IDEAL NEW CASTLE

IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AS IT APPEARS IN THE YEAR

Herbert Tote

HANDSOMELY ILLUSTRATED

A COMPILATION OF FACTS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE CITIZENS AND THE WORLD AT LARGE PREPARED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB BY GEORGE A. WOLF, WILMINGTON, DEL.

1899



To THE COMMERCIAL CLUB AND CITIZENS OF NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE: I take pleasure in thanking you for your appreciative co-operation and the thorough manner in which the data and subjects of illustration have been furnished, and feel that your efforts can not but be followed by most satisfactory results.

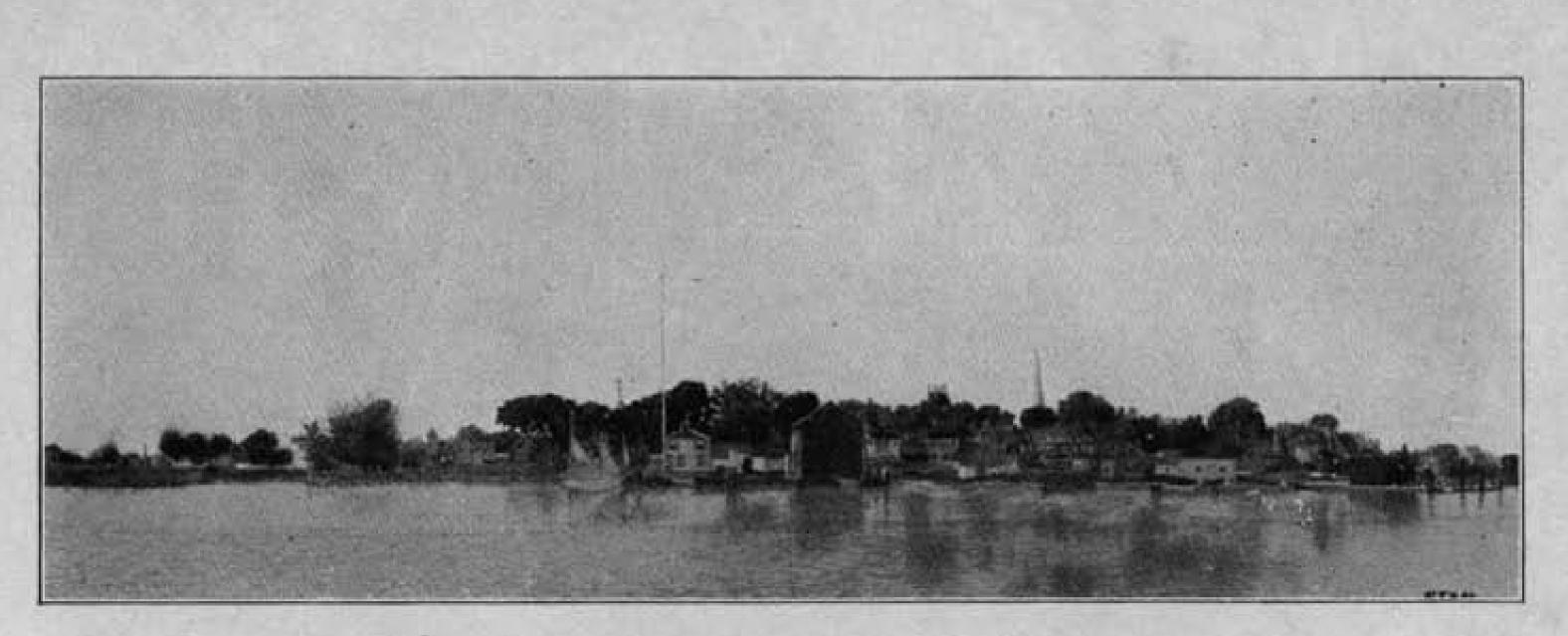
Wilmington, Del.

GREETING.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE A. WOLF, Publisher,





NEW CASTLE: ITS HISTORY.

It has been more than two hundred and fifty years since the first white man set foot upon the soil of what is now the City of New Castle. About 1640, a little Swedish barque, sailing slowly up along the wooded shores of the great South River, dropped anchor off a point of land, jutting out between two small creeks, and landed its navigators, who there unfurled the standard of the great Gustavus. Having treated satisfactorily with the natives, they proceeded to make a settlement and build themselves a town, which, in accordance with its position, they called Sandhuken (or Sandy Hook). Diligently raising their crops and maintaining peaceful and trading relations with the Indians,



they prospered; and mindful, too, of their spiritual progress, they sent over to Old Sweden for a minister of their reformed faith to come over, to comfort and cheer with his counsel. But the commotions of Europe found an echo even in this distant settlement, and Sandhuken became, under the Dutch, New Amstel, and was protected by a fort called Fort Casimir, being governed by a Deputy from the great Dutch settlement, New Amsterdam, on the

North River.

And soon, again, another European earthquake disturbed the peace of the little community, and New Amstel, now numbering about a hundred houses, became, about 1670, New Castle, and was governed by the English; at first, by deputies from the New York Province, but soon afterward coming under the rule of the great proprietor, William Penn.

"On the 27 October, 1682, arrived before the Town Hall of New Castle, on the Delaware, from England, William Penn, Esq.," is the way it reads in the old records; and upon his landing the next day, possession was formally given by the deputized attorney, John Moll, not only of the little town, but of the Province of Pennsylvania as well; the "three lower counties on the Delaware" (now forming the State of Delaware), forming for many years a part of Penn's Province of Pennsylvania.

In 1689, Immanuel P. E. Church was founded, and was presented by Queen Anne with a pulpit, communion plate and vestments. At first it was under the charge of missionaries, but in 1703 Rev. George Ross became its regular pastor, and had a long and successful ministry. A view of the Church is shown on page 25. Another historic building, only recently demolished, was the Old Tile House, which dates back to 1687. This drawing of it here shown



is a copy made by E. I. Rogers, from an old painting of the house, made when it looked down upon pre-revolutionary gayeties.

Of this, his first landing place in his new American possessions, William Penn always had a loving remembrance; and this was practically and generously evidenced by his grant in 1704, "for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the Town of New Castle," of a thousand acres of land. The following is a copy of the warrant ordering the survey:

WARRANT FROM WILLIAM PENN.

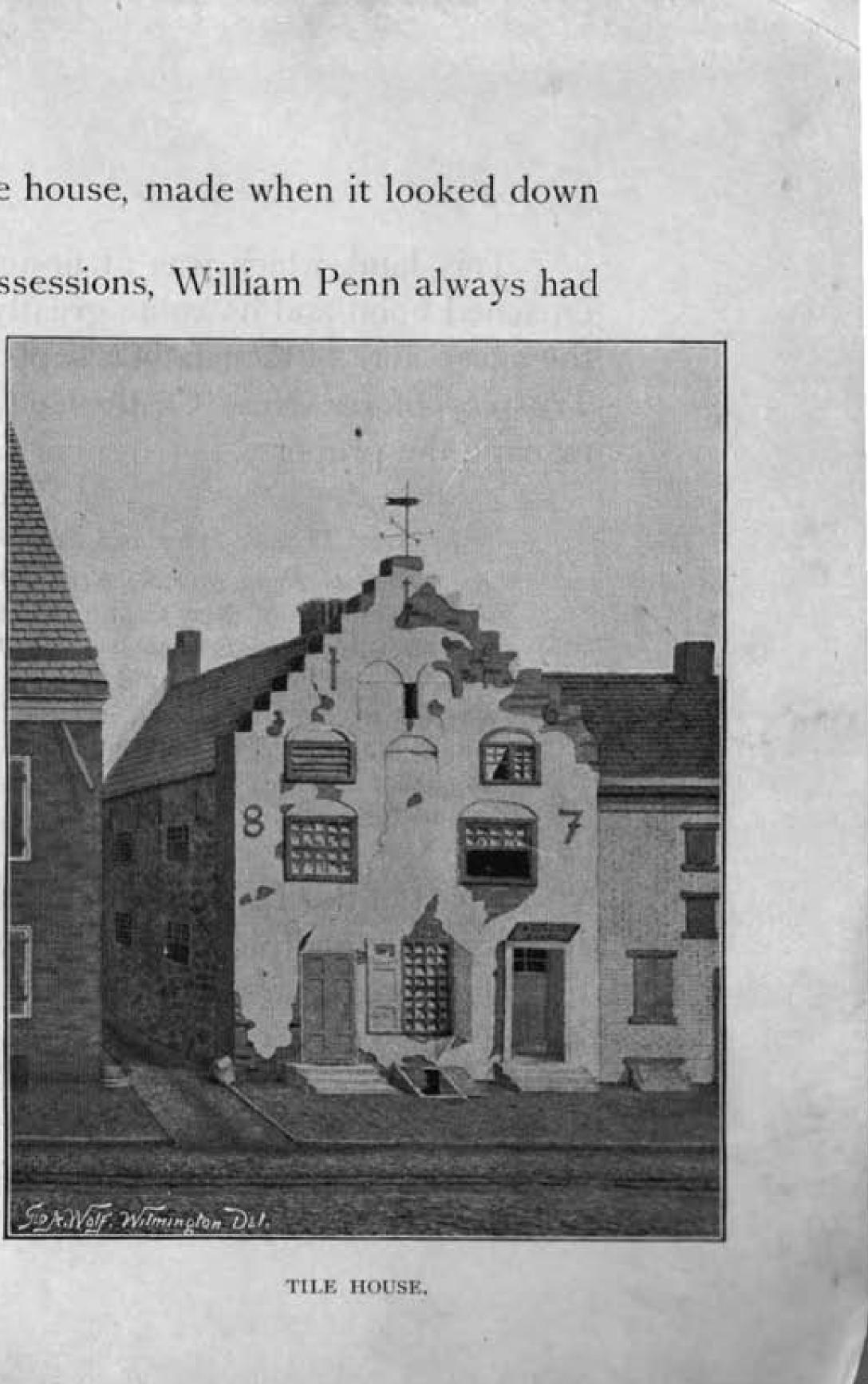
The return of survey was made by George Dekeyne, on April 10th, 1704.

William Penn Proprietary and Govr. of the Province PENSILVANIA, of Pensilvania and Counties annexed. L. S.

