelfield, 1880; Edwin S. Stahlnecker, 1883; Henry C. Kline, 1886; Clinton Rorer, 1889; Albert D. Simpson, 1892; Charles Johnson, 1895; John K. Light, 1898; John Larzelere, 1901; Edgar Matthews, 1904; Chauncy J. Buckley, 1907; Charles E. Schwartz, 1911; Louis R. Nagle, 1915; Jacob Hamilton, 1919.

Treasurers—J. R. Yost, 1880; Henry A. Cole, 1883; William H. Young and Isaac Fegley, 1887; Edwin S. Stahlnecker, 1890; Samuel Effrig, 1893; A. C. Goodshall, 1895; Henry W. Hallowell, 1898; George N. Malsberger, 1901; Henry B. Freed, 1904; William M. Higginbotham, 1907; H. P. Keely, 1911; George H. Anders, 1915; Irvin H. Bardman, 1919.

Clerk of the Courts—Edward Schall, 1881; Edward Schall and Alexander Maulsberger, 1884; Alexander Maulsberger, 1887; Abner H. Gehman, 1890; Daniel A. Shiffert, 1893; William P. Young, 1896; I. N. Cook, 1896; Henry W. Aikens, 1902; Howard S. Stillwagon, 1905; Howard S. Stillwagon, 1908; James A. Strech, 1911; same in 1915; J. C. Johnson, 1919.

Coroners—Samuel Akins, 1880; Samuel Akins, 1883; * * * Milton R. Kurtz, 1892; same in 1895; Grant R. McGlathery, 1898; James J.

Kane, 1901; Joseph N. King, 1907; William Neville, 1911; Grant R. McGlathery, 1915, died in office, and William Neville was appointed to serve in his place; R. C. Hoffman was elected in 1919, failed to qualify, and William Neville served out his term of office.

County Surveyors—Joseph W. Hunter, 1880; Edwin S. Ritchie, 1892; same in 1895; same in 1898; same in 1901; S. B. Latshaw, 1907; James Cresson, 1911; same in 1915; John H. Dager, 1919.

The following is a list of the principal officers of Montgomery county at this date (1923), and with the exception of the judge of the Orphans' Court and the prothonotary, their term of office expires in 1924; all are elected for a four-year term. The judge of the Orphans' Court, as well as the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, hold a ten-year term of office.

President Judge, Hon. Aaron S. Swartz*; judge, Hon. John Faber Miller; judge of Orphans' Court, Hon. W. F. Solly; district attorney, Frank X. Renninger; indictment clerk, George C. Corson; prothonotary, I. T. Haldeman; solicitor, T. Lane Bean; clerk of quarter sessions, J. Crawford Johnson; recorder of deeds, B. Paul Sheeder; register of wills, Robert C. Miller; county treasurer, Irvin H. Bardman; sheriff, Jacob Hamilton; county commissioners, William Warner Harper, Roy A. Hatfield, Harman Y. Bready; commissioner's clerk, Daniel Stout; controller, Horace Smedley; coroner, William Neville, Conshohocken; county surveyor, John H. Dager; almshouse steward, John H. Bartman; almshouse matron, Mrs. J. H. Bartman; physician, Dr. W. Z. Anders; prison warden, Romanus Fellman; probation officers, Miss Susan Dumore, and Harry B. Chain; mercantile appraisers, George L. Rubicam, Jenkintown; county superintendent of schools, J. Horace Landis.

Note—*Judge Swartz, on March 7, 1923, tendered his resignation, after thirty-seven years on the bench. Governor Pinchot now had it under advisement more than a month, but finally was prevailed upon to grant the just request of the veteran of the Montgomery County Bench.

CHAPTER IX.

TRANSPORTATION.

The matter of transportation has always been among the difficult problems to solve in all civilized portions of the globe, and America must be given credit for her large share in solving this problem not for this country alone but for all other countries. We had our Fulton, he gave the world its steamboats; we had our Morse, he gave to the world the electric telegraph; we had our Edison, he gave us our electric car systems and telephones; we had our two Pullman brothers, they gave the traveling public our sleeping-car system; we had our George Westinghouse, he gave the world the automatic air-brake,—and the great world abroad was quick to borrow these inventions wrought out by these American men of genius; and also in their communications with us the foreign countries whisper under the sea, over the American submarine telegraphic cable invented and laid beneath the rolling waves by another American—Cyrus W. Field.

Waterways—Like all countries where goodsized streams are found, the earliest means of transportation was by boats of different kinds, usually at first the dug-out or canoe, made from the trunk of some mighty forest king. The Schuylkill was first graced by a rude fort ordered built in 1633 by Arent Corsson, under Governor Van Twiller, of Manhattan. This was to protect the Dutch fur traders who had just engaged in a large fur trade with the Indians, especially in beaver skins. In 1643 no less than 2,127 packages of skins were shipped to Europe. The fort was known as "Beversrede," named from the beaver skin trade. It is believed this fort was near what was later known as Gray's ferry, at the western extremity of the city of Philadelphia. This was about the first water transportation on the Schuylkill, and in 1730 action was taken to protect the fishways and dams along the river from being injured or totally destroyed by the boatmen in the fur trade, who in many cases ruined the dams and fishways built by the men engaged in fishing for a livelihood. This trouble almost caused a civil war. William Penn had to pass an act in his time to prevent such destruction. The canoes in use then carried as high as one hundred and forty bushels of wheat, and Penn wrote to England that some of them carried four tons of brick, and yet the boat was all fashioned from the trunk of one poplar tree. For a half century the war went on between landsmen who made their living at fishing and prized their improvised dams and "traps" for catching fish, while the boatman with his heavily loaded cargo of furs left no stone unturned to win out, and finally the government authorities had to settle it and it was decided that the landsmen must thereafter put no obstructions in the waters of the stream. That ended the war.

A company was incorporated in 1792 to make a canal from Norristown to the Delaware river at Philadelphia. From the former place the Schuylkill was to be improved so that continuous passage might be had for boats with the interior of the State. Half a million dollars was sunk in trying out this scheme for a water transportation system, but all to no avail. But in 1811 the two old companies reorganized, and in 1827 the canal was completed and William Penn's dream of connecting the waters of the Schuylkill and Susquehanna rivers became a fact. After an enlargement of this canal had been effected in 1846, coal boats of 180 tons could easily be floated through the waterway. In 1860 it was shown that the average annual coal shipments through this canal to the iron furnaces of this county alone, amounted to more than half a million tons. Some knowledge of the commerce on the river may be gained from a statement made in a Reading newspaper under date of March 6, 1802:

Within the present week were taken down on the Schuylkill to the mills and city of Philadelphia in the boats of this place in one day the following articles: 1201 barrels of flour; 1425 bushels of wheat, 17 tons of barr iron, 1492 gallons of whiskey, 365 pounds of butter, and 500 pounds of snuff. The whole amounted to upwards of one hundred and sixty tons, and would require, in the present condition of the roads, at least one hundred and sixty teams of good horses to haul the same to market.

Owing to the abundance of pine and hemlock timber among the mountains and sources of the Schuylkill, the first settlers, excepting a few hunters, came hither to avail themselves of this means for a livelihood. At first rafts were entirely constructed of logs, seldom over twelve feet in width and generally sixteen feet in length.

The Montgomery County Historical Society has the following facts on the old canal days and the manner of operating such transportation: A company known as the Schuylkill Navigation Company was organized in 1825 to build a canal system extending the entire length of Montgomery county from Philadelphia to the north and west. For many years the stage coach was the only common carrier known to this part of the country. When constructed, this canal had numerous ports, and carried much heavy freight. Millions of tons of coal were carried on these canal barges or "arks," as some called them, each boat dragged slowly along by means of the power furnished by one or two horses tramping along on the well-trodden tow-path, a picturesque sight. The music of the boatman's horn as the boat neared a "lock," signaling to the lock-keeper for its coming, was pleasant to hear up and down the Schuylkill Valley, where the canal took its windings with the stream's banks. Boatmen frequently played a tune creditably on those tin boat-horns. This canal is still in operation, though little freight is carried, as the steam and electric railway systems have been able to successfully com-

pete in rates. But the canal is kept in good repair, and is owned or leased by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company. It is worth more to furnish water for power to manufacturing plants and for generating electricity than as a freight carrier.

In order that the canal boatmen of a century ago might be well posted as to how to navigate the "Raging Canal," a booklet was printed by the company in 1827 and given to each one connected with the management of canal boats and locks along the line. It contained warnings to boatmen as to what obstructions were in their way en route. Its preface page said, "The Schuylkill Canal is considered very difficult to navigate without much experience. Those running boats must have good judgment, especially on the lower section from Reading to Philadelphia, occasioned by points, rocks and sand bars."

Stage Lines—A not-long-ago "Daily Times," of Norristown, among its "One Hndred Years Ago To-day" items had the following:

The Norristown stage has commenced running daily. It leaves Norristown every morning at 7 o'clock and arrives at the Green Tree, North Fourth street, Philadelphia, at 12 o'clock. Returning, leaves Philadelphia at 2 o'clock, arriving in Norristown at 7 o'clock in the evening. Lewis Schrack is in charge of the stage.

This generation knows nothing of stage coach lines—husky, good-natured drivers directing the rapid movement of their four horses over hill and dale in Montgomery county. But these means of conveyance had many interesting features and many discomfortures. This work can only briefly touch on these things of the past. The first stage line passing through this county is supposed to have been by George Klein between Bethlehem and Philadelphia, on what was known as the King's Highway, but later the old Bethlehem road. His first trip was made in September, 1763, in what was then called a "stage-wagon." He started out regularly every Monday morning from the Sun Tavern in Bethlehem, and returned from the city every Thursday evening, thus consuming a full week in his round trip. This stage started from the "King of Prussia," a noted tavern on Race street, and the charge through was ten shillings. Beyond doubt this was the first stage line entering the city from either the north or west. The post office at Bethlehem was not established until 1792, but the stage coach for conveying passengers started in 1763, away ahead of the mail coaches. After mail was carried, the time was reduced to two days to Philadelphia, and in 1798 was reduced to one day's drive with the real "mail-coach."

About 1781, William Coleman, an energetic business man, established a stage line from Philadelphia to Reading, of which he was proprietor and drove himself for twenty-seven successive years. He was awarded the mail carrying contract in 1804. This line passed through Norristown, Trappe, and Pottsgrove (now Pottstown). In 1808 Mr.

Coleman opened an inn in Reading for the accommodation of his passengers, his stages arriving and departing in every point of the compass. He then added another special line from Pottstown to Philadelphia, and this is the last heard of the pioneer stage owner Coleman, who announced at that time that after about thirty years' service he was to quit, and said in both German and English print that he would provide "a sober and careful set of drivers who will attend the stages, so that passengers may travel with safety and pleasure." "The Gentleman's Pocket Almanac," published in 1769, thus gives the distances from Philadelphia over the Reading line and to Pottstown: To Robin Hood, four miles; to Plymouth Meeting, fourteen miles; to Bartlestall's, eighteen miles; to Perkiomen Church, twenty-four miles; to Shracks, twenty-six miles; to Widow Lloyd's, thirty miles; to Potts', thirty-eight miles.

The completion of the canal in 1825 changed all these stage lines materially, but many ran until the final trumph of the railroad in the month of December, 1839, when it was finished to Reading, and then it was "let us take the train to the city," and no longer "must be up early for the stage leaves at daylight." The railroad was opened from Norristown in August, 1835, and on the opposite side of the river through to Pottsville, in 1842. Yet with all these improvements, so seated was the old habit of travel by stage coach that as late as 1860 the owners of some of these Pennsylvania lines did a fair passenger business in and out from Norristown. Many of the inland places needed these stage lines as much as ever and hence they continued many years longer than the advent of the railroad. County Historian Bean in his article on stage-coaches in this county, in his excellent work published in 1884, gives the following:

It was customary along these routes for the stage-driver, when within a mile of the place at which the stage usually stopped for breakfast, to blow a horn, the sweet and mellow tones of which would announce his approach, that breakfast might be in readiness on his arrival. No sooner there than he would drop his lines, aid the passengers out of the coach, and proceed to the awaiting meal; in the meantime the horses would be changed, when the seats would be again occupied, and the journey resumed. In some cases fifteen miles having been made over the rugged road, it may be well supposed that an appetite had been awakened to be here appeased. At every post office, generally about four or five miles apart, a brief stop would be made to have the mail changed and the horses watered. They were what was generally termed Troy coaches, painted red, with a profusion of gilding, having the proprietors' names blazoned on the panels. Four horses were always driven to each coach, who were generally selected for beauty, speed, and powers of endurance, in the proper care of which the hostlers appeared to take a delight.

The business of staging, directly and indirectly, gave employment and support to a number of persons in Montgomery county, among whom could be enumerated the proprietors, the drivers, groomsmen, inn-keepers, smiths, and coach-makers, besides the toll arising therefrom

for the turnpike companies amounted to considerable. It made, too, no inconsiderable home market to the farmer for oats, corn, hay, and straw, besides the provisions required for the passengers. The arrival of the stage always made a bustle in the quiet country villages and hamlets. It not only brought strangers, but acquaintances, relatives, and friends, who, having been long absent, thus returned to visit familiar scenes once more. To the post office it brought letters and newspapers, and, as a substitute for the express, the driver was an important personage, from the amount of errands imposed on him in the delivery of his messages and parcels.

Railroads—The advent of the steam railroad system to Montgomery county marked a new era in its history. It was August 14, 1835, that the first railroad was finished to Norristown—the "Philadelphia, Germantown & Norristown Railroad," which road had completed its line from Philadelphia out as far as Manayunk, October 22, 1834, and published its first time table. The fare was twelve and one-half cents each way and trains ran every two hours.

The first locomotive was built by Matthias W. Baldwin, known as "Old Ironsides," and made its first trip October 20, 1832, on the Germantown branch of this pioneer railroad. Reader, now let your mind rest for a moment on the gigantic Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia & Reading railroad was formally opened in the winter of 1842, but parts of the road had been operated as early as 1839. It is not usually known that the Reading road was not built from Philadelphia out, but from Reading into Philadelphia. It was operated for some time between Pottstown and Reading before any other place. For quite a period of time passengers from the city for Reading would come in the cars to Norristown, then stage it to Pottstown, where they would take the cars again to Reading; or a little later, when the road was finished to Bridgeport, passengers would be carried by omnibus from the Norristown depot to Bridgeport, and there take the cars for Reading. The first engine run over the Reading line was called the "Neversink," brought from Pottstown on wagons and unloaded there and put together on the track. Those days it was customary to give every locomotive a name. The first trip of the one just named was to Reading for a load of iron to lay the tracks between Pottstown and Sanatoga. However, before this time the "Delaware" engine was landed at Reading in a canal boat, and it was proposed to make a grand excursion to Pottstown with her. It was discovered that her cylinder heads were too low to clear the coping on the bridges, so she could not pass until the bridges had all been changed. The excursion had been advertised and it must come off, so the managers of the road secured a number of plain, flat-bottomed four-wheeled trucks such as iron was hauled on, and these were fitted up with seats and a horse or two hitched to each car. In this "train" came the railroad officials and prominent citizens

of Reading, bankers, lawyers, merchants, etc., of that place to Pottstown. As the horses could not walk over the trestles en route, they had to be unhitched and led around, while the passengers pushed the "cars" over the bridges. They persisted, and reached Pottstown before noon and all partook of a well planned feast. Other engines were named "Planet," "Rocket," "Comet," "Spitfire," and "Firefly." The Reading road from Philadelphia to Pottsville is ninety-eight miles and originally cost $19,262,720.

The Chester Valley railroad connected the Philadelphia & Reading road with itself at Bridgeport; is twenty-one miles long, connecting with the Pennsylvania lines at Downingtown, in Chester county. The first train run over this road was September 12, 1853.

The North Pennsylvania railroad was chartered October, 1852, and extended from Philadelphia to Bethlehem. It was opened in July, 1857, and was leased by the "Reading" for a term of ninety-nine years. In Montgomery county, this road passes through Jenkintown, Ft. Washington, Ambler, North Wales, Lansdale, Telford, and Souderton. The Colebrookdale railroad was chartered March 23, 1865, and completed in 1869. It extends from Pottstown to Barto Station, in Berks county. It has always been operated by the Reading system. The Northeast Pennsylvania railroad extends from Abington station, Montgomery county, to Hartsville, in Bucks county. It was opened in December, 1872. Stony Creek railroad was chartered in April, 1868. It commenced at Main street, Norristown, extended to Lansdale, there connected with the North Pennsylvania line; also with a branch to Doylestown. The Perkiomen railroad was finished in 1868, extending from the Perkiomen Junction to Palm Station, a distance of twenty-six miles through Montgomery county, finally connecting with the East Pennsylvania line with a distance of thirty-eight miles in length. This road has stations at Collegeville, Schwenksville, Green Lane, Pennsburg, and East Greenville. The Plymouth railroad extends from the borough of Conshohocken to Oreland, connecting with the North Pennsylvania line. It is only nine and a quarter miles in length.

The Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad is an important railroad. It crosses the boundary line of this county on the eastern shore of the Schuylkill near Manayunk, passing through Conshohocken and Norristown, following the line of the river until it reaches Phoenixville, and on to Pottstown. This road went into operation in 1884 and is now a part of the great Pennsylvania railroad system. It is a full double-tracked line.

These constitute the steam railroad lines within this county. The only other railway here to-day is the Philadelphia & Western, an electric line constructed about 1917, which runs from Philadelphia to Norristown as a "third-rail" line, and which is a very successful passenger thoroughfare and has trains less than half an hour apart through the

day and frequently during the night. Besides the main line, there are trolley lines gridironing the county in all directions; nearly all the hamlets and boroughs of importance have a car line at their very doorway. Of these modern improvements the histories of the various boroughs will make local mention.

HOME OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CHAPTER X.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

September 9th to 12th, both inclusive, 1884, were given over to the celebration of the first centennial of the county's establishment, its history as a separate county dating from September, 1784. The president of the association was Joseph Fornance; recording secretary, F. G. Hobson; corresponding secretary, Muscoe M. Gibson.

Order of Exercises—At the opening exercises, prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D. An address was given by J. P. Hale Jenkins; a second address by president Joseph Fornance. The next was the dedication of the Rittenhouse Meridian Stone, near the court house; report of the Memorial Committee; address by Hon. B. Markley Boyer; benediction by Rev. Isaac Gibson. This ended the first day of the celebration's exercises. On the second day—Memorial exercises; prayer by Rev. H. S. Rodenbough; address by President Joseph Fornance; historical oration by William J. Buck; poem by Hon. George N. Corson; oration by Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D. D. Third day—The parade; first division; second division; third division; fourth division; the Indian children; remarks by Colonel Theo. W. Bean. Fourth day—The Antiquarian Exposition; list of exhibitors; list of exhibits; Indian relics; antique relics; antiques of the first settlers and early purchasers; relics of records of the Colonial period; relics of the Revolutionary War, and 1812; relics of the Mexican War; relics of the Civil War (1861-65); implements of early husbandry; implements and articles of household use in early times; kitchen furniture and pewter-plate ware; antique furniture and clocks; many home-made articles; old silver, silver-plated ware, glass and China ware; antique wearing apparel and jewelry; antique handiwork of our own times; school books, old and new; books, papers and manuscripts; maps, oil paintings and engravings; views of schools and churches; Rittenhouse clocks and scientific instruments; arms and equipments; coins and paper money; fauna and flora of the county; miscellaneous articles; minerals and fossils; action of court and grand jury; financial exhibit. The reader will now understand the scope of the celebration, after having read of the various exhibits presented to the view of the visitors present during those interesting four days.

This was a well and long beforehand planned celebration. At the regular meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society, held May 25, 1882, the project of a suitable celebration of the county's organization in 1884 was discussed at length, and a committee was appointed to meet with the county board to properly observe the event then only two years ahead. The committee on the part of the Historical Society was F. G. Hobson, Hon. Jones Detwiler and A. K. Thomas. A commit-

tee on the part of the county officials met with the committee just named, and a general committee was selected and the names of its members made public. Nothing further was enacted until September 10, 1883, when the call was made for the meeting of the general committee, which soon met at the rooms of the Historical Society in the court house. The next meeting was held November 15, 1883. The memorial committee was instructed to have prepared and erected a granite monolith to the memory of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, to be placed in front of the court house, as one sees it to-day. It was to also mark the meridian line, as well as to do honor to Mr. Rittenhouse. It bears appropriate inscriptions on its several faces. Meetings of the general committee now became a common thing. The time was fast approaching for speedy, practical action on the part of various sub-committees. The financial part was important. The committee in charge of that feature of the great local enterprise had their minds active and finally succeeded in a businesslike manner in raising the necessary funds to finance the celebration, then close at hand. Each election district was furnished with ample tickets to dispose of. Each district was asked to subscribe $100 toward the fund. The railroad opened up its generosity and agreed to return free of charge all articles expressed over their line to be exhibited at the celebration.

The persons in charge, known as the building committee, had space one hundred feet square floored on the court house grounds, and there four large tents were erected. The court room was floored over the tops of the seats, and glass cases arranged around the side of the room and upon three large tables running the entire length of the room. The grand jury room was converted into the Art Room, or gallery. All departments were taken care of after the above fashion and all demanded an immense amount of real work, but the people hesitated not—this was only once in their lifetime certainly, and they freely gave time and money.

After the immense parades, the showing of thousands of articles of exhibits, the last notes from the numerous bands of music, the echo of the last orations, etc., had all become things of the past, an accounting was had and it shows in record form that the total number of exhibitors at this Antiquarian Exposition was twelve hundred and forty. It is said that at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876, there were fifty countries represented, and that all put together exhibited only 31,000 articles. So it will be seen that Montgomery county had just reason to be proud of what it accomplished at her 1884 Centennial of the county. The total receipts of the enterprise at Norristown was $6,216.93; total expenditures, $4,825.43; balance on hand, $1,391.50. This latter snug sum of profit arising from the enterprise was wisely given over to the Montgomery County Historical Society, *in trust,* to be invested in good real estate security, the principal sum to remain intact, and the

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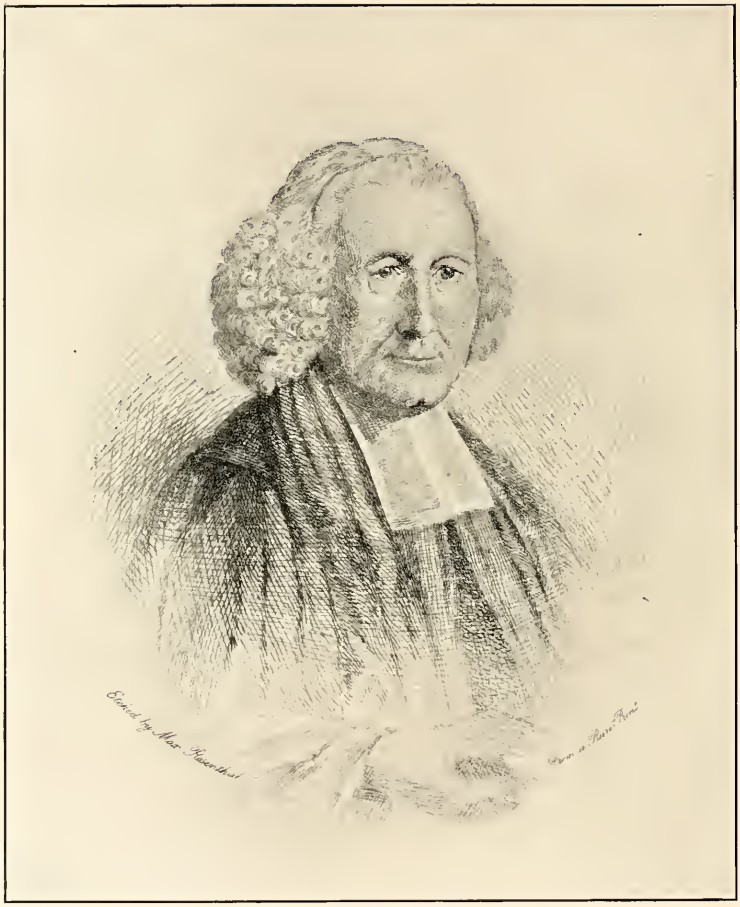
interest only to be used for the purposes of the Society. The treasurer of this enterprise was Lewis Styer, of Norristown, who made an itemized statement balancing to a cent, and pleasing the masses whose money he had handled.

The only sad feature of all such anniversaries is the fact that no person who took part in this the county's first centennial will ever be permitted to attend a second one, when times shall have changed, no doubt nearly, if not quite as much, as they did from 1784 to 1884.



HENRY MELCHIOR MUHLENBERG

CHAPTER XI.

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

For nearly a hundred years after the settlement of Montgomery county began, emigrants of all nationalities were religious refugees or pilgrims seeking the right of free worship for themselves and their posterity. Thus we observe the sterling qualities found in our pioneers. One can easily imagine how different would the condition have been to-day in our country had the foreign-born settlers who came here then been of the same type as many from the same countries who are now coming to our shores. The large majority of our immigrants for scores of years have not come here on account of religion, but to obtain wealth easier than they could hope to in their own native land.

Taking the various denominations now within Montgomery county, the writer will treat their history in the order in which they were organized, as near as possible. The first that claims the attention of the reader are the "Quakers."

The Society of Friends—For the most part these people came with the proprietary, William Penn, and very soon several "meetings" were established in the eastern borders of the county. In fact, the bulk of the first settlers in the southeastern portion of Montgomery county were of this religious faith. During the colonial period, there were eight houses of worship of the society within the borders of the county, and it should be said that after more than two centuries the number has not increased to more than a score of churches in the county up to this time. They seldom draw converts from other denominations, but depend upon the rising generations of their own families for what increase they have. Through their patient sufferings and kind precepts they have killed the more radical Calvinistic ideas of much that was harsh and unchristian, hence have been a great religious blessing to the communities in which they located. In all that has been uplifting, the Friends of this county have been identified, including the great questions of slavery, temperance, and general moral reforms.

The order in which their early societies or "Meetings" were formed in this county was as follows: At Merion a building was erected in 1695; Abington was built in 1697; Gwynedd, in 1700; Plymouth, 1712; Horsham in 1724; Upper Providence, in 1743; Pottstown, in 1753; Upper Dublin, 1814; and Norristown in 1852.

Returning to the Friends' Meeting-house in Lower Merion, the oldest of all, it should be said that the building stands on the old Lancaster road, a little more than a mile from the Philadelphia city line of to-day. The first settlers here were Welsh people, and a majority, if not all, were Friends in their faith and practice. It is known by their records that

they held services at the house of Hugh Roberts as early as the fourth month, 1684. One record says at first they worshipped in a small wooden building erected 1695, which served until 1713, when a good stone meeting-house was provided. William Penn spoke in the last-mentioned building in 1701, when it is related that many of the congregation could not understand him on account of his speaking in correct English. For a period of eighty-six years this was the only church building within the township of Lower Merion.

Abington Meeting-house was the home of one of the first Friends congregations in Pennsylvania, dating its meetings back of the coming of William Penn. Although Benjamin Lay, who belonged to this meeting, had written and circulated a book against slavery in this country as early as 1737, yet he was not first in that line, for the German Friends had long preceded him in a protest dated Germantown, 18th of second month, 1688. A majority of the people, however, were so conservative that nothing was accomplished in the matter until the dawn of the Revolution, when the Stamp Act brought out the rights of mankind prominently. While in those days the Friends held slaves, it was not long before they expelled a member for owning or selling his slaves—they must be set free. At the two hundredth anniversary of this meeting at Abington, there were over five hundred persons present. An address was read on "William Penn and His Holy Experiment." With the passing years the Friends society in this place has not grown as one might naturally expect it would.

Friends Meeting-house at Gwynedd, according to the church records, show that meetings commenced here in 1714. The young settlement had some English and more Welsh people, and joint meetings were held for a time, but soon the Friends organized themselves into a "meeting." What seems a well founded tradition, runs that William Penn and daughter Letitia and a servant came out on horseback to visit the settlement soon after the church was built, and he preached for them, remaining over night at the house of his friend, Thomas Evans, the first settler, who resided nearby. The first meeting-house here was of logs; the second was built about 1712, and was a stone structure in use until 1823, when another building (two stories high) forty by seventy-five feet in dimensions, was built. For seventy-five years this was the only church building within the township of Gwynedd. Many hallowed associations cluster around the spot, and it is but to be regretted that times have so changed the religious bent of the community that no longer is it a place of religious interest for Friends, if indeed by any denominations.

In Plymouth and Whitemarsh townships the Friends were doubtless the first to settle. William Penn had conceived of a plan for a town to be laid out here a mile square, which is the site of the present Friends church. In the summer of 1686 the township was purchased and settled by James Fox, Francis Rawle, Richard Gove, and other Friends,

who lived for a time and held meeting in the house of James Fox. Later they moved to Philadelphia and others came in and occupied their lands. Just what date a church building was erected here cannot be determined, but it was before 1720. A short time before the Revolution, the Yearly Meeting at Philadelphia adopted a resolution "that the members do not hold negro slaves in bonds," and "that they shall not buy and sell slaves." In 1775, when a committee looked into this matter, it was discovered that this meeting at Plymouth had sixteen negroes and one mulatto. Thomas Lancaster, Sr., was the first to set free his man slave Cato, aged forty-six years. The Revolution worked hardship on this congregation, for many had loyal patriotic blood in their veins and entered the Continental army, which was contrary to the teachings of the Friends—they believed not in war. Later, the meeting here was divided and the Orthodox portion held most of the property, so another meeting-house was built by the more liberal element.

Respecting the Friends Meeting-house in Horsham, the records are not intact, so no date can be established for the church building, but best accounts at hand place it at about 1716. It was of stone, and stood until about 1803, when it was torn away and the present edifice constructed. In the ancient graveyard near this building rests the dust of more than two thousand pioneers. The grounds have frequently been added to, and the stately trees about the church property in 1880 were the subject of much comment; but not here alone but in most all Friends church-grounds, the mighty forest trees and the later artificial trees are in evidence, showing how these people admire the thrifty growing trees, monuments of life itself.

The Friends Meeting-house at Pottstown was the first church or meeting-house in the township or borough. Soon after John Potts laid out the borough in 1753, he donated a lot of ground for the purpose of having a church erected, which was doubtless very early. In 1850 it was stated by the owner of an extensive gristmill on the Manatawny that when Washington's army was here in September, 1777, the meeting-house was used by some of the soldiers as quarters. It appears to have been a small red brick building, which in 1875 was torn down and replaced by the present structure. It is located between Penn and Hanover streets, on King street. It belongs to the Orthodox branch of the Friends.

Upper Providence Friends Meeting-house was one of the early houses of worship in the township, situated a mile and a half east of Port Providence. It was built in 1730, and was a log structure. David Hamer, who came to the place in 1717, donated the land on which it stood. In 1828 this log cabin-church was replaced by a one-story stone building, still believed to be in use, but going to decay. The society of Friends thereabouts has dwindled to a handful of faithful believers.

Upper Dublin Friends Meeting-house was situated a half mile north-

west of Jarrettown, and was built in 1814 on a lot presented for that purpose by Phebe Shoemaker. The house was a one-story stone building 36 by 40 feet in size. The plot of land measured about two acres, and besides the church had various sheds for the comfort of the horses that brought the worshipers to the church in those long-ago days. The burying place covers about one acre, and has many pure white marble headstones. In 1875 a First Day of the Week school was established here by the Friends.

Norristown Friends Meeting-house is a plain brick building (as described in 1885 by Historian Bean), located within a large shady lawn at the corner of Swede and Jacoby streets. It was built in 1852 as an indulged meeting under care of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting. The sect has never been strong in Norristown..

Miscellaneous—The Mennonites, sometimes styled "Mennonists," came into this county at about the same time as the Friends, possibly a little later. Their history is not as extended as the Friends. Their first meeting-house is supposed to have been built in Perkiomen township about 1725. Five years later Franconia and Salford meeting-houses were erected. The one in Providence was built in 1742; in 1750 Kulpsville was erected; and before 1812 the Methacton and Towamencin churches were added to the list. There are now about a dozen churches in the limits of this county. They are in many ways similar in belief to the Friends. The founder of this sect was Menno Simon, a native of Friesland, Holland, and was contemporary with Martin Luther. William Penn made the acquaintance of these people in their native land and induced them to start a colony in Pennsylvania, which they did in 1683, and many more came much later. In Montgomery county these people settled rather compactly in the more central townships. "Gordon's Gazateer" in 1832 set them down as having five churches in the county. In 1870 they had twice that number, and later they had a number more formed. They, like all other sects, have been torn asunder by schisms.

German Baptists, intermixed with the Mennonites who came from the Old World and who had in Germany been stigmatized and persecuted, sought out homes in Montgomery county, mostly from the mouth of the Perkiomen to the northward, along the branches of that stream. They are known among themselves as "Brethren." They profess no creed save the Bible. They baptize face forward, dipping three times, hence the name Dunkers ("dippers"). In 1870 there were nine churches of this faith in this county.

The Schwenkfelders are a plain German sect which was formed by Casper Schwenkfeld, born fourteen years after Martin Luther. They became extinct in Europe and planted a colony here, and in Bucks and Lehigh counties. They first arrived at Philadelphia in 1734. The form

of their government is congregational; they are against war, against oaths, against law suits and a paid ministry. They are not numerous here to-day.

The Episcopal Church—This was the next denomination to form societies and erect buildings in this county, after those already named. This is really the Church of England of colonial days here, and was founded in this county in Whitemarsh township in 1710, and ten years later St. James Church was founded in Providence (now Lower), and by 1832 these churches had increased to four and in 1870 to ten. There are now about a dozen Episcopal churches in Montgomery county. The list of parishes given in 1890 for this county is thus: St. Thomas' congregation of Whitemarsh, founded in 1710; St. James' Church of Lower Providence, organized 1730; St. John's of Norristown, 1812; Christ's of Pottstown, 1828; Church of the Redeemer, Lower Merion, 1848; St. Paul's Memorial, about 1850; Calvary of Conshohocken, 1858; Church of Our Saviour, of Jenkintown, 1858; St. Paul's of Cheltenham, 1860; Church of the Messiah, of Gwynedd, 1870; St. Peter's of Weldon, 1883; and the church at Lansdale, 1885.

To be more specific, it may be stated that Calvary Episcopal Church at Conshohocken held its first services in 1858, in the old Temperance Hall. The first regular rector was Rev. E. L. Lycett, who continued until 1863. A church was built and first used in 1860. Later it was greatly improved. In 1873 the rectory was built at a cost of $4,900. This parish has been faithful in its work among all classes.

St. John's Episcopal Church of Norristown, was established in 1813, their building being dedicated April 6, 1815. In 1856 the church was enlarged; two years later a new pipe organ was installed; in 1869 a bequest was made by the will of John Boyer, amounting to $20,000. With the flight of years, this church has kept apace in its church work and building improvements and to-day has a handsome, large and valuable edifice as well as a large active membership in its parish.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Cheltenham township was erected so as to be consecrated in 1862; a new organ was placed in position in 1866; a tower for the church was commenced in 1869 and completed a year later. The edifice is of Gothic style, built of stone, and has beautiful stained windows. The tower mentioned above has a chime of ten bells, the gift of Mrs. John W. Thomas. The church grounds embrace fully five acres.

Baptist Churches—A Baptist church was founded in Montgomery county in 1719, by the formation of the Montgomery church, which was its sole representative for near a century. Lower Providence and Lower Merion churches were organized in 1809; Norristown, 1832; Mt. Pleasant, in Whitpain township, 1834; Hatboro, 1835; Cold Point, in Whitemarsh, 1842; Bridgeport, in 1850; Pottstown, in 1859; North

Wales, 1862; Conshohocken, 1870; Royer's Ford, 1879; Jenkintown, 1880; Lansdale, 1884. While it is not to be presumed that a work of this character (a general history) can contain a detailed history of every church in the county, such space as is allowable will be devoted to the more important matters connected with all denominations.

The Bridgeport Baptist Church was constituted March 19, 1850, with fifteen members. A lot eighty by one hundred feet was purchased on Fourth street, and there a church building was erected at a cost of $2,400. The first regular pastor was Rev. William Smith. The church was admitted to the Philadelphia Baptist Association, in October, 1850. Forty years ago this church had a membership of about two hundred and fifty.

The First Baptist Church of Norristown was organized December 12, 1832, and a plain stone structure was built in 1833 at the corner of Swede and Airy streets, the same location the present building now occupies. The original building cost about $7,000. In 1871 the old church was torn down, and from that date to 1875 a beautiful Gothic structure was constructed of brown stone material, the entire building costing $25,000, and that constitutes the present church edifice. In 1884 the membership exceeded five hundred and sixty. It is now among the largest churches of the borough.

The First Baptist Church of Conshohocken was constituted June 10, 1870, with forty-two members, under the leadership of Rev. J. G. Walker. In 1868 George Nugent donated a lot on which to build. The first chapel cost about $4,000. A parsonage was built in 1884, costing $3,500.

The Baptist church in the borough of Hatboro was organized in the autumn of 1835, and held services in the old Loller Academy until the erection of their building, the cornerstone of which was laid September 5, 1839, and dedicated in 1840. By 1855 it was found too small for the membership, and a larger edifice was erected at a cost of more than $4,000. The church grounds contain two acres on which, besides the church, is a two-story stone parsonage and sexton's house. The burial ground in the rear of the church is kept with the best of care.

The Baptist church at Jenkintown, in a sightly place on Walnut avenue, stands on ground donated by William Pettir. This congregation was organized in 1880 by Rev. Joseph Williams and twenty-five charter members. The church building, a plain Gothic one-story stone structure, was dedicated in November, 1883.

The Baptist church at Lansdale was erected in the fall of 1884, when it was under the care of the church at North Wales, of which Rev. J. A. Aldred was pastor. The first services in this church were held Sunday, February 8, 1885. The first edifice was a brick building 35 by 61 feet in size, and cost $3,500.

North Wales Baptist Church was constituted in the winter of 1862-63, with a membership of twenty-five, mostly from the Montgomery

Baptist Church. In the summer of 1863 a brick church was erected in Gwynedd township, a short distance from Kneedler Station, which was used until the completion of the stone edifice in the borough of North Wales, in the fall of 1884. This cost $5,000, and was dedicated in November, 1884.

Royer's Ford Baptist Church was organized January 30, 1879, with fifteen charter members. In the summer of 1880 a brick edifice was built and dedicated that fall. With the passing years this congregation grew and is to-day well sustained.

The Lower Providence Baptist Church was established in the summer of 1809, during which season the first church was built on the site of the present one. The structure was of stone, 28 by 35 feet, costing $952. The land on which it stood was donated by Benjamin Davis. The formal institution of the church was August 5, 1810. In 1835 a new and larger church had to be had, as the membership had grown rapidly. The new church was forty by fifty feet in size, and was dedicated November, 1836. After several years this building was burned, the date being February 21, 1843. The congregation agreed to rebuild at once, and the newly built edifice was dedicated August 6, 1843. In a few years the third structure was found to be too small, and in 1876 another edifice was erected, and dedicated December 13, 1877, making the fourth church in three-quarters of a century.

Cold Point Baptist Church in Whitemarsh township, first known as Plymouth Church, had preaching from about 1842. The corner stone of the old stone church was laid in 1845, and was in use until 1867. In 1868 a new and more modern building was provided the congregation. Two and a half acres of land go with this church property. Near this old church lived the noted Alan W. Corson, well known as a teacher, surveyer, nurseryman and botanist, who died June 21, 1882, aged ninety-five years.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church of Whitpain township was built on the Morris road, in the eastern part of the township. The land on which it was erected was donated largely by Thomas C. James, of Philadelphia; the deeds are dated 3rd of seventh month, 1834, and cover three-fourths of an acre. The same year a small stone edifice was built there, but in 1865 a much larger better house was provided. This church organization was perfected May 24, 1834, with sixteen members.

The Christian Church—Trinity Christian Church, now called Collegeville (Independent), at Freeland, was spoken of by Bean in his Montgomery County History in 1884 as follows:

This church was founded in 1854. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, a bishop of the Mennonite church, on account of his advanced views on education, communion and other matters, was prevented from preaching in the Mennonite churches at Skippack, Worcester and Providence, in the year 1851. He and his adherents, therefore, constituted themselves

a new body, and proceeded to erect a church building at Freeland, upon land donated by Mr. Hunsicker. The building was finished and consecrated in 1855. It was first called "Christian Meeting," and the congregation was chartered as "The Christian Society of Freeland." There was no regular minister. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, who preached in German, and Rev. Israel Beidle, who preached in English, assisted by Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, made themselves responsible for the religious services. Thus matters continued for several years. On May 24, 1861, a council was organized by electing deacons and elders. The first council consisted of: Ministers, Henry A. Hunsicker and Joseph H. Hendricks; Elders, Gideon Fetterolf and Abraham Hendricks; Deacons, Henry D. Swartly and Daniel H. Reiff. At the same time arrangements were made for five ministers to alternate in preaching in the following order: Revs. Israel Beidler, Henry A. Hunsicker, Abraham Hunsicker, Abraham Grater and Joseph H. Hendricks. In 1862 the title of the congregation was changed to "Trinity Christian Church at Freeland."

The church is not connected with any other denomination, being entirely independent. There is a church at Skippackville, Perkiomen township, which is a branch of the Freeland church, both being in the same charge and served by the same pastor. The church is liberal in its creed, yet strictly orthodox, recognizing all Christian churches as parts of the true church. It has a membership of about three hundred and fifty.

The Presbyterian Church—The first of this denomination to organize a church in Montgomery county were those living near Abington. The church was formed about 1714; Norristown church was organized in 1735; Providence church in 1738; Pottstown, 1848; Second Norristown, in 1849; Central Norristown, 1855; Grace, 1870; Ashbourne, 1878. The vital points in the history of these churches here follows:

Abington Presbyterian Church was formed in 1814, by the Rev. Malachi Jones, a native of Wales, who joined the other ten or eleven Presbyterian ministers in the Philadelphia Presbytery, and desired to form a church at Abington, which was granted unto him. The first membership was about seventy persons. A log church was erected on the half acre of land already bought. This pioneer Presbyterian church stood within the graveyard at the intersection of the Old York and Susquehanna street roads. It remained at that point until 1793. The founder, Rev. Jones, remained fifteen years until called hence by death. His tombstone, the oldest save one in the graveyard, has on its inscription, "He was the First Minister in This Place." This church was legally incorporated in 1785. In 1793 a new church had to take the place of the first one. Dr. Tennent, who gave much of his time to this and nearby churches, died in 1810, and he lies in the Abington graveyard. He was one of the trustees of Princeton College.

The First Presbyterian Church in Norristown was built in 1819, a stone edifice thirty by sixty feet in size. It stood at the northwest corner of Airy and DeKalb streets. Its first pastor was Rev. Joseph Barr. In 1839 radical changes were made in the church building, but in 1854

it was torn down and the present handsome structure was built at an expense of $30,000.

The Second Presbyterian (Old School) Church of Norristown, located in Bridgeport, was constituted in 1850. A small building owned by the Protestant Methodists was purchased, and this with various halls was their meeting place until 1874, when a lot was bought on Sixth, DeKalb and Green streets, in Bridgeport, of the Benjamin F. Hancock estate, and a $23,000 edifice erected. During the Civil War period all the male members except three were absent in the Union army, thus showing their loyalty.

Central, or Second Presbyterian Church, in Norristown, was organized in November, 1855; the cornerstone for a church was laid August 9, 1856, and the house was dedicated in February, 1858. It is a large brick edifice; its cost was $35,000. In 1884 its membership as an organization was 265.

The Providence Presbyterian Church, near the village of Eagleville, was an offshoot of the Norriton church, where services were held as early as 1678, as is claimed by some. The deed for this land is dated 1704, and shows it was purchased from the ancestors of David Rittenhouse. The first church built in Providence was in 1730, although the time of its organization is unknown to the writer. It was made up largely of Scotch-Irish. The Norriton and Providence churches united in 1758.

The First Presbyterian Church of Pottstown was organized in May, 1848. A church building was finished in 1853, and its first pastor was Rev. William R. Work. Forty years and more ago this church also had its own parsonage property and was in a prosperous condition.

Grace Presbyterian Church at Jenkintown was formed in 1870. A church edifice was built so as to be dedicated in September, 1872. This building was the gift of the late John Wanamaker; its membership in 1874 was ninety-three. The society was formed by Rev. S. T. Lowrie, of the Abington church.

Ashbourne Presbyterian Church was formed by a number of Philadelphia families settling in the place. The date of organization was June 5, 1878. In January, 1884, the church edifice was dedicated; its cost was $15,000.

The First Presbyterian Church at Conshohocken was organized in 1847, by Rev. Thomas Murphy. A lot was donated, and the Maple and Elm street church was erected in 1848. It was used until 1868, when $5,000 was added in way of needed repairs.

The Huntington Valley Presbyterian Church was erected in 1861. It was a one-story stone building. Rev. George J. Mingins was the first pastor.

Norriton Presbyterian Church was built about 1735, known as the Norriton Presbyterian Meeting-House. Tradition tells us that during the Revolutionary War, soldiers from both armies used to occupy this

church and that neither side took very good care of it. Washington's army marched to the battle of Germantown from this section and camped about it, and doubtless used this building.

The Springfield Township Presbyterian Church was on the east side of the turnpike, near the railroad, in Flourtown. It is a two-story stone building 36 by 50 feet, was built in 1857, and the only house of worship in the township.

The Lutheran Church—This, the most numerous denomination in Montgomery county, was reported in 1870 as having twenty-five churches, and later more were added. Most of their ancestors came here from either Prussia or Germany between 1710 and 1770; they, too, were refugees from religious disabilities in Europe. They have undergone few changes in church polity or actual religious belief since settling here. Through the Revolutionary struggle for independence these Lutherans could ever be counted upon as being loyal in a war in which the Muhlenbergs became famous.

New Hanover Church was long known as "Swamp." It was the earliest to be established in America. Justus Falkner, first pastor, came there in 1703, sent by the Swedish provost of Philadelphia. Rev. Gerhard Henkle settled there in 1717. A few pastors, and then came Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, in November, 1742, when he found his congregation worshiping in a log church, and the membership was one hundred and twenty. At Trappe the membership then was about fifty. The last-named erected their church the following year. In 1767 the present solid masonry stone church edifice was constructed. That great minister and patriot, Rev. Muhlenberg, in his journal of October 7, 1777, says:

> I was informed that a number of Americans wounded in the battle last Saturday (October 4, at Germantown) were put in our Lutheran Church, at New Hanover, to be treated by the surgeons. October 9, Mr. Steril came to-day in the rain from New Hanover, and informs me that the surgeons are cutting off shattered arms and legs of the wounded soldiers there, and that three had died last night of their wounds. Those that could bear transportation were to be taken up to Reading, and the balance of the sick and wounded to be distributed among the neighboring houses.

The church abovenamed is still in existence, and is annually visited by untold hundreds from all parts of the globe, it having been the first of this denomination in America. Present membership 476.

Indian Field, or Zion's Lutheran Church, of Franconia township, started in a log church built about 1730, enlarged in 1766, and gave way to the better stone building in 1792, which received in 1868 the third time a new slate roof. An organ was provided in 1820. A fire in 1834 destroyed many of the documents of this church. The earliest known pastor was Rev. John Conrad Andraea.

Old Goshenhoppen Church, in Upper Salford township, was established by the Lutheran and Reformed settlers in 1732, on a thirty-eight acre tract, the deed being in the name of Michael Royer on the part of the Lutherans, and Jacob Keller for the German Reformed people of the community. The land cost then (in our money) $23.34. A log schoolhouse was built that fall, which was also for church services. In 1744 they commenced to build a church, and it was completed in 1748. Their books show the number of Lutherans in 1751 to have been 195, while the Reformed members were 105. The first regular Lutheran minister was Rev. Lucas Raus. After standing for one hundred and thirteen years, the old stone church, two stories high, was torn down in the spring of 1858 to make room for a better structure; in the same year the building was completed. It had a tower surmounting it to a height of one hundred feet. The church holds 800 persons, and cost $6,000. A 550-pound bell hangs in the belfry. The nearby graveyard of five acres probably contains the graves of more persons than any other of its size within this county. One tombstone is dated 1733. Before 1859 there had been seventy-two persons killed by powder explosions, buried in this graveyard. Present membership of this church is 270.

The New Goshenhoppen Church (or the "Six-cornered Church") is about one mile east of the village of Pennsburg. It is a large stone building, and when built was surmounted with a very tall steeple. Just the date of organizing this church is not known, but about 1737. The property was sold to the Reformed church in 1796. On the spot where now stands the stone church there stood a log building which was built when roaming bands of Indians camped all about it. When the new church was to be erected, Rev. F. W. Geissenheiner was asked to submit plans for the building, so he kindly drew plans for two designs—one a four-cornered structure, and the other for a six-cornered church, he thinking they could readily decide which to use. But not so, the committee could not for a time agree, but at last the plan for a six-cornered church was adopted, hence we have the oddity of a six-cornered church in the county. The present membership of this congregation is 1000.

Augustus Lutheran Church, Trappe, is the most noted in the township of Upper Providence. The old church building is still standing in a good state of preservation, though erected in 1743. The church was organized ten years before the building of this church. In 1732 John Christian Schultz became pastor, and after one year was succeeded by Rev. John Casper Stoever. In 1742 the Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, from Germany, became pastor, and built the church in 1743. The dedication took place in October, 1745. On that occasion three negroes were baptized. October 7, 1787, Dr. Muhlenberg died, and his honored ashes repose in the rear of the old church-yard. The present edifice, built in 1853, is a large brick structure. Subsequently, the last church

was remodeled and made a two-story building. The old church was many years utilized for Sunday school purposes. Many a hallowed association clusters around this ancient church. The present membership is 312.

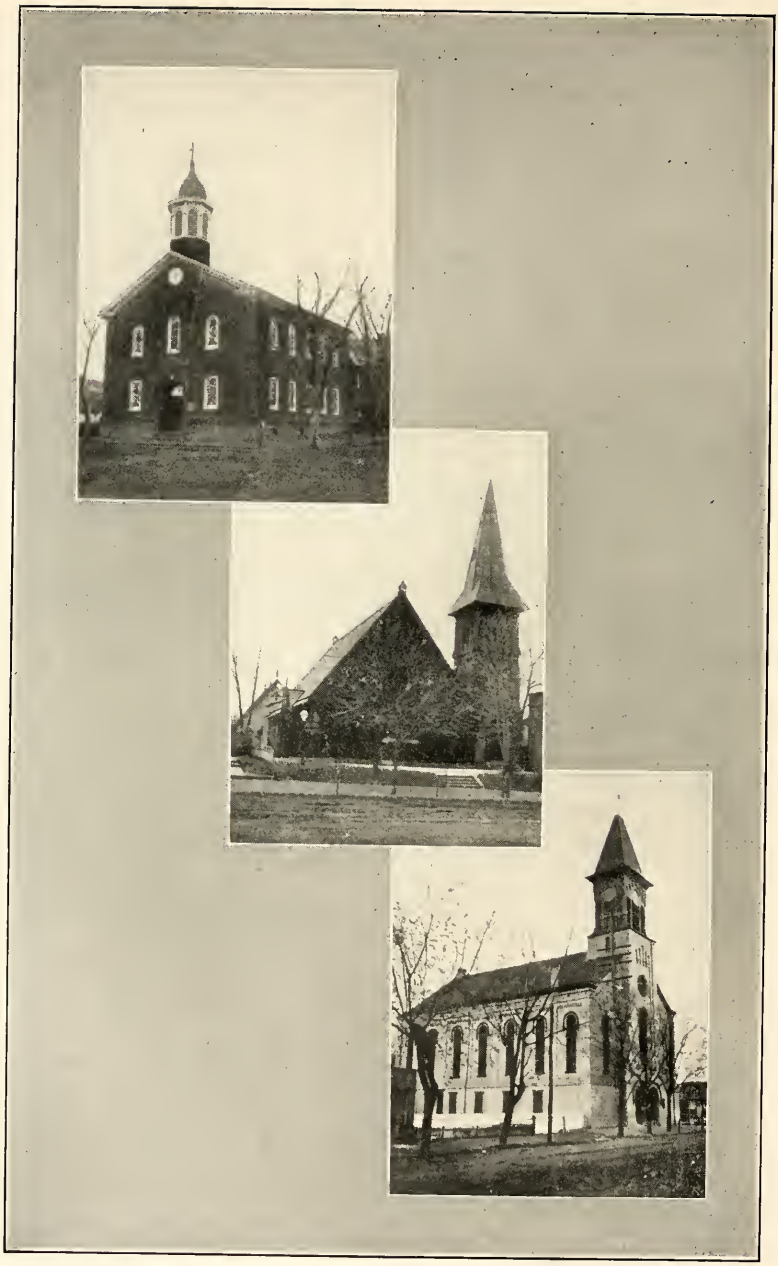
The Lutheran and Reformed Church in Towamencin township, always known as Christ Church, is situated a half-mile above Kulpsville. The building was originally 35 by 45 feet in size. The cornerstone was laid May 27, 1833. The first Lutheran pastor was Rev. John W. Richards, grandson of Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg. The earliest Reformed pastor of this church was Rev. H. S. Bassler. Among the tombstones here is one having this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Jacob Sower, who departed this life November 24, 1843, aged ninety years and five months. He was one of the band of patriots who achieved the independence of his country."

Upper Dublin Lutheran Church (or Puff's Church, as usually called) is a mile northeast of Ambler. This society was organized in 1753, by the then resident pastor at Germantown. The first building was of logs. The little flock continued until not later than 1810, when it was scattered and there was no service in this neighborhood until in the fifties, when another church was formed and the present building erected in 1858. It is a forty by fifty foot edifice of one story, and built of stone.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, in Whitemarsh township, was another one of Dr. Henry Muhlenberg's churches. It was started in 1758 in a schoolhouse, and the church building was not completed until about 1765. It was a good building; was of stone, and had galleries on three sides and a steeple up to 1849. The congregation got badly involved and was aided by Dr. Ziehnhagen, chaplain to the King of England, in the sum of about $2,000. During the war of the Revolution the church building was much abused by the soldiers, being used both as a stable and as a battery. General Lafayette quartered in this church as a point of observation in 1778. The present church was erected in 1849, after the Gothic style. It is a large church with a hundred foot tower surmounting it. This brings the history down to about 1880, since which time the writer has no data.

St. John's Lutheran Church, in Whitpain township, was built just above the village of Center Square, in about 1773. From the first it was associated with the church at North Wales, down to 1870. A Sunday school was started in 1840 and kept alive down through all the years. Of its present, no data was furnished the writer. At last accounts there were 425 members in this church.

Trinity Lutheran Church, in Norristown, was organized in 1848, and Rev. Charles A. Baer was among the earliest pastors. At first a small stone building served the congregation, but the Civil War came on and nearly every member among the males went to the front as soldiers. A new building had been planned and was being built when the war inter-



ZION REORMED, EPISCOPAL AND LUTHERAN CHURCHES,
POTTSTOWN

rupted in 1862, but the following year work was resumed again, but before the edifice was completed the pastor sickened and died of a fever contracted on the Gettysburg battlefield. In 1864 the new church was finally dedicated. In 1895 the church was renovated and enlarged at an expense of $14,000. A parish house cost $30,000 in 1914. The parsonage cost $11,000. A new pipe organ was installed in 1915 at a cost of $5,000. The number of communicants is now not far from 800.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Norristown, was established in April, 1884. The present membership is about 550. In February, 1885, Chain street school building was made use of as a place for meeting. The first minister was Rev. Robert D. Roeder. The charter membership included thirty-five persons. In September, 1886, a church building was dedicated, cost $6,380.33; the grounds cost upwards of $4,000. The location was on George street. In 1905 they had outgrown their quarters and sought a new place. They sold their property for $15,500 and decided to build on Hawes avenue, which they did at a cost of $50,000. It was dedicated September 2, 1906, the address being delivered by Rev. R. D. Roeder, of Butler, Pennsylvania. The building is an imposing edifice on the plan of Gothic architecture. It is 54 by 100 feet in size, and comfortably seats five hundred persons. Additions have recently been made, making it much more comfortable for Sunday school work. Rev. Charles R. Keiter was called as minister in 1915.

The Reformed Church—Many of the Reformed churches are intermingled with the Lutheran churches, the two building and worshiping in the same church edifices. The Reformed (or "German Reformed," or "German Presbyterians") came from different parts of Germany, both resisted the Catholic church, and only differed on a few points of church polity and belief, hence could well harmonize in a new country.

From the best obtainable information, the first Reformed church in New Hanover was built in 1720. Its first pastor was Rev. John Philip Boehm. At first the congregation worshiped in a log building, still standing in 1790, when they erected a fine brick building which in 1869 was remodeled. The history of the Lutheran and Reformed society in Towamencin township has been covered in the Lutheran history in this chapter. The date of its organization was 1729. Reiff's Lutheran Church in Lower Salford was among the very earliest to be established in Pennsylvania with a building and pastor of its own. It was formed in 1731, but its history is not well preserved. St. Luke's Reformed Church, whose building stands at the lower end of Trappe, was founded 1742, by Rev. Michael Schlatter. They built in 1755. The first pastor was Rev. Philip Boehm. The church built in 1835 was torn down and a new one erected on the opposite side of the pike. Limerick Union Church was brought about in 1817, when the corner stone of a church was laid and in 1818 it was dedicated. It was the combined property

of the Reformed and Lutheran bodies. A Union Sunday school was formed in 1840. In 1875 the old church was taken down and a new one provided. This stands a half mile above Limerick square. The oldest tombstone there is dated 1733.

The Lutheran congregations at Pottstown owe the town proprietor, John Potts, for the first land they had in the place, for he donated lot No. 89 on Hanover street to be used as a burying ground and on which to build a church. The first log house was erected there in 1772, and regular services were afterwards maintained. In 1796 the Reformed church and Lutherans united in building a brick church costing $6,000, three-fourths of which was raised by the Lutherans. In 1871 the Old Brick church was no longer a union building but sold to the Reformed branch. Then was incorporated the German and English Evangelical Lutheran Emanuel Church. Their building was dedicated in 1872, and its cost was $33,000. Since then the two churches have been independent of each other, both doing excellent work. Present membership is 1441.

Transfiguration Lutheran Church, of Pottstown, was organized in 1859. It now has a membership of 524. A building was commenced that year at the corner of Hanover and Chestnut streets and was dedicated February, 1861; the cost was $12,050. In 1896 the auditorium was thoroughly renovated; the cost, including costly memorials given, was $13,000. A fine parsonage was donated the church at this time, the bequest of two members, and is known as the Fritz and Saylor Memorial Parsonage. Its cost was $10,000 exclusive of the land. At present this church has legacies amounting to $10,400. This is one of the magnificent church properties in Montgomery county.

St. James Lutheran Church, of Pottstown, was organized in March, 1896, and now has 260 members. Here the edifice was built in advance of the organization of the church, it having been a gift of Mrs. Lovina Fegely as a memorial to her husband. It was finished and dedicated in June, 1892. A new church was erected in 1916, costing over $50,000. The membership is large and active.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Pottstown, was formed in July, 1896. There were sixty-two charter members in the society. The original building, 40 by 45 feet, with an annex 20 by 22 feet, with tower and belfry, was finished by the end of the year and was consecrated January 10, 1897. So rapid has been the growth of the congregation that the building has been enlarged three times. In 1915 two large galleries were added. As now appears, the founders of this additional Lutheran church in Pottstown made no errors when they planned to organize a new congregation.

Jerusalem Lutheran Church, of Schwenksville, was organized in 1835. The minister who founded the congregation was Dr. J. W. Richards, of Trappe. The first distinctive church was erected in 1835, at a cost of

$1,350. It was a two-story stone building with gallery on three sides. It stood across the road from the cemetery. After 1889 this denomination did not use the building but it was still used by the Reformed people. In 1897 it was razed and ceremony was had around the corner stone, the contents of which were divided between the Lutherans and Reformed churches. The present church was built in the village of Schwenksville, and consecrated April 21, 1889. The parsonage was erected in 1909, and was given by a member; the following inscription gives the facts: "This parsonage was erected A. D. 1909 by Mary S. Geiger as a memorial to her father, Jacob Schwenk, founder of Schwenksville."

Emmanuel's Lutheran Church, of Souderton, was organized in 1859, and recent reports gave its present membership at five hundred. The first pastor was Rev. Berkemyer, who served for seventeen years. The building was completed in 1859 and improved and enlarged in 1886. The church was legally incorporated in 1888. The right to women in voting in the church was extended to them in 1894. It will be remembered that the first church was almost a mile out of town, and as the congregation grew, it was necessary to have a house of worship nearer, so in April, 1903, it was decided to build in the village or borough of Souderton. The corner stone was laid May 31, 1903, and it was finished as a completed house of worship March 20, 1904.

St John's Lutheran Church at Sumneytown was organized in 1857, and the corner stone for the church was laid May 24, 1858. The church was incorporated in 1870. In its more than a half century this congregation has flourished and been a power in its community. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, at Telford, was organized in 1906 and now has a membership of about two hundred. Their handsome church was built in 1908, costing $11,000.

The Church of Goshenhoppen, one mile west of East Greenville, was formed before 1731, but how far back no one knows now, for lack of record. Six acres of land were donated from the great Sproegel Manor for church purposes, is how this location was selected by these some of the Fathers of the Reformed Church in America. At first they were associated with the Lutherans, but before 1800 had become independent of them. In 1884 it was said of the New Goshenhoppen Church: "This is a large brick edifice, built in the year 1857. It is one of the largest and most showy churches to be found outside of the cities, and is the third church built at the same place."

The Reformed Church, at Indian Creek, was organized in 1753, by Rev. Jacob Rees. A lot was bought in 1754, and the next year a church built there. In 1775 it was replaced by a rough stone building which was in use until 1826, when the third church was erected. In 1879 the brick building was erected, and is still used. In the early eighties the congregation had a membership of four hundred. The Leidy Reformed

Church, below Souderton, was built in 1858. New Jerusalem Reformed Church, in Perkiomen township, known as the Keely's church, was jointly Lutheran and Reformed. In 1835 a new church was built. It is four miles from Trappe, one mile from Schwenksville. Pottstown Reformed Church was established 1765, and its history, which is connected with that of the Lutherans, is somewhat obscure, but the reader is referred to the Lutheran church history for such information as could be secured.

Trinity Reformed Church, of Norristown, was built of stone at the corner of Marshall and Cherry streets, in 1876. Rev. Daniel Feete was its first pastor. The building was much improved in 1883, when the membership was eighty. The Reformed Church of the Ascension, in Norristown, was built in 1847, the congregation having been formed the year before. This stands on Airy street, below Swede. It was enlarged in 1859. It is one of the strong congregations of Norristown to-day.

The Reformed Church, of North Wales, was a part of St. Peter's Church, already mentioned, until 1866, at which time the Reformed congregation erected the church edifice in North Wales. For history of Falkner Swamp Reformed Church, in Frederick township, see Lutheran history of both, under head of Lutherans. The Lansdale Reformed Church was organized in 1877, and that year erected a brick church 46 by 60 feet in size.

The Schwenkfelders—This plain German sect were the followers of Casper Schwenkfeld, of the Silesian nobility, who lived in Martin Luther's time, born in 1490. After his church was broken up in Europe, the handful remaining emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1734, planting a colony in this county and other parts of the State. They erected a meeting-house in the eastern corner of Lower Salford township, near Shippack creek. The first minister was Rev. George Weiss, who was buried here in 1740. They never grew to be of much importance among the new sects that in those days sought to overturn the old established churches, but through the ministry of Rev. Christopher Schultz a more complete organization was effected in 1782. Previous to 1789 no edifice was built by them, but meetings were held at private homes. School-houses were then used until 1869, when a meeting-house was built by them. Like the Friends, they opposed war and would not engage in it. In the French and Indian war they subscribed £260 in aid of the Friendly Association, to gain and preserve peace with the Indians.

Another church of this faith was started in Towamencin township, two miles from Kulpsville. Its date of starting is uncertain, but between 1782 and 1790. In 1735 Elder George Weiss held meetings in the neighborhood. The oldest stone in the churchyard bears date of 1745. The most common name found among this people here was Kreible. In 1885 there were five houses of worship owned by this sect. There are fewer now.

The Methodist Episcopal Church—For many years the only Methodist churches in Montgomery county were Bethel, in Whitpain township (1770), and some years later the Union, near by. In 1870 the church census taken by the United States gave this county fourteen Methodist churches, a number of them large and valuable edifices.

The First Methodist Church, of Norristown, was formed in 1832, under Rev. John Findley, as leader of a class of eight persons. In the year 1834 a lot was purchased and a stone church and lecture room erected on it. The location was on Main street, near Arch. In 1857 a new church was erected, fifty by seventy feet, on DeKalb, near Marshall, and was dedicated in November, 1858, Bishop Levi Scott presiding. The church, in common with all others of the borough, have since the Civil War all constructed handsome, modern and costly edifices. This is one of the strong, influential churches of the borough. It has a membership of 550; minister's salary $2,400; present pastor, Rev. E. F. Hoffman. Oak Street Methodist Episcopal Church, of Norristown, was formed in 1854, and a building completed the following year. Its first pastor was Rev. J. F. Meredith. In 1922 the membership was 151; salary of minister, $1,600. Hawes Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church is a stone building of handsome architecture, and stands at the corner of Marshall street and Hawes avenue. This is one of the finest churches in Norristown, and the society is now large. The minutes for 1922 show a membership of 740; minister's salary $3,000.

The Church at Cheltenham was very early in the county, as early as 1832, but there had been meetings as early as 1817. Rev. Nicholson, of Germantown, was the first to start the real work in Cheltenham. It was made a station in 1863. It had property in 1884 valued at $7,000. Harmar Hill Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1832, in a nearby schoolhouse. Dr. Bolton donated land on which to build, and a stone edifice was built there under direction of Rev. J. L. Taft. Hatboro Methodist Episcopal Church was erected in 1837, as the gift of Joseph and Deborah Lehman. This was displaced in the eighties by a more modern structure. In 1922 the membership was 244; minister's salary $2,400.

Pottstown Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in 1838, and a church erected on Main street the following year. This was torn away and the corner stone for a new edifice was laid in June, 1869. This is a fine Gothic building of red sandstone, two stories high, and cost $20,000. The membership in 1922 was 605; salary of minister, $2,650. Searles Memorial Methodist Church, Pottstown, has a membership of 343; salary of minister, $2,420.

Lower Merion Methodist Episcopal Church was formed from a class held in Fritz schoolhouse in 1840. Dr. Anderson gave the society a lot, and in August, 1841, a handsome one-story stone building was dedicated. Rev. Richard Greenback was the pioneer preacher here. The Methodist

Episcopal Church, of Evansburg, was erected in Lower Providence township in 1841, and was in use in the eighties. Present membership, thirty. The salary is $250. Montgomery Square Methodist Episcopal Church was formed and a building erected in 1842. In 1857 this church became a separate charge. The present membership is fifty-eight; salary of minister, $250.

Conshohocken Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1856, through the labors of Rev. Lewis C. Pettit. At first they met in the old Temperance Hall. Among the first members were John Major and Caleb Collins. The church was erected during 1857, and later remodeled. To-day the Methodists are strong and have an excellent edifice. Present membership, 613; salary of minister, $2,000. The Kulpsville Methodist Episcopal Church had its inception in the spring of 1862, when Rev. William M. Ridgway and Rev. Gordon, preachers of the Perkiomen circuit, were asked to aid in forming a class at Kulpsville. A lot for the bulding was donated by W. R. Bechtel. A neat brick church was soon erected thereon. The property in the early eighties was valued at $2,000.

Jarrettown Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1865. Camp meetings were frequently held and presided over by ministers from Chestnut Hill. Finally, a German named Wiseman, friendly to this sect, opened his house for these people, and here the first class was formed. Present membership, 132; salary, $1,240. In 1863 two Methodists in Jarrettown, Messrs. John D. Prefountain and William Magargee, resolved to utilize an abandoned platform which the young folks of the town had used for dancing, and use it for worship by building thereon a pulpit and adding seats. Three ministers rotated in holding preaching services there. In the spring of 1865 these people were joined by those at Hamar Hill, with Rev. W. P. Howell as their pastor. That fall a great revival was held and thirty were added to the new class. More land was bought, and a church was built and dedicated September 16, 1866. Soon there were near a hundred members in this church, which has carried forward the work ever since.

Lansdale Methodist Episcopal Church, in the village, was the first place erected for church purposes. This was in 1871; it was stone, 36 by 45 feet in size, and was dedicated in July of the year named. Methodism in the place has made great strides since that date, and now ranks well among the other denominations of the enterprising borough. The present membership is 510; salary of minister, $2,400.

St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church, in Lower Merion township, was originally a one-story Gothic building, with a high steeple and beautiful stained glass windows. The building is at Bryn Mawr, and was in 1884 looked upon as a fine edifice.

Royer's Ford Methodist Episcopal Church was described in a former county history thus: "The Methodist chapel is located on the corner of

Church and Airy streets, the land being donated by Daniel Latshaw. It is a plain substantial building made of brick, and has a seating capacity of two hundred people. A large Sabbath school is of much help to the church proper." Methodism there to-day is very prosperous, and they own a handsome property. The membership in 1922 was 390; salary of minister, $3,000.

Other Methodist Episcopal churches of the county of which no data was obtainable further than the few facts here given, are as follows: Ambler, with a membership of 325; pays a salary of $2,640 per year; Glenside, with a membership of 339, pays a salary of $2,500; Jenkintown, has a membership of 229, pays a salary of $2,280; North Wales, membership of 241, salary paid, $2,100; William Penn, membership, 1,266, salary $1,120; Valley Forge, membership 23, supplied.

The Evangelical Association (German Methodist) erected their building in Norristown in 1859. It is a brick building on Cherry street, above Airy. The first pastor was Rev. Seneca Breifogle. The Evangelical church at Lanside was erected of brick in 1875, the same year in which the society was organized. At first it was connected with the Hatfield church. The Evangelical Association at East Greenfield was formed about 1824, when a lot was purchased, although the building was not erected until 1873, prior to which date the society used public buildings and met at private houses. The membership was never large, but it included some of the best men and women in the community, mostly thrifty farmers.

The Roman Catholic Church—This denomination was among the latest to organize churches in Montgomery county, this from the fact that nearly all of the pioneer settlements were effected by Protestant people, and what few Catholics did live here, went to Philadelphia to worship. This was continued until 1835, when the first congregation gathered at Norristown and a house of worship was erected the next year. From 1850 many Catholics settled in the county, especially along the river and canal works.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, at Norristown, was originally built in 1837; it was a stone structure three stories high. This soon became too small, and in 1859 another was erected, 65 by 149 feet in size. Bishop Neuman dedicated this edifice. Near by was the school, erected in three buildings, also the rectory. In 1884 the congregation was estimated at three thousand members. The parochial school was opened in 1875 and soon five hundred were in attendance. The information sought for in connection with the present history of this church was not furnished the writer, hence does not appear. It is known, however, that this is one of the strongest parishes in the county. It changed location in about 1905, when the present fine stone edifice was completed at the corner of DeKalb and Chestnut streets. Both the church and its aux-

iliaries are doing a wonderful work among the Catholic people of Norristown and environments.

Saint Salvatore Catholic Church, at Norristown, was organized by Rev. Lambert Travi, in 1903, and now the parish has a membership of six thousand souls. The same pastor who formed this church is still serving faithfully and well his congregation. A parochial school is being planned for this year. This church was founded especially for the religious interest of the numerous Italians of Norristown, Bridgeport and Conshohocken. The latter place was organized into a separate mission in 1911. The first real Italian immigration to Norristown was in 1881. For a decade it was almost stationary, but since 1890 grew up annually. There are about ten thousand Italians in Montgomery county —one-twentieth of its population. This mission is very successful, and is almost free of debt. Most of these people belong to the working class, and have families who are anxious to educate their children in a parochial school. In time of the last great World War, two hundred volunteers entered the army under our American flag, and three hundred more were drafted. In all, five hundred saw service in France, and be it said to their credit, not a single deserter was reported from among these Italians.

Saint Margaret's Roman Catholic Church, located at Narberth, was organized in December, 1900, by Rev. R. F. Cowley, the present pastor, under appointment of the late Archbishop Ryan. The congregation being small, services were held in temporary quarters until 1902, when a substantial stone building was erected on the present church property on North Narberth avenue, the corner stone of which was laid and blessed by Archbishop Ryan, November 2, of that year. This building (which forms the basement of the present edifice) served as a temporary chapel for a number of years, and is now used as an auditorium for entertainments, etc. The church as it now stands was completed in 1914 at a total cost of $50,000, and was dedicated by the late Archbishop Pendergast on March 22 of that year. The edifice was constructed from stone from the Avondale quarries, Pennsylvania, while the interior is wainscoated throughout with Vermont marble, the sanctuary floor being of the same material. Saint Margaret's Church, with its three exquisite white marble altars and Italian statuary, its twelve highly artistic stained glass windows, imported from Austria just before the great World War, and other works of religious art, is highly admired for the chaste beauty of its interior. It represents a present estimated value of $100,000. A permanent parochial school has not yet been erected, a small building being used for that purpose temporarily. Originally, this parish included Bala, Wynnewood, and part of Ardmore, but such has been its growth since then, two new parishes have been formed from it. The present membership of the parish is nine hundred and twenty-five.

The parish of St. Philip Neri, of Greenville, covers, besides small portions of Berks, Lehigh and Bucks counties, the township of Upper Hanover and Marlboro, and parts of Upper Salford, Frederick and New Hanover townships in Montgomery county. For many years during the last century the scattered Catholics in this territory were visited by the Jesuit Fathers and their successors of Bally, Berks county. In 1887 an attempt was made to establish a mission near Pennsburg, and monthly services were held at the home of Mr. Connelly. Father Alois Misteli, who succeeded the Jesuits, also had services in the same locality, using the home of Francis Walters, near Kleinsville. At that date there were about forty-five Catholics in the neighborhood. Father Misteli opened negotiations for the purchase of a plot of ground on Main street, Pennsburg, near the railroad bridge. Stones were hauled to the ground, but the plan was abandoned as it was impossible to secure a clear title, and because of the seeming decrease in Catholics. From 1890 to 1912 the Catholics of this territory attended services at Bally or Pottstown. On the Feast of All-Saints Day, November 1, 1911, the Rev. William A. Wachter, of Pottstown, conducted services for the people of the district at the home of Max Van Lang. Weekly services were held until January, 1912, when the Rev. Thomas J. Sullivan, who had been appointed pastor of the new parish of Collegeville, began holding services in the hall of Jacob M. Kuhn, in Green Lane. This hall was used by various priests to June, 1917. In 1918 the services were held in Red Men's Hall. In 1919 the present chapel was built by Father Buesser. The church is named The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin. October 8, 1919, East Greenville was made an independent parish with Green Lane as a mission. Rev. John Wachter was appointed pastor, and continued his labors there until December 3, 1922, when the new basement-church at the corner of Sixth and Main streets, East Greenville, was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Peter Mason, V. F., of Allentown. This church was built of granite, and is valued at $20,000. The present number of souls in this congregation is one hundred and sixty.

St. Eleanor, the Roman Catholic church at Collegeville, was organized in January, 1912, by Rev. Thomas J. Sullivan. He was succeeded by pastors as follows: The Revs. Henry A. Kuss, 1914-16; Charles J. Barnemann, 1916-17; William A. Buesser, 1917, and still pastor of the parish. The building is known as a basement church of stone, forty by one hundred and ten feet; seats easily two hundred and fifty persons. It was built in 1921, at a cost of $28,500. The present number of souls in this congregation is two hundred and five. St. Mary's Church, at Delphi, is attended by the pastor from Collegeville. There the church was built in 1922, costing $20,000.

St. John the Baptist Greek Catholic Russian Church, of Pottstown, was established in 1903, by Rev. Andrew Hrabar, of Philadelphia. The congregation now numbers about one hundred families. The Sunday

school has ninety scholars, taught by Michael Chuhrach. The various pastors who have served this parish are as follows: Revs. Andrew Hrabar, John Shosteck, A. Thegza, M. Kuziw, P. Popovich, G. Hricz, Andrew Smymko, W. Obuzkiewicz, and present pastor, Rev. Zeno K. Chanath.

The present pastor gives the subjoined notes on the history of this church: The beginning of the congregation, he says, dates from 1900. At that time there were twenty-five families, from out the working class almost entirely. These families planned for an organization to feed their spiritual natures. They had descended from the Carpatho-Russian race, and their native language was the "Little Russian" and their belief that of the Greek Catholic church. Their wants were looked after by Rev. Andrew Hrabar, of Philadelphia, who rendered them great aid. Having no church building of their own, they were kindly permitted to use that of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Aloysius, at Pottstown. The services were not regular. After two years of struggle, the congregation had grown somewhat and decided to try and erect a house of their own. In 1903 a lot was bought, or rather a plot of ground, in the northeast corner of Cherry and Charlotte streets. A corner stone was laid, and in November the same year the house was ready to occupy. It was consecrated November 21, 1903, by the Rt. Rev. Andrew Hodobay, of Philadelphia. There was no regular pastor from 1903 to 1912, but was administered to by outside pastors. This Greek church at Pottstown belongs to the Greek Catholic Russian Diocese of the United States of America. In its service they use the oriental or Greek rite, and the language is old-Slavish.

St. Aloysius Church and School of Pottstown was founded after the following manner, as near as can be shown by records and written statements of the present pastor, Rev. William A. Wachter:

In 1808, when the diocese of Philadelphia was organized, the Catholic church nearest to Pottstown, named Pottsgrove at that time, was at Gosshenhoppen, now Bally. The church was thirteen miles distant. It was then a Jesuit mission, established in 1743. The construction of the canal by the Schuylkill Navigation Company brought many Irish Catholics to Port Union and Douglasville in 1810. Every three months mass was said at Port Union, in the Black Bear Hotel, conducted by Matthew Ryan. Henry Flannery, who owned a farm near Douglasville, donated land on the south side of the Schuylkill road, and upon this site the Chapel of St. Paul was built by subscriptions of the boatmen, and dedicated in 1846. After the parish of Phoenixville was organized, Pottstown was made a mission of that place. After the chapel at Douglasville was built, the Pottstown Catholics profited by the visits of priests to that place. Some of the railroaders took their families on trucks, or "manual levers;" others walked or went by carriage.

On September 14, 1846, George VanBuskirk conveyed to Rt. Rev. Francis P. Kendrick, head of the Philadelphia diocese, the tract of land

on the north side of Beech street, at the junction of Hanover street. July 20, 1854, the corner stone of a new church was laid by the Very Rev. E. J. Sourin. On June 22, 1856, the Rev. Philip O'Farrell dedicated the church of St. Aloysius which he had built. When the church was built, the section of Hanover street, north from Beech, was unopened. The building was a short distance from the street, in the middle of the churchyard.

At first this church was a mission of Phoenixville. In the summer of 1857 Rev. J. D. Davis was appointed pastor by Bishop Newman. The Douglasville chapel was now attended by the pastors of St. Aloysius, Pottstown. During the pastorate of Father Kyle, a permanent home was provided for the priests. The walls of the church were extended on the north side, and thus the house was made a part of the church building. March 2, 1882, a tract of land east of the borough was secured for a new cemetery. The property was conveyed by A. G. Saylor and William H. Smith to Archbishop Ryan for $785.62. On St. Joseph's Day, 1882, the new cemetery was dedicated by Rev. Gerald P. Coghlan. In the spring of 1889 it was decided to erect a new church building on the space between the old building and Beech street. The building was to be fifty-five feet on Hanover street by 105 on Beech, to seat 700 people. The outside walls were to be of Howellville rock-faced stone. August 28, 1889, the contract was signed for the completion of the structure by July 1, 1890; the sum to be paid was $28,323. Isaac Sassaman, of Pottstown, was awarded the job under his bid. The corner stone was laid November 17, 1889, by Rev. Gerald P. Coghlan, assisted by Rev. I. D. McDermott, and the building was dedicated December 20, 1891, by Archbishop Ryan. The work of building consumed more than two years. The first contract did not cover many details needed later on, and when all was completed the structure had cost the parish nearly $50,000.

The priests who have had charge of this church from the first to now are: The Revs. John D. Davis, appointed in 1857; William F. Cook, 1858; Thomas McGovern, 1862; I. I. Miller, 1863; Thomas A. Kyle, O. S. A., 1863; James A. Miller, 1865; C. Sorrenteni, 1867; John W. Shanahan, 1871; Michael A. Mullen, 1873; William A. McLoughlin, 1874; Gerald P. Coughlan, 1878; J. A. Wagner, 1882; H. H. Gormley, 1895; the present pastor, Rev. William A. Wachter, appointed May 24, 1909.

St. Aloysius Parochial School was brought into existence through the following facts, as shown by records of the church: Sunday, November 14, 1911, Father Wachter announced having bought the house adjoining the church property (at the east side), for use as a convent; the price was $3,350. It was designed to build a school in 1913, and the ground was in fact broken September 22, 1912, by Father Wachter, and that autumn the foundation was placed. January 1, 1913, bright and warm for the season, the corner stone was laid by Rt. Rev. John J. McCort, Cardinal Dougherty, then bishop of the Philippines, being present. The

sermon was preached by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Philip R. McDevitt, superintendent of parochial schools, now Bishop of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. August 28 came six Sisters of St. Francis and took charge of the school. After Mass of the Holy Ghost, by Father Wachter, Tuesday morning, September 2, 1913, the school was opened. There were eight grades, and the first enrollment was 189 pupils. On October 5, 1913, the school was blessed by Most Rev. Edmond F. Prendergast, Archbishop. The school building was erected by contractor George Koch, of Reading, and the architect was A. A. Ritcher, of the same city. The price was $30,400, outside of the finishing of the upper floor. There are ten class rooms and a large auditorium. In 1913 the contributions to the school amounted to $9,200. At present there are eight grades, and a two-year high school. The same Sisters named above are still in charge.

St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Church, at Conshohocken, was organized in 1850, by Rev. Patrick Nugent, of Norristown. A lot was bought at the corner of Hector and Harry streets, where a church was erected, and served until 1865, when it was enlarged, and in 1881 a new building was erected. The parochial school was built in 1870, and soon had five hundred in attendance. In 1884 this parish had 2,500 souls in its bounds. The work is now in a flourishing condition, with excellent buildings throughout.

In the borough of Jenkintown, in 1866, was erected the Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, under the labors of Rev. J. J. Mellon. The same was a two-story stone building after the Italian style and was built at the corner of West avenue and Pleasant street. Later a two-story parochial school building was provided. As the years have gone by, many building improvements have gone forward and the congregation has grown in numbers materially. There was an organization effected here as early as 1860, but no building operations then.

Miscellaneous—In the eighties, Montgomery county had four colored Methodist Episcopal churches; two were in Norristown, one in Pottstown, and one at Conshohocken. At the last named place a neat church was erected in 1881. The Colored Ebenezer Protestant Methodist Church of Norristown was organized in 1849, and a stone building erected in 1853, costing $875. In 1872 this was much enlarged, and finally rebuilt.

The census reports in 1915 gave the following as the membership in the various religious denominations in Montgomery county: All denominations, 90,621; Baptist, 6,746; German Baptist (Brethren), 1,087; Church of God, 56; Evangelical Association, 810; Jewish congregations a membership of 270; Lutheran, 13,404; Mennonites, 1,933; Methodist Episcopal, 7,023; African Methodist Episcopal, 961; Presbyterians, 7,131; Protestant Episcopal, 6,415; Reformed Church, 10,241; Roman Catholic, 30,108; United Brethren, 365; United Evangelical, 726; the Christian

Scientists declined to give their membership to the enumerator, hence they do not appear in the United States census for this county. Besides the foregoing, there were found to be 3,196 church members of various other church faiths.

Young Men's Christian Association—At Norristown borough, in the year 1885, there was organized a Young Men's Christian Association, and it has had its existence ever since that time. It has had its ups and downs, its removals from the original location on the second floor at the corner of Main and Green streets to a place on DeKalb street, then to a purchased large brick hotel on the lot directly west of the city or borough building, which is their present home, but not in keeping with the present-day requirements and the subscriptions are already pledged and the work of razing the old four-story hotel and erecting a fine modern structure such as is demanded by the present society, will ere long be commenced. When finished, the new "Y" will cost not far from a quarter of a million dollars. The 1923 officers and directors of the society are as follows: Board of Directors—H. Severn Regar, president; George E. Wierman, vice-president; Ernest J. Youngjohns, secretary; W. R. Moyer, treasurer; other members of the board are: G. L. Gabel, Elias D. Gotwals, Ursinus Grater, Walter L. High, John H. Halford, A. Markley Harry, Thomas Kingston, E. C. A. Moyer, Joseph A. Ranck, Charles C. Snyder, Norris D. Wright, Charles W. Wainright. The trustees are: N. H. Larzelere, H. K. Regar, Joseph A. Ranck, H. B. Tyson. The general secretary is B. H. Geise.

HIGH SCHOOL, POTTSTOWN—NOBLE STREET SCHOOL, NORRISTOWN—WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, NEAR CENTER POINT

CHAPTER XII.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

The citizens of Montgomery county may well have a pride in their public schools and higher institutions of learning. Very early in the history of the State of Pennsylvania, the matter of education was looked after as best they then knew how. The early school houses, it is true, were rude round log structures, daubed with clay mortar, where one or more logs were left out for a window and, over the open space, oiled paper was placed instead of window glass. After the War of 1812 there was a decided increase in the number of elementary or subscription schools, and steady advancement was made in school buildings until the passage of the free school law in 1834. However, this county was slow in universally adopting the free school system, for we find it was nineteen years before the last district in the county accepted the provisions of the law. But since then the growth of the schools of the county has been steady, alike in the mixed schools of the rural districts and the various graded schools in larger towns and boroughs.

The first official step toward establishing of the public school in the commonwealth was in 1683, when the following provincial act was passed. The spelling then in use sounds almost silly to the ear of people now-a-days:

The Governor of the Provincial council having taken into their serious consideration the great necessity there is of Scool-Masters for the instruction and sober education of Youth in the towne of Philadelphia, sent for Enoch Flower, an inhabitant of the said towns, who for twenty years past hath been exercised in that care and imployment in England, to whom having been communicated their minds, he embraced upon these following terms: to learne to read English, 4s. by the quarter; to learne to read and write, 6s. by the quarter; to learn to read, write and cast account, 8s. by the quarter; for boarding a schollar, that is to say, dyet, washing, lodging and schooling, ten pounds for the whole year.

Six years later the fruit of the labors of this first teacher, Enoch Flower, bore fruit in the organization of the first grammar school, in 1689, under direction of Penn to Thomas Lloyd. This school was placed in charge of George Keith, a Quaker preacher of Scotch descent, who had accompanied William Penn and Fox in their travels through Germany in 1677. This school was chartered February 12, 1698, with the motto "Good Instruction is Better than Riches." This school stood on the corner of Fourth, near Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and was School No. 1, in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. But it should not be thought by the reader that educational affairs were at a very high tide for many long years after these schools just mentioned had been opened,

for, as a matter of fact, Pennsylvania, according to Historian Sherman Day, between the thirties and forties remarked in his "State History," that "the number of people who could neither read nor write had increased to an alarming extent, and Pennsylvania became an object of ridicule to the people of other States, who had been more careful to provide a proper system of education." It was early in the thirties that the better element of men at the head of affairs commenced to work for a higher standard of public schools.

Montgomery County Schools—Ex-County School Superintendent Professor Abel Rambo made a specialty of looking up the early school history of the various townships within this county. His article was published in 1884, and from its contents we are permitted to extract freely. He sought to show how each section of this county received the new system—the act passed giving us free schools in 1834-35.

In Whitpain township the school law was put in operation after a meeting of the citizens held May 26, 1836; length of term six months; salary twenty dollars per month. In May, 1837, a vote was taken whether the system should be continued or not; this stood seventy for and fifty against. In May, 1838, a vote was had to raise four hundred dollars to maintain the schools; the vote stood fourteen for and fifty-nine against. Matters grew better, for at the last contest over free schools in this township, in 1841, the vote in favor of the system was eighty-nine for and fifty-five against. Central School was erected here as early as 1785; the Ellis school was first built in 1787, by residents of the community. Sandy Hill schoolhouse was erected in 1796. In nearly all the schools of this county the old-time wood stoves were used to heat with, and the boys had to cut the stove-wood at noon time. This state of affairs continued down to about 1885, when all schools were provided with the "Morning Glory" or some other base-burners for coal.

In Frederick the first board of school directors was formed in 1853; length of term three months; salary $18.89. There were then four schools in the township; now a dozen or more. In Moreland the free school system was first in operation in 1845, two directors bitterly opposing. Marlborough township cheerfully accepted the free school in 1838, built schoolhouses, and put schools into operation in 1842. Then came a bitter opposition, and schools were abandoned in 1842-43, and subscription schools obtained again. Upper Providence accepted the free school system in 1844; salary was seventy dollars for the term of thirteen weeks. In Limerick the free school came into use about 1847. Only primary branches were taught; term and wages about the same as in township last named. About 1820 pupils in this school were taught geography, grammar, and surveying. In New Hanover common schools went into effect in 1852. In 1855 an English school was founded at Swamp, and many scholars came in from far and near. The best schools here were in Pottstown, Grosstown and at Crooked Hill.

In Worcester the first public school was opened, in 1851, and that under protest, by a board of directors appointed by the court, the elected directors refusing to serve. Matters grew worse; taxpayers opposed free schools, and bitter was the fight. Money was raised for sending a lobby agent to Harrisburg to get this township an exemption from accepting the system. The money failed to reach the legislature, and hence matters grew worse. Business men who voted for free schools were boycotted. But with the flight of a few years, matters changed. and since then there has been no opposition to our splendid free schools.

Montgomery township accepted the "system" in 1840, but with small opposition. Cheltenham, on March 16, 1838, voted fifty-six to forty to accept the free schools. Up to 1842 the township had but one school house. Then money was voted to supply the township with two more. Part of the funds here had to be raised by popular subscription. Many sent their children to the Friends' School at Abington. Franconia township did not use the new system until 1851. Before that date private schools obtained, and lasted seventy-two days each year. In Lower Merion the free school was always desired, and in August, 1835, it was accepted by the authorities, and $2,650 was raised by tax to support the same. November 16, 1835, the first free school opened its doors. The schools prior to these free schools were excellent for those times, but not nearly so good as the new free system.

In Upper Hanover, as probably in nearly all the townships in the county, the parochial system was the prevailing order. Lutherans, German Reformed, Mennonites and other sects had their schools, and the Catholics had a school just over the line in Berks county, and, like Protestants, sent their children to their own church school. The first English school here was opened in 1835 in an old carpenter's shop.

It is not necessary to prolong an array of objections and acceptances of what every person now considers a wise institution, and all intelligent persons are justly proud of our system. More money goes in way of taxes for public schools than for any other one thing, yet the people agree it is money well expended.

