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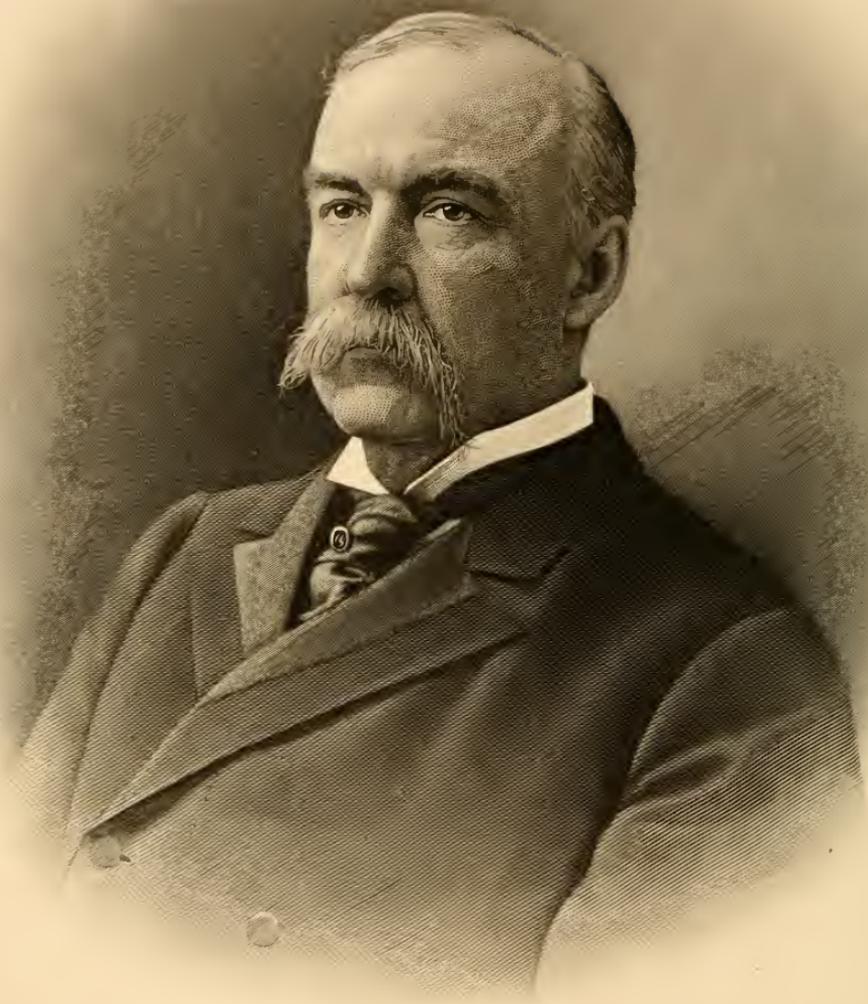
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Geo. Gray

HISTORY
OF THE
STATE OF DELAWARE

BY
HENRY C. CONRAD

FROM THE EARLIEST SETTLEMENTS TO THE YEAR 1907

IN THREE VOLUMES

VOLUME III

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
1908

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ILLUSTRATIONS IN VOLUME III.

	PAGE
PORTRAIT OF GEORGE GRAY	<i>Frontispiece</i>
DELAWARE COLLEGE	807
PORTRAIT OF GEORGE A. HARTER	810
“ “ JOHN DICKINSON	822
“ “ JOSHUA CLAYTON	826
“ “ CHARLES C. STOCKLEY	848
“ “ WILLIAM T. WATSON	851
“ “ JOHN HUNN	852
“ “ JOHN READ	857
“ “ GEORGE READ'S RESIDENCE	858
“ “ JAMES READ	859
“ “ THOMAS READ	860
“ “ GEORGE READ, JR.	863
“ “ CÆSAR A. RODNEY	866
“ “ JAMES A. BAYARD, THE ELDER	871
“ “ JAMES A. BAYARD, THE YOUNGER	872
“ “ THOMAS F. BAYARD	874
“ “ ELEUTHERE IRENEE DUPONT	884
“ “ ALFRED DUPONT	885
“ “ HENRY DUPONT	886
“ “ ALFRED I. DUPONT	887
“ “ CHARLES I. DUPONT	888
“ “ LAMMOT DUPONT	889
“ “ EUGENE DUPONT	890
“ “ HENRY M. RIDGELY	899
“ “ THOMAS CLAYTON	905
“ “ JOHN M. CLAYTON	906
“ “ DANIEL CORBIT	907
“ “ PURNELL F. HARRINGTON	910
“ “ SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON	929
“ “ WILLARD SAULSBURY	933
“ “ JAMES L. WOLCOTT	936

PORTRAIT OF	JOHN R. NICHOLSON	938
“	“ GEORGE READ	941
“	“ JOHN M. CLAYTON	948
“	“ EDWARD W. GILPIN	964
“	“ GROUP OF JUDGES	967
“	“ JOHN H. PAYNTER	980
“	“ CHARLES M. CULLEN	990
“	“ DAVID T. MARVEL	992
“	“ GUNNING BEDFORD, JR.	998
“	“ WILLARD HALL	1001
“	“ LEONARD E. WALES	1005
“	“ EDWARD G. BRADFORD, JR.	1007
“	“ BENJAMIN NIELDS	1021
“	“ SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON, JR.	1022
“	“ VICTOR DUPONT	1023
“	“ ANTHONY HIGGINS	1024
“	“ LEVI C. BIRD	1025
“	“ GEORGE P. FISHER	1030
“	“ GEORGE V. MASSEY	1035
“	“ RICHARD R. KENNEY	1042
“	“ HERBERT H. WARD	1045
“	“ WILLIAM S. HILLES	1047
“	“ WILLARD SAULSBURY, JR.	1048
“	“ JOHN BIGGS	1049
“	“ ROBERT R. PORTER	1069

CONTENTS OF VOLUME III.

	PAGE
PUBLIC EDUCATION IN DELAWARE	795
DELAWARE COLLEGE	807
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION	810
NEWARK ACADEMY	814
THE COLORED SCHOOLS	816
STATE COLLEGE FOR COLORED STUDENTS	818
SKETCHES OF DELAWARE GOVERNORS	820
LIST OF DELAWARE GOVERNORS	855
INFLUENTIAL DELAWARE FAMILIES	857
THE READ FAMILY	857
THE RODNEY FAMILY	864
THE BAYARD FAMILY	871
THE McLANE FAMILY	876
THE MACDONOUGH FAMILY	878
THE DUPONT FAMILY	881
THE BARRATT FAMILY	892
THE RIDGELY FAMILY	898
THE CLAYTON FAMILY	903
DANIEL CORBIT	907
REAR-ADMIRAL P. F. HARRINGTON	910
STATE CONSTITUTIONS	912
LIST OF STATE JUDGES	919
THE JUDICIARY OF DELAWARE	922
SKETCHES OF CHANCELLORS	922
SKETCHES OF CHIEF JUSTICES	940
SKETCHES OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICES	971
UNITED STATES JUDGES	998
PROMINENT DELAWARE LAWYERS	1016
MEDICINE AND ITS PRACTITIONERS	1054
NEWSPAPERS AND BOOKS	1085
ART AND ARTISTS	1117

HISTORY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

PUBLIC EDUCATION IN DELAWARE.

WHILE there is reason to believe that the blessings of education were appreciated in Delaware during the dark days of the Revolution, the records from 1703 to 1792 contain but little on the subject. It is not to be supposed that the illustrious sons of Delaware would have been honored with high positions in the early Councils of the Nation had they not possessed intellectual power and culture. It is an historical fact that Delaware not only had patriotic and brave men during the great struggle for American independence, but men whose intelligence was recognized and whose influence was felt in the cause of American freedom. John Dickinson, Caesar Rodney, George Read and Thomas McKean, Delaware's honored servants in the early history of the State, were all men of unusual intellectual endowments, and clearly demonstrated the fact that education was not an unknown factor in those trying and perilous times.

In 1792, when the Constitution of the State of Delaware was framed, the Legislature was especially charged upon the subject of public education, and was directed to make provision by law for the establishment of public schools. Although the first Legislature that assembled under the new Constitution turned a deaf ear to the expressed wishes and direction of the people, four years afterwards, in 1796, the first Act for the establishment of public schools was passed by the General Assembly of Delaware. The law provided that all moneys

paid into the State Treasury for tavern and marriage licenses from 1796 to 1806 should be kept as a school fund and applied to the formation and support of schools in the State.

The State Treasurer was constituted the custodian of the fund, and was invested with full power and authority to receive bequests and donations for the maintenance of public schools. When the school fund should reach a sufficient amount, the State Treasurer, or trustee, was directed to invest it in shares of bank stock, the banks of the State of Delaware, the Bank of the United States, the Pennsylvania Bank and the Bank of North America being specifically named in the Act. With the dividends accruing therefrom the trustee or treasurer of the school fund was directed to purchase other shares, and the whole fund was then to be used in the establishment of schools in the various Hundreds of the State. This fund was guarded by a provision in the law, that no part of it should be applied to the erection or support of any university, college or academy in the State, but go directly to the free schools. The law of 1796 was supplemented in 1797 by a clause providing that the money received from marriage and tavern licenses should first be appropriated to the payment of the judges and the chancellor and the residue applied to the establishment of schools.

In the year 1806 the General Assembly passed an Act which authorized the continuance in full force of the Act of 1796 and the supplementary Act of 1797 until the first of January, 1820. In 1823 the General Assembly passed an Act that the entire school fund which had been raised from the sources named should be deposited in the Farmers' Bank. Thus it appears that the little mustard-seed faithfully invested from year to year was destined to increase and multiply, and the establishment of a school fund in Delaware really dates from the year 1797.

The first draft on the school fund was made February 6, 1817, when the Legislature passed an Act appropriating \$1,000 to each county for the instruction of the children of

poor parents in reading, writing and arithmetic. Trustees were appointed to disburse the appropriation in the several Hundreds of the counties, and to make reports of the condition of the schools. This Act remained in force several years, but did not meet with general approval from the fact that it drew envious distinction between the rich and the poor, thus opening the way for discontent, and causing the school money to be generally called "a poor children's fund." A few schools were organized, but the purposes of a liberal education were not met, and the law became exceedingly unpopular.

Long and zealously did the friends of education labor for a better matured and more efficient system of public instruction and in 1822 a plan for the advancement of general education was devised by the beloved Judge Willard Hall, who was at that time Secretary of State under Governor Collins. At the session of the General Assembly in that year Governor Collins in his message called attention to the subject of education, and presented with much force the ideas of Judge Hall for the promotion of public schools. The desire for the improvement of schools gradually but surely grew, and the example of Governor Collins was followed by subsequent governors; Rodney in 1823, Thomas in 1824, Paynter in 1827, and Polk in 1829, all advised the establishment of a substantial system of public education.

It was in 1829 that the first free school law of Delaware was enacted, and all former acts relative to the management and support of schools were repealed. Judge Willard Hall was the originator of the free school system, and his educational ideas, formulated in 1822, were embodied in the general law of 1829. This law provided for the formation of school districts, for holding and regulating meetings of the school voters, and giving to the voters the full control of the schools in the respective districts of the State. The school voters were empowered to hold a stated meeting every year, elect a clerk and two commissioners, and also determine how much money should be raised for the support of free schools in the

district during the year. Each district was allowed to have from the school fund an amount equal to that decided by the voters to be raised, and no greater. The clerk and commissioners were authorized to determine sites for the erection of school buildings, to provide schools for as long a time as the funds would justify, and to collect all moneys and apply the same to the support of the schools. The law further directed the appointment by the Governor of a superintendent of schools for each county.

While this law seemed at the time to meet the wants of the people, it was soon made apparent that there were many objectionable points in it which amendments could scarcely correct. The fact of leaving to the voter the power to determine whether the children of the district should have the advantages of a school, was often used to the detriment of the district. In many instances poor men who had children, and whose tax would have been very small, attended the annual school meetings and voted for no tax, thereby making it impossible to keep a school open in the district. While the State was generous and made appropriations from its general funds of an amount equal to the amount to be raised by taxation, there were many who did not seem to appreciate it, voting as they did for many years "no tax," and thereby depriving their children of school privileges.

The law was amended in 1830, providing that no school district should be allowed to raise by taxation more than \$300 in one year. In 1833 the law was again amended, giving adjacent school districts the privilege of uniting and changing the time of annual school meetings from October to April. At this time 133 school districts had been organized and were drawing aid from the school fund. There were sixty-one districts in New Castle County, thirty-six in Kent, and thirty-six in Sussex. In 1835 the Legislature authorized the use of a lottery scheme to raise \$100,000, of which \$25,000 was to be set apart for the school fund. In 1836 Congress ordered a surplus of over \$42,000,000 to be deposited with the

several states in proportion to their representation in Congress. The amount ultimately distributed was about \$32,000,000, and Delaware received its share and applied it to the public school fund, dividing the amount equally among the counties.

In 1837 an Act was passed by the Legislature permitting each district to draw its share of the school fund by raising \$25 by taxation. Some of the features of the school law became so objectionable, that public sentiment throughout the State grew in favor of removing taxation for the support of schools beyond the narrowmindedness and selfish whims of the voter. The law of 1829 had made provision for the appointment of county superintendents but as these officers were not to receive any salary, men could not be secured to give their time to the work. Judge Hall, who served as superintendent of the schools of New Castle County for many years discharged his duties with great fidelity; he called school conventions, discussed methods of education, and by his earnest efforts stimulated an increased interest in the growing cause of public education. Judge Hall was succeeded in the superintendency of New Castle County in 1855 by Dr. Arthur H. Grimshaw, who made a full report upon the condition of schools to the next convention. The publication of an educational monthly, the "Delaware School Journal," was begun about the same time under his editorship, but was not continued beyond a few numbers for want of sufficient encouragement.

Other county superintendents were Henry W. Peterson, Dr. Robert H. Griffith, Samuel M. Harrington, Peter Robinson, Joshua G. Baker, Joseph Smithers, Simon Spearman, Charles Marim, Robert O. Pennewill, William Cannon, Daniel M. Bates, Willard Saulsbury, William Johnson, John A. Nicholson and Jonathan R. Torbert. Some of these served in Kent and some in Sussex County. The first educational convention in Delaware was held at Dover in January, 1843, to discuss the merits and the demerits of the existing school law. It was found that one hundred and eighty-three schools were in operation at that time with 6,148 pupils. Measures for the further

improvement of schools were presented, and ideas advanced with reference to the question of taxation; and the people were asked to hold meetings and consider the expediency of providing by law a general system of taxation. Stirring appeals were made in favor of a liberal support of public schools.

The results of that educational meeting were soon evidenced. In 1843 and in 1845 a favorable public sentiment developed, and in 1852 the amount raised by taxation in New Castle County for the maintenance of free schools was nearly double that of the year 1832, while in Kent and Sussex Counties it had increased but little more than one-fifth. The friends of education did not cease or weary in their labors, and after untiring efforts, extending over many years they were instrumental in securing the passage of the school law of 1861. By the law of 1861 it became obligatory upon the school committees at the school meeting in each school district of the State, to assess and levy annually in each of the school districts in New Castle County, the sum of seventy-five dollars, in each school district of Kent County, one hundred dollars, and in each district in Sussex County, thirty dollars, to be used for the support of the schools. The law further provided that each district could by vote increase the sum designated above, but the amount was not to exceed four hundred dollars, exclusive of the sum set apart by law. The same law gave the school voters the authority to raise by tax the sum of five hundred dollars for repairing or building school houses in their respective districts. The question of deciding whether or not a school was to be maintained in the district was, by the School Law of 1861, removed from the decision of the voters of the district. Thus it will be seen that legislation for school purposes at that time gave decided signs of progress.

The increasing interest in educational matters developed in a largely attended convention held at Dover, December 23, 1867. This meeting was called for a general interchange of opinions, and the discussion of further improvements in the school laws. A number of prominent men were present and

a committee was appointed to draft a general school code, expressive of the alterations and changes needed. At the meeting of the convention the following year, the committee reported, and the result of the work of the convention was presented to the General Assembly of 1869, in what was designated "The New School Law." The adoption of this law was strenuously urged by the friends of education but failed of success at that session.

In 1871 and 1873 renewed efforts were made for the passage of the newly drafted school bill, but without success. The advocates of education, however, did not cease to urge their cause with continued energy; and on March 25, 1875, they succeeded in securing the enactment of the "New School Law of 1875." It provided for a fixed tax to be raised annually in each district for the support of schools. Each district in New Castle County was required to raise one hundred dollars instead of seventy-five, and each school district in Sussex County to raise sixty dollars instead of thirty. The amount in Kent County remained the same as before, one hundred dollars. The law of 1875 provided for the appointment by the Governor, of a State Superintendent at a salary of \$1,800 a year, who should have general supervision of the schools of the State, examine teachers, hold a teachers' institute in each of the counties at least once a year, visit all the schools, report to the Governor each year the condition of the schools and exert every effort looking to a thorough improvement all along the educational line.

By the provisions of the new law, a State Board of Education, comprising the President of Delaware College, Secretary of State, State Auditor and State Superintendent, was established, the President of Delaware College to be, by virtue of his office, President of the Board, and the Auditor, Secretary of the same. The duties of this Board were to determine what text-books should be used in the schools, to issue blanks and forms to local school officers, and to hear and determine all appeals and controversies between teachers and commissioners.

The first State Superintendent under the new law, was James H. Groves who served from 1875 to 1883. He was appointed by Governor Cochran and proved to be an efficient organizer, and filled his position with great credit. His organization of the teachers' institutes and the remarkable tact displayed by him in the management of them, resulted in their success from the beginning. During the first year 370 schools were in operation under 430 teachers, 266 men and 164 women. The school attendance was 21,587, making an average of 58 to each school. The total expenditure for the year, including State appropriations, and district taxes, was \$216,225.45. There was a decided improvement in the efficiency of the teachers. Prior to 1875, the schools suffered from the need of competent instructors, but the new law compelled the applicant for a school to have his or her qualifications approved by the State Superintendent.

The new law gradually grew into public favor, but great difficulty seems to have been experienced in persuading school committees to improve their old buildings or construct new ones. In addition to this fact the school houses were poorly furnished. In his seventh annual report, December 1, 1882, Superintendent Groves called attention to this subject in the following language: "What we need more than anything else is a strong public sentiment in favor of better school accommodations. A majority of our school buildings are unfit for the purposes for which they are intended. They are flimsily constructed, wretchedly arranged, built on small lots and in low places, and contribute in no respect to the comfort of the children." In 1879 an amendment was made to the Act of 1875, authorizing the State superintendent to issue three grades of teachers' certificates, known as the first grade, good for three years; second grade, for two years; and the third for one year. He was also empowered to issue temporarily, permits of thirty days, to teachers to teach whenever in his judgment the interests of the schools should demand it.

Notwithstanding the many obstacles in the way of school improvements that presented themselves and the indifference which prevailed in some sections, the wave of educational progress rolled onward as the years went by. In the year 1881 additional amendments were made to the Act of 1875, among which was one authorizing the governor to appoint an assistant superintendent for the term of one year. The salary of the State superintendent was fixed at \$1,500, and the assistant at \$800 per annum. The State superintendent was required to purchase all the school books at the least cost, and to sell the same to the clerks of the school districts at cost. The clerks were required to sell the school books to the children at cost, and to turn the money over to the State superintendent. A bond of \$1,500 was required of the superintendent for the faithful account of the money received by him, for the sale of school books, and the payment of said money to the State Treasurer. In 1881 Henry C. Carpenter was appointed assistant superintendent by Governor Hall.

From 1881 to 1883 the subject of education received increased attention on the part of the people in many parts of the State, and a marked improvement was evidenced in many localities. In 1883 the school law was further amended, placing the school books in the hands of retail merchants in the several school districts, whose stores were made the school depositories. The State regulated the price of the books, and a fair commission was allowed to the retailer. In 1883 Governor Stockley appointed Thomas N. Williams superintendent, and Henry C. Carpenter was reappointed assistant superintendent of free schools. At the beginning of Superintendent Williams' administration strenuous efforts were made by him and his assistant to arouse public sentiment in behalf of popular education. Educational meetings were held in the various towns and school districts throughout the State, and the result was a most gratifying one. During the years 1883 and 1884 \$129,000 was expended for the erection of better and more comfortable school houses. The planks without backs,

used as seats in many of the rural school districts, rapidly gave way to modern school desks, and in some localities log cabins, called "school houses," in which children sat six hours a day with no resting-place for the soles of their feet, and breathing an atmosphere destructive to bodily health and mental vigor, were supplemented by the erection in their stead of attractive and comfortable buildings, furnished with the necessary equipments for school work.

Another progressive feature at this time was the employment of better qualified teachers. In the years 1885 and 1886 more than \$125,000 was expended in the erection of additional school buildings, and from that time to the present the school system of Delaware has gradually and steadily improved. Under the administration of Messrs. Williams and Carpenter, the county institutes increased in usefulness; a legislative appropriation of \$100 for each county to defray the expenses of the institutes was secured. At the close of Superintendent Williams' term of office in 1887, there were in the State 422 districts, 562 schools, average number of months schools were open 8.42, whole number of white children in attendance 29,421, whole number of teachers employed 635, average monthly salary of each \$32.40. In 1886 the total cost of public education in Delaware was \$222,130.46 and the total value of school property was \$733,032. The period from 1883 to 1887 was a progressive step in the course of popular education in Delaware.

In the year 1887, the offices of State and Assistant State Superintendents were abolished, and in lieu thereof an Act was passed, providing for the appointment of three county superintendents. Governor Biggs appointed the following three gentlemen as county superintendents: Herman Bessey for New Castle County, Levin Irving Handy for Kent County, and James H. Ward for Sussex County. The salary of each county superintendent was fixed at \$1000 per annum. The county superintendents were required to examine all teachers in their respective counties, issue certificates and visit each

school at least once a year, each visit to be of two hours duration; to advise with the teachers under their supervision; to hold teachers' institutes once a year in each county, of at least three days' sessions, and make annual reports to the State Board of Education, concerning the condition of the schools.

In 1891 the General Assembly passed an Act providing free text-books for all public school pupils.

In 1898 an Act was passed by the General Assembly placing the supervision of all the free public schools, including those for colored children, in each of the counties of the State, subject to the general supervision and control hereinbefore vested in the State Board of Education, in a County School Commission, to be composed of three members for each county, who should be appointed by the governor, and hold office for three years. The County School Commission has a general oversight of the schools throughout the county. The commission is expected to acquaint itself with the methods of instruction and discipline practiced in the various schools, and to exercise supervision over school officers, teachers and property. Each County Commission, by this Act, has full power and authority to visit the schools in its county including incorporated schools, and is required to make reports quarterly to the State Board of Education, containing any suggestions as to improvements in school methods and systems. Further, the Commission is vested with authority to condemn any school building or any part thereof, which may be thought unsafe or unhealthy.

The transfer of property from one school district to another, the altering of the boundaries of school districts and the forming of new school districts are regulated under the Act of 1898, by the County School Commissions. Under this Act it is made the duty of every teacher in the free public schools of the State to make a report to the commissioners of the district at the end of each quarter, setting forth the number of pupils in attendance during the quarter, giving an inventory of the books in the school belonging to the district, and

furnishing such other information as may tend to the welfare of the schools. The law of 1898 gives the general supervision and control of the public schools in the state to a Board of Education, composed of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the president of Delaware College, the State Auditor, and the senior member of each County School Commission. This Board is vested with full authority to make laws requisite for its own government, and to prescribe and enforce all regulations necessary for the execution of its duties and tending to the advancement of the free schools throughout the State. The State Board of Education is authorized to adopt a list of text-books, to make contracts for the rates at which such books shall be furnished, which list shall be the same throughout the State, to issue a uniform series of blanks for the reports of teachers and school officers and the Board is required to make a report to each General Assembly of the work done, and suggest any alterations or amendments in existing school laws.

State Superintendents of Free Schools.

James H. Groves from April 13, 1875, to April 13, 1883.
Thomas N. Williams from April 13, 1883, to April 13, 1887.

Assistant State Superintendent.

Henry C. Carpenter from April 13, 1881, to April 13, 1887.

County Superintendents for New Castle County.

Herman Bessey	1887-1891	David B. Jones	1901-1903
Hiram D. Griffin	1891-1895	Arthur R. Spaid	1903-
Willard T. Smith	1895-1901		

County Superintendents for Kent County.

L. Irving Handy	1887-1890	Caleb C. Tindal	1891-1901
Peter L. Cooper, Jr.	1890-1891	James E. Carroll	1901-

County Superintendents for Sussex County.

James H. Ward	1887-1890	Roman Tammany	1897-1899
John G. Gray	1890-1893	John H. Willey	1899-1901
Roman Tammany	1893-1894	Leon A. Davis	1901-1903
William W. Knowles	1894-1897	John D. Brooks	1903-

County School Commissioners under General Law of 1898 for New Castle County.

Elias N. Moore	1898-	Benjamin A. Groves	1901-1907
Andrew S. Eliason	1898-	L. Scott Townsend	1907-
Arnold Naudain, Jr.	1898-1901		





DELAWARE COLLEGE AT NEWARK.

Kent County.

James F. Anderson	1898-1901	Theodore Townsend	1901-
Henry Ridgely, Jr.	1898-1902	Thomas C. Roe	1902-
Herman P. Hazel	1898-		

Sussex County.

Robert H. Richards	1898-1898	James B. Gilchrist	1898-
Woodburn Martin	1898-1901	Joseph L. Cahall	1901-
Henry A. Houston	1898-1903	Everett Hickman	1903-

DELAWARE COLLEGE.

This institution of learning was established in the village of Newark, New Castle County, Delaware, May 8, 1834. As early as 1821 the General Assembly had passed an Act to found a college at Newark, for the education of youths in the languages, and in the arts and sciences. This Act provided for the appointment of not more than thirty trustees, to be appointed by the General Assembly who should have the supervision of "Newark College;" but the provisions of the Act were not carried into effect, and it was not until 1833 that a charter was granted under which Newark College was established, and buildings erected. The same Act provided that a college fund which had been theretofore created should be paid over to the trustees, who were made the authorized custodians of the college fund.

During the latter part of 1833, the necessary arrangements were made for opening the institution for students. It was not considered expedient at this time to elect a president of the college, and in lieu thereof, Nathan Monroe, and John Holmes Agnew, having been elected to professorships in the new institution, were authorized to formally open the college, Mr. Monroe acting as principal. The inaugural ceremonies were held on May 8, 1834, and collegiate duties commenced. It soon became apparent that two men could not conduct an institution which proposed to combine academic with collegiate work, and that the success of the college depended upon the employment of more instructors. This question caused a spirited fight in the Board of Trustees, but resulted

in the triumph of progressive ideas. A third professor, N. Z. Graves, was added to the faculty. In the meantime a president of the college had been elected, Rev. Eliphalet Wheeler Gilbert, D. D., and preparations were made for a full reorganization of the institution at the beginning of the fall term. In September, 1834, the college was opened with its first President and Faculty.

During the first year ninety-four students were enrolled. President Gilbert was a scholarly gentleman, a firm disciplinarian and well fitted by nature and education to fill the responsible position of president. He had been pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Wilmington. During his administration the highest degree of order and studiousness were manifested in the college. He resigned his position in 1835 and Dr. Richard S. Mason was elected to succeed him. Dr. Mason was a man of great learning but during his administration, there seems to have been lack of discipline, in consequence of which, at the close of his term, the college had but forty-two students, of whom nineteen were in the preparatory department. In 1839 the trustees resolved to separate the academic students from those of the college, and to procure another building for the former. Preparations were immediately made to that effect and a suitable edifice was built on the academy lot. President Mason resigned in 1840, and Dr. E. W. Gilbert was elected president of the institution a second time. During President Gilbert's second term of office, he was supported by a faculty of marked ability. The second term of Dr. Gilbert's presidency has been truly called the "golden age" in the history of the college, marked as it was by the excellent character of the work done, and the high tone of the students. The attendance had increased from year to year. Students began to come from other States, and in 1843 the college had representatives from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, Massachusetts and Vermont.

On April 4, 1843, the name Newark College was changed

to Delaware College. In 1847 President Gilbert again resigned and was succeeded by James P. Wilson who continued as president until 1850. He in turn was succeeded by the Rev. Matthew Meigs, principal of the Newark Academy, who served as President until 1851 when he was succeeded by the Rev. Walter S. F. Graham. Dr. Daniel Kirkwood followed the Rev. W. S. F. Graham, and he in turn was succeeded by the Rev. E. J. Newlin of Alexandria, Virginia. This brings the history of the college up to 1859, when on account of financial troubles, the want of funds to make effective the workings of the college, and the great Civil War that soon followed, it was deemed expedient to suspend work, and the college was closed from 1859 to 1870. At the session of the Legislature in 1869 the college was re-incorporated under a new charter, and in 1870 William H. Purnell was elected president.

President Purnell was a man of much personal magnetism, possessing a well-trained mind, and eminently fitted for the position. The college opened in 1870 with twenty-two students, and during President Purnell's administration, covering a period of fourteen years there were many changes secured through his efforts, among which were the following. An Act was passed compelling the transfer to the State Treasurer of all the funds arising from the sale of land scrip; directing the Governor to issue to the President of the College upon his demand such arms and military stores belonging to the State as might be required for instruction in military tactics; making the President of Delaware College ex-officio President of the State Board of Education; cancelling the old bonds amounting to \$83,000, and issuing in their place a certificate of permanent indebtedness for that sum, bearing interest at six per cent.; appropriating \$8,000 to enlarge the college oratory, to provide additional laboratories, and to make other necessary improvements. President Purnell favored co-education, and through his influence, in 1872, the admission of women to the college was secured.

In 1885 Dr. Purnell tendered his resignation as president, and Rev. John H. Caldwell, D. D., was elected his successor. President Caldwell resigned in 1887, and was succeeded by Albert N. Raub, Ph. D. During Dr. Raub's administration important additions were made to the college. Departments in Agriculture, in Electrical, Mechanical and Civil Engineering were established, and grounds for athletics and horticultural experiments purchased. President Raub resigned in 1895, and George A. Harter, M. A., Ph. D., was elected as his successor. Dr. Harter has proven an efficient head to the institution, being still its president, and at no time has the college done better work than since 1887, a steady and substantial growth being shown from year to year. Many distinguished citizens have been educated within the walls of Delaware College, and many of its graduates and former students are to-day useful, honorable and influential members of society. Tuition is free to all students from the State of Delaware, so that the college constitutes part of the State system of free public instruction.

DELAWARE COLLEGE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

The first National legislation to promote the establishment of Agricultural Experiment Stations, was had in 1862 when the Morrill bill was passed—so-called after Senator Morrill of Vermont, who has the honor of introducing what is undoubtedly the most important piece of economic legislation ever brought before the Congress of the United States. The Morrill bill donated 30,000 acres of land to each state having or establishing a college. In 1887 the Hatch bill appropriated to each State or Territory having an agricultural college and experiment station separate therefrom, \$15,000 annually, "for the purpose of acquiring and diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on the subjects connected with agriculture, and to promote scientific investigation and experiment respecting the principles and applications of agricultural science under the direction of the



GEORGE A. HARTER.
President Delaware College.



college or colleges established in each of the States and Territories in accordance with the provisions of the Morrill bill."

Later, in 1890, a further Act of Congress was approved, known as the "New Morrill Bill" which appropriated to each State and Territory for these "Land Grant Colleges," \$15,000 annually, with a yearly increase of \$1,000 till the total annual sum should reach \$25,000. Finally in 1906, by the provisions of the Adam's bill, an additional appropriation of \$5,000 was made to the \$15,000 named in the Hatch bill of 1887, and an annual increase of \$2,000 until the total amount paid each State and Territory should equal \$30,000.

Delaware College receives four-fifths of this appropriation, the other fifth being applied to the maintenance of the State College at Dover for the education of colored students. Section 2 of the Act of 1887 recites "That it shall be the object and duty of said experiment stations to conduct original researches or verify experiments on the physiology of plants and animals; the diseases to which they are severally subject, with the remedies for the same; the chemical composition of useful plants at their different stages of growth; the comparative advantages of rotative croppings as pursued under a varying series of crops; the capacity of new plants or trees for acclimation; the analysis of soils and water; the chemical composition of manures, natural or artificial, with experiments designed to test their comparative effects on crops of different kinds; the adaptation and value of grasses and forage plants; the composition and digestibility of the different kinds of food for domestic animals; the scientific and economic questions involved in the production of butter and cheese; and such other researches and experiments bearing directly on the agricultural industry of the United States as may be deemed advisable, having due regard to the varying condition and needs of the respective States or Territories."

Stimulated by the increased income provided by these Acts of Congress, Delaware College has within the past few years enlarged its corps of instructors, and greatly increased its

equipment of apparatus and appliances, so that now it is vastly better fitted than ever before in its whole history to carry out the purposes of this highly useful national appropriation. The experiment station occupies a building on the college grounds which contains the offices, libraries and laboratories adjoining in the rear campus, and several buildings used for storage and other purposes in the conduct of the various lines of experimental work. Delaware's Experiment Station was opened in 1888, having been made by the Legislature a Department of the College under the provisions of the Acts of Congress above recited. The Trustees of Delaware College form a Board of Control with the following officers, Hon. Charles B. Lore, president; Manlove Hayes, Esq., vice-president; Charles B. Evans, Esq., secretary and treasurer; and George A. Harter, A. M., Ph. D., President of Delaware College. The officers of the station are A. T. Neale, A. M., Ph. D., director and agriculturalist; F. D. Chester, M. S., Mycologist; C. L. Penny, A. M., Chemist; C. P. Close, M. S., Horticulturist; C. O. Houghton, A. B., Etymologist; and H. S. Jackson, A. B., Assistant Mycologist. Since 1888 quarterly bulletins for free distribution have been issued, giving in detail the results of the researches and experiments by the Delaware College Station. The mere catalogue of the subjects of these bulletins, some seventy-five in number, attests the wide field covered by these labors.

Agricultural experiment stations have been established in every State and Territory in the Union, besides those under the charge of the national government. The results of their labors in the last two decades, have already revolutionized agriculture and horticulture in many respects. The economic importance of the movement is incalculable, and it is speaking within conservative bounds to say that in a few years, thanks to this applied science in farming and kindred industries, the products of agriculture in its various forms will be multiplied many times. The most important contributions to science by agricultural chemists in recent years has been the study of the

sources of nitrogen in plants. Experiments by Berthelot, Hebréchal and others in Europe, and Atwater in the United States have been very valuable in showing the remarkable fact that leguminous plants like peas, beans, etc., have the power of getting part of their nitrogen from the air through the operation of certain microscopic organisms present in the soil and in the plants themselves which form small tubercles upon the plant roots. These organisms, or "nitrogen fixers," are artificially produced in microbe cultures, and transferred to soils deficient in them.

So, also, studies in the chemistry of sugar cane; beets and sorghum have developed varieties of these plants richer in sugar and poorer in non-sugars which hinder the crystallization of the sugar. Similar studies have increased the gluten content of wheat and barley, the carbohydrates and the nitrogens of maize; and the remarkable discoveries by Russell and Babcock of Wisconsin of certain enzymes or ferments, which, together with certain bacteria, produce the artificial curing of cheese; also the bacteria which give the desirable flavor of gilt-edged butter which have been isolated, cultivated and placed upon the market. These and other discoveries are the results of researches in these fields. As an illustration of how it pays—this search for improved food-stuffs—it may be stated that certain Macaroni wheat imported from Prussia at a yearly cost of \$10,000, yields annually \$10,000,000, and that from the sorghum brought from China in 1864 at a cost of \$2000, the nation derives a yearly income of \$40,000,000.

During this period of nearly twenty years covered by the seventy-five Bulletins, hundreds of experiments in agriculture and in horticulture, under the direction of the station officers, have been made both at the station itself and upon various farms throughout the State. These investigations and experiments conducted by the Delaware Station, are creditably keeping place with those elsewhere made.

For example, Bulletin No. 34, issued in 1896, and treating of plant diseases, showed that Hales and Early Rivers peach-

trees, when sprayed for two seasons with the Bordeaux mixture, had their fruitage increased three to four fold; and that strawberry and wine-sap apple trees similarly treated, yielded from three to thirteen baskets per tree—an increase in smooth, first-class fruit, of eighteen to eighty-nine per cent.

Many of these bulletins are illustrated, and all of them accompanied by such simple and explicit directions as to make them practically available to all persons engaged in farming, gardening, stock-raising, etc. Altogether, these bulletins of the Delaware Station form a library of information invaluable to the farmer of this day when but for these aids agriculture would be almost impossible by reason of the multitudes of predatory insect, germ, and other foes which have attacked grain and fruit crops since the slaughter of the birds. The officers of this Station are using every effort to combat those serious plagues, anthrax and Texas cattle-fever, which are menacing the cattle raising interests of the state, they are also seeking a method to aid the fruit growers of that national pest from California—the San Jose scale, and have at various times suggested remedial legislation to assist in extirpating these and other costly pests.

NEWARK ACADEMY.

This institution was established at Newark, Delaware, in 1767, and is one of the oldest secondary schools in the country. It had its origin under Presbyterian auspices. It was in 1739 that the Rev. Francis Alison, a native of Ireland, and a noted graduate of the University of Glasgow, emigrated to this country and lived in the family of Samuel Dickinson in Delaware, being a tutor of his son John Dickinson, who afterwards became a distinguished statesman, serving as Governor both of Delaware and Pennsylvania. Dr. Alison soon afterwards became pastor of the Presbyterian church at New London, Pennsylvania, and received at his home a number of young men as students. From this starting point the first academy of its kind originated in this country. In 1744 the Presby-

terian Synod adopted Dr. Alison's school at New London as its own, and appointed him rector. He resigned in 1752 and the Rev. Alexander McDowell was elected principal of the academy. The latter having become pastor of the Presbyterian churches of "White Clay creek" and "Elk river" removed the school to Elkton, Maryland, for a short time. In the year 1769 the school was located permanently at Newark, where it has been in operation ever since with the exception of a short period during the Revolutionary War.

In 1769 the academy was chartered by Richard and Thomas Penn, proprietaries of Pennsylvania and the "Lower Counties." In 1773 Dr. John Ewing and Dr. Hugh Williamson were sent to England and Scotland to secure funds for the school. Their mission proved to be a most successful one, and by means of the money thus secured, with the liberal assistance of the Penns and others, a building was erected and the basis of the present endowment was established. In 1834 Newark Academy was merged into Newark College (Delaware College after 1843), the buildings and grounds being conveyed by the trustees of the academy to the trustees of the college in 1847, and, until 1869, the two institutions were virtually one. In 1869 the trustees of Delaware College deeded back to the trustees of the academy the property conveyed to them in 1847, and by a provision of the Act of the General Assembly passed in 1835, elected a board of trustees for the academy, the only two surviving members of the old board at that time being Willard Hall and William T. Read. In 1869 Professor Edward D. Porter was elected principal, and conducted the academy for several years with fair success. In 1873 Miss Hannah Chamberlain was elected principal, and during her administration girls were admitted as pupils. Miss Chamberlain resigned in 1877 and was succeeded by Rev. J. L. Polk as principal, who resigned in 1885, and the academy was placed under the management of Dr. Albert N. Raub.

Following is a list of the principals from the opening of the school in New London in 1741 until the present time.

Francis Allison, D. D., Rev. Alexander McDowell, William Thompson, Mr. Johnstone, Rev. John Waugh, Rev. Francis Hindman, Rev. A. K. Russell, Thomas Madden, N. Z. Graves, W. S. F. Graham, W. W. Ferris, Rev. Matthew Meigs, J. W. Weston, Rev. Whiteman Peck, Professor Edward D. Porter, Miss Hannah Chamberlain, Rev. Joseph L. Polk, Albert N. Raub, L. Irving Handy, Rev. J. Dixon Shanks, D. D., and David J. Jacquette.

Some of the most eminent men of Delaware, many of whom have won national reputations, were students at the Newark Academy. About the year 1898, it ceased to be operated as an Academy and since that time the building has been used as part of the public school system of the town of Newark.

THE COLORED SCHOOLS.

At the close of the Civil War, the question of the education of the colored people presented itself. The fact that a population of three millions of people, who had been slaves from the organization of this government, was suddenly emancipated, suggested the deepest thought on the part of the government, and the several states, of devising means for their education. The General Government endeavored to start the good work through an organization called the "Freedmen's Bureau." By persevering efforts school-houses were built, and the primary steps taken towards the elevation of the colored people in the States lately in rebellion.

The roots of bitterness that had sprung up and the prejudices engendered by the government growing out of the reconstruction acts had a baneful effect upon the education of the colored race, and were for a long time barriers to the successful progress of the work. The strong pro-slavery sentiment that prevailed in the middle states was also a serious hindrance to the progress of the work, and Delaware was not exempt from the same prejudicial feeling. The colored people gained friends however, and to the untiring zeal and efforts of these friends, must be given the credit for the foundation of a system of education for colored people in Delaware.

In December, 1866, a meeting of philanthropic friends was held at the home of William S. Hilles, in Wilmington, and as the outcome of that meeting there was organized "The Delaware Association for the Moral Improvement and Education of the Colored People." Its real work began in 1867 and at the close of the first six months the contributions received had enabled the association to organize fifteen schools, seven in New Castle, four in Kent and four in Sussex County. From this date, the work of the Association was continued in the same way from year to year, until 1875. The number of schools had increased in that time to twenty-eight, and were supported entirely by the money donated by the Delaware Association, and the tuition paid by the pupils.

In 1875 an Act was passed by the General Assembly which provided for the taxing of colored people for the support of their own schools. The Delaware Association was the distributor of this fund through its agent called the "Actuary." The amount raised by taxation was entirely inadequate to meet the expenses of the schools, in fact it proved only sufficient to meet about one-third of the expenses and so it became necessary for the colored people to raise the other two-thirds among themselves. The first actuary of the Delaware Association was the Rev. J. G. Furey, who rendered efficient service. He was succeeded by Samuel Woolman whose labors were likewise faithful. Abbie C. Peckham was actuary from 1868 to 1874. She was succeeded by Mary S. Casperson, who was followed by Mrs. Kate Irvine. In 1876, Henry C. Conrad was elected actuary and had charge of the work about sixteen years.

The first State aid given to colored schools in Delaware was in 1881, when an Act was passed by the General Assembly appropriating \$2,400, to be distributed pro-rata among the schools of each county. The active efforts of Thomas N. Williams, Chairman of the House Committee on Education, were largely instrumental in securing this appropriation, and the encouragement which it gave the colored people was evidenced

in a single year by the increase in the number of schools from forty-six to sixty-seven, and the number of scholars enrolled from 1997 to 3121. In 1883, the annual State appropriation was increased from \$2,400 to \$5,000, and the State Superintendent of Schools was given general supervision of the colored schools of the State. In 1887 the General Assembly further increased the appropriation to \$6,000, and gave the general management of the schools to the county superintendents. In 1891 the annual appropriation to the colored schools was increased to \$9,000.

The teachers of the colored schools are selected from among the colored people, and are generally well informed and make efficient educators. In the apportionment and distribution of the school fund under the law of 1898 the colored schools receive their proportionate share, thus making the system uniform throughout the State. The text-books are furnished free to all colored children enrolled in the schools of the State, and an annual appropriation of one hundred dollars is made for the maintenance and support of the "Delaware Colored Teachers' State Institute." Separate schools for white and colored children are maintained, both classes of schools being under the general control and supervision of the county superintendents and the county commissions.

The General Assembly of 1901 passed an Act appropriating the sum of six thousand dollars annually, for two years, for the purpose of repairing, enlarging and building school-houses for the colored children of the State, said amount to be equally divided among the three counties of the State, and to be under the direction and control of the County School Commissioners of each county, and the same sum was again appropriated by the General Assembly of 1903 for a period of two years to be expended in the same way.

STATE COLLEGE FOR COLORED STUDENTS.

By an Act of the General Assembly passed in 1891 the State College for Colored Students was incorporated. The object was to provide facilities for the more advanced education of

the colored youth of the State. This institution is located two miles north of Dover, occupying a productive farm, and with an equipment of buildings and apparatus that compare favorably with like institutions in other States. The farm and equipment were paid for by money appropriated by the State, the expense of running the college being largely met by an appropriation of \$6,000 per annum (formerly \$5,000) which is paid by the United States Government under the Morrell Act.

The college is under the control of a non-partisan Board of Trustees of six members, two from each county, appointed every four years by the Governor. Hon. Charles B. Lore and Henry C. Conrad have been the trustees of the institution from New Castle County since its organization. In Kent, Dr. George W. Marshall and Daniel M. Ridgely were the original trustees. Mr. Ridgely resigned in 1893 and was succeeded by Wilson T. Cavender, who served until 1903, when he in turn was succeeded by Walter Morris. In Sussex County, Henry P. Cannon and Willie M. Ross were first appointed. Mr. Ross resigned in a few months, and was succeeded by Dr. David L. Mustard, who served until his death in 1900. His successor was Hon. Ebe W. Tunnell appointed in 1901. The present Board is composed of Hon. Charles B. Lore, Henry C. Conrad, George W. Marshall, Walter Morris, Hon. Ebe W. Tunnell and Henry P. Cannon.

The college has had but two presidents. The first was Wesley Webb, who served for four years, and his successor was Rev. William C. Jason, who was elected July 11, 1895, and has since occupied the place. Mr. Jason is a colored man of unusual attainments, and his administration of the affairs of the college has been marked with much success. During the year ending June, 1907, the college showed an enrollment of one hundred and seventeen, and the work and interest increases from year to year. The faculty of the college for the last year was as follows: President, William C. Jason, A. M., D. D.; Instructors, Joseph R. Cogbill, Samuel L. Conwell, Everett L. Brown, Lydia P. Laws, Cecie E. Parker and Winfield Deputy.

SKETCHES OF DELAWARE GOVERNORS.

John McKinly, the first President or Governor of Delaware, was a resident of Wilmington, and a medical doctor by profession. He was born in Ireland, February 24, 1721, and came to Wilmington about the time he reached his majority. He was sheriff of New Castle County by appointment of Governor William Denney from 1757 to 1760, and for fifteen years, beginning in 1759, was Chief Burgess of Wilmington. He was elected the first President of Delaware on February 21, 1777; he served in that office until the 11th day of September following, being the night after the battle of Brandywine, when he was taken prisoner by the British forces who captured him at his home in Wilmington. He remained a prisoner for about thirteen months. He was brigadier-general of the State militia during the Revolution. He was one of the founders of the Delaware Medical Association in 1789, and took a leading part in its deliberation during his life. He was one of the trustees named in the certificate of incorporation of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, and continued as a trustee from 1789 until his death. His home was at the northwest corner of Third and French streets in Wilmington, and the handsome mansion and grounds occupied as his home indicate that he was a man of means. His wife was Jane Richardson, a daughter of Richard Richardson, one of the early owners of the Richardson mill, to whom he was married in 1761. His death occurred August 31, 1796, and he was buried in the graveyard of the First Presbyterian Church at Wilmington.

Thomas McKean was the second President of Delaware. He assumed the office of President, being the Speaker of the Assembly, when John McKinly was taken prisoner by the

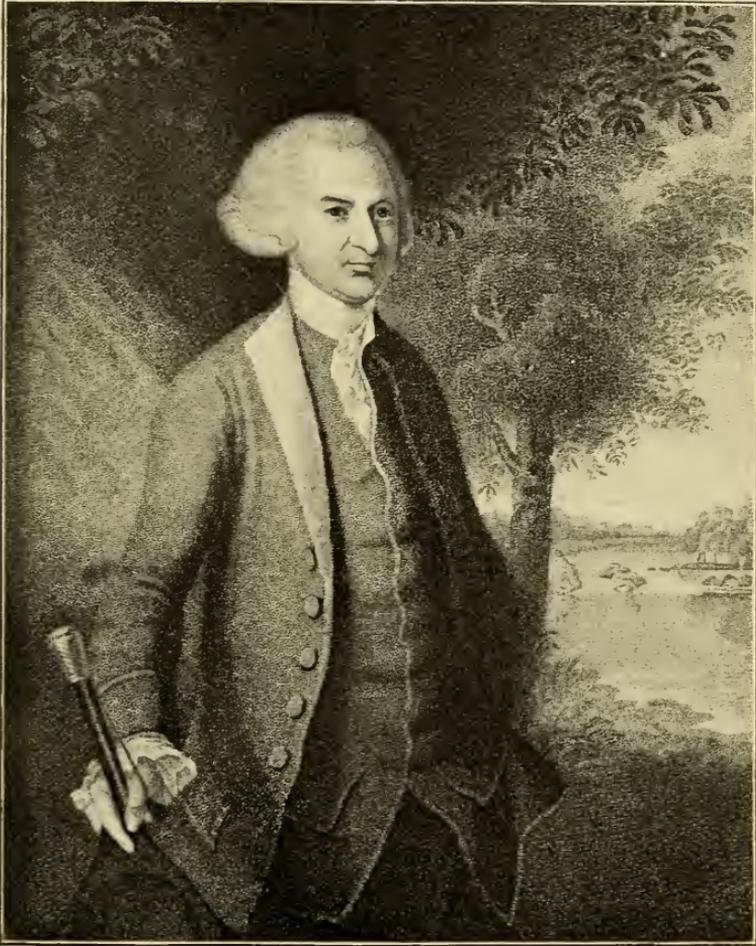
British on September 11, 1777. George Read should have immediately succeeded President McKinley, but at the time Read was sitting in Philadelphia as a member of Congress from Delaware, and as the British had possession of Wilmington, with their forces scattered along the Delaware, it was with difficulty that Read was able to reach Delaware in order to become the acting President. It fell to the lot of Thomas McKean, as the Speaker of the Assembly, to serve as President for this interim covering the time from September 11, 1777, to about October 20th of the same year. Thomas McKean was a Pennsylvanian, having been born in Chester County, March 19, 1734; he was liberally educated, studied law under David Finney, Esq., at New Castle, and was admitted to the bar in 1762, and for twelve years from 1764 was one of the trustees of the loan office for New Castle County, was elected to the Stamp Act Congress in 1765, was a member of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1783, being the only member that served uninterruptedly in that body from the beginning until the end of the Revolutionary War. From 1777 to 1783 he was not only a member of Congress from Delaware, but also Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, occupying the latter position for a term of twenty-two years. Was President of Congress in 1781, was one of the three signers of the Declaration of Independence from Delaware, and served in the Revolutionary War as colonel of the Philadelphia Associators. Was a member of the convention that framed the first constitution of the State of Delaware in 1776, and also a member of the convention that framed the first constitution of Pennsylvania in 1790. Was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in 1799 and served in that office for nine years. That was the last office held by him, his death occurring June 24th, 1817, being then in his eighty-fourth year. He was buried in Christ Church-yard in Philadelphia.

George Read the third President or Governor, was born in Cecil County, Maryland, September 18, 1733. At the time of the capture of President McKinly by the British on September

11, 1777, George Read was Speaker of the State Council and as such vice-president of the State and under the constitution, succeeded to the presidency. At the time Mr. Read was in Philadelphia serving the State as a member of Congress, and owing to the British having control of the shores of the Delaware, Mr. Read encountered difficulty in reaching the State and assuming the Governorship. He was not able to get back to Delaware until about five weeks after President McKinly had been taken by the British. Mr. Read about October 20, 1777 assumed the presidency and acted as such until March, 1778 when Cæsar Rodney was formally elected president of the State. A more extended biography of George Read appears under the head of the Read family in this work. George Read died September 21, 1798, and is buried in Immanuel churchyard at New Castle.

The fourth president of Delaware was Cæsar Rodney who was elected president in the winter of 1778 and served as president until January, 1782. Inasmuch as that a full sketch of Mr. Rodney appears under the head of the Rodney family in another part of this history there is no necessity of entering into much detail here. Cæsar Rodney was for many years a member of the Continental Congress, a Major-General in the Revolutionary War, several times a member of the Assembly and Speaker of the Council of the State and altogether possibly the leading man of the Revolutionary period in Delaware. His death occurred at his home at "Poplar Grove" near Dover on June 26, 1784. He was the first president from Kent County.

The fifth president was John Dickinson who was elected November 13, 1781, and served until November 4, 1782, when he was elected president of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania and asked to be relieved of the presidency of Delaware. He was the son of Samuel Dickinson and was born on the family plantation in Talbot County, Maryland, November 8, 1732. When about eight years of age his parents removed to a large farm just east of Dover and here his boy-



JOHN DICKINSON.

1732-1808.



hood was spent and the rudiments of knowledge taught him by William Killen. The latter afterward became a distinguished member of the Delaware Bar and in turn Chief Justice and Chancellor of the State.

Young Dickinson after being liberally educated began the study of law when eighteen years of age with John Moland a leading member of the Philadelphia Bar. After his admission to the Bar he took a three years' course as a student at law in the Middle Temple in London. Settling in Philadelphia he was elected a member of the Assembly in 1764 and a member of Congress in 1765; was a delegate to Congress from Delaware from 1774 to 1777 and again from 1779 to 1780. Was a member from Delaware of the Convention that framed the Constitution of the United States. From 1782 to 1785 was president of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, equivalent at that time to the governorship. Dickinson was a man of scholarly attainments and was the author of many of the most important State papers during the Revolutionary period.

He was a Friend in religion and inherited the conservative tendencies of that sect. He hesitated in proclaiming himself in favor of the independence of the Colonies and went the length of opposing the Declaration of Independence, but afterwards attested his patriotism by enlisting in the army serving as a private soldier in the battle of Brandywine, and a few days after that battle was appointed a Brigadier-General of the State militia. The military service, however, proved distasteful to him and he retired from the service after serving only a few months. His writings have been largely preserved and rank high as literary productions. He was undoubtedly one of the strongest characters that figured in American politics in the early days of the Republic. It is questionable whether Delaware has produced a more learned man. His home, in the latter days of his life was in Wilmington and his mansion, a pretentious one for that time, occupied the site of the present Wilmington Free Library. He died Feb-

ruary 14, 1808, and was buried in the graveyard adjoining the Friends Meeting at Fourth and West streets in Wilmington; a plain stone containing simply the letters "J. D." marking his resting place. Thomas Jefferson's estimate of Dickinson as a public character is contained in the following from a letter of condolence written a few days after Dickinson's death:

"A more estimable man or truer patriot could not have left us;

"His name will be consecrated in history as one of the worthies of the Revolution."

John Cook became the sixth President of Delaware by reason of the resignation of John Dickinson. The latter by a letter, which has been preserved, notified John Cook under date of November 4, 1782 that he had been elected a member of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania and requested John Cook to immediately take upon himself the administration of the government in the Delaware State according to the constitution, Mr. Cook being at that time the speaker of the Council. He served as President from November, 1782, until February 8, 1783. John Cook's residence was near Smyrna where he lived most, if not all of his life engaged in farming, and, following for a time the occupation of a tanner. He was at one time the owner of "Belmont Hall." He served as sheriff of Kent County, and was elected a member of the Council from Kent County in 1780 and 1787. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and served as third Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, his commission bearing date July 17, 1777. His wife was a sister of Governor Thomas Collins and one of his sisters married Governor John Clark. John Cook died at Smyrna in 1789.

The seventh President of Delaware was Nicholas VanDyke who occupied the office from 1783 to 1786. He had been a member of the Council in 1776, and in 1799 was its speaker. He was also a member of the convention that framed the first constitution of the State in 1776. He was born in New

Castle, September 25, 1738, being the son of Nicholas Van-Dyke who came to Delaware from Flat Bush, Long Island. He was admitted to the bar in 1765. On February 21, 1777, he was elected by the General Assembly Judge of Admiralty, and on the same day he and James Sykes were elected delegates to the Continental Congress from Delaware. His son Nicholas VanDyke, Jr., was afterwards a distinguished lawyer and member of Congress from this State, and his oldest daughter Nancy married Chancellor Kensey Johns the elder. He was twice married, and died February 19, 1789, and his remains were buried on his farm in St. Georges hundred just south of Delaware City, but were afterward removed to Immanuel churchyard in New Castle.

Thomas Collins became the eighth President of Delaware by election of the General Assembly in 1786. He descended from English parentage, was presumably a man of large means and lived for several years at "Belmont Hall," a mile south of Smyrna in Duck Creek Hundred. While in public life, just previous to the Revolutionary War, he improved and enlarged the Mansion House on his plantation "Belmont Hall," and it then became, as it has ever since remained, one of the handsomest private residences in Delaware. Here he dispensed a liberal hospitality for years. He evidently held the respect and esteem of his neighbors, as he served in the office of High Sheriff of Kent County; was four years a member of the Council and a leading member of the first constitutional convention in 1776. During the Revolutionary war he served for a period of five years from 1777 to 1783 as brigadier-general of the State militia. On June 18, 1782, he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Orphans' Court, and his name appears as one of the signers on the continental currency issued by the State during the Revolution. He was one of the largest land owners in Upper Kent County, a devout Episcopalian in religion and a liberal contributor to St. Peter's Church at Smyrna. His death occurred on March 29, 1789, during his term as President.

Jehu Davis as Speaker of the House succeeded to the Presidency on the death of President Collins on March 29, 1789, and thus became the ninth President of Delaware. He called a session of the General Assembly on May 28 ensuing, and notified the members of the death of the President, Thomas Collins, and also of the death of George Mitchell, the Speaker of the Council. The Assembly thus convened, proceeded on May 30th to elect a successor for the unexpired term of President Collins, and the choice fell upon

Joshua Clayton, who thus became the tenth President of Delaware. He was the son of James Clayton, a descendant of an early Joshua Clayton who came to America with Penn. Young Joshua was born in Cecil County, Maryland, in 1744, and after graduating in a course in medicine married Rachael McCleary, an adopted daughter of Governor Richard Bassett, about 1773, and he then settled on the Locust Grove farm, about two miles west of Mount Pleasant station, in St. Georges Hundred. Here he practiced his profession during the remainder of his life, although frequently called upon to serve his State in offices of trust and responsibility. He was twice elected a member of the House of Assembly in 1785 and 1787, and was chosen State Treasurer June 24, 1786, and served as such until he became President.

Serving the unexpired term of President Collins, he was in the fall of 1792 elected by the people to the office of Governor (the name of the chief executive having been changed by the Constitution of 1792), his majority over Thomas Montgomery, his opponent, being 307. His term as Governor continued until January 13, 1796. Serving, as he did, in the two capacities of President and Governor, he occupied the office of Chief Magistrate for six years and a half, being the longest term of any individual that held that office. On January 19, 1798, he was elected United States Senator from Delaware, but held the office for only a few months, as his death occurred on August 11 of the same year.

During the prevalence of yellow fever in Philadelphia in

the summer of 1798 he was called into consultation with the leading physicians of that place, and while there contracted the fever and fell a victim to it. During the Revolutionary war he served as second major in the Bohemia battalion of the Maryland regiment. This regiment was originally intended for home defense only, but most of the members of it entered the Continental army. Major Clayton participated in the battle of Brandywine, where, it is said, he served as an aide to General Washington. At his death, on August 11, 1798, he left three sons to survive him, Richard, James Lawson and Thomas, the latter afterwards becoming Chief Justice of Delaware and United States Senator.

The eleventh Governor of Delaware was Gunning Bedford, who was elected by the people, and assumed the duties of the office on January 13, 1796, as the successor of Governor Joshua Clayton. He was the son of William Bedford, a substantial land-owner in New Castle Hundred, and a grandson of Gunning Bedford, who, it is thought, came to this State either from New Jersey or Pennsylvania. Gunning Bedford was born April 7, 1742; he acted as major in the Delaware militia, his commission bearing date March 20, 1775, and under date of January 19, 1776, was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of Colonel John Haslet's Delaware regiment. He took an active part in the New Jersey campaign in the summer of 1776, and was wounded in the battle of White Plains while leading his regiment.

On his return to Delaware in 1779 he was admitted to the Bar and shortly afterward was appointed Prothonotary of New Castle County. In 1784, 1785 and 1786 was elected to the State House of Representatives, and was twice a member of the Privy Council, being elected in 1783 and 1790; was appointed Register of Wills for New Castle County February 25, 1788, and Justice of the Peace January 24, 1789; was twice elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was one of the presidential electors from Delaware in 1788 casting his vote for George Washington for President. He served as

Governor from January 13, 1796, until September 30, 1797, when he died. His wife was Mary Read, a sister of George Read, the signer, to whom he was married in 1769. He left no children. He was buried in the Read lot in the Immanuel churchyard in New Castle.

Daniel Rogers, the twelfth governor of Delaware, succeeded to that office as Speaker of the State Senate on the death of Governor Bedford, September 28, 1797, and served until January, 1799. Daniel Rogers was born in Accomack County, Virginia, January 3, 1754, and after attaining his majority settled in Cedar Creek Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware, on a large farm purchased by him from Levin Crapper. He lived in the large mansion house in South Milford now the residence of Joseph E. Holland. He built what is known as the "Brick Granary" on Cedar creek, four miles from Milford, on the road leading to the Draw Bridge, and he operated for some years the Haven Mills in Milford. He was twice elected a State Senator and was elected Speaker of the Senate at the session of 1797. He died February 2, 1806, and was buried on his home farm, in South Milford.

The thirteenth Governor of Delaware was Richard Bassett, who was elected in November, 1798, and took his seat January 9, 1799. He was born on Bohemia Manor, Cecil County, Maryland, in 1754. He studied law under Judge Goldsborough of Maryland. His record as a public servant was a remarkable one, and few men have served the State in more capacities or with greater efficiency. He was a member of the Council of Safety in 1776; was Captain in the Continental army; for ten years was a member of the State Council; a member of the convention that framed the Constitution of the United States in 1787, also a member of the State Convention that ratified the same in December the same year; was also a member of the Delaware constitutional conventions of 1776 and 1792.

He was one of the first United States Senators from Delaware serving from 1789 to 1793. He was appointed Chief

Justice of the Court of Common Pleas by Governor Clayton and served from 1793 until he assumed the office of Governor on January 9, 1799. In March, 1801, he resigned the office of Governor in order to become United States Circuit Judge for the Third District, an appointment that came to him from President John Adams. His daughter Anne Bassett married James A. Bayard, the elder, and his adopted daughter Rachel became the wife of Governor Joshua Clayton. Richard Bassett died at his home on Bohemia Manor, in 1815, and he was buried beside his distinguished son-in-law James A. Bayard, who died in the same month.

James Sykes, who at one time was Speaker of the Senate, became the fourteenth Governor of Delaware as the successor of Governor Richard Bassett, who resigned the governorship in March, 1801. He acted as Governor until the following January only. Governor Sykes was a medical practitioner having studied medicine with Governor Joshua Clayton. His father bore the same name and the son was born near Dover, in 1761. He first practiced medicine at Cambridge, Maryland, remained there only a short while when he established himself at Dover and gained a high reputation as a surgeon. He was six times elected a member of the State Senate and was twice elected Speaker. He spent a few years in the practice of his profession in New York, but again returned to Dover, and in his latter days he occupied the large house immediately adjoining the State House, now owned by the State, and in this house he died in 1822.

David Hall served as the fifteenth Governor of Delaware. He was born at Lewes, January 4, 1752; he studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1773, and two years later on the breaking out of the Revolution, he shouldered his musket and went to war. He was early commissioned captain in the Continental service in John Haslet's regiment and led his company in the battle of Long Island and White Plains. In April, 1777, he was commissioned colonel of a regiment which formed a most important part of the famous Delaware line in the war.

Being seriously wounded in the famous battle of Germantown, he was further incapacitated for active service. Returning to Lewes he renewed the practice of the profession of law, and when just fifty years of age assumed the office of Governor. He served the full constitutional term, retiring in January, 1805. Eight years later, 1813, he was commissioned one of the Associate Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for Sussex County, in which office he served until his death, September 18, 1817. He was buried in the graveyard of the Presbyterian Church at Lewes.

Nathaniel Mitchell was the successor of Governor Hall and thereby became the sixteenth Governor of Delaware. He served the full term from 1805 to 1808. He was a resident of Laurel and made an enviable record as a soldier in the Revolution. He served in the thickest of the fight at Brandywine and Germantown with Colonel Patterson's Flying Camp. Three years after the war he was elected a member of the Continental Congress, serving for four years. After the close of his term as Governor, he served as a member for one term of the State House of Representatives. His mother was a sister of General John Dagworthy. He died February 21, 1814, at his home in Laurel and was buried in the graveyard at old Christ Church near that town.

George Truitt was elected by the people the seventeenth Governor of Delaware, and served from January, 1808, to January, 1811. He was a large land-owner and occupied a stately residence on the State road between Felton and Canterbury. He was a member of the State Convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States and the fact that he was a leading and influential citizen in the community where he lived, is shown by his election on four different occasions as a member of the State House of Representatives and once as a member of the State Senate. His only daughter married Dr. James Fisher of Camden, but died early, and there are no descendants of Governor Truitt now living. He died October 8, 1818, in the sixty-second year of his age and was buried on

his own farm where his remains, together with those of his wife and daughter rested until the spring of 1903 when by resolution of the General Assembly of this State an appropriation was made whereby the remains of the Governor and his family were reinterred in the Barratt Chapel Cemetery.

The eighteenth Governor was Joseph Haslet who was the son of Colonel John Haslet of the First Delaware Regiment in the Revolution. The father was of Irish birth, and an early Presbyterian minister, who fell at the Battle of Princeton at the head of his regiment. A native of Kent County, Joseph Haslet learned the trade of watchmaker under Ziba Ferris, in Wilmington, and after gaining his majority settled on a farm in Cedar Creek Hundred in Sussex County. He served as Governor from January, 1811, to January, 1814. His term covered the exciting events of the War of 1812 but he proved himself equal to the occasion and in all respects upheld the dignity of the State in that trying time. After the lapse of eight years he was again elected Governor of the State serving from January, 1823, until June of the same year when he died. He was the only person ever elected, by the people, a second time to the office of Governor in the State.

The contest in the fall of 1813 resulted in the election of Daniel Rodney who became the nineteenth Governor of Delaware. He was an inhabitant of Lewes where he was born September 10, 1764. Engaged to some extent in the coasting trade he settled after the War of 1812 in his native town of Lewes, and having married a daughter of Major Henry Fisher, engaged in mercantile pursuits during the remainder of his life. He was a man of fine business ability, taking an active interest in public affairs and serving his State in various capacities. He was a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for three years from 1817, twice elected a member of Congress from this State and served for a short while as United States Senator. He died September 2, 1846, and his body was interred in the Episcopal churchyard at Lewes.

Governor Rodney was succeeded by John Clark who became

the twentieth Governor of Delaware on January 21, 1817. He was a Federalist in politics and was the son of William Clark, who commanded a company at the battle of Monmouth in the Revolution. John Clark resided in Appoquinimink Hundred near Rothwell's Landing on Duck creek in New Castle county, on a farm which he inherited from his father. His wife was a daughter of John Cook one of the early Governors of Delaware by whom he had one daughter, who married Pennell Corbit of Odessa. Sarah Corbit, a child of this latter marriage, married Anthony M. Higgins the father of Ex-Senator Anthony Higgins, who, in this way, is the great-grandson of Governor Clark. John Clark Higgins, the present United States Consul at Dundee, Scotland, was named after Governor Clark, and is also his great-grandson. Governor Clark served the full constitutional term; he died August 14, 1821, and was buried in the old Presbyterian graveyard near Smyrna.

At the election held in November, 1819, Henry Molleston was elected Governor but he died before January of the following year, and in his stead Jacob Stout, Speaker of the Senate, became the twenty-first Governor of Delaware and performed the duties of the office from January, 1820, to January, 1821. Jacob Stout was born near Leipsic, in Little Creek Hundred in Kent County, in 1764, and lived in that locality until his death in 1855, when he had attained the age of 91 years. He married Angelica, daughter of Chancellor William Killen. He served frequently as a member of the General Assembly, and at the session of the same in 1818 became Speaker of the Senate. He was a leading business man and for many years a director of the Smyrna Bank. He was a progressive farmer, taking the greatest pride in the improvement of the many farms owned by him. For some years after retiring from the Governorship he served as one of the Judges of the court of Common Pleas. John R. Nicholson, the present Chancellor of the State, is a great-grandson of Jacob Stout. Governor Stout was buried in the Presbyterian churchyard at Dover.

John Collins became the twenty-second Governor of the State of Delaware, by election of the people, in January, 1821. He lived at Laurel in Sussex County at the time of his election. His father, who was known as Captain John Collins, owned at one time over 2000 acres of land in Nanticoke Hundred, and at his death part of this land descended to his son John, who not only was an active farmer but who was interested in the conduct of a mill and forge in Nanticoke Hundred. He served only fifteen months in the office, dying in April, 1822, during his term.

On the death of John Collins in April, 1822, the office of Governor devolved upon Caleb Rodney, Speaker of the Senate, who continued to act as Governor until the January following. In that way he became the twenty-third Governor. Caleb Rodney was born at Lewes, April 29, 1767, and during all of his life was a resident of that town. When a young man he engaged in mercantile business and conducted for many years a large wholesale and retail trade. He was a leading man in the community and served frequently as a member of the General Assembly. The store and dwelling at Lewes occupied by Caleb Rodney are still standing, and one of the doors of the house, that bears the mark of a ball by which it was struck during the bombardment of Lewes in the War of 1812, has been preserved to the present time. After retiring from the office of Governor, Caleb Rodney lived quietly in his native town until his death on April 29, 1840, his 73d birthday. His remains lie buried in the Episcopal churchyard at Lewes only a short distance from the store in which he conducted so many years his successful business.

The next, or twenty-fourth Governor, was Joseph Haslet, of whom we have spoken at length heretofore in this chapter. He became governor for a second time by the election of the people, being inaugurated January 15, 1823, but on June 24th of the same year, he died suddenly, after serving only five months of his term.

On the death of Joseph Haslet the duties of the governor-

ship fell upon Charles Thomas, Speaker of the Senate, and he, as the twenty-fifth Governor of Delaware, exercised the functions of the office until January, 1824. Charles Thomas was a resident of New Castle. He was a son of Charles Thomas and Susanna McCallmont, and was born on his father's farm in Dragon Neck in Red Lion Hundred, June 23, 1790. He was educated at Princeton College, studied law under George Read, Jr., and was admitted to the New Castle County Bar in 1813. From 1817 to 1819 he served as a member of the State House of Representatives, and in 1821 was elected a member of the State Senate, and at the session of the Senate in 1823 was elected Speaker. After his retirement from the governorship he never appeared in public life again. He was a man of fine literary attainments, but does not seem to have figured as an active practitioner at the Bar. His mode of living would indicate that he was a man of large wealth. He left one daughter, Eliza Thomas, who died a few years ago in Wilmington. Charles Thomas died February 8, 1848, and was buried in the Presbyterian graveyard at New Castle.

Samuel Paynter became, by election of the people, the twenty-sixth Governor of Delaware in January, 1824. He lived at Drawbridge, Broad Kiln Hundred, Sussex County, where he conducted a large and prosperous mercantile business. The house in which he dispensed a generous hospitality for many years, was, within the last year, burned to the ground. Occupying the position of a prosperous tradesman he exercised a wide influence in the eastern part of Sussex County. In 1818 he was appointed one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Sussex County, and five years later was elected Governor. Nearly twenty years after the expiration of his term as Governor, he was elected a member of the State House of Representatives, being then in his seventy-sixth year; and a year later, on October 2, 1845, he died, and his remains were buried in the Episcopal churchyard at Lewes.

The outcome of the election held in the fall of 1826 was the

selection of Charles Polk as the twenty-seventh Governor of Delaware. Charles Polk was born near Bridgeville in Sussex County, November 14, 1788. He married Mary Purnell of Berlin, Md., and from the marriage sprang a family of fifteen children. He was the fourth in the family line of the name of Charles Polk, and his father having died when he was very young, he attributed whatever success he attained in life to the training of his mother.

After receiving a good education, for that time, he studied law with Kensey Johns, Sr., but never entered actively into the practice of law, preferring the occupation of a husbandman, in which he was very successful. In later life he became the owner of a large tract of land along the Delaware bay shore in Milford Hundred in Kent County and here he resided for many years. He was many times a member of the General Assembly, both from Kent and Sussex counties. He was a Federalist in politics and was elected Governor over David Hazzard. He served a full term as Governor and being afterward elected to the State Senate, became the Speaker of the Senate in 1836, when by the death of Governor Bennett he again became Governor. He served a term as Register of Wills in Kent County; was President of the constitutional convention of 1831 and Collector of Customs for the port of Wilmington from 1850 to 1853.

During most of his life he was one of the most active political factors in the State. He was one of the closest personal and political friends of John M. Clayton, who served as his Secretary of State, and is remembered as an exceedingly affable and delightful gentleman of strikingly handsome appearance, and possessing qualities of mind and character that endeared him to the populace. He is said to have been offered at one time the United States Senatorship from Delaware, but declined the offer. He died at his home in Milford Hundred on October 27th, 1857.

The last Governor under the Constitution of 1792 was David Hazzard of Sussex County; elected by the people in 1829, he

became the twenty-eighth Governor of Delaware in January, 1830. He was born in Broadkilm Hundred on May 18, 1781. He served as an ensign in Captain Peter Wright's Company in the War of 1812, and in early life was, for several years, a Justice of the Peace. After the expiration of his term as Governor he served a term in the State Senate. In 1844 he was appointed one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, serving for three years. He was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1852, but resigned. His home was in Milton where for many years he commanded the respect of the whole community. He was a man of strong religious tendencies and for many years was recognized as one of the leading laymen in the Methodist Church in the State. He died July 8, 1864, at his home in Milton in his eighty-third year.

Caleb P. Bennett, the twenty-ninth Governor, was elected in November, 1832, as a Jackson Democrat, and by a majority of only 57 votes. He was a native of Chester County, Pennsylvania, and was born November 11, 1758. When but three years of age, he moved with his father, Captain Joseph Bennett, to Wilmington and lived in that city ever after. His father was a sea-faring man sailing a vessel from Wilmington to the West Indies. Governor Bennett's grandmother was Mary Boone, a daughter of the famous Daniel Boone the early Kentucky settler. Both of his parents were members of the Birmingham Friends Meeting, and the Governor always adhered to the faith of the Friends.

Young Bennett entered the Delaware regiment in the Revolution as a private soldier; was afterwards promoted to a Sergeant, and served as ensign in Captain Thomas Holland's Company of David Hall's Delaware Regiment. He fought at Brandywine, was wounded at Germantown, and served until the close of the war, reaching the rank of First Lieutenant. He was with the army at Valley Forge during the trying winter of 1777 and 1778 and at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown was in command of one of the American batteries.

During the War of 1812 he was commissioned Major of the Delaware State Militia and was in command of the forces at New Castle.

His services as a soldier endeared him to the people and resulted in his election to the Governorship. The only civil office, other than Governor, that he occupied was that of Treasurer of New Castle County, which office he held from 1807 until 1832. He assumed the duties of Governor in January, 1833, and served until July 11th, 1836, when he died. He lived for many years at what is now known as No. 841 Market street, and was buried from there with military honors. He adhered until his death to the old-fashioned style of dress, consisting of low shoes, silver knee and shoe-buckles, long silk stockings, white kid breeches, velvet coat with brass buttons, ruffled shirt-bosom, powdered hair and cue. He was buried in the graveyard adjoining the Friends' meeting-house at Fourth and West streets, in the City of Wilmington.

On the death of Governor Bennett, Charles Polk, the Speaker of the Senate, succeeded to the place and became the acting Governor, serving from July 11th, 1836, until January, 1837. In this way Charles Polk became the thirtieth Governor of Delaware, and it will be recalled that he served a full term, from 1827 to 1830, and a full sketch of him appeared heretofore in its regular order.

The thirty-first Governor was Cornelius P. Comegys, who served the full term from January, 1837, to January, 1841. He was the son of Cornelius Comegys, whose ancestors settled on the Chester river, in Maryland, about the middle of the seventeenth century. Governor Comegys was twice married, his first wife being Ann, the daughter of Benjamin Blackiston, of Duck Creek Hundred. She lived but a short time, and his second wife was Ruhamah, the daughter of John Marim, who lived near Dover, and in 1804 they moved to the family seat of the Marims in St. Jones Neck, where they lived for many years.

Governor Comegys was a most hospitable man, with popular qualities, and he held many positions of honor and trust in the State. During the War of 1812 he served successively as major, lieutenant-colonel and adjutant-general. He was several times a member of the General Assembly, and served more than once as Speaker of the House. He was for many years a State Director of the Farmers' Bank at Dover, and for some time its cashier. He also served as State Treasurer.

He was the father of a large family, among whom were the Honorable Joseph P. Comegys, who became a distinguished lawyer, and served for nearly twenty years as Chief Justice of the State; Benjamin B. Comegys, who attained the very highest rank as a financier in the city of Philadelphia, serving as a director of the Pennsylvania railroad and as President of the Philadelphia National Bank. Another son, Cornelius G. Comegys, settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, and ranked high as a medical practitioner; and a fourth son, John M. Comegys, D. D. S., became a skillful and successful dentist, spending his latter days at Dover. Governor Comegys was elected as a Whig, and was a devoted friend and adherent of John M. Clayton. Both he and his sons were strong and vigorous, both mentally and physically, and he was always considered an ideal type of the educated farmer and generous, free-hearted gentleman. He died at Dover January 27, 1851.

William B. Cooper became the thirty-second Governor by election of the people, and occupied the office for a full term, from January, 1841, to January, 1845. He was born and lived all of his life near the present town of Laurel. He, too, was an educated man, and is described as "being polished in manners with intellectual gifts of a high order and a fascinating conversationalist." He served one term as a member of the State House of Representatives, and in 1817 was appointed one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Sussex County. He is remembered as a man of great force of character and a leading and influential man in the neighborhood in which he lived. He died April 27, 1848, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

After a vigorous campaign in the fall of 1844 Thomas Stockton was elected the thirty-third Governor of Delaware. He was the oldest son of John Stockton, and was born April 1, 1781. The father made a fine record as a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and served as Brigadier-General of the State Militia in the War of 1812, being in command when the British landed at the head of Elk. Governor Stockton married Fidelia Rogerson Johns, daughter of Chancellor Kensey Johns, the elder.

He was educated at Princeton College and afterwards settled in New Castle where he lived during the remainder of his life. He served as Prothonotary of New Castle County from 1810 to 1812, but resigned that office to join the Delaware volunteers in the War of 1812. Shortly afterwards he was commissioned a Captain in the United States army and proceeding to the Canadian frontier he distinguished himself in the battle of Fort George. During the war of 1812 he rose to the rank of Major and was in command of the American forces at Lewes.

Retiring from the army in 1825, he returned to New Castle, and on January 18, 1832, he was appointed Register in Chancery for New Castle County, and held that office until June 1, 1835. In November, 1844, he was elected Governor over William Tharp by a majority of forty-four. After serving in the office but a year and two months he died suddenly on March 2, 1846, and was buried in Immanuel church-yard in New Castle. He was the father of six children, one of whom, Miss Fidelia R. Stockton, died a few months ago at New Castle. Two of his sons rendered meritorious service in the army. The family has always shown a remarkable military spirit.

On the death of Governor Stockton, Joseph Maull, Speaker of the Senate, succeeded to the office, and became the thirty-fourth Governor. After occupying the office for six weeks, he was stricken with an illness which ended his life on May 3, 1846. Joseph Maull was born in Pilottown, at Lewes,

September 6, 1781. He studied medicine under Doctor Wolfe, a well-known practitioner of that day, and for many years was a practicing physician in Broadkilm and adjoining Hundreds with his residence at Milton. He was frequently called upon to serve his State both as a member of the General Assembly and in other capacities, and was during his entire life a leading citizen of eastern Sussex.

William Temple became the acting Governor (the thirty-fifth in succession) on the death of acting Governor Joseph Maull, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, and his term continued until January, 1847. Governor Temple at that time, and for several years preceding, had been a prosperous merchant in Smyrna. He was a native of Queen Anne's county, Maryland, where he was born February 28th, 1814, but came to Smyrna when about eighteen years of age. In his very early days he showed a decided interest in political affairs in espousing the principles of the Whig party and became a leader in the same.

He had hardly reached his majority when he was elected a member of the State House of Representatives and was more than once re-elected to that branch of the Assembly and later to the State Senate. In 1862 he was elected, as a Democrat, as representative in Congress from Delaware, but died before he took his seat in Congress. His death occurred in May, 1863. An obituary written at that time says: "He was emphatically a man of the world, possessing those rare qualities calculated to win every man and repel none. Frank, generous, familiar and courteous, he possessed the key to unlock the hearts of men and blend their interests with his in the prosecution of the public interest. Certainly he was a very pure-minded, honorable man, a man of soul and feeling, a friend of all and a great help to many in times of need."

William Tharp, who was the thirty-sixth Governor, was born November 27th, 1803, and was a grandson of John Tharp who came from Sussex County, England, and was one of the earliest settlers in Kent County, Delaware. His early life

was spent near Farmington, and that was his residence when he was elected Governor. After his election he moved to Milford, at which place he spent the remainder of his life. Governor Tharp was a large land-owner, much of his land being cleared up and improved under his own supervision, and he was regarded as a very successful and progressive farmer. He was a strong man intellectually, a substantial citizen, prominent in his community and highly respected by all the people. His life, which was both useful and successful, ended on January 1st, 1865. He occupied a full term as Governor.

The election of William H. Ross as the thirty-seventh Governor in 1850 called to that exalted position the youngest man who had ever been chosen for the place. The campaign leading up to his election was an animated one, in which the leading cry of his political associates was "Ross, Riddle and Reform." Much enthusiasm marked the campaign, and both Ross and George Read Riddle, his associate on the ticket for representative in Congress, were elected by substantial majorities. While young in years, he brought with him to the office qualifications and attainments that eminently fitted him for the place. He possessed strong natural ability and was a man of extensive reading.

His birthplace was at Laurel, and he lived there from the time of his birth, June 2, 1814, until 1845, when he removed to Seaford, which became his permanent home. He showed a fondness for foreign travel, and having succeeded in business he was able to gratify his inclination in that regard, and both before and after his term as Governor he traveled extensively abroad. He filled the office with great acceptability, and was but forty years of age when, at the expiration of his term as Governor, he retired to private life. He left at his death three sons, all of whom have continued to live in the vicinity of Seaford and are leading and representative citizens of the State.

In 1854 Peter F. Causey was elected the thirty-eighth Governor as the candidate of the "American Party." He

served from January, 1855, to January, 1859. He was the son of Peter F. and Tanzey Causey, and was born near Bridgeville, January 11, 1801. Moving with his father to Milford in 1815, they engaged in business and were eminently successful. Peter F., the younger, at an early age showed that quickness of perception and good judgment which are so essential in business and which were his distinguishing traits through his life.

In 1825 he succeeded to the business that had been started by himself and father together. He not only established and conducted a large mercantile trade in Milford, but in addition engaged largely in mining iron ore, which was obtained in large quantities on his own land in Nanticoke Hundred. This was shipped on his own vessels to Philadelphia. He succeeded in whatever he undertook and soon accumulated large means, which he wisely invested in real estate in the vicinity of his home. He owned and operated for several years several valuable milling properties in the vicinity of Milford.

When about forty years of age he retired from the mercantile business and devoted his time to his landed interests, aggregating, at that time, over 1,500 acres, and to the management of his mills and tannery. He represented the Whig party both in the State Senate and House of Representatives, and was more than once a delegate to the National Whig Conventions. In the administration of the office he exhibited a wise patriotism and showed unusual executive ability. It fell to his lot to make a greater number of important appointments than any man who had before that time occupied the office of Governor. His appointment of Edward W. Gilpin as Chief Justice of the State was received with much favor although he made the appointment from the political party that opposed his election.

He lived for many years in the historic house in South Milford, now occupied by Joseph E. Holland, and his death occurred February 15, 1871. He was one of the strong men

of his day, representing high moral ideas, kind and generous to the needy and an influential member for many years of the Methodist Episcopal Church. One of his sons, John W. Causey, afterward represented the State of Delaware in Congress, and a second son William F. Causey was for many years a member of the Bar and served as Secretary of State under Governor Stockley.

William Burton, the thirty-ninth Governor, served from January, 1859, to January, 1863. He was the son of John Burton, and was born October 16, 1789. His boyhood was spent on the farm of his father in Sussex County, and after a limited education, he studied medicine with Doctor Sudler of Milford, and was graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. Beginning practice at Lewes, he remained there but a short time, when he removed to Milford where he lived the remainder of his days. He always took an active part in state politics. He served as Brigadier General of the State militia for two years, and in 1830 was elected sheriff of Kent County.

His first political affiliation was with the Whig party, but in 1848, he joined the Democratic party, and six years later was the candidate of that party for the office of Governor, but he was defeated by his fellow townsman, Peter F. Causey. Four years later he was again nominated by the Democrats and was elected. His term of office covered the trying period at the breaking-out of the Civil war, and his situation at that time was far from an enviable one. He was for many years an earnest member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, serving as senior warden of Christ Church in Milford. He is remembered as the dispenser of a kindly hospitality and a man who both in public station and in private life commanded the respect of the people by reason of the probity of his daily walk. He occupied no public position after his term as Governor and died at his home in Milford on August 5, 1866.

After an exciting election in the fall of 1862, William Cannon was elected the fortieth Governor of Delaware. For

several years preceeding his election he had carried on a successful mercantile business at Bridgeville in Sussex County, near which town he was born on March 15, 1809. His first political affiliations were with the Democratic party, having been elected in 1844, by that party to the State House of Representatives. He was re-elected to the same position. In 1851, he was elected State Treasurer serving for four years and at the beginning of the Civil War, was chosen one of the members of the Peace Congress.

He served from January, 1863, until March 1, 1865, when, after a brief illness, he died at his home at Bridgeville. His brief administration as Governor commanded the respect of the people of the State, and the spirit of loyalty evinced by him won much applause from the ardent union men who had been instrumental in nominating and electing him. During his term as Governor the legislative department of the State was under the control of the Democratic party so that the many measures emanating from and advocated by him, in those trying times, met with the disfavor of his political opponents. He always occupied a leading position in his native county and by dint of good management and perseverance accumulated a substantial fortune. He was for many years a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His remains rest in the cemetery at Bridgeville within a short distance of his old home, now, and since the death of the Governor, occupied by his son, Henry P. Cannon.

On the death of Governor Cannon, Gove Saulsbury, Speaker of the Senate, succeeded to the office, becoming thereby the forty-first Governor of Delaware. Governor Saulsbury was born in Mispillion Hundred on May 29, 1815. After a preliminary education in the free schools of the State he took a course at Delaware College, and studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He settled in Dover, where he resided and practiced medicine during the remainder of his life. He took an active part in political affairs, was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and by that party was elected

to the State Senate in 1862. In 1864 he was elected Speaker of the Senate. He early showed rare qualifications as a leader, and for many years was the leading voice in the councils of the Democratic party in Kent County.

Having been sworn in as the successor of Governor Cannon on March 1, 1865, he occupied the office as acting Governor until the January following, when, having been chosen by the people at the election in November, 1865, he began a full term in January, 1866, and served as chief executive until January, 1871. He was a man of commanding physique, and much above the average man in mental caliber. As a politician he was active and fearless, and naturally attracted men to him; and while a dangerous enemy, yet he commanded and held the respect of his political opponents. In the memorable contest in the General Assembly in 1873 he came within one vote of being elected to the United States Senate. After his unsuccessful effort to reach the Senate he was less active in political affairs.

It has always been recognized that he was one of the strongest men who have occupied the office of Governor in this State. For many years Governor Saulsbury was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Dover, and at the organization of the Wilmington Conference Academy, located in Dover, he became the first President of its Board of Trustees, which position he held until the time of his death. He was one of the strongest friends of this institution and took the greatest interest in its welfare and advancement. His death occurred on July 31, 1881, and he was buried in the Methodist Episcopal cemetery at Dover.

James Ponder, the forty-second Governor, like many of his predecessors, was a man who had conducted a successful mercantile business, and by reason of thrift and management in business affairs accumulated a competence and earned a commanding position in the community in which his life was spent. Born at Milton in 1819 his whole life was spent either in or near that town. In his early days he was in partnership

with his father, John Ponder, who also was a successful merchant. The son, succeeding to the business, enlarged and increased it. He added vessel properties to his possessions, and the latter proved a profitable venture.

Like his father he allied himself with the Democratic party, and in 1856 was elected to the State House of Representatives. In 1864 he was elected a member of the State Senate and became Speaker of the Senate in 1867. At the expiration of his full term as Governor, extending from 1871 to 1875, he retired from active business and lived quietly "but respected of all men" at his comfortable home in the town of Milton. He died November 5th, 1897, and the whole community that had always been in touch with his life mourned the loss of a man who had in all relations been an honor to it.

The successor of Governor Ponder was John P. Cochran who became the forty-third Governor in January, 1875. He was a New Castle County man, the first one chosen as Governor for thirty years, the last occupant of the office from New Castle County having been Thomas Stockton, elected in 1844. Governor Cochran was born in Appoquinimink Hundred, February 7, 1809.

The large Cochran family, of which the Governor was possibly the most conspicuous member, were of Scotch-Irish descent, and came to Delaware from Cecil County, Maryland. The Governor's early, as well as later life, was spent on a farm. Possessing strong common sense, coupled with energy and industry, he became a large land-owner, and was recognized as the leading farmer and fruit-grower in a section of country that was famous for its intelligent husbandry. He lived for many years in the midst of his landed estate just west of Middletown.

While always an active and ardent Democrat in politics, the only office that he held, prior to his election as Governor, was as a member of the Levy Court for New Castle County for a term of eight years from 1838 to 1846. His term as Governor marked him as a progressive man. He lent his influence to

an amendment to the school law at that time which gave a new impetus to the free school system in Delaware; and his appointment, while Governor, of Joseph P. Comegys as Chief Justice of the State, met with unusual approval. Retiring from the Governorship, his after years were spent in the quiet of his beautiful home, and his years were lengthened out beyond four score and ten. His death occurred on December 27th, 1898, and he was buried in the Forest Cemetery at Middletown.

Another successful merchant and vessel-owner who became Governor of Delaware was John W. Hall, elected in the fall of 1878, and serving the full constitutional term from 1879 to 1883. In rotation he was the forty-fourth Governor. He was born January 1, 1817, in Frederica. His whole life was spent in that town, and there he died. Beginning his business career as a clerk on a salary of less than \$3.00 a month and board, he early showed a frugal and thrifty tendency which enabled him when he arrived at his majority, to purchase the business of his employer, which under his management was extended and other branches of trade added, until he became the head and front of the largest business in his section of the county.

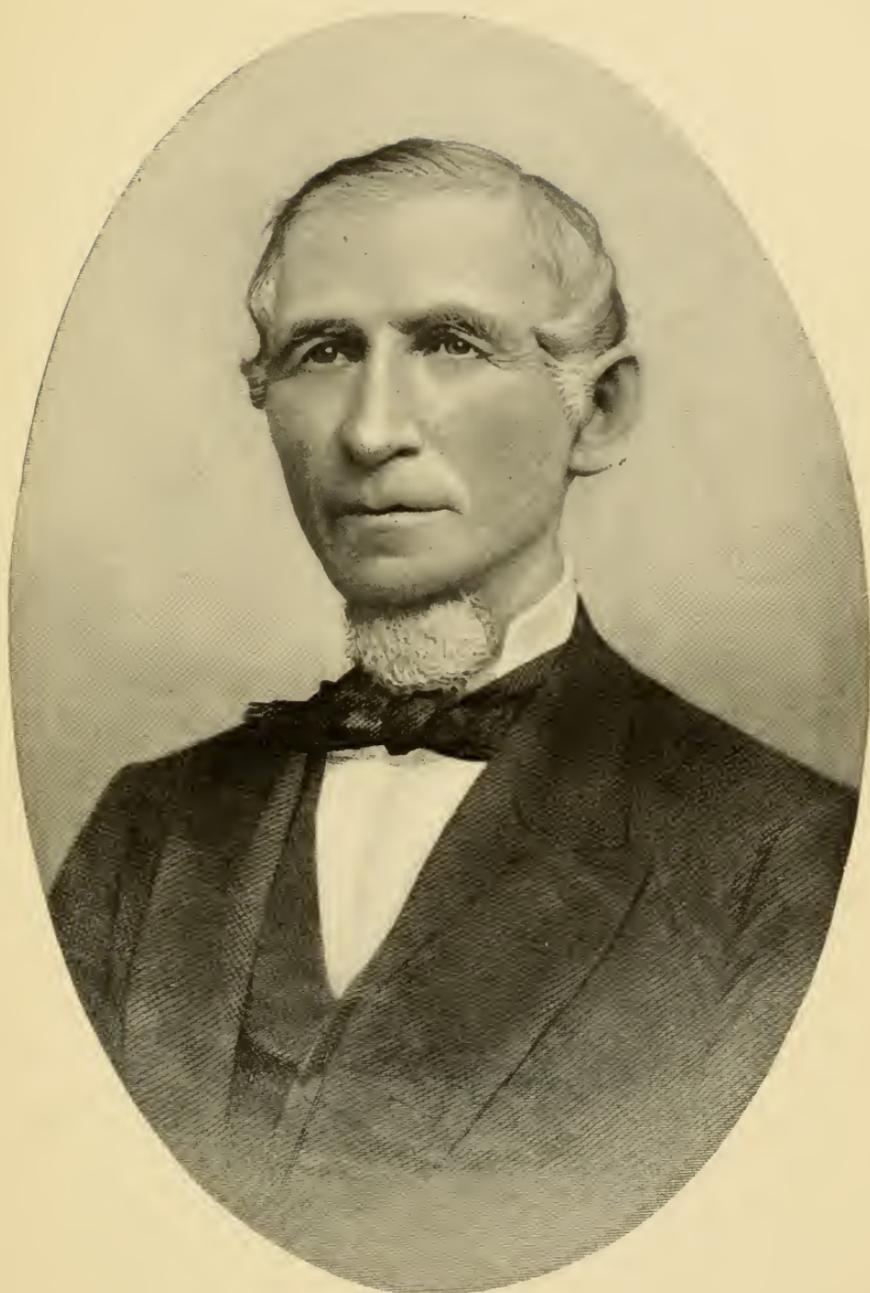
Adding to his mercantile business the sale of grain and lumber, he still further extended his enterprises by engaging in the building and sailing of vessels. The latter proved especially profitable, and for years his vessels sailed to many ports and he became one of the largest owners of small craft in this country. His accumulation of means he wisely invested in land, and for many years was one of the largest farm owners in Delaware. At first a Whig, he afterwards allied himself with the Democratic party, although never particularly active in party affairs. In 1866 he was elected a member of the State Senate, and ten years later was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention that nominated Samuel J. Tilden for President. In 1874 he came within one or two votes of being the Democratic nominee for Governor,

and four years later was nominated and elected by an overwhelming majority.

His administration was uneventful, but it was marked by the same good judgment and conservatism that he had shown in his business affairs. After his retirement from the office of Governor he held no other public place until 1890, when he was elected a member of the State Senate, and before his term as such had expired he died, his death occurring at his home at Frederica on January 23, 1893. His estate is estimated to have been worth a half million dollars, the largest, with one exception, ever amassed by a resident of Kent County. He was a true representative of "the self-made man." Considering the opportunities and the environments of his life, the success which he attained in his business career was simply remarkable. His whole career is one deserving of emulation.

The election in 1882 resulted in the choice of Charles C. Stockley for Governor. At the time of his election as Governor he was a resident of Sussex County, in which County he was born, November 6, 1819. A typical Sussex Countian, his hospitable home attracted a wide circle of friends, and it was in the natural course of events that the political party to which he belonged should honor him with public office. He was appointed county treasurer in 1851 and served for two years. In 1856 he was elected sheriff of the county, and in 1872 was elected a member of the State Senate, and was chosen Speaker of that body in 1875.

His record as a Senator won him many friends, and in 1882, being nominated by the Democratic party as its candidate for Governor, he was triumphantly elected after a stirring campaign. Taking the oath of office in January, 1883, he became the forty-fifth Governor and served the full term. He was always a public-spirited citizen, and evinced the greatest interest in general public improvements. He was one of the earliest directors of the Junction & Breakwater railroad, and served as president of the Breakwater & Frankford railroad. At the time of his death and for several years preceding, he was the



CHARLES C. STOCKLEY

1819-1901.



president of the Farmers' Bank at Georgetown. In 1891 he was appointed Register of Wills for Sussex County. He was a man of kindly temperament, possessed good judgment and exhibited superior business ability. His death occurred at Georgetown April 21, 1901.

The forty-sixth Governor of Delaware was Benjamin T. Biggs, who served from January, 1887, to January, 1891. He was born in Cecil County, Maryland, October 1, 1821. Nearly all of his life was spent in this State. For many years he lived on his farm in Pencader Hundred, and in his later days erected a handsome home in Middletown, where he resided for several years before his death. His father, John Biggs, was a farmer on Bohemia Manor; the son was educated in the local schools and at Wesleyan University. Devoting his life to farming and fruit culture, he was unusually successful in both. While yet a young man, he attracted attention as a debater in the district school houses of the neighborhood in which he lived, and this early tendency developed until he became an attractive and unusually popular public speaker. This faculty naturally led him into political life, and few men of his day were more successful as local stump speakers. Having been commissioned as Major by Governor Temple during the Mexican War, he was afterwards known as Major Biggs.

His first appearance in public life was as a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1852, where he took a prominent part. Until the year 1854 he was a Whig in politics, but afterwards adhered to the Democratic party. In 1860 he was the Democratic candidate for Representative in Congress from this State, but was defeated by George P. Fisher. In 1868 he was elected a member of Congress and served for two terms. He died December 25, 1893, and will be remembered as a most genial and delightful gentleman and an enthusiastic Delawarean.

Robert J. Reynolds, the forty-seventh Governor, was born in Smyrna, Delaware, on March 17, 1838, but while yet a child,

his father, Robert W. Reynolds, moved to a farm in South Murderkill Hundred, about six miles west of Felton, and in that section, Governor Reynolds has always lived. After attaining a fair common school education he became a tiller of the soil and that honorable occupation has claimed his attention during his entire life. He served one term as a member of the State House of Representatives, being elected in 1868, and occupied the office of State Treasurer from 1879 to 1882.