For the accommodation of the Inhabitants of the Town of New Castle These are to require thee forthwith to survey or cause to be surveyed to the only use and behoof of the said Inhabitants to lie in Common one thousand acres of the Land adjoyning or near to the said Town hitherto reputed called New Castle Common in one convenient Tract, and if there prove more than the sd. number of Acres lay out the residue in one convenient piece to me and for my use and make returns thereof into my Secretaries office. Given under my hand and Seal at New Castle the 31st day of 8ber. 1701. WM. PENN.

TO EDWARD PENINGTON,

Surveyor Generall of the Province of Pensilvania & Territories.



This land, which was at first used as a Common by all of the citizens, having been encroached upon and its value greatly injured by careless treatment, Thomas and Richard Penn, the successors of their father, supplemented the original grant by incorporating the "Board of Trustees of the New Castle Common," and investing them with full powers to control and manage the property.

EXTRACT FROM CHARTER.

From Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Proprietaries, incorporating the Trustees. 1764. Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esgs., true and absolute Proprietaries and Governors in Chief of the Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware, and Province of Pennsylvania, TO ALL to whom these presents shall come, GREETING.

Whereas, in pursuance of a warrant from our late honoured father, William Penn, Esquire, there was surveyed and laid out, on the tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and four, to the inhabitants of the town of New Castle, in the County of New Castle, a tract or parcel of land, adjoining or near to the said town, containing one thousand and sixty-eight acres, as and for a common, for the use, behoof and accommodation of the inhabitants of the said town of New Castle.

A part of this land, in the centre of the town, is known as Market Square; and on it stands The revenue arising from this grant of Penn's-which was divided into farms in the early

the City Hall, and old Court House and Jail, as well as School Buildings Nos. 1 and 2. part of this century-has been applied by the Trustees to public improvements. By it the principal streets were paved and a City Hall and Market House were built; and, until 1870, the entire cost of the school system was met by the Trustees.

CITY OFFICIALS AND COUNCIL.

Mayor, Evan G. Boyd, Assessor, Israel H. Riding, Tax Collector, James E. White, Attorney, Alexander B. Cooper, Treasurer, William J. Ferris.



NORTH SECOND STREET.

CITY COUNCIL.

The City Council is composed of five members, and they meet to transact the business of the city on the first Tuesday night in each month.

MEMBERS.

JOHN R. LAMBSON, President. FRANCIS FAGAN, ORVID A. PORTER, WILLIAM WHITE, CHARLES H. CLEWELL, C. E. ECKLES, Secretary.

THE PRISON AND COURT HOUSE.

Meetings of the various city deliberative bodies are held in the old Court House. In one fire-proof wing is also located the Post Office. The structure as a whole is an ancient one, and, while no record is in existence, the general belief is that it was erected by the Swedes. The bell now in the tower was presented to the citizens, in the beginning of the eighteenth century, by Queen Anne. The bell is in a good state of preservation and is likely to last another century.

Immediately in the rear of the Court House is the New Castle County prison. This is the repository for all perpetrators of offences in the county, and is in charge of the Sheriff and his deputies.

Three Jail Commissioners, appointed by County Commissioners of New Castle County, have general supervision of the prison and the furnishing of its supplies. The present Commissioners are: Arnold H. Padberg, John J. Schuhardt and James E. White.





A most powerful reason for the location here of manufacturing establishments is the fact that FOR TEN (10) YEARS THEY ARE EXEMPT FROM TAX, as shown by the following act, passed at Dover, March 25th, 1879.

SECTION I (Taxation and Exemption Law). "That the real estate of any person or persons, or body corporate within the limits of the city of New Castle, not exceeding five acres, upon which any manufacturing or other industrial improvements for the employment of labor shall be erected after the passage of this act, or any real estate upon which any buildings are already erected, and which, after the passage of this act, shall be used for any manufacturing or industrial pursuit as aforesaid, not before prosecuted or carried on there, shall be exempt, for a period of ten years after the same shall be assessable, from assessment or taxation for State, County or Municipal purposes." It may be thought then that other taxes are high. But this is not so. The rate of taxation for ALL city expenses is only ninety-six cents per hundred dollars assessment, and the

assessment is generally at two-thirds value.

The total valuation of taxable property in the city is somewhat over \$1,500,000. The city has no bonded debt.

TAXATION.



POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The Police Officers are under the direct charge of the Mayor of the city. Ample police protection is given the city both day and night.

This body is appointed by City Council, and they meet on the first Monday night in each month to consider the city's health.

E. H. McCABE, M. D., President, William H. Kuntz, M. D., WILLIAM A. VICKERY, an enderer in mohanter unter and JOHN J. REYNOLDS, WILLIAM J. HOFMANN, Secretary.

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BOARD OF HEALTH.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.



A STATE OF A

Protection from the ravages of fire is assured by an excellent association, known as the Lenape Fire Company, No. 1. The company was organized in 1887, and was incorporated in 1890. It is equipped with two steam engines, Humane and Silsby, and one hook and ladder truck, with ample hose. The efficiency of this company and the good natural pressure of water from the fire-plugs, keep the insurance rates low. . Annual appropriations for the maintenance of the company are made by the City Council



FIRE DEPARTMENT.

and Trustees of the Common, and its equipment is carefully and constantly kept in repair.

> There is a goodly number of active members, and the officers are leading citizens of the city. A view of the department's headquarters is here shown.

OFFICERS.

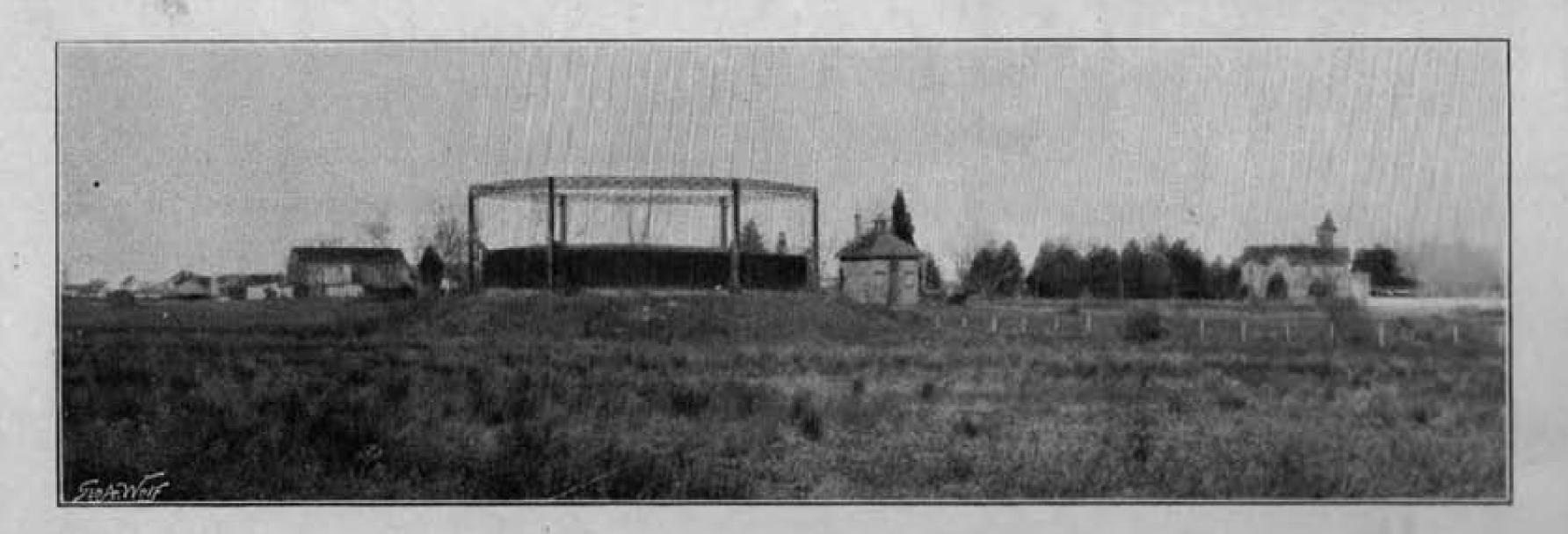
Chief, PETER G. MADDEN, Treasurer, J. B. TOMAN, President, PATRICK McGRORY, Secretary, JOHN F. CAMPBELL, Engineer, JOSEPH TAYLOR.



MEANS OF LIGHTING.

New Castle bade adieu to candles and lamps forty years ago, upon the organization of the New Castle Gas Company, but upon the completion of the Wilmington and New Castle Electric Railway, in 1897, the City Council bravely took another big step in advance and contracted with the railway company for the placing of eighty 2000 candle-power arc lights; and we can truly say that this city is to-day one of the best lighted in the country.

The criminal shuns a well-lighted street.





WILMINGTON & NEW CASTLE ELECTRIC RY. CO.'S POWER HOUSE.



PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A community is often, and probably well, measured by the books it reads; and, gauged by this standard, New Castle ought to stand high. Founded nearly a century ago by voluntary contributions, the New Castle Library Company was incorporated in 1812, and now has a collection of about six thousand well-chosen volumes, fully representing both poetry and prose, all conveniently arranged in a specially designed building, of which a view will be found on this page.



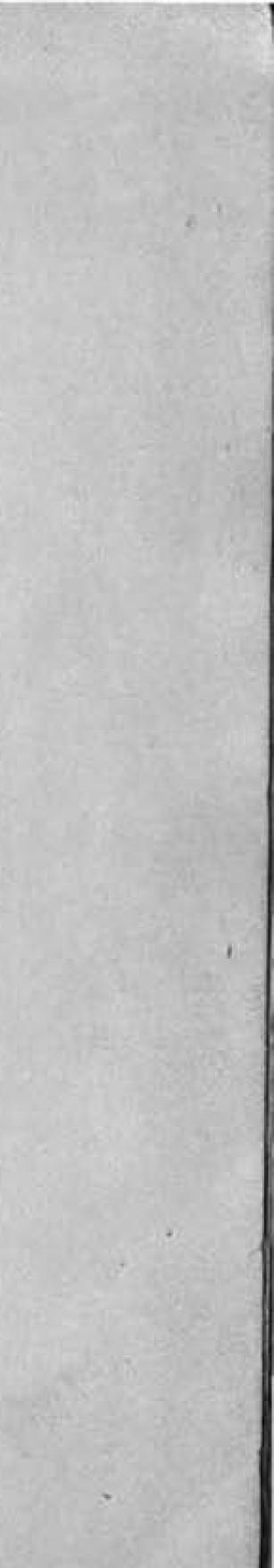
OFFICERS.