In 1855, two years after every district in the county had accepted the free school system under the law of 1836, the average number of months of school taught was seven; average salary of male teachers was $28.75 per month; of female teachers, $21.50 per month. The number of schools had increased to 223, taught by 180 male and 49 female teachers. The number of scholars in attendance was 16,257, averaging 79 for each school in the county. The cost of tuition per month for each pupil was fifty-eight cents. Is it not a wonder that there could ever have been any opposition to a system that had such wonderful results for so few cents a scholar?

The State School Superintendent's report on Montgomery county in 1883 gave facts as follows: Whole number of schools, 370, of which

thirty buildings were reported unfit for use; there were then fifty-four log school houses in the State, but none reported from Montgomery county. Average months school taught, eight; male teachers, 171; female teachers, 200; male scholars 9,711; female scholars, 8,899; total amount of tax raised for schools in county, $175,895.

A Teachers' County Association was formed in this county in 1845, and local institutes were frequently held up to the act of the General Assembly creating county institutes, which was in 1867. These teachers' institutes, in one form or another, have been kept up since first established by authority of the commonwealth. Better teachers have been demanded with the flight of years, and the need of normal schools and county institutes has been well taken care of.

Academic Schools—The earliest academic school within Montgomery county was Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, founded by Henry Prizer, at Trappe, in 1830. In 1849, Prof. Abel Rambo took charge and conducted it ably many years. The second academic school was Tremount Seminary, established in 1844, at Norristown, by Samuel Aaron, A. M., a noted educator in his day. Next came Oakland Female Institute, founded by Rev. J. Grier Ralston, in 1845, at Norristown; this institution was conducted until the death of its founder, in 1881. The fourth academic school in the county was Freeland Seminary, established in 1848, by Abraham Hunsicker, and his son, Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker. This school existed from 1848 to 1869, when it merged into Ursinus College. The fifth of the academic institutions was Cottage Seminary, of Pottstown, founded in 1850, by Rev. William R. Work. This was purely a young ladies' school, and was conducted until 1881. Prior to this was established the Montgomery Female Institute, of Collegeville. This was organized by Abraham Hunsicker and Prof. J. Warrene Sunderland, in 1851 and 1852, then merged into the Pennsylvania Female College.

The Hill Business School was founded in 1851, by Rev. Matthew Meigs, and he was succeeded by his son, John Meigs, Ph. D., in 1876. That school property joined the borough plat of Pottstown, and its students were always able to enter college without further schooling than that received here. The North Wales Academy and School of Business was started by Prof. S. U. Brunner, in 1867, at Kulpsville, but four years later was moved to North Wales.

Ursinus College—This highly successful educational institution is beautifully situated at Collegeville, and was chartered by the State in 1869. It really succeeded the old Freeland Seminary, where more than two thousand men were graduated with high honors during the existence of the institution. While it was never the property of the Reformed Church, it has been in harmony with the theological teachings of that church. The founder of this college was Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, who

was its president from 1870 until death claimed him in 1890. The next president was Rev. Henry W. Super. In 1892, Bomberger Memorial Hall was completed at a cost of $62,000. It was in 1869 that funds were raised with which to buy Freeland Seminary; a charter was obtained, and the work of opening a new institution went forward rapidly. Of the present, it may be said that this institution (named for one of the most distinguished reformers and scholars of the days of the Reformation period, Ursinus, of the University of Heidelberg), that it was incorporated by the Legislature, on February 5, 1869, and has been highly successful ever since. The college grounds contain fifty-six acres, including the fine lawn and campus of twelve acres. The present officers of the corporation are: Harry E. Paisley, president; Edward A. Krusen, first vice-president; A. D. Fetterrolf, second vice-president; Rev. S. L. Messinger, secretary; J. Truman Ebert, treasurer. Up to the date of his death, recently, Hon. John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia, was one of the three members of the advisory council. The buildings consist of Bomberger Memorial Hall, named for the first president, a large, imposing Pennsylvania marble structure, built strictly up-to-date. The Alumni Memorial Library building is now in course of construction; it is of Chestnut Hill stone in colonial style. It will hold sixty thousand books easily. It is fire-proof, well lighted and near the college proper. It is being built by the alumni and non-graduates, as a tribute to their fellows who served their country in the great World War, and in memory of those who gave their lives in the service. On the walls of a beautiful vestibule 12x24 feet in size the inscriptions will be carved.

Freeland Hall, the original building of Freeland Seminary, Derr Hall, and Stine Hall, constitute a group of worth-while buildings, all of stone, four stories high. Olevian Hall, a large old-fashioned dwelling on the west campus, is one of the residences for young women. Shreiner Hall, facing the college, is another building for ladies. Trinity Cottage, acquired in 1916, is an additional hall for women. Maples and Glenwood are two residences off the campus, recently leased. Sprankle Hall, a stone mansion on the east campus, is a large three-story structure. Super House, an attractive residence opposite the College, was bequeathed by the late Henry W. Super. The Thompson Athletic Cage, erected in 1912 as a memorial, is another splendid property.

A central heating plant was installed in 1919 and supplies all the buildings. The College Library now has about fifteen thousand volumes, while periodicals and newspapers are almost without end in the reading rooms. The last year-book shows the attendance of pupils to have been two hundred and eighty-five. It is a wonderfully well conducted, modern institution of learning, based on Christian principles.

Other Institutions of Learning—Prior to 1885 and mostly before 1871, the following educational institutions were conducted in Montgom-

ery county: St. Charles Borromeo, a Roman Catholic school, in Lower Merion, had its buildings erected in 1866-71; Pennsylvania Female College, at Collegeville, 1851; Ursinus (originally Freeland Seminary) building erected 1848; Oakland Female Seminary, 1846-48; Cottage Seminary, Pottstown, 1850; Hill School, Pottstown, 1852; Washington Hall, Trappe; Frederick Institute; Tremont, Norristown, 1844; North Wales Academy; Centre Square Seminary; High School, Norristown. A number of these are still being successfully conducted, while a majority of them have been merged with other educational interests, or gone down with the changes that ever come with the advancement of years and the progress made by the people of any given community. Mention is made elsewhere of some of these institutions just named.

Bryn Mawr College was founded by Dr. Joseph W. Taylor, of Burlington, New Jersey, who died January 18th, 1880. By his will he left the greater part of his property for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an institution of advanced learning for women. This college is situated at Bryn Mawr, a suburb of Philadelphia. The site was purchased by the founder on account of its healthfulness and beauty, and the college buildings were commenced during his lifetime. In 1880, the year of his death, the college was incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and invested with the power to confer degrees. A circular of information was issued by the trustees in 1883. A president and a dean of the faculty were elected in the spring of 1884. All that could be learned by visits and research into the plans used at other women's colleges was obtained, including the methods of Vassar, Smith, and Wellesley. Also, from the Johns Hopkins University was borrowed the excellent system of major and minor electives in fixed combination to which Bryn Mawr College first gave the name of the Group System. In the spring of 1885 the first catalogue was issued, and the college was opened for instruction in the autumn of 1885. Three classes of persons are admitted to the lectures and class work of this college—graduate students, undergraduates and hearers.

The college buildings are situated at the beautiful spot known as Bryn Mawr, five miles out of Philadelphia, on the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad. The site of the buildings are four hundred and twenty feet above sea level. The grounds cover fifty-two acres, and include the finest lawns, tennis-courts and three large athletic fields. Taylor Hall (named for the founder), a large building of Port Deposit stone, contains a general assembly room, ten lecture rooms, and office for the Alumnae Association.

Donors' Library, the gift of friends, graduates, and students of the college, was begun April, 1903, and completed in February, 1907. It is built of a handsome gray granite. All in all, it is a beautiful structure, and is well stocked with very valuable books. Other buildings include Dalton Hall, for the scientific department; the gymnasium, built in 1909;

an infirmary, separated from the other buildings, was opened in 1905; the music rooms. The central power house was erected in 1902 as part of the gift of John D. Rockefeller, providing heat, light and ventilation for the entire group of buildings. Steam is conducted through tunnels underground to coils in the basement of each building. Every room in the buildings has its independent thermostatic device, assuring a regular degree of warmth.

Among the noted persons who have been instructors at this women's college was ex-President Woodrow Wilson, who taught history here from 1885 to 1889.

The Philadelphia Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo is a Roman Catholic educational institution, where students are fitted for the priesthood. It is situated in Montgomery county, at Overbrook, a station on the main line of the Pennsylvania railway, about five miles out of the city of Philadelphia, but over the line in Montgomery county. It was founded in 1832. At first it was in Philadelphia, but was chartered by the State of Pennsylvania in 1838 under its present title. Its original home was at the corner of Eighteenth and Race streets, Philadelphia. It was seen that more room must be had, as the growing city was crowding out the seminary, which was also greatly increasing and needed more room. So in 1865 the present beautiful site was purchased —the old Remington estate, consisting of one hundred and twenty-four acres, the price paid being $30,000. To this was added a thirteen acre lot on City avenue, the same being bought in May, 1870, for $12,000. Competent judges declare the site and buildings of to-day to be among the finest educational establishments in the Republic, and one of the grandest ecclesiastical seminaries in the world. Here the corner stone was laid April 4, 1866, by Bishop Wood, assisted by a hundred priests. The order of its architecture is Italian, and none but the best of material can be found within its structure. The cost of the original building was $484,665. In the antechamber of the chapel is a beautiful white marble monument erected in 1902 to serve as a reminder of the generosity and philanthropy of Mr. Francis A. Drexel. There is also a chaste and ever-charming altar erected in memory of Mr. Drexel, so well known in Philadelphia.

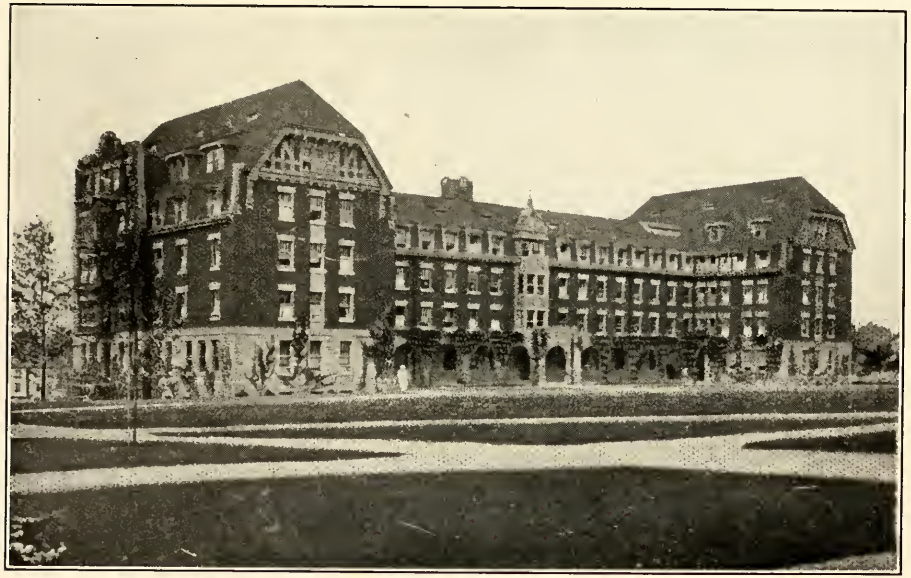
Among the noted structures in the group of buildings making up the seminary at Overbrook, should be named the Archbishop Ryan Memorial Library Building. This was finished in 1911, after two years' work. It is 90 by 187 feet in size, and cost $169,380. Another immense building of the group is St. Edmond Hall, a four-story stone structure, 40 by 205 feet; its cost was $107,144. One of the recently built structures here is the Service Building, the corner stone of which was set October, 1917, and cost over $100,000.

During the history of this great institution there have been educated for the Catholic priesthood more than one thousand students who have

gone forth into the world fitted to do the will of their Master. The presidents of the board of trustees have been: Rt. Rev. Francis P. Kenrick, D. D., 1838-51; Rt. Rev. John N. Neumann, D. D., 1852-60; Most Rev. James F. Wood, D. D., 1860-83; Most Rev. Patrick J. Ryan, D. D., LL. D., 1884-1911; Most Rev. Edmond F. Pendergast, D. D., 1911, who is still serving.

The Hill School, of Pottstown, is one of the excellent educational institutions of Eastern Pennsylvania. It was founded in 1851 by Rev. Matthew Meigs, Ph. D., LL. D., ex-president of Delaware College, and formerly of the University of Michigan. The twelve-acre tract on which it was first situated lies in the eastern border, adjoining the corporate limits of the beautiful borough of Pottstown, on the main line of the Philadelphia & Reading railway. It is on a sightly hill overlooking the wonderfully beautiful Schuylkill Valley. As long ago as 1883 the buildings were all steam-heated and supplied with electric lighting, with hot and cold water in every room. It is what its name indicates—a preparatory school where the student fits himself for his duties in the active world by being further fitted upon leaving the institution to at once enter any college or university in the land. It is now in the hands of the third generation of the founders' genealogical stock—grandfather, father and son. In 1876 the founder was succeeded by his son, John Meigs, Ph. D., by whom the school was reorganized with special reference to the work of preparation for college and scientific school. On March 4, 1884, the buildings of the school were destroyed by fire. On the 1st of October the same year the work was resumed in the new, modern structure, and since that time numerous spacious buildings have been erected, until the present group is interesting to view from either within or without. In 1920 the entire property was carefully appraised for the purpose of insurance, at over $1,520,000. The real estate, now comprising more than 154 acres, was put in at $180,000. The total assets of the school were thus in excess of $1,700,000.

The chain of head masters in this school, with much other valuable information concerning the institution, will be found in the biographical section of this work, in the Meigs and Edwards sketches. In brief, it may be stated that in 1876 John Meigs reorganized the school, and then had thirty boys and three masters; 1882, coming of Mrs. John Meigs to the Hill; 1883, accessions of George Q. Sheppard to the faculty (62 boys, six masters); 1886, bought the "Cottage;" 1890, accession of Alfred G. Rolfe to the faculty (101 boys and fifteen masters); 1895, completion of West Wing (228 boys and twenty-six masters); 1910, completion of "Upper School" (347 boys, 38 masters); 1911, death of John Meigs. The three great destructive conflagrations that reduced the plant to crumbling walls and heaps of ashes, were in 1884, 1890, and 1901, but Phoenix-like the structures were soon replaced and the work went on. F. Boyd Edwards, D. D., present head master (see Biographical section), comes from the same family tree as did the famous Jonathan Edwards.



UPPER HILL SCHOOL, POTTSTOWN

The Modern District School—In searching out a model set of schools in some one of the districts within Montgomery county, to illustrate the advancement made in schools since the common school system obtained away back in the thirties, none seemed as complete and perfect in all their details as the schools of Lower Merion township. This takes into account the class of buildings, the instructions given, the corps of efficient officers in various departments of the educational interests of the township, etc. The Board of Education here at this time is as follows: William L. Austin, president; Richard J. Hamilton, vice-president; William J. Brynes, Jr., secretary; Mrs. J. C. Sellers, Jr., Thomas C. Yocum, Dr. William C. Powell, Mrs. H. Wilson Moorhouse. There are now ten male and ninety-one female teachers in this township. The average attendance two years ago was 2,300; average wages for men, $194; and for women, $100 per month. The total number of school houses is ninety-nine. These buildings have no superior in our days. They must be seen and occupied in order to make this statement good.

The high school at Ardmore is situated on a beautiful tract of fourteen acres, purchased in 1909, 1915 and 1921, at a cost of $126,664. The building is constructed of Holmesburg granite, with limestone trimmings. It contains twenty-five class rooms. All departments, including woodworking shops, the science laboratories, the library, the cooking, sewing, art and commercial rooms, the gymnasium and the large auditorium with 867 seats, contain modern equipment. This school is supplied with two artesian wells giving an abundance of pure water, stored in a fifteen thousand gallon tank, all under automatic control. The school has a most excellent athletic field, with its quarter mile training track.

Ashland school was built in 1919 at a cost of $124,425, besides the grounds, which in 1917 cost $8,035.

The Bryn Mawr primary and grammar schools are models within themselves. The latter was built in 1914 at a cost of $67,247, on a four-acre tract costing in 1910 almost $36,000 more. School gardens occupy a part of the four-acre tract on which the building stands. Other schools of this district are the Cynwyd school, costing in excess of $200,000; Merion Square school, with attractive, substantial buildings; Bala school, with eight class-rooms, an office, play-room, a lunch room, and all modern equipment.

Of all things attractive and modern in these Lower Merion schools, the matter of transportation is the one that appeals to everyone, especially to the older generation who had to walk from one to three miles to attend school, summer and winter. During the past six years the school buses have averaged in their regular trips approximately fifty thousand miles. Motor buses were first started in 1914 with one autocar in conjunction with horse-drawn vehicles owned by others, and in that year the total transportation cost was $4,982.70. At the close of the 1920

school year, so enlarged was the transportation system, that its cost totaled $15,162.69, which included the chauffers, salaries, gasoline, grease, oil, repairs to the cars, etc. The item of transportation is all figured in when reporting the total cost per pupil per month, in the grades to be $6.05; in the high school, $13.45 per month. The assets and liabilities for the Township's schools for year ending July 1, 1921, were $1,791,-388.41. Amount in outstanding bonds at that date was $627,000.

There are scores of other excellent schools within the county to-day —places where the borough schools have very fine, modern buildings, able executive boards and competent instructors, all showing the great advantages the children of the twentieth century have over their parents and grandparents; and, as a rule, the present-day pupils have come to duly appreciate these educational advantages, which is seen by the many graduates from our high schools annually.

While statistics are usually not interesting, this table, extracts from the latest State reports on the districts of Montgomery county, gives much imporant and valuable information.

Districts.	*No. Schools In District.*	*Teachers*		*Average. Attendance.*	*Wages*	
		Male.	*Female.*		*Male.*	*Female.*
Abington Township	58	10	43	1,222	$137	$85
Ambler Borough	20	1	20	549	175	72
Bridgeport Borough	16	1	15	570	218	85
Cheltenham Township	70	10	62	1,444	142	91
Collegeville Borough	6	1	5	136	125	69
Conshohocken Borough	33	2	31	....	132	76
Douglas Township	9	4	5	197	57	54
Dublin (Upper) Township	17	1	16	413	70	72
East Greenville Borough	10	2	8	306	87	70
Fegleville, Ind.	1	..	1	25	....	60
Franconia Township	8	3	5	275	60	60
Frederick Township	8	2	6	159	56	50
Green Lane Borough	2	..	2	75	....	62
Gwynedd (Upper) Township	8	2	6	268	95	70
Gwynedd (Lower) Township	6	..	6	165	....	73
Hanover (New) Township	9	2	7	175	60	51
Hatborough Borough	8	1	8	335	155	80
Hatfield Borough	5	1	4	170	110	70
Hatfield Township	7	1	6	218	70	64
Horsham Township	5	2	5	120	....	69
Jenkinton Borough	16	..	14	377	....	..
Lansdale Borough	26	2	24	698	130	69
Limerick Township	12	1	11	379	60	49
Line Lexington, Ind.	1	..	1	24	....	70
Marlborough Township	4	2	2	91	67	57
Merion (Upper) Township	20	..	20	752	....	61
Merion (Lower) Township	99	10	91	2,300	194	100
Montgomery Township	3	..	3	71	....	61
Moreland (Upper) Township	9	..	9	236	....	73
Moreland (Lower) Township	7	1	6	162	125	63
Narberth Borough	20	3	18	450	183	89
Norristown Borough	117	14	103	3,583	131	76
Norriton (East) Township	3	..	3	75	....	75
Norriton (West) Township	7	1	7	115	122	74
North Wales Borough	11	1	10	296	168	73
Pennsburg Borough	7	3	4	190	73	60
Perkiomen Township	3	..	3	85	....	63

Districts.	No. Schools In District.	Teachers Male.	Teachers Female.	Average. Attendance.	Wages Male.	Wages Female.
Plymouth Township	11	..	11	375	....	64
Pottsgrove (Upper) Township.	2	..	2	41	....	52
Pottsgrove (Lower) Township.	4	..	4	98	....	60
Pottsgrove (West) Township..	9	3	6	173	70	59
Pottstown Borough	76	11	70	2,365	108	66
Providence (Upper) Township.	14	4	10	502	75	58
Providence (Lower) Township.	8	2	6	183	70	65
Red Hill Borough	5	2	3	159	75	58
Rockledge Borough	5	..	5	155	....	71
Royersford Borough	17	3	14	467	96	70
Salford Township	4	3	1	86	62	50
Salford (Upper) Township	5	3	2	117	51	52
Salford (Lower) Township	10	5	5	301	60	61
Schwenksville Borough	5	..	5	92	....	70
Skippack Township	8	4	4	233	63	62
Springfield Township	16	..	16	345	....	77
Souderton Borough	17	4	13	578	97	64
Sumneytown, Independent	3	1	2	91	70	60
Swamp, Independent	1	..	1	33	....	60
Towamencing, Independent	6	1	5	174	70	67
Trappe Borough	2	..	2	42	....	65
West Conshohocken Borough..	1	..	6	213	137	59
West Telford Borough	5	3	2	146	71	55
Whitemarsh Township	7	2	13	443	99	73
Whitpain Township	6	1	5	128	95	66
Worcester Township	6	1	5	191	70	75
Total	935	137	808	24,798	$81	$66

The latest State reports issued on the condition of the public schools by counties in Pennsylvania is dated July 6, 1919, and from such official report and other sources the following has been compiled for Montgomery county especially for this work:

Whole Number of Schools in County	935
Average Number of Months Taught in County	9¼
Male Teachers Employed	140
Female Teachers Employed	815
Average Salary for Male Teachers	$81.00
Average Salary for Female Teachers	$66.67
Number of Male Pupils in Schools	15,937
Number of Female Pupils in Schools	15,052
Average Attendance	24,798
Taxes Levied for Schools of County	$1,263,000
Total Receipts for School Purposes	$1,920,000
Total Amount Expended for School Purposes	$1,821,000

From County School Superintendent Landis' annual report for the same school years above mentioned, it is learned that he made 1,294 visits to the schools of Montgomery county, and that with a few exceptions, he found few teachers not fully up to the standards laid down. On the subject of consolidated schools, he noted the free discussion throughout the county, and also that the sentiment favoring such school consolidation is rapidly increasing; that wherever such a system has been thoroughly tested, it has proven highly successful; that the item of bad roads was about the only objection that could reasonably be brought up against such schools. Concerning teachers' county institutes he men-

tioned the fact of none being held that year (1919) on account of the fearful epidemics raging in the county. But there were nine local institutes held within the county, and they proved very successful and were well attended.

CHAPTER XIII.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

In all ages man has depended largely on the products of the soil for his subsistence. Good farming has been well defined as the process of taking large crops from the soil, and at the same time leaving the soil as good as it was before the crop had been raised. However, agriculture, strictly speaking, is a science of modern birth. The farmers of Montgomery county since its first settlement have kept abreast with the general advance in agriculture. In 1880 this county contained 6,114 farms, averaging forty-nine acres each. At that date five thousand of these farms were cultivated by their owners. The cereals produced in 1879 in this county were as follows: Buckwheat, 2,344 bushels; Indian corn, 1,521,000 bushels; oats, 840,000 bushels; rye, 195,000; wheat, 487,000 bushels. There were raised 565,000 bushels of Irish potatoes that year; the spring clip of wool, in 1880, was 15,480 pounds; sixteen acres produced a crop of 21,000 pounds of tobacco. In its dairy products, a third of a century ago, this county ranked as second in Pennsylvania, with 35,000 cows whose milk made over five million pounds of butter.

In more recent years agriculture in this county has been intensified, though somewhat changed as to its chief products. The following figures are from the State reports in 1920, showing the products of Montgomery county at that date: Value of all agricultural products in county, $7,283,410; total of manufactured products in county, $246,000,000; number of manufacturing establishments, 606; total number of persons employed, 32,430; wages paid, $42,000,000. Total number of acres under cultivation, 210,000; number of farms in the county, 4,840; number cultivated by renters, 837; by owners, 4,003. The number of horses was 12,158; of mules, 328; cattle, 33,314; hogs, 39,000; number of acres in wheat, 25,600; bushels, 449,000; corn, acres of, 36,800; bushels of, 1,609,000; oats, acres, 19,366; bushels, 419,430; hay, acres of, 51,868; tons of, 70,000; number of automobiles used by farmers, for pleasure or farming work, 2,420; number farm trucks, 669; number of retail licenses issued to merchants in county, 3,894; number wholesalers, 147.

Agricultural Societies—A few farmers in Jeffersonville and Norriton townships met together in the winter of 1845-46 at the little village schoolhouse, and as a result of their deliberations a constitution was formed and signed for what they pleased to style the Jeffersonville Agricultural Association of Montgomery County. Meetings were held every two months, at Jeffersonville and Penn Square alternately. In December, 1847, resolutions were passed to hold a public exhibition during the ensuing year. The names of committeemen who had this matter in charge were: William Bean, William Hamil, Daniel Smith, Arnold

Baker, and Daniel Getty. For lack of funds no cash premiums could be offered, but instead they offered certificates of merit. The fair was held on October 19 and 20, 1848, at Jeffersonville. The address was delivered by John Wilkinson, of Chestnut Hill, who stood on a carpenter's workbench on the barn floor of the tavern property, and later the prize winners had their names read aloud from the same stand by A. W. Shearer. The display of livestock was indeed creditable; implements of husbandry exhibited were of the finest then manufactured; plows, threshers, pumps, cider making machinery, etc., were all well represented. The Ladies' Department was highly pleasing, and this was on the second floor of the west end of the building used for hotel purposes. In the fifties the farmers and their wives took enough genuine interest in these county fairs to buy several acres of land at Springtown village, where permanent buildings were erected, including halls, stock shedding, etc. The first fair at these grounds was probably held in October, 1850. It was during that year the name was changed to The Montgomery County Agricultural Society. Being too remote from railway facilities, finally this society was moved to Ambler and reorganized, continuing until 1880, when the debts swallowed up the Society, creditors taking over the property. Norristown naturally wanted an agricultural society, so one was launched, known as the East Pennsylvania Agricultural and Mechanical Society, formed in December, 1860. The first officers were: President, Dr. William Wetherill; vice-president, M. C. Boyer; Samuel E. Hartranft, recording secretary; Theo. W. Bean, corresponding secretary; A. Brower, treasurer. Twenty acres of land were purchased on Stanbridge and Marshall streets, and a large exhibition hall was erected, and a half-mile track was made. The grounds were dedicated July 4, 1861, when a fine military parade was had with General William Schall in command as marshal. The last exhibition of the society was in 1877, when it went down and the land was converted to other uses. It appears there was a little too much horse racing to suit a majority, and the Patrons of Husbandry then coming to the forefront, occupied the special attention of farmers.

The Civil War ended in April, 1865, and "war prices" for farm products soon lowered, to the loss of farmers, who were first to feel the change in prices. Not until the recent World War has the farmer been able to command such prices as he was getting in 1865. As a matter of historic value, the subjoined figures are deemed worthy of preservation, showing as they do what was the result of good farming in this county, on a hundred acre farm in April, 1865:

250 Bushels of Wheat, at $2.50 Per Bushel	$625
400 Bushels of Oats at $1.00 Per Bushel	400
500 Bushels of Corn, at $1.40 Per Bushel	700
300 Bushels of Potatoes, at $1.50 Per Bushel	450
2,400 Pounds of Butter, at 60 Cents	1,440
Pork, Lamb, Veal, Wool, Hay, Poultry, Orchard Fruits and Dairy Products	600
	$4,215

Paid for One Hired Man	$300	
Paid for One Boy	100	
Paid for One Hired Girl	150	
Paid for Harvest Labor	125	
Paid for Taxes and Repairs	300	
Paid for Feed	400	
Paid for Incidental Expenses	150	
		$1,525
Profit		$2,690

The Granges of Patrons of Husbandry established throughout the entire country were well sustained in Montgomery county for many years. Among those well recalled were those known as Keystone Grange, No. 2; Good-will Grange, No. 7, formed in 1873; Star Grange, No. 562, organized in 1875; Pennypack Grange, No. 8, organized 1873; Merion Grange, No. 112, organized at the King of Prussia schoolhouse, 1874; Cold Point Grange, No. 606, organized 1875, at the Cold Point Baptist Church; Wissahickon Grange, No. 760, organized 1881, by Mrs. Sarah S. Rex; Pomona Grange, No. 8, Montgomery county, organized in 1875. This included a union of all Granges within the county, and met only annually. Of later years, the Farmers' Clubs and Farm Bureaus have largely taken the place of the old Patrons of Husbandry.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau—The provisions calling for farm bureaus in Pennsylvania, and partly aided by the general government at Washington, started in 1912, and Montgomery county was among the very first to have the benefit of a County Farm Agent, in the person of A. K. Rothenberger, who opened his office in the summer of 1912 and has been the county agent ever since. For a number of years he was alone, but since 1915 he has been aided materially by the assistance of an assistant county agent, A. R. Kriebel. They have offices over the Penn Trust Company, and have been able to accomplish much for the farming community in way of educational campaigns annually. Among the things which have taken most of their time and attention has been developing the dairying interests of the county; providing better seed potatoes by obtaining "certified" potatoes in place of planting the varieties that have "run out" and liable to scab and other diseases; also they have spared no pains to inform the farmers of the county concerning the use of lime and other fertilizers for the soil; securing and testing new varieties of wheat and other grains; making many experiments and presenting the most thoroughly up-to-date methods of breeding the best stock in both cattle and swine, believing that none can be too good for a Montgomery county agriculturist and stock raiser. In the season for such things, numerous boys' and girls' clubs have been organized and carried forward with excellent results among the enterprising young people of the county. The corn and pig clubs have been of lasting good to all interested in farm life, and year by year the interest seems to be rapidly on the increase. The Bureau issues a neat publication known as

the "Montgomery County Farm Bureau News." It is published every month in the year, and is now in its third year.

Since the old-fashioned county fair has gone down for lack of genuine interest, the farm clubs and farm bureaus of this State have taken to holding annual and semi-annual "Farm Products Shows" which really have come to be wonderful educational affairs for the several counties in this commonwealth. The first of such shows held in Montgomery county was staged in Schwenksville, in December, 1913. County Agent A. K. Rothenberger had during the latter part of November held a number of local shows to which the farmers brought their exhibits, and these were then taken to the County Show. A program was arranged for the day and evening, consisting of addresses and illustrated lectures by instructors from the State College. The following year the show was held in the City Hall at Norristown, the Chamber of Commerce coöperating. In addition to the four classes of corn, prizes were offered in potatoes and for canned products, merchants and business men of the town rented space along the sides of the large auditorium and installed attractive displays of their wares and goods. Year by year these exhibits grew "better and better," and many educational features were added as the years went by. It has now come to be one of the real events of the year, to which farmers and their families, together with the business men of the county, look forward with interest. It is a County Agricultural Fair, but instead of being out-doors, subject to the uncertainties of weather, it is under cover and can run, "rain or shine." Last December the ninth annual of these farm exhibits was held in Norristown and was accounted a success in all ways.

It goes almost without saying that the salary paid County Agent Rothenberger ($2,600) and that allowed for an assistant, is money well expended in Montgomery county, where the calling of a farmer needs more stimulation than it does in other sections of the State where large manufacturing plants do not obtain as they do here.

CHAPTER XIV.

JOURNALISM.

The number of newspapers which have existed in Montgomery county is very large, and it is impossible to trace in detail the history of them. For more than fifty years after the organization of the county there were but two local journals, the Norristown Herald, which was Federal in politics, and the Norristown Register, which supported the National Republican (subsequently the Democratic) party. The first printing office in the county was established in 1799, by David Sower, at Norristown, who in June of that year commenced the publication of a small paper which he called The Norristown Gazette. It continued but one year, and was immediately succeeded by the Herald. The Norristown Register was established in 1800 at Norristown, by William Wilson.

The conditions of journalism were widely different from those which exist at the present day, but an examination of the files of these early publications will show that they met, what we may infer, were the demands of the time. There was, of course, no general presentation of the news of the day, as now collected by telegraph, telephone and a large staff of reporters. "Reporting" was an art of later invention. A matter of more than common interest, a disastrous fire, a serious breach of the peace, called forth a paragraph rather in the nature of editorial comment, than a narration of the facts.

But the editor's column teemed with reading matter of another and not less interesting description. From private correspondence and from the columns of his exchanges he gathered a great amount of valuable information, and those who catered to the taste of the reading public of Montgomery county, did so with judicious care.

A series of letters written from Europe, published in the Herald during the early part of the present century, and written by an officer attached to the American squadron then cruising in the Mediterranean, would even now interest the average reader. The letter writer of that day enjoyed an advantage which has been lost to his posterity. No correspondent would now dream of noting the bombardment of an important seaport by any means less quick than the cable. But when such correspondence was the sole source of information, it may well be imagined that the unpretentious sheets in which it was published were sought for with eagerness and read with profound interest. Nor were the works of the editor confined to the columns of his exchanges. His pages often contained extracts from works of the highest merit. He reproduced the thoughts of Addison, Locke, and other philosophical celebrities. Books were not as easily accessible as they are now, and the

editor of a century ago, if he had not the means of collecting news which has been so efficiently developed within the memory of the present generation, he supplied other and equally important mental food.

The early journals were not, however, entirely devoid of local interest. If reporters were not employed, their services were not so indispensable as they have since become. Full accounts of all political gatherings of importance appear in the respective organs over the signatures of their secretaries. Societies of various descriptions were equally accommodating. While the editors did not feel called upon to give their own views on public questions at length in every edition, they opened their columns freely to correspondents of their own political faith, and the correspondents seldom failed to take advantage. Over assumed names they argued matters of public controversy, abused opposition parties and put awkward questions to candidates, in a style upon which the modern writers of political literature have made little if any improvement, excepting that now-a-days perhaps there is much less freedom in the casting of opprobrious names, and the use of invective. The progress of the county journals, the increase in their size and number and the change of their character have been as gradual as has been the alteration of the conditions under which their business is conducted.

There were, at the beginning of 1923 twenty-eight newspapers published in Montgomery county, in eighteen different localities. The following table gives their names, etc.:

Papers.	*Publication Office.*	*Politics.*	*Editions.*	*Publication Days.*
Gazette	Ambler	Local	Weekly	Thursday
Chronicle	Ardmore	Republican	Weekly	Saturday
Record	Ardmore	Independent	Weekly	Wednesday
Home News	Bryn Mawr	Independent	Weekly	Friday
Record	Bryn Mawr	Local	Weekly	Friday
Independent	Collegeville	Independent	Weekly	Thursday
Recorder	Conshohocken	Independent	Semi-Wky.	Tu. and Fri.
Public Spirit	Hatboro	Independent	Weekly	Saturday
Times	Hatfield	Local	Weekly	Thursday
Times-Chronicle	Jekintown	Local	Weekly	Saturday
Reporter	Lansdale	Independent	Weekly	Thursday
Republican and Review	Lansdale	Republican	Weekly	Thursday
Our Town	Narberth	Local	Weekly	Thursday
Herald	Norristown	Republican	Daily and W.	Ev. & Mon.
Times	Norristown	Republican	Daily	Evening
Law Reporter	Norristown	Legal	Weekly	Thursday
Tribune	Norristown	Republican	Weekly	Friday
Record	North Wales	Independent	Weekly	Saturday
Town and Country	Pennsburg	Independent	Weekly	Saturday
Blade	Pottstown	Ind. and D.	Weekly	Saturday
Montgomery Ledger	Pottstown	Independent	Weekly	Tuesday
Ledger	Pottstown	Independent	Daily	Evening
News	Pottstown	Independent	Daily	Morning
Social Educator	Pottstown	Socialist	Weekly	Saturday
Advertiser	Royersford	Republican	Weekly	Friday
Item	Schwenkville	Independent	Weekly	Thursday
Montgomery Transcript	Skippack	Republican	Weekly	Thursday
Independent	Souderton	Independent	Weekly	Friday

Just about the beginning of the year 1923 two important and radical changes were made in the newspaper personnel, one in Norristown, and one in Lansdale. The oldest paper in Norristown was The Herald, founded in 1799 under the name of The Gazette. Its first issue was dated June 13, 1799, but its name was shortly afterwards changed to The Herald, the first issue under that name being dated October 13, 1800. The next oldest newspaper established was The Norristown Register, in 1800. It was several times a daily, but from 1880 ran continuously as a daily, until it suffered a peaceful dissolution several years ago.

The Norristown Times was founded as a daily in 1881 by William P. Rennyson, its first issue being on November 11 of that year. It was the first one-cent paper in the community, was from the start enterprising, and soon gained great popular favor. As the community grew from a little borough to a city in size, it grew with it, and for the last decade its issues compared favorably with the newspapers of the larger cities. It carried a full telegraphic news service, had a corps of fifteen reporters and editors, and its issues ran from twelve to thirty-two pages.

The Herald and the Register both maintained the status of a country daily and both soon lost prestige and circulation, so much so that, as has been stated, The Register passed peacefully away several years ago, without even a sheriff's sale, and The Herald, according to all indications, was on the same road, when in the latter part of 1921 it was bought by R. B. Strassburger, who placed it, too, on a metropolitan basis. Despite all the money lavished upon The Herald, however, it did not succeed in gaining either circulation or advertising. On the 1st of January, 1923, the business men and the citizens generally were astounded by the announcement published simultaneously in both The Herald and The Times that Mr. Strassburger had bought The Times from its owner, and was about to consolidate the two newspapers on January 1. The Herald is now published under the name of The Times-Herald.

In March, 1923, several of the members of The Times organization began the publication of a weekly called The Norristown Tribune. Like The Times, it promises to support the interests of the people as a whole, and expresses the belief that it will soon be a daily.

In Lansdale, two newspapers were published, both weeklies—The Reporter, founded in 1870, and The Republican, founded some years subsequently. On January 1, 1923, it was announced that the younger newspaper had absorbed the older, and that the Reporter was consolidated with The Republican.

Looking Backward—The following address, delivered on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Dinner of the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, at the Hotel Bellevue-Stratford, Philadelphia, March 18, 1922, by Hon. B. Witman Dambly, of the Skippack Transcript, gives an intimate personal touch to the publishers and publications in the county:

As we look backward and listen in the deep silence of a quarter of a century—March, 1897, to March, 1922—we seem to hear "the muffled tramp of years, come stealing up the slope of Time."

Beginning in the last decade of the last century this League has lived through and into three decades in the present. This fact is quickly stated, but a review of any particular line of human endeavor is not so easily recited and disposed of. The two oldest living members of the League, Messrs. E. S. Moser and W. F. Goettler, a quarter of a century ago were thirty-two years old, and the youngest member was not at all. Such as were not at all, since 1897 have been born, have worn the livery of the devil, married, and have become fathers and grandfathers. Those of us who were in the flesh in 1897 have become fathers.

Thirty-one members—nine from Bucks and twenty-two from Montgomery county—have passed over. All ranged in years from middle life to three-score and ten. The number of those who have died equals about seventy-five per cent. of our present membership. Our twenty-five years have included seven presidential terms—from McKinley to Harding. Seven governors have served in Pennsylvania during the same period. Bucks county has gone from 70,000 people to 83,000 in 1920; Montgomery county from 123,000 to 199,310. In Bucks county, Press Leaguers were honored with office in the wise Thomas of Bristol, sent to the Legislature; Grim to the Senate; Meridith was made high sheriff; Althouse, county treasurer; Oscar Bean, register of wills. In Montgomery county the late I. R. Haldeman was clerk of the Legislature; John S. Leidy was chosen county auditor; R. R. Freed to the Legislature; I. H. Bardman present county treasurer; and I. Crawford Johnson clerk of the courts. Of our honorary members, Charles B. Spatz answered the call of the Berks county protectariat and went to the Legislature, so that our craft and present Press League has been called upon, always by the people, to contribute both ornament and use to the State and county government of and for the people, and the end is probably not yet.

When the League was born in 1897, the Norristown Herald, the oldest paper in the county, was ninety-eight years old. It was established the year Washington died and Perkiomen bridge at Collegeville was built—1799. The Herald is now one hundred and twenty-three years old. The Doylestown Intelligencer, next oldest in the counties, now is one hundred and eighteen years old, while the Doylestown Democrat, youngest of the three oldest weeklies, is one hundred and six years old. The Pottstown Ledger is seventy-nine years of age; Lansdale Reporter, fifty-two years; Collegeville Independent, forty-seven years old; Bryn Mawr Home News, forty-five years old; Hatboro Spirit, forty-nine years old; North Wales Record, forty-six years old; Schwenksville Item, forty-five; Souderton Independent, forty-two years old. Of the dailies, the Norristown Herald is the oldest in the two counties. It was established in 1869, and is fifty-three years old; the Conshohocken Recorder was established the same year.

The newspaper man now in the League longest in consecutive service is E. S. Moser, of Collegeville. At the age of seventeen he established The Independent, in 1875, and probably was the youngest publisher in the State. Next in line of the living comes William F. Goettler, of Souderton. He with Charles L Peale started a German paper at Souderton in 1878, called the Germania Gazette. About a year and a half later (1879), Peale dropped out, and The Independent was estab-

lished by Mr. Goettler, who was then about twenty-one. Both Mr. Moser and Mr. Goettler are in their sixty-fifth year; both are grandfathers, and in no sense grandmothers. Neither "has sought happiness o'er all the earth." On the contrary, they have found it on their own door-step at Collegeville and Souderton.

Bucks county now in 1922 has fifteen newspapers, and Montgomery county twenty-six. Of these nine were established within the life of this League. During the same period twelve papers went out of existence, of which five were German. To-day not a German publication remains in these two counties. A comparison of the counties with their neighbors shows that Berks has eleven, Lehigh fourteen, Chester fifteen, and Delaware seventeen newspapers. Of the 1175 in the State, 187 are dailies and 662 weeklies. This is an average of a fraction more than nine papers of the weekly type in the sixty-seven counties. In these twenty-five years the weeklies of this League printed 1,300 issues and the dailies 7,800 issues. Only the realization that "nought treads so silent as the foot of Time," makes it possible to believe this recital of what, after all, can be but a small fraction of the whole story of the weeks and months that now figure up to a quarter of a century of League History.

This spells long and tireless application to a craft that is amongst the most constructive of the forces of our times. But think of those who were long in the harness when the League was born. Several of our members had already laid back a score of years when the League was formed, and are now approaching a half-century in the editorial harness—40, 43 and 47 years of service respectively. Not with a sepulchral voice, but prompted by an appreciation of what two score and more years of such service represents, I am sure I express the sincere wish of the rest of the members of the League to those veterans of the craft and quill, that may Time lay his hand upon your hearts gently, not smiting them, but as a harper lays his open palm upon his harp, to deaden its vibrations.

As to the departed members, more than one a year on an average has "gone upon his wanderings." Thus it becomes most true of the League, that

> "As life runs on, the road grows strange.
> The mile-stones into head-stones change,
> 'Neath everyone a friend—one each year."

They sleep, but the loom of life never stops, and the pattern which was weaving when the sun went down is weaving when it comes up to-morrow.

We have greater pleasures in this twenty-fifth anniversary than in any other. But, see what it brings to us! It brings that thing which all resist, that is the frigidity of age. "Men shut their doors against a setting sun." Strange but true! Why is it? "Age is opportunity no less than youth itself, and as the evening twilight fades away, the sky is pitted with stars invisible by day."

But this retrospect must close. The first day of another quarter of a century is pressing upon us. What distinct lesson learned in the twenty-five years laid back will we carry with us into the to-morrow? Might one be the conviction that the press has lost none of its popularity and power, both to entertain and instruct? Whatever else families in Bucks and Montgomery counties families are lopping off the yearly budget, it is *not* the newspaper. The power of the press is not diminished. I

sometimes think we fail to realize just what influence we may wield. What rational being in the interest of the public welfare is there that could not be popularized after a time throughout all of Bucks and Montgomery counties, if the forty-one papers in those counties were unanimous in the advocacy and presented good reasons for its adoption? "Individuals can do many things, groups of individuals can do anything." This expresses the thought I have in mind. One newspaper can do many things, a solid group of newspapers can do almost anything. Napoleon said, "Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets." But enough of this. Few callings or professions have received the tributes that scholarly men and women have paid to the Press, of which we are a part. We of the Press League bid a tearful good-bye to the parting quarter of a century that is now rounded out and passed out to-night. We give a hearty and fraternal welcome to the new. We know that our craft, like the everlasting hills, will abide. That though men may come and men may go, the newspapers will go on forever, and that you may break, you may shatter the *press* if you will, the oldest subscribers will cling to it still.

Some Present Papers—In response to a set of information blanks mailed to members of the newspaper craft of this county, data has been forwarded to the writer from which he is enabled to give the following account of the papers that replied to such blanks:

The Weekly Advertiser, of Royersford, was established February 22, 1890, by Jacob S. Johnson, who conducted the paper from 1890 to 1910, and from the last date to the present the proprietor has been L. E. Johnson. It is a four-page seven-column paper, all home print. Its day of issue is Friday. Politically this paper is independent in its policies. It is printed in a two-story brick building sixty-five by thirty-five feet, erected in 1915. Its equipment includes cylinder presses, golder, stitcher, paper cutter, etc. The paper circulates mostly in the vicinity of Royersford and Spring City. It is an excellent example of what a local paper should be.

The Independent, at Collegeville, was established on June 4, 1875, by its present owner and editor, E. S. Moser, who commenced his labors as a newspaper man when only seventeen years of age and has stuck by the tripod during all of these years, he now being the oldest in service in this portion of Pennsylvania, if indeed not in the entire commonwealth. The Independent is issued each Thursday. In size and form it is a 26 by 40 eight columns to the page journal, full of interesting and valuable news with every issue. It is an all home print, with a few columns of plate. Mr. Moser owns his own office building, a two-story frame structure. The office is equipped with modern machinery; including cylinder, paper and job presses capable of executing all kinds of commercial job work. The community in which Collegeville is situated should and probably does appreciate the efforts of this veteran editor who has sought to give all the clean desirable local news within his territory for the last forty-seven years.

Public Spirit is published semi-weekly at the village of Hatboro, and was established in 1873 by Dr. W. T. Robinson. It has never been out of the family and is to-day conducted by the Robinson Publishing Company, comprising O. E. C. Robinson and Penrose Robinson. It is a seven-column to the page publication, having from twelve to sixteen pages weekly, issued on Thursdays and Fridays. The equipment consists of duplex newspaper press (web), two cylinder presses, three jobbers, three linotypes, bindery, and fully equipped for newspaper and periodical work. The subscription rate is $2.50 per year. The building is owned by O. E. C. Robinson. Politically, the paper is independent. Of its circulation it may be said that it goes mostly to the firesides and business places of Lower Montgomery county and suburbs of Philadelphia. The Glenside News is also issued from this office, and sent to Glenside for distribution.

The Glenside News is published by the Robinson Publishing Company. It has a circulation of 1,800 per week, and is edited by William C. Faust, with offices in the Patane building, Easton road, Glenside. This paper started early in 1923. It has been printed as an eight-page paper, except two issues which had only six pages. The publication day is Wednesday. It is separate from the Public Spirit publication, but is owned by the Robinson Publishing Company and printed at its offices in Hatboro, but is entered at the Glenside post office and mailed there. It has a yearly subscription rate of two dollars.

The Conshohocken Recorder was established December 6, 1869, by Charles Jones, and he was succeeded in order as follows: Haywood & Davis, Mark H. Wrigley, William L. Prizer, George Evans, Harry B. Heywood, and the Recorder Publishing Company. It is an all-home print local journal of the semi-weekly type, being issued on Tuesday and Friday of each week. In size it is an eight page or more, seven columns to the page, size 17 by 22 inches. It is printed in a building erected in 1909, a two-story brick with basement. Politically, it is independent and circulates in the vicinity of Conshohocken and West Conshohocken. The office equipment includes perfecting press, linotypes, cylinder presses, saw-trimmer, job presses, casting machines, and other modern appliances. The present owners have conducted the Recorder since 1890.

The Hatfield Times was established in 1893 by Jonas S. Moyer, who was succeeded by C. R. Addison, Messrs. Brunner, Hacker, and Harry E. Brunner. It is a seven-column four-page newspaper issued every Thursday. It circulates mostly in Hatfield borough and township; its subscription rate is $1.25 per year. It is printed on a Country Campbell power press and the office is equipped with modern machinery including two Chandler & Price jobbers, stitcher and paper cutter. The building in which this local paper is printed is part stone and part wooden material, and in size is 30 by 40 feet. It should be stated that originally the name of the publication was the Hatfield Invincible. It is now an all-

home print, except occasionally when a few plate columns are used. Politically, the Times is independent. Prior to January 1, 1923, the paper was conducted jointly by Harry E. Brunner and L. F. Hacker, but on that date it passed into Mr. Brunner's hands solely.

The Ambler Gazette was established by Col. Bringhurst in 1883, succeeding the Ambler Times about 1885. It is published every Wednesday, and is all home print. In form and size it is of the eight-page six-column type of local paper, and is printed in the proprietor's own building, erected in 1897 by A. K. Thomas, and is a brick structure. Here one finds two linotype machines, power press, folder and three jobbers. The following have owned the property: Col. Bringhurst, A. K. Thomas, Joseph M. Haywood, the last named purchasing the plant in 1898. It is strictly an up-to-date local journal, filled each week with such local news as the intelligent community demands and fully appreciates.

The Times-Chronicle is published in the borough of Jenkintown, and was established January 1, 1895, by William L. Clayton and Levi Clayton, and is now owned and conducted by Mrs. Gertrude Clayton, wife of William L. Clayton. It is printed every Saturday; is Republican in politics; and circulates mostly in the towns along the Old York road. It has been conducted by its present owner since 1918. The office building is a stone structure erected in 1898, and is of brick and stone. The publication is a twelve-page seven-column paper, and is all home print, with about fifty per cent. local news. The equipment includes a good Campbell power press for the paper, and for the jobbing department four modern jobbers are in action most of the time. In all that is good and clean in way of local news items, this paper has its full share weekly.

The Schwenksville Item was established in 1877 by Rev. N. B. Grubb, and he was succeeded by Irvin H. Banham, who took the paper as proprietor in May, 1883, and has conducted it ever since. Politically, it is an independent paper, and in form and size is an eight-page seven-column paper all printed at home. Its publication day is Thursday. The building occupied as an office for this printery is a brick and frame structure erected in 1897. The office equipment includes a Cox duplex cylinder power press and two Chandler & Price jobbers, with two linotype machines, paper cutter, etc. This local paper has a good circulation in Montgomery county, and is a reliable paper that voices the opinion of the community in which it is published, is thoroughly progressive, and well edited.

Town and Country is the name of the local newspaper in the borough of Pennsburg. It was established April 1, 1899, by Charles Q. Hillagass and Robert L. Singer. About three years after the paper was founded, the former named gentleman became owner of the entire plant and has conducted it ever since. It is printed each week in the year, on Friday. It is a seven-column twelve-page paper, all home print. It has a good circulation in Montgomery, Bucks, Lehigh and Berks counties. The

office occupies a three-story building in which there is a fully equipped printery including linotype machines, one duplex flat-bed press, one Cotterell press, three Chandler jobbers, etc. Politically, Town and Country is an independent Democratic newspaper, edited and owned by Charles Q. Hillagass.

The following list of newspapers have at one time or another been published in Pottstown: Pottstown Times, founded July 1, 1819, by John Royer; Lafayette Aurora, founded February 25, 1825, by Glackens & Keeley; Pottstown Journal, another name for the Times; Montgomery Ledger, started November 10, 1843, by J. C. Slemmer. The Daily Pottstown Ledger was founded October 1, 1873, by Lewis H. Davis and William J. Binder; Pottstown Advertiser, founded by David A. Geiger, October, 1873; The Chronicle, founded by A. R. Saylor, June 29, 1879, merged into the Advertiser; Pottstown Daily News, started by P. Elmwood Baum, then owner of The Chronicle, October 1, 1887; The Pottstown Blade, founded by L. R. Saylor in 1890; Weekly Advocate, founded by Thomas Taylor, October 21, 1893. Early in the nineteenth century a number of papers were launched here, including the Anti-Abolitionist, Rural Visitor; The Advocate, by John Royer, published in German, in 1826; Friend of the People, 1826; Gazette, 1834; Democrat, Pottstown Tariffite, 1842, Cottage Visitor. At present (1923) Pottstown has three newspapers—the Ledger, News, and Blade.

The Pottstown Ledger represents the second oldest newspaper publication in Montgomery county. It is the only afternoon daily newspaper in Pottstown, its service extending through the upper end of Montgomery, northern Chester and lower Berks counties. In its present status it is making rapid advancement. Being aggressive, Republican in politics, and aiming to give all the news which is news, gains the publication many friends. The Pottstown Ledger Company is officered: P. Quinn Roth, president, treasurer and manager; H. E. Roth, vice-president; Earl R. Roth, secretary and editor. These three also comprise the board of directors, and are the sole owners of the publication and printing plant, the latter being located at High and Charlotte streets, Pottstown.

P. Quinn Roth, as a member of a widely known family of newspaper workers of Allentown, Pennsylvania, was one of the small group who became identified with the Allentown Item when it was founded as one of the first daily papers in that city in 1881. Mr. Roth became identified in 1896 with the Norristown Times, and with his practical experience as a printer, writer, circulation builder, and his executive ability, aided in bringing The Times to the front rank, where it was leading all others in Montgomery county, when he retired therefrom in October, 1921, to assume the management of the Pottstown Ledger. He finally acquired the Ledger in September, 1922. Mr. Roth and his sons have long been identified with the Bucks-Montgomery Press League.

Earl R. Roth, one of the three sons of the president of the Pottstown Ledger, is directing the editorial work of the Ledger as one of the youngest men in editorial charge of a daily newspaper. He is a protegé of the Norristown Times, having gained his early experience under the tutorship of his father. He was selected to place the Bristol (Pennsylvania) Courier on the progressive road, and in three years established it in a new and ideal printing home. Later he was selected to place the affairs of the Ridgefield Park (New Jersey) Review on the road to success. Assuming the editorship of the Ledger in November, 1921, he has gained a host of friends for himself and the Ledger by his aggressive writings and splendid newspaper work. He is an active Rotarian and Elk, and regarded as an authority on music, and a critic of marked ability.

Raymond W. Roth, editor and publisher of The Call, of New Cumberland, Pennsylvania, was also a protegé of the Norristown Times under his father's tutorship. Upon his discharge from the United States army service he became identified with the Bristol Courier and in 1921 he acquired The Call. In due time he, too, will be actively identified with the Ledger.

The first newspaper in Pottstown was started in 1819 by John Royer, under the name of the Pottstown Times. The first issue bears date July 1, 1819, a four-page paper, four columns to the page, and these copies are in a good state of preservation. February 5, 1825, Daniel Glackens and Joshua Keeley established the Lafayette Aurora, a twenty-column weekly. In 1826 Jacob S. Yost purchased Mr. Keeley's interest in the Aurora. The political proclivities of both newspapers were Democratic. Later, John Royer started a German paper, called The Advocate, and Mr. Yost another German paper which he named The Friend of the People. For a period there were four newspapers in Pottstown. When J. C. Slemmer finally purchased the Pottstown Times, he changed the name to the Pottstown Journal. Finally, on November 10, 1843, Mr. Slemmer merged the publication with the Montgomery Ledger, a publication that for many years thereafter was the only newspaper published in Pottstown. On April 16, 1845, Andrew H. Giffen and Jacob D. Streeper became the editors and publishers. In 1849 Mr. Streeper became the sole editor and publisher. On April 1, 1854, Lewis H. Davis became associated in the editorship, and a year later (April 1, 1855), he became one of the owners. Colonel W. L. Williamson, on April 1, 1857, acquired Mr. Streeper's one-half interest, and William J. Binder, on April 1, 1866, purchased Colonel Williamson's interest in The Ledger. On October 1, 1873, Messrs. Davis and Binder established the Daily Ledger. In 1879 L. H. Davis sold his interest in both the Montgomery Ledger and the Daily Ledger and printing plant to Mr. William J. Binder, the latter becoming sole owner and publisher. In 1890 Hilton S. Binder, oldest son of the publisher, became associate editor, a post he held for thirty-one

years. On April 5, 1920, William J. Binder sold The Pottstown Ledger to Paul L. Diefenderfer, Mr. Binder retiring after an uninterrupted period of over fifty-four years. The Pottstown Ledger Company then became incorporated with these officers: President, James H. Morris; vice-president, William M. Bunting; Paul L. Diefenderfer, secretary, treasurer and manager. On October 10, 1921, Mr. Diefenderfer's interests were acquired by P. Quinn Roth, who became the treasurer and manager. On September 8, 1922, P. Quinn Roth, H. E. Roth and Earl Roth, acquired all the interests in the Ledger, and became the owners and publishers.

The Pottstown News really had its birth in the establishing of the Pottstown Advertiser, by David A. Geiger, in October, 1873. Mr. Geiger died in 1877, and the plant passed to A. R. Saylor in June, 1879. He changed the name of the paper to The Chronicle, which it was called until it became the Pottstown Daily News, by P. Elmwood Baum. This change was made in October, 1887, when Baum took the paper and continued to conduct it five months, when he was found dead in his office, with pen in hand and close to his unfinished editorial; he was in the prime of his manhood. He it was who changed the name of The Chronicle to the Pottstown Daily News. Thomas Taylor conducted the paper then until 1902, after which it was the Pottstown Daily News Publishing Company. In 1913 the word "Daily" was dropped from its head, making it simply the Pottstown News. Great changes in this newspaper since A. R. Saylor and his "tramp printer" used to run on a Washington hand-press five hundred papers and then take them out and deliver the most of them around town, and these days when it takes a troop of seventeen boys and men to deliver the 3,900 papers in Pottstown and Stowe every morning. It now has a regular circulation of 7,230 copies daily. It was started as a four-page four-column paper, and now appears as a twelve-page seven-column daily paper. It circulates in a territory covering one hundred square miles, including five rural routes, with almost 1,700 papers daily. This modern plant is housed in a three-story brick building 20 by 60 feet, all used for the extensive printing business carried on. Politically, it is independent. As to its equipment, all that needs to be said is that all is modern and up-to-date machinery, including five linotypes, casting machines, trimmers, paper-cutters, job presses and a duplex flat-bed press for a twelve-page paper. Anything demanded from a modern printery can here be obtained.

The Pottstown Blade was established on December 13, 1890, by L. R. Saylor, and was conducted later in the following names: L. R. Saylor Estate, L. R. Saylor Sons, L. R. Saylor Sons, Incorporated. The president of the company is George H. Saylor, who is also the editor. It is published every Saturday morning; is a six-column per page (sometimes seven), four or more pages; it is all printed at home, and has a good local

circulation. The company owns its own building at 111 High street, a three-story brick structure. Politically, The Blade is independent. It is well equipped with modern printing machinery, including one linotype, four jobbers, two cylinder presses, power cutter, two steel make-up tables, power punch and perforating machine, power wire stitcher, job folder, with other useful, up-to-date appliances for executing the best of printer's work, even up to that high up in art. As a clean, news-full local newspaper, The Blade stands for all that is good in the community.

The Souderton Independent, in the borough of Souderton, was established in 1878 by W. F. Goettler, and has been conducted by this gentleman together with his son. In size and form this newspaper is an eight- to twelve-page paper, with seven columns to the page. It is an all-home print, and issues on Friday each week, though really printed on Thursday afternoons. Its subscription rate is $1.50 per year. The Independent circulates mostly at Souderton, Telford, Hatfield borough and Franconia township, Montgomery county, and in Hilltown township and Silverdale in Bucks county. The proprietors own their own office building, which is a one-story brick structure with a deep basement 35 by 72 feet in size. The paper is a live local organ, with modern equipment, including job printing machinery—three cylinder presses, three rotaries, two linotype machines, a stitcher, folder, cutter and all that makes up a first class office to-day.

The Ardmore Record, of Ardmore, Lower Merion township, was established in 1892, and is published every Thursday and has a circulation of 1,500. It was founded by James Dougherty, Haverford, and taken over by Senator Algernon B. Roberts. Its present owner is Fanny M. Hawkins, who has conducted it as a live, clean local newspaper for the last seven years. It has eight pages of seven columns to the page; is Republican in politics, and is equipped with a cylinder press, five jobbers, paper cutter, folder, stitcher, and near three hundred fonts of Moser faced type.

Bucks-Montgomery Press League—No history of the newspapers of Montgomery county would be complete without the story of the organization and the past of the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, these counties constituting the Eighth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, for in a sense the history of the League is a history of the newspapers and their editors and publishers. The organization is now twenty-six years old, and throughout its existence has been most valuable in promoting the business and social interests of the publications, and their managers and writers.

The following brief sketch of the League was written by one of its veteran members, E. S. Moser, of the Collegeville Independent, and printed in the souvenir menu card on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary dinner at the Bellevue-Stratford:

In approaching the task of formulating historical data relating to the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, I am conscious of a defective memory. This deficiency excludes the presentation of numerous notable incidents that contributed no small measure of gratifying interest to all who participated in the winter and summer meetings of our League. Therefore, my effort in large part must comprehend only facts of record found among the official notations of the secretary.

It was the "housewarming" of the Ambler Gazette that occasioned the inspiration that materialized in the organization of an association of editors and publishers. On March 22, 1897, representatives of a number of newspapers of Bucks and Montgomery counties met at Ambler to inspect the new home of the Gazette—an imposing building reared at the instigation of Arthur K. Thomas, owner, publisher and editor of that newspaper. Editor Thomas, then full of energy and enterprise, was foremost in effecting preliminary arrangements at the "housewarming" for the organization of what subsequently came to be known as the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties. It was upon his motion that a temporary organization was there formed by electing B. Witman Dambly temporary president, and C. D. Hotchkiss secretary. After discussion, concerning the desirability of effectuating the purpose of the temporary organization, a committee of five editors and publishers from each county was appointed to take further action. This committee, composed of Morgan R. Wills, E. S. Moser, J. W. Harvey, I. H. Bardman, B. Witman Dambly, of Montgomery county, and Fred Constantine, W. P. Church, C. D. Hotchkiss, George MacReynolds and S. R. Kramer, of Bucks county, met on Monday, April 26, 1897, at 3 p. m., at the Tremont House, Lansdale. Following the expression of unanimous sentiment in favor of the object of the meeting of the committee, upon motion of E. S. Moser a resolution was passed, extending to the editors and publishers of Bucks and Montgomery counties an invitation to attend a meeting at the Tremont House, Lansdale, on Monday, May 10, 1897, 3 p. m., to permanently organize an editorial association.

In response to this invitation a number of editors and publishers of the two counties gathered at the appointed time and place. Upon motion of H. M. Woodmansee, seconded by E. S. Moser, it was decided to effect a permanent organization, and the following officers were elected: President, A. K. Thomas; vice-president, Watson P. Church; secretary, Clarence D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. Witman Dambly. The members of the first executive committee were: J. Clinton Sellers, Wilmer H. Johnson, E. S. Moser, George Harrison, William L. Clayton, George Fetterolf and A. K. Thomas. Upon motion of J. C. Sellers, it was decided to call the association "The Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties." A committee consisting of C. D. Hotchkiss, H. M. Woodmansee, Wilmer H. Johnson, A. K. Thomas and George MacReynolds, drafted the constitution and by-laws, which were adopted. The following members signed the constitution: A. K. Thomas, Ambler; C. D. Hotchkiss, Doylestown; J. W. Harvey, Lansdale; Elwood Harvey, Lansdale; E. S. Moser, Collegeville; Wilmer H. Johnson, North Wales; William L. Clayton, Jenkintown; H. M. Woodmansee, Lansdale; George Harrison, Hulmeville; Jesse Thomas, Bristol; Jesse Thomas, Jr., Bristol; J. Clinton Sellers, Doylestown; Fred Constantine, Doylestown; B. Witman Dambly, Skippack; E. E. Althouse, Sellersville.

Of the first signers, as named, of the constitution of the League, five

have passed away, namely: Wilmer H. Johnson, J. Wilmot Harvey, H. M. Woodmansee, C. D. Hotchkiss and William L. Clayton. They are all remembered as having been loyal and helpful contributors to the uniformly successful existence of the League. To A. K. Thomas, a most active member in former years, and who, because of impaired health, is no longer engaged in newspaper work, is here extended the sympathetic consideration of all who well remember his service and good will, as one of the founders and enthusiastic supporters of the League.

On Monday, May 24, another meeting was held, when arrangements were made to hold the first summer meeting and outing of the League at Ringing Rocks Park, near Pottstown, on July 14, 1897. The dates and places of all the annual meetings and summer outings of the League will hereinafter appear.

* * * * *

In glancing backward over the quarter of a century which marks the 25th anniversary of the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties, recollections of its activities and its helpfulness may well serve as impelling incentives to the present membership, and to those who in coming years will take our places, and continue its existence. But few relatively unimportant incidents during all the annual meetings and outings of the League provoked displeasure or aroused resentment, thus indicating a remarkable unanimity of purpose and sentiment, and generous considerateness, one for the other, on the part of the League's membership.

In reaching a final estimate, however imperfect, of the value of the life of an individual, it is necessary to determine the extent and character of the influences exerted by the individual. A similar procedure must be applied to an association of individual units in their combined activities of whatsoever kind. Following this method the conclusion is unmistakable that our League has been of advantage to, and has frequently cheered and brightened the life of, everyone of its active members, as well as of all who participated in the meetings and outings of the League, characterized as they have been by happy greetings and by multifarious influences which are always in evidence along the brighter paths of human existence. Therefore, the conclusion is clearly admissable that thus far the life of the Press League of Bucks and Montgomery Counties has not been lived in vain: because it has made worth while contributions to the rational enjoyment and intellectual help that have intercepted its members on life's journey.

Taking a restrospective view of our League, it is in place to note that sadness—the antithesis of joy—did not fail to now and then impose its overshadowing gloom upon its membership. We miss the touch of vanished hands, and departed are the cheering smiles and kindnesses of those who have gone upon that journey from which no traveler has returned. It is for us who yet tarry amid the joys and sorrows of life to cherish memories of those who have passed on, and to emulate their virtues and their good deeds.

In marking the passing of the twenty-fifth year of the life history of our beloved League, may we all indulge the sincere hope that it will exist during many years to come; that it will continue to be the source of real pleasure and help to all who will from time to time represent its membership and participate in its activities.

The annual meetings of the Press League have been as follows:

May 10, 1897, Lansdale—President, A. K. Thomas; vice-president, Watson P. Church; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 22, 1898, Norristown—President, A. K. Thomas; vice-president, Watson P. Church; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 21, 1899, Doylestown—President, A. Kneule; vice-president, Wm. L. Clayton; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 20, 1900, Philadelphia—President, E. S. Moser; vice-president, Wm. L. Clayton; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 19, 1901, Doylestown—President, Wilmer Johnson; vice-president, J. Wilmer Harvey; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 25, 1902, Lansdale—President, Jos. S. Thomas; vice-president, I. H. Bardman; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 17, 1903, Perkasie—President, W. F. Goettler; vice-president, Elwood Harvey; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 22, 1904, Pottstown—President, H. M. Woodmansee; vice-president, Watson P. Church; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 21, 1905, Bristol—President, C. M. Meredith; vice-president, Eugene Dambly; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 20, 1906, Sellersville—President, I. H. Bardman; vice-president, E. E. Althouse; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 19, 1907, Collegeville—President, E. E. Althouse; vice-president, Wm. L. Clayton; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 18, 1908, Pennsburg—President, J. Crawford Johnson; vice-president, C. Q. Hillegas; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 16, 1909, Newtown—President, Watson P. Church; vice-president, J. W. Harvey; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 29, 1910, Souderton—President, J. Wilmot Harvey; vice-president, L. R. Saylor; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 21, 1911, Doylestown—President, Ryan Rapp; vice-president, Webster Grim; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 20, 1912, Norristown—President, E. J. Wanner; vice-president, Eugene Dambly; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 23, 1913, Allentown—President, W. S. Schlichter; vice-president, Wm. J. Ellis; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 31, 1914, Sellersville—President, C. S. Hunsicker; vice-president, R. B. Goettler; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 22, 1915, Ambler—President, Wm. J. Ellis; vice-president, R. B. Goettler; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 29, 1916, Norristown—President, R. B. Goettler; vice-president, F. Bliss Carpenter; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 25, 1917, Pottstown—President, F. B. Carpenter; vice-president, L. R. Saylor; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 26, 1918, Atlantic City—President, W. B. Kirkpatrick; vice-president, C. W. Baum; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 26, 1919, Atlantic City—President, Charles W. Baum; vice-president, Wm. G. Hower; secretary, C. D. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 24, 1920, Philadelphia—President, Wm. G. Hower; vice-president, Earl Roth; secretary, Geo. S. Hotchkiss; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Jan. 24, 1921, Allentown—President, Earl Roth; vice-president, Jos. J. McGinley; secretary, Marco G. Bean; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

March 18, 1922, Philadelphia—President, Jos. J. McGinley; vice-president, Wm. Watson; secretary, Marco G. Bean; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

April 7, 1923, Allentown—President, Wm. Watson; vice-president, P. Quinn Roth; secretary, Marco G. Bean; treasurer, B. W. Dambly.

Summer Outings of Press League.

July 17, 1897—Reading, Pa., and Ringing Rocks Park.
Aug. 5, 6, 7, 1898—Gettysburg and the Historic Battlefield.
Aug. 4, 5, 1899—Atlantic City—Hotel Albion.
July 14, 1900—Williamsport and Eagles Mere.
June 14, 15, 16, 1901—Buffalo and Niagara Falls.
June 20, 21, 1902—Wilkes-Barre, Harvey's Lake and Mauch Chunk.
July 9, 10, 11, 12, 1903—Seneca Lake, Geneva, N. Y.
July 16, 17, 1904—Gettysburg.

June 15, 16, 17, 18, 1905—Delaware Water Gap, Kittatinny Hotel.
July 14, 15, 1906—Atlantic City—Hotel Elberon.
July 28, 29, 30, 1907—Jamestown, Va., Jamestown Exposition.
July 18, 19, 1908—Wildwood and Cape May, N. J.
1909—New York trip called off.
1910—Atlantic City.
1911—Ambler.
Aug. 12, 1912—Willow Grove Park.
1913—Spring City and Valley Forge.
1914—Allentown, Rittersville, Central Park—Col. Trexler.
Aug. 16, 1915—Bryn Mawr and Lower Merion.
1916—Baltimore trip called off.
1917—Lebanon and Hershey.
July 20, 1918—Gwynedd Valley Fellowship Club.
July 20, 1919—Harriman and Bristol.
July 9, 10, 11, 1920—Asbury Park, N. J.
Sept. 10, 11, 12, 1921—Cape May, Wildwood, Atlantic City.
Sept. 8, 9, 1922—Galen Hall, Wernersville.

PRESENT ACTIVE MEMBERS OF PRESS LEAGUE.

Althouse, E. E., Sellerville "Herald."
Bardman, Irvin H., Schwenksville "Item."
Bardman, Stanley, Schwenksville "Item."
Baum, Chas. W., Perkasie "Central News."
Baum, Walter E., Sellersville "Herald."
Bean, Marco G., Sellersville "Herald."
Bean, Oscar C., Doylestown "Intelligencer."
Bechel, George, Schwenksville "Item."
Brunner, Harry E., Hatfield "Times."
Carpenter, F. Bliss, Sellersville "Poultry Item."
Dambly, B. W., Skippack "Transcript."
Dambly, H. W., Skippack "Transcript."
Detlefson, Serril D., Bristol "Courier."
Detweiler, C. Norman, Quakertown "Free Press."
Difenderfer, Paul E., Pottstown "Ledger."
Goettler, R. B., Souderton "Independent."
Goettler, W. F., Souderton "Independent."
Hacker, Leighton F., Hatfield "Times."
Heywood, H. B., Conshohocken "Recorder."
Hillegas, C. Q., Pennsburg "Town & Country"
Hillegas, Foster C., Pennsburg "Town & Country."
Hotchkiss, George S., Doylestown "Intelligencer."
Hower, William G., Bryn Mawr "Home News."
Hunsberger, Arthur R., New Ringgold, Pa. (formerly with "Central News").
Hunsicker, Clifton S., Norristown "Times."
Kirkpatrick, W. Mercer, North Wales "Record."
Knipe, Chester W., Lansdale "Republican & Review."
Leidy, John S., Hatboro "Public Spirit."
Lutz, George W., Pennsburg "Town & Country."
Meredith, Charles M., Quakertown "Free Press."
Morrow, Joseph W., Sellersville "Poultry Item."
Moser, E. S., Collegeville "Independent."
McGinley, Joseph J., Norristown "Times."
Robinson, Penrose, Hatboro "Public Spirit."
Roth, Earl, Pottstown "Ledger."
Roth, P. Q., Pottstown "Ledger."
Roth, Raymond, Pottstown "Ledger."
Sanborn, Walter T., Lansdale "Reporter."
Saylor, George H., Pottstown "Blade."
Schlichter, William S., Sellersville (formerly with "Poultry Item").
Spatz, Charles B. (Asso. Mem.), Boyertown "Democrat."
Sprenkel, John, Perkasie "Central News."
Temple, William C., Lansdale "Reporter."
Thomas, A. Russel, "Lansdale."
Watson, William C., Bristol "Courier."
Weaver, Joseph, Lansdale.
Weaver, Miss Margaret, Norristown "Times."
Woodmansee, C. E., Wycombe "Herald."

PRESENT AND PAST MEMBERS.

A. K. Thomas, Ambler.
*C. D. Hotchkiss, Doylestown.
*J. W. Harvey, Lansdale.
Elwood Harvey, Lansdale.
E. S. Moser, Collegeville.
*Wilmer H. Johnson, North Wales.
*William L. Clayton, Jenkintown.
*H. M. Woodmansee, Lansdale.
Geo. Harrison, Hulmeville.
Charles M. Meredith, Perkasie.
*A. K. Hoss, Norristown.
P. Q. Roth, Pottstown.
Harry W. Dambly, Skippack.
J. C. Dimm, Doylestown.
Warren S. Ely, Doylestown.
Charles S. Kratz, Doylestown.
J. Harry Carey, Pottstown.
C. M. Berkemeyer, Sellersville.

*Deceased.

PRESENT AND PAST MEMBERS.

Jesse Thomas, Bristol.
Jesse Thomas, Jr., Bristol.
J. Clinton Sellers, Doylestown.
Fred Constantine, Doylestown.
Irvin H. Bardman, Schwenksville.
B. Witman Dambly, Skippack.
E. E. Althouse, Sellersville.
*Gen. W. H. H. Davis, Doylestown.
Abel MacReynolds, Doylestown.
George MacReynolds, Doylestown.
*Jerome Fackenthall, Doylestown.
*George McIntosh, Doylestown.
*T. J. Kline, Doylestown.
*Alfred Paschall, Doylestown.
Frank C. Pryor, Hulmeville.
W. F. Goettler, Souderton.
*I. R. Haldeman, Harleysville.
H. G. Moyer, Perkasie.
S. R. Kramer, Perkasie.
U. S. Stauffer, Quakertown.
Henry C. Bailey, Royersford.
*H. L. Shomo, Royersford.
J. S. Johnson, Royersford.
Harry B. Heywood, Conshohocken.
*James Drury, Bristol.
*Frank A. Hower, Bryn Mawr.
C. E. C. Robinson, Hatboro.
*Daniel F. Graham, Pottstown.
J. H. Brandt, Norristown.
R. L. P. Reifsneider, Norristown.
*D. J. Meagher, Norristown.
*A. Kneule, Norristown.
*Eugene Dambly, Skippack.
H. S. Funk, Springtown.
H. H. Funk, Springtown.
Albert K. Kneule, Norristown.
Edwin K. Kneule, Norristown.
Henry M. Tracy, Conshohocken.
*Elwood Roberts, Norristown.
Jesse C. Thomas, Bristol.
Joseph S. Thomas, Bristol.
*Morgan R. Wills, Norristown.
J. Crawford Johnson, Norristown.
*Elwood J. Wanner, Norristown.
E. J. Nocton, Norristown.
Joseph S. Thomas, Bristol.
*H. S. Rahn, Schwenksville.
John S. Treichler, Perkiomen "Ledger."
John G. Preston, Yardley.
Albert C. Stauffer, Limerick.
R. B. Goettler, Souderton.
*Dr. A. J. Reading, Hatboro.
Charles Q. Hillegas, Pennsburg.
Robert L. Singer, Pennsburg.
W. J. Binder, Pottstown.
Ryan Rapp, Riegelsville.
A. Harry Clayton, Doylestown.
George S. Hotchkiss, Doylestown.
Irwin F. Paschall, Doylestown.
*L. R. Saylor, Pottstown.
Charles E. Woodmansee, Wycombe.
*Levi J. Clayton, Jenkintown.
Andrew T. Moyer, Norristown.
C. R. Addison, Hatfield.
J. M. Haywood, Ambler.
Penrose Robinson, Hatboro.
James E. Dougherty, Bryn Mawr.
Hilton Binder, Pottstown.
A. J. Binder, Pottstown.
Frank B. Crosby, Pottstown.
Charles W. Saylor, Pottstown.
Rhine Russel Freed, North Wales.
Mrs. A. M. Hower, Bryn Mawr.
William G. Hower, Bryn Mawr.
Joseph J. McGinley, Norristown.
Clifton S. Hunsicker, Norristown.
W. S. Schlichter, Sellersville.
A. Hayes Jordan, Doylestown.
Wilmer W. Morse, Lower Merion.
Charles G. Fetterolf, Langhorne.
Webster Grim, Doylestown.
W. H. Cheesman, Lower Merion.
John S. Leidy, Hatboro.
William J. Ellis, Hulmeville.
G. Henry Hildebrand, Harleysville.
R. J. Wilson, Lower Merion.
E. W. Hocker, Pennsburg.
William C. Watson.
Howard O. Kriebel, East Greenville.
Mrs. M. J. Ensign, Ardmore.
John N. Bowen, Doylestown.
*Wm. B. Kirkpatrick, North Wales.
George W. Lutz, Pennsburg.
Oscar O. Bean, Doylestown.
F. Bliss Carpenter, Sellersville.
*F. LeRoy Moser, Collegeville.
Earl R. Roth, Pottstown.
Marco G. Bean, Sellersville.
Arthur R. Hunsberger, Perkasie.
W. Mercer Kirkpatrick, North Wales.
Charles W. Baum, Perkasie.
Mrs. Elwood J. Wanner, Norristown.
Foster C. Hillegas, Pennsburg.
John Wagner, Royersford.
Walter L. Sanborn, Lansdale.
William C. Temple, Lansdale.
S. H. Bardman, Schwenksville.
George Bechel, Schwenksville.
Joseph W. Morrow, Sellersville.
Raymond Roth, Pottstown.
Miss Margaret Weaver, Norristown.
Serril Detlefson, Bristol.
Joseph K. Weaver, Lansdale.
A. Russel Thomas, Doylestown.
Paul E. Difenderfer, Pottstown.
Leighton F. Hacker, Hatfield.
C. Norman Detweiler, Quakertown.
John Sprenkel, Perkasie.
Walter E. Baum, Sellersville.
Harry B. Heywood, Conshohocken.
George MacReynolds, Doylestown.

*Deceased.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Edward W. Hocker, Philadelphia.
*J. O. K. Robarts, Phœnixville.
*Edward Matthews, Lansdale.
*Wilmer Atkinson, Philadelphia.
Edward E. Davis, Philadelphia.
*Howard M. Jenkins, Philadelphia.
Walter Darlington, Philadelphia.
Wm. H. Richardson, Philadelphia.
Frank Julian Warne, Philadelphia.
H. A. Gehman, Coopersburg.
A. Roland Garber, Philadelphia.
Henry C. Mercer, Doylestown.
Charles B. Spatz, Boyertown.
Wm. G. Just, Gwynedd Valley.
Jos. R. Grundy, Bristol.
Col. Geo. Nox McCain, Philadelphia.

*Deceased.

Officers—The following officers were elected at Hotel Allen, Allentown, Pennsylvania, April 7, 1923, at the twenty-sixth annual meeting:

President—William Watson, Bristol.
Vice-President—P. Quinn Roth, Pottstown.
Secretary—Marco G. Bean, Sellersville.
Treasurer—B. Witman Dambly, Skippack.

Executive Committee—Clifton S. Hunsicker, Norristown; E. S. Moser, Collegeville; P. Quinn Roth, Pottstown; Charles M. Meredith, Perkasie; William G. Hower, Bryn Mawr; W. F. Goettler, Souderton; F. Bliss Carpenter, Sellersville; Charles W. Baum, Perkasie; Walter L. Sanborn, Lansdale; George H. Saylor, Pottstown.

Membership Committee—C. N. Detweiler, Quakertown; Chester Knipe, Lansdale; C. Q. Hillegass, Pennsburg.

Resolutions Committee—E. S. Moser, Collegeville; Clifton S. Hunsicker, Norristown; Charles M. Meredith, Perkasie.

CHAPTER XV.

BANKS AND BANKING.

The first bank established in Montgomery county, to be described presently, was opened under a State charter, March 21, 1814—one hundred and nine years ago. Its capital was $400,000. In 1882 the county had only thirteen banks, with a total capital of $1,512,000.

Reference to previous banking systems and resulting financial conditions is necessary to a correct understanding of the radical changes in methods instituted under our present banking system. The States early began to assume the prerogative of chartering banks, not only of discount and deposit, but of issue, thus, in addition to other benefits, giving them the inducement arising from the profits from furnishing the people with the convenience of paper money. During the period of State currency, it was issued under two systems as to the constitution of the banks themselves, with still further diversities of administration in different States to insure the convertibility of their issues. The two great systems were banks each with its own special charter, and free banks; *i. e.,* banks established under the general law authorizing their formation by all who would comply with its provisions. The most popular, however, of these systems was that of a special charter bank.

For a quarter of a century prior to the establishment of our present splendid National Banking System, the circulating medium was issued by banks either under general laws or each specially chartered by its own State, and with various privileges and restrictions affecting the amount and safety of their issues. But the exceptions were few in which banks were not practically allowed to issue all they could keep afloat, while redeeming it on presentation. As a whole, banks were soundest in the older sections of the country and strong commercial centers, but in the newer and pioneer parts of the country what was known as "wild-cat banking" was carried on after a careless, rampant manner.

By reason of scarce metal coinage or other reliable money, about the close of the War of 1812 what was styled "shin-plasters" were issued freely. These were bits of paper about one and one-half inches by three inches in size, and here is a sample of one issued in Philadelphia:

A General Assortment of Groceries. Six and a quarter cents No. 233. I promise to pay the bearer on demand, in Groceries, or Philadelphia Bank Notes, at No. 130 North Water street, six and a quarter cents.
Philadelphia, December 10, 1814. JOHN THOMPSON.

Another style of these "plasters" was two by four inches and one denomination read thus:

Two Cents. I promise to pay to the bearer TWO CENTS On Demand at the Schuylkill Bank When a sum amounting to One Dollar shal be presented. RICHARD BACHE.

Philadelphia, July 4th, 1815.

The Civil War brought great changes, and a demand for a different kind of money was universal. It was then that the best brains and integrity of this nation devised our present National Banking system, than which the world has no better. The first National Bank organized under this plan was established in the city of Philadelphia in 1863. The first National Bank in Montgomery county was the First National Bank of Norristown, organized in 1864. Concerning the various banking houses in Montgomery county the reader is referred to the subjoined statements furnished the historian for this special work, and bear date February, 1923. In cases where the information blank sent out by the writer was not filled up and returned, other sources have been utilized; but nearly every bank has responded faithfully and well, giving such data as has been requested by the publishers.

Early Banks—The first bank of the county was the Bank of Montgomery County, chartered March 21, 1814, and rechartered every ten years until 1865, when it obtained its charter as a National Bank. As a State bank this institution always kept its paper at par in Philadelphia. The exact location of the first building this bank occupied is not known to this generation. But a change was effected November 25, 1815, for a building owned by Philip S. Markley, located on the south side of what was then Egypt street, above Cherry street. The lot extended from about twenty feet west of Cherry street to the line of George W. Wainright's store-house, and included the present site of the bank. The present bank building was erected in 1854, as shown by its date mark in front and over its massive columns, which have withstood the elements of almost three score and ten years. The first deposit made in this bank was November 18, 1815, by Isaac Markley; amount $50. The first statement was dated January 20, 1816, and shows the capital stock paid in to have been $42,473; deposits, $13,392.22; bills and notes discounted, $78,-895.90. The following shows the condition of the bank each decade from 1826 to 1885:

1826—Capital Paid In $117,480; Deposits $99,420.
1836—Capital Paid In $150,634; Deposits $120,592.
1846—Capital Paid In $290,891; Deposited $176,147.
1856—Capital Paid In $333,170; Deposited $254,132.
1866—Capital Paid In $400,000; Deposited $493,334.
1876—Capital Paid In $400,000; Deposited $340,387.
1884—Capital Paid In $200,000; Deposited $735,600.

The capital stock was reduced from $400,000, March 16, 1880, and there was paid back upon each share in cash fifty dollars, one-half of which came from the reduction in capital and the other half from a divi-

dend and surplus fund, which was also reduced from $400,000 to $200,000. January 1, 1885, the capital was $200,000; surplus fund, $300,000; undivided profits, $38,281; deposits, $716,893.26. Coming down to the month of February, 1923, it is found by the books that the total capital and surplus was $600,000, while the deposits amounted to $2,400,000. The original officers of this institution were: Francis Swaine, president; Matthias Holstein, cashier. The present officers are: W. H. Slingluff, president; B. F. Whitby, vice-president; W. F. Zimmerman, cashier; H. C. Crawford, assistant cashier.

The First National Bank of Norristown was chartered in February, 1864, and had for its first set of officers: James Hooven, president; George Shannon, cashier. The directors were: James Hooven, Daniel O. Hitner, Franklin Derr, George McFarland, Benjamin E. Chain, Stephen B. Stinson, William W. Taylor, Garrett Bean, and Samuel Anders. The present bank officers are: C. Henry Stinson, president; George R. Kite, vice-president; J. Leidy Anders, cashier. Directors are: C. Henry Stinson, Daniel M. Anders, John McFarland, Abram T. Eastwick, William H. Kneas, James A. Hurst, Oliver K. Bean, William F. Solly, Hervey C. Gresh, Benjamin E. Block, George I. Kite, Norris D. Wright, Benjamin F. Evans, John A. Longacre.

The bank started on a capital of $100,000, but now works under twice that amount, with a surplus of $175,000. Deposits were recently $2,093,000. When first operated, this bank was situated at the corner of Main and Cherry streets. The present location is two doors from Main and Cherry streets. This building was erected in 1869, of brick, and is valued at $60,000. Their rather unique form of statement in December, 1923, shows they owed their depositors $1,895,667.98, including unpaid dividends, $56. Another item shows they had a total to meet all indebtedness of $2,326,667.23, leaving a balance in surplus of $431,013.25. Among the many solid financial interests in banking in Montgomery county, none has a higher standing among the people than this bank.

The People's National Bank of Norristown was established in 1881, and had for its officers A. A. Yeakle, president; Lewis Styer, cashier. Its first capital was $100,000; its present capital is $150,000, with deposits amounting to $2,200,000. The present officers are: Charles Johnson, president; B. B. Hughes, cashier; S. S. Anders, assistant cashier. The building occupied and owned by this institution, at No. 41 East Main street, is of brick and terra cotta material, and is valued at $60,000. The last December statement gave the resources as $2,666,904.76.

Montgomery Trust Company of Norristown is one of the county's great financial institutions, and dates in its history almost two score years, it having been formerly known as the Montgomery Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, which was organized April 24, 1884, on a capital of $125,000. To-day it has a capital in excess of $540,000, with deposits amounting to $2,168,461.74. The original officers in charge

of this company were: John Slingluff, president; and James Boyd, vice-president. To-day the affairs of the institution are well cared for by the following men of experience: Louis M. Childs, president; S. Percy Chain, vice-president; J. P. Kane, secretary and treasurer; L. A. Widroder, assistant secretary. In 1914 the bank building was constructed of Indiana limerock, and is fire-proof. Its design is one of rare architectural beauty. The statement issued by this concern, December 30, 1922, states that the resources amount to $2,708,528.96. The Trust Department has trust funds invested, $3,174,134.96; income from trust funds, $40,-736.74. The directors of this Trust Company are at present as follows: Henry M. Brownback, B. Percy Chain, Louis M. Childs, Samuel D. Conver, Reese P. Davis, Edwin S. Anders, C. B. Daring, William H. Slingluff, Henry S. Williams, C. Colket Wilson, E. L. Hallman, G. Herbert Jenkins, Harold G. Knight, Samuel S. Kohn, Joseph D'Andrade, Theodore Lane Bean, Joseph Fornance, Frank X. Renninger, J. Aubrey Anderson, B. Whitman Dambly, George Fetters Hartman, Manilius D. Seipt, Daniel F. Yost, and Simon Pagel.

The Penn Trust Company of Norristown was established in September, 1889, as the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit Company, by J. W. Albertson & Sons. The first officers were: George W. Rogers, president; W. L. Albertson, secretary and treasurer. First capital was $125,-000; present capital $250,000; present surplus $500,000; recent amount in deposits $4,500,000. A recent official statement issued shows this concern to have resources amounting to $4,912,174.29. Trust fund not included in the above named statement, $3,180,696.61.

Twenty years ago this was called the lesser of all banking institutions in Norristown, but to-day, it is known as the largest in its deposits and resources. This business was really established in 1854 by M. Albertson & Sons as a private banking institution, but upon the death of M. Albertson, in 1889, it was incorporated as the Albertson Trust and Safe Deposit Company, its name being changed in 1904 to the Penn Trust Company. As to building facilities, a three-story brick office building at the northwest corner of Main and Swede streets is their home. Originally, however, only one half of the first floor was used for banking purposes, but changes were made from time to time to take care of the growth of the business, until in 1907 another adjoining building was bought and added, and in 1920 still another building was taken over and added to the bank property, giving the present splendid building which has fine offices on the upper floors, but all of the first floor is utilized for banking purposes. The present (1923) officers are: Clayton H. Alderfer, president; Henry I. Fox, vice-president; Harry B. Tyson, vice-president; J. T. Ebert, secretary and treasurer; George E. Weirman, assistant treasurer; R. S. Kriebel, trust officer; and Charles H. Brunner, title officer. The chairman of the board of seventeen directors is Adam Scheidt.

The Norristown Trust Company was organized in 1888; has a capital of $500,000; recent deposits amounted to $1,580,000. The data sought by the compiler of this article, through the regular information blank sent to each bank in the county, was for some reason never returned, hence the figures above were taken from State Bank Directory.

The Glenside National Bank was established in the borough of Glenside, February 18, 1910, by numerous stockholders of the vicinity, who subscribed a capital of $35,000, which has been increased to $125,000, with also a surplus of $75,000. The deposits of this bank according to a recent statement amounted to $1,500,000. Associated with this bank is the Glenside Title and Trust Company, of which see later. The present bank building, erected at a cost of $29,800, is of stone, and is located on Easton road and Glenside avenue. The first officers were Julius E. Nachod, president; John Carr, cashier. The 1923 officers are Julius E. Nachod, president; Fritz Quittner, vice-president; Thomas B. Smith and George N. Whittaker, also vice-presidents; and Edward H. Effing, cashier, with assistant cashiers in the persons of Messrs. F. D. Love, R. Frank McElroy and James B. Pierson. The sworn statement of this financial concern in December, 1922, shows resources amounting to $2,096,386.60.