Nominated as the candidate of the Democratic party, after a sharp and exciting campaign, he was elected Governor in the fall of 1890. A man of active temperament he naturally developed as a politician and for many years exerted a strong influence in political affairs, ranking high in the councils of the Democratic party. Warm in his attachments, he has attracted to himself a wide circle of admirers, and no one who has enjoyed the hospitality of his comfortable home doubts the sincerity of his life or the warmth of his friendship.

For the first time since 1862 the Republican party succeeded in electing its candidate for Governor in November, 1894; the outcome of that election being the choice of Joshua H. Marvel who took his seat in the January following and became the forty-eighth Governor of Delaware. Mr. Marvel was then in his seventieth year and for some years preceding his health had been seriously impaired. After serving as Governor for less than three months he died April 8, 1895. Governor Marvel was a native-born Sussex Countian, and a man who by dint of his own unaided efforts rose to a commanding position in the community where his life was spent.

Born near Laurel in 1825, his father died when he was less than nine years old, and he had very limited opportunities of procuring an education. As a young man he followed the sea, and afterwards learned the trade of a ship carpenter, but later developing a mechanical tendency, he drifted into the manufacturing business, and in his later life was the owner and operator of a large plant that manufactured crates and baskets for the fruit trade. He exhibited good judgment in





A. T. Watson

business affairs and was able to accumulate a comfortable fortune. He will be remembered as a kindly man, an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and one whose general good qualities gathered about him a wide circle of loyal friends.

On the death of Governor Marvel, William T. Watson became the acting Governor as Speaker of the Senate. He was the forty-ninth Governor. Governor Watson was a son of Bethuel and Ruth Tharp Watson, both father and mother representatives of old Delaware families. He was a grandson of William Tharp who served as Governor from 1847 to 1851. Possessed of a fine physique, in the prime of manhood, being at the time in his forty-sixth year, and having for several years followed an active business life, he was well equipped for the office of Governor. His life had been spent in business pursuits, the only political office held by him being as a member of the State Senate elected from Kent County in 1893. His term as Governor lasted until January, 1897, and during his incumbency of the office he exhibited good judgment and strong administrative qualities. His appointments showed independence of thought, and altogether, his brief administration was highly successful. Governor Watson is still living a retired life at his hospitable home in Milford.

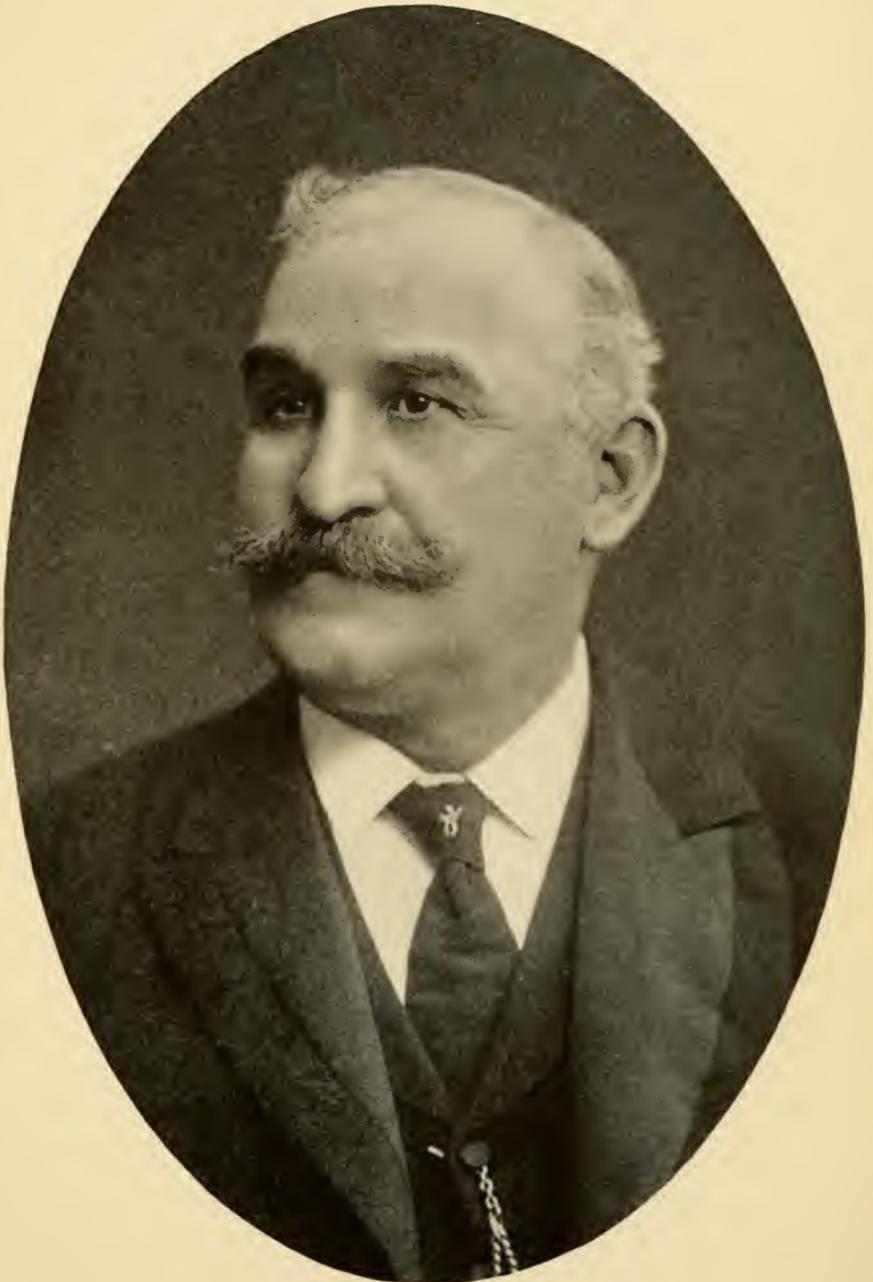
Ebe W. Tunnell became the fiftieth Governor of Delaware by choice of the people at the general election held in November, 1896. He took his seat the January following and served for a full term. Governor Tunnell was born in Blackwater, Baltimore Hundred, Sussex County, on December 31, 1844. For many years he lived in that locality, engaged in mercantile pursuits, and in 1870 was elected a member of the State House of Representatives. In 1873 he removed to Lewes and joined his brother-in-law, Doctor David L. Mustard, in the drug business, which they conducted together successfully for many years.

He served a term as clerk of the peace for Sussex County, and has, for many years, been recognized in the State as a

leading and influential Democrat. He was the nominee of the Democratic party for the office of Governor in 1894, but was defeated by Joshua H. Marvel, Republican, and two years later, being renominated by his party, he was elected. Governor Tunnell has a charming personality, a man of kindly temperament and easy manners, is a general favorite wherever known, and no man has possessed more fully the confidence of the people of Delaware. Governor Tunnell is a bachelor and makes his home at Lewes with his widowed sister.

The election in the fall of 1900 resulted in the choice of John Hunn as the fifty-first Governor of Delaware. He had not figured in politics and had not previously held a public office. He was elected as a Republican, having received the votes of the two factions of the party as a compromise candidate. His first official act after taking the oath of office, in January, 1901, was to appoint Dr. Caleb R. Layton Secretary of State. Dr. Layton had been a pronounced and unwavering Union Republican since the split in the party in 1895. Strong pressure was brought to bear upon the Governor-elect to prevent the selection of Dr. Layton, and many of those who opposed his selection never forgave Governor Hunn for appointing him. The wisdom of the appointment was fully shown by the efficiency with which the duties of the office of Secretary of State were performed. Prompt, intelligent and capable service marked the conduct of the office under Dr. Layton, and when he relinquished it at the close of a four years' term, friend and foe alike had to admit that it had never been more efficiently managed.

John Hunn was a native of Delaware, having been born near Odessa, in New Castle County, June 23, 1849. He was the son of John Hunn and Mary Jenkins Swallow, both members of the Society of Friends, and was educated in the Friends' School at Camden, Delaware, and the Bordentown (N. J.) Military Academy. At the beginning of the Civil War young John went with his father to Port Royal, South Carolina, the latter being the representative of the Pennsylvania



JOHN HUNN.



Freedmen's Relief Association, whose mission was relief work among the freed men of the South. This work was under the control of the United States government, the commanding officer at that point being General Rufus R. Saxton of the United States Army. The son remained in South Carolina; being after the war connected with the Coosaw Mining Manufacturing Company, it being the pioneer company to engage in the excavation of South Carolina rock for fertilizing purposes.

In 1876 John Hunn returned to his native State and settled at Wyoming, where he has since resided, being engaged in the general business of selling fruit, lime and lumber. His wife was Sarah Cowgill Emerson, to whom he was married in 1874, and one daughter, Miss Alice, graces the household. When the rancor arising from as fierce a factional fight as ever divided a political party subsides, so that men will be guided by reason and not by prejudice, the administration of John Hunn as Governor will be fully vindicated and all fair-minded men will agree that he was an honest and capable public servant. His term of office extended from January, 1901, to January, 1905, and he is still living in comfort and quiet at his Wyoming home.

Preston Lea, the fifty-second Governor of Delaware, was born in Brandywine Village, now a part of the City of Wilmington, November 12, 1841. He was the son of William Lea and Jane (Lovett) Lea. His grandfather, Thomas Lea, was a native of Chester County, Pennsylvania, being a descendant of John Lea, who came from England to America in the latter part of the seventeenth century as a follower of William Penn. Thomas Lea, the grandfather of the Governor, was the first of the name to settle in Delaware. He became a partner with Edward Tatnall in the milling business on the Brandywine, and in 1785 married Sarah Tatnall, the oldest daughter of Edward Tatnall. The succeeding generations of Leas in the male line have continued in the milling business.

Preston Lea, under the tutelage of his father, who for almost

forty years operated the large mills on the north side of the Brandywine, became thoroughly familiar with the milling industry, and prior to his father's death, in 1864, the firm of William Lea & Sons was formed, composed of William Lea, the father, and his two sons, Preston and Henry. The father died in 1876, but the firm name continued until 1882, when the William Lea & Sons Company was incorporated and succeeded to the business. Of this company Preston Lea was the president and the directing power for twenty years. Under his guidance the business was conspicuously successful.

On the death of Victor DuPont, in 1888, Preston Lea was elected President of the Union National Bank, which honored position he still occupies. He had served as a director in the institution since the death of his father, in 1876. On the organization of the Equitable Guarantee and Trust Company, in 1889, Mr. Lea became a director, and two years later was elected president, serving until 1902. For several years he was the active director in the Wilmington City Railway Company. He has also been a director for many years in the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

The Leas were originally members of the Society of Friends, and Preston Lea was trained in the anti-slavery school and naturally became a Republican on the nomination of Lincoln in 1861. He never took an active interest in politics, but in the fall of 1904, when the Republican party was casting about to find a candidate for Governor who could unite the support of both factions of the party, Preston Lea, because of high standing in business and financial circles, was agreed upon, and his triumphant election followed. In his administration of State affairs he has shown the same wise conservatism that has ever marked his successful business career, and even those who are not in full sympathy with all of his policies will accord to him an earnest desire to further the welfare of the State and safeguard her interests.

Presidents of Delaware under the Constitution of 1776.

John McKinly	from February 21, 1777	to September 12, 1777
Thomas McKean, acting	September 12, 1777	October 20, 1777
George Read, acting	October 20, 1777	March 20, 1778
Caesar Rodney	March 20, 1778	November 13, 1781
John Dickinson	November 13, 1781	November 4, 1782
John Cook, acting	November 4, 1782	February 8, 1783
Nicholas Van Dyke	February 8, 1783	October 27, 1786
Thomas Collins	October 27, 1786	March 29, 1789
Jehu Davis, acting	March 29, 1789	May 30, 1789
Joshua Clayton	May 30, 1789	January 13, 1793

Governors under the Constitution of 1792.

Joshua Clayton	from January, 1793	to January, 1796
Gunning Bedford	January, 1796	September 28, 1797
Daniel Rogers, acting	September 28, 1797	January, 1799
Richard Bassett	January, 1799	March, 1801
James Sykes, acting	March, 1801	January, 1802
David Hall	January, 1802	January, 1805
Nathaniel Mitchell	January, 1805	January, 1808
George Truitt	January, 1808	January, 1811
Joseph Haslet	January, 1811	January, 1814
Daniel Rodney	January, 1814	January, 1817
John Clark	January, 1817	January, 1820
Jacob Stout, acting	January, 1820	January, 1821
John Collins	January, 1821	April, 1822
Caleb Rodney, acting	April 1822	January, 1823
Joseph Haslet	January, 1823	June 20, 1823
Charles Thomas, acting	June 20, 1823	January, 1824
Samuel Paynter	January, 1824	January, 1827
Charles Polk	January, 1827	January, 1830
David Hazzard	January, 1830	January, 1833

Governors under the Constitution of 1832.

Caleb P. Bennett	from January, 1833	to April 9, 1836
Charles Polk, acting	April 9, 1836	January, 1837
Cornelius P. Comegys	January, 1837	January, 1841
William B. Cooper	January, 1841	January, 1845
Thomas Stockton	January, 1845	March 2, 1846
Joseph Maull, acting	March 2, 1846	May 1, 1846
William Temple, acting	May 1, 1846	January, 1847
William Tharp	January, 1847	January, 1851
William H. Ross	January, 1851	January, 1855
Peter F. Causey	January, 1855	January, 1859
William Burton	January, 1859	January, 1863
William Cannon	January, 1863	March 1, 1865

Gove Saulsbury, acting	March 1,	1865	January,	1867
Gove Saulsbury	January,	1867	January,	1871
James Ponder	January,	1871	January,	1875
John P. Cochran	January,	1875	January,	1879
John W. Hall	January,	1879	January,	1883
Charles C. Stockley	January,	1883	January,	1887
Benjamin T. Biggs	January,	1887	January,	1891
Robert J. Reynolds	January,	1891	January,	1895
Joshua H. Marvel	January,	1895	April 8,	1895
William T. Watson, acting	April 8,	1895	January,	1897
Ebe W. Tunnell	January,	1897	January,	1901

Governors under the Constitution of 1897.

John Hunn	January,	1901	January,	1905
Preston Lea	January,	1905-		





John Read

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMY TRACT

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INFLUENTIAL DELAWARE FAMILIES.

THE READ FAMILY.

The first ancestor of the Read family in this country was Colonel John Read, a wealthy and public-spirited Southern planter, who was born in Dublin, of English parentage in the last year of the reign of James the Second, 1688. His mother was the scion of an old Oxfordshire house, and his father, an English gentleman of large fortune, then residing in Dublin. The history of Col. John Read is rather a romantic one. He fell in love at an early age in the old country with his cousin, a beautiful and accomplished English girl, who died suddenly before their engagement ended in marriage. This shock so overcame him that he determined in spite of the earnest opposition of his parents to seek relief in entire change.

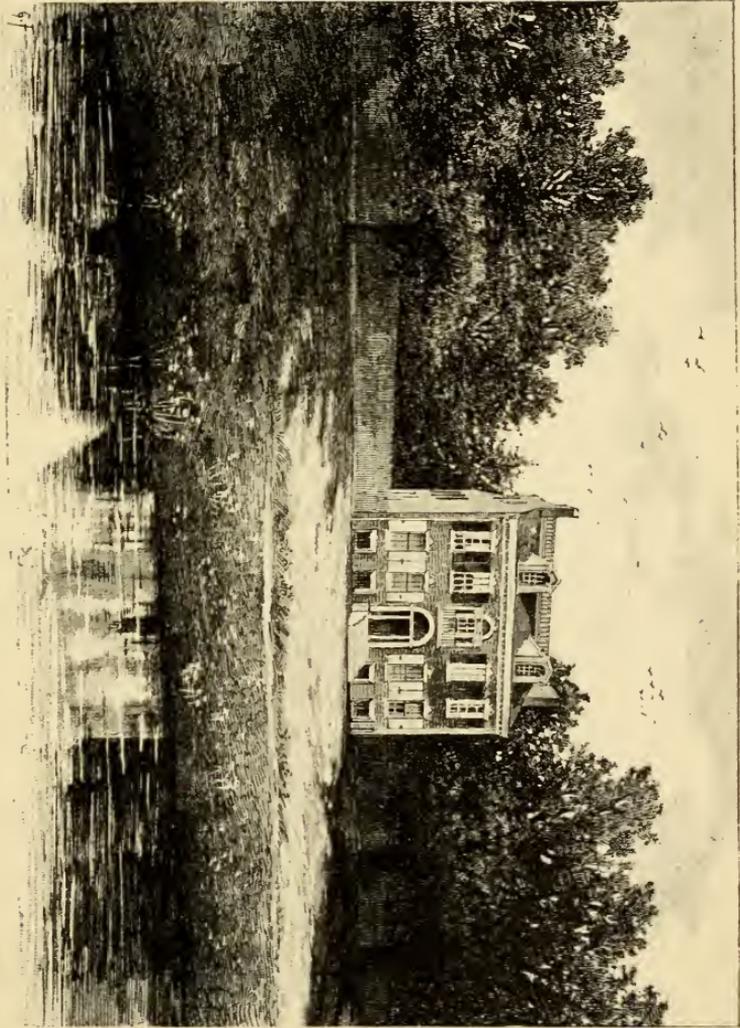
Crossing the ocean he settled in Maryland, where he purchased lands in several counties, to which he added others in Delaware. He was interested in various enterprises, and was instrumental in founding Charlestown, at the headwaters of the Chesapeake bay, twelve years after Baltimore was founded. After a long period of single life his early sorrow was consoled by his marriage with Mary Howell, a charming and accomplished young Welsh lady. Sprung from the Howells of Caerleon, County of Monmouth, her immediate ancestors were seated in the neighborhood of Caerphilly, Glamorgan^{sh}shire, Wales, where she was born in 1711, and from whence at a tender age she removed with her parents to Delaware, where her father was a large planter, and a prominent man among the early Welsh settlers. Three distinguished sons of Col. John Read were Hon. George Read, Colonel James Read and Commodore Thomas Read.

GEORGE READ.

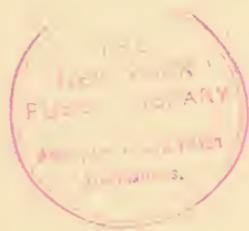
George Read, son of Colonel John Read, was born September 17, 1733, on one of the family estates in Cecil County, Maryland. After receiving a classical education he studied law, and was admitted to the Bar at the age of nineteen in the city of Philadelphia. In 1754 he removed to New Castle, Delaware, in which province the family had important landed interests. Mr. Read figured in the Assembly of the State for twelve years, was Vice-President of the State, and at one time her acting chief magistrate. It was he who penned the memorable address from Delaware to the King, which so impressed George III that he read it over twice.

Having been appointed Attorney-General under the Crown, at the early age of twenty-nine, Mr. Read felt it to be his duty to warn the British government of the danger of attempting to tax the Colonies without giving them direct representation in Parliament, and gave utterance eleven years before the Declaration of Independence was declared, to the remarkable prophecy that a continuance in this mistaken policy would certainly lead to independence, and eventually, to the Colonies surpassing England in her staple manufactures. Finding no manifestation of change in the position of the Crown toward the Colonies, he resigned the Attorney-Generalship, and accepted a seat in the first Congress which met in Philadelphia in 1774. He signed the Declaration of Independence when he found there was no hope for reconciliation and thereafter became the originator and ardent supporter of many measures in behalf of the national cause.

He was a member of the convention of 1776 which framed the first Constitution of the State and also was a compiler of the laws in 1782. In 1786 he was a delegate to the Convention which met in Annapolis, Maryland, and he took an active part therein. Was also a member in 1787 of the Convention in Philadelphia which framed the Constitution of the United States. In that august body, Mr. Read was also a prominent figure, especially in his able advocacy of the rights of the



RESIDENCE OF GEORGE READ, JR.
New Castle, A. D. 1802.







COLONEL JAMES BLEAD,

ONE OF THE FATHERS OF THE AMERICAN NAVY.

A son of Colonel John Blead of Maryland & Delaware (1688-1765), and a nephew of the Signer of the Declaration of Independence George Read of Delaware, & of the daring navigator his nephew Captain Thomas Read of the Continental Navy, he was born on one of his father's plantations New Castle, Del., in 1746 & died at Philadelphia, Pa. Dec. 30, 1829, in his 83rd year. He was promoted from 1st Lieutenant to Colonel for gallant and distinguished services at the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, and Germantown. He was appointed by Congress 4th Nov. 1776, one of the 4 Commissioners of the Navy for the Middle States, and in the 18th Jan. 1781, Congress invested him with sole power to conduct the Navy Board. When his friend Robert Morris became Agent he was elected Vice-President, and was the virtual head of the Marine Department, while Robert Morris managed the Finance Department.

smaller States to a proper representation in the Senate. Immediately after the adoption of the Constitution which Delaware largely by his influence was the first to ratify, he was elected to the Senate of the United States. At the expiration of his term, he was re-elected. He resigned in 1793, and accepted the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware, which he filled until his death. George Read, commanded public confidence not only from his profound legal knowledge, sound judgment and impartial decisions, but from his strict integrity and estimable private character. In 1775 Mr. Read, married Gertrude, daughter of the Rev. George Ross, a clergyman who had long been the rector of the Episcopal Church in New Castle. His death occurred on the twenty-first of September, 1798, and his remains were interred in the quiet churchyard of Immanuel Episcopal Church, New Castle, where seven generations of the Read family repose.

COLONEL JAMES READ.

Colonel James Read, one of the fathers of the American Navy, was a son of Colonel John Read and a brother of George Read, the signer of the Declaration of Independence and one of the framers of the Constitution of the United States. He was born at the family seat, New Castle County, Delaware, in 1743. His distinguished services at the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown led to his promotion from first lieutenant to colonel. He was appointed by Congress, November 4th, 1778, one of the three Commissioners of the Navy for the Middle States, and on January 11th, 1781, Congress invested him with sole power to conduct the Navy Board. He married, July 9th, 1770, Susanna Conly, of Chester County, Pennsylvania, and left one son, James Read. Colonel James Read died at Philadelphia, December 31st, 1822, in his eightieth year.

COMMODORE THOMAS READ.

Commodore Thomas Read was the son of Colonel John

Read, and was born in New Castle, Delaware, in 1740. Commodore Read was the first naval officer who attained the rank of commodore in command of an American fleet. He was a brave soldier and a most daring navigator and discoverer. On the 7th of June, 1776, he was appointed to the highest grade in the Continental Navy, and was assigned to one of the four largest ships, the thirty-two gun frigate "George Washington," then being built on the Delaware. It was he who gave valuable assistance in the celebrated crossing of the Delaware by Washington's army, and at the battle of Trenton commanded a battery composed of guns taken from his own frigate, which raked the stone bridge across the Assanpink. For this important service he received the thanks of all the general officers. Commodore Read in 1787 made a voyage to the Chinese sea. On June 7th of that year he sailed from the Delaware and arrived at Canton the following 22d of December, having navigated on a track as yet untraveled by any other ship. He also discovered two islands, one of which he named Morris, in honor of his friend Robert Morris, and the other Alliance island. These islands form a portion of the now celebrated Caroline islands. The courage, integrity and benevolence of this eminent man will make his name ever revered and beloved. He died October 26, 1788, in the forty-ninth year of his age. Commodore Read left no descendants.

HON. JOHN MEREDITH READ, LL.D.

Hon. John Meredith Read, LL.D., a great jurist and a wise statesman, was a son of the Hon. John Read, of Pennsylvania, and a grandson of the Hon. George Read, of Delaware. He was born in Philadelphia, July 21st, 1797. He was graduated at the University of Pennsylvania at the age of fifteen, in 1812, was admitted to the Bar in 1818, elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1822 and again in 1823. He afterwards became City Solicitor and member of the Select Council, and drew up the first clear exposition of the finances of Philadelphia. He was appointed United States District Attorney of



COMMODORE THOMAS MEARNS

1740-1769

THE FIRST TO ATTAIN THE RANK OF COMMODORE IN COMMAND OF AN AMERICAN FLEET.



the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 1837, and held that office eight years. He was elected in 1858 Judge of the Supreme Court, and afterwards became Chief Justice. He was a man of marked individuality, and was constantly engaged in originating useful measures for the welfare of the general and State governments. His amendments formed an essential part of the Constitutions of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and his ideas were formulated in many of the statutes of the United States. Chief Justice Read died at Philadelphia, November 29, 1874, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

GENERAL JOHN MEREDITH READ, JR.

General John Meredith Read, Jr., son of Chief Justice John Meredith Read, of Pennsylvania, and great-grandson of the Hon. George Read, of Delaware, the signer of the Declaration, was born in Philadelphia, February 21st, 1837. He received his preparatory education at a military school, and graduated from Brown University as Master of Arts in 1859. After completing a legal course at the Albany Law School with the degree of LL.B., he studied civil and international law in Europe, was admitted to the Bar in Philadelphia, and subsequently removed to Albany, New York. At the age of twenty he was appointed aide-de-camp to the Governor of Rhode Island with the rank of colonel.

He took a prominent part in the presidential campaign of 1856, and in 1860 organized the "Wide Awake" movement in New York, which carried the State in favor of Abraham Lincoln for the presidency. He received the appointment of brigadier-general at the age of twenty-three. In 1868 he took a leading part in the election of General Grant to the presidency, who appointed him Consul General of the United States for France and Algeria, to reside at Paris, a newly-created post, which he was called upon to organize in all its various details. General Read likewise acted as Consul General of Germany during the Franco-German War, and for nearly two years directed all the consular affairs of that empire

in France, including the protection of German subjects and interests during the first and second sieges of Paris, 1870-71.

In recognition of his various valuable services General Read was appointed November 7, 1873, United States Minister to Greece. During his mission there, which covered a period of six years, he received the thanks of his government for his ability and energy in securing the release of the American ship "America" and for his success in obtaining from the Greek government a revocation of the order prohibiting the sale and circulation of the Bible in Greece.

General Read is the author of many public addresses, official reports and learned papers, and an important historical inquiry concerning Henry Hudson, delivered in the form of the first anniversary discourse before the Historical Society of Delaware, which discourse received the highest commendation from the most eminent scholars in Europe and America. An abridged edition of this work was published at Edinburgh in 1882, by the Clarendon Historical Society. General Read filled many high and important positions and received the highest tributes of praise for his eminent services. For many years he was an honorary member of the Historical Society of Delaware and was most generous in his attentions and donations thereto.

MAJOR HARMON PUMPELLE READ.

This branch of the Read family is now represented by Major Harmon Pumpelly Read, a resident of Albany, New York, in which city he was born on July 13, 1860. He is a son of General John Meredith Read, and was educated at Paris and Athens, a military school, and at Trinity College. He has devoted the most of his life to historical research. He is a prominent member of the Historical Societies of Pennsylvania and New York, a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of London, and a fellow of the Geographical Society of Paris. He holds the rank of Major in the New York State National Guard. Major Read is an eminent Mason, and one of the





Portrait by M. G. L. L.

Portrait by M. G. L. L.

JAMES M. READ

TO MEMBERS

AM LEMMONY CURRY, LAWYER, THIRTY YEARS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Grandson of Dr. Read, he is the son of Mr. Read of Maryland & Delaware, by his wife Mary Howell and son of Hon. George Read of Delaware, the signer of the Declaration of Independence and Framers of the Constitution of the United States by his wife Genetelle, daughter of the Hon. George Ross and sister of Hon. George Ross also a signer. He was born August 23, 1785 in the Read Mansion New Castle, Del. died there in 1834. Married in the Mary, dau. of Gen. Wm. Thompson. His father a Revolutionary officer at the latter seat near Castle St. Mrs. Read's mother Catherine Ross was the aunt of Mr. Read's mother. Mr. Read was remarkable for his oratorical and conversational powers and his elegant taste was highly developed. He owned large cotton plantations in Mississippi. He was the brother of Wm. Read Esq. 1787-1846 Consul-General of the Kingdom of Naples who was the father of George Read Esq. of Florida many years U.S. Consul in Spain and also brother of John George Read 1779-1854 of Pennsylvania a lawyer and one of the leaders of the Federal party. Mr. Geo. Read Sr. was the father of Hon. Geo. Read Chief Justice Delaware born New Castle June 29, 1786 and Apr. 20, 1854. James M. Read Esq. Dr. H. H. Barber's nephew in the revolutionary Navy afterwards an eminent lawyer of the State of Pennsylvania. Geo. Read Esq. died in Philadelphia on Nov. 15, 1837 on the eve of his return to the United States to attend the 30th Congress. His son George M. Read Esq. was a member of the Pennsylvania legislature and one of the great representative cotton plantations of the State.

most learned members of the craft in Masonic history, having reached the thirty-second degree.

HON. GEORGE READ, JR.

Hon. George Read, Jr., eldest son of George Read, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born at New Castle, Delaware, August 17, 1765. George Read, Jr., was an eminent jurist and for nearly thirty years was United States District Attorney of Delaware. He was the owner of large plantations in Mississippi. On the 30th of October, 1786, he married Mary Thompson, daughter of General William Thompson, a distinguished Revolutionary officer, at the latter's country-seat near Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Thompson was Catharine Ross, the sister of Gertrude Ross, wife of George Read, the Signer. George Read, Jr., was a gentleman of courtly manners and had the honor of entertaining Lafayette at the Read mansion on his (Lafayette's) second visit to America. He died September 3, 1836, and was buried in the graveyard of Immanuel Episcopal Church at New Castle.

WILLIAM THOMPSON READ.

William Thompson Read, son of George Read, Jr., of Delaware, was born at New Castle, August 22, 1792. He graduated at Princeton College, studied law with his father, and was admitted to the Delaware Bar in 1813. He resided in Washington several years, and was Secretary of the Legation of the United States to Buenos Ayres, was elected a State Senator in 1830. He was a highly cultured gentleman and was greatly respected in all the relations of life. He was the author of the life of his grandfather, George Read, the Signer. He died at his home in New Castle, Delaware, January 27, 1873.

THE RODNEY FAMILY.

The first American Rodney was William Rodeney, who was born in England in 1652, and came to America with William Penn in 1682. He was a direct descendant of the ancient English family of de Rodeney, his ancestor being Sir Walter Rodeney, born A. D. 1100. The earliest record of the family is found in an ancient book belonging to the Cathedral of Wells, in which the name of de Rodeney is mentioned in connection with the founding of that church three hundred years before the Norman Conquest. The Rodeneys were prominent military men in England. William Rodeney, the first, was six times a member of the Delaware Assembly under the Penn government, and held other offices of trust. His death occurred in 1708, and he left a large landed estate, which subsequently went to his grandson Cæsar Rodney, the Signer.

WILLIAM RODENEY.

William Rodeney, the eldest son of William Rodeney, the first, was born in 1689, seven years after his father settled in Delaware. He married in 1711. Two sons were born of the marriage, Cæsar and John. Cæsar, the first, was named for his great-grandfather, Sir Thomas Cæsar, a merchant of London, whose daughter, Alice Cæsar, was the mother of William Rodeney, the first American settler. Cæsar, the first, was the youngest of eight children, and was born in 1707. He married Elizabeth Crawford, daughter of Rev. Thomas Crawford, one of the earliest rectors of the Episcopal Church at Dover. He died in 1745.

CÆSAR RODNEY.

Caesar Rodney (the Signer) was born October 7, 1728, near Dover. He was the son of Caesar Rodney and Elizabeth (Crawford), and inherited, as the oldest son, the landed estate of his grandfather, William Rodeney. He had only limited opportunities of obtaining an education, but early showed good judgment and gave promise, in his youth, of the event-

ful career that afterwards befell him. He was chosen high sheriff in 1758, and four years later served as a member of the State Assembly. He was closely allied in all of his public life with Thomas McKean and George Read. With them he framed the address to the king thanking him for the repeal of the Stamp Act in 1766. In 1762 he served with McKean in revising and compiling the laws of the Province, and three years later served with McKean in the Stamp Act Congress.

From 1766 to 1769 Rodney was an active member of the State Assembly, and voted at that early day against the importation of slaves into the Province. For three years preceding the Revolution he served as a member of the Committee of Correspondence, an organization of the leading men of that time who opposed the oppression shown by the English government toward the Colonies. In 1774, '75 and '76 he served as a member of the Continental Congress, and during part of that time was Speaker of the Delaware Assembly and brigadier-general in the Continental army.

During the war he was a firm friend of General Washington and in close correspondence with him. By his vote Rodney was able to give the vote of Delaware in favor of the Declaration of Independence. The three delegates in Congress at that time from Delaware were Rodney, McKean and Read. The latter hesitated about voting for the Declaration, hoping that the Colonies might in some way have their wrongs righted without separating from the mother country. McKean, in his vigorous way, was for the Declaration. Rodney was absent, but McKean dispatched a messenger for him, who found him at his farm near Dover, and from there he came by horse in great haste, reaching Independence Hall, in Philadelphia, in time to record his vote for the famous Declaration. His vote and McKean's represented a majority of the delegates from Delaware, and in that way the vote of Delaware was cast, with the twelve other Colonies, in favor of the Declaration.

When Howe landed at the Head of Elk, in August, 1777,

Rodney was placed in charge of the Delaware State Militia, and guarded the State against invasion. In 1778 Cæsar Rodney was elected President of Delaware State, serving the full constitutional term. After his retirement from the Presidency he was elected to the State Council and served as Speaker in 1784. He died from a cancerous affection on June 26, 1784, while yet a comparatively young man. For fidelity to duty, for high sense of patriotism, and for unwavering service to his State, no man has excelled Cæsar Rodney. He never married. His brother Thomas Rodney, a most worthy man, was the only Rodney in this line who left a male descendant.

THOMAS RODNEY.

Thomas Rodney, son of Cæsar and Elizabeth Rodney, and a younger brother of Cæsar Rodney, the Signer, was a man of influence in the State, and figures as one of the leading actors in the politics of his day. Born on the fourth day of June, 1744, near Dover, his life was largely spent in Kent County. He served as Register of Wills and Clerk of the Orphans' Court of his native county, was many times a member of the General Assembly of the State, served on the Council of Safety, and was President of the Committee of Inspection of Kent County. During the Revolution he served as Captain of a militia company known as the Dover Light Infantry, and was afterwards Colonel of the Eighth Regiment of Delaware Militia. He saw active service in the New Jersey campaign of 1777.

After the war he served as one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas. He served twice as a member of the Continental Congress, and in 1803 was appointed Chief Justice of Mississippi Territory, serving in that capacity until his death on January 21, 1811, at Natchez, Mississippi. He married in 1771 Elizabeth Maud Fisher. His children were Cæsar Augustus Rodney, the distinguished lawyer and diplomat, and Lavinia Rodney, who married John Fisher, the second United States judge for the district of Delaware.



CAESAR A. RODNEY.

1772-1824.



CÆSAR A. RODNEY.

Cæsar A. Rodney, only son of Judge Thomas Rodney was born at Dover, January 4, 1772. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, studied law in Philadelphia, and was admitted to the Bar in that city. He came to Wilmington soon after his marriage in 1793, and began the practice of law. In 1797 he was elected to the Legislature, and was elected to Congress in 1802, being the first Democrat chosen from Delaware to any public position. In 1804 Mr. Rodney was chosen one of the seven managers to conduct the impeachment of Judge Chase. The great ability and legal knowledge displayed by him in this memorable case gained for him a national reputation as an eminent lawyer. In 1807 he was appointed by President Jefferson, Attorney-General of the United States, and continued in that office under President Madison, until his resignation in 1811. During his term of office many important cases were tried by him for the Government among which was the notable Burr and Blenerhasset conspiracy trial.

On the breaking-out of the war with England in 1812, Mr. Rodney was charged with the command of the troops raised in Delaware, and was for a time in command of the forts at Wilmington and New Castle. In 1817 he was appointed by President Monroe, the head of a mission to the South American States, to ascertain their condition and the expediency of their acknowledgment by the United States. In 1822 he was elected to the United States Senate by the Legislature of Delaware and in 1823 he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the United Provinces of La Plata. He was an excellent classical scholar, an eminent lawyer and a polished gentleman. He died June 10, 1824, and was buried in the English Church of the City of Buenos Ayres, and a handsome monument was erected in that city to his memory.

THOMAS MCKEAN RODNEY.

Thomas McKean Rodney, was the son of the Hon. Cæsar A. Rodney, and was born in Wilmington, September 11, 1800. At the age of fourteen he was appointed by President Madison a cadet at West Point, where he remained for three years, when he obtained leave of absence to accompany his father on a mission to South America. On his return to the United States he resigned his commission, and began the study of law with his father, and was admitted to the Bar.

In 1823, his father having been appointed minister to Buenos Ayres, he accompanied him as Secretary of Legation to that country. Upon his return to America he was appointed by President John Quincy Adams, Consul General to the city of Havana, Cuba, in which position he continued until removed by President Jackson. In 1842 he was appointed United States Consul at Matanzas, Cuba, where he remained until the close of President Tyler's administration. In 1849 he was appointed to the same consulate by President Tyler, continuing in that office until the close of President Fillmore's term.

He was one of the electors on the Republican ticket in Delaware in 1856. He was a member of the Delaware Legislature in 1847. In 1861 he was appointed by President Lincoln Collector of Customs for the district of Delaware, and retained that position until removed by President Johnson in 1866. By his personal integrity and faithful attention to duty, Mr. Rodney won the esteem and respect of all who were brought into official relations with him. He died at his residence, Cool Spring, Wilmington, April 24, 1874.

CÆSAR A. RODNEY (THE SECOND).

Cæsar A. Rodney (the second), was the son of Thomas McKean Rodney, and the great-grandson of Thomas Rodney. His youth and manhood were spent in Wilmington, where he was well known both in business and social circles. As a man of business he was intelligent, industrious and upright. He was at different times intrusted by his fellow citizens with offi-

cial duties, which he faithfully and efficiently performed. He became the head of a large and important manufacturing establishment, and by his scientific knowledge and practical acquirements, changed an unsuccessful concern into a most profitable investment for its owners. In domestic and social life Mr. Rodney was beloved and esteemed. He was an active and valuable member of the historical society of Delaware. He died June 23, 1884.

The only present living male descendant of the Rodney line through Caesar Rodney (the father of the Signer) is John M. C. Rodney, a son of Thomas McKean Rodney, and grandson of Caesar A. Rodney, who was Attorney-General of the United States. John M. C. Rodney is a bachelor and lives quietly at "Cool Spring," in Wilmington, the home of his distinguished grandfather. He has been a successful business man and merits the respect of his many friends in Wilmington, where the whole of his life has been spent.

OTHER BRANCHES OF RODNEY FAMILY.

In another line of the Rodney family, descendants of William Rodney, born in 1689, the eldest son of the first William Rodeney, appears the name of several Rodneys who have figured prominently in State affairs. Daniel Rodney, who served as Governor of the State from 1814 to 1817, was a grandson of William Rodeney the second. Daniel Rodney was born in Lewes, September 10, 1764, and spent his entire life there. He was an active merchant, served in both branches of the General Assembly, was twice elected to the National House of Representatives, and for a few months, in 1826 and 1827, served by appointment, as a member of the United States Senate. He was the father of a large family.

George B. Rodney, son of Governor Daniel Rodney, born April 2, 1803, was educated at Princeton College, studied law and was admitted to the Bar at Easton, Pennsylvania; he afterwards returned to his native county of Sussex where he served from 1826 to 1830 as Register in Chancery and

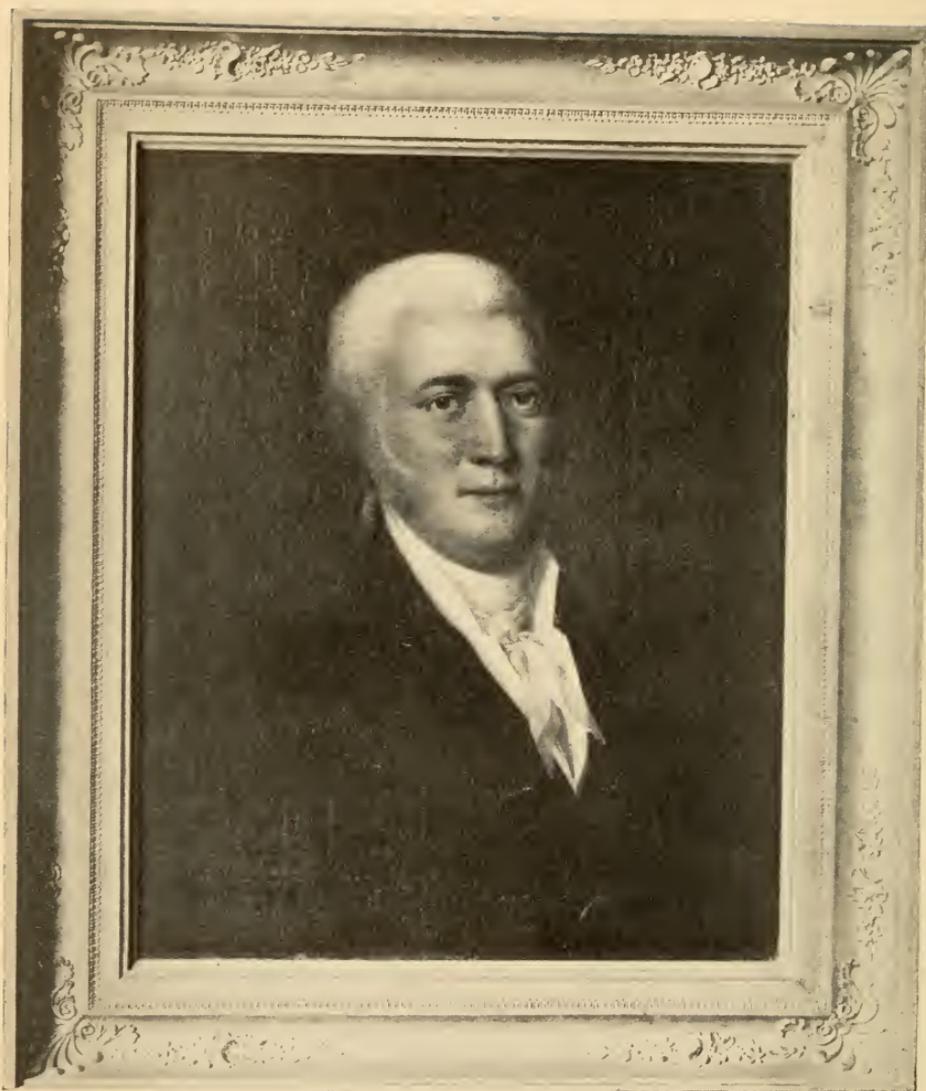
Clerk of the Orphan's Court. After retiring from that office, he went to New Castle where he resided ever afterwards, and where he was always recognized as a leading and influential member of the Bar. He served two terms in the National House of Representatives from 1840 to 1844 and died at New Castle June 17, 1883.

John H. Rodney, a son of the above George B. Rodney, and a grandson of Governor Daniel Rodney, was born in New Castle June 18, 1839. After studying law with his father, he was admitted to the Bar of New Castle County in 1862, and since that time he has been actively engaged in the practice of the law, ranking as one of the ablest of the lawyers of the State, and, like his father, is recognized as an authority upon questions of Court practice. For many years he was attorney for the Levy Court Commissioners, proving a safe and learned counselor. He has always made his home in New Castle, where he has taken a leading part in public affairs, but since the removal of the court house to Wilmington, he has had his office in the latter city.

John H. Rodney, Jr., born November 9, 1876, son of the above John H. Rodney, is also a member of the New Castle Bar, having been admitted in 1902. He has his office with his father, in Wilmington, and lives at New Castle. The youngest member of the New Castle County Bar is Richard Seymour Rodney, youngest son of John H. Rodney, admitted in 1906.

Caleb Rodney, born April 29, 1767, was another grandson of William Rodney, the second; like his brother, Governor Daniel Rodney, he was a life-long resident of Lewes, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He was always a leading man in public affairs. He was four times elected to the State Senate and in 1821 was elected Speaker of the Senate, and as such, succeeded to the Governorship in April, 1822, on the death of Governor John Collins. He served as Governor for the unexpired term, until January, 1823. He was a member of the State House of Representatives for ten years. He died





JAMES A. BAYARD.

1767-1815.

at Lewes April 29, 1840, and his remains lie buried in the graveyard adjoining St. Peter's Episcopal Church in that town.

THE BAYARD FAMILY.

The Bayards are a French family, but some of the older heads were driven out of France by religious persecution, and early in the seventeenth century sought refuge in Holland, where Samuel Bayard married Anneke Stuyvesant, a sister of Governor Peter Stuyvesant. She came to America, a widow, with her brother, the Governor, in the year 1647. From her three boys whom she brought with her at that time, have sprung the Bayards of America.

JAMES ASHETON BAYARD.

James Asheton Bayard, the elder, a distinguished American statesman, was born in the city of Philadelphia, July 28, 1767. He was the second son of Dr. James A. Bayard, a physician of promising talents and great reputation, but who died January 8, 1770, at an early period of life. At an early age James A., his son, was placed under the guardianship of his uncle, Col. John Bayard, who resided in Philadelphia, and in whose family he lived for several years. His education was commenced in the family of his uncle, and after preparatory instruction, under a private tutor, he entered Princeton College, and was graduated therefrom with the highest honors, September 28, 1784. After leaving college he pursued his legal studies in Philadelphia, on concluding which he resolved to practice his profession in the adjoining State of Delaware, and was admitted to the Bar in New Castle County, in August, 1797.

His close application to study during the first years of his professional life and his thorough familiarity with the principles of political science and general jurisprudence soon gave him a high position in the law, and in public affairs. He was a member of Congress from Delaware 1796 to 1803, United States Senator from 1804 to 1813 and one of the negotiators

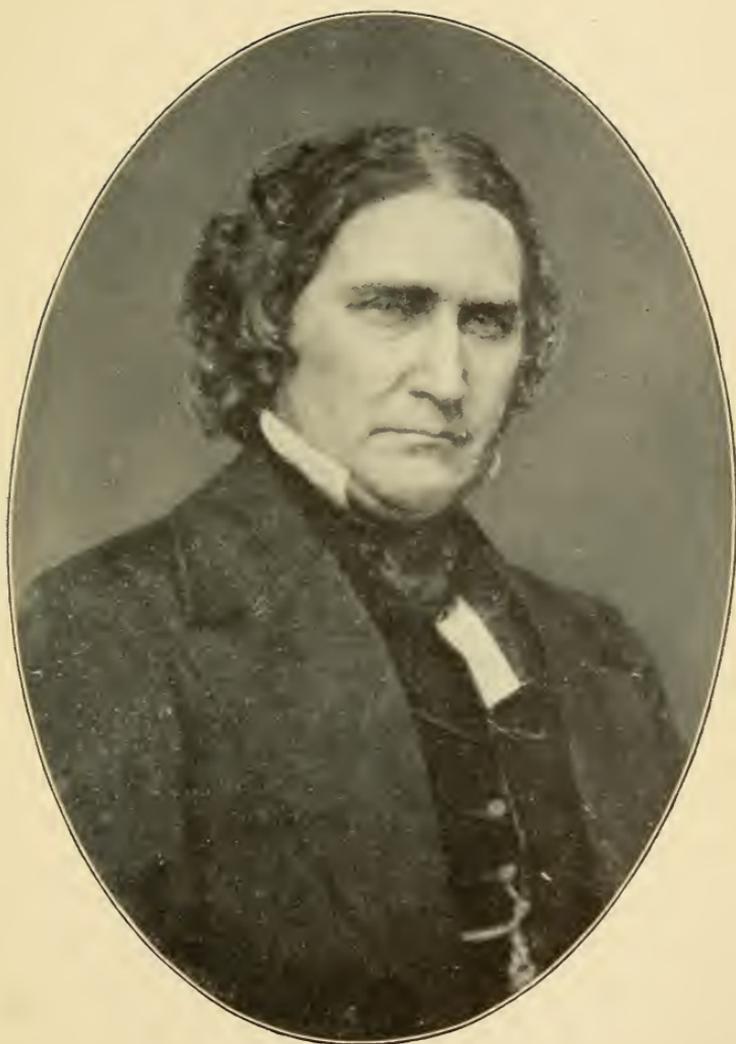
of the Treaty of Ghent in 1814. He declined an appointment as Minister to France in 1801, and to Russia in 1815. In Congress he was a Federalist leader, and was largely influential in electing Thomas Jefferson, President. In 1795, he married Anne Bassett, great-granddaughter of Augustine Hermann, of Bohemia Manor, and daughter of Richard Bassett, afterwards Governor and Chief Justice of Delaware.

James A. Bayard, the elder, was a man of whom it has truly been said "That nature, education, mind, heart and habit had combined to make a gentleman." He died on the 6th of August, 1815, at the age of forty-eight years, in the City of Wilmington, leaving two daughters and four sons, James A., the younger, Richard H., Dr. Edward and Henry M. Bayard.

JAMES A. BAYARD.

James A. Bayard, the younger, third son of James Asheton and Anne (Bassett) Bayard, was born in Wilmington, November 15, 1799. He was graduated from Union College at nineteen years of age, and in 1821 was admitted to the Bar. In early life he took an interest in public affairs and rapidly rose to the front rank of his profession. He began his political career as a Jackson Democratic candidate for Congress, in 1828, and to the end of his life was a consistent, earnest and unwavering Democrat. He was United States attorney for the district of Delaware under President Van Buren, and was elected and re-elected to the United States Senate in 1850, 1856 and 1862.

He strenuously opposed the adoption of the "test oath" for Senators in 1864, and having taken it to disprove the unpatriotic imputation it implied as to him personally, he resigned from the Senate in resentment of the affront. Upon the death of George Read Riddle, his successor, in 1867, he was appointed by Governor Saulsbury to fill the vacancy until the next session of the Legislature. On January 19, 1869, both he and his son, Thomas F. Bayard, were elected



JAMES A. BAYARD.
1759-1830.



by the General Assembly as United States Senators, the one to fill out his own unexpired Senatorial term, and the other for the full term as his father's successor, so that at noon of the same day March 4, 1869, the father retired from Senatorial life, as his son entered it in his stead, thus introducing in three successive generations, a representative of the Bayard family to Senatorial honors and duties, an incident unprecedented in the annals of the Senate and country.

In the long list of eminent lawyers that have sprung from Delaware there have been none more renowned than James A. Bayard, the younger, and in fact all of the old traditions point to him as possibly the most illustrious member of the Bar that Delaware has produced. His public and private life were marked by unswerving fidelity to principle, and strict rectitude in the performance of all his responsible duties. On July 8, 1823, he married Anne Francis, daughter of Thomas Willing Francis and Dorothy (Willing) Francis. His wife's father was the grandson of Tench Francis, Attorney-General of the Province of Pennsylvania. Mr. Bayard died in Wilmington, June 13, 1880, and the remains of the honored statesman were interred in the family vault in the graveyard of the Old Swedes Church. His children were James A., who died at the age of twenty-three years, Mary Ellen, married Augustus Van Cortlandt Schermerhorn, Thomas Francis, Sophia H., George H., Mabel, married firstly, Dr. John Kent Kane, and secondly, Levi C. Bird, Esq., and Florence, who married Major Benoni Lockwood.

RICHARD H. BAYARD.

Richard H. Bayard, son of James A. Bayard, the elder, was born in Wilmington, September 23, 1796. He was graduated from Princeton in 1814, admitted to the Delaware bar in 1818, was the first Mayor of Wilmington from 1832 to 1834, United States Senator, 1836-1839, and Chief Justice of Delaware from 1839 to 1841, United States Senator, 1841-1845, and Minister to Belgium, 1850-1853. He married Mary Sophia, grand-

daughter of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a Maryland signer of the Declaration of Independence. He died in Philadelphia in 1868.

THOMAS FRANCIS BAYARD.

Thomas Francis Bayard, son of James Asheton Bayard and Anne (Francis) Bayard, was born in Wilmington, October 29, 1828. His education was pursued in his native State until 1841, when he was sent to Flushing, Long Island, to complete his studies under the Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D. D. On passing from the care of Dr. Hawks, Mr. Bayard entered the commercial house of his brother-in-law, Augustus Van Cortlandt Schermerhorn of New York. The opportunities afforded him in commercial life whereby he became conversant with the laws of trade and the management of financial affairs proved most valuable to him in public life.

At the age of twenty he returned to his home in Wilmington, and having devoted three years to the study of law, was admitted to the bar of Delaware in 1851. For two years he practiced as his father's assistant, and in 1853 was appointed United States Attorney for the District of Delaware. This office he resigned a year later and went to Philadelphia, where he entered into partnership with his friend William Shippen, Esq. The legal firm thus instituted existed until 1858, when he returned to Wilmington. From this time a large portion of the business devolving upon him, consisted of the fulfillment of trusts and executorships and the management of estates, a branch of the profession for which he was well qualified by reason of his early experience in business, his sound and practical judgment, and his great capacity for laborious work.

Like his father, Thomas F. Bayard was a strong Democrat and greatly interested in political affairs, taking a more prominent part after he was chosen to succeed his father in the United States Senate. His term in the Senate began at noon on March 4, 1869, at the moment that his father's term ex-



THOMAS F. BAYARD.

1828-1898.



pired. He soon became one of the most active and influential members of the body, and performed much useful work upon committees. In 1875 he was re-elected, and in 1880 he became Chairman of the Committee on Finance and a member of the Committee on the Judiciary. He was again elected to the Senate in 1881. At the Democratic National Convention held in 1880 he was a candidate for the presidential nomination and stood second only to General Hancock in the number of votes he received. At the convention of 1884 two ballots were taken, in both of which Mr. Bayard's vote was the next highest to that given to Grover Cleveland, the nominee.

He was the first statesman invited in consultation by President Cleveland after the latter's election and immediately received the offer of the highest place in the new cabinet. After long deliberation Mr. Bayard accepted the position of Secretary of State that had been tendered him, but much against the wishes of some of the prominent leaders of his party who feared that his withdrawal from the Senate would be disadvantageous. The most notable incidents of our foreign relations during Mr. Bayard's term as Secretary of State, were the Fishery Treaty, the Behring Sea Controversy, and an agreement between the United States and Spain whereby each country abolished from its tariff such duties as discriminated against the other.

In 1889, at the close of President Cleveland's term, Mr. Bayard withdrew from public life, but from the retirement of private life and amid the duties of his profession he did not cease to watch with an eye of keen interest the course of his country's affairs, and to exert by voice and pen a potent influence upon them. In 1893 Thomas F. Bayard was called to represent this country at the Court of St. James. He was the first to bear the title of Ambassador to Great Britain. The whole course of his career as Ambassador was such as to promote good will between England and America, the existence of which has been most fully and happily made manifest during our recent Spanish-American War.

Mr. Bayard was a man whom all classes and conditions of men delighted to honor. The glory of his career was its consistency. With his intellectual strength were united a graceful courtesy and tender sympathy which everywhere won for him both profound respect and affectionate regard. He also possessed a moral strength which gave his life a strong and wholesome influence. The death of this eminent man occurred September 28, 1898, after an illness of six weeks at "Karlstein," the summer home of his daughter, Mrs. Warren, near Dedham, Mass. His remains were brought to his home and interred according to his expressed desire, with brief and simple services in the family vault in the graveyard of the Old Swedes' Church. There, in the shadowed sunlight of an autumn afternoon, and amid a large concourse of sympathetic friends, the dust was returned to the earth whence it came.

Mr. Bayard left three sons, James A., Thomas F., Junior, and Philip. Thomas F. Bayard, Junior, studied law with his father and was admitted to the New Castle bar in 1893, and has for several years been in active and successful practice.

THE McLANE FAMILY.

COL. ALLEN McLANE.

Col. Allen McLane, an eminent citizen of Delaware by adoption, was born in Philadelphia, August 8, 1746 and settled near Smyrna in Kent County, Delaware in 1774. He was early in the field in the cause of Independence. In 1775, he was appointed lieutenant in Colonel Caesar Rodney's regiment of Delaware militia, and in 1776 joined Washington's army and distinguished himself in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Trenton and Princeton. Colonel McLane was present at the siege and surrender of Yorktown, and retired from service November 9, 1782. Many thrilling incidents are related of him which show his remarkable bravery as a soldier. On several occasions, when surprised by British troopers, he charged through them and escaped.

After the war, Colonel McLane settled at Smyrna and entered upon peaceful avocations. He was a member of the State Convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States in 1787. He was twice a member of the Delaware House of Representatives and United States Marshal of the Delaware District from 1790-98. He was also Collector of the Port of Wilmington, from 1808 to the time of his death. He died May 22, 1829, and his remains were interred in Asbury Church graveyard, Wilmington.

In the issue of *The Delaware Register*, of Saturday, May 30, 1829, a weekly newspaper published in Wilmington at that time by A. and H. Wilson, appears the following obituary notice of Allen McLane.

“In this Borough on the evening of Friday the 22nd inst. in the 83rd year of his age Col. Allen McLane, father of our Minister to London. The deceased was born in Philadelphia on the 8th of August, 1746, and is well-known as a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary army. After that hard struggle for our liberties had gloriously ended, he filled, with fidelity, several public offices; and at the close of the Administration of President Washington, that great man appointed him Collector of the Port of Wilmington in which office he remained until his death. When the news of his decease was announced the vessels in port displayed their flags at half mast in which position they were kept till after the funeral solemnities, which were performed on Sunday at the burying ground of the Methodist Church, attended by an unusually large number of people, among whom were many of the citizens of the neighboring towns and country.”

LOUIS MCLANE.

Louis McLane, son of Colonel Allen McLane was born in Smyrna, Delaware, May 28, 1786. In 1798, he entered the navy as midshipman and cruised for a year under Commodore Decatur, in the frigate “Philadelphia.” He studied law with Hon. James A. Bayard, and was admitted to the bar in 1807.

In 1817 he was elected a member of Congress from Delaware, and remained in that office until 1827. From 1827-29, he was United States Senator, and Minister to England, 1829-31. In 1831 he entered President Jackson's Cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury, and in 1833 was appointed Secretary of State. Removing to Maryland about 1835, he was elected President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and served from 1837 to 1847. In 1845, he was entrusted with the mission to England during the Oregon negotiations. He died in Baltimore, Maryland, October 7, 1857.

DR. ALLEN MCLANE.

Dr. Allen McLane, son of Colonel Allen McLane, was born in Smyrna, Delaware in 1786. Dr. McLane was educated at the Newark Academy and Princeton College, and received his medical diploma from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. McLane served as surgeon in Cæsar A. Rodney's Company, in the war of 1812. He was a member of the vestry of the Old Swedes Church, and one of the founders of Trinity Chapel. Dr. McLane was one of the most prominent physicians of his city and his death was regarded as a public calamity. His death occurred suddenly, January 11, 1845, from heart disease, and his remains were interred in the graveyard of the Old Swedes Church.

THE MACDONOUGH FAMILY.

The Macdonough family was of Scotch-Irish origin. The great-grandfather, Thomas Macdonough, was a native of Scotland, but on account of the disturbed condition of that country emigrated to Ireland, and settled on the River Liffey, County of Kildare. This Thomas Macdonough had several children, two of whom, John and James, came to America about 1730. John Macdonough settled on Long Island, and James Macdonough, the ancestor of the Delaware line, settled in St. Georges Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware, at a place then called "The Trap," but to which the post-office depart-

ment in 1844 gave the name of Macdonough. Here James Macdonough lived to a good old age, dying about 1802 in his eightieth year. He left several children among whom was a son, Thomas Macdonough.

THOMAS MACDONOUGH.

Thomas Macdonough (second), son of James Macdonough, was born in 1747, and lived in stirring times. He was a physician by profession, but when there came the call to arms in 1776 he threw away the lancet and buckled on the sword. On March 22, 1776, he was commissioned by Congress as Major in Colonel John Haslet's regiment of Delaware troops in the Continental service. He took a conspicuous part in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, Trenton and Princeton, and acquitted himself with great credit. In 1782 he was Colonel of the Seventh Regiment, Delaware militia. In 1788 he was appointed third Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Orphans' Court by Governor Collins. In 1791 Governor Clayton appointed him second Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Orphans' Court, and in 1793 he was again appointed by the same Governor one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas. He died in 1795.

THOMAS MACDONOUGH.

Thomas Macdonough (third), distinguished as a naval officer, was the son of Thomas Macdonough (second) and was born at the Trap, now called Macdonough, New Castle County, Delaware, December 31, 1783. When sixteen years of age he entered the navy. His father had served in the Revolution and his uncle had been a soldier, and these facts naturally fanned the spark of patriotism in his bosom into a bright and steady flame. On the 15th of February, 1800, Thomas Macdonough was appointed a midshipman by President John Adams through the influence of United States Senator Latimer, of Delaware. He immediately went aboard ship at New Castle, bound for a cruise in the West Indies, and saw some hard

service. He was with Stephen Decatur when the Philadelphia was burned in the harbor of Tripoli. For his services on this occasion he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, May 18, 1804.

He made several cruises to the Mediterranean, and had many adventurous and narrow escapes. On the breaking-out of the second war with Great Britain, he was ordered to take command of the naval force on Lake Champlain September 12, 1812. The brilliant naval victory, which he won over the British September 11, 1814, is well known to all readers of history. He had only four ships (such as they were) and ten galleys, in all eighty-six guns, while the British had four ships and thirteen galleys, in all, ninety-five guns, and their complement of men was much greater. After a battle of two hours and twenty minutes, the British ships surrendered, three of the galleys sunk, and the rest in a shattered condition. On the land, the American loss was fifty-two killed, and fifty-eight wounded, while the British had eighty-four killed and one hundred and ten wounded. The prisoners taken by Macdonough exceeded the whole number of Americans in action.

This victory was hailed with delight by the whole nation. Macdonough was promoted to the rank of Post-Captain, then the highest rank in the navy. After considerable service from the date of his promotion, he was ordered to assume command of the American squadron in the Mediterranean, but owing to ill health was permitted to return to the United States. But he did not live to see his native land, dying at sea, while homeward bound, ten days out from Gibraltar, November 10, 1825. His remains were brought home and buried at Middletown, Connecticut, December 1, 1825, with military, civic, and Masonic honors.





E. J. du Bois de Nemours

THE DUPONT FAMILY.

Pierre Samuel DuPont De Nemours, political economist and statesman, was the progenitor of the well-known Delaware family of DuPonts. He was born in Paris, December 14, 1739. Two clever pamphlets on finance published by him at the age of twenty-three attracted the attention of Quesnay and he became one of the most influential of the "Economists" as Quesnay's followers were called.

His intimate friendship with the celebrated Turgot, then Intendent of Limoges, dates from the publication in 1764, of DuPont's first important book, on the exportation and importation of bread-stuffs, which had a great success.

In 1765, he was appointed editor of the "Journal of Agriculture and Finance," a semi-official publication, but he was compelled to resign the editorship in the following year on account of the opposition aroused by his economic tendencies.

He published his "Physiocratie," an abridgment of Quesnay's system of political economy, in 1767, and in 1768 became editor of the "Ephemerides du Citoyen" the organ of the economists, in which he advocated freedom of the press, emancipation of slaves, abolition of the exclusive privileges of the French West India Company, and reformation of onerous commercial restrictions and taxes.

A man of DuPont's character could not fail to be obnoxious to an anti-liberal minister like Terray, who soon after his accession dismissed DuPont from the public service and prohibited the publication of the "Ephemerides."

Though ill-treated at home DuPont was appreciated abroad and received unsolicited honors from the Margrave of Baden and from the Kings of Sweden and Poland. At the instance of the last-named monarch he went to Poland in 1774, to organize a general system of National education, but when Turgot became Comptroller of the Finances in 1774, DuPont was ordered to return to France and took an active part in all the reform measures of that great minister, particularly in

financial matters. Upon Turgot's disgrace in 1776, DuPont was banished from Paris and devoted himself to agricultural and literary pursuits until recalled in 1778.

DuPont, who like Turgot had always been a strong advocate of the American cause during the Revolution, was appointed by Vergennes to conduct the secret negotiations which resulted in the treaty of 1783, by which the independence of the United States was formally recognized by Great Britain; and in 1786 he negotiated the commercial treaty between France and England, for which service he was made Councillor of State.

As Inspector-General of Commerce he satisfactorily adjusted with Jefferson, then United States Minister to France, the commercial differences between the two powers and put an end to the injustice and vexations which American commerce had suffered from the French service.

As Secretary-General of the Assemblies of Notables of 1787 and 1788 he influenced most of the reforms proposed and thus incurred the animosity of the clergy which led to a new disgrace and banishment from Paris when Archbishop Brienne became Prime Minister.

DuPont was a member of the States-General from Nemours at the beginning of the Revolution; was twice President of the Constituent Assembly, where he favored a constitutional monarchy, and was the author of the radical fiscal reforms adopted.

Upon the dissolution of the Assembly he was active in upholding the constitution and demanding the enforcement of the laws. After the 10th of August, 1792, the Legislative Assembly ordered DuPont's arrest—which practically meant his execution—because he had participated, with his son Irenee, in the defence of Louis XVI at the Tuileries. He was hidden in the observatory of the institute until the 2nd of September, when he succeeded in getting out of Paris, and remained in concealment in the country until July 20, 1794, when he was arrested and imprisoned in Paris and would have been guillotined but for Robespierre's death, July 28, 1794.





Alexis J. du Pont,

He was elected a member of the Council of the Ancients, which was equivalent to our Senate, in 1795, and became its President in 1797, but when the Jacobins overturned the legislative branch of the government with Augereau's troops, DuPont de Nemours was again imprisoned and narrowly escaped transportation to Cayenne, his property being pillaged and destroyed.

In 1799 he emigrated with his family to America, where he was met with great consideration. He returned to France in 1802, and, as the friend of both countries, was largely instrumental in promoting the treaty of 1803 by which Louisiana was sold to the United States. Jefferson wrote him on the 1st of November of that year: "The treaty which has so happily sealed the friendship of our two countries has been received here with general acclamation. For myself and my country I thank you for the aid you have given it and I congratulate you upon having lived to give this aid to complete a transaction replete with blessings to millions of unborn men."

DuPont refused to hold office under Napoleon, to whom he was strongly opposed, but became President of the Paris Chamber of Commerce and devoted much time to the service of various charitable institutions and to his duties as a member of the French Institute.

In 1814 he was Secretary of the Provisional Government which recalled King Louis XVIII, but upon Napoleon's escape from Elba he came back to America and joined his sons at Eleutherean Mills near Wilmington, Delaware, where he died on the 7th of August, 1817.

VICTOR MARIE DUPONT,

the eldest son of Pierre Samuel DuPont de Nemours, was born in Paris, 4th of October, 1767. In his early youth he was employed in the French Ministry of Finance and in 1787 became Attache to the French Legation in the United States, returning to France at the outbreak of the Revolution and serving as aide-de-camp to Lafayette when the latter was in

command of the National Guard. In 1791 he returned to America and was successively appointed Second Secretary and First Secretary of Legation, French Consul at Charleston, S. C., and Consul-General of France at Philadelphia. President Adams having refused him an exequatur in the last-named capacity on account of the existing difficulties between the United States and the French Directory, he returned to France and left the diplomatic service.

In 1799 he emigrated to America with the DuPont family and was for several years manager of the commission house of DuPont de Nemours, Fils et Cie., of New York City. In 1806 he established himself at Angelica, Genesee County, New York, and three years later joined his younger brother in Delaware where he established a manufactory of cloth on the Brandywine. He was a patriotic citizen, serving as a member of the Delaware Legislature and captain of one of the Delaware companies in the War of 1812. His high rank as a financier is attested by his appointment by the President as one of the directors of the Bank of the United States.

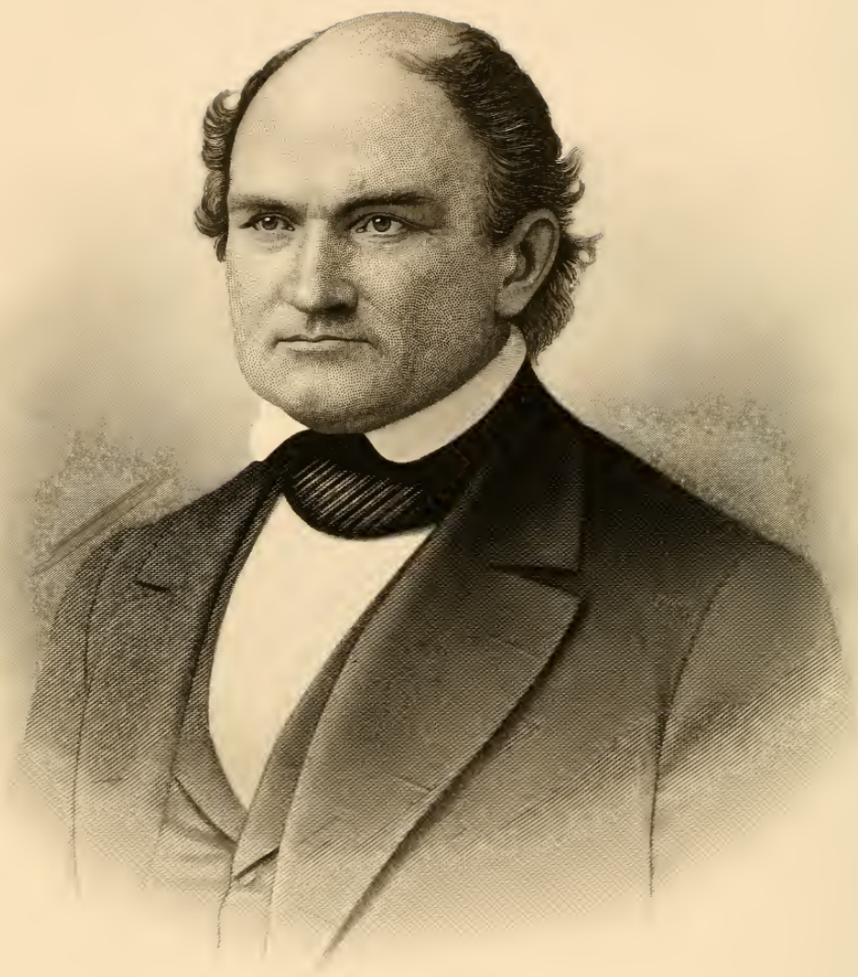
He married Gabrielle Josephine de la Fite de Pelleport, and at his death on the 30th of January, 1827, left two sons, Charles Irenee DuPont and Samuel Francis DuPont, afterwards Rear Admiral in the United States Navy.

ELEUTHERE IRENEE DUPONT DE NEMOURS,

younger son of Pierre Samuel DuPont de Nemours and Nicole Charlotte Marie Louise Le Dee de Rencourt, was born in Paris, France, 24th of June, 1771. In very early life he was assistant to Lavoisier, superintendent of the French government powder works. He left his occupation in 1791 to manage the printing and publishing house which his father had founded at Paris in the interest of the Moderate party. He went with his father to the Tuileries on the 10th of August, 1792, to assist in the defence of the king and was in great personal danger during the Revolution, having been thrice imprisoned.

With his father and brother he emigrated to America in





ALFRED DU PONT

Alfred du Pont.

1799 and the idea of undertaking the manufacture of gunpowder occurred to him not long after his arrival, the powder made in the United States at that time being of a very inferior quality. He returned to France and at his former place of employment, the mills of Essonne, studied the actual condition of the industry, after which he brought to America in August, 1801, a supply of plans, models and machinery for his projected enterprise. After months of examination of proposed sites for his factory, he selected a tract of land on the Brandywine near Wilmington which enjoyed the advantage of abundant water-power and which he purchased in June, 1802, removing thither with his family in July of that year. Mr. DuPont devoted the remainder of his life to the perfecting of the manufacture of powder and to the improvements of the facilities and safeguards requisite for work of that nature. Disappointments and partial failures were met and overcome by his untiring diligence and patient courage. In less than thirty years he had made his powder factory the largest in the United States and a model of excellence for those times. He was very active in promoting local improvements and enterprises for the advancement of agriculture and the industrial arts. He died suddenly of Asiatic cholera, in Philadelphia, October 31, 1834, leaving three sons, Alfred Victor, Henry and Alexis Irenee.

ALFRED VICTOR DUPONT,

son of Eleuthere Irenee DuPont de Nemours, was born at Paris, France, April 11, 1798, and came with his family to America in 1799. After two years spent at Bergen Point, N. J., he removed with his father to the Brandywine in 1802. He was educated at Mount Airy school, at Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, completing his education under private tutors. As he grew to manhood he became thoroughly conversant with the manufacture of gunpowder. After his father's death he assisted his brother-in-law, Antoine Bidermann, in the management of the business until the latter's

retirement in 1837, when Alfred DuPont became the head of the firm of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., where his energy and excellent scientific attainments were important features in the maintenance of the business.

He married Margareta Elizabeth Lammot, by whom he left a large family, among whom was Lammot DuPont, who later took a prominent part in the manufacture of gunpowder, and died October 4th, 1856, in his 58th year.

HENRY DUPONT,

second son of Eleuthere Irenee DuPont de Nemours, was born at Eleutherean Mills, near Wilmington, 8th August, 1812. He was educated at Mount Airy Academy and at the United States Military Academy at West Point, from which he graduated in 1833 as brevet second lieutenant of the 4th United States Artillery, and was stationed at Fort Monroe, Va., and then at Fort Mitchell, Alabama, in the Creek Indian country. He resigned from the army on the 15th of July, 1834, and returned to Delaware to assist his father in his business enterprises.

In 1850 Henry DuPont became the head of the firm of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., and his executive ability soon made itself felt; from that time until his death he was the controlling spirit of the enterprise, which under his direction assumed proportions of very great magnitude. In addition to the vast consumption of gunpowder in the avocations of peace, the mills sent large quantities abroad in 1855 for the use of the British troops in the Crimean war, and largely supplied the United States government during the War of the Rebellion. He was a Whig in politics, and subsequently a pronounced Republican. He was one of the Republican candidates for presidential elector in 1868, 1876, 1880, 1884 and 1888.

In his eyes political work was a patriotic duty, and he performed it faithfully and conscientiously, serving for more than forty years as inspector of elections and challenger at the polls. Mr. DuPont's military service in the State began as



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aide-de-camp to Governor Cooper in 1841. On May 16, 1846, Governor Temple appointed him Adjutant-General of the State, which office he held until May 11, 1861, when he was appointed by Governor Burton, Major-General of the Union forces raised, and to be raised, in the State of Delaware. During his military and successful business career he was found equal to every emergency; industry, enterprise, fair dealing and liberality being the characteristics of his management of affairs. He was married in 1837 to Louisa Gerhard, and died on the 8th of August, 1889.

HENRY ALGERNON DUPONT,

son of Henry DuPont, was born at the Eleutherean Mills, near Wilmington, July 30, 1838. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, May 6, 1861, was appointed second lieutenant of the Corps of Engineers, and on May 14, 1861, first lieutenant of the Fifth United States Artillery. From 1862 until 1863 he acted as assistant adjutant-general of the troops in New York harbor. On the 24th of March, 1864, he was promoted to captain of the Fifth United States Artillery, and took part with his battery at the battle of New Market, W. Va., and later commanded the artillery of General Hunter's forces at the battles of Piedmont and Lynchburg. Subsequently, during Sheridan's campaign in the valley of Virginia, he commanded the artillery brigade of Crook's corps. He was brevetted major for gallant services at the battles of Opequan and Fisher's Hill, lieutenant-colonel for distinguished services at the battle of Cedar Creek, and awarded a Congressional medal of honor for "most distinguished gallantry in action."

Colonel DuPont resigned from the army March 1, 1875, and since that time has made his home in Delaware and for many years has devoted a great deal of time and attention to agricultural pursuits. In addition to his connection with the business of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., he was president and general manager of the Wilmington and Northern Rail-

road Company from 1879 to 1899 and from 1896 has been a director of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company. In recent years he has been a conspicuous figure in the politics of the State, having in the session of the General Assembly of 1895 received fifteen votes out of thirty as the Republican candidate for United States Senator. Since that time he has been recognized as a leader of the regular Republican party. On June 12, 1906, he was elected United States Senator from Delaware.

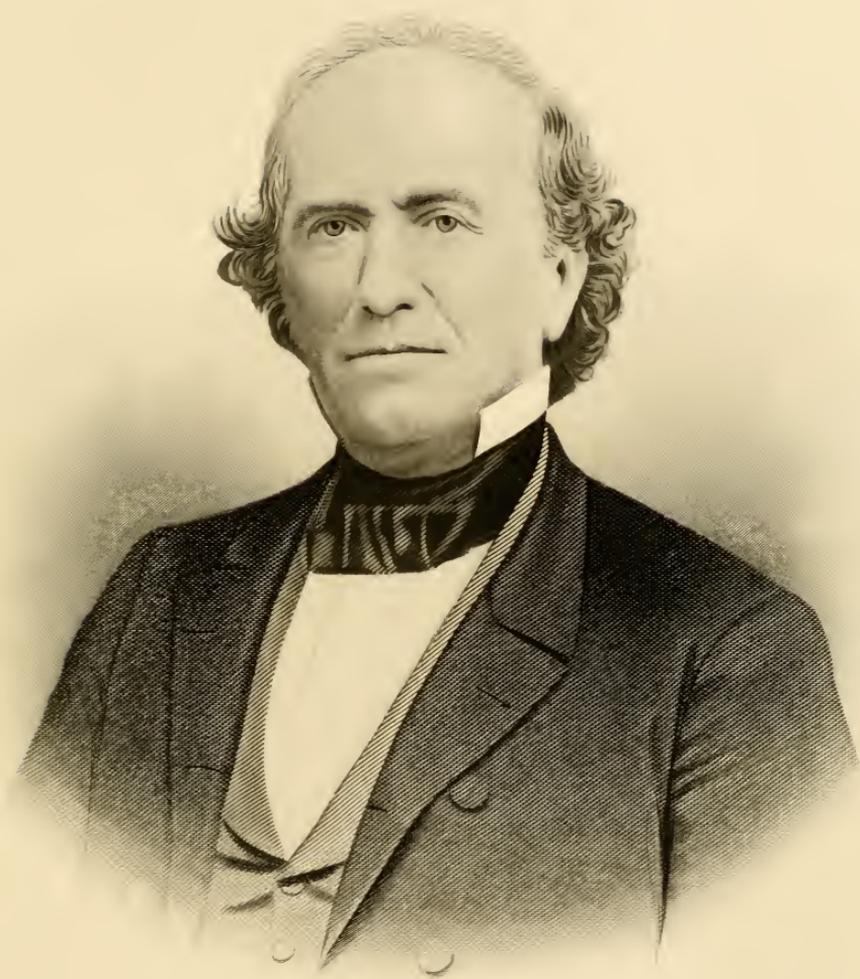
ALEXIS IRENEE DUPONT,

youngest son of Eleuthere Irenee DuPont de Nemours, was born at the Eleutherean Mills, February 14, 1816. After attending school at New Haven, Conn., he completed his education at the University of Pennsylvania. He married Joanna, daughter of Francis Gurney Smith, of Philadelphia, December 15, 1836, and became a partner in the business established by his father.

His ardent and enthusiastic temperament made him a very earnest worker in any cause which he espoused. A devout churchman, St. John's Church, Wilmington, is a monument to his labors and liberality. He also largely promoted the renewal of the services at Old Swedes Church, which for some time had been discontinued, and efficiently contributed in many ways to religious and charitable undertakings. His death resulted from an explosion at the mills which occurred on the 21st of August, 1866. He left three sons, Eugene, Alexis Irenee and Francis Gurney.

CHARLES IRENEE DUPONT,

the eldest son of Victor Marie DuPont, was born at Charleston, S. C., March 29, 1797, while his father was French Consul there. His early childhood was spent in France, at Bergen Point, N. J., and Angelica, N. Y., and he first came to Delaware to go to school in 1808. He was known throughout the community and State as an eminently public-spirited man.



Charles J. du Pont







L. C. Bent

The larger part of his life was spent in manufacturing on the Brandywine, but he gave great attention to agriculture and much beautiful and valuable property in New Castle and Kent Counties attest his skill. From 1841 to 1845 and from 1853 to 1857 he was a member of the State Senate. One of the originators of the Delaware railroad, he was unremitting in his efforts to effect the passage of any bill for its benefit and his influence in the Senate, February 27, 1853, carried the bill through that body which gave aid from the State towards the construction of that road.

His kind and social manner won for him friends wherever he was known; his correct principles and pure moral character secured for him the esteem of everyone, and gained the confidence of all who approached him. When the Civil War broke out he was like his lamented brother, Admiral DuPont, ardent in his devotion to the Union. He retired from active business life some years prior to his death. He was president of the Farmers' Bank at Wilmington from 1865 to 1869. His first wife was Dorcas Montgomery Van Dyke, daughter of Hon. Nicholas Van Dyke, and his second wife was Ann Ridgely, daughter of Hon. Henry M. Ridgely, of Dover. He died January 31, 1869, and left three sons, Victor, Charles Irenee and Henry Ridgely.

LAMMOT DUPONT,

son of Alfred Victor DuPont, was born near Wilmington, Delaware, April 13, 1831. His preparatory education was obtained at private schools in Wilmington, after which he entered the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1849. On the completion of his education he entered the business of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., and gave particular attention to the manufacture of gunpowder. He not only successfully devised and constructed much new powder machinery, but originated many improvements in the quality of the powder, and it can with justice be said that he radically improved the methods and processes of powder manufacture. He continued

with the firm until 1880, and in that year was instrumental in forming the Repauno Chemical Company, acting as its president and assuming control of the works of the company, which were erected at Thompson's Point, N. J. A year later Mr. DuPont removed his residence to Philadelphia, where the main office of the Repauno Chemical Company had been established. He was killed by an explosion at the works, in New Jersey, on March 29, 1884. Like the other members of the DuPont family, he was patriotic and public-spirited, being a staunch supporter of the Union during the Civil War, and showing his loyalty by raising a company of volunteers, which was in active service at Fort Delaware. He was married in 1865 to Mary Belin, daughter of Henry Belin, and left at his death five sons, Pierre Samuel, Henry Belin, William, Irene and Lammot.

EUGENE DUPONT,

eldest son of Alexis Irene DuPont, born at Hagley, near Wilmington, Delaware, on the 16th of November, 1840, was educated at private schools in Philadelphia and at the University of Pennsylvania. After graduating there he at once entered the employment of the firm of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., in which his energy and activity, as well as scientific attainments, made him a conspicuous figure for many years. On the death of his uncle, Henry DuPont, he became the senior partner in the firm, and successfully managed its business until his death, January 28, 1902.

Prudent and conservative in temperament, simple in his tastes and generous in his impulses, his loss was deplored by all. He married his cousin, Amelia Elizabeth DuPont, daughter of Charles Irene DuPont.

THOMAS COLEMAN DUPONT,

was born in Louisville, Kentucky, December 11, 1863. He is of the fourth generation from Eleuthere Irene DuPont, the first American settler of the family; his father being Bidermann DuPont, and his grandfather Alfred Victor DuPont.



For ALFRED Williams & Son, N.Y.

Eugene de Gaulle



The mother of the subject of this sketch was Ellen Susan Coleman, daughter of Thomas Cooper Coleman, the name of the latter being given to the grandson, who is generally known as T. Coleman DuPont.

Educated at Urbana University, Ohio, with special courses at the Chauncey Hall School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Boston, he graduated as a mining engineer, in which occupation he was engaged for some time, when he turned his attention to the manufacture of steel and afterwards devoted some years to the operation of street railways.

His connection with the powder business dates from March, 1902. On the consolidation of the powder-manufacturing interests of the DuPonts by the organization of the E. I. DuPont de Nemours Powder Co., in 1903, T. Coleman DuPont was chosen as the head of the new company, and since that time has acted as its president. Under his efficient management the business has shown marvelous growth. The actual conduct of the business is centralized in the City of Wilmington, with powder manufacturing and kindred plants scattered throughout the United States, and the small beginnings of a century ago have developed into a general company employing a capital of fifty millions of dollars. The growth and success attending the new company fully attest the exceptional capacity and thorough business qualities of its President.

A man of unusual judgment, of keen perception, and with the faculty of comprehending and acting quickly, he possesses the characteristics that go to make up a leader of men, and the success that has marked his career thus far, although he has not yet reached middle life, assures still further success for the future. Mr. DuPont has been the president of the Wilmington Trust Company since its organization in 1904. In the campaign of 1904 Mr. DuPont took an active part in State politics, acting as a member of the Regular Republican State Committee. His wife was Miss Alice DuPont, daughter of Victor DuPont, Esq., the eminent lawyer, to whom he was married in 1889.

THE BARRATT FAMILY.

PHILIP BARRATT.

Philip Barratt was the first of the name in Delaware. He was the younger son of Philip and Jane Merritt Barratt, of Cecil County, Maryland, born there October 12, 1730. He and his brother Roger Barratt, born 6th of March, 1728, settled in Kent County, Delaware, prior to 1755. Their grandfather Philip Barratt, who was probably the emigrant, is known to have been in Cecil County prior to January 6, 1678. Philip Barratt owned a tract of land in South Murderkill Hundred of 600 acres (upon which he resided) 94 of which came to him from Waitman Sipple, Jr., on August 13, 1755, upon his marriage to his daughter Miriam Sipple. He owned two sloops, the Friendship and the Dolphin, in which he shipped corn, pork, bark and staves to Philadelphia.

He took an active interest in public affairs, and on October 6, 1775, was commissioned by Hon. John Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania, as high sheriff of Kent County. Mr. Barratt was re-elected sheriff in 1776, and served in that capacity during the Revolutionary War, in which he rendered most efficient services in aid of the struggling colonies. In October, 1779, he was elected a member of the Legislature and was a member continuously from that date until 1783, and the records show he took quite an active interest in the County and State and did his utmost to further the success of the patriotic cause. In 1780 he paid the Kent County troops £3,600 appropriated by the Legislature of which he was a member.

Philip Barratt was one of the first converts to Methodism, and was an intimate friend of Bishop Francis Asbury, whom he aided and protected from violence during the Revolutionary War. In May, 1780, he contributed the ground upon which Barratt's Chapel was erected, known as the "Cradle of Methodism," because, first, Bishop Asbury and Thomas Coke met there, November 10, 1784, and arranged the preliminaries for

organizing the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, and, second, it was the place where sacramental ordinances were first administered in America by duly authorized Methodist preachers to Methodist communicants. To Methodists these facts invest Barratt's Chapel with rare historic interest. Philip Barratt died October 28, 1784, in the fifty-fifth year of his age, leaving five sons and three daughters.

ANDREW BARRATT.

Andrew Barratt, eldest son of Philip Barratt, was born September 22, 1756, and was the most prominent of the sons. He studied law and was admitted to the Bar of Kent County. He was High Sheriff of Kent County for twelve years, 1780-1792, and a member of the convention which framed the Constitution of 1792. He represented Kent County in the Assembly from October 20, 1791, and in the Senate in 1812, 1813 and 1814, and during that time served as Speaker. On November 12, 1816, he was elected a presidential elector as a Federalist and voted for Rufus King for President and Robert C. Harper for Vice-President. On November 14, 1820, he voted in the electoral college for James Monroe for President and Daniel Rodney for Vice-President. On January 23, 1799, he was appointed by Governor Bassett as Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware and served as such with great credit until his election to the State Senate.

He took quite an interest in educational matters. He drafted the Act of February 10, 1796, and was a school trustee under it for Murderkill Hundred, but as it was administered as a charity it did not prove a success except as recognizing the necessity of educating the masses. Upon the incorporation of the Old Wilmington Academy as a college, in 1803, he was named as a trustee. It is said that this first Board of Trustees was composed of the most distinguished men in Delaware. As the eldest son he maintained his father's friendship with Bishop Asbury and the other Methodist

preachers, Cooper, Garrettson and Pilmore, and there was hardly one of them who came to Dover who did not spend the night at least with Judge Barratt.

On the tenth day of January, 1796, Andrew Barratt "being fully persuaded that liberty is the natural birthright of all mankind and keeping any in perpetual slavery is contrary to the injunction of Christ, for which reasons he did manumit and set absolutely free all his negroes so that henceforth they shall be deemed adjudged and taken as and for free people." (Deed Record H., Vol. 2, page 264.) Andrew Barratt died April 18, 1821, having figured as a prominent man in his day and generation.

DR. ELIJAH BARRATT.

Dr. Elijah Barratt, son of Philip Barratt, was born on his father's farm near Frederica, Kent County, Delaware, in 1771. He studied medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. Nathaniel Luff. In his short professional career, Dr. Barratt attained a high position in medicine. He was a prominent member of the Delaware State Medical Society. Dr. Barratt was prominent not only as a physician, but also in political affairs. He was a strong Federalist and although urged refused to be a candidate for Congress.

About the time he was admitted to the bar, Henry M. Ridgely, a prominent lawyer of Dover and an intimate friend of Dr. Barratt became involved in a duel with William B. Shields, a lawyer of Wilmington, in which Dr. Barratt notably figured. The Doctor felt that he had been grossly insulted by Mr. Shields and in accordance with the spirit of the times, sought satisfaction through the "Code" and desired Mr. Ridgely to be the bearer of his challenge. The latter did so, and Mr. Shields refused to meet Dr. Barratt but challenged the bearer of the message. The challenge was accepted; and the duel was fought and Mr. Ridgely was severely wounded. It was believed that the reason why Mr. Shields refused to meet Dr. Barratt was, that Dr. Barratt was a noted shot and

a most determined man, and that he (Shields) was afraid to take the risk with him. Dr. Barratt was a trustee of the first Methodist Church, built in 1796, at Camdem, Delaware. He died April 11, 1809, and was buried in the old family burying ground.

JOHN BARRATT.

John Barratt, son of Andrew Barratt, born February 9, 1784. Died in April, 1818. Educated at private schools and at Princeton College. Admitted to Kent County bar 1808 and Solicitor in Chancery August 15, 1808. March 15, 1810, he revised and collated Kent County records, and October 3, 1810, when twenty-six years old, was made Secretary of State by Governor Truitt. He served as clerk of the State Senate in 1810 and clerk of the House in 1812. He was prominent as a lawyer, orator and politician and was in many duels, although no one seems to have been seriously injured. An account of one of them mentioned in the "Freeman's Journal" of August 13, 1807, which is probably one of the more important ones, is as follows: "A duel was fought on Friday last between Mr. (Louis) McLane, son of Allen McLane of Wilmington, Delaware, and Mr. (John) Barratt of the same town. Two shots were exchanged. Mr. Barratt's second shot wounded his antagonist near the groin. Mr. McLane's first shot grazed Mr. Barratt near the waist. His second grazed his left hand which was placed on his right breast. The meeting was occasioned by a dispute which grew out of a former duel in which Mr. Barratt acted as second."

Louis McLane and John Barratt at this time were students at law in the office of James A. Bayard, and both were admitted to the New Castle Bar in December, 1807, about three months later. Louis McLane subsequently had a most distinguished career as United States Senator, 1827-29; Minister to England, 1829-31; Secretary of Treasury, 1832-33; President B. & O. R. R., 1837-1847; also delegate to England during Oregon negotiations. John Barratt's early death in

his thirty-fourth year ended a career full of promise by reason of his engaging manners and pronounced ability.

JAMES BARRATT, SR., AND JAMES BARRATT, JR.

James Barratt, Sr., was born in 1797, on his father's farm near Frederica, Kent County, Delaware, and removed to Milton in 1823, where he built and occupied the first brick house. He and Governor David Hazzard engaged in the grain business, and also operated a bark mill, in which the Hon. Joseph Maull was interested with them. James Barratt was one of the representatives for Sussex County in the House of Representatives during the session commencing October, 1831, and was a director in 1831 and 1832 of the Georgetown Branch of the Farmers' Bank of the State Delaware.

In 1832 he removed to Philadelphia and engaged in the grain business with Samuel Neall, who was a native of Milford, Delaware, under the firm name of Neall & Barratt, and later as James Barratt & Son. Much of their business consisted of consignments of grain from Delaware, which arrived in Philadelphia in small sloops and schooners of light draught, which were in early times called shallops. They carried 1000 to 2500 bushels of wheat, corn and oats, and on arrival were unloaded by colored men from half-bushel measures into bags, and sold on the wharf or stored in their warehouse, 402 South Delaware Avenue.

In 1854 he helped organize the Corn Exchange of Philadelphia, and was its fifth president in 1859. The Corn Exchange of Philadelphia, now better known by the more significant name of the Commercial Exchange, was composed of a membership conspicuous for their loyalty to the Union, and their zeal and liberality in sustaining the government in all its efforts to put down the Rebellion, and none of its members were more active in this work and the sending to the war a fully equipped regiment known as the "Corn Exchange" or 118th Pennsylvania Volunteers, than James Barratt, Jr., who was born in Milton, Delaware, December 27, 1826, and who

was brought to Philadelphia by his father when a boy. He was admitted to the firm of James Barratt & Son in 1856; represented the Seventh Ward in Common Councils in 1862, '63, '64, '65.

On January 12, 1865, he was appointed one of the commissioners under authority of councils, to pay bounties to volunteers. This commission distributed over twelve millions of dollars. On May 25, 1865, he was elected a Port Warden, and in 1867 was elected Vice-President of the Corn Exchange. He was First Lieutenant of the Corn Exchange Guard, a member of Company "D," First Regiment, Lodge No. 51 F. and A. M., Phœnix Hose Company, as well as of the Union League. He died February 2, 1872.

NORRIS S. BARRATT.

Norris S. Barratt, son of James Barratt, Jr., born in the City of Philadelphia, August 23, 1862, educated at public and private schools, admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1883 and to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States in 1899, since which time he has been in active practice, Assistant District Attorney 1901 until September, 1902, when he was unanimously nominated for Judge of Court of Common Pleas No. 2, Philadelphia, to succeed Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, Governor of Pennsylvania, to which office he was elected for a term of ten years. He is interested in historical matters and is a life member of the Delaware and Pennsylvania Historical Societies, Delaware Society of Philadelphia, as well as the Penn Club, Union League and Law Association. He is also a thirty-second degree Mason and the representative of Lodge No. 2, F. and A. M. in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

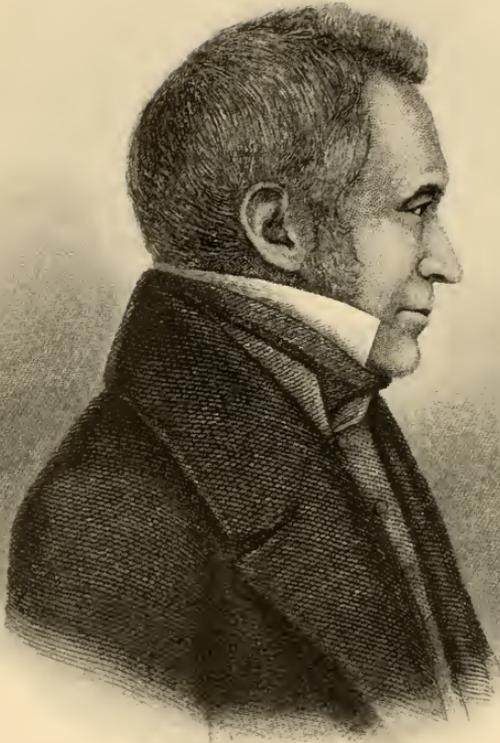
THE RIDGELY FAMILY.

No family has added more to the honor of Delaware than the Ridgely family. The ancestors of the family settled in Maryland in the vicinity of Annapolis, and Nicholas Ridgely came to Delaware about 1732, and after a year or two spent at Salem, New Jersey, settled in Dover in 1738, and two years later was appointed one of the provincial justices of the Supreme Court. From 1743 to 1755 he was Prothonotary of Kent County. He built the Ridgely house on Dover Green, still in possession of the family. It bears date A. D. 1728.

Charles Ridgely, son of Nicholas, was born in Salem, New Jersey, January 26, 1735. His mother was Mary Vining, widow of Benjamin Vining, whose earlier life had been spent near Salem. Soon after the birth of Charles, his parents settled at Dover, and there young Charles was educated with care. He studied medicine under the direction of Dr. Phineas Bond, and after completing the medical course settled in Dover, where he lived the rest of his days. He ranked high as a physician and was eminently successful in his chosen profession, and his talents and character were of so high an order that he was called upon to fill many public stations. He married Ann Moore, daughter of William Moore, of Moore Hall, Pennsylvania. He died November 25, 1785, leaving two sons, Nicholas and Henry Moore Ridgely, both of whom became famous in the legal profession.

Nicholas Ridgely, son of Dr. Charles Ridgely, was born September 30, 1762, and after receiving a careful educational training, studied law under the direction of Robert Goldsborough, of Cambridge, Maryland. Admitted to the Bar in 1787, he early established himself in active practice, and was soon acknowledged as a lawyer of superior abilities. When only twenty-nine years of age he was appointed Attorney-General of the State, and occupied this responsible post for a period of ten years, when he succeeded William Killen as Chancellor of the State, which position he held until his death on April 1, 1830. As chancellor his memory is revered and





HENRY M. RIDGELY.

honored. As a man he was the soul of honor, and as a judge, just, learned and impartial. A more extended biography of Chancellor Ridgely appears in this work under the head of Chancellors of the State.

Henry Moore Ridgely, another son of Dr. Charles Ridgely, was born at Dover, August 6, 1779. He was carefully educated, partly at Dickinson College, and studied law with Charles Smith, Esq., a relative, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. On his admission to the bar, in 1802, he early took high rank, and notwithstanding the eminent men at the bar at that time he won his way to the top. He was a man of superior judgment, and early showed an unusual aptness for business. He was the prime mover in the organization of the Farmers' Bank, incorporated in 1807, and becoming its president at the beginning, served as such until his death, forty years later, and contributed much to its establishment on a firm financial basis.

He was a pronounced Federalist in politics, and for many years the recognized leader of that party in this State. He was six times elected a member of the State House of Representatives. His public life in national affairs began in 1811, when only thirty-two years of age, by his election to the National House of Representatives. Two years later he was re-elected, and at the end of the term declined a renomination. While a member of Congress he was most active and held a prominent place in the public eye. He served as Secretary of State under Governor John Clark from 1817 to 1820, under Governor Jacob Stout from 1820 to 1821, and again under Governor Samuel Paynter from 1824 to 1827. In 1827 he served a short term in the United States Senate, being elected by the General Assembly to fill out the term of Nicholas Vanduyke, deceased.