President, SAMUEL GUTHRIE, ESQ. Secretary and Treasurer,

· RICHARD G. COOPER, ESQ. Librarian, MISS REBECCA A. CHALLENGER.

DIRECTORS.

JOHN J. BLACK, M. D. JULIAN D. JANVIER, ESQ. WILLIAM J. FERRIS. RICHARD G. COOPER, ESQ. THOMAS HOLCOMB, ESQ. JOHN H. RODNEY, ESQ. SAMUEL GUTHRIE, ESQ.



BANKING FACILITIES.

The Farmers' Bank of Delaware has a branch here, founded in 1807, which has always been well and accommodatingly managed, and in which a defalcation has never occurred. The main bank is in Dover, Del., and there are branches at Georgetown, Wilmington and New Castle. The State and County funds are, by law, deposited in them. The combined capital is \$680,000; surplus exceeds \$400,000. Capitalization of New Castle branch, \$100,000.

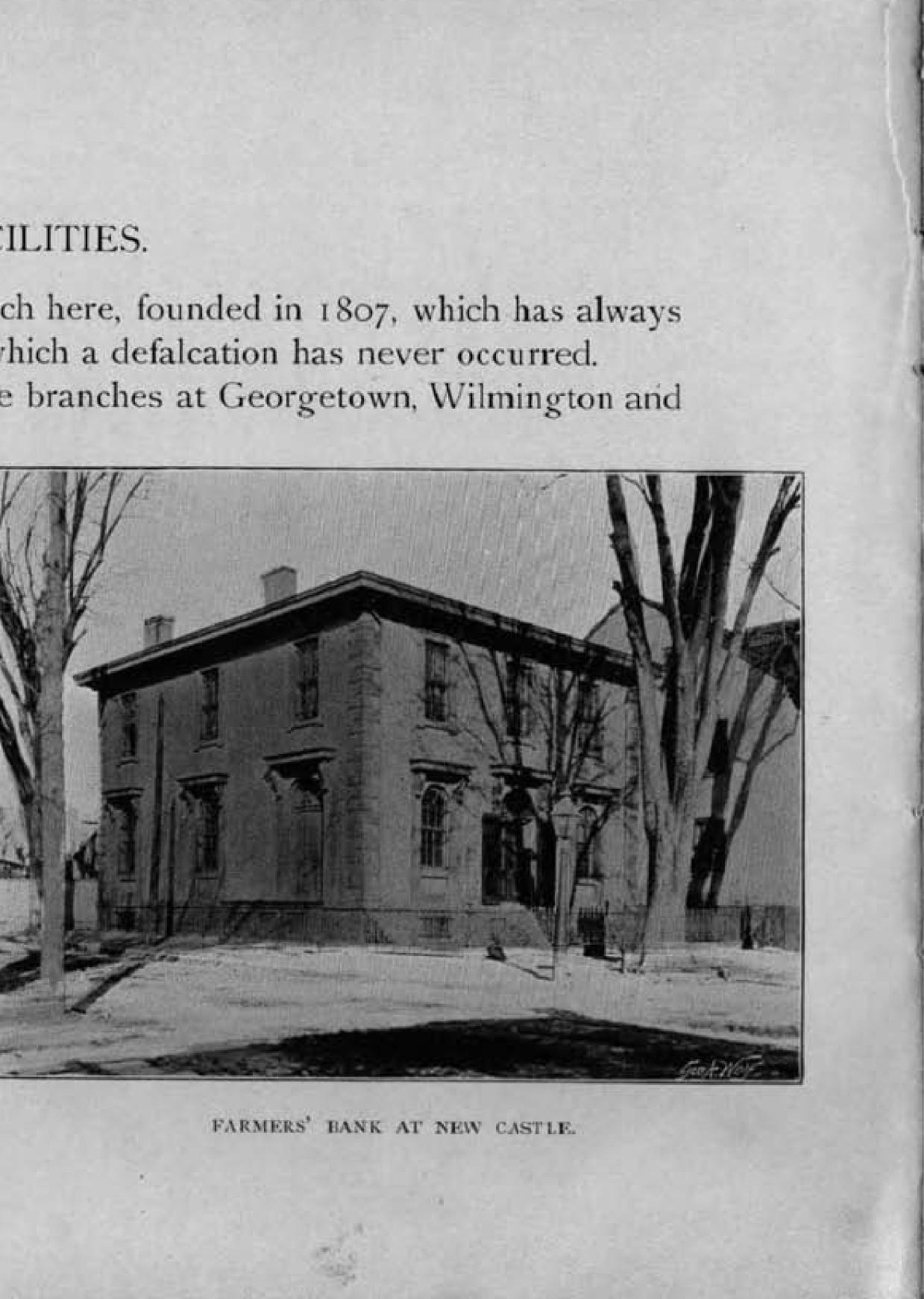
OFFICERS.

President, JOHN J. BLACK, M. D. Cashier, RICHARD G. COOPER, ESQ. Teller, W. J. FERRIS.

DIRECTORS.

JOHN H. RODNEY, ALEX. B. COOPER, THOMAS HOLCOMB, JAMES T. ELIASON,

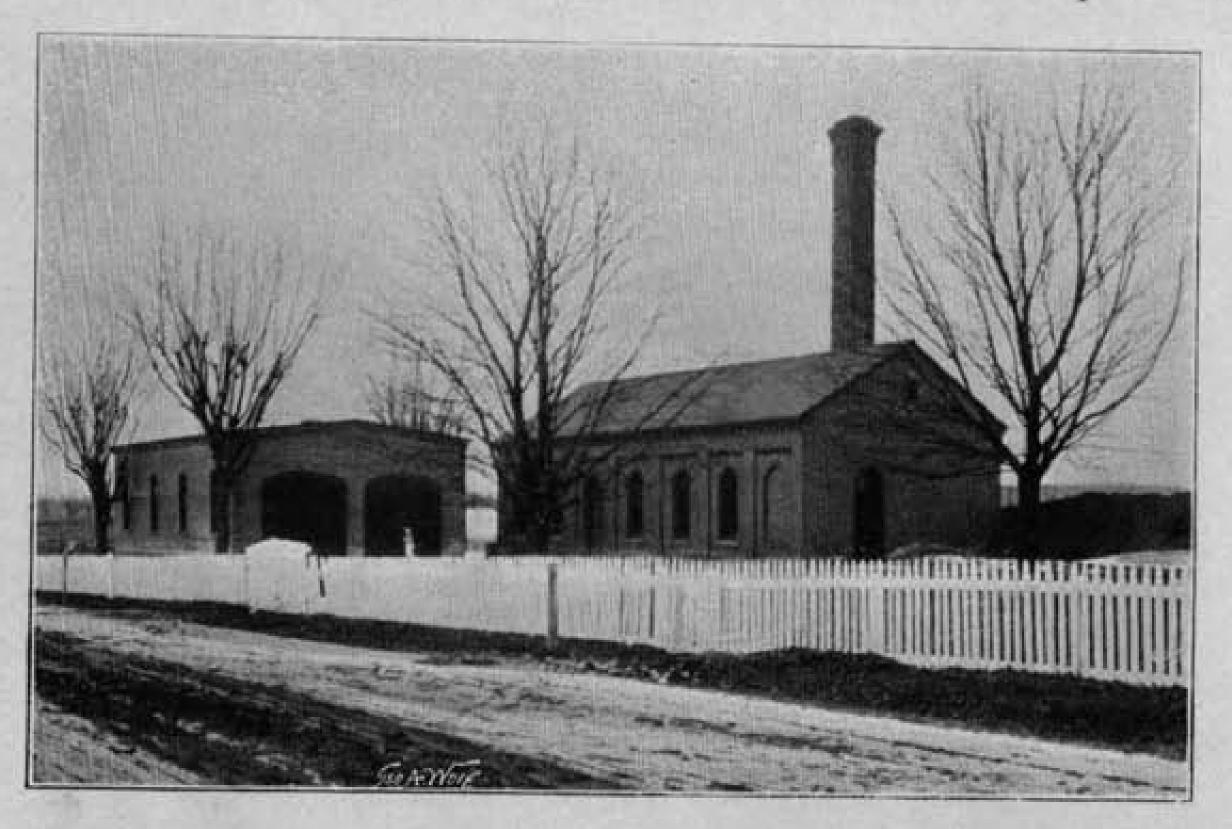
DAVID W. ELKINTON, ALBERT H. SILVER, DAVID BOULDEN, FRANK H. DIEHL.



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WATER SUPPLY.

In 1870, upon the incorporation of the New Castle Water Works Company, a considerable part of the revenues of the Commons Farms was diverted from the support of the schools, and a contract made with the new water company which, in return for certain payments to be made annually by the Trustees, agreed to furnish the town with a plentiful supply of pure water. The pumping station is located near Newport, on the Nonesuch Creek, from which the water



supply is pumped into the reservoir, near the city. The twenty-four hour consumption is about 500,000 gallons. The full capacity is 2,000,000 gallons.

After various experiments with subsiding reservoirs and other methods of purification, this company has recently had put in a very complete filter system, and furnishes water whose purity will easily and successfully stand comparison with that furnished in any of the large cities.

Filtered water prevents disease.

EDUCATIONAL.