The Glenside Title and Trust Company, situated in the borough of Glenside, was established August 7, 1922, by local stockholders, with a capital of $125,000, same as to-day; its present surplus is now (in the spring of 1923), $12,500, while it shows deposits to the amount of $200,000. The total of resources in December last were $340,934.07. The original officers were: Julius E. Nachod, president; vice-presidents, Fritz Quittner, Geo. N. Whittaker, and Thomas B. Smith; Edw. H. Effing, secretary and treasurer; Paul M. Brooke, title officer. The same officers are still in charge of their various departments.

The Telford National Bank, located in the village of Telford, was established in 1908 by a committee appointed for that purpose. Its first officers were Edwin C. Leidy and James Fravel. The first business was that transacted with a capital of $25,000. The present capital is $50,000 and there is also a surplus of $50,000 more. The recent deposits amount to $650,000. Their report for December, 1922, shows resources amounting to the sum of $811,631.40. In 1908 a splendid bank building was erected of brick, at an expense of $18,000. The 1923 officers are Edwin C. Leidy, president; Vincent B. Kulp, cashier. This institution, which dates its history back to only 1908, has come to be known as one of the strongest financial concerns in the upper end of Montgomery county.

The Bryn Mawr National Bank was established August 3, 1887, by the citizens of Lower Union township. The first officers were: Hamilton Egbert, president; J. M. Stadelman, vice-president; and A. A. Cadwallader, cashier. The officers now in charge of this bank are: Jesse B. Matlack, president; W. H. Ramsey, vice-president; J. W. Matlack,

cashier, with Warren J. Jaquett, assistant cashier. Mr. J. W. Matlack, the present cashier, has remained at his post of duty ever since July 16, 1889. The first and present capital amounts to $50,000, but to-day the surplus amounts to $50,000 more. The December, 1922, statement shows that at that time the bank had deposited with them $1,175,125.87; also that their total resources amounted to $1,343,436.85. A portion of the W. H. Ramsey building was rented for the home of this institution, which was later purchased by the Bryn Mawr Trust Company. The two concerns occupied the structure till the present banking house was built and moved into April 6, 1908. This is a modern fireproof stone and concrete structure, which together with the fixtures cost $34,548. It is located at the corner of Lancaster and Bryn Mawr avenues.

The Farmers' National Bank of Pennsburg was established in 1876, by Jonathan P. Hillegass and Edwin H. Benner. Mr. Benner was the first to serve as president, and A. F. Day as cashier. The men at the head of this old and solid institution to-day are: Emanuel J. Wieder, president; Alfred S. Schantz, vice-president; Frank F. Huber, cashier. The first capital under which this bank worked was $100,000, subsequently reduced to $75,000. The surplus is now $130,000, and recent reports, as provided by law, show its deposits amounted in December, 1922, to $840,233. The amount of resources according to the bank's latest statement is $1,140,111.13. The bank occupies the Odd Fellows' building erected in 1876. During all the eventful years from Centennial year to the present, the people have always had confidence in this well ordered institution, by reason of its most excellent business principles.

The Harleysville National Bank was organized and chartered September 16, 1909, and opened to the public October 28 the same year. Its first officers were Alvin C. Alderfer, president; M. C. Clemens, vice-president; O. A. Fulmer, cashier. This bank was founded by local citizens, including Alvin C. Alderfer, M. C. Clemens, Henry C. Delp, Dr. V. Z. Keeler, assisted by O. A. Fulmer, of Philadelphia. The capital at first was same as to-day, $25,000, although there is now a surplus of $25,000 at this time. The recent deposits of this bank amounted to $490,000. Mr. Fulmer was cashier for a short time only, and was succeeded by Isaiah M. Stover, who served until January, 1919, when the present cashier, H. S. Bucher, was elected; the present president and vice-president are same as when the bank was established. The December, 1922, sworn to statement shows the following items: Loans and discounts, $265,377.38; United States government securities owned, $40,726; other bonds and stocks, $231,861; total resources were $587,959.40 with same as its liabilities. In the summer of 1909 an up-to-date brick bank building was constructed as the home for the bank. Among recent equipments may be named the ten-inch Mosler vault doors.

The Union National Bank of Souderton was organized by a number of stockholders in 1876. The original officers were Isaac G. Gerhart,

president; J. C. Landis, cashier. The capital of $90,000 was increased to $100,000; the present surplus is about $250,000, while the institution has deposits amounting to $1,553,315.62. A substantial bank building was erected in 1878 and is still in use. It is designed to increase the capital of this concern on April 1, 1923, to $125,000. The present efficient and trustworthy officers are: A. G. Reiff, president; J. D. Moyer, cashier; and C. K. Gotwae, assistant cashier. The December, 1922, statement of this bank, as is required by law, shows resources to have been $2,101,582.13.

The Collegeville National Bank was established August 20, 1906, by local citizens in the vicinity of Collegeville. The first officers were: A. D. Fetterolf, president; M. B. Linderman, vice-president; W. D. Renninger, cashier; Miss Lulu Sacks, assistant cashier. The 1923 directors are as follows: A. D. Fetterolf, M. B. Linderman, B. F. Steiner, Horace Place, A. C. Landes, F. J. Clamer, John U. Francis, Jr., J. D. Frantz, I. T. Haldeman, M. B. Benner, H. B. Shrack, F. W. Gristock, E. S. Moser, and Francis Miller. The original capital was $25,000, but to-day it is twice that amount. The present surplus is $50,000, with undivided profits amounting to $25,000. A recent statement shows the deposits to be $700,000. December, 1922, the resources of the bank were placed at $847,875.96. The bank building is of brick and marble materials, and is valued at $12,000. This concern well serves the people of the borough and townships surrounding it, and is a popular financial concern in which all good citizens take a just pride.

The First National Bank of Conshohocken was established January 30, 1872, and had for its original officers: Alan Wood, Jr., president; William McDermott, cashier. The present officers of the institution are: Horace C. Jones, president; Reese P. Davis, vice-president; John C. Tracy, secretary; Harry C. Pugh, cashier; Howard Pedrick, assistant cashier. The board of directors are: John Pugh, Horace C. Jones, Richard H. Bate, Richard G. Wood, Reese P. Davis, John C. Tracy, George T. Lukens, Harry B. Heywood and John M. Taylor. The capital is the same now as when established, $150,000. The surplus is $150,000, and recent amount in deposits is $1,647,256.91. The substantial bank building was built of brick after the best style known in 1873 for such structures, and is valued at $17,000. The statement issued in December, 1922, states that the institution then had surplus and undivided profits amounting to $175,000, and total assets over $2,000,000.

The National Bank of Schwenkville was organized April 17, 1874. hence is now operating in its forty-eighth year. This institution was founded by Jacob G. Schwenk, Albert Bromer, Abraham G. Schwenk, Philip Prizer, John B. Pennepacker, and John G. Prizer. It had as its first set of officers: Jacob G. Schwenk, president; John G. Prizer, cashier; Irvin S. Schwenk, teller. The present officers are as follows: Irvin S. Schwenk, president; John P. Kline, vice-president; Edward B. Schwenk, cashier; Jonathan L. Miller, teller. This bank was established on a

$50,000 capital, but to-day has $100,000 capital, with surplus and undivided profits of $163,000. Its recent deposits have been $1,267,040.36. Its bank building was erected in 1878, of brick and stone.

The Jenkintown Bank and Trust Company was organized July 9, 1903, and had for its first officers: Henry K. Walt, president; J. C. Wyman and Dr. J. E. Peters, vice-presidents; Paul Jones, treasurer. The founder of the concern was Henry K. Walt. The capital at first was $125,000, which has since grown to be $250,000, with a present surplus of $500,000. The recent amount of deposits is $5,055,098.37. The building occupied and owned by this bank was erected in 1903 at a cost of $75,000. It was constructed of grey brick and Indiana freestone. What was formerly the Jenkintown National Bank consolidated with the Jenkintown Trust Company, July 1, 1922, the two making a very strong financial combination. The present officials are: Howard Fleck, president; Arnold Aiman, Samuel H. High and Samuel L. Schively, vice-presidents; W. W. Deisler, real estate officer; John R. Roberts, secretary and treasurer; assistant secretary, W. R. Worthington; trust officer is I. R. Hallowell, and assistant, W. M. Bourn. This concern is a member of the Federal Reserve System. Their statement issued October, 1922, shows they had at that date resources to the amount of $6,347,051.14. The total in trust funds, kept entirely separate from general banking business, amounted to $1,306,531.14. Since the consolidation of the two above financial institutions the increase has been $452,082.14.

The Citizens' National Bank of Lansdale was organized April 25, 1905, with officers as follows: Henry L. S. Ruth, president; James M. Hartzel, vice-president; E. R. Mussleman, cashier. The present officials are: Henry L. S. Ruth, president; James M. Hartzel, vice-president; F. A. Clayton, cashier. The capital stock of this institution has been $50,000 from its organization; it now has a surplus of $150,000, including undivided profits. At the start of the enterprise the amount of deposits was $395,000, but to-day it is over $997,500—almost to the million dollar mark. This concern succeeded the old Lansdale Trust and Safe Deposit Company, and purchased its banking house of that corporation. In 1921 the present handsome bank structure was erected on lots bought in 1920, the old hotel property at the corner of Main and Susquehanna avenue. The material in this building is gray stone; its cost was, according to present values, $50,000. It is three stories high, the first floor used for banking, and the second and third floors for offices. The legalized statement of this bank December, 1922, shows resources as amounting to $1,276,745.76. The loans and discounts at that date were $659,681.48. This is a conservative bank, managed by experienced men, the best guarantee that a depositor can possibly have.

The Bridgeport National Bank was organized August 16, 1906, the founders being Messrs. John J. Murphy, John J. McCormick, Robert McCoy, Isaac A. Smith, Clarence Hodson, James Kilpatrick, Thomas S.

Hodson, Joseph Hampton, Edward Conard. The original officers were: C. H. Mann, president; John J. McCormick, vice-president; Clarence Hodson, second vice-president; William H. Kneedler, cashier. The officers in charge of the institution at this time are: J. Aubrey Anderson, president; Joseph A. Ranck and Michael V. Hanlon, vice-presidents; Frank A. Logan, cashier; Willis K. Lederach, assistant cashier. The first capital was $50,000, but now it is $75,000, with a surplus of $25,000. Recent deposits, $1,010,000. The bank is still occupying the original bank building erected in 1906, and valued at $7,500. The legal statement issued in December, 1922, shows total resources as amounting to $1,166.007.97; surplus and undivided profits, $44,663.00. The 1923 board of directors is made up as follows: J. Aubrey Anderson, John Hampton, Hiram M. Anders, Samuel Tabak, Oliver F. Lenhardt, Reuben O. Kriebel, Joseph A. Ranck, Charles A. Gehert, Charles W. Mann, Dennis E. Farley, Michael V. Hanlon.

The Valley National Bank of Green Lane was organized March 31, 1908, by J. R. Allebach, J. S. Cressman, Mark Hiltebutel, Frank Brandt, S. S. Hartzel, H. H. Fisher, August Y. Renninger, S. H. Groff, Revere D. Heist, Jonas S. Huntsberger, Henry R. Wayne, Jr., J. W. H. Gottshalk, W. F. Young, H. N. Scholl, D. S. Moser, S. F. Sowers and Milton H. Waters. The first capital was $25,000, and to-day it is twice that amount, with surplus and undivided profits of $47,191.83; deposits, $621,359.39. The bank building is leased from the Order of Red Men, and is a brick structure. The last public statement issued shows that the resources amount to $809,483.14. The first officers of this bank were: J. R. Allebach, president; S. F. Cressman, cashier. The officers in 1923 are as follows: J. S. Cressman, president; C. W. Searsholtz, cashier; R. M. Hillegass, teller.

The North Wales National Bank was established in 1890 by H. R. Swartley, Abel Shearer, John M. Harley, Henry W. Moyer and A. R. Place. The original officers were as follows: Henry R. Swartley, president; Henry S. Kriebel, vice-president; Henry Unger, cashier. The present (1923) officers are: Henry R. Swartley, president; Henry S. Kriebel, vice-president; H. S. Swartley, cashier. The capital is $50,000, the same as when the bank was organized; however, there is now a surplus of $50,000, making a working capital of $100,000. The statements issued recently disclose the fact that there was in December, 1922, deposits on hand to the amount of $771,000. A stone building erected in 1891 is the permanent home of this thoroughly up-to-date house. The latest statement issued shows resources and liabilities amounting to $1,120,319.35. The same date the bank had undivided profits on hand to the extent of $32,123.14. The banking house and real estate connected with the bank is valued at $38,900. A dividend on the stock since January 1, 1913, to the present date, amounting to ten per cent., has been paid each year. Three per cent. is paid in the Savings Department of

this bank, as well as on certificates of deposit. The directors at this time are these: Henry S. Kreibel, Lesher W. Mattern, Henry R. Swartley, Horace M. Geyer (Worcester), Luther R. Shearer, William F. McCracken and J. Woodruff King.

The Merion Title and Trust Company of Ardmore was established March 25, 1889, by the following founders: James M. Rhodes, Ardmore; Thaddeus Norris, Wynnewood; C. H. Oberge, Ardmore; W. Henry Sutton, Haverford; John Blair MacAfee, Ard; J. L. Stadelman, Bala; R. Hamilton, Walter W. Hood, Geo. S. Gerhard, Ardmore; W. G. Lesher, Ardmore; Henry Becker, Ardmore; Josiah S. Pearce, Ardmore. The first officers were: James M. Rhodes, president; Walter W. Hood, vice-president and title officer; M. W. Stroud, secretary. The present officers are: Richard J. Hamilton, president; W. Macklin Wittherow, vice-president; H. L. Yocum, treasurer; H. C. Bare, title officer; H. A. Arnold, vice-president; H. M. Smedley, secretary; Howard G. Kurtz, treasurer; Edward Davis, assistant title officer. The present capital of this bank is $500,000; surplus, $225,000; amount in deposits, $4,600,000. The present bank building was constructed in 1916; it is a single story stone structure.

The Citizens' National Bank of Pottstown was organized March 28, 1892, by the following persons: D. R. Cofrode, George B. Lessig, J. Mengle Fisher, R. M. Root, Theodore B. Miller, P. L. Eglof, George H. Potts, George C. Hollenbach, F. R. Gerhard, H. W. Schneider and Harmon Prizer. The bank had as its original officers: Daniel R. Cofrode, president; George H. Potts, vice-president; C. Frank Duden, cashier. The affairs of the bank are now in the hands of the following officers: Thomas B. Miller, president; Horace Storb, vice-president; Jay D. Tyson, vice-president; C. P. Buckwalter, cashier. The capital to-day, $100,000, is the same as when first started; present surplus is $175,000; and recent amount in deposits $1,178,858.27. The statement issued to the public bearing date of December 29, 1922, shows resources amounting to $1,499,665.03. This is a wonderful showing of growth in so few years, and bespeaks much for the able, efficient manner in which the bank in all its departments has been conducted. At first a store building which stood where now stands the present bank, was used for banking purposes. The present building was erected in 1916, and cost nearly $50,000.

The Perkiomen National Bank of East Greenville was established December 22, 1898, by Messrs. John N. Jacobs, F. L. Fluck, L. S. Shimer, E. E. Erb, H. H. Schultz, O. H. Erdman, M. A. Kratz, I. W. Stetler, J. W. Klein and N. B. Keely. The original capital was $50,000. At present there is a capital of $250,000, including the surplus. The amount in recent deposits was $1,806,762. The official statement issued in January, 1922, showed resources amounting to the sum of $2,144,070.11.

The bank building is a brick structure now valued at $6,000. The first and also present set of officers are: F. L. Fluck, president; E. E. Erb, cashier.

The Bryn Mawr Trust Company was established by A. A. Hirst and others in the month of March, 1889. The first officers were: A. A. Hirst, president; William H. Ramsey, vice-president; P. A. Hart, teller. The present officers include: P. A. Hart, president; William H. Ramsey, vice-president. The capital to-day is the same as when organized, $250,000; present surplus is $125,000; dividends and profits earned, $150,000; present deposits, $1,800,000. The bank building is valued at $50,000. In its third of a century history it has ever had the confidence of the community in which it operates, because it has been conducted on safe and yet progressive lines of modern business.

The Ambler Trust Company was organized September 8, 1917. Its first officers were: William C. Brister, president; T. Duncan Just, E. L. Posey, vice-presidents; Wilmer E. Leedom, secretary and treasurer; E. Wilson Stahlnecker, trust officer. The first capital was $125,000, same as to-day, but now it has a surplus of $25,000, with recent deposits amounting to $450,000. The 1923 officers are: Wilmer E. Leedom, president, also treasurer; Frank W. Worth and Harry Renninger, vice-presidents; J. E. Underwood, secretary; Howard J. Dager, assistant secretary; O. C. Fetterman, assistant treasurer; H. Wilson Stahlnecker, solicitor and title officer. This business is conducted in a brick banking house costing $34,626.

The Hatboro National Bank was organized March 31, 1875, by Dr. I. Newton Evans, G. K. Mitchell and S. C. Thompson. Its first officers were: Dr. I. Newton Evans, president; G. J. Mitchell, vice-president; George S. Teas, secretary. At present the officers are O. E. C. Robinson, president; Penrose Robinson, vice-president; William F. Wilson, secretary. At the opening of the bank its capital was $65,000; its present capital is $52,000, with a surplus of the same amount, making the working capital really $104,000. Recent reports show deposits amount to $1,300,000. In December, 1922, it had resources amounting to the sum of $1,439,882.54. The bank has a beautiful stone structure erected in 1874-75, and is valued at $25,000. It is the oldest national bank in Lower Montgomery county, and has always been recognized as a well conducted institution. In order to preserve a record of the men who have had charge and those serving as directors at this time, the following list of directors, with occupation and residence is here inserted; O. E. C. Robinson, Hatboro, president Robinson Publishing Company; Penrose Robinson, Hatboro, publisher and printer; William Hobensack, Ivyland, one of the largest dealers in farmers' supplies in Bucks county; H. Benton Leedom, Bathayres, lumber dealer; Walter Rothwell, Hatboro, wholesale and retail druggist; Eugene Rothwell, Willow Grove,

druggist; William F. Wilson, Hatboro, banker; Abram Barcalow, Churchville.

The First National Bank of Lansdale was established soon after the United States banking laws went into force, in 1864. The first capital was $100,000; its present capital is $150,000; its surplus is $375,000, and it recently had deposits amounting to $2,200,000. It has for its present officers: I. G. Lukens, president; W. H. Rosenburg, vice-president; Edward C. Snyder, Jr., cashier; and H. L. Shellenberger, assistant cashier. This bank has quarters in a two-story office building, costing $100,000. In all its almost three score years existence this concern has held the confidence of a large number of stockholders and depositors in the community in which it has operated.

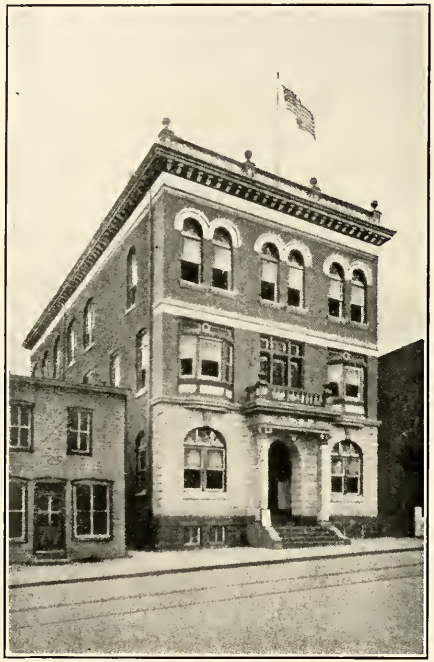
The National Bank of Pottstown was incorporated November 22, 1864, taking over the business of the old Bank of Pottstown, which had been established since May 15, 1857. Its first officers were: Henry Potts, president; William Mintzer, cashier. The first officers after becoming a national bank were: William Mintzer, president; Daniel Price, cashier. The original capital of the bank was $100,000; present capital $300,000; present surplus $500,000. The reports show the recent deposits to be $2,980,000. The present officers are: James H. Morris, president; Newton Kline, vice-president; Percy Williamson, cashier.

The Royersford Trust Company was organized December 23, 1902, by the following persons: J. A. Buckwalter, G. E. Brownback, B. M. Barlow, Reuben Hiestand, Milton Latshaw, George Mackissic, I. M. Shellinger (now deceased), Dr. William P. Snyder, Oscar E. Thompson, John H. Mansur (now deceased), John B. Evans, T. Darl Buckwalter, S. B. Latshaw, and G. W. Bowman (both now deceased). The present and first capital was $250,000; present surplus, $180,000; recent deposits, $1,500,000. The company took over the assets of the Home National Bank, which was organized June 15, 1892, after having been in business about ten years. It made a final distribution of its $50,000 capital to its stockholders at the rate of $110 per share. This concern conducts its business in a brick building erected in 1886, and the present value is $17,500. The first officers of the Trust Company were: J. A. Buckwalter, president; G. E. Brownback, vice-president; H. F. Grander, treasurer; H. E. Anderson, secretary; Frank Cobb, assistant treasurer. December 30, 1922, their public statement showed resources in the amount of $1,416,382.46. The stockholders received their five per cent. semi-annual dividend on the above date. The motto of this institution might well be "Faithfulness."

The National Iron Bank of Pottstown was established in 1886 by about one hundred and fifty citizens in the vicinity of Pottstown. The first capital was $200,000, the same as to-day; its present resources amount to $350,000, while recent deposits are $1,600,000. Their banking house is of brick and marble; its cost was about $50,000. Their Decem-

ber, 1922, statement shows resources and liabilities of $2,404,531.34. During 1922 the bank earned and paid a twelve and one-half per cent. dividend, and added $50,000 to its surplus fund. The present officers are John W. Storb, president; Henry A. Bell, vice-president and cashier; E. J. Storb, assistant cashier. Commencing with 1900 the concern has been able to declare a dividend running from one and one-half to twelve per cent. The National Iron Bank is also a United States Depository bank.

The official reports issued for 1920 on Montgomery county give these figures on Banking: Total number of National Banks in county, 27; number of Trust Companies, nine; Building and Loan Associations, 66, total capital (1920) of all banking institutions, $4,562,000; surplus, $5,092,500; demand deposits, $30,315,153; savings deposits, $34,810,636; total resources, $387,781,846; per capita savings in county, $174.66. This was based on the 1920 census, which gave this county 199,310 population.



ODD FELLOWS' TEMPLE, POTTSTOWN

ELKS' HOME, NORRISTOWN

CHAPTER XVI.

FRATERNAL ORDERS OF THE COUNTY.

Without attempting to go into an account of the scores of beneficiary societies, the general object of which is insurance on the lives of its members (for their name has come to be legion), the present chapter will deal briefly with the three universally recognized civic societies—Masonry, Odd Fellowship, and Knights of Pythias orders.

Free Masonry—The most ancient of these three fraternal organizations had its first working lodge in Montgomery county at Norristown. Charity Lodge, No. 190, Free and Accepted Masons, was granted a charter August 2, 1823, and the lodge was constituted October 23rd the same year. There is a tradition among Masons that there was a lodge of Masons in existence at Valley Forge, and that Washington had charge of it, but there is no recorded proof of such work among Masons in this county. Charity Lodge, No. 190, Norristown, according to the last report had a membership of 724, and owns a spacious, well furnished temple on Main street, erected in 1897. Royal Arch Chapter, Knights Templar Commandery and Eastern Star degrees are all well represented in Norristown Masonry.

Stichter Lodge, No. 254, Pottstown, was organized under charter granted March 3, 1851; it now has a membership of 456. Cassia Lodge, No. 273, Ardmore, was instituted March 7, 1853, and now has a membership of 840, the largest of any lodge in Montgomery county. Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, of Fort Washington, was instituted September 29, 1857, and now has a membership of 189. Warren Lodge, No. 310, was constituted September 5, 1857, at Trappe; it was subsequently removed to Collegeville, and now has a membership of 269. Friendship Lodge, No. 400, of Jenkintown, chartered September 5, 1867, now enjoys a membership of 484. W. K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, of Hatboro borough, chartered March 4, 1868, now has a membership of 206. Fritz Lodge, No. 420, of Conshohocken, was chartered June 3, 1868, and now has a membership of 349. Shiloh Lodge, No. 558, of Lansdale, was constituted January 31, 1882, and now has a membership of 340. Royersford Lodge, No. 585, is one of the later Masonic lodges of the county, and has a membership of 194; it is in Royersford borough. Perkiomen Lodge, No. 595, located at East Greenville, has a membership of 127. Norristown Lodge, No. 620, has a membership of 557 and its home is Norristown borough, a sister of the original Masonic lodge in the county seat and county, Charity, No. 190.

Before 1884 the county had its chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and also a commandery of Knights Templar. Some of the lodges above men-

tioned occupy halls of their own, but usually speaking they lease from other parties. Montgomery county has eleven of the five hundred and twenty-six Masonic lodges within the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows—This is the next older civic society to the Masonic fraternity. It is the legitimate offspring of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows in England. Modern Odd Fellowship is of comparatively recent date. It was planted in Baltimore in 1819, as the Manchester Unity Odd Fellowship, by Thomas Wildey. Very soon this was followed by the institution of Pennsylvania Lodge, No. 1, in Philadelphia, the date being December 26, 1821, at the public house of John Upton, on Dock street. This lodge was started by Englishmen social and convivial in their habits, and the organization thus commenced soon became of more than local interest, so as its members moved out to other localities they naturally desired a lodge organized of their kind, and hence started Odd Fellows' lodges. Among such men was Morton Kelsey, who belonged to Philadelphia Lodge, who came to Norristown in the autumn of 1836. His evenings were largely spent at the Farmers' Hotel, kept by James Coates, and it was not long before a move was set on foot to organize a lodge at Norristown, which was accomplished, and Montgomery Lodge, No. 57, was organized February 27, 1837, the charter having previously been granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The first set of officers were: Noble Grand, James Coates; vice-grand, Watson Kirkbride; secretary, John W. Powell; treasurer, Jacob Spang. At first the lodge met Saturday evenings, and was organized in an attic over the back building of the residence of William Powell, immediately adjoining the property on which Music Hall later was built. Next they moved to a room in the old court house. After one year there they leased a room for sixty dollars per year, and thus they moved from one place to another. In January, 1840, the rooms they occupied were burned, with all the effects of the lodge, including its records. It was always believed to have been the work of some person not in sympathy with secret orders, for in those early years a bitter feeling was engendered over the instituting of any secret society, hence Masons and Odd Fellows had a hard time to live down the popular clamor against such orders. But in a few years this feeling died out and the community were more charitably disposed.

Coming down to 1884, almost a half century after the first lodge was formed in this county, we find by records, that the following Odd Fellows' lodges were in existence at that date: Montgomery, No. 57, with a membership of 286; Wissahickon, 78 members; Center Square, 60; Merion, 86; Manatawny, 82; Gratitude, 139; Eagle, 82; Curtis, 248; Spring House, 102; Peace and Love, 97; Loller, 59; Providence, 112; Marble Hall, 165; Perkiomenville, 112; Banyan Tree, 20; Economy, 60; Norria, 93; Pennsburg, 111; Upper Dublin, 99; Madison, 75; Gulf, 76; North Wales, 66; Lansdale, 75. Total in county, 2,256.

In 1880 there were eight encampments in this county, and from 1879 to 1881 the increase and interest in Odd Fellowship was very marked. To show what radical changes in sentiment in favor of secret societies there has been since the forties and fifties, we quote from Bean's "History of Montgomery County" (1884) as follows:

An instance of the methods used against members of an Odd Fellows' lodge came accidentally to the attention of the writer during the past summer. Jeremiah Weber, a member of a city lodge, was a tenant of Eli P. McGlathery, in Whitpain township. Mr. Weber was taken sick during the fall of 1844, and reported himself to the lodge. A committee waited on him to ascertain the nature of his illness and pay his benefits. Mr. McGlathery hearing of it, although on the best of terms with the tenant, never again called on him, and in due time Mr. Weber received notice to quit. Many such instances doubtless happened, for the general feeling that then existed was so great against fraternities that it is a marvel that murders were not committed.

The Grand Lodge directory issued in January, 1923, shows the following concerning the various Independent Order of Odd Fellows' lodges within Montgomery county as to date of organization: Montgomery Lodge, No. 57, Norristown, December 27, 1837; Merion Lodge, No. 210, Gladwynne, December 15, 1846; Manatawny Lodge, No. 214, Pottstown, January, 1847, merged now with No. 466; Curtis Lodge, No. 239, Norristown, April 29, 1847; Marble Hall Lodge, No. 351, Conshohocken, July 10, 1849; Perkiomenville Lodge, No. 367, Perkiomenville, June 12, 1856; Banyan Tree Lodge, No. 378, Ardmore, October 23, 1849; Economy Lodge, No. 397, Collegeville, February 28, 1850; Norris Lodge, No. 430, Norristown, March 28, 1851; Pennsburg Lodge, No. 449, Pennsburg, September 18, 1851; Valley Forge Lodge, No. 459, Port Kennedy, March 13, 1875; Madison Lodge, No. 466, Pottstown, June 14, 1852 (merged now); Conshohocken Lodge, No. 525, Conshohocken, June 12, 1856; Royers Ford Lodge, No. 1038, Royersford, April 13, 1892; Center Square Lodge, No. 204, Center Square, December 24, 1846; Providence Lodge, No. 345, Kulpsville, March 26, 1849; North Wales Lodge, No. 610, North Wales, October 12, 1867; Wissahickon Lodge, No. 178, Flourtown, August 27, 1846; Peace and Love Lodge, No. 337, Jenkintown, November 25, 1848; Loller Lodge, No. 338, Hatboro, December 9, 1848; Souderton Lodge, No. 612, Souderton, March 10, 1891; Lansdale Lodge, No. 977, Lansdale, March 13, 1881; Ambler Lodge, No. 1045, Ambler, June 7, 1892; Fort Washington Lodge, No. 1123, Fort Washington, March 14, 1901.

The Odd Fellows have Encampments and Rebekah degrees in this county. Norristown Encampment, No. 37, was instituted in July, 1846. It has paid out in way of benefits many thousands of dollars to date. May 1, 1883, Lanah Degree Lodge, No. 133, of the Daughters of Rebekah, at North Wales, was instituted. Others have been organized, but never

seem to flourish as do the subordinate and encampment lodges of the county in Odd Fellowship.

Being denied the right to unite with the white lodges of the order, the colored men who wanted such fraternal lodges among their people sent five colored representatives to England, where the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows of England furnished them with the secrets of the work. They then returned fully equipped to organize lodges in this country. The first lodge was organized in Philadelphia. Five colored men from Norristown joined the order in Philadelphia, in May, 1851, and soon (June 3, 1851) a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge for the instituting of Good Will Lodge, No. 1025, of Odd Fellows, hence the two races have since been on equal footing as to lodge benefits. It will be remembered that this first colored lodge was chartered ten years prior to the Civil War, and thirteen years before the slaves had been set free by President Lincoln.

Knights of Pythias—This fraternity was founded in the city of Washington, D. C., at the close of the Civil War. Most of the charter members of Lodge No. 1 were Union army officers, and little thought of the magnitude to which their efforts were to extend throughout America. The only remaining charter member of this order, Mr. Charles Cleveland, now near his ninetieth year, resides in Iowa. He was in the navy during the Civil War.

In Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, the first attempt to introduce the work of the Knights of Pythias was when Lodge No. 32, known as Norristown, was instituted, January 22, 1868. By 1882, the membership had grown to over three hundred. Jenkintown Lodge, No. 476, was instituted November 10, 1881, and soon had a membership of one hundred.

The subjoined account of lodges of this fraternity in Montgomery county show its workings in 1884: Norristown Lodge, No. 32, membership 125; Othello, No. 50, membership of 50; Gulf Lodge, No. 82, membership of 45; Conshohocken Lodge, No. 117, membership 19; Lafayette Lodge, No. 137, membership 52; Fort Washington Lodge, No. 148, membership 30; Swedeland Lodge, No. 219, membership 32; Greenville Lodge, No. 232, membership 67; Zieglersville Lodge, No. 247, membership 145; Shannonville Lodge, No. 360, membership 49; Abington Lodge, No. 388, membership 155; Jenkintown Lodge, No. 476, membership 111. The total assets of the Order in this county were in 1884 $20,927.00.

Coming down to the present time, it may be said that Montgomery county has seven lodges of this fraternity, as shown by recent Grand Lodge reports: Gulf, No. 81, West Conshohocken, membership 77; Swedeland, No. 219, Gladwyne, membership 72; Greenville, No. 232, Greenville, membership not reported; Zieglersville, No. 247, Zieglersville, membership 125; Abington, No. 388, Ogontz, membership 54;

Pottstown, No. 429, Pottstown, membership 180; Conshohocken, No. 117, Conshohocken, membership 661; Fortuna, No. 118, Hatboro, membership 148; Jenkintown, No. 476, Jenkintown, membership 123.

Other Orders—The following secret organizations have been introduced into Montgomery county in the year opposite their name. And no doubt here and there over the county there are other new orders, all tending toward beneficiary affairs and all carry life insurance to a certain extent: Patriotic Sons of America, 1847; Order of United American Mechanics, 1847; American Protestant Association, 1853; Grand Army of the Republic, 1868; Knights of Friendship, 1868; Ancient Order of Good Fellows, 1869; Patrons of Husbandry, 1873; Knights of the Golden Eagle, 1873; Temple of Honor and Temperance, 1873; Brotherhood of the Union, 1874; Ancient Order of United Workmen, 1879; Junior American Protestant Association, 1882; Ancient Order of Knights of the Mystic Chain, 1882; American Legion of Honor, 1882; Sons of Veterans, 1882; Knights of the Revolution, 1884; Black Knights of Malta, 1884; Good Templars, Sons of Temperance, Royal Arcanum, Mystic Druids, Junior Order of American Mechanics, Red Men, Knights of Columbus, Foresters, Woodmen, etc.

The above is certainly a good showing in a county that three-quarters of a century ago could hardly tolerate a struggling Masonic or Odd Fellows' lodge to exist within its borders.

National Guard—The Sixth Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania, was organized, and had its headquarters located at Norristown in the nineties. The following companies of this regiment were recruited in this county: Company C, Conshohocken; Company F, Norristown; Company A, Pottstown. In speaking of the soldiers of Montgomery county in his centennial address, Dr. C. Z. Weizer remarked: "General Peter Muhlenberg, of Independence days, whose statue now graces the rotunda at Washington, was born in this county. General Andrew Porter, who fought in the Revolutionary army so gallantly at Trenton, at Brandywine, and wherever courage was needed, was a native of this county. Nor dare we forget our grand citizen soldiers whose records shine so brilliantly since the late period of contention and strife—Major Generals John Frederick Hartranft and Winfield Scott Hancock. And do not the names of Brooke and Zook stand in red letters?"

CHAPTER XVII.

THE WORK OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOMEN.

By Mrs. A. Conrad Jones, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

Services of Montgomery County Women in the Civil War—Immediately upon receipt of news of the battle of Antietam, a call was made (says Bean's "History of Montgomery County"), in behalf of the wounded who needed nurses and supplies of food and raiment. Among the first to respond from Montgomery county to the call were Mrs. Rachel P. Evans, of Bridgeport; Mrs. Alice H. Holstein, Mrs. Anna Carver, and Miss Sallie L. Roberts, of Upper Merion; Miss Sarah Priest, of Bridgeport; and Miss Lizzie J. Brower, of Norristown. These patriotic and humane ladies freely gave their services to the sick and wounded men who fell in battle or were stricken with disease resulting from exhaustion and exposure. Many of the men of the 51st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers received attention from the ladies named, who remained on the field of battle and near Sharpsburg for some two weeks. A number of the men of the 129th Pennsylvania Volunteers were also cared for by them at or near the village named. Mrs. Anna M. Holstein, who followed the example of these six pioneer and heroic women to fields of human horror, and who, with her husband, Major William H. Holstein, remained in this sacrificial service until the close of the war, in 1865, thus refers to her sister co-workers in her "Three Years in Field Hospital:" "From our midst six women felt called upon to offer their services for a few weeks to nurse the wounded. Though strongly urged to make one of their number, I declined. The idea of seeing and waiting upon wounded men was one from which I shrank instinctively. But when my husband returned from the battlefield of Antietam, whither the six women had gone, with the sad story that men were dying for food, home comforts and home care, lying by the roadside, in barns, sheds, and out-houses, I hesitated no longer." Although not among the first to enter this truly good service to the country and its defenders, once engaged in it, a conviction of duty detained both herself and husband in field and hospital duty until the conflict ended. Mr. and Mrs. Holstein followed the Army of the Potomac in its deadly and discouraging campaigns in Virginia, at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, at Gettysburg, accompanying it in its battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, South Anna, Cold Harbor, south of the James river, Peters-

Editor's Note—The articles comprised in this chapter on the various Women's Clubs and Societies of the county are by the pen of Mrs. Mary (Bean) Jones, daughter of Colonel Theodore W. Bean, who was the author of the "History of Montgomery County" (1884), and she assisted her father on that most excellent history, as is shown in the preface to the work. Reprinted in the present volume from that work is the matter relating to women's service in the Civil War. If some of these articles seem too much abridged, it must not be charged to their writer, but to the limited amount of space allotted her by the publishers, and the time given in which to gather data and compile the same.

burg, Five Forks, and at the base of supplies, with acre upon acre of field hospitals, when the glad news of the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox was flashed over the wires to City Point, and from thence to a loyal and rejoicing North. Among the first six who are above mentioned, Mrs. Evans became very ill from over-work and exposure, and suffered long and dangerous illness. Her place was promptly taken by her sister, Miss Lizzie Brower, who remained with Mr. and Mrs. Holstein for the greater part of the three following years.

We may here say that among all the hundreds of self-sacrificing women who gave their time and services to the government during the long years of that cruel war, none have received the slightest practical recognition from the government they upheld and contributed so materially to save in its day of great peril.

Women's Loyal League of Montgomery County—The invasion of Pennsylvania in the summer of 1863 aroused the loyal blood of the women as well as the men of the State. The great battle of Gettysburg had been fought; the terrible loss of life, the waste and desolation and human anguish which resulted quickened the sense of patriotism felt by all those in sympathy with the Union army and the success of the national administration in its efforts to crush out the Rebellion. From the commencement of hostilities to the close of the conflict the loyal women of Montgomery county were devoted to those who volunteered in defense of the country.

The world will possibly never know of all the friendly acts toward the men in the field and their families at home bestowed by the Christian and benevolent women of the country; to them is eminently due the liberal contributions to the Sanitary Commission from this vicinity, and from which the sick and wounded on the field and in hospitals received needed supplies of food and raiment through all the long and weary years of the struggle. Many of these good women felt that this was not enough, but that their feelings should find public expression, and that their influence also should be unitedly exerted in sustaining a strong public sentiment in support of the government. To this end, in July, 1863, they formed a branch in the Loyal League, and published a declaration of purposes, viz.:

Declaration of Purposes in Organizing the Women's Loyal League of Montgomery County:

Believing that the women have it in their power to exert a very great influence in the destiny of this Nation, and being satisfied that more can be accomplished by united action than individual effort, we deem it expedient to form a Society to be called the Loyal League of the Women of Montgomery County.

Resolved, That we will use every means in our power to aid in supporting the Government in its struggles for existence, by the developments of love for the Union and respect for the constituted authorities,

and to this end we will constantly labor for the uprooting of all treasonable sentiments and the discouragement of those who are endeavoring to foster them.

Resolved, That our efforts for the comfort and benefit of the soldiers in the field and in the hospital shall be unceasing, and that while endeavoring to soften the hardships they must endure, we will turn to them only the cheerful and hopeful side of everything, and we will strive to have brave hearts at home, in order that their hands may be strengthened, remembering we may yield up a few superfluities for the sake of those who have preserved to us our homes and other comforts.

Resolved, That we will pledge ourselves to unite our best influence, not only toward the brave in the field, but to exert every kindly feeling toward the families at home; to build up their faith in the Government, and to give them every encouragement which woman only can give.

Resolved, We will, while redoubling every effort, rely first upon our only strength, and be earnest and untiring in prayer to God for the success of our cause, and the triumph of Truth, Justice and Liberty. We ask all to unite with us by signing their names, and contributing a small sum to maintain and carry out the objects of the League.

Mrs. Jonathan Roberts, President.
Mrs. Robert Iredell, Vice-President.
Miss Anna C. Yerkes, Secretary.
Mrs. L. H. Jones, Treasurer.
Mrs. C. Evans, Bridgeport;
Mrs. B. B. Hughes, Bridgeport;
Mrs. C. P. Harry, Norristown;
Executive Committee.

The members held their stated meetings in the rooms on the second floor of the old Washington Inn. They were rented by the gentlemen belonging to the "Loyal League" (not, however, the one organized by the ladies), and usually under the care of a janitor, and open at all times, especially during active campaign periods. It was general headquarters for all information touching army affairs. Files of newspapers were here kept, and general and special correspondence centered in the "League Rooms." It was a place of great public interest immediately after battles fought, as the people from all parts of the county would visit there to have the news from the front and obtain tidings from their personal friends in the different armies. In those days "war correspondents" flashed along the wires the long list of "killed, wounded and captured" always sure to follow a movement of the Army of the Potomac, Sherman in the Southwest, or Sheridan in the Valley. Bright faces were often saddened, and trembling hearts here first heard news of victory or defeat, and with it the loss of those near and dear to them. The organization exercised a healthful influence during its existence, and dissolved by mutual consent upon the termination of the war.

Montgomery County Woman Suffrage Association—This association was organized in 1888, at a meeting held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Hooven, Norristown. Mrs. Susan Fessenden, of Massachu-

setts, addressed the meeting. The charter members enrolled were: Mrs. Anna M. Holstein, Mrs. Sarah H. Tyson, Miss Elizabeth H. Tyson, Mrs. Hetty Y. Hallowell, Miss Anna Y. Hallowell, James Hooven, Mrs. Rebecca McInnes, Mrs. Emma C. Patton, and William H. Holstein. The membership was further increased this first year by Miss Sarah Reese, Mrs. Sara L. Oberholtzer, Mrs. J. W. Andrews, Mrs. E. B. Conrow, Miss Eleanor Rapp, Mrs. Ellen C. Jones, Miss Mary A. Stahr, Miss Ellen L. Thomas, and Samuel Tyson. May 23, 1888, their constitution was adopted, and for twenty-five years following, this organization carried on a series of meetings and lectures and activities to awaken public opinion in favor of the movement to give women the right to the ballot.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Montgomery County, of which Mrs. Sara L. Oberholtzer was president, gave the use of their rooms for the meetings of the association, and coöperated warmly with the movement.

The Association took up the study of political economy and laws pertaining to the rights of women. In their investigations they learned that in 1889, 726 women in Montgomery county paid $18,730.72 taxes on property valued at $1,440,825.

Distinguished speakers addressed their meetings: Miss Lucy Anthony, Rev. Anna H. Shaw, Miss Mary Grew, Dr. Brink, Mrs. Lucretia Mitchell, Dr. Hiram H. Corson, Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, Miss Jane Campbell, Judge Ashman; Mrs. Rudolph Blankenburg, president of the State Association; Mrs. Kemp, Henry B. Blackwell, and Miss Elizabeth W. Yates. Memorial meetings were held in honor of Lucy Stone and Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton. The speakers were: Mrs. David R. Beaver, Mrs. Ellen C. Jones, Mrs. Sarah H. Tyson, Miss Anna B. Thomas, Dr. Hiram Corson, Isaac Roberts, and Miss Ellen L. Thomas.

The State convention was held in Norristown in 1908. Auxiliary societies were formed. The Plymouth Meeting Suffrage Club organized June 21, 1905, at the home of Mrs. Helen C. Hovendon, with Miss Helen Corson Livezey, president; Miss Martha Hovendon, secretary; and Mrs. Albert Rubicam, treasurer. Their meetings continued until they joined the Woman Suffrage Party of Pennsylvania, May, 1915, and entered into active work with the Suffrage Party of Montgomery county. The last officers of the club were: President, Mrs. George Corson; recording secretary, Miss Emily Corson; corresponding secretary, Miss Martha M. Hovendon; treasurer, Mrs. H. Oscar Young.

The Norristown and Collegeville Association was formed in 1905, with: President, Mrs. Mary R. Livezey; vice-president, Mrs. Mary S. Landes; recording secretary, Mrs. Martha E. Platt; corresponding secretary, Miss Ellen L. Thomas; treasurer, Mrs. Sarah H. Longstreth. This association remained active until May 8, 1919. The officers at this time were: President, Miss Katharine Preston; vice-president, Miss

Helen E. Richards; secretary, Miss Nancy C. Cresson; treasurer, Mrs. Sarah H. Ross.

The County Association after twenty-five years of successful work disbanded May 23, 1913. The officers at that time were: President, Miss Ellen L. Thomas; vice-president, Mrs. Mary R. Livezey; recording secretary, Mrs. Ada F. T. Dean; corresponding secretary, Miss Martha M. Hovendon; treasurer, Miss Anna B. Thomas.

The Woman Suffrage Party of Montgomery County was formed in 1913, with the following board of officers: Chairman, Mrs. J. Howard Brown, Ardmore; vice-chairmen, Mrs. George Corson, Plymouth Meeting; Mrs. Mrs. A. M. Snyder, Ardmore; treasurer, Mrs. James E. Barnes, North Wales; recording secretary, Mrs. James B. Marshall, Noble; corresponding secretary, Miss Anna Mitchell, Ardmore. The party organized for work in the four legislative districts of the county, with Mrs. W. M. Gehman, Jr., of Cynwyd, leader of the First District; Mrs. Carrie S. Childs, of North Wales, leader of the Third District; and Mrs. Storb, of Pottstown, leader of the Fourth District. Meetings were held regularly for information and instruction of workers. Leaders further organized the boroughs and townships of their districts, and to each district was assigned a quota of money to be raised to meet the expense of county and of State work. Mrs. Brown as county leader was succeeded by Mrs. A. M. Snyder, of Ardmore, and Mrs. C. W. Young, of Fairview.

The party continued active work until the passage of the National Amendment granting suffrage to women, and dissolved their organization March 6, 1920, when most of the women active in the party joined the League of Women Voters. Mrs. C. W. Young was president at this time and Miss Margaret P. Saunders treasurer.

The Montgomery County League of Women Voters was organized in Norristown, October, 1920. The League has for its object, "By information and education upon public questions, the principles and policies of political parties, and the qualifications of candidates for public office, to help make the woman's vote an intelligent factor in government." The first officers were: Chairman, Mrs. Herman S. Swartz, of Wynnewood; vice-chairman, Mrs. George Rea, Ardmore; secretary, Mrs. George Blair, Wynnewood; treasurer, Miss Margaret P. Saunders, Glenside.

Branches of the League are organized through the county. They form classes to study citizenship, committees to study local conditions, and hold public meetings for information and discussion. The membership of the League is about 2,000. The officers are: Chairman, Miss Gertrude Ely, Bryn Mawr; vice-chairmen, Mrs. M. W. Montgomery, Wyncote; Mrs. George Vaux, Jr., Bryn Mawr; Mrs. Aaron S. Swartz, Norristown; Mrs. Wm. H. Russell, Ambler; secretary, Mrs. Harry Kohn, Merion; treasurer, Miss Margaret P. Saunders; directors: Mrs. J. Spencer Brock, Rydal; Mrs. Harold De Lancy Downs, Conshohocken; Mrs.

Myrtle Freas, Whitemarsh; Mrs. T. Duncan Just, Ambler; Mrs. Harry E. Kohn, Merion; Mrs. E. O. Kriebel, Pennsburg; Mrs. O. F. Lenhardt, Norristown; Mrs. Paul Tappan, Ardmore.

The Children's Aid Society—This society was organized January 6, 1885, with the following board of managers: Mrs. James Hooven, Mrs. Thomas Foster, Mrs. Henry Lutz, Mrs. Franklin Sower, Mrs. George Holstein, Mrs. Hugh McInnes, Mrs. Reuben Hoffecker. The first officers of the society were: President, Mrs. George W. Rogers; treasurer, Mrs. J. K. Weaver; secretary, Miss Belle Shaw. The Society has for its aim and purposes:

(1) The permanent removal of destitute children from pauperizing influences. The Society has no institution. Each child is provided for separately by being placed in a respectable private family, country preferred. This method preserves the individuality of the child, creates domestic and social ties to bind it into permanent relations with the community, and ultimately relieves the public of the child's support.

(2) To prevent the needless separation of mothers from their offspring—legitimate or otherwise. Many unfortunate mothers, without money, friends or character, are rescued by the Society from pauperism or worse, and are made self-supporting by placing each mother and child together at service in respectable families.

(3) The removal of all children over two years of age now in almshouses throughout the State of Pennsylvania into respectable private homes. The directors do not relinquish their own responsibility, but they accept the organization known as the Children's Aid Society to assist them in finding good homes, visiting them, and supervising them after they are placed.

It is to the interest of all tax-payers to have such children taken out of the pauper class as soon as possible and absorbed into the community. To carry on this work there is needed public sympathy as well as financial support.

The Society has sixty-eight children under its care, clothing them and exercising sympathetic interest in them as they visit them in the homes procured for the children. A day nursery is also supported for children whose mothers are employed during the day. Following are the present officers and managers: President, Mrs. H. M. Bunting; vice-presidents, Mrs. Wm. J. Elder, Mrs. Nelson C. Cressman; recording secretary, Mrs. J. Lawrence Eisenberg; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Charles H. Brunner; treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Huston; board of managers: Mrs. George W. Rogers, Mrs. William L. Cresson, Mrs. Ezra Brown, Miss Martha Yerkes, Miss Emma Camm, Mrs. Horace Still, Mrs. O. F. Lenhardt, Miss Imogens Sands, Mrs. Nelson C. Cressman, Mrs. C. Townley Larzalere, Mrs. Mary Cresson, Mrs. William J. Elder, Mrs. Charles U. Brunner, Mrs. Norris D. Wright, Mrs. Joseph Fornance, Mrs. Ashley P. Hunter.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union—This work was organized in Montgomery county in 1885. The following women served as the

first officers: President, Miss Margaret Whitechurch; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Joseph L. Richards; treasurer, Miss Mary Perry. The object of the Union is the overthrow of the liquor traffic, and their motto, "For God and Home and Native Land." To teach the evil effects of alcohol on the human system has been a constant endeavor of the Union, and one important result has been securing the enactment of laws compelling the teaching of the same in the public schools. Another early activity was encouraging school children to open savings accounts. Mrs. Sara L. Oberholtzer was the promoter of this movement, and was superintendent of the work; she is now the National Superintendent of Thrift in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The departments of work in the Union cover almost every line of uplift endeavor, and are organized in six divisions: (1) Patriotic service, covering legislation, work with soldiers and sailors, relief work, moral education, child welfare, suffrage, and Americanization. (2) National organizers, lecturers, national evangelists and work among the negroes. (3) Hygiene and preventive health work. (4) Scientific instruction in schools and colleges; parliamentary usage, Woman's Christian Temperance Union Institutes, Sunday schools, anti-narcotic and medal contests. (5) Evangelistic, Sabbath observance, mothers' meetings, purity in literature and art, flower mission. (6) Social meetings, Christian citizenship, peace, international arbitration, prison work.

Following are the Unions in Montgomery county with their presiding officers: Bridgeport, Mrs. Elizabeth Slingluff; Bryn Mawr, Miss Lida H. Ashbridge; Cheltenham, Mrs. Barbara Milligan; Collegeville, Mrs. E. A. Warner; Conshohocken, Mrs. Ella Nace; Crestmont, Mrs. John Love (Colored Union); Jenkintown, Mrs. Mary Seymour; Lansdale, Mrs. Emma Stewart; Norristown, Mrs. Mary R. Livezey; North Wales, Mrs. Isabel Purcells; Port Providence, Mrs. Belle Myers; Pottstown, Mrs. A. E. Richards; Willard, Mrs. Emma B. Conrow; Willow Grove, Mrs. J. Dyre Moyer; Worcester, Mrs. Adelaide Hoffman.

Needle Work Guild—The Needle Work Guild of America has thirty branches in Montgomery county. The object of this Guild is to collect and distribute new, plain and suitable garments to meet the great need of hospitals, homes and other charities, and to extend its usefulness by the organization of branches. The annual contribution of two or more *new* articles of wearing apparel or household linen, or a donation of money, constitutes membership in a branch. Men, women and children may become members. Any member obtaining contributions from twelve persons (or the equivalent, twenty-two articles), and one money member, becomes a director.

The Guild was organized in Philadelphia in 1885, and the first branch organized in Montgomery county was at Cheltenham, in 1891, with Mrs. Robert Ellis Thompson as president, and a collection of 249 garments

was made for that year. In 1899 the name of this branch was changed to Wyncote; in 1922 its collection was 2151 garments. The total number of garments collected in Montgomery county in 1922 was 89,286.

Following is the list of branches in Montgomery county in 1923, with year of their organization and names of presidents:

Ambler, 1893, Mrs. H. P. Barnes.
Ardmore, 1894, Mrs. William H. Gibbons; 1923, Miss Martha L. Gibbons.
Bethayres, 1913, Mrs. D. H. Dannehower.
Bryn Mawr, 1895, Miss Gertrude S. Ely.
Cheltenham, 1913, Mrs. Francis R. Taylor.
Centre Square, 1921, Mrs. Courtland S. Morris.
Conshohocken, 1894, Mrs. Charles Lukens; 1923, Mrs. George N. Highley.
Cynwyd, 1915, Mrs. Stephen B. Tily.
Fort Washington, 1902, Mrs. U. S. G. Funk; 1923, Mrs. H. Wilson Stahlnecker.
Gladwyne, 1915, Mrs. Elwood Claypoole.
Glenside, 1903, Mrs. D. B. Flower; 1923, Mrs. Frank B. Milnor.
Hatboro, 1900, Mrs. Hannah W. Logan.
Hatfield, 1916, Mrs. Israel Pickup; 1923, Mrs. Wilson C. Moyer.
Haverford, 1891, Mrs. Charles S. Crossman; 1923, Mrs. George W. Hansell.
Jarrettown, 1896, Miss Alice S. Roberts.
Jenkintown, 1921, Mrs. William H. Fretz.
Lansdale, 1901, Mrs. H. L. S. Ruth; 1923, Mrs. Edward C. Spring.
Narberth, 1904, Mrs. R. H. Wallace; 1923, Mrs. F. H. Hewitt.
Norristown, 1894, Mrs. N. Howland Brown.
North Wales, 1897, Miss May A. Frantz; 1923, Mrs. George W. Haag.
Pennsburg, 1921, Mrs. W. H. Hunsberger.
Pottstown, 1896, Mrs. J. H. Loomis.
Royersford, 1908, Mrs. U. S. G. Finkbiner.
Souderton, 1914, Mrs. William Crouthamel; 1923, Mrs. Arthur H. Landes.
Schwenksville, 1921, Mrs. Horace P. Keely.
Skippack, 1921, Mrs. William E. Hoke.
Spring House, 1911, Mrs. J. Cheston Morris, Jr.
West Point, 1908, Mrs. Ellwood Hoot; 1923, Mrs. Joseph Nolan.
Willow Grove, 1912, Mrs. John W. Burke.
Wyncote, 1891, Mrs. Maurice J. Hoover.

Valley Forge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution—The objects of this Society are to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence, by the acquisition and protection of historical spots, and the erection of monuments; by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results; by the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and by the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries.

The Valley Forge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was organized December 17, 1894, with the following officers: Regent, Mrs. Anna Morris Holstein; vice-regent, Mrs. Charles Hunsicker; treasurer, Mrs. Joseph Fornance; secretary, Miss Katharine Corson.

The activities of the chapter throughout its twenty-nine years of existence have been zealously maintained in accord with the objects of the organization. The graves of seventy-seven Revolutionary soldiers in Montgomery county are marked annually with a fresh flag. Historical markers have been erected by the chapter in the cemetery of St. James' Church, Perkiomen. A boulder of native granite, erected June 6, 1908, bears the inscription: "This stone marks the burial place of a number of soldiers who died for the cause of American Independence, 1775-1783." Ex-Governor Samuel Pennypacker made the address at the unveiling ceremonies.

June 17, 1911, by permission of the Valley Forge Park Commission, an enduring granite marker was erected on the Valley Forge Camp Ground. The inscription reads, "In memory of unknown soldiers buried at Valley Forge, 1777-1778."

June 8, 1913, a marble tablet was placed on a building at Main and Ford streets, Norristown, inscribed as follows: "Near this site, Dec. 11, 12, 13, 1777, Gen'l Washington camped and crossed the Schuylkill on a bridge of wagons, at Swedes Ford, on its way to winter at Valley Forge."

In June, 1901, the chapter completed the furnishing in genuine Colonial furniture of the room in Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge, used as his bedroom.

June 19, 1916, the chapter placed a prayer desk in the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, bearing the following inscription: "To the glory of God and in memory of Anna Morris Holstein, who in war served the nation as a nurse, and in peace preserved Washington's Headquarters."

The chapter has joined in commemorating historical anniversaries and events, notably the 100th anniversary of the borough of Norristown, the unveiling of the monument to Washington in Fairmount Park, the erection of the marker by the Montgomery County Historical Society at Pennypacker's Mills, and dedication ceremonies at the Washington Memorial Chapel.

At the time of the Spanish-American War, comforts and supplies were sent to camps and hospitals, to the needy families of men who had enlisted from Montgomery county, and to Cuban sufferers. Two members served as nurses—Miss Martha McInnes, as a volunteer nurse at Camp Meade; Miss Mary Lee, as a trained nurse at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore.

At the entrance of the United States into the World War, the chapter as a unit entered into the work of the Red Cross and allied interests. Comforts were provided for the men entering the camps and active serv-

ice, and generous contributions were given continually. A French orphan was adopted, whose support is continued.

December 14, 1919, the chapter celebrated its 25th anniversary with a service in St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, Norristown, where the anniversary sermon was preached by Rev. H. St. Clair Hathaway. A reception and tea was given December 16; an anniversary fund of $1,000 was raised toward a Chapter House.

The active membership of the chapter is 83, the non-resident 60. The chapter received upon its enrollment, in 1896, two "Real Daughters," Catherine Bowden, and Lucinda Valentine, daughters of Jabez Rockwell, a drummer boy with a Connecticut regiment, who had been with the Continental army at Valley Forge. The present officers are: Regent, Mrs. N. Howland Brown; vice-regent, Miss Emeline Henry Hooven; recording secretary, Miss Isabella Walker; corresponding secretary, Mrs. H. Wilson Stahlnecker; treasurer, Miss Marie R. Yost; registrar, Mrs. Irwin Fisher; historian, Mrs. Irvin P. Knipe; chaplain, Miss Mary Evans. Members of the board of management in addition to the above are Miss Martha Hunter McInnes and Mrs. William H. Slingluff.

Along educational lines they give annual donations to schools scattered through the southern mountains, and they have standing committees upon Americanization and Patriotic Education, Historical Research, and Preservation of Records.

The Merion Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was organized February 16, 1895, for patriotic and historic work. The first regent was Mrs. John F. Develin. There were thirteen charter members, one of whom was a "Real Daughter," Mrs. Louisa Heston Paxson, daughter of Colonel Edward Heston, a noted Revolutionary soldier, and widow of John J. Paxson. She was born February 16, 1801, and died March, 1899.

Merion Chapter has erected the following historic markers in Montgomery county: September 14, 1896, the spot where Washington's army encamped, September 14, 1777, five days before the massacre of Paoli. This memorial stands on the old Lancaster road, just above the Merion Meeting. On April 14, 1917, a tablet marking one of the original minestones on the old Lancaster road, laid out in 1690. This was the sixth milestone on the road, near the present 54th street, Philadelphia. In 1919 a tablet marking the site of encampment of Georgia Continentals, August, 1777, on the lawn of St. John's Church, Bala-Cynwyd. The chapter marks the graves of Revolutionary soldiers. During the World War all members were active in every kind of war work.

The chapter has fifty-six members. Present officers: Regent, Mrs. George J. DeArmond; first vice-regent, Miss Virginia Marshall; second vice-regent, Mrs. Sterling Edmunds; third vice-regent, Mrs. Elwood Beatty.

Federation of Woman's Clubs—The Federation of Woman's Clubs of Montgomery county includes in its organization sixteen woman's clubs. It was organized at Ardmore, November 13, 1914, to increase by coöperation the civic and educational activities of the clubs, and to make more effective their work in the community. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Leonidas Beck; vice-president, Mrs. Dudley Bartlett; secretary, Mrs. Henry D. Cranor; treasurer, Mrs. C. C. Van Buskirk.

The clubs in the Federation function through the three departments of Education, Public Welfare and Political Science, with the sub-divisions of Music, Literature, Art, Home Economics, Citizenship, Legislation, Child Welfare, Americanization, and Juniors. Programmes of work and study and entertainment are arranged for bi-weekly meetings in the majority of the clubs, classes in the larger clubs meeting weekly. The training women have acquired through these opportunities is refunded to their communities in a coöperative and progressive spirit, and in civic and educational effort. As organized groups, women's clubs were drawn on in the period of the late war for important duties, providing chairmen for Red Cross work, Liberty Loans, Home Service Work, local councils of National Defense, Stamp and War Chest drives, Canning Centres, curb markets, war gardens, and food administration. Strong committees from their membership served and worked in every department of war work. 1923 officers: President, Mrs. Richard J. Hamilton; vice-president, Mrs. A. Conrad Jones; secretary, Miss Alma Walton; treasurer, Mrs. Charles Moyer.

The Ardmore Woman's Club was the first woman's club to organize in Montgomery county, December 19, 1894, with Mrs. Sidney Pool as president, and Mrs. Fred. Spaulding secretary. In the beginning years, stress was laid upon literary work, and this took large expression in the Free Public Library established by the club, and housed in their commodious and attractive club house. Special attention is devoted to the children's library. Lecture courses and classes in current events are directed by the club, and from year to year the growing activities of clubs have been taken on until all departments of club work are conducted. The library did effective service during the late war in distributing literature on food conservation, war gardens, and other government bulletins, also in sending books to Gray's Ferry Hospital, League Island, and overseas. Mrs. Richard J. Hamilton and Mrs. Dudley Bartlett directed this work.

The club membership is 258. 1923 officers: President, Mrs. Henry L. Reinhold, Jr.; first vice-president, Mrs. Howard Wayne Smith; second vice-president, Mrs. William T. Abell; recording secretary, Mrs. Loftus Hollingsworth; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Charles B. Pennypacker; treasurer, Miss Rachel McCurdy; president junior section, Mrs. Herman Fox.

The Colony Club of Ambler was organized in September, 1912, to

create among women an organized center of thought and action, tending toward intellectual and social development, and to promote such public measures as shall be conducive to the welfare of the community. The club coöperates with the North Penn Community Centre and has accomplished much civic work. It has organized the Home and School League, created a scholarship fund in the Ambler High School, contributed books to the school libraries, held classes in citizenship, and has started the Colony Club Public Library. The club has a strong leader in legislative work in Mrs. T. Duncan Just, who is also chairman of legislation in the Montgomery County Federation.

The club membership is 155. Officers, 1912: President, Mrs. Thomas Atkinson; vice-president, Mrs. Alexander Knight; recording and corresponding secretary, Mrs. G. W. Rogers; treasurer, Mrs. Reese Roberts. Officers, 1923: President, Mrs. Charles C. Mehler; vice-presidents, Mrs. J. H. Thomas, and Mrs. T. Duncan Just; recording secretary, Mrs. Thomas Atkinson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. McVicker, Jr.; treasurer, Mrs. Oscar Stillwagon; president juniors, Miss Elizabeth Acuff.

The Woman's Club of Bala-Cynwyd was organized May 22, 1912, to create an organized centre of thought and action and to study the topics of the day. The club has a large and talented membership. It conducts a Choral Society among whose members are professional musicians. It has a strong social service department, coöperates with the schools in furnishing school lunches, has established a public library, does literary work of distinction, and is working actively for a club house. Membership 260. Officers, 1912: President, Mrs. Leonidas Beck; vice-president, Mrs. Arthur Quinn; secretary, Mrs. Clarence Gardner. Officers, 1923: President, Mrs. Isaac Kershaw; vice-president, Mrs. J. Samuel Stephenson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. H. J. Kelly; recording secretary, Mrs. Thomas Mills; treasurer, Mrs. David G. Wilson; chairman junior section, Mrs. Edgar S. Gardner.

The Woman's Club of Bryn Mawr was organized in November, 1921, to stimulate a distinct atmosphere of friendliness, to promote the general culture of its members, and to advance the general interests of the community. In the two years in which this club has been organized, it is expressing its community interest by raising a scholarship fund of $300 for a girl graduate of Lower Merion High School from the Bryn Mawr School District.

The officers are: President, Mrs. Joseph H. Morris; first vice-president, Mrs. D. W. Horn; second vice-president, Mrs. M. P. Burlingame; recording secretary, Mrs. Ralph Allen; corresponding secretary, Mrs. E. Y. Pennell; treasurer, Mrs. H. P. Wolfe. Membership, 27.

The Civic Club of Collegeville was organized February 5, 1920, to promote the welfare of the community. It is coöperating with contribu-

tions to the schools and fire company, and in public health work. The membership is 75.

Officers, 1920: President, Mrs. Thomas Hallman; vice-president, Mrs. Adele T. Miller; secretary, Mrs. J. T. Ebert; treasurer, Miss Hattie Fetterolf. 1923: President, Mrs. Adele T. Miller; vice-president, Mrs. Helen Neff Tyson; secretary, Mrs. J. T. Ebert; treasurer, Mrs. Thos. McAllister.

Woman's Club of Conshohocken, organized in November, 1897, to form an organized centre for the moral, intellectual and social advancement of the club and the community. Literary work was emphasized in the early years of the club, and continues to have a large share in the programs. Coöperation is given to the Visiting Nurse Association, whose inception was due to the Woman's Club, to the Free Public Library, to the Playground Association, and to the Community Centre. The club organized the Home and School Association of Conshohocken through its educational committee. Membership 130.

Officers, 1897: President, Mrs. Mary Patterson Beaver; vice-president, Mrs. Abbie Conrad Cranor; recording secretary, Mrs. Matilda Chapelle Cook; corresponding secretary, Nellie DeForest Wood (Mrs. Harold DeL. Downs); treasurer, Florence Jones (Mrs. Howard Gardner). 1923: President, Mrs. A. Conrad Jones; first vice-president, Mrs. Frank B. Wilson; second vice-president, Mrs. Henry D. Cranor; recording secretary, Mrs. Thomas F. McCoy; corresponding secretary, Mrs. George M. S. Light; treasurer, Mrs. Reese P. Davis; director of juniors, Miss Elizabeth Stewart.

The Mothers' Club of Glenside was organized in 1920 for educational, civic, philanthropic and social work. The club has established a scholarship of $100 for a graduate of the Cheltenham High School, who has previously graduated from the Glenside school. The club has also enlarged the school library, established a choral society within the club, and a Current Events class. Membership 150.

Officers, 1920: President, Mrs. T. C. Seidentopf; vice-president, Mrs. Hugh Winner; secretary, Mrs. Thomas Clampfer; treasurer, Miss Ella Darlington. 1923: President, Mrs. John F. Rodenbeck; vice-president, Mrs. T. C. Seidentopf; secretary, Mrs. V. H. Summers; treasurer, Miss Ella Darlington.

The Neighbors of Hatboro, organized in 1910, to create among women an organized centre of thought and action, tending toward intellectual and moral development and the best interests of the community. The club has introduced Winter Chautauqua, improved civic conditions, and contributed to a larger spirit of coöperation in the community. Membership 205.

Officers, 1910: President, Mrs. William E. Hannam; vice-president, Mrs. Newton E. Wood; recording and corresponding secretary, Miss Marian E. Goentuer; treasurer, Mrs. H. Warner Hallowell. 1923: President, Miss Alma Walton; vice-president, Miss Amy B. Yerkes; record-

ing secretary, Miss Eleanor D. Worthington; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Russell B. Twining; treasurer, Mrs. Enos D. Watson.

The Women's Community Club of Narberth, organized in 1915, creates an organized centre of thought and action for intellectual and moral development and the best interests of the community. The club has made progress in establishing a free community library, with Mrs. Robert Fellows Wood as librarian, and Mrs. E. C. Batchelor assistant librarian. Their large and growing membership is active in community work; they maintain a department of comforts for the sick which are loaned without charge; they encourage music and literary work, and the talent of their own members contributes to their attractive programs. Mrs. C. P. Fowler, president of the club in the late war period, had general supervision of war work in the club apart from that done in coöperation with the Red Cross. The Liberty Loans, Stamp and War Chest drives were conducted by the club. Vacant lots were converted into war gardens under the direction of Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Abram Bunn Ross, who also conducted successfully a curb market. Membership 170.

Officers, 1915: President, Mrs. William Cameron; vice-president, Mrs. C. P. Fowler; corresponding and recording secretary, Mrs. William Livingston; treasurer, Mrs. Carter Pollock. 1923: President, Mrs. Abram Bunn Ross; first vice-president, Mrs. E. A. Muschamp; second vice-president, Mrs. Robt. Dothard; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Harry A. Jacobs; recording secretary, Mrs. F. P. Dunlop; treasurer, Mrs. Harold Fenno; president junior section, Mrs. William Durbin.

The Woman's Civic Club of Noble is a reorganization of the Women's Association of Noble. Originally there were fifty-nine women who banded together in 1912 to help raise money for the Memorial Hospital at Abington. Having accomplished this object, the Association developed into the Woman's Civic Club of Noble, with interest along lines of civic betterment and charitable work. Financial assistance has been given to charitable and benevolent institutions in Jenkintown and Abington, and annual donations are given to the Hospital, Fire Company, and Young Men's Christian Association. A war committee was appointed in 1917 who raised a wool fund and used it to buy yarn to knit necessary articles for their soldiers. A testimonial to the men in the service was erected at the entrance to Noble road. It was planned and financed by the Civic Club. Membership 50.

Officers, 1912: President, Mrs. Margaret A. Krips; vice-president, Mrs. Walter Ruddach; recording and corresponding secretary, Mrs. Jacob Roehne; treasurer, Mrs. Thomas K. Ober. 1923: President, Mrs. Leonard J. Hogg; vice-president, Mrs. Treat H. Bosworth; recording secretary, Mrs. James B. Marshall; corresponding secretary, Mrs. F. H. Genth; treasurer, Mrs. Emma C. Burns.

The Civic Club of Norristown was organized March 9, 1911, to promote by education and active coöperation a higher public spirit and a better social order. Civic questions are studied and discussed at the monthly meetings. A yearly course of lectures by noted speakers is established. The club conducts an annual clean-up week, and coöperates with activities for town betterment. The club supports a French orphan and a Belgian orphan. Membership 140.

Officers, 1911: President, Miss Laura B. Whitcomb; first vice-president, Mrs. Aaron S. Swartz; second vice-president, Mrs. Henry S. Nelms; recording secretary, Mrs. Irvin P. Knipe; corresponding secretary, Miss Isabel G. Ralston; treasurer, Mrs. Ellwood J. Wanner. 1923: President, Mrs. Irvin Fisher; first vice-president, Mrs. John D. Paist; second vice-president, Mrs. Nelson C. Cressman; recording secretary, Miss Isabella Walker; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Harry C. Kirkbride; treasurer, Mrs. John Noble.

The Mothers' Club of North Glenside was organized September 19, 1921, with civic, legislative, moral, and educational interests. The club has provided comforts for the teachers in the schools, added to the library of the school, and procured additional street lights, and improved streets for the town. Membership 50.

Officers, 1921: President, Mrs. George G. Eckert; first vice-president, Miss Viola Van Zandt; second vice-president, Mrs. Fred Dunn; secretary, Miss Jeanette Sheridan; treasurer, Mrs. Kreck. 1923: President, Mrs. W. B. Detwiler; first vice-president, Mrs. George G. Eckert; second vice-president, Miss Viola Van Zandt; secretary, Miss Dodson; treasurer, Mrs. Kline.

The Woman's Civic Club of North Wales was organized May 5, 1913, to promote a higher civic spirit and a better social order. Among the varied activities of the club has been the opening of a public playground and conducting it for four years. A public drinking fountain has been placed; the school grounds have been beautified; an annual clean-up day has been inaugurated. Children's war gardens were an activity in the war time, also the purchase and care of the service flag. Mrs. H. Kriebel and Mrs. C. B. Moyer directed these activities. Membership 140.

Officers, 1913: President, Mrs. Lizzie Weber; vice-president, Mrs. S. C. Kriebel; recording and corresponding secretary, Mrs. C. B. Moyer; treasurer, Mrs. H. F. Slifer. 1923: President, Miss Virginia Morris; vice-president, Mrs. Walter Wireback; recording secretary, Mrs. Harvey V. Beaver; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Joseph Roberts; treasurer, Mrs. Charles Wheeler; president junior section, Miss Helen Tomlinson.

The Century Club of Pottstown was the second woman's club to organize in Montgomery county, May 26, 1897. It has worked along literary, dramatic and civic lines. The establishing of the public library of Pottstown is due to the efforts of the club. It occupies one of the fine old residences on High street and the club has attractive rooms on the

second floor. Playgrounds are directed by the club. Membership 165. Officers, 1897: President, Mrs. A. C. S. Saylor; secretary, Mrs. Mylertz. 1923: President, Mrs. J. W. Armstrong; secretary, Miss Bessie Daub.

The Woman's Club of Royersford started as a library club, March 8, 1914, principally to aid the library. It has expanded its interests and is active in all community work, conducting play grounds, directing musical work, and at the same time carrying well prepared programs of literary and legislative interest. Membership 160.

Officers, 1914: President, Mrs. Henry Graber; vice-president, Mrs. Quincy Lecune; corresponding and recording secretary, Miss Anna Greiner; treasurer, Miss Marian Detwiler. 1923: President, Mrs. John R. Newborn; first vice-president, Mrs. Joseph Buckwalter; second vice-president, Mrs. H. E. Anderson; corresponding secretary, Miss Florence K. Kulp; recording secretary, Mrs. John Maier; treasurer, Miss Bessie Shade.

The Woman's Club of Wyncote organized in November, 1898, with Mrs. Maurice J. Hoover, as president, and Mrs. William C. Kent as secretary, to form an organized centre for the intellectual and social development of its members, and to promote such public measures as shall be conducive to the welfare of the community. The programs are devoted to literary subjects and interests. Membership 125.

Officers, 1923: President, Mrs. Frank E. Shelly; first vice-president, Mrs. Robert M. Stinson; second vice-president, Mrs. T. E. Frame; recording secretary, Mrs. J. Horace Ervein; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Harry F. Smith; treasurer, Miss Nellie Ostheimer.

Garden Clubs—The Weeders is a club organization to protect native flora, to promote flower and vegetable shows, to make the experience of each member available for all, to increase the number of private and public gardens, and to make them more useful and beautiful. It was started in 1902 by two Montgomery county women—Miss Ellen Windsor and Mrs. John G. Sharpe—but its present membership is not confined to Montgomery county. Its first president was Mrs. William B. Read, of Conshohocken. During the World War period they encouraged the farmerette activities, they coöperated with the school garden movement, frequently offering prizes, and vacant lots were planted. The Weeders are one of the three garden clubs who have joined together to make a wild flower preserve in Wister's Woods. The club has a membership of fifty. The president is Mrs. Randel Morgan.

The Gardeners of Montgomery and Delaware Counties were organized in 1907 to increase the enthusiasm and knowledge of horticulture among women who work in their own gardens. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Henry S. Williams, Rosemont; secretary and treasurer, Miss Elizabeth D. Williams, Haverford. They conduct a booth at the Rittenhouse Square Flower Market. They encourage school garden

work in the neighborhood, and are one of the garden clubs working to make a wild flower preserve in Wister's Woods. In the summer of 1917 they coöperated with the farm unit on the estate of Mrs. George Burnham, at Berwyn, with Mrs. Isaac LaBoiteaux, of Bryn Mawr, chairman. They were also active in the canning work done at the Ardmore School. The officers in 1923 are: President, Mrs. William T. Elliott, Ardmore; recording secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Richard L. Barrows, Haverford; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Hervey S. Pratt, Haverford.

The Norristown Garden Club was organized in April, 1913, with the object to promote interest in the culture of flowers, by exchanging ideas, seeds, plants and bulbs. The first officers were: President, Miss Bertha S. Harry; vice-president, Miss Linda Egbert; secretary, Miss Helen Williams; treasurer, Miss Isabel Walker. Meetings are held monthly, for which programs are arranged that fulfill the purpose of the club. Trips are made to private gardens and nurseries, botanical excursions are arranged to study flora of the county, lectures are appointed, and studies bearing upon gardening interests made by individual members. Prizes are awarded for artistic, well planned gardens. Activities of growing value to the community are conducted. Flower shows in the spring and fall of each year are conducted, when non-members are given equal privileges with members to display flowers and secure prizes. Plants are sent to shut-ins, flowers to Montgomery Hospital, open-air flower plays are given by children, prizes awarded to high school pupils for posters. Garden, forestry and botanical magazines are placed in the public library, and also exhibits of flowers in the growing season. Contributions have been made for beautifying streets, and to the School of Horticulture at Ambler, Pennsylvania.

In the war period, sales of flowers were conducted for the benefit of the local Red Cross, and for the War Chest. One hundred and seventy-five dollars were given to replant an orchard in devastated France, and other generous contributions sent to the relief of children of Belgium, Serbia, and the Near East. Two memorial trees were planted at the Norristown High School to the "Heroes of Norristown, World War, 1917-1918." The Garden Club has a membership of 230. The present officers are: President, Mrs. John J. Williams; vice-president, Miss Isabel Walker; recording secretary, Miss Emma C. Beyer; corresponding secretary, Mrs. William F. Moyer; treasurer, Mrs. Edward C. Shoemaker.

Music Clubs—The Old York Road Choral was organized November 10, 1911, to promote a greater love and deeper appreciation of music. The first officers were: President, Mrs. John S. Gayley; vice-president, Mrs. Charles A. Robbins; secretary, Mrs. Guy C. Whidden; treasurer, Miss Mary D. Stevens; director, Mrs. H. Howard Pfromm. Monthly musicals, church recitals and semi-annual concerts are regular activities of the Choral. Christmas carols are given for the Dickens Fellowship;

annual music memory contests are conducted, plays are given by the Paint and Powder Dramatic Club, and there is junior work.

The Choral has membership in the Needlework Guild of America, and raises funds for hospital work. It is a member of the Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs. In the late war period, the Choral gave concerts and plays to raise funds for the Ogontz and Huntington Valley Branch of the American Red Cross, for the Emergency Aid, and Home Defense League of Abington township. These activities were directed by Mrs. M. Y. Smith, Mrs. Lewis Bremer, Jr., and Mrs. Wm. L. Holmes. The membership of the Choral is 125. The 1923 board of officers are: President, Mrs. Jenks B. Robinson; vice-president, Mrs. Thomas K. Ober, Jr.; treasurer, Mrs. Charles B. Harvey; recording secretary, Miss Mabel Clark; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Howard T. Baker; financial secretary, Mrs. William G. Haslam; federation secretary, Mrs. Thomas K. Ober, Jr.; librarian, Mrs. G. U. Nicholson; assistant librarian, Mrs. L. V. Ringwalt; director, Mrs. Wm. G. Slough.

The Octave Club of Norristown was organized October 18, 1916, for the mutual improvement of its members in music, and to acquire a broader knowledge of music and of musical literature. It has a membership of 400. The program for the year is a series of eight concerts from October to May, inclusive. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Roy Alexander Hatfield; vice-president, Mrs. George C. Bowker; secretary, Mrs. Norris D. Wright; treasurer, Mrs. Frank Kneas; accompanist, Mrs. Alfred W. Wright; librarian, Miss Isabelle Walker; director of chorus, Miss Marion G. Spangler.

The club chorus of fifty voices, directed by Miss Spangler, is a highly interesting feature of the club. One member, Miss Ruth Montague, was the winner of the Stokowski medal in 1922. The club is affiliated with the State and the National Federation of Musical Societies. Its monthly concerts are of a high order, home and visiting talent contributing to the programs. The club shows a generous public spirit in coöperating financially with efforts to foster and forward large movements in the musical world, and gives to its members unusual opportunities to hear and enjoy the best in music.

The officers are: President, Mrs. Samuel Lippincott Borton; vice-president, Mrs. George C. Bowker; recording secretary, Mrs. C. Townley Larzalere; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Karl Kent Kite; treasurer, Mrs. Howard K. Regar.

The Octave Club was an auxiliary to the Norristown branch of the American Red Cross, 1917-1918, the officers of the club supervising the work. A large amount of knitting was done, in one instance meeting an emergency call for 115 sweaters in four weeks. Other phases of war activities were carried on with patriotic zeal, the purchasing of Liberty Bonds, encouragement of thrift, contribution to reconstruction of French village, and the support of ten Armenians for one year.

The Melody Club of Ardmore was organized in February, 1920, and has 150 members. It has for its object the promotion of the knowledge of music, its dissemination and practice, and the good will and harmony between the members. The first officers of the club were: President, Mrs. Floyd F. Chadwick; vice-president, Miss Laura B. Staley; corresponding secretary, Miss Dorothy Parry; treasurer, J. S. Wilson. Monthly concerts are given with amateur artists of high standing. The organization of a chorus and of an instrumental ensemble under efficient directors are achievements of distinct value. The present officers are: President, Mrs. H. Rey Wolf; first vice-president, Mrs. Nelson D. Warwick; second vice-president, Mrs. Loftus Hollingsworth; recording secretary, Miss Vivian Ingle; corresponding secretary, Miss Dorothy Parry; treasurer, J. S. Wilson.

Women of Montgomery County in the Red Cross—There are seventeen branches of the Red Cross in Montgomery county, forming a part of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross. During the period of the late war no section of our county was without the activities of the Red Cross, and women everywhere, individually and through organizations, worked with devotion in the various departments of Red Cross work. Branches opened work rooms where, under sanitary conditions, clothing was made and surgical dressings prepared. Sweaters and socks were knit in great quantity. Soldiers' comforts were provided and Christmas packages sent. Classes in elemental hygiene and first aid were conducted. Commissary and canteen service was ready to respond to regular or emergency calls to serve boat, train and hospital. The navy auxiliary rendered helpful service. Motor messenger service was promptly and efficiently rendered. Coöperation and untiring effort characterized the patriotic service of scores of women in every community, and contributed in untold measure to the comfort and morale of the men in camps, hospitals and in active service.

After hostilities ceased, many branches continued effective work, aiding in measures of reconstruction at home and abroad. This work at home has been first of all the home service, handling cases of disabled former service men and their families, assisting them in filing their claims for compensation, or retraining by the government, and extending financial help to those in need.

Public health work has been taken up, and many communities have been assisted in establishing public health nurses, who serve the homes, and frequently the public schools. Well Baby clinics are established. Coöperation is given the County Tuberculosis Association, and welfare agencies. Civilian relief work is carried on, or assistance given to the community to establish its own work. Social service committees provide entertainment and comforts for former service men in hospitals, and do friendly visiting among their families. Some branches continue

regular days of sewing, sending garments to the destitute abroad and getting out nurses' supplies at home.

The annual Roll Call is directed by the branch chairmen, the thousands of memberships procured each year giving evidence of the gratitude in the hearts of the people for the unfailing and generous helpfulness of the American Red Cross.

Following is the record of the branches in Montgomery county during the war period, 1917-1918, and 1923:

Bala-Cynwyd—Mrs. J. Samuel Stephenson, chairman. 1917-1918, work room, home service, canteen, motor-messenger service, social service; 1923, social service, well baby clinic, public health nurse, sewing, roll call.

Bryn-Athyn—Mrs. Robert M. Glenn, chairman. 1917-1918, work room; 1923, roll call.

Cheltenham—Mrs. Frederick W. Hazelton, chairman. 1917-1918, work room; 1923, roll call.

Collegeville—Mrs. Carl V. Tower, chairman; auxiliary chairmen, Mrs. M. B. Schrack, Mrs. John P. Klein; Evansburg, Iron Bridge, Trappe, Yerkes. 1917-1918, work room, home service. 1923, sewing, roll call.

Conshohocken—Mrs. George N. Highley, chairman. 1917-1918, work room, home service. 1923, home service, civilian relief, roll call.

Hatboro, Horsham—Mrs. Gertrude Shaffer, chairman. 1917-1918, work room. 1923, Mrs. E. L. Smith, chairman; public health work, roll call.

Lansdale, Telford, Souderton—Mrs. A. H. Landis and Mrs. Wellington Rosenberry, chairmen, assisted by Mrs. Herbert Kuhn and Mrs. Herman Bergen. 1917-1918, work room, home service. 1923, Mrs. A. H. Landis, chairman, public health nurse, well baby clinic, home service, roll call.

Main Line No. 1—Maintained work room at Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Ardmore, Narberth, Merion, Brandywine (Chester county), Ithan (Delaware county), Meadow Lodge, two in Preston (Delaware county), Rosemont, Ardmore (colored), Wynnewood, Bryn Mawr College, Shipley School, Baldwin School. Mrs. Charlton Yarnall, chairman, 1917-1918; department of ways and means, Mrs. Wm. S. Ellis, chairman; instruction, Mrs. Grenville D. Montgomery; home service, Miss Henrietta B. Ely; surgical dressings, Mrs. George B. Rea; hospital supplies, Mrs. Thos. Newhall; purchasing, Mrs. W. T. Plummer; wool, Miss Louisa Rawle; recreation for soldiers and sailors, Mrs. W. J. Clothier; packing, shipping and storing, Mrs. Hutton Kennedy; transportation, Miss Marion Johnson; comfort kits, Mrs. H. C. Earnshaw; reclamation, Mrs. S. E. Ewing; membership, Mrs. Alexander Brown.

1923—Mrs. Alexander Brown, chairman. Departments—Membership, Mrs. J. E. Caldwell; transportation, Miss Mabel Pusey; Junior Red

Cross, Mrs. L. C. Wister; home service, Mrs. Harold W. How; publicity, Mrs. H. H. Collins, Jr.; disaster, Mrs. David S. Ludlum; sewing, Mrs. S. E. Ewing; public health and child welfare, Mrs. H. C. Earnshaw; wool, Mrs. Joseph Morris.

North Penn, North Wales, Blue Bell, Oreland, Flourtown—Mrs. Norton Downs, chairman. 1917-1918, work room, home service; 1923, home service, roll call.

Norristown—Miss Martha McInnes, chairman two months of 1917; Miss Nina Boreiche Read, chairman 1917-18. Auxiliaries—Haws Avenue Methodist Church, Mrs. Glanding, chairman; Central Presbyterian, Miss Estelle Thomas; Calvary Baptist, Mrs. Walter Sheive; First Presbyterian, Mrs. Aaron Swartz; First Baptist, Mrs. Horace Still; Trinity Lutheran, Mrs. N. Howland Brown; Grace Lutheran, Mrs. Edward Kneule; First Methodist, Miss Ramsay; G. F. S. St. John's, Miss Lydia West; Y. W. C. A., Miss Highley; High School, Miss Sophia McIntyre; State Hospital, Dr. Peterson; Boyer Arcade, Mrs. Richard H. Lane; Maple Hurst, Mrs. Wernle; Octave Club, Mrs. Roy Hatfield; Skippack, Mrs. Hoke; Bridgeport, Miss Ella Worrall; Jeffersonville, Mrs. Scott; Lower Providence, Mrs. Croll; Plymouth Meeting, Mrs. George N. Leiper; Fairview Village, Mrs. Harvey Plummer. Work room, canteen, home service, classes in hygiene and first aid. 1923, home service, work room, canteen, first aid, roll call.

Ogontz, Huntington Valley—Mrs. John S. Newbold, chairman, February-October, 1917; Miss Mary W. Lippincott, 1917-1921. Sections—Jenkintown, Mrs. Corbit Lovering, chairman, Ogontz; Mrs. Harlow C. Vorhees, Wyncote; Mrs. Milton K. Neiffer, Glenside; Mrs. Frank L. Van Horn, Roslyn; Mrs. George Kelly, Rydal; Mrs. Wm. P. Denegre, Willow Grove; Mrs. H. P. Robinson, Abington; Mrs. Beaurean Borie, Noble; Mrs. Alan H. Krips, Weldon, Cresmont, McKinley, Bethayres. Departments: Work room, surgical dressings, Mrs. Sumner Cross, Mrs. F. W. Morris, Jr., chairmen; navy auxiliary, Mrs. John N. Frazier; wool and knitting, Miss Sarah S. Pearson; home service, Mrs. Spencer Brock, Mrs. Marmaduke Tilden; motor messenger, Mrs. F. W. Morris, Jr.; commissary and canteen, overseas committee. 1923, Mrs. Milton K. Nieffer, chairman. Home service, well baby clinic, roll call.

Old York Road, Melrose, Ashbourne, and part of Elkin's Park—Elizabeth C. Asbury, chairman. 1917-1918, work room. 1923, work room, social service, roll call.

Perkiomen—Rev. N. F. Schmidt, chairman. Auxiliaries—Limerick, J. B. Krause, Mrs. Wm. H. Knipe, chairmen; Gratersford, W. Hunsicker; Spring Mount, Saml. Wolford; Woxall, Michael Beltz and Mrs. John Hendricks; Sumneytown, Rev. Cyrus Held. 1917-1918, work room. 1923, roll call.

Pottstown—Mrs. A. D. Hopper, chairman. 1917-1918, work room,

home service. 1923, Mrs. George Q. Sheppard, chairman. Work room, civilian relief, public health nurse, well baby clinic, roll call.

Royersford—Dr. Joseph A. Buckwalter, Dorothy L. Latshaw, chairmen. 1917-1918, work room. 1923, Dr. Joseph A. Buckwalter, Mrs. Joseph A. Buckwalter, chairmen, roll call.

West Conshohocken—Mrs. Mary Duke Smythe, chairman. Auxiliary—Gulph Mills, Mrs. Sullivan, chairman. 1917-1918, work room, home service. 1923, Mrs. Maud V. Davis, chairman, work room, roll call.

The following are the names of some women in Montgomery county who served in the World War:

Overseas with the American Red Cross:

Miss Elizabeth Coombes (Mrs. George Strode), Abington Hospital, Abington; nurse with Pennsylvania University Unit.
Miss Marcella K. Flynn (Mrs. George Rice), Abington Hospital.
Miss Ida E. Fretz, Ambler.
Mrs. Walter Fox, Bala-Cynwd.
Miss Mary G. Vanneman, Bala-Cynwyd.
Miss Henrietta Ely, Bryn Mawr.
Miss Helen Winthrop, Bryn Mawr.
Miss Esther Stiles, Bryn Mawr.
Mrs. Edward Bell Trumbhaar, Chestnut Hill.
Miss Katharine Kelly, Conshohocken.
Miss Mary G. Wight, Jenkintown; refugee work, Children's Bureau.
Miss Stephanie C. Pohle, Lansdale.
Miss Edna M. Rockfeller, Lansdale.
Miss Sara Scheetz (Mrs. Charles Quillman), Norristown; Nurse's Aid.
Miss Harriet Kulp, Pottstown.
Miss Anna S. Kent (Mrs. John W. Moore), Wyncote; Episcopal Hospital Unit.