His strict attention to his public duties, as well as his aptness in financial matters, so attracted the Federalist leaders that he was offered the important post of Treasurer of the United States, but this he declined. His exalted standing at

the bar is shown by the fact that he was offered the Chancellorship and the Chief Justiceship, but declined both, evidently not being inclined towards judicial honors. After the expiration of his term in the United States Senate, the remainder of his life was spent quietly at Dover in the practice of the law and in looking after the interests of the Farmers' Bank, always dear to his heart. His death occurred at his home on Dover Green on August 6, 1847. Mr. Ridgely was one of the ablest men that Delaware has produced.

Edward Ridgely, son of Henry M. Ridgely, was born at Dover, April 30, 1831. He was graduated from St. Mary's College, Maryland, in 1850, and immediately began the study of law with Martin W. Bates. He began practice in 1853, and for nearly fifty years was an honored member of Kent County Bar, ranking as one of the leaders among associates who had no superiors anywhere. With defective eyesight from his youth, a man of less ambition would have been greatly discouraged; but so well grounded was he in the principles of the law that it became a second nature to him and when an opinion was procured on a legal question from Edward Ridgely, the client was satisfied that it was the result of the most exhaustive research, and there was no inclination to question its correctness.

As a counselor he was unsurpassed. He made no professions as a public speaker, but as a well-read lawyer none stood higher, and no member of the Bar carried greater weight with the Court. Public life was distasteful to him; he had pronounced opinions on political questions, but was always just and conservative. He served as Secretary of State under Governor William Burton, and acted as chancellor *ad litem* in several cases. He was the last of a brilliant galaxy of legal lights whose ability and learning illumined the Kent County Bar in the latter third of the nineteenth century. His death occurred at Dover, October 17, 1900.

Charles G. Ridgely, the oldest son of Henry Moore Ridgely, was born at Dover, August 12, 1804. A precocious child, he





HENRY RIDGELY.
1817-1904.

was able to read Homer's Iliad at the age of eight, and his parents were interested in giving him the benefit of every educational advantage. He graduated at St. Mary's College, Maryland, at an unusually early age and then went to the Military Academy at West Point. At the latter institution he made an enviable record but was forced to resign before graduation, becoming incapacitated for military duty by lameness resulting from rheumatism. Devoted to the classics, some years were spent in the study of literature, and afterwards studying law with his father, he was admitted to the Bar in 1835. A year later he settled at Georgetown.

His brilliancy as a speaker and his acknowledged learning and ability soon brought him a numerous clientage. Active, industrious, tactful, he had every quality of the political leader. Eloquent in speech, he became without effort the foremost man in the Whig party in Sussex County, and had his life been spared he would undoubtedly have figured conspicuously as a public man, but as is so often the case with characters of such rare promise, the fire of life seemed to burn out the feeble frame. His death occurred July 6, 1844, and his remains were buried in the Episcopal churchyard at Georgetown.

Henry Ridgely, another son of Henry Moore Ridgely, was born April 15, 1817. He was particularly favored by his uncle, Chancellor Ridgely under whose direction he was educated. He attended Newark Academy and afterwards graduated from St. Mary's College, Maryland. He took a course in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1839. His medical preceptor was Dr. Jacob Randolph of Philadelphia. He practiced medicine in Dover for a few years, but soon devoted all of his time to the oversight of his large landed interests. He inherited the fine business qualities of his father and was unusually successful as a farmer and fruit-grower.

He amassed a comfortable fortune, at one time it being claimed that he was the wealthiest man in Kent County.

For a time he took some interest in politics, being identified with the Democratic party, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention of 1856, and in the same year was a Presidential elector. In 1861 he was a delegate to the Peace Convention that met at Washington. In later years he gave no attention to politics, being extremely independent in his political views. His strength was as a business man. He was elected a director of the Farmers' Bank in 1843, and in 1849 was elected its President, serving as such uninterruptedly until his death, a period of fifty-five years.

He was one of the early promoters and directors of the Delaware Railroad, was for many years connected with the Kent County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, part of the time as its president, and took an active part in two building and loan associations in Dover. He married first, Virginia E. Jenkins, daughter of Jonathan Jenkins, and the golden wedding of the happy couple was celebrated in 1893. One daughter, Ruthanna J., who is now the wife of Dr. James H. Wilson, was the only child of this marriage. Dr. Ridgely's second wife was Miss Annie T. Kemp, of Easton, Maryland. She survived him at his death, which occurred at his handsome home in Dover on September 17, 1904.

HENRY RIDGELY, JR.

The present living representative of the long line of illustrious Ridgelys is Henry Ridgely, Jr., son of Edward Ridgely, and grandson of Henry Moore Ridgely. Born on January 19, 1869, his early life was spent in the public schools of Dover and at the Conference Academy. Entering as a law student with his father, he took a full course in law at the University of Pennsylvania, and was admitted to the Kent County Bar in 1890. Having an analytical mind coupled with remarkable receptive powers, he is recognized as a most able and capable lawyer, and though but seventeen years at the Bar, he ranks as a leader, and his opinions on legal questions carry great weight not only with his brother attorneys, but with the

Court. He promises to fully uphold the enviable records made by his father and grandfather at the Bar. Mr. Ridgely is not one-sided, he is useful and public-spirited in the community in which he lives, and his charming personality makes him a welcome guest wherever known.

THE CLAYTON FAMILY.

No family in Delaware can boast a prouder lineage than the Claytons, and none has gained a more distinguished standing. The earlier generations were Friends in religion and the later generations gave evidence of the thrift, industry and stability of their forbears, characteristics of that early religious sect.

The first Delaware Clayton was Joshua Clayton who was a descendant of Robert de Clayton who became Lord of the Manor of Clayton by gift from William the Conqueror, in recognition of his laudable services in battle. Joshua Clayton, the first Delaware settler of the family, it is claimed, came to America with William Penn in 1682, accompanied by his cousin William Clayton. The latter settled in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The name Joshua has been represented in every generation of the family since the original settler.

The earliest of the family to reach distinguished public station in Delaware was Joshua Clayton, the son of John and great-grandson of Joshua, the original settler. His father was a miller and for some years operated the mill near Wyoming in Kent County, and in this vicinity the son Joshua was born in 1744. He studied medicine and while a young man married Rachel McCleary, an adopted daughter of Richard Bassett, afterward United States Senator and Governor of Delaware. About the time of his marriage he settled in New Castle County, near the Maryland State line and lived there until his death, his life being devoted to his profession, and to his public duties.

He served in one of the Maryland battalions in the Revolutionary War, and after acquitting himself most honorably

as a soldier, resumed his residence on Bohemia Manor, but was soon called to public duty, serving for three years from 1786 to 1789, as State Treasurer, and then, being elected by the General Assembly, served as President of the State from May 30, 1789, until January 13, 1793. The Constitution of 1792 coming into operation, he was, in the fall of 1792 elected by the people Governor of the State, for the full constitutional term of three years from 1793 to 1796. Two years later, he was elected a member of the United States Senate from Delaware, to fill a vacancy, but after serving about a year he went voluntarily to Philadelphia to minister to those affected with yellow fever at that place, and falling a victim to the dread disease, he died in that city on August 11, 1798. He was a skilled physician, a statesman of breadth and capacity, and altogether a most estimable citizen.

JOHN CLAYTON.

Contemporary with Governor Joshua Clayton was his brother, Judge John Clayton, born in Murderkill Hundred in 1749. Evidently a man of education and refinement, he was chosen first a Judge in Admiralty, and afterwards, in 1788, one of the justices of the Court of Common Pleas, in which latter position he served four years. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1792. That he had the courage of his convictions is shown by the following incident. He was acting as one of the commissioners appointed by Act of the General Assembly for remodeling the State House at Dover, and before the alterations were completed, the General Assembly sought to meet in the unfinished building, but the Kent County authorities objected, and John Clayton was appointed to represent Kent County, and to prevent the General Assembly from meeting there.

It is related that Mr. Clayton entered the assembly rooms with drawn sword and demanded that the assemblymen vacate, and he was so imperative in his demands that the assembly was forced to withdraw; the further sessions of that year were





JOSHUA CLAYTON.
1744-1798.



THOMAS CLAYTON.
1777-1854.

held at Duck Creek Cross Roads, it being claimed by some authorities that the General Assembly met during that year in Belmont Hall. The General Assembly on the day succeeding the above incident, passed a resolution couched in rather sarcastic terms, claiming that so august a body was not to be moved from place to place "at the caprice of an individual," and blaming Mr. Clayton for routing the assembly. But the incident shows that Mr. Clayton had the will to carry out the instructions of his superiors. Judge Clayton was a large land-owner and a man of much prominence in Kent County. His death occurred in 1802.

THOMAS CLAYTON.

Chief Justice Thomas Clayton was the third son of Governor Joshua Clayton. He was born in 1777, in Maryland, received an advanced classical education for that time, studied law under Chancellor Ridgely, and was admitted to the Delaware Bar at Dover in 1799. He served for two years as Secretary of State under Governor George Truitt. When but thirty-three years of age he was appointed Attorney-General of the State, which position he held with great credit to himself, and with great acceptability to the Court and public.

From 1815 to 1817 he was a member of Congress from Delaware. He was three times elected United States Senator, in 1824, 1837 and 1841. In 1828 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and served until 1832, when he was made Chief Justice of the State, serving until 1837, when he was elected for the second time to the United States Senate. Retiring from public life, in 1847 he made his residence in New Castle until his death, August 21, 1854. A man of great probity and honor, a lawyer of surpassing ability, a judge of the utmost fairness, a public man of exalted ideals, Thomas Clayton is remembered as one of the noblest and strongest characters who have figured in the annals of the State.

JOHN M. CLAYTON.

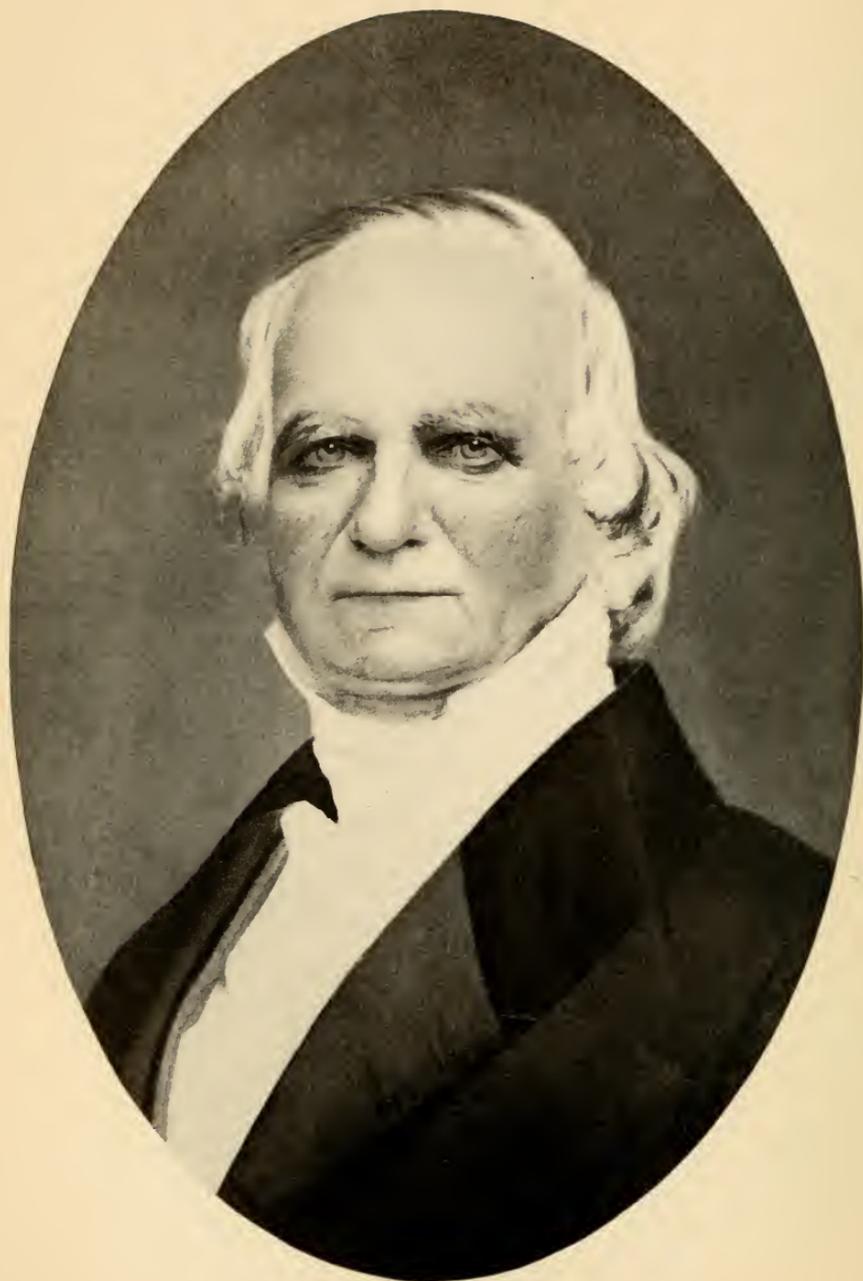
John M. Clayton, son of James Clayton, and nephew of Governor Joshua Clayton, was possibly the strongest man that Delaware has produced. His mother was Sarah Middleton, and to her he always attributed much of his success in life. He was born at Dagsborough, Sussex County, November 24, 1796. He attended a classical school at Lewes, graduated with high honors from Yale University in 1815, and after a legal course under his cousin, Chief Justice Thomas Clayton, was admitted to the Delaware Bar in 1819. He served as Secretary of State from 1826 to 1828 under Governors Paynter and Polk.

In the Jackson-Adams contest of 1828 he led the Adams party in Delaware to victory, and was rewarded by election to the United States Senate. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1835, and further elected thereto in 1845 and again in 1853. After General Taylor's election as President, in 1848, Mr. Clayton became United States Secretary of State, and during his term negotiated the celebrated Clayton-Bulwer treaty with Great Britain.

In 1837, desiring to retire from political life, he resigned from the Senate, and Chief Justice Thomas Clayton succeeded him. Thereupon he was induced to accept the vacant Chief Justiceship of the State, which position he held during three years only. His course upon the bench, though short, was sufficient to exhibit him as a thoroughly equipped lawyer and jurist. From his judgments there was never a writ of error. He retired from the bench and subsequently re-entered the Senate, of which he died a member, November 9, 1856.

The father of John M. Clayton was buried in a private burying-ground at Milford, Delaware, and the following epitaph, written by the son and copied from his tomb, shows the high reverence held by the son for the father: "James Clayton, whose mortal remains lie buried beneath this memorial, was a man of warm, sincere and affectionate disposition, remarkable for the strength and originality of his mind and for his activity





DANIEL CORBIT.
1796-1877.

and enterprise; as a man of business he had the rare good fortune to bear with him from the cradle to the grave the unquestioned character of an honest man."

A sketch of John M. Clayton of greater length will be found elsewhere in this volume among the sketches of the Delaware Judiciary.

DANIEL CORBIT.

The first American Corbit dwelt in Chester County, Pennsylvania, but as early as 1708 he had settled on the banks of the Appoquinimink in New Castle County, Delaware. This was Daniel Corbit, a Quaker, born in Scotland in 1682. His son Daniel Corbit married Mary Brinton of Pennsylvania, who was descended from William Brinton, a member of the First Assembly. It was William Corbit, his son, who established the tannery in Cantwell's Bridge. He was succeeded by his son Pennell, who at his death was succeeded by his brother Daniel Corbit III, the subject of this sketch. William was married three times, first to Mary Pennell, second to Sarah Fisher, and third to Mary Cowgill, who survived him. During the life of his second wife he built the Corbit house (now occupied by Daniel W. Corbit) which tradition says was designed by the same architect who planned the new Drawyers Meeting House in 1772.

Pennell Corbit, the son of Mary Pennell, married Mary Clark, both of them dying early, leaving two daughters, Sarah Clark Corbit and Mary Pennell Corbit, who became the wards of their uncle Daniel, when respectively aged eleven and nine years. Sarah Fisher left one son, William; Mary Cowgill was the mother of children of whom were John C., whose wife was Harriett Trimble (whose mother was a Brinton) who as his widow, married the late Charles Tatman; Sarah C., who became the wife of the Hon. Presley Spruance; and Daniel of whom we write.

Daniel Corbit was born in 1796, and had the benefit of the schools at Cantwell's Bridge and Smyrna Boarding School.

He had mercantile training in the store of William Corbit, his brother. The village was then a stirring place, for it was the shipping point to Philadelphia for much of Cecil and Kent, Maryland, besides adjacent Delaware. It was the day of the big country grain-buyer and merchant. The great merchants of that older day were Samuel Thomas and David Wilson and their homes on either side of the Corbit house attest their dignity.

It was in such an atmosphere that Daniel Corbit learned those strict business habits, that knowledge of men and things, that, coupled with his strong mind and will, his great caution, his untiring industry and perfect integrity, made him a successful man in every undertaking of his life. He owed much to heredity. His father was undoubtedly a strong man; his mother, instancing the rule that our prominent men have notable mothers, was indeed a rare character, and nearly every mental and moral quality that was known in the son, tradition ascribes to his mother. Hers was the placid, even, kindly life that seems natural to Friends; it was a strong administration of domestic life withal. Duties outside among the needy were ever recognized, and the house had the atmosphere that has pervaded it for a century and a quarter.

Daniel Corbit was twice married—to Eliza Naudain and Mary Corbit Wilson, his cousin. Of the first wife four children reached maturity; Mary C. Corbit, who married E. Tattall Warner, was the only child of the second. He was accustomed to say his wives were the best of the good gifts of a kind Providence, and all who heard agreed with him. His business life was a success throughout. When bark gave out, country tanners generally gave up the business, and he among them. He then turned his attention to the land, adding farm after farm to his estate. It was a real joy to him to take a poor, untidy farm and by clearing, draining, building, hedging and fertilizing, make it beautiful. When the farmers about the Delaware-Chesapeake Canal gave up the peach business he began it. His wide orchards bore golden fruit and

wealth flowed in upon him. This was about the time of the war for the Union, and with fullest faith he invested in government securities, and that was profitable. He was long a lender of money at legal interest, and once a week joined the always notable company of the directors of the Bank of Smyrna.

He was quick to recognize promising qualities in young men; gave advice when asked, and many now living can testify that he stimulated their self-respect and ambition. He believed in the principles of the Whig and Republican parties, and was ever alive to the political and moral issues as they came up for legislation at Dover and Washington, but accepted office only twice—a term in the Legislature and as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1852. Mr. Corbit was regarded as an ideal person for the gubernatorial office, but he could not even consider the subject, since, if elected, he would have been commander of the militia of the State. Where the Court had to appoint commissioners for some exacting work, he was very often one of them; so also of arbitrations, and his life, early and late, was rarely without the burden of trusteeships. For many years he lived near those highest in the political management of Delaware. His wife's brother, Hon. Arnold Naudain, and Hon. Presley Spruance, the husband of his sister, were at different times United States Senators.

In social intercourse he was one of the most charming of men; had humor, enjoyed a good laugh, was a reader and thinker, all of which when united with the social instinct make the entertaining companion. He lived and died in the faith of his fathers, brought action to the bar of conscience by familiarity with the Book of books and meditation, and sought the guidance of the "inward light." Few men of Delaware have ever been more respected, admired and loved. Bishop Scott spoke at Mr. Corbit's funeral. They were about the same age and natives of the same place. The Bishop said: "I thank God for Daniel Corbit," and his words found echo in every heart there present.

REAR ADMIRAL P. F. HARRINGTON.

Purnell Frederick Harrington, born in Dover, June 6, 1844, was the second son of Hon. Samuel M. Harrington, who rendered distinguished service to the State of Delaware as Associate Justice, Chief Justice and Chancellor. After a common school education obtained in his native town, the latter years of which were spent in the academy under the direction of Prof. William A. Reynolds, he entered the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis at the age of seventeen, and was graduated therefrom in September, 1863.

His active naval career has covered a period exceeding forty years, and while his assignments have been less conspicuous than those attained by Macdonough, Jones and DuPont, his record in the Navy has been both honorable and distinguished, and compares most favorably with the records made by the three illustrious men who shed luster on the State of Delaware by their brilliant achievements in naval warfare.

Soon after graduating at the Naval Academy he was attached to the sloop of war *Monongahela*, and served under Farragut in the battle of Mobile Bay, and later was with the blockading squadron on the coast of Texas. Was promoted to Master May 10, 1866, Lieutenant, February 21, 1867, and Lieutenant-Commander, March 12, 1868. From 1868 to 1870 he served as Instructor of Mathematics at the Naval Academy, and for four years was at the head of the Department of Navigation, and for two years was head of the Department of Seamanship at the same institution. Was executive officer of the flagship *Pensacola* in the south Pacific from 1871 to 1873, and of the flagship *Hartford* at the Brazil station from 1877 to 1880. Was promoted to Commander May 28, 1881, and two years Commander of the *Juniata* in the Asiatic squadron. He served three years as inspector of the Fourth Lighthouse District. After commanding the *Yorktown* in the south Pacific he acted for a year as President of the Steel Board at the Navy Department. Was promoted to Captain March 1, 1895, and during the next four years commanded the *Terror* and *Puri-*



PURNELL FREDERICK HARRINGTON.
Rear Admiral U. S. Navy.



tan. Was with the fleet that blockaded the Cuban coast and engaged in the action at Matanzas during the Spanish-American war.

From 1899 to 1902 was Captain of the Portsmouth Navy Yard, and served a year later as Captain of the New York Navy Yard. He was promoted to the high rank of Rear Admiral, March 21, 1903, and made Commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard, where he served until June 1, 1906, when he was honorably relieved from active service. He continued his residence at Norfolk during the Jamestown Exposition, being connected therewith in an official capacity, and was one of the most enthusiastic advocates and supporters of that exposition.

Admiral Harrington possesses the charm of manner of his distinguished father, and his long, faithful and meritorious service has attracted to him a wide circle of personal friends, and both by his friends and by those high in authority he is recognized as a gallant and capable naval commander.

STATE CONSTITUTIONS.

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1776.

THE year 1776 dawned upon a new era. It witnessed the transformation of English colonies into sovereign states amid the throes of the mightiest revolution of modern times. It saw the galling yoke of tyranny thrown boldly off and a free and independent people stand erect and lift their foreheads to the stars. It saw the restless awakening of the desire for a new order of things. It ushered in the day when the inadequate construction of the courts of law, so long adhered to, might be changed. It marked the beginning of the time when mere magistrates should step down from the bench and judges take their seats.

The courts were so crude in their character, so cumbersome in their procedure, and the judges as a rule so unlearned in the law, that indeed it became an imperative necessity to reconstruct, as far as possible, the whole judicial system. Accordingly, on the 15th of May, 1776, the Continental Congress, on the motion of John Adams, recommended that each of the colonies draft a form of government suitable for them as independent states.

Upon the advice of the Assembly of "the Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex upon Delaware," in accordance with this resolution, the people chose deputies to meet in convention to ordain and declare the future form of government for this State. This convention met in the town of New Castle on the 27th of August, 1776, and on the 20th of September, less than one month later, ordained the new Constitution.

The authorship of this instrument is attributed to both Thomas McKean and George Read, but the preponderance of evidence is in favor of McKean, and to him tradition has determined it belongs.

Under this Constitution "The General Assembly of Delaware" consisted of thirty members, divided into two branches, one styled "The House of Assembly," consisting of twenty-one members, seven for each county, chosen annually; the other designated as "The Council," composed of nine members, three of whom should be chosen for each county at the first election, with a vacancy occurring each year, when one should be supplied at each annual election. The name of the government was "The Delaware State."

This Constitution made but little change in the old judicial system. It brought with it scarcely any of the relief the people so sorely needed. It re-established, with some modifications, the old courts, and continued in force generally the same laws defining and regulating their jurisdiction and powers.

Perhaps the most notable change from the old régime to the new was the formation of "The Court of Appeals." It was provided that in all matters of law and equity there should be an appeal from the Supreme Court to a court of seven persons called "The Court of Appeals," consisting of the President, (as the Chief Justice of the State was styled) and six others, three of whom were appointed by the Legislative Council and three by the House of Assembly. This court had all the authority and powers belonging in the court of last resort, to the king in council under the old government.

In the order of things, this Constitution could not be a permanent one, nor was it intended so to be. It was born amid the turmoil and strife of revolution. It was the offspring of a feverish haste, amid the uncertainties of a gloomy and arduous year. It was considered only as a provisional arrangement, that might not outlast the year that gave it birth, for defeat and disaster stared the American cause grimly in the face as the year drew towards its close, and Washington went sadly into winter quarters at Morristown.

Under this Constitution, William Killen was made Chief Justice. He was a learned lawyer, and discharged his judicial

functions with great diligence and ability. Among the members of this convention who graced the Bar at that period were George Read, Nicholas Van Dyke, Richard Bassett, Jacob Moore and Thomas McKean. This Constitution remained in force for sixteen years. Peace had, in the meantime, spread her wings over the new nation, and men rose again to the necessity for a revision. Accordingly, in 1792 another Constitutional Convention was called.

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1792.

The second State Constitution was ordained on the 12th of June, 1792. This Constitution wrought many radical changes in the judicial as well as other branches of the government. The legislative power became vested in a General Assembly, consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives, the same number of members in each branch being preserved as under the old system and apportioned in the same manner between the several counties.

The executive power was vested in a Governor, no longer to be chosen by the General Assembly, but to be elected by the people for the period of three years. The Privy Council was abolished, the name of the government changed to "The State of Delaware," and the appointment of the judges given to the Governor.

The venerable Killen, finding the multitude of new controversies arising out of the late war and other sources to be a load more heavy than his declining years could properly carry, desired to resign his position as Chief Justice. The convention, acting upon his desire, and recognizing the necessity for a more vigorous occupant of the office, created the office of Chancellor, and made Mr. Killen Chancellor, and also president of the Appellate Court. In his stead George Read was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The judicial power was vested in a Court of Chancery, a Supreme Court, a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, a Court of Common Pleas, an Orphans' Court,

a Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for each county, in Justices of the Peace, and such other courts as the Legislature might establish.

The Court of Chancery was given the equity jurisdiction, which, before the creation of this court, was vested in the judges of the Court of Common Pleas. Its jurisdiction was further extended by an amendment to the Constitution made February 5, 1802, whereby it was ordained that the Chancellor should compose the Orphans' Court in each county. Thus, for the first time in Delaware, the courts of law and equity were distinctly separated. The Supreme Court was composed of not less than three nor more than four judges, one of them to be Chief Justice, and any two might be a quorum. A judge should be resident in each of the counties. The Court of Common Pleas was similarly constituted, and the jurisdiction of each of them extended throughout the State.

A court was also created called "The High Court of Errors and Appeals," which took the place of the old Court of Appeals. This court was composed of the Chancellor, the judges of the Supreme Court and the Court of Common Pleas. It was given exclusive jurisdiction of writs of error to the Supreme Court, the Court of Common Pleas, and of appeals from the Chancellor. The judicial system comprised nine State judges, of whom two were Chief Justices and one Chancellor.

While this Constitution remedied many defects, still it did not adequately supply the wants of the people. The machinery of the courts was hardly less cumbersome than formerly, and the number of the judges was out of all proportion to the area and population of the State. Therefore in 1831 the third Constitutional Convention was called. Among the members of the bar who were conspicuous in the Convention of 1792 were John Dickinson, Kensey Johns, Sr., Richard Bassett and Nicholas Ridgely.

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1831.

The third Constitution was ordained on the 2d of December, 1831. It provided that the judicial power of the State should vest in a Court of Errors and Appeals, a Superior Court, a Court of Chancery, an Orphans' Court, a Court of Oyer and Terminer, and a Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery. The number of judges who should compose these courts was reduced from nine to five. The inferior courts, such as were formerly held by the Register and by the Justices of the Peace, were also made part of the system.

The Court of Chancery was held by the Chancellor, and its jurisdiction, as heretofore, included full power to hear and determine all matters and causes in equity. The Court of Oyer and Terminer was composed of all the judges except the Chancellor, and three of them constituted a quorum. The Superior Court, which was substituted for the old Supreme Court and the Court of Common Pleas, and to which was given the consolidated jurisdiction of these two courts, was composed of the Chief Justice and two associate judges not residing in the county wherein the Court was sitting, and any two of them constituted a quorum. The Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery was composed in each county of the same judges and in the same manner as the Superior Court. Its jurisdiction and powers were identical with those of the old Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Jail Delivery. The Orphans' Court in each county was held by the Chancellor and the associate judge residing in the county, and either of them could hold the court. The Court of Errors and Appeals was composed of at least three judges—the Chancellor, who presided; the associate judge who did not sit in the court below because of his residence, and one of the judges who did sit in the cause originally. This court had jurisdiction to issue writs of error to the Superior Court and to receive appeals from the Court of Chancery, and to determine such matters finally.

An objection was strongly urged in the convention that the

construction of this court was glaringly defective, inasmuch as it was made possible for a minority to overrule a majority. For instance, if in any cause taken up on error, the judges below had been unanimous, and the judge whose turn it was to sit above, adhered to his opinion below, then in case of reversal, the question of law would have received final adjudication by the Chancellor and one Associate Judge, against the opinion of the three judges below. This objection John M. Clayton sought to obviate by constitutional provision, that upon the application of either party, with the assent of the Superior Court, power should be granted for a hearing and decision by all the five State judges in the court above.

This Constitution was in operation for more than sixty-five years. The brain that conceived it, the hand that moulded and fashioned it, and the powerful personality that caused its adoption were those of John M. Clayton.

When the convention adjourned finally, Mr. Clayton, having contemplated the possibility of another convention being called in the not far distant future, exclaimed, "I have locked the door, and thrown away the key!" And, indeed, it seemed that he had done so, for until 1897 it was impossible to find the key or to force the lock.

In 1852, however, a convention was called for the avowed purpose of remedying the evils and curing the defects of the Constitution of 1831. It provided, among other things, that the Superior Court should be composed in each county of the Chief Justice and the resident judge of the county, with power in either to hold court alone. It was also provided that if they should differ in opinion, the point should be certified to the court in banc for final decision. It further provided that upon a writ of error to the Supreme Court (the Court of Errors and Appeals) it should consist of the Chancellor and all the judges who did not sit in the court below. This instrument was submitted to the people for ratification, but was rejected. Among the distinguished men of the convention of 1831 who were lawyers were John M. Clayton, Willard Hall, James Rogers and George Read, Jr., son of George Read, the Signer.

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1897.

The fourth Constitution of the State was ordained on the tenth day of June, 1897. This Constitution provides that the judicial power of the State shall be vested in a Supreme Court, (in lieu of the old Court of Error and Appeals) a Superior Court, a Court of Chancery, an Orphans' Court, a Court of Oyer and Terminer, a Court of General Sessions, a Register's Court and Justices of the Peace.

By this instrument the number of the judges was increased from five to six, one of them to be Chancellor, one of them Chief Justice, and the other four Associate Judges. The Chancellor, Chief Justice and one of the Associate Judges are to be appointed from and reside in any part of the State, the other three Associate Judges to be appointed from any part of the State, but one of them to reside in New Castle County, one in Kent County and one in Sussex County.

The Constitution provides that the judges shall be appointed by the Governor, for the term of twelve years, instead of for life, or during good behavior, as was the case under the old Constitution, and that such appointments shall be confirmed by the Senate. It further provides that said appointments shall be such that no more than three of the five law judges, in office at the same time, shall have been appointed from the same political party.

The Supreme Court, upon a writ of error, is composed of the Chancellor and such of the other five judges as did not sit in the cause below. It is the duty of the Chancellor to preside when present, and any three of them constitutes a quorum. Upon an appeal from the Court of Chancery, this Court is composed of the Chief Justice and the four Associate Judges, the Chief Justice to preside when present.

The Superior Court, the Court of Oyer and Terminer and the Court of General Sessions are each composed of the Chief Justice and the four Associate Judges. It is provided that the five judges shall designate those of their number who shall hold the said courts in the several counties, but no more

than three of them shall sit together in any of these courts. Under the old Constitution a judge could not sit in these courts in the county in which he was a resident. This restriction the present Constitution removed. The Orphans' Court in each county is held, as formerly, by the Chancellor and the Associate Judge residing in the county, or by either of them. The Court of Chancery is held by the Chancellor, and the jurisdiction includes full power to hear and determine all matters and causes in equity.

Indeed, the jurisdiction of each of these courts is the same as was vested in them by the laws of the State under the Constitution of 1831, and is co-extensive with the State. The Constitution did not change their character, nor materially affect the mode of procedure in any of them. The object of the convention was solely to amend and revise the former Constitution, and adjust it to present needs and requirements. The convention finished its work on the fourth of June, and provided in its schedule that the Constitution should take effect on the tenth of that month.

The lawyers who were members of this convention were William C. Spruance, who became one of the first Associate Judges under the Constitution, Edward G. Bradford, who was appointed United States District Judge, soon after the convention adjourned, John Biggs, the president, Martin B. Burris, Charles F. Richards, Charles B. Evans, Robert G. Harman, Edward D. Hearne, Woodburn Martin and William T. Smithers.

The following have been members of the Delaware Judiciary under the State Government :

Chief Justice of Delaware under the Constitution of 1776.

	Appointed.	
William Killen	June	6, 1777

Chief Justices of the Supreme Court under the Constitution of 1792.

George Read	September 30,	1793
Kensey Johns, Sr.	January	3, 1799
Samuel M. Harrington	October	16, 1830

Chief Justices of the Court of Common Pleas under the Constitution of 1792.

Richard Bassett	September 6, 1793
James Booth, Sr.	January 28, 1799
Thomas Clayton	February 8, 1828

Chief Justices of Delaware under the Constitution of 1831.

Thomas Clayton	January 18, 1832
John M. Clayton	January 16, 1837
Richard H. Bayard	September 19, 1839
James Booth, Jr.	March 12, 1841
Samuel M. Harrington	April 3, 1855
Edward W. Gilpin	May 6, 1857
Joseph P. Comegys	May 18, 1876
Alfred P. Robinson	January 26, 1893
Charles B. Lore	March 21, 1893

Chief Justice of Delaware under the Constitution of 1897.

Charles B. Lore	June 12, 1897
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Associate Judges of Delaware under the Constitution of 1831.

James R. Black	January 18, 1832
Samuel M. Harrington	January 18, 1832
Peter Robinson	January 18, 1832
Caleb S. Layton	June 3, 1836
John J. Milligan	September 19, 1839
David Hazzard	December 10, 1844
Edward Wootten	September 6, 1847
John W. Houston	May 4, 1855
Leonard E. Wales	September 2, 1864
William G. Whiteley	March 31, 1884
Ignatius C. Grubb	May 25, 1886
John H. Paynter	March 25, 1887
Charles M. Cullen	August 28, 1890
David T. Marvel	February 1, 1893

Associate Judges of Delaware under the Constitution of 1897.

William C. Spruance	June 11, 1897
Ignatius C. Grubb	June 12, 1897
James Pennewill	June 14, 1897
William H. Boyce	June 17, 1897

Chancellors of Delaware under the Constitution of 1792.

William Killen	October 6, 1793
Nicholas Ridgely	December 6, 1801
Kensey Johns, Sr.	June 21, 1830

Chancellors of Delaware under the Constitution of 1831.

Kensey Johns, Jr.	January	18, 1832
Samuel M. Harrington	May	4, 1857
Daniel M. Bates	December	12, 1865
Willard Saulsbury	November	14, 1873
James L. Wolcott	May	5, 1892
John R. Nicholson	September	5, 1895

Chancellor of Delaware under the Constitution of 1897.

John R. Nicholson	June	10, 1897
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Law Reporters.

Samuel M. Harrington	1832-1855
John W. Houston	1855-1893
David T. Marvel	1893-1897
James Pennewill	1897-

Chancery Reporters.

Daniel M. Bates	1814-1873
Willard Saulsbury	1873-1892
James L. Wolcott	1892-1895
John R. Nicholson	1895-

THE JUDICIARY OF DELAWARE.

SKETCHES OF CHANCELLORS.

WILLIAM KILLEN.

William Killen, the first Chief Justice, and also the first Chancellor of the State of Delaware, was born in North Ireland in 1722 of Scotch Presbyterian parentage, and when a lad of fifteen came to the United States and soon became an inmate, possibly in the capacity of tutor to a junior son, of the family of Samuel Dickinson, father of the late John Dickinson whose fine estate in Kent County, near the Delaware, yet bears the family name. In a few years he became Deputy Surveyor of Kent County under the proprietary government, an office of responsibility which only a man of more than ordinary education could fill. His family Bible contains an entry by himself of his marriage, April 10, 1753, to Rebecca Allee, who died September 23, 1773, leaving two sons and three daughters, one of whom became the wife of the Hon. Willard Hall, United States Judge for the District of Delaware, and another, of the Hon. Jacob Stout, an Associate Justice and Governor of Delaware. Mr. Killen was admitted to the bar in Kent County and practiced there many years. He possessed a sound legal mind, richly stored and highly trained from reading and reflection. Under the State Constitution of 1776 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and held that office until he became Chancellor under the Constitution of 1792. Throughout the Revolution he was a staunch Whig, and a member of the Committee of Safety for Kent County. He afterwards became a Democrat and an earnest supporter of the principles of his party.

Upon the separation of Equity jurisdiction from the Law

Courts under the Constitution of 1792, the Hon. George Read was proposed for the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by the Whigs then in power, but honorably refused to accept the office unless Judge Killen was promoted to the Chancellorship of the new judiciary. Despite the pressure brought to bear upon him by the friends of certain aspirants for that position, Mr. Read insisted that inasmuch as Judge Killen had accepted the perilous trust of Chief Justice, and bravely discharged its duties at a time when failure of the colonial cause meant death to insurgent office-holders, he should not now be displaced. Judge Killen thereupon became the first Chancellor of the novel and untried Court of Chancery, to which, however, the business of the Orphans' Court was not added until 1802 by an amendment of the Constitution of 1792 through the influence of Chancellor Ridgely. Few cases arose for his adjudication and of his opinions either as Chief Justice, or as Chancellor, no notes remain. He resigned the office in December, 1801, with the understanding that Nicholas Ridgely, then Attorney-General, should be his successor.

Governor David Hall had been elected by the Democratic party, and was to come into office in January. To those who censured the Chancellor for not deferring his resignation until an appointment by Governor Hall would have been possible, his reply was that though himself a Democrat he deemed it his duty to restore the office to the party from which he had received it. The last years of the Chancellor's life were spent in seclusion largely occupied with his favorite mathematical studies. He possessed a memory of unusual retentiveness that even in old age preserved to an extraordinary degree the rich treasures of earlier years. He was a devout and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. He died October 5, 1803, and his remains were buried in the Presbyterian churchyard in Dover.

NICHOLAS RIDGELY.

Nicholas Ridgely, the son of Charles G. Ridgely, a prominent physician, was born at Dover September 30, 1762. After finishing a thorough scholastic course, he read law, completing his legal studies under Robert Goldsborough, Esq., of Cambridge, Maryland. The labor of acquiring a knowledge of the law was in his day an arduous one, the unsifted body of the *res adjudicata*, a *males indigesta*, was truly formidable compared with the pleasing task to which the science has since been reduced by the genius of a Blackstone and a Kent. Still, so quickly and so totally did young Ridgely surmount these difficulties that even as a youth we find him winning distinction among so brilliant a galaxy of Delaware lawyers as James A. Bayard, Cæsar A. Rodney, Nicholas Van Dyke and others. In 1791 he was appointed Attorney-General of the State, whose duties for a decade he discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. He was elected the same year a delegate from Kent County to the convention that formed the Constitution of 1792. The task confronting that body of forming the first complete fundamental instrument in their new experiment of popular self-government, undertaken by men largely bred under the aristocratic institutions and traditions of England, was no common one, and that they performed their task wisely and well, is attested by the fact that this Constitution endured upwards of forty years, the peer of any of the like thirteen colonial charters, giving to its citizens ample protection of life, liberty and property. And although Mr. Ridgely was probably the youngest member of the convention, he at once assumed a standing of pre-eminent usefulness in all of its deliberations. He was also chosen a Representative from Kent County in the first General Assembly called together in 1793 under the new Constitution. Legal talents and erudition of a high and varied character were demanded in that Assembly to adapt the system of law then in vogue to suit the principles and needs of the newly established government, requiring at once an acquaintance

with the old law, its methods and defects, and the skill to adjust it to meet the requirements of the new, and the whole convention looked to the legal learning and training of the brilliant young advocate to solve this difficult problem. An inspection of the proceedings of that Legislature will abundantly show this. Indeed most of the laws of a general and public nature passed at that session were framed and drawn by him, and were generally adopted without amendment. He afterwards frequently served his State with like ability and fidelity as a member of the Legislature.

In 1801 upon the resignation of William Killen as Chancellor, Mr. Ridgely was appointed his successor, and to his everlasting fame be it recorded that the immense power lodged in his single hand, over the liberty and property of a great portion of the citizens of the State, in his dual capacity of Chancellor and ex-officio Judge of the Orphans' Court, was exercised by him always for the furtherance of the ends of justice, and for the protection of the oppressed and the innocent. As Judge and Chancellor he was held in the highest esteem by every member of the Bar practicing in his courts, and although the correctness of his opinions was sometimes questioned, his motives were never impugned nor the entire honesty of his intentions doubted. He heard the arguments of all with equal patience and urbanity, whether the leaders at the Bar or unskilled beginners, and made his decisions only after an exhaustive consideration of all the authorities pertinent to the case cited by counsel, and sometimes added others of his own.

His incumbency at a time when the new Chancery practice was in its formative state, was signally fortunate for both the Bar and the laity, for like another Hardwicke or Eldon, with no precedents to guide him, he moulded the principles and practice of equity into a consistent and harmonious system under the Constitution and laws of the State. He was a just judge and an upright man, and alike in public and private station lived a life of singular purity and probity. His death

occurred April 1, 1830, shortly after hearing an appeal in the Orphans' Court till eight o'clock in the evening.

As illustrating the profound esteem in which he was held by all classes in the county and State, it is said that the largest concourse of people ever known upon a similar occasion, followed his remains to their last resting place in the Dover Episcopal burying ground. Unfortunately for the profession and the public his own notes on all the cases argued before him, and his opinions on important cases, written out and designed for publication, have never been so published. In person, he was about the ordinary size, with a strong and clear voice and a countenance so remarkable as to defy description, but one which the beholder never forgot. His was also an exceptionally good memory, while his general learning and especially his intimate acquaintance with English history, made him the superior of any other man of his time in the State. A plain marble slab, simply inscribed with his name and age, and the fact that he died while in the discharge of his official duties, marks the spot where repose the ashes of one of the most illustrious of Delaware's jurists.

KENSEY JOHNS, SR.

Kensey Johns, Sr., was born in 1759 on West river, Maryland, and began the study of law with the Hon. Samuel Chase, afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States; but removing to Delaware, he completed his studies in the office of George Read, a distinguished lawyer and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Johns married the daughter of Governor Van Dyke, and soon won by his talents a lucrative practice and accumulated a handsome estate. He was honored by being chosen delegate from New Castle County to the Constitutional Convention of 1792, and formed, with Nicholas Ridgely and Richard Bassett, two more of Delaware's foremost jurists, the distinguished triumvirate of legal minds to whose joint labors that Constitution was mainly due. In 1794 he was again honored by being appointed by Governor

Joshua Clayton to fill a vacancy in the United States Senate occasioned by the resignation of George Read, but owing to a doubt as to the legality of the appointment, after the intervention of a Legislature, he never took his seat.

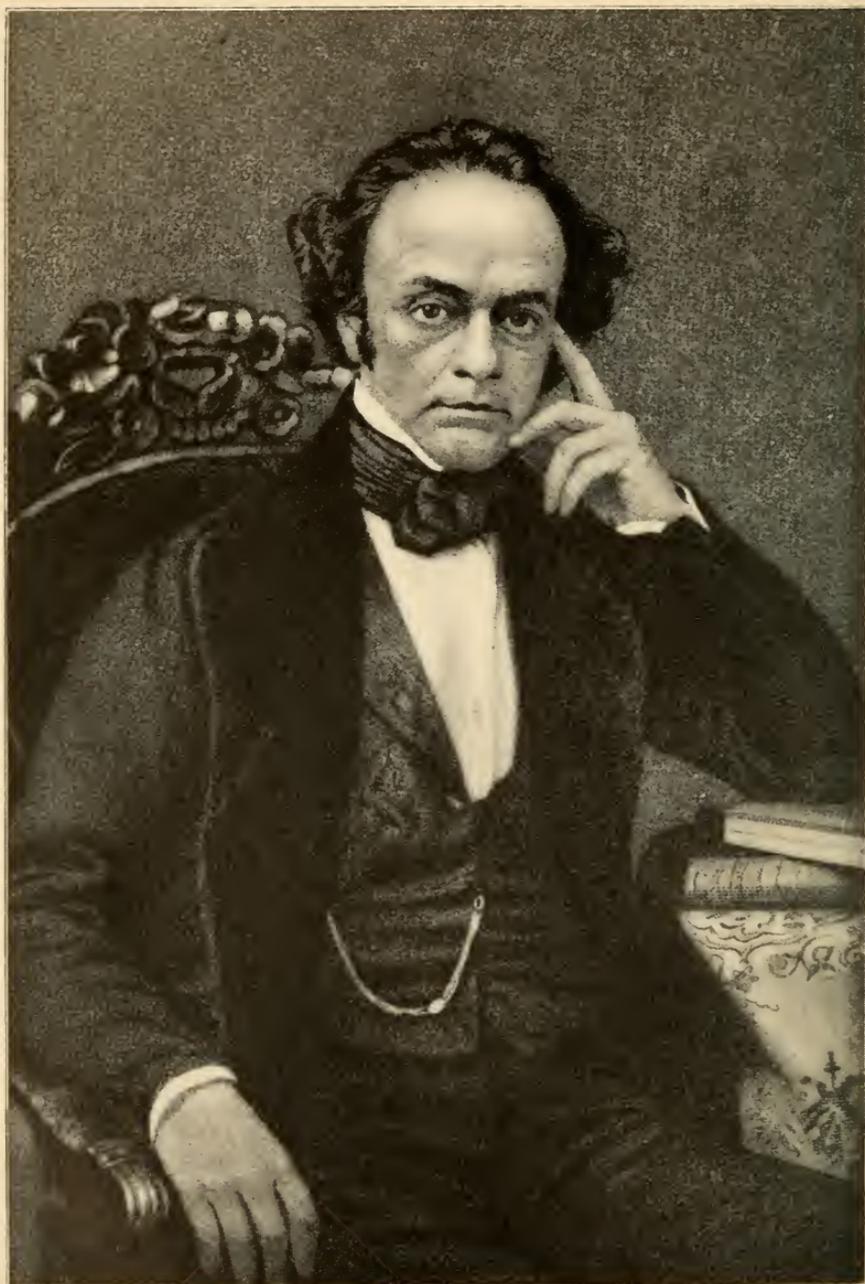
He abandoned his large practice to become an associate with George Read, newly-appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court under the Constitution of 1792, and upon the death of Chief Justice Read, in 1798, succeeded him. He performed the duties of this responsible position, for which by learning and experience he was especially fitted, for more than thirty years. His discriminating legal mind was able to grasp and correctly apply to the changed system of government and to the altered institutions the many new questions which arose; and, moreover, from his familiarity with the late Chief Justice Read, as his disciple and associate, he was thoroughly acquainted with the State's judicial history and the unwritten decisions upon points of law which had arisen before and after the Constitution of 1776, in whose framing Mr. Read was a prominent member. In the language of the Hon. George B. Rodney he was "thus enabled to establish and engraft upon our system the principles of construction which had received the approbation of the grave and venerable men who had sat in our courts from the period of the Revolution down to his own time." In April, 1830, upon the death of Chancellor Ridgely, Governor David Hazzard appointed Chief Justice Johns as his successor. By reason of his ripe legal learning and his long experience as president of the Court of Errors and Appeals in Chancery cases, he possessed great advantages for the office, which he exercised with entire acceptability to the public and the profession for two years, when, because of his advanced age, he voluntarily withdrew to private life. He was a polished gentleman of the old school, markedly kind and indulgent to the younger members of the bar and courteous to the older, an upright judge and a good citizen in all the relations of life. He died while yet in the full possession of his mental powers, at the advanced age of ninety years.

KENSEY JOHNS, JR.

Kensey Johns, Jr., was born in New Castle in 1791, and graduated at Princeton College in 1810. After studying law with his uncle, Nicholas Van Dyke, then one of the leaders at the bar, and at the Litchfield, Conn., Law School, he was admitted to the bar in 1813, where he soon gained a high standing. His legal training had been excellent and his natural faculties were of a high order, and his custom of referring every case to some well-settled principle of law rather than seeking to support it upon mere case authority proved very useful to him both as lawyer and as judge. On account of his high character as a man and as a lawyer he was chosen to fill the unexpired term of the Hon. Louis McLane, who was made United States Senator, and was thereafter twice elected Representative in Congress, earning in both stations for himself and the State the respect and esteem of his associates. After retiring from Congress he resumed his practice, but upon the resignation of his venerable father from the Chancellorship, the Governor, at the suggestion of the bar and of the citizens generally, conferred that honor upon the son, no less well fitted than the father to discharge its weighty duties. Chancellor Johns possessed a judicial mind and temperament, and while painstaking and laborious to a degree in his careful examination of questions and authorities in cases submitted for his determination, he was also notably prompt in making his decisions, seldom permitting the term to pass without such action. He not only laboriously, but conscientiously, sought correctly to adjudge every case thus submitted, but also to draw therefrom well-defined principles and rules of equity for the future guidance of the bench and bar.

Though not inerrant as a judge, his decisions were generally well taken, and in the great majority of cases affirmed, on appeal, by the Court of Errors and Appeals, a circumstance which, aside from the learned research which stamps his opinions, proves his judicial ability. He filled the several offices of Chancellor and Presiding Judge of the Orphans'





SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON.

1803-1865.

Court, and of the Court of Errors and Appeals, for over twenty-five years, rarely missing an engagement from any cause whatever, and like Chancellor Ridgely, died in harness, expiring suddenly at the close of a term in Sussex in March, 1857. Alike as citizen and judge, he was moral and upright, from his youth a consistent Christian, a member of the Presbyterian church in New Castle. The unexpected close of his useful life was a cause of great grief to his friends and to the public.

SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON.

Samuel Maxwell Harrington was born in Dover, February 5, 1803, on his father's side of English, and on his mother's, of German ancestry. He finished his academic studies at Washington College, Maryland, graduating in 1823 with the first honors of his class. The death of his father threw upon him during his minority the support of his mother and two sisters. His first public service was in the office of the Prothonotary of the Superior Court of Kent County. He next became a law student in the offices of Henry M. Ridgely and Martin W. Bates, and was admitted an attorney at the October Term, 1826. In 1828, by appointment of Gov. Charles Polk, he succeeded John M. Clayton as Secretary of State, and was reappointed by Gov. David Hazzard. Upon the occurrence, in 1830, of a vacancy in the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, young Harrington, though but twenty-seven years old and three years at the Bar, was paid the very unusual honor of an elevation to the Chief Justiceship of the Supreme Court, and in 1831, after the abolition of that tribunal, he was appointed to the equally important office of Associate Justice in the newly-created Superior Court. In 1855 he was made Chief Justice of this court, and held that honorable station for two years, when he was tendered the highest official honor in the State, the Chancellorship, whose responsible functions he exercised with signal ability till his death, November 28, 1865.

From 1832 to 1855 he was the official reporter of the State courts of Delaware, and in 1849, together with Daniel M. Bates and Joseph P. Comegys, was chosen by the Legislature to revise the whole body of the public statute law then in force, with the large discretion of omitting or varying whatever provisions they thought best to reduce the statute law to a more consistent and useful instrument. This delicate and responsible trust was so admirably performed by the Commissioners that the results of their labors, the Revised Code, was unanimously adopted by both House and Legislature, February 27, 1852. The year following this noteworthy achievement, Delaware College conferred upon the Chancellor the honorary degree LL.D.

Only the possession of precocious and unusual talents could have made possible such an extraordinary career as that of Chancellor Harrington, a career whose triumphs were won upon native merit without help of social or political influence to any marked extent. And that he filled those high positions with exceptional ability, discharging the duties of each with more than customary success, silenced all criticism and fully vindicated the wisdom of his selection. The recital of his legal labors as reporter, justice, Chief Justice and Chancellor, would be to summarize the judicial history of the State for over a third of its existence. His was the hand that largely compiled its written law, and his the brain that wisely interpreted its provisions, and in these manifold legal labors of his busy lifetime, it may be truly said, in the language of Horace, he has builded for himself "Monumentum aere perennius."

Nature made in him almost an ideal judge, kind, courteous, patient, ever modestly willing "alteram partem audire," and adding to his native gift of a keen, logical intellect, the even greater qualification of a toiling, tireless industry. His integrity was like Cæsar's wife clear above suspicion, and his candid judicial temper is disclosed in his noble utterance in *Rice vs. Foster*, 4 Harr. 499, that he would *much rather be right than consistent*. Never was judge more conscientiously

scrupulous of performing every atom of his official function ; and for this cause he spared no research nor drudgery even, whether the matter at Bar were some minutiae of Orphans' Court business, or some *cause celebre* of the Court of Errors and Appeals. Thus was his whole useful, laborious life passed, and not even so lamentable and dire a visitation as a stroke of paralysis could quite force his strong will to desist from useful toil. But the sphere of his usefulness was not bounded by the court room. As a citizen and patriot he was ever active in promoting any enterprise or cause beneficial to the public, as, for example, the building of the Delaware railroad, largely due to his efforts. "This work alone," says N. B. Smithers, "ought to endear his memory to this people, and endure as a monument of his wisdom and perseverance in securing this instrument of their prosperity."

In those perilous days when the Nation's very life was in question Judge Harrington was a warm supporter of the national government, ever in the front rank of those patriotic spirits that held Delaware true to the Union when its loyalty was trembling in the balance. He was a devout, humble Christian, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This sketch of Delaware's most illustrious jurist may properly close with the eulogium of an eloquent contemporary who knew him well, the Hon. Nathaniel B. Smithers, "a useful citizen, a true patriot, an upright judge and a sincere Christian ; those among whom he was born, with whom he dwelt, and for whom he wrought, are not insensible to his merits, nor will they be forgetful of his labors."

DANIEL M. BATES.

Daniel Moore Bates was born in Laurel, Delaware, January 28, 1821. His father, the Rev. Jacob Moore, died when the son was eight years old, his mother having previously died in his infancy, and the orphan lad was thereupon adopted as a son into the family of the Hon. Martin W. Bates, of Dover, and matured and trained with all the solicitude and affection

of a parent. And this generous benefactor lived to see his foster son win high success and distinction as lawyer and judge, and to receive at his hands grateful returns for the kindness he had bestowed. After his graduation from Dickinson College in 1839, young Bates began the study of law under the direction of his adopted father (who was at that time a leading lawyer in active practice in Kent County), and was duly admitted to the Bar in 1842 at the fall term, at which time he argued successfully as junior counsel, his first demurrer in the notable case of *Pritchett vs. Clark*, 3 Harr., 517, an auspicious augury of his coming career. From 1847 to 1851 he was Secretary of State. In 1849 the Legislature evidenced the high estimation in which his character and talents were held, by constituting him one of the three commissioners appointed to revise the State statutes, with added powers truly legislative in their scope! The outcome of the labors of this commission was the revised code of 1852, enacted in its entirety by the Legislature. Surely no small honor to be shown a young attorney only twenty-eight years of age!

While engaged in this work he removed with his family to Wilmington, where his services as a lawyer were in even yet greater demand. In 1855 he was appointed United States District Attorney for the district of Delaware, and in June of that year went to Europe for the benefit of his health, which was never robust, and returned in four months much improved, to resume for ten years longer an arduous professional life.

The office of Chancellor becoming vacant by the death of the Hon. Samuel M. Harrington, it was tendered to Mr. Bates, and to the satisfaction of his legal brethren and the public by him accepted, December 11, 1865. For eight years he devoted himself with great industry and zeal to the laborious task of hearing and determining in court and at chambers the large volume of legal business brought before him, among which were many interesting and important cases, in some of which the Chancellor's opinions, from their completeness, have been likened to treatises on the law.



Engr. by G. Bather & Son, Bklyn. N.Y.

Willard Saulsbury

He was ever wont to hear counsel patiently, courteously, and thoroughly and dispassionately to examine the facts and the law, and then as impartially and justly to give judgment and decree thereon. It is said that but few of his decisions were ever reversed on appeal. This severe judicial toil was too onerous for his delicate constitution, and he was forced to resign and spend two years in European travel. Greatly benefited by his long rest, he resumed the practice of the law, and among other literary work collected and published, in two volumes, the Delaware Chancery Reports, comprising the selected opinions of his predecessors from 1814 down to his own time.

Chancellor Bates had a strong, active mind, thoroughly cultivated and trained by assiduous study and enlarged and enriched by experience and observation. Equally in private life and public station almost idyllic, his character was as stainless as it was gentle. Both at the time of Mr. Bates' retirement, in October, 1874, and of his death, March 28, 1879, the bar associations of New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties met and formally passed appropriate resolutions of regret and sympathy, and upon these occasions the entire judiciary of the State, including the Judge of the United States Court, together with the foremost practitioners throughout the State, vied with each other in pronouncing eloquent yet deserved panegyrics upon the virtues, as man and judge, of the late Chancellor. It is a striking indication of the exalted esteem in which he was held that the record of these various bar meetings fill thirty-one pages of fine type in the Appendix to Volume IV. of the Delaware Chancery Report. Truly he was no common man, no ordinary judge.

WILLARD SAULSBURY.

Willard Saulsbury was born in Kent County, Delaware, June 27, 1820, coming of a Welsh family that settled in Dorchester County, Maryland, near the Delaware line, in the seventeenth century. He was in fact well derived ancestrally,

and as is commonly the case with distinguished statesmen and orators, was fortunate in having a mother possessed of unusual mental powers, which gifts were clearly transmitted to her three sons, Dr. Gove Saulsbury, Governor of Delaware, and Eli and Willard Saulsbury, the last two attaining national distinction in the United States Senate. Willard Saulsbury completed his collegiate studies at Delaware and Dickinson Colleges, and began the study of law in the office of Hon. James L. Bartol, Chief Justice of Maryland, but finished those studies under the guidance of Hon. Martin W. Bates, afterwards United States Senator, whereupon he was admitted to the bar at Dover in 1845. Like George Washington, foregoing his sailor life to please his mother, so young Saulsbury, in deference to the wishes of his mother, abandoned his purpose of going west, to find, like the Father of his Country, a distinguished career at home. While a hard student of books he was also a close observer of men, and his habit of mingling with the people proved a useful school, in which he got that knowledge of character which in after years served him so well as orator, advocate and politician.

At once, after admission, Mr. Saulsbury began the practice of his profession in Georgetown, where his genial manners, his conceded knowledge of the law, together with his unsurpassed eloquence, brought him many clients and quickly placed him at the head of the bar, so that until after his entry upon public life as United States Senator hardly a case of importance was tried in Sussex County in which he was not of counsel. In 1850, in his twenty-ninth year, he was appointed Attorney-General by Governor Tharp, and in his able conduct of that office—and during his incumbency some very weighty issues were tried—he fulfilled the high expectations raised by his previous career, winning by his ability, integrity and attention to his official duties the respect of opponents not less than of his friends. Before juries his success was phenomenal. Capital felonies always excited a lively interest in Kent and Sussex Counties, and of these cases none in Sussex and but few in

Kent were tried when he was in active practice, or not filling the office of Attorney-General, wherein he did not represent the accused, and it is said that in but one case did he fail to secure an acquittal, and even in that the Chief Justice held with him for acquittal.

Hon. Nathaniel B. Smithers draws a beautiful and eloquent portraiture of him. "His was a splendid personality; a man six feet in height, perfectly proportioned; hair of raven blackness; eyes tender and impassioned, or stern and flashing; laughing with infecting pleasure, or veiled in tears as the theme of his eloquence demanded; and within him, as kind and true a heart as ever beat, forbidding him to wrong the humblest of God's creatures."

He represented his native State in the National Senate from 1859 to 1871, and there maintained the great reputation for learning, eloquence and statesmanship that he had acquired at home. And during the stormy period of the Civil War, and that of the Reconstruction Acts, although his party was a hopeless minority, he fearlessly opposed many of the popular measures of the time, never failing, even under threats of personal violence, to combat with equal resolution and ability the radical legislation he deemed subversive of the Constitution, some of which legislation, now that the heat of the fierce struggle is past, even his most bitter opponents and critics concede to have been woefully mistaken. Though a staunch supporter of the Union, his views as to the wisdom and legality of the methods employed were in opposition to those of the party then in power.

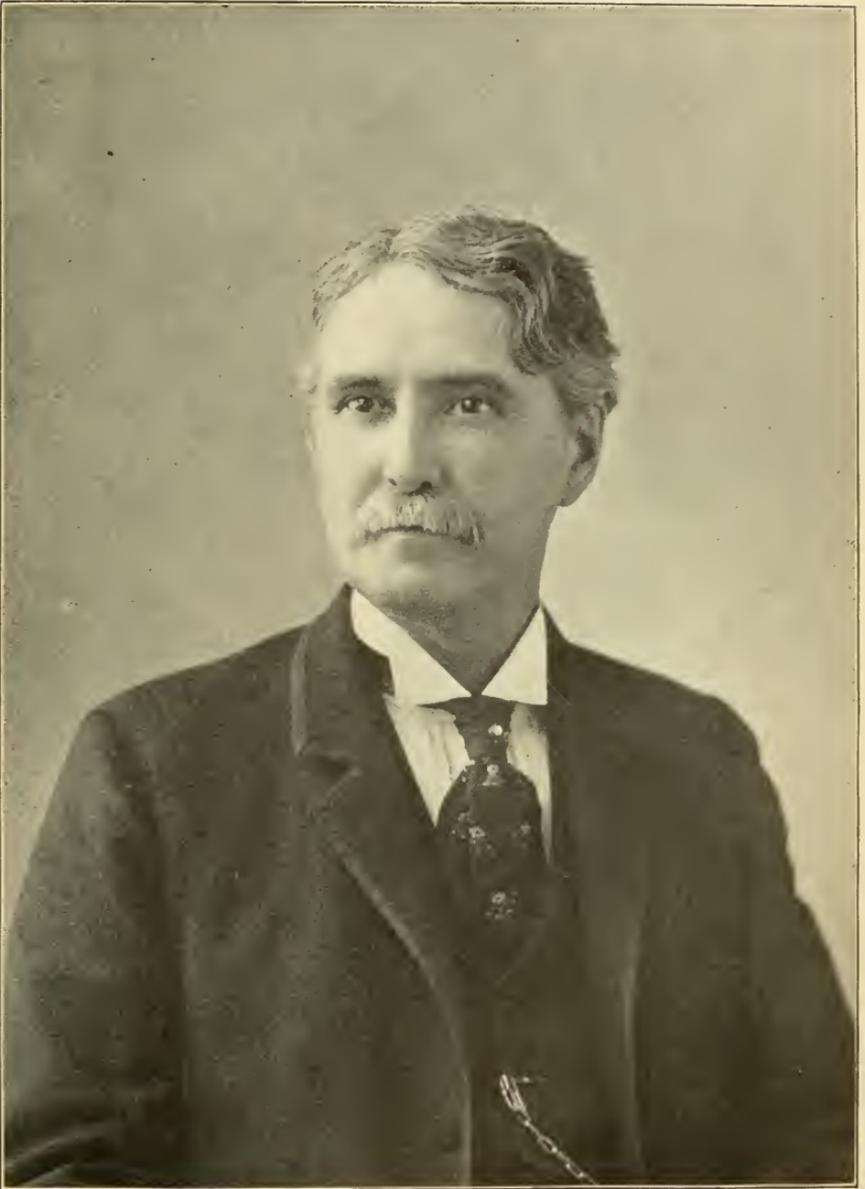
An advocate more courageous, more eloquent and more conscientious, never plead the cause of individual or State than Willard Saulsbury. He was very popular the State over, but in old Sussex, the spot that gave him birth and the scene of his earliest triumphs at the Bar or in the more popular hustings, he was fairly idolized. Delaware was always proud of her distinguished son, but his own Sussex loved as well as admired the man who in every field of private and public life

earned respect and renown for his State. In 1871 after a brief resumption of his private practice, wherein he won one of the most important cases in his whole career as a lawyer, he was called to the Chancellorship, where for eighteen years he brought all the ripened learning, skill and experience of his eventful life, together with an intellect vigorous beyond the common measure, to bear upon the large volume of public business demanding his judicial attention, and ever with impartial hand struck the balance of the cause. His death occurred at Dover on April 6, 1892, in his seventy-first year and the expressions of regret at his death plainly evidenced the high regard in which he was held as advocate, statesman and jurist.

JAMES L. WOLCOTT.

James L. Wolcott was born near Harrington, Delaware, February 4, 1842. After teaching awhile in the public schools in which he himself had been educated, he read law for three years in the office of Hon. Eli Saulsbury, and was admitted to the bar of the State, April 23, 1866. His interest in politics was such that he soon acquired a prominence in that sphere, not less than as a lawyer. The State Senate chose him clerk in 1871, and in the same year he was made counsel for the Levy Court of Kent County, which last position he held until 1879, when Governor John W. Hall appointed him Secretary of State.

On May 3, 1893, Governor Robert J. Reynolds appointed him successor to Chancellor Willard Saulsbury, deceased, but in November, 1895, he resigned that office to resume his private practice, in particular his duties as counsel for the Delaware Railroad. Chancellor Wolcott ranked high as a lawyer and won an enviable place at the Kent County bar in competition with older men whose abilities were of the highest order. A man of most pleasing manners and personality he attracted a large circle of admiring friends. As Chancellor he maintained the high standard made by his illustrious prede-



JAMES L. WOLCOTT.

1840-1898.



cessors, and his brief administration of the office was highly satisfactory to the members of the bar. There was a general expression of regret at his retirement from the bench, but the duties of the judicial station proved irksome and distasteful to him, and it was with a feeling of relief that he relinquished the Chancellorship and resumed the practice of the law.

As the head of what is known as the Wolcott faction of the Democratic party, the rival of the Saulsbury faction, he became a conspicuous figure in Delaware politics, and in 1888 was put forward as an avowed candidate for senatorial honors in opposition to Hon. Eli Saulsbury, whose term in the United States Senate was about expiring. Mr. Wolcott won at the primaries after an exciting contest, and went to the Kent County Democratic Convention with a majority of the delegates, where, by invoking the customary Democratic usage, known as the "unit rule," an entire Wolcott legislative ticket was nominated, whereupon an open revolt occurred in the party, consequent upon which the Republicans elected their legislative tickets in Kent and Sussex Counties, which gave them a majority upon joint ballot in the Legislature, and they elected the Hon. Anthony Higgins the first Republican United States Senator from Delaware.

Mr. Wolcott's last appearance in public was as counsel for the Democratic members of the Kent County Board of Canvass in certain legal proceedings growing out of the general election of 1897. He had been ailing for over a year, but his death came as a great surprise, causing a wide-spread regret. The Legislature was in session at the time of Mr. Wolcott's death, March 31, 1898, and resolutions of regret and condolence were passed by both Houses, and eulogies upon the character and services of the departed Chancellor spoken by various Senators and members. As a further token of respect the Legislature adjourned until Monday morning. The funeral held Saturday, April 2nd, was an exceedingly large one, and was attended by all persons of prominence in the State. The Chancellor married a daughter of Alexander Godwin, who,

with three sons, James L., Josiah O. and Alexis G., yet survive him. The two oldest sons are now practising attorneys in the State.

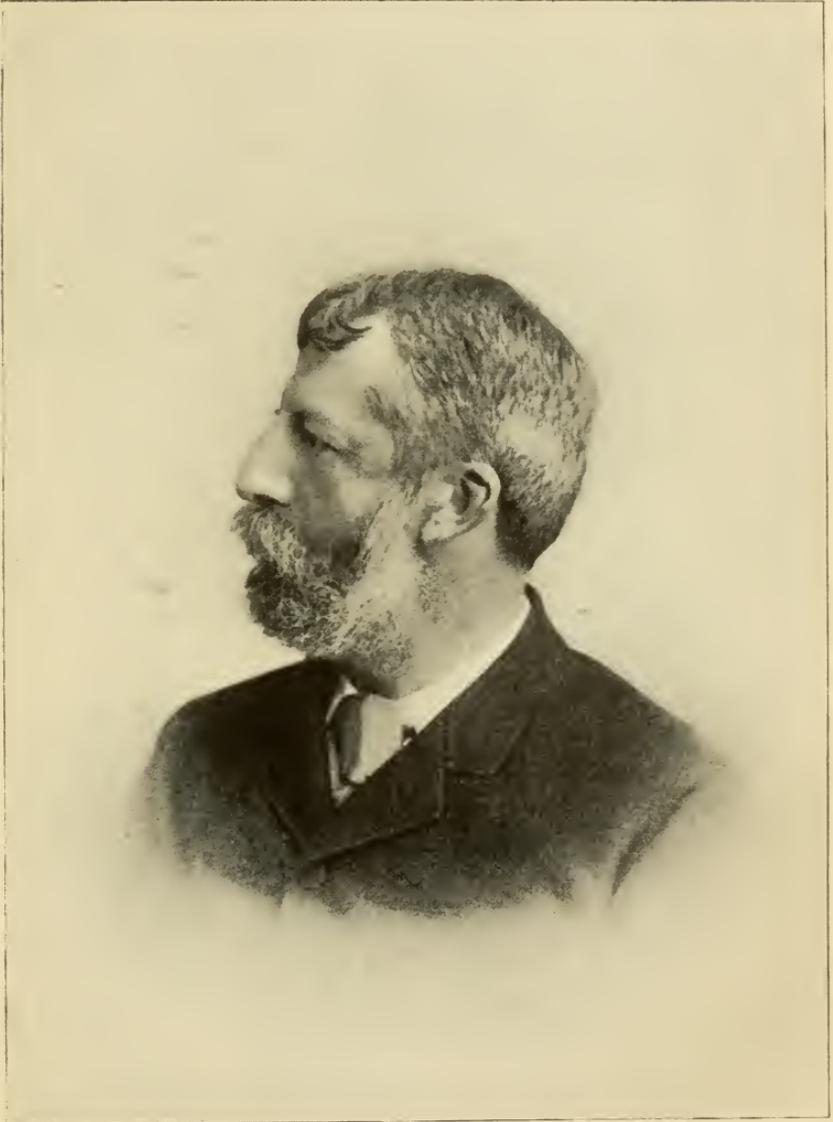
JOHN R. NICHOLSON.

John R. Nicholson, the son of the Hon. John A. and Angelica Killen Reed Nicholson, was born in Dover, May 19, 1849. After a course of study in the schools of Dover and Washington, he entered Yale College in 1866 and graduated four years thereafter. In 1867 he made a trip across the plains and over the Rocky Mountains through to the Pacific slope, as a member of a geological expedition under the charge of Prof. O. C. Marsh of Yale College, the eminent paleontologist.

After having been four years a law student under Chancellor Daniel M. Bates, he left Dover in 1871, and entered the Columbia College Law School, and graduating with diploma therefrom in 1873, was duly admitted to the Bar of New York City, where he was engaged in practice until the autumn of 1876 when he returned to Dover and opened a law office. He was soon made attorney for the town, and began to give much attention to constitutional and corporation law.

In 1885, when absent and without his knowledge he was elected attorney for the Levy Court of Kent County, he quickly made for himself a reputation in this capacity, in a noteworthy case, which settled for the first time in the State the question whether a county or its representatives, the Levy Court, could be sued for damages.

He continued to act as County Attorney with marked success until 1892, when Governor Robert J. Reynolds appointed him Attorney-General, in which larger and more responsible field of duty he won new laurels by his skill and fidelity in the discharge of the functions of that important office. He resigned this position in November, 1895, to accept the highest judicial office in the State, the Chancellorship, by appointment thereto of Governor William T. Watson, the tenure being for "life or good behavior," but on June 10, 1897, the new



JOHN R. NICHOLSON.



Constitution going into effect, the terms of all judicial officers ended. On the same day, however, Mr. Nicholson received anew from Governor Ebe W. Tunnell, his commission as Chancellor for the legal term of twelve years. During his service in this distinguished station he has fully sustained and augmented the fine reputation hitherto won in his professional career and has in every respect maintained the lofty standards of judicial wisdom and impartiality, which have ever characterized that office. His opinions are models of clear and simple expressions of sound principles of the law.

In June, 1884, Mr. Nicholson married Miss Isabella Hayes Hager, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, a granddaughter of the late Judge Hayes, of that city, and a great-grandniece of George Ross and George Read, of Delaware Revolutionary fame, and further, a great-great-granddaughter of General William Thompson, a Pennsylvania Revolutionary veteran descended from the Duke of Hamilton.

Chancellor Nicholson has always been a Democrat, like his forbears, including his great-great-grandfather, Chancellor Killen, who was a political associate and warm personal friend of Thomas Jefferson at a time when Delaware was overwhelmingly Federalist.

Chancellor Nicholson has been a lifelong devotee of the muses, a lover of knowledge for its own sake. Aside from his professional studies he has been greatly interested in questions of political economy, finance and statesmanship. Nor has he failed to mingle with his severer studies a taste for belles-lettres proper, having familiarized himself with the world's best thought, not only in his native tongue but also in the French, German and Italian, which languages he acquired in his younger days, together with a knowledge of the classic literatures of the Greek and Latin.

A recent writer says truly that "living for so many years in a community where life has been open to inspection on every side, he has earned a reputation for courage, integrity and purity of motive which has never been assailed in the most rancorous partisan contests."

SKETCHES OF CHIEF JUSTICES.

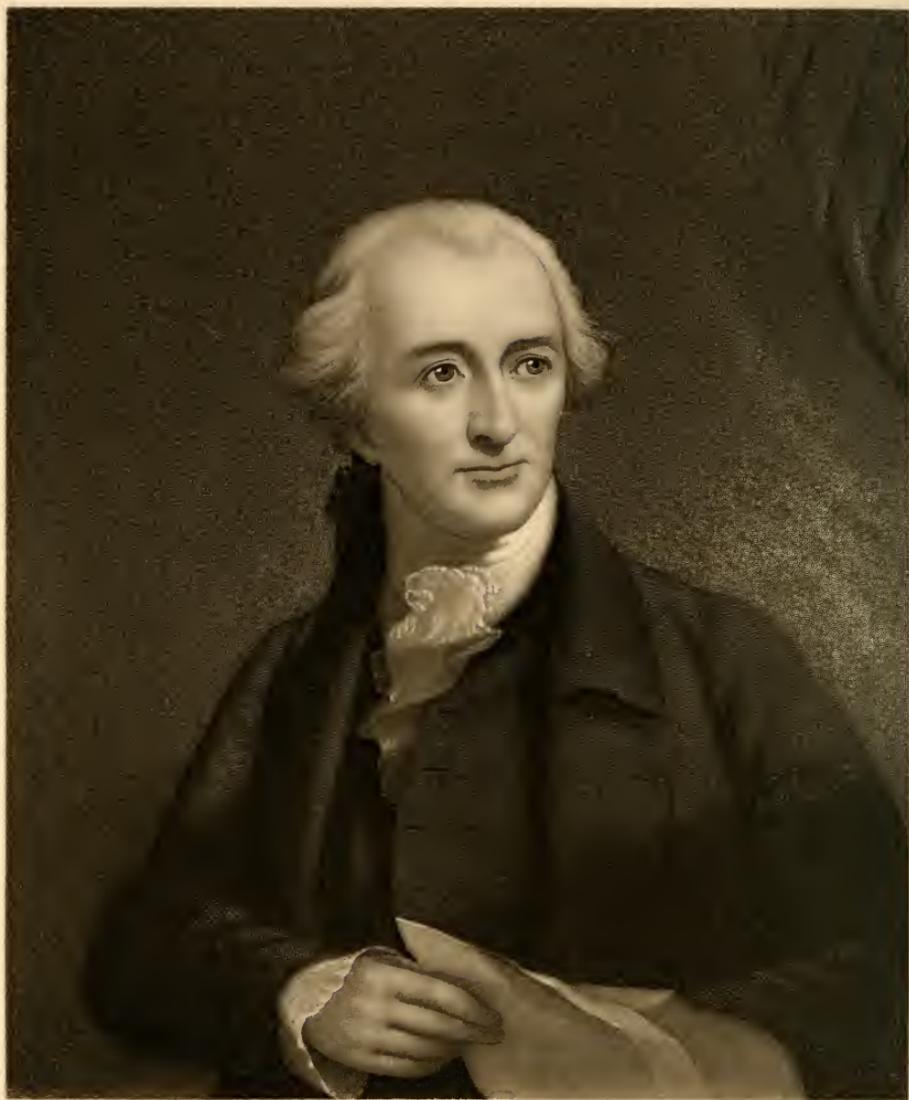
RICHARD BASSETT.

Richard Bassett, the first Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas under the Constitution of 1792, was born on Bohemia Manor in 1745, and read law in the office of Judge Goldsborough, of Maryland. He became one of the foremost citizens of the State in his day, and ably filled many public positions of great honor and trust. He was a member of the Council of Safety in 1776, served under Washington as captain of the Dover Light Horse, was a member of the Delaware Constitutional Convention of 1776, and also a delegate from Delaware to the convention that framed the Constitution of the United States. He was chosen United States Senator in 1789, but resigned September 6, 1793, upon his appointment to the Chief Justiceship of the Court of Common Pleas, holding that office until 1799, when he was elected Governor of Delaware. He resigned his position in 1801, and President Adams appointed him United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, which then comprised the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

Late in life he became a convert to Methodism, and thereafter devoted a great part of his energies to the promotion of that cause. The eloquent Abel Stevens, LL.D., in his history of American Methodism, referring to his residence on Bohemia Manor as one of his three homes, where the great Asbury found a refuge and a warm hospitality in the early days of Methodism when the sharp persecution of the great bishop threatened his liberty, if not his life, says: "We may also mention the late Richard Bassett, Esq., well known as a distinguished character not only in this State but in the United States. At different times he filled high and honorable stations. He was a lawyer of note, a legislator, judge, and a Governor of Delaware."

Judge Bassett died in 1815 at his home on Bohemia Manor, and was buried by the side of his son-in-law, the Hon. James A. Bayard, who had died but a few days before.





Engraved by Thomas Agnew & Sons, London, from the original by J. B. S. P.

Geo. Peck

[1750-1799]

GEORGE READ.

Among that brilliant galaxy of Delaware patriots who achieved distinction, "in the times that tried men's souls," George Read, by supreme epithet of honor styled "the Signer," is, equally by voice of his contemporaries and of posterity—*facile princeps*. He came of a very ancient and honorable family in England, where the renown shed upon the family name in ancient and modern times by the character and talents of those who wore it, is only second to that conferred by their kinsmen in the new world. The famous novelist, Charles Reade, belongs to the present English branch of this family, the added "e" to his name being due to a clerical error in one of the patents of knighthood granted an ancestor in the time of Charles the Second for his adherence to the cause of royalty.

The Read family in America, is first represented in the person of Colonel John Read, a wealthy Southern planter, born in 1688 in Dublin, Ireland, where his father, a younger son, was then living, an English gentleman, the fifth in descent from Sir Thomas Read, lord of the manors of Barton Court and Beedon in Berkshire, and high sheriff of Berks in 1581, and tenth in descent from Edward Read, lord of the Manor of Beedon and high sheriff of Berks in 1439 and again in 1451. John Read was affianced to his cousin, a lovely English girl, and her sudden death before their marriage drove him to seek in America a relief from the sad associations of his native land. He acquired large landed estates in Maryland and Delaware, and built a spacious home in Cecil County, Maryland, elegantly appointed within and without, where for years he lived single, surrounded by his kindly treated slaves and servants, and occupied with the conduct of his estate and the pleasures of the chase, together with the entertainment of the guests which his generous hospitality drew in great numbers around his ample board.

He finally married Mary Howell, a spirited and lovely Welsh gentlewoman many years his junior, who had emi-

grated to Delaware with her parents from Glamorganshire, Wales. Four children were born to them. Mary, their only daughter, married Gunning Bedford, afterwards well known for the part he played in the civil and military history of the country in and after Revolutionary times. Their three sons all had distinguished careers in civil life, and in the army and navy; of that of George Read, the eldest, it is the purpose of this sketch to speak. Colonel James Read was promoted Lieutenant Colonel for gallant and distinguished services at Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown, while Commodore Thomas Read was the first to attain that rank in the American navy.

Scharf aptly and truly calls George Read the "Father of the State of Delaware," so many and varied were the services he rendered in shaping and promoting the early policy of the State. Thus, he was the author of the first edition of her laws; was for twelve years a member of the Assembly, Vice-President of the State, and for a while acting Chief Magistrate. It will be remembered that President John McKinly was seized in his bed in Wilmington the night in September, 1777, following the battle of Brandywine, and held a prisoner for about a year thereafter. Read for years was Attorney-General, a member of the first Continental Congress which met in Philadelphia in 1774, a judge in Admiralty, a signer of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, etc., etc. His is by far the most prominent name in the records of the State, and so identified with the early history of Delaware that to tell the story of his deeds is to recite that history. Read, McKean and Rodney were appointed by the Delaware Assembly in 1766, after the repeal of the odious Stamp Act, to draft a petition to the King, which, like many other appeals of the Colonies to the foolish George III, which preceded the Declaration of Independence, was couched in language at once so fulsomely congratulatory and humbly supplicatory, and so much pleased his majesty that, as Lord Selburne said, he actually read over two times,

an act of unheard-of condescension upon the part of the haughty monarch!

Later, after the imposition in 1767 by Great Britain of the equally hateful tax on glass, paper, tea, etc., the same committee was appointed to draw up a second address to the King, which while duly loyal smacked far too much of the subsequent declaration to suit the royal palate, for it, in addition to the customary protestations of loyalty, also contained a bold and dignified assertion of those fundamental rights of life, liberty and property, and the right of self-government, for the maintenance of which the patriot fathers at length laid down the pen to take up the sword. In 1769 Mr. Read drew a spirited recommendation to the people of Delaware, urging them to co-operate with their fellow colonists, especially the merchants of Philadelphia, in their policy of non-importation of goods from England so long as her tyrannical policy of taxation was continued.

George Read, the Signer, was born September 17, 1733, on one of the family estates in Cecil County, Maryland. He received a classical education under Dr. Francis Alison, and then after studying law, was admitted to the bar at the age of nineteen in Philadelphia. Two years later, in 1754, he removed to New Castle, Delaware, in which province the family owned extensive estates, and resided till his death in the colonial family mansion in the town of New Castle on the west bank of the Delaware river, one of the handsomest homes in the South, surrounded by lovely gardens of trees and flowers, especially the tulip of which he was very fond. In his stately home he and his attractive wife dispensed for many years a hospitality as elegant as it was generous; and among his distinguished guests, who embraced the prominent warriors and statesmen of the day, were Washington and Lafayette, together with the foremost fashionable dames from all sections, notably from the South and from the cities of Philadelphia, Annapolis and New York.

January 11, 1763, he married Gertrude, daughter of the

Rev. George Ross, for fifty years the rector of Immanuel church, one of the oldest Protestant Episcopal churches in America. Hon. George Ross, a brother of his wife, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Read was appointed Attorney-General for the Crown, and served in that capacity from 1762 to 1764 when he resigned. While holding this office he candidly expressed to the government in England the opinion that it was perilous for England to tax the colonies without giving them parliamentary representation ; and eleven years before the Declaration of Independence, he made the remarkable prophecy, in his correspondence with Sir Richard Neave, afterwards Governor of the Bank of England, that a continuance of this mistaken policy would lead to the independence of the colonies and finally to their wresting from the mother country her manufacturing supremacy. Finding his warnings ineffectual to stay the mad course of Great Britain towards his country, he threw up his office in 1774, and took a seat in the first Continental Congress which met in Philadelphia in that year. Although as loyal to the cause of his country as the most ardent patriot of them all, yet, like John Dickinson and others, he was more conservative in his views, and hoping the breach might yet be healed, voted against the motion of Richard Henry Lee for independence made in Congress June 7, 1776, as did also Livingston of New York and Wilson of Pennsylvania. But when Read found that there was no hope for justice at the hands of the foolish king and his blind ministers, he signed the immortal document, and became thenceforth the constant and zealous supporter of the cause of American liberty.

He was President of the Constitutional Convention of 1776. Congress in 1782 created him a judge in the national Court of Appeals in Admiralty, and in 1785 made him one of the commissioners of a court to settle an important controversy in reference to territory between Massachusetts and New York. He was a delegate to the convention which met in Annapolis

in 1786, and took a leading part in the deliberations which resulted in the assembling in 1787 of the Federal Convention at Philadelphia which framed the Constitution of the United States.

Next to Pennsylvania, with her eight members, stood Delaware, with her delegation of five, at whose head was George Read. It is probable that but for the powerful opposition of this Delaware delegation, and Patterson and Brearley from New Jersey, to the proposed plan of a representation in Congress, both in the Senate and in the House, according to population, and but for Read's able advocacy of the rights of the smaller States to a fair representation, the after compromise upon the present method, which insured the success of the Constitution, would never have been made. The concession of an equal representation in the Senate won the enthusiastic support of Read for the new Constitution, and thanks to his hearty championship and the universal respect in which he was held, the high honor was secured for his State of being the first Commonwealth to ratify the Great Compact, which Gladstone declared to be "the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man."

This State, as a fitting recognition of the eminent services of its illustrious citizen, forthwith chose him as her first Senator, and on the expiry of the term re-elected him. He resigned, however, in 1793 to accept the office of Chief Justice of Delaware. He assumed this important public office amid the confusion and perplexities which followed the Revolution, having been induced to accept it because of the general conviction of his pre-eminent fitness to discharge its laborious and difficult duties, and to bring again into an orderly system the necessarily greatly altered as well as deranged administration of justice.

His sound legal learning and his wide experience in public affairs enabled him to fulfil this trust in the same able manner that had marked the whole of his long official career, and his decisions were held in high esteem by the judges and

lawyers of his time, and would doubtless command the respect of the modern bench and bar had they been reported. But strange to say none of the decisions of the early judges have been preserved, the body of adjudicated law in Delaware beginning with the first Harrington, 1832, when the Hon. Thomas Clayton was Chief Justice.

Mr. Read's fine sense of justice is shown by his refusal to accept the position of Chief Justice in 1793, upon the re-organization of the courts, unless the former Chief Justice, William Killen, was promoted to the Chancellorship, which by the new arrangement, was the official head of the judiciary. And what further accentuates the nobleness of the act, Judge Killen was a Democrat, and several members of the dominant Federal party were anxious to receive the appointment! Mr. Read said Judge Killen had acceptably and courageously filled the office in the perilous days of the Revolution when the failure of the American cause might have cost him his life, and that, therefore, he should not now be laid aside. That Judge Killen was made Chancellor under those circumstances proves the overwhelming influence exercised by Mr. Read.

In the many offices with which the State and nation honored him, he served every interest of his State and country most loyally, and alike by reason of this faithful discharge of these public duties, and by the rectitude of his private life, he ever commanded in his lifetime a universal esteem and respect, even those who differed from his views on matters of public concern, giving him their fullest confidence; all men declaring "that there was not a dishonest fiber in his heart, nor an element of meanness in his soul."

In person, he was tall and slender, with a finely moulded head and features, which while refined, were yet expressive of strength, and eyes that were brown and lustrous. In manners he was dignified, and though very reserved, courteous and agreeable. In dress he observed the nicest punctilio of a day nicer than our own in matters of attire.

Judge Read was one of the two statesmen who signed all

three of the great Revolutionary State papers, viz., the first petition of the Congress of 1774 to the King; the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States.

This noble character and patriot closed his long life of public and private usefulness September 21, 1798, after a sudden and short illness at his home in New Castle, where he was buried near the eastern wall of the Immanuel Episcopal Church in that town.

JAMES BOOTH, SR.

James Booth, Sr., the successor of Richard Bassett as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, was born at New Castle, February 6, 1753. Though not bred to the law he showed a great aptitude for the science and helped by a strong native wit and good judgment together with the results of diligent study and a long experience in courts and public life, he discharged the duties of judge in so acceptable a manner to to both the bar and the people that he remained on the bench for the long period of thirty years.

But before being honored with the appointment of Chief Justice he had filled a number of positions of trust and responsibility in private and public stations, being clerk of the Delaware constitutional conventions of 1776 and 1792; an officer of the United States navy in the year 1777; United States Marshal in 1778; Secretary of State from 1778 to 1797 under Governors Caesar Rodney, John Dickenson, Joshua Clayton and Gunning Bedford. In figure, stature and features he was unusually prepossessing, his dress and manners those of a gentleman of the olden time. His long and useful public career was closed by his death, at New Castle, February 3, 1828. He had been a life-long resident of New Castle.

JAMES BOOTH, JR.

James Booth, Jr., the son of James Booth, Sr., was born at New Castle, November 21, 1789. After graduating from Princeton college he studied law at Litchfield, Conn., and was

admitted to the bar of Delaware in 1812, from which, after a long and successful practice, he was summoned to assume the responsible office of Chief Justice, made vacant by the resignation, March 12, 1841, of Richard H. Bayard, and administered its functions with ability and integrity to the satisfaction of the bar and the public, and to his own lasting honor, until his death, March 23, 1855. The Chief Justice married the sister of Hon. James Rogers, Attorney-General of Delaware.

JOHN M. CLAYTON.

That inerrant judgment of history, which, after the perspective of the years has furnished the true rule of measurement fixes the proper places of the principal actors in the world's great drama, has set the name of John Middleton Clayton in the highest niche of honor in Delaware's pantheon of her great. His primacy as her foremost citizen is indisputable whether we compare his achievements and fame with those of the great of old, or with those later worthies. No fuller-orbed name appears in all her history. He did many things eminently well; won the highest distinction in many diverse fields of thought and action. As an advocate he shone pre-eminently in the forum; as a judge, in profundity of legal and other learning and in wisdom of decree, he fully sustained the best traditions of the Bench; while as a youthful Senator at thirty-three he signalized in the United States Senate the rising of a new star of the first magnitude among that splendid galaxy of orators and statesmen who composed the senatorial zodiac of 1829. But it was as Secretary of State in President Taylor's administration in 1849 that his brilliant qualities of constructive statesmanship found for a brief period that fuller exercise for his genius which no previous field had afforded.

A sketch of his life has already been given, and it remains only to recount his career as Judge of the Supreme Court of Delaware, and briefly to notice more at length one or two of his notable acts as Senator; and more especially to allude to the famous episode in American history with which his name



PROFILE SILHOUETTE OF JOHN M. CLAYTON.



JOHN M. CLAYTON. 1796-1856.



is linked, the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty with Great Britain. The gravest injustice has been done his memory in reference to that treaty, consequent upon the cruel calumnies which most unjustly assailed him living, and which indeed hastened his untimely death. No history of Delaware should fail to do justice herein to this illustrious son of hers, as a duty due alike to him and his State, and the cause of historic truth as well. As Chief Justice John M. Clayton added to the high fame he had already won as a lawyer, and an advocate, although the brief period, less than three years, in which he exercised his judicial functions, and the restricted arena of his own little State, together with the smallness and paucity of the issues involved, gave him but slight opportunity to make any adequate display of his extensive erudition and skill and experience as a jurist.

Had it been his good fortune, like another Hardwicke or Marshall, to have urged his judicial career in some formative period of the law, and in a forum fitted to evoke his best powers, he would have won a high position among the world's great creative jurists. The late Chief Justice Comegys, who, as a youth, read law in his office, and knew him well, pays him the following tribute: "As a judge he could not have had a superior in any respect. He had legal learning; quickness and acuteness of perception; great patience to hear; an entire freedom from prejudice or passion, and an impartiality remarkable in one so fresh from bitter political contests. He resigned after he had held the place for nearly three years, and no writ of error was ever taken from any of the court's decisions during his time."

His longest opinion, and if not the most important one he ever wrote, certainly the one best calculated to exhibit his great and versatile erudition, was in the case of *State vs. Thomas Jefferson Chandler*, 2 Harrington, 553, in which the defendant was charged with having publicly spoken a vulgar blasphemy upon our Savior. As a desperate makeshift, his counsel sought, upon the sole authority of Thomas Jefferson,

whose infidel bias is well known, to impugn the historical and legal accuracy of the maxim of English and American law, which declares Christianity to be a part of the common law, a doctrine even then long settled by the adjudication of the courts of both countries. Mr. Jefferson attempted to buttress his erroneous opinion by a display of mistaken learning, wherein he alleged a mistranslation of an early Norman-French decision by Prisot, C. J., in the Year Books, upon which he mistakenly claimed the doctrine in question was founded, and had, moreover the temerity to charge the great and good Mansfield with judicial forgery. Judge Clayton, in a learned excursus into those rarely visited regions of the ancient Year Books, and far more at home among their musty lore, legal and linguistical, than Jefferson himself, and vastly his superior as a lawyer, totally confutes these assertions, and while vindicating the memory of Mansfield, impales Mr. Jefferson upon one of the horns of the dilemma of being ignorant of the well-settled fact that this maxim was much older than the decisions of Mansfield or Hale, of wilfully perverting this historical fact to have a thrust at the Christian religion!

In *Tindal vs. Hudson*, 2 Harr., wherein a free negro sought to hold his own child as a slave, the Chief Justice showed his hatred of slavery as an institution by refusing to permit negroes themselves to become slaveholders. The doctrine of the law relating to cattle, "*partus ventrem sequitur*," was brutally applied to a slave mother and this child, till bought by its own father. The opinion not only does credit to the judge's humane sentiments, but is also worth citing as a fine bit of reasoning in a case of first instance. "Humanity forbids a father to own his own child in slavery. The natural rights and obligations of the father are paramount to the acquired rights of the master; and the moment the father purchased the child these obligations and rights blended in the same person, and the child is free. It is no more master and slave, but parent and child. Humanity revolts at the idea of a parent selling his own child into slavery. We think the

petitioner is entitled to his freedom." As a specimen of logical reasoning at once concise and clear, this opinion shows the hands of the master. The simplicity and brevity of his style is one of the ear-marks of all great literary performances, whether it be the Bible or Blackstone, Bunyan or Defoe. One notes in all his opinions the absence of that involved verbosity and technical jargon which makes much of the *res judicatæ* difficult for the profession and impossible for the laity. Observe the above brief excerpt and see if one superfluous word can be found in it!

Even this short sketch should mention one extraordinary service he rendered his country while a Senator from this State, a service whose perennial benefits will prove co-equal with the life of the nation itself. Like another Hercules, single-handed and alone, and despite the vicious antagonism of President Jackson, his party and his press, he turned a river of investigation through the Augean stables of the postoffice department in 1831 and cleansed it of the gross corruption that had for years accumulated there. The credit for this great reform is his alone; for nearly all his associates either stood neutral, or endeavored, at the dictation of Jackson, to hamper or defeat his plans. In the course of his exposé he showed thirty-six forgeries in a single document, and demonstrated to the Senate the amazing fact that the postoffice department from its institution at the founding of the government, until that time, December, 1831, had been administered in an unconstitutional manner, wholly at variance with the plan upon which, in the Constitution, it had been originally established. That for a period of over forty years Congress, unmindful of its rights and duties under the great charter, had allowed the Postmaster-General annually to expend millions of public moneys without warrant of law, and with no other check than his own pleasure or caprice! But he not only discovered and diagnosed this serious disease in the body politic, but like a skilful physician prescribed a remedy for its permanent cure, viz., bringing the postoffice department

under the control of Congress, and making its expenditures dependent upon annual appropriations by Congress, as the Constitution intended and provided. This total revolutionizing of this department of the government was adopted by Congress, precisely as Senator Clayton proposed, and is to-day its method of administration. He disclosed in this affair those great qualities of constructive statesmanship which he afterwards so notably employed as President Taylor's Secretary of State. But had Senator Clayton done nothing further in his public career, this single act of wise and courageous statesmanship would entitle him to be enrolled among the few great names that have signally benefited the republic.

Yet this piece of far-reaching statecraft was but a large copy of what he had done for his own State many years before when as Auditor of Public Accounts, he brought order and system out of the chaos that had previously reigned in the conduct of that office, and established therein the orderly accurate business methods which to this day prevail. Space is wanting to tell how in 1832, Senator Clayton repeatedly warned the Senate and the Jackson administration of the deadly consequences which their monetary policies would entail, picturing in his earnest words on the floor of the Senate, with startling prevision the awful calamities which afterwards befell in the panic of 1837. During his entire service in the Senate, he had been honored with the first gift in the power of that body, the chairmanship of its Judiciary Committee. His valuable services in that capacity have already been recounted ; and it remains only to narrate at best an outline of the most important act in President Taylor's administration, wherein as Secretary of State he drew up and negotiated the famous Clayton and Bulwer Treaty, one of the half-dozen great compacts ratified by the United States since that of John Jay, its first.

In 1786 a few English traders got from Spain, then sovereign of nearly all of South America, permission to cut mahogany and logwood on the coast of Honduras, but upon the express condition that no settlements should be made, nor any

claims of title asserted. But with characteristic British greed, and in shameful and repeated violations of her solemn treaties, England kept the foothold thus gained, and in a half-century thriftily managed to juggle this wood-chopping license, and her subsequent wanton trespass, into a right in fee, and called the region British Honduras. Again, for over fifty years before the making of the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty, this same land-grabbing England had been engaged in seeking, under the thin pretence of a "protectorate" of the "Mosquito Coast," yet further to extend these usurped possessions of hers in Central America, and more especially to get control of the then mooted Nicaragua Canal. Mosquitia, or Mosquito Coast, was a narrow strip of land along the northeast coast of Nicaragua, and occupied by a handful of brutalized, mongrel savages of the lowest type, called Zamboes. The territory belonged rightfully to Nicaragua. The project of a canal throughout the narrow isthmus that unites North and South America, though not like that of the Suez, dating back to the Pharoahs, was as old as the time of Philip II of Spain to whom it was suggested by Galvas, a Portuguese.