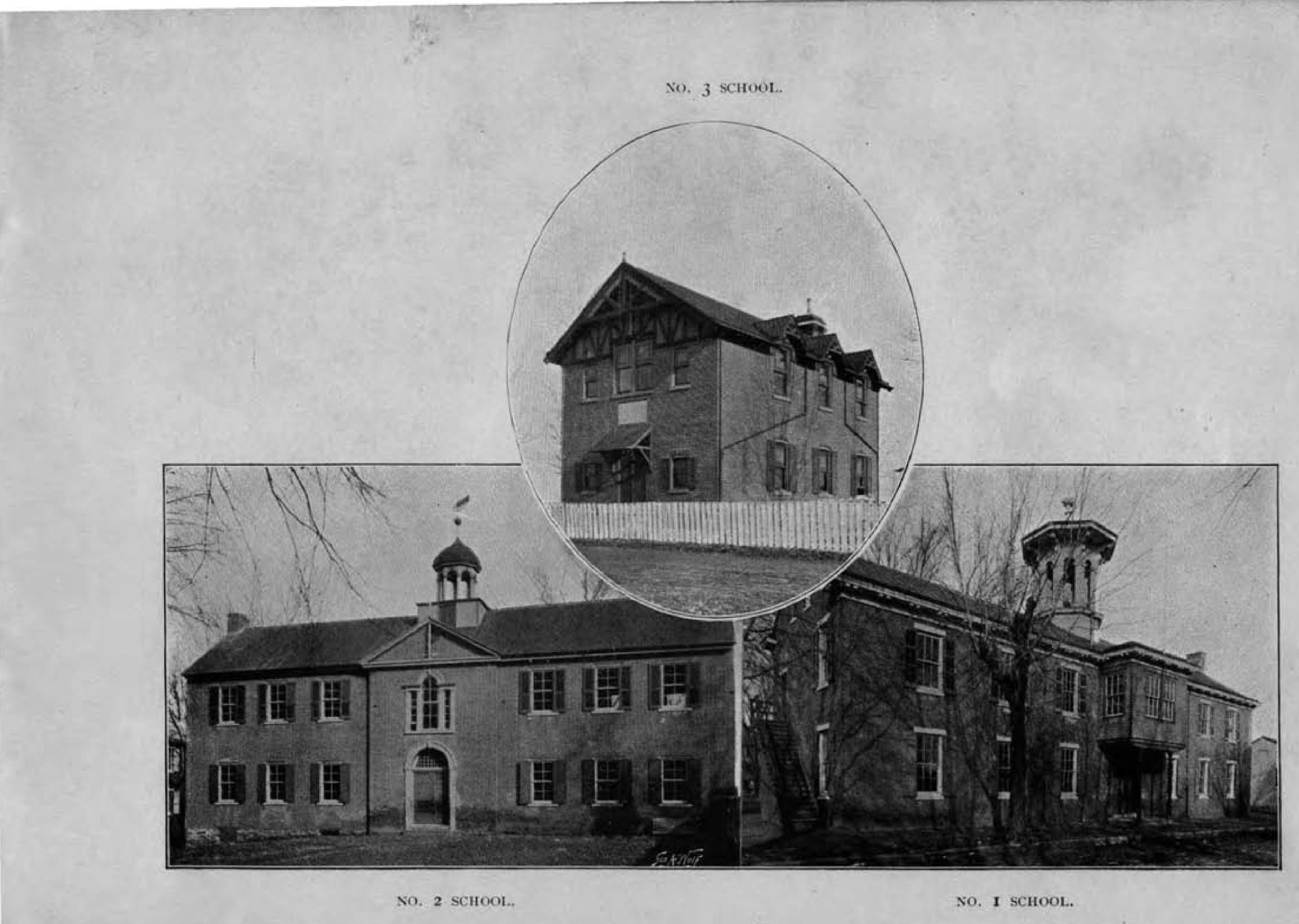
The Public Schools are under the management and direction of a Board of Education, an incorporated body. The school facilities are excellent. There are three school buildings in which a regular system of primary, intermediate, grammar and high school work is carried on. These are under the supervision of a principal, ably assisted by a corps of eleven teachers. The educational spirit is thoroughly alive and up-to-date.

The Board of Education is an incorporated body created by Act of Assembly, March 10, 1875, and meets on the last Tuesday night in each month for the transaction of business within its province.

President, S. Atwood Stewart, Thomas Frazer, Jr., John B. Manlove, William Deakyne, Lewis E. Eliason,

J. ERNEST PHILLIPS, WILLIAM J. FERRIS, JOHN C. MAHONEY, ORION A. CARRICK, Secretary, C. E. Eckles.







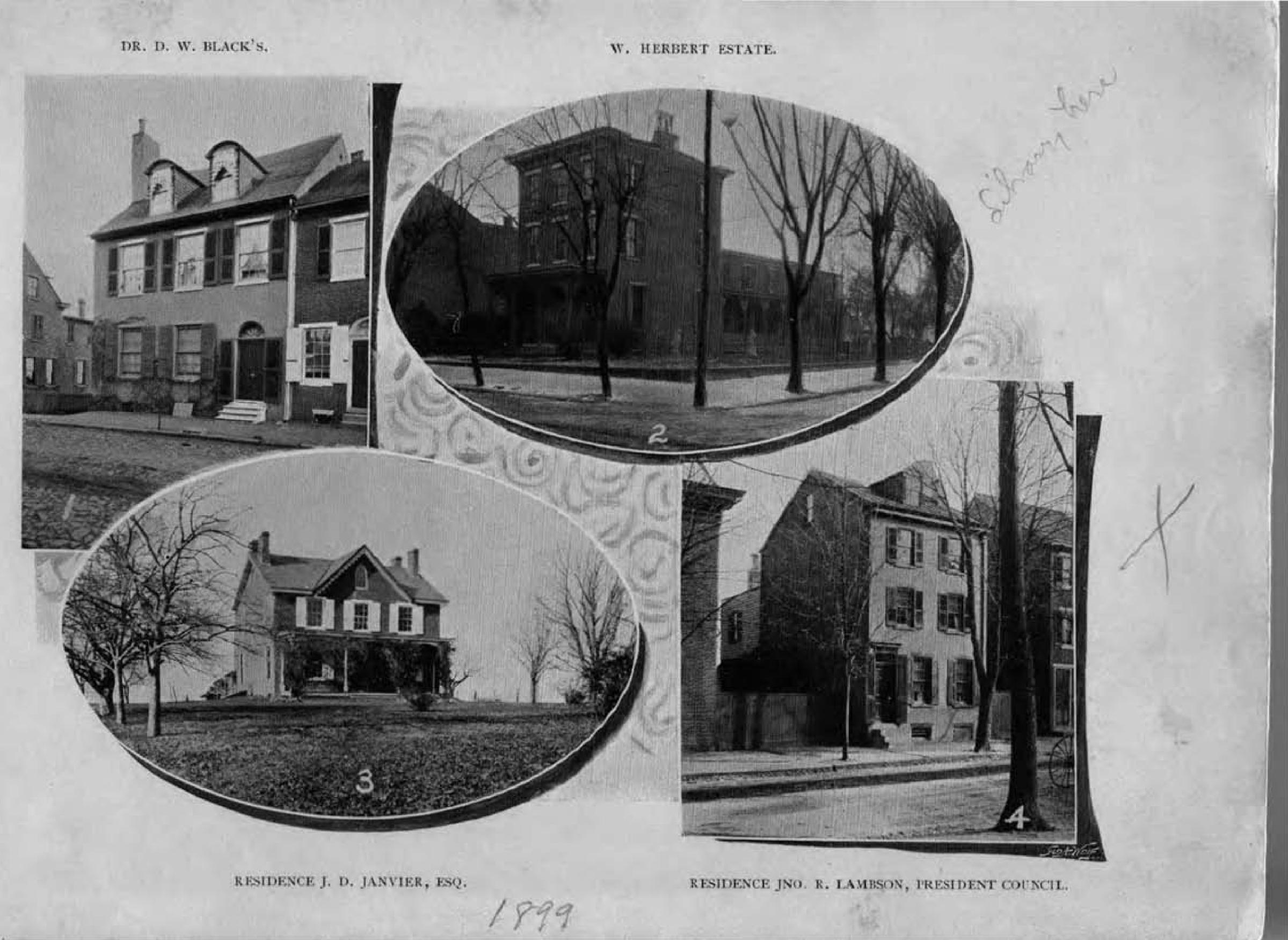
CITY OF HOMES.

New Castle is laid out the same as Philadelphia (streets running at right angles). The thoroughfares are wide and for the most part kept in good condition. The city is well-lighted and the most secluded parts can be traversed with ease and safety.

There are a number of colonial structures standing, which are occupied by descendants of the original founders, reverence for whom is shown in the careful preservation of these homesteads, and the many valuable relics that they contain. As in other cities, the social status is well defined, but without ostentation or display.