Overseas with the Y. M. C. A.:

Miss Elizabeth Arnold, Ardmore.
Miss Edna E. Flenner, Ardmore.
Miss Esther Latch, Bala-Cynwyd.
Miss Hellen Pedrick, Bala-Cynwyd.
Miss Mary Clark, Bryn Mawr.
Miss Gertrude Ely, Bryn Mawr.
Miss Miriam Ristine, Bryn Mawr.
Miss Susannah Ridgway (Mrs. Bradley J. Saunders), Jenkintown.

Overseas with the American Friends' Service Committee:

Miss Dorothea B. Jones (Mrs. George V. Downing), Conshohocken; in France.
Miss Leah Cadbury, Haverford; in France.
Miss Emma T. R. Williams, Norristown; in Germany.

Overseas in the American Library Association Service:

Miss Elizabeth J. Webster, Conshohocken; in France.

Nurses overseas, not with the Red Cross:

Miss Margaret Custer, Norristown.
Miss Emma Gibson, Norristown.

Miss Eunice Gotwals, Norristown.
Miss Elizabeth Kelly, Norristown.
Miss Agnes Shore, Norristown.
Miss Ada Sturgis, Norristown.
Miss Claire Wheeler, Norristown.
Miss Elizabeth Nichols, Glenside.

With the Red Cross, not overseas:

Miss Nellie Elder, Norristown.
Miss Viola Woodward, Norristown.
Miss Anna Kohl, North Wales.

Army nurses, but not overseas:

Miss Elizabeth F. Dewey, Bryn Mawr; Naval Base Hospital, No. 5.
Miss Leta M. Edwards, Bryn Mawr; Base Hospital, No. 10.
Miss Nan Craven, Norristown.
Miss Elizabeth Michener, Norristown.
Miss Miriam Springer, Norristown.
Miss Sara Kearns, North Wales.

Not classified:

Mrs. Sarah Tyler Marshall, Rydal; reconstruction work, American Committee for Devastated France.

Miss Mary Super, Narberth; Near East Relief.

Miss Margaret Hopper, Narberth; Emergency Aid in Paris and Belgrade orphanages.

Miss Elizabeth Snyder, Ardmore; with Sanitary Train.

Miss Rose Doland, Bryn Mawr; ambulance driver in France.

Miss Lulu Sidwell, Glenside; dietician.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

In this chapter will be found a concise account of the various physicians, medical societies and hospitals within Montgomery county from early days to the present.

When this county was first organized, the science of medicine, though hundreds of years old, had made but little real progress in the "art of healing," as it was then called. In many instances the various diseases incident to the human kind were treated by virtues supposed, or otherwise to be found in herbs found growing within the borders of each pioneer settlement. Doubtless they had some healing qualities and had they been scientifically administered after proper care had been had to prepare them for medicinal uses, might have been excellent specifics. Yet, there was need for the learned followers of Galen, the earliest medical dean. One custom obtained throughout the country down as late as the forties and fifties—that of being bled. This act of letting a quantity of blood flow from the veins, at least in fall and spring of each year, was almost universal. And while one would naturally suppose that a physician would have the monopoly in such cases, yet in many instances the professional barber was considered good in such work, and it is said that this custom among barbers led to the red stripes found on the "barber poles," still universally in use. The red stripe indicated that one could, at that shop, be "blooded." In this connection in after years a Montgomery county physician, Dr. Hiram Corson, became nationally famous by his advocacy of bleeding for pneumonia.

In those early times the midwife flourished and believed she had as much right to be in a sick room as had the trained physician. She never thought she was encroaching on the rights of a learned profession that might have taken many years to master at a regular medical school. With barbers bleeding his patrons, and the midwife following the rounds in the neighborhood looking after "confinement" cases, the services of educated physicians were seldom brought into requisition. It was only in extreme cases, when life was believed to be in imminent danger, that he was summoned to the bedside. But with a higher state of civilization and general advancement, the demand for "family doctors" became more and more common. Until early in the fifties there had not come into existence the numerous schools of medicine we now have. The one known as "regular" or allopathic, and the herbal school of medicine, were mostly in use. While we have Eclectic and Homœopathic schools of medicine, with large colleges throughout the country, yet the larger per cent. of medical colleges to-day are of the old "regular" school of medicine. It is to be noted that while at the present time the family

physician is still retained to a large degree, there was developed an age of specialism, and almost every physician either on graduation or shortly afterwards, assumed that part of medicine which he had particularly studied or adopted or specialized in that one branch. This has possibly been brought about from the fact that it is almost impossible for one mind to successfully grasp all the knowledge for a general practice, brought about by the rapid advance in medicine during the last generation, and the concentration of the physicians in the larger cities, with our easy quick modes of travel, the country physician has almost become extinct; in our own county, numerous physicians have moved in from the country, their years of country work having made them very successful practitioners.

Early Physicians—The first physician in this county, it is believed, was Dr. Griffith Owen. Drs. Thomas Wynne and Griffith Owen came with William Penn when he settled in Philadelphia, and as Montgomery county was then included within Philadelphia, Dr. Owen must have been the first in this county. About the date of this county being organized by itself (1784), Dr. Thomas Graeme became a resident physician here, locating at what was ever after known as Graeme Park. He later became elevated to the Council, and was master in chancery. He died in 1772.

Now having established the first physicians to practice in this county, it will not be the province of this work to extend in detail an account of the many doctors who have practiced herein during all these long and multiplied years. However, it may not be without interest to make a few brief notes on some of these physicians who have been successful in the medical practice of the county, away back in the past, for it has been through their experience that greater medical skill and a profounder knowledge of the science of medicine have come to obtain today. Such a list includes Dr. Christian Frederick Martin, a graduate of Berlin, Germany, who came to this county in 1742 and practiced at Trappe upwards of thirty years. He left four sons, all physicians, who at one time in their careers practiced within this county.

Next came Dr. Jonathan Potts, son of John Potts, of Pottsgrove, graduated in 1771; was conducting a drug store and practicing medicine when the Revolution broke out; his place was at Reading; he sold out and joined Washington's army and rose to a high position, becoming director-general of the Northern Department of the army. Many of his letters and papers are on file in the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Another doctor whose name is well known to medical men—Dr. William Potts Dewees, was born in Pottsgrove, 1768; graduated at the University in 1789, entered upon practice at Abington, this county. He moved to a wider field in Philadelphia, where he won fame by devoting his efforts toward the subject of obstetrics, at that time a novel branch of

the medical profession in the United States. He delivered the first full course of lectures on this subject, and by 1812 had amassed a fortune by these lectures. He died in 1841, at Philadelphia.

Dr. Isaac Huddleson settled in the medical practice in Norristown in 1793, and was highly successful. He was associated with the formation of the Norristown Library Company. It was written of him that "he was a careful, successful surgeon, and so placid and kind in disposition that he probably never had an enemy in all his life." He left one son who practiced medicine in Norristown, and later in Delaware county. In 1831 the only two physicians in Norristown were Drs. Huddleson and George W. Thomas, who were advanced in years, and were soon joined by Dr. William Corson, and the three made a splendid team in the medical profession, and frequently consulted one with the other.

With the beginning of the nineteenth century, there arrived numerous physicians, including Drs. John Jones, F. S. Wilson, Gove Mitchell, Dr. Hart, Joseph Merideth and uncle Dr. Hugh Merideth, Silas Huff, Dr. McLean, Dr. Charles Moore; Dr. Bacheldor, at Hatboro, who practiced on foot when his patient failed to provide him a conveyance; Dr. Amos Griffith practiced at North Wales twelve years, and then went to farming. Others who acted honorably their part in the profession were: Drs. Samuel Gartley, born in 1779; Samuel Freedley, born 1799, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1821, later took up homœopathy and practiced in Philadelphia; Robert J. Dodd, of Lower Merion township, born in Philadelphia in 1809, studied medicine under Gen. George B. McClellan's father, graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1831, and most of his eventful life was spent abroad in important medical positions for the government. He died in Lower Merion in 1876, a highly honored man. He left a number of sons who practiced medicine in this and nearby counties.

Later physicians included Drs. Jacob Knipe, Hiram Corson, William Corson, Joseph Leedom, E. C. Leedom, James Hamer, W. A. Van Buskirk, Charles Shoemaker, Henry De Witt Pawling, J. Warren Royer, John K. Reid, L. W. Read, Margaret Phillips Richardson, Edward Reading, M. Newbury, John Todd, A. D. Markley—all gave many years of their lives in this county to their duties as faithful physicians, and have long since been numbered among the deceased. Another noted physician was Mary Henderson Stinson, born in Norristown in 1819, and became a physician of ability, when her sex had only just commenced to be admitted in medical colleges and to practice. She was bright, intelligent and forceful, and lived not in vain, but for the uplift of her own sex.

Physicians of Forty Years Ago—The following is a list of what is believed to be the names of every physician, of whatever school of medicine, in practice within Montgomery county in 1883.

John W. Anderson, Lower Merion.
Milton F. Acker, Tylersport.
Reuben High Andrews, Lansdale.
Wm. J. Ashenfelter, Pottstown.
Herbert A. Arnold, Merionville.
Harry M. Bunting, Norristown.
Henricum Bobb, East Greenville.
Horace M. Bellows, Huntington Valley.
Cornelius Bartholomew, New Hanover.
George A. Blanch, Green Lane.
Abraham R. Benner, Norristown.
Ephraim K. Blanck, Hatfield.
Joseph Y. Bechtol, Schwenksville.
Mary Alice Bennett, Norristown.
Jesse E. Bauman, Telford.
David R. Beaver, Conshohocken.
Charles Bradley, Norristown.
John K. Blank, Upper Hanover.
N. H. Longabaugh, Norristown.
Edwin C. Leedom, Plymouth.
Robert Coltman, Sr., Jenkintown.
Elwood Corson, Norristown.
Hiram Corson, Plymouth.
William Corson, Norristown.
R. Cooper, Shoemakertown.
R. H. Chase, Norristown (hospital).
John B. Carrell, Hatboro.
Charles H. Mann, Bridgeport.
John S. Morey, Upper Providence.
A. H. Mellerish, Lower Merion.
P. H. Markley, Hatboro.
A. L. Miller, Tylersport.
Wm. McKenzie, West Conshohocken.
Milton Newbury, Fort Washington.
Benjamin H. Nice, Norristown.
Joannem Paxson, Jenkintown.
John G. Hillegass, Pennsburg.
John V. Hoffman, Gilbertsville.
Charles B. Hough, Three Tuns.
Joseph S. Hill, Ardmore.
William H. Hall, Conshohocken.
Mary P. Hallowell, Horsham.
Russell S. Hill, Weldon.
Benjamin K. Johnson, North Wales.
Ewing Jordan, Norristown Hospital.
Francis M. Knipe, Frederick.
Franklin B. Keller, Pottstown.
R. K. Kellor, Salford.
V. Z. Kellor, Lower Salford.
J. O. Knipe, Norristown.
Septimus A. Knipe, New Hanover.
George S. Kirby, Pottstown.
Armett Keratz, Lansdale.
David H. Bergey, Upper Hanover.
David H. Bergey, Perkiomen.
F. G. Bigony, Line Lexington.
Matthew A. Long, Pottstown.
Hiram R. Loux, Souderton.
J. W. Lodge, Lower Merion.
A. D. Markley, Hatboro.
G. K. Meschter, Center Point.
Samuel C. Moyer, Lansdale.
James G. Mensch, Pennsburg.
Amos G. Coleman, Limerick.
Edward M. Clifford, Valley Forge.
William A. Cross, Jenkintown.
H. H. Drake, Norristown.
John Davis, Pottstown.
Thomas Davis, Lower Providence.
Benjamin F. Dismant, Upper Providence.
James Dotterer, Pennsburg.
Phil Y. Eisenburg, Norristown.
Henry DeWitt Pauling, King of Prussia.
I. N. Evans, Hatboro.
Jonathan N. Faust, Frederick.
Mahlon Preston, Norristown.
John E. Peters, Jenkintown.
W. C. Roney, Pottstown.
Margaret Richardson, Norristown.
Wm. H. Randle, Jenkintown.
Lewis W. Reid, Conshohocken.
Edward B. Rossiter, Pottstown.
George S. Gerhard, Ardmore.
Thomas Walter Gardiner, Pottstown.
Isiah K. Gerhard, Worcester.
Eman F. Gerhard, Norristown.
James H. Hamer, Collegeville.
William B. Hill, Abington.
George N. Higley, Conshohocken.
Charles M. Robinson, Ambler.
R. G. Reiff, Pottstown.
Horace Still, Norristown.
Henry T. Slemmer, Norristown.
S. C. Seiple, Center Square.
Henry F. Slifer, North Wales.
C. Van Artsdalen, Chelton Hills.
H. H. Whitcomb, Norristown.
M. A. Withers, Pottstown.
S. N. Wiley, Norristown.
John Schrack, Jeffersonville.
S. N. Wiley, Norristown.
P. O. Wickert, Salfordville.
Wm. Savory, Bryn Mawr.
S. B. Swavley, Pottstown.
Samuel Wolf, Jr., Skippacksville.
Richard W. Saylor, Pottsgrove.
William L. Shoemaker, Fitzwatertown.
William C. Powell, Jr., Bryn Mawr.
Oliver H. Fisher, Graters Ford.
Milton B. Fretz, Souderton.
Oliver H. Fretz, Salfordville.
Edward M. Fury, Norristown.
M. W. Gilmer, North Wales.
Wm. A. Gerhart, Lansdale.
Henry G. Groff, Lower Salford.
Charles W. Gumbes, Oaks Station.
O. C. Robinson, Huntington Valley.
S. M. Rambo, Oaks Station.
J. Warren Royer, Trappe.
H. D. Rosenberger, Hatfield.
Edward Reading, Hatboro.
Joseph E. Ritter, Pottstown.
George Roney, Pottstown.
John Todd, Pottstown.
John N. Tenney, Collegeville.
Henry U. Umsted, Upper Providence.
J. S. Schrawder, Upper Dublin.
C. B. R. Umsted, Upper Providence.
Jacob H. Sheetz, Pottstown.
George M. Stiles, Conshohocken.

G. P. Sargent, Bryn Mawr.
Joseph K. Weaver, Norristown.
B. H. Shelly, Palm.
Joseph W. Winter, Lower Merion.
F. S. Wilson, Jarrettown.
Charles T. Waage, Pennsburg.
Albanus Styer, Ambler.
P. O. Wickert, Salfordsville.
M. Y. Weber, Evansburg.
D. W. Shelly, Ambler.
Charles Z. Weber, Norristown.

Of the one hundred and forty physicians practicing in the county as shown above, only fifty-five are living to-day. Ten have removed from the county and taken up the practice elsewhere.

The physicians who have practiced in the county since the above date (1884), according to an account given of them by Dr. Herbert H. Bostock, of Norristown, chairman of the Publicity Committee of the Montgomery County Medical Society, are found in connection with the history of that Society within this chapter. Other physicians of the county not members of the Medical Society, hence not given in the list just referred to, but who in recent years have had a practice here are as follows: L. L. Cope, Hatfield; J. J. Kane, Norristown; J. I. Care, H. L. Dovey, A. G. Dorris, William J. Manning, all of Norristown; I. M. Powbidis, West Conshohocken; E. M. Vaughan, Royersford; W. J. Davis, J. W. Armstrong, David B. Cooley, A. K. Davidheiser, W. H. Eck, all of Pottstown; C. F. Chandler, Graterford; J. L. Loux and J. S. Miller, both of Graterford; G. A. Kerling, Pennsburg; A. C. Herman, Lansdale; Herbert T. Moyer and H. O. Williams, both of Lansdale.

The following-named are the homœopathic physicians of the county at present: Drs. S. Miles Robinson, Howard C. Nicholoson, M. D. Youngman, Charles D. Fox, J. S. Miller, Collegeville; H. J. Ervin, B. M. F. Peters, A. C. Heritage, Hatboro; H. M. Bunting, A. R. Garner, Daniel A. Wilson, E. A. Krusen, F. T. Krusen, C. C. Krusen, all of Norristown; P. G. Atkinson, Thomas Reading, Hatboro; Walter E. Fine, Samuel Sleath, Herbert Moyer, Lansdale; H. O. Williams, Lansdale; E. M. Vaughan, Royersford; James Shoemaker, Bryn Mawr; Leroy Roth, Conshohocken; H. Powell, Joseph Brooks, R. C. Hoffman, E. B. Rossiter, Pottstown; G. A. Shute, Pottstown; David B. Cooley, Pottstown; T. F. Conover, A. J. Craig, Fort Washington.

Medical Societies—The Montgomery County Medical Society, with general headquarters at Norristown, was organized in January, 1847. Sometimes it holds its meetings at Pottstown, Bryn Mawr, and other places in the county. It now has monthly meetings. The first officers were: Dr. George W. Thomas, president; Dr. Hiram Corson, secretary. The last named was the ancestor or belonged to all the numerous Corsons who became prominent physicians and surgeons in Eastern Pennsylvania. This Doctor Corson practiced at the age of ninety years, and died two years later, in March, 1896. For many years he was a member of the American Medical Association, and a noted medical writer. He put forward his niece, Miss Anderson, and educated her for the medical profession, among the first in the country of her sex.

The first regular call to organize a medical society in this county was attended by Drs. George W. Thomas, Hiram Corson, William Corson, Washington G. Nugent, and John L. Foulke. The object as stated in their first constitution was "to cultivate and extend the science of medicine, to sustain and elevate the character of the profession, to protect the interests and promote harmony amongst its members. Any physician of a good moral character and respectable standing in the profession may become a member of this society." The records disclose the fact that in 1883 its membership was fifty-four, and it annually sent delegates to the State and American Associations.

Among the prominent members in the past may now be recalled such men as Drs. J. K. Weaver and L. W. Read, both at one time Surgeon Generals of Pennsylvania, both in the Civil War and Spanish-American War. Dr. Read was also in the early Crimean War of Europe. Another quite noted doctor was Henry F. Folley, M. D., of King of Prussia, a borough of this county, who died several years ago. Another honored member was Dr. J. O. Knipe, now deceased; his brother still practices medicine in eastern Pennsylvania. For a list of members of this Society who served in the late World War, see below.

The Montgomery County Medical Society stands third in membership and strength of all the societies in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and Allegheny counties only exceeding her. Already $3,000 of a permanent fund is on hand for the building of a permanent home for the Society at Norristown. The present officers of the Society are: Dr. W. R. Roberts, president; Dr. E. S. Byers, secretary; W. G. Miller, treasurer; Dr. Robert P. Elmer and John B. Sherborn, M. D., vice-presidents. Meetings are held monthly. The Society publishes a "Monthly Bulletin," giving much information to the membership. The present editors are Drs. Herbert A. Bostock, Frank C. Parker, Dr. Simpson.

Members Who Served in World War—The subjoined list gives the names of physicians who were members of this Medical Society, who served in the late World War, either at home in camps, or abroad in the actual strife: F. B. Allen, North Wales, first lieutenant, Camp Dix, New Jersey; A. N. Baggs, Abington, first lieutenant surgeon, still in U. S. service; J. W. Bauman, Lansdale, captain Base Hospital, Georgia, is still in U. S. service; Walter Blair, Norristown, first lieutenant Engineer Corps, France; J. H. Cloud, Ardmore, captain Base Hospital, France; E. F. Corson, Cynwyd, first lieutenant, Camp Grant, Illinois; C. W. Luders, Cynwyd, lieutenant, in Georgia; F. R. Ramsey, Wyndmoor, first lieutenant, Georgia; A. S. Ruth, Conshohocken, first lieutenant, London, England; John Sharp, Haverford, lieutenant, Long Island; George W. Miller, Norristown, captain Base Hospital, Louisiana; W. C. Sheehan, first lieutenant, Georgia; Russell Keeler, Harleysville, first lieutenant, Georgia; J. C. Simpson, Norristown, first lieutenant,

Texas; H. C. Welker, Norristown, captain Base Hospital, Unit No. 34, "Somewhere in France," died in service; R. G. Whitman, Conshohocken, lieutenant, in Georgia; R. V. Wolfe, Norristown, captain, Long Island; Walter Yeakle, Norristown, Recruiting Station, Virginia; J. A. McCracken, Norristown, first lieutenant, Georgia; Isaac Roberts, Lanerich, lieutenant, "Somewhere in France;" W. A. Toland, captain, in Georgia; George McGinnes, "Somewhere in France."

"Main Line Branch" is the name of a branch of the Montgomery County Medical Society which covers a remote part of the county. It was formed November 17, 1915, but has the advantages of regular members of the parent society, largely.

The Schuylkill Valley Club is another medical society or club, so-called, organized May 3, 1911. Its first president was Dr. Newton Hunsberger; W. G. Miller, vice-president; A. S. Byers, secretary and treasurer. It has thirty members, which is the limited number who can belong at present. Present officers: President, W. J. Wright; vice-president, Elmer G. Gotwall; secretary and treasurer, E. S. Byers, of Norristown.

In the month of June, 1847, when the Medical Society held its first meeting after organizing, a committee was appointed to ascertain how many physicians there were then practicing in Montgomery county, and they reported later that there were sixty-four, of whom forty-seven were graduates of medical schools; four physicians who did not practice, of whom three were graduates; and one man, though not a graduate had practiced medicine here for forty years; also there were two Homœopathic doctors and two Thompsonian doctors.

The first woman to become a member of this society, and it is believed the first of her sex to belong to any medical society in the United States, probably in the world, was a pupil of Dr. Hiram Corson, Miss Anna Lukens, a graduate of the Women's Medical College of Philadelphia. The date of this was 1870, up to which time it had not been thought the proper thing for women to practice medicine and be a member of medical societies.

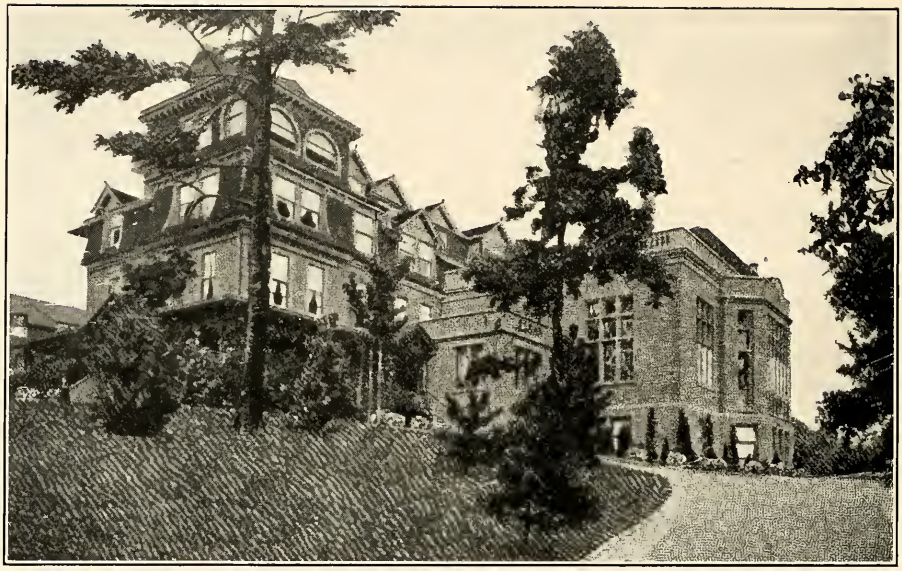
The subjoined appears from record to be the 1923 membership of the Montgomery Medical Society:

Frederick B. Allen, North Wales.
H. Croskey Allen, Norristown.
Newton G. Allebaugh, Souderton.
Warren Z. Anders, Collegeville.
Clifford H. Arnold, Ardmore.
Herbert A. Arnold, Ardmore.
Paul G. Atkinson, Norristown.
Edythe A. Bacon, State Hospital.
Ervin F. Benner, Salfordville.
Joseph E. Beldeman, Norristown.
Herbert A. Bostock, Norristown.
Thomas F. Branson, Rosemont.
Joel D. Brown (outside county).
Franklin D. Brush, Phœnixville.
Frederick Bushong, Pottstown.
Edgar S. Buyers, Norristown.
Carl F. Bigony, Lansdale.
Franklin G. Bigony, Lansdale.
Chapin Carpenter, Wayne.
J. Howard Cloud, Ardmore.
Walter Chrystie, Bryn Mawr.
R. Z. Cope, Hatfield.
George T. Lukens, Conshohocken.
Philip J. Lukens, Ambler.
Charles W. Luders, Cynwyd.
George I. McLeod, Ardmore.
John T. McDonald, Norristown.
John N. Markley, Schwenksville.

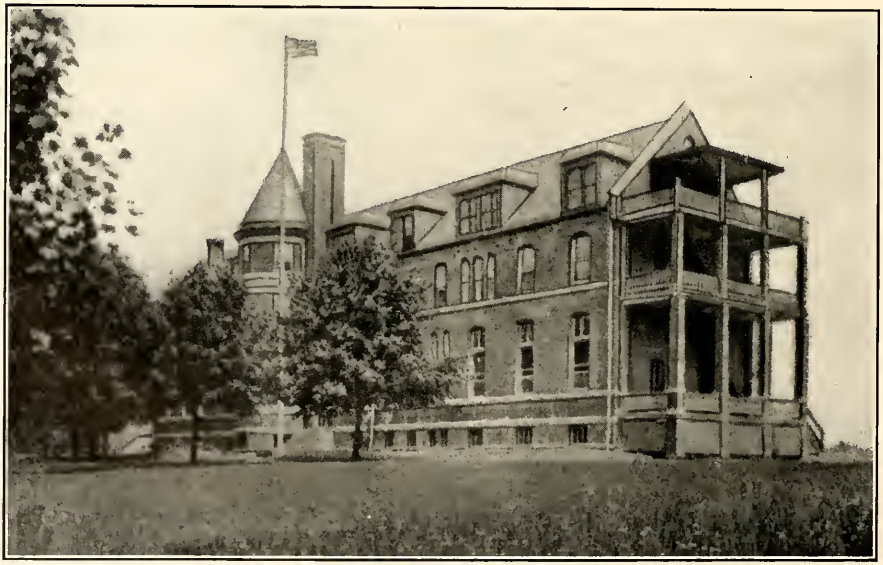
Lee F. Mauger, Pottstown.
James A. McCracken, Norristown.
George McGinnis, Norristown.
William McKenzie, Conshohocken.
Perry W. McLaughlin, Norristown.
Anthony C. Messmer, Ardmore.
George W. Miller, Norristown.
Joseph S. Miller, Collegeville.
S. Metz Miller (State Hospital).
William C. Miller, Norristown.
Ronald C. Moore, Schwenksville.
D. B. Moyer, Lansdale.
David Nathan, Norristown.
Milton K. Neiffer, Wyncote.
Howard Y. Neiman, Pottstown.
Percival Nicholson, Ardmore.
Percy H. Corson, Plymouth Meeting.
Edward F. Corson, Cynwyd.
George Cordonna, Norristown.
Malcom S. Councill, Bryn Mawr.
A. J. Craig, Fort Washington.
Sumner H. Cross, Jenkintown.
James Crowe, Huntingdon Valley.
A. Lovett Dewees, Haverford.
Wallace W. Dill, Norristown.
Charles F. Doran, Phœnixville.
H. H. Drake, Norristown.
J. Lawrence Eisenberg, Norristown.
Alexander Rae Evans, Norristown.
Robert E. Elmer, Wayne.
Joseph M. Ellenberger, Norristown.
Remo Fabbri, Norristown.
Clarence T. Fairies, Narberth.
DeLorme T. Fordyce, Conshohocken.
Robert G. Gamble, Haverford.
Albert Rowland Garner, Norristown.
Alfred O. Gery, East Greenville.
Henry Graber, Royersford.
Andrew Godfrey, Ambler.
J. Elmer Gotwals (outside county).
Paul D. Hanley, Pottstown.
George F. Hartman, Norristown.
John Harvey, Bryn Mawr.
Richard H. Harris, Elkins Park.
Howard W. Hassell, Bridgeport.
Oliver C. Heffner, Pottstown.
Robert S. Heffner, Pottstown.
A. C. Herman, Lansdale.
George N. Highley, Conshohocken.
Mary H. P. Hough, Ambler.
B. F. Hubley, Norristown.
J. N. Hunsberger, Pennsburg.
Isadore Hurwitz, Norristown.
George R. Irwin, Norristown.
Jessie P. Janjigian (outside county).
Arthur H. Jago, Ardmore.
Elmer A. Kell (outside county).
George A. Kerling, Pennsburg.
Alexander H. O'Neal, St. Davids.
Frank C. Parker, Norristown.
W. M. Parkinson (outside county.)
John D. Perkins, Jr., Conshohocken.
Henry C. Podall, Norristown.
J. Elmer Porter, Pottstown.
T. Elwood Quinn, Jenkintown.
Norman H. Rahn, Souderton.
Frank M. Ramsey, Chestnut Hill.
Robert W. Randall, Royersford.
Alfred H. Read, Norristown.
Henry D. Reed, Pottstown.
Willis Read Roberts, Norristown.
Isaac B. Roberts, Llanerch.
C. Atwood Rose, Ardmore.
John A. Roth, Red Hill.
John Rouse, Fox Chase.
Aaron L. Roth, Conshohocken.
Harvey F. Scholl (outside county).
N. Nathan School, Kulpsville.
J. Howard Seiple, Center Square.
George W. Stein, Norristown.
Walter J. Stein, Ardmore.
Warren B. Shaner, Pottstown.
Isaac H. Shelly, Ambler.
James A. Shelly, Ambler.
John S. Sharpe, Haverford.
Frederick C. Sharpless, Rosemont.
Herbert B. Shearer, Worcester.
John B. Sherbon, Pottstown.
William C. Sheehan, Chestnut Hill.
John C. Simpson, Norristown.
H. Forsythe Stapp, Pottstown.
Samuel B. Sturgis, Ardmore.
Herbert W. Taylor, Haverford.
J. Quincy Thomas, Norristown.
Munroe H. Tunnell, Bryn Mawr.
Howard E. Twining, Glenside.
Benjamin A. Tyler, Royersford.
Frederick W. Van Buskirk, Pottstown.
Wentworth D. Vedder, Pottstown.
William J. Watson, Norristown.
Vincent Z. Keeler, Harleysville.
Russell R. Keeler, Harleysville.
James M. Keaton, Ardmore.
Ammon C. Kershner, Norristown.
Reinoehl Knipe, Norristown.
William H. Knipe, Limerick.
Jeremiah A. Klotz, East Greenville.
Elmer G. Kreible, Norristown.
E. A. Krusen, Norristown.
H. Pearce Lakin, Lansdale.
James C. Landis, Pennsburg.
Frederick B. Little, Norristown.
John A. Logan, Hatboro.
Clark S. Long, Lansdale.
George T. Lukens, Conshohocken.
W. Stuart Watson, Cheltenham.
S. Nelson Wiley (outside county).
T. Edmond Wills, Pottstown.
John G. Wilson (State Hospital).
J. R. V. Wolfe, Norristown.
W. J. Wright, Skippack.
Charles R. Wylie, Pottstown.
Walter A. Yeakle, Norristown.

Honorary Members.

David H. Bergey, Philadelphia.
Samuel C. Seiple, Center Square.
Samuel Wolfe, Salt Lake City, Utah.



HILL SCHOOL, POTTSTOWN



POTTSTOWN HOSPITAL

Hospitals—This county is listed among the sections of country where up-to-date public and private hospitals obtain, tending to show the advanced methods of the humane side of life. While near the city of Philadelphia where numerous hospitals abound, there are ample accommodations in this county, a manufacturing center, too, for all who need the scientific care given by modern hospitals with their corps of trained nurses and skillful physicians and surgeons. Norristown has two hospitals—the Montgomery Hospital and Riverside Hospital. The former was known as "Charity Hospital" until 1920, when its name was changed. This hospital was established in 1889, history of which see later. Riverside Hospital is a private institution, of which Dr. McElhatton, of Norristown, is the proprietor.

Pottstown has two creditable hospitals—the oldest one is known as the Pottstown Hospital, and is fully equipped for doing good service in the community in which it is situated. The other hospital of that borough is the Homœopathic Hospital, of more recent origin, and is conducted along the latest known usages of homœopathic treatment. The hospital at Bryn Mawr is not of the class receiving State financial aid, but is an old, well regulated and highly successful institution. The only other hospital within Montgomery county is the one at Abington, which is taking care of most of the local cases in its community and is well equipped and carefully conducted. See history later in this chapter.

The Montgomery County Hospital at Norristown is the largest hospital in the county. It was first conducted in 1889-90. The first move toward its establishment was January 10, 1889. The ladies of the community held bazaars, and other means were used to create a building fund, and the first year $6,667 was raised, after which the Commonwealth made an appropriation to the institution amounting to $5,000. Land was purchased, and the building went forward. The total cost of the real estate and all improvements up to 1890 was $17,110. The buildings stand at the corner of Basin and Powell streets. The present number of beds for patients is eighty. The legal abstract of the name and changes, shows the following: January 23, 1889, was filed petition for the hospital incorporation to be known as the "Norristown Hospital and Dispensary." March 4, 1889, on motion of Theo. W. Bean, a charter was granted, and it was recorded March 15 that year in Miscellaneous Book No. 29, page 414. The name was changed May 19, 1890, on motion of J. W. Berkel, and it was decreed that the name should be changed to "Charity Hospital of Montgomery County." June 20, 1890, this was duly recorded in Miscellaneous Book 31, page 298. Again the name was changed in the spring of 1920 to "Montgomery Hospital." Its original officers and directors were as follows: President, N. R. Haines; vice-presidents, R. Wilson Perry and Remandus Sheetz; secretary, J. Clinton Sellers; treasurer, Mrs. Sarah S. Rex. Directors—Rev. Isaac Gibson.

Dr. John W. Loch, William Rennyson, J. Morton Brown, I. N. Harrar, Joseph Shaw, Isaac W. Smith, John W. Bickel, John Slingluff, Walter H. Cooke, and J. P. Hale Jenkins

The present (1923) officers and directors are as follows: President, Nicholas H. Larzelere; vice-presidents, Charles Major, A. T. Eastwick; secretary, Walter R. Moyer; treasurer, Norristown Trust Company; solicitor, John M. Dettra. Directors—Mrs. Louis M. Childs, A. T. Eastwick, Henry I. Fox, H. H. Ganser, Harvey C. Gresh, George F. Hartman, M. D., A. Markley Harry, John Kearns, Miss Mary H. Loch, Charles Major, H. Severn Regar, David H. Ross, Hon. William F. Solly, Mrs. Henry C. Wentz, Howard Wood, Jr.; superintendent, Agnes C. Shore, R. N.; resident physician, Dr. M. Weimer. The Medical Board includes Chief Surgeon Dr. Alfred C. Wood, with six surgeons and two assistant surgeons. The medical staff includes twenty local physicians, covering specialties in various classes of diseases. Then besides this array of medical men, is the auxiliary staff of thirty-two physicians, from nearly every borough in the county. Of the Women's Department, it may be said that the president is Mrs. Henry C. Wentz; vice-presidents, Mrs. George H. Coughlin, Mrs. John M. Dettra. The auxiliary also has a full set of officers.

The abstract of the Pottstown Hospital show these dates: Filing of application for charter, February 12, 1889; charter granted, May 11, 1889; recording of charter, April 8, 1889; dedicated and open for patients, May 30, 1893. The buildings were secured at first by an endowment from John H. Krause, of $20,000, if the town would raise $20,000 more. Miss Annie Engle, with the help of the King's Daughters Circle, made it possible to secure the needed $20,000. The first president was William Beecher, he being at the head of the board of trustees. Dr. John Todd was the first president of the staff of physicians. The present estimated value of the entire plant is $105,000. The institution is an eighty-bed hospital, located in the northeastern part of the borough of Pottstown. The buildings are of handsome red brick. The board of trustees at present: Frederick H. Keiser, president; William H. Maxwell, secretary; Harrie H. Burdan, treasurer; Harry F. Hallman, Comly B. Shoemaker, Frank Auchenbach, William E. Mills. The present board of managers: Mrs. John B. Evans, president; Mrs. James Reigner, vice-president; Mrs. F. E. Kelley, second vice-president; Mrs. George E. Faber, secretary; Mrs. L. F. Nagle, treasurer; Miss Minnie Miller, corresponding secretary; and twenty-five other ladies (local and out of town) complete the list of managers, who meet the second day of each month at the Hospital. The president of the medical staff is J. E. Porter, M. D.; W. B. Shaner, M .D., secretary.

This is one of Pennsylvania's fully up-to-date hospitals in the fullest extent of the term. On December 28, 1922, a bronze tablet with cast por-

trait, in memory of Miss Harriet Lorraine Kulp, a Red Cross nurse, a graduate of the Pottstown Hospital's Training School for Nurses, who lost her life in a military camp at Valdahon, France, December 28, 1918, was placed on the walls in the corridor of the hospital, and was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies in the presence of the parents of Miss Kulp, the members of the alumni of the Training School, the board of managers, the nurses, the staff, the trustees, and the public.

Number of patients admitted to the hospital in 1922 was 803; number of free patients admitted, 397; operations performed, 459; deaths during the year, 57; births during the year, 113; daily average patients, 33; per cent. of free treatment, 65; average cost per patient per day, $3.47.

The Bryn Mawr Hospital, according to information just received, was established by Dr. George S. Gerhard in 1895, and has beds or rooms for ninety patients at this time, and is this season building a separate building as a maternity hospital or ward and this when finished in the autumn will accommodate twenty-five more. The present officers are: President, S. M. Vauclain; vice-president, Charlton Yarnall; secretary, Dr. Arthur H. Gerhard; treasurer, Robert E. Strawbridge; solicitor, Neville D. Tyson; superintendent, Miss Katharine Brown, 1922-23. The chief resident physician is Dr. George L. Carrington, 1922-23. During 1922 there were 1,505 patients in this hospital, 417 from foreign countries; free patients, 1,248; Catholic patients admitted, 722; Protestants, 1,199.

Abington Memorial Hospital is located in Abington borough, Montgomery county, and is in every manner a modern medical institution. It was incorporated under the State laws in 1913. The original tract and buildings were given by George W. Elkins. The first officers were: George W. Elkins, president; John Gilbert, vice-president; Robert Sewell, treasurer; Leon H. Gilbert, secretary. This institution receives no State financial aid, but depends upon donations and endowments. It is beautifully situated in one of the most charming places in the county. The eighth annual report shows that the patients have been in number, by years, as follows: 1914-15, 456; 1915-16, 635; 1916-17, 754; 1917-18, 817; 1918-19, 1,156; 1919-20, 1,104; 1920-21, 1,110; 1921-22, 1,332. The report also shows the religious denominations to which the patients in 1922-23 belong: Atheist, 1; Baptist, 210; Roman Catholic, 310; Christ's Disciples, 2; Christian Scientist, 3; Congregational, 4; Episcopal, 3; Evangelical, 3; Friends, 24; Jewish, 32; Lutheran, 82; Mennonite, 6; Methodist, 185; New Church, 4; Presbyterian, 270; Reformed, 28; Unitarian, 3; United Brethren, 5; Unknown, 12.

The present officers of this hospital corporation are as follows: George W. Elkins, Jr., president; Samuel L. Schively, vice-president; Marmaduke Tilden, Jr., secretary; Robert Sewell, treasurer. J. Dean Elliott, M. D., is the chairman of the executive committee of the medical staff. In the year ending March 31, 1922, the membership of this incorporation was 685, and the receipts from their membership $5,330.00.

CHAPTER XIX.

BENCH AND BAR.

By William F. Dannehower, Esq.,

Secretary of the Montgomery County Bar Association.

The Bench—In early Colonial days, judges were appointed annually by the Governor from lists elected by the Provincial Council. Later, the Governor was authorized to appoint and commission "a competent number of Justices of the Peace" for each county; and they, or any three of them, could hold the court of Quarter Sessions. He could also appoint and commission "a competent number of persons" to hold the Court of Common Pleas. At first the same persons were appointed for both courts. This was prohibited, however, by the Act of September 9, 1759, which provided for the appointment of "five persons of the best discretion, capacity, judgment and integrity" to the Common Pleas, any three of whom could hold the court. The appointments were for life, or during good behavior. The Constitution of 1776 changed the term to seven years, but the old rule was restored by the Constitution of 1790. Under the Provincial system, the justices of the peace elected their president as presiding judge. The Act of January 28, 1777, however, provided for the appointment and commission of a president judge by the President and Supreme Executive Council. When Montgomery county was erected, September 10, 1784, the Constitution of 1776 and the Act of 1777 were still in force.

On the 19th of March, 1784, just prior to the erection of Montgomery county out of Philadelphia county, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, of the county of Philadelphia, was appointed and commissioned by the President and Supreme Executive Council, "in the name and by the authority of the Freemen of Pennsylvania," as a justice of the peace with "full power and authority to execute and perform all the several acts and things which any justice of the peace in the county aforesaid (Philadelphia) by the General Commission assigned, lawfully can, may or might do both in the Courts of Common Pleas, the Orphans' Court, or elsewhere." He took the oath of office on the following day, March 20, 1784. On the 10th of September following, the new county, wherein Muhlenberg resided, was created, and his commission became effective in the new county, and was duly recorded in the Recorder's Office. It was the first commission recorded in the first Commission Book of the new county. Eleven days thereafter, September 21st, Muhlenberg was commissioned as register, and also, by a separate commission, recorder of the new county. On the 10th of September, the date of the new county's birth, Thomas Craig was appointed as justice of the "pleas," and also as prothonotary, and, on the following day, the 11th, clerk of

the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace and of the Orphans' Court. On September 29th James Morris was appointed a justice of the Common Pleas of Montgomery county and a justice of the peace for the townships of Norrington, Whitpain and Worcester. On the 1st of November, John Richards was commissioned as a justice of the County Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery county. On the 13th of December, Henry Scheetz, and on the 17th, Peter Evans, were respectively appointed justices of the Common Pleas, and the latter also a justice of the peace for the townships of Montgomery, Gwinedth *(sic)* and Hatfield. On the 14th of October a commission *dedimus postatem* was issued to Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg and Thomas Craig, Esqrs., to administer oaths to persons appointed to any office by the Supreme Executive Council. On the same day, Zebulon Potts was commissioned as sheriff, and a writ of assistance was issued to the judges, justices and magistrates, and other officers of the new county.

Therefore, when the first session of court was held in Montgomery county, the newly commissioned justices of the peace or justices of the Common Pleas therein, were Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Thomas Craig, James Morris, Henry Scheetz, Peter Evans and John Richards; Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg was register and recorder; Thomas Craig, prothonotary, clerk of the Quarter Sessions Court and clerk of the Orphans' Court; and Zebulon Potts was the sheriff.

The first session of court held in the new county of Montgomery was a special session of the Orphans' Court. It convened "at Providence" (Trap, Providence township), on December 1, 1784. Justices Muhlenberg, Morris, Richards and Scheetz were on the bench. The second session of court was that of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace. This was held December 28, 1784, before Justices Muhlenberg, president; Morris, Richards, Scheetz and Dean, at "the house of John Shannon." After court had been opened and silence commanded, the commissions from the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania were read, appointing as justices of the peace: William Dean, Esq., bearing date July 14, 1783; Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, March 19, 1784; John Richards, June 24, 1784; Henry Scheetz, June 24, 1784; James Morris, September 29, 1784. There was also read the commission of Thomas Craig appointing him clerk of the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

Sheriff Potts returned the grand jury, which were sworn. Francis Swaine was chosen foreman of the grand jury. President Judge Muhlenberg delivered the charge of the Court to the grand jury. The first proceeding brought before the Court was an appeal, Overseers of the Poor of New Hanover Township *v.* Overseers of the Poor of New Providence Township, from the order of Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg and Michael Croll, Esqrs., for the removal of Isaac Boulton and Alice, his wife, from New Hanover township to New Providence township. The case was continued to the March Sessions, 1785. [On June 29, 1785,

on argument, the order for removal was quashed.] There was also a similar appeal of the Overseers of the Poor of Whitemarsh Township *v.* Overseers of the Poor of Springfield Township for the removal of Margaretta Jance, a pauper, from Whitemarsh to Springfield township. It was continued to the March Sessions, 1785. Twenty-one constables were in attendance at this session of the Court.

On the following day, September 29th, the first session of the Court of Common Pleas was held, but before what justices the record does not disclose. The December sessions of court, 1784, as well as the March and the June sessions of 1785, were held at the "house of John Shannon," or at "John Shannon's," where the precepts, orders and writs were made returnable. Now where was "the house of John Shannon" or "John Shannon's?" Local historians differ. Bean's "History of Montgomery County" (1884) says: "The first court was held in Norriton township, the 28th day of December, 1784, in the barn on the 'Barley Sheaf' Hotel property, now owned by Benjamin Baker, located on the Germantown turnpike, a short distance northwest of Hartranft station, on the Stony Creek railroad. The hotel was kept at that time by John Shannon." The authority for this statement is given to have been Elizabeth Shannon, grandchild of the proprietor named, then residing at Norristown (1884).

Feather's "Political Handbook of Montgomery County" (1899) says: "While the Court House was being erected, the sessions of the Court were held at the public house of John Shannon, located near Stony Creek. The first session was held on the 28th day of December, 1784, opening at 12 o'clock noon."

Hon. Irving P. Wanger in a paper entitled "The Forming of Montgomery County," read before the Historical Society of Montgomery County, October 7, 1907, concludes that "John Shannon's" meant his Egypt Road Tavern, later the site of the Hartranft Hotel, on Main street.

It appears that in 1785 there was assessed in the name of John Shannon a tavern on Egypt road, now Main street, and in the name of Josiah Wood a tavern and a 150-acre farm on the Maxatawny road in Norriton township. The assessor's books for 1784 are lost. In 1785 Shannon resided in the Egypt road tavern. That year, in March, he applied for a tavern license—"John Shannon, Norris Town." However, there was no hotel within the limits of the town of Norris, but a little westward on Egypt road, or Main street, there was a hotel (later the Hartranft House), belonging to Josiah Wood, and later to John Shannon.

The September Sessions, 1785, were held at "Norris Town," and writs, etc., were there returnable.

The county offices were opened in the small stone residence of Thomas Craig, prothonotary and clerk of the courts, at the south corner of Egypt or Main street and Cherry alley, but in 1789, upon comple-

tion of the first court house they were removed to the new structure "on the hill."

President Judge Muhlenberg, who served from December 28, 1784, until September, 1785, was succeeded by James Morris, who served until 1789. Judge Morris was, on the 23rd of July, 1785, commissioned president of the Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for Montgomery county. On January 26, 1786, Michael Croll, and on November 27, 1786, Christian Weber, were commissioned justices of the pleas and also justices of the peace.

There appears no question, according to the records, that for the first five years, from 1784 to 1789, the courts in this county were presided over by judges not learned in the law. They were, however, men of high character for honesty and integrity, and by study acquired sufficient legal knowledge to enable them to discharge their duties with more than ordinary credit to themselves and the judicial office. This was notably the case with the first president judge, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, who had been educated for the ministry.

In the Act of 1784 it was provided "that the Justices of the Supreme Court of this State shall have like powers, jurisdictions and authorities within said County of Montgomery as in other counties within the State, and are authorized and empowered from time to time to deliver the gaol of said county of capital or other offenders in like manner as they are authorized to do in other counties in the State."

Under the Constitution of 1790 and the Act of April 13, 1791, judges were required to be learned in the law, and the State was divided into five judicial districts or circuits, the First comprising the city and county of Philadelphia and the counties of Montgomery, Bucks and Delaware. Section 3 of the Act of 1791 provided that in each of said circuits a "person of knowledge, and integrity, skilled in the laws, shall be appointed and commissioned by the Governor to be president and judge of the Courts of Common Pleas within such circuit; and that a number of other persons, not fewer than three nor more than four, shall be appointed and commissioned judges of the Courts of Common Pleas in and for each and every county of this Commonwealth."

Soon after the approval of the Act of 1791, the first Governor-elect, Thomas Mifflin, appointed and commissioned James Biddle presiding judge of the First Judicial District, for the county of Montgomery. He served until 1797, when he was succeeded by Judge James D. Coxe, who filled the office until 1805, when he was succeeded by William H. Tilghman. Upon Judge Tilghman's promotion to the Supreme Bench, Bird Wilson succeeded him in 1806 and served until 1818, when he resigned because unwilling to pronounce sentence of death upon a prisoner convicted of first degree murder. In 1806 the counties of Montgomery, Chester, Bucks and Delaware were constituted the 7th Judicial Dis-

trict. Judge Wilson was the presiding judge, followed by Judge John Ross in 1818.

By Act of March 12, 1821, Delaware and Chester counties were constituted the Fifteenth Judicial District, leaving Bucks and Montgomery counties to constitute the 7th Judicial District. In the 7th District so constituted, the president judges were Judges John Ross, Fox, Burnside, Krause, Smyser, Chapman, and Henry P. Ross.

In 1874, however, Montgomery county became in itself a single judicial district, the 38th. Judge Henry P. Ross became its first president judge, followed by Judges Stinson, Boyer, Swartz, and Miller.

Judge Ross died on April 13, 1882, just as he had entered upon his second ten-year term of office. Four days thereafter, Governor Hoyt appointed Charles H. Stinson to succeed him. Judge Boyer at the fall election defeated Judge Stinson, and on the 13th of December, 1882, was commissioned to serve ten years from the first Monday of January, 1883. Before the end of his term he died, August 16, 1887. Additional Law Judge Swartz then became president judge by commission from Governor Beaver, dated 23rd of December, 1887, and continued as such until April 2, 1923. Additional Law Judge Miller was then commissioned by Governor Pinchot as president judge, and took the oath of office on the 18th of April, 1923.

On the 2nd of April, 1923, Judge Swartz retired from his active duties as president judge by reason of physical disability under the Retirement Act of 12th June, 1919, in the presence of a full Bar and many laymen. After suitable remarks by Neville D. Tyson, Montgomery Evans and others, Judge Swartz feelingly thanked the members of the Bar for the many kindnesses extended to him in his long judicial career and the pleasant relations which always existed between the Bench and Bar of this county. Although retired on account of failing sight and hearing, he nevertheless holds himself in readiness as the Act requires, to advise with his successor and colleagues, and to perform such duties as may be imposed upon him as special master, referee, auditor or examiner, in such ways as he may be reasonably able to do.

Judge Frederick A. Muhlenberg, the first president judge of the Montgomery county courts, was the second son of the great Lutheran divine, Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, of Trappe, the founder of that great family in this country. He was educated for the ministry at the famous University at Halle, Germany. He had charge of a New York church when the British entered that city, and left it to take part in the Revolution as an ardent patriot. He had served in the Colonial Legislature, sat in the Continental Congress, and had been a member of the Executive Council when, in 1784, he was appointed a justice of the peace for Philadelphia county, residing in Montgomery county when it was created in 1784, and then was appointed, presumably by the other justices, president judge of the new county. The same year he was commissioned

recorder of deeds and register of wills, and served as such until 1789. He was president of the State Convention which in 1787 ratified the Constitution of the United States; and a congressman from 1789 to 1797 and speaker of the House in the First and the Third Congresses. He was twice defeated for Governor on the Federal ticket. He held the office of Receiver-General of the Pennsylvania Land Office at his death in 1802, aged 52 years.

Judge William Tilghman was a Philadelphian, born in 1756, August 12th. He studied law in the office of Benjamin Chew, Esq., a noted Philadelphia lawyer. During the Revolution he was in Maryland, where his family hailed from. In 1790 he returned to Philadelphia, and "hung out his law shingle." He served on the United States Circuit Court Bench. Judge Coxe's resignation as president judge in 1805 created a vacancy on the Montgomery county bench, which was filled by the appointment of the great lawyer, Tilghman. But his great legal and classical learning called this LL. D. to a higher place during the following year—to the chief justice's seat upon the State Supreme Court Bench, which he adorned until his death, April 30, 1827. He was truly a great lawyer, and a great judge.

Judge Bird Wilson was born at Carlisle, in 1777, where his father was a prominent lawyer. The son was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1797. He took a position of trust in the office of the Commissioner in Bankruptcy, and in 1806 was appointed to succeed William Tilghman as president judge of the 7th Judicial District, comprising the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware. He came to reside at Norristown. He edited an edition of the "Abridgement of the Law," in seven volumes. In October, 1817, John H. Craige, a dissipated blacksmith, of respectable family connections, was convicted before him for fatally shooting Edward Hunter, Esq., at Media, while standing in his stable, who had written the father's will disinheriting young Craige. Out of kindness of heart he was unwilling to sentence Craige, preferring to resign the judgeship. His successor, John Ross, sentenced the convict, who was hanged at Chester, June 6, 1818. Judge Wilson reversed the course taken by Judge Muhlenberg, from the ministry to the law, by going from the law to the ministry. After being admitted a deacon in 1819, he shortly thereafter became for two years the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church at Norristown, which, while he was judge, he had helped to build and had served as a warden. Afterwards he was secretary of the House of Bishops, and Professor of Systematic Divinity in the General Theological Seminary at New York. He died, at Philadelphia, in 1859, aged 83 years. He was a man of talent, learning, and remarkable mildness of manner and amiability of character, united with inflexible firmness and decision. During the eleven years he occupied the Bench, he was reversed but once.

Judge John Ross was born in Bucks county, studied law with his cousin, Thomas Ross, at West Chester, and practiced his profession at Easton, in Northampton county. He served in Congress. Governor Findley appointed him president judge of the courts of the 7th Judicial District, comprising Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Bucks counties, in 1718. In 1721 Chester and Delaware counties were taken out of the 7th Judicial District. Judge Ross ceased to act in Chester and Delaware, continuing, however, on the Bench of Montgomery and Bucks until 1830, when, because of his eminent ability, Governor Wolf promoted him to a seat on the State Supreme Court Bench, which he occupied until his death in January, 1834. He was the father of Thomas Ross, an eminent lawyer of Doylestown, Bucks county, and the grandfather of the late Judge Henry P. Ross.

Judge John Fox was born in Philadelphia, in 1787. After graduating at the University of Pennsylvania, he studied law in the office of Alexander James Dallas, the compiler of "Dallas' Reports." He practiced his profession at Bristol, then the county seat of Bucks county, and then at Newton and Doylestown, to which places the county seat had been successively removed. In 1814 he was appointed Deputy Attorney General of Bucks county. He was a major on General Morrall's staff in the War of 1812. While in court prosecuting criminal cases, he was summoned to arms by his chief, and when the presiding judge refused to permit the young attorney to leave, or to adjourn the court, Fox promptly continued all the criminal cases, mounted his horse, and rode off to join his army, stationed at Philadelphia. He became afterwards major-general of the Seventh Division of the State until 1830. In that year he was appointed for life president judge of the 7th Judicial District, succeeding Judge Fox. The Constitution of 1838 legislated him out of his life position, making the office elective. One of his opinions, involving negro suffrage, was instrumental in writing the word "white" in the State Constitution of 1838. So deeply and visibly were his emotions affected while sentencing Luis Amalia Espos y Mina to death for poisoning William Chapman, that the whole audience burst into tears. He died at Doylestown, April 15, 1849. He was an able, kindhearted, yet fearless judge, and an ardent Democrat. He was the father of Gilbert Rodman Fox, Sr., and the grandfather of Gilbert Rodman Fox, Jr., of the Norristown Bar.

Judge Thomas Burnside was a native of Lower Providence township. He was admitted to the Montgomery County Bar, February 13, 1804. Shortly thereafter, however, he located in Center county, Pennsylvania, and attained a leading practice. He served in the State Senate and also in Congress. In 1818 he was appointed president judge of the 11th Judicial District, composed of the counties of Wayne, Pike and Luzerne. He resigned, and in 1825 became speaker of the State Senate.

On the death of Judge Fox in 1841, Governor Porter appointed him president judge of the Bucks and Montgomery Judicial District. He resigned January 2, 1845, to accept Governor Porter's appointment to the Supreme Bench. He was upright and accurate in judgment, but was thought "deficient in dignity and courtly demeanor." His opinions had the merit of brevity.

Judge David Krause, who succeeded Judge Burnside, was a native of Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. He was admitted to the Bar at Pittsburgh, but practiced his profession in his native town. He was the private secretary of Governor Shulze, editor of the "Pennsylvania Intelligencer," deputy attorney general, a State legislator, and editor of the "State Journal," which supported Governor Porter, "the best abused man in the State." At the close of the Governor's term, he, unasked, appointed David Krause to the Bucks and Montgomery County Bench *vice* Judge Burnside, resigned. Governor Shunk confirmed the appointment and issued his commission. The office of judge having become elective in 1851, when his term expired, he declined a nomination tendered him by prominent citizens, because opposed to an elective judiciary. Afterwards he was defeated for Congress on the Republican ticket. He is said to have been of medium height and slightly built, but was "a bold and fearless" judge.

Judge Daniel M. Smyser was the first judge elected in Montgomery county under the Act of 1851, which made the judiciary elective instead of appointive by the Governor. He was graduated from the law office of Thaddeus Stevens, at Gettysburg, Adams county, and was admitted to the Bar there in 1831. He became his preceptor's law partner. In 1849 he began to serve a term in the State Legislature as a Whig representative from Adams county. Governor Johnson tendered him the appointment of attorney-general, but he declined it. He was defeated for Congress. In 1851 there was a bitter contest among the Democrats in the Bucks-Montgomery judicial district between ex-Judge John Fox, nominated by the Bucks county Democrats, and Hon. Joseph Fornance, by the Montgomery county Democrats. The Whigs nominated Daniel M. Smyser, the Adams county lawyer. He was elected for ten years and reëlected for ten more, and was succeeded by Judge Chapman, who defeated him at the polls in 1862. Ex-Judge Smyser resumed the practice of the law, and was in active practice at the time of his death, January 11, 1873. In 1854 he was a candidate on the Whig ticket for the Supreme Bench, but was defeated. Judge Smyser was a well-trained lawyer, and industrious, writing exhaustive opinions. He had a "judicial learning which adorned the Bench."

Judge Henry Chapman was a native of Newton, Bucks county. His father was "the father of the Bucks county Bar." The son was admitted to that Bar in 1825. He was elected to the State Senate in 1843. In 1847 he was appointed president judge of Chester and Delaware coun-

ties, and served until the election in 1851, when he declined the nomination. He was sent to Congress in 1856. Four years later he was elected over Judge Smyser to preside over the Bucks and Montgomery county courts. At the end of his full ten-year term, in 1871 he declined a renomination and retired to private life. He was succeeded as president judge by Additional Law Judge Henry P. Ross, who had been elected under the Act of 1869, creating that office. Judge Chapman was "a model judge." He is said to have been "*sans peur et sans reproche.*" However, it must be said that he was extremely sensitive as to the sanctity of the judicial office. So pronounced was this sensitiveness that he refused to accept a railroad pass, and would not ride in the private vehicle of a member of his Bar.

Judge Henry P. Ross, a Princeton graduate, was admitted to the Bucks County Bar, on December 16, 1859. He was a student in his father's law office, Thomas Ross. He was elected district attorney, but defeated for Congress. He was deputy escheator general for Bucks county. In 1869 he was elected additional law judge for the 7th, Bucks and Montgomery, Judicial District. He resigned in 1871, and was elected president judge, but died on April 13, 1882, shortly after entering upon his second term. He came near the nomination for Governor in the Democratic State Convention in 1876. In 1878 he was defeated for the Supreme Court. He presided over four important murder trials, Curley, Pistorius, Whalen and Sutton. As a judge he was able, sound, eloquent, brilliant.

Judge Charles H. Stinson, of sturdy Scotch-Irish descent, was born in Norriton township, in this county, June 28, 1825. His father was a justice of the peace and a member of the Legislature in 1836. The son Charles was graduated from Dickinson College in 1845, then became a law student in his brother's office, George W. Stinson, at Norristown, and after his brother's death finished his legal studies with Lawyer Addison May, and was admitted to the local Bar, May 22, 1849. In 1867 he was elected to represent the counties of Montgomery, Chester and Delaware, in the State Senate, of which he was the speaker in 1869, and, by reëlection, in 1870. He declined the appointment of War Governor Geary as additional law judge of Montgomery and Bucks counties, but in 1882 accepted Governor Hoyt's appointment as president judge of the 38th Judicial District (Bucks and Montgomery counties) to succeed Judge Ross, deceased. At the fall election he was defeated for judge by B. Markley Boyer, Democrat, although running ahead on his ticket. He was an organizer of the First National Bank, and its solicitor; Montgomery county counsel for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; and a prominent trustee of the Hospital for the Insane for the Southeastern District of Pennsylvania, at Norristown. As a hospital trustee he introduced the innovation of a female head physician for the female department of the institution. His brief career upon the Bench was charac-

terized by great dignity, urbanity, ability, and brevity of legal opinions. In appearance he was tall, handsome, stately. He was the father of C. Henry Stinson, Esq., referee in bankruptcy, and practicing attorney of Norristown.

Judge Benjamin Markley Boyer was a product of the "upper end" of the county, New Hanover township. He was born January 22, 1823, and educated at Lafayette College and the University of Pennsylvania. His legal knowledge he obtained in Judge Reed's office at Carlisle, where he was admitted to the Bar. He practiced law at Norristown. He was deputy attorney-general of this county, a prominent Congressman (1865-1869), an "emergency man" to repel Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania, and a member of the Municipal Commission appointed by Governor Hartranft. In 1882 he defeated Judge Stinson, Governor's appointee, for president judge of the Montgomery county courts, to serve for ten years from the first Monday of January, 1883. He died August 16, 1887. He was a forceful and eloquent speaker; an able, upright, and fearless judge. He was the father of Henry C. Boyer, formerly of the Montgomery County Bar, now of the Philadelphia Bar.

It would be inviduous to refer to the living judges, but one thing should be said. Of all the president judges of Montgomery county, Judge Swartz, on April 2, 1923, closed the longest and most remarkable judicial career. He served upon the Bench nearly thirty-six years, sixteen years longer than the oldest in service of his predecessors. During the last fourteen years of service he was reversed by an appellate court only two times. By none of his predecessors was he surpassed in industry, legal learning and soundness of judgment. Judge Ross may have been more brilliant upon the bench, but less sound and mature in judgment than Judge Swartz. Judge Swartz tops them all in the best qualities of an ideal judge.

Judges Miller and Williams are upholding the best traditions of the Montgomery County Bar.

Appended is a list of the President Judges of the county, with the dates of their service: Frederick A. Muhlenberg, 1784-85; James Morris, 1785-89; James Biddle, 1791-97; John D. Coxe, 1797-1805; William Tilghman, 1805-06; Bird Wilson, 1806-18; John Ross, 1818-30; John Fox, 1830-41; Thomas Burnside, 1841-45; David Krause, 1845-51; Daniel M. Smyser, 1851-62; Henry Chapman, 1862-72; Henry P. Ross, 1872-82; Charles H. Stinson, appointed April 17, 1882, to succeed Judge Ross, deceased; B. Markley Boyer, 1883-87; Aaron S. Swartz, 1887-1923; John Faber Miller, 1923 to date.

On the 15th of April, 1869, an Act of Assembly created the office of additional law judge in the 7th Judicial District, comprising the counties of Bucks and Montgomery. Judge Chapman was at that time the president and sole judge of the district. Henry P. Ross, a brilliant member of the Bucks County Bar, residing at Doylestown, was appointed to the

new judgeship by Governor Geary. The Act of 1869 provided that either the president judge or the additional law judge should reside at the county seat of Montgomery county. It fell to the lot of the newly appointed additional law judge to take up his residence in Norristown, which he did. In 1871 Judge Ross became the president judge to succeed Judge Chapman. He elected to continue to sit on the Montgomery County Bench, the additional law judge to occupy the Bucks County Bench. This arrangement continued until 1874, when the two counties became separate and distinct judicial districts—Montgomery, the 38th Judicial District, with Judge Ross as its president and sole judge.

On the 22nd of March, 1887, however, an additional law judge was authorized by Act of Assembly, in the 38th Judicial District. The bill which created the office was presented to Governor Beaver on March 10th, 1887, but was not returned with the governor's signature within ten days after presentation, wherefore it became a law without the governor's approval. The governor, on the 25th of April, appointed Aaron S. Swartz, then a rising young lawyer, as the county's first incumbent under the new Act, to serve until the first Monday of January, 1888. Less than four months after Judge Swartz's appointment, on the 16th of August, 1887, President Judge Boyer died. At the November election of that year, Judge Swartz was elected for a term of ten years, and on the 17th of November, 1887, Henry K. Weand was appointed by Governor Beaver as additional law judge to succeed Judge Swartz, who on the 23rd of December, 1887, was commissioned as president judge for ten years. Judge Weand by election and reëlections served as additional law judge twenty-seven years, until his death, July 30, 1914. By appointment by Governor Tener and election for a full term in 1915, John Faber Miller succeeded Additional Law Judge Weand. The vacancy in this office in 1923 caused by the resignation and retirement of President Judge Swartz and the promotion of Judge Miller to the president judgeship was filled by Governor Pinchot by the appointment of J. Ambler Williams, on April 16th, 1923. On the 19th of April he was sworn in by President Judge Miller in the presence of Judge Swartz, Judge Solly, of the Orphans' Court, a full Bar, and numerous friends, and took his seat upon the Bench.

The following is a list of the Additional Law Judges of the 7th Judicial District, Bucks and Montgomery counties, with the dates of their appointment or election: Henry P. Ross, 1869-71; Arthur G. Olmstead, 1871-72; S. Stokes Roberts, 1872-73; Richard Watson, 1873-74.

The following is a list of Additional Law Judges of the 38th Judicial District (Montgomery county) with the dates of their appointment or election: Aaron S. Swartz, 1887-87; Henry K. Weand, 1887-1914; John Faber Miller, 1914-23; J. Ambler Williams, 1923 to date.

The office of Associate Judge was abolished by the Constitution of 1874, those in office holding over until the expiration of the term for

which they were elected. The last to serve in this county was Judge Isaac F. Yost, and the following extract of a minute of the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery county, November Adjourned Court, 1876, is of interest in this connection:

And now, Friday, November 10, 1876. The Court being about to adjourn without day, and it being the end of the term of Hon. Isaac F. Yost, the last Associate Judge of the Courts of Montgomery County under the Constitution of 1838, Ross, P. J., said that he felt it was due that he should make public acknowledgement of his belief in the perfect integrity, purity and honesty of his retiring associate; that during the entire course of his judicial term, Judge Yost had been animated by a desire to do his duty, and that he carried with him into private life the regard of the Bench, the respect of the Bar, and the confidence of the entire community. More could be said of none of his predecessors and less could not be said of him.

The Hon. B. M. Boyer, in behalf of the Bar, responded by saying that the Court had uttered what the bar felt and what the public believed; that in declaring that Judge Yost had been an upright, honest and pure magistrate, he only echoed the general expression of every lawyer and the public; and that he gladly seized this opportunity to speak for himself and brethren and to assure Judge Yost that he had acquired, maintained and would take with him the esteem and respect of the bar and people of Montgomery county.

Colonel Theodore W. Bean said: Your Honor has referred with appropriateness to an event which renders the closing proceedings of this court of more than usual public interest. For almost a century the President Judges of this judicial district have been aided in the performance of their judicial duties by associates, the last of whom in the person of the Hon. Isaac F. Yost retires with the expiration of the term for which he was elected five years ago, and the office ceases to exist. Changes in the form of organic law, as it applies to the administration of public justice, have been frequent and important in this Commonwealth. In 1784, when this county was established, four justices of the peace were appointed by the Supreme Executive Council to hold the Courts, none of whom were learned in the law. While we do not question the wisdom of the change which makes one more public office less, we sincerely regret to part with an official whose integrity and uniform courtesy and impartiality has won for him the just esteem of his professional associates and the good people he has served.

Appended is a list of the Associate Judges of Montgomery county, with the dates of their appointment: John Richards, November 1, 1784; James Morris, Sptember 29, 1784; Thomas Craig, September 10, 1784; Henry Scheetz, December 10, 1784; Peter Evans, December 17, 1784; James Morris, July 26, 1785; Michael Croll, January 26, 1786; Christian Weber, November 7, 1786; Peter Evans, December 17, 1786; Charles Baird, February 15, 1787; Jonathan Shoemaker, September 25, 1787; John Jones, November 15, 1787; James Hockley, November 23, 1788; Henry Pawling, January 20, 1789; John Pugh, January 20, 1789; Anthony Crollers, February 7, 1789; Robert Loller, September 25, 1789; Samuel

Potts, August 17, 1791; Robert Loller, August 17, 1791; Benjamin Markley, August 17, 1791; Benjamin Rittenhouse, August 17, 1791; John Jones, July 16, 1793; Hiram McNeill, November, 1809; Richard B. Jones, August 30, 1822; Thomas Lowrey, January 8, 1824; Joseph Royer, May 10, 1837; Morris Longstreth, March 15, 1841; Josiah W. Evans, April 15, 1843; Ephraim Fenton, February 15, 1848; Josiah W. Evans, April 14, 1848; Joseph Hunsicker, April 6, 1849. Elected: Henry Longaker, November, 1851; Mehelm McGlatheney, May 5, 1855; Nathaniel Jacoby, October 8, 1855; Henry Longaker, October 14, 1856; Nathaniel Jacoby, October 9, 1860; John Dismant, October 8, 1861; Hiram C. Hoover, October 10, 1865; John Dismant, December, 1866; Hiram C. Hoover, December, 1870; Isaac F. Yost, October 10, 1871.

The Orphans' Court—This was established in Pennsylvania by the Act of Assembly of March 29, 1713, to be held by the justices of the Quarter Sessions Court of every county. This was changed by the Act of 1759, which made the judges of the Court of Common Pleas the judges of the Orphans' Court. Provision to the same effect was made in the State Constitutions of 1790, 1838 and 1874, and by statute law. This was the law which governed the Orphans' Court of Montgomery county up to 1901. On the 2nd of May, 1901, an Act was approved establishing the Separate Orphans' Court of Montgomery County. It was made "a court of record, consisting of one judge learned in the law." The Court was to exercise all the jurisdictions and powers vested in, or to be conferred upon, the Orphans' Court and Register's Court of the county, with power also by order in the nature of writs of injunction to prevent acts contrary to law or equity, prejudicial to property over which the court has jurisdiction; and to make all rules necessary to exercise its powers.

A month after the Act of 1901 was approved, to be exact, on June 4, 1901, William F. Solly, a prominent member of the junior bar and for years the efficient chairman of the Republican County Committee, was appointed and commissioned by Governor Stone as president judge of the Orphans' Court of Montgomery county until the first Monday of January, 1902. The court was promptly organized on the 10th of June following, less than a week after the judge's appointment. The ceremony took place in Court Room No. 1. The spacious court room was crowded to the walls by the members of the Bar and the many friends of the new judge and of the new court. After the reading of the Governor's commission by the clerk of the Orphans' Court, Hon. Aaron S. Swartz, president judge of the Court of Common Pleas, administered the oath of office to Judge Solly. Then arose from the midst of the crowded Bar the tall, stately form of Col. James Boyd, the Nestor of the Montgomery County Bar. He said:

As I have entered upon my fifty-ninth year at this Bar, I trust in a fairly good form, I may be indulged in saying a few words on this memorable occasion. During that time I have been present at eleven cere-

monies of this character—Judges Burnside, Krause, Olmstead, Smyser, Chapman, Ross, Stinson, Boyer, Swartz, Weand, and your Honor. They were all silent, formal, and dignified functions. And so is this one, excepting a slight and harmless innovation that I am making, simply because I have a personal desire to do so.

It is a noteworthy fact that five of the last named judges are of the manner born, and the six first named were not. It now looks as if we will be able to supply ourselves in the future and no longer go outside.

I have known your Honor personally from childhood as a playmate of my two sons, with just enough boyish mischief in you to make you interesting and attractive; followed you as a law student, then before the board of examiners, signed your certificate for admission to the bar, and delivered you my usual lecture to be always good and true, and since continuously to date; and my benediction is: "Well done, thou good and faithful."

The Bar's testimonial to Governor Stone, and no rival, echoes the same. Under such unusual and extraordinary conditions you cannot be other than the proudest and happiest man in our midst. You deserve it all, and I heartily congratulate you. You have but to continue as in the past, good, true and kind to all, especially to the juniors when they first nervously enter upon their professional career. Such is the experience and belief of a veteran.

Judge Solly feelingly responded:

Colonel Boyd and Gentlemen of the Bar: For the kind words just spoken by Colonel Boyd, the veteran leader and Nestor of the Bar of this county, he has my grateful appreciation. Coming on this unusual event in behalf of the Bar, in the evening of his professional life, loved and honored by us all, knowing him personally longer than I do any other member, and remembering his kind advice of twenty-two years ago, it is indeed a proud moment of my life to have him testify publicly to fidelity, to honor, truth, honesty and industry.

The many advantages of the establishment of this Court in our great progressive county with its varied industries and its many interests, will manifest this, and the people will be satisfied of the wisdom of the departure. The confidence, esteem and respect of the members of the Bar and the people of the county, exhibited in the request made to the Governor to appoint the Judge to preside over this Court, has touched me deeply. It will be my constant aim to administer the duties of the high office with the deepest sense of responsibility thereof, without fear or favor, and to hold the scales of justice evenly. I bespeak the assistance and indulgence of the members of the Bar at all times, that this Court may add lustre to the fame of the Bench of this county, adorned as it has been and now is by gentlemen of the highest ability, learning and Christian character.

The remarks of both were directed to be spread upon the records of the new court.

John S. Jones was then quickly appointed court crier, and opened the new court for the first time in Court Room No. 2, set apart for the new court. Rhine Russell Freed, register of wills and *ex-officio* clerk of the Orphans' Court, was sworn in as clerk of the new separate Orphans'

Court by Judge Solly, and so was Harry W. Aikens as deputy clerk. The official seal of the former Orphans' Court was ordered adopted and to be delivered by Isaac N. Cooke, the ex-clerk, to Mr. Freed, the new clerk. An order was filed adopting the former rules of the Orphans' Court, so far as applicable, until the further order of the Court. The Court also appointed Montgomery Evans, F. G. Hobson, James B. Holland, Muscoe M. Gibson and William F. Dannehower a committee to prepare rules for the regulation of the practice of the Court, and make report to the Court on or before July 1, 1901. The new Court, thus organized, then proceeded to take up the business of the Court. On July 1, ten different books of record were ordered to be procured.

The rules of the new court were reported in due course, printed, and adopted August 29, 1901, to go into effect September 2, 1901. The same rules, barring a few amendments, are in force to-day, so ably and carefully were they prepared with the active coöperation of the new judge.

From the start, this Court sprang into prominence as one of the leading and most efficient Orphans' Courts in Pennsylvania. The orderly and methodical mind of Judge Solly was diligently applied to devising forms, dockets and best methods to conduct the business of the Court, second to none in the State; and this high standard has been maintained to the present day. The business of the Court has been enormous and laborious, but Judge Solly has despatched it with the utmost ability and patience. Not only has he kept abreast with the business of his own Court, but on frequent occasions has sat on the Common Pleas bench, and especially on the Criminal Court Bench.

The wisdom of the establishment of a separate Orphans' Court and the surprisingly gigantic amount of work it is doing, is shown at a glance of a few figures covering the period from June 10, 1901, when it was organized, to January 1, 1923:

Accounts of fiduciaries filed, 8,617; accounts audited and confirmed, 8,594. Total amount in value of estates audited and distributed, $262,-893,835.88; average per year, $12,227,620.93; average per month, over $1,000,000.

Appointment of guardians and trustees; petitions for sale or mortgage of real estate; confirmations of same; allowances for minors; widows' exemptions; and miscellaneous petitions, etc., 11,232.

Exceptions to adjudications; appeals from Register of Wills and transfer inheritance tax appraisements; and other matter on Argument Lists, 217.

Appeals taken from decrees to Appellate Courts, 25; appeals affirmed, 21; appeals reversed, 4; appeals in cases tried by Judge Solly in the Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, all affirmed, 5.

Average number of wills probated per year, 450; average number of letters of administration granted per year, 375; yearly average of marriage licenses issued, 1,400.

In the fall of 1901, Judge Solly was elected for a term of ten years, and reëlected for like terms in 1911 and 1921, the last time without oppo-

sition. His present term expires on the first Monday of January, 1932. He is conducting a model Orphans' Court.

The Special Act of 1901, establishing a Separate Orphans' Court in this county, is supplied by the Orphans' Court Act of 1917 or by the Fiduciaries Act of 1917, except perhaps the provision of Section 6 of the Act of 1901, that no appeal should stay execution of a final decree unless notice of such appeal and security be given within twenty days after the time of making the decree.

District Attorneys—Prior to 1850 the Commonwealth was represented by Deputy Attorney Generals, district attorneys being made an elective office by Act of May 3, 1850. There is no complete record of the men who have held the office of Deputy Attorney General in Montgomery county, but the appended with the dates of their appointment are known: John H. Scheetz, 1829; David H. Mulvaney, 1836; G. R. Fox, 1840; John H. Hobart, 1845; B. Markley Boyer, 1848.

The following have been elected district attorneys in Montgomery county since 1850, when the office of prosecuting attorney was made elective: Benjamin E. Chain, 1851-54; John H. Hobart, 1854-57; George W. Rogers, 1857-60; S. N. Rich, 1860-63; Enoch H. Banks, 1863-66; Charles Hunsicker, 1866-69; George W. Bush, 1869-72; Henry U. Brunner, 1872-75; Jacob V. Gotwalts, 1875-78; J. Wright Apple, 1878-81; Irving P. Wanger, 1881-84; John W. Bickel, 1884-87; Irving P. Wanger, 1887-90; Henry M. Brownback, 1890-93; James B. Holland, 1893-96 Jacob A. Strassburger, 1896-99; Abraham A. Hendricks, 1899-1905; Conrad S. Sheive, 1905-08; Jeremiah B. Larzelere, 1908-12; Conrad S. Sheive, 1912-16; J. Aubrey Anderson, 1919-20; Frank H. Renninger, 1920 to date.

In 1911 the term of district attorneys was increased from three to four years.

The appointment of two assistant district attorneys, with the approval of the president judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions, was provided for by the Act of April 17, 1905. The following is a list of those appointed under said Act: Under District Attorney Larzelere, 1908-12: Charles McAvoy and John B. Evans; under District Attorney Sheive, 1912-16: Abraham H. Hendricks and J. Aubrey Anderson; under District Attorney Anderson, 1916-20: Abraham H. Hendricks and Frank H. Renninger.

The Act of April 18, 1919, provided for the appointment of an additional assistant district attorney to be known as an Indictment and Cost Clerk. This Act first applied to the appointments made by District Attorney Renninger, 1920-24, to wit: Abraham H. Hendricks, J. Burnett Holland, George C. Corson.

The Bar—In the Province of Pennsylvania, the institution of judicial proceedings and the recognition of the judicial office preceded the present acknowledged usefulness of lawyers. The early judges, as seen above, were unlearned in the law. This was practicable among the early

settlers with their primitive manners and unimportant litigation. The office of attorney was considered incompatible with the despotic pretensions of those who ruled in the names of their sovereigns by "divine right." The people might and did appear to "plead their own cause."

The first seat of justice was established in 1662, at Upland, now Chester. For several years civil and criminal cases were tried under the crude forms instituted by the Swedish justices of the peace. The change of the control of the Province from the Swedes to the Dutch did not change the methods of administering justice, nor removing justices then in office. The English in 1662 superceded the Dutch. They recognized the Upland Court as a legal tribunal, having legal and appellate jurisdiction of all litigation within the Province.

Ten years later, in 1682, William Penn came to Upland and officially announced himself to the justices there. His frame of government made ample provision for the establishment of courts of justice, the appointment of justices, and necessary officials, together with proper compensation and emoluments, nevertheless, he early betrayed his fear of the legal profession and hostility to it by bringing about in 1686 the adoption of a law "for the avoiding of too frequent clamors and manifest inconveniences which actually attend mercenary pleadings in civil causes." In other words, a lawyer must not take a fee for his services. The words of the law were: "No person shall plead in any civil causes in any court whatsoever within this province and territories, before he solemnly attested in open court that he, neither directly nor indirectly, hath in anywise taken or will take or receive to his use or benefit any reward whatsoever under penalty of five pounds if the contrary be made to appear." The founder of the colony, it is evident, did not want to lend encouragement to lawyers whose learning and influence would make them potential in public affairs.

Notwithstanding these and other discouraging circumstances, the need for professional advocates was quickly discerned by the people, not only to resist official encroachments upon private rights, but also to investigate titles to real estate, preserve the public peace, defend the innocent and convict the guilty.

The authorization of paid advocates was hastened by Penn himself—by his strange inconsistency. When John White was appointed on August 25, 1683, Provincial Attorney General, Penn himself paid him liberally for prosecuting all matters in the interest of the proprietor, but no defendant could, under Penn's own regulations, employ counsel in his defense, against Penn. This caused great agitation among the people and Penn finally was compelled to repeal the above stated law and permit the retention and payment of professional advocates. Lawyers, however, were not raised to the Bench until after the Revolution.

The Montgomery County Bar takes high rank among similar bars not only in this State, but also throughout the United States. The emi-

nence of this Bar is due chiefly to the large and varied interests of this rich and prosperous county, giving rise to an immense volume of legal business, and the nearness of its county seat to Philadelphia, long a center of legal learning where the courts are almost in continuous session. The Philadelphia lawyer has long been famous for legal acumen and legal knowledge. In the earlier days and also in recent times, many prominent and successful lawyers of the Philadelphia Bar have taken leading parts in cases tried in this county, notably Attorneys Kittera, Dallas, Wilson, Biddle, David Paul Brown, Daniel Dougherty, and John G. Johnson. Local lawyers are also frequently engaged in the trial or hearing of causes in the Philadelphia courts, and do not suffer by comparison with the "city lawyer." Contact with the astute legal lights of the country and their methods and demeanor has had, and still has, a salutary influence not only on individual members, but also on the character and ethics of the entire bar. The skill and legal acumen shown by the Bar as a whole owes much, too, to the many able and learned judges that have graced the woolsack of the Montgomery county Bench. It has even been frequently said that cases, civil or criminal, are tried in the Montgomery county courts better and more skillfully than even in the Philadelphia courts.

This Bar can boast of a long list of eminent legal practitioners. Among the earliest lawyers who attained prominence at the Montgomery county Bar were James Morris, James Biddle, John D. Coxe, Levi Pawling, Nathan R. Potts, Philip S. Markley, and John Henderson.

A later generation of bright legal lights shone during the incumbency of Judges Burnside, Krause and Smyser, from 1841 to 1862. "There were giants in those days." They were Thomas M. Jolly, John Freedley, William Powell, Philip Kendall, Benjamin F. Hancock, John B. Steriges, Benjamin Powell, James M. Pawling, Daniel H. Mulvany, Joseph Fornance, Sr., John Henry Hobart, Henry Freedley, Gilbert R. Fox, Sr., Col. James Boyd, B. Markley Boyer, Francis Dimond, Addison May, John R. Breitenbach, Benjamin E. Chain, Charles H. Garber, Richard T. Stewart, George W. Rogers, Charles H. Stinson, Abraham B. Longaker, Zadok T. Galt, Joseph W. Hunsicker, Henry McMiller, Joseph S. Allabough, Henry W. Bonsall, Enoch A. Banks, Charles T. Miller, George N. Corson, Jackson Anderson and Charles Hunsicker.

When "the model judge" Chapman, the brilliant Judge Ross and the astute Judge Boyer occupied the Bench between 1862 and 1887, the crop of lawyers that were prominent were Aaron S. Swartz, Henry K. Weand, Franklin March, George W. Bush, Jacob R. Hunsicker, H. B. Dickinson, Miller D. Evans, Joseph Fornance, Henry U. Brunner, Daniel Jacoby, Henry R. Brown, Jacob A. Gotwalts, Col. Theodore W. Bean, and J. Wright Apple.

A new harvest of lawyers flourished during the long judicial reigns of the able and industrious Judge Swartz and the ready and facetious

Judge Weand (sprinkled among them being some of the oldest lawyers of the last mentioned group) subsequent to 1887, outstanding among whom, who are now deceased, were John W. Bickel, J. P. Hale Jenkins, J. A. Strassburger, Freeland G. Hobson, Walter S. Jennings, Isaac Chism, Samuel Money, Jr., Joseph T. Foulke, Jeremiah B. Larzelere, James B. Holland, Edward E. Long, Albert R. Place, Edward F. Kane, Jacob B. Hillegass, and many others who are still living.

The writer knows of no record of the Bar acting as a body, prior to 1885, when the Bar Association was organized. Before that time the Bar invariably held memorial meetings on the death of a member and the resolutions adopted were usually spread upon the records of the Court; but no effort was made to preserve a record of the Bar meetings. This, however, is done by the Association. Full minutes are kept of the memorial meetings, the resolutions adopted and spread upon the records of the Court; and data are collected and preserved of the funerals, interments and biographies clipped from the local newspapers. The history of the Bar as a collective unit since 1885 is merged in the history of the Bar Association.

Occasions that brought members of the Bar together prior to 1836 were "settling the docket" at the Washington House (now the site of the Montgomery Trust Company) at the end of every term when the trial list was called by the presiding lawyer and judgment was entered when there was no defense or pleadings, and where there was a defense, a plea was directed to be entered, with or without a *narr,* as might be agreed upon. The affair ended with a convivial "term supper;" or, in Judge Ross' time, the making up of a list of "short cases," when Colonel Boyd usually presided, but the meeting did not conclude with a "supper."

The following is a list of regular practicing resident members of the Montgomery County Bar, with date of their admission:

Anderson, J. Aubrey, October 1, 1906.
Anders, Monroe H., October 10, 1910.

Brownback, Henry M., December 4, 1882.
Bennett, Edwin J., December 11, 1896.
Brecht, George K., December 5, 1898.
Brunner, Charles H., July 1, 1901.
Bean, Theodore Lane, March 2, 1903.
Bradley, Frank J., April 17, 1911.
Brownback, Russell J., April 7, 1922.
Brooke, Paul M., October 9, 1916.

Childs, Louis M., March 14, 1876.
Chain, B. Percy, May 7, 1883.
Conver, Samuel D., October 10, 1910.
Corson, George C., January 18, 1915.
Cochran, Joseph H., December 13, 1915.
Corson, C. Russell, October 18, 1917.
Cohen, Hyman Harry, April 4, 1919.

Dannehower, William F., June 7, 1880.
Dettra, John M., December 14, 1886.
Dannehower, William F., Jr., Oct. 4, 1915.

Evans, Montgomery, December 2, 1878.
Egbert, Eugene D., February 7, 1881.
Evans, John B., October 5, 1896.
Evans, Jesse R., October 1, 1906.
Emery, A. Clarence, October 7, 1907.
Evans, Daniel L., October 7, 1907.
Egan, James Herbert, June 30, 1920.

Fornance, Joseph, April 12, 1866.
Freedley, Henry, November 5, 1878.
Fox, Gilbert R., May 23, 1885.
Fox, Henry I., March 4, 1895.
Fornance, Joseph Knox, October 7, 1907.
Fegley, Nelson P., November 6, 1911.
Foulke, Thomas A., October 24, 1921.

Gibson, Muscoe M., June 7, 1883.
Gentry, Frank S., March 6, 1905.

Hallman, Ellwood L., January 15, 1881.
Hendricks, Abram H., June 2, 1890.
High, Samuel H., July 1, 1899.
Hoover, G. Carroll, July 1, 1901.

Hooven, Miss Emeline H., July 6, 1903.
Hallman, Thomas, February 14, 1905.
Hiestand, Harry I., April 20, 1908.
Hallman, Abram D., July 1, 1910.
Holland, J. Burnett, March 3, 1913.

Jenkins, G. Herbert, June 1, 1896.

Knipe, Irvin P., June 4, 1889.
Knight, Harold G., March 12, 1904.
Keely, Wallace M., September 5, 1911.

Larzelere, Nicholas H., September 29, 1877.
Larzelere, C. Townley, February 6, 1911.
Lenhardt, Elgin H., October 4, 1915.

Meyers, William F., March 12, 1888.
Moore, Herbert U., March 4, 1901.
McAvoy, Charles D., June 28, 1902.
Moyer, Edward C. A., March 27, 1907.
Matthias, Norwood D., October 10, 1910.
Moore, F. Kenneth, March 16, 1914.
Miller, Daniel Yeakel, October 3, 1916.

Potts, Robert T., November 17, 1913.

Prince, Joseph L., February 19, 1917.
Pennell, Edred J., April 24, 1917.

Renninger, Frank X., July 2, 1906.
Roberts, Miss Rebecca McI., Feb. 6, 1911.

Slough, Ephraim F., February 11, 1881.
Saylor, Henry D., February 5, 1883.
Stinson, C. Henry, June 7, 1886.
Styer, Freas, October 5, 1887.
Shaw, Walter M., December 3, 1888.
Stahlnecker, H. Wilson, July 6, 1903.
Swartley, Francis K., September 19, 1904.
Swartz, Aaron S., Jr., October 16, 1911.
Strawbridge, Maxwell, February 21, 1913.
Saylor, Harold D., December 23, 1918.

Tyson, Neville D., August 17, 1869.
Tracy, Henry M., September 13, 1882.

Wright, Franklin L., October 1, 1906.
Wismer, Ralph F., February 6, 1911.
Wismer, Eli F., February 21, 1916.
Wanger, George, October 3, 1911.

Young, William P., March 3, 1902.

Montgomery County Bar Association—The Montgomery County Bar Association was organized in the law library of the court house of 1854, March 14, 1885. A goodly number of the members of the local Bar were present. Colonel James Boyd, the Nestor of the Bar, was chosen as temporary chairman, and Louis M. Childs, as temporary secretary. After an interchange of views as to the propriety of forming an association and as to its nature and purpose, on motion of William F. Dannehower it was unanimously agreed "that the members of the Montgomery County Bar form a Bar Association." On motion of George W. Rogers, the chairman appointed the following committee of five to formulate and report a constitution and by-laws for adoption, viz.: George W. Rogers, Benjamin E. Chain, Joseph Fornance, Henry Freedley, Jr., and Louis M. Childs. At the same meeting active operations were begun by directing the same committee to draft and report a minimum fee bill, and instructing the secretary to communicate to the county's representatives in the legislature, then in session at Harrisburg, the sense of the meeting, which had been taken, that the bill then pending permitting attorneys of one county to practice in all other counties of the State without formal admission, should not be passed.

At an adjourned meeting held in the Law Library on April 4, 1885, the constitution and by-laws reported by the committee, were, after amendments, unanimously adopted. The annual meeting of the Association was to be held in January of each year, and stated meetings quarterly. The officers were to be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a committee of five censors. Membership was confined to members of the Montgomery County Bar. The membership fee was fixed at $1, and the annual dues at fifty cents, afterwards raised to $1.