California was then approaching the meridian splendor of her marvelous development; thousands were pouring into her territory which then occupied the entire Pacific coast clean to British America, truly in size and resources a new Western empire. But her isolation was as complete as that of the Philippines to-day, aye more so, for a vast, unexplored, impassable wilderness lay between her and the East. Railroads west of the Mississippi, there were none, and even the hardy pioneer Fremont had not yet pierced the *terra incognita* of the "Great West;" while the wildest enthusiast had not dreamed of a transcontinental railway. The interoceanic canal at Nicaragua was then deemed the quickest and the best means of reaching California and the whole Pacific coast, and had at that time an importance purely local to the United States that far transcends its international importance now. Instigated by England, this savage puppet "King" of Mos-

quia, whose "crowning" at Jamaica, West Indies, in 1815, under English auspices, was more grotesque than any opera bouffe ever was, had fraudulently stretched his "Kingdom" some hundred or more miles down the Costa-Rican coast until his usurpation included the banks of the San Juan river where the canal must pass. Next the English government benevolently seized the town and renamed it Greytown. These acts of open, audacious spoilation of a helpless state in our own hemisphere and a territory too, of such strategic importance, were justly deemed a menace to the United States, and a direct blow at the Monroe Doctrine; and aroused deep resentment throughout the land. President Polk's administration had just closed, and the Van Hise imbroglio, adding fuel to the flames, had brought the country to the very verge of war with England. This was the situation when Secretary Clayton, as President Taylor's "Premier" took the portfolio of State. War was imminent, and this deep feeling of anger at the atrocious course of England was hourly augmenting and might any moment burst all bounds, and coerce a bloody arbitrament of the question.

Secretary Clayton's first act was to undo the folly of Van Hise, as promptly as Lincoln receded from the untenable position of the seizure of Mason and Slidell by Commander Wilkes. Next he invited to a conference Sir Henry Bulwer, England's most experienced and renowned diplomat, who had been sent to this country to settle, if possible, the grave questions between our land and his own. But at the very moment when Secretary Clayton was honorably seeking a peaceful adjustment of the difficulty, the English government with its customary punic faith, was engaged in making further seizures of territory adjacent to the projected water-way, viz., an island in the gulf of Fonseca dominating the Pacific entrance, and when the United States in justifiable self-defence retaliated by taking possession of Tigre island, an armed expedition, commanded by English officers, seized the island under a pretended claim of debt. The situation had grown yet more crit-

ical ; the sword of war was hanging by but a single Damocles' thread, and Secretary Clayton must act quickly. He framed a short treaty of nine articles not less comprehensive than clear in its provisions, in which each nation disclaimed all rights of exclusive control of the canal and guaranteed its neutrality, etc., etc. After a careful consideration of the treaty in every particular by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, of which Senator William R. King was chairman and Webster and several other leading Senators, members ; and after a full explanation in open Senate of it and every circumstance connected with its negotiation by the Secretary, it was ratified by the Senate by a vote of 42 to 12.

Finding that her astute veteran diplomatist, Sir Henry Bulwer, like Napoleon, after a long series of triumphs, had met his Waterloo at the hands of the American Secretary of State, the British government, to escape the disastrous consequences of her own solemn treaty act, at once entered upon a course of perfidious evasion and contemptible quibbling that is probably without a parallel save in the disgraceful history of her own diplomacy. Thus, through the shameless pettifogging of England, the purposes of this great treaty were rendered nugatory, and its plain provisions made the occasion of over a half-century of dishonest trickery and chicanery which only ceased upon its abrogation in 1902. But it accomplished one highly useful end, viz., it averted a bloody war between the two nations. England had abundant occasion for chagrin in the utter drubbing administered her pet statesman Bulwer. Secretary Clayton found that nation, after sixty-four years of fraud and force, intrenched in Central America, and in possession of territory as completely dominating both the Atlantic and Pacific entrances to the future canal, as the Gibraltar does the Mediterranean, and left her completely ousted from all her vantage ground, and that, too, by the voluntary act of her own first diplomat especially commissioned as Minister Extraordinary to the United States for that purpose. And yet as an equivalent for this large surrender of such advantages upon the part

of England, Secretary Clayton did not yield one iota for his own country. What the outwitted Bulwer thought was a concession, was in reality what had been since the time of Washington the traditional policy of this Government with reference to the interoceanic canal, repeatedly re-affirmed by the Presidents and cabinets of both parties, and even so late as 1894 announced by President Cleveland. This traditional policy was a purpose to share with all the nations the benefits and the control of the great international highway. The present policy of an exclusive control of the present route for such a canal, represents a much later doctrine and national purpose.

Secretary Clayton returned to his home in the summer of 1850, consequent upon the death of President Taylor. In January, 1850, Senator Cass, of Michigan, aided and abetted by Senators Mason of Virginia and Douglas of Illinois, made an attack upon the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, and besides misrepresenting its character and purposes, grossly assailed and vilified its author, the late Secretary Clayton personally, boldly declaring that not only had the Secretary been outwitted by the English diplomat, Sir Henry L. Bulwer, but that he had deceived the Senate into ratifying the treaty by withholding a secret agreement with Sir Henry, which in effect betrayed his own country into the hands of England. These attacks upon Mr. Clayton were as cowardly in manner as they were false in matter. Cass and the rest knew that he could illy meet these lying accusations in the only forum then open to him, the public prints; and they moreover thought themselves safe in their contemptible course, for the Delaware Legislature had just failed through a political deadlock to choose a Senator. But they little knew the high patriotism of Mr. Clayton's State, and her just pride in her distinguished son; for when he requested an opportunity to meet his traducers upon the floor of the Senate, this hopelessly-tied Legislature was forthwith summoned in special session, and Senator Clayton triumphantly returned to the Senate from which he had

previously resigned, and for which before the arising of this emergency, though strongly importuned, he had refused to be again a candidate.

This disinterested act upon the part of the Legislature of Delaware, especially of the Democrats who really held the key to the situation, in choosing a United States Senator of the opposite party, is a unique illustration of lofty state pride and patriotism without a fellow in the history of American politics, and justly reflects great honor upon this State and its people. On March 8, 1853, Senator Clayton, in presence of a highly interested auditory of his fellow Senators, made the first of a series of brilliant addresses in which he fully vindicated the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty, of which he was the author, and as completely refuted the base slanders cast upon his official and personal conduct in connection therewith. These speeches were characterized by an amount and variety of exact learning upon every phase, ancient and modern, of the whole lengthy episode that was marvelous. His calumniators found, as Sir Henry Bulwer to his chagrin already had, that Senator Clayton was conversant with every detail of the complicated affairs of the Central American States, and British Honduras in their relations to Great Britain; with their geography, together with the history of the tortuous diplomacy of England for nearly three-quarters of a century in that behalf. With biting sarcasm he twitted some of his senatorial assailants as "learned Thebans" for confounding Mexico, and even New Granada as parts of Central America. He showed, by the letter of Vice-President William R. King, Chairman in 1850 of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, that the charges of duplicity towards the Senate were totally and maliciously false, or as Senator King wrote, "cruelly untrue."

The animus of the whole affair was the wish by Cass and his fellow conspirators to make political capital out of the charges, and thus injure the Whig party; although Cass had also a purely personal motive prompting his act, viz., a desire

to revenge himself upon Senator Clayton for helping defeat his darling ambition to reach the great seat. Senator Clayton was probably the only eminent public man who in his day was not infected with an insane desire to be President. Clay, Webster, Douglas, Cass, Calhoun, etc., etc., had the disease dreadfully. So these monstrous accusations against as loyal and as disinterested a patriot as ever eminently served his country, were fulminated again and again in the Senate, then printed by the authority of Cass himself, and taken up the whole country over by as rabid a partisan press as ever basely sought "to make the worse appear the better reason," till the land was deluged with the cunningly fabricated calumnies. Then the charges, with new falsehoods added, were rung upon the charges by every political huckster in the campaign, till what with the spoken and the printed lies, this remarkable piece of political conspiracy, as adroit as mendacious, has acquired an immortality truly diabolical.

So, too, despite the fact that the victim of this conspiracy had torn to shreds the whole garment of cunning lies, for base partisan purposes the wretched calumnies were uttered a second time in the Senate, in the winter of 1853; and although Senator Clayton again drove the slander-mongers in confusion before him, yet, amazing as it may seem, those stale "campaign lies" were for the *third* time, and, if possible, with increased ferocity, repeated in the year 1856 upon the floor of the Senate, and Senator Clayton was forced to leave the sick-bed to which he was soon to return for aye, to face for the third time his implacable tormentors, and to repel, as he superbly did, their lying attacks upon his good name and fame.

Except perhaps the long-continued and bitter pursuit of Washington himself by the like slander-assassins of his day, no man in public life was ever more unjustly and persistently beset by mendacity and hate than Senator Clayton; and stranger still these oft-repeated slanders of Cass and Douglas, reiterated, in the very teeth of refutation "strong as proof of Holy Writ," in the hustings, and sown broadcast by a venal

press, have come to possess such a semblance of truth as to be yet taken by thousands of intelligent readers for historic verity. Indeed, a recent cyclopedia, edited by one of the first editorial writers in the country, in an article on the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, revamps these exploded lies of Cass as the actual facts in the case. The truth is that probably no treaty ever framed by this nation was drawn with more scrupulous care and prevision, indeed, with what would seem in advance of the subsequent actual occurrence, an absurd excess of caution, the adroit Secretary had the word "occupy" defined before the signing of the treaty, as intending a present as well as a future meaning. Than Secretary Clayton none knew better the quibbling, dishonest diplomacy of England, and so tightly did he close every loop-hole, that an evasion of the plain provisions and purposes of the instrument drawn by him, was only possible by such a course of downright dishonorable refusal by Great Britain to abide by their own solemn treaty obligations, coupled with a silly crucifixion of the English language, as amounted to a national shame.

Hear what his most distinguished contemporaries had to say about this great piece of statesmanship, words of eulogy pronounced over his ashes in the very Senate chamber where but a few days before, even then a dying man, he had made his last masterly defence of his work and name. The great Seward spoke this lofty eulogium upon it. "The *first universal fact*, a fact indicating an ultimate union of the nations, was the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty. It was the felicitous good-fortune of John M. Clayton, not more than his genius and ability that enabled him to link his own name with that great and stupendous transaction, and so win for himself the eternal gratitude of future generations not only in his own country, but throughout the great divisions of the earth."

The eminent lawyer and statesman, Reverdy Johnson of Maryland, said: "This treaty is the first instance within my knowledge in which two great nations of the earth have thus endeavored to combine peacefully for the prosecution and ac-

complishment of an object which when completed must advance the happiness and prosperity of all men." Senator Henry Wilson, afterwards Vice-President, said in congressional debate, "The Senator from Delaware, as the negotiator of the treaty on the part of the United States government entered upon that service inspired with the sublime conception and generous purposes that the grandeur and magnitude of such an occasion was calculated to inspire. That he entered upon the work with the high and patriotic object of framing a treaty which should confer lasting benefits upon our own country and the world, none can doubt."

Again Senator John J. Crittenden of Kentucky, said February 25, 1856, in Congress, "I consider that the negotiation of this treaty was the highest honor of which any statesman might well be proud." And even Senator Cass, chief of his relentless traducers, admitted with unblushing self-stultification in one of his attacks, "that the Clayton and Bulwer Treaty if carried out in good faith would peaceably do the work of the Monroe Doctrine, and free an important portion of our continent from foreign interference." It was no fault of Secretary Clayton's that a measure so expansive in its world-wide philanthropy and so humanely fostering peaceful commerce and international brotherhood as to elicit such eulogies, should be aborted and defeated in much of its intended benefits by the dishonorable conduct of one of the signatory nations; and still less any fault of his that by the irony of fate, because of the now recognized seismic character of the Nicaraguan route, the great project that gave birth to this famous treaty, the Nicaraguan Canal will never be realized; but it will, nevertheless, ever remain an imperishable monument of the far-seeing wisdom and earnest patriotism of the great brain that conceived and the bold heart that executed this noble specimen of statesmanship.

THOMAS CLAYTON.

The father of Thomas Clayton was Dr. Joshua Clayton, a surgeon in the Revolutionary army, and the last of the "Presidents," as the early Governors of Delaware were styled till 1793; upon the adoption of the new constitution in 1792, he became, from 1793 to 1796, the first governor under the new régime.

His son Thomas chanced to be born out of the State by reason of the fact that in July, 1777, to avoid the apprehension and excitement caused by the passage of the British army across the State, his mother had been conveyed to Massey's Cross Roads, Md., where the future Senator and Chief Justice first saw the light. Dr. Joshua Clayton was the great-grandson of Joshua Clayton, who, with his brother, Powell Clayton, came over from Lincolnshire, England, with William Penn in 1683. Thomas Clayton had a classical education at Newark Academy, then a famous institution, and at nineteen began the study of law in the office of Nicholas Ridgely at Dover, to be duly admitted to the bar three years thereafter. There were legal giants in the land in those days, but for all that the youthful David soon wrested more than his due share of the spoils of the profession in a large and growing practice.

He was made Secretary of State under Governor Truitt in 1808, and three years after Governor Haslet appointed him Attorney General. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1814, but was defeated at the ensuing national election for supporting a bill which passed both Houses of Congress, changing the mode of paying the members. Seven years thereafter the Legislature of his State honored him by an election to the Senatorial office made vacant by the appointment of the Hon. Caesar A. Rodney, minister to Buenos Ayres. Mr. Clayton took his seat in the United States Senate, January 15, 1824, where he remained four years, or until the end of the nineteenth Congress. Upon the reorganization of the judiciary of the State in 1828, Governor Charles Polk appointed him Chief Justice of Common Pleas; and when this

Court and the Supreme Court were abolished in 1832 by the amended constitution of that year, he was promoted to the office of Chief Justice of the State, and held that position until January 16, 1837, at which time he was chosen Senator to succeed the Hon. John M. Clayton, who had resigned. In 1841 he was again elected to the Senate for the term beginning March 4, 1842. But like his distinguished cousin whom he had followed, he too, rating at its true value the bauble of office, relinquished the wearisome toga for the enjoyment once more of the tranquillity of private life at New Castle, which had been his home since 1833, and where, August 21, 1854, he suddenly died.

The exceptional circumstances under which he was selected from a number of candidates for the responsible office of Chief Justice, discloses the profound esteem in which his abilities and character were held both by the Governor and his fellow-citizens generally. Chief Justice James Booth, Sr., a resident of New Castle County, died in 1832, and under the provisions of the Constitution his successor or some judge must also live in that county; but Mr. Clayton at that time lived in Kent County, and his nomination to the vacancy meant the appointment of a needless fourth judge at considerable further expense to the State. In a message to the Legislature explaining his action, Governor Polk said, "I selected the present Chief Justice of the Common Pleas solely with a view to his learning, talents, integrity and superior capacity for the station which have been amply tested by the records of the court over which he presided." The Governor pronounced no vain eulogy; for Judge Clayton possessed a deep knowledge of the law, and had had a wide juridical experience before coming to the Chief Justiceship, and possessed, moreover, the rare gift of quickly discerning the "point" of the case. The writer in the course of a long experience at the Bar has had occasion to read thousands of cases, but he recalls none, American or English, which announced the true doctrines of the law in fewer or plainer words.

His entire impartiality as a judge was never once questioned. His was of those ruggedly honest natures that in the discharge of a public duty knew neither friend nor foe, fear nor favor, but meted out to all an even-handed justice. They tell to this day a characteristic story or so of the old judge which illustrates this quality of a stern adherence to the law. One day on coming into Court, glancing up at the clock, he noticed that he was ten minutes late, and after confirming the fact by his own time-piece, took his seat on the bench and turning to the clerk said, "Mr. Clerk, enter a fine of ten dollars against Thomas Clayton," and then took up the usual court routine. Again, Philip Reybold, Esq., one of the most busy and useful citizens in the whole State, when summoned as a witness, failed for two days to respond, and offered as an excuse that he would first attend to some business of his own in Baltimore. "Is that your only reason, sir?" asked the judge. "Yes sir," replied Mr. Reybold; whereupon the Chief Justice said to the clerk, "Fine Philip Reybold twenty dollars, and you, Mr. Sheriff, take charge of Mr. Reybold until he complies with the order of the Court." So, too, he once told his son, Col. Joshua Clayton, to "sit down, sir," for insisting upon a point that the old judge had twice told him was neither law nor relevant. The famous John M. Clayton thought to try the same experiment, but on the second recital received a warning that deterred him from venturing further. This same Col. Joshua Clayton, who afterwards abandoned the law for agriculture, was wont to declare of this Brutus-father of his, that "he sat so upright on the bench whenever I had a case, that he leaned clean backward!"

The remains of this intrepid and upright judge lie in the cemetery of the Presbyterian Church at Dover, surrounded by the ashes of many of those who were contemporaries of his useful and honorable career.

RICHARD H. BAYARD.

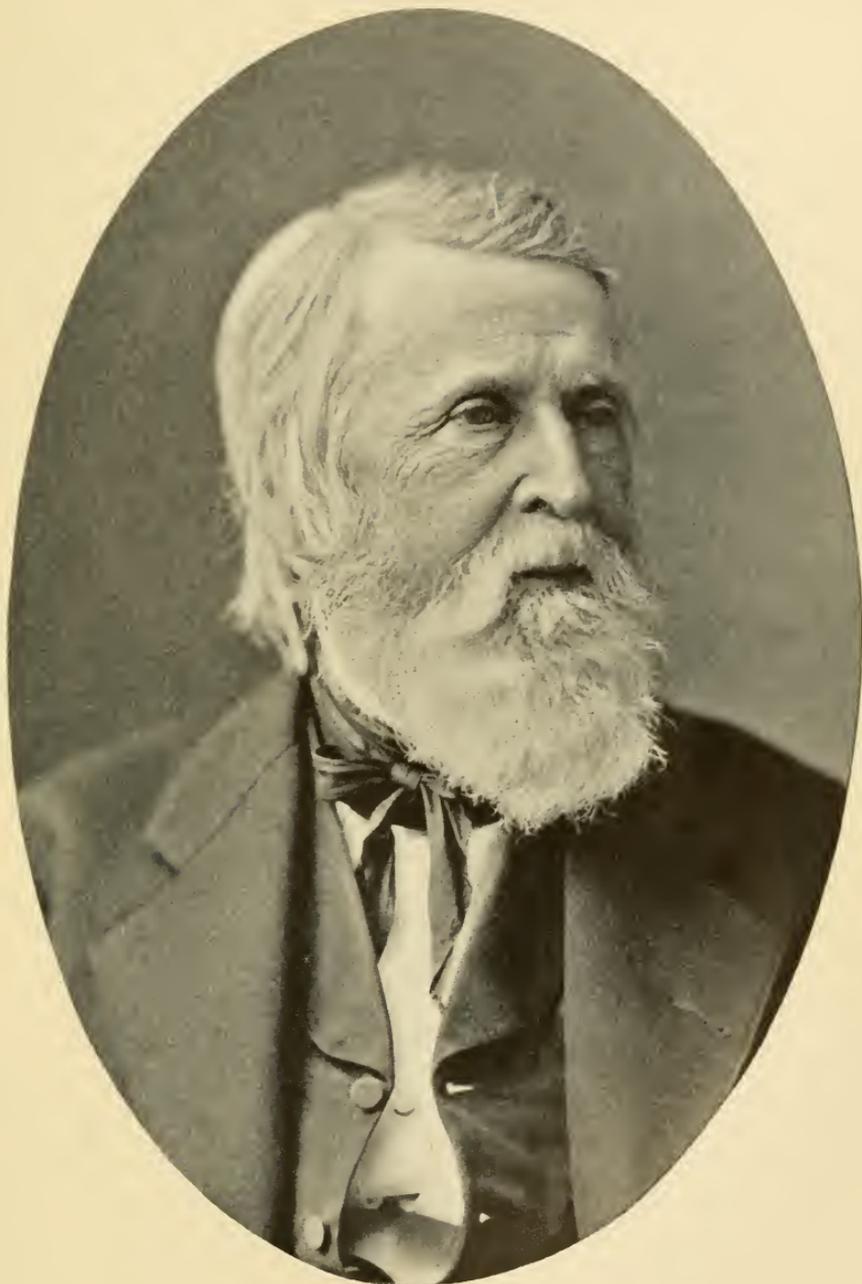
Richard H. Bayard was born in Wilmington, September 23, 1796. He was the son of James A. Bayard, the elder. He graduated from Princeton College in 1814 when but seventeen years of age, and after reading law was admitted to the Bar in 1818. Mr. Bayard held many important public offices, being chosen the first Mayor of Wilmington in 1832; and representing his State twice in the United States Senate, from 1836 to 1839 and again from 1841 to 1845. He was Chief Justice of Delaware from September 19th, 1839, until March, 1841, when he resigned to re-enter the Senate of the United States. From 1850 to 1853 he occupied the post of United States Minister to Belgium.

He possessed to a considerable degree the natural abilities of his noted family, but had small opportunity in his brief judicial tenure adequately to display those talents. He is spoken of as the ideal gentleman of the old school. His appearance and manners were of the courtly sort so often met a century ago. He died in the City of Philadelphia in 1868.

EDWARD WOODWARD GILPIN.

Edward Woodward Gilpin was born in Wilmington, July 13, 1803. After receiving a practical business training he read law at Wilmington under Senator John Wales, and was duly admitted to the Bar in 1827, where after many years of practice, he attained the distinction of being one of the leading members of the profession. In 1840 his abilities received their first public recognition by his being made Attorney-General for the State, and performed the duties of that office with marked success for a term of ten years.

In 1857 he was the general choice of the Bar and the people for the honor of the Chief Justiceship, and for nearly twenty years thereafter presided over the Civil and Criminal Courts, and served as a member of the Court of Errors and Appeals, with a degree of usefulness and distinction enjoyed by few of his predecessors, wherein his integrity and ability as a judge



EDWARD W. GILPIN.
1803-1876.



won for him the esteem and admiration of the entire bar. While on the bench at Dover, he was taken with serious heart disease, April 29, 1876, and died literally in the very midst of his judicial labors. He possessed abilities of a high order, was an unusually prompt and efficient judge, and as a citizen was public-spirited and patriotic.

JOSEPH P. COMEGYS.

Joseph P. Comegys, the third son of Governor Cornelius P. Comegys was born at Cherbourg, the family seat in Kent County, Delaware, December 23, 1813. His mother was Ruhamah Marim, a sister of Charles Marim, a Kent County lawyer of recognized ability. With much talent inherited from both sides of the family, Joseph P. Comegys, like his brothers, made his mark in his chosen profession. The distinction attained by the Comegys brothers is truly remarkable. Benjamin B. Comegys, one of the brothers, became a leading financier in the City of Philadelphia, Cornelius G. Comegys, another brother, attained great fame as a medical practitioner in Cincinnati, and John M. Comegys, a third brother was unusually successful as an operator in modern dental surgery.

Joseph P. Comegys received his education in the old academy at Dover, noted in its day for the thoroughness of the instruction imparted. When seventeen years of age he began the study of the law with John M. Clayton, who at that time was filling his first term in the United States Senate. Admitted to the bar at Dover in April, 1835, he maintained an active law practice for over forty years, and appeared actively in nearly all the leading trials of that period. In 1855 he was offered by Governor Causey the Associate Justiceship for Kent County, when Judge Harrington was made Chief Justice, but this office he declined.

In 1876, on the death of Chief Justice Gilpin, he was appointed Chief Justice by Governor Cochran. His advent to the bench was hailed with delight by the members of the bar throughout the State and the high expectations raised by his

appointment were fully realized by the almost twenty years of service which he rendered on the bench. A man of commanding presence and great dignity, he was the ideal judge in appearance, and his knowledge of the law and acknowledged ability and impartiality combined to make him an honored and capable judge.

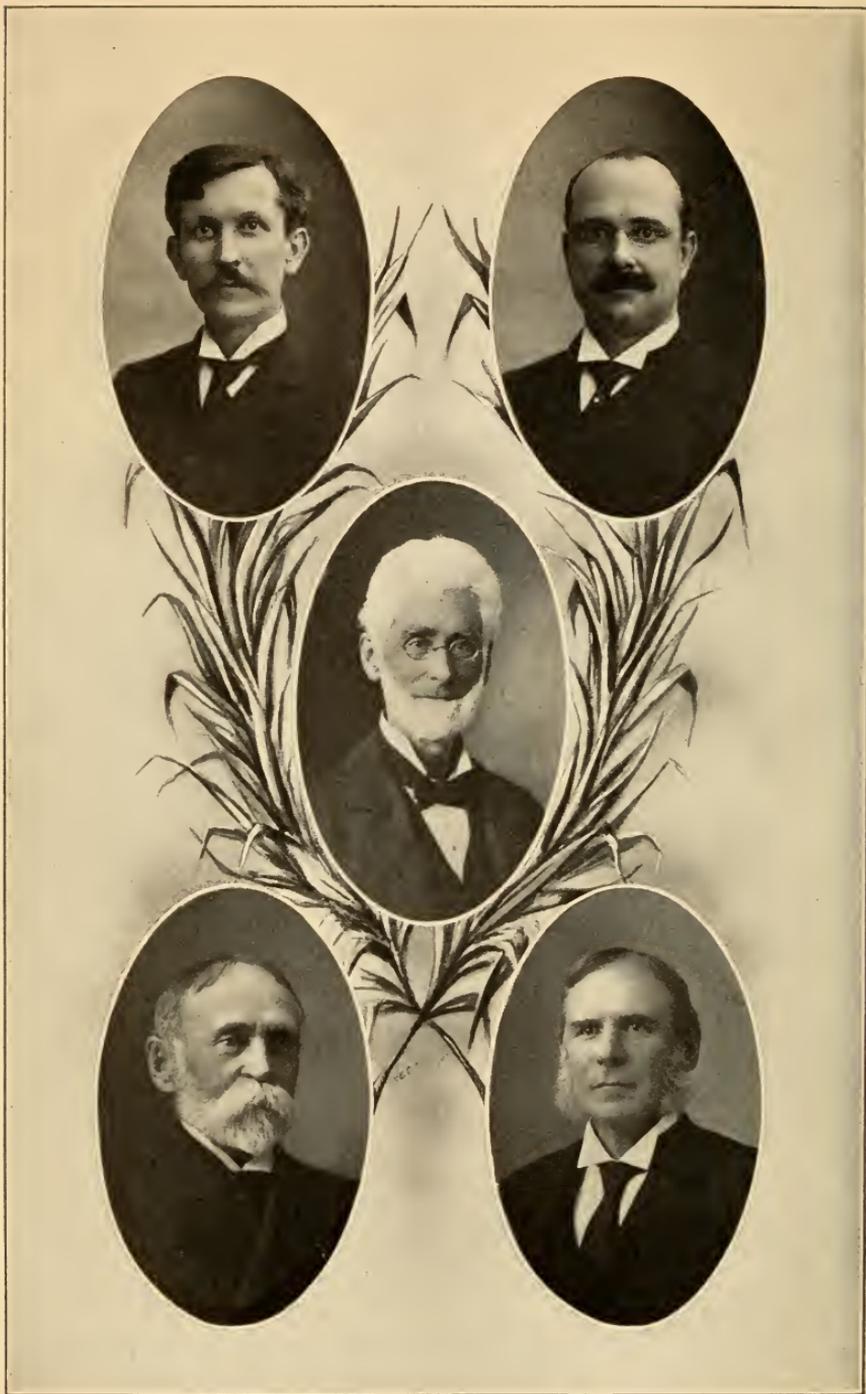
In early days he was an ardent Whig, but in later years was an independent in politics. While he received his appointment as Chief Justice from a Democratic Governor, it is stated on good authority that he had never voted the Democratic ticket or been identified with that party.

On the death of John M. Clayton in 1856 he was appointed by Governor Causey to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate caused by Mr. Clayton's death, and served for a brief term therein, until the next meeting of the General Assembly. Chief Justice Comegys had the greatest love and veneration for his old law preceptor, John M. Clayton. He prepared and read before the Historical Society of Delaware a memorial of Mr. Clayton, containing a full review of his life and political career. This memoir is most eulogistic and shows the tender regard existing between the two men. The wife of the Chief Justice, Miss Margaret A. Douglass, was a niece of John M. Clayton's, and with her and his family he lived for fifty years in the southwest corner of "the green" in Dover. Miss Harriet Clayton Comegys, his daughter, is the only survivor of his three children.

In 1882 the University of Pennsylvania conferred upon Chief Justice Comegys the degree of LL.D. in recognition of his ability in the law and in classic literature. No man had a greater love for his native State, and but few if any deserved more at her hands.

His death occurred at Dover on the first day of February, 1893, and his remains were interred in the Presbyterian churchyard at that place in the presence of all the leading people and officials of the State.





SUPREME COURT JUDGES APPOINTED A. D. 1897.

WILLIAM H. BOYCE.

JAMES PENNEWILL.

IGNATIUS C. GRUBB.

CHARLES B. LORE.

WILLIAM C. SPRUANCE.

ALFRED P. ROBINSON.

Alfred P. Robinson, the son of Alfred P. Robinson, Sr., attorney-at-law; and the grandson of Judge Peter Robinson, was born in Sussex County, Delaware, February 7, 1842, and was admitted to the bar in 1863. The value and efficiency of his fine natural gifts were enhanced by diligent study, wide reading and the teachings of experience, and he soon secured a lucrative practice, rising to the eminence of leadership of the bar of his county.

He was made Deputy Attorney General of the State from 1874 to 1879, under Attorney General Penington; was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1884; and in 1891 was appointed by the Governor one of the Delaware Commissioners on Uniform Interstate Legislation. In the year 1893 he was appointed Chief Justice in the vice of Hon. Joseph P. Comegys resigned, but did not live long enough to fulfil the expectations of a distinguished judicial career raised by his character and talents, dying of heart disease after a brief service of one month as Chief Justice, March 1, 1893, at his home in Georgetown, but a few hours after leaving a session of Court at Wilmington. No man ever assumed the duties of the bench with higher ideals of its duties and responsibilities, and the grief at his early and unexpected death was universal.

CHARLES B. LORE.

The present Chief Justice of Delaware, Charles Brown Lore, was born in Odessa, Delaware, March 16, 1831. Both his parents were descended from families which settled in Cumberland County, New Jersey, in the seventeenth century. His father, Eldad Lore, who was engaged in farming and in the lumber business, was a man of most estimable character, kind and charitable to the poor, and died in 1850. His son, Charles, after attending the village common schools, entered Dickinson College in 1848 and in four years graduated with the honors of his class. For a short time thereafter he read

law in the office of Judge John K. Findley of Philadelphia; and upon his return to Delaware, was elected clerk of the House of Representatives, and again in the session of 1856-7. He then joined the M. E. Conference on trial and was sent to the Princess Anne Circuit on the eastern shore of Maryland. One year in the Methodist itinerancy sufficing him, he resumed his law studies in the office of Chancellor Bates at Wilmington, and was admitted to the bar in 1861.

He was a candidate for the legislature on the Democratic ticket that same year, but shared the defeat which overtook the whole ticket. Governor Burton appointed him commissioner of the draft to raise troops for the Union army in 1862, and he canvassed New Castle County for that purpose. In 1869 Governor Gove Saulsbury appointed him Attorney-General for five years, and during his tenure of office he tried a number of important cases, which aroused great attention throughout the State. Among others, Goldsborough, for murdering Charles Marsh, who after conviction and sentence escaped to the south. Another criminal case which acquired even greater notoriety was that of Dr. Isaac C. West, charged with killing and skinning a negro named Turner, and with attempting to have the half-burnt corpse palmed off for his own, in order that his wife might collect the heavy life-insurance policies he carried. West escaped conviction after a highly sensational trial, during which the whole gruesome story was brought out, and the famous reply of the defendant became current, "You never had a dead nigger on your hands!"

Attorney-General Lore won a notable victory in convicting the four professional cracksmen who, in 1873, assaulted the family of the cashier and tried to rob the National Bank of Delaware in Wilmington. These gentlemanly rogues got a taste of Delaware justice which neither they nor any of their yegging craft will ever forget, being set in the stocks, soundly whipped and then sent to prison for five years. In this case, as in all the rest, Mr. Lore was called upon to meet the very ablest lawyers at the bar as counsel for these various defend-

ants. While his office of public prosecutor gave him a wide acquaintance with the criminal side of the practice of law, and greatly enhanced his reputation as a strong trial lawyer, in every way thoroughly equipped for the forum, yet it is upon the civil side of the law, with its many learned and difficult questions of a constitutional statutory character, questions of law proper rather than those of fact, that he has achieved the distinction. Mr. Lore has carried to a successful issue a number of important suits involving just such nice questions of constitutional law, as for example, the disputes between Delaware and New Jersey relative to their water boundaries, affecting the fishing rights of their people. His skill in presenting cases to juries, clearly, forcibly and eloquently, has also contributed to make him quite as successful in civil as in criminal cases, and brought him before his elevation to the wool-sack, a large practice.

Mr. Lore has always been a Democrat, and in the cabinet and on the stump, has always enthusiastically supported the principles of that political belief both in the State and National issues. He was elected to Congress in 1882 by about two thousand majority over Washington Hastings, and re-elected by a majority of four thousand votes, the largest majority ever given in this State in an election actually contested. While a member of the Forty-eighth Congress he served on the Committee on Claims, and on the Special Committee on American Ship Building and Ship Owning Interests; and in the Forty-ninth, he did valuable service on the Committee on Expenditures of the Department of State and Naval Affairs. His painstaking and conscientious examination of all the subjects he touched, either in debate or in the committee rooms, together with his legal knowledge and training, brought him reputation as a useful, able member. His carefully prepared and earnestly delivered speeches added to his influence and helped the passage of pending legislation.

Among his most effective efforts on the floor of Congress may be mentioned his address on the Consular and Diplomatic

Appropriations, one favoring the Dual Standard of gold and silver; one on the Reclamation of the Oregon and Central Railroad land-grant; and another of much importance, the plan of Secretary Whitney for consolidating the Naval Bureaus, which last measure he so convincingly opposed as to defeat it, and to secure the retention of the old system. Mr. Lore not only achieved a signal personal triumph herein, but conferred likewise a great benefit upon the public service. In this wise and courageous course he antagonized the majority of his committee, the Secretary of the Navy, and the leading spirits of his own party; but his view was sustained in the House after his strong and luminous presentation of the facts; and time has vindicated his wisdom.

Upon the resignation of Hon. Thomas F. Bayard from the Senate to enter President Cleveland's Cabinet, Mr. Lore's name was urged by his friends for that vacancy, and but for an unexpected defection of one vote, he would have been chosen over Mr. Gray who won by a majority of one. And at the election for the full term, his name was again put forward by his partisans, and a heated contest ensued which threatened a serious breach in party lines, whereupon Mr. Lore magnanimously withdrew in the interests of party harmony.

Upon the death of Chief Justice Robinson Mr. Lore was appointed his successor for life, March 21, 1893, but under the new Constitution was re-appointed June 10, 1897, for the statutory period of twelve years. When in active practice Mr. Lore's office was always filled with students, thirty or more having graduated from under his care, to become, many of them, among the ablest members of the Bar. After his first election to Congress Mr. Lore formed a partnership with Harry Emmons, Esq., which continued until he went on the bench. Judge Lore was married in 1862 to Rebecca A., daughter of Joseph Bates, a Friend, of Mount Holly, N. J.; they have one child, Miss Emma Lore. Judge Lore has always taken a prominent part in the affairs of the M. E. Church, on the Peninsula and in the nation at large, being

frequently sent as a delegate to the General Conferences of that denomination. He was one of the incorporators of the "Home for Friendless Children" in Wilmington, and for many years a member of its Board of Trustees. He was elected a trustee of Delaware College in 1867, and has served as president of the board for many years.

SKETCHES OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICES.

DAVID HAZZARD.

Under the constitution of 1831 in Delaware, as in New York and a number of other States, the Associate Justices were not required to be lawyers, but the appointment of Judge David Hazzard was the only instance in this State in the last century in which the appointee had not had a previous legal training and practice, though this custom, here and elsewhere, in the previous century, was common enough.

David Hazzard was born May 18, 1781, in Broadkilm Neck, Sussex County, Delaware, being well descended, both on his father's side, and also on his mother's. His father, Major John Hazzard, was a descendant of Coard Hazzard, who, according to family traditions, settled in that locality about the year 1700, coming from Virginia, whither, some years before, he had emigrated from England. He resided near Milton, and in 1794 received from Governor Joshua Clayton a commission as major of the militia of the State, for which position he was well fitted by reason of his services as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. When a young man he had taken holy orders in the Protestant Episcopal Church, but afterwards became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one of the early Methodists in Delaware. Late in the eighteenth century Major Hazzard left his farm and went to Milton, where he engaged in mercantile and shipping enterprises and in ship building.

The maternal ancestors of Judge Hazzard, the Houstons, were descended from a French nobleman who went to Scot-

land in 1160. Robert Houston, one of his descendants, came to America in 1664, and was the father of Mary Houston, the wife of Major John Hazzard and mother of the Judge. During the War of 1812 David Hazzard was an ensign in Captain Wright's company, and was afterwards made captain, and served in Delaware at Lewes. When quite a young man he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and displayed in that office the impartiality and sound judgment of riper years. He was elected Governor of Delaware in 1829, and his administration of the executive functions, while marked by firmness and decision, was none the less characterized by a kindness that sought to mitigate, in meritorious cases, the harsh consequences of the laws.

As a merchant at Milton, he was noted for his kind and liberal dealings, especially with the unfortunate. In 1834 he was elected State Senator; and in 1844 appointed an Associate Justice of the Superior Court, holding the office till his resignation in 1847. Although, like Andrew Jackson and Chief Justice James Booth, Sr., of this State, without the usual previous legal training, he nevertheless made a good judge, being the possessor, by nature, of a judicial mind and great talent, having had, moreover, the advantage of a long and varied experience in public affairs as Justice of the Peace, State Senator and Governor. He was chosen a member of the Convention that in 1852 was called to revise the State Constitution, but resigned.

Judge David Hazzard died July 8, 1864, in his eighty-fourth year. He was buried from the Methodist church at Milton of which he had been a faithful member since 1802. He was married, July 12, 1803, to Elizabeth, daughter of Captain John and Sarah (Houston) Collins, and had eight children, three daughters and five sons. Two of his sons, John Alexander Hazzard and David Hazzard, acquired considerable prominence in public life, the latter winning high distinction in the Civil War, entering the army in 1861 as a private, and rising to the position of captain in 1866 when he

resigned, after having taken part in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac from Bull Run to Petersburg.

PETER ROBINSON.

Peter Robinson was born October 14, 1775, in Sussex Co., Delaware, and was a son of Thomas Robinson, the Loyalist. After reading law with Chancellor Ridgely he was admitted to practice April 23, 1799, and promptly rose to the leadership of the bar of Sussex County, and moreover, assumed a station among the foremost practitioners in the whole State. He became prominently identified with the politics of his day, and before his elevation to the bench, had been three time appointed Secretary of State for Delaware.

His conceded ability and undoubted integrity won for him the respect even of his political antagonists. On January 3, 1832, he was appointed Associate Justice for Sussex County, and remained upon the bench until his death in 1836. He married his first cousin, Arcada, the daughter of his uncle, Peter Robinson, and of this union three children were born, Thomas Robinson, Jr., Alfred P. Robinson, and Mary Robinson, afterwards wife of Judge Edward Wootten, deceased.

CALEB S. LAYTON.

About the year 1700, Tilghman Layton, Esq., an early representative of this old and influential family, came from Virginia with a number of other families and settled in what is now North West Fork Hundred in Sussex County. Of his two sons, William and James, the former died in 1745, leaving three sons, Hewett, Lowder and Robert, the second, Lowder Layton, being the grandfather of Judge Caleb S. Layton. The Judge's father was also named Lowder, and was born August 21, 1770, and married Sarah, daughter of Caleb Sipple, Esq., of Kent County, living in Milford, and engaged in the mercantile business, a good man, and of great influence in his lifetime. He died June 26, 1849.

Of a family of nine children, the subject of this biography,

Caleb S., was the oldest, and was born in the family homestead, April 12, 1798. His father moving into Milford soon after his birth, he had the advantages of the excellent local schools, and received later a more advanced course of instruction at the Philadelphia Grammar School. After finishing his education he engaged in business with his father. October 14, 1819, he married Penelope, the daughter of Governor Caleb and Elizabeth West Rodney, and the year after he was appointed Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County. Resigning this office in 1822, he began the study of law with Thomas Cooper, Esq., of Georgetown, then one of the leaders of the Sussex bar.

He served as Clerk of the Assembly in the Legislature of 1824-5, and, being admitted to the bar in 1826, immediately set himself diligently to work to build up a practice, which he soon achieved, and through his industry and character became noted as a learned and reliable counselor and a successful advocate. He was elected a member of the Assembly in 1826 and re-elected for several terms thereafter, and in 1830 was chosen to the Senate. During the administration of Governor David Hazzard from 1830 to 1833 he served as Secretary of State, and in 1836 Governor Charles Polk re-appointed him. He was made Associate Justice of the Superior Court of Delaware in 1836, and ably sustained the duties and responsibilities of that high station until July, 1844, when, owing to the meager salary which the position afforded, he was compelled to resign, much to the regret of the bar and citizens of the State. Entering anew upon his private practice he added fresh laurels to his reputation as a lawyer.

From about the year 1825 until his death in 1882, in addition to his standing and prominence as lawyer and judge, he exercised a wide influence in politics, and labored with equal zeal and success in furthering the principles and power of the party of his choice. Early in his career he was ever found in the forefront of the Old Line Whig movement, and upon its natural merger in the late fifties into the Republican party,

he transferred to that organization his ardent loyalty and zeal, and in those stirring times when new and big questions were in the throes of Titan birth, questions whose acceptance or rejection meant the life or death of the nation, Judge Layton was ever foremost among those patriotic Delawareans who threw their talents, their labors, their social and political influence into the struggle and turned the sometime quivering scale plump down for "The Union, one and inseparable of these States!" A forcible speaker in the hustings, a clear and accurate thinker when debating in any forum those live issues, he became in that crucial hour a mighty power for good, a recognized leader in the public affairs and politics of his State, and kept this primacy until his death.

To Judge Layton is assigned the high honor of being the author of the free school system of the State, for he introduced the bill which created it, and maintained always a warm interest in its success, fostering every effort or measure looking to the maintenance and improvement of Delaware's educational, moral and religious institutions. To him also should be accorded another and yet loftier meed of praise, that of introducing, when a member of the Delaware Legislature, the first bill to abolish slavery that ennobles its annals.

For nearly fifty years he was a Christian, a consistent member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and a liberal supporter of home and foreign evangelical work. It is an especially grateful task to supplement the record of such a distinguished public and professional career, with the many pleasing social and domestic virtues which adorned his private life. Judge Layton possessed to a large degree the rare and in a *man*, truly lovable, quality of amiability; was of pleasing manners and polished address; his conversation so intelligent and agreeable that his presence was everywhere socially welcomed, while at his own fireside his delightful ways and loving words made him with his own a very idol of affectionate esteem and reverence.

The wife of his youth was a noble Christian woman, posses-

sing a character of rare excellence and goodness, and proved to her husband and a large family of nine children a devoted wife and mother. Dr. Joseph R. Layton, well-known throughout Delaware in his lifetime, was their oldest child; Col. Caleb R. Layton of the United States army, another son died August 20, 1887; Daniel J. Layton a third son is the oldest member of the Sussex County bar, and at present Register of Wills, and their daughter Penelope is the wife of Rev. John L. McKim, and Lavinia of Rev. George F. Plummer.

After the death of his first wife, Judge Layton married Ann, the daughter of Dr. William Morris of Dover, who survived him four years. Erect and graceful in stature in his youth and manhood, he kept that carriage to a remarkable degree even in extreme old age. Finally, this truly noble man, to quote the eloquent words of the historian Scharf, "In the ripeness of advanced age, passed away after a brief illness, October 3, 1882, leaving behind him the fragrant memory of a well spent life."

JAMES R. BLACK.

James R. Black was born in Newark, Delaware, in 1785. After being educated in the academy of his native town, he attended Dickinson College, from which institution he was duly graduated. He thereupon entered the law office of Hon. George Read, Jr., son of the Signer, and after studying law under that preceptor, was admitted to the bar of New Castle County, at the November Term 1806. Opening a law office, his fine talents, marked industry and upright character speedily won for him a large clientele and at length placed him among the first counselors of his time.

Upon the re-organization of the Court in 1832, he, together with the Hon. Samuel M. Harrington and the Hon. Peter Robinson, was appointed an Associate Justice, and kept his seat on the bench until his death September 3, 1839. Judge Black was highly esteemed in his official position not less than as lawyer and private citizen. Two days after his death,

the bar of New Castle County held a meeting, and adopted the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the death of James R. Black, one of the Associate Justices of this State, we recognize a public misfortune which we individually and as members of the legal profession must peculiarly feel and deplore ; regarding the sad event not only as the loss of a friend whose character in private life justly endeared him to the whole community, but of a judge whose sound legal learning, uncompromising integrity, and faithful discharge of duty, gave inestimable value to his official labors, and adorned and dignified his station.

JOHN J. MILLIGAN.

John J. Milligan was born December 10, 1795, in the paternal homestead on Bohemia Manor, Cecil County, Maryland. His grandfather George Milligan, who came from Ayrshire, Scotland, settled in Maryland about 1750, and his father Robert Milligan was educated at the University of Saint Andrew's in Scotland, and read law in the Middle Temple, London. Returning to America, he was admitted to the Bar at Annapolis, Maryland, though residing chiefly at his home in Bohemia. He married a daughter of John Jones, Esq., whose estate was near Cantwell's Bridge, now Odessa ; his wife's mother was Lydia Cantwell, a direct descendant of the Quaker martyr, Mary Dyer.

When Judge Milligan was a lad, his father bought a house in Wilmington for a temporary residence to escape the malarial fevers of his country place on the Manor, but dying shortly thereafter, the family continued to live in Wilmington, where the educational advantages were superior to those in Bohemia. Young Milligan attended the Wilmington Academy, St. Mary's College, Baltimore, and finally in 1814 graduated from Princeton College. He read law in the office of his brother-in-law, Hon. Louis McLane, and was admitted to the Bar of New Castle County, in December, 1818, but because of poor health, was unable to engage in active practice.

In the year 1832 he was elected to Congress where he was returned for three consecutive terms, and received the nomination for a fourth term. About a year after the expiration

of his service in Congress he was appointed by Governor Comegys an Associate Justice of the Superior Court of New Castle County to succeed Judge Black, then just deceased. He held the office of judge for twenty-five years, and resigned September 16, 1864.

That he was an able, a wise and conscientious judge, is the consensus of the members of the Bar who practiced in the period of his incumbency. In the trial of causes he was uniformly patient, attentive, impartial, never for the sake of public applause indorsing or advocating any course contrary to his own sense of right and justice. To his honor it is told of him that many years ago, long before the modern "grandfather" laws and "Jim Crow cars" oppressions were invented, when the Legislature had passed a like measure for harassing the colored people and hampering their right to travel in the State, and had, moreover, laid upon the courts the duty of enjoining upon the grand juries at the spring term in each county, the strict enforcement of the unjust law, Judge Milligan, though himself a Democrat, while thus instructing the grand juries, denounced the law as needlessly harsh and unjust, and recommended its speedy repeal.

He was tendered the portfolio of Secretary of the Interior in the Cabinet of President Fillmore, but was forced by reason of his failing health to decline this honor. Very warm expressions of regret were generally spoken by the citizens of the State upon the occasion of Judge Milligan's relinquishment of the judicial position he had so long and so honorably filled, and Governor Cannon, in accepting his resignation, addressed to him through the Secretary of State, a letter expressive of his profound regret that the State was to lose the services of one who had "performed the duties of his office with fidelity and ability."

His presence was at once commanding and engaging; his address that of the cultured gentleman he truly was, with a charm and kindness of manner that impressed every one with whom he dealt. His portrait strikingly resembles that of

Charles Sumner, a fine mingling of innate gentleness with a lofty spirit of independence and courage. His generous treatment of the younger members of the Bar was long remembered, and often recounted after his death, which took place in Philadelphia, April 20, 1875.

EDWARD WOOTTEN.

Edward Wootten, for forty years an Associate Justice of the Courts of Delaware, was born in Laurel, Delaware, October 2, 1810. His grandfather, Peter G. Wootten, Sr., came from England and settled with his four sons upon a large tract of land, some two thousand acres in extent, near the town of Laurel, Delaware. His father, Peter G. Wootten, became a successful business man, and likewise came to occupy a prominent place in the politics of his day, being several times sent to the Legislature. Young Wootten was educated at the academy of his native town, then a noted school, and after graduation began the study of the law with Thomas Cooper, Esq., of Georgetown, and upon his death finished his legal studies with James Rogers, Esq., of New Castle, and after his admission to practice in 1830, opened a law office in Georgetown.

Coming soon to the fore in his profession, he was paid the unsolicited compliment, in 1845, of the unanimous vote of the Democratic convention for Congress, but preferring his chosen profession to any political career, he declined the nomination. So manifest were his qualifications for a judicial position that in 1846 lawyers representing both parties in the State urged Governor Cooper, who was a Whig, to appoint him. But the Governor was too stout a partisan to yield to this very proper request. The following year, however, upon the succession of Governor Tharp to the executive office, Mr. Wootten was appointed to fill a judicial vacancy. The appointment gave general satisfaction to his legal brethren, who appreciated his ability and learning as a jurist, and it likewise pleased the laity. No one of his cotemporaries during his protracted

service on the bench surpassed him in a thorough knowledge of the law, or in the soundness of his judicial decisions.

Judge Wootten's memory, like that of Macaulay's or Lord Alger's, is said to have been truly wonderful, a single hearing or reading of a fact fixing it indelibly in his memory. In 1833 he married Mary, the daughter of Judge Peter Robinson, by whom he had one son, Alfred P. R. Wootten. For thirty years he was a trustee of the Georgetown Academy; for sixteen a director of the Farmer's Bank in that town, and long a vestryman and senior warden of the Protestant Episcopal Church. On March 1, 1887, he died of pneumonia originating in a cold contracted on the cars.

The bar at a meeting held at Dover, passed appropriate resolutions declarative of the great loss his death entailed upon the profession, and the State at large; upon which occasion Chief Justice Comegys said: "I had the honor of sitting with him for eleven years, and in that time I never beheld in him the slightest disposition to avoid any performance of duty, nor weakness of purpose to do exact justice." The Chief Justice also referred to Judge Wootten's accurate knowledge of the law, and to his phenomenal recollection of the decisions of the Delaware courts and the details of judicial practice.

The State officials and members of the Bar attended his funeral at Georgetown in large numbers, a special train from Wilmington being chartered for that purpose. His remains were placed beside those of his wife in the cemetery of Saint George's Chapel in Indian River Hundred.

JOHN H. PAYNTER.

John Henry Paynter, though born in New York City, February 23, 1838, while his father was temporarily engaged there in the grain commission business, came of very old Delaware stock, his ancestors having been among the earliest settlers in the State and prominently identified with its political history. His father Samuel R. Paynter, the son of Governor Samuel Paynter, was a successful merchant in Sussex



John H. Paynter



County, and his mother was Sallie A., daughter of Caleb Ross, Esq., and a sister of Governor William H. Ross. In 1842, his parents removed to Laurel, and two years later to Drawbridge, Sussex County, where his father was extensively engaged in merchanting in grain, wood and bark, and in ship-building.

After receiving an early training in the schools of Laurel, Milton and Georgetown, he finished his preparatory studies at Newark Academy, and in 1854 entered Delaware College, where he received at the hands of the faculty the honor of class monitor, a distinction conferred only for superior scholarship in entrance examinations. At the close of his freshman year he entered the Sophomore Class of Union College at Schenectady, New York, of which Dr. Eliphalet Nott was then president. Graduating in 1858, he immediately entered himself as a law student at Georgetown, under the Hon. Edward Wooten, one of the Associate Judges of the State, and was duly admitted in the year 1861. He was at once appointed Deputy Attorney-General by the Hon. Alfred R. Wooten, then Attorney-General for Delaware, and for the ensuing three years, until the death of the Attorney-General, was occupied with the duties of prosecuting officer for the entire State.

Becoming thus widely and favorably known, and having espoused the principles of the Democratic party, as had his ancestors before him, he was in great demand as a speaker at the hustings in the warm political combats that marked the period of the close of the sixties, and in 1866 he was elected State Senator, being probably the youngest member ever chosen to the Delaware Senate. His experience as a lawyer and as a politician coupled with his forensic talents, gave him prominence in the Senate in 1867 and 1869, and made him a very useful member of that body both in general debate and in the sessions of the Finance Committee at that time considering important financial legislation. In 1869 while yet a Senator, the reputation gained in that office caused him to be appointed Attorney-General for the State by Governor Saulsbury, but a question having been raised as to his eligibility to

that office under a recent statute increasing, it was claimed, the salary, he resigned the position after only three weeks' tenure thereof, not caring, he declared, to hold any office concerning which there was even the least question.

In the campaign of 1870 he took a prominent part both upon the stump and as chairman of the Democratic County Central Committee of Sussex County, and won for his party a sweeping victory. In January, 1871, he was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Ponder, and held the position four years till the end of the Governor's term, his administration of its affairs giving wide satisfaction. During this period, in conjunction with Hon. James L. Wolcott, he was employed by the Legislature in drafting the tax laws of the State, which, in the main, still serve the purposes of revenue for the State.

The Legislature during the session of 1871, appointed him to digest and codify the tangled and oftentimes contradictory mass of statutes, amendments and repeals which had accumulated, a veritable *moles indigesta*, since the last revision in 1852; and though much of his time was of necessity occupied with the responsible duties of his office of Secretary of State, and with the demands of his own private and legal business, nevertheless, he finished the laborious task of reducing this statutory chaos to a consistent and harmonious system, by the opening of the Legislature of 1873. After his work had been examined and approved by a joint committee of both Houses, it was ordered incorporated in, and published with the existing Code under the title of the "Revised Code of 1852 as Amended etc., 1874." June 4, 1872, Mr. Paynter married Sallie Custis Wright, the daughter of Col. Gardiner H. Wright, a prominent citizen of Georgetown. His wife died four years thereafter, leaving one son, Rowland G. Paynter, now a practicing physician at Georgetown. Judge Paynter was prominently urged for Congress in 1878, and received a heavy vote in the convention, and again in 1882 as nominee for Governor. In June, 1885, he married Hannah E.,

daughter of Governor Stockley of Sussex County. He was appointed, in 1885, a second time to the Attorney-Generalship of the State, which office he had resigned in 1869, and held the appointment for about two years, during which period he conducted on behalf of the State several noted prosecutions, among others *State vs. Becker*, *State vs. Davis*, and *State vs. Falley*.

He resigned the office of Attorney-General March 25, 1887, to accept that of Associate Justice, offered to him by Governor Biggs upon the death of Judge Wootten, and in his new station soon gained the entire confidence of his associates and the Bar by the soundness of his legal judgments and his courteous demeanor on the woolsack.

Judge Paynter added to his other manifold labors, official and professional, that of editing and publishing from 1881 to 1887 the "Delaware Democrat," in whose columns his editorials came to be known for their strong and correct presentation of the principles of Democracy joined to a candid, honest statement of the facts involved.

For ten years, from 1862 to 1872, he was a member of the Democratic County Central Committee, and its chairman for four years; a member of the Democratic County Convention in 1870 and 1880, and three times a delegate to the Democratic State Convention, in that of 1872 being made chairman, and elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention of the same year, wherein he used his utmost resources to prevent the ruinous blunder of the nomination of Horace Greeley.

After a service of three years on the bench he died at Georgetown, June 25, 1890.

WILLIAM G. WHITELY.

William G. Whitely, the son of Henry and Catherine Whitely, was born near Newark, Delaware, August 7, 1819. He was educated at Delaware and Princeton Colleges, graduating from the latter institution in 1838. He at once began to study law under James A. Bayard, and was admitted to the

Bar in the year 1841. After a decade's successful pursuit of his profession in the City of Wilmington, he was appointed Prothonotary and removed to New Castle, then the county seat. He was a successful candidate for congressional honors on the Democratic ticket in 1856, and again for a second term until 1861, when he resumed the practice of the law, returning to Wilmington, where he afterwards resided.

In 1873 he was honored with an election to the Mayoralty of the city, and gave great satisfaction to the citizens by his efficient and honorable service. He was appointed a member of the commission that arbitrated the Delaware and New Jersey boundary-line dispute. Judge Whitely was an earnest Democrat, active in politics and a leader of his party in this State. He was much inclined to local historical investigation, and probably more familiar with the annals of his city and State than any other person. His account of Delaware's soldiers in the war of the Revolution, shows careful research and exhibits not a few pleasing graces of style. Indeed it is matter for regret that he was not permitted to edit and publish the large mass of valuable historical notes and data accumulated in the pursuit of his favorite studies.

He was appointed Associate Judge, March 31, 1884, and served until his death. Judge Whitely possessed fine intellectual powers, allied with unusually attractive qualities of the heart which gave him in his lifetime, both politically and socially, a strong hold upon the affections of the people, and made him popular in every relation, whether as politician, lawyer, judge or private citizen. His official course in Congress and on the bench won for him general respect. June 13, 1844, he married Nancy P., daughter of Dr. William Elmer of Bridgeton, N. J., who bore him three sons and one daughter. His eldest son, Henry Whitely, has for many years been president of the McCullough Iron Company, one of Wilmington's largest and most prosperous industries. The other sons have also made an impress in the business world. Judge Whitely died at his home in Wilmington, April 23, 1886, and his remains were interred at Bridgeton, New Jersey.

JOHN W. HOUSTON.

John Wallace Houston, one of Delaware's best judges, was born at Concord, Sussex County, May 4, 1814. His family is of Scotch origin, and the founders of the American branch came early to America, settling in New York City, where Houston street remains a memorial of their presence. Some of the family settled in Pennsylvania and Delaware, and others went south to Tennessee and Texas, from which last named branch came General Samuel Houston, the unique heroic figure that won the famous fight at San Jacinto whose success crowned Texan independence.

The judge's grandfather was a man of unusual force of character, highly esteemed for his noble and exemplary life. His son John Houston, the father of the judge, was a merchant at Concord, and owned vessels engaged in the coasting trade to Baltimore and elsewhere. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Cornelius Wiltbank who lived on the Broadkill river on lands received by direct inheritance from Hermanus Wiltbank, one of the first Dutch settlers on the Delaware, and a man of note in his day, sheriff of the Dutch court at Hoornkill, now Lewes, and later one of the justices of the court under the Duke of York, the patent for his broad acres around the Hoornkill antedating the Duke's deed to William Penn for the three lower counties, and also Penn's letters patent from King Charles II, for the province of Pennsylvania.

After attending the schools of his town Judge Houston prepared for college at the Newark Academy, and graduated from Yale in 1834. At once after leaving college he entered the office of the Hon. John M. Clayton, then United States Senator for Delaware, and at the height of his fame and power as one of America's foremost statesmen, and three years later was admitted to practice. For two years he had his office at Dover, and then removed to Georgetown where his studious habits and close application to his profession soon brought him both reputation and income. At the early age of twenty-seven he

was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Cooper and for four years ably administered the duties of that post.

In politics Judge Houston was a Whig and being a fluent speaker, entered the political arena in several campaigns as an advocate of the principles of that party. In 1844 the Whigs sent him to Congress, and for three successive terms he represented Delaware in the House of Representatives, finishing his six years of service before his thirty-sixth year.

While preparing for college a strong interest in the preservation of the Union was aroused within him from reading the speeches of Webster and others during the "nullification era," and he then became deeply impressed with the presentiment that a rupture between the North and South would follow, and this view was strengthened by his six years' experience in Congress. He narrates the following highly interesting incident in the life of his friend, the Hon. John M. Clayton, which occurred as they were riding in a carriage near Dover but a few months before Mr. Clayton's death, in the autumn of 1856. The Senator was in very feeble health and was, moreover, closing his extraordinary national career, overborne with the deepest sorrow at the death of his wife and two sons. With great dejection in his manner Senator Clayton remarked that until the defeat of Senator Thomas Benton from Missouri and his own enforced retirement, he had hoped that they together might be able to avert the horrors of the impending Civil War; but that now he was convinced that this awful calamity must befall his country. Then adding that in his few remaining days he would not live to see it, and dwelling upon the appalling nature of such an event, he said "The country is too large for such a form of government, and a peaceable separation would be better," a view as shortsighted and erroneous as that of Webster when he alluded to the great unsettled west as a "barren, inaccessible desert."

Judge Houston solemnly replied to Senator Clayton that a peaceful dissolution of the Union was impracticable—impossi-

ble; and after declaring his opinion that *he* would live to see the attempt made to sever the Union, expressed the strong conviction that the movement would be defeated by the uncompromising, invincible devotion of a vast majority of the people of the United States.

Retiring from Congress in 1851, Judge Houston devoted himself four years most assiduously to his profession until he was chosen, May 4, 1855, Associate Justice of the State for the County of Kent, which honorable public station he filled with great distinction to himself and profit to the State for nearly forty years. Many important cases arose during his long incumbency, and his decisions thereon have become authoritative both in the home forum and throughout the Union. As *ex-officio* Reporter for the State Courts, he published nine volumes of the judicial decisions of Delaware.

His industrious devotion to the business of his high office, and the entire fairness and impartiality with which he administered its functions, gave great satisfaction alike to the bar and to suitors, and won for him the highest regard of all the people. Although in the heyday of his political successes, he had exerted a controlling influence, he believed that politics should be altogether excluded from the courts, and the judiciary be kept non-partisan; and his own interpretations and adjudications of the law, in their candor and manifest impartiality exemplify the principles of his belief.

Judge Houston was a great lover of the classics, ancient and modern, and through his diligent studies of the masterpieces of English and American thought, acquired a fine taste for belles-lettres. He was sent as delegate from Delaware to the Peace Conference which met in Washington in 1861, and very shortly after his return therefrom he was called upon to make an address at the opening of the recently completed Mechanics Institute in Wilmington. Profoundly convinced that a gigantic and bloody civil war was impending, he naturally made that the subject of his discourse, in which he exhorted every patriot American of whatever party, class or calling, to

support the Constitution and the Union of the States, and to prove to the world that the Republic possessed all the inherent strength and stability of other less liberal and free forms of government. Whereupon, after alluding to the acknowledged territorial and other disparities of the two sections, and expressing the fullest confidence that in the providence of God the Union would finally be preserved, he ventured a detailed prediction which, viewed in the light of succeeding events, certainly displayed wonderful judgment and prevision, viz., that the early successes would be upon the part of the South; that the contest would not last longer than about four years; that President Lincoln would be re-elected; that one million of men would be needed for the North, and an enormous amount of treasure.

In 1878, by request, the judge read before the Historical Society of Delaware an exhaustive paper on the question of the boundary line between Delaware and the adjacent states. Judge Houston's unusually long and useful public services terminated by his resignation from the bench in 1892. His death occurred on April 23, 1895, and his remains were buried in the Presbyterian churchyard at Lewes.

IGNATIUS C. GRUBB.

Ignatius C. Grubb was born April 12, 1841, at Grubb's Landing, Delaware, on the family homestead, known as the "Stockdales," a possession of his father's house since Penn's original conveyance. Mr. Grubb was educated at the Delaware Academy under the direction of Col. Hyatt, late president of the Pennsylvania Military College at Chester, Pennsylvania, and having thereafter completed a classical course at Yale College, read law under his guardian, Victor DuPont, Esq., a leading lawyer in Wilmington, and was admitted to the Delaware bar in November, 1862.

Through the efforts of Mr. Grubb the vexatious controversy respecting the twelve-mile circle, which at one time threatened to end in an armed conflict between the Delaware and New

Jersey fishermen, was adjusted when he was Secretary of State under Governor Cochran. Upon his suggestion the whole matter was taken into the Supreme Court of the United States on a bill in equity by the State of New Jersey to have the boundary line settled, and after a lapse of over a quarter of a century, the matter is still pending, though steps have been recently taken by the Legislature of both States looking to an amicable adjustment of the dispute through a joint commission.

Mr. Grubb has been conspicuously honored by his party, and the people of the State in being appointed to various positions of trust and honor under the State government. In 1867 he was elected clerk of the State House of Representatives, and in the same year was made Deputy Attorney-General under Attorney-General Paynter. He was elected City Solicitor for the city of Wilmington in 1871, and Governor Cochran, in recognition of his services in securing for him the gubernatorial nomination in 1874, made him Secretary of State, which office he filled to the end of the Governor's term. Again, in 1879 he was appointed a member of the National Democratic campaign committee, and in 1880 the Cincinnati Convention chose him as the Delaware member of the Democratic National Committee, to which honor he was re-appointed four years later by the Chicago convention.

In 1884 he was appointed Register of Wills for New Castle County and in 1885 he was commissioned by Governor Stockley, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in the place of Hon. William G. Whitely deceased. The office of Chief Justice was offered him in 1893 by Governor Reynolds, but he declined that honor, retaining his position of Associate Justice till 1897 when all life-tenure judgeships were abolished by the new Constitution. Shortly thereafter, however, Governor Tunnell appointed him to the new office of Associate Judge of the Superior Court which important trust he is still executing. It does much credit to his honor and fairness that he was for years one of the foremost to protest against the

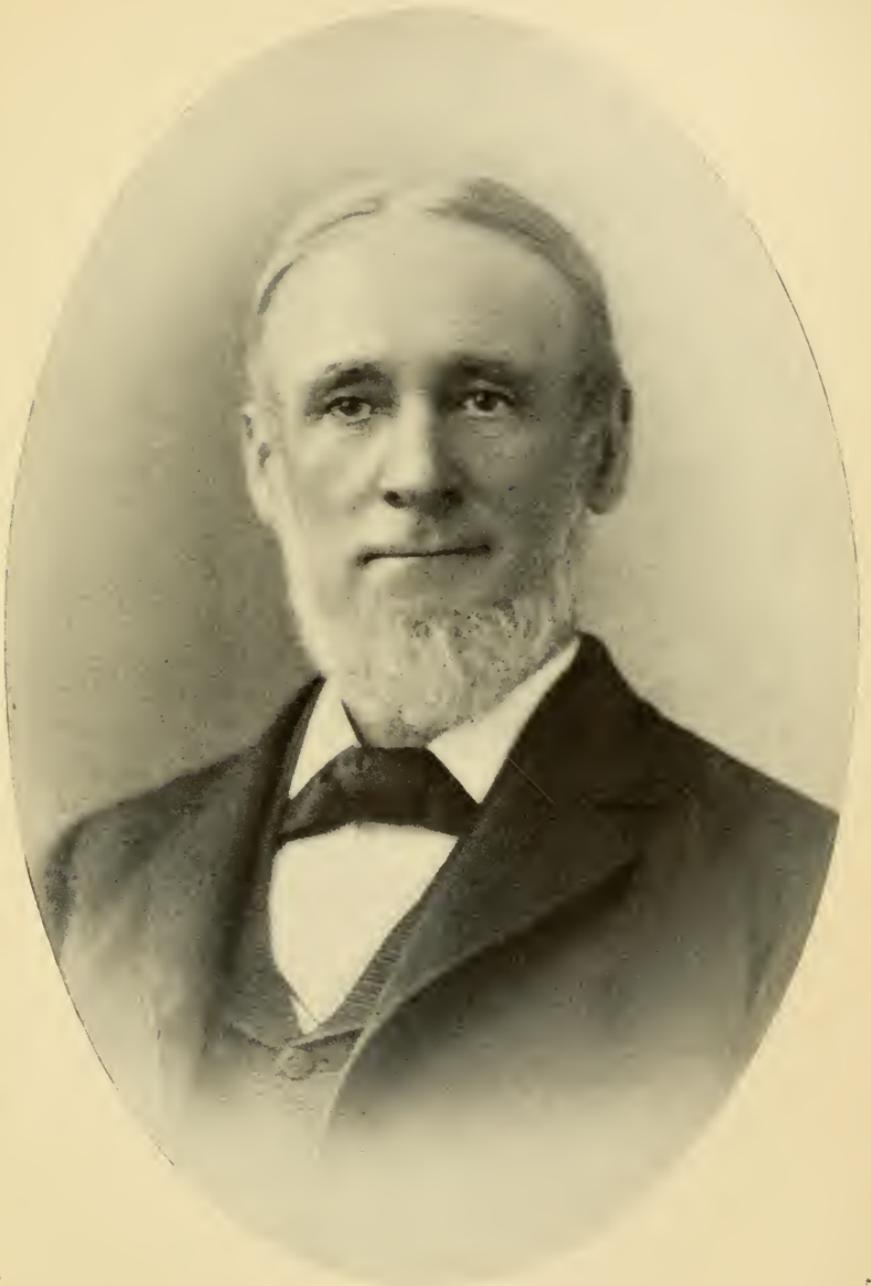
unjust course of his own party in refusing to New Castle County an equitable legislative representation, and that, furthermore, he was active in bringing about the Constitutional Convention of 1897 which made it possible to correct this grave political injustice.

Besides his labors as a lawyer, jurist and politician, Judge Grubb has always interested himself in various other secular and religious matters, being a member of the Historical Society of Delaware; Deputy Governor General of the General Society of Colonial Wars; Member of the Council of the American Bar Association; Member of the Geological Association; a vestryman of Old Swedes Trinity P. E. Church in Wilmington, and a member of the Diocesan Church Club of Delaware. For years the Judge has spent his vacations in foreign travel, in the course of which he has visited every quarter of the globe. He has never married.

CHARLES M. CULLEN.

The first ancestor of the Cullen family in America was George Cullen, great-grandfather of Judge Cullen, of whose history little is known, save that he came from Scotland, and was one of the early settlers in Kent County, Delaware, where he married Sarah Mason. Charles Mason Cullen, their second son, on the twenty-sixth day of January, 1796, married Elizabeth Harris, the widow of Jonathan Dickerson and the mother of a large family. From her marriage with Mr. Cullen only one child was born, Elisha D. Cullen, born April 23, 1799, at Millsboro, Delaware. Charles M. Cullen, who was a well-to-do farmer, shortly after his son's birth removed to Lewes, Delaware, and became a merchant and miller. He was sent to the Legislature, and was a useful and influential citizen. He died in 1828 at the age of sixty-five.

His son Elisha, after being well trained in the schools of his home town, Lewes, went to Princeton, and graduated therefrom. After reading law in the office of Judge Robinson of Georgetown, Delaware, he was admitted to the Bar in 1821,



CHARLES M. CULLEN.
1828-1903.



and during his life rose to distinction in that profession as a sound and able lawyer, becoming, in fact, one of the leaders of the Sussex County Bar. In 1854 he was sent to Congress by the American party, and participated in the discussions of the great questions of national interest that distinguished that period. His interest in many of these burning issues was very deep and his speeches thereon made a lively impression upon all who heard them. Personally, he was noted for his great modesty and simplicity of character, which traits augmented the admiration his talents and learning aroused. He married April 11, 1822, Margaret, daughter of Robert and Naomi West of Lewes. Of their six children, three died in early infancy, and one, Lydia W., in early womanhood.

Charles Mason Cullen, the subject of this memoir, was born in Georgetown, Delaware, June 14, 1828, and received his early education in the schools of his native town. In 1848 he graduated from Yale College, and at once began the study of law under the guidance of his father, with whom, after his admission to the bar in October, 1851, he formed a partnership, which lasted until the death of the Senior Cullen. It would be uttering high praise to say of the son, that he worthily maintained the reputation of his father before him. Indeed, his character and ability as a lawyer is proven, not only by his successful professional course, but also by his elevation to the bench which occurred in August, 1889, when he was appointed judge of the Superior Court.

Very few, if any, better read lawyers have practiced at the Delaware bar. He was thoroughly grounded in the principles of law, and this became more apparent after his elevation to the bench where he won the highest regard and respect of the entire bar of the State. As a judge he was prompt, fearless and impartial. As a man he was genial and companionable, most entertaining as a conversationalist.

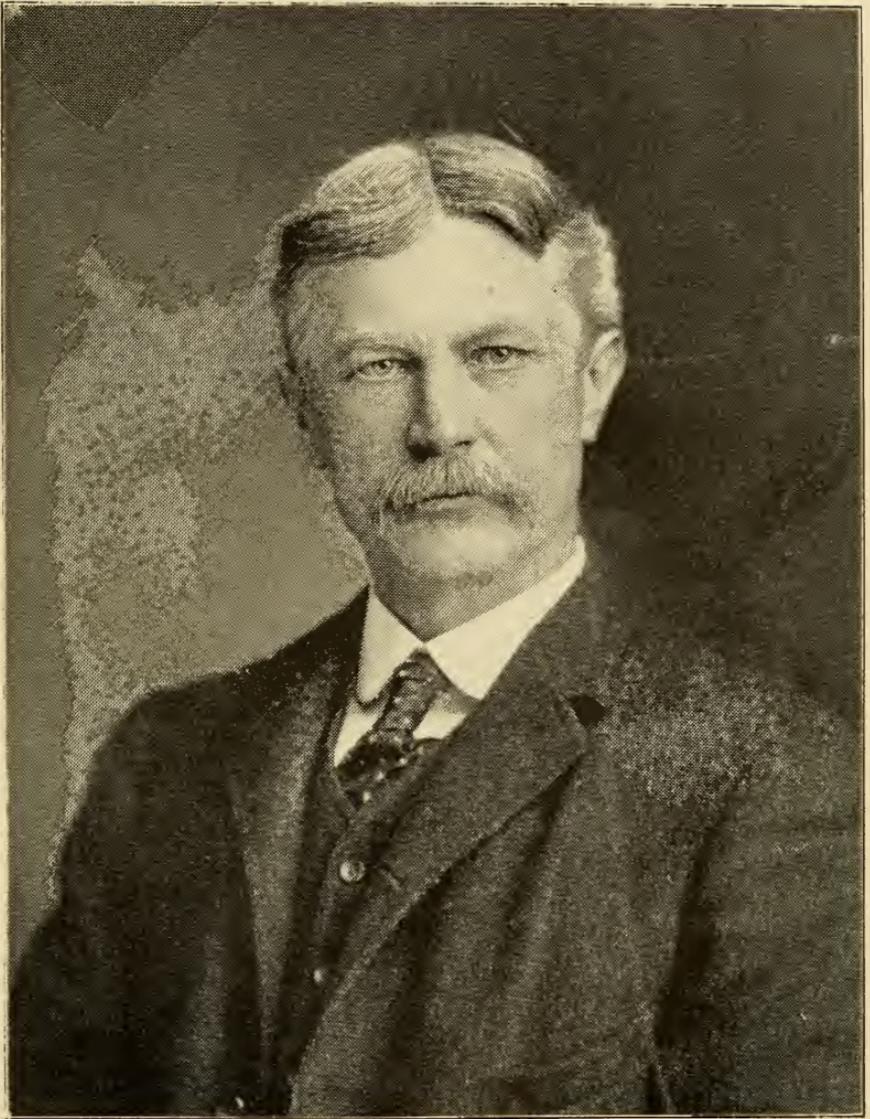
Retiring from the bench in 1897, he resumed his private practice. On May 16, 1852, he married Virginia, daughter of Bishop Beverly Waugh. Four children blest the union, of

whom Charles W. Cullen, his youngest son, is a leading lawyer of Georgetown, Delaware, and a successful practitioner. Judge Cullen was a Democrat, but did not actively participate in the political battles of the day.

DAVID T. MARVEL.

David Thomas Marvel, the son of Josiah P., and Harriet Ann (Pepper) Marvel was born in Georgetown, Delaware, November 2, 1851. Mr. Marvel's ancestors were English, and settled in Delaware in the latter part of the seventeenth century, where for the most part they have since been engaged in farming; many of them have held public positions of trust in their adopted state during the past two hundred years. David T. Marvel spent his early years on a farm, which for about two hundred years has been the home possession of the family, and upon which they still reside. He got his early education in the public schools and at the academy of his native town. In 1873 he graduated from Princeton College, and in three years, thereafter, received from that institution his degree of M. A.

Soon after his graduation Mr. Marvel began the study of law with the Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, also, at the same time, during that and the ensuing year, teaching mathematics in Prof. Reynolds' Academy in Wilmington, Delaware. In November of 1874 he went to Washington with Senator Bayard as his secretary, and remained there three years. He then entered the Harvard Law School, and after a two years' course was admitted to the bar at Georgetown, Delaware, in 1879, beginning his practice in that town. While at Harvard he took great interest in the athletic sports of the day and, thanks to his fine physique and gymnastic skill, became a member of the law school boat club, and was chosen captain of the law school foot-ball team. He was elected to membership in the "Pow-Wow Law Club," and made an honorary member of the "Hasty Pudding Club." For several years he owned an interest in the Sussex Journal, and edited it until



DAVID T. MARVEL.



February, 1883, when he disposed of his interest in that publication to devote thereafter his whole time to the practice of his profession.

In 1881 he was chosen clerk of the House of Representatives of Delaware, and in 1882 was made county attorney for Sussex County, holding that office for six years and ably performing its duties. He was Inspector-General with the rank of Brigadier-General on the staff of Governor Stockley from 1882 to 1886. For two years he was secretary of the State Board of Education and president of the Georgetown school board for four years.

He was appointed Secretary of State in January, 1891, and held that office for two years, when upon his resignation, he was appointed Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware, the tenure of that office then being for life. But upon the adoption, June 4, 1897, of the new Constitution, the entire judiciary of the State was *ipso facto* displaced. Article IV., Section 3, provided, "That no more than three of the said five law judges, in office at the same time, shall have been appointed from the same political party" and Judge Marvel being the fourth Democratic judge and the junior appointee, his re-appointment under the new constitution was impossible, and he thereupon resumed his private practice in Wilmington, where, in conjunction with his brother, Josiah Marvel, he has acquired a large and increasing clientele.

Judge Marvel gave the State and bar four years of creditable service upon the bench. Of pleasing manners, he was always approachable, and yet he was ever dignified in his bearing, and won the regard both of the bar and the suitors in Court. He was married February 17, 1885, to Mary Robinson Wootten, grand-daughter of the late Judge Edward Wootten, and has one daughter, Ann Burton, born February 3, 1886. Mr. Marvel is an Episcopalian, and has at various times served as vestryman in St. Paul's church at Georgetown, and in a similar capacity at Milford and at Dover.

WILLIAM C. SPRUANCE.

William Corbit Spruance, the son of Presley and Sarah Corbit Spruance, was born in Smyrna, Delaware, April 2, 1831. His father was a merchant in Smyrna and a highly esteemed citizen, and was once chosen United States Senator from Delaware. Young Spruance, after preparing for college under the learned Rev. George Foot and at the Newark Academy, entered Princeton College in January, 1849, and graduated in 1852. He read a thorough course of law under Chief Justice Comegys and the Hon. George B. Rodney, and at the Harvard law school. In November, 1855, he was duly admitted to the bar at New Castle, where he remained in practice until 1881, when, upon the removal of the Courts to the new Court House in Wilmington, he continued his practice in that city.

By reason of his eminent ability and energy, coupled with a robust personality, Mr. Spruance soon came to be regarded by his fellow practitioners and the laity in general, throughout the State, as one of the foremost lawyers in Delaware. Alike in the counsels of the party, and on the hustings, his judgment and force of character, and his eloquence as a speaker, made him a leader in the Republican party. To his high honor be it written that all his life he has been an uncompromising antagonist of human slavery, and in the early days, when the cruel injustice of that horrid practice was not, as now, conceded, and when it needed the sternest sort of moral fiber to proclaim oneself as a "Black Republican;" he had the courage to denounce its iniquity in no measured terms.

He was appointed Deputy Attorney General of the State for three years, and City Solicitor of Wilmington for two years. In 1876 he was made United States District Attorney, but resigned that office after four years' admirable administration of its duties. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1897, and as Chairman of the most important of all the committees, the Committee on the Judiciary, and as a member of the Committee on Elections, and on Executive

Offices, his ample learning, his large legal and political experience, added to great natural judgment, made him preëminently useful in directing and shaping the radical changes which were introduced in that organic law, and which resulted in the formation of the present vastly improved State Constitution.

He joined the Republican party upon its formation, and from the outbreak of the Civil War, was an enthusiastic supporter of the Union. In June, 1897, the high honor of senior Associate Justice of Delaware was conferred upon him for the term of twelve years, the limit provided by the Constitution himself helped to frame. He continues to hold that office, and to display therein the same distinguished abilities which won for him so signal a success as a practicing lawyer.

On June 16, 1858, Mr. Spruance married, Maria Louisa Spottswood, oldest daughter of the Rev. John B. Spottswood, D. D. of New Castle, Delaware. Five children, four sons and one daughter, came to bless the home that was darkened by the loss, January 1, 1901, of the devoted wife and mother who for almost forty-three years had been its light and life.

WILLIAM H. BOYCE.

William Henry Boyce, the son of James H. and Sarah I. Otwell Boyce, was born at Bull's Mill in Broad Creek Hundred, Delaware, November 28, 1855. His father was for years engaged in the lumber and merchandise business, but later became a farmer. He held a number of responsible offices in the county and state, such as Treasurer for two years and State Auditor of Accounts for four years, etc. His son William H., is the oldest of four children. William H. Boyce had the good fortune to pass his boyhood life on his father's farm, attending, meanwhile, the country schools in the neighborhood. He finished his education at the Laurel Academy, and during his summer vacations returned to the farm to help his father, except during the seasons of 1873 and 1878 which he spent in the commission business in New York and Philadelphia.

In 1875 he was chosen principal of the public schools in Laurel, and after retaining that position for five years, resigned to accept the principalship of the Oxford schools. This last office he relinquished upon his appointment by Governor John W. Hall, to the responsible position of Recorder of Deeds for Sussex County, Delaware. During his five years incumbency, he read law under Alfred P. Robinson, Esq., afterwards Chief Justice of the State. He was admitted to the bar in 1887, and began practice at Georgetown as a junior partner with his distinguished instructor. His legal abilities were not long in securing ample recognition, and in 1896 at their February term, the Levy Court Commissioners elected him their attorney in which capacity he acted until his appointment, January 19, 1897, by Governor Ebe W. Tunnell, Secretary of State, which office, however, he surrendered on the following June 17th to accept the honorable station of Associate Justice of the State, whose responsible duties he is still in a very able manner administering.

Long prior to the Constitutional Convention of 1897 Mr. Boyce had been an earnest advocate of the revision of Delaware's organic law, having been prominently identified with a similar attempt made in 1887, and he continued warmly to promote that cause till its success in 1897. He also wisely used his influence to secure the election of non-partisan delegates, and with other equally liberal-minded citizens, was the means of effecting a fusion of parties in his own county which made that patriotic move a possibility. In politics the Judge has always been a Democrat, and, prior to his judicial office, had taken a prominent part in the various campaigns as chairman of the County Central Committee, and member of the State Central Committee. He was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Chicago in 1896, and voted for the late Robert E. Pattison of Pennsylvania for President.

He rendered the public schools at Georgetown a useful service in 1885 by championing the movement for their improve-

ment, the present fine building in that town, together with its site, being the outcome of his efforts in that behalf. He was twice elected president of the Town Council of Georgetown. October 25, 1882, he married Emma E. Valliant, daughter of William and Mary Guest Valliant. Their first son, Valliant, died at the age of six years, and their second, James, is now a young man preparing for college. Judge Boyce and wife are members of St. Paul's P. E. Church at Georgetown, where, since 1882, he has been a member of the vestry, and, since 1887, junior warden of the congregation.

JAMES PENNEWILL.

James Pennewill, the son of Simeon and Annie E. Curry Pennewill, was born near Greenwood, Sussex County, Delaware, June 16, 1854. His father, like his grandfather before him, was a prosperous farmer in Sussex County. February 1, 1847, he married Annie E. Curry, daughter of Thomas and Nancy Curry, and James was the second of the four sons, who, together with a daughter, Mary, were born of this marriage. James Pennewill received his youthful education in the public schools of Greenwood and Bridgeville, and after spending three years at the academy of Professor William A. Reynolds in Wilmington, Delaware, he entered Princeton University, from which institution he graduated in 1875. He immediately began reading law under the Hon. Nathaniel B. Smithers, and was duly admitted to the Delaware bar, October 28, 1878, and began the practice of his profession in Dover, where for twenty years he kept a station among the very foremost members of his craft, having for associates during that period, several of the most eminent practitioners in the State, among others, the Hon. James L. Wolcott, the late Chancellor.

On June 14, 1897, under the re-organization of the judiciary, pursuant to the new Constitution, he was made an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware. December 5, 1888, Mr. Pennewill was married, at Dover, to Alice, daughter of William G. and Temperance A. Hazel of that town. It is

the judgment of the legal fraternity that Justice Pennewill, as a judge, has augmented the high reputation he won as a practicing lawyer. Since the Fall Term of 1897 he has been the official reporter, and has produced five volumes of well-edited reports.

UNITED STATES JUDGES.

GUNNING BEDFORD, JR.

Gunning Bedford, Jr., bore the same name as his father and grandfather. The Bedfords came from England, the first settlers in America, forming part of the Jamestown Colony in Virginia in 1621. Gunning, Jr., was born in Philadelphia, in 1747, where his father served in the office of alderman for several years prior to his death in 1802. Graduating as valedictorian of his class at Princeton College in 1771, he began the study of law with Joseph Reed in Philadelphia, and after his admission to the bar in that city, moved, in 1779, to Dover, and began the practice of law in the Delaware Courts. A few years later he moved his residence to Wilmington.

In 1783 he was elected a member of the Continental Congress, and served for three years. In 1784 he was appointed Attorney General of the State. In 1786 he was elected with George Read, Jacob Broom, John Dickinson and Richard Bassett, a commissioner from Delaware to the Annapolis Convention, and a year later he served with the same eminent gentlemen as a member of the convention that framed the Constitution of the United States. Mr. Bedford was a prominent figure in the constitutional convention, taking a leading part in the discussions of that body, and advocating with much force the principle that each of the states, regardless of size or population, should be accorded an equal representation in the United States Senate.

The Constitution having been promulgated by the convention, Mr. Bedford exerted himself in having the State of Delaware lead the line in ratifying the constitution, thus making Delaware the first state in the Union. In 1788 he was elected



GUNNING BEDFORD, JR.
1747-1812.



a member of the State Council, in which place he served one year, and in 1789 he was appointed by President Washington the first Judge of the United States Court for the District of Delaware. He possessed every qualification for the place, and doubtless his ability and high standing had been impressed upon Washington by his eminent services in both military and professional life, with which service Washington himself was thoroughly familiar. Judge Bedford adorned the bench for a term of twenty-three years, until his death March 30, 1812. Gunning Bedford, Jr., the Judge, is frequently confused with his cousin, Gunning Bedford who was elected Governor of Delaware in 1796.

Judge Bedford married Jane Ballaroux, daughter of James Parker, the early New York printer and editor of the *Post Boy*. Mrs. Bedford was a lady of rare accomplishments and great intellect, and held a leading place in the most cultured circles of society of her day. Judge Bedford had a residence in Wilmington for some years, in the house known as No. 606 Market street, but for nearly twenty years prior to his death lived at "Lombardy" on the Concord turnpike in Brandywine Hundred, where he owned a large farm, part of which is occupied by the Lombardy cemetery.

Judge Bedford's remains were buried in the graveyard adjoining the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington.

JOHN FISHER.

John Fisher was born near Lewes, Sussex County, Delaware, May 22, 1771, being the second son of Jabez and Elizabeth Fisher. Left orphaned of his father at a very early age, he received a classical education through the help of his older brother, General Thomas Fisher, and was then placed by him under the instruction of their cousin Joshua Fisher, Esq., a member of the Dover bar, to which he was admitted in 1792 when barely twenty-one years of age.

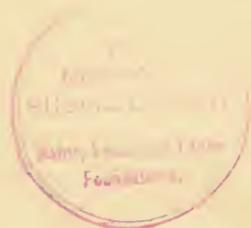
Though lacking the advantages of a collegiate training, he was reputed by his legal brethren to be a remarkably fine Greek

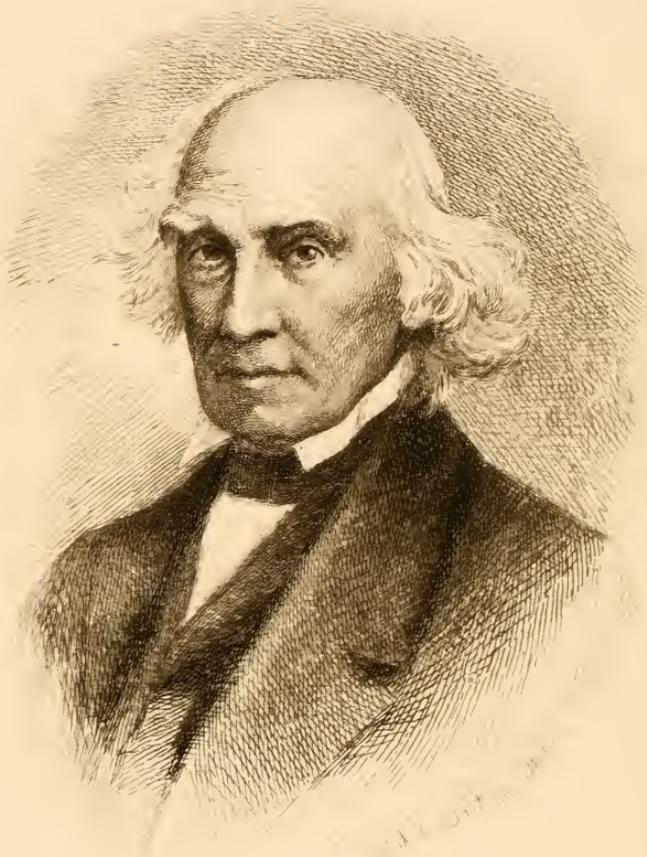
and Latin scholar ; his erudition, like Elihu Burritt's, being due, no doubt, not less to his fine native faculty than to a persistent habit of study. He also possessed poetical talent and was famous for his choice humor and keen wit, and the local literati, among whom, like another Dr. Johnson, he moved, in learning and sharp fence *facile princeps*, listened with delight to his famous verbal encounters with the village wits, and especially with a next-door neighbor of his, one Dr. Arthur Johns.

A bit of his sharp repartee is still current in Dover. Some one in his presence was lauding the marvelous wisdom of Solomon when Judge Fisher replied with a caustic wit, whose apt application to its subject, one Isaac Davis, well known for his business sharpness, was thoroughly appreciated by those who heard it; "Oh, yes; Solomon, no doubt, was a wonderfully wise man in his day and generation, but were he this day living in Kent County, Isaac Davis would hold his judgment bond for all he was worth and a little more before he'd been here a twelvemonth!"

Judge Fisher was twice married, his first wife, Lavinia Rodney, being a niece of Caesar Rodney, the Signer of the Declaration of Independence. To them were born three children, Rodney, Robert and Mary. His son Rodney was for a long time employed as a clerk in the old United States Bank. He afterwards went to China and engaged in the tea trade, but returning home he became a director in the Bank of Commerce in Philadelphia, where he died in the year 1863. After the death of his first wife the Judge married Elizabeth Wilson, her cousin, by whom he had a large family of children.

Judge Fisher was an ardent Democrat of the old type, and in 1812 was appointed by President Madison Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, which office he filled with great ability and fidelity until his death, April 22, 1823. He died suddenly of gout, at Claremont farm, near Smyrna, Delaware, at the age of fifty-two years, and was buried in Christ Church graveyard at Dover.





Willard Hall

WILLARD HALL.

Willard Hall was born in Westford, Mass., December 24, 1780, and came of excellent English stock on both sides of his ancestral house. He owed much of his early training to his grandfather, the Rev. Willard Hall, whose namesake he was. After spending three years at the Westford, Mass., Academy, he entered Harvard at the early age of fifteen, graduating five years thereafter. In 1803 young Hall was admitted to the bar of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, but chancing to read a speech delivered by the Hon. James A. Bayard, he was so strongly impressed thereby that after some correspondence with Mr. Bayard he resolved to make his home in Delaware, and accordingly, April 7, 1803, left his father's house on horseback and arrived at Wilmington in nine days, where after examination by Messrs. Bayard and James P. Wilson he was admitted to the bar of New Castle County.

He soon distinguished himself by his legal acumen, learning and sound judgment, as well as by qualities of high personal honor and integrity, and rapidly rose from one station of honor to another in professional and public life. In 1812 he was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Haslet, and again by Governor Collins in 1821, and served three years in both cases. He was elected to the National House of Representatives in 1816 and in 1818, but declined further reelection. President Monroe in 1823 made him United States District Judge for the District of Delaware, which responsible position he held for nearly half a century, during which long incumbency but a single decision of this upright judge was ever called in question, and this was a case that peculiarly illustrated his possession of the highest qualities of an upright and fearless judge, viz., when in the face of an inflamed and prejudiced public sentiment he issued a writ of habeas corpus for the discharge of certain Southern civilians detained as prisoners in Fort Delaware in 1866 at the close of the Civil War. The Executive Department of the National Government conceded the justness and force of his acute and pro-

found reasoning by acquiescing in his action, whose entire impartiality is further shown by the fact that personally the judge was himself a Union man.

He was a delegate from New Castle County to the Constitutional Convention of 1831, and one of the leading spirits in that body, together with such colleagues as John M. Clayton, James Rogers and George Read, Jr. He was always an active and earnest supporter of the public school system, and was the president of the Wilmington School Board from its organization in 1852 to 1870. The cause of temperance also had in him a warm advocate. For years he was president of the Colonization Society of Delaware, and later an active member of the Society for the Education of Colored Persons. He was president of the Wilmington Savings Fund Society from its inception till forced by the infirmities of old age to retire. He also rendered zealous service to the Delaware State Bible Society for nearly fifty years, serving as its president for thirty years and missing but a single meeting, and that from illness, during that period. Judge Hall joined the Historical Society of Delaware in his eighty-fourth year, and so long as he was able gave it the benefit of his influence and counsel.

He married the daughter of Chancellor Killen, and a number of years after his first wife's death married again in 1826. For forty years he taught the Bible class in the Hanover Street Presbyterian Church, of which he was an active member and a ruling elder. At least once he was sent to represent his church in the General Assembly.

The Judge wrote a pamphlet styled "A Plea for the Sabbath Addressed to the Legal Profession." His whole life and career form a noble living epistle which will indeed long be "known and read of all men." Not until his ninetieth year did this venerable jurist cease to take an active interest in the concerns of his supremely useful life. He found May 10, 1875, a peaceful and fitting close to his vigorous and public-spirited career.

EDWARD G. BRADFORD.

One wonders less at the admitted fact that this little commonwealth of Delaware, has produced such an unusual number of men distinguished in State and national affairs for high qualifications and illustrious achievements; second in this respect to no sister state, when one remembers that quite a number of those whose deeds have shed luster upon her escutcheon, like her Bayards, her Millers, her Saulsburys, were like the subject of this sketch, choice representatives from other states who years ago elected to ally their talents, their labors and their fortunes with Delaware's destiny and fame.

Judge Edward Green Bradford, is an instance in point, for not only was he born on Bohemia Manor, Maryland, but he came furthermore of old and highly renowned Puritan lineage, being no other than a lineal descendant in the seventh generation of William Bradford, the second governor of Plymouth Colony, and a near relative on his mother's side of Dr. Ashbel Green, president of Princeton College. His father, a native of Massachusetts, came to Delaware from Maryland and settled in Wilmington in the early part of the nineteenth century, where he edited the Delaware Gazette, then the organ of the Federalists. He was a man of scholarly attainments and sterling character, and came on the side of his mother, Phoebe George, from a wealthy and influential Irish family which located on Bohemia Manor about 1720 and acquired large landed estates there.

Judge Bradford's parents removed to Wilmington soon after his birth and his life and career were thereafter identified with that place as his adopted City. His early schooling was gotten in the Wilmington schools and at Bristol College, Philadelphia, and December 38, 1839, he graduated from Delaware College.

The next year he began the study of law under Chief Justice Gilpin at that time in the full flush of his fame as a practicing lawyer. Upon the completion of his studies he was admitted to the bar at Georgetown, April 11, 1842, and

such was the high estimate placed upon his personal and professional qualifications by his preceptor, Judge Gilpin, then Attorney-General for the State, that he forthwith made him his deputy, and shortly thereafter gave into his charge the conduct of almost the entire business of that responsible office, and kept him as his deputy until the close of his second term.

The duties of this position, and especially the trial of the numerous criminal cases incident thereto, gave young Bradford an intimate knowledge of the criminal law and ripened the forensic talents and skill for which in after years he was famous at the Delaware bar.

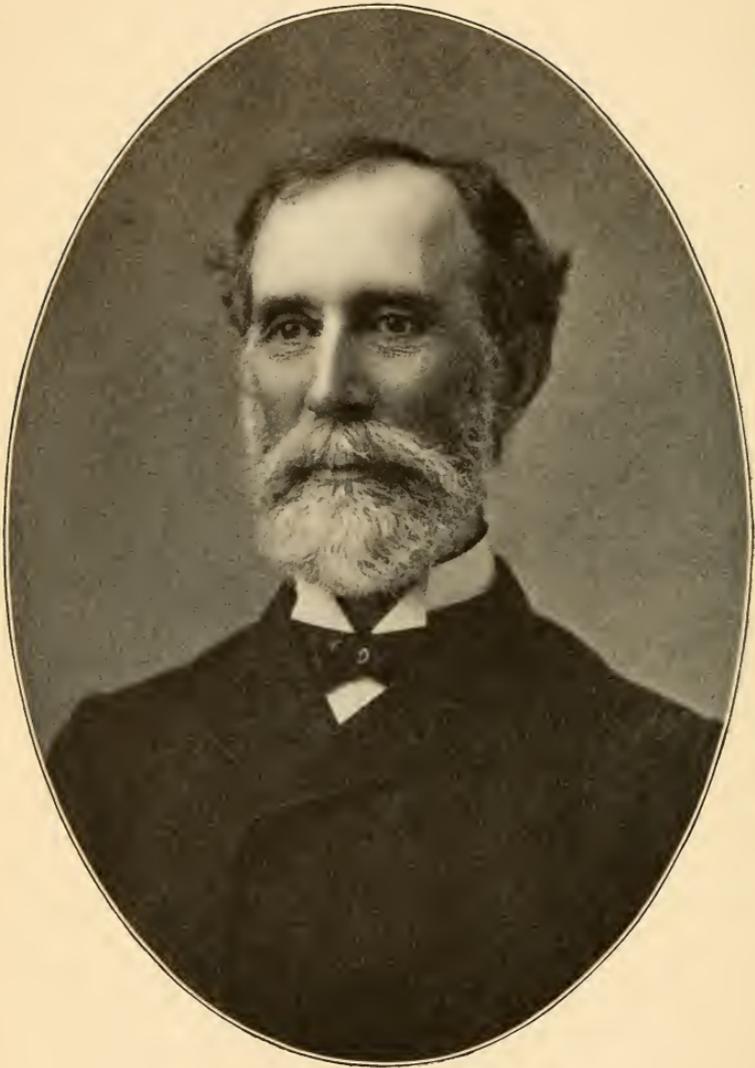
Gifted by nature with ready speech, keen perception and a lively imagination, he was an attractive speaker, and never failed to arouse and hold the attention of his auditory, court or jury. He always possessed the confidence of the court, and among his professional associates and with the public maintained ever a high reputation for probity and honor. He was especially fond of the forensic exploitation of purely legal questions, and in these argumentative displays appeared to the greatest advantage. Even as a student of law Mr. Bradford began his political career, taking the stump in the campaign of 1840 in behalf of Harrison and Tyler. He was sent to the Legislature in 1849 as a representative from New Castle County, and was offered the Whig nomination for Congress, but declined that honor.