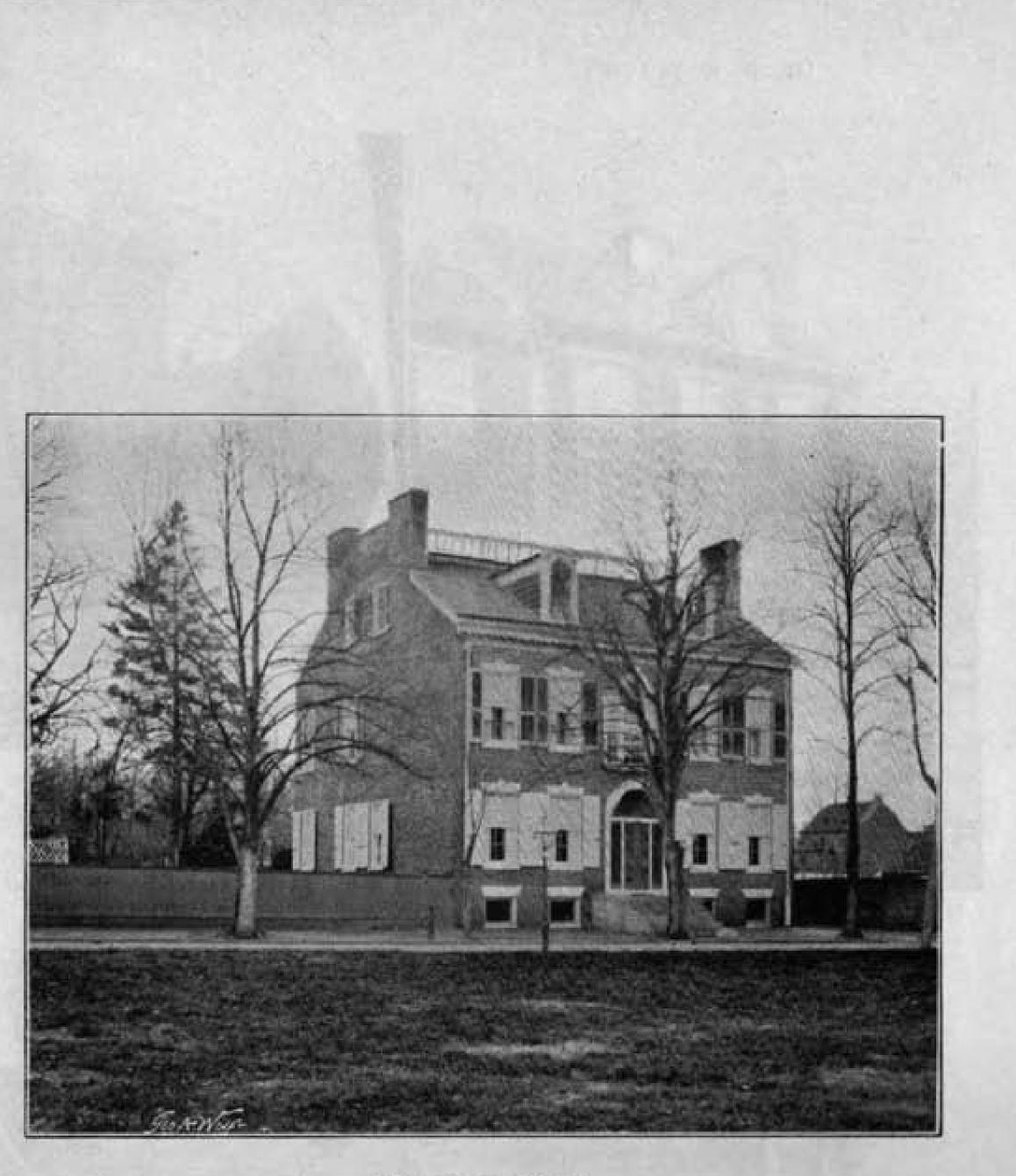


The modern style of architecture of the city is varied, but its main feature is the substantial brick structures. A large percentage of the inhabitants have a generous plot of ground about their homes.

Two Building and Loan Associations (in a good sound condition) indicate the thrift of the citizens.

The two parks located in the heart of the city afford the citizens much pleasure during the heated term, and at regular intervals there is music for divertisement.

Near the city, on the Electric road, is Roger's Park, and along the river is the beautiful Cofield Beach.



MRS. M. C. SMITH.



THE LATE DR. SPOTTSWOOD'S RESIDENCE.

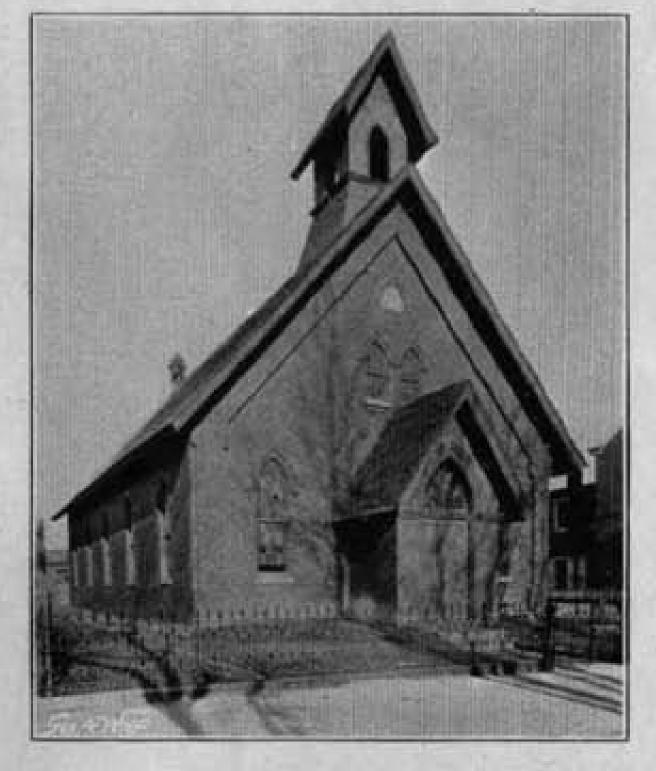


CHARLES H. CLEWELL,

ESTATE OF WILLIAM HOLSCHUMAKER.







FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

CHURCHES.

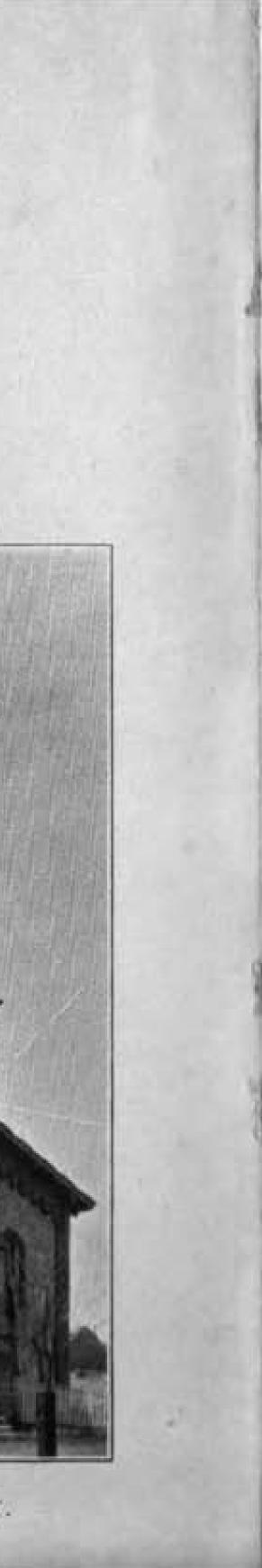
From the settlement of the city, a high moral standard has been maintained, as the old and numerous churches will attest. These are as follows:

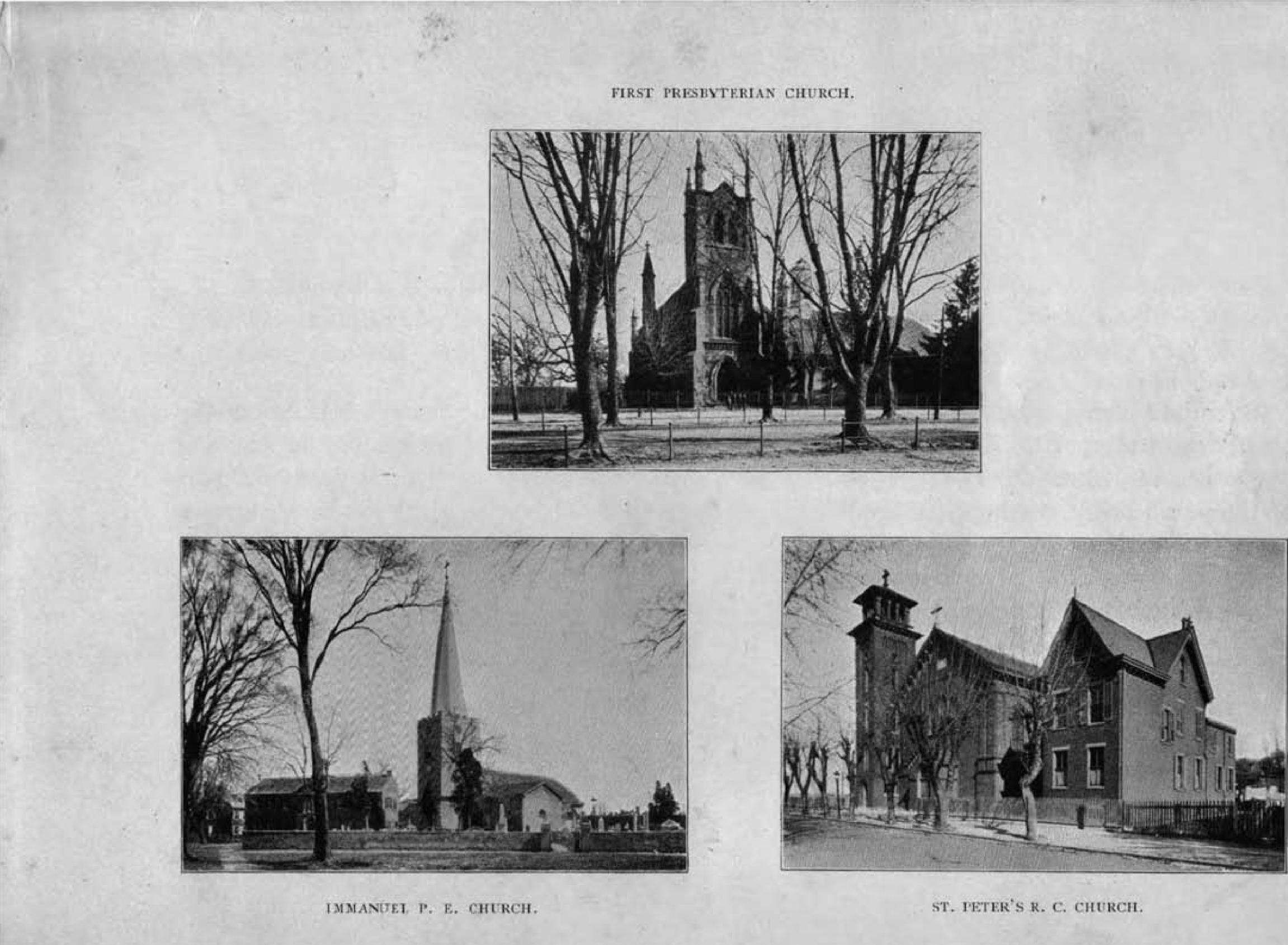
Immanuel P. E. Church, Presbyterian Church, Nazareth M. E. Church, St. Peters R. C. Church, First Baptist Church, Mt. Salem A. M. E. Church, Zion A. M. E. Church. Societies connected with the churches are : Epworth League, Brotherhood of St. Andrew,

Christian Endeavor Society.