Fifty-one members of the Bar signed the constitution and by-laws, and became full-fledged members of the Association. The original members were: Benjamin E. Chain, G. R. Fox, Colonel James Boyd, Geo. W. Rogers, Charles Hunsicker, H. U. Brunner, Irving P. Wanger, Aaron S. Swartz, H. K. Weand, Colonel Theo. W. Bean, J. P. Hale Jenkins, Neville D. Tyson, Joseph Fornance, Louis M. Childs, Montgomery Evans, N. H. Larzelere, Jacob A. Strassburger, Walter S. Jennings, F. G. Hobson, John W. Bickel, Charles T. Miller, Henry R. Brown, Jacob V. Gotwalts, Wm. F. Solly, J. Wright Apple, Miller D. Evans, James B. Holland, H. D. Saylor, Freas Styer, Eugene D. Egbert, M. M. Gibson, Isaac Chism, E. L. Hallman, E. F. Slough, H. M. Brownback, B. Percy Chain, Henry Freedley, Jr., Geo. G. Hoover, G. R. Fox, Jr., Wm. F. Dannehower, D. Ogden Rogers, Samuel Money, Jr., Frank H. Baker, Henry C. Boyer, James W. Schrack, Wm. M. Clift, Frank S. Murphy, W. Henry Sutton, Albert R. Place, Edward E. Long, Capt. William Rennyson.

B. Markley Boyer was the judge of the courts in 1885, and was not asked to become a member of the Association, nor did he request membership. The succeeding judges were not considered members of the Association, but were invariably invited to its social and gastronomical functions as honorary guests. This, however, was not altogether to the liking of Judges Swartz, Weand and Solly. On April 17, 1905, they announced in a written communication that they had no objections to being considered active members of the Association, with the duties and liabilities of membership, but reserving the right to retire from meetings when questions arose which might restrain comment or check freedom of debate thereon in their presence. From thenceforth they were regarded as active, full-fledged members. All of them were active members when they were elevated to the Bench.

The objects of the Bar Association are: (1) The general supervision of the conduct of the members of the Bar and others officially connected with the administration of the law or charged with keeping the public records; (2) in cases of any breach of their duties, the institution of lawful and proper proceedings against them; (3) the improvement of the law and its administration; and (4) the protection of the Bar and of judicial tribunals, their officers and members, from invasion of their rights, and the maintenance of their proper influence.

Besides the usual officers, a committee of censors was provided for, consisting of five members, with power to elect its own officers, keep a record of their proceedings, establish rules for their government, and to carry out the objects of the Association. Upon written complaint their duty is to investigate charges of unprofessional conduct or other official delinquency against members of the Bar, improper official conduct against officers and members of judicial tribunals, and violation of the

constitution and rules of the Association against its members, and to report to the Association for proper action.

At the request of the Pennsylvania Bar Association the objects were amended on January 19, 1903, on motion of Mr. Dannehower, by adding as an additional object: "The collection and preservation of the biography of the Bench and Bar, and the history of the administration of justice in this judicial district." The constitution was further amended so as to provide for a standing committee of three members on legal biography and history, to keep a record of the names of the members of the Association, date of admission to the Bar, name of preceptor, date of death, etc.; to collect and preserve the portraits of all local judges and prominent deceased members of the Bar, and pictures of the court houses and jails; to compile or cause to be compiled, biographies of deceased judges and of prominent resident members of the Bar, and provide for their publication; to collect and preserve all other historical data pertaining to the Bench and Bar and the administration of justice in this judicial district.

The detailed action of this Association was printed and circulated among the other bar associations of the State by the State Bar Association as a model for similar action. For some reason or other, however, this amendatory provision was never enforced. The matters were entrusted to the secretary.

Permanent officers were, on April 14, 1885, unanimously elected as follows: President, Colonel James Boyd; vice-president, George W. Rogers; secretary, Wm. F. Dannehower; treasurer, Henry R. Brown. From the twelve nominees for committee of censors, the following five were elected: B. E. Chain, Charles T. Miller, Joseph Fornance, Louis M. Childs and Montgomery Evans. Of these original officers, two have served continuously up to the present day, 1923: Mr. Dannehower as secretary, and Mr. Evans on the committee of censors. The committee of censors subsequently formulated a code of rules for their government.

Thus originated this Association, which has so splendidly carried out its objects. It has played an important and prominent part in the legal and judicial life in this judicial district. What it has accomplished and how it has carried out its avowed objects, will be treated in the order set down in its constitution. Throughout its existence the Bar Association has fortunately been called upon in only six instances to exercise supervision over but six lawyers—one who was not a member of the Association, and five who were—because of alleged unprofessional conduct. The first official action of the committee of censors was taken in 1888, the next in 1889. There were no further cases of this character until 1904, then came another in 1905. There was another lull until 1912, and the last case was in 1920. In all but the latter, there was com-

plete disbarment; and in this exception the Court directed a suspension from practise for three months.

At the annual meeting in January, 1888, the Association called the attention of the judges to the records, dockets, indices and files kept in the public offices in the court house, with a view of having proper alterations and corrections made therein. This was done by the Court. In July, 1891, a committee interviewed certain court house officials relative to alleged overcharges. Two years later "The Hill officers," at the request of the Association, commenced to keep their offices open continuously from 8 o'clock a. m. to 4 o'clock p. m. In 1898 the recorder of deeds was requested to enter in the deed indices in his office the names of the parties to conveyances of rights of way granted to the National Transit Company, a pipe line, and thereafter transcribe such conveyances in the deed books and properly index them.

Register of Wills Freed, at the request of the Association, inaugurated, in 1903, the practice of furnishing certified copies of accounts to interested counsel, free of charge.

The Association, in 1905, requested the committee on revision of the rules of court to draft a rule requiring the prothonotary to give interested counsel notice of the handing down of opinions, etc. Such a rule was formulated and adopted by the Court.

Can an appearance or continuance docket be lawfully kept in the prothonotary's office, and the judgment and execution dockets be abandoned? For answer, this question was on the 24th of January, 1906, referred to Messrs. Tyson, Childs and Bickel. On January 18, 1909, they reported progress, but never reported finally.

Book typewriters in the recorder of deeds office! That was the next progressive innovation recommended by the Association. This was done at a special meeting held March 29, 1913. It was by no means an easy accomplishment. Book typewriters would reduce the clerical force, and consequently restrict the appointing power of the recorder. But in time these time-, money- and eligibility-saving machines were procured by the county commissioners, and continue in satisfactory use to this day. Then, too, the indices—deed, mortgage, miscellaneous—were faulty and somewhat antiquated. A committee was therefore appointed to investigate and report on the present method of indexing in the recorder's office, with recommendations for improvement. Messrs. Emery, Stahlnecker and Hoover were appointed. The committee on May 9, 1913, reported recommending certain changes in the method of indexing, and were authorized to act in conjunction with the recorder of deeds and the court. The changes so recommended were considered *seriatim* on December 29, 1913, and, after amendments, were adopted. The report set forth a full and complete system of indexing which was afterwards adopted by the recorder, and is still in vogue.

At the annual meeting in 1922 the committee was reappointed and directed to reinvestigate the subject and make report. The report was filed at the April meeting. Messrs. Emery and Stahlnecker favored the White system of indexing, Hoover, the Russell system. The committee was directed to visit the counties wherein the two systems are in use, respectively, confer with Mr. White, Mr. Russell and the judges, and make further report. Each of the two contestants made up one volume each of the letters J, S, deed grantor index, which were exhibited in the recorder's office for examination and comparison of the merits of both systems. The matter at present is at a standstill. The adoption of either system would involve the expenditure of several hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In September, 1918, Messrs. Hallman (Abram D.), Moyer and Knight were appointed to report upon a uniform system of designating papers filed in the prothonotary's office, by term and number. The system devised and reported by the committee was approved by the judges and was put in force, and has been followed ever since.

The adoption of the one-docket system in the prothonotary's office had been the dream of a few lawyers for a long time. In 1918 the matter was referred to two committees heretofore appointed (on rearrangement of terms of court and uniform system of filing papers), comprising Messrs. Dannehower, Knipe, Fox (H. J.), High and Wright, and Hallman (Abram D.), Moyer and Knight. No final report has been made. Sentiment upon the subject is divided.

The Association, through Messrs. Emery, Hoover and Stahlnecker, and in coöperation with the county commissioners, procured and framed for preservation in the recorder's office and office of the clerk of courts, the original plan of Norristown in 1853, and had photostats made of the plan; and also had maps of Pottstown, Norristown, Conshohocken and Bridgeport repaired and mounted. The necessary costs were apportioned between the Association and the county.

At its annual meeting in 1923 the prothonotary was requested to see that the papers handed down by the appellate courts be properly filed so as to make them easily accessible, and better preserved. The Association also by resolution brought to the attention of the county commissioners the overcrowded condition in the recorder's office both as to books and patrons, and the public necessity for more room. At the April meeting the secretary reported that the commissioners contemplated the construction of a gallery on the northwest side of the recorder's office, to be reached by a special stairway so as to afford more room for keeping books and records. After discussing the feasibility of spending the public money on piecemeal alterations and enlargements when an extension of the court house was needed, it was unanimously resolved, on motion of Mr. Hendricks, seconded by Mr. Dettra, "That the sense of this Association is that the court house should be enlarged, and that a

committee of three be appointed to confer with the county commissioners upon the subject." Messrs. N. H. Larzelere, Montgomery Evans and Abraham H. Hendricks were appointed.

At the April meeting, too, action was taken to prevent an amendment or repeal of the Act relative to the resignation and retirement of judges on half or full pay. It was also resolved to give Judge Swartz a complimentary dinner on his resignation and retirement after thirty-six years of continuous and brilliant service upon the local Bench. The following were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements: Dannehower, Dettra, Wright and C. Townley Larzelere.

The acoustics of the three court rooms of the new court house (1904) were very poor and faulty. So was the ventilation. The persistent efforts of the Association to have both defects remedied, so far as possible, by the county commissioners, proved successful.

Through action of the Association by its executive committee, Messrs. Dannehower, Evans (Montgomery), and Miller, the county commissioners changed the use of certain small rooms in the second story of the new court house for use by Judge Solly, as working rooms, and by jurors as a coat room; procured badges for the "court crier" and "court officers;" and had painted signs put up over the doors of the court rooms, other public rooms and offices, and a sign pointing out the location of the Orphans' Court room.

Legal proceedings against members of the Bar in cases of breach of duty is a subject which has been treated above. As to legal proceedings against officials, it is to be said that no such proceedings were, fortunately, ever required.

To facilitate the administration of the law, the Association has been instrumental in having rules of court adopted requiring non-resident members of the Bar to maintain an office in the county, where service can be made on them. In 1889 it put itself on record as opposed to the repeal of the Procedure Act of 1887. In 1890, the Association had adopted by the Court, rules of court providing for pleadings in appeals from justices of the peace; and in 1893 a rule relating to practice on writs of *sci. fa.*, and one relating to the admission to this Bar of members of other bars.

In 1893 the Association recommended to the court the revision, codification and reprint of all the rules of court. The Court appointed Montgomery Evans, F. G. Hobson, James B. Holland, Muscoe M. Gibson and Wm. F. Dannehower a committee for the purpose, who reported to the Court the present rules, except wherein since amended.

In 1894 the Association recommended that in settlements of transfer of real estate all taxes should be apportioned from June 1st, road taxes to be based on the rate of the preceding year. This rule was afterwards changed to the present practice. Mr. Chism was instructed to draft a legislative bill amending the Act of May 24, 1888, so as to provide for

the first Monday of intermediate months between the terms of Court as a return day. The law was so changed.

In 1897 there was recommended to the Court for adoption, rules of Court pertaining to this Bar of members of the bars from other States and other counties in this State, and pertaining to the preliminary examination and registration of law students and a prescribed course of study and text books.

The custom of members of the Bar and others arising and remaining standing during the opening of the Court by the court crier, dates from 1900, when the Association, on motion, resolved to do so. Several years afterwards the members resolved to raise their voices while addressing the Court, sufficiently loud to be heard within the Bar.

In 1904 the Orphans' Court, at the instance of the Association, changed the rule of court requiring adjudications to lie over only ten, instead of twenty days, for exceptions and final confirmation. The Association also approved the suggestion of the recorder of deeds to stamp at the proper places the initials of the Christian names of mortgagors, assignors and releasors at the top of the pages of the new indices of mortgages and releases and assignment of mortgages.

In 1906 the Association requested the committee on revision of the rules of court to provide for the manner and order of counsel in summing up in civil trials. The request resulted in the present method and rules of court; and also to draft a rule providing that averments in statements of claim not controverted by an affidavit of defense, need not be proven at the trial of the cause. This has since become statute law.

In 1908 at the instance of the Association, the rules of court were amended so that the minimum fee of masters in divorce was raised from $15 to $25, and so that libellants must deposit $15 when the libel is filed and $25 when a master is appointed.

In 1910 the Pennsylvania Bar Association appointed a committee to report upon the subject of abolishing the Superior Court of the State. The local Association on the 16th of January, 1911 (on the report of a special committee that after holding several meetings could not agree to abolishment, and therefore decided to make no recommendation), concluded to take no action.

In 1911 the Association was instrumental, by an amendment to the existing rules of court, in having the time enlarged for filing returns to orders of sale granted by the Orphans' Court. The Association also recommended the filing of papers with the prothonotary or clerk of the courts in open court when the presiding judge was otherwise engaged, for "handing up" the same at a proper time.

In 1911 an effort was made to have more suitable quarters provided for the Orphans' Court. Plans were considered with the county commissioners, but nothing definitely was decided upon.

At the suggestion of the Association in 1911 it was ordered by the

Court that Criminal Court convene (except on the opening day) at 9.30 o'clock a. m., instead of 9 o'clock a. m., and at 1.30 o'clock instead of 2 o'clock for the accommodation of jurors and witnesses residing in distant parts of the county.

On December 13, 1911, the Association recommended the adoption of amendments to Orphans' Court rules Nos. 89, 87, 5, 97, 6 and 4, and also a new rule, No. 17½, as suggested by Judge Solly, of the Orphans' Court, to go into effect January 1, 1912. These rules related to the sales of real estate for the payment of debts, returns to the orders of sale, accounts, and stated courts. At the same meeting the common pleas judges were requested to consider the advisability of adopting a rule of court changing the time for holding court so that one week might elapse between the criminal and civil court for jury trials.

In 1912 the matter of providing more suitable quarters for the grand jury and witnesses to be called before it, was called to the attention of the judges. A committee had previously consulted with the county commissioners and reported to the Association.

Amendments to rules of court Nos. 26 and 130, common pleas, relating to motions for judgment for want of a sufficient affidavit of defense, were recommended to the court for adoption. The amendments were made by the Court.

In 1914 a joint meeting of the Association and of the Montgomery County Medical Society was held, by prearrangement, in the court house, to discuss ways and means for improving expert medical testimony.

In 1915, Messrs. Larzelere (N. H.), Fornance and Hoover were appointed to look after proposed legislation respecting attorneys and legal practice. Two bills were disapproved by the committee.

The same year the Association put itself on record as favoring the renomination and reëlection of Justices George B. Orlady and John B. Head, of the Superior Court of this Commonwealth.

On the 15th of January, 1917, Messrs. Dannehower, Knipe, Fox (H. I.), High and Wright were appointed to investigate the statutes and consult the Court with reference to rearranging the sessions of the courts. On the 27th of December following, they reported. The report was considered and discussed, and referred back for further consideration with the judges, and to report at the annual meeting. At that time the committee filed an elaborate report. The principal changes recommended in the rules of court were an increase in the number of terms of court from four to five; increase in the length of terms to three weeks, or, in some, to four weeks; provision for six weeks of civil court and five weeks of criminal court, instead of four weeks of each court; provision for an interval of one week between the criminal and the civil trial court; provision for five instead of four argument courts; avoidance of the overlapping of the Orphans' Court audits and the sessions of

Criminal Court; elimination of Civil Trial Court late in June and near the Christmas holiday season; elimination of Argument Court on the first Monday of September, before all the lawyers have returned from the summer vacation; adjustment of Trial and Argument Courts so as not to conflict with established sittings of Appellate courts and preparation therefor. New rules were suggested also touching notices, registration of attorneys not members of this Bar, pleading and practice, trial, sheriff's sales and liquor licenses. The committee was discharged with a vote of thanks "for their painstaking and satisfactory work." The committee's recommendations were adopted by the Court as rules of court, effective August 1, 1918, which are still in force to the satisfaction of every practitioner and to the people generally.

In 1918 the Association commended the candidacy of Superior Court Justice William D. Porter for reëlection, and endorsed the candidacy of Justices Alexander Simpson, Jr., and Edward J. Fox for election to the Supreme Court Bench. The Association, through the Court, had the compensation of masters in divorce raised from $25 to $50. Mr. Hallman (Thomas) was appointed to draw an amendment to the Act of 1903 relating to the quieting of titles.

In March, 1923, for the first time all divorce cases were heard on Tuesday morning of Argument Court. This practice of the Court was brought about by the Association "for the sake of economy of time." "In the interest of public morals" the Association requested the Court to impound the records of divorce cases, "access thereto to be had only by special order of a judge." The object was to keep the reports of masters in divorce out of the hands of newspaper reporters and the detailed and sensational "write-ups" out of the local daily newspapers and from the sight of the public, young and old. Some of these articles were not fit to print. While the Court in a lengthy opinion refused to impound the papers in divorce cases, it deservedly scored the publication of the oftentimes disgusting details of these cases over display headlines.

Delegates to annual meetings of the American Bar Association have been as follows: 1893, B. E. Chain; 1916, N. H. Larzelere; 1917, N. H. Larzelere, Judge John Faber Miller, alternate; 1918, N. H. Larzelere, H. I. Fox, alternate.

The first attempt to have women admitted to the Bar was made October 14, 1893, by Mr. Knipe, who introduced a motion that the Association recommend to the Court the immediate adoption of an additional rule of court under "Attornies," as follows: "Women shall be registered as law students and admitted to practice as attorneys of this court upon the same terms and conditions as men; and all existing rules of court under this head, as well as all hereafter to be passed, shall apply equally and without discrimination to both sexes."

After discussion and amendments, the question was referred to a

special committee consisting of Chas. Hunsicker, N. H. Larzelere, F. G. Hobson, Walter S. Jennings and J. A. Strassburger, for consideration and report. This committee was discharged January 15, 1894, after the chairman reported that no meeting of the committee had been held, and that the committee had no report to make on the question. One year thereafter, Mr. Hunsicker, who had been the chairman of the special committee which filed no report, moved that "we deem it inexpedient to permit women to practice at the Bar." The motion was carried, 18 ayes, 9 noes. The nine ladies' champions, who later won out, were Hendricks, Kane, Styer, Egbert, Strassburger, Brownback, Jennings, Jenkins and Dannehower. The secretary was instructed to communicate the result of the vote to the Court, which was done.

Subsequently the Court decided that women were eligible for admission to the Bar, and admitted Miss Margaret Richardson (afterwards Mrs. Irvin P. Knipe), on September 5, 1898, who, on February 2, 1899, became the first female member of the Association, being also the first woman admitted to the Montgomery county Bar. Her membership in the Association was followed by that of Lelia Jenkins, on June 28, 1902, Miss Emeline Henry Hooven, on June 28, 1921, and by that of Miss Rebecca McI. Roberts, on January 30, 1922.

That the judges while sitting on the bench should wear long silk gowns for the purpose of adding dignity to the office and to the proceedings, has always been the opinion of a considerable number of members of the Association. In 1900, Mr. Knipe procured the sense of the Association "that the judges wear black gowns while on the bench." The judges declined to do so. Mr. Dannehower revived the subject, on January 16, 1905, by having his motion adopted that the judges be requested to wear black silk gowns while presiding in court. The judges promised to give the matter "careful consideration." They did, but decided adversely. Gowns were never thereafter adopted by the local judiciary, nor was the proposed innovation again adverted to by the Association.

The subject of portraits of judges was first agitated at a meeting held on July 13, 1895—the procurement of portraits of former judges on the local bench. Messrs. Wanger, Evans (Montgomery), and Chism were appointed a committee to ascertain the probable cost. Shortly thereafter a large photograph of Judge Ross was framed by the Association and hung in the law library. On January 20, 1902, Colonel Boyd, president of the Association, through the secretary, presented the Association with a framed group photograph of the members of the Bar, including the judges in the center of the group. The picture was received on behalf of the Association by Mr. Rogers. It is hanging in the law library.

On January 16, 1905, Jenkins, Miller and Larzelere (N. H.) were appointed a committee to confer with the law library committee and the county commissioners relative to procuring oil paintings of past and present judges, to be hung in the new court house. The committee pro-

cured a portrait of Judge Boyer as a gift from his son, Henry C. Boyer, Esq., of the Philadelphia Bar. On January 22, 1906, the committee reported progress, and afterwards died a natural death.

The subject was again brought to the surface on January 18, 1915, when Messrs. Jenkins, Tyson and Dannehower were appointed a committee to inquire into the practicability of getting portraits of deceased judges of our courts for Court Room No. 1. A year later the committee reported they had failed in securing any portraits, even from the family of the late Judge Weand. The matter seems impractical at this late day. Besides, the cost would run into thousands of dollars.

The present enlarged court house was dedicated May 24, 1904. Montgomery Evans, John W. Bickel, Jacob A. Strassburger, Wm. F. Dannehower and Theodore Lane Bean were appointed a committee of general arrangements, in conjunction with Judges Swartz, Weand and Solly, and the three county commissioners and their solicitor, for the dedication of the new court house, with full power to act. The Association took charge of the entertainment of guests from beyond the limits of the county attending the services, who were members of the legal profession, and also of the attending chief executive officers of the Commonwealth. They were entertained at Stritzinger's with a bountiful repast. The expenses were $312.25, which were paid by fifty members of the Association. Preparations had been made to entertain 175 guests.

The general committee of arrangements appointed the following special committees, who had charge of the dedicatory exercises: Committee on special arrangements: J. P. Hale Jenkins, Neville D. Tyson, Wm. F. Dannehower, Charles D. McAvoy, and Theo. Lane Bean; reception committee: Montgomery Evans, Miller D. Evans, I. P. Wanger, N. H. Larzelere, Jacob A. Strassburger, H. M. Brownback, and John Faber Miller; committee on program: John W. Bickel and Louis M. Childs; committee on entertainment: Henry M. Tracy, Abraham H. Hendricks, and Henry I. Fox.

The nearness of the county seat to Philadelphia and the consequent residence of numerous members of the Philadelphia bar in the lower end of this county without law offices in this county where service of notice and other papers (in cases where they may be counsel of record in this county) may be served on them without hunting their offices in Philadelphia, have, by experience, taught the members of this Bar that their rights are frequently invaded, and they are put to great inconvenience and their clients to unnecessary costs and expense in serving notices on these practitioners. Accordingly, in June, 1889, the Association laid before the Court proposed rules of court for adoption relative to laymen practicing law, and to service upon non-resident lawyers practicing in this county without having an office therein. The rules proposed were adopted by the Court.

On January 20, 1908, Messrs. Knipe, Miller and Harry were appointed a committee to investigate certain charges against William W. Chambers, of Ardmore, Pennsylvania, who was alleged to be holding himself out as an attorney-at-law, although not admitted to any bar. The evidence submitted was reported to be insufficient to sustain the charge.

In 1909 a resolution was adopted requesting the Senator and Representatives from this county to oppose a pending bill in the Legislature providing that admission to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania should of itself operate as an admission of any such attorney as an attorney-at-law in every court of the Commonwealth, on the ground of unconstitutionality and unwisdom. A copy of the resolution was sent to the Bars of Bucks, Chester, and Delaware counties for similar action. The bill was passed. The secretary submitted a brief on the unconstitutionality of the bill to Governor Stuart and his Attorney-General. The bill became a law.

Proposed legislative limitations on the court's discretion in directing advertisement of legal notice, was protested against by the Association.

On Friday the 12th of February, 1909, the Association celebrated Lincoln's Centenary with a public meeting held in the afternoon in Court Room No. 1. The floral decorations were elaborately furnished free of charge by Florist Joseph N. King, picture frames by Charles W. Moll, flags by Brendlinger & Co., and Lincoln pictures by J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq., and the Norristown High School. A suitable address was delivered by Franklin S. Wright; Judge Solly read Lincoln's Gettysburg address; and a suitable minute was prepared and read by Neville D. Tyson. A full report of the celebration, including the addresses of Judge Henry K. Weand, the presiding officer, and Mr. Wright, and the minute prepared by Mr. Tyson, are preserved in the archives of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Judge Weand in 1903 presented the Association with a beautifully penned set of resolutions adopted by the Bar on the death of Daniel Mulvaney, Esq., a leader of the Bar in his time. They were suitably framed by the secretary and hung in the law library.

Twelve members of the Association contributed their noble and brave "bit" to the World War. They are: Paul M. Brooke, Frank J. Bradley, George C. Corson, C. Russell Corson, Joseph H. Cochran, Wm. F. Dannehower, Jr., Joseph K. Fornance, J. Burnett Holland, Elgin H. Lenhart, Daniel Yeakel Miller, Eldred J. Pennell, and George Wanger. Those who saw service in France are Messrs. Corson (Geo. C.), Dannehower, Fornance, Holland, Lenhardt, and Wanger. Their records follow:

Frank J. Bradley enlisted in Philadelphia, in October, 1918. He was beyond the draft age. He was voluntarily inducted into the service by the draft board of Norristown, and was then sent to Camp Zachary Taylor, near Louisville, Kentucky. He was a private in the Field Artillery Officers' Training School. He remained there until December 7, 1918, when he was honorably discharged. Before his enlistment, Mr. Bradley

was active in assisting registrants to answer questionaires, and in speaking at Liberty Loan meetings and at the Grand Opera House, the Garrick Theatre and at mills and factories. He made a tour over the county in the interest of the sale of War Stamps.

Paul M. Brooke enlisted in December, 1917, at Camp Dix, New Jersey. After remaining there nearly a year, he was transferred, in September, 1918, to Camp Meigs, Washington, D. C., where he attended the Training School, Quartermaster's Department. About the middle of December, 1918, he was discharged. He was commissioned second lieutenant in the Officers' Reserve Corps for five years, which have not yet expired.

C. Russell Corson was a private in the infantry at Camp Lee, Petersburg, Virginia, and also in the Officers' Artillery Training School at Camp Zachary Taylor, near Louisville, Kentucky. He spent three months in each camp, and then the war ended.

George C. Corson enlisted on the 10th of May, 1917, at Philadelphia. He was sent to Fort Howard, Maryland, where he remained a few days. On July 12, 1917, he together with Elgin H. Lenhardt was transferred to Camp Meade, Maryland. He was a private in Motor Truck Company No. 36. On May 1, 1918, he was sent to Camp Johnson. On June 14 following he was commissioned a second lieutenant, and on the 6th of July 1918, was transported to France. He was landed at Liverpool, England, and then at Cherbourg, France. His company there joined the Ninth American Division, 315th Motor Supply Train, at Racey-Sur-Ource, in the second training area. He was there three weeks. On August 24 he went in line on the Toul sector, and until September 21 was in action. On October 21 he was sent back to a Motor Transport School at Decize, France, and after a month's schooling rejoined the 90th Division on the Argonne front, northwest of Verdun. He was promoted on October 2, 1918, to first lieutenant. He was still on the Argonne front on the day the armistice was signed, November 11, 1918. He spent the next six months with the Army of Occupation, at Berne Castle, Germany. He started for home May 21, and landed at Newport News, Virginia, on June 10, 1919, and six days thereafter was mustered out of service at Camp Dix. In 1922 he and his parents and a few friends revisited the scenes of his soldier days in France, touring over the battlefields of the country he helped to save from the terrible Huns.

William F. Dannehower, Jr., enlisted as an orderly in the service of the Pennsylvania Base Hospital, No. 10, at Philadelphia, May 7, 1917. Eleven days afterward he was on his way to France. Two weeks were spent in training at Blackpool, England, after landing at Liverpool. In June the hospital opened for action at La Porte, France, after setting foot on French soil at Havre. He was appointed clerk to Colonel Richard Harte, of Philadelphia, the head of this hospital unit. Promoted to sergeant shortly thereafter, he was placed in charge of the Isolation Division, the Infectious and Contagious Hospital. In 1918 he was again promoted, to first-class sergeant. He was captain of the hospital baseball and football teams, which won interesting contests with rival organizations. Placed in charge of Mobile Hospital, No. 8, his duties carried him and this hospital into the Meuse Argonne, and thence followed on the heels of the American army until the armistice, November 11, 1918. Early in the following year he was mustered out of service at St. Aignan, France. He then enlisted in the Transportation Service of the American

Red Cross at Paris, and continued in this service until March, 1921, arriving home on the 24th of that month. His duties carried him by automobile through France, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Russia, Spain, Italy, and to Constantinople, Turkey. During a two weeks' furlough he traveled through England and Scotland. He picked up enough French and German so as to be able to make himself readily understood in those languages.

Joseph Knox Fornance was called into active service, July 15, 1917, as captain of Field Artillery, in command of Battery B, 108th (2nd Pennsylvania) Regiment of Field Artillery, and was stationed at Camp Wanamaker, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, and Camp Hancock, Augusta, Georgia, from that date until September 9, 1917. From September 10, 1917, to November 26, 1917, he was stationed at Reserve Officers' Training Camp, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. His resignation from the Pennsylvania National Guard was accepted by the President, October 11, 1917, and he was commissioned as captain of Field Artillery, U. S. Army, November 26, 1917, on graduation from Reserve Officers' Training Camp. Then he was assigned to 321st Regiment, U. S. Field Artillery (157th U. S. Field Artillery Brigade, 82nd Division), and was stationed at Camp Gordon, Georgia, November and December, 1917, and from March to May, 1918. He was next stationed at the School of Fire for Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, from January 1, 1918, until graduation on March 8, 1918. He was assigned to headquarters, 157th U. S. Field Artillery Brigade, as operations officer, March 9, 1918. He left Embarkation Camp, Camp Merritt, New Jersey, for overseas service, May 19, 1918, and arrived at Brest, France, May 29, 1918. He was stationed at Brest and La Courtine, France, until August 11, 1918. He was with headquarters, 157th U. S. Field Artillery Brigade (82nd Division) as operations officer, from August 12, 1918, to October 14, 1918, and was active in the Marbache Sector, Lorraine, St. Mihiel offensive, and the Meuse-Argonne offensive. On October 14, 1918, he was appointed aide-de-camp to commanding general, 42nd Division, assigned to that division, and continued with 42nd Division through Meuse-Argonne offensive until November 10, 1918, when the division was relieved. He was appointed a member of the American Section of Interallied Armistice Commission, November 14, 1918, and was stationed at Spa, Belgium, until December 26, 1918, as adjutant of the American section and aide-de-camp to the commanding general of the American section. Afterwards he was stationed in Paris and in Bordeaux, France, as aide-de-camp to the commanding general, Base Section No. 2, American Expeditionary Forces, from December, 1918, to July, 1919. He arrived in the United States from overseas service, August 8, 1919. He was awarded a British Military Cross, and was promoted to be major of Field Artillery, U. S. Army, May 8, 1919. He was stationed in Washington, D. C., since his return from overseas. On September 24, 1920, he was commissioned as captain of Field Artillery, Regular Army, as of July 1, 1920, and October 18, 1920, was transferred to the Quartermaster Corps.

J. Burnett Holland was drafted, and was inducted into service on December 7, 1917, at Camp Meade, Maryland; and was discharged at Camp Dix, New Jersey, June 7, 1919, after one and a half year's service in the Great War. He was first assigned to Company A, No. 312 Machine Gun Battalion, 79th Division. He remained at Camp Meade until July 9, 1918, when he sailed with his battalion from Hoboken, New Jersey,

and after nine days they landed at Brest, France. At the end of a week they were moved into the training area in the vicinity of Dijohn. The battalion was billeted in the village of Riviere Les Fosses. Mr. Holland was then transferred to the sanitary detachment of the same battalion. In September they left for the front and were put in the trenches in the Verdun sector, near Hill No. 304. They were there a month, in the meanwhile taking part early in October in the advance on Montfaucon. Just before the battle, Mr. Holland was evacuated to the hospital of his battalion on account of a severe attack of influenza, which confined him five weeks. At the time the armistice was signed, November 11, 1918, he was in the Replacement Camp at Toul. A week afterward he rejoined his battalion at Reville, twenty miles northeast of Verdun. He remained there until December 12, 1918. Shortly thereafter he was put on an attached service with an entertainment unit, which, like other entertainment units, traveled over the entire entertainment circuit on the front, covering the entire territory occupied by the American Expeditionary Forces. His unit gave nightly minstrel, vaudeville and musical entertainments in the Verdun sector, St. Mihiel sector, Toul sector and Luxemberg, covering a period of four months. Before they could make their next move, to Coblenz, Germany, they were recalled. It has been estimated that about twenty thousand professional, and a greater number of amateur entertainers, served amusement to the million of American soldiers in France. Holland's battalion sailed from Saint Nazaire on May 14, 1919, and after a long homeward trip of fourteen days, landed at Brooklyn, New York, on May 28, 1919. He was mustered out of service at Camp Dix, New Jersey, on June 7, 1919. Mr. Holland, with his fine baritone voice, had sung his way into the hearts of the American boys on French soil, and helped them to keep up their patriotic enthusiasm.

Elgin H. Lenhardt entered the service in 1917, at Fort Howard, Maryland. A few days thereafter he was transferred to Camp Meade, Maryland, where he remained a year. After spending the two succeeding months at Camp Johnson, Florida, he was transported to France on September 16, 1918. He was a second lieutenant in the Motor Transport Car Service, and was stationed at Nantes and St. Nazaire. He was mustered out of service on July 2, 1919, at Presidio, California. His companion in his early service was George C. Corson.

Edred J. Pennell enlisted in September, 1917, and on the 20th of that month went to Camp Meade, Maryland, to enter the 17th Training Battalion, Depot Brigade, as a private. On October 2, 1917, he was transferred to Company A, 304th Ammunition Train, and twelve days later was transferred to Headquarters Troop, 79th Division. On the 7th December following he was appointed first-class private. On January 5, 1918, he entered the Officers' Training School at Camp Meade, as a member of the First Battery, and completed the course on April 19, 1918, when he was appointed a sergeant (officer candidate) and returned to Headquarters Troop, 79th Division. On May 8th, 1918, he was transferred to Field Artillery, replacement depot, Camp Jackson, South Carolina, and two weeks later was assigned to Battery B, 14th Battalion, F. A. R. D., and on June 1, 1918, was commissioned second lieutenant, F. A. N. A., and assigned to Battery B, 14th Battalion, F. A. R. D. Two weeks later he was transferred to Battery B, 23rd Battalion, F. A. R. D. On the reorganization of 8th Regiment, F. A. R. D., on August 17, 1918, he was assigned to Headquarters Company, 8th Regiment, F. A. R. D. On Sep-

tember 21, 1918, he was commissioned first lieutenant, F. A. U. S. A., and a month later was transferred to the command of Battery F, 8th Regiment, F. A. R. D. On the following day he was commissioned captain, F. A. U. S. A., and on December 6, 1918, was honorably discharged from the army.

D. Yeakel Miller enlisted as a seaman, June 5, 1918, in the United States Naval Reserve Force, and was sent to the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois. After drilling in various seaman companies until November 1, 1918, he was transferred to the Officers' Material School and there underwent a four months' intensive training course for officers, jumping from seaman to chief boatswain's mate. After the signing of the armistice and before receiving his commission of ensign, he was at his own request released from active service early in February, 1919. He had practically completed the whole training course. He was discharged September 1, 1921. Before enlisting, Mr. Miller was a busy "Four-Minute Man," and did yeoman service in the Liberty Loan and War Chest drives in Norristown and other parts of the county.

George Wanger enlisted on March 4, 1910, before America went into the World War, in Company F, 6th Pennsylvania Infantry, and on July 3, 1910, had been elected its second lieutenant; had been captain of Company M, 1st Pennsylvania Infantry; and had served in the Federal service on the Mexican border from June 27, 1916, to October 23, 1916. Just as this country was entering the World War, Mr. Wanger was called out by the President for guard duty. On August 5, 1917, he was drafted. Subsequently he served at Camp Hancock, Georgia; and in France with the 28th Division as captain of Company M; regimental adjutant, and regimental operations officer of the 109th Infantry; and as brigade adjutant of the 56th Infantry Brigade. He also commanded the 1st Battalion, 109th Infantry, in action. He was graduated from the Infantry School of Arms, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in August, 1917; from the Army General Staff College, Langres, France, on September 15, 1918; and from the Sorbonne University, Paris, France, on March 1, 1919. He was discharged September 22, 1919.

The "stay-at-home"-from-the-World-War lawyers were, nevertheless, actively patriotic. On May 18, 1917, Messrs. Wright, Knipe, Moyer, Place and Brecht were appointed "to take over the legal business of any member of the Association entering the military service of the State or Nation, and desiring the same to be done, and of transacting such business without any charge to such member, with power in said committee to increase its membership by appointment of other attorneys."

On November 26, 1917, a resolution was adopted "that all the members of the Association, as a committee of the whole, offer themselves as associate members of the Legal Advisory Boards to be provided for Norristown and for the remaining portions of Montgomery county, for the purpose of advising, without compensation, registrants under the new selective service regulations, of their rights and obligations, and of assisting them in the preparation of their answers to the questions which all men subject to draft are required to submit." A copy of this resolution was sent by the secretary to all the Legal Advisory Boards in the

county, and to every member of the Association and of the Bar. In Norristown a room for the purpose expressed in the resolution, was fitted up in the basement of the court house, where lawyers relayed each other, day and night, to assist and advise registrants. Lawyers residing or having offices away from the county seat assisted registrants in their respective communities. Some lawyers sat at convenient public places in the county at stated times to lend assistance in answering questionnaires. Henry C. Stinson organized a Home Defense Guard. It underwent daily drilling lessons at the local Armory on Cherry street, near Airy street. He was elected captain of the lawyer-soldiers. Their number was later augmented by the addition of bank clerks and other laymen, until they numbered thirty embryonic soldiers. These and other patriotic citizens then formed a regular military organization called Company F, which later merged with the National Guard. C. Townley Larzelere was the captain of Company F.

Subsequently Mr. Stinson was appointed superintendent of the Home Defense Police of Montgomery county, 900 strong. It was divided into units, located throughout the county. The Norristown unit did active police duty in Norristown, and also patrol duty at Valley Forge to handle big crowds there. A part of the duty of this patriotic body was to investigate and silence German sympathizers. Mr. Stinson and J. Aubrey Anderson had charge of District No. 2 of the Legal Advisory Board, comprising Norristown and surrounding townships. The former was also the official adviser of the registrants who were not exempted from military service.

When ex-State Treasurer Henry K. Boyer resigned as Food Administrator of Montgomery county, his legal adviser, Mr. Stinson, succeeded him. He served about a year, until the close of the war. Mr. Stinson, so far as known, was the only food administrator who fined public officials for violations of the law in having on hand over-supplies of sugar. He turned all fines so collected over to the Red Cross. Attorneys Williams, Wright, Hoover, Gibson, Emery and others also were active speakers in the campaigns for the sale of Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps. The Association volunteered the services of its members gratuitously to claimants of their rights under the War Risk Insurance Act, who should apply for the same.

The members of the Association who entered any branch of the military or naval service of the United States, were relieved from the payment of Association dues, and were to remain in good standing. Annual outings and banquets were dispensed with on account of war conditions.

The members of the Association announced they stood ready to give legal advice and services, without charge, to draftees respecting their rights under Federal and State statutes, and to coöperate with the Alien Property Custodian at Washington in reaching enemy property.

In 1918 the Association, in conjunction with the county commission-

ers, procured large and handsome American flags for each of the three court rooms, and a service flag containing twelve stars for the law library. Twelve members of the Association were then serving in military service of the United States. The Association paid for the service flag; the county commissioners for the flags hung in the court rooms.

Members of the Association who were in active military service during any part of 1918 or 1919, were excused from the payment of Association dues for those years. The Association purchased a $100 Fifth Liberty Loan Bond.

In June, 1919, Messrs. Rex, Anderson and Dannehower were appointed to secure and preserve a record of the war work of the Association and each individual member thereof.

Banquets—A prominent auxiliary feature of the Association has been of a social nature—its annual banquets, an occasional smoker, and later, its spring outings. The social ball was set to rolling at the first stated meeting in January, 1886, when Montgomery Evans moved "that the Association have a supper." On motion of the writer the following were appointed the first committee of arrangements: Charles Hunsicker, Aaron S. Swartz, I. P. Wanger, Montgomery Evans, and D. Ogden Rogers. Immediately the question of having wine served at the supper was raised by F. G. Hobson, a temperance advocate, but was promptly voted down by a rising vote which required no count. The same question recurred annually for some years thereafter, but the matter was always left to the committee of arrangements, who invariably were chosen, it seemed, from the "wets."

At every annual meeting after the first, a committee on banquet was invariably appointed. The judge, or judges, were always invited to the banquets as honorary guests until Judges Swartz, Weand and Solly were, at their own request, regarded as full-fledged members of the Association, with voice and vote, and payment for their plates at the subsequent banquets.

Nine days after it was decided to have a "supper," another troublesome question was raised at a special meeting, which recurred annually for some years thereafter—the question of members bringing one or more ladies to the supper. This was George W. Rogers' "hobby." He carried his point in meeting by a vote of 15 to 9, but owing to a decided sentiment against the proposition by leading members who did not attend the meeting, no one invited any ladies to attend.

No annual banquet was held in 1896 because of the deaths of four members of the Association within a period of three months, namely: Charles Hunsicker, October 27, 1895; Walter S. Jennings, November 14, 1895; Isaac Chism, November 20, 1895 (three within one month); and Warren M. Dickinson, February 1, 1896.

Complimentary banquets have played no small part in the social life

of the Association. The first was given to Gilbert Rodman Fox, one of the great leaders of the Bar and a popular and successful preceptor, in 1888. He had as students at law in his office from time to time, Judges Swartz and Solly, and Joseph Fornance, H. B. Dickinson, Louis M. Childs, William F. Dannehower, his son, Gilbert R. Fox, Jr., and others. On November 19, 1888, he would complete fifty years of active practice at the Montgomery County Bar, and on October 13, 1888, Messrs. Wanger, Fornance and Childs were appointed to wait on Mr. Fox relative to giving him a testimonial banquet. A week later Messrs. Freedley and Jennings were added to the former committee to arrange for the banquet. It was the first affair of the kind given by the Association. It was held at the Rambo House, Norristown, on the 19th of November, 1888, exactly fifty years after the honored guest's admission to the Bar. It was largely attended and proved a complete success. On the 26th of September, 1891, at Stritzinger's Parlors, Norristown, the members of the Bar tendered a complimentary banquet to Judge Henry K. Weand, Henry M. Tracy and Henry D. Saylor, upon their return from tours in Europe. President Judge Swartz was an honorary guest.

In 1892, at Reisser's Cafe, Philadelphia, a rousing banquet was given to Colonel Boyd in commemoration of fifty years' active practice at the Bar.

On the 16th of August, 1902, would be the sixtieth anniversary of the president's (Col. Boyd) admission to the Montgomery County Bar. At the January meeting in 1902 it was, therefore, resolved to give him a complimentary dinner in commemoration of the event, at such time as the popular Colonel might fix. The "stock" committee on banquets—Dannehower, Knipe and Fox (G. R.)—was instructed to make the necessary arrangements. The committee in a glowing letter addressed to the Colonel, in which they characterized his record of sixty years ot active practice "believed to be unequalled in the annals of the legal profession of Pennsylvania," and reminding him, "ten years ago we celebrated with feasting your golden wedding in the law; and at a recent meeting of the Montgomery Bar Association, a committee was appointed to express our sincere felicitations that another decade finds you hale and hearty, beloved and respected of all your associates, still busy with the daily practice of the noblest of secular professions, the Nestor of the Bar in the great Keystone Commonwealth"—asked him to designate the time and place for the dinner. The Colonel in his reply, of October 2, 1902, to the committee, said:

I deeply appreciate and reciprocate the expressions of esteem tendered by the Montgomery County Bar Association upon my completion of sixty years of active practice at this Bar, and accept with pleasure the invitation to be the Association's guest at a banquet.

If agreeable to the hosts, let it be held on Saturday evening, October 25, 1902, at the Hotel Traymore, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The banquet was held at the time and place designated by the Colonel, and what a splendid affair it was! The members of the Association and the invited guests, friends of the Colonel—Edson J. Weeks, W. R. Taylor, high officials of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, Charles Heebner, the company's solicitor, and Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, a close friend of the Colonel—were transported from Camden to Atlantic City in special cars attached to a regular train, through the courtesy of Colonel Boyd, vice-president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. Forty-eight members of the Association made the trip of their lives. The menu was most elaborate. The menu card was a work of art, containing a full-sized portrait of the honored guest. The speeches and responses to toasts were unsurpassed. Miller D. Evans, on behalf of the Association, presented the Colonel with a handsome loving cup, suitably inscribed. Colonel Boyd, eighty-one years "young," felt and acted like a boy. Every participant had "a great time." Many funny incidents followed in the trail of this trip to the sea, which are still recounted with pleasure. It was the "banner" dinner of the Association. This banquet extended the old, unwritten rule (to tender to every member of the Bar who completes fifty years of continuous active practice a dinner by his fellows), to every ten years of active practice after fifty years of continuous practice.

The next attorney to achieve fifty years of active practice at the Bar was the president of the Association, George W. Rogers. The same "stock" banquet committee arranged for the complimentary event. He was admitted to the Bar, January 23, 1854. The dinner was given at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, February 18, 1905. The toastmaster was Hon. Aaron S. Swartz, '75. Rogers responded feelingly to "Fifty Years at the Bar;" Judge Weand, '60, to "Reminiscences of the Bench;" March, '60, Evans (Miller D.), '64, Fornance, '66, Gotwalts, '67, and Tyson, '69, to "Reminiscences of the Bar," and Judge Solly, '79, to "The Judiciary." There were fifty-four participants. It was a delightful affair.

At the meeting held on April 18, 1910, Montgomery Evans, Neville D. Tyson, Wm. F. Dannehower, Henry M. Tracy and Irvin P. Knipe were appointed a committee to arrange for a fitting commemoration, on April 21, 1910, of the fiftieth anniversary of Judge Henry K. Weand's admission to the Bar. This committee, on January 16, 1911, reported that owing to a recent death in the judge's family, the commemoration consisted simply in the presentation, on April 21, 1910, in open court, with fitting remarks, of a bouquet of fifty American Beauty roses and the adoption of a suitable minute in open court, which was directed to be spread upon the records of the court. The eloquent, eulogistic minute is recorded in the prothonotary's office in Miscellaneous Docket No. 9, page 94.

Another complimentary dinner of note was tendered at The Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia, on May 10th, 1913, to President Judge Aaron S. Swartz and Additional Law Judge Henry K. Weand, in commemoration of twenty-five years' service upon the Montgomery county Bench. The affair was given in charge of a special committee comprising Messrs. Evans (Montgomery), Tyson, Brownback, Dannehower, and Wright. The elaborate menu was thoroughly discussed by sixty-one legal lights of the local Bar. Judges Swartz and Weand "reminisced" on "Twenty-five Years on the Bench;" N. H. Larzelere spoke sagely on behalf of "The Senior Bar," and Theodore Lane Bean pleaded hopefully on behalf of "The Junior Bar."

A notably complimentary dinner was given to President Judge Swartz on his completion on May 2, 1917, of thirty years' distinguished service upon the Bench. It was held at the Bellevue-Stratford on the evening of May 2, 1917. Eighty-six judges and lawyers sat at the festive board, including three honorary guests—friends of Judge Swartz—Judge Ryan, of Bucks county, Judge Reed, of Jefferson county, and Jefferson Snyder, Esq., of Reading, Pennsylvania. Judge Solly was the toastmaster. N. H. Larzelere responded to "The Senior Bar;" Henry I. Fox, "The Junior Bar;" and Judge Miller, "The Bench." Responses were had also from the honorary guests and others. The dinner was truly a memorable occasion.

Another lawyer to complete fifty years of continuous active practice at the Bar—Joseph Fornance, on April 12, 1916. On April 6, 1916, it was directed to give him a complimentary dinner in accordance with the unwritten rule of the Association, if not of the profession. The arrangements were to be made by Messrs. Place, Fox (G. R.), Dettra, Wright and Dannehower. Owing to World War conditions and the request of Mr. Fornance, the dinner was postponed until January, 1919. But in the meantime another member of the Association reached the fifty years' goal of active practice—Jacob V. Gotwalts, on August 20, 1917. On January 20, 1919, the committee appointed for the Fornance dinner was directed by the Association, at the request and with the concurrence of the parties to be honored, to proceed with arrangements for a joint complimentary dinner to Messrs. Fornance and Gotwalts. The war was practically over. In the meantime, Mr. Place, the chairman of the committee had died, January 19, 1919. The dinner was given at the Bellevue-Stratford, on Saturday, May 17, 1919. Fifty-three members and two specially invited guests enjoyed the twin occasion immensely. Each of the honored guests was presented with a handsome and suitably inscribed silver loving cup.

Neville D. Tyson attained fifty years' continuous active practice at the local Bar on August 17, 1919. War conditions being over, Messrs. Dannehower, Dettra, Fox and Wright provided for a great outing (instead of a formal dinner) at Mr. Tyson's democratic request, at

Kugler's Old Mohican Club grounds, on the Delaware, in New Jersey, on May 26, 1921. Sixty-one members did honor to Mr. Tyson. The honored guest was deeply moved when he was unexpectedly presented by his legal brethren with a handsome silver loving cup, appropriately inscribed.

The most recent testimonial dinner was the one given to Judge Swartz on his resignation and retirement from the active duties of the Bench under the Judges' Retirement Act of 1919, in recognition of nearly thirty-six years of honorable and distinguished judicial service. It was given on June 7, 1923, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia. Seventy-nine judges and lawyers participated in the eventful occasion. President Judge Solly, of the Orphans' Court, was the toastmaster. The honored guest painted a masterful word picture of the changes in the personnel of the Bar and of legal practice and the intimate relations between the local Bench and Bar during his long judicial service. Judges Miller and Williams responded to the "Old Bench" and the "New Bench," respectively; N. H. Larzelere and J. Aubrey Anderson to the "Old" and the "New" Bar; and Montgomery Evans, and Jefferson Snyder, a specially invited guest of the Berks County Bar, to "Friends, Indeed!"

The next in line to be honored with complimentary dinners are: Louis M. Childs, March 14, 1926; N. H. Larzelere, September 29, 1927; Henry Freedley, Jr., November 5, 1928; Montgomery Evans, December 2, 1928; Judge William F. Solly, September 1, 1929; and Wm. F. Dannehower, June 7, 1930, perhaps a yearly occurrence between 1926 and 1930, inclusive.

In 1909, on Judge Swartz's completion of twenty-one years' service on the Bench, the Association presented him while presiding in court with twenty-one American Beauty roses.

Complimentary banquets were not confined to those given by the Association to honor some judge or lawyer. The tables were occasionally reversed and some notable banquets or receptions were given to the Association. Colonel Boyd, in 1892 or 1893, tendered the Association an elegant and elaborate banquet at the Colonnade Hotel. On Saturday evening, January 18, 1902, Montgomery Evans entertained the Association at dinner at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia. It was well attended and greatly appreciated. Three or four years later, George W. Rogers, president of the Association, gave a banquet at the Hotel Hamilton, Norristown. It was served according to his pet idea, "without wine." It was a notable affair. Judge Swartz, N. H. Larzelere, Louis M. Childs, F. G. Hobson, C. Henry Stinson, were others who at various times entertained the members of the Association.

Necrology—Between December 22, 1880, and January 19, 1821—forty-one years—fifty-one members of the Association died. During that period it strangely happened that in eight instances three died

within periods of from one to ten months, and five instances when two died within a period of from half a month to five months. And there were three intervals of three years or more when there were no deaths—between August 16, 1887 and January 20, 1891, February 1, 1896 and March 10, 1899, and November 14, 1909 and May 30, 1913. Strange fatality! The death roll is as follows:

Joseph L. Allabough died September 20, 1881; Benton Ramsey, October 25, 1881; and Charles Slemmer, November 12, 1881; three in less than two months.

Judge Henry P. Ross died April 13, 1882; Warren C. Evans, August 28, 1882; Charles Henry Garber, November 9, 1882—three within six months.

Gen. John Henry Hobart died March 29, 1887; J. Wright Apple, June 16, 1887; and Judge B. Markley Boyer, August 16, 1887—three within five months.

Charles Hunsicker died October 27, 1895; Walter S. Jennings, November 14, 1895; and Isaac Chism, November 20, 1895—three in less than one month.

Ex-Judge Charles H. Stinson died March 10, 1899; A. Edwin Longaker, September 13, 1899; and Henry R. Brown, January 12, 1900—three within ten months.

George N. Corson died April 12, 1902; Capt. William Rennyson, April 14, 1902; and Edward E. Long, October 26, 1902—three within seven months.

George S. Egolf died March 6, 1908; Jacob A. Strassburger, March 30, 1908; and Franklin March, April 14, 1908—three within one month and eight days.

Miss Lelia Jenkins died January 17, 1917; Oliver L. Evans, March 18, 1917; and Jeremiah B. Larzelere, Jr., March 27, 1917—three within three months.

James H. Maxwell died September 27, 1909, and Benjamin Harry, November 14, 1909—two within two months.

John W. Bickel died May 10, 1913, and Miller D. Evans, October, 1913—two within five months.

Ex-Judge James B. Holland died April 24, 1914, and Judge Henry K. Weand, July 30, 1914—two within about three months.

Harvey L. Shomo died September 25, 1915, and Mrs. Irvin P. Knipe, November 30, 1915—two within about two months.

Jacob V. Gotwalts died January 6, 1921, and J. P. Hale Jenkins, January 19, 1921—two within two weeks.

The Bar Association Officiary—The following shows the officers of the Bar Association from its organization until the present year (1923):

Presidents—Col. James Boyd, 1885-1887, resigned; B. E. Chain, 1887, to March 28, 1893, died; Col. James Boyd, 1894 to October 18, 1904, died; George W. Rogers, 1905 to July 24, 1907, died; H. K. Weand, 1908 to July 30, 1914, died; Joseph Fornance, 1915 to date.

Vice-Presidents—George W. Rogers, 1885 to 1905, elected president; Miller D. Evans, 1905 to October, 1913, died; Joseph Fornance, 1914 to 1915, elected president; Jacob V. Gotwalts, 1915 to January 6, 1921, died; Neville D. Tyson, 1921 to date.

Secretary—Wm. F. Dannehower, 1885 to date.

Treasurers—Henry R. Brown, 1885 to January 12, 1900, died; I. P. Knipe, 1900 to 1904, declined; George K. Brecht, 1904 to date.

Committee of Censors—B. E. Chain, 1885 to 1887, elected president; Charles T. Miller, 1885 to September 3, 1885, died; Joseph Fornance, 1885 to 1914, elected vice-president; Louis M. Childs, 1885 to 1896, elected vice-president; Montgomery Evans, 1885 to date; Charles Hunsicker, 1886 to October 27, 1895, died; H. K. Weand, 1887 to 1888, elected president; Isaac Chism, 1888 to November 20, 1895, died; N. H. Larzelere, 1896 to date; J. P. Hale Jenkins, 1896 to January 19, 1921, died; F. G. Hobson, 1896 to January 10, 1906, died; John W. Bickel, 1906 to May 30, 1913, died; Neville D. Tyson, 1914 to date; Gilbert Rodman Fox, 1914 to 1921; Freas Styer, 1921 to date; Jesse R. Evans, 1921 to date.

The Montgomery County Law Library—Intimately associated with the Bench and Bar of Montgomery county, is the Montgomery County Law Library. This library, located in the court house at Norristown, the county seat, has few rivals in Pennsylvania outside of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The law libraries at Carlisle and Scranton alone are in the same class.

During the first twenty-five years of the local library's existence, its prospects were not encouraging. The law library committee which had it in charge did not hold stated meetings, and its conduct and management were indifferent. In 1895, however, under the judicial régime of Judges Swartz and Weand, new life was infused into this seemingly corpse-like organization. From then on, the affairs of the library assumed business-like proportions; Judge Swartz himself presided at the committee meetings; a secretary was elected who kept minutes and recorded them in the minute book. Judge Swartz put heart and soul into the enterprise. He was determined to build up a library second to none in the State outside of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. His associates on the committee were inspired with a like determination.

In 1901 Judge Solly became a valuable and enthusiastic member of the committee, and in 1914 Judge Miller, as the successor of Judge Weand, deceased, added his zeal and energy. The hands of Judge Swartz were ever steadily upheld by the other judges and by the able, willing, faithful and harmonious non-judicial members of the committee.

The English Reports, United States Reports, the Reports of every State in the Union, and the Pennsylvania Sidebar (County) Reports were procured; also the latest Digests of Decisions and Encyclopedias of Law; the Statutes of the United States, of many prominent States, and of this State; the latest text-books and works of reference—in brief, all the law books that go to make up a full, complete and up-to-date law library. The 10,098 volumes of the library are handsomely housed in a central room on the second floor of the court house, facing Swede street; are carefully and systematically shelved in handsome steel cases; are fully indexed both as to author, title and subject matter, and well kept

by the obliging and capable librarian, John O'Neill. The library is a splendid and a valuable asset of the county and a modest monument to its founders and its builders.

The Law Library Committee—The Montgomery county law library committee that has charge of the affairs of the library, is the creature of special legislation. The special Act of Assembly, approved March 12, 1869, applicable to Montgomery and Perry counties, provided that thereafter

All fines and penalties imposed, all forfeited recognizances in the several courts of Montgomery and Perry counties, to which the said counties are by existing laws entitled, are hereby directed to be paid to the treasurer of the committee of members of the bar appointed as herein provided, for the use of a law library to be kept in the Court House of the respective counties for the use of the courts and the bar thereof.

The Act further provided:

That the money thus arising shall be expended for said law library from time to time under the direction of the President Judge and committee of at least three resident members of the Bar of the respective counties, to be appointed by the judges of said respective counties annually, or oftener if required, and the said committee, together with the President Judge, shall adopt such rules for the regulation of said library as may be deemed expedient.

The Act also provides for the collection of forfeited recognizances by the district attorney and their payment to the treasurer of the committee. The county commissioners are required by the Act to designate and fit up a room in the court house for such library, which shall be in the custody and under the control of the committee.

On April 15, 1869, about a month after the Act was passed, Judge Henry Champan appointed the following seven prominent members of the local Bar as the committee, namely: James Boyd, Daniel M. Smyser, Charles H. Stinson, Carroll S. Tyson, Benjamin E. Chain, Charles T. Miller and Charles Hunsicker. This committee met in Col. Boyd's law office for organization in the afternoon of August 19, 1869. All the members were present except ex-Judge Smyser. Judge Chapman also attended. Col. Boyd presided. Charles T. Miller was appointed secretary and treasurer. Messrs. Tyson and Miller were appointed to prepare and report rules for the regulation of the library.

At the next meeting, again held at Col. Boyd's office, September 29, 1869, he was reëlected chairman for the ensuing year. Rules of regulation were reported and adopted. Messrs. Chain, Stinson and Hunsicker were appointed a committee on books, and Messrs. Smyser and Tyson on room. The committee on books was directed to secure a librarian whose salary was not to exceed $50 per year.

The rules for the regulation of the law library, which were reported

by Messrs. Tyson and Miller, and adopted by the committee, provided for the annual appointment of seven members of the Bar to manage its affairs, from whom a president, secretary and treasurer were to be appointed, and also a sub-committee on books and another on room. The committee was to appoint a librarian annually. The library was to be kept open for the use of the members from 10 to 3 daily, except Sundays and legal holidays. The duties of the officers were defined. The treasurer was not to pay out any money except upon a resolution of the committee. Charles T. Miller was chosen treasurer. On April 14, 1870, the original committee was reappointed.

The next meeting was held in the library fitted up in the court house, on April 25, 1870, when Col. Boyd was again chosen president and Charles T. Miller secretary and treasurer, and the former committees on books and room were reappointed. Harry Drake was chosen librarian. Books amounting to $1300 were purchased from Kay Brothers. Another lot of books was purchased early in 1871 from the same firm, amounting to $1479.75, and in 1873 to $1701.65.

On June 1, 1871, Col. Boyd and Miller were reëlected, and B. Markley Boyer became a member of the committee and was appointed on the committee on room, to succeed Carroll Tyson.

Up to this time, Judge Chapman had been the president and sole judge of the courts. It seems he took no active part in the proceedings of the committee. He was succeeded on the bench by Judge Ross in 1872. He, too, it appeared, took no active interest in the work of the committee.

On January 6, 1873, the old officers were again reëlected. Henry K. Weand became a member of the committee, succeeding ex-Judge Smyser. Franklin T. Brewer was elected librarian. On October 25, the law library was moved to the room in the court house before occupied by Col. John R. Breitenbach, United States Internal Revenue Collector.

So far as the minute book discloses, no meeting was held in 1874, only one in 1875, September 20th; then none until December 19, 1881—a gap of six years; and then none until February 21, 1883.

In the meantime, in 1882, Judge Stinson succeeded on the bench Judge Ross, deceased, who in turn was succeeded, on the first Monday of January, 1883, by Judge Boyer by election. Then Judge Boyer called a meeting of the committee to be held in his room in the court house on February 21, 1883. There were present beside himself, Joseph Fornance, Henry R. Brown, and Louis M. Childs. Neville D. Tyson and Charles T. Miller were the other members of the committee. Nathaniel Jacoby was the librarian. Judge Boyer was elected chairman and Mr. Childs secretary. Tyson and Brown were appointed a committee on books, and Fornance and Childs, on room. There were signs of the committee's rejuvenation.

New rules for the regulation of the library were adopted. The library was to be kept open by the librarian from 8.30 to 12 m. and from 1 to 5 p. m., except Sundays and legal holidays. General Bar meetings were permitted to be held in the law library. No books were to be taken out of the library except by a judge of the courts or a member of the Bar of the county; but no book was to be taken out of the borough of Norristown. During the sessions of any court for jury trials or of any regular argument court, books were prohibited from being taken out except for use in court. Turning down of leaves and pencil marks were prohibited.

Another meeting at which only routine business was transacted, was held during the following week, and then, strange to say, there is another gap in the minute book of twelve years—until January 25, 1895. During at least a part of this interval ex-Associate Judge Nathaniel B. Jacoby was the librarian, and, to the writer's recollection, after April 1, 1890, was also the secretary of the committee and kept minutes of the meetings. These minutes, however, do not appear in the only minute book in the committee's possession. What became of them is not known. They would throw light upon the changes in the personnel of the committee.

There was an infusion of new life in 1895. The meeting held on January 25th was attended by Judges Swartz and Weand, who had been on the Bench since 1887. John S. Jones was elected as secretary. From then on, monthly meetings were regularly held on the last Friday of every month, and minutes of the meetings were faithfully kept and recorded in the minute book. The committee at that time consisted of Messrs. Montgomery Evans, J. P. Hale Jenkins, Wm. F. Dannehower, Jacob A. Strassburger and Isaac Chism. The committee took on new life and set out on a faithful performance of their duties and the building up of a law library worthy of the name. They little dreamed, however, that the library would grow to rank second to none in the State outside of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

After the reappointment of the original committee in 1870, the records of the Court in the prothonotary's office show no further appointments until November 20, 1885, when Montgomery Evans was appointed by Judge Boyer to succeed Charles T. Miller, who died September 3, 1885. The record mentions the remaining members to have been Joseph Fornance, Neville D. Tyson, Henry R. Brown, and Louis M. Childs.

In 1887 Judge Aaron S. Swartz and Judge Henry K. Weand became members of the committee by reason of their appointments as President Judge and Additional Law Judge, respectively. The latter served until his decease on July 30, 1914.

On the 3rd of March, 1890, the Court (Judges Swartz and Weand) appointed from and after April 1, 1890, B. E. Chain, J. P. Hale Jenkins, Montgomery Evans, Wm. F. Dannehower and Jacob A. Strassburger,

as the members of the committee. Mr. Chain died March 28, 1893, and was, on the 18th of September, 1893, succeeded by Isaac Chism, who died November 20, 1895, and was succeeded, December 31, 1895, by Henry M. Brownback.

William F. Solly, judge of the Orphans' Court, became a member of the committee after his appointment to the Bench, on September 6, 1901. On the 24th of June, 1904, on motion of Judge Weand, the time for holding monthly meetings was changed from the last Friday, to the last Thursday, of every month.

On October 26, 1905, William F. Dannehower was elected secretary of the committee. Montgomery Evans was the treasurer then, elected in 1885. Both have held the same offices to the present day.

In 1907 Messrs. Dannehower and Evans devised a system of indexing which was adopted and has since been enlarged and perfected by Mr. Wright.

Mr. Strassburger died March 30, 1908, and on November 25th was succeeded by Franklin L. Wright. Judge John Faber Miller, on his appointment and election to the judicial office, in 1914, became a member of the committee, succeeding Judge Weand, deceased. Mr. Jenkins died January 19, 1921. No successor has been appointed. The present committee consists of Montgomery Evans, 1885; Judge Swartz, 1887; Wm. F. Dannehower, 1890; Henry M. Brownback, 1895; Judge Solly, 1901; Franklin L. Wright, 1908; Judge Miller, 1914; Judge Williams, 1923.

There is no salary attached to any of the offices, except a mere nominal salary is paid the treasurer, and a small salary to the librarian.

The following shows the membership and officiary of the committee:

James Boyd, 1869; Daniel M. Smyser, 1869-73; Charles H. Stinson, 1869; Carroll S. Tyson, 1869-71; Benjamin E. Chain, 1869; Charles T. Miller, 1869-85; Charles Hunsicker, 1869; B. Markley Boyer, 1871; Henry K. Weand, 1873; Joseph Fornance, 1883; Henry R. Brown, 1883; Louis M. Childs, 1883; Neville D. Tyson, 1883; Judge Aaron S. Swartz, 1885 to date; Montgomery Evans, 1885 to date; Henry K. Weand, 1887-1914; B. E. Chain, 1890-93; J. P. Hale Jenkins, 1890-1921; Wm. F. Dannehower, 1890 to date; Jacob A. Strassburger, 1890-1908; Isaac Chism, 1893-95; H. M. Brownback, 1895 to date; Judge Wm. F. Solly, 1901 to date; Franklin L. Wright, 1908 to date; Judge John Faber Miller, 1914 to date.

Presidents—Col. James Boyd, 1869; President Judge B. Markley Boyer, 1883-87; President Judge Aaron S. Swartz, 1887 to date.

Secretary—Chas. T. Miller, 1869-85; John S. Jones, 1895-1904; Wm. F. Dannehower (temporary), 1904-05; Wm. F. Dannehower, 1905 to date.

Treasurers—Chas. T. Miller, 1869-85; Montgomery Evans, 1885 to date.

Librarians—Howard Drake, 1870-73; Frank T. Beerer, 1873-75; Nathaniel B. Jacoby, 1875-95; John S. Jones, 1895-1904; Wm. D. Whiteside, 1904-08; John S. Jones, 1908-15; John O'Neill, 1915 to date.

CHAPTER XX.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURING.

In 1920 the government reports stated that the agricultural products of Montgomery county amounted to $7,283,410, as against $246,000,000 in manufactured products, thus showing the great preponderance of manufactures over agriculture. The largest industrial interests are found in iron manufactures, textile fabrics, paper, glass and cigar production.

Early Manufactures—Iron works were first established in what is now Montgomery county, at Valley Forge, at least as early as 1750. These works were burned and generally destroyed by the British in 1777, and the new works were afterward built by the famous Potts family. Other iron works were operated in this county, but in 1820 there were only two forges, two trip hammers and seven naileries in the county. Coming down to 1884, there were a large number of furnaces, rolling-mills and steel works. The blast furnaces were: Plymouth, built in 1843; Merion and Elizabeth furnaces, erected at West Conshohocken, in 1847; Swede, in 1850; William Penn, 1854; Montgomery, at Port Kennedy, 1854; Anvil, of Pottstown, in 1867; Edgehill, 1869; Norristown, 1869; Warwick, Pottstown, in 1875; and Lucinda, at Norristown. The rolling-mills and steel works were: Conshohocken, commenced in 1832; Norristown iron works, 1846; Pottstown iron works, 1846; Stony Creek rolling mill, 1849; Pottstown Iron Company, 1863; Glasgow iron works, 1874; Plymouth rolling mills, 1881; Longmead iron works, 1882; and Ellis and Lessig's rolling mill, at Pottstown, in 1884. The Schuylkill iron works were built in 1858, at Conshohocken, and the Standard iron works at Norristown in 1857. The total value of the products from all nineteen of these mills amounted, in 1880, to seven million dollars.

From unquestioned authority, the first paper mill to operate in this county was the Langstroth paper mill, erected on the Pennypack, in Moreland township, in 1794. This mill was owned by Thomas Langstroth, and burned in 1809. The Rockhill and old Scheetz mill, built in 1798 in Lower Merion, produced hand-made paper for many years. The Riverside paper mill in Whitemarsh township was started in 1856, and made a fine grade of book, card and envelope paper. In 1860 the Ashland dyewood mills were changed into a paper mill, and they produced only newspaper material. Ten years later, the Rebecca manila paper mills of Bridgeport, were started, and in 1884 Cox & Dagers built the Norristown manila paper mills. The total paper made in all six of these paper mills in 1880 was worth more than half a million dollars.

It was in the early days of the settlement of this county that out of

necessity the manufacture of textile fabrics began, and this branch of industry was developed to quite a considerable extent. In 1810, besides ten thousand looms and three hundred carding machines in operation, there were two cotton manufacturing establishments in the county. The value of all kinds of cloth made in this county in 1810 was nearly $100,000. One of the oldest cotton mills in the State was the Simpson, in Norristown, built in 1826, by Benard McCreedy. Other mills of the county forty years ago were: Hunters, at Norristown, built in 1836; Merion mills; Washington or Watts, built in 1849, as Moy Craig mill; Conshohocken, 1856; Ford street mills, Norristown, in 1856; Albion Print Works, 1885; and the Jones' mill, operated before 1880. The Fairview cotton mills were started in 1825, and the Jones' mills were opened prior to 1825 and burned in 1884. Many cotton mills were partly converted into woolen mills. The Valley Forge woolen mills were established in 1810 as a cotton mill by James Rogers. Of woolen and yarn mills, Worrall and Ratclift's mills were started about 1861, when the Rose Glen mill went into operation; Bullocks, 1863; Lee's carpet mills, 1864; New Union, 1870; and Smith's, in 1883.

With the passing years there have been literally hundreds of factories in this county, producing everything from a common carpet tack (which were really produced by the ton weekly by those thus engaged), to the great products of iron for bridges, railways, etc. The boroughs of Pottstown, Norristown, and nearby places constituted a veritable beehive of miscellaneous industry. Many of these older plants have gone, while others of a more modern type have taken their places. With the machinery of to-day, almost endless quantities of goods can be put on the world's market in quick dispatch.

Numerous branches of industry have been mentioned in the several township and borough histories of this work, hence need not be dwelt on in this connection. From what has been already recorded about the past and present of the county's manufacturing plants, it can readily be admitted that the "Kingdom of Montgomery" is one vast work-shop, whose products go forth to all quarters of the globe and have no fear of competition.

All new counties must, as soon as possible, have the use of saw and gristmills. Perhaps no one branch of industry has been subject to more changes in the last century than these mills. With the heavy forests there was a demand for many saw mills, and these were usually, in this county with so many fine streams, propelled by water-power. At one time in the county's history one might have hunted up more than a hundred sawmills, and many, many gristmills, sometimes combined, and again attached one to the other. Other writers in older accounts of this county have dwelt at length on this interesting topic, but the writer will hasten along to more up-to-date subjects, for bear in mind that the felling of the forests has done away with about

all sawmills in Montgomery county. As to flouring mills, there are a few excellent modern mills in various boroughs, mention of which has been made in several instances. The old process of making flour by means of "upper and lower millstones" has long since departed, and well it is, for the present "roller" system is so far superior for all practical uses that the old way will never be again installed in mills. But the old-time romance of "going to mill" was indeed a charming experience. "The Old Water Mill" is sung in song and told in story, and will ever be held as sacred for the associations connected therewith. The custom mill has been displaced by the merchant mill system, and few people go to mill and wait their turn and watch the honest miller (?) take his toll, but the farmer sells his grain and purchases his family flour, as a rule, at the nearest grocery store.

A Philadelphia concern started the glass industry in Norristown in 1868. However, the enterprise failed, and the plant passed to the hands of J. M. Albertson, banker, of Norristown, who made the enterprise go forward to a success. In 1884 there were twenty pots running, giving employment to one hundred and forty men. They had six large buildings on a tract of land of about four acres in extent. To-day the glass business is carried on along different lines at various places in the county. The making of bottles and window glass are specialties in this county in glass goods. (See another section of this chapter for number engaged in the business.)

Present Industries—The census of the United States in 1920 gave the following concerning the industries of Montgomery county at that date. The number of persons employed in each industry is given by boroughs or other sub-divisions of the county:

Ambler—Asbestos products, 1200.

Ardmore—Automobile works, 795; gas and electric, 1318; cut stone, 18; laundry workers, 66.

Bridgeport—Amboy Paper Company, 24; Diamond State Fibre Company, 364; worsted mills, 51; structural iron shapes, 100; Lee's Son & Co., yarns, 700; crushed stone works, 24; meat packing plant, 50; packing boxes, 26; worsted and felt goods, 121; pipes and tubing, 120; lime industry, 67.

Bryn Mawr—Ice plant, 50; planing mill products, 24; paper bags, 76; laundry workers, 78.

Cheltenham—Ames shovels and spades, 120; braids and tape works, 50.

Cold Point Station—Lime works, 20.

Collegeville—Flags and banners, 29; flour mills, employ three men; stoves and ranges, 39 men.

Conshohocken—Wood, iron and steel, 606; foundry goods, 30; machine shops, 14; cigars, 152; scrap-iron and steel, 12; cotton mills, 190; stone quarries, 25; rubber goods, 773; glass bottles, 75; window glass, 29; boilers and tanks, 357.

East Greenville—Silk works, 56; cigars, 389; stone industry, 9.

Fort Washington—Bar and steel works, 280.
Gilbertsville—Cigars, 120.
Green Lane—Silks, 50.
Harleyville—Montgomery Clothing Company, 57.
Hatfield—Braids and tape, 40.
Ivy Rock—Iron works, 907.
Kulpsville—Clothing, 98.
Lansdale—Shirts, 55; men's clothing, 50; cast iron and steel, 80; stoves and heaters, 212; flour products, 14; farm implement goods, 80; umbrellas, 10; pipes and tubing, 115; cast iron and steel, 82; ice, 5; shirts, 98; gloves, 45; men's clothing, 114; silver-plated goods, 18; cigars, 28; art stone, 4.
Linfield—Condensed milk, 6; pipes and tubing, 143.
Montgomery—Furniture, 25.
Norristown Borough—Asbestos products, 25; bolts and nuts, 39; underwear, 184; boilers and tanks, 54; carpets and rugs, 102; gas and electric, 102; patent medicines, 27; radiators, 39; planing mills, 112; cigars, 400; plumbers' supplies, 90; terra cotta work, 22; bakery productions, 17; chemicals, 27; machine shops, 9; lime industry, 105; meat slaughtering, 45; laundry workers, 115; electric railway, 26; machinery and parts, 170; fancy paper boxes, 47; printing and publishing, 15; other asbestos producing plants, 185; woolens, worsteds and felt goods, 239; paper goods, 46; nails and spikes, 40; condensed milk and cheese, 20; railroad shops, 84; hosiery and knit goods, 1,020; shirts, 246; hardware specialties, 128; malt liquors, 83; publishing and printing, 49; machine shops for "parts," 379; tape and braids, 48; castings from iron and steel, 84; suspenders, 3.
Oaks—Flags and banners, 150.
Ogontz—Ice plant, 38; hardware novelties, 43.
Oreland—Crushed stone, 9.
Palm—Gloves (other than leather), 70.
Pencoyd—Marble and granite, 20.
Pennsburg—Cigars, 244; silk and silk goods, 60; paper goods, 13, brick, 9; chemicals, 285.
Pottstown—Brick cheese and condensed milk, 20; pig iron, 330; farm implements, 60; paper boxes, 30; structural shapes, 863; silk and silk goods, 104; brass and bronze, 20; cast iron workers, 22; bar iron and steel, 300; shirts, 52; aluminum and products, 307; stoves and heaters, 79; shirts, 206; iron and steel plates, 100; metal workers, 24; scrap iron and steel, 29; ice, 29; printing, 25; cast iron and steel goods, 30; fancy boxes, 44; cigars, 84; silk and silk goods, 54; shapes and structural work, 208; boilers and tanks, 76; hosiery and knit goods, 254.
Red Hill—Cigars, 217.
Roslyn—Brick works, 45.
Royersford—Stoves and heaters, 492; wood works, 87; glass bottles, 191; underwear, 358; structural iron work, 20; machine shops, 114, dyeing and finishing textile goods, 20; cement blocks, 26.
Schwenksville—Cigars, 388; flour mills, 6.
Souderton—Hose and knit goods, 60; men's clothing, 172; silk goods, 38; crushed stone, 19; cigar boxes, 165.
Sumneytown—Cigars, 90.
Telford—Shirts, 70; cigars, 111.

West Conshohocken—Chemicals, 105; woolen goods and felts, 206; stone, 20.

Whitemarsh—Lime, 42.

William Penn—Paper goods, 345.

The above is a wonderful array of manufacturing plants and their products to be situated within one county. In 1921 Pennsylvania had manufactured products amounting to six billion dollars, and of this, Montgomery county furnished $136,347,900. Norristown alone was listed as thirty-sixth in rank of Pennsylvania boroughs, and in 1921 had plants producing fifteen million nine hundred thousand dollars worth of goods. The wage-earners that year received over three million dollars. The total paid in wages in 1920 in this county in the 606 establishments, amounted to $42,000,000. The number employed was placed at 32,430 men and women.

In Bridgeport, in 1921, was one of the ninety big industrial points in Pennsylvania. It had capital invested, $7,272,547; employees, 2,401; salaries and wages, $2,750,658; value of products, $10,996,000.

CHAPTER XXI.

STATE AND COUNTY INSTITUTIONS.

One of the hospitals for the insane in the State of Pennsylvania is located at Norristown, and another at Harrisburg. These two, the people of this section of the State have always been especially interested in. The Norristown Hospital is situated in the northern part of the borough, on a two-hundred-acre tract of land commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. The Stony Creek railway passes near by. This institution was built under the administration of Governor Hartranft, who appointed a commission for the purpose in the spring of 1876. The Act provided "that the Governor shall appoint ten commissioners to select a site and build an hospital for the insane for the Southeastern District of Pennsylvania, embracing the city and county of Philadelphia and the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware, Chester, Northampton and Lehigh, four of said commissioners to be chosen from the city and county of Philadelphia, and one from each of the other counties embraced within the district aforesaid, who shall serve without compensation." During the two years in which the committee was deliberating on the site and specifications, three of their number died, and others had to be appointed. It took one year to select the site, and another year to settle on the kind of a structure they would have built. The erection of the hospital began March 21, 1878, and it was completed February 17, 1880. The plans adopted were indeed unique, and entirely unlike any other in the country. Commonly speaking, it is called "the cottage plan;" that is, not one immense structure, with numberless wards on its numerous floors, but rather segregated or detached, smaller buildings set in groups, the total number being eight, and an administration building in the midst of all. Another new feature insisted on by those in charge was that as there were always to be both sexes represented in this asylum, that in justice to womanhood there should be two resident physicians—a man and a woman. So it was that Dr. B. H. Chase became the physician for the male department, while Dr. Alice Bennett was made the resident physician for the female department.

The last report for this institution shows the total number of patients to be: Male, 1,373; females, 1,544; total, 2,917. The cost per capita per week, $5.36; number of attendants, 515; doctors, eight; dentist, one; druggist, one. The total cost to date for buildings is $2,397,935; expense in 1922 was $887,820.01.

Like other counties of this Commonwealth, the care for the unfortunate poor from time to time has been a problem hard to solve to the

satisfaction of all interested—the poor, and the taxpayer whose money must needs support the pauper element. In the early settlement of the country very little appears to have been done for the support of the poor. The population was sparse, labor was in demand, and the necessities of the people were limited to such few absolute requirements that pauperism could scarcely be said to exist. The Society of Friends, the Mennonites and the Dunkards have invariably supported their own unfortunate poor to the present time.

During the whole of the colonial period, down to the erection of houses for the support and employment of the poor, they were maintained by their respective townships or districts. For this purpose two overseers were appointed for each by the judges of the county courts. Their duties were to secure for those committed to their charge homes and employment at the most favorable rates. An act was passed in 1771 that provided for the appointment of two overseers in every township by the justices at a special meeting to be held every year. The expense incurred in providing subsistence, shelter and employment for those whom misfortune had rendered a burden to society, was to be supplied out of the regular county rate. The overseers were responsible for the collection of the amount assessed, and were required to pay over the moneys in their possession. Those who liberated slaves were required to give bonds in the sum of thirty pounds each to keep harmless, and to indemnify the overseers in case such negroes became a charge through sickness or otherwise and rendered incapable of supporting themselves. Among the duties of the overseers were supplying the immediate wants of families reduced to poverty, and in case of death to give them a decent burial. Those who were able to work had to do so among the farming class.

On the formation of the county, the justices of the court appointed twenty overseers in ten townships of the county. The subject of providing a home and a house of employment for the poor, instead of the former method of having them work or board around with whoever would receive them, began to be much agitated. Little was done except talk until March, 1806, when an act was passed authorizing the purchase of a farm and the erection thereon of suitable buildings for the purpose by the county. Other acts were passed and approved in 1807 and again in 1810. Strange as it seems to us to-day, the location selected for the erection of this humane, charitable institution, was in the then very much out-of-the-way place, namely, on the east bank of the Schuylkill river, in Upper Providence township, ten miles above Norristown. The farm was bought of one Cutwaltz, whose land, together with a few acres purchased elsewhere, amounted in all to two hundred and sixty-five acres. The necessary buildings were erected, as per bids sent out, and finally opened. The poorhouse was eventually completed and received its inmates from all over the county in the spring of 1808. Jacob Barr,

of Pottstown, was steward from the first until 1816, at a salary of $400, including his wife's wages, she being matron of the institution. In 1821 this poorhouse was burned, but rebuilt. The barn and outbuildings were burned in 1867, and rebuilt that season. The poorhouse proving too small and not suitable, as the people viewed the question, in 1870 a contract for a new building was let to William H. Bodey, of Norristown, for $71,100. An additional expense of grading the premises called for $5,000 more. In 1874 steam heat was installed at an expense of $13,000. The main building was originally 75 by 241 feet, three stories high, surmounted by a stone belfry. Wings and other additions were made as time advanced. A three-story stone hospital building was also soon provided. Then the colored paupers of the county had to have a separate building erected for them. Again fire swept the original building away in 1872, when the new building was about completed. In 1884 there were 305 persons listed as paupers in this county institution. At that date the farm contained 298 acres, and this included the ten acres of timber. In those days the policy was changed, and the entire institution was in the hands of three directors, their term being for three years. with one elected each year. They must meet at least once a month for inspection, etc. The expense of running the farm is a matter of taxation. What the farm does not produce, the county has to purchase for the poor.

Statistics show that January 1, 1815, there were 82 inmates; in 1825, 106; in 1849, 198; in 1876, 265; in 1884, 305; the latest report shows the number of poor cared for is 119 males and 80 females; total being cared for by the county is, according to the January 1, 1923, report, 199. The average for the year was 178. The number of deaths in the Home in 1922 was thirty-two. The amount received by the Home was $9,024.30. The products of the County Home Farm in 1922 were as follows: Bushels of oats raised, 185; wheat, 2,400; potatoes, 2,200; sweet potatoes, 50; hay, 47 loads; corn fodder, 64 loads; bushels corn, 3,500; amount of home-made soap, 1,400 pounds; milk produced, 68,676 quarts; butter made, 2,881 pounds; eggs, 2,869 dozens; pounds of beef killed on farm, 23,676. In garden products they had: 5,500 cabbage plants; 1,500 tomato plants; 2,000 celery plants; 200 pepper plants; 200 egg plants; cauliflower, 100. They also raised five bushels of lima beans and nine bushels of soup beans. Number of watermelons grown, fifty.

CHAPTER XXII.

TOWNSHIPS: ABINGTON—CHELTENHAM—DOUGLAS—FRANCONIA—FREDERICK.

Townships—The important facts and dates given in this chapter, so far as the formation of the county's townships and boroughs is concerned, may be relied upon, as they came from the research and written statements made by historian William J. Buck, long a resident of the county and vicinity.

Very few counties dating back to the colonial period have had complete accounts of the dates and general facts concerning their various townships, yet the township comes first, the county next, then the commonwealth, and last, the Republic itself, but little was ever done in early days in preserving records touching on the formation of the subdivisions of the counties in Pennsylvania. Old maps, charts and local as well as State historical volumes, have had upon their pages gross errors along these lines, many of which in later years have been corrected by painstaking historians.

Prior to the grant to William Penn, there is no positive proof that what is now Montgomery county had any settlements by Europeans. Dutch traders and fur gatherers had gone up and down the Schuylkill river, but were in no sense "settlers." Section 10 of Penn's grant said: "Unto the said Penn, his heirs and assigns, free and absolute power to divide the said country and islands into towns, hundreds and counties, and to erect incorporate towns into boroughs, and boroughs into cities, and to make and constitute fairs and markets therein, with all their convenient privileges and immunities, according to the merit of the inhabitants and the fitness of the places." The county was too sparcely settled until February, 1685, when the Provincial Council passed a resolution ordering the formation of townships and boroughs. It was on this authority that the first sub-divisions of this county were effected in the three original counties in Pennsylvania—namely, Philadelphia, Chester and Bucks. July 27, 1692, the townships of Bucks county were organized, and it is almost certain that the townships in Philadelphia were formed just prior to that meeting. Courts of Quarter Sessions were not established in these three counties until October, 1706, when it was ordered that a court be established in each county, "to be held four times each year, in which all actions and causes may be tried except matters of life and death."

Probably the earliest township that bore a name within the present limits of Montgomery county was "The parish of Cheltenham," so called in a survey made by Thomas Fairman, July 1, 1683, for a purchase made by Patrick Robinson. Moreland was not called a township before 1718.

Whitpin was called a township in one record as early as 1701, which was no doubt an error in transcribing the date. Springfield township was located in 1684, but was still known as a manor as late as 1704. Whitemarsh was organized as a township in 1704, as were also the townships of Gwynedd and Abington; Plymouth in 1705; Skippack and Van Bebber's in 1713; Upper Merion, 1714; Montgomery, 1717; Limerick, 1722; and Salford in 1727. The minutes of the county commissioners commence in 1718, and this record shows assessors appointed for Cheltenham, Merion, Upper Merion, Abington, Whitpin, Perkiomen, and Moreland; Upper Dublin and Plymouth in 1719; Whitemarsh and Springfield, in 1720; Gwynedd in 1722.

A new era was ushered in by the passage of an act of March 24, 1803, which instructed the "Courts of Quarter Sessions of the Peace of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in their respective counties, shall, from and after the passing of this act, have authority, upon application by petition to them made, to erect new townships, to divide townships already erected, or to alter the lines of any two adjoining townships so as to suit the convenience of the inhabitants thereof."

The power to erect boroughs was vested entirely in the Penn family, and remained thus until the Revolution, when it was confined to the Legislature of the State, in whom it continued until April 1, 1834. This act authorized Courts of Quarter Sessions, with the concurrence of the grand jury, "to incorporate any town or village within their respective jurisdiction containing not less than three hundred inhabitants." The act of April, 1851, abolished the clause limiting the population. An additional act was passed in June, 1871, to arrest hurried proceedings, which required that due mention of such application be published in the county newspapers at least thirty days. Norristown was incorporated originally in 1812, Pottstown in 1815, Conshohocken in 1850, and Bridgeport in 1851, by special acts of the Assembly. The later boroughs have been authorized by the Courts of Quarter Sessions, also townships, wards, election and school districts. The dates and locations of the several townships and boroughs of the county will be given in the detailed account of these parts of the county which here follows:

Abington—This township, in the extreme southeastern section of the county, is bounded on the northwest by Upper Dublin, northeast by Moreland, southeast by Philadelphia, and southwest by Springfield, Cheltenham, and the borough of Jenkintown. The last named was made a borough in 1874. The township was organized prior to 1704. The soil is a fertile loam, and contains limestone sufficient to produce excellent crops. For many years the making of lime was a leading industry in this township. Its streams are inclusive of Pennypack, and Sandy Run. Cheltenham, Willow Grove and Middle Road turnpikes traverse the territory in several directions; the first named was completed in

1804, and the second in 1857. These highways cost $8,000 per mile. For railway lines, see chapter on Railroads. The township had a population in 1790 of 881; in 1840 it was 1,704; 1880, it had reached 2,125, and in 1920 it was 8,864. Next to Springfield, in 1882, this township was highest rated of any in the county, the amount of taxables being $2,655,030.

Among the first to effect a settlement here are known from record to have been the Fletchers, Morrises, Jenkins, Parry, Thomas, Bonds, Jones, Thompsons, Kenderlines, Pauls, Roberts, Hufty, Williams, Dorland, Kirke, McVaugh, Tysons, Hallowells, Knights, Waterman, Trott, Weems, many of whom still have descendants in the township and county at this date. Germany, England and Wales all had their share in settlements here. Gordon, in his "State Gazeteer," stated that Abington village had in 1832, "ten or twelve dwellings, a tannery, a boarding school for boys, a tavern, two stores, and a Presbyterian church." A post office was established here in 1816 and continued two years. A hotel was kept here by Mary Moore, having a sign reading "Square and Compass." At the little hamlet of Weldon in this township occurred a skirmish between the British and Washington's forces, resulting in the killing of more than one hundred persons. An anti-tramp association was organized here in 1877 to protect the people against roving bands of would-be laborers, but who were worthless fellows making their way through from one part of the county to another and who were for the first time known (that year) as "tramps." Five officers were employed by the citizens to see that this lawless gang did no harm.

The churches and schools are treated in special chapters of this work, and include those of Abington township. One of the first Friends' meeting-houses in Pennsylvania was situated here, and was formed in 1683. The former historical volumes, especially Bean's "History of Montgomery County" (1884), give detailed accounts of many interesting things which this work has no space to insert.

Cheltenham—This is the extreme southeastern township in Montgomery county, bounded northeast by Abington, southeast and southwest by Philadelphia city, and on the northwest by Springfield. It is about one and one-half miles wide by five and one-half long, and contains 5,400 acres. It has a rolling surface, and a fair soil composed of gravel and loam. It is well watered by small streams and many never-failing springs of the finest water. Tacony creek is the largest stream that courses through its territory, emptying into the Delaware river at Bridesburg. Along its banks in early times there were numerous small mills and factories propelled by its waters, either direct or by mill-races. This portion of the county is peculiarly noted as being rich in many minerals, including excellent stone for quarrying purposes and for a good grade of pure mica. The York road passes through this township

and was completed for general use in 1804. The Willow Grove and Germantown road was built in 1857. The North Pennsylvania railroad was a highway through the township that materially aided the better development of the location. Ashbourne, York Road, Chelton Hills and Abington are all villages within this civil township. The railroad from Philadelphia to Newton also passes through the territory, and has for station points Shoemakertown, Edge Hill, Cheltenham, Ashbourne, Camptown and Harmer Hill. The common school system was adopted here in 1838 by sixteen majority. In 1880 there were thirteen excellent school buildings within the limits of the township. The population for periods has been: In 1800, 630; in 1880, 4,561; in 1900, 6,151, in 1920, 11,015.