President Lincoln appointed him United States District Attorney for Delaware, and President Johnson reappointed him July 22, 1865, but in the following year he resigned because of his inability to approve of the President's policy.

December 12, 1871, President Grant appointed him Judge of the United States District Court for Delaware, an honor he well merited because of his acknowledged legal ability and because of his exalted personal character.

Judge Bradford served as City Solicitor for Wilmington, was for thirty years a director of the Farmers' Bank, and for many years a vestryman in Trinity Church. The following high





LEONARD E. WALES.
1823-1897.

eulogy was spoken of Judge Bradford: "There were four epochs in the life of Mr. Bradford; one of them was when he, with Edward Betts and other of the younger men, dared to differ openly with Mr. Clayton; the second was the organization of the Republican party in Delaware which resulted in 1856 in three hundred votes for Fremont, and is expressive not only of his courage but of his clearness in perceiving the real issues which seemed radical and extreme, but which were soon to become the position of a vast majority of the people of the free States; five years later, when the test of secession or union sifted all, his course was again brave, open and patriotic.

"He was unflinchingly faithful to the unity of his country and uncompromisingly hostile to the effort of disruption; resolute in his denunciation of the treason of the time, and eloquent in his appeals for the forces that symbolized liberty and union."

"Again five years later in the reconstruction period his course was straightforward and courageous, and in behalf of impartial suffrage he was an ardent advocate, and did not stop to debate whether the Republic dared be trusted with the free franchise of all the American people, but stood for the justice of equal rights and against the injustice of disfranchising a citizen on account of color."

Judge Bradford's career as a judicial officer was creditable to him, and useful to the public service. After his elevation to the bench, the business of the United States Court was greatly increased, and many important cases, involving large interests, came before him for adjudication. The opinions delivered by him upon debated questions of law, were carefully prepared, and promptly delivered. His health was very poor during the last year of his judicial life. He died January 16, 1884.

LEONARD E. WALES.

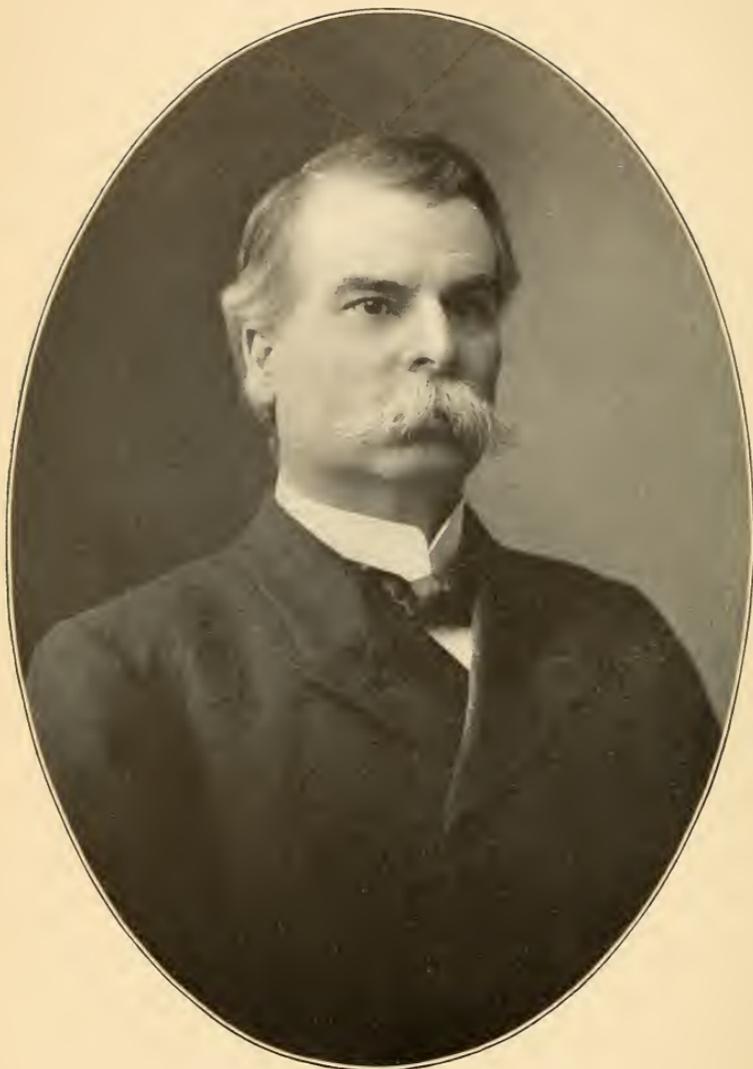
Leonard Eugene Wales was born November 26, 1823, and like Judge Edward G. Bradford came from a long line of New

England ancestors that reached quite to colonial times. He was the third child of the Hon. John Wales and Ann, daughter of Major John Patten. Finishing his academic studies at the Hopkins Grammar School in New Haven, Conn., he entered Yale College and graduated therefrom in 1845. He then studied law under his father, and on May 8, 1848, was admitted to the bar of New Castle County, and at once began to practice in Wilmington. For two years he was associated with John A. Alderdice in the editorial conduct of the Whig organ, the Delaware State Journal. After filling for several years the position of clerk of the United States Courts for the District of Delaware, he was elected City Solicitor of Wilmington in July, 1853, being re-elected the following year. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company E. First Regiment, Delaware Volunteers for three months, and was chosen Second Lieutenant. The duty of this regiment was to guard the line of the P. W. & B. R. R. whose bridges it was feared might be destroyed by the rebels, and direct communication between Washington and the North be thus interrupted. He was honorably mustered out at the end of this term of service.

In May, 1863, he was appointed Commissioner of Enrollment for Delaware to superintend the draft then necessary to fill the ranks of the Union armies. The duties of this position were difficult and trying, calling for the exercise of a large discretion, and requiring no end of tact and good judgment upon the part of the official. Mr. Wales performed this delicate service with marked good sense, efficiency and fidelity to the government. While thus engaged, Governor Cannon appointed him Associate Justice of Delaware for New Castle County, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Milligan, and he fulfilled the functions of that office with entire acceptability to the bar and to the public until the death of Judge Bradford in 1884, when President Arthur appointed him United States District Judge for the District of Delaware.

During the temporary disability of Judge Nixon, of the





EDWARD G. BRADFORD, JR.

New Jersey District, Judge Wales was assigned to hold United States Courts in that State, and succeeded in despatching promptly the extensive legal business of that district without any interference with the judicial duties in his own home field.

Judge Wales' administration of his office was marked by a patience and courtesy that won the grateful recognition of the members of the bar. He was attentive to every detail of his work, and his judgments, which were delivered with decision, were always well considered, and showed in the opinions accompanying them a thorough consideration of the facts and the law involved.

Judge Wales was a Whig, and after 1856 allied himself with the Republican party, then first organized in Delaware, though not taking part in political contests during his judicial incumbency. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and, moreover, took active interest in many public concerns. He was always a leading member of the Historical Society of Delaware, and from 1879 until his death was annually honored with an election to its presidency. He also had a lively interest in the Ferris Reform School, being a member of its Board of Trustees. The Judge never married, but lived with his sister in the old-fashioned Lovering mansion house, formerly the manse of the old Lovering farm, but now in the very center of one of Wilmington's most attractive residence quarters.

He died February 8, 1897, and was buried in Wilmington.

EDWARD G. BRADFORD, JR.

Edward G. Bradford, Jr., is the son of Edward G. Bradford, who was Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware from 1872 to 1882, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Edward G., the younger, was born in Wilmington, March 12, 1848, and after a preparatory educational course pursued at the Wilmington Military Academy and the Academy conducted by T. Clarkson Taylor, he entered Yale College, from which institution he graduated with honors

in 1868. Adopting the law as his chosen profession, he studied for three years under his distinguished father, who was then one of the leading practitioners at the New Castle bar, and was duly admitted to the bar in 1870.

Of a studious disposition, he soon showed by his conduct of the earliest cases entrusted to him that he was an unusually well-read lawyer, and it was but a few years until he was recognized as one of the leading and ablest members of the bar. His success, both as a counselor and as an advocate, was firmly established within five years after his admission. Following the footsteps of his father, he became an enthusiastic Republican in politics, and in 1880 was elected by that party a member of the State House of Representatives, in which body he served a term with great credit, and although representing the minority party his ability was acknowledged by both political friends and foes. In 1888 he was chairman of the Delaware delegation in the Republican National Convention held at Chicago.

From 1880 to 1897, while in the active practice of the law, his name appears as counsel in most of the important causes tried at Wilmington, and as a legal adviser his services were enlisted by a large and intelligent clientage. No member of the bar possessed more fully the respect of the court, and in the preparation and presentation of his cases no one could excel him. He served for a few years as attorney for the Levy Court Commissioners of New Castle County. On the death of Judge Wales in the late winter of 1897, the Bar turned instinctively to Mr. Bradford as his successor, and a petition in his favor was signed by almost every member of the Bar of the State. His nomination by President McKinley followed, and on May 11, 1897, he was confirmed as Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, and since that time has exercised the functions of that office. As judge he has measured up to every requirement. Important cases in admiralty, bankruptcy, receiverships and patent causes have been heard and determined by him; and his

decisions, based upon his extensive knowledge of legal principles have almost without exception been upheld when appealed to a higher tribunal. A man of strong convictions, but imbued with a high sense of justice, his career on the bench has been marked by a firm and positive course which has indicated that he is complete master of the situation, and equal to all emergencies. He is held in high respect by the members of the Bar.

Judge Bradford has for many years been a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, and is also interested in the Church Club of Delaware, the Society of Colonial Wars and the Historical Society of Delaware. Judge Bradford married in 1872, Eleuthera Paulina, daughter of Alexis I. DuPont. His son Edward G. Bradford, Jr., is a member of the New Castle County Bar, having been admitted in 1903. He is the third Edward G. Bradford identified with the legal profession in New Castle County, and gives promise of the same high measure of success which has marked the careers of his eminent father and grandfather, whose names he bears.

GEORGE GRAY.

Could the verdict of all classes within the borders of the Diamond State irrespective of party affiliations be had, a consensus of opinion would undoubtedly nominate George Gray to the post of honor of Delaware's first living citizen. Since the genesis of any man's character and fame, rightly begins with his greatgrandfather, it may be useful to recur a moment to Mr. Gray's ancestors.

Early in the eighteenth century George Gray's paternal greatgrandfather, William Gray, son of Andrew Gray, sailed from Belfast, Ireland, for America, with his wife and young son William. Both he and his wife died on the voyage of ship fever. Having fortunately inherited an ample estate, the young orphan was carefully reared by his guardian, and when a young man became a successful merchant. He married Jean Caldwell, the daughter of Major Andrew Caldwell, of a

prominent Revolutionary family. Their son, Andrew Gray, who was born in Kent County, Delaware, after receiving an excellent education in his youth, graduated later from the University of Pennsylvania.

Until 1808 young Andrew Gray lived upon the large landed estates in Kent County inherited from his maternal grandfather, Andrew Caldwell, but lived thereafter upon a farm in Mill Creek Hundred near Newark. Though five times elected to the House and Senate of the General Assembly of the State, between 1816 and 1824, he took little active part in public affairs, spending much time in the study of the classics, of which he was very fond, and in the composition of essays, chiefly of a philosophical character.

He married Rebecca Rodgers, daughter of Colonel John Rodgers, of Hartford County, Maryland, and sister of Commodore John and George Rodgers who won distinction in the navy in the War of 1812. Of this marriage was born, in Kent County, May 25, 1804, a son, Andrew Caldwell Gray. Young Andrew graduated from Princeton College in 1821 at the early age of seventeen, and shortly after began the study of law under James R. Black, Esq., later an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of Delaware.

In 1826, upon his admission to the bar, he settled at New Castle. His professional success was pronounced, and he speedily acquired prominence both in legal and in commercial circles, becoming counsel for the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal Company, and in 1853, its president. Retiring in 1854 from active practice as a lawyer, he became prominently identified as director, president, etc., with the new railroad development in the State, and as president, with a number of its most important banking and manufacturing enterprises. Against all importunity he refused political honors, though as a Democrat taking a lively interest in public affairs. Andrew C. Gray was a man of spotless integrity, everywhere revered and loved for his unselfish and benevolent character. He married Elizabeth Scofield of Stamford, Conn.

George Gray, one of their four children, was born in New Castle, May 4, 1840. After receiving the invaluable benefit of an early training in the public schools of his town, young George Gray was prepared for college by the Rev. A. M. Wiggins and Professor William F. Lane, and in 1857 entered Princeton in the junior year, graduating thence with high standing at the age of nineteen, in two years thereafter. He was ever as a youth of a studious habit, fond of machinery and much given to haunting the machine shops and manufactories of his native town and of Wilmington, examining the construction and uses of the machines employed in the various manufacturing processes therein. He was likewise fond of boating, and on the nearby Delaware, acquired sufficient knowledge of boats and sail-craft and of their practical handling to make him quite a sailor. Soon after leaving college he began reading law under the tutelage of his father and the Hon. William C. Spruance, now one of the judges of the Supreme Court of the State. He then spent a year at Harvard law school, and in 1863 was formally admitted to the bar.

His legal brethren and the State at large were not long in discovering in him the possession of those high qualities of brain and character which have not only placed him at the very front of the profession in his own State, but have also brought him distinction and influence in the counsels of the nation, and indeed made his name known beyond the sea. As a lawyer he was careful and thorough in the preparation of his cases, and although not a brilliant trial lawyer yet he was a strong one, and had the habit of securing verdicts, which after all is the main thing. He was always a Democrat, and while taking a great interest in the political and in all other State interests, George Gray never in his life sought office. But his party, appreciating his qualifications for service and leadership, often urged his candidacy, but it was not until 1879, when for sixteen years he had been before the public as a lawyer, and active in the counsels and battles of the party,

that he consented to take at the hands of Governor John W. Hall the office of Attorney-General for the State. His able conduct of that position as he followed the ambulatory court throughout the State, more than ever brought him into prominence as a lawyer, while his kindly methods deservedly attached to him hosts of admirers and friends of all political views, who with flattering unanimity demanded his reappointment by Governor Charles C. Stockley, which was done.

Mr. Bayard entered President Cleveland's Cabinet as Secretary of State in 1885, and the Democracy of Delaware instinctively turned to Mr. Gray as the most fit successor to his mantle of leadership in State and Senate, and accordingly on March 16th of that year the General Assembly chose him to fill the remaining two years of Mr. Bayard's term, and at the end of that period re-elected him for the full term of six years, and again in 1893 for six years more. During his fourteen years' career in that great forum many weighty questions of national and several of international importance were debated and decided, and Senator Gray at length took his station among the few leading spirits who through their learning, wisdom and force of character shaped the legislation and policies of those years. He warmly supported the International Arbitration Treaty, that beneficent principle which is ever gathering force, to bring at last the day "when the war-drum will throb no longer and the battle-flags be furled in the Parliament of Man." His arraignment of the Election Bill of President Harrison was very forcible. The strong hatred of war, which he shared with President McKinley, led him to give his adherence to the latter's reluctance to call a halt in Spain's unparalleled brutality towards Cuba. His final action as a member of the Peace Commission which met at Paris after the close of the war with Spain displays the frankness and the high moral courage of the man. What heightens the quality of this courageous act is the further fact that it was done in the very teeth of the sentiments of his own party leaders and press everywhere denouncing that course as impe-

rialistic. He had at first opposed the retention by the United States of the Philippines, but when convinced of the wisdom of that course withdrew his objections and signed the treaty. At a reception given him by the Board of Trade of Wilmington, January 15, 1899, upon his return from Paris, he ably vindicated his changed attitude in an address, which is a fine specimen of robust reasoning couched in eloquent dress.

In 1898 his party was about to return him to the Senate for the fourth time, when he declined the honor in view of his expected assignment by President McKinley to one of the two additional United States Circuit Court Judgeships for the Third Circuit of which office he is now a distinguished incumbent. Although Senator Gray was one of the leaders of the opposite party, President McKinley, sharing the unbounded confidence of the whole country in his character and attainments, frequently availed himself of his wide experience and intelligent judgment in solving some of the difficult problems in statesmanship in his administration, no other Senator being summoned, it is said, to the White House for consultation oftener than Senator Gray. No loftier compliment could possibly be paid the political candor and patriotic integrity of any man. Judge Gray served on the Joint High Commission to settle certain disputes between the United States and Canada; and was a member of the International Arbitration Commission which met at the Hague in 1900; and also of the Alabama Coal Strike Commission. His frequent choice for these offices of arbitration, and the uniform success of his efforts therein, prove that in addition to his high legal and other qualifications and his unquestioned integrity, he is also the possessor, to an eminent degree, of an impartial and judicial temper that peculiarly fits him for these important tasks. Evidently President Roosevelt so believed when in 1902 he conferred upon him the exalted honor of chairman of the famous Anthracite Coal Strike Commission, with wide powers to settle the perplexing questions involved in the Pennsylvania coal strike of that year, one of the gravest industrial crises that ever arose in this country.

His selection commanded the respect of the immediate parties to this bitter controversy, and of the nation at large whose comfort, not to say, indeed, whose very lives were being imperiled. And his earnest and sagacious labors contributed in a large measure to avert a colossal calamity whose measureless evils appalls the imagination to contemplate. The difficulties these arbitrators met, by reason of the complex character of the interests represented, and the acrimonious antagonisms aroused between those interests, were prodigious! The quiet, poised temper of Chairman Gray, and the native honesty of his character were never better shown than in his skillful guidance of this Commission. All knew him learned and experienced in the law, and believed him fair; and this trial disclosed him also gifted with a tactful diplomacy which happily composed seemingly irreconcilable differences, and made possible the settlement which was satisfactory to the principals themselves and to the whole country. An eminent lawyer not of his political faith, declared that no other man in the country "could have brought these opposing elements to the common agreement of appending their approving signatures to the Commissioner's report." Judge Gray wrote his own and his state's name right nobly anew on the rolls of fame that day. Since George Read signed the three great charters of the nation's freedom, and John M. Clayton accomplished "the world's first universal fact," the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, no son of Delaware has written history in characters at once so large and so enduring! On the 4th of July, 1903, he addressed at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, a large concourse of citizens composed of both mine operators and mine workmen, giving words of wise counsel to both, and declaring that their late peaceful meeting signalized a splendid advance towards the true principles that should govern the mutual relations of capital and labor.

Judge Gray has always been a strong Democrat, and from his early entrance into professional life has zealously championed the principles and candidates of his party. With one

exception, viz., that Quixotic episode in his party's history, wherein, among other doctrines equally sound, their candidate solemnly proclaimed it as one of the principles of his economic system, that the Almighty had foreordained that a bushel of wheat and a 16 to 1 silver dollar should be eternally joined in indissoluble bonds of matrimony! The Senator "gagged" at that and much more like it.

He was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions of 1876, 1880, 1884 and 1892, and took a prominent part in them all. In 1880, at the Democratic National Convention in Cincinnati, and again in 1884 at Chicago, he presented the name of his distinguished fellow-citizen, Hon. Thomas F. Bayard as a candidate for President. His eloquent speech in placing Mr. Bayard in nomination at Cincinnati is quoted in full in the Chapter entitled "Great Speeches on Great Issues," in Thomas V. Cooper's "American Politics."

Judge Gray himself was honored with the nomination as the Democratic National Standard Bearer at the Convention held at St. Louis in 1904, L. Irving Handy, Esq., in an able speech pursuant to the unanimous instructions of the Democratic State Convention at Dover June 8, 1904, offering his name for the suffrages of the convention. Beyond doubt, his candidacy would have saved the party the inglorious Waterloo they met under the banner of the feeble "sage of Esopus." Mr. Gray was married in 1870 to Harriet, daughter of Charles H. Black, M. D., of New Castle, Delaware. Two daughters and three sons were born to them. May 26, 1880, Mrs. Gray suddenly died. August 8, 1882, Judge Gray married Margaret J. Black, the sister of his first wife.

PROMINENT DELAWARE LAWYERS.

SAMUEL WHITE.

A member of the Bar of whom little is known, but who gives evidence of having been a lawyer of force and character is Samuel White, admitted to the Kent Bar in 1793. He was the only son of Judge Thomas White who was a resident for many years of Mispillion Hundred, where he was the owner of wide-spreading acres and dispensed a generous hospitality. Judge White served on the bench of the Common Pleas Court, was Register of Wills for Kent and altogether a leading man of the county. He became interested in the cause of Methodism in the early days and between him and Bishop Asbury sprang up a strong friendship which lasted until the death of the Judge in 1795. Samuel White was born at his father's homestead in 1770. He studied law in the office of Richard Bassett after being educated at Cokesbury College. The latter institution was the first educational institution established by the Methodists in the United States. It was located in Harford County, Maryland. He served for two years as a Captain in the United States army, and showed a decided tendency towards military life.

Samuel White came to the Bar when it was composed of strong men, but he seems to have measured up to the best. When barely of the required constitutional age, he was in 1801 appointed United States Senator from Delaware to fill the unexpired term of Henry Latimer, and on the expiration of that term was elected, in 1803, for a full term, which he served; and, in 1809, he was again re-elected, but before he took his seat he died. He was appointed Adjutant-General of the State in 1807. His residence, during his public life, was in Wilmington where he died November 4, 1809, and he was buried in the Old Swedes graveyard. He never married.

JOHN VINING.

John Vining was born at Dover, Delaware, December 23, 1758, and was the son of Chief Justice John Vining, who was a man of great prominence in the category of jurists. The ancestor of the Vining family was Captain Benjamin Vining, who emigrated from New England to Philadelphia in the year 1722, but subsequently removed to Salem, New Jersey, where he lived and died. John Vining, his grandson studied law with George Read of New Castle, and was admitted to the Bar in New Castle County February 21, 1782. Soon after his admission to the Bar, he began to develop intellectual faculties of more than ordinary character, which gave him a prominent position and reputation throughout the State. Having scarcely reached the age constitutionally required to qualify for membership, he was elected a member of the United States House of Representatives, and in 1793 was elected to the Senate of the United States. While honored with these positions of responsibility and distinction he performed his duties faithfully and creditably. He was acknowledged as an able representative of Delaware, and many complimentary words of commendation are spoken of him by his admiring colleagues. He died at Dover, Delaware, in 1802.

NICHOLAS VANDYKE, JR.

Nicholas Vandyke, Jr., a renowned lawyer of Delaware was born in New Castle, December 8, 1770. Having graduated from Nassau Hall in 1788, he studied law in the office of his brother-in-law Chief Justice Kensey Johns, was admitted to the Bar in 1791, and soon acquired a large and lucrative practice. He was a man of profound legal knowledge and maintained a high rank in his profession. He was elected to the Legislature of Delaware in 1799, to the United States House of Representatives in 1809, to the Senate of Delaware in 1815, and to the United States Senate in 1817, and having been re-elected, was, when he died, a member of that body.

In all these prominent positions he was particularly noted for his promptitude, great intellectual power and his sterling integrity of character. He also took honorable position among the champions of religion and the church, being a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church and taking an active part in its religious affairs. The high esteem in which he was held by his fellow-citizens was shown by the many offices of trust and importance that he filled. He died May 21, 1826.

JAMES M. BROOM.

James M. Broom, the son of Jacob Broom, who was conspicuous among the men of the colonies in the important events preceding, during and at the close of the Revolutionary War, was born in 1778, graduated from Princeton College in 1794, and having chosen and studied law as his profession, was admitted to the New Castle County bar in April, 1801. In 1804-05 he was elected a member of Congress, after which he moved to Baltimore, Maryland, and subsequently to Wilmington, Delaware, where with John Wales he began the practice of law. In the year 1819 he removed to Philadelphia, and became eminently successful in his profession. He was elected a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1824, and was generally regarded as a man of vigorous mentality and unexceptionable moral character. He pursued his profession until within a year of his death, which occurred in January, 1850.

JAMES ROGERS.

James Rogers was born in New Castle, Delaware, in 1779. Having studied law for three years in the office of Chancellor Ridgely, at Dover, he was admitted to the bar of New Castle County in April, 1803, and immediately entered upon the practice of his profession. He filled several offices of high responsibility with great credit and honor to himself and the State. For twenty years, from 1815 to 1830, and again from 1835 to 1840, he held the office of Attorney-General of Dela-

ware, discharging its arduous duties with marked ability and fidelity. Unwearied devotion to his profession was the object which inspired his daily life, while his pure morality and excellence of character gave him a worthy and honored name. He died September 15, 1868.

JOHN WALES.

John Wales, a prominent lawyer of Delaware, was born at New Haven, Connecticut, July 31, 1783. He graduated from Yale College in 1801. Having adopted the law as a profession, he was admitted to the Bar and immediately began its practice in his native State. Having received an invitation from James M. Broom of Wilmington, to form a partnership with him in the practice of the law in Delaware, he accepted the same and came to Wilmington in 1815, and in October of that year was admitted to the Delaware Bar. The law firm of Broom & Wales continued until 1819 when Mr. Broom removed to Philadelphia. On the dissolution of the partnership Mr. Wales continued the practice of law alone, and for almost thirty years afterwards his presence and power were felt in the courts of Delaware. Having acquired a great reputation as a chancery lawyer, his practice correspondingly increased until he stood among the first of his colleagues at the Bar. In 1845 he was appointed Secretary of State by Major Thomas Stockton, Governor of Delaware, and in March, 1849, he was elected by the Legislature of Delaware to fill the unexpired term of John M. Clayton, in the United States Senate, Mr. Clayton having been appointed to a position in the Cabinet of President Taylor. While a resident of Wilmington, he was always found ready and willing to do all in his power for the material and moral improvement of his city and State. He was an active worker in obtaining the city charter of Wilmington, was president of one of its oldest banks, was a director in the first fire-insurance company of Delaware, and was active in the earliest steps taken to construct the railroad between Philadelphia and Baltimore, via. Wilmington. He

was one of the original and most earnest promoters of Delaware College and worked most assiduously, though unsuccessfully for its location at Wilmington. In all his private and public walks through life, he maintained a strict adherence to his strong and sincere convictions, and lived to a happy old age, in the possession of an unclouded mind and bright spirits, beloved by all who knew him. He died December 8, 1863. He was the father of Leonard E. Wales, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and afterwards United States Judge for the District of Delaware.

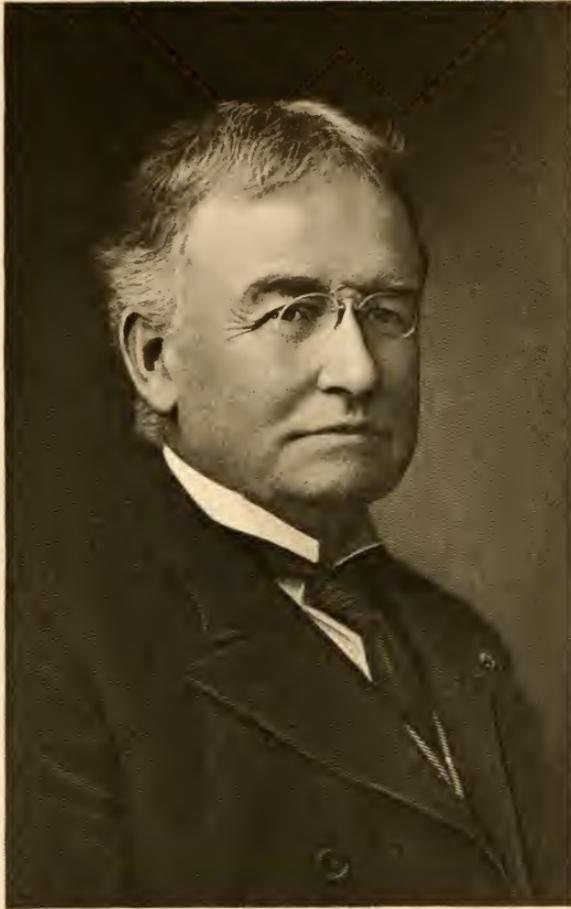
GEORGE C. GORDON.

George C. Gordon was born in Wilmington, Delaware, February 9, 1825, and was a son of John Gordon and Ann (Sharp) Gordon. He studied law under the direction of Chief Justice Edward W. Gilpin and was admitted to the bar of New Castle County, May 10, 1847. Having opened an office in Wilmington, in a short time he held a high rank among his fellow members of the bar. Mr. Gordon devoted his time closely to his profession, was a very attractive public speaker, and served for a long period as the counsel of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad Company. He never held public office. He was the acknowledged leader of the bar, as an advocate, for many years. A life-long resident of Wilmington, he died in that city on March 15, 1886, and was buried in the Old Swedes graveyard.

JOHN C. PATTERSON.

John C. Patterson was born in Wilmington, October 24, 1815. He graduated from Nassau Hall, Princeton, in 1835. He began the study of the law with Edward W. Gilpin, who was then Attorney-General of the State. Mr. Patterson was admitted to the bar in Georgetown, Sussex County, Delaware, in 1844, but afterwards settled in Wilmington and ever after lived there. From 1865 to 1870 he was City Solicitor for Wilmington. On March 27, 1880, President Hayes appointed





Benj. Kilds

him United States District-Attorney for Delaware, serving for two terms. In the various positions which he held he performed his duties with fidelity, and was highly respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He was for many years a member and elder of Hanover Presbyterian Church. His death occurred at his home in Wilmington, March 31, 1895.

BENJAMIN NIELDS.

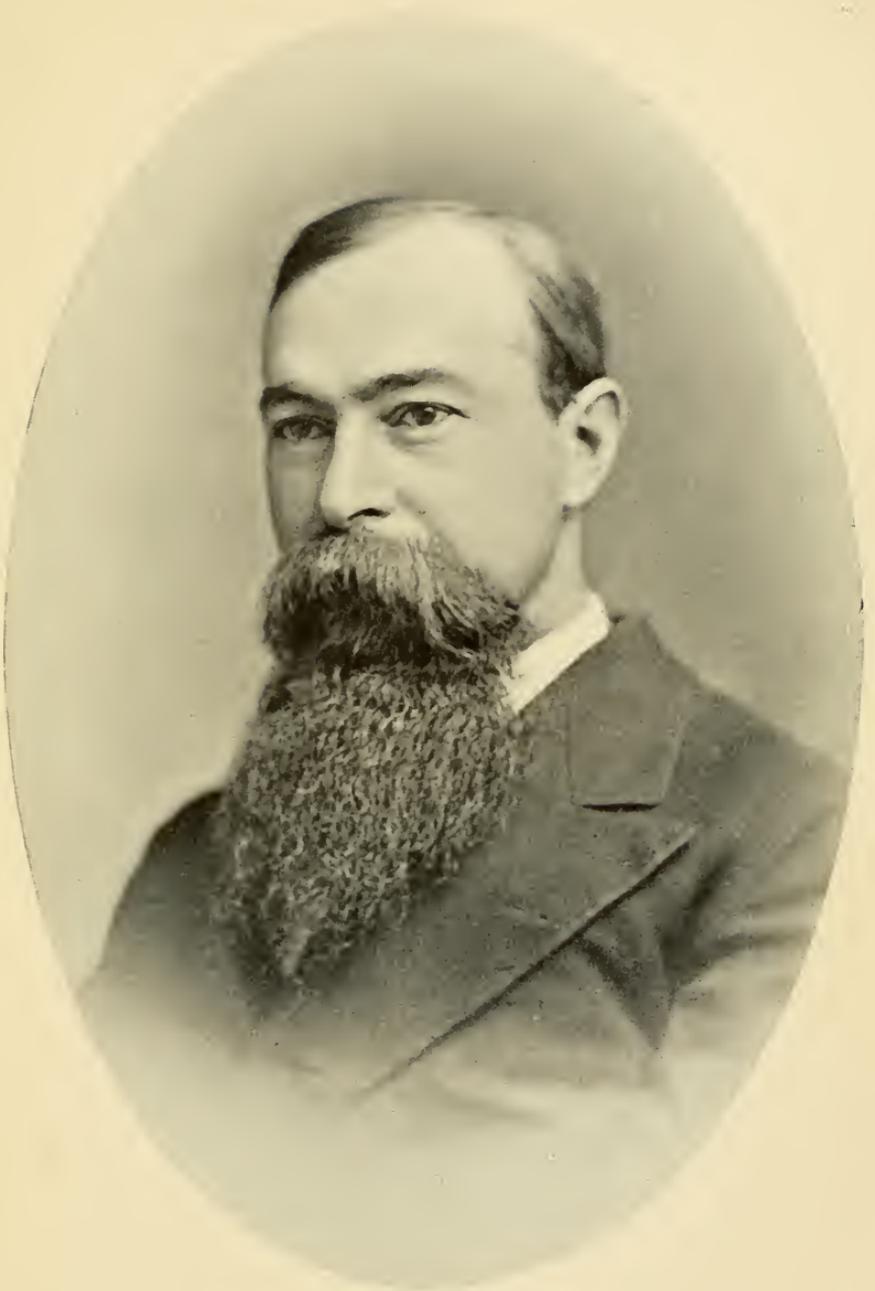
Benjamin Nields was born in East Marlborough Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, July 12, 1831. He studied law with John C. Patterson in Wilmington, and was admitted to the Delaware bar at Georgetown in 1859. Before establishing himself in the practice of the law the Civil War broke out, and in 1861 he joined the three months' troops, assisting in raising one of the early companies for the Union service, serving as first lieutenant. The following year he raised a company of artillery, which was known as "Nields' Battery," and which served through the war. He served as captain, the battery seeing much active service, and Captain Nields showing in many instances the soldierly judgment and bravery which merited recognition, and which led to his promotion to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Towards the close of the war he served as chief of artillery and ordnance on the staff of General Joseph J. Reynolds. In May, 1865, he acted with other officers in receiving the surrender of the rebel troops west of the Mississippi, and in June, 1865, was mustered out, receiving his honorable discharge. He was the only member of the bar from Delaware who enlisted in the three years' service. His military record is a most commendable one, but not more so than the record which for forty years he has made at the bar. Opening an office in Wilmington in 1865 he has been continuously in active practice since, and is now the oldest legal practitioner in the county. His native ability and legal learning have gained him an enviable place at the bar, and but few men have succeeded in attracting so large and

lucrative a practice. For many years he has been recognized as a leader among the attorneys, and few, if any, members of the bar carry greater weight with the Court. He has made a deep impress upon the business community. He was the leading factor in the organization of the Security Trust and Safe Deposit Company, the pioneer trust company in Wilmington, and very soon after its organization became its president, continuing until the present time. The institution has been strikingly successful, in spite of the close competition of rival companies since organized, much of its success being due to the intelligent and conservative administrative qualities of Colonel Nields.

SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON, JR.

Samuel M. Harrington, Jr., was born in Dover, October 31, 1840, and was the oldest son, and bore the name of his distinguished father, Chancellor Harrington. He graduated at the head of his class at Delaware College in 1857, and afterwards studied law under the direction of his father, being admitted to the bar in November, 1861. He identified himself strongly with the Union cause at the outbreak of the Civil War, and becoming a pronounced Republican in politics served for nearly two years as Secretary of State under Governor William Cannon, and for a brief term as Adjutant General of the State. He gave a very active support to the Great Fair held under the auspices of the United States Sanitary Commission in Philadelphia in 1863 in aid of the Union soldiers. He was Deputy Attorney General under Alfred R. Wootten, and served two terms as Solicitor for the City of Wilmington.

He was a man of rare generosity and most delightful manners. "None knew him but to love him." He early showed great promise at the bar. His unflagging energy and his never tiring industry brought him from the start a substantial clientage which increased from year to year, and he developed into a trial lawyer of much power, commanding the highest



SAMUEL M. HARRINGTON, JR.
1840-1878.







The Rev. of Wm. D. Paul

Victor DoPaul

respect both of the Court and of his brother attorneys. Mr. Harrington was an enthusiast in whatever he undertook. He was one of the organizers of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church in Wilmington, serving as president of its board of trustees for many years, and rendering aid in building and organizing the new church that was invaluable. His career at the bar covered less than seventeen years, but they were eventful years, crowded full of achievements. His death occurred at his home in Wilmington on September 10, 1878, after a brief illness. He was laid at rest, with his fathers, in the old graveyard at Dover and the grief and regret at his early decease was universal throughout the State.

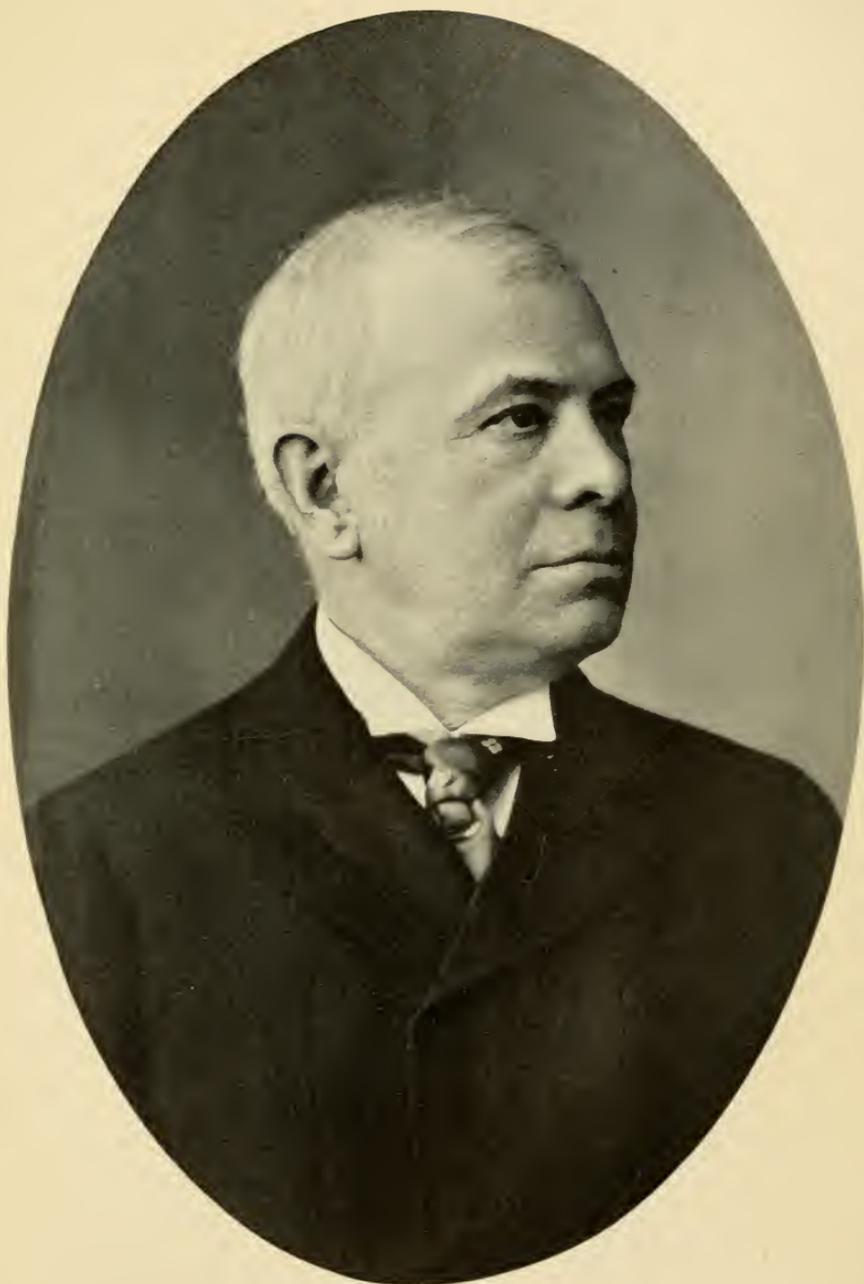
VICTOR DUPONT.

Victor DuPont was born at "Louviers," on the Brandywine, May 11, 1828. His father was Charles I. DuPont, whose father, Victor DuPont, was one of the two brothers who came to America in 1799, and founded the DuPont family in America. His mother was Dorcas Montgomery Vandyke, daughter of Nicholas Vandyke, the distinguished lawyer and publicist, and grand-daughter of Nicholas Vandyke, one of the early governors of Delaware. Victor DuPont, the subject of this sketch, was, first of all, a gentleman of dignified manners and quiet bearing. Sensitive and retiring in disposition, he avoided public life, but his true worth was fully recognized by the community, and no one of his generation measured up to higher standards of integrity and correct bearing. After graduating at both Delaware and Harvard colleges, he studied law with Chief Justice Gilpin, being admitted to the bar in 1849. His attention to business soon brought him a good clientage, and for many years he led the bar in lines of testamentary and real-estate law. He shrank from the turmoils of the court room, and devoted himself strictly to office practice. As a counselor none ranked higher. A pronounced Democrat in politics, he was one of the most influential leaders, but not a public speaker, and being wedded to his profession declined

all proffers of public office, although both the governorship and the United States senatorship were within his reach. His large practice brought him in close touch with the business community. He served as a director in the Union National Bank for over thirty years and from 1866 until his death was its president, and was also for several years president of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. His death occurred at his home in Wilmington on May 13, 1888, and his loss was keenly felt not only by the profession to which his life had been devoted, but by the community at large.

ANTHONY HIGGINS.

Anthony Higgins was born in Red Lion Hundred, near St. Georges, New Castle County, Delaware, October 1, 1840. He graduated from Yale College in 1861, and soon afterwards began the study of law with William C. Spruance, at New Castle. After a course at Harvard Law School, he was admitted to the Bar in May, 1864. Soon after his admission, he was appointed Deputy Attorney-General under Attorney-General Jacob Moore, and served in that capacity two years. In 1869 he was appointed by President Grant, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, which office he held until June, 1876. Mr. Higgins from his admission to the Bar has taken a lively interest in politics. He allied himself with the Republican party, has served as chairman of its State Central Committee and has always been recognized as one of its most influential leaders. In 1884 he was the Republican candidate for Congress, and five years later when the Republican party for the first time obtained a majority in the General Assembly of the State, he was elected a member of the United States Senate. He served a full term in the Senate, and his public utterances while a member of that body commanded marked attention. As a member of the Bar Mr. Higgins ranks high; for years he has been recognized as an unusually strong advocate, and as a public speaker he is in demand beyond the confines of the State of his residence. Aggressive and courageous



ANTHONY HIGGINS.







Levi B. ...

he has impressed himself upon the life of the State; gifted with a rare conversational ability, he has attracted to himself a host of friends, and after an experience of over forty years at the Bar, being still in active practice, he merits and enjoys the good will and respect of the whole community.

LEVI C. BIRD.

Levi C. Bird was born in Christiana Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware, November 20, 1842, and was the son of James T. Bird. He studied law under Chancellor Daniel M. Bates, and graduated from Harvard law school in 1863. He was admitted to practice in May, 1865, and at once began the practice of his profession in Wilmington. For many years he was the recognized leading criminal lawyer in Delaware, and later led the bar in the prosecution of damage causes. In both of these branches he was eminently successful. As a jury lawyer he was unsurpassed in his generation. His impassioned appeals will long be remembered. In the preparation of his cases he was most careful and painstaking, and he won and held to the fullest extent the respect of both the court and the bar. He served as resident attorney for the Baltimore and Philadelphia Railroad Company for nearly twenty years. Genial, warm-hearted and loyal in his friendships, Mr. Bird had a large personal following, and for many years was an active force in Republican politics, but held no political office, except that of Register in Bankruptcy. The latter office came to him by appointment of Judge Willard Hall in 1867, and he held it for ten years. He was the Republican candidate for Congress in 1876. Delaware has produced few, if any, more popular men, and his death, at his country seat near Delaware City, on August 27, 1902, caused general regret and sorrow.

CHARLES G. RUMFORD.

Charles G. Rumford was born in Philadelphia, August 17, 1841. He studied law with his uncle, Chief Justice Edward W. Gilpin, and with Victor DuPont, and was admitted to the

New Castle Bar May 7, 1866. He served as Deputy Attorney-General under Jacob Moore, from 1867 to 1869. In 1869 he was appointed clerk of the United States Courts for the District of Delaware by Judge Willard Hall, and held that position until 1873. He was a well read lawyer, a wise counselor, a logical thinker, and had the esteem and confidence of the public. His death occurred in Wilmington on November 4, 1901.

S. RODMOND SMITH.

S. Rodmond Smith was born in Wilmington, Delaware, April 20, 1841, and was a son of Albert W. Smith, of Quaker descent. He was admitted to the Bar in 1867. His early life was devoted to military work. During the Civil War, he was engaged in recruiting men for the Fourth Delaware Infantry. He was made Lieutenant, afterwards promoted to the rank of Captain and subsequently was made Major. He proved a most skillful and efficient officer during the war, and his services were highly commended. After the war he returned to Wilmington, and began the practice of his profession. For four years he occupied the position of Secretary and Treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and in 1873 he was appointed clerk of the United States Courts for the District of Delaware, which position he filled with great acceptability to both the Court and Bar. Owing to ill-health he resigned the clerkship in 1903, after a continuous service of thirty years, and since that time has been devoting his attention to the promotion of several enterprises outside the State.

ALEXANDER B. COOPER.

Alexander B. Cooper, whose father was the Rev. Ignatius T. Cooper, well known in religious circles, was born in Middletown, Delaware, November 5, 1844. He studied law under the direction of the Hon. Eli Saulsbury, attended the law department of the University of Pennsylvania and was

admitted to the Bar in New Castle in 1867. He began the practice of law in 1868 in Wilmington, and a year afterwards, moved to New Castle, where he has since continued his residence. From 1879 to 1885 he was Deputy Attorney-General of the State under George Gray. He was a member of the State Senate of Delaware during the sessions of 1883-1887, and Speaker for the last two years of his term. Mr. Cooper was appointed commissioner with William S. Hilles and Walter H. Hayes by the General Assembly of the State in 1905, to confer with like commissioners from the State of New Jersey respecting the Delaware River and Bay, in accordance with the compact agreed upon between the representatives of the two States under date of March 9, 1905. Mr. Cooper is President both of the Delaware commissioners and of the joint commissioners. With untiring devotion to his profession, his legal talents and strict integrity of character have given him high standing at the Bar. He still pursues the practice of law in Wilmington.

THOMAS COOPER.

Thomas Cooper was born in Little Creek Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware, and was a brother of Governor William B. Cooper. He studied law with James P. Wilson, and was admitted to the Sussex County Bar in 1805. After his admission he began the practice of his profession in Georgetown, where he continued to live until his death. From 1815 to 1817 he served as member of Congress from Delaware, and for many years was a leading Federalist in the State. Among the prominent Delawareans who were students under him were Judge Edward Wootten and Judge Caleb S. Layton. His professional character was marked by a painstaking industry and a thorough knowledge of the law, fulfilling his duties with ability and zeal. He was most highly esteemed and enjoyed the confidence of the public. He died in 1829, aged sixty-five years.

MARTIN W. BATES.

Martin W. Bates for nearly half a century was a leading member of the Kent County Bar. Born in Massachusetts in 1786, he came to Delaware in his nineteenth year, and after teaching school for some years studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received the degree of M. D. He practiced medicine in Smyrna, but on account of ill health was forced to give up his profession, when he engaged in mercantile pursuits in Dover. In this he was not successful.

Having gained considerable reputation as a ready debater, he was advised to study law, pursuing his studies under Thomas Clayton, afterwards Chief Justice, and was admitted to the bar at Dover in 1822. Although then in his thirty-sixth year, and meeting as competitors at the bar with men who for learning and ability have never been surpassed, he rapidly made his way as a lawyer, and was able to fully discharge many financial obligations that had burdened him for many years.

As a lawyer he was industrious, methodical and painstaking. His cases were prepared with great care, and he tried them in a way that won the high respect of the court and attracted the attention of suitors. He belonged to the Federalist party until that party disbanded, and in 1826 was elected to the State House of Representatives. He served as a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1852, and was reckoned one of the strongest men in that body. He was three times the nominee of his party for representative in Congress.

On the death of John M. Clayton, while United States Senator, in 1856 Joseph P. Comegys was appointed by Governor Ross to fill the seat until the meeting of the General Assembly. At the meeting of the latter body in January, 1857, Martin W. Bates was chosen to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. Clayton. He served in the Senate until March 4, 1859. His public career was greatly interfered with by reason of an accident that befell him on his way to Washington to take his seat in the Senate. By a fall on the ice he broke his thigh,

which made it necessary for him to use crutches the remainder of his days.

Mr. Bates was scholarly in his professional attainments. As a politician he was astute and tenacious. As a man he was prudent, honorable and charitable. Few men have combined stronger characteristics, and his public and professional careers are worthy of emulation. He lived quietly at Dover after his retirement from the Senate, and died in that town, January 1, 1869.

ROBERT FRAME.

Robert Frame was a descendant of the Frame family of Indian River Hundred, in Sussex County, his father bearing the name as his own. He was born December 6, 1800. As a boy and young man he was shy and diffident. After three years of legal study under the direction of John M. Clayton, he was admitted to the Kent Bar in 1824. His talents were early recognized and he soon won success in his chosen profession.

Six years after his admission he was appointed Attorney-General of the State by Governor Hazzard, as the successor of Thomas Clayton. Although but thirty years of age at the time, his administration of the office was signally successful, and all authorities agree that no abler or more efficient Attorney-General has served the State. He continued in the place for the full term of five years. He served one term in the State House of Representatives, being elected in 1838. These were the only public offices held by him.

He married, in 1829, Jeannette Macomb Clayton, daughter of Thomas Clayton, afterwards Chief Justice, and had two sons, Robert and Thomas C. The latter for many years has been a practicing physician in Dover. He has many of the literary tastes of his distinguished father. Thomas Clayton Frame, Jr., son of Dr. Thomas C. Frame, and grandson of Robert Frame, has been for ten years last past one of the most active members of the Kent County Bar. Robert Frame,

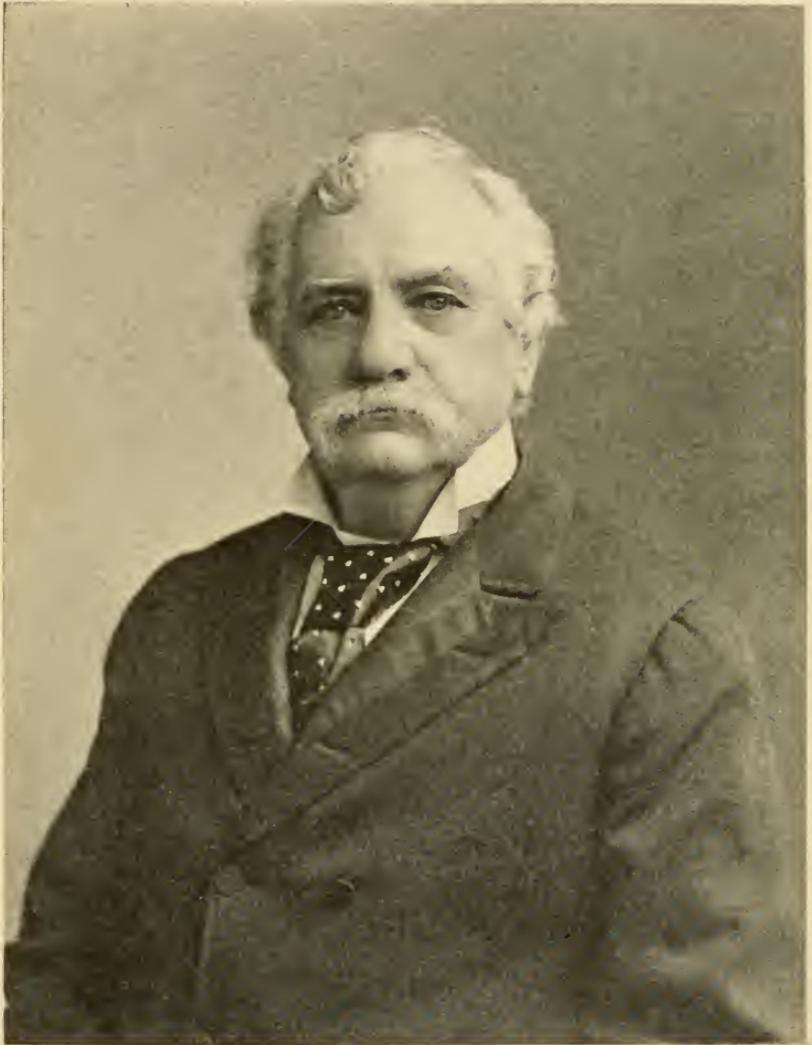
after a career of but little more than twenty years at the Bar, died in Wilmington in 1847, and his remains lie buried in the graveyard adjoining the First Presbyterian Church in that city. His sound legal learning, his familiarity with the classics, and his polish and elegance as a public speaker fitted him for the exalted position he attained at the Bar, and but for his early decline in health, resulting in his death in his forty-seventh year, he would, doubtless, have reached the highest places in political life.

GEORGE P. FISHER.

The Fisher family was among the early settlers in Sussex County. They were descendants of John Fisher, who came from England with Penn in 1682. In the third generation from John Fisher, the emigrant, was Thomas Fisher, son of Jabez, born in 1763 in Worcester County, Maryland, but coming with his father to Lewes, Delaware, while yet a small boy. Thomas Fisher served twice as High Sheriff of Sussex and moving to Kent in his later years served twice as Sheriff in that county, and occupied other public stations.

At his death in 1835 he left one son George Purnell Fisher, the subject of this sketch. Born at Milford, October 13, 1817, George P. Fisher was educated in the free schools of Kent County, taking a higher course at St. Mary's College, Maryland, and graduating at Dickinson College in 1838. His law course was under the direction of John M. Clayton for whom he held the tenderest affection, and he was admitted to the Kent County bar in 1841. Five years later he became Secretary of State under Governor Joseph Maull, and the latter dying after serving but a few months, Fisher was continued as Secretary of State under Governor Temple. While John M. Clayton acted as Secretary of State in the Taylor cabinet, George P. Fisher served as private clerk or secretary, and was in close touch with Clayton when the famous Clayton-Bulwer treaty was promulgated.

In March, 1855, he was appointed Attorney General of the



GEORGE P. FISHER.
1817-1899.



State by Governor Causey and served the full five years term with great credit to himself and to the entire acceptability of the people of the State. In 1860 he was the candidate of the Bell and Everett party for Representative in Congress, and the Republicans also giving him their support, he was elected over his two Democratic opponents. He served two years in Congress, taking a determined stand for the Union cause, and making a fine impression at Washington. The writer remembers to have seen Judge Fisher for the first time during the campaign of 1860. He was then in the prime of life, of commanding physique and with his erect and soldierly bearing made an unusually impressive figure. He was renominated for Congress by the Republican party in 1862, but failed of re-election by a very small majority.

Early in 1863 he raised the First Delaware Cavalry and was appointed Colonel, but before the regiment got into active service, Fisher was appointed by President Lincoln one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. President Lincoln formed the warmest attachment for Fisher during his service in Congress at the outbreak of the Civil War. He served on the Bench from March, 1863, to May, 1870, and as a judge displayed great aptitude and ability. On his retirement from the Bench he was appointed United States Attorney for the District of Columbia by President Grant. In this office he served for five years, when he resigned and returned to Delaware. The only other public office held by him was First Auditor of the Treasury Department, which came to him through President Harrison in 1889.

In temperament and general character he was one of the most lovable and agreeable of men. His fund of information of men and things, covering as it did so long and interesting a period of State and National politics, was marvelous, and made him most companionable. He combined with a high order of ability, the gentleness of a woman and notwithstanding the restless scenes through which he passed, and the rebuffs which came to him, he showed no spirit of vindictiveness, but was always a gentleman.

The years of his life were lengthened out beyond the allotted four score. He died at Washington February 10, 1899, and his dust was laid away in the old Methodist graveyard at Dover.

NATHANIEL B. SMITHERS.

Nathaniel Barratt Smithers was born in Dover, October 8, 1818. Both his father and grandfather were named Nathaniel, and both held important offices in Kent County. His mother was Susan Fisher Barratt, a granddaughter of Philip Barratt, on whose land the revered Barratt's Chapel was built. After a preparatory education obtained at Dover and at West Nottingham, Maryland, he entered Lafayette College at sixteen years of age and graduated there in 1836. He afterwards attended the law school of Judge Reed at Carlisle and was admitted to the bar there in 1840. A year later he began the practice of law at Dover.

Possessing a remarkably studious disposition he applied himself with great diligence to the study of legal principles. With clear perception, good judgment, and a remarkable memory, he soon impressed the court and community as a man of strong intellectuality and in a few years was recognized as one of the leaders of the State. His personal inclination was towards a life of quiet study. He disliked the strife and tumult of the forum. If his lot had been cast in a larger field, where he would have been forced out of his retirement, his talents would have necessarily attracted wide attention. Living the quiet, sheltered life that he did, the rare ability he possessed was known to but few.

In early days he was a Whig in politics. In 1860 he joined the Republican party and was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Lincoln for President. As a political speaker he was strong and convincing. On the election of Governor Cannon in 1862, he became Secretary of State, but served less than a year, resigning that office to take a seat in Congress, to which he had been elected at a special election

in November, 1863. He served but one term in Congress, being defeated for re-election, but during his incumbency of that high office he showed the same rare ability that his friends at home always accorded him, and his associates at Washington were impressed with his familiarity with the great questions of state that were then occupying public attention.

He never afterwards held public office until the winter of 1895, when on the election of Joshua H. Marvil to the governorship he was prevailed upon to accept the office of Secretary of State, but the death of the Governor three months later terminated his tenure of that office. During the whole of his active professional life the affairs of the State were in the control of his political opponents. If it had been otherwise, in all probability he would have been named for high judicial position, for which he possessed unusual qualifications.

Socially Mr. Smithers was most entertaining. Those of his own generation are gone, but some are still left who remember the little office on the south side of Dover green where for so many years Mr. Smithers took pleasure in reviewing current events with casual visitors, or where the younger members of the bar were always welcome to discuss with him some mooted point of law. After a visit to him there was a feeling that one had been in touch with greatness.

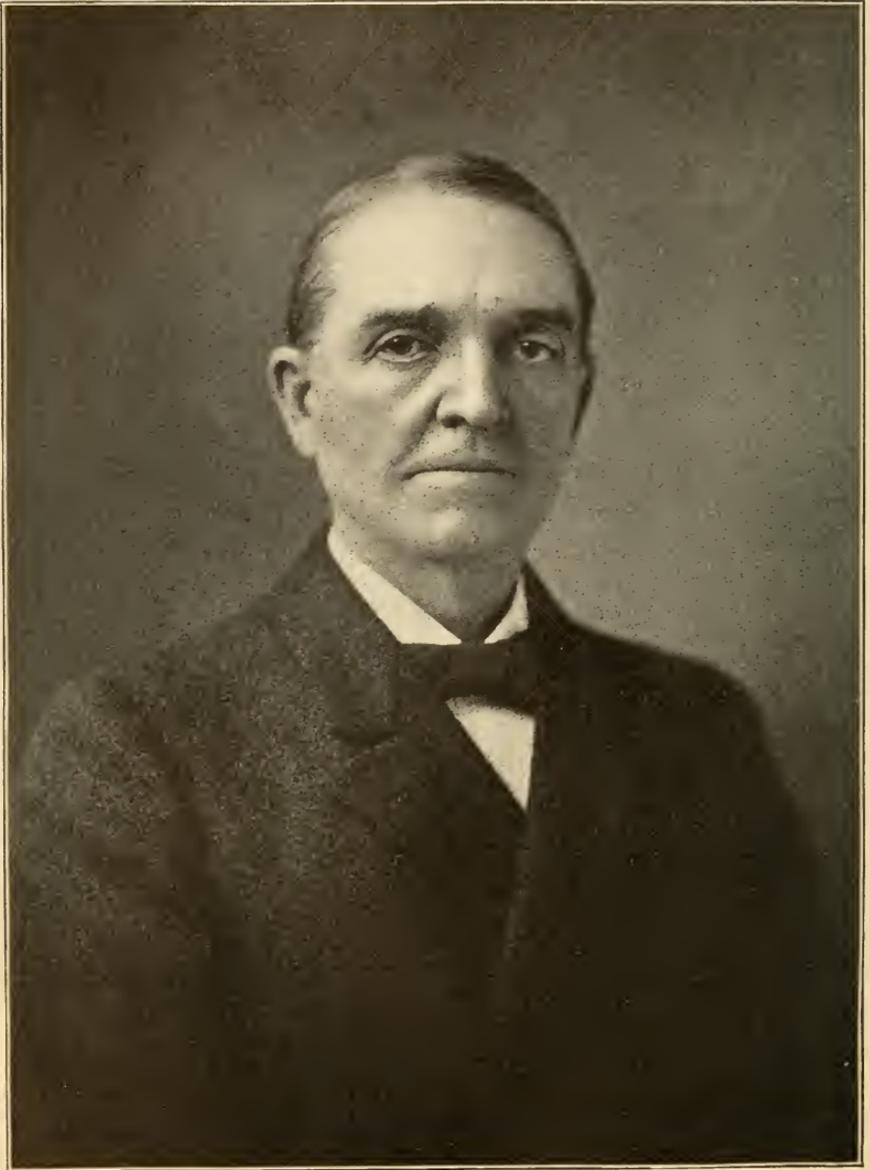
His home life was ideal. His only living descendant is a grandson, who bears his name. Four children graced his home, two of whom died in infancy. A daughter, Sadie, very like her father in temperament and characteristics, died as she was budding into womanhood. A son, Nathaniel Barratt Smithers, Jr., studied law with the father, and was admitted to the Kent County Bar in 1887. The son died at the age of thirty. Nathaniel B. Smithers was a man of deep religious convictions. In his later life he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. At his death, on January 16, 1896, he left a widow, Mary E. Smithers, to survive him. She was the daughter of William Townsend, of Frederica, and a woman of superior character.

JACOB MOORE.

Jacob Moore was the son of Louthier T. Moore, and was born at Laurel, Delaware, November 21, 1829. His father for many years was a prominent merchant at Laurel. Graduating at Union College in 1850, Jacob Moore studied law with Edward Wootten and was admitted to the bar in April, 1853. He applied himself with great diligence to his profession and soon won a commanding position at the bar. For twenty years prior to his death he was the acknowledged leader of the Sussex bar, being retained as attorney on one side or the other on nearly every case on the trial list. He served as attorney for all the railroad companies in the county, and for the old Dominion Steamship Company which at that time controlled a line of steamships running from Lewes to New York.

Mr. Moore's early political affiliations were with the Democratic party, but at the beginning of the Civil War his adherence to the Union cause brought him into the Republican party; to which party he gave zealous allegiance during the remainder of his life. It was largely through his efforts that William Cannon, a warm personal friend, was nominated by the Republican party for the office of Governor in 1862. In 1863 he assisted in the organization of the Sixth Delaware Regiment, joining the same as a private, but afterwards reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In 1864 he was appointed by Governor Cannon Attorney General of the State. His administration of this office was exceptionally good, and at the close of his five-year term, the Court openly commended the record that he had made. Personally, Mr. Moore was a delightful companion; bright, cheery, most interesting in conversation, he was a general favorite everywhere and no man had a wider circle of personal friends. He married in 1860, Eliza R. Rodney of Georgetown. His son, Charles L. Moore has been for several years a practicing attorney, occupying the office formerly used by his father. Jacob Moore died suddenly December 13, 1886, and there was a general feeling of regret at his death throughout the State.





GEORGE V. MASSEY.

GEORGE V. MASSEY.

A member of the Delaware Bar who has gained enviable distinction in his chosen profession is George V. Massey. His early life was spent in the country. He was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, on December 16, 1841. In his early boyhood he spent some years near Newark and in the vicinity of Wilmington, and later attended school at Perkiomen Seminary and at Delaware Water Gap. He studied law with Nathaniel B. Smithers at Dover, and was admitted to the bar October 23, 1865.

Mr. Massey enlisted as first lieutenant in the First Regiment of Delaware Cavalry Volunteers in the War of the Rebellion, and afterwards, with the rank of captain, served on the staff of General H. H. Lockwood and in the Adjutant-General's department, and later with the Inspector-General's department with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. At the close of the war he resumed his residence at Dover, and his admission to the bar followed a few months later.

Possessed of great native force, and with a rugged physique, he impressed himself as a man intent upon winning his way. Of unusually industrious habits, and with a power of endurance seldom seen, he applied himself diligently to the conduct of the business that came to him, and by close application, that began in the early morning hours and lasted until late into the night, he versed himself in the principles of the law and became fully equipped for the brilliant and successful career at the bar that opened before him.

He occupied for many years an adjoining office to that of his preceptor, Mr. Smithers, and from the latter doubtless received both inspiration and encouragement that had their influence in his after life. He came to the bar when Ridgely, Comegys and Smithers were at the head of the profession in Kent County, and an abler trio is seldom found. And for many years he practiced law side by side with James L. Wolcott, afterwards Chancellor, and later he and George Gray were the general attorneys in Delaware for the Philadelphia, Wil-

mington and Baltimore Railroad and the Delaware Railroad and its connections. For three years immediately prior to his removal from Delaware he associated James Pennewill with him in the practice of the law. Mr. Pennewill two years later became an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of Delaware.

As a trial lawyer Mr. Massey has few superiors, and as a counselor and advisor he is unexcelled. His wide knowledge of legal principles, his quick discernment of the real point at issue, his almost unerring wisdom in matters of judgment, and his clear and forcible power of expression make a combination of talents that thoroughly fit him for the highest seat among the busy corporation lawyers of the present day. It was not surprising, therefore, that possessing these qualifications, he was called, after thirty years of active practice in the three counties of Delaware, to serve the great Pennsylvania Railroad Company, first, as Assistant Solicitor, and later as the head of its legal department at the central offices in Philadelphia, being known now as General Counsel. His duties in this behalf led him to remove his residence from Dover to Philadelphia in 1895.

He spent a year in directing, as one of the four members of the Board of Control, the great World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago, in 1893, and to him, more than to any one man is due the successful conduct of that giant enterprise. His services in that direction mark the only departure in his career from the practice of the law. His political affiliations have always been with the Republican party. If he had chosen to give his attention to politics he would have made an invincible leader. In the meeting of the General Assembly in 1889, he came within one vote of securing the caucus nomination of his party for United States Senator. Of late years he has given no time to politics.

Genial, frank, and honest, he has gathered about him a host of loyal friends. The three score and more of years have not abated the natural forces. The capacity for work is still

dominant. He is enjoying the respect of all men. The vigor and faithfulness of his work have brought their reward. He has won because he deserved to win.

RICHARD HARRINGTON.

One of the most conspicuous and in many respects the most interesting figures that ever graced the Delaware bar, was Richard Harrington. Handsome, brilliant, ambitious, of lofty ideals, of splendid attainments, of matchless eloquence, and overflowing with personal magnetism, he rose like a dazzling meteor, flashing for a brief moment across the sky, then fading away, and leaving those who beheld it full of wonderment and admiration.

Richard Harrington was the third son of Chancellor Harrington and was born at Dover, Delaware, on the 19th day of February, 1847. He received his early education in the schools of the town, from which he entered Georgetown College, in the District of Columbia, and was graduated with high honors. He soon afterwards returned to Dover, and began the study of law under the late Hon. Nathaniel B. Smithers. After finishing his course as a law student, he was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice of his profession in his native State. About two years afterwards, he removed to Washington, where, by reason of his rare oratorical powers, he at once took front rank as an advocate, and soon became a conspicuous figure at the National Capital.

After several years of private practice in which he had gathered round him an extensive and enviable clientage, he was appointed Assistant District Attorney for the District of Columbia, under the late Judge George P. Fisher. Here his genius and extraordinary talents shown forth resplendent, gaining for him a national reputation. In 1875, he returned to Dover, and resumed there the practice of his profession. Soon afterwards he entered again into politics, for which he had a love and natural aptitude, and which he had practically put aside during his busy Washington life. In 1882 he was

chosen chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, and in that year conducted the most brilliant and vigorous campaign the State of Delaware ever saw.

Mr. Harrington's advent into politics was made in his childhood. Even at that early age, he had studied and become familiar with the questions of the day, and when but a boy of thirteen years, he stumped the State for his party and became locally famous as a speaker. Everywhere people flocked to listen to the gifted boy and marveled at his utterances.

The promise of boyhood was richly fulfilled in maturer years, which brought with them a wide range of knowledge, and acquaintance with the best literature and a familiarity with the classics. In those later days, the mere announcement of his name as a speaker was sufficient to pack a court room, crowd the largest hall, or draw an assemblage of the people at a mass meeting. His extemporaneous speeches were his best ones. Preparation seemed to hinder him. The moment he rose on his feet his thoughts began to flow, clothed in as beautiful language as ever fell from human lips. He was like a great musician seated at his instrument, improvising soul-inspiring music. His printed orations, while beautiful to read, were but the shadows of the delivered speeches. They lacked the charm of the voice, the flash of the eye, the force of dramatic action, with which the speaker so magnetized and swayed the multitude.

It is related of him that at a dinner in Washington, given to Dean Stanley, at which Beecher, and many of the foremost orators of the day were present, a toast was proposed to the District of Columbia. A. R. Sheppard, who was then Governor of the District, was called upon to respond. He declined, saying he was not a public speaker, and suggesting that his friend Mr. Harrington respond to the toast. For once in his life, the young orator was embarrassed. The suddenness of the situation, the presence of so many distinguished men, was enough to make him shrink from the task. It was more

graceful, however, to respond than to decline, and for twenty minutes, those gathered round that table sat entranced. When he sat down, Beecher heartily congratulated him, and subsequently Dean Stanley mentioned in his memoirs, published in England, that "the best young orator I ever heard is an American named Harrington."

In the court room his resistless eloquence carried everything before it: His intensity fascinated the jury, his wit captivated them, his denunciation awed them, his subtile argument convinced them. As a man, Richard Harrington was generous, warm-hearted, and true. He possessed great originality, wonderful executive ability, and in the discharge of his duty, was bold and fearless. He was married during his residence in Washington to Ruth Anna Ridgely, daughter of Dr. Henry Ridgely of Dover, the issue of the marriage being two sons and a daughter. He died at Dover in October, 1884, and was buried at Lakeside cemetery in that town.

JOHN BASSETT MOORE.

John Bassett Moore, the son of Dr. John A. and Martha A. (Ferguson) Moore, was born at Smyrna, Delaware, December 3, 1860. He received his early education at home and at private schools, and was for some years a student at Felton Seminary, an institution which was established largely through the enterprise of his father, and which for a time flourished under the management of the late R. H. Skinner. In June, 1877, he was admitted to Lafayette College at Easton, Pennsylvania, but in the autumn of the same year decided to go to the University of Virginia, of which he afterwards became a graduate. In 1880 he entered upon the study of the law in the office of Edward G. Bradford, Jr., at Wilmington, Delaware, where, in 1883, upon his admission to the bar he began the practice of his profession.

In the summer of 1885, at the request of Thomas F. Bayard, who was then Secretary of State of the United States, he passed a competitive civil-service examination for a law clerk-

ship in the Department of State at Washington. He took this step only with the idea of gaining experience and with the expectation of remaining in the public service not more than a year. In January, 1886, he was chosen for a special mission to the Samoan Islands, but circumstances having arisen which delayed the mission he was appointed early in August of that year Third Assistant Secretary of State. In June and July, 1887, he acted as secretary to the conference between Mr. Bayard, as Secretary of State, and the British and German Ministers at Washington on Samoan affairs, and prepared all the protocols of that conference as they have since been published. From November, 1887, to February, 1888, he acted as American secretary to the conference at Washington on the Northeastern Fisheries, his colleague on the British side being Sir J. H. G. Bergne.

In 1889, when Grover Cleveland was succeeded as President by Benjamin Harrison, Mr. Moore was requested by Mr. Blaine, the new Secretary of State, to retain his post as Third Assistant Secretary. Mr. Moore had in fact treated the office as being in a proper sense non-political, but, as he was a Democrat in politics, he had taken the requisite steps to relieve the new Secretary of State of any embarrassment. Mr. Blaine, however, immediately asked him to remain, and afterwards reiterated the request in very gratifying terms, and Mr. Moore continued to hold the position until the autumn of 1891, when he resigned it to accept the new chair of International Law and Diplomacy at Columbia University, in New York, the only full professorship in the United States at that time on those subjects.

In April, 1898, on the outbreak of the war with Spain, Mr. Moore was appointed Assistant Secretary of State. This highly honorable office he had on certain previous occasions felt obliged by personal circumstances to decline, but, when it was unexpectedly offered to him by President McKinley, in the exceptional condition of affairs then existing, he promptly accepted it. In September, 1898, hostilities with Spain being

over, he resigned the post of Assistant Secretary of State, to become secretary and counsel to the American Peace Commission at Paris, and participated in this capacity in the negotiations that ended in the signature of the treaty of peace with Spain on December 10, 1898. In 1904 he acted as agent of the United States before the arbitral board under the protocol between the United States and Santo Domingo of January 31, 1903.

Mr. Moore has written extensively on International Law and cognate subjects. His publications embrace: A Report on Extraterritorial Crime (Washington, 1887); A Report on Extradition, prepared for the first International American Conference (Washington, 1890); A Treatise on Extradition and Interstate Rendition, 2 vols. (Boston, 1891); American Notes on the Conflict of Laws (Boston, 1896); A History and Digest of International Arbitrations, 6 vols. (Washington, 1898); American Diplomacy, its Spirit and Achievements (New York, 1905); A Digest of International Law, 8 vols. (Washington, 1906). His works on International Law are more voluminous and cover a wider field than those of any other American publicist, present or past. He is a member of various learned societies, American and foreign, including the American Historical Association, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Academy of Political Science, the American Bar Association, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Institut du Droit International, and the Institut Colonial International. He is one of the editors of the "Political Science Quarterly," of the "Revue du Droit International," and of the "Journal du Droit International Privé." He is an LL.D. of the Columbian (now George Washington) University (1899), Delaware College, (1900), and Yale University (Bicentennial, 1901). In 1890 Mr. Moore married Helen Frances Toland; they have three children, Phyllis Elwyn, Anne Ferguson, and Angela Turner.

Mr. Moore has been a resident of New York City since 1891, but he has always evidenced a lively interest in the State of

his birth, being still counted as an honored member of the Delaware Bar. His ability and distinguished achievements are recognized not only in Delaware, but throughout the country.

CHARLES F. RICHARDS.

Charles F. Richards was a native of Northwest Fork Hundred. He was the son of John Richards, and was born July 15, 1846. After receiving an academic education, he studied law under Jacob Moore, and was admitted to the Bar at Georgetown in 1869. During the Civil War he served for a short time in the Sixth Delaware Regiment. Always identified with the Republican party he served as chairman of the County Committee for nearly ten years, and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1872. Elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of the State in 1897 he took a leading part therein, and was recognized as one of the most useful members. On several occasions he received votes for the office of United States Senator in the General Assembly. As a member of the Sussex County Bar for thirty-six years he won the respect and regard of all through his careful attention to business and by virtue of his high standards of integrity. His death occurred December 23, 1905, at Philadelphia, after a brief illness.

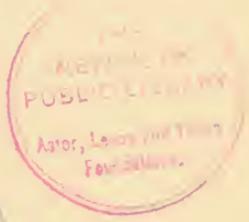
RICHARD R. KENNEY.

When a young man makes his appearance among a strange people, and by dint of his own efforts, or his genius, makes himself a leader of them, we must conclude that he possesses a strong personality, or marked ability, or both. Thus came Richard R. Kenney. An obscure law-student, without prestige, and with no aid save his own pluck and energy, who dreamed of reaching some proud eminence and to whom the dream came true, and who made himself a Senator: that is Richard R. Kenney.

“He who sows courtesy,” says an Eastern proverb, “reaps



RICHARD R. KENNEY.



friendship." Never was the truth of a proverb more clearly shown than in his case. Affability furnished the ladder upon which he rose to recognition ; brains and tact did the rest. Yet, behind his affability and courtesy there lies a courage that is dauntless, and a perseverance that is tireless. Perhaps the governing element in his character is intensity of purpose, stimulated by a nature that is prompt to decide and quick to act. With his mental vision, he sees but one thing at a time, a characteristic that gives his efforts singular force and power.

Richard Roland Kenney was born near Laurel, Sussex County, Delaware, September 9, 1856, and received his early education in the country school house, and at the Laurel Academy, from which he entered Hobart College at Geneva, New York, and was graduated June 1, 1877. He is a son of Samuel Kenney, and a descendant of one of the earliest settlers of Sussex County. Immediately after his graduation, he went to Texas, but soon returned, and taught school a while in Accomac County, Virginia. In January, 1878, he came to Dover, and entered upon the study of law with the late Chancellor Saulsbury. In January, 1879, he was elected State Librarian, and at the expiration of his term, was re-elected. He was admitted to the Bar October 24, 1881, and began the practice of his profession in Dover, where he has practiced continuously ever since.

He was successful from the start, and rose rapidly in his profession, until to-day he enjoys one of the best practices in the State. Soon after his admission to the Bar he was married to Harriet C. Pennewill, of a prominent Kent County family, and of this marriage three children were born, two of whom are living. In 1887 Governor Biggs appointed him Adjutant-General of the Delaware National Guard. Here, his ability as an organizer was fully displayed. He put all his energy into the success of the organization, and it rose to a dignity it had never before assumed, and its first annual encampment under his direction was brilliant and spectacular.

In 1898 he was chosen by the legislature of his State to

fill a vacancy in the United States Senate, occasioned by a deadlock and the failure of the preceding legislature to make a choice. He was very popular in the Senate, and made many influential friends there. Had his party succeeded at the polls, upon the expiration of his term as Senator he would undoubtedly have been returned. As a lawyer Mr. Kenney has the confidence and esteem of the whole community. He is prompt, industrious, careful and painstaking. It is before a jury that he is most effective. There the dramatic element of his nature shows itself, and he impresses juries with his eloquence and earnestness.

As a politician he is shrewd and sagacious. He has no lack of fighting power or ability to assert himself, and he can show a velvet gentleness whenever the occasion calls for it. Personally he is a man of most engaging manners, hospitable, kind-hearted and benevolent. Though somewhat brusque in speech at times, yet, he never means to wound the feelings. His magnetic personality attracts people, his cheerfulness of disposition delights them, his earnestness of manner holds them. He is thoroughly domestic in his tastes, and the hearthstone of his handsome home in Dover is to him the most desirable place in the world.

ELISHA D. CULLEN.

Elisha D. Cullen was born in Millsboro, Sussex County, Delaware, April 23, 1799. He was educated at Princeton College, and studied law with Peter Robinson, afterwards Associate Judge, and was admitted to the Sussex County Bar in October, 1821. He at once began the practice of law, which he continued until his death. He was elected to Congress in 1854, and took a prominent part in all the leading questions of debate. He was a lawyer of remarkable reasoning powers, and these combined with much ability as a public speaker made him an important factor in public life. He died in Georgetown, Delaware, in February, 1862. He was the father of Charles M. Cullen, Associate Justice from Sussex County,





H. H. Ward.

and grandfather of Charles W. Cullen, at present one of the most active practitioners at the Sussex Bar.

LEWIS C. VANDEGRIFT.

Lewis C. Vandegrift was born in St. George's Hundred on August 27, 1855. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers in that Hundred. After an education received in the public schools he entered Delaware College, from which institution he graduated in 1875. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1880. George Gray was his legal preceptor. Admitted to practice in November, 1879, he opened an office in Wilmington. In 1881 he formed a co-partnership with Edward G. Bradford, which continued until the elevation of the latter to the bench of the United States District Court in 1897. Mr. Vandegrift was a man of most industrious habits. He applied himself most diligently, and soon won a commanding position at the bar. In politics he was a Democrat, and he made himself felt as a factor in the counsels of that party. In 1894 he was appointed United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, and made a most successful prosecuting officer. During his term he was called upon to prosecute several very important cases, and they were managed by him with signal ability. His industry and ability brought him unusual success, and his clientage increased rapidly. He was born a fighter, but fair and open as an antagonist, and possessed of the personal qualities which attracted to him a wide circle of friends. No member of the bar had a more promising future before him, but in the midst of his usefulness and success he was suddenly stricken with mortal disease, which terminated his life on July 31, 1900.

HERBERT H. WARD.

The Delaware bar has been fortunate in several instances by the coming to the State of an educated and enterprising New Englander. Willard Hall, who was the father of the public school system of the State and who served so long and

honorably on the bench of the United States District Court, came to Delaware from Massachusetts in 1803.

Nearly eighty years later Herbert H. Ward, a Vermonter by birth, settled in this State, engaged for a few years as a tutor, studied law under William C. Spruance and entered upon the practice of the law in 1882 at the age of twenty-six. Bright, active and industrious, with ability of a high order, he was early recognized as a young man who was bound to rise. Soon after his admission he became a law partner with George Gray, and continued with him until the elevation of the latter to the bench of the United States Circuit Court. Of late years Mr. Ward and Andrew C. Gray, son of George Gray, have practiced law together. Mr. Ward's rapid progress at the bar has been entirely through his own merit. He gives most careful preparation to his cases and presents questions of law in argument in a convincing and impressive way that has made him particularly strong before the Court. As a trial lawyer he has few equals, and the large and influential clientage that he controls is an evidence of the success that he has won. An active member in high degree of the Masonic fraternity and other influential secret organizations, he is deservedly popular. An honored member of Grace M. E. Church, he has the full respect of the whole community. In 1900 he was impelled, against his wishes, to accept the nomination of the Republican party as its candidate for the office of Attorney-General of the State, and was triumphantly elected. He was the first Attorney-General elected by the people. His administration of this office fully met public expectation. He brought into play in his conduct of public office the same strong qualities which had brought him success in civil practice, and proved himself a fearless and capable prosecuting officer. Personally Mr. Ward is a gentleman of attractive manners, whole-souled and generous, and those who have the entree of his charming home in Wilmington find in it an atmosphere of true-hearted hospitality.





Louis J. Hiller

WILLIAM S. HILLES.

The Hilles family has been identified with Wilmington for a century. Samuel Hilles came to Wilmington about 1812 and for twenty years was a leading educator, conducting with his brother Eli, a school which ranked among the leading educational institutions of its time. The two sons of Samuel Hilles, William S. and John S., were for years active and important factors in Wilmington business life. The subject of this sketch was a son of John S. Hilles, and though born in Philadelphia, has spent most of his life in Wilmington. Educated at the Penn Charter School and Rugby Academy, he later entered Haverford College, from which he graduated in 1885. He then began the study of law with Benjamin Nields and came to the bar of New Castle County in 1888. His success at the bar has been remarkable. With him the "waiting period," that is the customary experience of the young lawyer, was lacking. From the start he had been busy; and within a few years from his admission he had attracted a large and substantial clientage which has grown with the years that have followed, until Mr. Hilles has now a practice unequalled by any member of the bar in the State. His wide knowledge of legal principles, his keen insight into human nature, his strong common sense and superior judgment, coupled with untiring industry and vigorous tenacity, have made the combination that has led to the marked success of Mr. Hilles as a practicing attorney. Engrossed in the practice of the law, Mr. Hilles has shown but little inclination towards political life. He is a pronounced Republican in politics, has represented his party in State conventions, and is always in demand as a public speaker. On several occasions he has received complimentary votes for United States Senator. He represents in private and professional life the high ideals of morality and good citizenship that have always been inculcated by the Society of Friends, of which sect his ancestors, for generations, were honored and useful members.

WILLARD SAULSBURY.

Willard Saulsbury, the youngest son of Chancellor Willard Saulsbury, was born at Georgetown, April 17, 1861, while his father was a member of the United States Senate. Educated at the Wilmington Conference Academy and the University of Virginia, he prosecuted his law studies with his father, and was admitted to the bar at Dover in 1882. Mr. Saulsbury immediately after came to Wilmington and entered the law office of Victor DuPont, and began at once to build up a large and lucrative practice. He became early identified with many of the leading enterprises of the city, and he soon developed into an unusually successful business lawyer. No member of the bar has had a more extensive touch with large corporate interests, and no one could have guarded with greater care or wiser judgment the varied and important matters entrusted to him. He was the active factor in the founding of the Equitable Guarantee and Trust Company, and has served for years as a director of the Union National Bank. Through his efforts the street railways of the City of Wilmington were developed and extended until they compare most favorably with systems in cities of a like population. Forceful as a character, Mr. Saulsbury has been an important factor in the business world in all the years that he has been at the bar. His practice has been extensive, particularly in the Court of Chancery, where he has represented many important causes. His opponents have found him resourceful and tenacious. He wins because he deserves to win.

For the past fifteen years he has been an active leader in Democratic politics in the State, and had his party been in control during that time would doubtless have been elected to the United States Senate. He has never held public office, but has been frequently honored by his party with a seat in its National Conventions, and is recognized in all matters of party appointments. Mr. Saulsbury has fully maintained the honored name of the family, and occupies an honorable position both at the bar and in the business community.





Richard J. Paulding





JOHN BIGGS.

PETER L. COOPER, JR.

The subject of this sketch gave promise of an unusually successful career at the bar. Born in Kent County in 1864, he came from the Cooper line that has figured in all conventions and all departments of the State government since colonial days. After an education obtained in the public schools he studied law with James L. Wolcott at Dover, and came to the bar in 1890. After serving for two years as Superintendent of Free Schools for Kent County, he removed to Wilmington and began the practice of law. He showed pluck and determination, gave close attention to the business which came to him, and by dint of close study and industry soon occupied a promising position at the bar. In 1895 he was appointed Deputy Attorney-General by Robert C. White, and proved himself such a strong and courageous prosecutor that it won for him the nomination for Attorney-General by the Democratic party in 1900. His record of ten years at the bar indicates that his future success, if he had lived, would have been secure; but unfortunately an accident which befell him in the spring of 1901 led to a decline in health which resulted in his death July 18, 1901, in the thirty-seventh year of his age. But few young men of the bar have made a more favorable impression on the community.

JOHN BIGGS.

John Biggs is the oldest son of Governor Benjamin T. Biggs. His birthplace was near Mount Pleasant on the Biggs homestead, and was born October 15, 1855. After a preparatory course at Rugby Academy in Wilmington, he entered Princeton College, from which he graduated in 1877. Entering the office of Victor DuPont, he pursued the study of law for three years, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1879. Since that date he has been in active practice in Wilmington.

In 1885 he was made Deputy by Attorney-General John H. Paynter, and on the appointment of the latter to the bench in April, 1887, was appointed Attorney-General of the State.

At that time he had been but seven years at the bar, and he was then in his thirty-second year. If there were any misgivings, owing to his age and lack of experience, as to the ability of Mr. Biggs to cope with the responsible duties of this important office, they were very soon dispelled, as it became evident, at once, that he was master of the situation.

In the preparation of his cases, both criminal and civil, he has always been most thorough and painstaking, and in the presentation of matters, both of fact and law, to the Court, he has shown unusual force. His administration of the office of Attorney-General was eminently successful. He has held no other public office. For several years he has been associate counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Wilmington. Always identified with the Democratic party, he has been recognized as a leader and his name has been presented on several occasions by his political friends in the General Assembly, for United States Senator. A man of excellent business judgment and of the strictest integrity, careful, industrious and systematic, he has won and held a large clientele, and has the full respect, both of his associates at the bar and of the people of the State.

ROBERT H. RICHARDS.

Among the younger members of the bar none have forged more rapidly to the front than Robert H. Richards. The oldest son of Charles F. Richards, Esq., he was born in Georgetown, Delaware, November 15, 1873, and after a preliminary education received in the schools and the noted academy of that town, entered Dickinson College, where he graduated in 1895. After the usual law course under the direction of his father, he came to the bar in 1897, and spent his first year of practice with his father. He then removed to Wilmington where he has since resided.

Both the court and the older members of the bar were soon impressed with the marked talent which he exhibited as a lawyer. His conduct of the cases early entrusted to him bore

evidence of thorough knowledge of the principles of law, and before the court he was strong and forcible. In 1901 he was appointed Deputy Attorney-General by the newly elected Attorney-General, Herbert H. Ward, and in this office served for four years, rendering to the State conspicuously able services, which resulted in his being the nominee of both factions of the Republican party for the office of Attorney-General in 1904. Although opposed by L. Irving Handy, the Democratic nominee, who as a campaigner had no equal in the State, he was triumphantly elected, and entered upon the duties of the office in January, 1905. Mr. Richards has shown himself thoroughly equipped as a lawyer. Keen in perception, cool and collected in temperament, his record as a prosecuting officer has measured up to the highest record heretofore made by the long line of distinguished lawyers who have occupied the post of Attorney-General.

LEVIN IRVING HANDY.

Levin Irving Handy was born at Berlin, Worcester County, Maryland, on December 24, 1861. He is one of a family of eight children, and is the son of Rev. William C. Handy, a Presbyterian preacher, and the grandson of William W. Handy, Esq., who was in his generation the leading lawyer at the bar of Somerset County, Maryland. The mother of Levin Irving Handy was a daughter of Rev. Dr. Robert J. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, and was a woman of brilliant gifts and strong character.

The boyhood of Levin Irving Handy was spent partly on the eastern shore of Maryland, partly with his maternal relatives in Kentucky, and partly in rural New York, where his father went to preach in 1871. His education was irregular, and was obtained at private and public schools in Maryland and New York. He did not attend college, but began teaching school shortly before he was eighteen years of age at Dames Quarter, Somerset County, Maryland. In 1881 he was elected principal of the high school at Smyrna, and it was this call

which brought him to Delaware. On January 25, 1887, he married at Smyrna Miss Mary C. Bell, a daughter of William M. Bell, Esq., and Emily Hoffecker, his wife. The same year he was appointed by Governor Biggs Superintendent of Free Schools of Kent County. While serving as superintendent he registered as a law student with John R. Nicholson, Esq., then a member of the Kent County Bar, now the Chancellor of Delaware. In 1890 he resigned the position of County Superintendent to accept the principalship of the old Newark Academy, and thereupon removed to Newark, Delaware. About this time he began lecturing before teachers' institutes in Pennsylvania and other States. In 1892 he was made Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, a position which he held until 1896. In 1892 he retired from teaching and devoted himself to the lyceum lecture field, responding to calls from all parts of the country. In 1894 he was a candidate for the Democratic congressional nomination, and was defeated in that ambition by Samuel Bancroft, Jr. He became editorial writer for the "Every Evening," and continued that work until January 1, 1896. In 1896 he was nominated for Congress by the Democrats and elected. He served in Congress one term only, being renominated in 1898 by his party but defeated at the polls by John H. Hoffecker, Esq., an uncle of Mrs. Handy. At the May term of the Superior Court of New Castle County in 1899 he was admitted to the practice of the law, and opened a law office in Wilmington, where he has since pursued his profession. In 1900 he was a delegate from Delaware to the Democratic National Convention at Kansas City, where he served on the Committee on Platform and supported the views of William J. Bryan, who was there renominated for the presidency. In 1902 he was again a candidate for the congressional nomination, but was defeated in the Democratic State Convention by Henry A. Houston, Esq., by a majority of two votes. In 1904 Mr. Handy was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis, and presented the name of Judge George Gray to

that convention as a presidential candidate. The same year Mr. Handy was nominated by the Democrats for the office of Attorney-General of Delaware, and was defeated at the polls by Robert H. Richards, Esq. In 1905 he was made Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, and during his term the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. celebrated the centennial of its existence as a separate jurisdiction. Mr. Handy has for many years been an industrious stump speaker for his party in Delaware and neighboring States during political campaigns. He has also spoken much on literary subjects. His residence is at Newark, Delaware, and his family consists of a wife and two children—a son and a daughter.

Mr. Handy has inherited from both lines of ancestry, especially from the Breckinridge family, an unusual vocabulary coupled with a fluent and forcible utterance. As a public speaker he has few, if any, equals in the State, and his attractiveness as a conversationalist is everywhere recognized. His success as a platform lecturer has been established for many years, and he is rapidly forging to the front as a member of the Delaware Bar.

MEDICINE AND ITS PRACTITIONERS.

Lawfully may the historian, borrowing the phrase of the learned author of "Delaware Doctors," the well-known Dr. Stellwagen of Philadelphia, felicitate himself that "Fortunately it fell to his lot to examine that portion of Delaware's history which related to the medical profession," for surely when he surveys the magnitude of what her sons have accomplished in the domain of medicine, and notes how many laureled names have arisen from out her little handful, he is constrained to yield assent to the growing panegyric paid them by Professor Stellwagen.

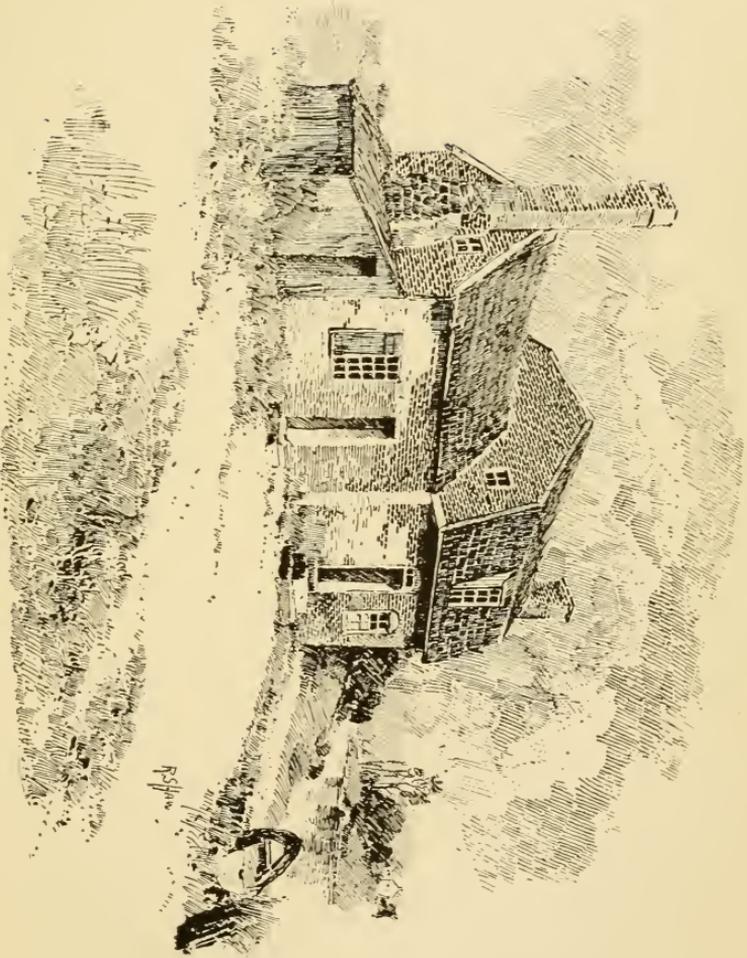
Early medication in Delaware during the seventeenth and much of the eighteenth century, was confined to the exhibition of home-derived remedies, such as herb simples—the horehound, boneset, pennyroyal, sassafras and the like—which composed the grandmotherly pharmacopœias of the day, brought in part from their European homes, and in part derived from the aborigines of the forest around them. So, too, broken bones and wounds were commonly left to the care of native bonesetters aided by such simple remedies as the skill and experience of the household afforded—plus, always, the *vix medicatrix naturæ*.

In truth, in the early days roads through the pathless wilderness were few and poor, while bridges were almost unknown, the winding trail of the Indian being often the sole recourse of the mounted doctor with his saddlebags.

The very first physician of whom Delaware's history tells was Dr. Tyman Stidham, a Swede, who came over with Governor Risingh in 1654, and settled at Fort Christina, now known as The Rocks, within the present city limits of Wilmington, a part of whose site includes a large tract of land which he acquired under Dutch patents, afterward confirmed

(1054)

HOUSE BUILT BY DR. TYMEN STIDHAM.





by the English under Governor Lovelace. Dr. Stidham was appointed city surgeon of Christina in 1662. He died in 1686; was twice married, and had several children, whose descendants are now in Delaware and other states.

Dr. John Des Jardins practiced medicine in what is now Kent County as early as May, 1675; and one Dr. John Rhoads early settled at Horekill, in Sussex County, where, doubtless finding patients few and fees fewer, he accepted, in 1673, the office of magistrate, but was murdered the next year by the Indians. Dr. Thomas Spry, about the same period, in lower New Castle County, supplemented the medical with the legal practice.

In 1676 the first mal-praxis suit in the State was brought in New Castle County by one Powell against a Dr. Hans Peterson, who, on his own confession of error, was fined one hundred and fifty gilders damages, besides costs.

Dr. Thomas Wynne, a Friend, and the first Speaker of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, came to Lewes in 1685, where he became prominent in politics; so Dr. John Stewart was Sheriff of New Castle County in 1702, and Dr. Peter Clower of Sussex County in 1743. Eleven members of the Delaware regiment in the Revolutionary War were then, or afterwards became, physicians.