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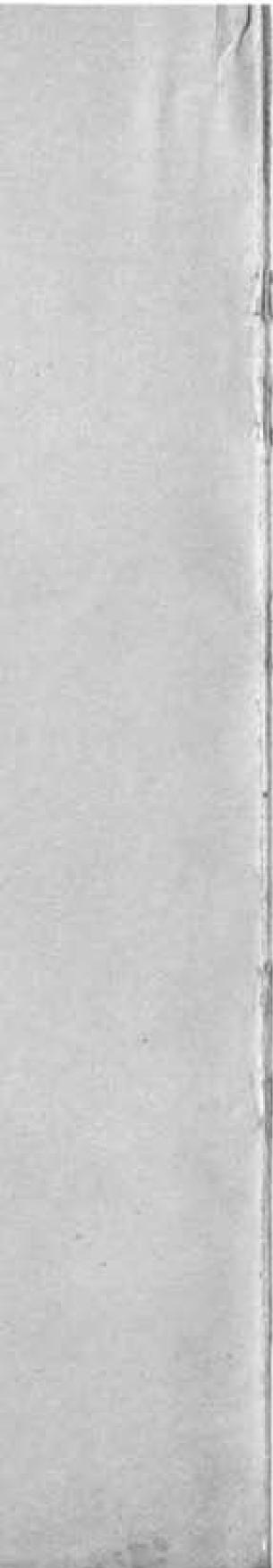




AGRICULTURE, SUPPLIES, ETC.

Around New Castle are located some of the finest farms in the State. It is essentially an agricultural centre. The principal products are wheat, corn and vegetables for canning purposes. All other kinds of vegetables are raised in abundance. This is the upper part of the peach belt, though pears, apples, grapes and cultivated berries of all kinds are grown extensively. Most of the products of these farms are sent to the larger cities. Within a short distance of the city are located several large dairies whose products are sought far and near. Within twenty miles down the river are oyster beds, and the river abounds with fish of all kinds. These natural resources make living cheaper than in many other cities.

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SHAD FISHING.

Situated as it is, at the point where bay and river meet, and being so favorably located as to transportation by rail, the shad-fishing industry is a large one. Nets a mile in length are nothing unusual, and in the midst of the season the shipments sometimes exceed 20,000

fish a day. From the latter part of March until June 10th, upwards of one hundred fishermen are engaged in this pursuit.

There is room here for a fish preserving establishment, for the river is well stocked not only with shad, but also with bass, trout and other fish.

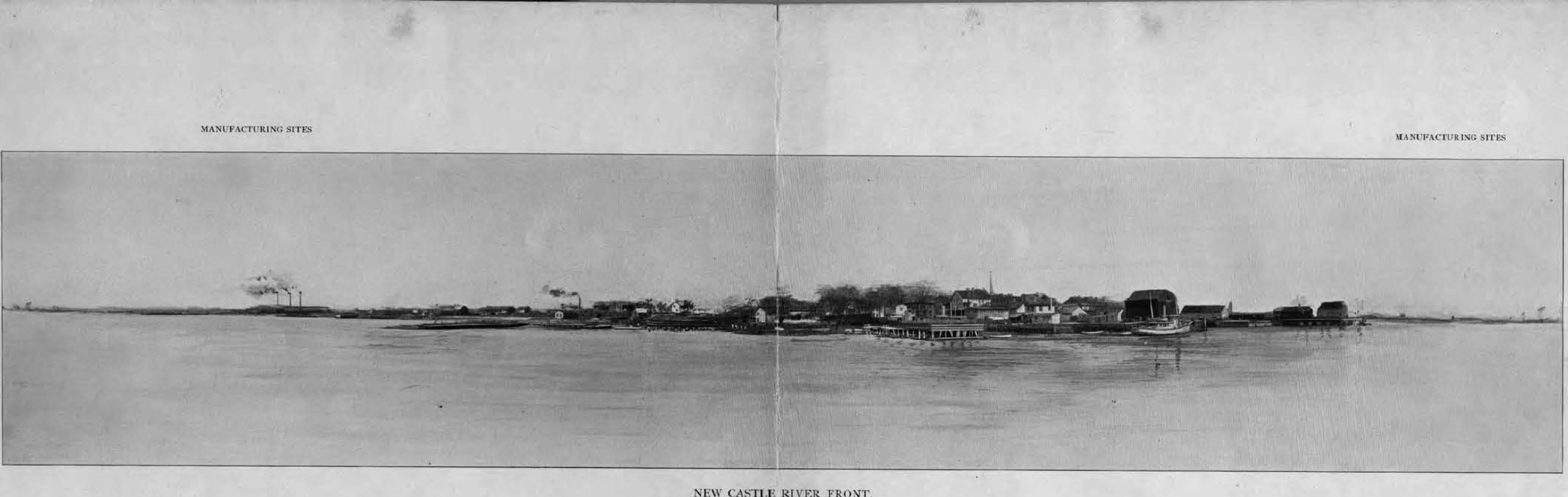
The illustration is from a drawing made on the spot by Mr. E. I. Rogers.



The location of New Castle is unsurpassed on the Atlantic seabord. The river at this point is nearly three miles wide, and thirty feet of water is found at low water. There is improved wharfage 800 feet in length. Every steamer from the ocean to Philadelphia has to pass this point as well as all boats going through the canal southward. This is the only good harbor between Philadelphia and the Breakwater. It is thoroughly protected by ice piers.

Fort Mott and Fort Delaware, just below New Castle, have been armed with the most improved coast defences, and are now garrisoned.

WATER WAYS.



NEW CASTLE RIVER FRONT.

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

The fact that any port in the world can be reached from New Castle at rates as low as from Philadelphia or New York can be fully demonstrated. The Pennsylvania Railroad, Delaware Division, touches this point. The B. & O. System and P. & R. R. R. connect from their pier by floats, and two steamship lines carry both freight and passengers: The Erricsson Line to Baltimore and Philadelphia, and The Salem Line from Philadelphia to Salem, N. J. The Salem Line makes two stops here each day. The trolley line to Wilmington carries light freight as well as passengers. New Castle is within two hours' ride of Baltimore, one hour of Philadelphia, and three hours of New York. You can visit New York, spend eight hours, and return the same day.



COFIELD BEACH.

There is no prettier spot on the Delaware River than this place and in the near future greater improvements will be made, as the running of electric cars to this point during the summer season is contemplated. The beach shelves gently and is free from holes, making bathing much less dangerous than at many other resorts along the river. The illustration is from a painting by C. Edwin Eckles.



BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

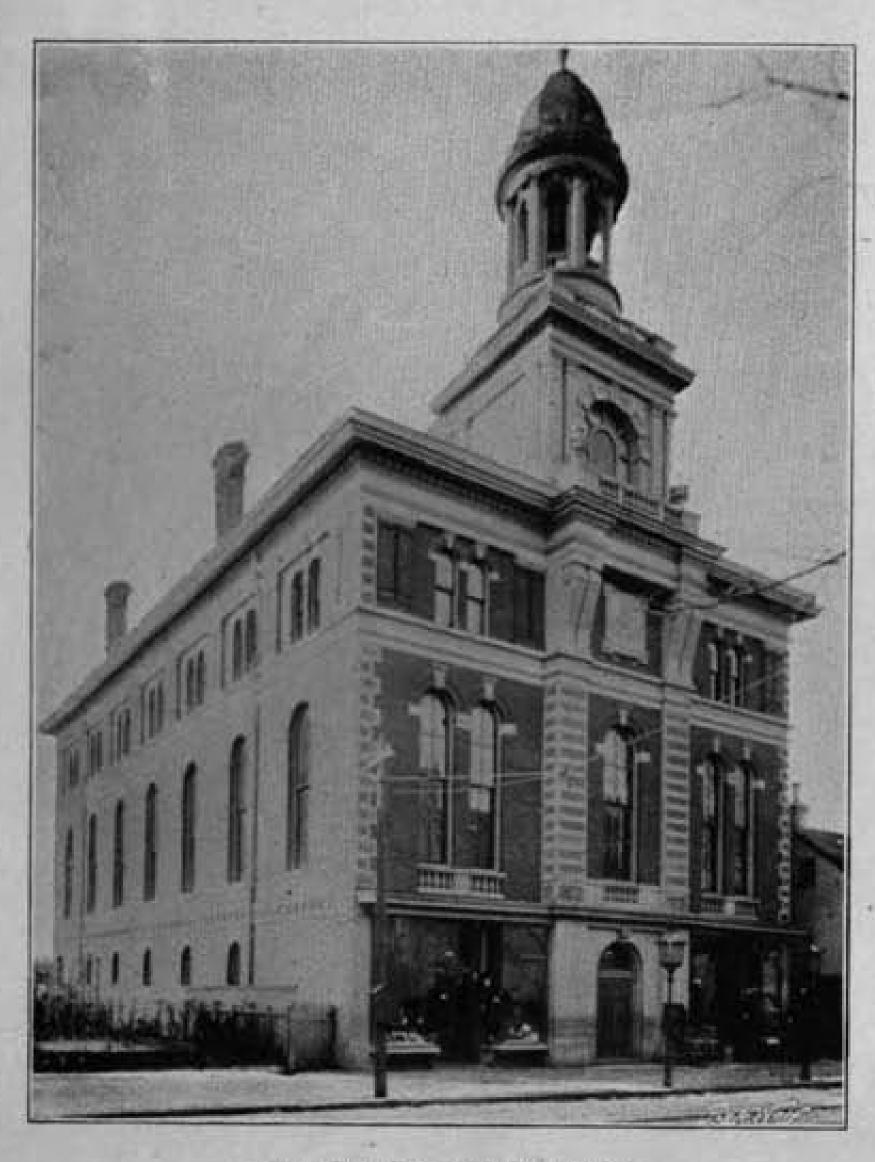
There are two local Building and Loan Associations and several National in operation, each of which is in good condition. The officers and directors are men of material and moral worth and stand high in the estimation of the citizens.

The Citizens Building and Loan Association's officers are as follows:PRESIDENT, George W. Dickerson.DIRECTORS:VICE-PRESIDENT, John C. Mahoney.Thomas Frazer, Jr., W. E. Rothwell,TREASURER, Julian D. Janvier,Thomas J. Gravell, John T. Stoops,SECRETARY, William J. Ferris.John A. Walls,SOLICITOR, J. H. Rodney.Edward Dalby,G. Allen Smith.Wm. J. Hofmann.

The officers and directors of New Castle Loan Association, No. 2, are :PRESIDENT, James M. Wise.DIRECTORS :SECRETARY, F. C. Weggenmann.J. M. Wise,TREASURER, E. T. Deakyne.J. S. King,SOLICITOR, J. H. Rodney.H. W. Hushebeck,John Fagan,F. C. Weggenmann.

SECRET SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

For its size, New Castle is well represented by secret societies and beneficial associations, and in most part they are prosperous.