There is no doubt about the township receiving its name through Toby Leech, one of the earliest land-owners and actual settlers, and a man of considerable influence. On his tombstone at Oxford Church is found a statement that he "came from Cheltenham, in Gloucestershire, England, in the year 1682." It is also believed that there was no part of the county named at an earlier date than this township. In the month of July, 1683, Patrick Robinson had two hundred acres surveyed for him by Thomas Fairman, so reads the early county records. The name is also found in the eleventh month of said year in the records of the Abington meeting. In other works may be found a list of scores of names of pioneer settlers in this township, but for our purpose, the above is sufficient, so we will hasten on to matters concerning the township, and especially its various towns and villages in a more recent day. Forty years ago the following were referred to as being the chief villages within the township: Ashbourne, the largest of all, about a half mile from the Philadelphia city line, then had sixty-five houses, a store, post office, and one church. The census in 1880 gives it a population of 342 persons. This place was the outgrowth of the railroad having passed through that part of the county in 1856. A grist mill was the first to give coloring to early history here; this was erected in 1750.

Besides Ashbourne, already given, there are other hamlets or villages, including the following, worthy of mention: Cheltenham, long known as Milltown, situated on Tacony creek, near the east corner of the township, and within eighty rods of the city line of Philadelphia, in 1882 had sixty residences, a few stores, and several churches. In the census of the county in 1810, mention was made that the only tilt-hammers in Montgomery county were those being operated by Benjamin Rowland, by means of which he was enabled to make twelve hundred dozen of spades and shovels in a single year. In 1832 the "Gazetteer" mentioned that that year there had been manufactured there 14,500 dozen of spades and shovels, using a total of one hundred tons of iron.

Shoemakertown, near the center of this township, on the York turnpike, forty years ago had thirty houses, a merchant mill, a carriage fac-

tory, hotel, Episcopal church, two halls, several machine shops, and the passenger station for the North Pennsylvania railroad. The charming country surrounding the village is noted for its many valuable and truly handsome country-seats and mansions built of stone, most of which are still standing and in use. The post office was established in 1857. The York road was laid out through the place in 1711. The famous stone bridge here was constructed in 1746. A tannery stood near the site of the bridge in 1776, and was no doubt there several years prior to that. What was in record as "the corn grist water mill" at about this point, was erected in 1746 and remained in the Shoemaker family many years.

Edge Hill village, in the northwest corner of the township, stands on a very elevated tract of land, hence its name. It is almost three hundred feet above tide-water of the Delaware river at Philadelphia. A post office was established here in 1851, the first in the township. The old Edge Hill iron works were located just over the line, in Springfield township. Other villages are Harmer Hill and Camptown, of more recent origin and without much development.

Douglas—This civil township is found within the southwestern part of the county, adjoining Upper Hanover, New Hanover and Pottsgrove townships. It also unites its territory with portions of Berks county. Its total area is fifteen square miles. It has had population at various times as shown here: In 1800 it was 1,297; in 1880, 1,676; in 1900, 1,650; in 1920, 1,599. The surface is rolling, and the soil usually red shale. Springs of never-failing water abound, and from them the numerous streams take their rise. Many of these creeks have for years provided excellent water power, as their fall is great per mile. In 1707 William Penn conveyed to his son John Penn a tract of twelve thousand acres within what is now Douglas township. In 1735 John Penn sold the land to George McCall, a merchant of Philadelphia. Upon a new survey it was discovered the tract described really contained about two thousand acres more than was originally conveyed. This land was known many years as the "McCall Manor," and later was in Douglas township, which appears to have been erected in 1741, when there were eighty-five taxables. In 1776 it was well settled, for here is where Colonel Burd's battalion of infantry was credited to. In 1785, a year after Montgomery county was created, this township had among its taxables four hotels, four gristmills, five sawmills, one paper mill, one tannery, and one good sized iron forge, hence was a very early industrial portion of the county. The villages of this township are Gilbertsville, Engleville, Douglas, and Niantic. These, except Gilbertsville, have never been known other than hamlets and post office points where a few business houses have been and are to-day to be found. Gilbertsville in 1883 had about seventy dwellings and the usual number of shops and stores. From an early day

this place had its smiths, its wheelwrights, weavers, tinsmiths, and a large number of cigar factories. The village was also noted for its many large public auctions of live-stock.

But the great feature of this part of the county is its agricultural resources, and the manner in which the soil has been cared for and cultivated for generations by a thrifty set of German farmers, whose farms have been graced by massive barns and farm-houses, all built of native stone which has not changed in solidity in the passing of more than a century. Here the farmer has ever been king, and he has aided in building up the county with fine highways, and supported all that was good for a community to have and enjoy. Perhaps no better roads, fences, barns and general buildings can be seen in Montgomery county than those in this township.

The religious denominations are largely made up from the membership of the Lutherans, of Huber's Church, near Niantic, and another combined Lutheran and Reformed church at the village of Douglas. The burial grounds of the township show what great love and devotion the citizens have always had for the departed dead.

As to elections it should be said that the township was first created by an act of the General Assembly, approved April 16, 1827. The first election was held at the public house of Abraham Stetler. The township was divided into two election districts March 5, 1873, and are known as East and West Douglas. Special chapters in this work will treat in a general way on the schools and churches found within the township at this time.

Franconia—In the northeastern part of the county is one subdivision known as Franconia township, which joins Bucks county on the northeast, and joins the townships of Upper and Lower Salford and Hatfield of this county. It has an area of almost fifteen square miles. Its streams are small, but in early days afforded ample water-power to run the ordinary mill. Among such streams are the Skippack, Indian creek, and East branch of the Perkiomen creek, all of which still have fair stages of water.

One of the best of earlier historians for this county said of the name of this township: "The name Franconia is derived from an old duchy which afterwards formed a circle of the Germanic Empire, and signifies 'Land of the Franks,' whence also France. On Holme's map of 1682 it is called 'The Dutch Township,' from which we infer that the Germans were its first settlers." In 1734 this township had listed thirty-four taxables, nearly everyone German. Christian Meyer arrived in 1727; Frederick Sholl, in 1728; Hans Jacob Oberholtz, George Hartzel, Ludwig Hartzel, and Johannes Fry, in 1730. It is believed that the first actual settler here was Christian Funk, of Indian creek neighborhood, below the old mill of George S. Reiff. The Souders also came from the same

family lines and are still represented in this township. One of the landmarks here is the old tannery, one mile south of Souderton, which was built in 1780 by Jacob Leidy, whose grandson was still operating it in 1885.

The population of the township, according to the United States census reports, has been: In 1800, 629; in 1830, 998; in 1850, 1,270; in 1870, 1,950; in 1880, 2,556; in 1890, 2,036; in 1900, 2,036; in 1910, 2,339; and in 1920 it was less than 1,700, but this was outside the boroughs.

The villages and boroughs made up from the territory of the townships are as follows: Franconia Square, near the center; Franconiaville, in the southern part; and Souderton and Telford, situated on the line of the railroad in the eastern portion of the township. The two last-named are now sprightly incorporated boroughs, of which see chapter of boroughs, within this work. Concerning Franconia Square and Franconiaville, it only needs to be said that these old landmarks were founded by the opening of hotels, a few stores and shops, with a post office in each locality, and even the oldest living person knows nothing save by dim tradition of the comings and goings of those who formerly dwelt in the hamlets, except that such places did exist at one time.

This civil township was made by act of the General Assembly, approved March 16, 1847, to become a separate election district. The first election was ordered to be held at the store-house of Daniel E. Moyer.

Frederick—This township is bounded on the northwest by New Hanover and Upper Hanover townships; on the east by Perkiomen creek, flowing from north to south, separating it from Marlborough and Upper Salford townships; on the southeast by Perkiomen township; and on the southwest by Limerick and New Hanover townships. Its area is 13,440 acres. Its central part is fifteen miles distant from Norristown, and thirty-two miles from Philadelphia. The general surface of this part of Montgomery county is decidedly rough and rolling, yet there are hundreds of well kept farms where good crops are annually produced. The valley lands are blessed with an extra good soil for various crops. As a stock growing section, it is ideal for Pennsylvania. Concerning the several streams of spring-fed water, it only needs to be said that they must be seen and fully utilized in order to duly appreciate their beauty and value to the residents of the township. The rapid flowing water of these streams dashing over the well worn flattened stones of their valleys, are indeed a fit subject for the artist. In the past these streams abounded with fine game fish, but not to any great extent in the times of this generation. The first forests have long since been destroyed, but second and third growths of these forest kings still cover many a hill slope within the township. These trees include the oak, ash, elm, hickory, walnut, butternut, chestnut, maple, gum, hemlock, pine, spruce, and smaller growths.

This township was prior to 1731 without an official name, neither did it possess a local government. It was commonly known as Falkner Swamp, in common with the remainder of the territory drained by Swamp creek and its numerous tributaries. But at the last date named, its citizens found the necessity of a local government and they petitioned the court for such government. The record is silent as to who the township was named in honor of, but it is natural to suppose that it was for the line of middle-age emperors, and because the petitioners, with but a single exception, were of the Teutonic stock.

Before the arrival of the first actual settlers to this green, glad solitude, the choicest of the land had been taken up by speculators from Philadelphia and other parts; even many in England invested in these wild lands at a mere song per acre. Among the first pioneers to invade the township for actual settlement were these: By virtue of a warrant dated December, 1716, there was laid out to James Shattick five hundred acres, a part of the tract William Penn had granted to Richard Pearce, May 4, 1682. To follow down with the long list of those who settled the township the first fifty years, will be of no general interest to the reader, suffice to say they were largely of German speaking people, and by reason of this the township in more recent generations, has been styled a "Pennsylvania German section." The Federal census returns show a population here as follows: In 1800, it was 629; in 1810, 828; in 1820, 927; in 1830, 1,047; in 1840, 1,217; in 1850 it was 1,431; in 1860, 1,783; in 1870, 1,818; in 1880, 1,944; in 1890, 1,850; in 1900 it was only 1,690; in 1910, it was 1,512, and in 1920 given as 1,405. Hundreds of the present generation have caught a vision of possibilities for bettering their circumstances by going on west toward the setting sun, and thus has the population decreased materially. In the returns of 1840 this township showed in its classification: 229 employed in agriculture; 8 in commerce; 106 in manufacturing; 3 in navigation; 5 in the learned professions; 2 persons were blind, and 4 of unsound mind. In 1860 there were listed in the census returns 17 colored persons in this township.

It should not be lost to the view of the readers of to-day that this part of the county has few mills of importance in operation, although the numerous streams afforded abundant water power which was utilized to a large degree by the pioneer band of Germans who first set foot on this soil. Before January, 1736, Henry Antes and George Heebner had erected a grist mill on Swamp creek. It has been described in milling journals as "a grist mill with two pair of stones under one roof." Joseph Goff erected a mill in 1737, on Perkiomen creek; in 1759 George Nyce established a tannery at New Hanover and Frederick township line. In 1785 the township had its five gristmills, four sawmills, two tanneries and two hemp mills. Peter Smith owned a powder mill, which later was converted into an oil mill and subsequently was allowed to go into

decay. Many of these mills stood the test of a full century and more before they gave way to others. One of the more recent industries here was the creamery established in 1880 by a company of citizens, under the title of "Green Tree Creamery."

There are no boroughs within this township's territory, but the villages are Zeiglersville, Frederick, part of Perkiomenville, Frederick's Station, Delphi and Obelisk. Some of these places are railway stations and others inland hamlets, where there are a few small stores and shops and usually a post office. Each and all of these places have been the scene of many historical transactions and events dating back to Revolutionary times, all too lengthy for reproducing in this connection.

CHAPTER XXIII.

TOWNSHIPS: HATFIELD—HORSHAM—LIMERICK—LOWER MERION.

Hatfield—This township is on the line of Bucks and Montgomery counties, with Towamencin on the southwest, Franconia on the northwest and the borough of Lansdale on the south. Its area is eleven square miles, or 7,040 acres. When Lansdale was incorporated in 1872, much territory was taken from Hatfield township. This subdivision of the county is situated on the divide between the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. Smaller streams rise both in and outside the township, flow through its domain, and empty their waters into either one of the two larger streams named. The general character of the soil is red clay mixed with fertile loam. It was the opinion of historian Buck, in writing on this township, that its name originated from a town and parish in Hertfordshire. He also says one John Hatfield lived in Norriton township as early as 1734, and possibly the court named this township after him. In 1785 the township had within its borders: two gristmills, one sawmill, one tannery and a hotel. Its population has been at various periods: In 1880, it was 520; in 1830, 835; in 1850, 1,135; in 1870, 1,512; in 1880, 1,694; in 1890, 1,833; in 1900 it was 1,497; in 1910 it was 1,600, and in 1920 was 1,789.

The date of organization of this township is not really known, but from records it is certain that it was not until after 1741, but was known at the close of the Revolutionary War, as damages were assessed to Jacob Reed, forty pounds, and Isaac Wisler, twenty-five pounds, both residents of Hatfield township, resulting from incursions of the enemy; this country was open to foraging parties during the winter of 1777-78, and scattered farmers doubtless suffered much loss at their hands. It was mostly by reason of Lord Howe's army quartered in Philadelphia during the winter season just mentioned, that caused most of the trouble. John Fries, of "Fries' Rebellion" notoriety, was born in Hatfield township in 1750. He resisted the English ideas of taxation, refused to pay under the house and window tax law, and was sentenced to be hung, but through the kindness of friends influencing President John Adams, he was pardoned.

By act of the General Assembly, approved March 24, 1818, the township of Hatfield was formed into a separate election district, and the elections ordered to be held at the house of John Buchanan; in 1825 it was ordered held at the house of Peter Conver, and again it was changed to the house of Jacob C. Bachman. All later elections were at some public hall or schoolhouse.

The schools and churches are treated under the general chapters on

such topics elsewhere in this work. It may be said here that this township adopted the free-school system about 1840, early after it was created within the commonwealth. The German Baptists and Mennonites were early in the religious field in this part of Montgomery county.

The villages of the township are: Line Lexington, situated on the county line, partly in Bucks county; Hatfield, Colmar and Hockertown. These were the old-time villages, but have mostly become defunct, with the building of the railroad through the township, from Lansdale in the southeastern corner to the northwest corner, with the borough of Hatfield en route, and which place has come to be a good sized mart. Orville Station, Orville, Unionville and Trewgtown, are simply hamlets, with a few business interests. The borough of Hatfield now has thirty-three business houses. (See chapter relating to Boroughs of the county.)

Horsham—Horsham, probably named for one of its earliest settlers, Thomas Iredell, whose birthplace was Horsham, Sussex county, England, and who located here not later than 1709, bought two hundred acres of land and built a residence a half mile north of the meeting-house. He was married, says the Philadelphia records, in 1705, and died in 1734. Robert Iredell, one of his descendants, was many years proprietor of the "Norristown Herald," and in the eighties was postmaster of his borough. The date of his birth was October, 1809.

This is one of the eastern townships in the county, and is bounded on the north by Bucks county. It is regular in form, being from five and one-half miles long by three miles wide; it has almost 10,000 acres within its limits. It is well watered and drained by several branches of the Neshaminy. Milling on these water-power streams used to be very common and profitable. The Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike passes through this township; also the Whitehall and Bethlehem pikes touch its territory.

The pioneer settlements were effected by persons including these: Samuel Carpenter, Mary Blunston, Richard Ingels, Thomas Potter, Sarah Fuller and John Barnes. Their tracts included half of the township. The next set of persons who here found homes for themselves were George Palmer, Joseph Fisher and John Mason. These all came in just before 1710. It should be added that one-third of the township was taken up by Samuel Carpenter, who had more than five thousand acres, obtained of William Penn. The Kenderdine and Lukens families were early in this township and left their lasting impression on the county, as characters sturdy and of the real worthwhile type of manhood and womanhood. Another was Evan Lloyd, who came from Wales in 1719; he was the minister among the Friends, and built near the meeting-house.

The United States census reports for various enumerating periods have placed the population here as follows: In 1800, 781; in 1840, 1,812;

in 1880, 1,315; in 1900, 1,157; in 1920 it was 1,189. In 1883 reports gave the number of business places as one hotel, three general stores, two dealers in flour and feed. There was then a Friends' meeting-house, and two small public halls within the township, where lectures and mass meetings could be held. The villages were then, as now, Horshamville, Prospectville, and Davis Grove. A post office was established in 1816, at Horshamville, with Charles Palmer as postmaster. Forty years ago the village of Prospectville contained eight houses, a store, hall and several shops. A post office was secured here in 1858. The first of all business enterprises at this point was in 1779, when Thomas Roney kept an inn. In later times this place was known as Cashtown. Another place is Davis Grove, within a half mile of the Bucks county line. Here Mary Ball kept an inn in 1790, and her sign was "The Yellow Balls."

With less than sixteen hundred inhabitants, and an agricultural district, at that, there can scarce be found in the country a people of more intelligence and generous social qualities than lived in this township during the last two centuries. Here have been the homes of such noted literary and otherwise distinguished men and women as Sir William Keith, Dr. Thomas Graeme, Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson, John and Anna Young, Dr. Archibald McClean, Robert Loller, David and Joseph Lloyd, Samuel and John Gummere; John, Abraham and Isaiah Lukens, Hiram McNeal, and the Simpson family, of whom John Simpson was great-grandfather to General Ulysses S. Grant. This Simpson was tax-collector in the township in 1776, and was a landowner of considerable means. The father of General Grant was Jesse R. Grant, who died in 1873 and the mother in 1882. Mrs. Jesse R. Grant was the daughter of John Simpson, of Montgomery county, and remained here until nineteen years of age, then settled in Ohio, where she married, and among her children was he who was to command the armies of his country and finally be made its President for two terms.

Limerick—This township is bounded on the northeast by Frederick, southeast by Perkiomen and Upper Providence, south by the borough of Royer's Ford, southwest by the Schuylkill river, west by Pottsgrove, and northwest by New Hanover township. It is about four and one-half by five miles in size, and contains close to 14,000 acres—among the most extensive in Montgomery county in its area. July 14, 1879, Royer's Ford borough was wholly taken from the territory of this township, reducing both extent of territory as well as population. Along the Schuylkill river the soil is excellent, but most of the territory is a stiff clay, which at times is unproductive. The streams are not as large in volume of water as most parts of the county afford; in fact, only a saw-mill was ever attempted to be run by water power in the township, and that not entirely successfully.

In 1741 the number of taxables within Limerick was fifty-eight; in 1828, 315; in 1882 it was rated with 646. The population at various census enumeration periods has been: In 1800 it was 999; in 1840, 1,786; in 1880, it was 2,365; in 1890, 2,224; 1900, 2,250; in 1910, 2,267; and in 1920 it was about 2,350. The census of 1850 had returns showing 373 houses, 403 families, and 248 farms. The Reading turnpike crosses for five miles through its center and the Limerick and Colebrookdale pike three miles. The former improvement was made in 1815, and the latter in 1855.

Soon after 1709, the first real settlement of the township was made, and by 1734 had increased to twenty-one residents, and landowners: John Davy, 300; Enoch Davis, 300; Edward Nichols, 600; John Kendall, 300; Owen Evans, 400; William Evans, 300; Joseph Barlow, 400; Peter Umstead, 250; Oliff (or Adolph) Pennypacker, 250; Henry Reyner, 100; William Woodly, 150; Jonathan Woodly, 300; William Malsby, 200; Henry Peterson, 200; Peter Peterson, 100; Nicholas Custer, 7; Hironemus Haas, 250; Lawrence Rinker, 50; Stephen Miller, 170; Barnaby Coulson, 50; Martin Kolb, 150. In 1876 the returns named among the citizens of the township, blacksmiths, joiners, weavers, tailors, cardwinders, and inn keepers.

Parker's Ford is about five miles above the present village of Linfield, about five miles below Pottstown. The road from here to the Trappe is five miles and a half, and was laid out at a very early day. The land rises gradually from the river, but on the Chester county side is more elevated. It was at this place, September 19, 1777, that the following incident took place, as mentioned in the journal of Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg, residing at the Trappe:

> In the afternoon we had news that the British troops on the other side of the Schuylkill river had marched down towards Providence, and with a telescope we could see their camp. In consequence of this, the American army, four miles from us, forded the Schuylkill breast high, and came upon the Philadelphia road at Augustus church. His Excellency, General Washington, was with the troops in person, who marched past here to the Perkiomen. The procession lasted the whole night, and we had numerous visits from officers, wet breast high, who had to march in this condition during the whole night, cold and damp as it was, and to bear hunger and thirst at the same time.

What a fit subject for a painting, methinks, the title to be "The American Army Breast-deep Crossing Schuylkill River." Indeed, it would be a suitable counterpart to "Washington Crossing the Delaware."

The borough of Royer's Ford is located on land formerly being the southeastern corner of Limerick township. To-day there are no incorporated boroughs within the township, but the villages, past and present, may be described as follows: Forty years ago the villages were Limerick Station, Limerick Square, Fruitville, and Stone Hill. The

first two named were post office points. Since 1838 the township elections have been held at Limerick Square. To modernize the villages here, it should be said that in June, 1884, application was made and the court granted, that it was wise to incorporate into a borough, and the name selected was "Linfield," as known to-day as the railroad place on the Reading road. It only contains about a dozen houses and a small amount of business. Limerick Square, a little east of the center of the township, contains a post office, a few houses and stores. The post office of Limerick was established here in about 1828. Widow Lloyd kept an inn here at the junction of the two pike roads as early as 1758, and in 1776 it was conducted by John Stetler, and the locality was then known many years as Stetler. In 1858 it contained a steam gristmill, two smith shops, a sawmill, sixteen houses, a number being large three-story brick buildings. A trolley line now passes through the place, with frequent cars going and coming to the nearby cities. Fruitville, another small village on the Colebrookdale pike, about a mile and a half from Limerick Square to the northwest, has the usual number of small business houses and a few good residences. Of the schools and churches within this township the reader is referred to the general county chapters covering such topics.

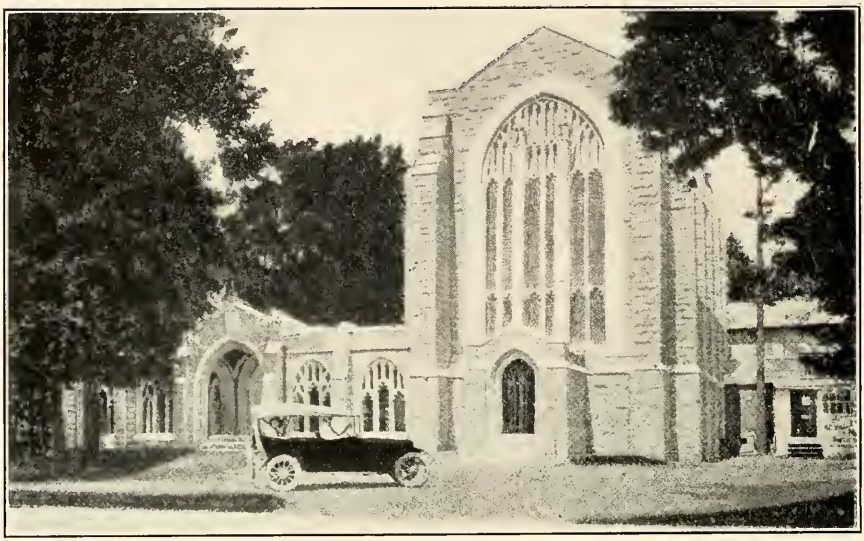
Lower Merion—This is the most southeasterly township in Montgomery county, and previous to the taking off of what is now the borough of West Conshohocken, the greatest in extent and number of population of any in the county. This division was effected in 1874. It has within its present limits several vigorous, rapidly growing villages, but only one borough has been carved from its territory aside from West Conshohocken, and that is Narberth. Its villages are Ardmore, Bryn Mawr, Rosemont, Wynnewood, Rose Glen, and smaller hamlets. The surface of the township is ideal in many ways. Its soil in most sections is excellent for farm and garden purposes. Its beautiful small streams are ever a joy to the beholder. Not less than thirteen of these creeks empty into the Schuylkill river within the borders of this township. So plentiful are the streams of pure water that it has been said many times that there was not a single farm of any considerable area within the township that did not afford at least one strong, cold, never-failing spring of water. The largest of these streams above named is Mill creek, which rises and unites with the Schuylkill all within the confines of the township, and in its course has flowing into its channel fourteen lesser streams. This main stream, Mill creek, was noted for having a paper mill before the Revolutionary War. "Roberts' grist and paper mills" was noted by the writers of 1758. In 1858 its waters propelled one plaster mill, two grist and sawmills, besides eleven manufactories. Before 1822 the Merion Cotton Mills, with 949 spindles, was also run by the falling waters of this stream. Rock creek, Indian creek, Trout

run, Rock Hill creek and Cobb's creek are included in the list of streams that have gladdened the heart of man for a long period of decades.

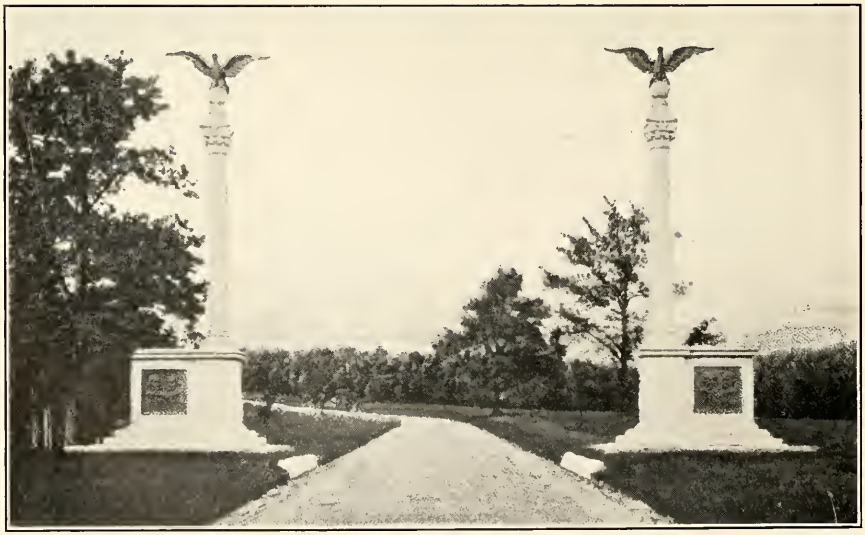
As to the population of the township, it should be said that the United States census reports give these significant figures: In 1800, it had 1,422; in 1840, 2,827; in 1860, 4,423; in 1880, 6,287; 1890 it had 10,092; in 1910 it was 17,671 and in 1920, the figures given were 23,827. As early as 1883 there were seven post offices in the township, but the advent of rural carriers cut these down somewhat, but with the springing up of new villages others were established until to-day all villages in the township have excellent postal facilities. The public schools are numerous and of the truly worthwhile type. The private educational institutions are many; there are a half dozen select schools for girls, and the great almost world-famed Bryn Mawr College for females, which was established in 1880, together with the select private schools, gives the township more female pupils in higher schools of learning than can be named at any other place in America. (See Educational chapter.) Methodist, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches are among the very early denominations to be found within Lower Merion township (see Church chapter for further account of the religious denominations). It should be here mentioned that the Society of Friends was the earliest to worship within this township, and an account of the Old Meeting House appears in the Church chapter referred to.

The township derives its name from Merioneth, in Wales, from which country so many of the pioneers of this township emigrated. In 1685 the boundary between Merion and Chester county was ordered determined. It is also known that Upper and Lower Merion obtained prior to 1714. On the original survey maps the names of purchasers include such families as the Hollands, Pennocks, Roberts, Woods, Humphreys, Ellis, and Jones. These names are well known through their numerous descendants in this township at the present day.

The local historian, William J. Buck, says in his history: "During the Revolution, particularly while the British held possession of Philadelphia, from September, 1777, to June, 1778, the inhabitants of Lower Merion, in consequence of their nearness, suffered severely from the raids of the enemy. Though no striking events of interest occurred here during the exciting struggle, yet it was compelled to bear some of its trials. Shortly after their departure an assessor was appointed to value the damages, which amounted to $8,565 in our money. During this period twenty-nine persons stood attainted with treason within the present limits of the county, yet only one of the number was from this township, thus showing that the mass of the people here must have been generally disposed to independence." This spirit of unflinching loyalty came on down through the periods of the War of 1812, and the Rebellion, as well as in the last World War.



WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL, VALLEY FORGE



PENNSYLVANIA COLUMNS, VALLEY FORGE

One can hardly avoid traveling over sacred ground in passing through Montgomery county. Nearly everywhere one turns is some association with the Revolution, apart from the preëminent one of all America, that of Valley Forge. Yet it is to be regretted that these historic spots have as a rule never been appreciated enough by the citizens to even place proper "markers" of wood, stone or bronze, to tell the traveler that he is passing over historic, almost sacred ground. But it is of Valley Forge that we write at this time. Cornwallis remarked at Yorktown to Washington: "Sir, your greatest victory was not at Yorktown, but at Valley Forge." Then no wonder the residents in and surrounding this spot should take on a just pride and delight themselves by showing the stranger the sights at hand and pointing to the everlasting hills and majestic windings of the channel of the Schuylkill, on whose charming scenes the eyes of Washington rested in the "times that tried men's souls"—1777-78—when the destiny of a nation was being determined.

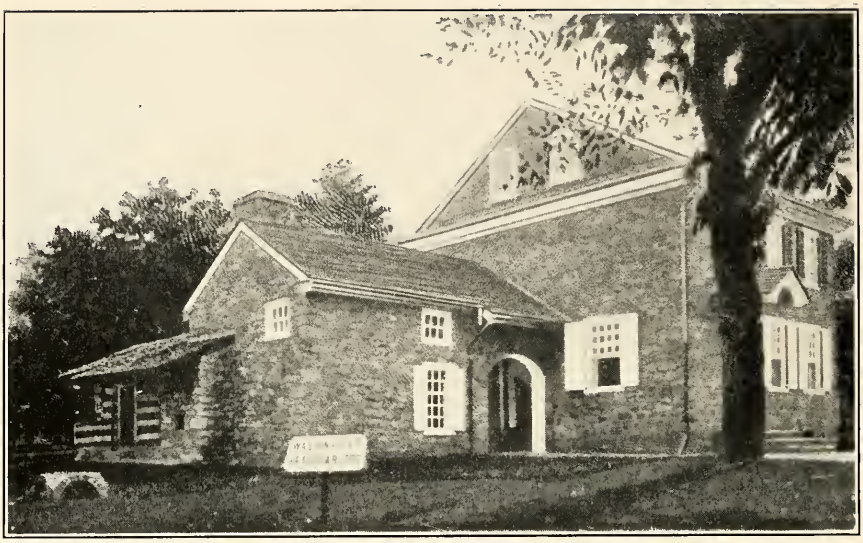
The Valley Forge Park is the direct result of the untiring working of the Valley Forge Park Commission appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania in June, 1893, and provided "for the acquisition by the State of certain ground at Valley Forge for a park." What was styled the Valley Forge Monument Association began its work in 1882, and men like George W. Childs became its charter members. Congress was appealed to for aid, but nothing was accomplished by such efforts. Then Pennsylvania was appealed to, to throw out its protecting arm around the sacred spots about Washington's Headquarters at this point. At first it was asked that a befitting monument like Bunker Hill and Washington Monuments to be erected by the commonwealth, but a better judgment prevailed, and the idea of preserving the entire grounds, containing over fifteen hundred acres, was developed and the bill appropriating for such purchase was passed in 1893. There is always some brave, far-sighted person who has to do with the beginnings of all great accomplishments and public institutions. It was the case here. Just who this person might have been, it is certain that as early as 1842 (the late Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker says), Dr. Isaac Anderson Pennypacker wrote in behalf of the preservation of this encampment, and in 1845 suggested the erection of a suitable monument on Mt. Joy. To this end came the great Daniel Webster, William H. Seward, Neal Dow and others to Valley Forge. But such enthusiasm soon died away with the greater interests of a Nation that was destined to be baptized in the blood of her own people, before true liberty and freedom could be vouched safe.

The first act passed, as above stated, in 1893 provided $25,000 for the purpose of the Commission, and in 1895 $10,000 were appropriated. Pennsylvania has now expended several hundred thousand dollars in

purchasing the lands, building of excellent paved roads, etc. But prior to all of these efforts was the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Evacuation of Valley Forge. To bring about this "Centennial," a society was organized, and known as "The Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge," of which Mrs. Anna M. Holstein was elected regent. Subscriptions and the sale of membership tickets to the Association were carried on successfully until the old stone headquarters house of Washington and an acre and a half of land surrounding it had been secured at an expense of $6,000, one-half being secured by a mortgage. Later it was impossible to pay the interest on this mortgage by the Association, and an appeal was made to the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America in its convention in Norristown in 1885. Six months later this worthy order had paid off the debt and received 3,600 shares of stock, which gave them a voice in the management of affairs at Valley Forge. In 1887 the State gave $5,000 to further the work, and in 1887 the Headquarters building was restored to its original condition. Additional lands were purchased in 1889 and in 1904. A small fee had always been charged to visit the "Headquarters Building," that fine ancient stone structure, but in 1904 the Park Commission suggested that the State take over the property, and in August, 1905, it was so possessed by the State. The amount paid the Association by Pennsylvania was $18,000, which the courts held must be forever held in trust by the Association and could not be alienated or divided.

Since the State took possession of this immense natural park, with its numerous buildings, vast improvements have been effected. But so great have come to be the interests centering around this national shrine that outsiders are desiring to have a part in the making more perfect this spot, visited annually by its tens of thousands of people from our own and foreign lands. Just at this time (1923) a chime of thirteen bells, one for each Colony, is being placed at Valley Forge. The first bell was donated by the Massachusetts Society of the Daughters of the Revolution; this is named "Paul Revere." The great tenor bell, weighing over a ton and one-half, was to be given by the Pennsylvania D. A. R., and the New Jersey Society will soon have the fund raised for their bell; the Colonial Dames of Delaware are to furnish one bell for their State. New York will have one of the heaviest bells in the chime, and it will cost $5,000. Each bell will be endowed, so that a ringer will be present every day of the year and every hour will be marked by a patriotic air. The national anthem will be played each day at sunset.

The Valley Forge Park Commission recently endorsed and approved the plan of building an historic shrine at Valley Forge in honor of the heroes who fell in the late World War, and the project is being backed by the American Legion, War Mothers, and other patriotic societies. It is to be a memorial of rare size and exquisite beauty. Such buildings



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, VALLEY FORGE

WASHINGTON'S BEDROOM—THE HEADQUARTERS—VALLEY FORGE

are much more practical and truly useful than the old-fashioned monuments of marble or granite. With the completion of the above chime of bells and this Victory Hall, the improvements around a spot almost neglected and forgotten by the average American up to thirty years ago, will indeed be a credit to Pennsylvania, Montgomery county, and the location so long known as Valley Forge.

As one visits Valley Forge, his eye will be greeted, as he passes over the thousands of acres within the State Park and its surrounding farming lands, with many an interesting and truly historical object, nearly all of which have been provided within this present generation. Among these may be named: Washington's Headquarters, the fine old stone residence given over to the "Father of His Country" by pioneer Potts during that long, memorable winter of 1777-78; the earthworks; the Washington Memorial Chapel, an Episcopal church of rare and costly design, within and without, which is open daily from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., and which has been made possible only through the untiring zeal and natural ability of the present rector, W. Herbert Burk, D. D., who is also president of the Valley Forge Historical Society; the Cloister of the Colonies; Valley Forge Museum of American History; the Soldiers' Hut; the old Camp School; the Waterman Monument; the Wayne Monument; the Muhlenberg Monument; the Delaware Marker; the Maine Marker; the Massachusetts Monument; the New Jersey Monument; the Pennsylvania Columns; the Monument to the Unknown Dead; the Brigade Hospital (reproduction); the Headquarters of Commanding Officers (no admission); View from Observatory in Mount Joy; the Defender's Gate, near the Chapel, and Museum.

The greatest object of interest to the thoughtful visitor at Valley Forge is the original field tent General Washington used as headquarters the first week he spent upon the exposed hillsides at this point, before Mr. Potts took pity on him and gave him quarters in the now historic stone house, the first building one sees after alighting from the railway train when entering the little hamlet of Valley Forge. To look upon the real genuine canvas tent which the great commander used as his sleeping room and general headquarters, rivets the attention of the visitor upon its every thread and fold, as it is seen in the museum. in the last place where one would think to find so valuable a relic. It was secured by Dr. Burk from Miss Mary Custis Lee, the daughter of Mrs. Robert E. Lee, widow of General Robert E. Lee, and the owner of the tent, first on an option for its purchase of $5,000, and on August 19, 1909, the first payment was made, amounting to $500. The remaining $4,500 was to be paid from money raised by exhibition of the tent, and the money was to go to the support of the "Old Confederate Woman's Home," Richmond, Virginia, of which Miss Lee was president. This tent is in fine condition, and is about ten by fifteen feet in size and high

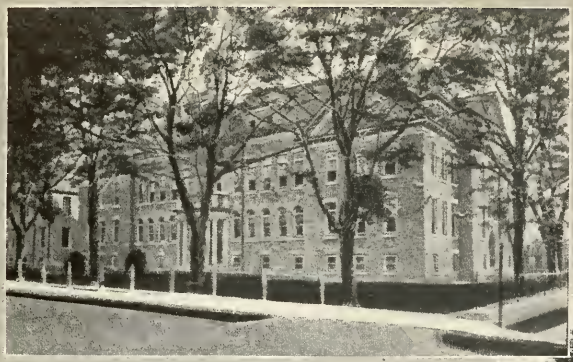
enough to walk under easily. The Washington Memorial Library now contains about fourteen thousand volumes, awaiting a proper home for safekeeping and use.

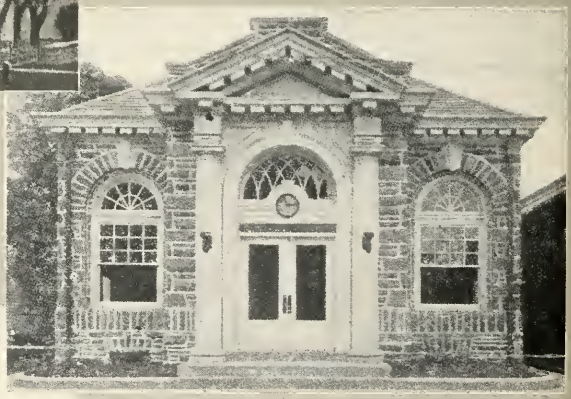
The Valley Forge Historical Society was organized by the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, D. D., June 19, 1918, to collect and preserve documents and relics relating to Valley Forge, and the history of the United States of America and other objects. But as has well been said by another, "The exhibition of the character of Washington is the crowning glory of Valley Forge."

Bryn Mawr is among the more important unincorporated places within Lower Merion township. The name is borrowed from the Welsh dialect, and signifies "great hills." As will be observed presently, it is chiefly known by reason of its modern, fully equipped, up-to-date female college and select private schools for young ladies. To possess a diploma from Bryn Mawr College means much to be justly proud of by any lady of the land.

Concerning the early history of this section of Montgomery county, it may be stated that it was settled in the fifties to considerable extent for these times. In 1858 it had twenty-one residences, and was then known as Humphreysville. It is nine miles from the city of Philadelphia, and joins Delaware county. For many years the place was sought out by summer boarders from the city, it being a delightful place to spend the summer months. But this was all changed when the great educational wave struck the place in the early eighties, after which the girls' private academies and finally the great college, of which further mention is made, were established, and a fine group of magnificent buildings of stone graced the always beautiful spot. To-day the place has near 6,000 population, and is the seat of many well conducted schools, including the public schools with two buildings. Bryn Mawr Female College is the one important factor in the place, for here are hundreds and added hundreds of young ladies coming from all parts of the globe. Now there are several students from Japan and other far-off islands of the sea. There are also five boarding schools for girls.

The churches found here with good congregations are the Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, Colored Baptist and Colored Methodist Episcopal, United Brethren, and Roman Catholic, all having edifices except the United Brethren. The lodges include Red Men, Eagles, Knights of Columbus, Moose, Legion and Grand Army posts. The local newspaper is the "Home News," the history of which will be found in the Newspaper chapter. The Public Library and the one conducted by the W. C. T. U. organization afford ample books for the community. The commercial interests are such as a college and school center demands. The manufacturing plants are confined to the Thomas M. Royal Company, makers of all kinds of paper bags and sacks for merchandise purposes. More than two hundred persons find steady employment in this factory,





1. PUBLIC SCHOOL
2. LOWER MERION HIGH SCHOOL
3. MASONIC HALL
4. THE ARDMORE NATIONAL BANK
5. THE MERION TITLE & TRUST COMPANY

ARDMORE, PA.

the product of which is known the country over. The other factory is the artificial ice plant, which is of large capacity. Of the hospital, banking, etc., other chapters will include all in the county.

Ardmore is on the old Lancaster turnpike and Pennsylvania railroad, seven miles out from the city of Philadelphia, and is the seat of local government for Lower Merion township, the township hall being situated there. An historical account given of the hamlet in 1884 has this paragraph: "It contains nearly one hundred houses, two hotels, one grocery, two drug and three general stores, a Lutheran church, a steam planing mill and shutter and door manufactory, a lumber yard, and has a Masonic Hall for Cassia Lodge, No. 273, Free and Accepted Masons, and Chapter 262, Royal Arch Masons; an Odd Fellows' Hall, Banyan Tree Lodge, No. 378, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Haverford College, belonging to the Orthodox Friends, is only a half mile distant, in Delaware county, Pennsylvania. The village in 1858 contained only twenty-eight houses and in 1880 its population was five hundred and nineteen."

Before the Revolutionary War, the "Red Lion Tavern" was established here and kept by John Taylor over a quarter of a century. Before the building of the railroad, more than fifty teamsters with their cargo of frieight to and from the nearby city used to stop all night at this tavern. The village was originally called Athensville, and the post office was Cabinet. In 1855 the Athens Institute and Library Association was incorporated, but in the early eighties disbanded and sold the property. At this writing, the population of Ardmore is placed at 12,000, and its business interests, outside the retail general stores and ordinary shops, consists of two well capitalized banks (see Banking chapter), and the extensive manufacturing plant of the Auto-car Company, where more than one thousand employees are engaged the year round. The local newspapers are the "Ardmore Chronicle" and the "Main Liner," both wide-awake papers of which mention is made in the chapter on Newspapers of the county. There are church organizations owning edifices and supporting a minister, as follows: Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, Evangelical Lutheran, Colored Baptist (two), African Methodist Episcopal, and Christian Scientists. The civic orders include the Masonic, Chapter and Eastern Star lodges; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Independent Order of American Mechanics. The public schools are situated in two fine school structures, and another is being planned. A public library, under the auspices of the Woman's Club of Ardmore, is a valuable adjunct to the public schools of the place.

Other villages of Lower Merion township are: Rosemont, near Bryn Mawr; Pencoid, in the extreme northeastern corner of the township; West Manayunk, at the mouth of Rock Hill creek, opposite Manayunk, the Schuylkill dividing the two places; Merion Square, located in the

center of the township; Libertyville, to the northeast of Ardmore; Wynnewood, below Ardmore proper; Academyville, a mile southwest of West Manayunk; Lower Merion Academy, Flat Rock, and possibly a few hamlets, constitute the villages or towns within the limits of Lower Merion township, which exist to-day, or have in the past been known on the maps. Some were making their history away back before the Revolutionary struggle, while others are of more recent date. None of these places in the nature of things could be expected to be large in population, as they are in a sense but suburbs of the city of Philadelphia.

THE LAKE, SANATOGA PARK, POTTSTOWN—MANATAWNY BRIDGE, POTTSTOWN—WEST SHORE, SANATOGA LAKE

CHAPTER XXIV.

TOWNSHIPS: MARLBOROUGH—MONTGOMERY—MORELAND—NEW HANOVER—UPPER HANOVER—NORRITON—PERKIOMEN.

Marlborough—This is one of the northwestern townships in Montgomery county, is bounded by Bucks county on the northeast, south and east by Upper Salford, southwest by Frederick and the borough of Green Lane, and northwest by Upper Hanover township. It is three by five miles in extent, and contains about one hundred and fifty square miles. It was reduced in 1875 by the incorporating of the borough of Green Lane, which took from its territory one hundred and fifty-four acres. The Perkiomen flows along its southwest boundary, and East Swamp creek in the eastern portion. Also Ridge Valley creek is an important stream in its class This township was named for the Duke of Marlborough, noted for his military career in about 1706, and who died in 1722. The township was organized in 1745, and the first settlement known to have been made was by Thomas Mayberry, who bought a tract of land in 1730, containing about twelve hundred acres. He erected a forge there, the location being near or exactly at the present site of the borough of Green Lane. According to government reports, the population at different periods has been as follows: In 1800, it was 645; in 1830, was 952; in 1850, it was 1,174; in 1870, 1,303; in 1880, 1,212; 1890 was 1,151; in 1900 it was 1,129; in 1910, 1,195; and in 1920 it was 1,514.

The Sumneytown and Spring House Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1845 and opened its highway in 1848 through this township. The Perkiomen turnpike passes through the southwestern part of its territory from Green Lane to Perkiomenville. The Green Lane and Goshenhoppen, and the Sumneytown and Gerrysville pikes also pass over the township. The early forges and powder mills, also oil mills, erected on the Perkiomen and its tributaries, and the large amount of freighting necessary in conducting them, induced the people to construct hard roads.

There are three villages—Hoppenville, Sumneytown and Marlborough. Sumneytown is the largest of the three, and was named for Isaac Sumney, who in August, 1763, purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Marlborough township, which included a part of the present site of the village. This is a very ancient settlement for this county; history mentions it, and speaks of Dorn's Inn as located at the forks of the road. Dorn later conducted a regular hotel, and the large stone building was standing not many years ago. A map of the county in 1792 is the earliest we find the name Sumneytown. A post office was

established there prior to 1827. In 1832 it is shown by a gazetteer that the place had at that date a tavern, two stores, and twelve dwellings. In 1870 the place had not improved greatly, although it then had a sugar factory, a gristmill, machine shop, and numerous stores. Here was launched the first German newspaper in Montgomery county, it being founded in April, 1821, by Samuel Royer, and called "Der Advocat" (see Press chapter). It was here that John Dast built the first powder mill in this section, near East Swamp creek, about 1780. The business flourished until 1858, when eleven powder mills were running at one time in this township, making twenty tons of powder daily. At that same time seven linseed oil mills were in operation here. Some of the finest teams of both mules and horses ever seen in the State used to draw these two necessary products to the cities. Much powder was then used in blasting rock and timber, but as the railroads were completed and the great giant trees all leveled to mother earth, a decline was felt in the powder market. But other industries later came in to take the place of the two mentioned, and all along down the passing years the village has kept pace with her neighboring villages in carrying on a profitable business in other productions.

Hoppenville is located in both Marlborough and Upper Hanover townships. It has never grown to any considerable extent, but always had numerous small stores and shops. A hotel and a post office usually give color for a store or two, and here this constitutes a village and is so placed on county maps. The same can truthfully be said concerning the other village named, Marlboroughville; although it takes sixteen letters to spell the name, the place has never grown much more than its sister village. A post office and a few local interests tell the story of serving a happy, prosperous and contented people for generations.

Of the pioneer milling interests of this township, it may be stated that several of the earliest mills in this part of the county were on the Perkiomen, within Marlborough township—a gristmill by Samuel Shuler in 1742, the first; and in 1825 a large brick fulling-mill by George Poley was installed and operated until 1860. Here woolen goods were made in large quantities for many years.

Montgomery—This, a namesake of the county of which it is one of the townships, is of regular form, nearly square, and is bounded on the northeast by Bucks county, southwest by Gwynedd, southeast by Horsham, northwest by Hatfield, and on the west by the borough of Lansdale. Its area is 7,170 acres. Its surface is elevated and slightly rolling. It is drained by the Wissahickon, which has its source near Montgomeryville. This township was organized as a separate government, from other parts of the county, soon after 1700. The earliest survey effected here was in September, 1684, by Thomas Fairman, for William Stanley, of the 2,500 acres purchased from William Penn. John Evans and wife

settled in or very near this township in 1710, and a year later John James and wife. There are numerous documents to show the nationality of the pioneer settlers in this township. Of the twenty-eight names of the property list in 1734, three-fourths denote a Welsh origin, and probably not a single German; but changes were wrought out, for in 1880 it was found that one-half of the land owners of this township were German. In 1800 this township had a population of 546; in 1840 it was 1,009; in 1880 it had decreased to 876; in 1900 it was only 724, and in 1920 was placed at 787. This has been considered rather singular. Its territory has not been encroached upon by making other boroughs or townships from any of its domain, railroads have been built all around its location, and yet it has actually been losing population for many decades. But financially it has been gaining steadily. In 1880 the average per capita taxable was $3,212, making it ninth in rank in wealth in the entire county.

Only two villages have existed within this township. Montgomeryville, the largest collection of houses, in the early eighties contained one store, one hotel, and twenty-seven dwellings. Gordon in his "State Gazeteer" said in 1832 that this place had then ten houses, two taverns, and two stores. A post office was established in 1851, which in the autumn of 1869 was removed to Montgomery Square. With the flight of years, with advancement on every hand, but slight improvement or growth has taken place in this village.

Montgomery Square, the other village of the township, is but little different from its neighbor. It has its few stores, shops, post office, public school and churches. A post office was established in 1827 in the township, and has been on wheels much since then. It was first moved three-quarters of a mile to Montgomeryville, and in 1869 brought back to its present location. A Methodist Episcopal church was erected here in 1842. (See Church chapter in this work.) The palmy days of this burg were back when taverns were fashionable, and the carriage was known, but not the swift whirling automobile. If one had the true history of all country inns in this northern part of the county, including those of marked note in this township, he would certainly possess a wonderful volume, if all or even a half of the truth could be detailed. But these things have all changed, and will never again return!

Before leaving this township's history, the writer would fail of a duty not to record something concerning the birthplace of the illustrious Hancock, of Civil War fame, for it was right here in Montgomery township. The following is from the pen of William J. Buck, one of the authentic writers of Montgomery county history, and was written by him in 1884:

There is in the lower part of Montgomery Square, on the east side of the pike, a two-story stone schoolhouse, with a dwelling attached (which was enlarged in 1876), that possesses an interest. The late Ben-

jamin F. Hancock, Esq., of Norristown, kept school in it during his married life with Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Mary Hoxworth, of Hatfield township, and while residing in the dwelling part his twin sons, Winfield Scott and Hilary, were born, February 14, 1824, the former being now Major General Hancock, of the United States Army, and late Democratic candidate for the Presidency. In the spring of the following year the father removed from here to Norristown, where he soon after entered on the study of the law, to which he was admitted to practice in September, 1828. In the list of 1734, Arnold Hancock is taxed for one hundred acres in Perkiomen township, and William Hancock, in Moreland, for a house and lot of one acre. Among the pupils attending here were Samuel Medary, a native of the vicinity, afterwards Governor of Ohio, and Samuel Aaron, subsequently of Norristown. [It should be added that at his death his body was brought back to his native county and now lies buried in the Norristown Cemetery.]

Moreland—This township is in the extreme northeastern portion of the county. It is bounded on the north by Hatboro, on the northeast by Bucks county, on the southeast by Philadelphia, southwest by Abington, and northwest by Horsham and Upper Dublin township. It is three by six miles in size, and contains an area of 10,960 acres. Its territory was reduced in 1871 by the incorporation of Hatboro to the extent of five hundred acres. The largest stream flowing in the township is the Pennypack, the meanderings of which are about six miles, and its waters have for scores of years turned the mill-wheels for numerous mills, including four large flouring mills. It receives eleven tributaries within its fall through this township. Pennypack creek has the distinction of forming the boundary line of four distinct purchases of lands made with the Indians by William Penn or his immediate agents. At Willow Grove the natural scenery is fine. Here, too, are found mineral deposits, the iron ore, fire-clay, kaolin, quartz, and feldspar. Also black-lead (graphite) has been known to abound here, and was worked some a century and more ago. There are numerous turnpikes in the township, including the Cheltenham and Willow Grove, finished in 1804; the Doylestown, in 1840; the Middle road, in 1848, which leads to the "Sorrell Horse," and the Warminster in 1850. The Northeast Pennsylvania railroad has two miles of main trackage in the township, with stations at Willow Grove, Heaton, Fulmore, and Bonair. The Newton railway has three miles of track with stations at Huntingdon Valley and Yerksville. Census returns give the population as follows: In 1790, it was 1,824; in 1830, it was 2,044; in 1880, 1,746; in 1920 it was given as 2,129. This is practically an agricultural district, and the villages are small.

The name Moreland was chosen by William Penn in respect for a physician of London, England, named Nicholas More; he was president of the Free Society of Traders, and the first chief justice of Pennsylvania, who arrived here in 1682. In 1734 Moreland township had seventy-one taxables, of which number forty-three were landowners. In 1794

Thomas Longstroth built a paper mill near the center of this township. In the assessment list of 1785 mention is made of 343 horses, 373 cattle, four bound servants, nineteen negro slaves, fourteen riding chairs, three family wagons, one phaeton, ten gristmills, three sawmills, one fulling mill, one oil mill, two tanneries, and one distillery.

Willow Grove is situated at the junction of the Doylestown and York road, thirteen miles north of Philadelphia. In 1711 the York road was laid out from Philadelphia to this point. The stream flowing through here in 1722 was known as Round Meadow run, over which a bridge had been constructed. A hotel here advertised "good stabling for a hundred horses," showing what travel was expected over that route. "The Red Lion" was a noted hotel there. At Rex's tavern was a fine spring heavily charged with mineral, and later it became a fortune to its Philadelphia owners. A summer resort was there many years.

Huntingdon Valley, another village, is situated on the Middle road, near Pennypack creek, a short distance from the Abington line. Forty years and more ago it had its various business places, its churches, lodges, schools, a railway station, two hotels, a post office, and was a well organized village. On the completion of the railroad from here to New York, in 1876, the station was named Bethayres, a contraction of Elizabeth Ayers, who was born here and mother of one of the directors of the railroad.

Yerkesville is situated not far from the center of the township, near Terwood run, and has also been known as Blaker's Corner. Richard E. Yerkes carried on a cotton factory business here in 1850. To-day there is no more actual business transacted than there was a century ago. The manufacture of paper has been one of profit at various periods in this township.

A venerable-looking milestone stood as late as 1850 on the eastern bank of the roadside, about forty yards up the hill from the present bridge, having cut on it "15 M. to P." It came away in making the turnpike and was removed.

An interesting sight was witnessed on this hill on the morning of the 23rd of August, 1777, being no less than the crossing of General Washington and his army, accompanied by a lengthy baggage and artillery train. They had just broken up their encampment at the Cross-Roads, near the present Hartsville, six miles from here, where they had been the previous two weeks waiting to hear of the landing of the British. They were now marching to Philadelphia, and from thence towards the enemy, whom they finally encountered on the field of Brandywine.

The "Montgomery County Society for the recovery of stolen horses and bringing thieves to justice," originated in this township and the adjoining parts of Horsham and Upper Dublin in 1799. From an early period they have held their annual meetings chiefly at the Willow Grove. The officers in 1856 were, Joshua Y. Jones, president; T. Elwood

Comly, secretary; and William Hallowell, treasurer; the society consisting of forty-five members.

New Hanover—This township is bounded on the northeast by Upper Hanover, south by Limerick, east by Frederick, north and northwest by Douglas and southwest by Pottsgrove township. Its area is about 12,900 acres, the fourth in size of all in the county. Its streams include the Deep creek, Swamp creek, and their several branches. The waters of Swamp creek have for generations turned many a waterwheel in propelling the saw and gristmills, as well as small factories.

The name of this township, Hanover, is derived from Hanover, a capital and kingdom of Germany. That was the home of many Lutherans who came to America and settled in the township now being considered, and they very naturally named the township after some geographical name in the Fatherland. But at one time others styled this locality "Falkner's Swamp," after Daniel Falkner, an agent of the Frankfort Land Company. But certain it is that from 1734 it was known generally as New Hanover. At first it embraced all of its present territory, as well as Upper Hanover of to-day, also Douglas, and Pottsgrove and borough of Pottstown. In 1741 the domain was divided into the first three townships, which then contained only two hundred and forty-two taxables. The number of landowners was one hundred and thirteen.

Henry Antes, among the sturdy band who first invaded this part of Montgomery county, came from Hanover, Germany, before 1726, settled in Philadelphia, then moved to this township. He was a useful man and very ingenious. He built the first gristmill at Bethlehem, in 1743. He died in this township in 1755. His son, Frederick Antes, was an iron founder, and cast the first four-pounder guns for the Revolutionary army. On account of the British, he removed to Northumberland county, where he became presiding judge, and in 1784 a member of the Assembly. His wife was the daughter of Governor Snyder.

The population of the township has been as follows: In 1800 it was 1,505; in 1880 it was 1,905; in 1900 it was 1,611, and in 1920 placed at only 1,305. The first church was built about 1720, it being the Reformed church. New Hanover became a separate election district in 1827. In 1785, when the first county assessment was made, there were in this township four taverns, five gristmills, two sawmills, three tanneries, and one slave. In 1792 there were two hundred and sixty-one landowners. Of the churches and schools, separate general chapters in this work will treat, in common with all others in the county. It may here be said that it is claimed the first Lutheran congregation ever assembled in the United States was in this township about 1703.

That the pioneers of this part of Montgomery county looked well to the care and comfort of those less fortunate in possessing worldly goods, the following item is inserted in this as a perpetual record to be placed

to their credit, so long as the printed page shall be in evidence: "The overseers of the poor are ordered, by a number of the inhabitants of New Hanover, to furnish Frantz Epple, with a linsey jacket, a pair of new trousers, a new shirt, a pair of new stockings, a pair of new shoes and a linsey underjacket. (Signed) John Richards, John Brooke, Benj. Markley, Cassimer Missimer, Andrew Smith. March 20. 1784 A. D." Other instances similar occur in the records down as late as 1807.

The villages of New Hanover are Swamp (long the township seat), Fagleysville, New Hanover Square, and Pleasant Run. Fagleysville appears to have been settled very early. It is located on the turnpike, two miles south of New Hanover. It is mentioned by historian Schull as having an inn here in 1758, called "The Rose." Like most of the inland townships, the villages here are quite small and are not productive of many highly interesting events of later years, and but little does this generation care for the incidents of the long ago, before steam and electricity had invaded the haunts of busy men.

Upper Hanover—This civil township has had three boroughs carved from its territory—Greenlane, Pennsburg, and Red Hill. The township proper was formerly a part of New Hanover. It is situated in the extreme northwestern part of the county, bounded on the north by Lehigh county, northwest by Berks county, and east by Bucks county, south by New Hanover and Frederick townships, and southeast by Marlborough, west by Douglas township. It is four and a half by five and a half miles in size, containing about twenty-three square miles. Its streams are the Perkiomen, flowing seven miles through the township in its meanderings, and which at one time propelled by waterwheels five gristmills and four sawmills. Hosensack, another stream, is a tributary to the first named. Other creeks are West Branch and Macoby, the last named in the east part of the township. Ever since 1850 the highway improvements in this township have been excellent, and are well preserved to-day. The Perkiomen railroad has a trackage of about five miles in this township, and its stations include Welkers, Hanover, Pennsburg, Palm and Hosensack. The first gristmill on the Upper Perkiomen was without doubt constructed in 1738. The machinery was brought from beyond the Atlantic and carted over bridle paths to the wildness of this township from Philadelphia.

The population at various census enumeration periods by the Federal government has been as follows: In 1800 it was 738; in 1880 was 2,418; in 1900 was 1,997, and in 1920 it was reduced to 1,386. These figures, however, did not include the boroughs found in the main township.

Of the villages within New Hanover township, Pennsburg is treated in the chapters on borough history elsewhere in this history. Palm Station, located on the Goshenhoppen and Green Lane turnpike, about three

miles northwest of East Greenville, is a sprightly village where all retail business is carried on such as the surrounding farming community demands. Kleinville was named for two brothers who owned a number of farms in the vicinity, in the northeastern part of the township. What was formerly known as Hillegassville, finally divided into upper and lower villages, was established by the various members of the Hillegass family, but now the name, as denoting a village, is not on the county maps, but instead, the borough of Red Hill is found, the same being a railway station. This particular part of the place was commenced in 1836 by Jacob A. Hillegass, who there built a large store. See other chapters on Boroughs for Red Hill and Greenville boroughs.

Norriton—The part of the county in which Norristown is situated is within an old tract of 7,842 acres of land, ordered surveyed by William Penn, the order reading, "to lay out a tract of land on the canoable part of Schuylkill." This tract was designated the "Manor of Williamstadt." It was to be a princely gift to his son, and lay directly opposite a similar manor surveyed and laid out on the south side of the river for his daughter, Letitia Penn. A patent was granted October 2, 1704, conveying to William Penn, Jr., the manor or tract above described. Five days after the son came into possession of this great estate, he parted with it to Isaac Norris and William Trent, merchants in Philadelphia. Eight years later, Norris acquired the whole property. The cost to the two purchasers was £850 sterling, a mere nothing as to what its value was even at the time it was sold by young Penn. The ancient manor of Williamstadt remained intact until 1730, when in usual form, the civil township of Norriton was created as decreed by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia county. The original area was considerably cut down by the incorporation of the borough of Norristown in 1812, which contained five hundred and twenty acres, and in 1853 was extended to take in fifteen hundred additional acres. At the time the manor was changed into a township, there were twenty landowners and tenants. Up to the time Montgomery county was set off from Philadelphia county, 1784, the history of this people is obscured by the fact that it was not in close touch with Philadelphia, and roads were not yet provided. It is, however, known that the township took its name from the Norris family, the head of which was Isaac Norris, a large owner of land and a man of much influence in the country of William Penn. He was chosen eighteen times as speaker of the Assembly, being first elected in 1713. Thus was Norriton township brought into public record. It remained as first organized until 1904, when East and West Norriton townships were made out of the territory first known as "Norriton."

At the time the township was created, there were twenty landowners; 181 horses, 269 horned cattle; fourteen negro slaves, two riding chairs

There were two gristmills, four sawmills, one tannery, six taverns, and the usual number of small shops and trading places. The population of the original Norriton township was, in 1810, 1,386; in 1820, 1,098; in 1830, 1,139; in 1840, 1,411; 1850, 1,594; in 1880, it was only 1,360; and in 1920, is given by the Federal census as 1,375, in both East and West Norriton townships. The history of the borough of Norristown is so completely interwoven with that of the two civil townships that the reader is referred to the borough history for much that might be looked for in this connection.

The first post office here was established at Jeffersonville, January 1, 1829. Mails were then received by stage lines running over the old Ridge pike from Philadelphia to Reading, thence on to Pittsburgh. Later post offices were established in Penn Square and Norritonville. Later the office at Penn Square was changed to Hartranft Station. The first general election in the township was held at the public house in Jeffersonville, October, 1852. The free common school system went into operation here in 1838-39. (See Educational chapter; for church history also see general chapters on Churches.)

Perkiomen—This is one of the central townships of Montgomery county, and was bounded at one time, north by Upper and Lower Salford, east by Towamencin, south by Lower Providence, southeast by Worcester, west by Upper Providence, and north by Frederick and Limerick townships. Its extent was about three and one-quarter miles by six miles, and contained an area of 11,400 acres. Unlike many parts of this county, there are few springs found bubbling forth from the wayside, cheering the heart of the passerby, who looks for the "springhouse" in vain while in this township. However, there are a number of good sized streams flowing hither and yon. One is Perkiomen creek, on the banks of which have many years been saw and gristmills, until such mills were no longer a utility—the farmer buys his bread, and the timber is all hacked down and used up. The name Perkiomen is of Indian origin, and its meaning somewhat clouded. But these boundaries have materially changed with passing years. It is now numbered among the least in extent of almost any township within the county. It is triangular, southeast of the Perkiomen creek, extending between and connecting the boroughs of Schwenksville, Trappe and Collegeville. Upper Providence is at its south, and Limerick and Frederick at its west. Its acreage is small. Greatersford and Iron Bridge are the only hamlets. The population in 1800 was 781; in 1900, 1,082; in 1920, 1,024.

The Revolutionary history of this vicinity is very interesting, and to it a brief reference will be made. The battle of Brandywine was fought September 11, 1777, and resulted disastrously to the Americans. On the 23rd Washington arrived near the present Pottstown, while the day before the British crossed below Valley Forge to this side of the Schuyl-

kill, proceeding leisurely on their march to Philadelphia. The American army came from near Pottsgrove into this township on the afternoon of September 26th, and encamped on the hills of both sides of the Perkiomen. Washington made his headquarters at the house of Henry Keely, about three-quarters of a mile southwest of Pennypacker's Mill, using, however, "Camp Perkioming," as well as the latter name, in his orders to designate the vicinity.

CHAPTER XXV.

TOWNSHIPS: POTTSGROVE, UPPER, LOWER AND WEST—PROVIDENCE, UPPER AND LOWER—PLYMOUTH—WHITEMARSH.

Prior to 1890 the Pottsgrove townships were all known as one township, called Pottsgrove, hence its settlement and general history will be treated as one civil subdivision of Montgomery county and not especially as three distinct townships. This territory lies in the extreme southwestern corner of the county, and was erected as a township in 1807, its domain being taken from Douglas and New Hanover townships. As originally constituted, its territory was bounded northeast by Douglas and New Hanover, southeast by Limerick, south by the Schuylkill and the borough of Pottstown; to its west and northwest was Berks county. It was three and a half by five miles in extent, and had an area of 11,600 square acres, nearly eighteen square miles. The southern portion of this township is exceedingly well adapted for farming, its soil being of the best for this part of our country. The eastern part is much more hilly and rolling. Among prominent hills and elevations are Ringing Hill, Stone Hill, Prospect Hill and Fox Hills. On these elevations the soil is very thin and not productive of profitable crops. The township is well watered by Manatawny and Sprogel's creeks, Sanatoga and Goose runs, together with their numerous branches. The largest stream is the Manatawny, rising in Rockland township, Berks county, and after a general course of eighteen miles empties into the Schuylkill river at the borough of Pottstown. Only two miles of this stream, however, are within this township, but in this distance it had many years ago three gristmills on its banks. Governor Gordon speaks of this mill in 1728 and calls it the "Mahanatawny." It is from Indian dialect, and means "where we drank." Sprogel's run, all within this township, rises in Fox Hills and falls into the Schuylkill. It propelled a clover and chopping mill at one date. Schull shows this stream on his maps of 1720. Formerly on its banks near the center of the township, a copper mine was worked successfully for a number of years. Sanatoga run, three or four miles of which are within this township, gives a valuable water power, at least did thirty-five years ago. Four gristmills and three sawmills were propelled by its waters.

Among the county's natural curiosities may be mentioned the "Ringing Rocks," on Stone Hill, three miles northeast of Pottstown. They consist of trap rocks, exceedingly hard and compact, which on being struck with a hammer, ring like iron. These rocks are piled one on another, and cover about one and a half acres of ground, within which

no trees or bushes are found growing. It is supposed that the largest rocks would weigh from five to twenty-five tons each, and some of the apertures are visible to the depth of twenty-five feet. A number of impressions can be seen on them, among which are three closely resembling the human foot, from three to six inches in depth; also a number resembling the tracks of horses, and elephants, and cannon-balls from six to twelve inches in diameter. The sounds emitted by these rocks are various, depending on their shape and size. Some when struck resemble the ringing of anvils, others of church bells, with all their intermediate tones. As was well said by old Aristotle, there is a statue in every block of marble, but it takes a sculptor to find it, so it might be said of these rocks, in every one there is some note in music, but it would still take the aid of a skilled musician to discover it. It was the early German settlers who gave these rocks the name of Klingleberg, meaning Ringing Hill.

October 25, 1701, William Penn conveyed to his son, John Penn, a tract of twelve thousand acres of land, which the latter, in June, 1735, sold to George McCall, a merchant of Philadelphia, for the sum of two thousand guineas, or in our present-day money would be worth $9,339. On a resurvey it was found to contain fifteen thousand acres. This tract comprised all the present township of Douglas, the upper half of Pottsgrove, and the whole of Pottstown. Down to 1753, this tract was commonly known as the "McCall Manor." McCall was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and in Philadelphia became a wealthy merchant. It is supposed that he built the first iron works in this township, which he called after the place of his nativity, and which name has been retained and familiar to the traders in iron to this day. Among the first to settle in the township was John Henry Sprogel, who with his brother, Ludwick Christian Sprogel, by invitation of William Penn, came to this country from Holland. They were both naturalized in 1705, and John Henry purchased here six hundred acres on which he settled with his family. Sprogel's run was named for him. From gravestone inscriptions, he was among the very earliest to take up a residence in the township. In 1753 John Potts lived in Pottsgrove (now called Pottstown) after whom both the borough and the township were named. By the act of April 11, 1807, it was enacted "that the Sixth Election District shall be composed of the township of Pottsgrove, lately erected from a part of New Hanover and a part of Douglas, shall hold their elections at the house of William Lesher, Pottstown, and the electors of the remainder of the township of Douglas and New Hanover at the house of Henry Kreps, New Hanover." June 10, 1875, the Court of Quarter Sessions divided the township into Upper and Lower election districts. Just prior to 1890 this territory hitherto known as Pottsgrove township was subdivided into what now are known as Upper, Lower and West Pottsgrove townships. The Philadelphia & Reading railroad runs through

the entire length of the old original township; the Colebrookdale road also has a course of over two miles within the territory. The various census enumerating periods have given this township (before separation) as follows: 1810, 1,521; 1820, 1,882; in 1830 it was 1,302; in 1840, 1,361; in 1850, 1,689; in 1880 it was 3,985; in 1890 the population in 1910 (after the township had been divided) was, for West Pottsgrove, 1,507; Upper Pottsgrove, 454; Lower Pottsgrove, 704. The Federal census in 1920 gives "Pottsgrove township," 3,057.

Before the division of the original township took place, the villages were listed as Crooked Hill, Glasgow, Grosstown and Half-Way. Glasgow, a small manufacturing village a mile and a half north of Pottstown, is the site of the well known Glasgow iron works and rolling mills. George McCall, the owner, in his will left five hundred acres of what was known as McCall's Manor to his son, Alexander McCall, and which later became known as the Forge tract. Alexander McCall sold his Forge property to Joseph and John Potts and James Hackley. In 1789 it was sold at sheriff's sale to David Rutter and Joseph Potts, Jr. The same year Rutter sold his interest to Samuel Potts, who by will in 1793 authorized his sons to sell his interest, and February, 1797, it was conveyed to Joseph Potts, Jr., who was the owner of the other half. It remained in the Potts family until 1832, when it was sold to Jacob Weaver, Jr. In 1820 there was at this place a small sheet iron mill, two bloomeries, a gristmill, two mansion houses, ten log tenant houses, and two stone tenant houses. After Weaver bought the property, he constructed ten stone tenant houses. This Weaver also built a furnace, which proved a failure. The forge property in 1864 passed to James Hilton, and in 1873 to Joseph Bailey and Comley Shoemaker. In 1883 Glasgow village consisted of the iron works and several fine residences. With the change of times and the shifting of industries to other parts, the village has been absorbed and is not commercially known to-day.

Grosstown, a small village two miles west of Pottstown, on the old Philadelphia, Reading and Perkiomen turnpike, was started by a family named Gross, who lived there about one hundred and twenty-five years ago. It was only a hamlet of a few houses, a schoolhouse and a blacksmith shop. Its interests have long since been absorbed by Pottstown.

Crooked Hill, another hamlet, situated on Crooked Hill run, north from the station known as Sanatoga, on the Reading line and three miles east from Pottstown, near a century ago had a tavern kept by Levi Windermuth. A gristmill and post office graced the hamlet at that date, as well as many years thereafter. It was a favorite stopping place for teamsters and travelers on the turnpike. To-day the various business interests of these three Pottsgrove townships have long since been absorbed by the greater industries of Pottstown.

Providence—The three Providence subdivisions of Montgomery county will all be here treated, to contain the history of Providence township, Upper Providence township and Lower Providence township.

When William Penn, the founder of this Commonwealth, sold off lands from his possessions, he reserved for himself a large tract on the east side of the Schuylkill river. It embraced the whole of the present Upper and Lower Providence townships, and parts of the townships of Perkiomen and Worcester. This tract was named by the founder, "The Manor of Gilberts." This name was selected in honor of his mother's family name. One of the early purchasers of land herein was Jacob Tellner, one of the founders of Germantown, who owned a large tract along the Skippack creek, which now constitutes the northwest corner of present Lower Providence township. For many years the land lying along the Skippack was known as Tellner township, while that between the Skippack and Perkiomen was called "Perkoming," the present township of Perkiomen being then known as "Van Bebbers Township." In March, 1725, a petition was presented the court to establish a township of the territory upon which they resided. This was along the then called Perquomin creek. Nothing was done in the petition matter until 1729, when a new one was presented, accompanied by a draft of the proposed township. March 2, 1729, the court decreed that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that day the court created the township of Providence. The name is uncertain; it may have been after Roger Williams' Providence in Rhode Island, and may have been for some other geographical point in the world. This territory faced the Schuylkill river front, and is south centrally located in the county. There is a good shale soil, and but very little waste land within the domain of these two townships as known to-day. Perkiomen creek forms a natural line between the two townships and is the largest stream in Montgomery county. It is about thirty-two miles long, following its meanderings. The name indicates in Indian language, "place where grow the cranberries." It has been spelled an endless number of ways, but of recent decades has come to be as just given.

Mingo creek rises in Limerick township, and runs through a part of Upper Providence, where it empties into the Schuylkill river. Another small stream known as Zimmerman's run rises near Trappe and empties into the Perkiomen near Yerkes. Lower Providence has two fair sized streams, the Skippack and Mine run. The former is seventeen miles long and is tributary to the Perkiomen. Mine run rises in the township, and after flowing three miles empties into the Perkiomen at Oaks. The wagon roads or highways are too ancient and complex to be given any intelligent account of in this connection. One of the most ancient roads is the Great Road from Philadelphia to the Perkiomen; in 1709 it was being extended on to Reading. The Perkiomen and Reading turnpike runs through this part of the county, and was built in 1815. The Per-

kiomen and Sumneytown turnpike was finished in 1845. In Lower Providence there are two main pike roads, both beginning at the eastern end of Perkiomen bridge at Collegeville. Three railroads pass in and out of this township. The Philadelphia & Reading runs two miles through Upper Providence, with a station at Mingo, the Perkiomen Valley running from Perkiomen to Allentown. This road was open for travel in the year of 1868. The Pennsylvania & Schuylkill Valley railroad passes along the east side of the Schuylkill; this was finished in 1884. Its four original stations were Port Kennedy, Perkiomen, Port Providence and Mont Clare. There have been numerous bridges in this township, and several were pay or toll bridges up to the eighties.

This township was settled first by an Englishman named Edward Lane, who came from Jamaica in 1684, and in 1698 bought 2,500 acres of land, confirmed to him by William Penn in 1701. This land was situated on both sides of the Perkiomen, upon which now stand the boroughs of Collegeville and Evansburg. He built a gristmill on the Skippack in 1708. These Lanes were instrumental in establishing the Episcopal church in Lower Providence. Another pioneer was Joseph Richardson, who bought a thousand acres here in 1710. He left eight children at his death, and many of his descendants still live in the county. In 1717 John Jacob Schrack and wife came from Germany to this township. He it was who after much persistency got Rev. Muhlenberg to locate in America. During the Revolutionary War he made a wonderful record, and aided in founding the first churches in Pennsylvania of his religious faith. From the earliest time down to 1777 the settlers had to go to Philadelphia to cast their votes. The elections were then held at the Inn opposite the State House. Later the people voted at Norristown. In 1734 the township had only seventy-four landowners. In 1741 it had taxables amounting to 146. In 1785 the township contained twenty slaves and had six hotels.

Lower Providence township as now constituted is bounded on the west by Upper Providence, on the northeast by Perkiomen and Worcester townships, on the southwest by Norriton, and on the south by the Schuylkill river. Its area is 9,143 acres. Red shale greatly predominates in the soils of this part of the county. Near the Perkiomen, at Oaks, at an early day lead mines were worked, but never to profit. The mines were opened in 1800, and were being operated in 1818 by Mr. Wetherell. With lead mining came the discovery of copper, and in January, 1848, the Perkiomen Mining Association was formed. The land cost about $10,000; much costly machinery was placed in position, and a shaft was sunk 585 feet. There many thousands of tons of copper were taken from the earth, but later all was abandoned and the machinery rusted out with the passing years.

In 1810 the population was 904; in 1820 it was 1,146; in 1850, 1,961; in 1880 it was 1,856; in 1900 it was 1,625; in 1920, it was 2,221. As to

schools and churches, the reader is referred to separate chapters on these topics elsewhere in this work. There are six mills, three upon the Perkiomen and three on the Skippack, "all doing a good business," it was said in 1883.

The villages of Lower Providence were as listed forty years ago: Evansburg, Shannonville, Eagleville, and Providence Square. At that date each village had its post office. The largest of these places was Evansburg. The land on which it was built was a part of the old Lane estate. In 1721 an Episcopal church was built there, and in 1725 a post office obtained. Edward Evans, the postmaster, was the son of Owen Evans, American ancestor, who engaged in gun-making for the government. The place was named for this family of Evans. The nickname that stuck to this place for more than a generation was "Hustletown." It is supposed that Mr. Hustle Town was a resident there when the place got its nickname. Shannonville, another village of this township, was first so called in 1823, when a post office was established there. It was named for the large, influential family of Shannons near by. Jack's tavern was at this point, and the place like its sister had a nickname—here it was "Hogtown." Mr. Shannon was a large swine farmer, and hence the wags called the place Hogtown. But with a more dignified age, these rude names have been forgotten only by the very aged, who smile at hearing them mentioned.

Eagleville was a good sized village in the early eighties. It is on the Ridge turnpike, at the top of Skippack Hill, near the center of the township. Town meetings were held there many years. Hotel, stores, post office, a carriage shop, all sprung up around the large building erected by Silas Rittenhouse. It still remains a hamlet of the county. Providence Square, another collection of houses and shops, sprung from a small beginning in 1855, when Thomas Miller erected a large shop for the making of wagons and carriages on the Germantown pike. It lives by name and a few houses at present. Wetheral's Corner, another place of this township, came up by reason of Dr. William Wetheral in 1865, who erected some buildings at the corner of Egypt road and another public highway, a half mile south of Shannonville.

Upper Providence township, as established in 1805, is bounded on the north by Perkiomen township, on the east by Perkiomen creek, separating it from Lower Providence; on the southwest by the Schuylkill river and on the northwest by Limerick township. It is three by six miles in extent, and contains 12,098 acres. It was the third best agricultural township in the county forty odd years ago. The villages within the township are: Trappe, Freeland, Collegeville, Oaks, Port Providence, Green Tree, and Quinceyville or Mont Clare. The history of many of these have been incorporated into the Borough history chapters of this volume, which see.

Plymouth—This township is bounded on the north by Whitpain, east by Whitemarsh, south by Schuylkill river and the borough of Conshohocken, and west by the borough of Norristown and Norriton. It originally contained 5,641 acres. The surface is rolling, but in no sense hilly. It was stated by those engaged in research work as farm experts forty years ago, that no township in this county has more acres of fertile all workable land than Plymouth. However, it lacks the beautiful streams found in other parts of this county. Plymouth creek is the largest stream; Saw Mill run is another, too small to be utilized for power purpose at any time of the year. Two-thirds of the township is underlaid with limerock, at places near the surface. Nearly the whole river front is a bluff of pure limestone, which has for long years been a source of revenue and profit to the burners of excellent lime which has been shipped both by rail and water to distant parts of the country. In 1840 the government reports gave this industry here at $45,480. In 1858 seventy-five kilns in operation produced over 100,000 bushels at one "burning." Later, the industry grew to be very extensive. Places where a century ago there appeared to be no traces of iron ore, now have developed into an inexhaustible amount. For an account of railroads including those touching this township, see chapter on Railroads in this work. Special chapters also on Educational and Religious societies are devoted to these subjects for the county in general. The population in 1800 of the township was 572; in 1840 was 1,417; in 1880 it was 1,916; in 1900 only 1,449; and in 1920 3,201.

The settlement of this township was very early. From such scattering records as can be obtained and which historians Bean and William J. Buck relied chiefly upon in their writings, it must have been settled between 1686 and 1690. The first settlers after a time became tired of the routine of labors in the wild woodland in which they had settled, and "pulled up," as we say to-day, and moved into Philadelphia. The list of names that have from time to time been published, will in no way settle a dispute as to who the first settlers here were, hence are not inserted in this article. The first survey was about 1690, and the colony remained a few years and abandoned the township, and records say that a second survey of the land was made in 1701, when it was first designated as "Plymouth township." Also it states that said township then contained 5,327 acres. A large number of the first to locate here were of the Quaker religious faith. Some of these men who braved the dangers and privations of a wilderness to open up a country such as this has come to be, were men of sturdy, unflinching character. The list includes Zebulon Potts, who was a Whig, and the British in Philadelphia hunted him down with spies as a traitor to their cause, but failed to capture him. He held numerous local offices, including that of sheriff, he being the first one elected in this county. Another man of influence was Jacob Ritter, a noted minister of Plymouth Meeting, born in

Bucks county in 1757, and the history of his family from the day they left Germany till his death reads like romance. He was among the second generation of men who opened up this township to a Christian civilization.

The church records show that the pioneers here were Friends, and that William Penn conceived the plan of having a town to be laid out about one mile square, where is now the site of the present meeting house. It was in the summer of 1686 the township was purchased and settled by James Fox, Francis Rawle, Richard Gove, John Chelson and some other Friends, who for a time lived and held meetings at the house of John Fox. Then a few years later came the second set of settlers, to whom William Penn sent greetings from England as follows: "Salute me to the Welsh Friends and the Plimouth Friends—indeed to all of them."

The Seven Stars Inn ranks among the oldest stands in Montgomery county. It was licensed in 1754 to Benjamin Davis. Soldiers of the French and Indian War, and later those of the British army in Revolutionary war days, gazed at its peculiar sign-board as they marched through the township. William Lawrence kept this or another tavern here in 1767. The old Black Horse Tavern was another notable tavern, along with the Seven Stars.

The small but ancient villages of this township include Plymouth Meeting, Hickorytown and Harmansville. Plymouth Meeting House is situated at the junction of Perkiomen and Plymouth turnpikes, on the township line. A portion of the hamlet stands in Whitemarsh township. It was here the original settlement of Plymouth was effected and here the first Friends' meeting house was built. A post office was established in 1827. Much lime was burned here in early years; some was shipped by railroad after such highways had been built.

Hickorytown is on the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, three miles southeast of Norristown. A post office was established there in 1857, and elections held there. Robert Kennedy, a Revolutionary officer, kept an inn there in 1801. Early in the last century it was noted here as being the place where the 36th Regiment of Pennsylvania drilled; also the Montgomery cavalry practiced here. One of the more modern improvements in the village is its creamery, established in 1882.

Harmansville is situated on the line between this township and Whitemarsh. It has a few business places. It has grown up since 1850. The ore and marble industries have greatly enhanced its commercial interests. Fire clay is another mineral that has been profitably taken from the earth and converted into fire brick.

Whitemarsh—This township is bounded on the northeast by Upper Dublin, on the southeast by Springfield, southwest by Schuylkill and Conshohocken, west by Plymouth, and northwest by Whitpain town-

ship. It contains an area of 8,857 acres. It was reduced in 1850 by the incorporation of Conshohocken, taking from it three hundred and sixty acres. Again in 1876, one hundred and sixty acres were added from Springfield township, along the Schuylkill river. The soil is fertile, and generally an abundance of limestone is found beneath the surface. Edge Hill extends through this township, a distance of two miles and more, and crosses the Schuylkill river below Spring Mill. It is a singular circumstance that no iron, limestone, marble or other valuable mineral deposit is found on the south side of this hill. There are several fine never-failing streams of pure water found within this part of the county. Nineteen miles of the Wissahickon creek flow through the township, and finally into the Schuylkill below Manayunk. Valley run and Sandy run are its chief tributaries. Sandy run has cold spring water, and originally had many trout, but of late years they are not plentiful. This township has had its present name at least since 1703. Forty years ago this township ranked sixth in population of any in Montgomery county. In 1800 it had 1,085; in 1840 it was 2,079; in 1880 it was 3,229; in 1900 it was 3,350; and in 1920 it was 3,436. In 1858 it contained ten hotels, fifteen stores, six gristmills, three furnaces, two marble mills, a paper factory and an auger factory. In 1875 it had five inns, five gristmills, three paper mills, and two large tanneries. With the passing of years many of these industries have been discontinued or relocated in some city where various inducements have drawn them hither. There is some milling here yet, but no such volume as formerly. The schools and churches will be noticed in general chapters on such topics. The villages found here are Barren Hill, Plymouth Meeting, Fort Washington, Spring Hill, Marble Hall, Lafayette, Lancasterville and Valley Green or Whitemarsh. About one-half of these places had post offices before the advent of the rural free delivery system. The Pennsylvania railroad passes through a portion of the township, while pikes and excellent wagon roads gridiron the territory to-day. The Plymouth railroad passes through the central part, with a trackage of upwards of three miles, with stations on its line at Plymouth Meeting, Williams and Flourtown. The Schuylkill Valley railway, the coal road, was built in 1883-84.

The road petitions made in June, 1713, ask that a road may be "laid out from the upper end of the said township down to the wide marsh, or Farmer's Mill." It is well known that there was an extremely broad expanse of meadow land greatly subject to overflow, which doubtless was the "wide marsh," which needed but a slight change to make it "Whitemarsh," as we know it to-day. Lewis Evans noted it on his map in 1749 as Whitemarsh. The Farmar family were the earliest and largest purchasers of lands within this township. Major Jasper Farmar was an officer in the British army, and a resident of Cork, Ireland. Hearing of William Penn's success in America, he through a patent granted him,

purchased in 1683 five thousand acres along the Schuylkill river front. But after this man had made all necessary arrangements to ship to this country, he was taken ill and died, hence never saw the tract he had bought. But his widow and children, as well as other relatives, came on, arriving at Philadelphia, November 10, 1685. In the same ship also came Nicholas Scull and his numerous servants. These persons all soon located on this tract. John Scull was overseer for the Farmar family. It will be remembered that Indians were in goodly numbers in this township at that date. Madame Farmar, as the widow of Major Farmar was called, had an eye to business, as will be discovered in this paragraph: "Madame Farmar has found out as good limestone on the Schuylkill river as any in the world, and is building with it; she offers to sell ten thousand bushels at six-pence the bushel upon her plantation, where are several considerable hills, and near to your Manor of Springfield." Her lime, it is believed, was the first to be used in Pennsylvania. Her numerous kilns were located at Whitemarsh quarries. With such fine building stone and the limestone from which such excellent lime could be made, it is no wonder that this portion of Pennsylvania is filled with its hundreds of thousands of solid stone structures in both city and country.

This township, like so many in Montgomery county, had its full share of taverns or inns. Before railroad days in the thirties and forties the pikes were swarming with travel by stage coach and private teamsters. Everyone going to "the city," of course had to go by this means, and thus it was that the inn was in evidence at almost every crossroad and scattered along every pike. Among the earlier tavern licenses was one granted to James Stringer in 1773. In 1775 five public houses were licensed.

This township was a lively place in the days just prior, in and after the Revolutionary struggle. Here were four paper mills, grist and saw-mills, two liquor stills, then numerous smiths and artisans of almost every description. The first school house where later stood the William public school was built by a committee in 1816. It was eight-sided in form and styled "the eight square school building." The lime burning industry for years was great. In 1840 the United States census reports show near $60,000 worth shipped outside the township. Wine was also produced in large quantities. One vineyard contained five acres of large abundantly bearing wine grapes. In 1848 the iron furnace of Mr. Hitner turned out twelve thousand tons of iron. These works were at Spring Hill.

The villages as known many years ago in this township were Lancasterville, Lafayette, Plymouth Meeting, Fort Washington, near Upper Dublin line, Spring Mill, Barren Hill, and Marble Hall, and have each and all been villages of more or less importance during the last two centuries.

CHAPTER XXVI.

TOWNSHIPS: SPRINGFIELD—TOWAMENCIN—UPPER DUBLIN—UPPER MERION—UPPER AND LOWER SALFORD.

Springfield—This is one of the southeastern townships of Montgomery county, and is bounded on the north by Upper Dublin, west by Cheltenham, south by Philadelphia, and west by Whitemarsh. It is counted about seven miles out from the borough of Norristown. Its area is 4,013 acres. It is one of the smallest townships in the entire county, if not the smallest, and none in all the great commonwealth with so irregular a boundary. A glance at the county map will better explain the meaning of "irregular" in form. The topography is mixed hill and dale, with a fertile soil, and has an excellent quality of limestone. The highest elevation is Edge Hill, extending nearly through the center of the township for two miles. Wissahickon creek flows nearly through the center of Springfield, but for only a half mile in its course did it ever propel a gristmill. Sandy run is the next largest water course, and empties into the Wissahickon. These are wonderfully even streams as to volume of water. Nearly every farm house in the township has a spring house, with excellent never-failing, pure water.

This is a thickly settled portion of the county, especially in the vicinity of Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike. Here one sees numerous handsome country seats, built since the close of the Civil War, owned mostly by residents of Philadelphia, and these are their summer homes. In 1790 the population of the township was 446; in 1840, 695; in 1880 it was 1,535; in 1920 it is given by our last Federal census as 2,994. Internal improvements have been constantly going on here through the passing decades, until it is highly cultivated, and made graceful by its many handsome buildings, both in country and villages. There are two steam railroads, both operated by the Reading system. The assessors' list of 1776 shows Springfield to contain seventy-two taxables and thirty-seven landowners. As there was no passable road earlier, it is believed that the first settlement must have been made not earlier than 1703. In 1734 there were sixteen landowners. It will be remembered that the lands here were very largely taken up and reserved many years by the Penn family, and hence the ill-shape of the tract we know now as Springfield township. It has been suggested that Maria Penn requested that the long narrow strip of land on the southwest side of the township be reserved in order that none of the Penn family who might desire to get to the river Schuylkill, would not have land of their own to travel on that distance—hence the long, narrow strip.