Dr. Henry Fisher, who came from Waterford, Ireland, in 1725, was probably the first physician of eminence in the State. He was the only regularly educated doctor in Sussex County during his life, and his wide practice extended into Kent County, Maryland. Governor William Penn vainly offered him flattering inducements to come to Philadelphia. He gave important aid to the government during the war of the Revolution, superintending the defences of the entrance to the Delaware bay, and receiving and executing all orders from Congress. Through his swift pilot and whale boats, he obtained information and gave warnings of inestimable value to the Continental forces.

To Delaware belongs the high honor of possessing the third

oldest State medical society in this country, those of Massachusetts and New Jersey only being older. The Delaware State Medical Society was incorporated February 3, 1798, the Legislature conferring upon Drs. John McKinly, James Tilton, Edward Miller and twenty-four other physicians in the State, the corporate name of "The President and Fellows of the Medical Society of Delaware," with the powers usually granted to such bodies. Pursuant to the Act of Assembly the society held its first meeting at Dover, May 12, 1789, Dr. James Tilton, chairman pro tem., and Dr. Edward Miller secretary; and a constitution having been adopted, James Tilton was chosen president; James Preston, vice president; Edward Miller, secretary, and James Sykes, treasurer; and Doctors Nicholas Way, Matthew Wilson, Joshua Clayton and Nathaniel Luff, censors. It is a noteworthy circumstance that in May, 1790, after the delivery of the first anniversary oration by Dr. Edward Miller, this pioneer medical society showed its aggressive public spirit by raising a fund for a premium upon the best essay on some subject of general medical or hygienic interest; and it is creditable to the acumen of those medical gentlemen that at so early a period they should have recognized the far-reaching importance of the very same problem whose solution modern medicine is seeking so hard to discover, viz., "The Origin, Nature and Cure of Malarial Fevers," and to make it the theme for their first premiated thesis.

After setting forth the extent of the ravages of this disease and the great benefits to accrue to mankind from its control and cure; and also while conceding the formidable character of the task, they proclaimed their belief in its ultimate accomplishment. Nor does it derogate from the honor due these pioneer investigations that they were fruitless, when we remember it was almost one hundred years later that Laveran, in 1900, discovered the specific germ parasite in the blood which causes malarial fever. Commenting on the character of the papers submitted, Dr. Stellwagen says: "The study of the diseases peculiar to Delaware was very materially advanced

by the labors of the members of the Delaware Medical Society, by Drs. Snow, Barrett, Capelle, Tilton, Wilson, David Bush and Edward Miller. The last contributed largely to the treating and successful combating of intermittent and yellow fevers by means of the then novel remedy *Peruvian bark*, the alkaloidal principle of which, *quinine*, is to-day one of the most universal and generally trusted remedies of the Pharmacopœia.

It is plain enough that the founders of the society adhered to their original purpose of promoting the practical advancement *pro bono publico* of the science of healing, not less than xenity and fraternity among its practitioners. From 1819 to 1835 this society was empowered by the Legislature to appoint annually a number of their own members a "Board of Medical Examiners," with power to authorize any one to practice medicine who presented a reputable medical diploma, or submitted to a full examination by the Board and read a satisfactory paper upon some medical subject. The practice of medicine in Delaware is now otherwise regulated. The character and achievements of a number of these founders of this society merit especial mention.

Dr. James Tilton, the society's first president, was born in Kent County, in 1745, and after receiving a classical education at Nottingham Academy, Maryland, under the Rev. Samuel Finley, afterwards president of Princeton College, graduated in 1771 from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. Though he had already acquired a good practice at Dover, he early espoused the cause of independence, becoming a first lieutenant of a company of light infantry. After the Declaration of Independence he was appointed surgeon to the First Delaware Regiment, and was with the Continental forces at Long Island and White Plains, and in their subsequent retreat to the Delaware river. In 1777 he was in charge of the General Hospital at Princeton, New Jersey, which was then, to quote his own words, "so shockingly mismanaged that the disease swallowed up at least one-half of the army," and boldly pointed out the errors and abuses

which contributed to this result. He was himself prostrated with the deadly typhus fever, and narrowly escaped death.

In the winter of 1779-80 Dr. Tilton was in charge of the General Hospital at Trenton, New Jersey, and originated a new system of hospital construction by building small log huts roughly built so as to allow free ventilation through the crevices and accommodating only six patients. A fireplace was set in the center with a small smoke hole at the top, giving both draft and ventilation, while the dissemination of a portion of the smoke acted germicidally upon the typhus germs. The result was in the highest degree satisfactory, and the typhus-fever scourge was thereby so lessened that the plan was thereafter generally adopted. General Washington, in a letter September 9, 1780, expressed his appreciation of the meritorious labors of Dr. Tilton.

Though honored by his alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania, with a professorship in 1781, he refused to desert his country's service. After the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1782, he resumed his practice in Dover. He was elected a member of Congress in that year, and was thereafter repeatedly returned to the State Legislature. His well-established reputation and his high standing as an honorable man and a judicious and skilled physician, made his service in great request, both among the laity and among his professional brethren. Upon the declaration of war against Great Britain in 1812, the National Government, remembering his valuable services in the war of the Revolution, again sought his aid as a medical and sanitary expert, and appointed him Surgeon-General of the Army of the United States. Being in poor health, and nearing his three score and ten, he was reluctant to attempt the arduous task, but finally consented to leave the comforts of his lovely home-spot near Wilmington, to give a second time, to the service of his country his ripe experience and profound knowledge. On his tour of inspection of the hospitals on the northern frontier he established sanitary regulations in place of the neglected and ill-ordered conditions

theretofore existing, the marked benefits of which were soon apparent.

When past his seventieth year a tumor of the knee necessitated the amputation of his thigh. Nothing could better illustrate the heroic fortitude of this remarkable man than the fact that though so infirm and aged, and at a time when anesthetics were unknown, he coolly observed and aided so stupendous an operation without losing consciousness or uttering a single groan. He lived several years after this event, dying May 14, 1822. In 1857 his remains were disinterred and placed in the Wilmington and Brandywine cemetery; and the Delaware State Medical Society erected a suitable monument to the memory of this great and good man. Besides a work on military hospitals, Dr. Tilton wrote on yellow fever, rabies canina, the curculis, the peach tree and its diseases, and on many other subjects.

It is proper to cite once more the opinion of a critic as unbiased as he is competent. Alluding to Dr. Tilton's services in abating this typhus-fever scourge at that critical epoch in the war of the Revolution, Dr. Stellwagen says: "Probably without this device of the little huts at this time, Washington would have been defeated—there could have been no hope of success if this scourge had not been arrested. It is but fair to claim that American independence would very likely have suffered either total extinction or a long delay had it not been for this son of Delaware."

Another early physician and charter member of the State Medical Society who attained distinction in medicine was Dr. Edward Miller, born near Dover in 1760, and the son of the celebrated Presbyterian divine, Rev. John Miller, whose distinguished career is elsewhere noticed in this history. Before finishing his studies with Dr. Charles Ridgely of Dover, young Miller entered the army as surgeon's mate, and afterwards as surgeon to an army ship. Returning home he entered the University of Pennsylvania and graduated therefrom in 1785. In 1790, only five years after his graduation,

he was called upon to deliver the university inaugural address. In 1793 he prepared a thesis on the yellow fever, then for the first time prevalent in Philadelphia, and Dr. Benjamin Rush declared that "the author of the paper was second to no physician in the United States." It is a remarkable fact that Dr. Miller always contended that yellow fever *was not contagious*, a doctrine then, and till within a half-dozen years, flatly at variance with the generally accepted medical opinion. He passed through the epidemics of 1798 and 1803; and Appleton's Cyclopædia of Biography, Volume 4, page 327, says his report of the yellow fever in New York in 1805 is "the source from which most of the authorities have drawn their arguments in support of the non-contagious nature of that disease." He thought the origin of the fever was due to "certain noxious miasmata or poisons which find admission into the system through the mouth or nose or pores of the skin or which are inserted by the bite of a rabid or venomous animal." Truly, marvellously near the true origin, but lately discovered, the *stegomia facitata* mosquito's envenomed germ-bearing bite.

In 1796 he removed to New York, and with Doctors Mitchell and Elihu Smith, founded the "Medical Repository," the first medical journal issued in the United States. This work everywhere bears marks of his genius and cultivation, and discloses the brilliancy of his style, his lucid arguments and his original and varied knowledge. He was made port physician of New York City, Professor of Practice and Physic in the University of New York, one of the physicians to the New York Hospital, and a member of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia. His wide reputation and the charm of his writings brought him into correspondence with eminent men in Great Britain, Germany and France. Dr. Stellwagen says: "His reputation was the most world-wide of any one of his profession in this country, except probably Dr. Benjamin Rush, the distinguished Philadelphia signer of the Declaration of Independence." Dr. Miller wrote upon cholera infantum and recommended a treatment different from that prescribed

by the leading physicians of the day. He was also among the first to advise the drinking of water in fevers—a grateful innovation upon the cruel practice then in vogue.

Together with Dr. Samuel H. Black and others, he was also an ardent advocate of vaccination. He died at the early age of fifty-two, universally lamented, and Dr. Rush and other distinguished physicians wrote touching memorials of his life.

Dr. Nathaniel Luff, a corporator of the Medical Society, was born in Kent County in 1756, and after studying medicine in Philadelphia, served in the army as assistant surgeon, and was afterwards promoted to the post of surgeon in Col. Hugh Lloyd's battalion from Chester. Near the close of 1776 he was made surgeon of the 1st battalion of Philadelphia under Col. Morgan, composed chiefly of the sons of Quakers and popularly known as the silk-stocking gentry. Crossing the Delaware on December 25, they were present at the repulse of the British at the Trenton Bridges. At the expiration of their term of service, soon after, they were discharged. Dr. Luff began his practice in lower Delaware. The people were very poor and could pay but little, six hundred to eight hundred bushels of wheat being paid for a common horse, and fifteen to twenty-five dollars for a bushel of salt! Abandoning medicine, he became a farmer, and finally joining the Society of Friends, spent his time chiefly in traveling in the interests of their meetings on the peninsula.

One of the foremost names in early Delaware medicine is that of Dr. John McKinly, who was born in Ireland in 1721, and after practicing medicine for some years in Wilmington, was elected President of the State in 1777, after the adoption of the constitution. On the eve of the battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777, a squad of British entered Wilmington at night, and seizing the doctor in his bed, carried him to Philadelphia and he was imprisoned till the summer of 1778.

Caesar Rodney having been elected President, Dr. McKinly resumed his practice at Wilmington, where he lived in a large and commodious residence on the corner of Third and French

streets, surrounding it with a garden ornamented with choice fruit trees and flowers, and whence he dispensed a rare hospitality to many notable characters. He died August 31, 1796, and his monument in the First Presbyterian churchyard, after reciting his distinguished career, adds, "he became eminent in his profession, served in several important employments, and was the first to fill the office of President of the State after the Declaration of Independence. He died full of years, having lived usefully to the public and honorably to himself."

Dr. Joshua Clayton, a corporator of the Medical Society, and a member of the famous family whose achievements are a part of Delaware's history, was born in Cecil County, Maryland, in 1744. His father John and his uncle Paul Clayton came over with William Penn. Dr. Clayton served as a surgeon at the battle of Brandywine. He married Governor Bassett's adopted daughter, and was the last President of Delaware and thereafter Governor. While attending Congress as a Senator in Philadelphia in 1798, he was taken with yellow fever. His friend, Dr. Rush, whose yellow-fever patients he had assisted, wished him to remain in the city, but he returned home, where he died at the age of fifty-four. His son, Dr. James Lawson Clayton, practiced medicine for many years in Bohemia Manor.

Dr. Joseph Hall, born in Lewes in 1748, was a descendant of the Plymouth settlers, and a founder of the Medical Society. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and soon acquired an extensive practice which necessitated at times his absence from home for days. He served as surgeon in the Revolution. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church, and died young, leaving but one of his six children, Dr. Henry F. Hall.

Dr. Nicholas Way, the son of a respectable Quaker in Wilmington, graduated in 1771 at the age of twenty-one from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a founder of the Medical Society and a skilled physician. When the yellow fever first appeared in Philadelphia, so great was the dread of that epi-

demic that many of the refugees from there were refused an asylum in Wilmington until Dr. Way, assisted by Major George Bush, with equal courage and philanthropy, secured for them everywhere the hospitality of the citizens of that city. In 1797 he himself fell a victim to that dread disease in Philadelphia, a martyr, Dr. Stellwagen says, "to his personal, steadfast devotion to those to whom he administered!" "Greater love hath no man than this!"

Dr. Henry Latimer was born at Newport in 1752. After receiving his degree of Master of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania in 1773, he studied medicine in Philadelphia and Edinburgh, and in 1777 began practicing medicine in Wilmington. He was appointed surgeon in the Continental army that very year, and served his country from Brandywine to Yorktown so acceptably that General Washington mentioned his name for Surgeon-General for the Northern Division of the Continental army.

Dr. James McCallmont, a charter member of the Medical Society, was born of Welsh-Irish ancestry at Newport in 1755. At twenty-two years of age, after finishing his medical training under Dr. Matthew Wilson of Lewes, he became a surgeon in the United States navy and in 1777 took part in a general engagement near Long Island. Later, the same year, his ship was boarded by a Spanish privateer but his life, with that of a young brother, was saved by his giving the Masonic sign to the Spanish officer just as they were about "to walk the plank!" Both were then taken to a Spanish prison in the West Indies, whence they were released finally through the influence of the United States consul. After leaving the navy he practiced in New Castle until his death in 1824.

Dr. Joseph Philippe Eugene Capelle, born in Flanders in 1757, came to America with Count Rochambeau, and was afterwards on General La Fayette's staff as surgeon or surgeon's mate.

It is said that when General La Fayette was shot in the leg

at the battle of Brandywine, Dr. Capelle rode up and offered to dress the wound, but La Fayette declined his services, remarking that his injury was trivial, but that the wounded soldiers were in more urgent need of medical attention than himself. The general's wound was bound up by a camp follower named Belle McCluskey, who wore until her death a bullet suspended from her neck, which she declared was taken from General La Fayette's leg. When La Fayette visited the United States in 1824, he called upon this old woman in Wilmington, and expressed to her his gratitude for her services upon that occasion. Dr. Capelle practiced medicine in Wilmington until his death in 1796, when he was buried with imposing ceremonies, Masonic and religious, in the Old Swede's cemetery. He was an incorporator of the State Medical Society, and was several times chosen censor. He was very popular professionally.

Dr. David Bush was born in Wilmington in 1763. Three of his brothers were officers in the Revolutionary army, Lewis, a member of the bar, was appointed major, and fell at Brandywine; George, also a major, died of his wounds, and the third, John, appointed captain, passed through the war unharmed. Dr. Bush was made a member of the Medical Society in 1793, and his dissertation on small pox showed so much ability that he was honored by the assignment of orator at the next annual meeting. He was highly esteemed by all classes in Wilmington, and died when but thirty-six years old.

Dr. George Monro was born in New Castle in 1760, his mother being a niece of Governor Hall. After graduating in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, he served during the Revolutionary War as surgeon in the Virginia line, and at its close continued his medical studies in London and Edinburgh. In 1797 he married Col. John Hazlet's youngest daughter, and resumed the practice of his profession in Wilmington, where he soon attained a high position among the leading physicians by his skill in medicine and surgery, winning by his liberality and benevolence the esteem of a large

circle of friends. He died in 1820. Although highly educated he wrote but little, his most noted contribution being a paper on "Yellow Fever in Wilmington," published in 1798 in the New York Repository.

Dr. James Sykes was born in 1761 near Dover. His father held important trusts in the State, and was a member of the State Constitutional Conventions of 1776 and 1792. Dr. Sykes read medicine with Dr. Joshua Clayton, and attended the lectures of Drs. Shippen, Morgan, Kuhn and Rush. He won a fine practice as physician and surgeon in Dover, and Dr. Tilton, Surgeon-General of the United States army, declared him unsurpassed as a lithotomist. He was repeatedly elected to the State Senate, and was eleven years presiding officer of that body, and for about a year served as Governor. One of his sons, George Sykes, was an officer in the Mexican War and a commander in the Army of the Potomac during the war of the Rebellion, died in 1880 and was buried at West Point. Dr. James Sykes died in 1822, and his only daughter died of grief a few years later.

Dr. Edward Dingle was born near Dagsboro in 1779, and after reading medicine practiced there. He was appointed an Associate Justice of the County Court, and served as a member of the convention that framed the Constitution of 1831, and made the very valuable suggestion of holding State elections biennially which has since become general among the states.

Dr. Thomas MacDonough, the father of Commodore MacDonough, the hero of Lake Champlain, in the War of 1812, was born at The Trap, and was practicing medicine when the war of the Revolution broke out. He entered the army as Major of Col. Haslet's Regiment, resuming his practice at the close of the war. For a time he served as a court justice and died in 1795.

Dr. Martin Barr was born in Pennsylvania, in 1792, and studied in the office of Dr. Benjamin Rush, and after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1813, removed to Middletown, Delaware, where for upwards of fifty years he

practiced his profession with unusual zeal. Possessing a rarely generous and kindly nature, he was greatly beloved; he seemed to use his skill and knowledge almost solely for the good of his fellows, seldom presenting a bill for his services. He closed a highly successful career September 14, 1874, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His son, William Barr, who graduated at twenty-five from the University of Pennsylvania in 1852, joined his father in his practice at Middletown, and like him came to be noted for the altruistic disregard of fees with which he practiced his profession. He died young to the great sorrow and loss of the whole community to whom his talents and experience, like his father's before him, were at once an ornament and a blessing.

Dr. Samuel H. Black was born in New Castle County in 1782, and after finishing his studies at the University of Pennsylvania, enjoyed a practice that extended in all directions throughout the county. He was finely educated, and owned a handsome library. He was for several sessions a member of the Assembly, and a popular writer on medical and agricultural subjects. He was especially zealous in his advocacy of vaccination, at a time when the great value of Jenner's epochal discovery was skeptically viewed by both the laity and the profession. To demonstrate the prophylactic character of vaccination, Dr. Black took his little son Robert, whom he had previously vaccinated to a camp of Indians then at Cooch's Bridge, enroute to Washington, and among whom were a number of small-pox cases, and with a fortitude and faith truly sublime, placed him among the diseased Indians! The success of this crucial, public-spirited demonstration did much to convince the unbelieving people of the value of vaccination.

Dr. Allen McLane was born in Smyrna in 1786. His father, Col. Allen McLane, served in the Continental army throughout the Revolution as a lieutenant in Caesar Rodney's regiment, and was under General Washington in his great battles at Long Island, White Plains, Trenton and Princeton; and as

a major in Lee's legion at Paulus Hook, Stony Point and Yorktown. Col. Allen was Speaker of the House of Assembly and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Marshal of Delaware, and Collector of the Port at Wilmington for many years. Dr. Allen McLane received his medical diploma from the University of Pennsylvania, his preceptor being Dr. Benjamin Rush. He served as surgeon in Caesar A. Rodney's company in the War of 1812. He was one of the leading physicians in the city of Wilmington and his death was deplored as a public calamity. His obsequies were held by Bishop Lee, and the Rev. John McCullough of the Episcopal church, of which he was a member, the Rev. John Kennedy of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Rev. William Hogarth of the Presbyterian church, assisting.

Another name widely known and highly esteemed as man and as physician, through a long and diversified course of public and professional usefulness, is that of Mr. Henry F. Askew, born in Wilmington in 1805. He was a descendant of Sergeant John Askew, who, after the surrender of New Amsterdam in 1664, accompanied Sir Robert Carr's expedition against Fort Casimir, as New Castle was then styled by the Dutch, and was present at the storming of the fort, receiving for his services the grant of a piece of land near where the City of Wilmington was afterwards built, and where his descendants settled and are yet living. He read medicine under Mr. William Gibbons, and then graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1826.

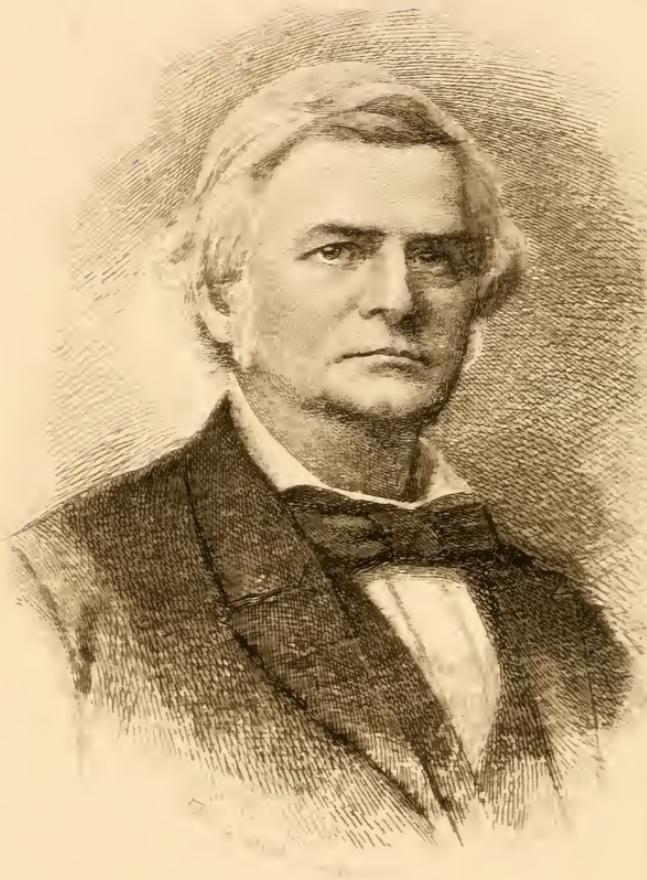
After spending a short time in Ohio, he returned to his native city where he won great success. His practice was enormous, at least one-half of his nights in the whole year being given to poor and rich alike. His charming manners and genial and social qualities made him very popular, and he was honored with many offices, State and city; and had he been less devoted to his profession, it is conceded he might have had any gift in the State at the hands of the then dominant party, the Democratic, to which he belonged. He was a

member of the various City, State and National Medical Societies, and was chosen president of them all. He was also one of the founders of the Delaware Historical Society, and for some years its president. He was, moreover, a member of many other societies of a business, social and philanthropic character. Indeed, few men ever came more widely and more usefully in contact with their fellows in private and in public station than did Dr. Askew. A year before his death, in 1876, he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Henry Fisher Hall was born in Lewes in 1789, and was educated at the University of Pennsylvania. He studied medicine under Dr. John White, and in 1814 was appointed surgeon of the Forty-second Infantry by President Madison. After seven years' service he resigned, to serve creditably thereafter in the Northwest as surgeon in the Third Infantry. He was commissioned Brigadier-General in Sussex County in 1814 by Governor Maull, and afterwards made Collector of Customs at Lewes. He died in 1865, having practiced medicine fifty-four years.

Dr. James P. Lofland was a noted physician in Kent County where he was born in 1793. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, he entered the office of Mr. Benjamin Rush as a student of medicine, and was also associated with Mr. Franklin Bache, for many years Professor of Chemistry in Jefferson Medical College. Receiving his degree, Mr. Lofland settled in Milford where he got a large practice that placed him at the head of his profession and often caused him to be called in consultation in various parts of the State. His genial and courteous bearing, and his high regard for the dignity and usefulness of his calling together with a kindly charity that gave earnest attention to the poor, so greatly endeared him to all classes, that after his death he was mourned as a personal friend. His charitable services were long remembered by many poor, both white and black. He was a great admirer of Henry Clay and a personal friend of John M. Clayton. He served several terms in the Legislature, and was once Speaker





Robert W. Porter

of the Senate. His remains were followed to the grave by an immense concourse of people, and the rites of Masonry, in which order he had filled all stations of honor, were also paid his memory.

Dr. Robert R. Porter was born in Wilmington in 1811. Graduating in 1835 from the University of Pennsylvania, he spent a year at Blockley Almshouse and Hospital, gaining further experience through clinics and lectures. In 1836 he began practicing in Wilmington, and speedily attained prominence in the profession. Highly esteemed for his many good qualities both as a physician and citizen, he was called upon to fill many positions of trust in public and in private life. He was devoted to letters, and a warm supporter of the Historical Society of Delaware. He died in 1876.

Dr. Jacob Jones, known to every school-boy as Commodore Jones, was practicing physician in Dover before he entered the navy, having studied medicine under Dr. James Sykes, Sr., whose sister he married. He early abandoned medicine to enter the United States navy, where with another son of Delaware, whose father was a physician, he was to win a deathless fame, and save his country from defeat in the War of 1812. An account of his wonderful career with many victories, is elsewhere fully presented in this work.

Dr. John Vaughan studied medicine with Dr. William Currie of Philadelphia, and attended lectures in 1793-4 at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1799 he removed his practice to Wilmington. He was a member of the Philadelphia Academy of Medicine, the Delaware Medical and American Philosophical Societies, besides other similar bodies, and lectured in chemistry and natural philosophy before the Delaware Society in 1799 and 1800. In 1802, when the yellow fever raged in Wilmington, he was unremitting in his care of those afflicted with that awful disease, and to Dr. John Vaughan belongs the high distinction of being the only physician who remained during the continuance of that fearsome epidemic.

The next year, at the request of the American Philosoph-

ical Society, he wrote a pamphlet entitled "A Concise History of the Yellow Fever." To Mr. Vaughan the further credit is owing of introducing vaccination into Wilmington so early as 1802. He died of typhoid fever, March 25, 1807. The untimely death of the kindhearted, heroic young physician, but entered upon his promising career, was a severe loss to the profession and the public to whose service his talents were so unselfishly, so nobly dedicated. Of him it was truly said "The tears of the poor and friendless bedew his memory!"

Dr. Lewis P. Bush was born in Wilmington, October 19, 1812. After graduating from Jefferson College with the degree of M. A., he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which, in 1835, he received the further degree of M. D. He spent fourteen months thereafter as resident physician at the Blockley Hospital, and in 1837 removed to Wilmington, where a large practice occupied him until his death. Dr. Bush prepared and read before the State Medical Society, of which he was president in 1860, many valuable papers on medical subjects, and warmly advocated many sanitary reforms and prophylactic measures, since adopted.

He was officially connected with a number of historical societies in Delaware, Virginia and Pennsylvania; was president of the Association of Resident Physicians at Blockley Hospital, president of the American Society of Medicine, and the Delaware Bible Society. For these various societies he wrote many articles of a scientific, historical and biographical character, among them several on the History of Medicine and Physicians in Delaware. He also wrote the admirable chapter on these topics in Scharf's History of Delaware, to which excellent work the present writer confesses his indebtedness.

His style is felicitous: and the correctness of his judgment is only surpassed by his kindly and generous temper in awarding to his fellow practitioners meed of recognition and commendation. Like many of the leading physicians in

Delaware, Dr. Bush was a Presbyterian. His useful life closed its early career on the fifth day of March, 1892, and an appreciative memorial paper upon his life and labors was read by Dr. Irving S. Vallandingham before the Board of Health, of which important organization Dr. Bush was for many years President. The address was printed in their Seventh Biennial Report for the years 1890-1892.

This able and genial physician, a gentleman of the old school, Dr. Irving S. Vallandingham, died in Middletown, December 30, 1903, at the age of sixty-three years, after having practiced medicine for forty-one years with great success.

Of the famous medical men of Delaware, quite a number have won their laurels in other and wider fields than those of their nativity.

Dr. Robert M. Bird, born in New Castle in 1805, was an associate editor and publisher of the North American and United States Gazette of Philadelphia, Professor of Materia Medica in the Pennsylvania Medical College from 1841 to 1843, and the author of a number of literary works widely known, *e. g.*, the dramas, "Metamora" and "Gladiator," in whose leading roles Edwin Forrest won great distinction. In recognition of his labors Dr. Bird was elected in 1886 president of the American Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Theophilus Parvin, the honored, world wide known Professor of Obstetrics, and author of numerous treatises, and Professor Joseph Hearn, M. D., are second to none for ability and integrity.

Dr. Edward O. Shakespeare, the histologist and bacteriologist, whom the nation honored in sending to Europe and Asia as a special representative of the United States to study Asiatic cholera, comes from a well-known Delaware family in Dover. The results of Dr. Shakespeare's investigations were afterwards published by the Government at Washington.

Dr. Louis Starr, the author of works on the diseases of children, and the late Professor T. L. Buckingham, M. D., D. D. S., one of the founders of two Dental Colleges in Philadelphia, were both Delawareans.

Dr. Martin W. Barr, a grandson of the Dr. William Barr, whose biography has been given, is the head of that noble charity, the Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble Minded Children, at Elwin, Pennsylvania. Dr. Barr is one of the leading alienists in the country and the author of a work of standard character on mental diseases entitled "Mental Defectives."

Dr. W. G. A. Bonwell, born in Delaware, has the credit of the practical application of electric force to automatic mallets which was probably the forerunner of the modern electric triphammer and the rock-drilling and tunneling machines to which our railroads are so deeply indebted. Like Dr. Physic, who invented the surgical needle with the eye at the point, without which the sewing machine would have been impossible, Dr. Bonwell was the progenitor of many modern inventions.

Another ingenious Delaware physician, Dr. Henry C. Register was the inventor of many delicate appliances for dental and surgical engines.

Professor James E. Garrettson was born in Wilmington in 1828, and after graduating in dentistry in Philadelphia when twenty-nine, received two years later the degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Strongly inclined towards surgery, his associations with Dr. D. Hayes Agnew in the Philadelphia School of Anatomy so ripened his attainments that he gradually created the new specialty known as Oral Surgery, and became in this department the accepted authority throughout the English-speaking world. His operations, though of the most bold and heroic character, were singularly free from fatal endings. As the inventor of procedures for the removal of bone and tumors about the head and face without leaving scars, he was eminently successful. He filled various chairs in the Philadelphia Dental College, of which he was Dean for many years, and in the Philadelphia School of Anatomy; and his lectures drew great concourses of students and others.

He was also one of the founders of the Medico-Chirurgical College and Medico-Chirurgical Hospital, and president of both institutions. Under his hand their success was very great. Dr. Garrettson also published a series of philosophical writings under the non-de-plume of "John Darby." His crowning life-work was his "System of Oral Surgery," now become a classic in medicine, and his title to a worldwide fame. His was a life of ideal nobleness. Deeply, unobtrusively pious, of a generous, kindly nature, his forty years of professional activity were filled with countless deeds of charity and philanthropic usefulness.

Dr. John Janvier Black, son of Dr. Charles H. Black, was born in Delaware City, November 6, 1837. After graduating from Princeton college, and in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania, he began his medical career in 1858 in San Francisco, California, some account of which is given in his "Forty Years in the Medical Profession." Dr. Black served in the medical corps of the United States army from November, 1862, to September 2, 1864, and after spending a year at the Blockley and Philadelphia hospitals as resident physician, began practicing in 1867 in New Castle, and is still so engaged. Besides being a contributor to medical, agricultural and horticultural journals, he is the author of a work on the "Cultivation of the Peach, Pea, Quince and Nut-Bearing Trees;" "Eating to Live," a work of 350 pages, is now passing through the Lippincott Company's press. His "Forty Years in the Medical Profession," a work of 497 pages, published in 1900, is a valuable contribution to medical literature and is charmingly written, being filled with graphic accounts of the persons of distinction in medicine, science and statesmanship whom Dr. Black met at home and abroad in the course of his extended travels in the United States and Europe.

In addition, this learned and versatile writer gives an instructive survey of the field of modern medicine, including the latest discoveries in bacteriology, aseptic surgery and preventive medicine. It is a work of unusual merit and

interest, and should have a wide reading by both the profession and the laity. In 1902 Dr. Black published a pamphlet on "Consumptives in Delaware," wherein he set out with force and clearness the gravity of the "white plague" peril, and the imperative duty of the State and people at once to take appropriate measures to combat it by the establishment of a sanitarium in Delaware, patterned after the highly successful one at Rutland, Massachusetts, whose methods and results the doctor details in his earnest appeal.

Dr. William R. Bullock, one of the most learned physicians Delaware ever produced, though past his 80th year, is in the full enjoyment of his faculties, and though withdrawn from active practice, is still often in professional request by those acquainted with his great ability. His superb translation of "Cazeaux on Midwifery," attests his complete mastery of the French language. Being too busy to attempt a new edition, he consented to translate the notes of Dr. S. Tarnier in the Fifth American from the Seventh French edition.

Dr. William N. Hamilton, who for many years practiced medicine in Odessa and Middletown, and in the country around, was a physician of remarkable ability and skill. He was a born diagnostician, with a rare gift in discerning the causes in disease. Medicine lost a mighty career when this talented doctor chose "along the cool and sequestered vale of life, to keep the noiseless tenor of his way." He died in Odessa in 1894, in his 74th year.

Among the able and successful practitioners of medicine of this State, must be included a number of women, among these, Dr. Hannah M. Thompson, Dr. Josephine M. R. White de La Cour, of the old school, and Dr. Clara M. Ferguson of the new. Several of Delaware's physicians of color have won a high standing in the profession among whom are Dr. Samuel G. Elbert, Dr. Henry C. Stevens, and Dr. J. Bacon Stubbs, all of Wilmington, well known and skillful members of the fraternity.

HOMEOPATHY.

Webster defines Homeopathy as the "art of curing by resemblances, the theory and practice that disease is cured *tuto, cito et jucunde* by remedies which produce on a healthy person the effects similar to the symptoms of the complaint under which the patient suffers, the remedies being usually given in minute doses. This system was founded by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, and is opposed to allopathy." It is but just to declare that homeopathy as a system has quite transpassed the domain of controversy, and become a fact both therapeutic and legal. The hard logic of numbers abundantly attests this, since in the United States there are one thousand two hundred homeopathic physicians, and their system has representatives in every quarter of the civilized globe.

Homeopathy was introduced into Delaware in 1839 by Dr. J. C. Gosewich, a graduate of the North American Academy of Homeopathic Healing Art, at Allentown, Pennsylvania. The law forbade any one not in practice in the year 1802, practicing medicine or surgery without first obtaining a license from a Board of Examiners composed of three members of the old State Medical Society. Although Dr. Gosewich passed a satisfactory examination, he was refused a license. This action led to the passage, by the next Legislature, of an Act exempting the homeopathic and two other systems from examination by that Board. Dr. Gosewich, the militant pioneer of Delaware Homeopathy, died in 1854.

Drs. Harlan, Negendank, Thomas, Tantum and others, followed him, and for a number of years carried on a controversy with the other school through the medium of public debate and newspaper discussion, until Homeopathy became established in Delaware. In 1876 there were nine homeopathic physicians in Wilmington and about twenty in the State. There are now twenty-five in the City and about thirty-five in the State.

After two abortive attempts to found a medical society in

1868, and some years later, the third was successful when in 1883, pursuant to a call issued by the physicians of Wilmington to the homeopathic physicians of Delaware, Dr. A. Negendank, L. Kittinger, L. A. Kittinger, Isaiah Lukens, J. Paul Lukens, J. M. Curtis, C. H. Lawton, J. Harmer Rile, Peter Cooper, A. E. Frantz, and S. Chadwick of Wilmington; J. W. Crumbaugh of Hockessin; C. O. Swinney of Smyrna; and T. H. Cooper of Chestertown, Md., on the 10th day of January organized the present "Homeopathic Medical Society of Delaware and the Peninsula" with Drs. L. Kittinger, president; T. H. Cooper, vice-president; J. H. Rile, secretary; W. F. Kennedy, treasurer; and Drs. Negendank, Swinney and Crumbaugh, censors, and Dr. J. M. Curtis, Delegate to the American Institute of Homeopathy.

A very interesting and successful meeting of the Society was held at Dover, November 11, 1886, where a number of members were received, and a rule adopted referring candidates wishing to read medicine with any member of the Society, to a Board of Examiners for examination as to their educational fitness to study medicine.

Dr. Caleb Harlan, the true nestor of Delaware Homeopathy, was born in Milltown, New Castle County, in 1814. He was a Quaker, and in 1836 after a three years' medical course, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. Though inheriting a very frail constitution he was able by abstemious living and careful dieting, beside living much in the open air, to practice medicine for over fifty years without the loss of a single day from sickness! In 1847, having become a convert to homeopathy, he began to practice the new system. In reply to the great opposition he met, he published a "Lecture on Allopathy and Homeopathy," which the eminent Dr. Herring highly commended.

Dr. Harlan wrote a work on "Plowing under Green Crops for Manure," based upon years of highly successful experiments upon his own farm, which was published in a second and revised edition by Lippincott of Philadelphia. This

treatise on farming with green manures is said "to have had no equal in Europe or America," and was long in demand as a text-book and reference work on that subject. The doctor was fond of belles-lettres, and wrote some excellent verse in the heroic couplet.

Nothing could better prove the confidence men placed in his honesty and judgment than the circumstance that a cousin of his, John Ferris, of Wilmington, who died in 1882, chose him the sole executor and trustee, without bond, of his estate, estimated at a quarter of a million dollars. After the estate was settled there was \$80,000.00 left to be applied by Dr. Harlan for the benefit of the necessitous portion of the human family that may come to his knowledge, the testator suggesting a "House of Refuge." The Ferris Reform School was thus established and endowed. Dr. Harlan published a memoir of John Ferris, and a work on "Mental Power, Sound Health and Long Life Through Diet," being himself a remarkable example of the truth of his system.

Dr. August Negendank was of German birth, educated in medicine both in Germany and America, and was one of the early and successful physicians of this school practicing in Wilmington. He was a member of several medical societies and gave his services as attending physician to the Home for Friendless Children and to several orphanages. Dr. Joseph R. Tantum graduated in 1865 from the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, and practiced in Wilmington until his death in 1887.

Dr. William W. Thomas was born in Wilmington, and having long been a sufferer from asthma, upon being cured through homeopathy, was led to read this system of medicine and to practice till 1877.

Dr. Isaiah Lukens, after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, practiced for eight years in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and in 1855 came to Philadelphia where for six years he was Professor of Oral Surgery in the Pennsylvania Medical College. In 1868, becoming a convert to homeopathy, he re-

moved to Newport, Delaware, and in 1880 to Wilmington, where he continued to practice the new system until his death in 1887.

Dr. Leonard Kittinger was born in Philadelphia in 1834, and graduated from the Philadelphia Homeopathic Medical College, and after practicing two years in New Jersey, came to Wilmington where he won a great reputation as a specialist in obstetrics and diseases of women and children. He was physician to the Home for Aged Women, a noble charity conducted by the benevolent ladies of Wilmington. In 1869 he was elected a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy and in 1871 was appointed one of the physicians to the New Castle Almshouse and Insane Asylum. He was honored by his fellow members with an election to the presidency of the Homeopathic Medical Society of the State and Peninsula, whose interests he greatly advanced by the well-earned eminence in his profession which he held unto his death.

His oldest son, Leonard A. Kittinger, also graduated at the Philadelphia Homeopathic Medical College, and began practice with his father in 1881, and has continued since, being recognized as one of the leading homeopathic physicians of the city. Dr. Charles H. Lawton was born in Newport, R. I., in 1832. After practicing electrotherapeutics for fourteen years, he was led to investigate the claims of homeopathy, and to enter the Hahnemann Medical Institute from which he graduated in 1872. He assisted in founding the Delaware Homeopathic Medical Society and served as secretary, censor and president, and was twice chosen delegate to the American Institute of Homeopathy.

Dr. Clara M. Ferguson, a talented physician, and the present Secretary of the State Homeopathic Society, is the only woman practicing homeopathy in the State.

EPIDEMICS AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Little is known of the diseases or epidemics from which the early settlers of Delaware suffered.

Noah Webster, in his "History of Epidemics," refers to the terrible severity of the winter of 1641, and the great sickness that prevailed among the Swedes during the following summer.

In 1647 they were visited by an epidemic that prevailed throughout all the colonies, and it is clear from his description that there were few, if any, sufficiently skilled in medicine to cope successfully with it. He notes that bleeding was harmful, and stimulation useful. Eight years later another fearful epidemic occurred. Nothing is certainly known of the nature of these contagious diseases.

The first epidemic in Delaware about which we have positive information was that of the yellow fever in 1793. This fearful scourge raged so violently in Philadelphia that very many fled to Wilmington, their vessels so crowding the Christiana river as scarcely to leave room for the passage of craft. Every available house or room was occupied by the fugitives, and their goods were stored in stables and outhouses. At length the fever broke out in Wilmington, though chiefly among the fugitives. Despite the risk, the people of Wilmington extended a warm hospitality to their enforced guests.

Matthew Carey, the Philadelphia publisher, in his account of the scourge, makes a glowing acknowledgment of the humane and generous treatment they received from the citizens of Wilmington. "They acted in the most friendly manner toward our distressed citizens. They erected a hospital for the reception of our infected citizens, which they supplied with necessaries. Yet of eight or ten Philadelphians who died of the fever, only one was sent to the hospital, the others being nursed and attended in the houses where they were sick."

Humane and tender as were the worthy people of Wilmington in general, two persons distinguished themselves in so extraordinary a way as to deserve particular notice. These were Dr. Nicholas Way and Major George Bush, Collector of the Port, whose houses were always open to the fugitives, and whom they received without the least fear and treated with a

degree of genuine hospitality that reflects on them the highest honor. Such deeds of nobility are of priceless worth to mankind, and deserve to be kept in everlasting and honored memory.

The yellow fever reappeared in Philadelphia in 1798, and again reached Wilmington, causing a panic, especially in the lower part of the town where it broke out, thereafter extending to the higher portions of the town, and to the village of Brandywine. Among the prominent citizens who died were James Lea, Sr., Major John Patton, Joseph Miller, Eleazer Macomb and his wife.

A third visitation occurred in 1802, following a third outbreak in Philadelphia. Despite a rigid quarantine and every precaution, the yellow fever appeared August 2, at first of a mild type, but a month later assumed a malignant type, and the alarm among the population became general, many people fleeing to the country. Thirty-four deaths occurred in September, and on October 1, there were only six hundred and five people east of King street, and of these twenty-five were sick. The plague raged with increased violence in October, and thirty-one deaths took place by November 2, when the contagion ceased.

Mr. John Ferris, Jr., who had been unceasing in his heroic attentions to the sick in the epidemic of 1798, as well as in the present one, fell a martyr to his humanity! Col. Thomas Kean, a Revolutionary officer, also died. The death rate was very high, eighty-six out of one-hundred and ninety-seven cases dying. It is significant in the light of modern medicine that has discovered in the sting of the *stegomia-fasciata* mosquito the cause of this dreadful fever, that three-fourths of the cases arose in those sections of the city lying nearest to the marshes.

In 1853 there were a few cases of yellow fever on the north bank of the Brandywine. Shortly before the Revolutionary War a disease called the "Welsh fever" broke out among the passengers on the ship "Liberty" from Wales, and extended

to the City of Wilmington where so many people took it that hospitals were improvised in tents and farm houses.

Prior to 1832 Wilmington had been free from cholera, but it then appeared in a mild form, causing seventeen deaths out of forty-seven cases. In 1849 it appeared in the city, and between June 29th and August 3rd, there were sixty-five deaths out of one hundred and sixteen cases, most of these being at the almshouse, where seventy-eight of the one hundred inmates were affected and forty-seven died.

Wilmington was first visited by the small-pox in the eighteenth century, and at various times thereafter till 1871, when it continued 166 days, during which time 361 cases were reported to the president of the Board of Health, and fifty other cases, 411 in all. There were a few cases in 1876, 81 cases in 1881, and in 1883, 251 cases with 81 deaths.

Delaware has had no serious epidemic within her borders for many years, thanks to the skillful system of prophylactic sanitation established by an efficient State Board of Health, aided by the intelligent co-operation of the physicians. Indeed the State Board with its perfect machinery of preventive medicine, local boards in towns and villages, systematic compulsory vaccination of schools, homes, jails and almshouses, quarantine of contagious diseases, registration of births, marriages and deaths—in a word, with its scientific prevention and eradication of disease, is abreast of the times, and their labors have resulted in producing an increased healthfulness throughout the State, that places Delaware among the foremost states blest with a low death rate. And it needs only a hearty co-operation upon the part of the citizens everywhere to secure the formation of local health boards in every town and village, as required by law, to banish forever the epidemics that wrought such damage and terror in former years, as well as those sporadic outbreaks of small-pox and other slight local epidemics which still occasionally occur.

This State Board through its executive officer inspects all the jails, almshouses, schools and other public buildings

throughout the State once a year, and ample authority is given these boards, State and local, to protect any community or individual from any unhealthful nuisance of any sort. In addition to the foregoing means of preserving the public health, a pathologico-biological laboratory, fully equipped with the latest medical and scientific appliances, was established at Newark in 1899, through the co-operation of the trustees of Delaware College, and it has done invaluable work as an adjunct, in the diagnosis and control of diseases, especially those of an infectious nature, which but for their early recognition by these chemical and biological methods might become dangerously prevalent.

Inasmuch as microscopy and bacteriology in their bearings upon clinical medicine and hygiene, have accomplished their wonders within the last fifteen years or so, the State may well congratulate itself upon the work of its young laboratory, which has already won the distinguished honor of receiving the second prize, a silver medal, at the late French Exposition in 1900, the only other prize given, the gold medal, being gained by France herself.

Quarterly bulletins, of great interest and value both to physicians and the laity, are published by the laboratory. Their original pathological and bacteriological examinations and experiments, covering a wide field of preventive medicine and hygiene, besides being of great use to the State, have become a recognized authority in other States, and are cited in their health reports. This wonderful result is largely due to the high skill and scientific attainments of Dr. Frederick D. Chester, Director of the State Board of Health Laboratory, and to his learned coadjutor, Dr. Albert Robin, bacteriologist.

It is to be regretted that Dr. Robin's valuable services will be lost to the laboratory, since he has resumed his practice in Wilmington as a specialist in microscopic and bacteriological diagnosis of diseases. Delaware physicians have already recognized the superior character of the laboratory's work, and that its aid in making timely diagnoses of many dangerous diseases is absolutely indispensable.

If yet further proof were needed that our State is keeping in the van of the world's progress in medicine, it is furnished by the circumstance that this State Laboratory has recently added to its useful functions the early detection of the dread disease hydrophobia by an examination of the head of the suspected dog, and the cure of the victim through the well-known Pasteur method. It is creditable to the State that this cure, hitherto so costly as to be almost denied the poor, is accomplished for a fraction of the cost at New York or Baltimore hospitals, thus making it possible for the poorest unfortunate to escape the awful peril of rabies.

The present staff of the State Board of Health are Dr. E. W. Cooper of Camden, president, and Dr. Alexander Lowber of Wilmington, secretary and executive officer, and five associate members as follows: Dr. A. E. Frantz of Wilmington, Dr. John W. DeWitt of St. Georges, Dr. John W. Clifton of Smyrna, Dr. L. H. Cahall of Bridgeville, and Dr. A. J. Fleetwood of Laurel.

Dr. Peter W. Tomlinson, late president of the Board and now President of the State Board of Medical Examiners, has been prominently identified with all measures to secure the public health. He was born in 1849, and after graduating from Jefferson College in 1878, and practicing a few years, removed in 1882 to Wilmington, where he has ever since been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery. He was secretary of the State Medical Society from 1895 to 1897, when he was elected president. Dr. Tomlinson was among those who secured the passage of the law establishing a State Medical Examining Board. He is also treasurer of the New Castle County Medical Society and secretary and treasurer of the Medical Council of Delaware. He is the medical referee and examiner for a large number of leading insurance companies.

Dr. Alexander Lowber, the present efficient executive officer of the State Board of Health, was born in Kent County in 1845. After spending one year at the University of Pennsyl-

vania, he finished a four years' course at Jefferson Medical College, and after practicing at Newark came to Wilmington in 1899, where he has since been actively engaged in practice.

It has been necessary to limit the scope of this sketch chiefly to the deeds and careers of Delaware's deceased physicians, except in a few cases of those holding official station, leaving to some later historian the task of duly chronicling the as yet unfinished careers of the many successful and distinguished living practitioners of both schools throughout the State. Delaware's physicians have constantly sought to elevate the standards of character, knowledge and efficiency necessary to enter their responsible profession, and until recently her certificates of medical examination were recognized as valid in other States.

But the dual systems of examinations in the two leading schools of medicine have caused the interstate committee to be withdrawn, and inasmuch as the homeopathic physicians express a willingness to have a uniform set of questions upon all subjects, save, of course, their own pathology, this defect should be remedied and Delaware's standing in the science of medicine outside her borders restored to the high estimation which her talented sons have achieved.

NEWSPAPERS AND BOOKS.

The history of Delaware newspapers begins in Colonial times. It descends in a direct line from the printing house of that famous printer, editor and patriotic American statesman, Benjamin Franklin. The secession of "the three counties on Delaware" from Pennsylvania occurred in 1704; the Delaware State government dates from the adoption of the First Constitution in 1776. Between these dates, fifty-eight years after the first, and fourteen years before the latter, in 1762, the first number of the first Delaware newspaper was printed in Wilmington.

The first printing press set up in the State was at Wilmington in 1761. The projector of the enterprise was an Irishman, James Adams, who had learned the printing trade in Londonderry, and came to this country shortly after attaining his majority. He landed at Philadelphia. Previous to his advent in Delaware he had worked for seven years in the printing house of Franklin & Hall, Philadelphia. One year after setting up his press in Wilmington in 1762, he started his first newspaper, "The Wilmington Courant." It was short-lived, being discontinued after six months fruitless effort. The next newspaper venture in Delaware was made by James Adams and his son Samuel, twenty-seven years later, about 1790, when they issued the first edition of "The Delaware Eastern Shore Advertiser." It seems to have been continued during the life-time of James Adams and afterwards appeared with his sons Samuel and John as proprietors. The printing business appears to have been successful, and was continued by James Adams until his death in 1793, when he was succeeded by his sons Samuel and John Adams. Many books printed by James Adams have been preserved. Most of them were of a religious character. The mechanical quality of his

work was good, comparing favorably with the work of other publishers of that day. In 1784 he published a history of Kentucky by John Filson. This author had been a resident of, and a school teacher at Wilmington. He went to Kentucky with Daniel Boone, and wrote the first history of that State, bringing his manuscript across the mountains on horseback to be published by his old friend and neighbor, James Adams. An earlier publication by James Adams was "The Citizen's and Countryman's Experienced Farrier," by "J. Markham, G. Jefferis, and Discreet Indians." This work was published in 1764, three years after the beginning of his Wilmington enterprise; it covers 360 pages, and was for years the leading authority among the "horse doctors" of the country. The authors were residents of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Adams printed an almanac annually. He was a book-binder and book-seller. He printed many of the pamphlet laws of the State and the proceedings of the State Assembly. As already stated, his death occurred in 1793. He was buried in the graveyard adjoining the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington. He was spoken of as an exemplary Christian, who won and held the respect of the community in which he lived.

Samuel and John Adams continued the printing business, established by their father, for a year or two in Wilmington, and then moved the plant to New Castle, "nearly opposite the Court House." Somewhere about 1800 the plant was moved to Baltimore, where, it is probable, the new owners had established a printing business previous to their father's death. There is evidence that they were so engaged in that city in 1789.

Next in order in the chronological development of the printing business in Wilmington appears the firm name of Jacob A. Killen & Co., composed, as far as known, of Jacob A. Killen alone. He was the son of William Killen, the first Chief Justice of Delaware under the constitution of 1776, and the first Chancellor under the constitution of 1792. Jacob A. Killen was born near Dover, and presumably learned the

printers' art with James Adams at Wilmington. He established himself in the latter city as early as 1784, and began in that year the publication of the proceedings of the State Assembly. He was located "on Market street nearly opposite the postoffice," and later "on Market street west side, above Second street."

James Wilson started a newspaper called "Mirror of the Times," in Wilmington in 1799. This paper was a novelty at that time. It was printed on pure white paper, made at the mill of Thomas Gilpin on the Brandywine. Gilpin was one of the early American paper-makers. He was the inventor of a continuous-web paper machine, a necessary antecedent of the modern newspaper press, and had recently discovered the art of bleaching paper-pulp to a pure white. In the use of this "pure white paper," Wilson anticipated the use of fine paper in the high-class publications of to-day. The name of Wilson's paper was changed to "The American Watchman" in 1809, and shortly afterward was merged with "The Patriot." Then came Peter Brynberg and Samuel Andrews. Brynberg, a scion of the Swedish Colonial stock, was publishing "The Christian Repository" at Fourth and Shipley streets in 1803; later he was one of the projectors of the Delaware State Journal, one of the first newspapers to attain a permanent place and influence in State affairs. The "Federal Ark" also appeared in 1803 with Jacob A. Killen as publisher. "The Museum of Delaware," Joseph Jones, publisher, appeared in 1804, and continued for six years. The firm of Bonsal & Niles started in the printing business in Wilmington about 1800, but removed to Baltimore a few years afterward.

"The Dawn," a small semi-monthly magazine, "containing original and selected essays, anecdotes, etc., devoted largely to the instruction and amusement of the rising generation," was published by Lewis Wilson, a son of James Wilson, in 1822. It was printed at the Watchman office, and only twelve numbers appeared. "The Monitor and Wilmington Reposi-

tory," edited by William C. Smyth, appeared in 1801, but continued only a short while. "The Delaware Free Press" was published one year, in 1830, by Henry Wilson, son of James Wilson. Peter Brynberg was succeeded by his kinsman, Robert Porter, and later Peter Brynberg retired and was succeeded by John B. Porter, son of Robert Porter. In this same line of succession came the printing firms of Porter & Naff and Porter & Eckel. All the early printing firms of Delaware were job and book printers and publishers, with a natural inclination toward book-selling as a distinct avocation.

The newspaper as a phantasy, a dream, was persistent. Few printers escaped it. James Adams, the pioneer printer and editor of Delaware, Jacob A. Killen, the founder of the "Delaware Gazette," James Wilson, one of the very early Delaware newspaper men, and John B. Porter, were booksellers. Craig, Porter and Wilson were represented by book-stores on Market street, Wilmington, up to a comparatively recent date. Edwin A. Wilson, son of James Wilson, was a partner with the late Joshua T. Heald. Of the early printers and booksellers named here, James Adams, James Wilson, Jacob A. Killen, Frederick Craig, Peter Brynberg, Henry H. J. Naff and Henry Eckel, were editors. The book and newspaper business in Delaware are akin, having a common origin and development.

The first Delaware newspaper to attain and hold a permanent position and influence was "The Delaware Gazette." The first number of the Gazette was issued by Jacob A. Killen in 1785. The paper continued in weekly, semi-weekly and daily issues until 1882. It has been claimed that Jacob Craig was the founder of the "Delaware Gazette." This is undoubtedly a mistake; the "Gazette" was founded by Jacob A. Killen in the year 1785. The writer has seen a copy of the "Gazette" dated April 12, 1786, being No. 44, which bears the imprint of Jacob A. Killen. How long Killen continued to publish it is not known.

In 1789 it was published by Frederick Craig & Co., and

the announcement is made that it then appeared on Wednesday and Saturday of each week. In 1796 and 1797 the "Gazette" was printed by William C. Smyth, in "the rear of the Fire Engine House, Shipley street, opposite Capt. O'Flynn's tavern." From Smyth the ownership passed to John Vaughan and D. Coleman, who continued as publishers until September 9, 1799, when they announced that they had disposed of the paper to James Wilson. This is Wilson's first entry into Wilmington journalism. He seems to have combined the "Gazette" with a new publication for a while, as on November 20, 1799, James Wilson issued the first number of a new paper called "Mirror of the Times and General Advertiser."

Later the "Delaware Gazette" passed into the control of Joseph Jones who published it from 1809 to 1814, when he sold the plant to Moses Bradford, and the latter was editor and proprietor until 1820. Samuel Harker was the next owner, and while under his control, in December, 1828, "The Patriot," a campaign paper published in the interest of the Jackson presidential candidacy, and "The American Watchman," the latter the successor of James Wilson's "Mirror of the Times," were absorbed by the "Gazette." The combined publication was continued under the title of "Delaware Gazette and American Watchman." Major Harker sold the paper to his brother, J. Newton Harker, who, in 1854 sold it to D. A. J. Upham. Two years later, in 1836, Mr. Upham relinquished the ownership of the paper to John C. Klonegar, retaining the editorship, and two years later Klonegar was succeeded by J. Newton Harker.

Upham, retiring permanently from connection with the paper, removed to Wisconsin, was elected Mayor of Milwaukee, and later Governor of the State. In 1842 Henry Bosee, formerly editor of the "Cecil Gazette," Elkton, Maryland, bought a half interest in the "Delaware Gazette," from J. Newton Harker, and it was published thereafter under the firm name of Harker & Bosee. January 1, 1843, Harker retired and was succeeded by Caleb P. Johnson, and the firm

name changed to Bosee & Johnson. Just one year later, January, 1844, Bosee retired and was succeeded by J. Newton Harker, the firm name becoming Harker & Johnson.

Another year passed, and in 1845 Harker again retires, and Bosee resumes his connection with the "Gazette," the firm name becoming Johnson & Bosee. In 1846, Bosee again sells to Harker. The firm name is then Harker & Johnson. By this change, William Huffington, afterward Mayor of Wilmington, became editor of the paper. In 1847 J. Newton Harker retired permanently from the ownership of the paper, and was succeeded by William Penn Chandler. The firm then was Johnson & Chandler; the first named was publisher and the later editor. This firm continued for six years. At its dissolution, in 1858, Caleb P. Johnson became sole owner of the plant, to continue that relation for nearly thirty years, and a continued connection as publisher, owner and editor, of forty years, ending with the sale of the plant in 1882. The "Delaware Gazette," when Caleb P. Johnson retired, had been in continuous existence for ninety-seven years; a weekly publication from 1785 to about 1820, when it became a semi-weekly, and a daily paper in 1872.

Caleb Parker Johnson, who by his long and successful career as publisher and editor became the dean of the newspaper fraternity of Delaware, was born at Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland, February 14, 1820. His family was of English origin. His grandfather, John Johnson, came to this country prior to the Revolutionary war, and settled near Darby, Pennsylvania. He served as a cavalry soldier in the patriot army. After the war he removed to Elk landing, at the head of Elk river in Maryland, and conducted the grain shipping business for Tobias Rudolph. John Johnson, son of this Revolutionary soldier, was the father of Caleb P. Johnson. He too served in the American army as a soldier, during the War of 1812. Caleb P. Johnson's school privileges were very limited, not only because of the character of the common schools of that day, but because of the early age at which he began his lifework.

He was an apprentice at the printer's trade at twelve years of age ; first with Richard P. Bailey, in the office of the Cecil Republican ; then with Lambert Wilmer and George W. Veasey, publishers of the "Central Courant," and later with Henry Bosee, in the office of the "Cecil Gazette." The first five years of his life after attaining his majority were spent in the printing offices of Philadelphia, New York and Washington. During the year 1842 he was employed in Philadelphia, and while there, in November, 1842, Henry Bosee, with whom he had been an apprentice, induced him to purchase a half-interest in the "Delaware Gazette."

From the beginning of his connection with the paper it was what Caleb P. Johnson made it—the most forceful and influential Democratic newspaper in the State. Its publication office became the headquarters of that party, and the editor the custodian of all its secrets and records. With the public, under his management, the "Wilmington Gazette," was known as "the Democratic Bible." This influential Democratic editor had apparently no personal political ambition. Although frequently urged to become a candidate for Congress, and for Governor of the State, he always declined. In 1868 President Johnson appointed him United States Marshal for the district of Delaware, an office which he resigned after about one year's service. Financially he was successful, amassed a fortune, and lived to a ripe old age to enjoy it, highly respected and esteemed by the community in which he lived. He died at his home in Wilmington, on March 8, 1904, having just completed his eighty-fourth year.

"The Delaware State Journal," the leading Whig and Republican newspaper of Delaware until the advent of the modern daily papers at the close of the Civil war, was started in 1831, by Peter Brynberg and Robert Porter, under the firm name of Brynberg and Porter. Moses Bradford, father of the late Judge Edward G. Bradford, of the United States District Court, and the grandfather of Judge Edward G. Bradford, Jr., the present incumbent of that office, was the first editor of the

“State Journal.” A year or two after the beginning of the enterprise, Peter Brynberg retired from ownership in the paper and was succeeded by John B. Porter, son of the remaining partner, the firm name being Robert Porter & Son.

After three or four years' service as editor, Moses Bradford retired and was succeeded, 1833-34, by William P. Brobson, a lawyer and a forceful writer. Robert Porter died in 1836. He was succeeded in the ownership of the paper by Henry H. J. Naff, and the firm name was changed to Porter & Naff. Mr. Naff continued with the paper, as editor, until about 1849, when he resigned, having been appointed postmaster at Wilmington at the solicitation of John M. Clayton, Secretary of State in President Taylor's cabinet. His successor was Henry Eckel. The firm name then became Porter & Eckel, with Joseph M. Barr, who, in 1866, was appointed postmaster at Wilmington by President Andrew Johnson, as editor.

The new arrangement continued but a short time—a few months—when John B. Porter sold his interest to John A. Alderdice. Barr retired and Alderdice, afterwards Mayor of Wilmington, assumed the editorship, assisted by Leonard E. Wales, a lawyer, who became an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the State, and later Judge of the United States District Court of Delaware. On the retirement of John B. Porter the firm name became Eckel & Co. Alderdice retired in about two years, selling his interest to Dr. James F. Wilson, a son of the founder of “The Mirror of the Times,” and afterwards changed to “The American Watchman.”

In 1855 Henry Eckel bought of Dr. J. H. Heyward, who was then Mayor of Wilmington, a paper called “The Statesman,” which had been merged with “The Blue Hen's Chicken.” “The Statesman” was united with the State Journal, the title being changed to “The Delaware State Journal and Statesman.” Joshua T. Heald, afterwards the Republican candidate for member of Congress, was then associated with Dr. Wilson and Henry Eckel in the publication. Heald retired, and in 1862 Wilson sold his interest to Eckel,

who for ten years was sole owner and editor of "The Journal and Statesman." The publication office of the Journal was, for many years prior to 1869, at the southeast corner of Market and Fifth streets. In 1869 the Journal and Statesman plant was moved to No. 510 Market street, adjoining the City Hall, a building that became known as The Journal Building. In May, 1872, the paper was sold to Croasdale & Cameron, editors of "Every Evening."

Henry Eckel was born in Philadelphia, December 30, 1816. His parents were Germans. His school days ended at the age of thirteen, when he began his career as a printer and publisher, as a "printer's devil" in a Philadelphia office. He removed to Wilmington in 1848, and was at once interested in newspaper publication, as a member of the firm of Porter & Eckel, publishers of the Delaware State Journal. Self-educated in the school of practice, the dominant traits of Henry Eckel's character were those of self-reliance, faith in the dictum of his own judgment, and a consequent tenacity in adhering to his own opinion. He was a Presbyterian in religion, a Whig in politics—a conservative.

His active life included the period of the anti-slavery agitation and the Civil War. As a Republican of Whig origin, he was an ardent Unionist during the war, but was never entirely free from the conservatism of the old-line Whigs, finally joining many of his former political colleagues in the Democratic party a few years before the absorption of "The Journal and Statesman" by the "Every Evening." The only public offices held by Henry Eckel was membership in the Board of Health and Board of Public Education, in both of which he served faithfully and acceptably.

The "Delaware Republican," under the control of George W. Vernon, for many years the rival and competitor of the "Delaware Gazette," stands next to that newspaper in point of age, continuance under one control, and in journalistic influence and power. Caleb P. Johnson's ownership interest in the "Gazette" began in 1843. He became sole owner in 1853.

George W. Vernon's ownership in the "Delaware Republican" began in 1845. He became sole owner in 1854 and thus for quite half a century these two men and papers worked along parallel paths.

The original of the "Delaware Republican" was the "Delaware Sentinel," an anti-Clayton Whig paper, started in Wilmington in 1840, with William Naudain as editor. In less than a year it was financially embarrassed, and those interested in it, led by Dr. James W. Thompson, took it in charge and changed the name to "The Delaware Democrat." Shortly afterward the paper was sold to Henry H. Cannon, of Georgetown, Delaware, who a year previous had published a paper called "The Republican." The two papers were then merged in one under the name, "Delaware Republican," published at Wilmington, beginning about 1841. John H. Barr became a part owner with Cannon, but shortly sold his interest to William T. Jeandell and William S. Miles, both printers. The firm name was Cannon & Co. In 1842-43 Cannon sold his interest to John A. Alderdice, and the firm became Alderdice, Jeandell & Miles, but the partners could not agree, and litigation followed, the outcome being that the court appointed a party to take charge of the property.

It was finally sold, the entire interest, to Henry S. Evans, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, who commissioned his brother, Columbus P. Evans, manager; and he shortly afterward, in February, 1845, took into partnership George W. Vernon. The firm was Evans & Vernon. It continued for nine years. Evans died in 1853, and Vernon became sole owner, and so continued until the admission of his sons, W. Scott Vernon, George F. Vernon and Howard E. Vernon, as partners in the firm of George W. Vernon & Sons. The firm was incorporated in 1877 under the name of "The Republican Printing and Publishing Company." The daily issue of the "Republican" dates from 1874.

George W. Vernon was born in West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1820. He learned the

printer's trade in the office of the West Chester "Village Record" with Henry S. Evans, whose purchase of "The Delaware Republican" in 1844 opened the way for him as future owner and editor of that paper. With George W. Vernon as fellow apprentices in the "Village Record" office, were Bayard Taylor, Judge William Butler, Edward Paxton and Columbus P. Evans, all of whom became men of repute and influence in their chosen callings, one of them, Bayard Taylor, achieving a world-wide reputation in literature. Under the management of George W. Vernon, the "Delaware Republican," continuously Whig and Republican in politics, became as widely known and as influential in the State as did its Democratic competitor, "The Delaware Gazette."

With its political sympathizers it became a household necessity and but few of the older families of the State and particularly of New Castle County and Wilmington City, were not patrons of the paper. Always earnestly loyal to the political party of his choice, George W. Vernon was never an extreme radical partisan. Without any apparent remarkable gifts, except possibly that of almost infinite patience, his success was the fruit of continuous and unvarying application to the work in hand. In this way he made his paper, with a very large number of its patrons, an authority of last resort. What other papers, apparently more vigorous and pretentious, said, was by these folk held to lack some essential element until it was verified by the Republican. Its dictum was authoritative. Mr. Vernon was a Methodist in religion. He was twice married. He died at Wilmington, July 29, 1901.

At the death of George W. Vernon, the conduct of the Delaware Republican devolved upon his sons, who had been associated with him in the Republican Printing and Publishing Company. They could not agree. The rivalry between them over the control of the property created dissension, and finally the practical dissolution of the original company. On November 25, 1905, the "Daily Republican" was merged with the "Evening Journal" and as a separate publication it ceased from that date.

Coincident with the appearance of the papers noted as having attained a permanent hold upon public support, were a number of newspaper enterprises devoted to some particular movement of the times, the lives of which were short, waning with the subsidence of the movement that gave them breath, or the exhaustion of the means of their originations. "The Standard," a temperance paper, owned and published by Dr. Henry Gibbons, appeared about 1840 and continued for several years. During the exciting political campaign of 1840 also appeared a number of papers of a strictly political character. Among these were "The Democrat," "Delaware Blue," "Locofoco" and "Porcupine." They disappeared after a brief existence, leaving no apparent mark upon the history of the press of the State.

The "Blue Hen's Chicken" appeared in 1845. It was a more vigorous enterprise and attained considerable success. Its projectors were William T. Jeandell and Francis Vincent. Jeandell had been associated with William S. Miles, five years previous, in the ownership and publication of the "Delaware Republican." He retired from this new venture in about three months. Francis Vincent had learned the trade of printer in the office of the Delaware Gazette. He was now sole owner of a newspaper and destined to become a unique and important figure in local newspaperdom, and later in local literature and politics.

Physically he was a unique figure. Of good stature, round-faced and extremely corpulent, his bald head seemed to grow immediately out of his shoulders with a backward inclination; being very near-sighted he wore spectacles which he invariably pushed to the top of his head; at such times he would push his head forward, putting on his face an expression at once vacant and expectant. His voice was effeminate, his motion quick. He was a man of large general information and considerable literary ability.

Among all his local newspaper contemporaries he alone appeared to anticipate the necessity of localizing the attention

and force of the local newspaper. He made that the distinctive character of "The Blue Hen's Chicken." It was, for that day, intensely local in news and editorial comment, and because of that is remembered as holding a unique place in the development of local newspapers. The paper continued for about nine years as a separate publication. Mr. Vincent sold it to Dr. Heyward, owner and publisher of "The Statesman," who united it with that paper. Heyward's venture failed, and within a year he sold his interest to Henry Eckel, then owner and editor of the Delaware State Journal.

Francis Vincent's paper, "The Blue Hen's Chicken," was destined to a brief revival. Shortly after the absorption of the "Blue Hen's Chicken" by the "Journal and Statesman," Dr. White and Dr. Stradley started a paper called the "Democrat." Dr. White soon retired and was succeeded by Mr. Wharton, of Dover. Under Wharton and Stradley the paper became independent in politics. Then Wharton retired and was succeeded by William T. Jeandell, who had been Vincent's partner in the "Blue Hen's Chicken." The name of the paper was then changed to "The Commonwealth." Its publication office was at the northwest corner of Fifth and Market streets. Joseph M. Barr bought the paper from Jeandell and Stradley, and later, in 1861, sold it to Francis Vincent, who restored the name of "Blue Hen's Chicken." Vincent disposed of it, and it came into the possession of Allen and Biddle, who discontinued the publication.

With this second failure of his newspaper ventures, Vincent's connection with the press ceased. He then turned his attention to literary work, and projected a History of Delaware. His fitness for this task was generally admitted, and the appearance of the book was the subject of some pleasant anticipations that were doomed to disappointment. But one volume was issued, appearing in numbers. In 1868 Vincent wrote an essay, for the Cobden Club of London, England, advocating an Anglo-Saxon Confederation. This work gained for the author a wide and generally commendable notoriety.

He was elected to honorary membership in the Club in 1874. He was Alderman at Wilmington from 1864 to 1869, and treasurer of the city from 1873 to 1879.

Francis Vincent was born in England and came to this country in early youth, and shortly afterward located at Wilmington, where, as already noted, he learned the printer's trade. He was a Republican in politics. His death occurred on June 23, 1884. His widow and children are still living in Wilmington.

The "Temperance Herald," George Washington Lowe editor and proprietor, appeared about 1840. It was published in Wilmington. It, too, was short-lived. "The Delawarean" was started by J. Newton Harker, a former partner in the "Delaware Gazette," with the plant of the Temperance Herald, which he had purchased from Lowe. Within two years Harker sold out to Augustine Maille. The latter failed, and the plant was sold at sheriff's sale. H. H. J. Naff, formerly editor of the "State Journal," was the purchaser. The next venture with this plant was projected by Daniel Hulley, in the publication of the "Patriotic Politician," at the southeast corner of Sixth and Shipley streets, but it, too, was short-lived.

The "Delaware Inquirer," a Douglas Democratic organ, was started in Wilmington by James Montgomery in 1860. Its publication office was on the west side of Market street near Fourth street. After the political campaign which ended in the defeat of Stephen A. Douglas, and the election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States, the "Inquirer" became ardently Republican in its politics. The assassination of President Lincoln and the political apostasy of Andrew Johnson after his succession to the Presidency, aroused the most bitter partisanship in James Montgomery: the failure of the effort to impeach President Johnson was to him the most bitter political disappointment of his life.

The writer remembers an occasion when Montgomery, seated between his two sons, then mere lads, and surrounded by a number of his political and personal friends, put his

arms affectionately around the boys, he swore that if it were not for leaving them fatherless, he would go to Washington and kill the President, without regard to consequences to himself. Montgomery continued to publish the "Inquirer" until the close of the Civil War, when the paper passed into the control of James B. Riggs, who shortly afterward failed and the plant passed into the possession of Caleb P. Johnson, of the "Delaware Gazette."

The many failures and the few successes recorded in this record of Wilmington newspaper development, indicate that the State has ever been a difficult field in which to establish a local press. This is due more to its geographical position than to any hindering cause. Lying between the great states of the North and South, and on the great mail route between them, the great daily papers of both sections being as easily available to local readers as local papers can be, the competition thus established has been almost prohibitory. The great demand for daily newspapers in this country was a product of Civil War times. The great journals of the country are a post-bellum growth. Their newsfield is the world.

It is due to the growth of the City of Wilmington since the Civil War, the multiplication and concentration of important local interests, in business, social life, and in politics, with the incidental happenings inseparable from large complex populations, that a successful daily local press has become possible. Under previous conditions, the failure of all ante-bellum efforts at establishing a daily newspaper in Delaware was fore-ordained. The first effort of this kind was made in Wilmington in 1856, by Henry L. Bonsall, who, until a few years ago, was principal of the public schools of Camden, New Jersey. His paper was called "The Daily Enterprise." It failed to win support, and of course was discontinued. Ten years later, in 1866, the first successful daily newspaper, "The Daily Commercial," appeared in Wilmington.

The subscription list upon which the "Daily Commercial" enterprise was based, was started in 1866 by a Mr. Tyler.

Before his arrangements were entirely completed, Howard M. Jenkins and Wilmer Atkinson, young Pennsylvanians, purchased Tyler's interest and started the paper, Jenkins as editor and Atkinson as publisher. They made a bright, vigorous local newspaper, that won the respect and support of the community. It was Republican in politics, and appeared destined for a long and useful career. For five years it had no competitor in the local field. Its publication office was at the southwest corner of Fifth and Market streets. It was sold at two cents a copy.

The naturally existing difficult circumstances to be overcome by the projectors of this enterprise have already been noted ; and, probably these general hindrances, more than any other, contributed to its ultimate failure. One other hindrance may be expressed in what appears to be a paradoxical statement: the paper was, possibly, too good, too respectable. It catered to the exclusive rather than to all classes. Another thought in this connection. Politically ambitious editors and publishers have rarely, if ever, been successful in Delaware. Right or wrong in their judgment, Delawareans generally decline to confer eminent political preferment upon emigrant citizens. This fact may have something to do with the discontinuance of the "Daily Commercial."

The editor, Mr. Jenkins, came to be regarded as having political ambitions, and in 1876 was the Republican candidate for the State House of Representatives from Wilmington. His defeat followed, and the serious dissensions then existing in the Republican party of the State, together with various other causes, proved discouraging, and the "Commercial" lost rather than gained ground. In April, 1877, the "Daily Commercial" was sold to the Every Evening Publishing Company, and was merged into the Every Evening under the title of "Every Evening and Daily Commercial." Mr. Jenkins removed to Philadelphia, and became editor of "The American," and subsequently of "The Friends' Intelligencer," a religious paper under the control of the Society of Friends.

Mr. Jenkins will always be remembered as a man of marked ability, and he earned an honored place in the newspaper world. His death occurred in 1903.

The decade between 1867 and 1877 must be regarded as a revolutionary period in the history of the local press. During that period all the established weekly papers in Wilmington began the issue of daily editions. Three new enterprises, "The Daily Commercial," "Every Evening" and "The Morning Herald," from which the existing daily press has been developed, were started; "The Daily Commercial," as has been noted, to be merged into "Every Evening" and "The Morning Herald" to become "The Morning News."

The first issue of the "Every Evening" appeared in 1871. The projectors of this enterprise were William T. Croasdale and Gilbert G. Cameron, the first named as editor and the latter as publisher. Croasdale had edited a weekly paper at Georgetown, Delaware. Cameron was a practical printer, having learned his trade in the "Delaware Republican" office. The original office of the paper was at No. 4 East Third street. It included but two rooms, an editorial sanctum and a composing room. The press work was done at the job printing office of James & Webb. Croasdale's editorial experience had given him the key to the local press problem. He put the price of his paper at one cent a copy and began at once to establish intimate and confidential relations with the masses of the people; and aside from its vigorous editorial utterances upon topics of public interest, the columns of the paper were open to the people in a spirit that was at once liberal and sympathetic. The appearance of the paper was opportune.

"Every Evening" soon became the leading newspaper of the State with a larger circulation than any of its competitors. In the second year of its history the firm was incorporated under the name of Every Evening Publishing Company. The new company bought of Henry Eckel the plant of the "Delaware State Journal and Statesman" and removed the publication office to the Journal Building, adjoining the City

Hall on Market street. In 1873 "Every Evening" absorbed the "Delaware State Journal," and in 1877 the "Daily Commercial." The publication office was then removed to the office occupied by the "Commercial" at Fifth and Market streets. The Every Evening Building was erected in 1882. In the same year Mr. Croasdale retired, to become successively the editor of The Day, at Baltimore, Maryland, The New York Star, New York City, and The Standard, Henry George's labor paper, also of New York City. He was succeeded by Edward N. Vallandigham, who afterward joined the staff of the New York Mail and Express; he was succeeded by George W. Humphreys, and he by the present editor, Merris Taylor.

"The Morning Herald," the first morning daily paper published in the State, was the successor of "The Advertiser," established by George Chance in connection with his job printing office. The paper became a daily and its name was changed under the direction of John O'Byrne, a member of the Philadelphia bar, of whom it was alleged that he acquired a Delaware residence to forward political ambitions looking toward United States Senatorial honors. The paper was published under the firm name of George O'Byrne and Company; the firm included three sons of John O'Byrne and his sister, Miss Catherine O'Byrne. The first daily addition appeared in 1876. It started out well, was ably edited, but its editorial ability was handicapped by lack of good financial management, the latter involving difficulties to which it quickly succumbed. In 1880 the "Herald" passed into the control of John H. Emerson, a pioneer newspaper man of the Peninsula, who formed a partnership with Henry C. Conrad, a member of the New Castle County bar, under the firm name of Emerson and Conrad. The name was changed to "The Morning News." A few months later Mr. Emerson retired, and was succeeded by Isaac R. Pennypacker, the firm name becoming Conrad and Pennypacker.

In 1882 the interest of Conrad and Pennypacker was sold to The Morning News Publishing Company, and it passed

into the editorial control of Watson R. Sperry, formerly a member of the editorial staff of the "New York Evening Post." Associated with Mr. Sperry as business manager of "The Morning News" was Edgar M. Hoopes, a native of Ohio and an experienced newspaper man. The new management moved the publication office to the present Morning News Building on Market street between Fifth and Sixth streets. The paper quickly attained a good clientage and a permanent place in local newspaperdom.

Republican in politics, it was regarded as the chief organ of that party in the State. Party dissensions, however, made its position a difficult one. Located in New Castle County, its normal party relation was that of an advocate of local political interests, and in this relation it opposed the party management in the campaign of 1882, causing a loss of considerable of its prestige. Changing its party attitude, the paper was again in opposition to the local party county interests in 1888.

In 1892 President Harrison appointed Mr. Sperry United States consul at Teheran, Persia; he was removed by President Cleveland early in his second administration. Retaining his editorial relation with the News, Mr. Sperry remained in Europe for several years, and on his return resumed his place on the paper. The political situation was not any more to his liking on his return than it was before he went to Persia. The changes occurring in his absence had again put him out of touch and sympathy with his former associates and finding his position uncongenial, he retired from the "News" to become the editor of the "Hartford Courant" at Hartford, Connecticut. On the retirement of Mr. Sperry, William H. Hill, who had been the active editor of the "News" during the absence of Mr. Sperry in Europe, became editor-in-chief.

"The Morning News" plant is the most complete newspaper outfit in the State. It was the first to include a perfecting press, electric motors and typesetting machines. It is now the only morning daily newspaper in the State.

"The Evening Journal," daily, was started in 1886 by

Charles W. Edwards and Fred. Eden Bach, both of whom had been employed in "The Morning News" office. Later, The Evening Journal Publishing Company was incorporated, Mr. Bach became the editor, and Charles W. Edwards was the publisher. "The Journal" was to be Republican in politics. The managers disagreed, and Mr. Bach retired. Under the Edwards regime the paper became Democratic in politics. Under that control it was also the subject of almost continuous litigation. The Edwards interests passing into other hands, a reorganization was effected, which brought "The Journal" under Republican control. George B. Hynson, who had been editor of the "Peninsular News and Advertiser," became editor of the paper. Mr. Hynson retired in 1904. In November, 1905, the paper passed again under new control, the new ownership including a controlling interest in "The Daily Republican," and the two papers were merged into one publication, Horace G. Knowles becoming the editor. "The Evening Journal" office is at Fourth and Shipley streets, in the Gawthorp Building, on the site of the historic Shipley House, erected by William Shipley, a Friend, who located in Wilmington in 1735.

"The Sun," a morning daily paper, was started in Wilmington in 1898, by Clement G. Congdon, formerly of the Philadelphia "Record." He bought the plant of a defunct job printing office, and established a publication office at No. 100½ East Sixth street. The Congdon management of the "Sun" continued for about one year, when the plant was sold at public sale. The purchaser turned the paper over to George W. Roberts, who, assuming editorial control of it, established a new plant at No. 623 Shipley street. "The Sun" continued as a daily publication until October, 1904, then, for a short time as a semi-weekly, issued on Sunday.

RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

Delaware's first and only professedly religious newspaper, "The Peninsula Methodist," formerly the "Conference Worker," dates from 1875. In that year W. S. Armour and Charles H. Sentman started the "Conference Worker" a re-religious paper devoted to the interests of the Wilmington M. E. Conference. Six months later, Mr. Armour retired and F. J. Lindsay and R. F. Cochran became partners with Mr. Sentman. The partnership continued for about one year, when Mr. Sentman became sole owner, and continued the publication for about ten years.

In 1885-6 the paper passed into the control of J. Miller Thomas, who changed the name to "The Peninsula Methodist," his father, Rev. T. Snowden Thomas, assuming editorial control. Ten years later Mr. Thomas sold his interest to a number of the members of the Wilmington M. E. Conference, of whom the Rev. Charles A. Grise was the agent to conduct the purchase. Shortly after this change of ownership, the publication office was moved to Harrington, Delaware, and the paper consolidated with another Conference publication. Later, "The Peninsula Methodist" passed to the ownership of the Messrs. Russell, of Chestertown, Maryland, and is now published at that place under the editorship of D. Bates Russell.

SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS.

The only Sunday newspapers appearing in Delaware have been published in Wilmington. The first was called "The Sunday Dispatch." It first appeared in 1878, and continued for about two and one-half years under the direction of Francis Scheu. D. Taylor Bradford started the "Sunday Mirror" in 1880, but it only lasted six months, when it was succeeded by the "Sunday Critic," owned by William Bancroft and continued for two years.

The "Sunday Morning Star" first appeared March 6, 1881, with Jerome B. Bell as editor and proprietor. In 1887 it

passed under the control of the Star Publishing Company and in 1905 was incorporated as the Star Printing Company. Mr. Bell continuing as editor and also controlling the company. The "Star" is now twenty-five years old, and it has not only occupied a unique position in Delaware journalism, but it has won its way through a pronounced independence in its editorial utterances, and by its vigorous advocacy of everything that tended to the betterment of Wilmington. It has steadily grown both in circulation and in public favor, and it is so strongly entrenched that would-be competitors have found it impossible to maintain another Sunday newspaper in Wilmington.

Several attempts have been made, but they were all unsuccessful. In 1887 Charles H. Vary started the "Sunday Republic," but it was published less than a year. The "Jeffersonian," another Sunday venture appeared about 1904, but after a year's effort was abandoned and the "Sunday Times" took its place but at the end of six months it too ceased to be. The "Sunday Star" is the only newspaper published on Sunday in Delaware that has gained a substantial foot-hold. It gives promise of a long life.

DOVER NEWSPAPERS.

Augustus M. Schee was the publisher of the first newspaper issued at Dover. The "Federal Ark," recognized as the organ of the Federalist party, was started there in 1802, continuing for about two years. In 1805 it was succeeded by the "Record" and "Federal Advertiser," published by Joseph Robertson. February 1, 1825, "The Delaware Intelligencer" was started by Samuel F. Shinn, and published in the interest of the presidential candidacy of John Quincy Adams. In February, 1838, William Huffington, a member of the Bar, and a man of considerable literary ability, started at Dover the first monthly magazine that was published in Delaware. It was called "The Delaware Register and Farmers' Magazine" and showed careful editing especially in its historical and bio-

graphical departments. It deserved to succeed, but the publisher becoming discouraged, its publication was discontinued at the end of a year. Occasional copies of this publication turn up and command a good price. Mr. Huffington resided in Wilmington in his later life and was Mayor of that city from 1848 to 1850.

A political publication in Dover in the campaign of 1828 called "The Political Primer" or "A Home Book for Jacksonites," had for its motto the word "Retaliation." It strongly advocated the re-election of John Quincy Adams as President. The nominal editor was Joseph Robertson, but contributions to its columns were made by the leading politicians of that time; among whom were Caleb S. Layton and Samuel M. Harrington, and they had no hesitancy in pouring hot shot into the ranks of their political opponents. Some of their utterances would almost put to shame the yellow journalism of the present day, and the warmth and vindictiveness shown in the discussions are convincing that there was even more bitterness between political parties in that day than in these opening days of the twentieth century. The "Primer" was published about six months. A small sheet called "The American Freeman and Legislative Reporter" was issued at Dover during the legislative session of 1830 under the direction of Henry W. Peterson, who kept a book and stationery store in that town. But six numbers were issued.

The first newspaper organ of the Whig party in Kent County was "The Sentinel," published by William Wharton in 1851. The "Delaware State Reporter," a Democratic and strongly anti-Prohibition newspaper, edited by George W. S. Nicholson, was published in Dover from May 7, 1853 to August 8, 1859. On May 7, 1859, the Delawarean Company, James Kirk, editor, issued the first number of "The Delawarean," an ultra-Democratic organ. It became the recognized State organ of the Democratic party, known throughout the Eastern States as an embodiment of high class journalism for that day. Mr. Kirk retained the editorship of the paper until March 4, 1876,

when the Hon. Eli Saulsbury became proprietor, and Charles E. Fenn, manager. January, 1884, John F. and John P. Saulsbury became joint owners of the plant, editing and publishing the paper in that relation until the death of John P. Saulsbury in 1887, when John F. Saulsbury became sole owner and editor. On February 17, 1894, William Saulsbury became owner and editor of the "Delawarean" and conducted it until the organization of the Delawarean Company in 1902, of which William Saulsbury became president; Willard Saulsbury, vice-president; Samuel Isenschmidt, secretary; John S. Collins, treasurer. The paper is still published by the Delawarean Company.

The "State Sentinel," a Republican newspaper, was started in Dover by Henry W. Cannon in May, 1874. Mr. Cannon edited and published the paper until 1891, when it was purchased by Edward W. Louderbough. During the period from 1891 to 1896 the "Sentinel" was edited by John H. Bateman. In the latter year the paper passed into the ownership of the Sentinel Printing Company, George W. Roberts succeeding to the editorship. In 1897 Mr. Bateman resumed his editorial connection with the paper continuing therein until his death in 1900. The "Sentinel" is now published weekly by Edward B. Louderbough, manager for the Sentinel Printing Company.

The "Index" was started by Francis M. Dunn, in 1887. Mr. Dunn died in 1894 and the paper has been published weekly since that date by his son, Thomas F. Dunn. The "Index" is Democratic in politics, and is the recognized organ of the anti-Saulsbury Democracy of Kent County, its editorship has been credited to various leading Democrats of the county, including the late Chancellor Wolcott.

The "Delaware State News" was established in 1901 by Monroe Ashmore. In 1904 Ashmore sold his interest to the State News Publishing Company, of which Arley B. Magee is president, and J. C. Wickes, business manager. Robert H. Wilson is editor of the paper, it is ultra-Democratic in politics and is published weekly. The editorial utterances of Mr.

Wilson are as a rule unique. He is clear in expression, forcible in style and altogether clever, and under his management the paper is gaining an enviable place in Delaware journalism.

MILFORD NEWSPAPERS.

John H. Emerson, one of the pioneer newspaper men of this Peninsula, a former editor of the "Denton (Md.) Union," afterward associated with Henry C. Conrad in the establishment of "The Morning News" at Wilmington, established "The Beacon" at Milford in 1848, the first newspaper published in that town. Three years later, in 1851, Mr. Emerson sold the paper to Colonel J. Hart Conrad, of Philadelphia. A year later, on the death of Colonel Conrad, the plant passed into the control of James B. Mahan, who had been assistant editor with and foreman for Colonel Conrad. George B. Mahan was admitted to a partnership in the business, the firm name becoming Mahan Brothers. The paper continued under his management until 1859 at Milford, when its publication office was removed to New Castle, and the name of it changed to "The Diamond State," the publication being continued by the same parties.

The "Sussex Gleaner" was the next newspaper to appear at Milford. It was short-lived. It appeared in 1856. In 1857 a Mr. Chambers, of Maryland, revived the "Beacon." The paper was sold to W. W. Austin, but was discontinued in a few months. Two newspaper ventures were launched in Milford in 1857: "The Peninsular News and Advertiser," and the "Observer," the former by James D. Prettyman and the latter by Truitt and Ennis. The "Beacon" and the "Observer" soon discontinued. The "News and Advertiser" having survived, entered upon a stormy existence; under its first management the paper was a radical advocate of the pro-slavery political regime. In six years it changed ownership five times, being successfully controlled by Prettyman and Hudson, Dr. John S. Prettyman, E. P. Alfred, James B. Mahan and William H. Hutchin.

Out of this struggle the paper came finally to oppose the slave regime, in national politics, under the direction of Dr. John S. Prettyman. During the period of this evolution several attempts were made to wreck the office and destroy the plant. Happily this was prevented and the "News and Advertiser" survived to become one of the most influential Republican newspapers in the State. Between 1863 and 1878 several attempts were made to establish other newspapers in Milford, none of which succeeded. James B. Riggs of Wilmington started the "Milford Statesman," but only a few numbers were issued. In 1867 James B. Mahan started "The Milford Argus," and in a few months disposed of it to the Revell Brothers, who continued it for about one year and sold it to Justus Lowery & Co. The new owners changed the name of the paper to "Our Mutual Friend." In 1870 it passed into the control of Levi Harris & Co., who continued it for about one year and sold it to Dr. John S. Prettyman.

In 1872 Dr. John S. Prettyman consolidated "Our Mutual Friend" and "The Peninsula News and Advertiser" in one publication, under the latter title, associating with himself Dr. C. W. Davidson as editor, and William P. Corsa as publisher. In January, 1880, Dr. Prettyman sold the paper to his son, Harry H. Prettyman, who admitted Henry Harris, of Wisconsin, as a partner in March of that year. In August, 1880, Henry L. Hynson bought the Prettyman interest, and the paper was published by Harris and Hynson, until November, 1881, when Hynson became sole owner. During the Hynson ownership the control of the paper was transferred to a stock company, Henry L. Hynson continuing in the editorship. Mr. Hynson was succeeded by A. T. Thomas & Son; the latter by Millard F. Hydron, and he, in turn, by George B. Hynson and Robert Mears; George B. Hynson being the editor. Later Robert Mears became editor and manager, and in 1904 sold his interest in the paper to G. Layton Grier and Frank L. Grier, who conducted it for about six months, disposing of it to Theodore Townsend, owner and editor of the

“Milford Chronicle,” who merged it in one publication with that paper.

The “Milford Chronicle” was established in October, 1878, by Julius E. Scott and Theodore Townsend, as a politically independent newspaper. In 1880 Mr. Scott was succeeded by William P. Corsa. This partnership continued until 1884, when Mr. Townsend became sole owner. It is now and for several years past has been conducted as a Republican newspaper and since its consolidation with “The News and Advertiser,” ranks as one of the best and strongest papers on the peninsula.

GEORGETOWN NEWSPAPERS.

As has been already noted in this sketch of the beginnings and development of the press of Delaware, one of the first of these enterprises was started at Georgetown, Sussex County. In 1837-38 Henry H. Cannon started and continued for a year or two a paper called the “Republican.” Coincident with the Georgetown enterprise, the anti-Clayton Whigs of New Castle County began the publication of the “Delaware Sentinel,” at Wilmington. In less than a year the “Sentinel” changed ownership, name and politics, and for a few months the publication was continued under the name of the “Delaware Democrat.”

In the meantime Mr. Cannon removed to Wilmington, and having purchased the “Delaware Democrat,” merged it with the “Sentinel” in one paper under the name of “The Delaware Republican,” this originating a newspaper title potent in local newspaperdom for more than a century, and still recognized as a valuable asset. There seems to have been no other effort to establish a paper at Georgetown until 1864. In that year William T. Crosdale, at the beginning of a notable career as a newspaperman, started a newspaper in that town called “The Union,” and continued the publication for about one year. In 1878 Willard S. Pride started, at Georgetown, “The Delaware Inquirer.” It was continued until 1881, when it

was sold to other parties in Georgetown, and the publication continued under the name of "The Delaware Democrat." The paper is now under the editorial control of Edwin R. Paynter.

"The Sussex Journal" was first issued in 1867 by W. Fiske Townsend, who was succeeded by David T. Marvel and McKendree Downham. Later, the firm was Clark and Downham. From this firm the ownership passed to Mrs. Mary Clark, and from her to the present owners, Messrs. Jones and Lynch. "The Sussex Republican" was established at Georgetown, by the Rev. A. D. Davis, a member of the Wilmington M. E. Conference in 1886. From its founder, the ownership of the paper passed to Robert G. Houston, the present editor and owner. "The Union Republican," the organ of the Union Republican party, was established at Georgetown in 1898. It is published by the Union Republican Publishing Company.

On February 10, 1906, the "Sussex Journal," the "Delaware Democrat," the latter being the successor of the "Delaware Inquirer," dating from 1878, and the "Delaware Pilot," the successor of "The Breakwater Light," established at Lewes, 1871, by Dr. I. H. D. Knowles, passed to the control of the Sussex Printing and Publishing Company, with publication office at Georgetown; the three papers continuing to appear under the same titles.

NEW CASTLE NEWSPAPERS.

"The New Castle News" is the successor of a long line of short-lived predecessors. It is edited and published by Edgar C. Bross, and is Republican in politics—"Independent but not neutral." It is now in its twelfth volume. "The Gazette" was published at New Castle, by Enoch E. Camp in 1836. A few years later George W. Mahan established the "Diamond State and Record." Both enterprises proved abortive, and were abandoned after about a year's trial.

NEWARK NEWSPAPERS.

Newark, Delaware's college town, was late in joining the State press procession. Charles H. Sentman, for many years a local newspaper worker, is credited with having made the original effort to establish a paper in that town, in 1875. He soon abandoned the project. J. H. Rowlinson, who moved from Centreville, Maryland to Newark, in the latter part of 1875, made the most remarkable newspaper venture recorded in the history of the State Press. It is said of him that he had but thirty-five cents in his pocket when he landed in Newark. Within a few months, on February 11, 1876, he issued the first number of the first paper published in the town. It was called the "Saturday Visitor." Only a few numbers of the "Visitor" were issued when the name was changed to the "Record."

In about a year Rowlinson had become discouraged and sold his interest to J. M. Armstrong, of New York City. A year later Armstrong sold out to Samuel D. McCartney, of Philadelphia, who changed the name to the "Journal." The new owner was quickly convinced of his inability to make the enterprize a success and he sold to L. Theodore Esling, an employee of the office. Mr. Esling changed the name of the paper to the "Newark Ledger," and under that title, by untiring industry and close application to business, established a newspaper still recognized as a credit to the town of Newark, and an influential member of the State Press.

At Mr. Esling's death, in January, 1881, the publication of the paper was discontinued for several months. The plant was purchased by Major F. A. G. Handy, of Washington, D. C., a well-known newspaper correspondent. Egbert G. Handy, a brother of the new owner, who had been connected with the "Philadelphia Press," was put in charge of the "Ledger." Less than six months after assuming control of it, the latter purchased the property, and changed the name to the "Delaware Ledger," under which title the publication

has continued since. For several years it has been owned and published by Bowen & Brother.

MIDDLETOWN NEWSPAPERS.

Middletown's first newspaper venture dates from 1868. In that year Henry Vanderford, formerly of the "Cecil Democrat," established the "Middletown Transcript." The founder of the paper was succeeded by his son, Charles H. Vanderford and he by Edward Reynolds, and he in turn by W. Scott Way in 1877. In the interval the paper has changed owners several times. It is now published by T. S. Fouracre. The "New Era" is of younger years. It is owned by Caleb J. Freeman.

SEAFORD NEWSPAPERS.

Seaford joined the State newspaper procession in 1869 with the "Seaford Record," established by Donoho and Stevens. The paper was neutral in politics. Mr. Stevens retired, and was succeeded by his son, who with Mr. Donoho continued the publication changing the name to the "Sussex Record." The new firm sold to a Mr. Kavano, of Maryland, in 1872. The latter owner made two changes of name in the paper, first to "The Sussex Democrat," and then to "The Seaford Democrat." The enterprise was not successful and was soon abandoned. Some time prior to 1878 Joseph F. Penington started a paper called the "Seaford Enterprise." In the year named it passed into the control of Thomas N. Williams and J. B. Clark, who changed the name to the "Sussex County Index," continuing the publication until 1881. In the summer of that year the Rev. John Teasdale revived the "Seaford Enterprise" and in September, 1882, disposed of it to Charles D. Judson. The "Seaford News," edited and published at Seaford by William H. Stevens, was established in 1891. It is Democratic in politics and is the only paper now published in that town.

MILTON NEWSPAPERS.

The "Milton Times," published by the Milton Times Publishing Company, at Milton, Sussex County, was established in 1897. It was edited by W. W. Crouch.

SMYRNA NEWSPAPERS.

Smyrna's original newspaper enterprise, the "Delaware Star," dates from 1832. The "Smyrna Telegraph" appeared in 1839. The projector of this enterprise, Samuel L. Jones, is said to have gotten into debt and into jail, neither of which seems at all improbable. The name of the paper indicates great expectations on the part of the publisher; the Telegraph as an adjunct of the press was then unknown. In 1847 the paper fell into the hands of the temperance people who were very active at that time, and they continued the publication as an advocate of prohibition under the editorial control of Abraham Poulson. Succeeding to the ownership of the paper Mr. Poulson changed the name to "Delaware Herald and Peninsula Advocate."

In 1854 Abraham Poulson sold his interest in the property to his son Thomas L. Poulson and Robert D. Hoffecker, the new firm continuing the paper under the old name. A few months later Mr. Hoffecker became sole owner and changed the name to the "Smyrna Times." In 1866 Robert D. Hoffecker sold the paper to his brother Joseph H. Hoffecker. In 1877 Robert D. Hoffecker again assumed the ownership and editorial control of the "Smyrna Times" continuing that relation until this date, having in 1893, associated with him in the work, his son, Robert D. Hoffecker, Jr., who is the present active editor and publisher.