NEW CASTLE OPERA HOUSE.

St. Frie Ha The Sen Ade Div St. Ind T. Ass Co.

St. Johns Lodge, A. F. A. M.

Friendship Lodge, No. 3, A. O. U. W.

Harmony Lodge, K. G. E.

The Golden Chain.

Seminole Tribe, No. 7, I. O. R. M.

Adelphia Lodge, No. 8, K. of P.

Division No. 3, A. O. H.

St. Peters Beneficial Society.

Industry Council, Jr. O. U. A. M.

T. A. B. Society.

Associated Charities.

Co. H., First Regiment of Infantry, National Guard of Delaware, is located here.

AMUSEMENTS.

Opera House. Young Men's Whist Club. Clubs. Hushebeck Orchestra. Pickwick Club.

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BOARD OF TRADE.

The Board of Trade was organized in 1890 and incorporated by Act of Legislature on March 6, 1894. The Charter of the Board enables them "to take, hold, grant, bargain, sell, lease and convey lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels, rights and effects of any kind; to borrow money, also to issue bonds and mortgages on their real and personal property and to secure the payment of same." OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT, John J. Black, M. D. TREASURER, William J. Ferris. SECRETARY, Charles H. Clewell.

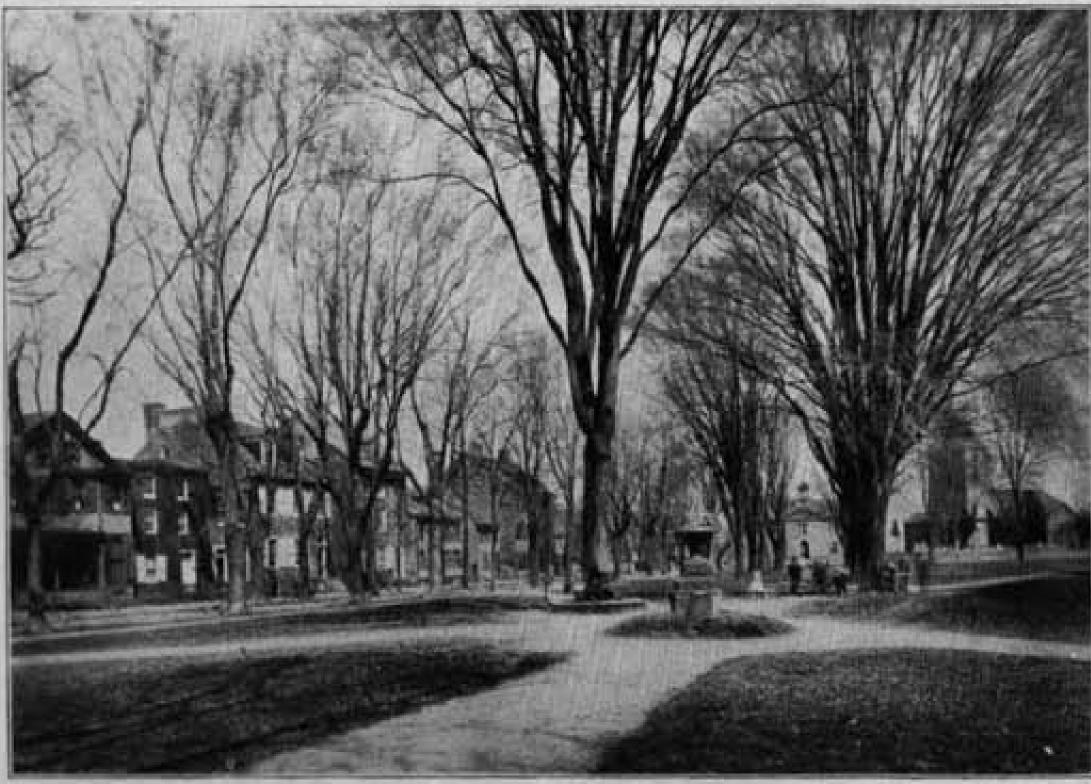
Julian D. Janvier, CHRM. COM. ON NEW ENTERPRISES.

TRUSTEES OF COURT HOUSE SQUARE.

These Trustees were appointed by Act of Legislature, February 28, 1883, and their duties are to look after the "old" Court House building and keep same in repair, etc.

TRUSTEES OF THE MARKET SQUARE.

The original Trustees were appointed by the Penns, and the Square was deeded to them and their successors "for the benefit of the citizens of New Castle as a place to hold fairs, same as are now held in England." John Janvier, the survivor of those appointed, selected the present Trustees April 30, 1877. The Trustees appoint their own successors. The two parks have been improved and afford considerable pleasure to the citizens during the heated term.



CHAIRMAN, Richard G. Cooper. SECRETARY AND TREASURER, Julian D. Janvier.

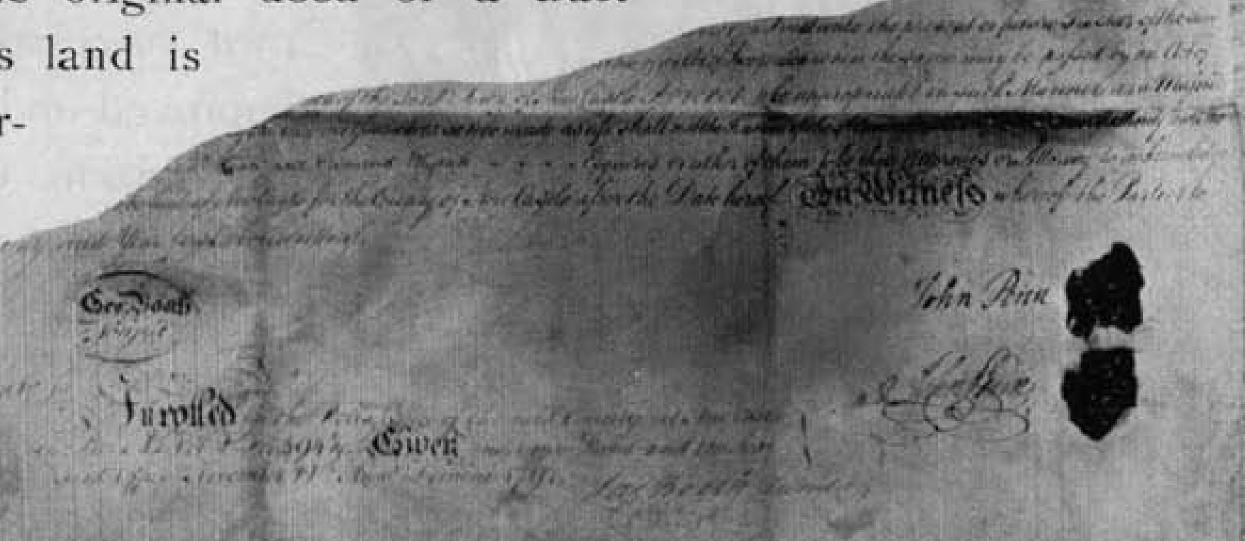
J. Harry Rogers, John H. Rodney,

Hon. George Gray.

Trustees of Court House Square are same individuals but act in different capacity.

TRUSTEES OF THE COMMONS.

The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday night in each month. They fulfil the office of guardianship over a tract of land given to the citizens of New Castle by William Penn, to be known as the Commons, and the income derived therefrom to be used for the benefit of the city. The tract is a very valuable one, and the Trustees have had their powers extended several times by act of Legislature. Below is shown the signatures of two John Penns, appearing on an instrument made in 1791. It is from the original deed of a tract Any second a she such and as person it is that a she of land to the Trustees. This land is The proster have and when the way on any to pipert by the later and the south to the for the for the plot appropriated in which Roman and Hanne available for manufacturing purto say in the most we have need as of shall a dife to any like from the second the firm and the second the sec " For and the most Myrak - I - Repaired routh's of them file the state of the and the and interes publicary our walande about he Dak here of a string of the laster to poses.







OGLETHORPE FARM.

Hiram G. Borie, Patrick McGrory, James M. Wise, Jr., John M. Hance. William J. Ferris, Secretary and Treasurer. Acting Committee: John C. Mahoney, James M. Wise, Jr., James B. Toman. Committee on Public Buildings: John C. Mahoney, Edward Dalby, Patrick McGrory.

The names of the Commons Farms are: Jefferson, Stockton, Oglethorpe, Center Hall, Penn Union, Bayard, Clayton and Model.



The following are the officers and members : PRES., John J. Black, M. D., James G. Shaw, Edward Challenger, James B. Toman, Robert R. Morrison, Edward Dalby, John C. Mahoney, John H. Rodney,

CENTER HALL FARM.



INDUCEMENTS TO MANUFACTURERS.

Beautiful sites.

Exemption from taxes for ten years. Ample wharfage with deep water. Cheap labor.

Excellent transportation facilities, both by rail and water.

Good telephone and telegraph service. Delightful climate. Low tax rate. Trolley line to Wilmington, both passengers and freight carried. Cool summers. Pure water. A healthy city. Cheap freights Raw material near at hand. Both electricity and gas available.

Free land.





SITES FOR CITY EXTENSION.

There are numerous choice sites for manufacturing plants along the river front, railroad and trolley line; also beautiful locations for residences and light manufacturing interests. Manufacturers' plots are free from taxation for a period of ten years.