The largest village in this township forty years ago, was known as

Flourtown, situated on the Spring House turnpike, or Bethlehem road, twelve miles from Philadelphia. The railroad has a station there. The directory in 1882 stated, "it now has sixty houses, four hotels, three stores, a large Odd Fellows' hall, and a Presbyterian church." Here is an old settlement; tradition says the settlers from Salford and Franconia came here to mill their grain, hence the name "Flourtown." A post office was established before 1810. This post office, in 1825, was removed up to Whitemarsh. This was a famous hotel place, and many conducted inns to accommodate the great numbers who passed this way en route to the city. There were a number of these hotels dating way back of the Revolution. One was named "Wagon and Horses," and its proprietor catered to the farm and teamster trade. The stagecoach also made up a large patronage for these hotels. They left Philadelphia daily and went hither and yon, and the passengers they carried all stopped at these stage stations to eat, and sometimes for lodging. It is related by actual count that two hundred and forty passengers went over this line through Springfield township daily. The Edge Hill furnace is located in the extreme eastern corner of the township, on the Abington and Cheltenham lines. It was built from 1868 on, and fully completed in 1872. Fifty men worked in the iron furnaces there in 1884. One-third of the iron ore used was mined right on the premises. About two hundred tons per week were produced here.

Towamencin—The township known as Towamencin is one of the central of the county. It is bounded on the northeast by Hatfield, south by Worcester, southeast by Gwynedd, southwest by Perkiomen, ana west by Lower Salford. It is three by four miles in size, and contains about six thousand acres. It is watered by the Skippack and Towamencin creeks. The last named has a good flow of water and produces excellent water power along its way through the township. The former is a branch of the latter, but furnishes no water power. On the banks of the Towamencin almost wholly within this township, there is water power for the two gristmills it propels. There are several smaller feeders to these main creeks. The main internal improvement in the township named in the early days was the construction of the Spring House and Sumneytown turnpike, finished in 1848. The township was organized in March, 1728, almost two hundred years ago. The records show that in 1734 there were thirty-two landowners, who were doubtless the original settlers. Nearly all had lived in Germantown for a while, but soon left for this township, where they could better carve out homes for themselves. The first land taken in the township was a grant of one thousand acres from Penn's commissioners of property to Benjamin Furley, June 8, 1703. Abraham Tennis and Jan. Lucken bought part of this land and became the second settlers. Jan. Lucken, just referred to, was from Holland. This family multiplied and became immense landowners here.

Kulpsville is the only village within this township. It was always known as a purely agricultural section. It is near the center; its location is high and sightly. In 1856 a three-story brick building was erected here, and within its walls were shops, stores, offices, and secret society offices and halls. A Methodist church was built in 1862, and in 1883 a splendid public school building. This place was named for the Kulp family who settled here in 1776. Other chapters of this work will give the various church histories. In 1830 the township was given as having 144 houses, 175 families, 132 farms. In 1800 its population was 413; in 1880, 1,232; in 1920 it was given as 1,166.

In the historic writings of that ever correct writer, William J. Buck, he has this:

The battle of Germantown was fought on the morning of October 4, 1777, and resulted disastrously to the American cause, when Washington immediately returned with the main body of the army up the Skippack road, beyond the Perkiomen, in the vicinity of the present Schwenksville, where they remained until the afternoon of the 8th, when he arrived and established his camp nearly a mile northwest of Kulpsville, near the Lower Salford line. The officers wounded in the battle were brought to a farmhouse on the Forty-Foot road, about a mile and a quarter southwest of the Mennonite meeting-house. General Nash, who had been wounded in the thigh by a cannon-ball which had killed his horse, we know from an eye-witness, was carried up hither on a litter made of poles. Washington may have come here on purpose to attend the funeral on the following day, for which he issued his orders that he should be interred at ten o'clock, and that all officers whose circumstances will admit of it will attend and pay this respect to a brave man, who died in defense of his country.

Upper Dublin—This is one of the nearly square, regularly formed townships of the county, and is bounded northeast by Horsham, south by Springfield, southwest by Whitemarsh, east by Moreland, and southeast by Abington. It has an area of 8,840 acres. The surface is rolling, and soil is loam and limestone land. Camp Hill, of Revolutionary fame, is an elevation extending eastwardly across the township on the south side of Sandy run. The Wissahickon passes over the western corner for over a mile, propelling two gristmills, and receiving as tributaries Rose Valley, Pine and Sandy runs. These streams all furnish a fair stage of water and can be utilized for milling. The North Pennsylvania railroad cuts the western corner of the territory and has a station called Ambler, fourteen miles from Philadelphia. The villages in Upper Dublin, as shown by maps forty years ago, were Ambler, Fitzwatertown, Jarrettown, Three Tons, and Dreshertown. These all had post offices except the last mentioned.

This township, according to the government reports, has had a population as follows: In 1800 it was 744; in 1840, 1,322; in 1880, 1,856; in 1900 it was 1,933, and in 1920 was 3,045. In 1880 its population was 132

per square mile. In 1883 there were licenses issued for four hotels, nine general stores, one stove-store, one coal yard, one tobacco store and a restaurant.

The first landowners in the township were Samuel Clarrige, Pierce & Co., Richard Hill and Richards & Aubrey. Commencing on the Abington line to the south of that line were William Salaway, Matthew Perrin, Henry Patrick, Mathias Seely, John Southworth, Richard Coates, Andrew Soule, Thomas Marle, with William and George Harmer. Now while these are by some historians looked upon as "settlers," as a matter of fact there is every evidence that they were all land speculators, except possibly the last named families, the Harmers. By reason of this the township did not settle as early as other portions of the country. These persons took up the most valuable tracts, and hence settlers who looked over the remaining lands were not pleased and went to other parts to locate. Prior to 1719 there was little actual settlement here. The records disclose the names of thirty-eight persons who were known to be land-owners here in 1734. It should be understood, however, that there were here and there holders of tracts as early as 1698, when Edward Burk purchased from Nicholas Scull and others lands extending from the Susquehanna street road to the Whitemarsh line, including a part of present village of Ambler. Edward and John Burk were his sons, and John was a supervisor of roads from 1774 to 1777, and Edward Burk from that date on to 1786. He was also collector of taxes in the Revolutionary War period.

This township contains some landmarks of the great Revolutionary struggle, in way of the large stone building used by General Washington as his headquarters from October to well into December, when he removed his army to Valley Forge. This stone farm house stands on the south side of Camp Hill, only a few yards from the Springfield township line. In the early part of the nineteenth century it belonged to Caleb Emlin, but in 1810 it passed to other hands, the farm being subdivided into smaller tracts. The last known of its ownership to the author was when it was in the hands of Charles T. Aimen, who was then still preserving it perfectly as a landmark of those long-ago days. It is a stone structure thirty-five by seventy-five feet and two stories high. The steps at the front entrance are of the finest quality of soapstone, neatly wrought; the general appearance of the entire building shows it to have been a well planned and finely executed building for the day in which it was erected. While Washington was here, the army was camped on the hill to the north of the mansion, which was certainly a strong military position. On the night of December 5, 1777, General Howe came hither from Philadelphia by way of Chestnut Hill, with a view of surprising the camp; but on seeing the position and unable to draw out the American army, returned by way of Abington and Jenkintown, counting his attempt a dismal failure.

Villages found in this township include Ambler, already treated in the borough chapters; Fitzwatertown, in the southern part of the township, along the Limerick turnpike, in the midst of the fertile valley of Sandy run, which abounds in rich deposits of limestone and iron ore. This is a very old settlement, where Thomas Fitzpatrick followed lime burning in 1705, and had a gristmill there very early in the settlement period. A post office was there established in 1858. Twenty-five thousand dollars' worth of lime was burned here in 1840. Another place is Hill Station, of the North Pennsylvania railroad, only a mile from Fitzwatertown. The second largest village is Jarrettown, in the center of the township, on the Limekiln turnpike, which highway was made in 1851. A post office was established here in 1866. The name of the place was derived from Levi Jarrett, the owner of several farms thereabouts in 1815. A church of the Methodist Episcopal denomination was erected there in 1866. Dreshertown is situated at the junction of Limekiln turnpike and Susquehanna street road midway between Fitzwatertown and Jarrettown. The ancient appearance of these highways indicate that it was a very old settlement. Forty years ago the place had a store, a mill, eleven houses, a post office since 1832, and elections were held here from 1840 to 1856. Both were then moved to Jarrettown. The village of Three Tons is within a fertile section of country, at the intersection of Horsham and Butler roads, the latter being turnpiked to Ambler, two and a half miles distant. A post office was established there in 1858, with T. G. Torbet as postmaster. A Union library has been sustained there many years; it was incorporated in 1840 and has many thousands of volumes of choice books. Another hamlet is Gilkison's Corner, at the junction of the Spring House and Butler roads. There a large tannery was located, known as "the steam tannery," by Alvin D. Foust, established in the fifties. It was at this point that Andrew Gilkison kept a tavern in time of the Revolution. A post office was established as Upper Dublin post office before 1827, but later was removed to the larger place, now the borough of Ambler. These villages one and all had their mission to fill, and many have gone down with the incoming tide of a higher mode of living, a faster mode of transportation, and the upbuilding of larger business and railway centers.

Upper Merion—This township is situated on the south side of the Schuylkill river and is bounded on the northwest, north and northeast by that stream, on the northeast by Bridgeport borough, on the southeast by West Conshohocken and Lower Merion township, on the south by the counties of Chester and Delaware, and on the southwest by Chester. Its area is 10,200 acres, as originally organized, but with the incorporation of the borough of Bridgeport 450 acres were taken from it. Again, in 1874 about 290 acres were taken from it by the borough

of West Conshohocken. Shale and limestone is chiefly the makeup of its soil. The principal elevations are known as Mount Joy, Red Hill, Flint Hill, North Valley Hill, Rebel Hill, and Gulf Hill. Probably the most fertile portion of all Montgomery county is in this township, along the Schuylkill, between Bridgeport and Gulf creek, extending west for a mile or so. The Swedes in taking up this land showed good judgment, and were later well paid for their selection of locations. The township is not a well watered section; the springs do not form never-failing streams. The streams are known as Elliott's run, or Crow creek, Matsunk, Mashilmac creek, and Gulf creek, the largest of them all. This is near the Lower Merion line. It is a rapid stream, rising in Delaware county, emptying into the Schuylkill river at West Conshohocken. East Valley creek for a mile forms the western boundary of the township and propels numerous paper mills, etc. At Port Kennedy, also at Bridgeport, are fine springs. The present industries of the township are open books to all men who care to read, but it should be stated that forty years and more ago, it was written that the wealth of this township was from its mines and quarries. It then had three large iron furnaces, one at Port Kennedy and two at Bridgeport. Lime has always been a large product here and has been the base of many a fortune. In 1840 the census reports gave the lime products prepared here as worth $74,000 annually. Since then the industry has grown wonderfully. In 1882 there was sold from this township more than $200,000 worth of lime, more than for all the county in 1845. The marble quarries here have developed into gigantic interests. (See Industrial chapter.) The population of the township has been at various times as follows: In 1800 it was 993; in 1840, 2,804; in 1880, 3,275; in 1900, 3,480, and in 1920 it had 4,005. In May, 1876, the list of licenses showed the number in this township to have been on three inns, eight stores, three coal yards, three dealers in flour and feed, four gristmills, eight cotton and woolen mills, three iron furnaces, two marble mills, and other lesser industries. (See Church and Educational chapters for such topics relative to this part of the county.)

The villages found here forty and fifty years ago have only grown to small outlying suburbs to Norristown, Bridgeport and Conshohocken. These include Swedesburg, next east to Bridgeport; Matsunk, came into existence since 1846, is a mile below Swedesburg; King of Prussia, near the center of the township, its name given by an innkeeper of the locality, John Elliott, in 1786. The stone bridge over Elliott's run was built in 1835. Here a post office was established in about 1826. Its original name was Reesville. Another village is Gulf Mills, where an inn was kept in 1786 by John Roberts. Its sign was "Bird-in-Hand." Merion station on the Reading railroad, about two miles from Bridgeport, is where Crow creek flows into the Schuylkill. The post office is Abrams. Port Kennedy and Valley Forge are mentioned later in the

work, but only in connection with the Revolution, so in this regular township connection it should be said that Port Kennedy is and always has been a small place on the Schuylkill river, twenty-one miles from Philadelphia and four from Norristown. It has always been noted especially for its burning and shipping large quantities of excellent lime made from limestone near by. The iron furnace found doing a large business fifty years ago is known as the Montgomery Iron Company, of which Abraham S. Petterson was president. This was begun in 1854 and finished in 1856. The village is a station on the Reading railroad, and at that point there is a very high modern iron and steel highway bridge over the river. The pioneers in lime burning here were Messrs. Blair, Kennedy, Hunter and Roberts. John Kennedy had his kilns nearest the village as known now. He began in 1858 and had fourteen limekilns in operation all the time. Alexander Kennedy was the founder of the village of Port Kennedy. He was born in Ireland, and came here in 1805 and died in 1824. It was his sons who entered into the lime business and in advancing other village interests at Port Kennedy. The place to-day is little larger than it was a half century ago. It is too near larger business centers, and cannot be larger in the nature of things.

Valley Forge is situated on the south bank of the beautiful Schuylkill river, at the mouth of East Valley creek, which for nearly a mile forms the boundary line between the counties of Montgomery and Chester. It is six miles above Norristown and twenty-three from Philadelphia. That portion of the village within Montgomery county and Upper Merion township forty years ago was credited with having a general store, gristmill, a paper mill and ten houses (including the old Potts two-story stone house, known as "Washington's Headquarters" to travelers of to-day). It now has no commercial interests save the dimes to be picked up by sellers of pictures of the historic objects throughout the extensive Park now under State control, or providing meals and lodgings in the summer months only to the "stranger within the gates." What is known as "Washington Inn" is a large hotel building which at some seasons of the year does a good business. The attractive stone "Headquarters" building which pioneer Potts, the iron founder of Revolutionary days, invited Washington to occupy so long as his army was stationed thereabouts, will never cease to be of interest to student and traveler, from whatever clime they may come. This house is under the daily watch-care of a man regularly engaged to look after the premises and guide visitors around and through it, now containing numerous real Washington relics. The Philadelphia & Reading railway company a few years since erected one of the neatest stations along their line at this point. Its double track storm-sheds are supported by more than a hundred fluted colonial columns, which are all the more attractive for the reason that the road at this point is around a sharp curve, thus giving the platform and columns a semi-circular appearance.

The real business transacted at what is called Valley Forge is on the opposite side of the creek that divides the two counties, hence is within Chester county, and not Montgomery. Where once stood the old "Valley Forge" (the iron works) is now seen a simple iron post, with a metallic signboard telling the passerby that the post is where the iron works once stood. This refers to the rebuilt iron works, for the British soldiers destroyed the first iron works of the locality. Bean's "History of Montgomery County" has the following on Valley Forge and its name:

The name of this place was derived from a forge erected here by Isaac Potts, a son of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. How early this forge was erected we cannot say, but it must have been before 1759, for it is denoted on Nicholas Scull's map of the province, published in said year, as being on the Upper Merion side of the stream, which is confirmed on William Scull's map of 1770. On September 19, 1777, a detachment of the British army encamped here and burned the mansion-house of Col. Dewees and the iron works, leaving the gristmill uninjured From all that history and tradition can show in this matter of where the forge actually did stand, it is now generally believed that it was on the Montgomery side, and not on the west side of East Valley creek, as some have hitherto asserted. Another proof is that Isaac Potts was in Upper Merion, as well as the iron ore obtained near by, that necessarily, for convenience, the forge would also be on the same side.

A former history of Montgomery county contains the following concerning this township in the days of the Revolution:

The Revolutionary history of Upper Merion is not without interest, for nearly all the leading events connected with Valley Forge happened within its limits. On the 11th of December, 1778, Washington, with his army, left Whitemarsh, and on the afternoon of the 13th crossed at Swedes' Ford and proceeded towards the Gulf and the vicinity of the King of Prussia, where they remained until the 19th, when they arrived at Valley Forge, where they were to remain until the following 18th day of June, exactly six months. Owing to the lateness of the season they at once set about building huts to shelter them from the rigors of winter. General Porter, who had been stationed at the Gulf in November, now marched towards Swedes' Ford and joined Washington's army, when a court-martial was held to try such men as threw away their arms and equipments for the purpose of facilitating their escape in the late attack made on them at the Gulf by the British from the city. A number were sentenced to be publicly whipped, which was carried into effect, and produced not a little excitement in the camp. Although at some distance from Philadelphia, the citizens suffered considerably from the marauding expeditions of the British army.

Upper Salford—This township is bounded, or better say surrounded, by Lower Salford, Frederick, Marlborough and Franconia townships. It is near the northeast line of the county, with a part of Salford township of to-day between its territory and Bucks county. Its main streams of refreshing living water include the East Branch, the Ridge Valley

and Perkiomen creeks. The latter forms the western boundary for about four miles, in which distance it has for many years propelled four gristmills, besides several other manufacturing plants. The East Branch takes its rise in Bucks county and forms the eastern boundary for nearly four miles, and also furnishes ample water usually for a number of mills. One mile east of Schwenksville, on the east side of Perkiomen creek, is Stone Hill, probably the highest land in the township. It is 240 feet above the adjacent stream. At one time in the eighties, copper was mined in this township, but it proved profitless to the owners of the mine. The Spring House and Sumnytown turnpike crosses this township, while the Perkiomen railroad about one mile above Schwenksville, hugging the east bank for three miles, in which distance it has stations named Hendricks, Salford Station, Branchville, and Mechanicsville. The township had a population at these periods as follows: In 1800 it was 676; in 1840, 1,301; in 1880 it was 1,866; in 1900 it had 876, and in 1920 it was 729.

Originally, Salford township was formed in March, 1727, and contained over thirty thousand acres, including all the townships of Marlborough, Upper and Lower Salford and a part of Franconia. By 1741 it appeared to be much too large to the residents, and they asked the court for a division and the creation of a new township to be known as Upper Salford. This was granted, and the civil township still exists, as will presently be seen. However, some time about 1900 the township had Salford taken off. So now there are three townships—Salford, and Upper and Lower Salford. The townships of Lower Salford and Marlborough were formed at the same time. The earliest wagon road here was laid out about 1728, known as the Skippack and Salford road. Salfordville, Mechanicsville and Salford Station are all small hamlets that have for many years had stores, shops, factories, churches and schools, some of which are mentioned at other places in this work. None of these ever materialized to any considerable extent, commercially.

Lower Salford—This is one of the central subdivisions of Montgomery county. On its northwest is Franconia township, south is Perkiomen, northwest is Upper Salford, and southeast is Towamencin township. This was organized into a civil township about 1727, and then comprised thirty thousand acres. It derived its name from a town and several parishes of this name in England. By order of the Court of Quarter Sessions it was divided in 1741 into Upper and Lower Salford and Marlborough. There seems but slight doubt that there had been considerable settlement some years before the survey had been made. The earliest known was a warrant granted September 10, 1717, to David Powell, of Philadelphia, for three thousand acres of land between the "Skepeck" and a branch of the "Parkyooman." It contained about seven hundred acres. The next warrant was for lands patented in 1719 to

Humphrey Morrow and John Budd. With the settlement of the township there was a demand for several taverns or inns, as then styled. The opening of the road from present Sumneytown to Gwynedd in 1735 greatly increased the demand for good stopping places. Among the famous inns is known to have been one conducted by John Isaac Klein, and also one by Gabriel Schuler. These were both running prior to 1750. By the side of these taverns was to be found what in those days was considered a necessity—springs of cold water used "for both man and beast." In 1766 the "Stag" inn was conducted by Frederick Dickensheit. Two inns were conducted in Mainland about 1800; one styled the "White Horse," later changed to "The Half-Way House." The official returns give these figures for the population of this township at various times: In 1800 was 524; in 1840, 1,141; in 1880 it was 1,828; in 1890 it was 1,755; in 1910 was 1,712; in 1920 it had 1,692.

One of the greatest improvements made here was the construction ot the Sumnneytown and Spring House turnpike, which was completed in 1848. The pike from Lederachsville to Harleysville was finished in 1868. The making of these excellent highways for wagon travel materially advanced land prices and really aided in making the township largely what it is to-day. Strange to relate, in 1858 this entire township only had three stores within its limits. The census of 1850 gave the number of houses at 234; number of farms, 136; families, 234.

Harleysville is situated on the turnpike from Sumneytown to Spring House, in the northern portion of the township. It is but a mere hamlet, with some small factories running periodically. The first and only house here in time of the Revolutionary War was that of Nicholas Schwenk, a blacksmith, who owned here in 1776 one hundred and fifty acres of land. Samuel Harley built a tavern here in 1790, conducted a large general store, and was many years a leading factor and is credited with founding the village, for whom it was also named. It had a post office established in 1840. A creamery was established here in 1881, among the first in the county. Forty years ago, 450 pounds of butter were produced at this creamery daily. The place has not materially grown with the passing years. To-day it has a gristmill, general stores, small shops, a physician and a hotel.

Lederachsville is situated centrally in the township, and at the intersection of six roads. In the eighties it was credited with being progressive, had two general stores, a hotel, telegraph office, blacksmith shop, and twenty-three houses. A post office was established in 1857, with Septimus Kriebel as first postmaster. The village really owes its origin to Henry Lederach, who built the first house here in 1825, then set up in the blacksmithing trade, and still later became a general merchant. In 1833 he secured license to run a hotel and thus was started a village.

Mainland is another place on the turnpike to Gwynedd; it has had for many years some business in way of stores, shops and a hotel. It

was fortunate in obtaining a post office at an early date. It was also the site for a machine shop many years. It is here that is found the famous old "White Horse Tavern."

Concerning the school and church history in the township, see the general county chapters elsewhere in this work.

CHAPTER XXVII.

TOWNSHIPS: UPPER AND LOWER GWYNEDD—WORCESTER —WHITPAIN—SKIPPACK.

Up to about 1890 the two townships of Upper and Lower Gwynedd were included in one; and that was known as "Gwynedd," a corruption of the Welsh word Gwineth, signifying North Wales, and also the name of a river there. In early records in Pennsylvania it is called "Gwynedith." So it will be understood in this chapter, the greater portion of the description of this territory will apply to both Upper and Lower Gwynedd townships of to-day. The population of the two-in-one townships has been as follows: In 1800 it was 906; in 1840, 1,589; in 1880, 2,041; 1900 it was 1,195 in Lower Gwynedd and 1,328 in Upper Gwynedd; in 1920 it was 1,363 in Lower Gwynedd and in Upper Gwynedd it was 1,578. North Wales borough at its incorporation took from this township ninety-two acres, in 1869. This leaves its present territory (both townships) about 12,100 acres. Later, in 1872, when Lansdale was set off as a borough, that corporation also took one hundred and forty-five acres from that portion of original Gwynedd township. On Wissahickon creek there were in the early eighties three flour mills and a sawmill, propelled by the waters of the stream. The Treweryn and Willow run are streams next in size to the one just mentioned. Away back in 1785 this township contained within its limit five taverns, three gristmills, two sawmills, and one tannery. Forty years ago there were post offices within the township as follows: Gwynedd, Spring House, Penllyn, West Point, and Gwynedd Station, or Hoyt, as it was finally named. At the request of Thomas Penn, in 1734, a list of the freeholders of Gwynedd township was returned by the constable. The total number was forty-eight, all Welsh except six, Leonard Hartling being the only German. In 1741 the taxables had reached ninety-three, showing a marked degree of advancement and prosperity.

In 1885 the largest of the villages in this township was West Point, containing a store, hotel, mill, lumber and brick yards, several machine shops, and about thirty houses. Here also was the site of the West Point engine works and machine shops, erected in 1876. Upon the building of the Stony Creek railroad in 1874, the place was at first called Lukens station, and changed in 1876 to West Point.

Gwynedd was situated at the intersection of the Sumneytown turnpike and the State road, and was only a hamlet. It was at this point, however, that the early Welsh immigrants made their first actual settlement, known as North Wales, and so mentioned on Lewis Evan's map of 1749. A public house was established here before 1769. A store was kept by Owen Evans before 1765.

The Spring House is another old settled place, probably in 1735. A post office was obtained in 1829, John W. Murray becoming first postmaster. This township is largely an agricultural section and is well improved as such; the every object the passer-by sees shows thrift and neatness about the premises. The people of this township now depend mostly on the nearby boroughs of Lansdale, North Wales and Ambler for the largest part of their purchases, unless they need much, then they board the every half-hour trolley line into Norristown or Philadelphia and there do their shopping. The once immense business carried on by taverns or inns throughout the entire township, has long since changed with the fast flying trains on both steam and electric highways, and the more recent automobile travel. In the summer time some of these old-time hotels, modernized to quite an extent, still have quite a business from pleasure seekers who want the quiet of a country life for a season. The bar room, of course, was attached to all these taverns in early days; yes, even up to the passage of the Volstead act and the final making the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, three years ago, since which time no intoxicating drinks are permitted to be sold, hence the profit of the barroom has become a thing of the past. It was at Spring House Tavern that John Humphrey located in 1698, and the Friends held their first meeting for worship, hence many hallowed memorable events cluster around the name and locality.

The people of Gwynedd were fortunate in escaping many of the disasters of the Revolution, which befell some of their not very distant neighbors. The sympathies of the Welsh element, like the German, was generally inclined to the patriotic side. This may be more particularly observed in the residents of Lower Merion, who successfully maintained their neutrality though so near the city and between the contending armies. At this period the Society of Friends, with the Mennonites, Schwenkfelders and Dunkards, who were opposed to bearing arms through conscientious scruples, constituted a decided majority of the population. To their credit, however, not one was arrested here for treason or any property confiscated. No battle took place within its limits, nor was any marauding done by the contending parties.

Worcester—The most centrally located township in Montgomery county is Worcester, which is bounded on the north by Towamencin, south by Norriton, east by Gwynedd, southeast by Whitpain, west by Perkiomen, and southwest by Lower Providence. It has an area of 1,575 square miles. Its surface is rolling, the soil is red shale, and all under excellent state of cultivation. The summit of Fairview Hills is equal to that of Chestnut Hill. The immense forests that once graced the territory have long since mostly disappeared, and the land upon which dwelt the forest kings so many untold centuries, is now under the plow and producing its annual crops. It was the commanding prospect afforded by

the elevations within this part of the county that enabled Washington to clearly discern the every movement of the British army in moving on Philadelphia in the autumn of 1777. Washington broke up his camp at Pennypacker's Mill, on October 8, 1777, and the army proceeded on its march down the Skippack road and Reading and Ridge turnpikes. On the 16th Washington established his headquarters at the house of Peter Wentz, near the church, where he wrote an interesting letter to Congress showing how hopeful he was at that time of final success. It was from this church that Washington finally made the attack on Germantown, and after its defeat the army maintained a strong position on these hills for a number of days, when they marched to Whitemarsh township and established Camp Hill.

The water courses found in this township are Zacharia creek, with a length in the township of about four miles, propelling at one date three gristmills and a sawmill. It seems more than probable that the name Whitpain was derived from Zachariah Whitpain, an early settler in the adjoining township. A branch of the Skippack creek crosses near the western extremity of the township, and also furnished a fine water power in the long ago years. Five Mile run and Stony creek have their sources in this township.

The name Worcester has been applied from a city in England, as have other cities and townships in this country, including Worcester, Massachusetts. In 1734 the record shows this township had twenty-five taxables. The population is reported, officially as follows: In 1800 it was 782; in 1830, 1,135; in 1850, 1,453; in 1870, 1,587; in 1880 it was 1,641; in 1900 it was 1,397, and in 1920, reported by U. S. census reports as only 1,634. Away back in 1785, a year after this county was organized, there were two taverns, two gristmills, one sawmill, and five slaves in Worcester. The quite small villages here are Center Point, Fairview, and Cedar Hill. The township was organized into a separate election district in 1828. Of school and church histories the reader is referred to separate chapters in this work on such topics.

Whitpain—This is among the oldest townships in Montgomery county. It is spoken of as early as 1701 as Whitpain's township. It has a regular form of bounds and contains 8,640 acres. The soil is shale and loam. Limestone quarries are found on nearly all of the farms on Stony creek. The eastern and southern portions are drained by streams such as Wassahickon creek and tributaries. Two branches of the stream known as Stony creek have their rise in this township and drain the waters from the north and western parts, one furnishing water power for a saw and gristmill.

No clearer account of the settlement of this part of the county can be had than that written by Jones Detwiler, in 1883, the same including the following paragraphs:

In the years 1681, 1682 and 1683, William Penn, the proprietary, executed leases and re-leases to Samuel Fox for fifteen hundred acres; Charles Marshall, two thousand acres; and James Claypole, one thousand acres. James Claypole shortly afterwards sold his tract to John Marshall, containing in all four thousand five hundred acres. Richard Whitpain, citizen and butcher of the town of London, subsequently became seized in fee of the whole four thousand five hundred acres. This tract, to distinguish it from the rest of Whitpain's purchases, was called or known by the name of "Whitpain's creek," situated in Philadelphia county.

Richard Whitpain made his will and testament, dated April 27, 1689, and willed the payment of his debts and funeral expenses, and authorized his wife, Mary, his executrix, to sell so much of his lands in the province as she should find needly for the payment thereof, and shortly after the said testator died. Mary Whitpain, in accordance with the provision of the will, by her indenture, dated July 30, 1689, sold the entire tract to Mary Davice, John Eldridge, William Ingram, John Blackwell and John Vace, all of whom were creditors. Shortly afterward John Blackhall, the surviving trustee, sold the great tract above named to William Aubrey, of the town of London. William Aubrey, by his indenture dated April 24, 1713, sold the tract to Anthony Morris, maltster and brewer of Philadelphia, and Rees Thomas, of the township of Merion.

Zachariah Whitpain removed in the summer of 1685, if not earlier, to this property and made extensive improvements, and settled numerous tenants thereon. He died in March, 1693.

In 1734, of the twenty-four landowners in this township, eight were Welsh, six German, and the remainder English. The English were the first to locate here and were succeeded by the Welsh, but as early as 1711 the Germans commenced to come in and take up farming. In the presidential election of 1880, when Garfield was elected, nearly three-fourths of the votes cast in this township were of German extraction. In 1741 the number of taxables was fifty-six. In 1880 it was more than four hundred. Land was valued at $21 per acre (our money) in 1785, and horses at fifty dollars per head. Population in 1880, 771; 1810, 995; 1820, 1,127; 1830, 1,137; 1850, 1,315; 1870, 1,358; 1880, 1,429; 1900, 1,442; in 1920, last Federal census, 1,826. In 1811 the assessor of this township returned for taxes ninety-nine dogs, under the legislative act of 1809; amount of taxes was $27.00. In 1880 the largest landowner was the Styer family, with 555 acres of land. The number of negro slaves here in 1763 was three, but it is known that during the Revolution many families within the township kept slaves. This was all stopped by 1799, when John Morris set free his two slaves.

In traveling through this township to-day, one would never think it had been the scene of so many small yet very useful manufacturing plants. Forty years ago this township had been the home of industries as follows: The first of all, the weaving industry of Jacob Yost, in a small cabin-home, in 1727. The Yosts were inventive and progressive. Who has not heard of the Yost sickles, scythes, and edged tools, which

they made from 1760 to 1816? These instruments were all hand-forged. In 1746 the first gristmill in the township was put in operation on Stony creek, near the Norriton line. In 1779-80 James Morris built the well-known gristmill long known as Wertner's mill. Another mill was erected in 1804 which was one of the township's best flouring mills. The Conrad augers were first made by John Conrad in 1806, continuing until 1857, then moved to Fort Washington. The one-horse powers for threshing machines were made at Blue Bell by Samuel F. Shaeff in 1847. Mowing and reaping machines were first introduced and worked by Robert Findlay, of Centre Square. This was of the Hussey pattern, and when operated it required eight men including the driver to operate it. So it will be observed that whatever the near-by farmer needed in way of tools and machinery, could be found of the real home-made quality.

Washington had numerous headquarters within this county, as well as the one generally talked of at Valley Forge. There is still standing to-day a fine old-style well constructed solid stone two-story farm house known as "Washington's Headquarters, October, 1777." It stands between the Skippack and Morris roads, six miles from Norristown and about one mile out of present borough of Ambler station. It has been well preserved and now looks as though built but a decade or so ago. For many years it was the property of Saunders Lewis. The churches of this township include the Reformed, Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist. (See Church chapter elsewhere.)

The villages that have at one time or another existed here include Centre Square, once known as "Waggon," where the township's first post office was established. The date appears to have been 1828, and James Bush was postmaster. Thomas Humphrey opened a store here in 1800. It was here that a lumber yard was conducted by Thomas H. Wentz, who later was a heavy dealer in lumber at Norristown. The Centre Square creamery was established in 1880. The Odd Fellows have a hall here and a good lodge. The Montgomery County Almshouse was ordered located here in October, 1806.

Blue Bell is situated at the intersection of the old North Wales and Plymouth road and the Skippack turnpike. In 1880 it had sixty inhabitants, with post office, stores, shops, etc. But to get back earlier it may be interesting to know that in 1758 there was an old inn here known as the "White House." The old military maps all show it thus named. In 1774 a large stone house was built by James Bartleson, on the west side of the Skippack road, and in it an inn was established, known as the "Black Horse." Broad Axe, another old-time hamlet, in the lower part of the township, is at the intersection of the Skippack turnpike and the Upper Dublin and Plymouth roads. A post office was established here in 1855, with John Cadwallader as postmaster. Franklinville, near the eastern portion of the township, had a few business places and a

number of residences fifty years ago. The fine country seat farm and summer residence of William M. Singerly, of the "Philadelphia Record," is located here. Washington Square is located at the intersection of the township line dividing the township from Norriton and Centre Square and Norristown turnpike. It never amounted to much as a trading centre. Other hamlets are Caster and Belfry, serving well the purpose for which first intended.

During the Revolutionary struggle, Brig.-Gen. Weeden's regiment of Virginia troops was encamped from October 19th to November 2, 1777, on the Morris and Gregar farms. During their stay here the weather was very wet, rain falling almost every day. The soldiers were compelled to seek shelter during the night in the barns of the neighborhood. Several of the soldiers died here from sickness, and are buried in the graveyard at Boehm's church.

General Washington, during the time of the encampment, had his headquarters in the house then owned by James Morris. The house was built in the year 1736, and remains substantially in its original proportions, with the addition of a south wing (twenty-four feet by twenty-three feet), built in the year 1821. It is situated in Whitpain township, Montgomery county, between the Skippack and Morris road.

In the assessment of 1763 three slaves are there mentioned. During the Revolution there were several families that held slaves. In the "Pennsylvania Packet," of September 26, 1777, "David Knox offers a reward of twenty dollars for the return and recovery of a mulatto wench, 26 years old, named Stiffany." The last that were held in the district were those of James Morris, two in number, but were freed prior to the year 1799.

Skippack—This subdivision of Montgomery county was originally a part of Perkiomen township, but in 1886 was by the county commissioners made into a separate township. The early settlement has been treated in the account given within the original township, hence need not here be repeated. However, it may be said that this was among the very first to be settled within the county. It really figured as a settlement before the Revolutionary war. It had a population in 1890 of 1,360; in 1900 it was only 1,240; and in 1910 was 1,277. It was among the latest to be set off as a township in this county. The only village of any considerable importance is the ancient village of Skippack or Skippackville, as sometimes called. Forty years ago the place contained two good hotels, three stores of general merchandise, a post office, printing press, school, shirt factory, and over fifty houses. In 1860 a map showed twenty-nine houses. The road from here to Philadelphia was opened in 1714. In 1742 Garrett Indehaven kept the only hotel. Other pioneer inns were the ones of Dietrich Welker and Nicholas Nichum, 1779, and Gabriel Kline, 1785, the sign of the latter being a weeping willow, which

name it bore up to 1800. The locality had a post office as early as 1827. In 1844 a weekly German newspaper was established here, A. E. Dambly, editor and proprietor. The large three-story shirt factory was erected in 1881 by the Enterprise Shirt Factory Company. With the growth of the surrounding community other interests have developed until to-day the borough is on the list of good business points in Montgomery county. Its present population is about 1,200. It is situated on the trolley line, and has most of the advantages found in the larger boroughs of the county. Its school and church life is all that could be desired in any community.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

BOROUGHS: AMBLER—BRIDGEPORT—COLLEGEVILLE—CONSHOHOCKEN—EAST GREENVILLE—HATBORO—HATFIELD—GREENLANE—SCHWENKSVILLE—JENKINTOWN.

The enterprising borough of Ambler is situated in the western corner of what was formerly Upper Dublin township, but since its incorporation as a borough has its own government. Its present borough officers include these: Robert H. Anderson, burgess; William M. Johnson, secretary; Samuel A. Faust, treasurer. It has a bonded indebtedness of $56,000; owns its own fire fighting apparatus, but leases rooms for offices of the fire company. The census reports show Ambler to have had a population of 250 in 1880; and was soon made a borough. In 1883 the place had a hotel, hardware store, drug and two general stores, lumber and coal sheds, a gristmill, and seventy residences. Upper Dublin post office was removed from Gilkison's Corner in the seventies, but not to Ambler until early in the eighties. Of the newspapers and banks, special chapters will treat. The turnpike made through this place was built in 1855. A gristmill that still made excellent flour in 1884 was the one owned in 1776 by Joseph Detwiler, on the west side of the Wissahickon. Arthur Rhoades had a fulling mill at this point on Rose Valley run in 1876, and later it was in the Ambler family. The depot site in this borough is one hundred and ninety feet above tide water.

The present churches are a Roman Catholic, and a Catholic Mission; Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, Episcopal, United Brethren, Zion's Colored Baptist, African Protestant, and St. John's Lutheran. Considering the borough only has a population of 3500 it has been well supplied with churches. The borough lives largely from the pay-roll of the various manufacturing plants within its borders, which include three large asbestos plants, hard rubber works, the Marsden glass works, making imitation cut glass ware, the Vulcan Foundry Company, makers of fine gray castings of iron, the Crues-Kemper structural iron and tank factory, a tannery, and other lesser manufacturing interests. The business of Keasbey & Mattison, manufacturing chemists, was started in 1881 and soon grew to one of large proportions. Carbonite of magnesia and quinine were their main productions and they employed at first sixty persons in their works. This borough is a well built place and has hourly electric trolley cars to and from the cities and surrounding boroughs, and is also on the Pennsylvania railroad system, with frequent local and through train service.

Bridgeport—This borough was incorporated by act of the General Assembly passed February 27, 1851, its original area having four hundred and sixty acres, and was wholly taken from Upper Merion township. It is bounded on the northeast by the Schuylkill river, and on the south and west by Upper Merion township. It is directly opposite Norristown. DeKalb street was laid out in 1830 as the State road, and extends across the river from Norristown, and was well turnpiked before the days of street paving. According to census reports, Bridgeport has at various periods had a population as follows: 1850, 572; 1860, 1,110; 1870, 1,578; 1880 it had 1,802; 1890, 2,651; 1900, 4,697; 1910 it had 3,860, and according to the last United Census reports it contained a population of 3,097. A directory published in May, 1883, gives the number of stores, factories and other establishments located within the limits, all of which proves that at that date it was a borough of no small proportions. It then had seventeen stores, four hotels, two dealers in flour and feed, two restaurants, and one lumber and coal yard. What was then known far and wide as the Minerva Mill was looked upon as among the largest plants in Pennsylvania in its line. It was then conducted by James Lees & Sons. They made blankets, Kentucky jeans and worsted carpet yarn, giving steady employment to near a thousand men and women. This factory was originally built in 1854 by Bodry & Jacobs. Early in the eighties, Worrall & Radcliff's jeans cotton mills employed seventy hands. In 1883, Isaac Smith of Valley Forge built a large cotton and woolen mill here, and one hundred people found employment at good wages. Thirty-five hands were employed the year round, in the manilla paper mills of Hugh McInnes. There were at that date also two large flouring mills in the borough; also a creamery of large capacity. In 1882 the real estate of the borough was placed at a valuation of $696,000, and a total property valuation a year later of $756,000. The borough then posessed five fair school buildings. All this made a fine showing as compared with 1830, when the vicinity contained but three dwellings, a tavern, and a three-story mill, built in 1826. The Norristown bridge was erected in 1829. For the religious societies, the reader is referred to the special chapter on Churches.

The backbone of Bridgeport is its immense manufacturing plants, some of which go way back to early times in their history, while others are more recent in their origin. Iron, cotton, silk, paper, yarns, pipes and tubing, crushed stone, felt goods and meat packing plants, all help make up the industrial interests of Bridgeport. The chapter on Industrial Interests elsewhere in this volume will give more in detail the history and especially the magnitude of the manufacturing interests of the borough. A voluntary raise in compensation to its employees has just been announced by the great manufacturing plant of Bridgeport, the James Lees & Sons. It amounts to ten per cent. of former wages, and went into effect April 30, 1923. It applies to the entire working

force of the establishment. Another increase was given the men and women of this concern, the home of Minerva yarns, only last October, and these two raises make the total almost as high as in midst of war times. The number of employees at this plant has also been greatly increased, or will be as soon as the new modern concrete-steel building is completed. Then this will be one of the largest industries in the East.

Not many months hence, who visits Bridgeport will behold a befiting memorial to the fallen heroes of the late World War in the shape of a huge native boulder surmounted by a bronze eagle and flanked with cannon and other war pieces. It will be a worthy testimonial to the borough's brave sons who gave themselves as a sacrifice in past years, and will especially be appropriate, since the boulder will be taken from the historic soil in the immediate vicinity of Bridgeport, over which General Washington and his army trod in their march from Valley Forge.

The borough now has a fine two-story red brick municipal hall, centrally located, which was constructed in 1922 and first occupied by the borough officers in the spring of 1923. It is a credit to the people of Bridgeport.

Collegeville—This borough, at one time known as Freeland and prior to that known as Perkiomen Bridge, is eight miles to the north and west of Norristown. It was taken from Upper Providence township. The railroad really gave the name "Collegeville" to this place, which had been afflicted by too many names for its own good, including a period in 1855 when it was known as Townsend, after a map publisher from Philadelphia. This has been known many years as a great educational center; the reader will see other chapters for its schools and college. Its population is something less than one thousand. Its business places number sixty. Its industries include the Freed Heater Manufacturing Company's plant; two flag factories; the Counties Heat and Electric Company; and lesser interests. The practicing physicians are Drs. W. Z. Anders and J. S. Miller; S. D. Cornish is the dentist. The other business places include several general merchandise stores; a weekly newspaper, the "Independent," now in its forty-eighth year, and has been conducted all these years by its present owner and editor, Mr. E. S. Moser. (See the chapter devoted to Newspapers.) Then there are restaurants, shops of various kinds, a Masonic and an Odd Fellows' lodge, each of which owns a handsome two-story hall of its own. The Commercial Hotel is the present home for the traveler and commercial men. The banking interests are well cared for by the Collegeville National Bank (see Banking chapter). The church life is here inclusive of the Reformed church and Roman Catholic church, each having good edifices and large congregations.

Conshohocken—From records and from the recent Year Book issued by the Recorder Publishing Company, the facts herein stated have been largely compiled: By an act of the General Assembly, May 15, 1850, the village of Conshohocken, in the townships of Plymouth and Whitemarsh, was erected into a borough. The village lay on both sides of the Whitemarsh and Plymouth turnpike. The borough was laid out with an area of one mile square, and its boundaries have never been extended. The old turnpike (now Lafayette street) constituted the center of the borough, and low-water mark of the Schuylkill river was taken as the western line. The town extends along the river one mile and from low-water mark along the turnpike one mile.

The land on which the borough stands is one of the beautiful Conshohocken hills, once the hunting grounds of the Indians, as the name indicates. The panoramic landscape from these hills is ever a feast to the eye, and once seen must remain a vision of beauty forever. Its geographical location is ideal, it being only thirteen miles to the northwest of Philadelphia. It has many inducements to capital as a factory center, and numerous plants now nestle along the various lines of steam railroads and the canal and river. The residences stand on a commanding elevation, far above the smoke and confusion of the busy manufacturing mart below. These natural advantages, enjoyed now by the people of the sprightly borough, are by no means new to the history of the county and State, for be it remembered that some of the State's earliest developments in various industries took root here. The first important commercial movement in these parts was the construction of the canal by the Schuylkill Navigation Company, completed and opened up to the public in 1826, before the days of railroading. This enterprise was followed by the building of the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad, which commenced its actual operations in 1831 and was double-tracked in 1856. The Philadelphia & Reading railroad was opened from Philadelphia to Reading in 1839, and to Pottsville in 1842. The Schuylkill Valley division of the Pennsylvania railroad system was completed in 1885. The Plymouth railroad, connecting with the North Penn at Oreland, connects with the Philadelphia, Germantown & Norristown railroad at Conshohocken.

To be more historically definite, it may be stated that industrial progress really commenced here with the erection of the water mill for the rolling of sheet-iron by James Wood in 1832. From this small beginning has emerged the great iron and steel mills of the Alan Wood Iron and Steel Company of to-day. It was not long before other branches of industry located here for iron and textile manufacturing purposes. In 1884 the now world-famous Lee Tire and Rubber Company was organized as the J. Elwood Lee Company. From this also sprang the local glass industries now so prodigious. The diversity of industries found here to-day is wonderful to behold, and include products of iron and

steel, sheets and plates, range boilers, steel containers, glassware for scientific and commercial purposes generally, textiles, copper-coated steel rods, iron and steel, brass and alloy castings; motor vehicle tires and rubber goods; surgical supplies; refined oils; boiler, steam and power appliances for fuel saving apparatus; burial caskets; hosiery; cigars; ore crushing; toys, etc., all find their way to the markets of the world from Conshohocken. Among the larger industrial plants are these: The Merion worsted mills, occupying 100,000 square feet of floor space; pays out $200,000 in wages annually, employs more than two hundred men and women. Here is the home of high grade yarns so well known to the trade the country over. Also here is located the great Wm. T. Bate & Son boiler and machine works with its products named legion, and going to all States and territories in the Union. J. N. Susskind & Co., cap and uniform makers, began in a small way here, but now have immense plants in Philadelphia besides their original factory here, which uses 90,000 square feet floor space, and makes five thousand garments daily by the employment of five hundred hands. During the World War, in their plants in Philadelphia, this concern made 100,000 uniforms weekly for the government. Another factory worth mentioning is that of the H. C. Jones Company, makers of cotton worsteds, cottonades, and cotton cassimeres. This was established in 1880. During the recent World War almost the entire product of these mills consisted of olive drab shirting flannels for the government. Now about 150 men and women are employed in these works. Horace C. Jones is present president, and Richard B. Walker superintendent of the company.

The public schools are fully abreast with our times. The high school building has seven class rooms and handles 300 pupils in its gymnasium; the assembly hall holds near five hundred persons. The Harry street school building contains fourteen rooms; Third avenue building has six rooms, and the superintendent's office is situated in this building. The value of these buildings was in 1921 placed by the Board at: High School and contents, $57,000; Harry street school and contents, $38,500; Third Avenue building and contents, $23,900; Manual Training building and contents, $5,500; a total of $124,900.

The tax rate two years ago for this borough was ten mills, and for schools eleven and one-half mills. The real valuation of the property within the borough was estimated at $14,000,000. The assessed valuation was $3,456,310. The indebtedness of the school district amounted to only $68,800, while the bonded indebtedness of the borough was $193,000.

The churches of Conshohocken include Baptist, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, African Methodist Episcopal, and Roman Catholic, three of the latter denomination. The fraternal and charitable societies of the borough are as follows, with date of organization: Allied Fraternal Association, May, 1919, its aim to promote a

good feeling between all fraternal organizations in the borough; Foresters Companions, 1907; Shepherds of Bethlehem, February, 1907; Loyal Order of Moose, 1910; Mooseheart Legion, September, 1918; Woman's Club of Conshohocken, November, 1897; Independent Order of Red Men, April 19, 1860; Order of Owls, April, 1913; Patriotic Order Sons of America, August 1, 1870; Daughters of Pocahontas, December 15, 1902; Grand Army of the Republic, August 26, 1876; Knights of Pythias, December, 1869; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, March 10, 1916; St. Peter and St. Paul, October 1, 1903; Vida Rebekah, March 7, 1896; Order of Eastern Star (Masonic), May 2, 1913; Foresters of America, in 1898; Free and Accepted Masons, August, 1868; Knights of Columbus, December 31, 1911; Knights of the Golden Eagle, in 1885; American Legion, August, 1919; Boy Scouts, 1914.

The Mary H. Wood Park, a handsome property, a perpetual memorial to its giver, has been described in the official Register in these words:

Mary H. Wood, widow of Hon. Alan Wood, Jr., late president of the Alan Wood Company, and son of Alan Wood, founder of the great iron industry here, died at her home, Fifth avenue and Harry street, December 12, 1918, and when her will was probated, it was found that she had bequeathed to the borough for park purposes, her home and the tract of ground bounded by Fifth and Sixth avenues and Harry and Hallowell streets, together with all the buildings thereon and also a trust fund of $100,000, the income therefrom to be used for the operation and maintenance of the property as a public park.

Mrs. Annie H. Wilson, a sister of Mrs. Wood, died at her home, Fifth avenue and Hallowell street, June 21, 1919, and bequeathed $25,000 to the park trust fund, the income to be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the park.

The park is located in the heart of the residential section of the town. There is a large mansion house, a small dwelling house, stone garage, set in beautiful grounds planted with trees of many species and shrubbery.

The Children's Playgrounds Association was organized in 1914 by Francis Lubbe Ross and Dorothea Bean Jones, for the purpose of giving the children of the place, who are not able to get outside for a summer vacation, the advantage of trained supervision of play during the heated term, July and August. It has proven a signal success from the first. The expense is so far met by public contributions, but a memorial endowment is now being planned. The attendance has been as high as 490, and the average for one season was 260 children.

The Conshohocken Free Library was organized May 1, 1907. Upon the death of Lewis A. Lukens, his heirs gave to the Library Association the dwelling house at Third avenue and Fayette street, where the library is now located. The library is maintained by private subscription, with $500 from each the school district and the borough. The new organization of the business factors of the sprightly, up-to-date borough, dates

from January 30, 1920, and has ever since been doing much good for the place and its numerous membership.

East Greenville—This borough was taken from out the territory of Upper Hanover township, and is situated in the northwestern part of Montgomery county. It is on the line of the Perkiomen railroad; it was incorporated in 1875, contains a goodly amount of improvements, and is to-day a well built, orderly kept and enterprising borough, with numerous small but profitable factories. In 1880 it had a population of only 331, but in 1910 it was 1,235, and to-day has about 1,720. From an early time it had the advantage of having an excellent seminary for both sexes, which still exists. The land on which the place stands formerly belonged to George Urffer, and upon his death it descended to Daniel Y. Urffer, who in April, 1849, sold forty-three acres to Captain Henry H. Dotts; it was timber land at the date of this sale, although no one to-day would ever imagine it had once been within a native forest land. The wood-leaf was sold, the land cleared up, and that portion fronting on the highway divided into building lots. In 1851-52 Mr. Dotts sold a number of town lots at an advance. On a four-acre lot at the corner of Church road he erected a two-story brick dwelling, later selling the same at $1,200. He subsequently erected a good sized hotel. Stores and mechanical industries soon came in, and it was not long before it was a lively rival of Pennsburg, about a mile to the east. Mr. Philip Super, a local historian of that part of the county, remarked many years ago in speaking of growth and advanced prices in this borough: "To show the gradual rise in the price of land from the original price of seventy-five dollars an acre in 1851-52, we give the prices for later years. The first of the original half acre lots sold in January, 1853 for forty dollars; and resold in May the same year, at seventy-five dollars; in June, Mr. Dotts bought a half-acre lot for ninety dollars; March, 1855, he again bought a half-acre for $125; in March, 1856, an acre lot was sold for $165; in September, 1857, a quarter acre lot was sold at $135; and in 1859 a half-acre lot was sold for $200." This village received its name in 1852, suggested by a tall pine tree with an evergreen top, and which was observable from all parts of the surrounding country. Then when the post office was established, it naturally took the same name. So the old pine tree now belongs to the ages!

Among the pioneer industries should be named the cigar business in which cigars were manufactured by Amos K. Stauffer, commencing in 1860. In 1885 there were carrying on cigar making in the place, Amos K. Stauffer, Thomas K. Gerhard, William M. Jacobs, H. A. Dimmig and smaller firms. All told these factories were then turning out to the cigar smokers of the world, about nine million cigars yearly, and yet were only employing about one hundred and twenty men. Along in the early eighties, the chief business factors of the borough were: Henry Bobb,

drugs; Fluck & Bernhard, live-stock; Nicholas Kase, boots and shoes; William Kehl, general merchandise; A. E. Kurtz, stoves; Keeley & Brother, coal, lumber, flour and feed; Levi Meschler, general stock; Edwin E. Steltz, furniture, and E. M. Stauffer, jeweler. To-day the merchants are numerous and their stocks well selected. With the passing of the years, other manufacturing plants located here, and among those now operating on a good-sized scale are the Columbia silk mills, makers of ribbon of silk; four cigar factories; and a knitting mill where underwear is made in large quantities. The Boyer Casket Company operates a branch of their main burial casket works at this place, and the Sanitary Foundry Company does a large business in their line of work. The banking business is mentioned in the chapter on Banks, elsewhere in this work.

The public schools are excellent. Two buildings are used; the present high school building was erected in 1920 and cost $22,000. Five teachers are employed there, and eight more in the graded schools. The religious side of life is not forgotten in the rush for wealth here, for we find a Roman Catholic and two large Evangelical churches, with the old pioneer Reformed church standing just outside the borough, where the membership is more than one thousand. The Masons, Knights of Pythias, Eagles and Red Men all have flourishing lodges in this borough. The present officers of the borough incorporation are: Dr. A. O. Gery, burgess; E. E. Erb, secretary; Adam Dimmig, treasurer. The councilmen are: F. S. Shelly, Frank Merkley, Frank Gerhard, Clement Roeder, W. K. Schott, Calvin Albitz and Herbert Barr. The borough is free from debts, save its bonds issued for water works system, costing $15,000, which run at four per cent. interest.

Hatboro—The borough under consideration now is one incorporated August 26, 1871, when it contained about six hundred acres carved out of Moreland township. The main part of the town is situated along the York road, now known as York avenue. The name of this borough is believed to have been given from one of the first stone houses built here, in 1705, and in which building John Dawson commenced making men's hats and continued many years. The building likewise became an inn. The earliest record on a map of this county of the place, was published in 1749 by map-maker Lewis Evans, of Philadelphia, and there it appears as "Hatboro." However, it was at one period known commonly as "The Billet," from a hotel there named "Crooked Billet." General Washington in his letter to Congress from this vicinity, dated August 10, 1777, mentions therein the "Billet tavern." Again, in Franklin's "Gazette," of October, 1752, is mentioned "Crooked Billet," but in 1755 it was styled "Hatborough." The recent generations have always accepted the simple word "Hatboro" as being sufficient. The records show that John Dawson was still counted a hatter in the vicinity in 1734. Doubtless the name

"Billet" referred to the hotel, and Hatboro to the hamlet itself. A highway was laid out through the place in 1720. Hereabouts were enacted many of the earliest historic scenes within Montgomery county. The coming, camping and going of Revolutionary soldiers, the opening up of roads and building of pioneer mills, each and all made local, State and national history. The first newspaper outside Norristown in Lower Montgomery county, was the "Hatboro Literary Chronicle." An issue in 1841 gives those in business there then as being Lukens Wakefield and David Titus, coach and house painters; Abraham Haslett, smith; Hiram Reading, store; Charles Wakefield, tailor; G. W. Gilbert, wheelwright; H. N. Smith, boot and shoemaker; and O. I. Search, job printing. In 1812 Loller Academy was built from funds bequeathed by Robert Loller. It continued many years to be a strong educational center, and only went down when the high schools of the more advanced means of education had come to obtain. Concerning the present of this borough, it can be said that while it has not grown to a place of great importance financially, it has been felt throughout the commonwealth and world by reason of its interest in a higher education. It now has a good banking house (see Banking chapter), and the usual number of retail stores and small repair shops. Its public school and church life bespeak of devotion and refinement. Its present population is about 1,100. In all that is good, here is of the best.

The Union Library is one of the first nine libraries established in the original thirteen Colonies. It dates back to 1755, and has been conducted ever since. Each succeeding generation has added to its historic interest. At that date the village of Hatboro could not have had to exceed a dozen houses all told. There were enough in the community who saw the usefulness of a library, and when counted up on the list of charter membership it was seen there were thirty-five who had signed and agreed to support such an enterprise. It was styled the "Instrument of Partnership." The first regular meeting was held at David Rees', at "Ye Crooked Billet." The circumstances under which the library was founded are thus set forth in its proceedings:

> Whereas dark ignorance, with all the concomitants that flow from it, did about this time prevail in these parts, and no general scheme on foot for the promotion of knowledge and virtue, this, by some of the thinking part of the people, was looked upon with concern, and some proposals were made for executing a public library of select books as the most likely way to expel those gloomy clouds of ignorance and open profaneness so much abounding, and give the gentle reader an agreeable taste for learning.

The library was not incorporated by act of the assembly until 1787. It then had six hundred and twenty volumes. By 1880 this library had on its shelves books to the number of more than ten thousand. At that date there were about one hundred and fifty members who paid a certain

sum quarterly. Among rare books to be found there may be named forty-one volumes in a set, printed between 1593 and 1730. They also have a collection of curios of rare beauty and value. By all odds it is the most aged library in this county, and with one exception it is still the largest. These things bespeak refined intelligence in any community where such accomplishments can be had and maintained throughout one hundred and sixty years.

Hatfield—Carved out of the central part of Hatfield township, this borough now having a population of about 800, is up-to-date with energy and business tact equal to the spirit of the age in small towns. There appears to have been a settlement here as early as 1832. Soon thereafter a dozen or more houses were reported, and a post office was established. In 1883 it contained fifty residences, several general stores, and a number of shops and the usual mechanical industries. Once the community had its Upper and Lower Hatfield, but now all is described as Hatfield borough. Lower Hatfield, however, is much the older of the two villages. This is a station point on the North Pennsylvania railroad line. Being surrounded by an excellent agricultural district, the place has always enjoyed a liberal trade from the farming community, and while never becoming a large place, it has served well the object for which its proprietors established it. To-day the schools, churches, stores of all kinds, shipping interests and some small manufacturing plants including a hosiery mill and flouring mills, with other necessary places of business, make up the sum total of the place. Its borough officers have ever been conservative, but progressive in their administration of public affairs. There is a question yet unsolved as to how its name originated, but usually it is believed to have been in honor of the Hatfield family of pioneers in the nearby section of country.

Greenlane—This borough is taken out of Marlborough township, and was chartered a borough in 1875. It is situated on the Sumneytown and Springhouse road, and covers about one hundred and fifty acres. It is historic from the fact of its being on the nearby site of the old-time Schall's forge, once famous for its production of iron. It is now an important station on the Perkiomen railroad, opened up for travel in 1849. In 1884 it contained upwards of fifty buildings. A large ice house and custom grist mill were among the early industries. The platting was all made on the old Mayberry tract, taken about 1730. It was named on this wise: The Old Forge was styled "Greenlane Iron Works," noted on the oldest maps, and is believed to have been given to the works named from the prevailing foliage covering the rocky hills to the north and west of the stream, it being largely of evergreen, with occasional pine, and from the winding road or lane that led from the main highway to the forge. As late as 1855 this neighborhood was noted for its game, including rabbits, pheasants, partridges, etc., found in great

numbers, and was visited by the city sportsmen with dogs and paid guides. It was the fine water power and abundance of wood for the production of charcoal that first led the iron forgers to the spot. There were no rolled iron bars, but by hand and hammer were the iron bars wrought out for sale to the blacksmiths and mechanics generally. But with the introduction of cast iron in its various forms, the demand for bar iron has been greatly reduced. Thus the forge has long since gone to decay; the old waterwheel, the huge bellows, the ore crusher, and cone-like charcoal kilns have all vanished, only here and there a trace of their existence among a pile of ruins found by the roadside.

With the flight of a third of a century and more, vast has been the change here. Many are dead, and many far removed to other parts of the world. There is a stone-crushing plant, numerous stores and shops; the Valley National Bank; a Board of Trade and a Reformed church, as part of the borough's interests. Its population is rated at about 400 In 1884 the assessor gave the firms in business as J. R. Allebach, merchandise; Frank Frederick, livestock; H. N. Scholl, lumber; number of taxables, fifty-four; value lands, $5,685. It is one of the many small towns of Montgomery county and has a history and record not to be ashamed of, for in all that has been asked of true American citizens, these people have filled the bill to the greatest extent possible, whether in war or times of peace.

Schwenksville—This enterprising borough is situated on the west side of Perkiomen creek, in the northwest portion of old original Perkiomen township, was incorporated in 1903. The census in 1880 gave it a population of 303 souls; in 1910 it had 381, and in 1920 it is given as 371, so it appears to have never reached the 400 mark. For forty years it has had hotels, creameries, printing offices, clothing factories, railroad station, lumber, coal, marble yard and school and churches, with all the general stores that are found in so small a place. Prior to 1815 there was not a house in the entire neighborhood. Most of the lands thereabouts were left in 1770 by Peter Pennypacker to his son William. George Schwenk, a blacksmith, is reported to have run a blacksmith's shop there in 1756, and from him doubtless came the name. Other special chapters will mention its banking, newspapers and other features. Of later years the ice houses have been important here. There is a shirt factory in the borough now and the newspaper is the "Item."

Jenkintown—This borough was incorporated December 8, 1874, when all its territory, comprising an area of two hundred and forty-eight acres taken from Abington township, was made into a borough. The main business of the place is or was originally, along York avenue, opened up as a highway from Philadelphia to the Delaware river.

in the autumn of 1711, and turnpiked to Willow Grove from Rising Sun in 1804. The North Pennsylvania railroad station is at the extreme southwestern corner of the platting. This railway was opened for business in 1856, and the New York branch completed in May, 1876. As long ago as 1885 there were forty-four passenger trains stopping at Jenkintown each way daily. The borough proper is more than a half mile to the east of the station. The entire country round about is charming in its native landscape scenery. The United States census for 1880 gave the number of inhabitants as 810. In 1900 it was 2,091; in 1910, 2,968, and in 1920, 4,000. As a municipality it is now without debts. The place has a free public library and churches as below: Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Colored Baptist, and Roman Catholic. All have good church buildings and prosperous congregations. The civic societies include the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Protective Order of Sons of America. There are two school buildings in the borough and a new $175,000 high school being constructed at this time. This is also the seat of Beechwood Seminary for young ladies. Just over the line but in the same township is found an extensive pressed steel works plant. The "Times-Chronicle" is the borough's newspaper (see Press chapter). Concerning the financial interests of Jenkintown, see chapter on Banks and Banking. The present borough officials are: A. J. Miller, Jr., president; A. C. J. Schabacker, secretary; A. A. Keiser, treasurer; William M. Lukens, street commissioner; Edwin H. Bellis, burgess. The council is as follows: Messrs. George Jones, Frank S. Gentry, J. Howard Hay, James B. Colladay, A. J. Miller, Jr., Sumner H. Cross, M. D., Nathan Silberman, Charles S. Redding, and Edward J. Fitzgerald.

The principal inhabitants in and around the village of Jenkintown as early as February 19, 1803, assembled for the purpose of establishing a library there, and appointed John Morrison, Ebenezer Hickling and William Johnson a committee for the purpose of preparing a code of by-laws and reporting the same at a meeting to be held at the public house of William McCalla on the 3rd of March following. As adopted the board of officers was to consist of five directors, a treasurer and librarian, to be chosen annually. Payments of seventy-five cents were to be made by each member every six months. There were thirty-three signers to the original membership of this subscription library. It was established in 1803; charter granted in September, 1805. It was written on a parchment two and one-half feet square, and handsomely executed. This charter contains the autograph of every member who signed on that autumn day near a century and a quarter ago. It was signed by Governor Thomas McKeen, who was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. This library is still well cared for, and is an honor to the borough.

CHAPTER XXIX.

BOROUGHS: LANSDALE—NORTH WALES—NARBERTH.

Lansdale received its name in memory of the chief surveyor of the North Penn Railroad Company, his full name being Philip Lansdale Fox. The record book of Time has a few unique entries concerning Lansdale—these for example: "Born August 24, 1872; father's name North Penn Railroad; mother's name Heebner Agricultural Machinery Plant."

About one hundred and forty years ago this part of Montgomery county was one dense dark forest, with only here and there a clearing upon which the settlers had erected their rude cabin homes. Here had dwelt the native American Indian, and at that date a few still lingered thereabouts spending their time in hunting the abundance of wild game and peddling baskets of their own make. In 1853 work was commenced on the North Penn railroad, and in June, 1857, this highway reached Gwynedd, and by October, Doylestown. The first trains entered Bethlehem in January, 1857. As soon as the railroad was constructed through Lansdale, a feed store was opened by Henry Dirstine, his buildings being the first of the hamlet or station. A. G. Freed opened the first hotel, and in a part of the building the first store was opened by John S. Jenkins. A post office was established there in 1860, and within a year or two Mr. Shupe established a printing office.

Lansdale was incorporated as a borough in 1872, and it then included 269 acres, 145 of which was taken from Gwynedd township, and 124 acres from Hatfield township. Two years later the Stony Creek railroad was opened through to Norristown. The population of the territory incorporated was "about one thousand souls" the record says. A business directory gotten out at about that date gives these facts: M. H. Snyder, editor of "Lansdale Reporter;" H. F. Bond, medical doctor; A. C. Goodshall, wholesale and retail dealer in all kinds of lumber, coal and lime; A. B. Hackman, wholesale and retail dealer in grain, flour, feed, hay, etc.; E. K. Freed, president First National Bank; Charles S. Jenkins, cashier of First National Bank; Joseph Rodgers, house and sign painter and paperhanger; L. G. Stauffer, Lansdale Hotel; Isaac A. Kratz, Junction House; George F. Phillips, general agent for the Howe Sewing Machine, at 217 Main street, Norristown. The exact date of incorporation of the borough was August 24, 1872. The charter was signed by forty-four citizens, and in 1922 only two were living—William D. Heebner and Dr. John N. Jacobs. In May, 1876, the borough contained 187 taxables, with a real estate valuation of $166,000; three public schools, with 159 scholars; two hotels, two printing offices, eight stores, and a lumber yard.

One incident in the history of Lansdale in which all take a just pride

was the one occurring in 1887, when a citizen, William D. Heebner, saved historic Valley Forge as a sacred memorial for the whole country. A bill fostered by the Patriotic Order Sons of America to take over Valley Forge and save it from destruction at private hands, had been smothered in committee on the plea of lack of funds. Mr. Heebner, then a member of the House, had been asked to read Washington's Farewell Address at the patriotic exercises in the House, February 22, 1887. When the time came to read the address, Mr. Heebner, contrary to all precedents, substituted for the address a resolution appropriating five thousand dollars toward the purchase of the historic site, and asked unanimous consent for its immediate consideration. Both House and Senate voted an approval quickly, and thus it came about that one man's quick wits saved Valley Forge as a national shrine, and since then all know of the beautiful improvements which have been made there.

The present borough contains 875 acres, or more than one and one-half square miles. The office of burgess has been held by the following, from the date of incorporation in 1872 to the present time: 1872, Abraham B. Hackman; 1873, David S. Heebner; 1875, John Kindig; 1876, David S. Heebner; 1880, Oliver M. Evans; 1882, William D. Heebner; 1885, William H. Fuhr; 1888, Jacob S. Geller; 1892, Wellington H. Rosenberry; 1893, William D. Heebner; 1894, Aaron H. Tyson; 1897, J. C. Reaver; 1900, John J. White; 1903, Henry M. Fretz; 1906, George F. Frederick; 1909, J. Wilmot Harvey; 1911, Hiram B. Weachter; 1914, Abram H. Landis; 1918, Albert R. Place; 1919 to date, David Orr.

The Federal census reports show the population of Lansdale by decades to have been: 1880, 799; 1890, 1,858; 1900, 2,754; 1910, 3,551; 1920, 4,728. Other chapters will speak at length of the banking interests of this borough; also of the professions and work of the women of the borough in times of war as well as now. The postmasters' list is as follows: J. S. Geller, 1876-84; H. E. Jenkins, 1884-90; D. S. Heebner, 1890-96; William L. Diehl, 1896-1900; H. D. Ruth, 1900-08; W. H. D. Goodshall, 1908-15; Joseph Rodgers, Jr., 1915-23.

Primarily Lansdale has always been a manufacturing borough. During its early days it was a "one plant" town, the Heebner industry being the mainstay of the place. To-day there is a diversified industry of great local importance. Some of the more important plants are as follows: Heebner & Sons, makers of numerous agricultural implements, of world-wide fame; Souder Concrete Company, established in 1904, in North Lansdale, but in 1914 constructed their present plant where they produce large quantities of concrete blocks, road culverts and kindred concrete goods; over one full car load of raw material is used daily in these works. Another factory of note is the patented Safeguard Check Writer Company's industry founded in North Wales, Pennsylvania, in 1913, but which moved to Lansdale in 1917. John Whitaker is president, and Joseph F. Collins secretary and general manager. This plant

produces thousands upon thousands of the check writers which employ indelible ink under high pressure forced through the paper in such a manner the figures cannot be erased and "raised." These machines are ready sellers in this and all civilized countries of the earth. The Abram Cox Stove Corporation, chartered by the State, started in business in the spring of 1882, remained in Philadelphia until it needed more room, then located in Lansdale. Notwithstanding fires, this company has forged ahead until to-day it is a great concern. Other industries here include the Central Radiator Company, the Perkins Glue Company, Lansdale Foundry Company, Norristown Hosiery Mills, which latter concern makes annually 1,500,000 pair of silk hose; the Fynetone Manufacturing Company, makers of chimes and candlesticks, and mahogany clocks, do a large business and employ many hands. The Krupp Foundry Company began business in 1896, the proprietor being originally, Eli C. Krupp, but now it is an incorporated concern doing an extensive business in the production of cast iron soil pipe and fittings which find a market from ocean to ocean. Another industry of importance is the Lansdale Knitting Company's plant, John Whitaker, president, organized in 1920; knitting hosiery is their specialty. Pool & Son's pantaloon factory, established in 1885 by William Pool, Sr., has grown to one of large proportions. They occupy a building fifty by one hundred and fifty-three feet and basement, operate one hundred and sixteen sewing machines, and give employment to one hundred and fifty persons, producing 12,000 pairs of pants per day. The Weaver Structural Iron Works commenced in 1914 in an old barn, but to-day the company has large works and produce much fine, fabricated structural steel work for use in building structures of all kinds. The Krupp-Myer Foundry, organized 1921, make sorted castings of all kinds. In the same plant porcelain enamel ware is made in great quantities. Another leading industry is the A. J. Brumbaugh Woolen Company, makers of men's and youth's clothing, mostly for Wanamaker and Brown. The Hunter Pressed Steel Company came from Philadelphia in 1918; their products are sold all over the Union.

Lansdale now has a high school, the East Ward grade school and the West Ward grade school. Thirty instructors are usually employed in these schools. The high school building was erected so as to be occupied in March, 1914; its cost was $50,150.44. Bonds had been voted for $60,000, but the lowest bidder took the contract for the amount above mentioned. In 1922 the total indebtedness of the district was $63,400; tax rate fifteen and one-half mills; monthly payroll of teachers, $3,512.10, and janitors, $210 per month.

Almost every prominent religious denomination in America has active representation in this borough, except these four—the Presbyterian, Congregational, Christian Science and Jewish faiths; none of them

are found here. Nearly all of the churches have fine comfortable homes of their own where they worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience, with none to molest or make them afraid.

The Methodist Episcopalians organized here in 1870, when the place only had four hundred population and no church building. In 1871 Dr. Jacobs donated a lot on which the first church was erected in 1872, Rev. H. U. Sebring being pastor. The present fine building was dedicated June 5, 1921. The congregation now has a membership of 500 souls, more than a hundred more than there was of population in the borough fifty years ago. St. John's Reformed Church, organized about 1875, cornerstone of first church was laid October 15, 1876; present membership is 601.

Trinity Lutheran Church was formed in a regular way in 1881, the first services being held in May of that year. Lansdale Hall was the place they met for a long period. They next bought the old school building in 1887 and used that until in March, 1891, when their newly built edifice was consecrated, the service being in both English and German. An addition was made to this building which still serves the congregation, the membership of which is now 552, and is among the higher class of churches of this faith in this section.

The First Baptist Church was first started away back in North Wales by the Welsh settlers of the Upper Gwynedd Valley, and a handful of Welsh people organized this church in a "green glad solitude" in a strange land. The date of this organization was 1719, and known as the Montgomery Baptist Church. Worship continued at the former place until a chapel was dedicated at Lansdale in March, 1885. A year later this became an independent church, having been set off from North Wales. There are now about four hundred members in this church.

Bethany United Evangelical Church was formed in 1894, under the leadership of Rev. D. G. Reinhold. Schwenkfelder Church, which dates back to the days of the Reformation, is represented at Lansdale by an organization established in 1918 and now has a membership of about one hundred. Rev. L. S. Hoffman is present pastor. The Sunday school has a membership of four hundred. Grace Evangelical Church was organized in the early seventies. The present edifice was built in 1875. Bethany United Evangelical and Immanuel Church sprang from this the mother church. Church of the Nazarene was organized July 24, 1919; in 1920 they built a church of their own and the society still prospers. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church held first services in Lansdale in 1880, but no church was formed until 1886; Rev. J. H. Burton became rector in November, 1887. At a cost of $5,000 a church was erected in 1890; the rectory was built in 1903, costing $3,900. St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church was organized about 1875. The following year money was raised, and in October, 1876, the "Old Church" was built.

If there is a lodge organized in the country not represented in this borough, the writer is not properly informed. They are both secret and semi-secret and beneficiary in character. The spirit of fraternity, if carried on from lodge room to workshop and industry, will tend to produce fellow community spirit that takes away the sting of competition and gives true joy to the brotherhoods. Among the lodges best known to the outsider are: American Legion (military), Knights of Malta, instituted in May, 1922; Loyal Order of Moose, instituted April, 1913; International Molders' Union, organized 1898; Order of Eastern Star, of the Masonic fraternity, instituted 1907; Improved Order of Red Men, chartered January 6, 1873, has a membership of about 200; Order of Independent Americans, formed 1893; Sons of Veterans, with membership of fifty, formed in 1905; Lansdale Royal Arch Chapter of Masons, instituted December 20, 1915, with membership in 1922 of 171. Another fraternity is styled the North Penn Forest, Cedars of Lebanon, instituted in 1920. Sons and Daughters of Liberty organized 1904 with thirty members, and now has more than 150 members. The membership prides itself on being for America first, last, and all the time. Another popular order is the Patriotic Order Sons of America, which was organized in the borough in July, 1869, by fourteen members; it now has a membership of three hundred. The Fraternal Order of Reindeer, instituted in 1920, with fifty membership. Knights of the Golden Eagle, organized in February, 1888; now has four hundred members, and during the flu epidemic paid out benefits amounting to $3,559. They own a fine hall and also own several houses which are rented. It is counted among the strongest orders in the borough. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted March 17, 1881, with twenty-two charter members. This too, is among the borough's strong, worthy orders. Lansdale Order of Moose was organized with a membership of thirty-five, in May, 1917. The Boy Scouts was organized here in the Baptist church in 1909, and later became strong and non-sectarian. It cleared away the forest and built a log cabin which showed the real boy skill and strength. The only thing that hinders their success is the narrowness sometimes exhibited by various religious denominations, which oppose their work.

North Wales—North Wales is about two miles from Lansdale, and was chartered in 1869; was taken from Gwynedd township. It is on the Sumneytown and Spring House road or turnpike. It is on high land, and has for its steam railway line the North Pennsylvania. Its population in 1880 was 673; in 1910 it had 1,710; and now has 2,300. It supports "The Record," a good local weekly newspaper; has a lodge of Odd Fellows, which owns its own hall. In its form this borough is almost square. It was laid out by David Moyer in 1867. The Sumneytown pike was constructed through this section in 1848. The railroad

divides the place into almost two equal portions. North Wales is twenty miles from Philadelphia and thirty-five from Bethlehem. Its name is a translation from the Welsh name Gwineth, of which Gwynedd is a corruption. The settlement at the Friends' meeting house was laid out before 1735. The completion of the North Pennsylvania railroad in 1856 laid the foundation for the present enterprising borough. In 1884 the value of all improved lands was $300,000; of unimproved lands $9,185. In 1884 there were located here a carriage factory, one foundry, two general merchants, one artist, three hotels, one bell foundry, one restaurant, two doctors, a dentist, two undertakers, one planing mill, a lumber yard, two harness shops, a shutter-bolt factory, three florists, a carpet weaver, a hardware store, a marble yard, two barbers, and a printing office in which was printed the "North Wales Record." There was also an "Academy of Business," conducted by Professor H. U. Brunner (see Educational chapter).

The present borough officers are: Adam Schmehl, burgess; Charles Anderman, clerk; Harley Swartley, treasurer. The present bonded indebtedness is $40,000, all of which is for sewer placed in position recently. The churches here represented by good membership are the Reformed, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic. (See Church chapter for details of some of these denominations.) The leading hotels are the North Wales, by the present burgess, Adam Schmehl, and another on Main street. The manufacturing plants include these: The Asbestos Packing Company, North Wales Machine and Foundry Company (King Brothers), the Asbestos Spinning Company; Acorn Web Works, Gilmore Company, automobile accessories, the E. Sutro & Sons Hosiery Company, two planing mills, the North Wales Florist Company, working fifty men and said to be one of the largest in America under one glass skylight.

Narberth—This borough, in the extreme southeastern portion of the county, was incorporated January 21, 1895, and has doubled its population within a few years, it now having 3,705, according to late returns for school purposes. It is chiefly a handsome residential district, a suburb of the nearby city of Philadelphia. It is situated on the Pennsylvania railroad, with a rapid electric car means of transportation to and from the surrounding boroughs and the city proper. Its bonded indebtedness in January, 1922, was $77,500. A large, modern high school building was erected in 1918, and on account of this, bonds to the amount of $55,000 were floated. The local newspaper is the one styled "Our Town," a weekly, and conducted in the interest of a good community that appreciates its weekly visitations. The churches are: Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and Evangelical Lutheran. All have good edifices except the last named, and they are to build a good edifice the coming season. The present borough officers

are as follows: Carl B. Metzger, chief burgess; Edwin P. Dold, treasurer; Fletcher W. Stites, solicitor; Raymond C. Jones, tax-collector; George B. Suplee, street commissioner; J. Taylor Darlington, building inspector. The president of the Council is W. R. D. Hall; secretary is Charles V. Noel; and other members of council are Hugh Brown, E. C. Griswold, Daniel Leitch, A. P. Redifer, Walton M. Wentz. Municipal affairs have always been well administered.

POTTSTOWN—NEW Y. M. C. A. BUILDING—HIGH STREET EAST FROM HANOVER—INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

CHAPTER XXX.

BOROUGHS: POTTSTOWN—PENNSBURG—ROYERSFORD—RED HILL—ROCKLEDGE—SOUDERTON—WEST TELFORD—TRAPPE—WEST CONSHOHOCKEN.

Pottstown—This borough stands on the north side of that majestic river, the Schuylkill, just below the mouth of the Manatawny creek, twenty miles from Norristown and thirty-seven from Philadelphia. Two hundred and sixty acres were taken from Pottsgrove township to form the borough with. The date of its organization was 1815, and it was first after Norristown to become an incorporated borough. It has a frontage of three-fourths of a mile on the river. It stands surrounded by many highly improved farms. The scenery is beautiful. The streets are laid out at right angles and are highly improved by all that is modern. As to the population at various periods, in 1830 it contained only 676 inhabitants; in 1840 it was 721; in 1850 it was 1,664; in 1860 had reached 2,380; in 1880 it was placed at 5,305; while to-day it is in excess of 19,000.

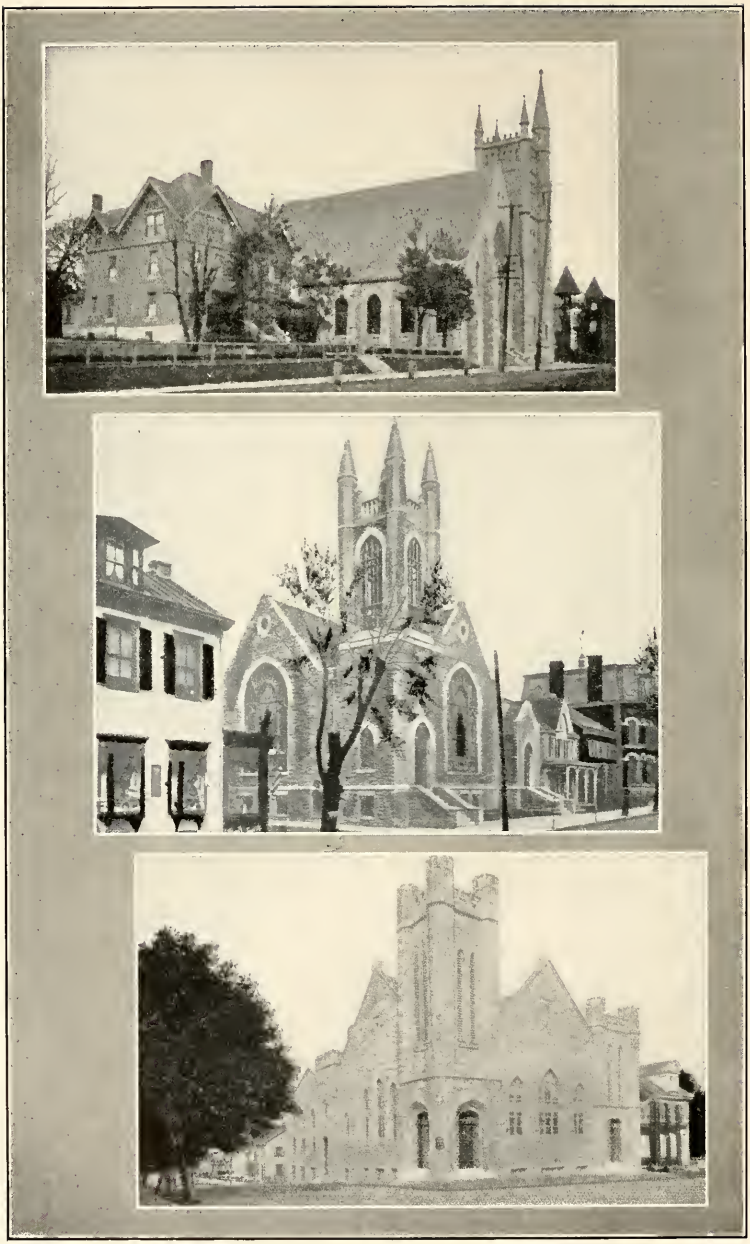
Before the Revolution, the vicinity supported two good flouring mills, and had twenty residences. In 1858 there were fifty-eight stores and other places of business, two rolling mills, and the gas plant. The earliest public improvement was the construction of the old stone bridge over Manatawny creek, over which the turnpike goes. This was completed in 1806. For a number of years this bridge was a toll bridge. The Hanover street bridge was erected in 1820-21, total cost only $14,000. It served until the great freshet of 1850, when it was washed away. Two years later it was rebuilt at a cost of $12,000, and was five feet higher than the former structure. The bridge in the lower part of the borough was constructed by a company in 1867 at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. The Perkiomen & Reading Turnpike Company was chartered in 1810, commenced in 1811 and was fully completed in 1815. It is twenty-nine miles long, and cost $7,000 per mile. The canal was completed by a private corporation in 1824, and runs on the opposite side of the Schuylkill river from Pottstown. The Reading & Philadelphia railroad was completed between these two cities in 1839. It was not finished to Pottsville until 1842.

This borough was legalized by an act of the Legislature dated February 6, 1815. The first officers elected were: Robert McClintock, burgess; John Hester, Jacob Lesher, William Lesher, Jesse Ives, Henry Boyer, William Mintzer and Thomas P. May were elected councilmen. The borough has usually been governed by prudent, careful but progressive citizens who knew how to provide for the future wants of what was destined to become a large city. The borough has an area of five

square miles; a population of 19,000; property valuation of $12,000,000; three steam railroads—the Philadelphia & Reading, the Pennsylvania, and a branch of the Philadelphia & Reading—the "Colebrookdale." There are three newspapers, for which see Press chapter in this work. The water supply of Pottstown is inexhaustible, coming as it does from the Schuylkill river a mile above the borough borders and conveyed in pipes to modern filtering basins. It is of excellent quality. The borough is thoroughly illuminated with both electric and gas plants, both not only give light but power as well, and are much utilized as fuel for domestic and other heating purposes. There are twenty-two modern school buildings, comprising sixty-six schools, with an attendance of 2,800 pupils presided over by eighty-six professors and teachers. The banks are treated in a special chapter. The bonded indebtedness of Pottstown is not far from $144,000. There are many fraternal and benevolent organizations for the Christian relief of poor and destitute citizens. Of the charitable institutions of the borough it may be said that the Associated Charities, the King's Daughters, the Pottstown Hospital, and the Homœopathic Hospital, two of the finest equipped institutions of their kind in Eastern Pennsylvania, ably managed by a band of noble women and boards of trustees, assisted by first class medical staffs, together with more than a score of trained nurses. The various churches include these: Saint Aloysius, Roman Catholic; Saint John the Baptist, Greek Catholic; Polish Catholic, St. Paul's Reformed, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran; Methodist Episcopal, Searles Memorial Methodist Episcopal, Trinity United Evangelical, Trinity Reformed, United Brethren in Christ, and Zion Reformed Church; First Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Friends, Holiness Christian Church, Mercy and Truth Synagogue, Church of Brethren, African Methodist Episcopal, and others, making about twenty-five in all. The civic fraternal societies include the various Masonic lodges, the Odd Fellows, Knights of Columbus, Railway Brotherhood of Trainmen, Grand Army of the Republic, and American Legion, with Spanish-American War Veterans' Association.

The present borough officers are inclusive of these: Chief burgess, John K. Klink; president of council, Henry D. Reed; clerk of council, M. L. Seasholtz; treasurer, Jonathan Y. Keck; surveyor, Ralph E. Shaner; collector of taxes, Daniel W. Reigner; high constable, William Dechant. During the present year it is designed to erect a city hall costing between $65,000 and $75,000. It will stand where now stands the old red brick structure, so long out of date for a modern city.

Industries here are found in large numbers and immense is the annual output from the various manufacturing plants, some of which date away back far into the past. These factories include boiler manufacturers, brewing plant, brick manufacturers, bridge-builders, fire-brick kilns, foundry and machine shops, Keystone Foundry Company,



POTTSTOWN CHURCHES—ST. ALOYSIUS R. C., FIRST BAPTIST, AND SEARLES MEMORIAL M. E.

Light Manufacturing and Foundry Company, the Pottstown Brass Works, harness factories, hosiery factories, iron fencing factory, two iron and steel makers, steel plate plants, Warnick Iron & Steel Company, Pottstown Machine Company, the Standard Foundry and Machine Company, malleable iron castings, granite ironware works, extensive paint manufacturing concerns, large paper box factory, two planing mills, rubber tire makers—the Hydro United Tire Company, and the National Rubber Company; six shirt factories, three silk factories, two large stove-making plants, and two underwear manufacturing plants, all doing a thriving business, with large payrolls and a rapidly increasing business.

That the reader may know something of the immense amount of products and their output value, the following is taken from returns to the Department of Internal Affairs: The 1921 valuation on all industrial products of the borough was $20,508,400; total number of plants, seventy-five; persons employed, 4,308; wages paid, $3,502,900; capital invested, $14,862,600. The metal products amounted that year to more than one-half of all, $12,968,300. The amounts in value of classified productions were as follows: Textile, $3,105,300; leather and rubber goods, $2,390,000; building and contracting, $351,240; chemicals, $136,000; clay, glass and stone, $10,600; beverages, $64,700; lumber, $85,700; paper and printing, $183,900; tobacco products, $149,100; sundries, $47,900; food and kindred articles, $1,014,600. Some of the quantities produced of various articles were as follows: 27,300 pounds of confectionery; 312,000 gallons of ice cream; 9,033 tons of ice; 327,787 rubber tires and tubes; 598,939 dozens of shirts; 1,914 tons of iron and steel bars; 115,000 tons of pig iron; 17,318 tons of steel and iron plate.

About the close of the Revolution, General Arthur St. Clair having purchased one of the confiscated properties of John Potts, Jr., one of the justices of the courts, he removed hither and made it his residence about 1783, when he held office of member of the State council of censors. While here he was elected to Congress, November 2, 1785, and made president of that body February 2, 1787, which position he held until the expiration of his term, the following 28th of November. In 1786 he became a member of the American Philosophical Society, in Philadelphia. He was appointed Governor of the Northwestern Territory February 1, 1788, to which he shortly after removed.

In accordance with the recommendation of the President of the United States, the citizens of Pottstown and vicinity assembled January 13, 1800, to pay their tribute of respect to the memory of General Washington, who had died in the previous month. A bier, with a coffin, was carried in the procession, followed by Captain McClintock's company of infantry and several other military and civil organizations, who proceeded to the old Brick Church, where a funeral sermon was preached in English by the Rev. John Armstrong, of the Episcopal church, and in

German by Rev. L. F. Herman, of the Reformed congregation. The pallbearers on this occasion were David Potts, William Mayberry, William Potts, Robert E. Hobart and Robert May.

A century and more ago in Pottstown runs thus: Post office was established near the end of 1793 and Jacob Barr was appointed postmaster. This was the first post office established in Montgomery county. It was at first known as Pottsgrove post office, but in 1829 changed to Pottstown. It became a presidential office March 11, 1865.

Pennsburg—This borough is one mile to the east from the borough of East Greenville, a station on the old Perkiomen railroad and the Green Lane and Goshenhoppen turnpike. It is twenty-three miles from Reading Junction and forty-eight from Philadelphia. The history of how it obtained its name is far too long and intricate to go into in this connection, but suffice to say that at first it was known as Heiligsville, after a large family living in the community before the platting was made. Several brothers named Heilig had settled here and erected for themselves houses. Several meetings were held, at which the matter of naming a village was discussed. Finally, the proceedings of one of these meetings was ordered published in the "Bauern Freund," then published at Sumneytown. The name Pennsburg was finally settled on by a majority of the residents. At the time, which was in 1843, there were a dozen houses, including a small country store; these were scattered along the road. There was a blacksmith and carpenter shop, but as yet no tavern. In 1847 a large two story hotel was erected by George Graber and forever after known as the Pennsburg hotel. Many years before this there had been a post office established at a private house owned by Aaron Griesemer, known as Upper Hanover Post Office. The name was changed to Pennsburg in 1850.

Coming down to more recent times, it may be said that this borough has been well administered by a wise and thoughtful council. Its present (1923) borough officers are as follows: Dr. W. H. Hunsberger, burgess; John E. Christman, president of the council; Elmer B. Staudt, secretary of council; M. K. Gilbert, treasurer. The names of the councilmen are: Messrs. Osborne Young, H. Young, Horace K. Kulp, Foster C. Hillegass, Charles A. Hamman, Charles Nase. The borough owns its own electric lighting plant, which was installed a few years ago at an expense of $16,000, raised by floating bonds. The plant was a success from the first and is now valued at $100,000. The borough has its own municipal hall and fire department buildings. There is now an eight-room public schoolhouse which well cares for the children of the place. The churches found here now are the Reformed and St. Mark's Lutheran. The name of the spicy local newspaper is "Town and Country," established in 1899 (see Press chapter for its history). In connection with the public school is the Carnegie Public Library, in which

all citizens take a just pride and make good use of the books on its shelves.