The "Smyrna Record" was started in 1881 by F. S. Phelps who disposed of it to Gilbert S. Taylor in 1886. In 1889 the plant was sold to William George Hill and John B. Book, who removed it to Clayton and established the "Clayton Call," under the management of W. G. McFarlane. In 1897, the

plant was bought by the Delawarean Printing Company and was removed to Smyrna, the name of the paper being changed to the "Smyrna Call." In March, 1905, control of the plant passed to Frank Whelen, the present editor and publisher.

CLAYTON NEWSPAPERS.

Mrs. R. H. McConaughy started a paper called the "Clayton Herald," at Clayton, in 1867, continuing the publication for about two years; the plant was then removed to Smyrna and publication resumed under the title of "Herald and Intelligencer." The new venture was short lived. The plant after several passages back and forth between Clayton and Smyrna, located in the latter place, and in the office of the "Smyrna Call."

LEWES NEWSPAPERS.

The "Breakwater Light" was started at Lewes, Sussex County, in August, 1871, by Dr. I. H. D. Knowles, who conducted it successfully as a Republican newspaper for about twenty years. The plant finally passed into the control of a Democratic syndicate represented by Ebe W. Tunnell, and the name of the paper was changed to "The Delaware Pilot," under which name it is still published.

ART AND ARTISTS.

GUSTAVUS HESSELIUS.

The earliest portrait painter in America lived for a while in Delaware. His name was Gustavus Hesselius. He was born in Sweden in 1682, and in 1711 came to the Swedish settlement at Christina with his brother, Andreas Hesselius, the latter having been sent as a missionary from Sweden to the Swedish congregation who twelve years before had built their church at Christina. The brothers landed first in Virginia and then came by way of the Chesapeake bay, and through Bohemia Manor, the wide-spreading acres of Augustine Herman, to Appoquinimink, and then on to Christina.

Remaining at Christina a very short while, he went to Philadelphia where he found a better field for the exercise of his talent in art, but in 1716 his child Andreas was baptised at Old Swedes Church at Christina, by his brother, after whom the child was named. In 1721 he received a commission from the vestry of St. Barnabas Church in Prince George's County, Maryland, to paint a canvas of the Blessed Saviour and the twelve disciples at the last supper, for which he was paid seventeen pounds. He also built an organ for the Moravian Church at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. There are evidences of him being in Philadelphia in 1735, and his death occurred in that city in 1755, his remains being buried in the graveyard of Gloria Dei Church. His wife was named Lydia. He left one son and three daughters. A granddaughter, Elizabeth Henderson, became the wife of Adolph Ulric Wertmuller, another Swedish artist, whose life is touched upon later in this chapter.

Andreas Hesselius, the brother of Gustavus, the artist, was pastor of the Old Swedes Church at Wilmington from 1712 to

(1117)

1723. The brothers were both men of fine attainments. Andreas was not only a preacher of the gospel, but a journal kept by him, which of late years has been translated into English, shows that he was a learned naturalist and that he was well posted in biological studies. A son of pastor Hesselius, bearing the same name, became a poet of distinction and was a teacher of English in the University of Upsala. Another son, Gustavus, named after the subject of this sketch, became a painter of note and assisted in the decoration of the Royal Palace at Stockholm.

For most of the facts contained in this sketch credit is due to Mr. Charles Henry Hart, of Philadelphia, who contributed a most interesting sketch of Gustavus Hesselius to "Harper's Magazine, in March, 1898.

ADOLPH ULRIC WERTMULLER.

The years that have gone by since the first settlement of the Swedes on the shores of the Delaware have more and more convinced us of how much we owe to them in the various enterprises of life. Not only were they a frugal, thrifty, industrious people, but in very many of the avocations of life requiring refined skill and intellect we find them in the advanced ranks. It is interesting to find that one of the first portrait painters in Delaware—a man who, by reason of his artistic ability in the field of portrait and historic painting, attained great fame in his day—was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and after an education in the art that indicates that he had the advantage of the best schools of his time, settled in America, and about the beginning of the last century became the owner of a plantation on the Delaware and a bona-fide resident of this State.

Adolph Ulric Wertmuller, for such was the name of this artist was born in Stockholm, Sweden, February 18, 1751, and died at his plantation on Naaman's creek, in the upper end of New Castle county, on October 5, 1811, and is buried in the Old Swedes churchyard in Philadelphia. When twenty-one

he left Stockholm, for Paris, to put himself under his cousin Roslin, one of the chief portrait painters of the French capital, and afterwards received instructions from Vien. He was admitted a member of the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture on July 30, 1784, upon the presentation of the portraits of Bachelier and Caffiere, having the year previous been breveted "First Painter of the King of Sweden."

Upon this appointment he painted, for Gustavus III., "Ariadne" and "Marie Antoinette with her two children in the garden of the Little Trianon," both now in the National Museum at Stockholm. In 1787 he painted his famous picture of "Danae Receiving Jupiter in a Shower of Gold," which, for both conception and purity of execution, entitles him to a commanding place among the painters of his time. Driven from France by the exigencies of the French revolution, he sought a home in America, reaching Philadelphia May 13, 1794.

He lived in Philadelphia for two years when, owing to the death of his agent, he was called to Sweden, where he remained for four years engaged in the settlement of an estate which he inherited. Returning in November, 1800, he resumed his residence in Philadelphia, where he remained until 1803, when he bought a plantation containing one hundred and forty-five acres in Brandywine Hundred, Delaware, near the Pennsylvania line, from John Warder of Philadelphia. This plantation was situate at the confluence of the Delaware river and Naaman's creek. Here he lived in peace and quiet until his death on the 5th day of October, 1811.

On January 8, 1801, he married Elizabeth Henderson, a granddaughter of Gustavus Hesselius, also an artist, a brief sketch of whom appears in this chapter. After Wertmuller's removal to Delaware he seems to have relinquished his brush, and devoted his time largely to farming pursuits, although his death is said to have resulted from the noxious effects of paint on his system.

Three months after his arrival in Philadelphia, in August,

1794, he painted a portrait of Washington from life. His journal states that Washington sat for him in the Senate chamber. Under date of November 8 of the same year he made this entry in his journal :

“ Finished the portrait of General Washington, first President of Congress, a black velvet coat, bust, half length canvas. This portrait is for myself.”

His original portrait of Washington, scrupulously preserved, was, after his death, sold at auction in Philadelphia with his other pictures for the small sum of fifty dollars. It is now owned by John Wagner, of Philadelphia. Several replicas of the portrait were made on commission from the leading men of that day who were associated with Washington in public affairs; among others one for Robert Morris, the great financier of the revolution.

His will is dated December 25, 1802, while yet a resident of Philadelphia. He describes himself as a portrait painter. He devised all of his estate to his wife, Elizabeth, mentioning in particular a share to which he was entitled by the will of one Joachin Wretman, a merchant of Amsterdam; he being one of several children to whom a legacy of 40,000 florins of Holland was bequeathed by said will. Under date of July 3, 1811, he made a codicil to his will in which he recites that since the making of his will he had become possessed of the farm on Naaman's creek. This, too, he devised to his wife. The will was evidently proven in Philadelphia, and a copy was recorded in the office of the register of wills of this county in 1820. His name is signed to the will simply as “ A. Wertmuller.” Wertmuller's wife only survived her husband three months. As far as known there were no children.

For the leading facts in this sketch credit is due to Mr. Charles Henry Hart, of Philadelphia, who published an interesting sketch of Wertmuller in the January number, 1897, of “ McClure's ” magazine.

FELIX O. C. DARLEY.

Felix O. C. Darley was an artist of national repute who lived for many years at Claymont in this State. He was born in Philadelphia June 23, 1822. His father was an English actor who came to America about 1790. The son was intended to enter mercantile life, but while yet a youth his passion for sketching manifested itself, and some of his early caricatures attracted such attention that he readily turned his attention to the making of sketches for the current magazines of that day. His earlier work was along humorous lines. His outline drawings in an early edition of Irving's works gave him much fame, and a little later he illustrated the works of J. Fenimore Cooper and Charles Dickens.

No illustrator ranked higher in his time. He also did good work in colors, some of which were made on orders from abroad. In 1868, after a trip to Europe he published in book form, "Sketches abroad with Pen and Pencil." During the Civil war he painted two or more battle scenes that elicited much admiration. His latest work was a series of illustrations of Shakespeare's plays. His portrait work was good, but his fancies, as a rule, ran in other directions. He died at his home, "Wren's Nest" near Claymont on March 27, 1888. His widow survived him and still resides in the old home.

HENRY L. TATNALL.

Henry L. Tatnall was born in the old Tatnall mansion now known as No. 1805 Market street, in Wilmington, December 31, 1829. He was the son of Edward Tatnall and Margery (Paxson) Tatnall. The Tatnall family of Delaware, long prominent in the business and social life of Wilmington, traces its ancestry to Robert Tatnall of Leicestershire, England, whose widow, with five children came to America in 1725. Edward Tatnall, the great-grandfather of Henry L. Tatnall was the first of the family to settle in Delaware. The early generations were millers by occupation being attracted

to Wilmington by the fine water power afforded by the Brandywine. Young Henry after a brief term as clerk in his father's mill turned his attention to farming, but that not being to his liking, he returned to Wilmington and established himself in the lumber business which he conducted successfully for several years.

He early showed an aptness for music, and evinced much interest in musical instruments. He also had a decided talent for drafting, modeling and architecture, but it was not until middle life that he developed a talent for landscape painting. Just after the Civil war James Hamilton, the noted marine artist of Philadelphia, spent some years in Wilmington engaged in the prosecution of his work as a painter in oil. Mr. Tatnall was greatly attached to Mr. Hamilton's work. The two men became warm personal friends.

Mr. Tatnall soon found that he, too, could transfer to canvas the landscapes which attracted him. Seemingly without effort, and entirely without study or preparation, he surprised his friends by the merit of his work as a landscape artist. His productions were pronounced by competent judges as of a high order, and he soon found himself so enraptured with his work, and so many patrons anxious to give orders, that he relinquished his lumber business to his sons, and devoted all of his time to art. In many Wilmington homes can be seen choice views from the Brandywine and the Shellpot, that came from the brush of Tatnall, and in several instances his subjects embrace other than local scenes.

Mr. Tatnall was a very companionable man. He attracted by his generosity and sociability a wide circle of friends. His home was the center of a social and literary circle, that was representative of the most cultivated people in Wilmington. Mrs. Tatnall was the daughter of Dr. William Gibbons, and the artist and his devoted wife occupied for many years the old Gibbons homestead on Delaware avenue near Jefferson street, now the site of the apartment house, known as "Vernon Place." Mr. Tatnall died in 1885.

HOWARD PYLE.

Howard Pyle, author and illustrator, was born in Wilmington, March 5, 1853. He was the son of William and Margaret (Churchman) Pyle. His ancestors on both sides of the family were members of the Society of Friends. His mother is remembered as an unusually bright and cultivated woman with literary tastes of a high order, which, if developed, would have given her a high place in the world of letters. Both father and mother were closely identified with the reforms and intellectual movements of their day. The school days of Howard Pyle were spent at the well known academy of T. Clarkson Taylor in Wilmington. When only sixteen years of age he became a student at a school of art established at Philadelphia by Van der Weilen, where for three years he was under the direction of this capable Dutch artist. This embraces all the training received by him in the line of art.

His work as an artist began in 1876, when he contributed short stories and poems to the press, with illustrations by himself. These proving popular, more pretentious efforts followed in the way of magazine articles, and it was only a few years until he was recognized as among the leading writers and illustrators of that day. His highest rank has been reached as an illustrator. In colonial and revolutionary subjects he has no rival, and it can be said that he now occupies the distinguished place of leader among American illustrators. His untiring industry, his love of art, his conscientious endeavors to raise art in America to a higher plane, are everywhere recognized; so it is not surprising to those who have watched with interest his upward career, to know of his conspicuous success. Mr. Pyle's literary efforts are of high order and have attracted much attention. Notwithstanding his extremely busy life as an illustrator, he has found time to write at least a dozen books. The first of these, "The Merrie Adventures of Robin Hood," was published in 1883. His last book, "Rejected of Men," published in 1904, is quite in contrast to his other works, in that it is more sober in style, but it gives promise of

being accepted as the most meritorious of Mr. Pyle's writings. With the exception of a few years, while he was pursuing his art studies, Mr. Pyle's residence has been continuously in Wilmington.

ROBERT SHAW.

A local artist who has attained high rank among his associates is Robert Shaw, whose modest studio on the rise of Penny Hill, in Brandywine Hundred, is characteristic of the man. Descended from plain folk, his father, David Shaw, came to America from the west coast of Scotland in 1852, and seven years later, Robert Shaw, the son, was born at Rockwood, Brandywine Hundred, the country seat of Joseph H. Shipley, with whom the father was a trusted and faithful employee for nearly fifty years. Within the walls of the old Shellpot school-house young Robert was taught the rudiments of an English education, but a severe attack of rheumatism in his youth greatly disabled him and unfitted him for the work of the farm.

He early showed an aptness for drawing. This led to making of pen-and-ink sketches, and then followed the more elaborate etching on copper. In both of these lines he succeeded by dint of his native ability and without the aid of an instructor. His first etching of any pretensions was of the Old Swedes Church in Wilmington. It established his reputation at once as an artist. The limited edition struck from the first plate found ready takers, and copies now command a large premium. A later plate of the same subject was made, from which many copies have been struck and sold, not only in Wilmington but throughout the United States. His etching of the "Old Barley Mill" ranks with the best etchings made in this country, and a half dozen Brandywine views are equally good.

Mr. Shaw has shown rare tact in his choice of local subjects and his mechanical work as an etcher is most painstaking and meritorious. Of late years his time has been almost wholly

engrossed in making a series of etchings of famous historical buildings, which will be published in the near future by a New York house. The enterprise gives promise of unusual success. Mr. Shaw has also shown remarkable ability in water colors. His fame as an etcher is secure for all time; if his talents had been confined to water colors he would have been equally successful.

Personally Mr. Shaw is most genial and companionable. An hour in his studio is thoroughly enjoyable. The work there seen convinces one of the real worth and ability of the artist, and the lesson is learned that a frail constitution and bodily infirmities cannot keep down a man who is intent upon the development of the talents with which he has been gifted by Providence.

FRANK F. ENGLISH.

There lived for about ten years, from 1893 to 1903, near Claymont, an artist named Frank F. English, who gave his entire time to the production of landscapes in water-colors. Mr. English occupied the old mansion known as the Ann Krute property; in earlier days the "Swan Tavern," situate on the Philadelphia turnpike, near the Practical Farmer. Here he made what proved to be most attractive pictures, and for them he found ready sale. Mr. English came from Mt. Holly, New Jersey. He removed from Delaware in 1903 and has since been living in the suburbs of Philadelphia.

JEFFERSON D. CHALFANT.

Mr. Chalfant has been a resident of Delaware since 1880. Born in Pennsylvania, November 1, 1856, his younger days were spent in that State. Soon after his advent in Delaware he began with the brush, and in 1888 he finished and exhibited a facsimile of the United States paper currency then in general use, of the denomination of one dollar and commonly called "A Dollar Bill." The painting was exhibited side by side with a real note, and so exact was the reproduction that

it was with difficulty that one could be distinguished from the other. This effort attracted much attention and established the reputation of Mr. Chalfant as an artist.

A few years later he painted a facsimile of a postage stamp, which was also favorably received. The Old Clockmaker and The Village Shoemaker from Mr. Chalfant's easel gave still further evidence of his unusual ability in working into a picture the most minute details. "The Card Players," representing two well known residents of Wilmington, was well received when exhibited, and added still further to the reputation of Mr. Chalfant as a painstaking artist. Mr. Chalfant restricts himself almost entirely to work in oil. He has shown decided ability in portraits and could have succeeded in this branch of art if his talents had been directed in that way. Mr. Chalfant spent nearly three years in the academies of Paris. His studio has for ten years been in the Allmond building at Eighth and Market streets, but he is now about erecting a new studio near the Boulevard on Washington Heights.

CLAWSON S. HAMMITT.

For twenty years and more Clawson S. Hammitt has modestly, but efficiently essayed the role of an artist. Born in Wilmington in 1857, from his boyhood days to the present, his life has been spent continuously in the city of his birth. His aptness in drawing and sketching developed while yet a student in the public schools, and in his young days the merit of his work attracted the attention of his brother artist of riper years, Henry L. Tatnall.

Intent upon the life of an artist he was able, in course of time, to put himself under the instruction of such famed teachers as William M. Chase, Benjamin Constant and Lefebvre, and proving an apt student, the work of his brush early attracted public attention, and he has won his way by reason of his industry and conscientious work. As a teacher he has few superiors. His services have been in demand for

years by the public and private schools of the city, and his patience, enthusiasm and painstaking methods have rendered him unusually successful in the line of teaching.

Mr. Hammit is versatile in his lines of work. While possibly excelling in oil, his pastels and water-colors show unusual merit, and in pen-and-ink sketches he also exhibits much talent. He has made several portraits in oil from life that have received high praise. A portrait by him of David W. Harlan, superintendent of the city schools which now graces the walls of the high school, is true to the life both in pose and expression. Mr. Hammitt's studio has for years been in the third story of the Institute Building, and here his work has been done, quietly but effectively, and he holds the high respect of the community in which his life has been spent, both because of the merit of his work as an artist, and his amiable qualities as a gentleman.

END OF VOLUME III.

GENERAL INDEX TO THREE VOLUMES.

VOLUME I. PAGES 1-395.

VOLUME II. PAGES 396-794.

VOLUME III. PAGES 795-1127.

A

- Aaron, James H., 608
 John, 659
Abbington Iron Works, 524, 527
Abbott, Benjamin, 782
 Charles D., 284
 H. H., 610
 S. John, 267
Aboriginal tribes, 1
Abrinck, Pieter, 291
Acrelius, Israel, 754
Adams, Alexander H., 464, 465
 Charles M., 214, 279, 280
 Daniel Jenifer, 293
 Elisha, 281
 James, 294, 314, 1085, 1086, 1088
 Jacob H., 284, 689
 John, 168, 218, 277, 609, 912,
 1085, 1086
 John H., 350, 354, 379, 435
 John Quincy, 488
 Joshua, 661
 Joshua T., 689
 Levy, 272, 496
 Levin H., 267, 278
 Nathan, 120
 Nicholas W., 283
 Peter, 608
 Roger, 691, 704
 Samuel, 1085, 1086
 Thomas, 182
 William, 277
Addicks, J. Edward, 234, 235, 246,
 247, 248, 249, 251, 254, 255
Adkins, George S., 260
 John W., 278
Adolphus, Gustavus, 16, 17, 61, 755
Aertson, Jacob, 291, 542
African M. E. Church, 313
Agnew, D. Hayes, 1072
 John Holmes, 807
Agricultural Experiment Station, 810-
 812
Aiken, James C., 332
 Matthew, 527
 Walter W., 550
Aikentown, 527
Albertson, John, 631
Alden, John, 642
 Simon, 642
Alderdice, John A., 214, 224, 297
Aldred, E. P., 1109
Alexander, Archibald, 264, 272, 297,
 512
 Thomas, 627
Alison, Francis, 814, 816
Allen, Alvan, 293, 397, 398
 Benjamin B., 275
 Frank, 284
 John, 274
 Jesse W., 693
 Major W., 283, 690
 Richard, 791
Allee, Jacob, 613
 James F., 608
 J. Frank, 249, 250, 254, 261, 267
 Presley, 270
Allaband, William R., 279
Alleband, William, 277, 639
Allmon, George, 393
Allmond, Charles M., 297, 401
 Henrietta, 759
 John P., 342, 391, 424
Alrich, Peter Sigfriedus, 501
Alrichs, Hermanus, 540
 Jacob, 43, 45, 46, 48, 50, 256, 265,
 303, 451, 509, 540
 Jacobus, 540
 Peter, 53, 55, 256, 263, 271, 291,
 501, 503, 540, 541, 559, 771
Sigfriedus, 540
Samuel, 265
William T., 260

- Alrichs, Wessel, 512, 540
 Alsop, Samuel, 318
 Alston, John, 557
 J. Cowgill, 557
 Altona, 43
 American Car & Foundry Co., 373
 Fibre Co., 415, 416
 Leather Co., 384
 Tobacco Co., 465
 Andersen, Andries, 461
 Anderson, Charles, 528
 Enoch, 118, 119, 122, 124, 125,
 129, 130, 133, 135, 149
 Ezekiel, 609
 Isaac, 403
 James, 636, 673, 690
 John, 299, 686
 Joseph, 314
 James F., 807
 William, 610, 666, 792
 Reuben, 609, 669
 Andrews, John W., 167, 201, 217, 564
 Samuel, 1087
 Andries, Jacobus, 291
 Roelof, 291, 542
 Andriesen, John, 540
 Andriessen, Andreas, 456
 Claes, 291
 Christian, 291
 Hendrick, 291
 Joost, 456
 Andros, Sir Edmund, 55, 57, 256, 296,
 451, 456, 536, 558, 580, 652, 661, 749
 Angola, 725
 Anthony, Henry S., 280, 285
 Appleton, Henry H., 195, 274
 Robert, 573
 Appoquinimink Creek, 287, 543, 544,
 546, 548, 549, 560, 565, 566,
 567, 570, 759, 907
 Hundred, 287, 290, 291, 567, 568,
 569, 570, 574, 622, 788, 846
 Archer, Alfred E., 690
 Arlington Cotton Mills, 409
 Armour, W. S., 1105
 Armstrong, Archibald, 265
 George D., 350
 J. Charles, 621
 James, 293
 John P., 275
 R. Lewis, 293
 Robert, 155
 Samuel, 279
 Theodore F., 275
 Arnold, Benedict, 495
 Arnoux Electric Co., 337
 Aron, James P., 237, 280
 Art and Artists, 1117
 Arthurs, John M., 611
 Arthurs, William, 610, 648
 Artisans Savings Bank, 352
 Asbury, Bishop Francis, 311, 606, 618,
 646, 671, 703, 710, 782, 783,
 785, 892, 893
 M. E. Church, 311, 427, 786
 Ascension Church, 460
 Ashland, 466, 473
 Ashton, Robert, 275
 Askew, John, 1067
 Henry F., 303, 329, 435, 436,
 1067, 1068
 Aspril, Joseph, 565
 L. V., & Son, 562
 Leonard V., Jr., 275, 563
 Assawoman Canal, 718, 726
 Atkins, Charles H., 259
 David H., 284
 Atkinson, Christiana, 546
 Wilmer, 1100
 William A., 279, 609
 Attix, Thomas, 279
 Aubrey, William, 481
 Auburn, 466
 Aureen, Jonas, 751
 Austin, Levinus, 280
 W. W., 1109
- ## B
- Bach, Fred. Eden, 295, 315, 1104
 Back Creek, 8
 Bacon, John S., 284
 Thomas, 269
 Baggs, William H., 280
 Bail, Robert, 119
 Bailey, Ezekiel, 467
 Isaac H., 283
 Joseph, 343
 Joseph T., 346
 Jonathan, 280, 281, 691
 Baird, Charles & Co., 386
 Charles, 328, 386
 Henry, 343
 Robert S., 386
 Baker, Elijah, 703
 Frank, 610
 G. W., 550
 J. B., 550
 Joshua, 405
 Joshua G., 285, 692, 799
 John G., 389, 390, 428
 Joseph, 276, 277
 Richard, 462
 W. B., 562
 Bald Hill, 470
 Baldwin, Thomas, 335
 Thomas L. J., 274
 William H., 410

- Ball, John, 251, 484
 J. Frank, 238, 301
 Lewis Heisler, 247, 249, 251, 253,
 254, 255, 259, 261, 262, 342
 Newell, 284
 Joseph, 483
- Baltimore, Lord, 15, 48, 51, 496, 668,
 698, 732
 & Ohio Railroad, 464
 Hundred, 684, 686, 718, 723, 726,
 727, 728, 851
- Bancroft, Joseph, 419, 420, 421, 464
 John, 275, 421
 Joseph & Sons Co., 419, 420, 422
 Lucy, 436
 Samuel, Jr., 233, 274, 364, 367,
 420, 421, 433, 1052
 William P., 366, 367, 420, 421, 434
 William, 1105
- Baning, John, 157, 258, 266, 611
- Bank of Wilmington & Brandywine.
 342, 343
- Banning, Freeborn, 345
 Henry G., 332, 343, 344, 345
 James L., 345
 John H., 345
- Baptist Church, 775
 City Missions, 312
- Barbadoes Company, 674
- Barber, R. T. J., 245
- Barker, Charles, 681
 Joseph, 155, 640
 Thomas, 663
- Barkers Landing, 662, 663
- Barkley, J. & Bros. Co., 410
- Barksdale, Hamilton M., 354
- Barkstead, Joshua, 662, 692
- Barle, Thomas, 634
- Barlow, Henry M., 275, 361
- Barnard, Remsen C., 267
- Barnes, John, 276
 Isaac, 792
- Barney, Francis, 613
- Barnhill, George T., 294
- Barnum, Loring H., 327
- Barr and Dougherty, 385
- Barr, Joseph M., 304, 1092
 John H., 1094
 Martin, 1065, 1066
 Martin W., 1072
 Robert H., & Co., 382
 Samuel, 274
 William A., 385
 William, 1066-1072
- Barratt, Andrew, 155, 266, 270, 276,
 609, 893, 894, 895
 Elijah, 894
 John, 259, 270, 235, 895, 896
 James, Sr., 896
- Barratt, James, Jr., 896, 897
 Norris S., 897
 Philip, 276, 609, 664, 782, 892,
 893, 1032
 Susan Fisher, 1032
- Barratt's Chapel, 606, 664, 782, 783,
 831, 892, 893, 1032
- Barrentsen, John, 291
- Barrons, Joseph, 291
- Barry, Francis, 348
- Barry, Thomas F., 342
- Bartholomew, John E., 275
- Bartlett, Nicholas, 613
- Bassett, Anne, 829-872
 Nathan, 315
 Richard, 151, 153, 154, 155, 156,
 157, 257, 258, 260, 266, 276,
 637, 784, 826, 828, 829, 855,
 872, 914, 915, 920, 940
 William, 661
- Bateman, James, 662
 John H., 641, 1108
- Bates, Daniel M., 196, 260, 436, 799,
 921, 930, 931, 932, 933, 938
 George H., 275, 285, 366, 367
 John, 294
 Martin W., 191, 193, 261, 278,
 784, 900, 929, 931, 934, 1020,
 1028
- Batson, John Wise, 155, 281
 Kendall, 690, 691
 Thomas, 685
- Battell, Cornelius, 609
 French, 115
 James, 270, 278
 William, 293, 494
- Battle, Jacob, 513
- Baum, Henry C., 777
- Bayard, Edward, 872
 Henry M., 872
 James A. (the elder), 157, 158,
 159, 160, 163, 164, 173, 174,
 261, 262, 402, 829, 871, 872, 940
 James A., Jr., 180, 185, 190, 193,
 204, 209, 212, 213, 222, 261,
 288, 348, 872, 873, 874, 877, 895
 John, 871
 Peter, 291, 480, 572, 613
 Richard H., 185, 186, 261, 262,
 872, 873, 920, 964
 Thomas F., 92, 200, 203, 209, 222,
 227, 230, 231, 232, 261, 262,
 365, 366, 367, 437, 623, 872,
 874, 875, 876, 1039, 1040
 Nicholas, 613
- Baylis, James L., 691
 Jesse K., 425
- Baynard, Charles W., 610
 Samuel H., 275, 367, 787

- Baynard, Thomas H., 347, 384, 385
 & Jones, 347
 & Postles, 384, 385
 Baynton, Peter, 271
 Baynum, George H., 271
 Beacom, William H., 323
 Beadenkopf, Charles, 391
 Clarence M., 392
 Martin, 391
 William, 391, 392
 Beasten, Charles, 297
 Ephraim, 274
 Beauchamp, Isaac, 155, 281
 Bear Station, 505
 Becker, Ambrose, 291
 Thomas A., 639, 778, 779
 Beckett, Joseph L., 619
 William, 715, 762
 Bedford, Gunning, 115, 118, 119, 123,
 155, 157, 258, 264, 272, 295, 297,
 827, 855, 942
 Gunning, Jr., 113, 153, 155, 156,
 257, 258, 316, 998
 William, 827
 Bedwell, James, 647
 Robert, 275, 276, 610, 652
 Thomas, 263, 276
 Beekman, William, 46, 48, 49, 50, 256,
 511
 Beeson, Harry A., 398
 Beggs, James H., 397, 398, 424
 J. H. & Co., 398
 Bell, Jerome B., 1105
 John, 634, 650
 John S., 193, 609
 Mary C., 1052
 William, 690
 William M., 620, 1052
 Bellah, Edward T., 274, 336
 Hettie A., 178
 Bellew, Benjamin, 294
 Bellevue Granite Quarry Co., 457
 Belmont Hall, 614, 825
 Belville, John P., 265
 Thomas W., 274
 Bennett, Caleb P., 129, 136, 141, 163,
 184, 298, 517, 835, 836, 855
 Jehu, 283
 John W., 284
 Joseph, 836
 Bennum, Henry O., 284
 Henry O., Jr., 284
 Benson, Alden R., 280
 Nathaniel R., 369
 Nathaniel R., Jr., 369
 Thomas, 635
 & Catts, 619
 Beresford, Commodore, 165
 Berlin, A. Henry, 327
 Berry, Preston, 666
 Thomas, 129
 William, 276, 607, 609
 Berrytown, 666
 Bessey, Herman, 804, 806
 Best, Humphrey, 479
 Bethany Baptist Church, 312, 777
 Bethel, 737, 739
 Church, 606, 785
 A. M. E. Church, 313
 M. E. Church, 459, 460
 Bethesda M. E. Church, 551
 Betson, John, 129
 Betts, Alfred, 306, 370, 376, 377
 Edward, 195, 196, 265, 274, 335,
 336, 350, 365, 366, 376, 377
 Edward T., 377
 John, 276
 Machine Company, 376
 Mahlon, 265, 274, 349, 368
 Pusey & Harlan, 332
 Stephen K., 607
 William, 377, 611
 Betz, George F., 392
 Bewley, John H., 214, 267, 279, 608
 Bidderman, Antonia, 470, 885
 Biddle, Alexander M., 274
 James, 173
 Jacob, 260
 Samuel, 274, 285, 296, 349, 350,
 371, 607
 Big Thursday, 662
 Quarterly, 793
 Biggs, Benjamin T., 193, 195, 224,
 231, 261, 557, 804, 849, 855,
 1043, 1049, 1052
 John, 237, 238, 258, 555, 849,
 919, 1049, 1050
 Joseph, 553
 Sewell C., 265, 274, 285, 295
 William P., 274, 275, 296
 Bildersack, David, 291
 Billany, Harry H., 297
 Billop, Christopher, 256
 Bines, Maxwell, 293
 Biork, Erick, 751, 752, 753, 756
 Bird, Mrs. Charles M., 434
 James T., 542
 John, 264, 272, 273, 453, 512
 John D., 298
 Levi C., 228, 1025
 Robert Montgomery, 1071
 Thomas, 274, 275
 Birdsall, William W., 327
 Birmingham, William J., 473
 Bishopstead, 310, 418
 Bishop, Benoni, 275, 276, 664
 Risdon, 276, 609
 Bisk, Jan., 291

- Black, Charles H., 296, 298, 517, 518,
 537, 1073
 John J., 290, 517, 1073
 James R., 177, 273, 517, 521,
 920, 976
 James, 154, 258, 272
 Robert M., 274, 1066
 Samuel H., 264, 273, 1061, 1066
 William J., 262
 Blackbird Creek, 8, 567, 568, 572, 574
 Hundred, 571, 614
 Village, 574
 Blackiston, Chapel, 606
 Benjamin, 837
 Benjamin F., 610, 624
 Ebenezer, 260, 277, 611
 Blackwell, John, 256
 Blackwater, 851
 Blaine, James G., 228
 Blake, Edward, 271, 502
 John D., 482
 William, 499, 762
 Blakeley, Webster, 265
 Blaney, Cornelius D., 297, 298
 Daniel, 296, 297
 Blatz, John B., 387
 Joseph H., 387
 William C., 387
 Blizzard, John C., 621
 Bloeq, Mary, 291
 Blommaert, Samuel, 12, 13, 20, 21, 23
 Blouth, Henry, 406
 Blue Ball Inn, 467
 Blue Hen's Chickens, 120
 Blumenthal, Ferdinand, 387
 F. & Co., 387, 390
 Boatsman, Jurin, 291
 Boers, John A., 406
 Bogwell, William, 281
 Bohannon, Robert, 634
 Bohemia River, 8
 Manor, 940
 Bombay Hook, 575, 578, 612, 613,
 615, 683
 Bond, George M., 636
 Phineas, 898
 William V., 392
 Bonner, James Q., 391
 Bonney, Jonathan, 373, 374
 Bonsall, Henry L., 1099
 Richard, 573
 Stephen, 335, 336
 Bonwell, W. G. A., 1072
 Books, Daniel, 634
 Neil, 634
 Boone, Daniel, 314
 Jacob, 278
 Mary, 836
 Bootes, Harry V., 245
 Booth, George, 296
 James, 150, 155, 175, 258, 259,
 265, 285, 517, 920, 947
 James, Jr., 216, 920, 947
 John, 278
 Joseph, 279, 280, 281, 595, 661, 677
 Joseph, Jr., 634
 M. A., 476
 William, 274
 Bosee, Henry, 1089
 Bothman, Albert, 406
 Harry, 401
 Bouchelle, Sleyter, 529, 548
 Boughman, James, 487
 Boulden, Levi, 213
 Nathan, 274
 Nathan T., 274
 Bounds, Jacob, 269, 283
 Bowcomb, Peter, 609
 Bowe Carriage Company, 394
 William, 394
 Bowers Beach, 661, 662
 Elizabeth, 661
 John, 661
 Thomas W., 346, 352, 373
 Bowman, Henry, 280, 674
 John, 674
 S. Cornelia, 436, 771
 Bowser, Alexander T., 794
 Boyce, Abraham, 265
 James H., 195, 260, 269, 283, 693
 William H., 260, 690, 920, 995
 Boyd, Evan G., 245
 Mary Hanly, 435
 Thomas J., 435
 Boyer, Jan, 291
 John W., 607
 Boynten, Peter, 451
 Boys, Abraham, 274, 293
 John, 294
 Brackinville, 483, 487
 Braceg, Robert, 280
 Bradford, D. Taylor, 1105
 Edward G., 200, 209, 237, 238,
 274, 275, 919, 1003
 Edward G., Jr., 1007, 1039, 1045
 James, 274, 302, 414
 John K., 295
 Moses, 1089, 1091
 Samuel J., 692
 Bradley, Francis S., 333
 Isaac, 151, 281
 William T., 610
 Bradshaw, John, 276
 Brady, Frederick, 549
 George F., 274, 545
 Brandywine Academy, 317, 322
 Creek, 7, 132, 286, 449, 457, 460,
 464

- Brandywine Fire Company, 329, 330,
 331
 Hundred, 449
 Mills, 330, 359, 418
 M. E. Church, 311
 Manufacturers Sunday-school, 472
 Springs, 340, 341, 488
 Village, 178, 853
 Brasure, Isaiah J., 269
 Bratt, Abraham, 653
 Bratton, James, 129, 467
 Bread and Cheese Island, 480, 481
 Breckinridge, Robert J., 1051
 Brennan, John F., 245
 Peter N., 374, 473
 Brewington, J. A., 536
 Brickloe, John, 631
 William, 633
 Bridgeville, 704, 705, 706, 786, 834,
 842, 844
 Briggs, F. F., 477
 John, 275, 276, 581, 629, 631
 Brinckle, Joshua G., 278, 285, 641
 Rev. S. C., 473
 William R., 468
 Brinckloe, John, 263, 266, 275, 276,
 278, 580, 609
 John P., 283, 285
 Bringhurst, Edward, 329
 Edward, Jr., 354
 Henry R., 331
 Joseph, 303
 John R., 486
 Brinton, David, 400
 Joseph, 457
 Bristol Naval Store Co., 624
 Broadbent, Stephen, 457
 Broad Creek Hundred, 684, 735, 736,
 743
 Broadaway, Ambrose, 195, 279
 William, 279
 Broadkilm Creek, 8
 Hundred, 684, 686, 711, 729, 834,
 836
 Brobson, James, 179
 William P., 285, 349, 361, 1092
 Brockholst, Anthony, 256
 Brockson, Richard C., 275
 Brooks, Christopher, 265, 274
 Henry, 269
 John D., 806
 Broom, Cheney, 418
 Jacob, 154, 272, 303, 407
 James M., 261, 1018
 Broor, Seneca, 461
 Bross, Edgar C., 1112
 Brown, Charles, 211
 Christian C., 279
 Daniel, 275, 276
 Brown, Everett L., 819
 Francis, 283, 689
 Horace, 284
 J. M., 690
 Jacob G., 279
 James, 276
 John A., 274
 Jonathan, 279
 Thomas, 502
 T. Wister, 515
 White, 709, 785
 William C., 611
 Browne, Hugh C., 304
 Nicholas M., 551
 Brush, John C., 272, 604
 Bryan, George A., 284
 Robert, 272
 William J., 248, 1052
 Bryant, Anthony, 291, 503
 Brynberg, Peter, 264, 272, 1087, 1088,
 1091
 Buck, Charles Elton, 328
 Francis N., 365, 366, 367, 411
 Lewis P., 425
 Tavern, 467
 Buchanan, George, 627
 Buckingham, Isaac, 629
 Thomas L., 1071
 Buckley, Daniel, 453
 John, 271, 418
 Buckmaster, Henry G., 275
 James, 259, 278
 Buckson, John T., 611
 Buddy, Philip, 610
 Buell, George S., 284
 Buford Mills, 494
 Bull, Manaen, 175, 740
 Bullock, John, 318
 William R., 328, 434, 1074
 Bundelin, John Randolph, 669
 Bunstein, H. L., 773
 Bunting, John S., 473
 Burberry, Samuel, 276
 Burchenal, Joseph, 279, 285, 607
 Burger, Robert E., 390
 Burgess, Anthony, 462
 Burke, George W., 483
 Burnham, Samuel, 265, 274
 Burnite, Wilbur H., 259, 279
 Burns, Robert M., 275, 299
 Burr, Horace, 749, 755
 Burris, Martin B., 237, 238, 247, 555,
 919
 Nehemiah B., 555
 Run, 466
 Burton, Benjamin, 268, 282, 283, 734
 Benjamin B., 690
 Daniel, 734
 Daniel R., 693

- Burton, David, 734
 Edward S., 284
 Hiram R., 252, 253, 262, 723
 Isaac, 282
 Jacob S., 692
 James T., 283
 John, 276, 640, 722, 784, 843
 John D., 607
 John H., 193, 692
 Joshua, 268, 270, 285, 287
 Robert, 281, 723
 Thomas W., 692
 William, 194, 196, 197, 201, 202,
 207, 609, 676, 691, 722, 723,
 733, 843, 855
 Woolsey, 283
- Bush & Lobdell, 190, 373
 Charles, 373
 Clark & Co., 385
 David, 362, 1057, 1064
 George, 346, 361, 362, 1063, 1064,
 1079
 George W., 349, 352, 353, 362,
 365, 366, 367, 397, 434
 George W. & Sons Company, 361
 Henry, 350
 Henry T., 363
 J. Danforth, 363
 John, 1064
 John C., 637
 Lewis, 1064
 Lewis P., 363, 434, 437, 531,
 1070, 1071
 Samuel, 361, 362
 Walter D., 362, 367
 Walter D., Jr., 363
 William, 354, 385, 437
 William & Co., 385
 Mrs. William, 434
- Butler, William, 1095
 Zadock L., 610
- Butz, Jacob, 294
- Byrne, Michael J., 414
 William Michael, 249
- Byrnes, Daniel, 346
 Samuel, 303
- C**
- Cadwallader, General, 475
- Cahill, Alfred H., 279, 609
 Joseph L., 260, 807
 Patrick J., 395
 Thomas, 214, 267
- Cahoon & Carrow, 619
 Peter, 195, 283
 William R., 278, 608
- Cain, Henry E., 271
- Caldwell, James, 609
- Caldwell, John, 285
 John H., 810
 Jonathan, 119, 120
 Joseph, 128
 Timothy, 666
- Calley, Andrew, 278
 Andrew J., 250
- Calloway, James A., 610
 James H., 295
 John W., 193
- Calvary Church, 460
 P. E. Church, 760
- Camden, 594, 597, 606, 653, 654, 655,
 657, 768, 895
 Friends' Meeting, 597
- Cameron, Gilbert G., 1101
- Camp, Enoch E., 1112
- Campanius, John, 747
- Campbell, Alexander, 605, 637
 James, 129, 136
- Canby, Anna Tatnall, 178, 434
 Edward T., 381
 James, 330, 335, 336, 348, 349
 James B., 419
 Merritt, 348
 Mrs. Merritt, 178
 Oliver, 418
 Samuel, 342
 William, 335, 336, 352, 367, 418
 William M., 178, 352, 365, 367
- Cann, John, 263, 271, 295, 479
 Richard T., Jr., 275
 Thomas M., 315
- Cannon, Abraham, 293
 Elijah, 259
 Henry H., 1094, 1111
 Henry P., 232, 706, 819, 844
 Henry W., 1108
 Isaac, 282, 535
 Jacob G., 284
 Jacob W., 284
 Jeremiah, 281
 Patty, 709
 Philip L., 247, 706
 Thomas, 283
 William, 196, 207, 209, 213, 214,
 215, 221, 233, 283, 799, 843,
 844, 845, 855, 1034
 William A., 237, 259
 Wilson L., 195, 197, 198, 267
 Wingate, 281
- Cannon's Station, 709
- Cantwell, Edmund, 53, 62, 480, 541,
 560, 567
 Edward, 613
 Richard, 116, 151, 264, 271, 548,
 568, 763
- Cantwell's Bridge, 7, 437, 482, 553,
 560, 561, 567, 768, 907, 977

- Cape Henlopen, 17, 31, 575, 577, 716,
717
James, 577, 578
- Capelle, Archibald A., 350
Elizabeth H., 432, 433
George S., 346, 365, 367
Joseph P. E., 1063, 1064
Marcus E., 293
- Careys Cross Roads, 730
- Carey, John, 268
- Carleton, Sir Dudley, 12
- Carlisle, John, 282
Manlove K., 269
Paris T., 278, 279
Paris T., Jr., 237
William, 281
- Carney, William F., 214
- Carmichael, James, 305
- Carpenter, Henry C., 262, 803, 806
Isaac, 696
Frank T., 472
Joshua B., 428, 429
Joseph L., Jr., 288, 309, 348, 366,
367
Samuel, 257
T. Leslie, 309
- Carr, John, 256, 503, 512
Patrick, 541
Sir Robert, 53, 511, 558, 568
- Carrell, George A., 778
- Carroll, James E., 806
- Carsner, Charles, 785
- Carsons, John C., 279
- Carswell, James, 414
- Carter, Harry B., 245
Henry H., 435
James D., 309, 428, 473
William, 280
- Carty, Abram, 120
Isaac, 276
- Casey, Andrew P., 404
- Casho, George, 495
Jacob, 495
Machine Company, 495
- Casperson, David S., 627
Mary S., 817
- Cass, Lewis, 190, 315
- Cassel, William, 454
- Cathcart, Robert, 471, 603, 774
- Catholic Cemetery, 427
- Caton, John, 607
Margaret, 634
- Catts, Stephen, 610
Thomas, Jr., 610
- Caulk, Benjamin, 274
Jacob, 293, 295
John, 182, 273, 274
Thomas, 274
- Causey, John W., 233, 262, 269, 843
- Causey, Peter F., 186, 194, 278, 676,
681, 694, 841, 842, 843, 855, 1031
Thomas, 610
Tanzey, 842
William F., 260, 283, 690, 843
- Cavender, Wilson T., 237, 238, 267,
819
- Caverly, Peter, 178, 260, 277, 348, 641
- Cazier, Jacob Benson, 522
- Cedar Creek, 8, 694, 696, 697, 698
Hundred, 684, 693, 696, 729
- Celluvert Mfg. Co., 415
- Center Meeting, 469, 470
- Central Presbyterian Church, 311, 775
- Centreville, 459, 466
- Chadwick, S., 1076
- Chalfant, Jefferson D., 1125, 1126
- Challinger, Mary P., 520
- Chamberlain, Hannah, 815, 816
Palmer, 274
- Chambers, Benjamin, 273
Corry, 679
George W., 392
James, 617
Joseph M., 640
John G., 279
Samuel, 309
- Chance, George, 1102
- Chandler, Albert, 573
Abram, 195, 274
Benjamin, 273, 463
George, 463
Dr. J. P., 467
Joseph H., 252, 253, 463, 467
J. Poulson, 274, 463
Jesse, 273, 463, 465
Mary E., 474
Maria L., 430
Newton, 474
Samuel, 293, 484
Swithin, 265, 275, 285
William Penn, 262, 1090
William, 275, 348
- Chapel of the Good Shepherd, 310
- Chapman, William H., 284
- Chase, William M., 1126
- Chatham, B. F., 562
- Chaytor, George W., 188
- Chears, Woodward W., 275
- Cherbourg, 630
- Cherry Island Marsh, 451
- Chesapeake Bay, 8
- Chester, F. D., 812, 1082
River, 8
- Chew, Benjamin, 631, 661
Joseph, 546
Samuel, 607, 609, 624, 631
- Chicken, John, 610
- China, 475

- Chincoteague Bay, 9
 Chippey, E. H., 793
 Choptank River, 8
 Christ P. E. Church, 472, 738, 760
 Christiana Bridge, 481, 495, 496, 504, 512
 Church, 490, 491
 Creek, 7, 99, 104, 121, 135, 164, 286, 460, 523
 Hundred, 286, 288, 289, 290, 291, 460, 470, 474
 Village, 7, 111, 113, 141, 148, 490, 495
 Ferry, 437
 Window Glass Co., 414
 Christina, 17, 22, 32, 33, 43, 287, 496, 506, 746, 747, 1055
 Fort, 17, 20, 21, 27, 29, 36, 164, 287, 309, 450, 507, 746, 747, 1054
 Queen, 450
 Christy, Leslie V., 309
 Chubb, J., 763
 Churchman, George W., 274, 458
 Henry L., 489
 Philip Q., 301
 Robert, 458
 Cirwithin, Caleb, 694
 Civil List of State, 255
 Clamphitt, Jonathan, 610
 Clark's Corner, 670
 Clark, Benjamin, 670
 David S., 237, 279, 361
 Delaware, 297
 G. F., & Co., 385
 George, 264, 273, 285
 George, Jr., 272
 Henry, 466
 James B., 247, 280
 John, 175, 259, 271, 293, 608, 617, 622, 831, 832
 John C., 533, 539
 John W., 610
 Levi, 273
 Lewis, 557
 Mascal, 607, 608
 Nehemiah, 608
 Philip R., 293
 Richard, 293
 Robert, 277, 285
 Theodore F., 275, 285
 Thomas, 294
 Vaughan, 557
 William, 668, 689, 832
 William D., 538
 W. H., 514
 Clarke, John, 151, 259, 277, 278, 855
 William, 256, 263, 264, 280, 281, 531, 609, 632
 Clarke, William J., 259
 Clarkson, James B., 298, 354, 433
 Classen, Jacob, 291
 Clay, A. E., 552
 Edward W., 298
 Henry, 465, 468, 488, 533
 Robert, 482
 Slator, 270
 Claymont, 458, 460, 490
 Claypoole, James, 296
 Nooton, 689
 Clayton, 625, 626, 627, 628, 1116
 James, 826, 906
 James H. M., 270
 James Lawson, 827, 1062
 John, 155, 588, 609, 640, 904, 1062
 John Edmunds, 270
 John M., 158, 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 189, 190, 191, 260, 261, 270, 278, 285, 401, 517, 533, 724, 735, 835, 906, 907, 917, 920, 929, 948, 949, 950, 959, 962, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1068
 Joshua, 155, 156, 157, 260, 272, 276, 826, 827, 829, 835, 903, 904, 905, 961, 1056, 1062, 1065
 Paul, 1062
 Richard, 827
 Thomas, 175, 180, 185, 186, 256, 258, 259, 261, 263, 266, 277, 285, 517, 724, 827, 905, 906, 920, 961, 1027, 1029
 William, 256, 903
 Cleaver, Henry, 539
 Joseph, 559
 Mark M., 298, 336, 487
 Clemenson, Oele, 291
 Clement, Josiah F., 273
 William, 149
 Clements, Joel, 278
 James R., 267
 Thomas J., 195, 279
 Clendaniel, George B., 284
 Clerk, William B., 392
 Cleveland, Grover, 230, 1040
 Clifton, Alfred O., 665
 John W., 1083
 Robert, 263, 280
 Cloak, Ebenezer, 627
 Close, C. P., 812
 Cloud, Harlan, 274
 Lot, 274
 William, 460
 Clower, J., 267, 270
 Peter, 1055
 Clowes, Peter, 691
 Clyde, Thomas, 489
 Cobb, William H., 321

- Cobbett, William, 315
 Cochran, Edward R., Jr., 301
 Edwin R., 275, 296
 John P., 227, 228, 545, 557, 802,
 816, 856
 John T., 273
 Joseph W., 273
 Robert A., 195, 197, 199, 274, 548,
 551
 Richard E., 273
 R. F., 1105
 Robert T., 567
 Cock, Jan Erkelsen, 291
 Simson Erkelsen, 291
 Cocks, John, 528
 Coe, William, 653
 Coffin, Abraham, 588
 Cogbill, Joseph R., 819
 Coggeshall, Preserved, 689, 690
 Coke, Thomas, 606, 782, 893
 Cokesbury Church, 786
 Colburn, Arthur, 545
 Cole, Amos, 610
 Abner K., 237
 Hardor, 462
 John C., 397
 Coleman, Bishop Leighton, 310, 765
 D., 1089
 Colesbury, Henry, 517
 Collen, Reyner Vander, 291
 Colve, Anthony, 256
 Collier, George M., 608
 John, 256
 Collins Beach, 575
 Benjamin L., 279
 Henderson, Jr., 195, 279
 John, 155, 176, 268, 272, 281, 685,
 691, 702, 833, 855
 John A., 278, 279
 John E., 267, 270, 279
 John S., 641, 1108
 Thomas, 115, 116, 151, 153, 155,
 258, 266, 270, 609, 614, 622,
 663, 675, 824, 825, 826, 855
 William, 193, 267, 614
 William, Jr., 277
 W. M. B., 279
 Colored Schools, 816, 817
 Colquhoun, W. C. R., 467
 Columbus Inn, 467
 Comegys, Benjamin B., 630, 838
 Cornelius, 837
 Cornelius G., 838
 Cornelius P., 185, 259, 277, 278,
 285, 630, 640, 641, 837, 838,
 855, 1027
 Mrs. Frances E., 551
 George J., 631
 Isaac, 269, 284
 Comegys, John M., 838
 Joseph P., 191, 261, 270, 277, 279,
 285, 586, 838, 847, 920, 930,
 965, 1102, 1109
 Ruhamah, 620
 William A., 275, 285, 548
 William H. J., 608
 Comerford, Thomas, 608
 Conant, Augusta L., 435, 436
 Conard, Edmund, 404
 Conaway, Minos, 279
 Concord, 703, 737, 739
 Condy, Thomas, 278
 Congdon, Clement G., 1104
 Conly, Susanna, 859
 Connelly, William M., 275
 Connell, Rebecca R. S., 179
 Conner, Alvan B., 253, 267, 270
 Conoway, James C., 284
 Nathaniel, 692
 Conrad, Henry C., 252, 253, 437, 461,
 817, 819, 1102
 J. Hart, 1109
 Constant, Benjamin, 1126
 Constantine, Conrad, 462, 475
 Continental Leather Co., 392
 Conway, Michael T., 334
 Conwell, Asa T., 284
 Benjamin T., 611
 Conwell, Samuel L., 819
 William, 267, 268
 Cooch, J. Wilkins, 237, 238, 265, 295,
 524, 525
 Levi G., 274
 Thomas, 115, 116, 525, 527
 William, 264, 272, 275, 527
 Cooch's Bridge, 118, 131, 525
 Cook, Charles H., 549
 George, 280
 John, 113, 151, 266, 276, 285, 609,
 622, 824, 832, 835
 Robert, 277
 R. B., 776
 Cooke, Arthur, 256
 Cookman M. E. Church, 311
 Cooling & Lloyd, 394
 Joseph N., 394
 Severson B., 394
 Cool Spring, 714, 720
 Coombe, Benjamin, 276
 Pennel, 782
 Samuel, 278
 Cooper, Alexander B., 265, 270, 517,
 1026, 1027
 David, 608
 E. W., 1083
 Ezekiel, 478, 483
 Ezekiel T., 286, 608
 Ezekiel W., 237, 238

- Cooper, Isaac. 155, 268, 281
 Ignatius T., 278, 285
 Island, 450
 John B., 237
 Peter, 1076
 Peter L., 182, 278, 279, 610, 806, 1049
 Richard M., 231
 Richard G., 297
 Richard, 639
 Samuel B., 267, 270, 277, 279
 Thomas, 175, 261, 268, 282, 740, 1027
 Thomas O., 275
 Thomas L., 280
 T. H., 1076
 William P., 186
 William H., 267, 311, 608
 William B., 282, 283, 691, 740, 838, 855, 1027
 Perrin, 640
- Crossan, Calvin W., 265, 295
 Coram, Robert, 155, 318, 407
 Corbit, Alexander P., 275
 Charles, 274
 Daniel, 193, 273, 568, 907, 908, 909
 Daniel W., 288, 531, 560, 561, 563, 568, 907
 John C., 562, 567
 John. M. D., 564
 Pennel, 531, 832, 907
 Roger, 280, 690
 Sarah C., 531, 832
 William, 560, 561, 568, 907, 908
 William B., 564
 Library, 564
- Cordrey, J. D., 692
 Corey, Charles E., 393
 William C., 393
- Corkran, Wilbur F., 498
 Cormick, Daniel, 546
 Corner, Ketch, 487
 Cornwell, Francis, 691
 Corsa, William P., 1110
 Corse, John, 129, 136, 556
 Cottingham, Thomas E., 284
 Coulbourn, John L., 693
 Coulter, Philip, 690
 Thomas, 690
 William B., 697
- Counselman, J. B., 681
 County Almshouse, 505
 Couper, James, 521
 James. Jr., 514, 517
 Coursey, Thomas B., 224
 Courtenay, William, 415
 Courtney, Henry B., 409
 Coutts, James, 79, 83, 271
 Coverdales Cross Roads, 701, 703
- Covington, John, 610
 Cowgill, Clayton C., 286
 Henry, 649
 William, 278
 Warner M., 608
- Cox, Anna J., 647
 Alfred G., 552
 Daniel P., 129, 136
 J. M. & Bro., 548
 Magdalen, 535
 Phillip, 785
 William, 767
- Coxe, Esau, 397
 Louis H., 397
 William G., 370
- Coyle, William S., 406
 Craig, Frederick, 1088
 Craige, Johnson & Co., 356
 William S., 356, 379
 Craighead, George, 264, 270
 Thomas, 482
- Crampton, John, 480
 Crane Hook Church, 309, 746, 751
 Cranston, John A., 275
 John A., Phosphate Works, 476
 Simon, 481
- Crapper, Levin, 676
 Craven, Thomas J., 546
 Crawford, Alexander, 273
 Elizabeth, 864
 James, 517, 558, 568, 569
 James V., 275, 558, 569
 John, 273, 558
 Mary J., 555
 Thomas, 598, 599, 602, 616, 635, 678, 761, 763, 864
 Theodore F., 361, 558
- Creadick, Peter, 610
 Cresson, Mrs. Mary, 460
 Croasdale & Cameron, 1093
 William T., 1101, 1111
- Croesic, William, 291
 Cromwell, James, 782
 Crook, Richard W., 342
 Crossley & Allen, 382
 & Barr, 382
 John S., 382
- Crouch, John S., 553
 W. W., 1115
- Crow, John, 272, 273, 512
 Crozier, Eli, 294
 Crumbaugh, J. W., 1076
 Crutchfield, Peter, 403
 Cabbage, Benjamin C., 611
 Luther F., 280
- Cuckholdstown, 487
 Cuff, Absalom, 634
 Culbreth, George S., 617
 Cullen, Charles, 268

- Cullen, Charles M., 282, 920, 990, 991,
 1044
 Charles W., 1045
 Elisha D., 194, 261, 1044
 Gideon, 611
 John W., 279
 Cummins, A. Lee, 620
 Daniel, Sr., 155, 279, 285, 621
 Daniel B., 621
 David George, 745, 766
 David J., 354, 620, 621
 George, 266, 285, 573
 George W., 279
 John, 278, 285, 621
 Walter, 301
 Cummings, George, 277
 Curley, Edward J., 337
 Thomas, 337
 Currey, Albert, 230, 700
 John, 294
 Currie, William, 1069
 Curry, Daniel, 267, 270, 694, 700
 Thomas, 700
 Curtis, Alfred A., 492, 780
 Brothers, 486, 492
 Frederick A., 492
 F. William, 492
 George, 492
 John, 263, 269, 275, 276, 1076
 Richard, 276
 S. Minot, 274, 492
 Walter C., 492
 Cypress Swamp, 8
- D**
- Dagsboro, 734, 906, 1065
 Dagsborough Hundred, 684, 725, 726,
 732, 733, 743
 Dagworthy, John, 105, 115, 116, 732,
 734, 735, 760, 830
 Dale, John, 274
 Richard C., 272, 293
 Dallas, George M., 190
 Dalton, Allan, 483
 Bernard, 467
 Thomas, 467
 Thomas J., 467
 Daly, Alexander M., 280
 Damarcier, John, 565
 Damascus, 548
 Danby, John, 413
 John H., 349
 Danforth, Elizabeth J., 436
 Darby, Henry, 119
 John, 271, 502, 517
 Samuel W., 609, 681
 Darley, Felix O. C., 1121
 Darvall, William, 263, 629, 662
- Dasey, Robert W., 237, 284
 Dashiell, William W., 741
 Daughgate, Richard, 662
 David, John, 611, 855
 Davidson Brothers, 410
 C. W., 1110
 Thomas, 410
 William, 410
 Davis, Rev. A. D., 1112
 Eugene, 620
 Frank W., 280
 George M., 284, 690
 George, 259
 Henry, 265
 Isaac, 164, 266, 270, 276, 608, 620
 Jehu, 155, 276, 285, 826
 Leon A., 806
 Mark L., 284
 Nathan H., 378
 Robert A., 279
 Robert H., 259, 284
 Samuel, 720
 Samuel B., 165, 177, 189
 Thomas, 195, 283, 285, 671
 Thomas J., 676
 William E., 279
 William R., 280
 Day, Charles H. B., 286
 Francis, 453
 Harry, 275
 John, 283, 645, 692
 Joseph, 273
 Joseph W., 273, 349, 352
 Matthias, 278
 Thomas J., 275
 William M., 274
 Dayett, John W., 275, 527
 Deakynne, George, 503
 Jacob, 274
 Rayman, 274
 Thomas, 182, 265, 274
 Deale County, 577
 Dean, Joseph, 493
 Joseph & Son, 485
 William, 274, 275, 485, 493, 494
 Woollen Company, 486
 De Bogardt, Jost, 22, 24
 Deep Creek Iron Works, 702
 Deer Park Hotel, 499
 De Gam, Moses, 291
 De Haes, Johannes, 263, 271, 452, 502,
 511, 546, 566
 Roelef, 271
 De Hinoyossa, Alexander, 48, 49, 50,
 51, 53, 256
 Deighton, William T., 286
 De Jager, Cornelis Herperets, 510
 De Lacour, Josephine M. R. W., 1074
 De Laet, John, 12

- De Lagrange, Arnoldus, 291, 451, 462, 502, 514
- Delaplaine, James, 273, 274, 298, 467
- De La Warr, Lord, 1, 9
- Delaware Avenue Baptist Church, 312, 777
- Delaware Bay, 8, 10, 16, 130, 164, 166, 715, 716
- Barytes & Chemical Co., 467
- Breakwater, 457, 717
- City, 8, 489, 530, 536, 537, 538, 560
- College, 486, 700, 806, 807, 809, 811, 812, 815
- & Chesapeake Canal, 521, 533, 537, 542
- Fire Company, 330
- Fire Insurance Co., 335
- Fort, 215
- Glue Company, 476
- Hospital, 433
- Iron Company, 515
- Leather Company, 393
- River, 10, 166, 167, 716
- State of, 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 89, 103, 255
- State Hospital, 290
- State Journal, 329
- State Medical Society, 1056
- Terra Cotta Co., 398
- Water Company, 494
- Dell, Robert, 259, 277
- Delmar, 686, 742
- Dempsey, Charles G., 275
- De Nemours, Eleuthere Irene Du Pont, 884, 885, 886, 888
- Pierre Samuel DuPont, 881, 883, 884
- Victor Marie DuPont, 218
- Denney, Collins, 400
- J. Frank, 267
- John, 511
- Thomas H., 267, 279
- William, 257, 277
- William D., 253, 280, 285
- Denning, J. M., 619
- Dennison, John W., 275
- Deputy, Winfield, 819
- De Ruigh, Amellius, 291
- Matthias, 291
- Derrickson, Aquilla, 274
- James, 736
- Peter, 475
- Robert, 572
- Samuel C., 275
- Samuel, 572
- William, 726
- De Vries, David Pieterse. 2, 13, 14, 15, 22, 28, 255, 683
- Dewitt, John W., 1083
- Peter, 291
- Diamond Ice Co., 409
- Match Co., 409
- State Car Spring Co., 377
- State Iron Co., 379
- State Steel Co., 378, 379
- Dick, George H., 260
- Dickerson, John, 282
- Dickey, John T., 299
- Dickinson, Harriet, 397
- John, 95, 98, 101, 103, 106, 107, 108, 113, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 257, 264, 317, 622, 630, 677, 795, 814, 822, 823, 824, 855, 915, 922
- Morris, 399
- Philemon, 105, 112, 257
- Samuel, 629, 630, 634, 640, 822, 922
- Dickson, George B., 260, 608
- John, 120
- William M., 609
- William R., 610
- Diggs, J. Franklin, 549
- Dill, Benjamin, 155, 665
- Edward, 692
- Dilworth, Alrichs, 542
- John, 541
- John D., 265, 274, 542
- Thomas F., 541, 542
- Dinger, Daniel, 267
- Dingle, Edward, 182, 268, 281, 282, 1065
- Edward J., 282
- Dixon, Jeshel H., 274
- Margaret, 315
- Thomas, 425
- William, 463
- Doan, Enos S., 315
- Dobb, James S., 384
- Dobson, James, 337
- Dockstader, William L., 425, 426
- Doerr, Frederick, 756
- Doherty, Simon P., 271
- Dole, J. H., 794
- Doll, Henry, 291
- Donaghy, Peter, 473
- Donaldson, David K., 275
- Enoch W., 692
- John, 263, 271, 573
- Donnell, Andrew, 683
- Donnell, Mary Louise, 683
- Donoho, Benjamin, 574, 607
- Donohoe, John P., 237, 244, 265, 270, 275
- Donovan, George R., 275
- John J., 411
- William H., 690

- Donoway, James S., 284
 Doran, John, 275
 Dorman, John B., 269, 690, 713
 Thomas H., 611
 Dorothy, John, 610
 Dorsey, William N. W., 609
 Dougherty, John J., 403, 404, 405
 Douglass, Henry C., 214, 229, 259, 279
 James, 277, 281
 William, 702
 W. E., 322
 Dover, 8, 84, 121, 165, 287, 580, 583,
 586, 587, 588, 590, 592, 593, 598,
 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606,
 631, 643, 647, 650, 653, 661, 663,
 669, 688, 760, 772, 783, 794, 799,
 837, 844, 864, 898, 910, 923, 929,
 931, 936, 961, 963, 976, 985, 997,
 1017, 1022, 1023, 1035, 1037
 Downham, McKendree, 284, 1112
 Downing, Hiram T., 271, 691
 Downs, Robert S., 609
 William, 626
 Dragon Neck, 834
 Draper, Alexander, 280
 Charles, 268
 Isaac, 281
 James A., 434
 May, 694
 Thomas, 279
 Draper's Creek, 8
 Drawbridge, 713, 834, 981
 Drawyers Creek, 544, 545, 547, 568
 Meeting, 565
 Driver, Joshua E., 295
 Duchemin, F. A., 558
 Duck Creek, 8, 287, 566, 569, 573,
 593, 600, 612, 619, 635, 677
 Cross Roads, 615, 618
 Hundred, 611, 612, 613, 616,
 617, 618, 621, 622, 624,
 625, 767, 837
 Duff, Edward, 127
 Henry, 129, 136
 Thomas, 115, 117, 126, 127, 155,
 272, 285, 293
 Duke of York, 716
 Dukes, Elisha C., 284
 Thomas, 284
 Dulany, Walter, 624
 Dulaney, John P., 260
 Peter B., 293
 William, 573
 Dular, Hendrick, 291
 Duncan, James, 298
 John A., 214, 274, 346, 427
 Dunlap, Francis D., 274
 Dunn, A. M., 149
 Alfred C., 610
 Francis M., 285, 610
 James, 128
 John, 403
 John M., 245
 Robert B., 610
 Thomas, 293
 Thomas F., 1108
 Dunning, Henry, 690
 James C., 690
 William, 182, 283, 690
 Dunott, Miller, 348
 Durborrow, Hugh, 607, 608, 609, 645,
 668
 Durborough, John, 628, 645
 Dure, Henry F., 350, 373
 Durham, Henry C., 467
 Israel, 465, 625
 John, 625
 Durmett, William R., 538
 Durrell, William D., 668
 Dutch Neck, 545
 Reformed Church, 756
 West India Company, 11, 12, 16,
 17, 18, 19, 23, 32, 34, 42, 48, 61
 Dyer, William, 204, 279
 Dyre, William, 567, 691
 DuPont, Alexis I, 422, 760, 885, 888,
 890
 Alfred, 348, 420, 421, 886
 Alfred I, 422
 Alfred Victor, 885, 889
 Charles I., 179, 265, 348, 515,
 631, 884, 888, 890
 Eleuthere I., 420, 421, 472
 E. I. & Co., 464
 E. I., DeNemours Co., 886, 887,
 889, 890, 891
 Eugene, 422, 888, 890
 Francis G., 422, 888
 Henry, 200, 202, 421, 422, 885,
 886, 887
 Henry A., 201, 234, 235, 246, 247,
 251, 254, 255, 261, 366, 367,
 422, 887
 Irenee, 422
 Lammotte, 422, 886, 889, 890
 Mills, 165, 206, 421, 422
 Pierre S., 335, 422
 Samuel F., 218, 219, 884
 Sophie Madeline, 219, 435
 T. Coleman, 254, 335, 422, 890,
 891
 Victor, 177, 200, 264, 273, 335,
 349, 854, 1023, 1048, 1049
 Victor Marie, 883, 888
 Mrs. Victor, 434, 473
 Wharf, 459
 William, 354, 422

E

- Eakin, Robert, 399
 Samuel, 127
 Eastburn, David, 225
 William M., 275
 East Dover Hundred, 628
 Eastlake Presbyterian Church, 311
 Eastman, Charles F., 321
 Ebenezer Baptist Church, 47
 Eberling, Christopher D., 478
 Eccles, George W., 275
 Ecclestine, John H., 607
 Eckel, Henry, 328, 1088, 1092, 1093,
 1097
 Eckles, Samuel, 413
 Eckley, John, 256
 Edge, Joshua P., 378, 379
 Edgemoor, 457
 Buoy Dpt., 459
 Church, 460
 Edmonds, Robert, 276
 Edwards, Charles W., 1104
 Morgan, 525
 Eisenbrey, John M., 279
 Eisenmenger, Karl, 417
 Elbert, Samuel G., 1074
 Eliot, John, 503
 Eliason, Andrew, 214, 274, 275, 542
 Andrew S., 803
 J. Frank, 236, 275
 Elkinton, David W., 275
 Elk River, 8, 522
 Ellegood, John H., 690
 Joshua A., 237, 737
 Robert G., 260, 283, 737
 William, 690, 691
 Ellendale, 694, 697
 Ellinsworth, William, 624
 Elliott, Cloud, 454
 George A., 455
 Isaac C., 454
 Isaac S., 214, 265, 454
 John, 182, 503, 702
 John C., 455
 J. Cloud, 454
 Robert T., 378
 Shadrack, 702
 William H., 234
 Ellis, Daniel W., 284
 Edward P., 284
 Joseph, 692
 Martin M., 269
 Stephen, 727
 Ellison, Curtis B., 222, 265, 525
 Henry C., 265, 270
 J. Austin, 354
 Jonathan L., 274
 Wilmer J., 352
 Elmer, Jonathan, 116
 Ely, William, 692
 Emanuel M. E. Church, 570
 Emerson, Ephraim, 634
 Jacob, 276
 Jonathan, 664
 John H., 1109
 Manlove, 155, 256, 277
 Pennell, 611
 Purnell, 609, 610
 Sarah Cowgill, 853
 Emmett, William, 230
 Empson, Cornelius, 271, 634
 Richard, 618
 England, Isaac, 573
 John, 481, 485
 Joseph, 265, 269, 271, 272, 273,
 482
 Joseph Townsend, 482
 Lewis C., 383
 English, Frank F., 1125
 Enochs, J. M., 476
 Enos, Oram, 573
 Epidemics and Vital Statistics, 1078
 Epworth M. E. Church, 311
 Equitable Guarantee and Trust Co.,
 354, 854
 Erickson, John, 502
 Erskine, John, 502
 Erwin, John, 264, 273
 Eschenburg, Emily, 345
 Estlin, J. L., 765, 773
 Eubanks, John, 526, 776
 Euloos, Abraham, 291
 Evans, Charles B., 237, 238, 812, 919
 Columbus P., 188, 189, 1094, 1095
 David, 526
 Elijah, 692
 Evan, 535
 George, 117, 258, 418
 Henry L., 358
 H. L., & Co., 357
 Henry S., 1094
 John, 78, 82, 103, 151
 John W., 274
 Oliver, 476
 Solomon, 282
 Thomas, 155, 272, 691
 W. D., 567, 571
 William H., 275
 Evertsen, Hendrick, 291
 Ewbanks, Henry, 610
 Richard H., 343
 Ewell, David J., 628
 D. F., 574
 Ewing, Frank P., 275
 Gustavus A., 690
 John, 815
 Excelsior Manufg. Co., 477

Exton, John, 273
 Eyre, Manuel, 536, 538
 E. Zion M. E. Church, 312, 791

F

- Fabritius, Dominic, 749, 750
 Fahey, Patrick, 309
 Fairmount, 725
 Fame Hose Fire Co., 332
 Faries, Robert, 523
 William A., 280
 Faris, Jacob, 258
 Farley, F. A., 794
 Farlow, Elisha H. F., 247, 269
 Farmers Bank, 347, 348, 518, 796,
 838, 849
 Mutual Fire Ins. Co., 335, 563,
 854
 Farmington, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673,
 684, 891
 Farnhurst, 505
 Farrow, Joseph, 651
 Farson, John, 384
 Fassett, James, 726
 Faucett, Jacob, 692
 Febiger, Christian, 305, 335, 354
 Fehrenbach, Charles, 417
 John, 417
 John G., 417
 Fell, C. J., & Bro, 485
 Jonathan, 485
 William, 621
 Felton, 200, 665, 666, 667, 830, 850
 Fenimore, John W., 267, 610
 Fenn, Charles E., 1108
 Fenwick, Thomas, 264, 281, 691
 Ferguson, Bassett, 265, 574, 575
 C. B., 517
 Clara M., 1074, 1078
 Colin, 265, 298, 574
 Richard, 275, 574
 Ferris, David, 358
 D. Brainard, 274, 523
 John, 342, 474, 1077
 Reform School, 474, 1077
 William Lea, 419
 William W., 816
 Ziba, 298, 329, 831
 Fframpton, William, 263, 613, 661
 Fichthorn, Kurtz A., 338
 Fiddeman, Henry B., 267, 269, 270
 Philip, 278
 Fiddlen Bridge, 545
 Field, Nehemiah, 281, 689, 690
 William M., 350, 422
 Fifteenth Amendment, 222, 223
 Filmore, Millard, 192
 Filson, John, 313, 314, 1086
 Finney, John D., 517
 Fintshwait, James, 277
 T. R., 610
 First Baptist Church, 311, 426
 National Bank, 349
 Presbyterian Church, 310, 426,
 437, 1030, 1062
 Swedish Baptist Church, 777
 Fisher, Andrew, 524
 Fenwick, 266
 Edward, 270, 278
 Elizabeth Maud, 866
 George, 267
 George M., 428
 George P., 195, 204, 205, 207, 258,
 260, 261, 270, 278, 849, 1030,
 1031, 1037
 George R., 269, 689
 Henry, 121, 831, 1055
 Isaac M., 689
 James, 182, 830
 John, 259, 270, 285, 866, 999, 1030
 Joshua, 276, 692
 Luther, 283
 Thomas, 164, 268, 281, 609, 689,
 1030
 William, 281
 Fitzgerald, Thomas, 264, 272
 Fitz Gerald, Roland, 293
 Flaglor & Co., 393
 Fleetwood, A. J., 1083
 Fleming, Charles F., 278
 Ezekiel, 280, 670
 Nathan B., 610
 William, 669
 William S., 467
 Fletcher, Benjamin, 257
 Flinn, Darlington, 275
 Franklin Q., 274, 476
 John R., 337
 William R., 275, 293
 Floyd, Samuel, 343
 Flying Camp, 127, 128
 Foard, Jefferson B., 296
 Thomas J., 274
 Folly Woods, 475
 Fooks, Benjamin F., 740, 741
 Daniel J., 740
 Isaac N., 259, 260, 284
 Thomas H., 692
 Foot, George, 491, 498, 535, 758, 769,
 771
 Foote, Greer A., 538
 James, 657
 Fontaine, Andrew, 467
 Foraben, Elbert Egbertson, 291
 Foraker, James, 648
 Ford, Benjamin, 452
 David, 459

- Ford, John, 453
 Mary, 338
 Morocco Co., 337, 338
 Peter, 338
 Peter J., 247, 306, 387, 388, 389
 Reuben, 452
 Thomas, 293, 357, 388
 Forest Presbyterian Church, 542, 775
 Forque, William, 692
 Fort Casimir, 33, 34, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43,
 287, 756, 757, 1067
 DuPont, 538
 Elfsborg, 34
 Nassau, 12, 26, 30
 Oplandt, 14
 Trinity, 756
 Forwood, Robert, 273
 William, 453
 Foster, John, 276, 399, 401
 Joseph B., 395
 Fothergill, Ann, 315
 Foulk, John, 483
 William M., 321
 Fountain, William C., 719
 Fouracre, Thomas S., 554, 1114
 Fowler, Edward, 248, 259
 William D., 214, 279, 607
 Fox, George, 58
 William, 610
 Foxwell, Charles, 621
 Frain, Robert C., 295
 Frame, George, 283, 691, 723
 Paynter, 283, 284, 724
 Robert, 258, 260, 278, 724, 1029
 Thomas C., 724, 1029
 Thomas C., Jr., 724, 1029
 France, James L., 245
 Francis, Alfred, 274
 Anne, 873
 Thomas Willing, 875
 Frankford, 734
 Franklin, J. Edgar, 491
 Omer J., 670
 Walter E., 499
 William H., 237, 245, 670
 Frantz, Abram E., 1076, 1083
 Jacob F., 411
 Frazier, David H., 280
 Ezekiel C., 279
 George, 600, 616, 635
 John, 278
 Joseph, 280
 William, 272
 Frederica, 663, 665, 667, 847, 818,
 894, 896
 Free Masonry, 437
 Freeland, William, 276
 Freeman, Caleb J., 1114
 Penelope, 645, 646
 Freeman & Webber, 555
 William, 276
 Fremont, John C., 623
 French, David, 269, 296, 297
 John, 269, 293, 295, 494
 Robert, 263, 271, 598, 634
 Thomas, 600
 Fretwell, Ralph, 674
 Frick, John L., 295
 Friends, Orthodox, 310
 Society of, 314, 315, 318, 426,
 593, 594
 School, 315
 Friendship Fire Co., 328
 Frist & Allmon, 424
 Joel, 393
 Fritcher, William, 280
 Fritz, Charles E., 350, 392
 Charles E. & Co., 392
 Frizzell, George, 275
 Frost, Jan Peterson, 291
 Frousen, Hendrick, 291
 Fuller, J. E., 322
 Furbee, Caleb, 610
 Furey, John G., 817
 Furnis, Robert, 517, 782
- G**
- Galloway, Peter, 669
 Gam, James H. S., 275
 Gamble, Francis, 674
 Nevin C., 294
 Gambrill, Melville, 410
 Gano, George, 650
 Gardner, Francis McMullen, 604
 James, 274, 293
 Garland, Spottswood, 342
 Garrett, Arthur H. G., 306, 385
 Elwood, 480
 Frances S., 435, 436
 John, 272
 John, Jr., 465
 Thomas, 465
 W. E., 464
 W. E., & Sons, 465
 Garretson, Freeborn, 606, 637, 646,
 710, 727, 782, 783
 Hendrick, 291
 Henry, 567
 James E., 1072, 1073
 Martin, 502
 Paul, 291
 Garrison, Gamaliel, 280
 Garton, Charles A., 215
 Gatta & Kaiser, 395
 Gause, Harry T., 368, 370
 Horace W., 367, 369, 370
 Jesse, 315

- Gause, J. Taylor, 366, 367, 368, 369,
 370, 432, 474
 Martha J., 430, 431, 432, 435, 436
 Gawthrop, J. Newlin, 288, 309, 367
 Gayley, Edwin H., 357
 Samuel, 774
 Samuel M., 316, 471
 Gaylord, H. J., 771
 Gears, Cyrus P., 621
 Geddes, Henry, 345
 Sarah, 345
 Gehman, William H., 280
 Gemmill, David W., 195, 198, 265,
 274
 George's Creek Meeting, 767
 George, Fort, 167
 William, 648
 Georgetown, 200, 640, 669, 685, 709,
 729, 730, 786, 849, 901, 931, 967,
 974, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 985,
 991, 992, 996, 997, 1003, 1027,
 1044, 1050, 1111
 Hundred, 684, 729
 Gerhard, Louisa, 887
 German Baptist Church, 777
 Gibbons, Henry, 1096
 John, 283
 Edward, 285
 Richard P., 435
 William, 305, 370
 Gibbs, Benjamin, 193, 295, 490
 Edward, 271, 293, 569
 Gibson, James, 167
 J. Chester, 349
 Joseph L., 562
 L. W., 598
 Thomas D., 403
 Giffin, Thomas, 513
 Gilbert, Eliphalet W., 498, 808, 809
 Presbyterian Church, 311
 William L., 405
 Gilchrist, James B., 237, 807
 Gilder, Reuben, 126, 129, 136
 Giles, Branch H., 739
 Isaac, 689, 739
 Thomas B., 259, 739
 Gilfillan, Joel S., 491
 Gill, John, 534
 Gildersleeve, John, 657
 Gillis, Harry I., 293
 John P., 219
 Paul, 293
 Gilpin, Edward, 303
 Edward W., 258, 349, 590, 794,
 842, 920, 964
 Ferdinand L., 338
 Mrs. Ferdinand L., 434
 Joseph, 399
 Joshua, 423
 Gilpin Paper Mills, 422, 423
 Rolling Mill, 486
 Thomas, 423, 1087
 Vincent, 330
 Vincent C., 199
 Girelius, Lawrence, 316, 754
 Glasgow, 131, 522, 526, 527, 530
 Grammar School, 525
 Gloria Dei Church, 38
 Glover, John, 276, 630
 Glynrich, 461
 Godwin, Daniel C., 608
 Godyn, Samuel, 12, 13
 Goforth, Zachariah, 665
 Goldey Commercial College, 322
 Harry S., 322
 Golding, William, 293
 Goldsborough, Henry, 673
 Robert, 898, 924
 Gooden, John C., 608
 John H., 280
 Thomas M., 280
 Gooding, Abraham, 566
 Charles, 257, 274
 Isaac, 271
 John, 293
 Lars, 313
 Gookin, Charles, 82, 83
 Goote, Benjamin S., 279
 Gordon, Archibald, 294
 George C., 1020
 James, 120, 692
 John, 178, 259, 266, 276, 296
 Joshua, 259, 265, 270
 Patrick, 84, 257, 269
 Robert, 295, 296
 Gormley, Benjamin, 271
 Gosewich, J. C., 1075
 Goslee, J. Edward, 271
 Goudy, Stephen, 692
 Gould, Pierce, 293
 Governors of State, list of, 855
 Grace M. E. Church, 311, 460, 787
 Graham, Isaac, 671
 John W., 279
 Thomas L., 327
 Walter S. F., 809, 816
 Grant, William, 271, 565
 Grantham, Isaac, 264, 272
 Graves, N. Z., 808, 816
 Gray, Andrew, 264, 273
 Andrew C., 193, 514, 519, 1010,
 1046
 George, 229, 231, 233, 246, 248,
 261, 517, 691, 1009, 1011, 1027,
 1035, 1045, 1046, 1052
 George W., 275
 James, 712
 John, 610

- Gray, John G., 216, 309, 816
 Samuel, 280
- Green, Andrew, 182
- Green, Charles, 408
 Daniel, 473
 Edward, 479, 544
 Jesse, 164, 259, 28, 270, 281, 282,
 285, 702, 738
 John, 195, 18, 267, 270, 394, 609
 James, 60, 615, 625
 John W., 690
 Thomas, 616, 738
 Thomas C., 279
 Stephen, 689
 Samuel, 786
 William, 259, 572, 613, 614, 736
 William W., 259, 282
 & McIntyre, 48
- Greenbank, 288, 487
 Richard, 565
- Greenhill Presbyterian Church, 471
- Greenly, William, 592
- Green's Chapel, 605
- Greenville, 468, 69
- Greenwood, 701, 705, 997
 Samuel, 634
- Gregg & Bowe, 302, 394
 John, 481
 William, 462
 William H., 391, 777
- Grier, Frank L., 1010
 George S., 681
 G. Layton, 1010
- Griffin, Hiram D., 803
 John A., 332
 William, 627
- Griffith, Ferdinand, 659
 Gideon, 293
 Isaac, 258
 John, 524
 Joseph C., 565
 Robert H., 799
 Seth, 691
 Thomas, 315, 526, 534, 775
- Grimshaw, Arthur H., 206, 304, 317,
 324, 799
 Charlotte, 316
 Isabella, 316
- Grinnell, Jeremiah, 777
- Groenendyke, Peter, 276, 674
- Groome, Charles M., 476
- Groves, Benjamin, 215, 803
 James H., 228, 802, 806
 Jonathan, 274
 Richard, 294, 503
- Grubb, Emanuel, 452, 453
 Ignatius C., 228, 250, 286, 920,
 988
 Isaac, 293, 453
- Grubb, James, 293
 John, 271, 452, 453
 William F., 23
- Grubb's Landing, 452, 457, 988
- Gruwell, Isaac, 278
 John, 278
- Gubban, Lasse Andries, 291
- Guest, William, 271, 479, 480
- Guinea Creek, 8
- Gum, Manaen, 734
 William A., 283
- Gumboro Hundred, 684, 743
- Gunby, W. E., 565
- Guthrie, George C., 394
 Jones, 394
 Jones, & Co., 304
 Samuel, 298

H

- Hadden, John, 403
- Hadley, George, 532
- Hadson, Warnerus, 757
- Haen, Justa Andriessen de, 232
- Haffold, Thomas, 75
- Hagany, George S., 293
- Hagley Powder Mills, 464
- Hale, Joseph, 607, 608
 Thomas, 585, 621
- Hall, Cornelius J., 279, 609
 David, 116, 119, 129, 133, 142,
 156, 258, 689, 721, 722, 824,
 836, 855, 923, 1001, 1064
 Henry F., 102, 108
 John, 401, 609
 John W., 224, 267, 667, 847, 856
 Joseph, 1002
 Peter, 691
 Purnell, 610
 Samuel W., 665
 Willard, 155, 175, 182, 260, 279,
 280, 285, 294, 328, 351, 352,
 427, 434, 687, 784, 797, 799,
 803, 815, 917, 1015
 William, 648
 William E., 279, 611
 William Jordan, 281
 William S., 193, 283
- Hallahan, Cornelius, 777
- Halliwell, Richard, 263, 271
- Hallett, R. Q., 565
- Hamon, Edmund, 299
- Hamilton, Alexander, 524
 Andrew, 257, 269
 Archibald, 265, 273, 274
 Charles, 400
 James, 257
 John, 607
 Robert, 345, 463

- Hamilton, W. H., 517
 W. J., 539
 William N., 260, 1074
 Hamin, John, 107
 Hamm, Benjamin F., 279
 Hammitt, Clawson S., 1123, 1127
 Hanby, Jacob K., 275
 Robert J., 265
 Samuel, 274
 Handy, Egbert G., 1113
 F. A. G., 1113
 J. H., 517
 Levin Irving, 236, 244, 246, 262,
 804, 806, 816, 1051, 1052, 1053
 Thomas W., 182, 265, 274
 William C., 1051
 William W., 1051
 Hanna, John, 405
 William, 334
 Hanover Presbyterian Church, 179,
 311, 774
 Hanson, Hans, 532, 543
 Joseph, 532
 Harbeson, 713
 Hardcastle, William A. C., 271
 Hardesty, William G., 280
 Hares Corner, 504, 505
 Hargraive, Samuel, 610
 Harker, J. Newton, 1089, 1090, 1098
 Samuel, 1089
 Harkness, John C., 320
 Harlan, Caleb, 474, 1076
 David W., 327, 474
 George, 467
 John, 182, 235, 273, 274
 J. Marshall, 401
 Samuel, Jr., 318
 & Hollingsworth Co., 368, 472
 Harman, Robert G., 237, 919
 Harney, Jonathan, 119, 123, 129
 Harper, Francis B., 279
 James, 308, 607, 608, 609, 641
 Joseph, 608, 609
 Joseph L., 260, 298, 608
 Harrington, town of, 669, 670, 672,
 673, 936
 Abner, 214, 279
 Albert, 280, 611
 Mrs Austin, 434
 Benjamin, 278, 279, 670
 Charles J., 267, 270, 608
 George D., 267
 Hezekiah, 267, 270, 279
 John, 279
 Martin, 611
 Moses, 267, 608
 Nimrod, 279
 Purnell F., 910
 Richard, 230, 609, 1037, 1038, 1039
 Harrington, Samuel M., 270, 670,
 910, 919, 920, 921, 924, 930,
 932, 976, 1037, 1107
 Samuel M., Jr., 215, 259, 260,
 799, 1022
 S S., 670
 W. Watson, 608
 Harris, Barney, 358, 481
 Henry, 1110
 Levi & Co., 1110
 John, 358
 John H., 283
 Joseph B., 20
 Nathaniel P., 690, 692
 Robert S., 378
 Stephen M., 690
 William, 283, 690
 Harrison, Franklin, 256
 Street Church, 311
 Hart, Alexander J., 416
 Edward, 265, 275
 Garrett J., 215, 216, 259
 George M. D., 265, 553, 571
 James A., 350
 Peter J., 692
 Harter, George A., 498, 810, 812
 Hartley, Joseph, 782
 Hartman & Felhrenbach, 419
 John, 417
 John G., 417
 Hartnett, William F., 610
 Harvey, Alexander, 294
 Edmund A., 380, 381
 Isaac, 358
 Jeremiah B., 275
 Job, 420
 Haslet, John, 98, 99, 101, 115, 116,
 118, 119, 121, 123, 125, 126,
 696, 831, 1064, 1065
 Joseph, 156, 161, 176, 177, 694,
 696, 831, 833, 855
 Haslett, William W., 273
 Hastings, Charles A., 271
 Edward F., 283
 Washington, 230, 303, 381
 Wilder, 712
 Hatfield, George W., 682
 Haughey, Charles H., 182, 273
 Francis, 264, 293
 Robert, 155, 164, 272
 Hawkins, Daniel T., 428
 John D., 20
 Thomas, 414
 William E., 428, 429
 Hawks, Francis L., 874
 Hayes, Alexander H., 270
 Alexander L., 285
 James P., 377
 James P., & Co., 377

- Hayes, John. 274, 342, 343, 407, 413
 Manlove. 266, 270, 279, 561, 563,
 640, 812
 Nathaniel. 281
 Nicholas. 268
 Richard. 466
 Walter H.. 1027
- Hazel, Benjamin A., 280
 Herman P.. 803
 J. Frank. 286
 William D., 286
 William G.. 640
- Hazlett, William. 272
- Hazzard, Cord. 119, 129, 691
 David, 177, 181, 193, 268, 281,
 284, 711, 835, 855, 896, 920,
 927, 929, 971, 972, 1029
 George, 690, 692
 Hap, 281
 John A., 269
 William. 259, 282, 691
- Heald & Co.. 3, 7, 3, 8
 Jacob, 315
 Joshua T., 224, 338, 347, 357,
 404, 1092
 Sarah A.. 430
 William H.. 304
- Healey, John E.. 275
- Healy, John. 271, 567
- Hearn, Clement C., 284
 George. 283
 Joseph B., 284, 690
 R. Joseph, 744, 1071
 Walter M.. 284
- Hearne, Edward D., 277, 252, 271, 919
- Heart, John. 573
- Heath, James. 5:8
- Hebb School. 321
- Hedges, Joseph S.. 188
- Heisler, Barzilla, 414
 Francis W., 414
 McBride & Co., 414
 & Roberts, 414
 Ruel, 414
- Hemphill, William. 342, 358
- Henlopen Lighthouse 717
- Hesselius, Andreas. 753, 1117
 Gustavus, 1117
- Heston, Joseph A.. 348
- Henderer, A. L., 383
 A. L. Sons, 383
 Harmon J.. 383
 Howard E.. 383
 Myron C., 383
- Henderson, Jacob, 462, 759
 Hendrick. 462
 Thomas, 516
- Hendrickson, Andrew, Sr., 462
 Cornelis, 11
- Hendrickson, Evert, 291
 Isaac. 273
 Isic. 342
 Jan. 291
 Peter, 467
- Henry, James, 277
 John J.. 262, 274
- Herbert, William, 259, 293, 299, 519
 William B., 262
- Herdman, William, 265, 274, 293
- Hering, George C., 280
 John W.. 237
- Herman, Augustine. 522, 544, 872
 Casparus, 271, 292, 543
 Ephraim, 291, 296, 501, 503, 566,
 572
- Hermonson, John, 291
- Herring Creek, 8
- Herrington, John S., 610
- Hepburn, John. 689, 691
- Heverin, Charles H., 193
 James L., 608
- Hewitt, George. 266
- Heyes, Peter, 14
- Heyward, James H.. 1092
- Hickman, Everett. 691, 807
 Harbeson, 714
 Henry, 214, 269
 Horace J., 284
 James B., 389, 390
 John, 214, 283, 284, 285
 Nathaniel W.. 193, 690
- Hickory Grove Meeting, 547, 770
- Hicks, Henry. 361
 Robert D., 348
- Higbee, Daniel, 679
- Higgins, Anthony, 230, 232, 233, 238,
 249, 261, 528, 530, 531, 832,
 937, 1024
 Anthony M., 195, 274, 530, 531,
 539, 832
 Jesse, 272, 273, 529, 530, 531, 548
 John, 273, 274
 John C., 236, 262, 275, 528, 530,
 832
 Lawrence, 528, 529, 530
 Patrick, 467
- Hill, John, 263, 264, 280, 281, 609,
 691
 Joseph, 771
 Joshua, 151
 Mary, 771
 Robert, 282
 William, 283, 541
 William H.. 1103
- Hilles, Eli, 317, 318, 324, 325, 1047
 & Jones Co., 382
 Mrs. M. S., 436
 John S., 1047

- Hilles, Samuel. 317, 318, 324, 335, 1017
 T. Allen, 382
 William S., 246, 328, 352, 353,
 365, 382, 817, 1027, 1047
- Hilliard, John, 2 3, 276
- Hillyard, John. 613, 625, 650
 Thomas L., 60
- Hilton, W. E., 428
- Hilyard, Charles. 609, 631
- Hindman, Francis, 816
- Hingbertson, Dirck, 292
- Hinoyossa, Alexander D., 503, 560
- Hinsley, Amos, 610
- Hirons, James A., 280
- Historical Society, 137, 178, 218, 436,
 8 2, 10 8 10 9
- Hitch, Benjamin, 214, 283
 Levin, 284
 Levin S., 663
 Samuel B., 259
 William, 214, 2 9, 270, 650
- Hitchen, James, 275
- Hjort, Petrus, 756
- Hobson, William H., 608
- Hockessin, 4 7, 488, 7 7
 Friends Meeting, 483
 M. E. Church, 483
- Hockhammer, Henry, 20, 24
- Hodge, John B., 610
- Hodgson, Richard, 275, 285, 286
- Hodson, Samuel H., 620
- Hoev, William F., 248
- Hoffecker, George R., 378
 Henry, 622
 J. Edwin, 620
 James H., 214, 265, 274
 James R., 231
 John H., 232, 235, 244, 247, 262,
 279, 285, 620, 621, 622, 1052
 Joseph, 678
 Joseph V., 620, 622
 Robert D., 1115
 Walter O., 247, 262, 620, 621
- Hogg, George, 271
- Holden, William W., 262
- Holding, Joseph, 271
 Robert, 614
- Holland, David, 692
 David H., 284
 Israel, 155, 281
 Joseph E., 676, 828, 812
 Thomas, 119, 125, 126, 129, 836
- Hollandville, 671
- Hollehan, Cornelius, 483
- Hollandare, Peter, 20, 22, 24, 28, 256
- Holliday, J. H., 793
 Robert, 135
- Hollingsworth, Amor, 463
 Elijah, 200, 368
- Hollingsworth, Henry, 271, 481, 495
 Isaac, 4 3
 Jacob, 495
 Joseph, 4 3
 Letitia, 481
 Levi, 495, 496
 Samuel, 272, 372, 461
 Thomas, 4 2, 463, 465
 Valentine, 271, 459, 766
 William, 481
- Holm, Johann Campanius, 26, 27, 31
- Holme, Thomas, 256
- Holt, Ryves, 269, 689, 691, 721
- Home for Aged Women, 429
 Friendless Children, 430
- Homeopathic Hospital, 431, 432
- Homeopathy, 1075
- Hood, Joseph, 660
 Samuel, 520
- Hooper, Hicks D., 195, 198, 269
- Hoopes, Edgar M., 1103
- Hoornkill, 14, 575, 577, 579, 580, 581,
 583, 1055
- Hooten, Jacob, 406
- Hop, 480
- Hope, Cornelius B., 230
- Hopkins, James, 283
 James A., 269
 Joseph H., 280
 Leander L., 280
 Robert, 283
 William, 278
- Hopper, Samuel, 403
- Hopple, Jacob, Jr., 404, 405
- Horlan, Peter, 405
- Horn, Charles W., 394
- Horner, Edwin J., 377
- Horrigan, Cornelius J., 330
- Horsey, Andrew J., 237, 269
 George W., 283
 Isaac, 151, 268
 Outerbridge 160, 163, 175, 258,
 261, 281, 282, 740
- Horty, Peter A., 297
- Hosea, John, 283
- Hosman, Joseph, 129, 136
- Hossett, Giles, 14
- Hossinger, James, 499
 Joseph H., 499
- Houghton, C. O., 812
- Housman, James M., 298
 John, 607, 608, 634, 653
- Houston, Anthony, 293
 Charles B., 269, 270, 733
 Edward N., 269, 690, 693, 733
 George, 298, 545
 Henry A., 249, 262, 733, 807,
 1052
 John M., 259, 267, 284, 733

- Houston, John W., 186, 196, 229, 260, 261, 680, 700, 737, 920, 921, 985
 Jonathan, 702
 Joseph, 692
 Liston N., 609
 Robert, 281, 283, 285, 685, 733, 972
 Robert A., 689
 Robert B., 193
 Robert G., 236, 331, 1112
 Shepard P., 214, 283, 284, 285, 690
 Town of, 680
 William, 271
- How, James C., 535, 538
- Howard, George, 282
- Howe, Henry, 279
 Henry H., 279
- Howell, Ida V., 556
 Lewis, 119
 Mary, 857
 Reynolds, 497
- Howland, Charles W., 352
 Mary S., 436
- Hubbert, Peter, 151
- Hudde, Andries, 30, 39, 50, 256, 509
- Hudson & Cahill, 395
 Henry, 9
 Hendrick, 507
 Robert, 67
 William D., 608
- Huffington, William, 270, 278, 298, 1090, 1106
- Hughes, Bangs & Company, 457
 Eben, 411
 James H., 254, 260
 M., 776
 Philip, 703
 Samuel Carl, 280
- Hughlett, William, 277
- Humphreys, Alexander, 653
 George W., 1102
- Hundreds, 1, 2-6, 287, 684
- Hunn, John, 247, 301, 556, 557, 699, 768, 852, 853, 856
 Jonathan, 655
 Nathaniel, 661
- Hunsberger, Enos, 393
- Hunter, Charles G., 459
 Joseph, 393
 Joseph W., 284
- Huntingdon, Cyrus, 643
- Hurlock, William J., 539
- Hurnand, Robert, 315
- Husbands, John, 610
- Hushebeck, Harry W., 275
- Hutchenson, John W., 80
- Hutchin, William H., 1109
- Hutchinson, Joseph C., 224
- Hutchinson, Ralph, 517, 757
- Hutson, William T., 79, 607
- Huxford, James M., 734
 Norman B., 734
- Hyatt, John, 298
 John J., 110, 141
 J. V., 771
 John W., 545
 Peter, 264, 272
 Sarah, 771
 Theodore, 318
- Hygean Home, 31
- Hylands, 468
- Hyuson, Garrett L., 279
 George B., 1104, 1110
 Henry L., 1110