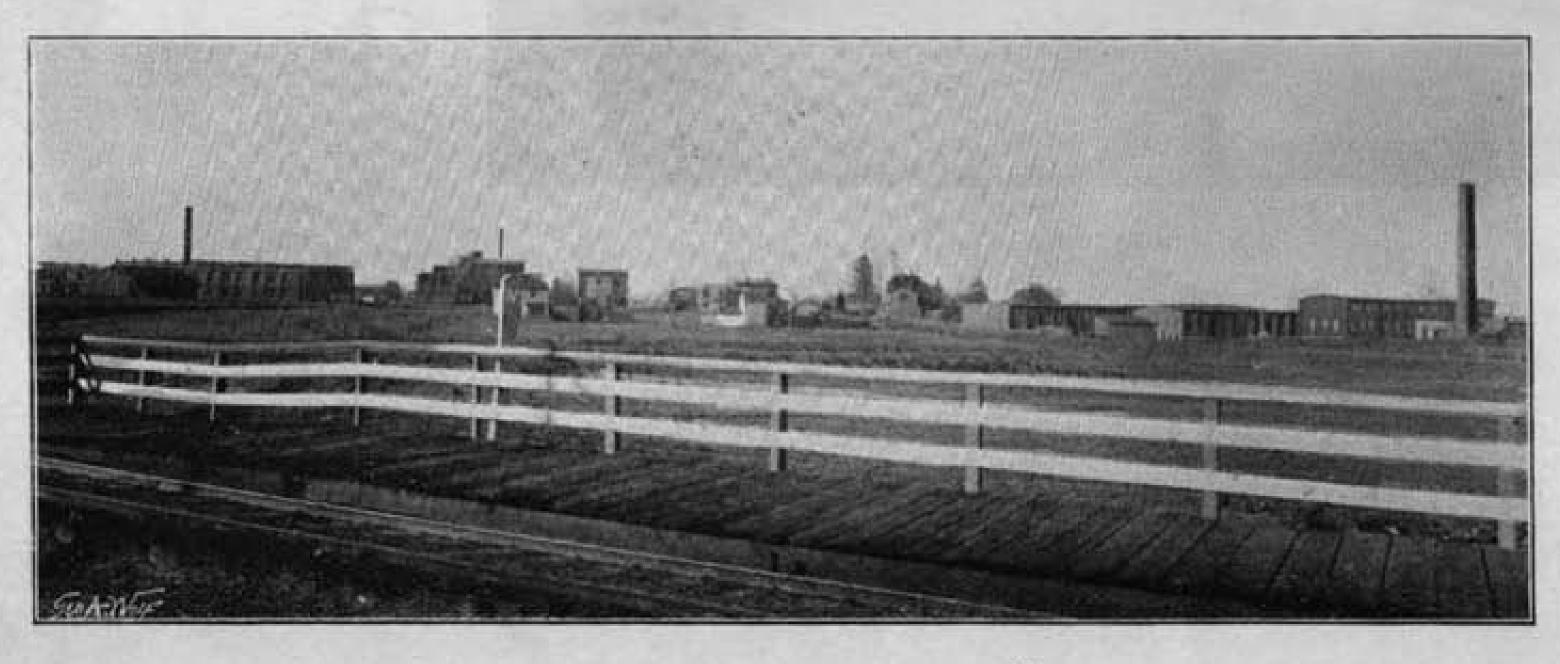
LOOKING UP DELAWARE.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

Among manufacturing interests here are to be found large iron works, woolen mill, cotton mill, flour mill, shirt factory, brick yard, and other lighter industries. Large tracts of ground are owned by these corporations and the employees live for the most part in the firms' dwellings, at nominal rents.

Upon the introduction of water in 1870, the largest, by far, of the manufacturing industries that was attracted to the town was the DELAWARE IRON COMPANY.

Covering about 35 acres and with a river frontage of nearly half a mile, this



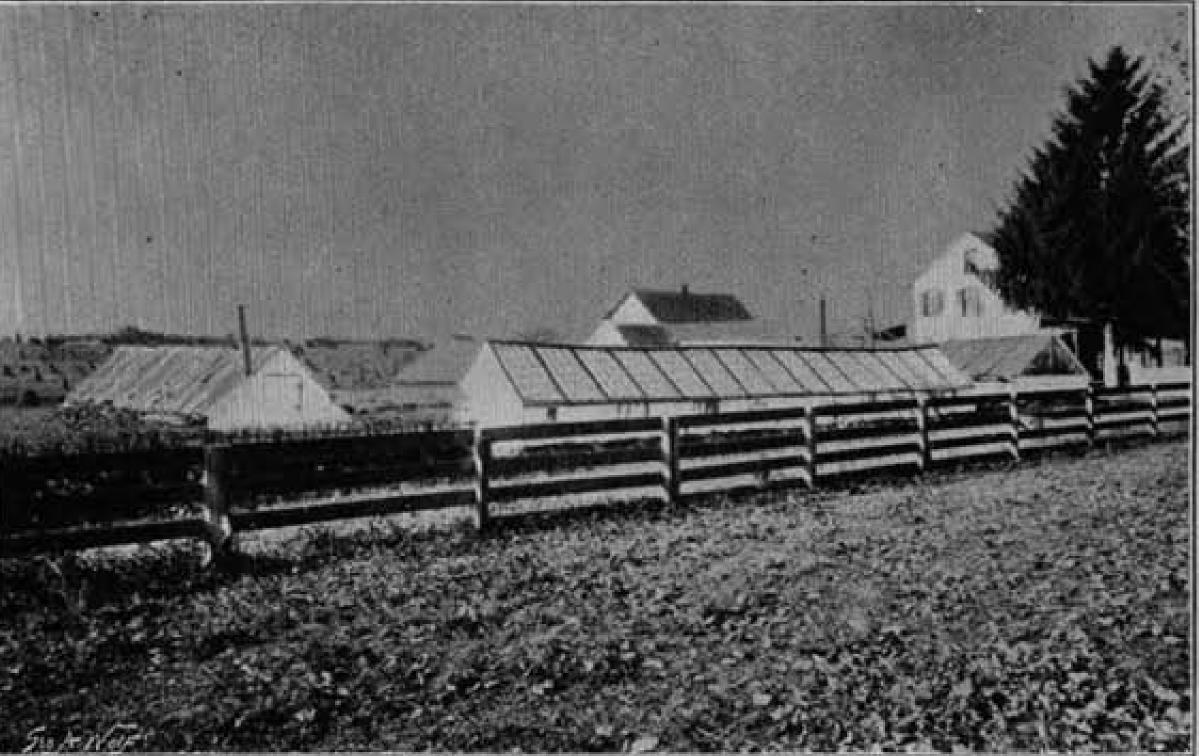
large establishment turns out daily several hundred tons of iron pipes, varying in diameter from one to sixteen inches.

When running at full time, nearly one thousand men are employed.



COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

There are nearly fifty different kinds of business represented in this city. Space forbids an enumeration. It is sufficient to say that anything needed in a home is obtainable on demand. The prevailing prices are in keeping with those of larger cities. The business men are progressive and thoroughly alive to competition. Supplies are to be found here for the factory and all branches of the building trade. There is one newspaper published in this city which possesses elements in keeping with the spirit of progression.



SAMUEL T. LANDERS' GREENHOUSES.



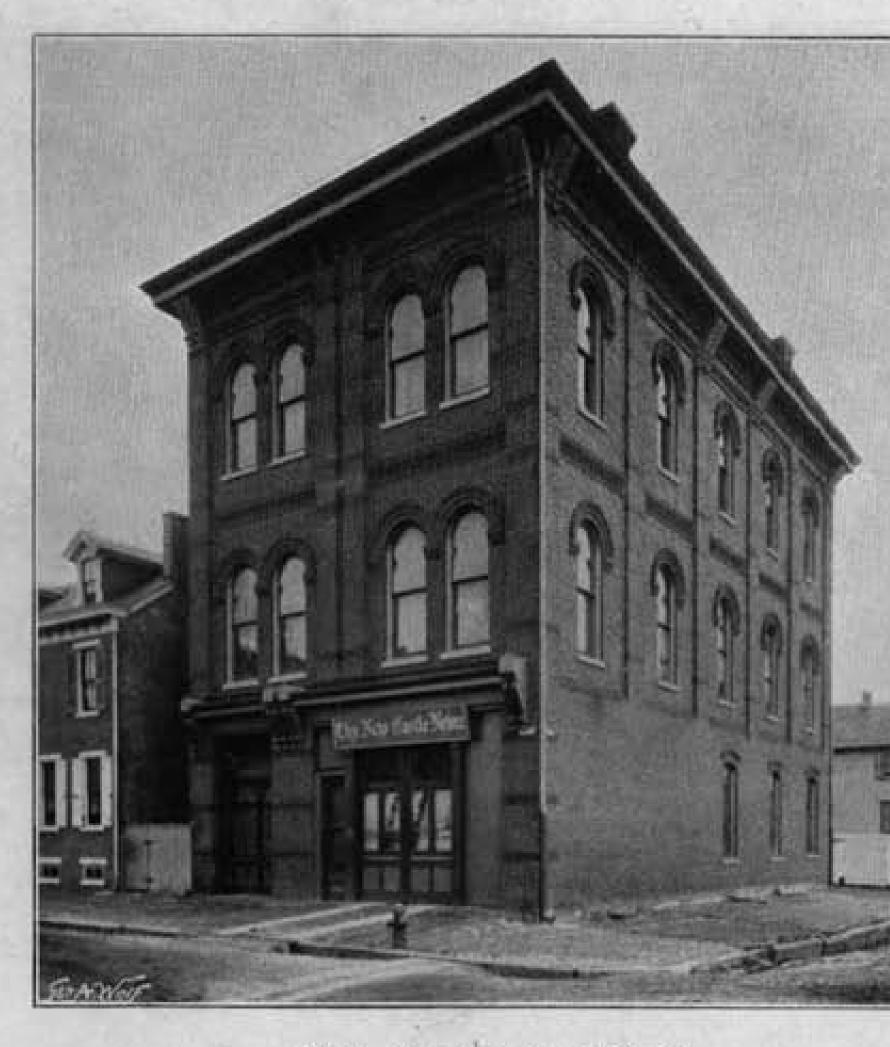
COST OF LIVING.

The cost of living in any locality is governed by expenses of transportation and nearness to market. The present prices asked for groceries and other articles are in keeping with city prices, and as to vegetables, butter, poultry and eggs, are reasonably low. Rents are moderate and families can live on small incomes more readily than in many other cities of equal size.

HEALTH OF THE CITY.

This is a question of vital importance to any person contemplating a change of location or selecting a place of residence for himself and family. It can be truthfully said that this is a healthful point. The percentage of death rate during the past year has been exceedingly small. The sanitary arrangement of the city is a perfect one, the impurities being carried off through sewers.

WHAT NEW CASTLE IS NOTED FOR.



"THE NEW CASTLE NEWS."

Beautiful situation. Healthfulness. Agriculture and fruits. Ancestry. The first landing place of William Penn. Fertile soil. Low tax rate. Good public library. Public schools. Transportation facilities. Low freight rates. Easy access to large cities. No bonded debt. Shad fisheries. Free land. High moral standing. Minimum cost of living.