It is estimated the present population is not far from 1,400. The chief industries here are manufacturing plants as follows: The Eureka Silk Ribbon Mills, Perkiomen Trunk and Traveling Bag Factory; Pennsburg Wooden Novelty Works; Pennsburg Moulding and Flooring Mills; the Perkiomen Paper Mills; a factory for making men's trousers for the wholesale trade; and a shirt factory. These with three cigar factories and a cigar-box factory, with the Lohr Broom factory, employ a considerable number of workmen. The borough has a theatre and offices of the Pennsburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Royersford—This borough was incorporated by decree of the Quarter Sessions Court, dated June 14, 1879. Twenty-nine landowners of the territory constituted a majority residing within the proposed limits. The first officers were appointed as follows: Adam Grander, judge; Allen S. Keeley and Silas S. Swarthy, inspectors. This borough is located on the eastern shore of the Schuylkill river, on the line of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, and is thirty-two miles from Philadelphia and sixteen miles out from Norristown. The general landscape is beautiful scenery. Its name is derived from the ancient ford over the Schuylkill at this point. The ford was named for the land owner Royer, who settled there very early. For many years there have been numerous manufacturing plants here. In 1884 historian Bean said there were at that date a population of more than one thousand; residences numbering two hundred; two hotels, three dry goods stores, numerous groceries and shops, a drug store, marble shop, and sundry lesser places of business. David Gow was appointed postmaster in 1842 and was succeeded by Daniel Schwenk in 1860.

The present borough officers are: John U. Islett, burgess; I. M. Schellinger, president town council (recently deceased); B. I. Latshaw, vice-president; E. S. Brownback, Daniel Mowrey, Joseph Walters, Josiah Halteman, Ira Latshaw, Arthur Richards, Charles Hurder, Jonas Moyer, Edward Keefer, and Alvin Harley. The treasurer is Fred H. Grander; secretary, Benjamin Detwiler; and A. J. Anderson, tax collector. The bonded indebtedness is now $19,200. The borough has an excellent line of schools, the buildings now being valued at $75,000. The churches of the place include many denominations—Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, United Evangelical, Brethren, Mennonites, Reformed and Episcopal. The population to-day is known to be 3,500, and in addition to the many church societies mentioned it supports good lodges of Masons, Odd Fellows, Independent Americans, Sons of America, Knights of the Golden Eagle, Owls, and an Eastern Star lodge auxiliary to the Masonic fraternity.

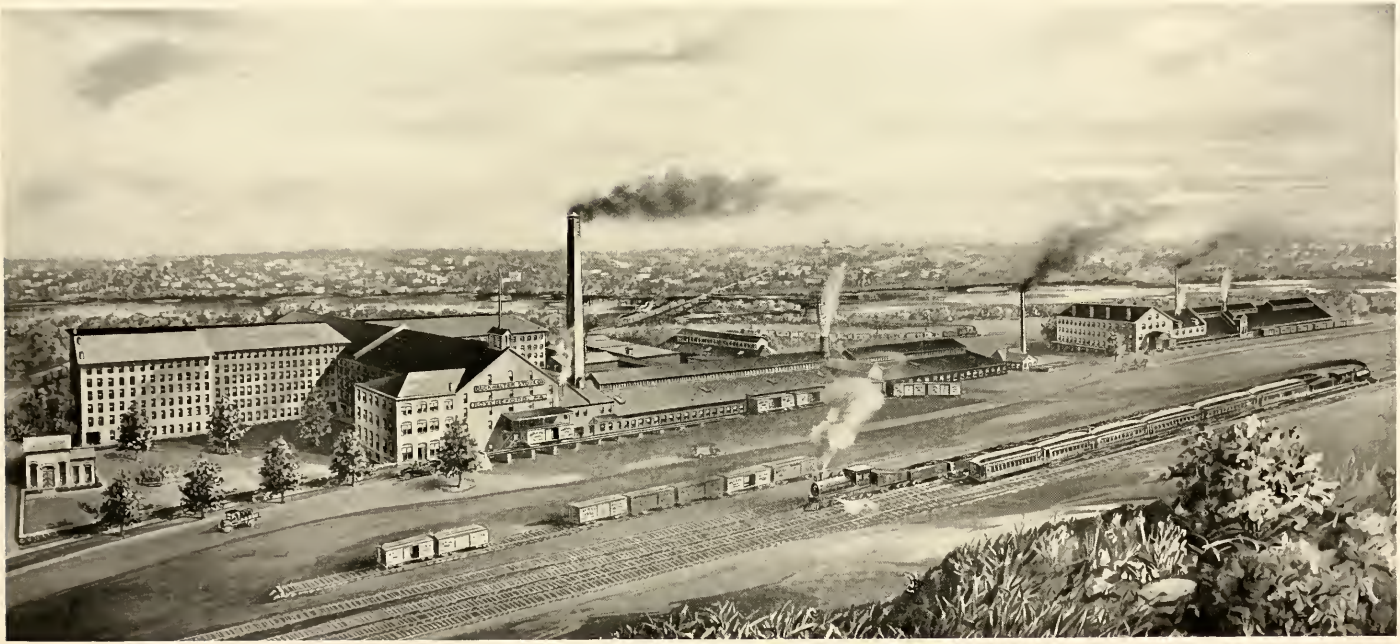
The story of the present industries here is best told by a list of the

various manufacturing plants now in operation, some many years old and others of a later origin, but each and all doing a paying business in their line and bringing thrift and wealth to the borough: Bard Manufacturing Company, makers of screws, etc.; Buckwalter Stove Company; the Granfer Stove Company; Floyd Wells Stove Company; Bush Brothers, mill supplies; Cann & Saul, steel products; Diamond Glass Company, bottles; E. Cut Knitting Company, underwear; Hill Top Machine Company, machine work; International Woodenware Company, iron stands, etc.; Keystone Structural Iron Works, structural iron goods; National Knitting Company, underwear; W. H. Newborn & Company, bottles; Peerless Stove Lining Company; Rising Sun Embroidery Works; Royersford Foundry and Machine Company, foundry work; Royersford Hosiery Company, stockings; Royersford Needle Works, sewing machine needles; Royersford Spring Bed Factory; Snow White Bleachery Company; Rogers & Company, fire brick. The products from these many mills find their way to almost every portion of the globe and give employment to hundreds of working men. Of the banking interests, see chapter on Banks and Banking.

The Buckwalter Stove Company was founded in 1866, when Joseph A. Buckwalter and his brother, Henry L. Buckwalter, removed to Royersford, and with C. S. Francis, Henry Francis and John Sheeler organized the firm of Francis, Buckwalter & Company. This concern went into operation January 1, 1866, with a small capital and about fifty men. They manufactured stoves, agricultural implements and the Buckwalter cherry seeder. The Buckwalter brothers were the inventors, and what is rather unusual, they excelled in business qualifications as well. Orders for their goods multiplied rapidly, and the small factory was soon operated to its limit.

In 1870 C. S. Francis withdrew from the business, but no change was made in the firm name. The following year the firm found the capacity of their works too limited for their growing trade, and erected buildings and nearly doubled the capacity of the plant. About two years later, Mr. Henry Francis retired from the firm. The interests of C. S. Francis and Henry Francis were both purchased by the remaining partners, and the firm name was changed to Sheeler, Buckwalter & Company. The demand for their products continued to grow, and in 1875 a plan was laid out for the erection of additional buildings, and the following year construction was started. These plans have been substantially followed in the building up of the present large enterprise.

Shortly thereafter Mr. Sheeler died, and the Messrs. Buckwalter purchased the Sheeler interests and continued the business under the firm name of Buckwalter & Co., and this name continued until 1887. In 1882, Henry L. Buckwalter died, leaving only Joseph A. Buckwalter of the original group of five men who started the enterprise, but Mr. Buck-



BUCKWALTER STOVE COMPANY, ROYERSFORD

walter shouldered the additional responsibility and continued the business under the old style until 1887, when the present corporation was formed under the name of the Buckwalter Stove Company.

In 1888 the plant was increased by the addition of a six-story brick warehouse, increasing the capacity of the plant to about twenty-five thousand stoves and ranges per year. From its very start, this company has built a reputation for honest goods, has employed the best workmen and the best material obtainable, and has maintained an enviable reputation for square dealing with its customers, and has contributed much to the development of the industry. Notable among its achievements was the introduction of the plain finished stoves and ranges, and the enameled stoves and ranges. Enameling was started in 1908, and was looked upon at that time as an additional means for selling stoves. It was not believed possible to develop a large enameling business, but to-day this company finds that the enameled range constitutes a large portion of its trade, and nearly every stove manufacturer in the country has followed the lead of the Buckwalter Stove Company in putting out enameled goods.

The buildings of this company cover about fifteen acres of floor space, with an output of about fifty thousand stoves and ranges a year. The buildings are all of solid construction, and are sprinkled throughout. The factory is served by the Philadelphia & Reading railroad and the Pennsylvania railroad, both of which have switches entering the plant. Buckwalter stoves and ranges are sold from Maine to Florida, and from New Jersey to California.

The officers of the company are as follows: Joseph A. Buckwalter, president; A. L. Buckwalter, vice-president and superintendent; Dr. Joseph A. Buckwalter, treasurer; F. J. Stephenson, secretary.

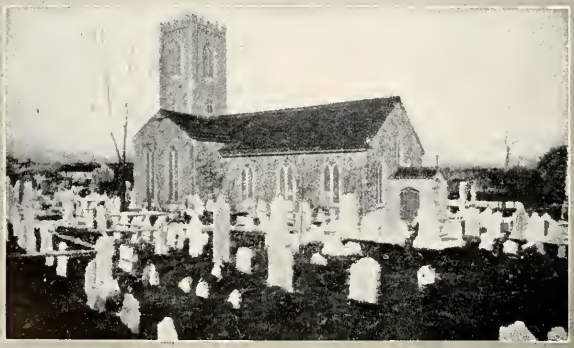
Red Hill—Late in the seventies a post office was established at this point. This "hill" is located on the old turnpike road, about one mile below the former village of Hillegassville. At that time there was a store kept there, the proprietor of which was selling out, and there being no other place for a post office to be housed, it was moved to the store at what is now Red Hill. This village had its real beginning in 1836, when Jacob A. Hillegass built a large general store building as well as a spacious dwelling house. In 1884, records of the place show that the place then consisted of about a dozen dwellings, a schoolhouse belonging to the Upper Hanover district, a blacksmith shop, a tailor shop, a cigar factory, and a few other business interests. As the decades have passed, this has come to be a good trading point; has about eight hundred population; it is a station of considerable importance on the Reading line; has its general stores, shops, hotel, churches, and all that goes to make up a small Montgomery county borough. The place was incorporated in 1902.

Rockledge—This borough, really suburban to the city of Philadelphia, was carved from out the civil township of Abington, in the extreme eastern portion of Montgomery county. It is in close proximity to the borough of Jenkintown, on its west border. It has no industrial interests to mention, but is a fine residential spot and there are hundreds of good residences, also the usual number of general stores and shops. In 1920 the census reports gave it as having a population of 3,045. It is on a branch of the Reading railroad, and has really more interests in Philadelphia than it has, commercially, with Montgomery county.

Souderton—Souderton is situated on the line of the North Pennsylvania railroad, about twenty-seven miles distant from Philadelphia. It also now has easy access to and from outside points, by means of the electric cars, usually running every hour. The Union National Bank (see Bank chapter) was established here in 1876, on a $90,000 capital. For an account of schools, see Educational chapter. The churches now represented in the borough are the Reformed, Brethren in Christ, Evangelical, Mennonites and Lutheran. The present borough officers include these: H. A. Groff, burgess; the clerk of the borough is Mr. Goettler, the newspaper man of the place; H. S. Souder, vice-president of the committee of ways and means. The industries found here are the four clothing factories, the stocking factory and silk mills, all of which are of the smaller size, yet the total persons employed nearly the year round is considerable for a place no larger than Souderton. Then there are the three cigar factories and a cigar box factory.

West Telford—The ground on which stands the village or borough (as it is now) was purchased in 1737, by Conrad Detterer from Humphrey Murray. It originally embraced about one hundred and twenty acres, the major part being on the Montgomery county side of the line. The County Line road was opened up through here in 1752. It stands within a prosperous agricultural section, and this, with a small amount of local retail business, called for a bank, and its history will be seen in Banking chapter in this work. It has a population of about one thousand; the 1920 census gave it 927. It is out of municipal debt, has numerous school and church interests. The churches are the Methodist Episcopal, Lutheran and Reformed denominations. The present burgess is C. A. Paulus; the clerk is postmaster, H. C. Lampoe; treasurer, A. S. Kulp. Of the producing industries of West Telford it may be said there are here found a shirt factory, a clothing factory, two cigar factories, all of which do a thriving business. Just across the county line is Telford. This place is also a borough of some importance, but not being in Montgomery county needs not our attention.

Trappe—The history of this vicinity dates away back to what the present residents are pleased to term "ancient days." This is the oldest



OLDEST LUTHERAN CHURCH IN U. S., TRAPPE—INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR OF OLD SWEDISH CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT

village within Upper Providence township, and was originally called Landau. Samuel Seely bought one hundred and fifty acres in the village, October 19, 1762. This land is on the west side of the turnpike and is nearly opposite the Lutheran church. Simetime about 1763, Mr. Seely divided the land into town lots and called his new town site Landau, but at the other end of the town others were busy making a name for the town, too. The first licensed hotel of Montgomery county shows that in 1784 a license was issued by the court to George Brook for "the Trap Hotel, Providence township," and it was renewed in that form many years thereafter. Notice the spelling, one "p." Time went on and finally it was being advertised and spelled with two "p's," and still later an "e" was added, making it read "Trappe," as it is usually known to-day by everyone. The post office was established in 1819, and its first postmaster was John Todd. Here was built the first Lutheran church in America that was still standing in good shape when Bean wrote his Montgomery county history in 1884, and he says of this historic building: "The Augustus Lutheran Church, Trappe, is the most noted of all the churches in the county. The old building was erected in 1743. Ten years before this time, the Lutheran church was organized in Providence township. The cornerstone was laid May 2, 1743. Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg arrived from Germany, and became the pastor and built the church in 1743." It was he who has credit for founding the Lutheran church in America. In days of the Revolutionary War, he complained that Trappe had no hotel, whereas before the war it boasted of three very good inns. It is still noted as a hotel point for travelers and tourists, especially in summer. The Lamb Hotel and the Fountain House are both very aged and are kept up in good repair and conducted by natural-born landlords.

Trappe of to-day is an incorporated borough, its municipal history only going back about thirty years. Its present burgess is Elmer Burns: its clerk is Frank Shalkop; and the treasurer, Edward Beckman. The population is about four hundred and twenty-five. The borough has an indebtedness of $12,000, running thirty years at five per cent. interest. The indebtedness of the local school district is not heavy, and the best of schools obtain here. In 1922 the present two room schoolhouse was completed at a cost of $20,000. The postmaster, Frank Rushong, has held the position for thirty years, under six Presidents. The churches of the borough are the Reformed, Methodist Episcopal, and Lutheran, the last-named oldest of them all. A good firehouse was erected for the borough in 1912. The Lamb hotel has had more than one hundred annual licenses granted it, while the Fountain Inn has had one hundred and seventeen granted to it. The present landlord, who is also treasurer of the place, Edward Beckman, has been in charge of the hotel for twenty-six years. The only thing to remind one of a lodge here is the Pomona

Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry. Street cars run to and from Norristown nearly every hour in the day.

West Conshohocken—This was incorporated as a borough in 1874, its territory being taken from Upper Merion and Lower Merion township. It stands on the right bank of the Schuylkill river, opposite the borough of Conshohocken. The Pennsylvania and Reading steam railways pass through the place. Here history tells us there were lively times when the British and Continental armies were both in these immediate parts. Industry was first well planted here. It was here that the first textile mills to produce woolen yarns and immense amounts of woolen goods for the surrounding territory started. Also large amounts of pig iron were produced. For many years the industries dwindled to almost nothing, but in recent times have materially revived again, and now make worsted yarns, paper fibre, and numerous chemicals. In 1910 the population was 2,202, but now many more. A couple of years ago the borough indebtedness was only $20,000, and of the school district $21,000. Richard Clinton is present burgess. There is excellent fire protection in way of an effective fire company and modern appliances.

The churches here found are: Free Baptist; St. Gertrude Roman Catholic; Balligomingo Baptist Church, founded in 1840; the Holiness Christian Church; and others. The clubs and lodges for fraternal and benevolent works are numerous among the different classes of people. Washington and his army forded the river at this point in the month of December, 1777. Increased traffic called for a bridge here and the first one was constructed in 1833, the Matson Ford bridge. This was superseded in 1872 by an iron structure which served until recently, when a modern concrete bridge was constructed at great expense. Street car and steam railroad service makes travel to and from the cities only a matter of a few minutes' ride.

NORRISTOWN VIEWS—ELMWOOD PARK PICNIC GROUNDS, HIGH SCHOOL, DE KALB STREET, AND BARBADOES ISLAND

CHAPTER XXXI.

NORRISTOWN BOROUGH.

Norristown, the seat of justice for Montgomery county, is situated on the east bank of the Schuylkill river, sixteen miles northwest of the city of Philadelphia. Since its extension in 1853 it is about two miles square, and in 1885 surveyed out near 2,300 acres, and was then divided into seven wards for municipal governmental affairs. Its front along the river is fully two miles, and extends back about the same distance. At its north is Norriton township; on its southeast is Plymouth township; on the south and southwest is the Schuylkill river. It was created a borough by act of the General Assembly, March 31, 1812, with an area of 520 acres. All its territory was taken from Norriton township, save about 158 acres from Plymouth township in 1853. Within its limits there are two streams entering the Schuylkill, the larger being Stony creek, seven miles long; two of these are in the borough proper, and this rapid stream at one time propelled six gristmills, two sawmills, besides other manufacturing plants. Saw Mill run rises in Whitpain township, is four miles in length, and in its course used to run a gristmill, a sawmill and a clover huller. The population of Norristown has increased rapidly at different periods in its history. The United States census gives figures as follows: In 1820 there were 827 inhabitants; in 1830, 1,009; in 1840, 2,937; in 1850, 6,024; in 1860, 8,848; in 1870, 10,753; in 1880 it had 13,163; in 1900, 22,265; in 1920 it had 32,819. In May, 1883, Norristown contained 281 licensed retailers and dealers, besides 29 hotels, 13 restaurants, eight liquor stores and two breweries. Going back to 1840, the stores only numbered fourteen; in 1858 they had grown to 108, and in 1876 to 193. In 1790 the place only had 18 houses; in 1832 it had 151; in 1850, 1,006; in 1860 it had 1,662 dwellings, occupied by 1,673 families. The place was early devoted to manufacturing. Early in the eighties the industries had come to be listed as follows: Ten cotton and woolen factories; two furnaces and iron works; three foundries, two tack works, two shirt and two hosiery factories; three lumber and planing mills; two merchant flour mills, oil and glass works, gleaner and binder, with lesser industries.

Civil Government—By an act of the Assembly dated February 8, 1847, the borough was divided into what was termed Upper and Lower Wards. Again in 1852 it was divided into Upper, Middle and Lower Wards. May 12, 1871, it was further divided into First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Wards. In December, 1881, the Sixth Ward was created by the Court of Quarter Sessions. The next change in wards was when on May 20, 1884, First Ward was divided, and from it the Seventh

Ward was made, and comprised all the territory within the borough limits westward from Chain street, as it extends from the Schuylkill north to Elm street. The present number of wards is eleven.

Before going into a detailed account of the municipality of Norristown, with a list of its more important officials, it is well to know the vital facts connected with the history of the place before it was an incorporated borough. The village of Norristown, or rather the spot selected as the county seat, in 1784, when Montgomery county was separated from Philadelphia county, consisted of the new county buildings, a mill at the foot of Swede street, schoolhouse, two stores, three taverns, a dozen or not to exceed twenty dwellings, with less than one hundred inhabitants. The public buildings were erected on the natural grade of the earth, Swede street, descending to Egypt (now Main street), which was so steep as to be difficult to use; accordingly, years afterwards, it was excavated some depth, leaving the "court-house yard," as it used to be called, several feet above the street, and a retaining wall erected against the bank, which remained until about 1855, when the square was graded, terraced, and inclosed by the borough of Norristown. At the time the wall improvement was made (supposed about 1804) a small one-storied stone building was erected at the southwestern corner of the square, on Main street, for the accommodation of the "Pat Lyon" fire-engine, in which it remained stored until the removal of the old court-house and improvement of the public square, before stated.

It should be remembered that Norristown did not become a borough until 1812, which was twenty-eight years after the county was organized and Norristown was selected as the county seat. Prior to 1810 there were no means of crossing the Schuylkill river except by the crude ferries, but during that year the Flat Rock bridge between Lower Merion and Manayunk, and about that date the Pawling bridge for the Ridge road, between Lower Providence and Chester county, were built. But in 1821 the Schuylkill was spanned by another bridge at Pottstown. As early as 1815 there had been an act passed for a bridge at Norristown, but for want of funds was not undertaken until 1828-29, when a fine arched foot and carriage-way of 1,050 lineal feet was built at a cost of $31,200. This is the old covered bridge. Up to about 1820 the river front at Norristown was but farming land, and previous to the DeKalb street bridge, just mentioned, that street was not opened up much below Lafayette, and between the line of Washington street and the river it was only a rough uneven cart-road so steep as to be almost impassable to carriages. It may be said that up to 1816 Norristown and Pottstown, the only boroughs of the county, had improved little beyond a cross-road village. In that year David Sower's weekly newspaper (the "Herald" of to-day), records the extent of Norristown thus: "Near one hundred houses, including public buildings, one clergyman, five lawyers, five taverns, and a daily stage to Philadelphia." But a new era was ushered

NORRISTOWN CHURCHES
TRINITY REFORMED—ST. PATRICK'S—ALL SAINTS

in for this county and borough in 1826, when the canal was completed, this great work extending from Philadelphia to Port Carbon, in Schuylkill county, one hundred and eight miles, and cost $2,966,480, or about $27,000 per mile. It consisted of sixty-three miles of canal proper, and forty-five of slack-water navigation, made so by thirty-four dams. The original one hundred and nine locks, eighty feet long and seventeen broad, were enlarged in 1846, and so increased in capacity as to pass boats of one hundred and eighty tons, instead of sixty as before; and the shipping of coal, which began the first year at 16,776 tons, increased steadily until by 1857 it had reached 1,275,988 tons, notwithstanding a railroad competition had been fully established. But the most important result of this great achievement to our county was the creation of water-power, taken up and utilized at Norristown and Conshohocken. Previous to this time there had been no manufactory of cotton or other textile fabrics in our county on the line of the Schuylkill, driven by its water-power. In 1826 McCredy's cotton factory and a white lead and stone sawing mill were erected and soon went into operation, and not long after a rolling and nail mill, all driven by water-power drawn from the Navigation dam at Norristown. At Conshohocken, also, another stone mill, a gristmill, sheet iron works and spade factory of James Wood & Sons were put into operation by the surplus water of Plymouth dam. Within the limits of Montgomery county, and between it, Philadelphia, and Chester, the Navigation erected six dams, the lowest of them at Manayunk, hardly inferior as a source of power to that on the Merrimac at Lowell, Massachusetts. The next important era in Norristown was the coming of the Pennsylvania railroad in 1834, and the Philadelphia & Reading in 1838, with other lines now controlled by those two great systems of steam railway.

From 1847 on to the period ending in the seventies and eighties, there were many excellent borough improvements in way of public buildings, etc. These were described in 1883 as follows:

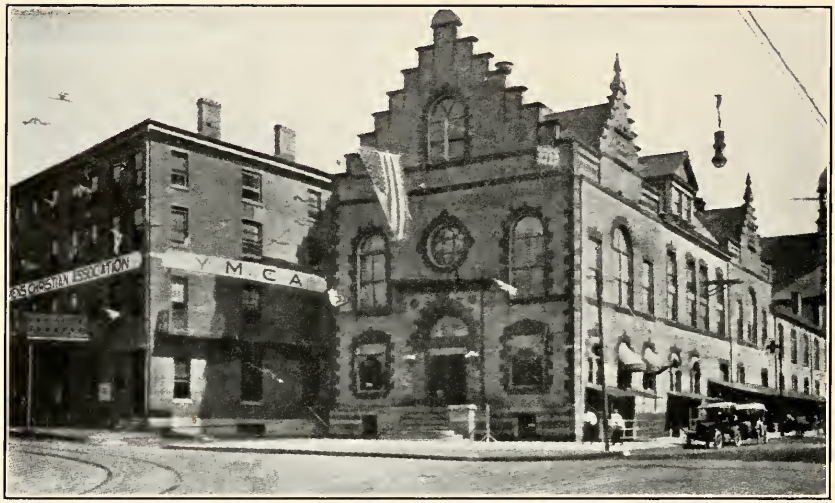
Norristown Insurance and Water Company's works, erected 1847, and greatly enlarged, with new basin, 1879; Montgomery Cemetery, 1848; Norristown Gas Company's works, constructed 1853; market-house, covering the square from Airy to Marshall, built about 1855; Norris City Cemetery, founded 1858; Montgomery National Banking-House, erected 1854, and First National building, 1869; Farmers' Market (formerly Reiff's), established about 1868; Norristown Library building, erected 1859; Odd Fellows' Hall, erected 1850; Soldiers' Monument, nineteen feet high, erected in the public square, 1870; Music Hall, with accommodations for Masonic lodge and post office; Western Market House and Hall, at Kohn and Marshall streets. Conspicuous among Norristown's latest public improvements is the great State Hospital for the Insane. The fire department of the borough consists of the Norris, Humane, and Montgomery Hose and Steam Fire Engines, and the Fairmount Hose or Hook-and-Ladder Company. All of these associations have erected large three-story brick engine houses with

capacious halls; the first especially is one of the stateliest edifices in the town, and it is not an over-estimate to value the apparatus and real estate of all the firemen of Norristown at near a hundred thousand dollars.

The DeKalb street bridge, already mentioned briefly, is of enough commercial importance to have an additional explanation as to its origin, and present owership, and also its condition in this year, 1923. It was commenced in the early spring of 1829, and by September was so far finished as to admit foot-passengers. It was built by an incorporated company in 1830, at a cost of $21,200, and commenced taking toll January 9th of that year. It is eight hundred feet in length, exclusive of its abutments. The company's first president was Mathias Roberts; Joseph Thomas, treasurer; Thomas M. Jolly, secretary; and William LeBarrow, builder and contractor. Soon after the Civil War it had to be rebuilt. It was then the county held stock in the enterprise to the amount of $23,000. The people clamored for a free bridge, and while it was first strongly agitated in 1870, nothing definite was accomplished until in 1872 it was talked that unless a free bridge was made of it, the county would construct another in the vicinity. The Legislature passed an act in 1872 prohibiting the building of a bridge across Pennsylvania rivers within three thousand feet of any toll bridge then in operation. The fight was then on between a corporation and the public. A Free Bridge Association was organized, and after a long hardfought battle the bridge was declared free October 13, 1884, the county taking it in charge. DeKalb street, remember, is on the old State road, and was forty feet wide from Delaware county to the Maryland State line. This quite well preserved wooden arch-covered wagon, street car and foot bridge structure, has carried its tens of thousands of persons to and from Bridgeport during its existence. Its age and much needed repairs called for action this year, when the county commissioners finally agreed to repair the structure at an expense of $35,000, rather than build a new structure throughout. The work is now progressing.

The various churches and schools of Norristown, and they are numerous and most excellent in their standards, have all been treated in separate chapters of this work; also the prodigious manufacturing plants of this and other nearby boroughs, form a chapter under the head of Industries of the County, hence need no further mention in this connection.

Libraries, Historical Society—Besides school libraries, Norristown has two libraries. The Norristown Library was founded in 1794, incorporated April 30, 1796, and its charter was signed by Governor Thomas Mifflin. It has had various locations, but is now situated in a permanent home in a two-story brick building on DeKalb street, near Airy, to which it moved in 1859. Its first catalogue was printed in 1836 contain-



AIRY AND DE KALB STREETS, NORRISTOWN
(CITY HALL AND Y. M. C. A.)

WEST MAIN STREET, NORRISTOWN
(SHOWING MASONIC TEMPLE)

ing forty pages. It is still a subscription library and the price of shares is $5.00 each. Life membership costs $20.00. Present number of books in excess of 27,000.

The other library is situated on Oak street, opposite the High School, and is the gift of a retired business man named William McCann, who in about 1879, while walking through the then new school building remarked that it ought to have a room fitted up for a library. Two years later, following out the idea, his will made a bequeathment of $14,000—$2,000 to fit up a building, and the remainder to be invested and only the income used in support of the library. This income now amounts to about $300 each year. He gave it to the Norristown School Board with provision that in case they ceased to care for the same, it should be turned over to the borough council. Another clause in the provision was that "it is to be a free public library to all citizens over the age of ten years." The money was received from the McCann estate in 1884; the first books were bought and the library opened to the public March 1, 1885. It was reorganized in 1899, and Miss Mumford was appointed to catalogue the books. The library outgrew its room in the school building in 1910 and new quarters had to be secured, and it was then moved to its present quarters in the second story of a brick building on Oak, near DeKalb street. The last report rendered by the librarian, Helen A. Bomberger, in 1922, shows the library to contain 8,002 volumes of bound books, besides numerous collections of periodicals. The librarians include the following: The Misses Erskine, Harriet A. Mumford, and Miss Zimmerman, who was the first. The present librarian has been in charge since 1910. If the borough is lacking in anything of public utility it certainly is in the matter of a larger, better public library, centrally located.

The Montgomery County Historical Society was founded February 22, 1881, under a call from fourteen prominent citizens of Norristown and outside boroughs. It was not incorporated until 1883. The first officers were: Theo. W. Bean, president; Reuben Kreible, Prof. R. T. Hoffecker and Dr. Hiram Corson; recording secretary, J. S. Shrawder, M. D.; Isaac Chism, treasurer; librarian, Nathaniel Jacoby. Its first great undertaking was the holding of the county's centennial celebration, in 1884.

As set forth in their own language "The object of a County Historical Society is to perpetuate a record of important events occurring within the confines of the county, or in any way affecting its welfare, and also to preserve the memory of eminent persons who have lived within its borders, or who have advanced its general interests." Much of the success of the early undertakings of this society was due to the unstinted labors of Colonel Theo. W. Bean, who was largely influential in its organization. He labored for it and worked hard to keep it up. At his death the society lost one of its most active members. He was its first

president, and served in such capacity until 1889, when he declined reëlection any longer. He was succeeded as president by Hon. Jones Detwiler, and the latter by Hon. Hiram C. Hoover. Year after year the society has been collecting historic volumes, until a recent invoice shows they have upwards of three thousand volumes in binding, besides other publications of great historic value. They also are making a collection of curiosities and relics of interest to all Eastern Pennsylvanians. They purchased the old red brick borough building (City Hall), near the court house, on January 6, 1897, for $5,500. The present officers of the Historical Society are: President, Irvin P. Knipe, Esq.; first vice-president, H. Severn Regar; second vice-president, Edward W. Hocker; third vice-president, Samuel Yeakle, Esq.; treasurer, Dr. W. H. Reed; recording secretary, George K. Brecht; corresponding secretary, Miss Lillian Childs; financial secretary, Mrs. William M. Gearhart; curator, William M. Gearhart.

Washington and the British Both Here—To digress from modern history a little, the writer desires to here relate the appearance of the British soldiers, in this place, as well as of General Washington and his soldiers having crossed the Schuylkill river at this point. Our authority is that nearly always correct local writer, William J. Buck, who treats this as follows:

Only two days after the defeat of Washington at Brandywine he dispatched General Armstrong, with a portion of the militia, along the Schuylkill to throw up redoubts at the different fords which were to be occasionally occupied, that in case the British should attempt to cross they might be opposed. At that time the principal crossing-place was at Swedes' Ford, and on this account it was expected that they might pass there, and for this reason, under the direction of Chevalier Du Portail, an engineer, formerly in the French army, Armstrong's men threw up entrenchments and breastworks opposite that place, and now in the borough, and it is said that they were scarcely completed before the British made their appearance on the other side, but in consequence changed their line of march towards Valley Forge. Remains of these works were still visible forty years ago. While Washington was near Pottsgrove the enemy crossed the Schuylkill at Fatland Ford, five and a half miles above Norristown, on the night of September 22, 1777, and proceeded leisurely on their march to the city. On the 23rd a portion of their army was overnight in or near the present borough, on which occasion they set fire and burned down nearly all the buildings in the place. So great was the damage done that on a valuation being made, the State allowed to Colonel Bull for his loss £2080, to the University £1000, to Hannah Thompson £807 and William Dewees £329—the whole equivalent to $11,240 of our present currency.

Other sections of this work have mentioned many pioneer hotels or inns, hence no detail need be had here as to the many Norristown taverns, further than to say that in 1837 the place had nine public houses. The "Washington" was kept by Abraham Markley, the "Rising Sun"

by Samuel Sharpless, the "Eagle" by Henry Kerr, the Norristown Hotel by Jacob Spang, and the "Pennsylvania Farmer" by Daniel Emery. In 1880 all had disappeared except the Eagle, which was rebuilt and greatly enlarged and afterward called the "Rambo House," and it is still conducted. To-day there are the Hamilton, the Montgomery, the Penn, the Hartranft, the Lincoln, and a few others, but the traveling public claim there is still room for others of the right type.

In the public square adjoining the court house has been erected a monument of white and blue marble—a base bearing the inscription of the 547 soldiers who lost their lives in the struggle known as the Rebellion, between 1861-65, and surmounting this square base is a handsome shaft with an American eagle with extended wings on its topmost peak. Nearly eight thousand men went from this county as members of the Union army. As has been said, "Patriotism has ever been a part of our business in Montgomery County."

Barbadoes island is in the Schuylkill river, opposite Norristown borough, and was mentioned in a warrant from William Penn to Ralph Fretwell, a merchant from Barbadoes, as early as August 16, 1684, as "the long island called Barbadoes." They were both at this time in this country, the latter having arrived in Philadelphia, according to his certificate to the Friends' meeting there, in the beginning of that year. The island appears on the map of Thomas Holmes in original surveys executed 1695. It became attached to the Manor of Williamstadt, granted to William Penn, Jr., October 2, 1704, and a few days later sold to Isaac Norris and William Trent. The former, in 1720, purchased the right of his partner, and thus it was retained in the Norris family. Documentary evidence of the foregoing is as follows:

In pursuance of a Warrant from the Proprietaries, to me directed, December 17, 1733, I certify I have surveyed unto Isaac Norris, of Fair Hill, Esq., all that Great Island lying in the River Schuylkill, opposite the Manor of Williamstadt, situate in the County of Philadelphia, the said Island being in length about 400 perches, and in breadth in the broadest place about 60 perches, containing 88 acres. Returned into the Secretary's office, 8th of 12th month, 1733-34.

BENJAMIN EASTBURN, Sur.-General.

Charles Norris, during his lifetime, which was previous to 1770, erected a dam from the northern shore across to Barbadoes Island to propel his gristmill, which in reality led to the great water-power obtained from the Schuylkill in later times. At that time this island was heavily timbered, and in the autumn of 1804 an advertisement appeared calling for men to cut thereon one hundred and fifty cords of wood, and a year later it was advertised for sale, and described as containing forty acres of standing timber. Early military and other parades were held on this island "off the coast of Norristown." It later became quite a summer resort and had a floating bath house and other unique attractions. In

the spring of 1805 hand bills were out calling attention to the "Barbadoes Island Races" of May 8th, when $400 were given as prizes. To-day the island is the seat of factory and electric power enterprises, with no semblance of trees or handsome parking, as once was the design of its proprietors. There was a fine, strong spring of pure water flowing on the island for generations. The land was finally all reduced to agricultural purposes, the soil being of the most fertile quality.

The first post office in Norristown was in 1799, with John Davis as postmaster. From that date to 1884 the postmasters have included Messrs. James Wells, Isaiah W. Davis, Philip Hahn, John Sutlee, Henry G. Hart, Dr. E. L. Acker, Robert Iredell, 1861-66; Henry Quilman, Samuel Brown and Robert Iredell. From that time to the present the postmasters have been: George Schall, Albrecht K. Kneule, John W. Schall, Henry M. Brownback, Albert K. Kneule, and present incumbent H. Stanley Drake. The beautiful and substantial government post office structure is situated at the corner of Main and Barbadoes streets, was finished in 1905, and cost the United States $100,000. There are now twenty clerks and twenty carriers to do the work in the Norristown post office.

APPENDIX

CHAPEL, URSINUS COLLEGE, COLLEGEVILLE

APPENDIX.

Ursinus College.

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania on the 5th day of February, 1869, granted a liberal charter for the founding of "an institution of learning, for the purpose of imparting instruction in Science, Literature. the Liberal Arts and the Learned Professions," to a board of directors previously chosen. The corporation of the new college was organized at a meeting of the directors held in the city of Philadelphia, February 10, 1869. The original board of directors consisted of the following-named persons: James Koons, Sr., J. Knipe, W. D. Gross, H. W. Kratz, A. Kline, H. K. Harnish, Abraham Hunsicker, Sr., J. W. Sunderland, John Wiest, A. W. Myers, H. H. W. Hibshman, A. Van Haagen, J. H. A. Bomberger, J. G. Wiehle, J. Dahlman, Jr., Emanuel Longacre, George Schall, W. L. Graver, William Sorber, Nathan Pennypacker, N. Gehr,

The causes which led to the founding of the new college lay in the conditions which prevailed at that time in the Reformed Church in the United States, to which body a majority of the directors of the college belonged. The decades immediately preceding had been a period of theological discussion and debate. The Reformed Church was divided into two parties or wings, a high church party and a low church party. The institutions in the eastern part of the church were in the hands of the high church party, which at that time showed decided Romanizing tendencies. As a protest against these tendencies, and for the purpose of providing an institution for the training of ministers and "an institution where the youth of the land could be liberally educated under the benign influence of Christianity," the conservative or low church party founded Ursinus College. The founders chose as a name for the new institution that of Ursinus, one of the authors of the Heidelberg Catechism, and a professor in the University of Heidelberg in Germany.

In seeking a location for the new institution, the board of directors chose Collegeville (then known as Freeland), Montgomery county. At this place a boys' school, Freeland Seminary, had been conducted successfully for more than twenty years, having been founded in 1848. In this school more than three thousand young men had received preparation for college and training for their life work. This school property, well and favorably located, was purchased; Freeland Seminary was incorporated into the new institution as its academic or preparatory department, and on September 6, 1870, Ursinus College was formally opened and instruction was begun. The college began its career without any endowment. Men of ample means, who had planned to provide for its maintenance, were interested in the new institution, but the financial

NOTE—This important narrative reached the editor too late for its appearance elsewhere in our work.

panic of 1873 swept away the funds intended to be devoted to this cause and the college was destined to undergo the severest financial struggles. During the first two decades it was maintained and supported chiefly by contributions from individuals and congregations. The founder and first president, the Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., and those associated with him in the management of the institution, were frequently confronted with great difficulties in securing sufficient funds to keep the college open.

The original faculty of Ursinus College consisted of President Bomberger, the Rev Henry W. Super, A. M., J. Shelly Weinberger, A. M., Dr. J. Warrenne Sunderland, the Rev. John Van Haagen, A. M., and Dr. J. Warren Royer. These were all men of thorough education and large experience, and the new college had therefore the advantage of starting its work with a strong faculty. Dr. Bomberger was a graduate of Marshall College; he had been a successful minister for upwards of thirty years; he had occupied prominent pulpits in the church, and had served on its most important boards. He had knowledge of the management of educational institutions. In addition to the executive duties, he took charge of the intellectual and moral sciences, evidences of Christianity and Biblical studies. The Rev. Henry W. Super was also a graduate of Marshall College who had served both in the pastorate and the professor's chair. He became professor of the higher mathematics, mechanics, the harmony of science and revealed religion. Prof. Weinberger was a graduate of Yale College, who for ten years had been teacher of the ancient languages in Freeland Seminary. He became professor of Latin and Greek in the college. Dr. Sunderland, a graduate of Wesleyan University, was a trained educator who had had experience as a teacher in several institutions, east and west; he became professor of the natural sciences. The Rev. John Van Haagen, a thorough scholar of American and European training, became professor of the German language and literature, history, etc. Dr. J. Warren Royer, a graduate of Princeton College and of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, offered lectures in physiology and anatomy. Besides these heads of departments, several instructors were employed.

During the first twenty years of history, covering the period of the presidency of Dr. Bomberger, the college carried forward its work amidst many discouragements. At its founding the patronage was good, but owing to financial and other difficulties it soon began to fall off. Because there was no adequate endowment, the financial problem was ever present, and the first generation of men, who devoted themselves to the cause of higher education in Ursinus College, had to make many sacrifices. President Bomberger died on August 19, 1890. During the years immediately preceding his death he had a fixed conviction that in order to save the struggling college, some forward step must be taken

to bring it prominently before the public. The tender of a contribution of $25,000 by Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, a member of the board of directors, for the erection of an administration building, opened the way for this advance step. At the commencement in June, President Bomberger had the pleasure of announcing this gift. This splendid gift gave the now aged president new hope. The day was saved, and the college for which he had labored so earnestly would have a brighter future. But, like Moses of old, he was not permitted to enter the promised land; he could only view it from the distance, for before the building could be erected, Dr. Bomberger had passed away.

After the death of President Bomberger, Dr. Henry W. Super, then vice-president of the college, was made acting president by the board of directors. He served in this capacity during the year 1890-91. During the following year (1891-92), Dr. George W. Williard, for many years president of Heidelberg College, in Tiffin, Ohio, who had become a member of the faculty, served as acting president. In the summer of 1892 the board elected Dr. Super president of the college. He filled that office for one year until June, 1893, at which time on account of increasing age he retired from the college and from active life.

With the retirement of President Super, the first period of the history of Ursinus College may be said to have been brought to a close. The educational work of the college during the three years since the death of Dr. Bomberger was carried on upon the same lines as during his presidency. However, it was during this period that the new administration building, made possible by the gift of Robert Patterson, was erected. The board of directors under the leadership of its president, Henry W. Kratz, and under the inspiration and guidance of Dr. Henry T. Spangler, erected the splendid building which in memory of Dr. Bomberger was named Bomberger Memorial Hall. The corner-stone of the new building was laid on commencement day, 1891, and the building was dedicated on commencement day of the following year.

Upon the resignation of Dr. Super from the presidency, the board of directors elected the Rev. Henry T. Spangler to that office. Dr. Spangler was an alumnus of the college, having been graduated in its first class in 1873. He had served for some years in the pastorate, and as financial agent of the college had collected large sums of money for the maintenance of its work and for the erection of Bomberger Hall. He had also become a member of the faculty, and was therefore familiar with all the problems, both financial and educational, that confronted the institution. The new president saw that if the college was to take a place among the colleges of the State and the Nation, it would have to move forward. The new administration building just completed furnished the equipment on the physical side for a forward step. He proceeded at once to move forward on the educational side. After carefully studying the systems

of educational organization in the best colleges in the country, he decided upon what came to be known as the "group system." "By this system the courses of instruction are offered in carefully arranged groups, each comprising (1) dominant subjects which adapt the group to the intellectual tastes and the future pursuits of the student; (2) other prescribed subjects essential to a liberal education and required of all students; and (3) elective subjects from which may be selected studies meeting the particular objectives of each individual." This system was then new, but has since that time, with various modifications, been adopted by many of the best colleges in the country.

The men who had filled the chairs during the first two decades were gradually making place for new men. They had been college professors of the old type—fine, gentlemanly, scholarly in the broad sense of that term. As their places became vacant, it was the policy of the new president to fill them with university-trained men who were specialists in their departments. This was the means of giving the college better standing with the universities and professional schools, and the Ursinus graduates experienced no difficulty in entering the best institutions in the country for graduate and professional study. The training under the latter type of teacher stimulated a number of the graduates of the college to pursue further study, and in turn to occupy prominent places in the educational world.

Another distinct step in advance was the establishing of thoroughly equipped laboratories for the study of physics, chemistry and biology. This meant the transition from the old method of pursuing these branches largely from text books, to the newer and more practical method of pursuing them in the laboratory with apparatus and experimental material at hand. All this was in keeping with the rapid progress which these sciences were then beginning to make. The library also was moved into larger and better adapted quarters, was completely reorganized, and greatly enlarged by the purchase of books, magazines, journals and reviews.

When President Spangler entered upon his office, the college owned only eight acres of ground, the plot purchased in 1869. With a view to future expansion, he purchased during his administration adjacent tracts until the acreage was increased to fifty-two. Including a few small plots which have been purchased since then, the college now owns fifty-six acres.

Dr. Spangler resigned the presidency of the college in 1904 and was succeeded by the Rev. David W. Ebbert, D. D., also an alumnus of the college. Dr. Ebbert occupied the presidency for a period of less than two years, leaving the office January 1, 1906. For a brief period thereafter the executive duties were administered by a committee of the faculty consisting of Dean George L. Omwake and Professors Whorten A. Kline and William W. Chandler.

In 1907 the board of directors chose as the fifth president of the college the Rev. A. Edwin Keigwin, D. D., of New York City. Dr. Keigwin was a graduate of Princeton University and a minister in the Presbyterian church. He held the office for a period of five years until 1912, at the same time filling the pastorate of the West End Presbyterian Church in New York. The duties of these two offices proved too onerous for President Keigwin; he therefore decided to resign the presidency of the college and to devote all his time to the duties of his large parish. During the presidency of Dr. Keigwin the administrative duties on the educational side were largely in charge of Professor George L. Omwake, who had been a member of the faculty since 1901, dean of the college since 1903, and who was elected vice-president in 1909.

Dr. George L. Omwake was elected to the presidency of the college in 1912, and thus became the sixth in line in that office. Dr. Omwake by education, training and experience came to his office with superior preparation. He had a thorough preparatory, collegiate and university training, holding degrees from Ursinus College, where he was graduated in 1898, from Yale University and from Franklin and Marshall College. He had been a teacher in the public school and a lecturer and professor in college. His experience as a teacher and as dean and vice-president had acquainted him with every form of educational and administrative problem in the conduct of the college.

One of President Omwake's deep convictions is that students in order to do good honest intellectual work, must be well housed and properly nourished. Their living conditions and environment must be such as will be conducive to mental effort. He accordingly set himself the task of remodeling the group of dormitories occupied by the men in the college, and of providing a dining-room and kitchen equipment that would make it possible to administer the boarding department so that it should become an educational factor. Having provided comfortable lodgings for the students, the new president made provision to have them properly supervised and kept, so that the life of the Ursinus student on the domestic side is lived under favorable conditions. A like careful attention is given to the houses where the young women live, the purpose being to keep all the students in a fit and happy frame of mind so that they may give their best efforts to their physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual development.

The number of students in the college increased largely during President Omwake's administration. In 1911-12 there were 200 students in the college; in 1922-23 the number had increased to 324. This necessitated the enlargement of the faculty, the extension of the equipment and the use of all available space. The basement of Bomberger Hall, which had never been finished and consequently not used, was put to use. Ample quarters were there provided for the increasing number of

day students, and a large chemical laboratory was constructed. Athletic fields were extended and improved, and the Field House and the Thompson Field Cage were erected. The Clark Memorial Organ, the gift of Mrs. Charles Heber Clark in memory of her husband, was installed in 1916. The college farm was placed in charge of a competent manager, so that it now provides vegetables, provisions and dairy products for the boarding department. Several new artesian wells were drilled and an entirely new water system was installed, thus providing an ample supply of water for all purposes.

During the World War the college directed its efforts toward serving the nation and the cause espoused by our country. A unit of the Student Army Training Corps was established, and under the commanding officer, Lieutenant Stanley S. Wohl, attained to a high degree of efficiency. Two hundred and seventy-one alumni, former and present students, entered the service of their country in the army and navy. A number of the young men rose to the rank of officers. Nine persons gave up their lives in the service, several having been killed in action and the others having died from wounds received or diseases contracted while in the service. In order to rear a fitting memorial to the Ursinus men who made the supreme sacrifice and in honor of those who served their country in the army and navy, and to provide for an urgent need of the college, the alumni and former non-graduate students undertook the erection of the Memorial Library Building. This building, erected at a cost of $90,000, is not only a fine memorial, but a most useful addition to the educational equipment of the college. It contains a large main reading room, seminar rooms, work rooms, the office of the librarian, a faculty room and a fireproof stack room. The book capacity of the building is about 65,000. The cornerstone was laid in 1921, and the building was completed for use in 1923.

Ursinus College maintained a preparatory department from the beginning of its history. This was continued under the name of Ursinus Academy until 1910 when, because of the rapid development of the public high school, its need was no longer imperative and it was discontinued. The theological department was opened for instruction in September, 1871, and was conducted at Collegeville in connection with the college until 1898, when it was removed to Philadelphia. In 1907 a Compact of Union was ratified by the board of directors of the college, by which the instruction of the Ursinus School of Theology is conducted in the Central Theological Seminary, located in Dayton, Ohio. The School of Theology up to the time of its removal to Dayton had prepared more than two hundred men for the Gospel ministry.

Ursinus College was founded as a men's college and conducted on this principle until 1881, when its doors were opened to women on equal conditions with the men. At first the number of women in attendance was small, but it gradually increased until it reached forty per centum of

the student body. It is a principle of the institution that the number of men admitted as students shall at all times considerably exceed the number of women admitted. It has always been the policy of the college to fill the larger number of teaching positions with men. The college has graduated fifty classes, the number of alumni being 819, of whom 615 are men and 204 women.

The courses of instruction offered by Ursinus College are those offered by the first-class small liberal arts colleges. The courses are arranged in the following parallel groups: Classical, Mathematical, Chemical-Biological, Historical-Political, English-Historical, Modern Language, and Economics and Business Administration. Students upon entrance register in one of these groups and are directly under the guidance of the adviser of the group of their choice. The requirements for graduation are that a student must complete satisfactorily one hundred and twenty semester hours of work, not counting the work in physical training which is also required. The student upon completion of his course receives the degree of Bachelor of Arts, or Bachelor of Science, depending upon the choice of studies. The college does not offer any graduate studies and does not confer any degrees above the Bachelor's, except that on academic occasions honorary degrees may be conferred upon persons whose distinguished ability may have been deemed worthy of such recognition by the Faculty.

The buildings occupied by the college are Bomberger Hall, the main administration building where are the offices, the chapel, recitation rooms, laboratories and society halls; the Alumni Memorial Library building, which houses the growing library; Freeland, Derr and Stine halls, a group of dormitories occupied by the men students; Olevian, Shreiner, Trinity and The Maples, houses occupied by the women students, besides a rented house used for the same purpose; Sprankle Hall, occupied by officers and employees of the college; Superhouse, the residence of the president; the Thompson Athletic Cage and the Field House, which provide facilities for the athletics.

The corporation of the college, consisting of the board of directors, is composed as follows: James M. Anders, M. D., LL. D., the Hon. Andrew R. Brodbeck, LL. D., the Hon. Thomas E. Brooks, Charles C. Burdan, J. Truman Ebert, A. D. Fetterolf, the Rev. I. Calvin Fisher, D. D., Hervey C. Gresh, Abraham H. Hendricks, Esq., J. F. Hendricks, Esq., the Rev. George W. Hensen, D. D., Alvin Hunsicker, B. S., the Rev. James M. S. Isenberg, D. D., Whorten A. Kline, Litt. D., Edward A. Krusen, M. D., Mayne R. Longstreth, Esq., A. M., the Rev. James W. Meminger, D. D., the Rev. S. L. Messinger, D. D., George L. Omwake, Pd. D., Harry E. Paisley, Elwood S. Snyder, M. D., Henry T. Spangler, D. D., Joseph M. Steele, the Rev. Edward F. Wiest, D. D., the Rev. Calvin D. Yost, A. M.

The Faculty of the college is constituted (1923) as follows: George L. Omwake, B. D., Pd. D., president, and professor of the history and philosophy of education; Whorten A. Kline, A. M., Litt. D., dean, and professor of the Latin language and literature; Rev. James I. Good, D. D., LL. D., professor of the history of the Christian church; Homer Smith, Ph. D., professor of the English language and literature; Matthew Beardwood, M. D., Sc. D., professor of chemistry; John Wentworth Clawson, A. M., Sc. D., professor of mathematics; Carl Vernon Tower, Ph. D., professor of philosophy; William W. Baden, Ph. D., professor of Greek and Spanish; Raymond Burton Munson, A. M., professor of history and political science; Ezra Allen, Ph. D., professor of biology; William Wells Jordan, D. D., professor of the English Bible; Calvin D. Yost, A. M., B. D., librarian, and assistant professor of German; Paul Allen Mertz, A. M., assistant to the president, and assistant professor of education; Paul Kenneth Edwards, M. B. A., assistant professor of economics; Martin W. Witmer, A. B., instructor in English composition and rhetoric; Veo Fuller Small, A. M., instructor in French; William Ralph Gawthrop, A. B., instructor in chemistry and physics; Clara E. Waldron, instructor in piano, harmony and history of music; Dorothy Adele Mentzer, A. B., instructor in piano and theory; Marion Gertrude Spangler, A. B., instructor in voice culture and choral singing; Madeleine D. Roe, director of physical training and instructor in public speaking for women; Allison G. Cornog, A. B., director of athletics and physical training for men; Ammon G. Kershner, M. D., college physician.

Montgomery County Post Offices.

Forty years ago William J. Buck, of Norristown, wrote the following article on the post offices of Montgomery county, which will doubtless be read by the reader of to-day as well as in future generations with no little interest, showing as it does the development of the postal system. It will be observed that he wrote a few years before we had established the present rural free delivery system, which now covers the county completely, and insures almost every nook and corner within the large county a daily mail service at their door, except Sundays.

Our modern requirements and necessities have certainly made the post office an important place to every hamlet, village and town. To lack in this is to be wanting in one of the elements of business prosperity to which, however humble, every place aspires. Besides, there is the amount of intelligence and information which it conveys, and which contributes not a little to the diffusion of knowledge. The post office of a country village to a close observer of human nature affords an interesting place of study; we mean on the immediate arrival and opening of the mails, by watching the actions and countenances of the various individuals thus brought together. Generally silent, and looking inquiringly and anxiously. The result is, while a few depart pleased, others are disappointed or distressed. Ah! those little silent messages, that so won-

derfully, through education, enable us, however distant, to still hold intercourse with each other! How often to their receivers the source of pleasure or pain! Then there are, too, the newspapers and magazines; with what haste are their wrappers torn off, and their contents devoured! Yet this is but a common every-day occurrence at a post office.

William Penn, as Proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania, issued an order in July, 1683, for the establishment of a post office, and granted Henry Waldy, of Tacony, authority to hold one, and supply passengers from Philadelphia to the Falls and New Castle. The rate of postage on letters from the Falls to the city was three-pence, to Chester five-pence, and to New Castle seven-pence. A trip was made once a week. Colonel Andrew Hamilton was postmaster-general of the province for several years, receiving for his services an annual salary from the Assembly. It was not till after the reorganization of our present government, in 1789, that Congress established post offices and made the requisite arrangements for the transportation of the mail. Like everything else in the beginning, it was at first a slow and crude affair, and, from the nature of circumstances, could not be expected to have that dispatch that now distinguishes it. Then a letter from Boston to Philadelphia was longer on its journey than now from either of those cities to Europe. The time for railroad travel, ocean steamboat navigation and magnetic telegraphs had not come. In November, 1796, there were but five hundred and two post offices in the United States and thirty-three in Pennsylvania.

During the colonial period but three post offices were established in this State,—namely, at Philadelphia, Chester and Bristol,—and not one within the present limits of Montgomery or Chester counties. In 1791 the number had increased in Pennsylvania to ten. The first in this county was established at Pottstown in October, 1793, and Jacob Barr was appointed postmaster. The next was a few years afterwards at Norristown, of which John Davis was postmaster in 1799. Surprising to relate, so slow was their introduction that the whole number in the country in 1819 was only 3618. The postage charged in 1805 for single letters, for 40 miles or less, was 8 cents; under 90 miles, 10 cents; under 150 miles, 17 cents; and under 500 miles, 20 cents; while now the reduction has become so great that for two cents a letter can be sent anywhere over the United States, which in some cases may require a distance of three thousand miles of travel, equivalent to the distance to Europe across the Atlantic Ocean. The extension of settlement, a denser population and such greatly improved means of travel and transportation have jointly aided to bring about the present greatly reduced rates, the tendency of which is to greatly increase correspondence over previous years as well as the circulation of newspapers, magazines and books, thus showing that we do, indeed, live in a reading age.

Among the manuscripts of Mrs. Ferguson, of Horsham, was found an article written in 1787, entitled "An Old Woman's Meditations on an old Family Clock," from which we take an extract relative to the postal facilities of the neighborhood at that date: "Since my clock and I have passed our days in retirement, how frequently, for the want of a post nigh, on the evening of a market day, when expecting a letter from the metropolis filled with wit, sentiment or affection, or all united in one, have I with impatience numbered your strokes, or still more ardently longed for the epistle that had crossed the Atlantic, whose value was appreciated as danger and distance had endeared it to the longing

receiver." We perceive by this that she was at that date dependent on her neighbors going to the city for her mail facilities, the post office there being a distance of eighteen miles.

Prior to 1800 the total number of post offices in Montgomery county was two; in 1819, eleven; in 1827, twenty; in 1832, twenty-nine; in 1851, it was fifty-one; in 1858, sixty-one; in 1871, eighty-five; in 1876, ninety-two; and in 1883 it had reached one hundred and twelve.

As to the delivery of newspapers it is very likely that even as late as 1840 one-half of the entire number were conveyed thus or by stage lines. Since the introduction of railroads and the reduction of newspaper postage the mails have been more and more resorted to, until now we believe that within the county the "paper-carrier" or the "post-rider," as he was respectively called, has become a matter of the past, the deliveries for their patrons being chiefly made in packages to stores, inns, mills and mechanic shops, or the roadside box, placed there on purpose for this accommodation, where no house stood near. Now the daily paper is delivered at the front gate by the roadside throughout the county, by the thousands of miles of R. F. D. (Rural Free Delivery) routes provided early in the nineties. With the additional improvement in the way of the "Parcel Post" system, even our Christmas present arrives at your door on time by the faithful carrier, whose average route daily covers about twenty-five miles.

The following is a complete list of all post offices in operation in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on March 1, 1923:

Abington
Ambler
Arcola
Ardmore
Bola
Bergey
Bethayers
Blue Bell
Bridgeport
Broad Axe
Bryn Mawr
Cedars
Center Square
Cheltenham
Collegeville
Colmar
Conshohocken
Creamery
Cynwyd
Delphi
Eagleville
Earlington
East Greenville
Edge Hill
Elkins Park
Elroy
Enfield
Eureka
Fagleysville
Fairview Village
Flourtown
Fort Washington
Franconia
Frederick
Gilbertsville
Gladwyne
Glenside
Graterford
Green Lane
Gwynedd
Gwynedd Valley
Hallowell
Harleysville
Hatboro
Hatfield
Haverford
Hendricks
Hoppenville
Horsham
Huntingdon Valley
Ironbridge
Jarrettown
Jeffersonville
King of Prussia
Kulpsville
Lafayette Hill
La Motte
Lansdale
Lederach
Limerick
Linfield
Lower Providence
McKinley
Mainland
Mapleglen
Meadowbrook
Merion Station
Mont Clare
Montgomeryville
Morwood
Miquon
Narberth
Narcissa
New Hanover
Niantic
Norristown
North Wales
Oaks
Obelisk
Ogontz School
Ogontz
Oreland
Palm
Penllyn
Pennsburg
Perkiomenville
Plymouth Meeting
Port Kennedy
Port Providence
Pottstown
Prospectville
Providence Square
Red Hill
Remlu
Rosemont
Roslyn
Royersford
Rudy
Rydal
Salfordville
Sanatoga
Sassmansville
Schwenkville
Skippack
Souderton
South Hatfield
Spring House
Spring Mount
Stowe
Sumneytown
Swedeland
Telford
Threetuns
Trappe
Tylersport
Vernfield
Weldon
West Conshohocken
West Point
Whitemarsh
Wynnewood
William Penn
Willow Grove
Wyncote
Woodmont
Woxall
Worcester
Zieglersville

Principal Towns and Cities—The following is a list of the larger and smaller towns and cities within the county in 1923; the list is given alphabetically; and the number of business places—stores, offices and shops are indicated by numerals given at the end of the places named:

Ambler, 89; Ardmore, 63; Audubon, 7; Belfry, 5; Blue Bell, 3; Bryn Mawr, 135; Cedars, 13; Center Square, 21; Collegeville, 53; Colmar, 7; Conshohocken, 304; Creamery, 3; Delphi, 2; Dresher, 9; East Greenville, 59; Edge Hill, 15; Fairview Village, 4; Ft. Washington, 24; Franconia, 6; Frederick, 5; Gilbertsville, 6; Graterford, 17; Green Lane, 34; Gwynedd, 1; Harleysville, 21; Hatboro, 27; Hatfield, 33; Haverford, 25; Hoovertown, 6; Iron Bridge, 9; Jarrettown, 5; Jeffersonville, 5; Jenkinstown, 99; King of Prussia, 5; Kulpsville, 18; Lansdale, 223; Lederach, 14; Linfield, 14; Mainland, 10; Obelisk, 10; Mont Clare, 10; Morwood, 24; Niantic, 6; North Wales, 42; Oaks, 7; Ogontz, 18; Palm, 17; Penllyn, 1; Pennsburg, 65; Perkiomen, 12; Port Kennedy, 9; Palm, 17; Prospectville, 4; Providence Square, 7; Red Hill, 22; Royersford, 102; Sanatoga, 12; Schwenkville, 45; Shippack, 19; Souderton, 80; Spring Mount, 11; Sumneytown, 12; Telford, 63; Trappe, 15; Weldon, 18; West Point, 14; William Penn, 7; Willow Grove, 36; Worcester, 11; Wynnewood, 2; Yerkes, 7; Zieglersville, 10. The larger municipalities include Norristown, Pottstown, and Bridgeport, mentioned at length within this work.

Population of County—At various enumerating periods the population of Montgomery county has been as follows:

	1800.	*1880.*	*1900.*	*1920.*
Abington Township	1,008	2,185	3,803	8,684
Ambler Borough	....	....	1,884	3,094
Bridgeport Borough (1850)	572	1,802	4,680	3,097
Bryn Athyn Borough	....	....	....	302
Cheltenham Township	680	3,238	6,154	10,015
Conshohocken Borough (1850)	727	4,561	5,762	8,481
Douglas Township	1,297	....	1,650	1,599
East Norriton Township	....	....	....	643
East Greenville Borough	....	331	934	1,620
Franconia Township	....	629	2,536	1,639
Frederick Township	....	697	1,944	1,405
Green Lane Borough	....	187	272	337
Hatboro Borough	....	586	523	1,101
Hatfield Township	520	1,694	1,427	1,789
Horsham Township	587	1,315	1,157	1,189
Jenkintown Borough	....	810	2,091	2,370
Lansdale Borough	....	708	2,557	4,728
Limerick Township	....	....	2,250	2,400
Lower Merion Township	1,422	6,287	13,271	23,826
Lower Moreland Township	....	....	....	1,126
Lower Providence Township	880	1,586	1,625	2,221
Lower Pottsgrove Township	....	....	....	779
Lower Salford Township	524	1,828	1,763	1,692
Lower Gwynedd Township	....	....	1,995	1,363
Montgomery Township	546	676	724	787
Narberth Borough	....	....	1,760	3,704
New Hanover Township	1,505	1,905	1,611	1,355
Norristown Borough	827	13,163	22,265	32,819
North Wales Borough	....	673	1,287	2,041
Pennsburg Borough	....	....	1,032	1,141
Perkiomen Township	781	2,516	1,082	1,024
Plymouth Township	572	1,916	1,449	3,201
Pottstown Borough	500	5,305	13,806	17,431

	1800.	1880.	1900.	1920.
Rockledge Borough	744	1,856	1,369	3,045
Royersford Borough	....	558	2,008	3,278
Red Hill Borough	....	....	324	787
Skippack Township	....	....	1,248	1,195
Schwenkville Borough	....	....	....	371
Springfield Township	466	1,580	2,400	3,374
Souderton Borough	....	....	1,077	3,125
Salford Township	....	....	789	700
Trappe Borough	....	....	....	412
Towamencin Township	413	1,232	1,095	1,166
Upper Dublin Township	744	1,856	1,933	3,045
Upper Gwynedd Township	....	....	1,328	1,363
Upper Hanover Township	738	2,418	1,997	1,368
Upper Merion Township	993	3,775	3,480	4,005
Upper Pottsgrove Township	....	....	450	501
Upper Providence Township	1,200	3,592	2,574	3,057
Upper Moreland Township	....	....	....	2,105
Upper Salford Township	....	....	876	729
West Conshohocken Borough	....	1,462	1,958	2,331
West Norriton Borough	....	....	....	1,375
West Pottsgrove Township	....	....	891	1,709
West Telford Borough	....	....	535	921
Whitemarsh Township	1,085	3,239	3,350	3,436
Whitpain Township	771	1,429	1,442	1,826
Worcester Township	782	1,641	1,397	1,364

The total population of the county in 1900 was 138,195; in 1920 it had reached 199,310. The 1920 census reports give the foreign population as being 24,669, of which these nationalities were represented as follows: German, 2,512; Irish, 5,488; English, 2,300; Italian, 6,480; Poles, 1,851; Russians, 933; Scotch, 639; Swedish, 243; Swiss, 175; Welsh, 89; all other nationalities, 549. Per cent. of foreign population was at that date about eleven.

Burgesses Since 1812—The following is a complete list of the various persons serving as chief executive, or burgess, of the incorporation of Norristown borough since its organization in 1812:

1812, Gen. Francis Swaine; 1813-16, Levi Pawling; 1817-18, Matthias Holstein; 1818, William Henderson; 1820-21, Thomas Ross; 1822-23, Robert Hamill; 1824, Charles Jones; 1825, Levi Pawling; 1826, Frederick Conrad; 1827-28, George Govett; 1829, Alexander Moore, Jr.; 1830, John Freedley; 1831, Samuel D. Patterson; 1832, Philip Kendell; 1833-34, William Powell; 1835-36, James M. Pawling; 1837, John H. Hobart; 1838, William Powell and Enoch C. Frys, tie vote; 1839, William Powell; 1840-41, Benjamin F. Hancock; 1842, Henry Freedley; 1843-44, James Boyd; 1845, John Potts; 1846, William Rossiter; 1847, John R. Breitenbach; 1848, John H. Hobart; 1849, Israel Thomas; 1850, Benjamin E. Chain; 1851, Thomas W. Potts; 1852, Joseph W. Hunsicker; 1853-55, Zadok T. Galt; 1856, R. T. Stewart; 1857, Charles T. Miller; 1858, Enoch A. Banks; 1859, Charles H. Garber; 1860-61, Edward Schall; 1862, Franklin March; 1863, William H. Griffith; 1864-65, Edward Schall; 1866, William Allabaugh; 1867, Daniel Jacoby; 1868-69, William Allabaugh; 1870-72, Henry S. Smith; 1873-74, Jonas A. Reiff; 1875-76, George Schall; 1877, William J. Bolton; 1878, Irwin P. Wanger; 1879, Wallace J. Boyd; 1880-82, George W. Grady; 1883, F. J. Baker; 1884-86, John W. White; 1887, Edward A. Kite; 1889, George W. Grady; 1890, Thomas

B. Evans; 1891, Milton S. Kurtz; 1893, Levi R. Shaffer; 1894, John H. Williams; 1897, Charles W. Wainwright; 1900, William Todd, Jr.; 1905, Samuel Roberts; 1909, Samuel Lattimore; he served until 1914; 1914, J. Elmer Saul; 1918, Samuel D. Crawford; 1922, James W. Potter, still serving.

The 1923 borough officers are: President, Norwood D. Matthias; clerk of the council, Harris S. Borneman; burgess, James W. Potter; treasurer, Harry P. Hiltner; solicitor, Henry M. Brownback; engineer, S. Cameron Corson; building inspector, Harry A. Simpson; stenographer, Miss Ruth Dotts; clerk of the markets, Mills Williamson; janitor city hall, Thomas H. Blackwell.

There are now eleven wards in this borough, and the present council is made up as follows: First Ward—John P. Famous, George F. Leittenberger, Daniel Moser; Second Ward—George M. Fratt, Charles E. Naile, George W. Pifer; Third Ward—Joseph D. Wolfe, Henry K. Fryer, Gilbert R. Fox; Fourth Ward—James I. Lawler, Francis Hayes, John Carroll; Fifth Ward—Angelo Charles, John Durante, Edward Kennedy; Sixth Ward—Bernhard Kuhlman, Norwood D. Matthias, Harry E. Sacks; Seventh Ward—William A. Steinbach, Thomas Kingston, Nevin R. Cassell; Eighth Ward—H. Walton Wood, H. Severan Regar, Clarence R. Palmer; Ninth Ward—Frank R. Anselm, Charles Schiele, Franklin L. Carter; Tenth Ward—Stephen Van Leer, Albert Holbrook, Clement J. Dressler; Eleventh Ward—John A. Rhoades, W. Z. Frederick, Charles M. Daub.

No finer set of borough records are kept in the State than found in Norristown. The clerk's last report shows the borough to contain three and fifty-four hundredths square miles. Its population is (1920) 32,319. Dwellings in the place, 5,931; families, 6,624; the two chief markets are the City Market or Borough Market, and the Farmers' Market. These are both on De Kalb street, near and at the borough building. The present bonded indebtedness is $343,200. Number regular policemen eighteen; a volunteer fire department; five engine houses. The records also show that the borough has a fraction over thirty miles of paved streets of which almost ten miles are of vitrified brick. The council and other officers have moved many times. First they met in 1812 in the old court house; then many years around at private houses; next in hotels, and then built the red brick block now owned by the Montgomery County Historical Society, near the court house, which property they sold to the society named in January, 1897, for $5,500. The present City Hall or borough building was erected in 1894.

Presidential Vote Since 1860.

1860—Republican, Abraham Lincoln, 5,826.
Democratic, John C. Breckenridge, 5,590.
Constitutional Union, John Bell, 690.
Independent Democratic, Stephen A. Douglas, 509.

1864—Republican, Abraham Lincoln, 6,872.
Democratic, George B. McClellan, 7,943.
1868—Republican, U. S. Grant, 8,083.
Democratic, Horatio Seymour, 8,803.
1872—Republican, U. S. Grant, 8,080.
Democratic, and Liberal, Horace Greeley, 5,113.
Democratic, Charles O'Connor, none.
Temperance, James Black, none.
1876—Republican, Rutherford B. Hayes, 9,386.
Democratic, Samuel J. Tilden, 9,654.
Greenback, Peter Cooper, 58.
Prohibition, Green C. Smith, 40.
1880—Republican, James A. Garfield, 11,026.
Democratic, Winfield S. Hancock, 11,025.
Greenback, James B. Weaver, 75.
Prohibition, Neal Dow, none.
1884—Republican, James G. Blaine, 11,617.
Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 11,088.
Greenback, Benj. F. Butler, 66.
Prohibition, John P. St. John, 215.
1888—Republican, Benjamin Harrison, 13,445.
Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 12,482.
Greenback, A. J. Streeter, 11.
Prohibition, Clinton B. Fisk, 379.
1892—Republican, Benjamin Harrison, 13,591.
Democratic, Grover Cleveland, 13,611.
Prohibition, John Bidwell, 447.
Socialist (Labor), Simon Wing, 11.
People's Party, James B. Weaver, 22.
Industrial Reform, A. E. Redstone, none.
American, James L. Curtis, none.
Union Labor, Robert H. Cowdrey, none.
1896—Republican, William McKinley, 17,320.
Democratic, William J. Bryan, 9,685.
Prohibition, Joshua Levering.
Northern Democratic, John N. Palmer.
Social Labor, C. H Matchett.
1900—Republican, William McKinley, 17,650.
Democratic, William J. Bryan, 11,208.
Populist, J. G. Wooley.
Independent Socialist, Eugene V. Debs.
1904—Republican, Theodore Roosevelt, 18,818.
Democratic, Alton B. Parker, 10,399.
Socialist, Eugene V. Debs.
Prohibition, Silas C. Swallow.
Peoples, Thomas E. Watson.
1908—Republican, William Howard Taft, 19,070.
Democratic, William J. Bryan, 11,892.
Socialist, Eugene V. Debs, 493.
Prohibition, Eugene W. Chafin, 381.
Social Labor, August Gillhaus, 29.
1912—Republican, W. H. Taft, 8,968.
Democratic, Woodrow Wilson, 11,898.

Prohibition, 136.
Socialist (Debs), 1,129.
1916—Republican, Charles E. Hughes, 20,420.
Democratic, Woodrow Wilson, 13,649.
Prohibition, 257.
Socialist, 721.
1920—Republican, Warren G. Harding, 31,963.
Democratic, James Cox, 12,238.
Prohibition, 302.
Socialist, 1,180.

Miscellaneous Subjects.

The telegraph was first introduced into Norristown by private enterprise. A company was organized by William E. Phillips, who later was made superintendent of the telegraph offices in the city of Philadelphia. G. R. Fox was associated with Mr. Phillips as secretary and treasurer of the company; Henry Freedley, Rev. J. Grier Ralston and a few more Norristown citizens formed the original company, and Samuel Brown became the first operator.

What was styled the Philadelphia and Norristown Telegraph Company was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly, March 9, 1855. The names of the incorporators from Montgomery county are as follows: Henry Freedley, Thomas Sauerman, John McDermott, John Wood, Patrick Flynn, Daniel R. Brower, Robert Iredell, G. R. Fox, John McKay, David Krause, R. E. Chain, Henry C. Hill, and J. G. Ralston. The company was given the power to purchase the House Line of printing telegraph, then lately constructed from Philadelphia through Manayunk and Conshohocken to Norristown. This was before telegraphing by sound was perfected, but all messages were "ticked off" by the instrument which recorded the words in dots and dashes on a narrow slip of paper attached to the receiving machine. The capital stock of this company was $6,000, divided into twenty-five dollar shares. Subsequently a company was formed and ran their line as the Philadelphia, Reading & Pottsville, but was in the interest of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company. This line dated from 1871. The Western Union Telegraph Company joined interest with it as a commercial line in 1879, the principal offices being then established at Norristown at No. 77 East Main street. In Montgomery county in 1883 there were fifty-five telegraph stations on this line. Prior to 1882 another company was formed, the Bankers' & Merchants' Telegraph Company, having eighteen stations in this county. It connected with Allentown, Philadelphia and Reading. It had as its president, J. B. Erdman; its superintendent was J. T. Maxwell.

Long since the telegraph systems have largely been merged and operated by the Western Union, which networks the continent, and outside of special lines held by the newspapers of the land, it does the

commercial telegraph business of every town and borough from ocean tc ocean.

Great as was the discovery of the electric telegraph by Professor Morse, even greater was that of the telephone which first made its appearance in the seventies, but was not perfected to any extent until early in the eighties. Here in Montgomery county, Norristown had its first "Exchange" in August, 1883; it was established with its office at No. 52 East Main street. At the close of 1884 the number of stations in this county was one hundred and seventy-two. The president of the company was James Merrihew; general superintendent, W. B. Gell; assistant superintendent, W. F. Westbrook. The introduction of the 'phone has almost bridged space itself. Not only does the business man in city and borough profit by its use daily, but almost every farm house within the confines of this county has its own phone and can quickly call a far-away neighbor or the physician, by day or night. The country is literally within a mass of wires, over which the people whisper their wants to the surrounding world. The number of phones and exchanges has come to be all but numberless. It is a money-saving system for city and country. For an expense of a farthing, a half day's trip can be saved; often life itself is saved by being "on the line" and able to command a doctor at once in emergencies. With all the perfection of the telephone systems of to-day, scientists aver that we are soon to have a practical method of conversation by the "wireless" that is to be the outcome of the present popular radio systems. Then we will not need the net-work of telephone wires and countless poles set all over the country, but the human voice will be heard in common talking, as we now hear the latest songs with our recently discovered radio.

Distinguished Residents.

General Winfield S. Hancock, who it has been said with Generals Anthony Wayne and Philip Henry Sheridan constitute the great trio of American chieftains distinguished above all others for "fearless courage and desperate energy," was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, the son of Benjamin F. and Elizabeth Hancock; the date of his birth was February 14, 1824. He received his education in Norristown in the academies conducted by Eliphalet Roberts and the celebrated Rev. Samuel Aaron. Leaving school, he received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, and was a cadet with Grant, McClellan, Reynolds, Franklin, Burnside, Reno, and William M. Smith. He was graduated June 30, 1844, and the following day received his appointment as a second lieutenant in the Sixth United States Infantry, served on the western frontier, and then went to Mexico, where in the war he distinguished himself as a young officer. He was later engaged against the Seminole Indians in Florida, and served in Kansas during a portion of the quasi-civil war there.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, he was at Los Angeles as chief quartermaster for the Southern District. He was relieved to report at Washington, D. C., for duty in the field. In September, 1861, he was made a brigadier-general of volunteers. He afterwards joined the Army of the Potomac, and from that time until the close of the war his career was notable. During the winter of 1861-62 he commanded a brigade in Virginia. In the spring of 1862 he accompanied General McClellan to the Virginia Peninsula, and took part in the Seven Days Battle near Richmond. On the strength of his ability in that particular time and place he was promoted at McClellan's suggestion to major-general. He again proved his military fitness at those never-to-be-forgotten battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. He was with Grant around Richmond in the campaign that resulted in Lee's surrender at Appomattox. He was severely wounded at Gettysburg, and received the thanks of Congress. While in front of Richmond he was promoted to brigadier-general in the regular army, August 12, 1864. In 1865 he was assigned to the command of the Middle Military Division; in August, 1866, he was transferred to the command of the Department of the Missouri; was in command of the Department of the Gulf from 1867 to 1868; from March, 1868, to March, 1869, he commanded the Military Division of the Atlantic. From 1869 to 1879 he commanded the Military Division of the Dakotas, after which he was again placed in command of the Atlantic Department, with headquarters at Governor's Island in New York Harbor, which position he held until his death, October 29, 1885. He declined the nomination for governor of Pennsylvania in 1869, at the hands of the Democratic party, but in 1880 accepted the nomination for President, and was defeated at the polls by General James A. Garfield.

Lucretia (Coffin) Mott, who for several years was an honored resident of Cheltenham township, Montgomery county, was one of the most remarkable women this country has ever produced. "Truth for authority, not authority for truth," was the form of a favorite aphorism which Lucretia Mott in a fair round hand wrote on the back of a photographed portrait when she was eighty-six years of age. By this principle the career of this woman was always directed. In fact it was a predominating element in her noble character; it was the light she ever followed, the inspirer of her courage to walk fearlessly in the path of duty prescribed by the light within—the conscience, Emmanuel, God with us. Her name was a synonym for a rare combination of Christian graces. Hers was the sweet, strong and noble soul, ever guided by unswerving loyalty to truth and righteousness.

Lucretia Mott was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers on Nantucket, Massachusetts, where she was born January 3, 1793. Her parents moved to Boston, and when she was thirteen years of age, she

was sent to the "Nine Partners" boarding school, an institution established by the Friends, in Dutchess county, New York, a few years before. There she was under the instruction of Deborah Rodgers (afterward Mrs. Jacob Willetts), who died in 1879 at the age of above ninety years. Miss Mott's parents removed to Philadelphia in the meantime. She returned home and two years later, in 1812, married James Mott, a young merchant and a Quaker. At twenty-five years of age she became a minister, and extended her labors from Virginia to Massachusetts. She battled against war and intemperance and slavery, and in 1827 joined the Hicksite branch of the Friends' church. She took an active part in the organization of the Anti-Slavery Society at Philadelphia in 1833, and was sent in 1840 to the World's Anti-Slavery convention at London, where she was refused a seat because she was a woman, but astonished many of the delegates by speaking at a breakfast to which they were invited. She believed in woman's right to the ballot. As a minister or speaker, she spoke to the heart and judgment, and was a model of purity, elegance and force. Mrs. Mott died November 11, 1880, at her home in Philadelphia. Husband and children had passed on before her, but no funeral gloom shadowed her spirit, for she was in sympathy with all sufferers, and a bright beckoning hope always made her cheerful. The atmosphere of her home was indeed ideal in its peace and harmony. Of such beautiful characters the world has none too many.

General Arthur St. Clair, a citizen property holder and temporary resident of Pottstown, this county, from 1779 to 1797, was a conspicuous character in the days of the Revolutionary War, and, although a brave military leader, failed in winning that fame to which his talents and courage entitled him. General St. Clair was president of the Continental Congress in 1787, commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States in 1791, and governor of the Northwestern Territory from 1788 to 1802.

He was born at Thurso Castle, County Caithness, Scotland, in 1734. He was educated in the University of Edinburgh, and removed to London to study medicine under the celebrated Dr. William Hunter. War breaking out between England and France, he purchased an ensign's commission and served under Wolfe in his campaign against Quebec in 1759. After peace, he resigned his commission as lieutenant, resided for some time in Boston and Philadelphia, and in 1765 was placed in command of Fort Ligonier, in western Pennsylvania, by General Gage, to whom he was related. He took up large bodies of land in the Ligonier Valley, was made prothonotary of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1781, and two years later aided largely in the erection of Westmoreland county. As a county officer he successfully resisted the claims of Virginia to the territory. When the Revolution came on, he cast his for-

tunes with the Colonies. He inspired the Hannastown Declaration of Independence in 1775, perfected the Associators, and was commissioned colonel by Congress. He raised a regiment, fought in Canada under Montgomery and Arnold, and was promoted to brigadier-general. At Trenton and Princeton he behaved with great skill and bravery, and was commissioned major-general. He was placed in command at Ticonderoga in 1777, but was compelled to abandon it in retreat with a disastrous loss of men and munitions. A military court of inquiry acquitted him of all blame. While suspended from command he fought as a volunteer at Brandywine, and with the army of Washington at Valley Forge he was on faithful duty. He succeeded Arnold at West Point, and was a member of the commission which sentenced Major André to death. After the capture of Yorktown he proceeded with a body of troops to join General Greene in the South, and on his way he drove the British from Wilmington, North Caroline. In 1783 he became a member of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, was elected to Congress, and served as president of that body during 1787. Upon the erection of the Northwest Territory in 1788, he was appointed governor and faithfully served as such fourteen years. In 1790 he ran as Federal candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, receiving 2,802 votes, while the winning candidate, Thomas Mifflin, had 2,725 votes.

General St. Clair commanded an army of two thousand men which was sent against the Miami Indians in 1791, and November 4th of that year he was defeated with a loss of nearly seven hundred men. He was suffering from a fever, yet bore himself bravely in the thickest of the battle. It is now contended that the public was severe in their condemnation of him. Subsequently Congress acquitted him of all blame in the defeat. As an old man he retired from public life in 1802. His health and fortune mostly gone, he settled down a few miles from Ligonier, Pennsylvania, on his remaining farm. At one time he had owned 10,887 acres of western Pennsylvania land, but it had nearly all slipped from his control while he was following military life. He had advanced the United States army several thousand dollars during the war for independence, but because he had failed to certify his claim in proper time, the government never allowed him or his heirs a farthing. He also advanced $8,000 to pay off the Indians, and furnished $7,400 to fit out the expedition in 1791. These sums which he had actually borrowed for the government they refused to pay, and his property was taken at half its true value by his greedy creditors, who also attached every dollar of the pitiful pension granted him by Congress in 1818. His last days were ones of penury and want, and he kept a tavern in a log cabin on the summit of Chestnut ridge until his death, August 31, 1818. He was a Freemason, and his remains were interred at Greensburg, Pennsylvania, by the Masonic fraternity. In 1832 they also erected

a small monument over his remains, on which monument is appropriately inscribed these words: "The earthly remains of General Arthur St. Clair are deposited beneath this humble monument, which is erected to supply the place of a nobler one due from his country. He died August 31, 1818, in the eighty-fourth year of his age."

David Rittenhouse, whose name is known the world over among scientific men and especially among astronomers, was a resident of Montgomery county, having lived in Norriton township from the time he was eight years of age. Among the many biographical notices that have from time to time appeared in publications of Pennsylvania, telling of the rare genius of this man, we are permitted to use the subjoined, which is a brief outline of a man whose name and fame will live as long as the printed page is in existence, or the heavens contain the thousands of stars which this good man delighted to study through his telescope and then give to the world his conclusions and discoveries in astronomy. We here quote:

Near the banks of the beautiful Wissahickon, in the vicinity of Germantown, four miles from Philadelphia, lived three hermits a century and three-quarters ago; and near their hiding places from the world's ken, a mile from the old village, where the good Count Zinzendorf, the Moravian, labored and reposed, was the birthplace of one whose name is co-extensive with scientific knowledge. It was David Rittenhouse, the eminent mathematician, who was born in Roxborough township, April 8, 1732. His father (Matthias) was an humble farmer, and David was his chief assistant when his life approached manhood. The geometrical diagrams which disfigured his implements of labor, the barn doors and the pigsty, attested the peculiar workings of his brain while yet a mere lad. These indications of genius would doubtless have been disregarded, and his aspiration remained unsatisfied had not a feeble body made the abandonment of field labor a stern necessity. David was apprenticed to a clock and mathematical instrument maker, and the pursuit being consonant with his taste, he was eminently successful. Rittenhouse was a sincere student, but on account of his pecuniary wants, he was deprived in a great degree of the most valuable sources of information, especially concerning the progress of science in Europe. While Newton and Liebnitz were warmly disputing for the honor of first discovery of fluxions, Rittenhouse, entirely ignorant of what they had done, became the inventor of that remarkable feature in algebraical analysis. He had his observatory on the eminence above the Presbyterian church, where Benjamin Franklin frequently visited him. About 1766, although only known as a clockmaker, he constructed for Princeton College the first orrery ever made in America. In 1769 he observed the transit of Venus, and in 1795 he was elected a member of the Royal Society of London.

On February 20, 1766, David Rittenhouse married Eleanor Coulston, daughter of Bernard Coulston. When Dr. Franklin died, Rittenhouse was chosen president of the American Philosophical Society to fill his place; and from his own earnings he gave the institution fifteen hun-

dred dollars on the day of his inauguration. His fame was now world-wide, and many official honors awaited his acceptance. He held the office of State Treasurer of Pennsylvania for many years; and in 1792 he was appointed the first director of the Philadelphia Mint. Failing health compelled him to resign that trust in 1795; and on June 6th the following year he died the death of a Christian, at the age of sixty-four years.

John James Audubon, perhaps the world's greatest ornithologist, from 1771 to 1851 resided in Lower Providence, this county, and at intervals afterwards. He was a remarkable man, whose numerous books include his "Birds of America," 448 colored plates in life-size, elephant folio, five volumes, price $1,000; "American Ornithological Biography," five volumes, 8vo., 1828; the "Birds of America," in reduced size, 8vo., 1844; "Quadrupeds of America," three volumes folio, containing 150 plates, 1851. By an act of Congress passed in August, 1856, the Secretary of State was authorized to purchase one hundred copies each of the "Birds of America" and "Quadrupeds of America," for an exchange with foreign countries for valuable works.

Audubon, "the bird man" so known everywhere in the world to-day, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 4, 1780, the son of John and Anne Moynette, both parents being natives of France. The son was given a fine education for those times, and went to Paris to study natural history. In 1780 his father removed to Philadelphia and soon purchased land in Lower Providence township this county, at the mouth of Perkiomen creek. From about 1800 young Audubon lived on this two hundred acre plantation, on which was a grist and sawmill. In his preface of that masterpiece of his in later years, he says:

> In Pennsylvania, a beautiful State almost central on the line of our Atlantic shores, my father, in his desire of proving my friend through life, gave me what Americans call a beautiful "plantation," refreshed during the summer heats by the waters of the Schuylkill river and traversed by a creek named Perkioming. Its fine woodlands, its extensive fields, its hills crowned with evergreens, offered many subjects to agreeable studies, with as little concern about the future as if the world had been made for me. My rambles invariably commenced at break of day; and to return wet with dew and bearing a feathered prize was, and ever will be, the highest enjoyment for which I have been fitted.

Of all the thousands of American birds he studied and described in his great publication, each and everyone was printed in the exact color found in the plumage of the bird as found in forest and glen in its natural state. The work was in size about eighteen by twenty-six inches, and only a few birds, like the swan, crane and pelican, also the eagle, but went on one page; but in such instances a larger sheet was used and folded in, as sometimes a large folding map is made. After a useful career in different parts of the globe, Audubon, who had finally settled

down on the Hudson river above New York City, passed from earth's circle of most interesting authors and useful men, a lover of Nature as well as of Nature's God.

Hon. Frederick A. Muhlenberg, eminent as the first Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, was the second son of Rev. Henry Melchior and Anna Maria (Weiser) Muhlenberg, and was born at Trappe, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1753. He received his education at the University of Halle, in Germany, was ordained to the Lutheran ministry at twenty-one years of age, and served as pastor of a Lutheran church at Lancaster, this State, from 1780 until his death in 1815, at sixty-two years of age. He was also an authority on botany, mineralogy and kindred sciences, and wrote in Latin several very valuable botanical and geological works.

Rev. John Philip Boehm was the first Reformed minister in the Province of Pennsylvania, where he first acted as a singer and schoolmaster as well as minister. He came from Germany in 1720, and located at Philadelphia, where he acted as a reader for the members of the Reformed church then living in that city. He then preached without a license or church authority until 1729, when on November 29th he was ordained by authority of the Classis of Amsterdam. He labored throughout a large region, and laid the foundation of many Reformed churches. He settled in Whitpain township before 1734, organized the congregation there now known as Boehm's church, and became very wealthy, owning a large tract of land, slaves, and a distillery. He died suddenly on May 1, 1749, and his remains lie under the wall of the present church structure.

Bench and Bar.

In the historical sketch of the Montgomery Law Library Committee, in the chapter entitled as above, on preceding pages of this work, reference is made to a gap in the minutes of the committee for about twelve years prior to January, 1895. Since that article has gone to press, the lost minutes have been found during housecleaning in the Law Library. They extend from November 16, 1883, to December 28, 1894. The only data of general interest afforded by the lost minute book are that meetings were to be held on the last Friday of each month at 3 o'clock p. m.; on December 24, 1885, Montgomery Evans was elected treasurer, to succeed Charles T. Miller, deceased; on December 12, 1889, Judge Swartz presiding, William W. Owen was elected librarian, who was also to act as secretary of the committee; on April 1, 1890, the librarian was reëlected and reappointed secretary, and Montgomery Evans was reëlected treasurer; Judge Weand and Messrs. Chain and Strassburger were appointed a committee on books; and Messrs. Evans, Jenkins and Dannehower, on room; and on December 30, 1892, William W. Owen resigned, and John S. Jones was elected to succeed him as librarian and secretary.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Family and Personal History

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