I

- Immanuel P. E. Church, 310, 512, 758, 759
- Improved Order Red Men, 445
- Independence Fire Company, 333
- Indian Point, 665
 River, 8
 River Bay, 8, 722
 River Hundred, 684, 722, 725, 733, 760
- Influential Delaware Families, 857
- Inglis, Charles, 600, 601, 616, 635, 761
- Ingram, Anthony, 692
 John, 154
- Ilfie, Joseph, 269
- Iron Hill, 3, 521, 523, 524, 657, 775
- Irons, Alexander, Dr., 476
 Owen, 646
 Samuel, 649
 Simon, 275, 276, 613, 631
- Irvine, Kate, 817
- Isenhardt, Samuel, 1108
- Isenschmidt, Paul, 756
- Israel, John, 494
 Joseph, 293

J

- Jackson, Alexander, 658, 659
 Elibu E., 742
 H. S., 812
 Job H., 372, 434, 435
 John G., 214, 222, 229, 265, 274, 487
 John W. T., 279, 285
 J. W., 610
 Milton, 349
 Ralph, 487
 Robert L., 774
 & Sharp Co., 372
 Thomas, 339, 621, 659
 William, 523, 654

- Jacob, William A., 284
 Jacobs, Albertus, 280
 John, 691
 John B., 610
 John S., 284
 Loxley R., 259, 283, 690
 Possession, 462
 Stansbury, 218, 283
 Thomas 218, 269, 283
 Jacquet Carr Company, 457
 John Paul, 39, 256, 292, 508
 Peter, 292, 308
 Jacquett, Jean Paul, 501
 Johannes, 568
 Peter, Jr., 119, 129, 136, 163
 Samuel, 520
 Jacquette, David J., 816
 James, Daniel, 349
 Duke of York, 52
 Howell, 524
 James, 523, 524
 John, 154, 264, 272
 Noah H., 284, 692
 Philip, 524
 Samuel, 524
 Thomas, 524, 525
 William, 527
 Jamison, Robert, 603, 604, 617, 636,
 773
 Janney, William H., 620
 Jansen, Harmon, 292
 Sybrou, 292
 Walraven, 479
 Janvier, George, 771
 Isaac, 294
 John, 516
 Thomas, 514
 William, 521
 Jardins, John Des, 1055
 Jarvis, John K., 608
 Jason, William C., 819
 Jefferies, James, 345
 James J., 399
 Lawrence T., 383
 Jefferson & Clayton, 621
 Elihu, 293
 House, 468
 & Lofland, 406
 Richard, 283
 Samuel, 285
 Samuel J., 207, 274
 Thomas, 98, 157, 159, 170
 Thomas W., 269
 Warren, 186, 269, 691, 692
 Jenkins, Isaac F., 691
 Jabez, 280, 596, 610
 Jonathan, 277, 278, 641
 Thomas, 259
 Jennings, Watson, 406
 Jessup, Augustus E., 423
 & Moore, 423, 457
 William, 786
 Jester, John S., 609
 M. Howard, 275, 1100
 Outten D., 294
 William T., 267, 280
 Jogan, Peter, 292
 Johnny Cake Landing, 665
 Johns, Arthur, 608
 Fidelia Rogerson, 839
 Kensey, 155, 157, 181, 182, 272,
 517, 819, 825, 919, 920, 926
 Kensey, Jr., 180, 181, 261, 835,
 915, 921, 928
 Thomas, 524
 Johnston, Alice E., 434
 Tilghman, 434
 William, 155
 William Poyntell, 435
 Johnson, Alexander, 195, 198, 267,
 278, 609
 Andrew L., 237, 309
 Caleb P., 1089, 1090, 1099
 David, 692
 Harry H., 356
 Isaac T., 315
 James, 675, 676
 Joshua, 283
 Joshua J., 284
 John H., 692
 Manlove, 278
 Nicholas R., 279
 Parnell, 691, 962
 Robert P., 202, 437
 Thomas, 283, 369
 William, 267, 272, 278, 495, 799
 William H., 692
 Jolls, John W., 275
 Joseph C., 298
 Jones, Alfred R., 383
 Caldwell, 692
 Charles R., 238, 385
 Charles W., 691
 Creek, 481
 Daniel, 276, 631
 David B., 806
 Edward, 284
 George, 276, 329, 335
 Griffith, 263, 630
 George W., 689
 Henry C., 382, 434, 793
 Jacob, 173, 1069
 James Hemphill, 220
 James P., 275, 306
 John, 151, 154, 214, 267, 283, 537
 John H., 279
 Joseph, 1187, 1189
 Mary Hemphill, 220

- Jones. Morgan, 220, 272
 Philip C., 283, 691
 Reese, 489
 Richard K., 404
 Robert, 278
 Robert H., 391
 Samuel L., 1115
 Thomas A., 193, 283, 284
 Thomas W., 485
 Washington, 346, 347, 385
 William, 149, 524
 William G., 318, 385
 William Hemphill, 220, 260, 274, 348
 William P., 284, 690
 William T., 689, 691
 Winnie, 526
- Jordan, William, 611
 Jorden, Griffith, 127
 Joseph, Rowland W., 692
 Joyce, Enoch, 206, 403
 Judah, Henry R., 679
 Judiciary of Delaware, 922
 Jump, Isaac, 201, 227, 267, 641, 656
 William C., 279
- Jurian, Jan Jacques, 292
 Juriansen Christian, 479
 Justis, John, 475
 Justa G., 477
 Robert C., 275
- Justison, Andrew, 299, 300
 Catharine, 300
- K**
- Karsson, Claes, 544
 Kartavert Mfg. Co., 415, 416
 Kean, Matthew, 297
 Thomas, 128, 264
 Kearney, Dyre, 258
 Keen, Gregory B., 755
 Keenan, Bernard, 428
 Robert, 428
 Keigwin, A. N., 774
 Keith, George, 67, 83, 762, 769, 773
 J. A., 296
 Washington, 459
 William Governor, 484, 611
- Kelley, Alexander, 369
 George D., 553
 Kellogg, Rev. Hiram W., D. D., 787
 Kemp, Robert D., 353
 Kendall, Aspar, 393
 Kennedy, G. W., 678, 773
 William, 273, 274
 W. F., 1076
- Kennedy, Charles W., 271
 Richard R., 237, 248, 259, 1042, 1013, 1044
 Samuel S., 284
- Kenny, Rev. Patrick, 312, 473, 778
 Kent, B. L. & Co., 391
 County, 1, 575, 578, 580, 585, 592
 Meta Gilpin, 436
 Kentmere, 422
 Kenton, 626, 628
 Hundred, 624, 625, 626
 Kentucky, 459
 Keough, Martin, 405
 Kerns, Samuel, 394
 Kerr, Andrew, 274
 George G., 288, 525
 Samuel, 525
- Kersey, John, 647
 John C., 609
 John S., 648
- Kershaw, Robert, 486
 Kiamensi, 130
 Clay Co., 477
 Woolen Company, 485, 486, 487, 495
- Kieft, William, 17, 31, 255, 257, 269, 540
 Kidd, Charles, 119, 136
 Kilgore, John W. R., 275
 Joseph, 294
- Killen, Elwood C., 280
 Jacob A., 250, 1086, 1087, 1088
 James M., 610
 William, 99, 250, 772, 823, 852, 898, 913, 919, 920, 922, 923, 925, 946
- Kimmey, Charles, 278, 607, 608, 641
 James, 278
- Kinder, Warren, 693
 King, John W., 690
 William F., 247
 Kiphaven, John, 280
 Kirk, Alphonse, 463, 469
 Caleb, 420, 465
 James, 1107
 Joseph H., 294
 Samuel, 418
- Kirkpatrick, David, 163
 Kirks Ford, 464
 Kirkwood, 522, 527
 Daniel, 809
 Robert, 111, 119, 129
 Robert H., 482
- Kittinger, Emma, 430
 Leonard, 433, 1076, 1078
 Leonard A., 1076, 1078
- Kling, Magnus, 501
 Maris, 26
- Klonegar, John C., 1089
 Knight, Caesar, 540
 Dubre, 317
 James, 548
 James M., 202, 278

- Knights of Pythias, 447
 Knotts, David H., 110
 Edward R., 280
 Knowles Cross Roads, 701
 Horace G., 2 2, 2 3, 262, 1104
 I. H. D., 1112
 James G., 514, 515
 Knox, William W., 303
 Kollock, Jacob, 90, 689, 690, 691
 James P. W., 690
 Phillips, 1 1, 690, 691
 S., 2 8, 281, 282, 627
 Krebs, Henry S., 477
 Pigment Chemical Co., 477
 Kruse, A. E., 477
 Kugler, J. Newton, 471
- L**
- Labadist Colony, 480
 Lacey, Thomas T., 267, 610
 Lackey, Frank D., 3 8
 F. D. & Co., 3 8
 Laersen, Paul, 2 2
 Niel, 4 2
 Lafayette, General, 177, 178, 179, 495,
 883, 9 3, 1063, 10 4
 La Grange, Arnoldus, 480
 Lambden, Joshua J., 284
 Robert, 2 0, 284
 Lambertson, George, 21, 28
 Lamborn, Aquilla, 335
 Eli, 400, 402, 403
 Lambson, Giles, 275, 293
 William H., 2 3
 Lamnot, Margaretta Elizabeth, 886
 La Motte, Charles E., 200
 Daniel, 794
 Daniel, Jr., 409
 Robert S., 200
 Land, Samuel, 293
 Lane, William T., 521
 Lang, Andrew J., 410
 W. & J., 410
 Lank, Samuel J., 692
 Lassell & Currey, 619
 J. C. & Co., 619
 Latimer, Anna, 432
 George, 10 3, 127, 2 8
 Henry, 1 7, 1 8, 2 8, 260, 272,
 281, 313, 314, 10 3
 James, 115, 154, 258, 344, 475
 John, 475
 John R., 193, 200
 Mary R., 432
 Thomas, 478
 Latta, John A., 2 5
 John E., 769
 Lattomus, Francis H., 275
 Lattomus, John, 569
 J. S., 571
 Levi W., 274, 569
 Laurel, 2, 738, 7 0, 7 3, 830, 833, 838,
 841, 8 0, 431, 4 7, 481, 996
 Laurensen, Huybert, 2 2
 Laurien, Harman, 292
 Law, James, 2 4
 Richard, 280
 Lawrence, Dirck, 544
 William S., 544
 Lawrensen, Marcus, 451
 Laws, Alexander, 151, 208
 George, 640
 John, 155, 209, 608
 Lydia P., 819
 Saxe Gotha, 271
 Thomas, 155, 2 8, 282, 285, 691
 William, 703
 Lawson, Frank W., 284
 John W., Jr., 3 5
 Lawton, C. H., 1076, 1078
 William, 365
 Layton, Caleb R., 260, 699, 731, 852
 Caleb S., 2 0, 283, 284, 660, 699,
 920, 473, 1027, 1107
 C. Rodney, 201
 Daniel J., 690, 699
 Hughett, 182
 John H., 283
 Joshua S., 690
 Lowder, 676, 681
 Robert R., 284
 Samuel H., 691
 Tilghman, 283, 973
 Lea, Henry, 419, 854
 John, 151, 2 8, 853
 Milling Co., 414, 419
 Preston, 2 3, 254, 319, 354, 419,
 853, 854, 856
 Thomas, 313, 418, 419, 853
 William, 3 8, 419, 853, 854
 William & Sons, 511, 854
 Learmouth, John, 119, 129, 136
 Learned, Webster D., 279
 Lebanon, 656
 Lee, Bishop Alfred, 4 0, 473, 478, 499,
 538, 711, 715, 759, 761, 964
 Richard Henry, 944
 Robert E., 209
 Leech, Joseph, 481
 Toby, 481
 Legg, James, 608
 Leipsic, 612
 Lemmens, Hendrick, 292
 Lemon, Andrew J., 403
 John, 04
 Lengel, John A., 417
 Lenni Lenape Indians, 1

- Lesley, Allen V., 265, 270
 Sarah S., 435
 William Ward, 435
 Lester, Peter, 43
 Letitia Manor, 481
 Letscooven, Abelins, 520
 Levick, Richard, 453
 Levy Court Commissioners, 290, 291
 Lewden, John, 702, 506
 Josiah, 702
 Lewes, 9, 164, 165, 683, 685, 714, 716,
 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 725,
 7, 7, 773, 781, 830, 831, 833,
 834, 839, 83, 851, 852, 869,
 870, 871, 906, 990, 999, 1030,
 1063, 1068, 1116
 Creek 8, 715, 716
 & Rehoboth Hundred, 684, 715
 Lewis, Beniah L., 232, 26, 257, 270,
 279, 623
 Cross Roads, 626
 Jacob, & Son, 397
 James, 304
 Joel, 272
 Kendall, 283
 Kendall M., 268
 Luff, 277, 278
 Philip, 272, 27, 625, 626
 Robert H., 257
 Samuel, 773
 Stephen, 276, 277, 285
 Thomas, 523
 Thomas S., 286
 Ville, 737, 739
 Wrixam, 690
 Liberty Fire Company, 333
 Lidenius, A., 753
 Liebig Mfg. Co., 411
 Lightbourne, Albert W., 552, 784
 Lincoln, 694, 69, 696
 Abraham, 190, 195, 205, 209, 1031,
 1032
 Lindall Peter L., 279
 William P., 456
 Lindsay, David, 306, 424
 F. J., 1105
 John, 634
 Lindstrom, Peter, 33, 37
 Lingo, Archie B., 209
 John A., 250, 284
 Joseph H., 692
 Rufus D., Jr., 284
 Lister, Levi, 610
 Liston, Edmund E., 573
 Morris, 572
 Little Creek Hundred, 624, 649, 684,
 739, 767, 1027
 Duck Creek, 8, 612, 625, 627, 631,
 651
 Little Falls Creek, 461
 Lloyd, Charles, 564
 Frank, 556
 Isaac V., 394
 Thomas, 67, 68, 256
 Lobb, Joshua, 466
 Lobdell Car Wheel Co., 373, 501
 George G., 373, 374, 375, 424
 George G., Jr., 375
 William W., 348, 373, 375
 Lock, Lars, 528, 78, 749
 Lockerman, Nicholas, 277, 610, 631
 Vincent, 99, 105, 266, 637, 640,
 784
 Lockwood, Armwell, 610
 Mrs. Comfort, 621
 David, 277, 609
 Henry H., 201, 215, 256, 1035
 Isaac, 277, 648
 John, 264, 266, 276, 277
 Richard, 151
 Thomas, 191, 278, 648, 658, 659
 William H., 278
 William K., 608
 Lodge, George, 274, 275, 453
 Henry M., 310
 William C., 193, 274, 453
 Lofland, Isaac, 681
 James P., 13, 226, 227, 266, 275,
 278, 678, 1068
 James R., 250, 262, 271
 Luke, 692
 Mark G., 259
 William, 544, 691
 Logan, Albanus, 640
 James, 73, 257
 William C., 484
 London Company, 10
 Long, Armwell, 251, 282
 David J., 284
 Henry W., 689
 Isaiah, 734
 Jesse L., 193, 230
 William, 297
 Lord, James, 608
 Lore, Charles B., 230, 231, 258, 262,
 286, 402, 43, 437, 812, 819, 920,
 967, 968, 969, 970
 Lott, Engelbert, 292
 Louderbough, Edward B., 1108
 Edward N., 108
 Lounsbury, Norman O., 321
 Love, Thomas, 471
 Lovelace, Governor Francis, 53, 55,
 456, 461, 480, 629, 718, 1055
 Loveville, 487
 Lowber, Alexander, 1083
 Daniel, 345, 619, 657
 Matthew, 663

Lowber, Peter. 277, 285, 619, 659
 Peter E. 279
 Lowe, George Washington, 1098
 James T. 279
 J. Thomas. 611
 Samuel J.. 284
 Lower Brandywine Presbyterian
 Church. 470
 Lowry, George F., 390
 Lucas, John. 129
 Thomas. 631
 Lucifer, Cornelius. 31
 Luff, Nathaniel, 631, 640, 673, 894,
 1056, 1061
 Luke, William, 423
 Lukens, Isaiah. 476, 1076, 1077
 J. Paul, 476, 1076
 Lukes, James, 127
 Lynam, David, 481
 William. 293
 Lynch, Elijah C. 692
 Humphrey. 403
 James C., 182
 Randall M., 284
 Lynn, John, 484
 Lyons, Harry V., 284
 John A., 499

M

Macallister, Samuel A.. 259, 262
 MacDonough, 540, 547, 878
 Macdonough, James, 120, 169, 878,
 879
 John. 878
 Thomas, 119, 121, 123, 167, 168,
 169, 170, 171, 544, 879, 1065
 Mackey, John, 296, 277, 512
 Maclean, R. J.. 322, 365
 Macomb, Eleazar, 103, 258, 260, 342,
 359
 James B.. 278
 MacPherson, John. 118
 Madden, Thomas 816
 Magaw, Samuel, 601, 602, 616, 635,
 761
 Magee, Arley B., 1108
 George. 413
 George W.. 284
 Magnolia, 596, 662, 663, 665
 Mahaffy, Thomas J.. 337
 Mahan, George W., 1112
 James B.. 1109
 Mahoney, Edward, 369
 Jeremiah. 391, 428
 John B.. 275
 Maisland, Peter, 292
 Mallalieu, William. 648
 Malone, John L.. 411
 Maloney, Daniel B., 571
 Maltritz, Baird & Taylor, 386
 Mankin, Richard, 271
 Manlove, Boaz. 691
 George. 155, 276, 610
 George M., 609, 611
 John. 641
 Mark. 595, 677
 Matthew, 128, 595, 610, 677
 William, 276
 Mann, Abram, 271, 293
 Mansfield, Ford. 561
 James D., 297
 Manship, Andrew, 671, 787
 Marckussen, Hans. 292
 Marim, Charles, 193, 260, 270, 278,
 630, 799
 John, 277, 663, 837
 Maris, Joshua, 278, 428
 Markham, William, 68, 256, 257, 262
 Maroney, Charles P., 428
 Marr, William, 383
 Marsh, Peter, 283
 Samuel P.. 692
 Marshy Hope Bridge, 672
 Creek, 8
 Marshall, Aaron. 283
 Andrew Donnell, 683
 George C., 683
 George W., 247, 259, 681, 682,
 819
 Henry, 284
 Thomas F.. 459
 Iron Co., 477
 Isaac, 282
 John, 283, 486, 487
 J., Co., 477
 Samuel. 475
 Samuel M. D., 683
 William, 678, 681, 694
 William, Jr., 683
 Marshalton. 483, 486, 487
 Martel, M. Michael, 315
 Martin, Edward L., 229, 262, 271, 708
 George. 609
 Hugh. 172, 258, 262, 264, 269,
 270, 283, 284, 285, 708
 James, 293
 James A., 280
 James S., 283, 499
 John. 195, 198, 270, 283
 Samuel J., 692
 Shepard P., 284, 689, 693
 Woodburn. 237, 807, 919
 Marvel, Aaron B., 260, 690, 691
 David D. 279
 David T., 200, 286, 760, 920, 921,
 922, 1112
 Joshua H.. 233, 234, 235, 741,
 850, 851, 852, 856, 1033

- Marvel, Josiah, 700, 701
 Josiah P., 689, 691, 693
 Manean B., 692
 Thomas J., 279
- Marvell, Theodore W., 692
- Massey, George R., 273
 George V., 232, 234, 354, 1035,
 1036
 William, 281
- Mason and Dixon Line, 683
 Richard S., 808
- Masonic Hall Co., 424
- Masten, John P., 279
 Joseph A., 672
 William, 671
- Masten's Corner, 671, 672
- Masters, David W., 415, 416
- Matchett, Charles C., 353
- Mather, Mary H. Askew, 436
- Mathews, Philip C., 284
- Matlack, Albert F., 245
 Lucius C., 551
- Mattahorn, 17
- Maule, Joshua, 317
- Mauil, Charles H., 284
 David W., 218
 Franklin, 269
 James, 691
 Joseph, 182, 189, 208, 269, 270,
 713, 722, 839, 840, 855, 896,
 1030
- Maurice, Theodore, 295, 296, 297, 607,
 608
- Maury, Francis, 259, 276, 607, 608
 John W., 608
- Maxwell, Bedwell, 663
 General William, 131, 132
 George, 193
 George A., 297, 513
 Robert, 264, 272
 Solomon, 155, 272, 496, 500
- May, Bushrod, 283
 Henry, 676
 Thomas, 272, 676
- Mayer, W. M., 779
- Mealey, John, 400
- Mecannon, Margaret, 315
- Mechanics Bank, 349
- Medical Society of Delaware, 1056
- Medicine and its Practitioners, 1054
- Medill, George D., 275
 William, 490
- Meeters Mill, 4-6, 492
- Meeting-House Hill, 479
- Megapolensis, John, 748
- Megary & Son, 411
- Megaw, Samuel, 782
- Megowan, Leslie W., 411
- Meigs, Matthew, 809, 816
- Mellon, Patrick, 405
- Melson, William S., 692
- Melvin, Riley, 610
 Thomas H., 309
- Mendenhall, Elizabeth W., 432, 433,
 435
 Henry, 365, 379, 433
 James, 484
 John, 484
 John M., 265, 477
 Joseph, 346
 Sarah R., 429, 430
 Thomas, 342, 358
- Menton, Dennis J., 307, 369
- Mercier, Peter, 405
- Meredith, Job. Sr., 660
 John G., 280
 Morris, 459
 Peter K., 259
 Samuel K., 267
 Whitely, 209
 Whitely W., 279, 611
 Willard S., 275
 William, 279
- Mermaid, 487
- Merrick, John, 356, 393, 394
 Johnson & Co., 356
- Merriken, Richard H., 193
 Richard N., 607
- Merritt, Benjamin, 272
 John, 178, 264, 272, 296
 Tobias B., 406, 590
- Messick, Charles, 284
 Dr. John W., 284
 Miles, 214, 283, 284, 700
 Samuel H., 284, 700
 Samuel J., 284
- Messinger, Thomas H. H., 302
- Meston, Arthur, 276, 609
- Mexican War, 187, 506, 849
- Mey, Cornelis Jacobson, 12, 255, 676
- Middle Creek, 8
- Middleford, 709
- Middletown, 118, 491, 546, 547, 548,
 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554,
 555, 556, 577, 559, 560, 562,
 509, 574, 763, 775, 846, 847,
 849, 1026, 1114
 Academy, 550
 Robert, 272
- Midway, 719, 720
- Mifflin, Daniel, 653
 John, 634
 Joshua H., 278
 Samuel, 278
 Thomas, 117, 118
 Warner, 655
- Miles, James L., 274
 William S., 1094

- Milford, 8, 562, 603, 605, 620, 665,
674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 680, 694,
697, 700, 773, 780, 789, 790, 812,
813, 851, 896, 906, 973, 974
Hundred, 667, 668, 673, 674, 676,
677, 678, 680, 835
Paper Mills, 48, 492
Millan, William, 1-9
Mill Creek Hundred, 287, 291, 460,
465, 478, 431
Miller, Abby W., 436
Caleb 404
Edward, 1056, 1057, 1059
George, 454
Hans Hansen, 292
& Harlan, 401
James, 277
John, 604, 636, 772, 1059
John H., 245
John S., 408
Joseph, 266
Samuel, 399, 401, 604
William, 458
William H., 275
Millichops Woods, 663
Milligan, John J., 181, 182, 184, 185,
21, 920, 977
Joseph R., 535
Mills & Combs, 395
Millsboro, 725, 733, 990, 1044
Milne, C. J. & Co., 422
Milton, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 836,
804, 841, 845, 846, 896, 897, 971,
972, 1115
Minors, James W., 267
Minqnas Creek, 17
Minsall, Griffith, 358
Minnet, Peter, 16, 17, 22, 28, 255,
26, 579, 716, 746
Mires, John, 2-0
Mispillion Creek, 8, 579, 668, 673, 677
Hundred, 603, 667, 670, 672, 673,
844
Meeting, 677
Mitchell, Elmer E., 389
Edmund, 337
George, 153, 157, 268, 270, 281,
68, 826
James, 149
James R., 271, 279
Joseph, 488
John, 259, 266, 277, 278, 487
Nathaniel, 128, 156, 258, 268, 282,
80, 738, 830
Richard, 60, 619
Tadman & Thomas, 389
& Thomas, 389
Moll, John, 2, 3, 4-0, 532
Molestine, Alexander, 280
Molestine, Henry, 280
Mollestone, Henry, 155, 176, 259, 263,
266, 270, 832
William, 276
Monaghan, Rev. J. J., 428, 780
Thomas M., 265, 275
Money, Walter S., 275
Montgomery, Courtland C., 297
James, 414, 1098
Joseph, 119
Rachael, 405
Robert, 479
Thomas, 155, 156, 260
Montreson, Captain John, 131
Monro, George, 155, 163, 272, 1064
James, 272
Monroe, Nathan, 807
Moody, John, 293
William, 128
Moore, Abraham, 279
Benjamin J., 271
Bloomfield II., 423
B. T., 793
Charles, 228, 371
Charles L., 284, 1034
Clarence B., 423
David O., 269
David W., 471
Edward, 324, 372
Edwin C., 428
Elias N., 214, 237, 275, 567, 806
Enoch, 275, 371
Enoch, Jr., 304, 309, 371, 372
Frank H., 551, 775
Gaylord L., 471
George B., 371
Harriet Foot, 771
Jacob, 116, 151, 258, 914, 1034,
1042
James, 110, 120, 129
James S., 297
James V., 274, 567
John, 2-4, 614
John A., 195, 279, 608, 1039
John Bassett, 575, 1039, 1040, 1041
John M. C., 269
John S., 626
Jonathan, 195, 283
J. Turpin, 269, 270, 741
Joseph, 279, 489
Levi B., 293
Loulther T., 1034
Nicholas, 64, 65
Robert H., 607
Solomon, 282
Thomas C., 2-7, 280
Thomas H., 2-8
William, 149, 154, 281, 293, 393,
685

- Moore, William A., 609
 William H., 283, 607
 William T., 269
 W. G., 293
- Moore's Chapel, 742
- Moorton, 625
- Moreton, Robert, 507
- Morgan, Evans, 610
 Henry H., 284
 John, 524, 571
 William W., 283
- Morris, Elihu J., 284
 Henry G., 515
 James, 155, 206
 John, 476
 John J., 690
 Joseph P., 690
 Robert H., 256
 Robert R., 284
 Tasker Iron Works, 515
 Walter, 641, 819
 William, 277
 William R., 270
 William W., 266, 267, 270, 278, 284
- Morrison, David, 272, 273
 John W., 265, 575
 William, & Co., 457
- Morrow, James, 412
 James C., 412
 Lewis B., 412
 William, 414
- Morse, Henry G., 369, 370
 Thomas J., 207
- Morton, John, 269, 418
 William, 276
- Morsen, Jan, 292
- Moussen, Peter, 451
- Moxham, Arthur J., 335
- Muddy Run, 481
- Mullen, Charles, 387, 391
- Muller, W. H., 559
- Mulligan, James A., 275
- Munford, John, 631
- Munson, Francis M., 245
- Murderkill Creek, 8, 668, 673
 Hundred, 607, 673
 Meeting, 667
- Murdick, Samuel, 672
- Murphy, Patrick F., 334
 Samuel, 273, 627
 Samuel W., 321
 Thomas G., 605, 637, 773
 William, 700
- Murray, David B., 280
 George H., 237
 James, 309
 Millard F., 693
- Mustard, David L., 269, 284, 819, 851
- Mustard, Horace R., 280, 620
 John, 267, 620
 John H. B., 693
- Mt. Lebanon Church, 400
- Mt. Moriah, 659, 660
- Mt. Pleasant, 487, 517
 Church, 400
- Mt. Salem M. E. Church, 472
- Myer, Christopher, 202

Mc

- McAllister, David, 265
- McBoyer, Robert, 410
- McBride, Joseph, 414
- McCabe, Caleb R., 603
 & Darragh, 315
 Robert H., 307
 William R., 284, 285
 W. S. & Son, 727
- McCafferty, Joseph E., 275
- McCalmont, James, 517, 1063
 John, 475
- McCall, Archibald, 607, 608
 George, 119, 208, 334
 Mark, 276
 Robert, 472
- McCaulley, Eli, 692
 J. Augustus, 353
 Samuel, 307
 William, 273
 William S., 279
- McClary, Samuel, 350, 354, 398, 435
 William J., 391
- McClellandsville, 491, 493
- McClintock, Samuel, 453
- McClung, John, 239
- McColley, Hiram W., 260
 Truston P., 193, 681
- McCook, Archibald, 636, 772
- McComb, Henry S., 386
- McCommons, James V., 280, 285, 609
- McConaughy, William, 524, 527
- McConnell, William, 414
- McCormick, Daniel, 403
 James J., 403
 Samuel, 295
- McCoy, Douglas M., 275
 William B., 275
- McCracken, Hugh, 149
 William, 334
- McCrea, William, 334
- McCreery, William, 399
- McCullough Iron Co., 380
 Jethro J., 380, 381
 J. W., 759
 Robert, 275
- McCurdy, Thomas A., 775
- McDaniel, Craige & Co., 379

- McDaniel, Delaplaine, 319, 379, 380,
381
Joseph, 610
Samuel A., 293
- McDowell, Alexander, 815, 816
Philip, 413
- McFarlin, Robert, 265
- McFee, Chas. W., 271
John R., 259, 283, 285
- McFerran, Joseph A., 269
- McGinnes, Thomas C., 280
- McGlothen, James H., 691
- McGrane, M. A., 778
P. J., 778
- McGrenna, Catherine, 402
Cornelius, 402
- McIlvaine, Alfred, 283
Henry, 597
Henry W., 278
- McIntyre, John P., 550
- McKay, Read J., 179
- McKean, Thomas, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94,
98, 99, 101, 102, 105, 105, 108, 111,
112, 151, 152, 257, 272, 293, 795,
820, 821, 855, 864, 865, 912, 914
- McKenna, William, 129, 136, 141,
142, 148, 272, 482
- McKee, David, 274
- McKiener, Alexander, 315
- McKim, John L., 221, 679
- McKinley, Moses, 568
William, 235, 245, 298, 1040
- McKinly, John, 105, 115, 116, 117,
152, 258, 293, 820, 821, 855, 942,
1056, 1061
- McKinsey, F. E., 526
- McLane, Allen, 107, 149, 163, 258,
276, 285, 348, 361, 785, 876,
877, 878, 1066, 1067
Benjamin, 129
Louis, 175, 176, 177, 178, 180,
181, 261, 262, 348, 877, 895,
928
- McLaughlin, Constantine, 494
- McLean, Arnold, 434
- McLear, Henry C., 393
John, 330
John P., 353
& Kendall, 3 3
- McMahon Brothers, 410
- McMechen, James, 497
William, 481, 489
- McMullin, Henry H., 234, 275, 285
James, 265
William, 542
- McNair, William S., 322
- McNamee, James, 506
- McNeal, Joseph G., 284
- McNulty, Francis J., 265, 275
- McSorley, F. C., 570
- McWhorter, Charles H., 265, 298
- McWilliams, Richard, 296, 298

N

- Naaman's Creek, 458
- Naff, Henry H. J., 303, 329, 1088,
1092
William H., 329, 336, 407
- Nanticoke Hundred, 684, 698, 701,
703, 833, 842
Indians, 1, 2, 736, 741
River, 8, 702, 704, 707
- Nassau, 721
- Naudain, Arnold, 178, 180, 184, 185,
261, 273, 361, 806, 909
Arnold S., 273, 285
Elias, 182, 267, 272, 567, 568, 570
Elias S., 271, 278
John M., 274
Richard, 568
Richard L., 567
William, 1094
- Neal, Joseph W., 283
Samuel, 896
- Neale, A. T., 812
- Neave, Richard, 89
- Nebeker Bros., 416
- Needham Ezekial, 276
Robert, 256
- Needles, David, 279
William J., 659
- Neering, John Williamson, 292
Sarah Williams, 502
- Negendank, August, 433, 1076, 1077
Harlan, 1075
- Neill, Hugh, 600, 601
- Newark, 485, 486, 492, 496, 497, 498,
499, 525, 807, 814, 876, 983,
1010, 1035, 1052, 1113
Academy, 499, 814, 816, 1052
Building & Loan Association, 499
College, 807, 808, 815
& Delaware City R. R., 488, 521
Hotel, 499
Library Association, 499
Meeting House, 766
National Bank, 499
Union Church, 460
- New Albion, 44
Amstel, 53, 287, 756
Amsterdam, 53, 292
- Newbold, Daniel, 273, 536
John, 536
William, 536
William A., 473
- New Cathedral Cemetery, 427

- New Castle County, 1, 286, 287, 288, 289, 292
 City. 42, 72, 86, 103, 200, 287, 288, 489, 503, 504, 507, 508, 509, 512, 513, 515, 516, 517, 518, 520, 521, 523, 548, 568, 572, 587, 634, 640, 746, 757, 758, 766, 769, 781, 782, 831, 837, 839, 858, 859, 860, 863, 867, 870, 905, 912, 928, 929, 943, 947, 962, 984, 994, 1010, 1011, 1015, 1017, 1018, 1027, 1067, 1112
 County Mutual Insurance Co., 336
 County National Bank, 562
 Gas Co., 514
 Hundred, 286, 291, 500, 504
 Institute, 521
 Leather Co., 390
 Library Co., 521
 Mfg. Co., 514
 Presbytery, 47
 Water Works Co., 514
 New Century Club, 435
 Newcombe Baptist, 280
 New Elfsborg, 27
 Gottenburg, 27, 30
 Newlin, E. J., 809
 New Netherlands, 12, 16, 20, 38, 50
 Newport, 7, 132, 460, 461, 475, 496, 502
 Ayre, 475
 African Methodist Church, 478
 National Bank, 476
 New School Law, 801
 Sweden, 20, 34, 38
 Newspapers and Books, 1085
 Newton, Albert O., 274
 Oliver A., 284
 Henry, 295
 New Utrecht, 534
 York City, 459, 568, 616
 Nicholls, Richard, 52, 53, 55, 226, 450, 511
 Nicholas, William, 182
 Nichols, Amos, 545
 Mrs. William P., 435
 Nicholson, George W. S., 262, 1107
 James, 275, 297
 John A., 213, 221, 261, 799, 938
 John R., 258, 586, 832, 839, 921, 958, 1052
 Nickerson, John, 630
 William, 278
 Nields, Benjamin, 206, 350, 354, 1021, 1047
 Gertrude W., 433, 435
 Nielson, Niels, Sr., 450, 451
 Nivin, David, 273
 William, 164
 Nixon Benjamin, 548
 Charles, 149, 276
 Thomas, 634
 Thomas, Jr., 120, 452
 Noble, Richard, 271
 Noblett, Dell, 330
 Nock, Ezekiel, 596
 Nolen, William D., 361
 Nommers, John, 292, 489
 Nonantum, Wells, 492
 Nones, Henry B., 187, 188
 Jefferson H., 189
 Norman, Purnal B., 248, 260
 Norney, Andrew, 559
 Elwood R., 275, 559
 Elwood R., Jr., 543
 Norris, Isaac, 573
 North Baptist Church, 777
 Murderkill Hundred, 651, 652, 656
 Side Improvement Company, 307
 Northwest Fork Hundred, 684, 703, 706
 Novelty Carriage Works, 394
 Nowland, Henry A., 274
 Otho, 346, 355
 Noxon, Thomas, 297, 546, 566, 571
 Noxontown, 118, 566
 Null, Henry, 127, 149, 268
 Nuney, Daniel, 691
 Nutter, David, 281
 John, 704
- O**
- Oak Hill, 462
 Oberly, James B., 398
 O'Brien, T. A. H., 786
 O'Byrne, John, 1102
 Ocean View, 728
 Ocheltree, Maxwell B., 335
 William, 297
 O'Connell, P., 791
 O'Day, Edward T., 280
 Odd Fellows, 442
 Odessa, 7, 545, 546, 547, 556, 570, 562, 563, 564, 565, 567, 568, 770, 771, 788, 852, 967, 977
 Oelkins, Gick, 292
 Oelsen, Michael, 292
 O'Flynn, Patrick, 272, 399
 Ogle, Benjamin, 294
 John, 480, 489, 502, 503, 542
 Peter L., 294
 Thomas, 489, 496
 Thomas M., 293
 Ogleton, 489, 495, 496
 Old Drawyers Presbyterian Church, 529, 535, 545, 551, 565

- Old Ebenezer Church, 785
 Swedes Church, 477, 747, 752, 759, 873, 878, 1117, 1124
- Oldham, Charles H., 274
 Thomas, 280, 281
- Oliver, Gallaudet, 675
 Joseph, 67, 679
 Joseph G., 266, 276, 278
- Olivet Presbyterian Church, 311
- Olleson, Olle, 456
- Orr, William P., 237
- Orthodox Friends School, 319
- Ortup, George W., 401, 404
- Osborne, Albert G., 271
 J. T., 245
- Osbourne, Bejudial, 567
 J. W., Mrs., 545
- Osgood, Laura A., 320, 325
- Ossett, Giles, 14
- Ott, George L., 499
- Otte Gerrett, 292, 515
- Outhout, Topp Jansen, 517
- Owen, Joshua T., 216
- Owens, David, 268, 281, 691
- P**
- Pack, Edward, 581, 629
- Packer, Joseph C., 549
- Painter, Edward C., 412
- Palmer, Abram, 25
 Anthony, 257
 James C., 284
- Pancoast, Charles W., 537
- Papegaja, Johann, 29, 31
- Paradee, Charles H., 280
 Frank R., 275
 Stephen, 277
- Paradise Point, 579, 673
- Pardee, Isaac, 179
- Parke, Thomas, 409
- Pardoe, Walter, 407
- Parker, Henry, 475
 James, 283
 Joshua, 647
 Joseph C., & Son Co., 549
 Peter, 690
 Peter S., 259
 W. Reese, 549
- Parris, George, 618
- Parvin, Theophilus, 1071
- Paschall, Samuel D., 395
- Pasmore, William, 466
- Patten, John, 19, 120, 136, 278, 640
- Patterson, John C., 271, 332, 1020
 Nicholas, 771
 Robert, 202, 316
 Samuel, 106, 115, 127, 128, 258, 259, 264, 494
- Patton, John, 276, 605, 637
- Putzowsky, Richard, 387, 390
- Paxson, Merritt H., 214, 274
 William, 343
- Paxton, Edward, 1035
- Paynter, Cornelius, 690
 David, 206, 208
 Edward R., 1112
 John H., 258, 259, 239, 713, 920, 980, 1019
 Lewis, 305
 Richard, 281
 Samuel, 177, 259, 268, 283, 713, 722, 834, 85
 Samuel H., 299
 Samuel, Jr., 281
- Pea Patch Island, 17
- Peace Conference, 197, 844, 902, 987, 1012
- Pearce, Benjamin C., 401
 George, 530
 Smedley, 244
- Pearson, G. B., 557
- Peck, Whiteman, 816
- Peckham, Abbie C., 817
- Pedcord, Caleb B., 782
- Peery, William, 28, 281, 685, 692
- Pemberton, Thomas, 283, 276, 280, 281, 849
- Pencader Hundred, 287, 291, 521, 523, 525, 526, 77
- Pendegrass, Laurence, 214
- Penington, John B., 231, 232, 252, 266, 268, 262, 279, 286, 287, 291
 Robert, 245
- Pennel, Philip C., 691
- Penn, Elizabeth, 643
 John, 27, 802
 Land Co., 452
 Manor, 462
 Richard, 257, 653, 815
 Thomas, 257, 516, 653, 815
 William, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, 66, 69, 78, 82, 452, 480, 481, 502, 517, 523, 536, 546, 559, 560, 571, 624, 632, 643, 614, 662, 674, 684, 698, 716, 732, 853, 903, 961, 1055
 William, Jr., 481
- Pennell, John, 639
- Pennewill, Caleb S., 252, 253, 267, 279, 354, 640, 641
 Harriet C., 1013
 James, 920, 921, 997, 1036
 John C., 271, 608, 609
 Robert O., 799
 Simeon, 269, 705
 Simeon S., 254, 269
- Pennington, Frank J., 275

- Pennington, John H., 619
 Pennock, Elizabeth, 343
 Pennsylvania Land Co., 489, 674
 Penny, C. L., 812
 David, 275
 Pennypacker, Isaac R., 1102
 John T., 355
 Peoples, John, 349, 350, 351
 National Bank, 543, 553, 558
 Railway Company, 340
 Pepper, Ashury C., 283
 Alfred P., 692
 Creek, 8
 David, 692
 Eli, 284
 Henry J., 330
 James N., 692
 Perkins, Henry W., 334
 John, 120
 Joseph, 452
 Thomas, 264, 272, 293
 Perry, Francis T., 274
 Gibbons, 402
 Thomas J., 284
 Wm. T., 284
 Peterkill, James, 280
 Peters, Randolph, 505
 Petersburg, 667
 Petersen, Adam, 292, 547, 548
 Carell, 292
 Hans, 292, 452, 1055
 Samuel, 292
 Peterson, Adam, 271
 Alexander, 619
 Andrew, 551
 Charles, 456
 Evert, 520, 757
 Henry, 566
 Henry W., 799, 1107
 Israel, 610, 619
 Jacob, 548
 John, 619, 620
 Samuel, 299
 Pettingill, William L., 777
 Pettyjohn, James, 692
 John, 729
 Phelps, Rev. H. B., 499
 Philadelphia, Wilmington & Balti-
 more R. R., 464, 496, 521
 Philips, Isaac D., 484
 Mill, 464
 Phillips, Geo. H., 284
 George, 282, 283
 John M., 269, 270, 283
 John R., 272
 John W., 284
 Spencer, 282, 283
 Thomas, 273, 494
 Thomas J., 283
 Phillips, Tyras S., 193
 William D., 273
 William S., 283, 692
 Phoenix Fire Company, 329, 330, 331
 Pickels, Henry F., 305, 361
 James C., 377
 Pierce, Abraham, 277
 George F., 269
 Henry W., 536
 Joseph, 273
 William, 571
 Pierson, Daniel, Jr., 387
 James C., 404
 Joseph, 404
 J. Fred., 415
 Thomas, 271
 Pieterse, Evert, 47
 Piggott, Robert S., 616
 Piles, William, 280, 281
 Pilling, John, 265, 274, 275, 485, 493
 Richard T., 275
 Pilot-town, 718
 Planck, Abraham, 540
 Planet Mfg. Co., 412
 Platt, Emily T., 494
 George, 293
 John, 129, 136
 Pleasant Hill, 487, 488
 Valley, 487
 John, 277, 278
 Plockhoy, Pieter Cornelis, 48
 Plowden, Sir Edward, 29, 44, 45, 270
 Plumly, James, 399, 401
 Plunkett, Joseph, 779
 Philip, 316, 350
 Plymouth, 665
 Company, 10
 Pocomoke River, 8
 Poinsett, Asa, 413
 Polhemius, John, 757
 Polk, Charles, 155, 180, 182, 185, 266,
 267, 270, 278, 280, 282, 361,
 608, 699, 835, 837, 855, 929
 Charles T., 195, 198, 265
 Charles J., 282
 Daniel, 155, 268, 685, 704
 James K., 699
 Joshua, 268
 Joseph L., 815, 816
 John, 282
 Leonidas, 699
 Robert, 506
 Trusten, 699
 William, 151, 267, 282, 285, 506,
 545, 563, 564
 William A., 279, 690
 William N., 268, 282
 Pollen, Jonathan, 607, 608, 609
 Polly, Drummond Hill, 479

- Ponder, Amanda M., 216
 James, 214, 224, 269, 283, 712,
 845, 846, 856
 Pool, Zadoc A., 541, 544
 Poole, Alfred D., 376
 J. Morton, 200, 324, 375, 376
 J. Morton Co., 375
 J. Morton, Jr., 376
 Samuel S., 330
 William, 272, 345, 418
 Pope, Charles, 120, 129, 136, 258
 Popham, William, 119
 Population of State, 149, 174, 177, 224,
 255
 Port Penn, 541, 542, 546, 559
 Porter, Alexander, 151, 188, 264, 272,
 294, 400, 503
 David H., 189
 Edward D., 259, 815, 816
 John B., 1088, 1092
 Robert, 329, 596, 631, 654, 1088,
 1091
 Robert R., 1069
 Willard Hall, 437
 William, 283
 William T., 305, 335, 376
 Porter's Station, 527
 Porterville, 742, 743
 Postles, G. Parke, 385
 James, 279
 J. Parke, 259, 384, 385, 389, 434
 J. Parke & Co., 384
 Stephen, 384, 389
 William, 384
 Potter, Benjamin, 278
 T. Chalmers, 526
 Poulsen, Justa, 292
 Olle, 292, 481
 Powell, James B. R., 279
 James R., 611
 James W., 280
 Nathan C., 279
 William H., 672
 Powelson, Jacob, 20, 24
 Practical Farmer Inn, 457
 Pratt, Henry, 278, 279
 John D., 279
 John L., 271
 Nathan, 228, 237, 259, 260
 William A., 309
 Prays, Clays Danielsen, 292
 Pre-byterian Church, 268
 Press, John L., 465
 Preston Brothers, 550
 James, 1056
 Jonas, 548
 Samuel, 264, 280, 281
 Prettyman, Benton C., 283
 Frank J., 280
 Prettyman, Harry H., 1110
 Harry S., 284
 James D., 286, 1109
 Joel, 692
 John H., 284
 John S., 1110
 Solomon, 318
 Pretzner, Henry, 395
 Price, Benjamin F., 551
 Daniel P., 385
 David, 524
 James, 348, 349
 John B., 405
 John H., 330, 348
 Thomas, 280
 William, 679
 William A., 275
 Pride, Job, 283
 Willard S., 1111
 Primehook Creek, 8
 Prince George's Chapel, 733, 735, 760
 Principio Furnace, 481, 527
 Pritchett, Foster, 608
 Pritchard John, 499
 Thomas B., 692
 Printz, John, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29,
 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 42, 44, 256
 Proctor, Thomas, 645
 Protestant Episcopal Church, 757
 Prominent Delaware Lawyers, 1016
 Pryce, William, 477
 Public Education, 795
 Pugh, William S., 47
 Pullman Palace Car Co., 373
 Purks, William T., 295
 Purnell, Charles T., 692
 May, 835
 Thomas R., 284, 690
 William H., 228, 809, 810
 Purvis, George, 129, 135
 Pusey, Charles W., 370, 422
 Edward, 409
 Elihu J., 269
 Israel, 379, 383
 Jacob, 335, 346, 409
 Jonas, 352
 Joseph M., 409
 Joshua L., 331, 370
 & Jones Co., 370, 371
 Lea, 351, 352, 409
 Marr & Scott, 383
 Mary H., 436
 Pennock, 749
 Samuel N., 332, 368
 Samuel R., 466
 Scott & Co., 383
 William W., 371
 Pyle, Clifford, 392
 Cyrus, 331, 386

- Pyle, C. & J., Co., 386
 C. & W., Co., 392
 Elwood P., 386
 Frederic, 275, 386
 Howard, 1123
 Isaac C., 274, 401, 404
 John, 265, 293
 Joseph, 386, 787
 Joseph P., 306
 Walter, 392
 Willard S., 386
 William M., 304
- Q**
- Quarryville, 457
 Creek, 286
 Queenault, Paul, 129, 136, 141
 Quigley, Isaac T., 391
 & Mullin, 387, 391
 Philip, 474
 Winfield S., 296, 350
 Quinby, Azariah H., 324
 Quinquennium, 534
- R**
- Raine, Charles D., 327
 Rakestraw, William, 489
 Ralph, David W., 234
 Ralston, George E., 608
 James B., 277, 608
 Ramsden, Elizabeth, 434
 Randel, John, 533
 Rash, Howard, 281
 Joseph, 647
 Ratcliffe, Samuel, 182
 Rattlesnake Run, 462
 Raub, Albert N., 810, 815, 816
 Raughley, John, 608
 Robert, 279, 609
 Shadrack, 278
 Rawlins, James, 284, 693
 John M., 691
 Thomas N., 259
 Raymond, George A., 279
 George H., 620, 621
 James, 258, 266, 276, 277
 Jacob, 278, 620
 John, 182, 278, 285
 Jonathan, 609
 Read, George, 89, 92, 93, 94, 97, 98,
 100, 102, 103, 104, 105, 108,
 117, 150, 151, 152, 153, 153,
 157, 257, 260, 264, 270, 504,
 512, 513, 517, 518, 529, 795,
 821, 822, 828, 855, 857, 858,
 859, 860, 861, 863, 864, 865,
 912, 913, 917, 919, 923, 926,
 927, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945,
 946
 Read, George, Jr., 182, 273, 834, 863,
 917
 Harman Pumpelly, 862
 Jacob, 568
 James, 857, 859
 John, 504, 857, 858, 859, 860
 John Meredith, 860, 861
 John Meredith, Jr., 861, 862, 863
 Mary, 828
 Thomas, 857, 859, 860
 William, 293, 296
 William T., 273, 815, 863
 Reader, David S., 334
 Reading, Andrew P., 334
 Philip, 763
 Real Estate Bank of Delaware, 476
 Records, Thomas E., 269
 Thomas W., 601
 William T., 269
 Red Clay, 471
 Creek, 131, 460, 462, 464, 465,
 483, 485, 532
 Presbyterian Church, 482
 Hill, 484
 Lion, 505, 506
 Hundred, 281, 291, 523, 527,
 528, 834, 1024
 Redden, 730
 Wm O., 201, 283, 285, 690, 691
 Reed, Archibald S., 365
 Edward, 610
 Elias S., 195, 279
 Henry, 400
 James C., 267, 670
 J. Edward, 269
 John, Jr., 609
 William, 295
 Reedy, Frank, 610
 Island, 511
 Rees David, 634
 Thomas A., 278
 Reese, John, 483
 Richard, 355
 Reeve, John W., 395
 Reformed Episcopal Church, 765, 766
 Register, Chas. H., 279
 Robert, 278
 Regular Republican Party, 235, 247,
 249, 252
 Rehoboth Bay, 8, 722
 Beach, 719
 City, 719
 Reid, David C., 370
 Reilly, Rev. Patrick, 312, 778
 Reliance, 709, 710
 Fire Co., 329
 Religious Denominations, 745
 Remington, George W., 377
 Machine Co., 377

- Rench, James, 151, 258
 Repauno Chemical Co., 890
 Return Day, 731
 Rettew, Horace G., 299
 Revell, John, 276
 Revolutionary War, 88, 477
 Reybold, George W., 275
 Philip, 532, 533, 534, 963
 Reynolds, Alexander, 272, 296, 298
 Andrew, 264, 272, 273
 Classical Academy, 320
 John, 609, 679
 John A., 274
 Robert W., 608, 609, 650
 Robert, Jr., 233, 259, 279, 667,
 700, 849, 850, 856
 Samuel, 452
 William, 259
 William A., 320, 321, 910
 William M., 755
 Rhodes, John, 129, 136
 William, 115, 503, 609
 Rianhard, Sylvester, 403, 404, 405
 Rice, Evan, 346
 James H. T., 414
 Washington, 273
 William, 414
 & White, 395
 Rich, Alexander M., 479, 482
 Richards, Charles F., 237, 238, 248,
 919, 1042, 1050
 Charles H., 689
 Captain, 206
 Isaac, 275
 Robert H., 258, 807, 1050, 1051,
 1052
 William, 346
 William H., 195, 283
 Richardson Hotel, 461
 Alden B., 267, 641, 642, 643, 644
 Anna B., 433
 Francis, 634
 George, 332, 336, 348
 Harry A., 232, 254, 261, 641, 642,
 643
 Jacob, 293
 James, 279
 James L., 610
 Jane, 820
 John, 263, 271, 461, 476, 613, 630,
 640, 649
 John, Jr., 276, 343
 Joseph P., 461
 Lucy, 644
 Nathan, 642
 Richard, 461, 633, 634, 820
 Samuel, 464
 William H., 284
 William W., 644
 Richenberger, Manuel, 403
 Richie, Hugh W., 296, 298
 Richman, William, 391
 Rickards, Charles, 283
 James, 294
 Perry P., 279
 Riddle, George Read, 191, 213, 222,
 261, 427, 841, 872
 James, 221, 420, 422, 472, 520
 Leander F., 265, 422
 Riddles, Banks, 472
 Ridgely, Abraham, 259
 Charles, 151, 276, 611, 898, 899,
 1059
 Charles G., 285, 900, 924
 Daniel M., 279, 611, 819
 Edward, 234, 260, 589, 590, 900,
 902
 Henry, 194, 611, 911, 1039
 Henry, Jr., 807, 902
 Henry M., 160, 161, 180, 181,
 182, 260, 261, 277, 278, 608,
 630, 640, 894, 899, 900, 901,
 902, 929
 Nicholas, 154, 155, 181, 258, 266,
 276, 277, 592, 607, 609, 640,
 898, 915, 920, 923, 924, 925,
 961
 Ruth Anna, 1039
 Ridgway, D. C., 785
 Rigg, John A., 338
 Riggan, Emory B., 284, 285
 Riggs, William E., 608
 Rile, Henry M., 397
 J. Harmon, 1076
 Riley, Lawrence, 283
 Ripot, Niels Nielson, 292
 Rising, Johan Clasen, 33, 34, 35, 36,
 37, 256
 Sun, 467, 656
 Risler, George W., 284
 Ritchie, Charles A., 557
 Riverview Cemetery Co., 428
 Roads, John, 263, 280
 Robin, Albert, 1082
 Robbins, 730
 J. M., 284
 James W., 641, 642, 643
 Roberts, George W., 1104, 1108
 Joseph, 296, 297, 298
 Kemp, 285
 Robert D., 697
 Robertson, Abraham, 151
 James W., 275
 Joseph, 1106, 1107
 Thomas, 281
 Robeson, William, 272
 Robinett, Joseph K., 405
 Robinson, Abram, 259

- Robinson, Alfred B., 692
 Alfred P., 271, 723, 920, 967
 Alfred R., 260
 Aquila, 348
 Daniel, 609
 Edward, 481
 Edward A., 334
 Francis, 331
 Frederic H., 321
 General Thomas, 458
 George, 691
 Henry C., 350, 356, 411, 416, 474
 James C., 610
 Jesse W., 284
 John, 282, 283, 691
 Joseph, 345
 J. Norris, 356
 Peter, 155, 195, 259, 260, 268,
 281, 282, 283, 284, 723, 799,
 920, 973, 976, 1044
 Robert, 294
 Robert Emmet, 356
 Robert R., 356
 R. R. & Co., 355
 Samuel, 645
 Thomas, 164, 272, 283, 691, 692,
 723
 Thomas, Jr., 185, 186, 261, 723
 William, 273, 383, 535, 723
- Roche, Edward, 129, 136, 155, 163,
 264, 272
- Rockland, 457
 Church, 471
 Manor, 449, 452, 453, 462
- Rodeney, William, 78, 263, 607, 609,
 631, 634, 691, 863, 864, 869
- Rodney, Caesar, 90, 91, 92, 94, 97, 98,
 99, 101, 105, 107, 112, 113, 115,
 116, 118, 123, 126, 133, 153, 257,
 258, 266, 270, 566, 587, 607, 608,
 609, 631, 640, 761, 795, 822, 855,
 864, 865, 866, 1061
 Caesar A., 163, 175, 176, 177, 261,
 262, 264, 272, 305, 345, 415, 866,
 867, 868, 869, 1067
 Caleb, 175, 176, 268, 270, 281,
 282, 721, 833, 855, 870
 Daniel, 174, 176, 180, 261, 609,
 721, 831, 855, 869, 870
 Elizabeth, 866
 Eliza R., 1034
 George B., 186, 196, 261, 503, 517,
 691, 869, 870, 927
 Henry F., 182, 268, 283
 John, 258, 691, 864
 John D., 283, 691
 John H., Jr., 870
 John H., 517, 870
 John M. C., 869
- Rodney, Richard Seymour, 870
 Street Presbyterian Church, 311
 Thomas, 91, 97, 99, 106, 117, 126,
 257, 276, 285, 586, 608, 866, 868
 Thomas M., 262, 274, 361, 867,
 868, 869
 William, 276, 662, 869, 870
- Rodgers, Rev. Dr. John, 551
- Roe, Brinckle, 609
 Samuel, 602, 616, 636
 Samuel D., 267
 Thomas C., 807
 William, 267, 268
- Rogers, Daniel, 156, 268, 270, 281,
 676, 696, 828, 855
 Edmund E., 245
 James, 177, 182, 258, 259, 260,
 514, 521, 917, 1018
 James B., 274
 John, 535
 John M., 367
 Molton C., 285
 Robert C., 189
 Theodore, 200
 Thomas C., 405
 William, 274
- Roman Catholic Church, 777
- Rose, David C., 265, 275, 294
 David C., Jr., 275
- Ross, Catherine, 863
 George, 535, 552, 759, 760, 762,
 763, 859
 Gertrude, 863
 James J., 708
 William H., 191, 708, 841, 855,
 1027
 Willie M., 259, 269, 819
- Rossell, John S., 354, 371
- Rothwell, George C., 295
- Rothwell's Landing, 615, 619
- Roussie, Elisse, 506
- Rowan, Henry, 298
 Rev. William J., 498
- Rowland, James C., 269
 Joseph G., 277, 278
 Joseph J., 647
 Samuel, 691
- Rowle, Walker, 544
- Rowlinson, J. H., 1118
- Roxanna, 727
- Royal Arch Masons, 439
- Rudolph, John, 31
- Rudman, Andrew, 751, 759
- Rue, Matthew, 573
- Rugby Academy, 321
- Rumford, Alice J., 431
 Charles G., 1025
 Henry P., 351
 Jonathan, 358

- Rumford, Lewis, 330
 Mrs. Charles G., 434
 Miss Margaret, 787
- Rumsey, Charles, 479, 480, 484, 502
 John, 348
- Rush, Benjamin, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1067
- Russell, A. K., 816
 George, 269
 James H., 691
 John, 690
 Philip, 689, 690
 Washington, 298
 William, 607, 690
 William P., 608
- Rust, Catesby F., 269, 270
 William C., 284
- Rutan, Edwin E., 245
- Ruth, John W., 285
- Ryland, Alrichs, 273, 285
- Rysing, John Claude, 256
- S**
- Saboy, Isaac, 292
- Sackett, Charles H., 284
- Sacred Heart R. C. Church, 312, 779
- Salisbury, 595, 613, 614, 618
- Salmon, Charles H., 265, 270
- Samuells, Samuel, 292
- Sanders, Jacob, 513
- Sandford, Whitney, 282, 283
- Sapp, Lowder L., 237
 William, 267
- Sassafras River, 8
- Sasse, George W., 354
- Satterfield, James, 283
 John, 280
 William, 611
- Satterthwaite, John J., 377
- Saulsbury, Eli, 225, 226, 230, 231, 232, 261, 279, 936, 937
 Garrettson, 279
 Gove, 214, 220, 221, 225, 267, 270, 844, 845, 856, 872
 John P., 260, 1108
 John F., 260, 279, 286, 1108
 Willard, 203, 204, 209, 212, 225, 226, 248, 249, 254, 258, 261, 354, 799, 921, 933, 934, 935, 936, 1048, 1108
 William, 237, 278, 279, 609, 1108
- Savannah Church, 679
- Savery, Thomas H., 370
- Savin, John A., 279
 John B., 278
- Sawyer, Henry W., 401
 Peter, 518
 Thomas, 480
- Saxton, Rufus R., 553
- Schee, Augustus M., 1106
- Scheu, Francis, 1105
- Schabinger, John H., 279
- Schenck, General, 211
- Schermerhorn, Augustus Van Cortlandt, 874
- Schofield, John, 404
- Scott, Alfred T., 788, 789
 & Co., 356, 357
 Harlan G., 355, 356
 Henry P., 355, 356
 James, 352, 383, 384
 John, 544, 569
 John M., 384
 Julius E., 1111
 J. Winfield, 384
 Levi, 569, 745, 788
 M. E. Church, 311, 787
 Thomas, 298, 569
 William A., 571
 W. J. R., 473
- Scotten, John L., 280
 Merritt, 279
 Philemon, 279
 Richard, 615
- Scribner, John W., 283, 690
 Wm. A., 283
- Seaford, 8, 200, 707, 708, 709, 710, 786, 841, 1114
 Hundred, 684, 706, 707
- Seal, Joseph, 370
 Thomas, 475
 William, 182, 265, 273, 335, 346
- Sebo, John, 199
- Second Baptist Church, 311, 312, 776
 Presbyterian Church, 310
- Secret Societies, 437
- Security Trust & Safe Deposit Co., 350, 353, 1022
- Seidel & Hastings Co., 381
 Henry B., 331
- Selbyville, 727
- Sellars, William R., 303
- Sellers, John, 178
- Sempill, Joslyn, 292
- Semple, Ann, 429, 430
 Thomas L., 609
 William, 271
- Sentman, Charles H., 1105
- Sevier, Frank M., 275
- Sevil, Abel, 279
- Seward, John, 646
- Seymour, William, 137, 138, 139, 141, 142, 147
- Shakespeare, E. O., 271, 1071
 James M., 265
 William M., 267, 639
- Shallcross, James T., 275, 296, 547

- Shallcross, Lewis W , 515
 Shanks, J. Dixon. 816
 Shankland, John, 691
 Joseph, 691
 Rhoads, 155, 268, 281, 685
 Willes, 691
 Shannon, Abraham P., 297
 William, 496
 Sharp, Eli R., 691
 Jacob F., 372
 John W., 279
 Thomas, 276
 William, 280, 607
 Sharpe, Eli, 403
 Jesse, 202, 324, 335, 361, 399,
 400, 425
 Phebe, 403
 Sallie, 403
 Sharpless, A. & J. D. , 466
 Sharpley, Harry, 265
 Shaw, Benjamin F., 306
 David, 405
 James G., 514
 Robert, 1124, 1125
 Samuel L., 610
 William, 278, 295
 Shearman, William Hilles, 433
 Sheilds, Dennis S., 334
 Sheldrake, William, 279
 Shellpot Creek, 450, 452
 Hill, 166
 Shelp, Ezekial, 411
 Shepherd, Benjamin F., 286
 Edward, 274
 Shepperd, Hercules, 280
 Sherwood, William, 276
 Sheward, Caleb M., 346
 Shinn, Samuel F., 1106
 Shields, William B., 259, 894
 Shiloh Baptist Church, 312
 Shipley, Joseph, 20
 Jonathan, 610
 Joseph P. H., 283
 Thomas, 418
 William, 300, 310, 358, 766
 Shippen, Edward, 257
 William, 874
 Shoemaker, James H., 425
 Short, Adam, 692
 Daniel, 284, 689
 Eli S., 284
 F. Burgette, 744
 Hiram S., 690, 693
 Isaac, 279
 Isaac B., 693
 John W., 284, 692, 693
 Philip, 690
 Robert, 692
 Shadrack, 284
 Short, William P., 284
 Shortlidge, Evan G., 328
 Shurmer, Benjamin, 607, 608, 609, 613,
 614, 624, 633, 646
 William, 613
 Siericks, Jan, 545
 Silver, Abiel, 794
 Albert H., 503
 William, 274, 506
 Silverbrook M. E. Church, 311
 Simcock, John, 256
 Simmons, Bauday, 332
 & Brother, 359
 Charles H., 428
 Jesse G., 455
 Samuel G., 350
 William, 293, 309
 Simonton, William C., 272
 Simpson, James, 450
 Joseph, 663
 M. E. Church, 478
 Thomas, 278
 William, 650
 Singles, John C., 502
 Sinnexson, Andrew, 479
 Broor, 292, 461, 479
 Sipple, Ann Clark, 784
 Caleb, 276, 277
 Caleb B., 690
 Jonathan, 610, 782
 Thomas, 259
 Waitman, 640, 645
 Waitman, Jr., 892
 Sirman, William L., 284, 285
 Sisler, J. Davis, 350
 Sisson, Mary D., 433
 Skillington, Elijah, 129, 136
 Thomas, 128
 Skinner, Robert H., 1039
 Slaughter Beach, 697
 Jonathan, 279
 Stephen, 267
 William, 279, 648
 Slaughters Creek, 8
 Slay, John, 279, 608, 648
 William, 646
 Sleeper, Alden B., 390
 Sloss, Samuel S., 267
 Smallwood, William, 105, 122, 135
 Smalley, William F., 275, 494
 Smidt, Derk, 39, 256
 Smith, Artemas, 265
 Albert W., 318, 352, 480
 Asbury, 284
 Charles, 410
 Charles E., 410
 Daniel, 545
 David, 282
 David F., 610

- Smith, Dudley D., 473
 David R., 690, 691
 Edward A., 163
 Frank E., 294
 Ford, 464
 George, 149, 610
 Henry, 280
 Isaac, 457
 James, 413, 515, 774
 James A., 608
 James H., 193, 279
 James L., 279
 James P., 490
 Joseph, 283
 Rev. Joseph, 471
 John, 317, 462
 John M., 400, 401
 John W., 279
 J. Ernest, 352
 J. Pusey, 401, 404
 J. Colby, 659
 Linton, 412
 Maria F., 621
 & Painter, 412
 Robert, 410
 Robert W., 383
 Richard, 154, 624, 645
 Samuel, 120, 272, 318, 393
 Samuel K., 369
 S. Rodmond, 1026
 Thomas, 410
 Thomas B., 275, 305, 369
 William, 265, 274
 William C., 1088
 Willard T., 275, 806
- Smithers, Caleb, 193, 279, 609
 Captain Elias, 279
 Enoch J., 262
 John, 610
 Joseph, 267, 607, 609, 799
 Mary, 680
 Mary E., 1033
 Nathaniel B., 211, 213, 232, 260,
 261, 285, 607, 608, 641, 931,
 935, 1032, 1033, 1035, 1037
 Nathaniel B., Jr., 608
 William, 610
 William T., 237, 919
- Smyrna, 211, 562, 574, 602, 603, 604,
 605, 606, 614, 615, 616, 618,
 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 766,
 772, 773, 785, 840, 849, 876,
 877, 878, 991, 1115
 Landing, 612
- Smyth, Clement B., 349, 352, 379, 415,
 432
 George H., 774
 Thomas A., 201, 216, 217, 218
 William C., 1089
- Snow, James, 617
 Silas, 266, 276
 William W., 415
- Society of Friends, 766
- Sorden, John, 192, 269, 283, 285, 690
 Thomas, 281
 William, 610
- South Murderkill Hundred, 660, 667,
 850, 892
- Southby, William, 632, 633
 Southard, Stephen S., 349
 Southerbe, William, 263
 Southrim, Edward, 263, 280
 Spahn, Peter, 417
 Spaid, Arthur R., 806
 Spanish American War, 245
 Sparks, Charles E., 294
 Charles E., Jr., 429
 George W., 253, 265, 270, 309,
 346, 419
 James A., 270
- Speakman, Carrie E. P., 614
 Frank L., 297
 Willard A., 433
- Spearman, Silas, 614
 Simon, 260, 278, 799
- Specht, Karl, 417
- Spencer, Joseph, 679
 Peter, 745, 791, 792
- Sperry, Watson R., 1103
- Spottswood, J. B., 769, 995
- Spicer, George W., Jr., 286
 Robert B., 693
- Springer, Benjamin H., 273
 Charles, 59, 402
 Francis L., 476
 George, 274
 James, 193
 John P., 296
 Samuel W., 334
- Spruance, Enoch, 279
 James W., 279
 J. Harvey, 275
 Presley, 182, 186, 261, 266, 267,
 270, 277, 278, 603, 617, 620,
 621, 909
 Presley, Jr., 278
 William C., 237, 238, 514, 517,
 919, 920, 994
- Spry, Dr. Thomas, 541, 1055
- Squirrel Run, 465
- St. Andrew P. E. Church, 310, 760,
 761, 764
- St. Anne P. E. Church, 552, 562, 563,
 570
- St. Ann's R. C. Church, 779
- St. Augustine Creek, 543
 Landing, 541
 Manor, 522

- St. Augustine Pier, 547
 St. George's Chapel, 725
 Creek, 286, 287, 542, 569
 Hundred, 287, 291, 522, 539, 542,
 543, 546, 547, 555, 557, 558,
 559, 566, 568
 town of, 200, 522, 534, 770, 775,
 1024
 St. Hedwig's R. C. Church, 312
 St. James' A. U. M. E. Church, 793
 P. E. Church, 477, 482
 R. C. Church, 312
 St. John's A. U. M. P. Church, 499
 P. E. Church, 310, 760, 765, 888
 St. Johnstown, 701, 703
 St. Jones, 577
 Creek, 8, 580, 581
 St. Joseph's R. C. Church, 473, 552
 St. Mary's College, 312, 321
 R. C. Church, 312, 778
 St. Michael's P. E. Church, 310
 St. Patrick's R. C. Church, 312, 473,
 498, 778, 779
 St. Paul's M. E. Church, 311, 787
 St. Paul's R. C. Church, 312, 779
 St. Peter's A. U. M. E. Church, 793
 P. E. Church, 762
 R. E. Church, 312, 778
 St. Thomas's P. E. Church, 499
 R. C. Church, 312
 Staats, Abraham, 260, 264, 272, 273,
 572
 John F., 260
 Wilmer C., 275
 Stafford, Henry, 275, 293
 Staffordshire, 481
 Stagg, Josiah, 397
 Stalcops, Andries, 292
 Jan Andreissen, 292
 Jan, Jr., 292
 John, 484
 Staning Manor, 481
 Stanton, 130, 132, 480, 483, 487, 488,
 495
 Stapler, John, 490
 William, 490
 Staples, Stephen M., 274
 Starling, James, 611
 Starr, Isaac, 348
 Isaac S., 272
 Louis, 1071
 State College for Colored Students, 818,
 819
 Constitutions, 912
 Hospital for the Insane, 505
 Normal School, 320
 Seal, 87, 103
 Stayton, Amos J., 284
 David H., 609
 Steel, Ishmael, 692
 James, 691
 James T., 489
 John, 489
 Steele, Henry, 297, 402
 John R., 692, 693
 Stellwagen, Thomas C., 1054, 1056,
 1059, 1063
 Sterling, Thomas J., 265
 Victor, 467
 Sterner, Levi G., 271
 Stetson, Lucy, 643
 William A., 388
 Stevens, Abel, 783
 Henry C., 1074
 James, 119, 123
 John, 649, 650
 William, 649
 William H., 1114
 Stevenson, Charles M., 245
 Denny, 610
 James L., 618, 785
 Jesse B., 284, 693
 Robert C., 280
 Stewart, Alexander, Jr., 120, 123, 129
 Caleb R., 692
 Daniel F., 304
 David, 517
 James, 610, 691
 John, 691, 1055
 Kensey J., 229
 Levin, 691
 Samuel, 453
 William, 413
 Stiddem, Adam, 292
 Dr. Tymen, 292, 299, 418
 Erasmus, 292
 Lucas, 292
 Luloff, 292
 Stidham, Adam, 462
 Emmit F., 293, 295
 John H., 324
 Joseph, 119, 293, 294
 Lewis W., 293
 Tyman, 462
 Dr. Tyman, 516, 1054, 1055
 William, 293, 294
 Stillely, William H., 334
 Stillwell, John, 294
 Stockley, Ayres, 278, 620
 Charles C., 230, 269, 270, 690, 691,
 803, 843, 848, 856
 John, 280, 689, 690, 691
 Philip, 690
 Woodman, 155, 268, 281, 685
 Stockton, Fidelia R., 839
 John, 167, 264, 293, 294, 839
 Thomas, 167, 186, 189, 259, 296,
 297, 298, 839, 848, 856

- Stoeckle, Harry J., 417
 Joseph, 416
- Stone, George W., 365
 Lewis, 475
 Sybilla Ann, 478
- Stony Run, 482
- Story, Joseph, 294
- Stotsenburg, Evan C., 335
- Stout, Henry, 270, 589
 Jacob, 151, 176, 266, 270, 276,
 277, 589, 612, 620, 650, 651,
 832, 855
 John B., 270
 Thomas M., 278
- Strange, Jonathan, 462
- Stratton, Thomas, 692
- Strawbridge, Robert, 607
- Stretcher, Henry, 289
- Strode, Thomas, 453
- Strong, A., 784
- Stroud, A. Elizabeth, 430
 James, 272
- Stuart, James, 214, 253
- Stubbs, J. Bacon, 1074
 William B., 279
- Sturgis, F. B., 201
- Stuyvesant, Peter, 22, 31, 32, 35, 36,
 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 49, 51, 52, 256,
 613
- Sudler, John R., 259, 283, 843
- Summit Bridge, 527
- Supplee, Frank, 472
- Sussex County, 1, 683, 684, 689, 693
- Sutherland Robert, Dr., 506
- Sutton, Albert N., 275
 James N., 298
 John, 265, 273, 534
- Swain, William J., 286
- Swallow, May Jenkins, 852
- Swank, James M., 484
- Swanwyck, 501
- Swayne, Henry, 189, 274, 275, 463
- Swearwigen, Gerrit, 292
- Swedes Church, 309, 313, 426
- Swedenborg, Emanuel, 313
- Swedenborgian Church, 794
- Swedish Lutherans, 745
 Mission, 311
 West India Company, 16, 25
- Sweeney, Hugh F., 334
- Swift & Courtney, 409
 Elisha P., 604
 William H., 306, 335, 354, 409
- Swiggett, Luther, 260
 William H., 690
 William Y., 304
- Swinney, C. O., 1076
- Sykes, George, 1065
 George W., 270
- Sykes, James, 103, 151, 152, 155, 156,
 157, 257, 258, 266, 270, 285,
 523, 607, 609, 825, 829, 855,
 1056, 1065, 1069
- Symons, John, 280
- Sypherd, Clarence D., 245, 280

T

- Tadman, Robert W., 389, 390
 & Hickman, 389
- Talbot, George, 496
- Talley, David, 453
 Harman, 273
 Samuel, 453
 William, 453
- Talleyville, 456, 460
- Tamand, 2
- Tammany, Roman, 806
- Tantum, Joseph R., 1075
- Tarrant, Thomas, 610, 631
- Tasker, S. P. M., 515
 Thomas T., Sr., 514, 515
- Tassen, Jesse Olson, 202
 Olle Olson, 292
- Tasschemaker, Petrus, 757
- Tate, James, 127
- Tatlow, Joseph, 504, 506
- Tatman, Charles, 560, 561, 562, 563
 John, 284
 Parnal, 283
- Tatnall, Anne, 178
 Edward, 178, 343, 348, 409, 461,
 853
 Henry L., 1121, 1123
 Joseph, 155, 178, 272, 303, 342,
 343, 344, 413, 418
 Robert, 343
 Sarah, 461, 853
 William, 178, 336, 349
- Tatum, John R., 195, 196, 198, 265
- Taylor, Alexander, 609
 Alexander J., 608
 Bayard, 6, 1095
 Daniel W., 357, 365
 Edward, 639
 Edward T., 353, 775
 Edwin O., 404
 Eli, 403
 Frank, 415, 416
 G. W. & S., Co., 619
 Henry, 279
 Henry C., 385
 Henry M., 377
 Herman, 280
 Ignatius, 208, 609
 James, 619
 James B., 275
 Jenifer S., 610

- Taylor, John E.**, 293
 John M., 419
 John W., 279
 Jonathan K., 319
 Joseph, 611
 Merris, 271, 1102
 Nathaniel, 770
 Robert H., 304
 Samuel M., 280
 T. Clarkson, 319
 Thomas K., 279
 William P., 527
Tayne, Isaac, 292
Tazewell, Samuel G., 334
Tearson, Olle, 292
Temple, Franklin, 279
 James D. W., 279
 Thomas L., 278, 621
 William, 189, 203, 207, 211, 267,
 278, 285, 617, 622, 840, 849,
 855, 1030
Tennent, Charles, 491
 John, 268, 281, 283
Tenney, Alfred F., 327
Tharp, Benajah, 182, 672, 851, 855
 John, 840
 Lewellyn, 259
 James, 672
 William, 186, 267, 672, 673, 678,
 833, 840, 841, 851, 855
Thelwell, John, 314, 786
Thirteenth Amendment, 214
Thistlewood, James, 668
Thomas, A. T., & Son, 1110
 Aquilla, 315
 Chapel, 606
 Charles, 177, 264, 270, 273, 834,
 855
 Edward, 399
 Edwin E., 275
 Enoch, 273
 Eliza, 834
 Evan, 295, 296, 346
 Evan H., 295
 Frank H., 389
 David, 545
 George, 257, 269
 John, 524
 J. Miller, 1105
 Philip, 610
 Samuel, 567, 908
 T. Snowden, 1105
 William, 646
 William L. G., 384
 William W., 1077
Thomassen, Olle, 292
Thomson, Allan, 348
Thompson, Hugh H., 298
 Henry B., 421
Thompson, Henry S., 183
 James, 294, 335
 James T., 284
 James W., 348, 1094
 Joel, Jr., 274
 John, 151, 253, 485, 534
 John C., 284
 John L., 284
 John P., 638
 Joseph B., 284
 Lewis, 274, 285, 361
 Mary, 803
 Purnell, 610
 Samuel, 297
 William, 279, 294, 816, 863
Thorn Point, 697
Thorne, Sydenham, 675, 678, 679, 681
Three Runs Church, 603, 604, 605,
 678, 773
Tidbury, 597
Tilden, Samuel J., 847
Till, William, 296, 297, 309
Tilton Hospital, 214
 James, 113, 116, 119, 163, 214,
 250, 258, 259, 467, 1036, 1037,
 1058, 1059, 1065
 Nehemiah, 264, 272, 295
Tindal, Caleb C., 806
Tindall, John A., 284
 Miles, 283
 Purnal, 2 8, 282, 283, 691
Tinker, Dudley B., 285
Todd, Eli, 352
 George W., 379
 Henry, 214, 279, 285, 608, 609
 James H., 278
 Levin, 671
 William, 467
Toland, Helen F., 1041
Tom, William, 296, 451, 512, 566
Tomlinson, Peter W., 284, 1083
 William, 279
 William B., 284, 690
Torbert, Albert A. T., 262
 Jonathan R., 799
 John, 345, 346, 348, 420
 William, 277
Torkillus, Reorus, 20, 23, 747
Toosen, Henry, 451
Tossen, Mathias Laersen, 292
Townsend, 569, 570, 571
 B. Frank, 308
 Barclay, 281, 741
 George Alfred, 731
 George H., 284
 George L., 275, 361, 789
 George R., 308
 George W., 545
 James, 608

- Townsend, John, 668
 John C., 284
 John W., 461
 L. Scott, 354, 806
 Major, 278
 Timothy E., 284
 Theodore, 245, 807, 1110, 1111
 Thomas, 282
 William, 1033
 W. Fiske, 286, 690, 1112
 Zadock, 308
- Towne Point, 581, 661
 Toy, Thomas, 468
 Treat, Charles H., 231, 731, 734
 Treaty of Ghent, 174
 Tresham, James, 149
 Tredenick, Louis, 719
 Trinity M. E. Church, 311
 P. E. Church, 310, 760
 Triton Spinning Mills, 514
 Troy, 581
 Truitt, Beniah M., 691
 George, 154, 156, 236, 268, 276,
 277, 282, 283, 610, 653, 666,
 830, 855
 Joseph, 120
 John O., 284
 John H., 692
 William A., 692
 Trump Bros. Machine Co., 378
 C. Newbold, 378
 Mrs. C. Newbold, 433
 Samuel N., 338, 378
- Trussam, James, 129
 Truxton, Joseph D., 692
 Tschudy & Catts, 619
 Tucker, James B., 429
 Tunnell, Charles, 690
 Ebe W., 233, 234, 236, 245, 623,
 690, 721, 728, 819, 851, 852,
 856, 1116
 Isaac, 692
 James, 728
 Nathaniel, 283
- Turner, Brooke T., 402
 C. H. B., 762
 Henry Clay, 402
 Joseph B., 773
 John D., 265
 Lazarus, 692
 Nathaniel, 24
- Twaddell, Charles, 467
 Twitmyer, George W., 327
 Tyler, Mrs. John, 484
 Tyré, Abraham L., 275
 Philip P., 457
 Tyson, Ford, 484
 Sarah Ann, 315
- U**
- Ulman, Julian, 387
 Unander, Erick, 754
 United States Judges, 998
 Union Fire Company, 333
 M. E. Church, 311, 787
 Republican Party, 235, 247, 249,
 252
 Unitarian Church, 794
 Upham, D. A. J., 1089
 Usher Arthur, 594, 600, 602, 616, 635
 Usselincx, William, 16, 20
 Ustick, Benjamin, 298
 Uttre, Nathaniel, 48, 49, 854
- V**
- V. Burgh. Arent Jansen, 292
 Valch, Sybrout, 292
 Valentine, Joshua S., 199, 274
 Vallandigham, Edward N., 1102
 Irving S., 1071
 James L., 491
 Valley Forge, 134, 135, 836
 Van Beek, Garret Jansen, 292
 Van Bibber, Jacob, 534
 Matthias, 522, 545
 Van Burkalow, Moses S., 279
 Vance, Samuel, 544, 547
 Vandegrift, Paulus Lindert, 545
 Vandegrift, Abram, 271
 Christopher, 265
 Jacob, 264, 546
 James M., 544
 Joseph W., 274
 Leonard, 272, 273, 545, 546
 Leonard G., 265
 Lewis, C., 771, 1045
 Rachel M G., 436
 William, 273, 547
 Vandenberg, John T., 284
 Vanderburg, Henry, 534
 Vanderburgh, Arient J., 479
 Vanderford, Henry, 1114
 Vanderheyden, Matthias, 292
 Vandever, Alfred D., 295
 - Brothers, 554
 - Charles M., 298
 - Cornelius, 292
 - Jacob, 292, 450, 456
 - Peter, 273, 293, 307, 404
 - Peter B., 295, 298
 Vandyke, Abraham, 297
 David, 771
 Dorcas M., 178, 180
 Gregorius, 256, 292, 450
 Isaac, 548

- Vandyke, John, 293
 Nicholas, 103, 105, 108, 111, 113,
 151, 152, 153, 175, 176, 177,
 179, 257, 258, 261, 264, 272,
 512, 513, 545, 824, 825, 855,
 899, 914, 928
 Nicholas, Jr., 1017
 Vangaskin, John, 279
 Vangezel, Cornelis, 48, 49
 Vanhekle, John, 545
 Vanheklin, Johannes, 543
 Van Holst, William, 255
 Horst, Wyndertsen, 24
 Kirk, Arthur, 281
 Rensaleer, Killiaen, 12
 Vansant, Albertus, 546
 Van Sweringen, Gerrit, 48, 503, 510
 Trump, C. Reginald, 455
 Twiller, Wouter, 27, 255
 Vliet, Cornelis, 20, 23
 Vaughan, J. Frank, 352
 John, 1069, 1089
 Jonathan, 702
 Joseph, 125, 129, 136
 Samuel D., 283
 William, 120
 Verhoff, Jean Garretson, 292
 Verhoof, Cornelius, 280, 690
 Vernon, 669, 671
 George W., 1093, 1094, 1095
 Verrazona, 9
 Vertricht Hook, 449, 450
 Vickars, Nathan, 282, 285, 690
 Vincent, Francis, 1096, 1098
 George H., 693
 Joshua, 669
 Vine Creek, 8
 Vines, John, 280, 691, 692
 Vining, Benjamin, 270, 611
 Henry, 294
 John, 157, 258, 260, 261, 266, 276,
 277, 607, 608, 1017
 Vineyard, Davis, 280
 Viola, 658
 Virden, James, 279, 608
 Samuel, 278
 William, 195, 279, 607
 Virginia Company, 11
 Volkertsen, Peter, 292
 Voshell, John M., 279, 611
 W. H., 547
 Vos Matthias de, 292
 Vonder Burgh, Hendrick, 292
 Vries, Cornelis Jansen, 292
 Vulcanized Fibre Company, 415
- W**
- Wainwright, Thomas, 267
 Wagaman, John T., 284
 Wales, John, 188, 192, 200, 260, 261,
 346, 1019
 Leonard E., 252, 346, 436, 474,
 920, 1005, 1092
 Waite, Joseph, 415
 Walker & Elliott, 378
 Francis M., 275, 295
 George, 278, 281, 282
 John H., 334
 John W., 283
 Martin E., 381
 A. Priscilla, 644
 Richard, 580, 632
 Vincent C., 378
 William, 644
 Thomas, 692
 Wallace, Howard T., 380
 Lewis E., 284
 Solomon, 610
 Thomas, 278, 397
 Waller, George, 281, 282
 Jonathan, 283
 Walls, George R., 692
 Isaac, 696
 William D., 610
 Walraven, Hendrick, 292
 Gysbert, 292, 461
 Walsh, J. S., 473
 Walter, Ebe, 283
 Eli, 726
 John P., 638
 Robert, 282
 Walther, John, 395
 Walton, Charles, 275
 Ephraim T., 411, 416
 Matthew, 573
 William, 692
 & Whann Co., 411
 Waples, John S., 283
 Lemuel W., 195, 283, 284, 286
 Nathaniel, 281
 Robert, 283
 William D., 182, 259, 268, 283,
 284, 285
 Ward, Cyrus, 693
 Herbert H., 255, 258, 1045, 1046,
 1051
 James, 696
 James H., 804
 James W., 692
 William M., 334
 Ware, James W., 275
 Warner, Alfred D., 363, 364
 Alfred D., Jr., 364
 Charles, 332, 363, 364
 Charles, Company, 363
 Daniel Corbit, 435

- Warner, Emalea P., 435, 436
 E. Tatnall, 363, 364, 365, 908
 Henry, 343
 Irving, 354
 Isaac, 453
 Joseph T., 349
 John, 165, 364
 R. Josephine, 436
 William, 259, 277, 285, 364, 567
 William Y., 384
- War of 1812, 161, 164, 837, 838, 839
- Warren, Ebenezer W., 284
 Samuel, 697
 Samuel R., 568
 Samuel, Sr., 278
 Thomas E., 280
- Warrington, Jacob, 675
- Wartenby, William, 625, 626
- Warwick Landing, 725
- Washington Fire Company, 332
 George, 458, 496, 497, 499, 560, 865, 943
 Heights M. E. Church, 311
 Hotel, 499
 John, 404
- Water Land 479
 Witch Fire Company, 331
- Waters, W. E., 552
- Watkins, Columbus, 275
 Frank B., 563
 John, 484, 502, 524
 Packing Co., 562
 Gassaway, 298
- Watson, Albert A., 608
 Beniah, 237, 286
 Benjamin, 273
 Bethuel, 279, 851
 Captain, 206
 Curtis S., 267, 279, 590, 681
 John, 127
 Joseph W. H., 476
 Luke, 263, 280, 281, 691, 718
 Luke, Jr., 280, 281
 Robert Y., 279
 Thomas A., 280
 William, 453
 William T., 234, 267, 270, 279, 673, 674, 851, 856
- Wattson, Thomas, 155
- Wawaset, 449
- Way, Elizabeth, 314
 John, 264, 345, 346
 Joshua, 358
 Nicholas, 155, 1056, 1062, 1063, 1079
 W. Scott, 554
- Wayne, Mad Anthony, 458
- Webb, General James Watson, 459
 Isaac, 631, 639
- Webb, James, 324, 386
 James W., 559
 Joshua, 284
 Wesley, 819
- Webster, Albert J., 325
 Ayres S., 309
 Dickinson, 274
 John, 303, 385
- Weccacoe Fire Company, 332
- Wedgebury, 480
- Welde, Charles L., 334
- Welch, Enoch, 303, 400
 William, 263
- Weldin, Emma L., 432, 433
 Charles Wesley, 392
 Isaac, 271
 Rayworth, 294
 William, 264, 273
- Welius, Evarthus, 757
- Wells, Daniel D., 517
 Edward L., 691
 Henry H., 260
 James, 120, 276, 609, 655
 Jesse T., 693
 Thomas, 634, 639
 William Hill, 157, 259, 260, 261, 268, 281, 282, 735
- Welsh, John, 317, 523
 John P., 334
 Sylvester, 496
 Tract, 523, 525, 526, 775, 776
 Baptist Meeting, 525, 526, 775, 776
 Meeting House, 131
 William, 480
- Wertmuller, Adolph Ulric, 1118
- Wesley M. E. Church, 311, 784
- Weslyan Female College, 318
- West Dover Hundred, 644, 645, 647
 George H., 284
 John, 657, 691
 J. H., 284
 Nottingham Friends Meeting, 482
 Presbyterian Church, 311, 774
 Samuel, 151, 285
 William J., 284
- Western Transportation Line, 357
- Westfall, L. J., 777
- Weston, J. W., 816
- Wessler, Gerrardus, 292
- Wethered, John, 630
- Wetheroth, Fred H., 406
- Wetherby, Charles P., 271
- Whale, Ann, 545
- Whales, George, 542
- Whann, William, 272
- Wharton, Samuel, 112, 258
 William, 1107
 William, Jr., 338

- Wharton, John B., 610
 Whatcoat, Richard, 606, 784
 Wheatley, Stansbury J., 284, 689
 William H., 690, 693
 Wheeler, Charles, 515
 Whelen, Frank, 1116
 Whiley, Charles W., Jr., 262, 271, 691
 Whitaker, Henry, 193, 611
 William, 610
 Whitby, John, 274
 White, Alfred J., 693
 Benj., 283
 Clay Creek Hundred, 287, 291,
 480, 488, 489, 490
 Clay Creek Presbyterian Church,
 482
 Clay Creek, 8
 Edward, 155, 266, 276
 E. E., 538
 George P., 691, 692
 Henry, 714
 James S., 297
 John, 271, 283, 296, 1068
 John M., 280
 Millaway, 697
 Robert C., 258, 1049
 Samuel, 259, 264, 277, 1016
 Samuel J., 395
 S. J., Carriage Co., 395
 Thomas, 151, 155, 606, 608, 671,
 709, 781
 William, 690
 William H., 199
 Whitely, Benjamin, 273
 Henry, 178, 234, 270, 273, 361, 381
 William G., 122, 139, 150, 194,
 203, 261, 271, 297, 920, 983
 Whiteman, Benjamin, 28
 J. Harvey, 20, 275, 285
 White's Chapel, 671
 Whitesville, 742
 Whitlock, Joseph, 275
 Whitney, Isaac N., 284
 Whittaker, George P., 527
 Whitwell, Francis, 263, 275, 613, 661
 Whitworth, Abraham, 607
 Whorekill, 575, 577, 579, 580, 1055
 Wickersham, Amos H., 295
 I. Pusey, 245, 239
 Wickes, J. C., 1108
 Wicomico River, 8
 Widdoes, Byard, 294
 Wieden, O. C., 777
 Wiggins, A. B., 521
 Wilcox, Robert, 149
 Wilcuts, John, 610
 Wilds, James D., 278
 James P., 641
 Wilds, J. Frank, 279, 608
 John, 610
 Joseph, 129
 Nathaniel F., 621
 Richard, 129
 S. Gilbert, 621
 William, 610
 Wilgus, Jacob, 727
 Wilhelm, John, 405
 Wiley, Harvey J., 309
 John, 297
 Wilkenson, William, 193
 Wilkie, William J., 552
 Willard, Francis E., 520
 John A., 293
 Willcocks, Robert, 634
 Willetts, H. M., 566
 Willey, James, 692
 John H., 806
 Stansbury J., 321, 327, 411
 Willin, George W., 691
 William, Henrich, 271
 William G., 284
 Williams, Amos C., 279
 Edward, 296, 298, 792
 Frank J., 365
 Henry, 271
 James, 227, 228, 267, 262, 270,
 271, 279, 435
 James J., 610
 John, 263, 277, 281
 Peter, 272, 273
 Reynear, 285, 279, 595, 677, 679
 Ruth Ann, 435
 Spencer, 260, 277, 278
 Thomas, 653
 Thomas N., 284, 803, 804, 806, 817
 Williamsville, 667, 673
 Williamson, Adam, 272
 Charles, 195, 286, 279, 610
 Dick, 544
 Harry, 273, 274
 Hugh, 815
 John F., 195, 196, 214, 265, 274,
 285
 Nicholas G., 273, 303
 Williamsen, Dirck, 292
 Willis, Elizabeth Townsend, 790
 Henry, 786
 James L., 401, 404, 406
 Jonathan S., 233, 235, 236, 261,
 789, 790
 Jonathan S., Jr., 790
 John, 703
 Willing, Thomas, 299, 300, 358
 Willingtoun, 299, 300
 Wills, William, 610
 Willow Grove, 658, 669

- Wilmington, 121, 122, 130, 134, 135,
 287, 288, 289, 291, 300, 301,
 302, 303, 304, 306, 307, 308,
 309, 313, 323, 328, 328, 867, 868, 869,
 870, 872, 873, 874, 877, 883,
 885, 886, 887, 889, 891, 894,
 932, 942, 964, 968, 977, 984,
 987, 988, 989, 990, 992, 993,
 994, 997, 998, 999, 1001, 1002,
 1003, 1004, 1006, 1007, 1016,
 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023,
 1025, 1026, 1079, 1085
 Academy, 310
 Business School, 323
 & Brandywine Spring Railway Co.,
 340
 & Brandywine Cemetery Co., 427
 & Brandywine Leather Co., 384,
 389
 Coal Gas Co., 336, 337
 Conference, 478
 City Electric Co., 338
 City Railway Co., 338, 339, 340,
 341, 854
 Custom House, 361
 Conference Academy, 845
 Dental Manufacturing Co., 411
 Free Library, 408, 823
 Gas & Electric Co., 337
 Institute, 408
 Insurance Co., 335
 Mills Manufacturing Co., 412
 & New Castle Electric Railway
 Co., 340
 & New Castle Southern Railway
 Co., 340
 & Northern Railroad, 464, 468,
 887, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1079,
 1085
 Saving Fund Society, 351, 353
 Steamboat Lines, 360
 Trust Co., 891
 Whaling Co., 359
 & Western Railroad, 464
 Wilson, Andrew G., 608
 Alexander J., 611
 Carson, 329
 Daniel W., 608
 Dr. John F., 324
 David C., 178, 200, 274, 293, 316,
 324, 329, 348, 365, 397, 908
 Elwood L., 275
 Edward W., 279
 Edward A., 331, 386
 George, 258, 266, 285
 Henry, 1088
 Horace, 351, 365
 James, 329, 466, 1087, 1088, 1089
 James F., 1092
 Wilson, James P., 498, 809, 1027
 John S., 214
 John, 282, 319, 491, 769, 770, 771
 John P., 275
 John T., 275
 John Q., 275
 Julia C., 434
 Lewis, 1087
 Line, 361
 Manlove D., 545
 Matthew, 1056, 1057, 1063
 Natalie G., 436
 Rathmell, 193
 Richard, 363, 276, 633, 640
 Robert H., 280, 611, 1108
 Robert O. P., 608
 Samuel J., 692
 Simon Wilmer, 149, 607
 Susan, 528
 Thomas R., 284
 William, 465, 570, 609
 William, Jr., 275
 William M., 692
 Winfield S., 692
 Zachariah T., 692
 Wiltbank, Cornelius, 281, 711, 767
 Hermanus, 691, 711, 718
 John, 151, 257, 267, 283
 Robert, 282
 Winchester, James P., 350, 380
 Windsor, Thomas R., 692
 Winsmore, William, 275, 630
 Winslow, Charles A., 294
 Wise, William A., 786
 Witherspoon, David, 529, 547, 548,
 551
 Mary, 529
 Thomas, 529, 548
 Wolcott, Caleb, 609
 Alexis G., 938
 Henry C., 279
 James L., 234, 260, 271, 921, 936,
 937, 1035, 1049
 James L., Jr., 928
 Josiah O., 938
 Wolf, Jacob, 281
 Wolfe, Nathaniel, 233
 Wolgast, Otto, 726
 Wollaston, Catherine, 480
 Elizabeth, 480
 Emily G., 430
 Joseph P., 336
 Joshua, 480
 Lizzie S., 430
 Thomas, 480, 489, 502
 William, 482
 Wood, Alan, Company, 486
 George, 404
 Howard, 486

- Wood, Isaac, 545
 John, Jr., 278, 573
 Joseph, 293
 W. C., 527
- Woodall, John, 279
 John, Jr., 278
- Woodcock, William, 358
 Wooddale, 487
- Woodgate, John, 128
- Woodkeeper, Henry H.;, 275
- Woodland, 708, 710
- Woodside, 474, 656, 657
- Woodstock, William, 481
- Woodward, Daniel B., 294
- Woolley, Victor B., 297
- Woolman, Samuel, 817
- Woolston, Jeremiah, 345, 480
- Woonsock, William, 294
- Wooters, John, 572
- Wooten, Peter G., 282
- Wootten, Alfred R., 258
 Edward W., 740, 920, 1027, 1034
 Isaac, 692
- Worden & Evans, 619
 Mfg. Co., 619
 William, 619
- Worrell, Edward, 343
 Emma, 315
 Dr. Thomas, 262
- Worth, Albert, 691
- Wright, Andrew J., 275, 279, 608
 A. S., 550
 Charles, 269, 283
 Custis W., 226, 260
 Ezekial, 573
 Gardiner H., 259, 283
 Isaac K., 237
- Wright, James H., 690
 John W., 556
 Jonas, 568
 J. Thomas, 295
 Peter T., 691, 836
 Robert B., 279
 Sylvia Allen, 556
 Thomas H., 610
- Wylie, S. Beattie, 769
- Wyoming, 655, 656, 658, 853, 903
- Wynkoop, Benjamin, 635
 S. R., 774
- Wynne, Thomas, 280, 1055

Y

- Yeates, Joseph, 263, 503
- Yearby, Joseph, 607
- Yellow Hotel, 476
- Yellowmen, 724
- Yeo, John, 758
- Yorklyn, 465, 469
- Young, Evan, 262
 Jacob, 528
 Nathaniel, 361, 685
 Oscar L., 477
 Thomas, 578, 629
 Thomas E., 348
 William W., 420, 423
- Young's Ford, 464

Z

- Zane, A. M., 155
 Elizabeth R., 433
- Zebley, Owen, 294
- Zwaanendael, 14, 17

