

The History of Townsend, Delaware.

Senior Thesis

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H402

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Preface.

This paper is dedicated to the many friends and citizens of Townsend who shared their memories with the writer of this paper and is a memorial to the One Hundredth Anniversary of the town.

1. See appendix for further information concerning this oldest house in Townsend. The article is entitled "Historic Townsend House Has Checkered Background" and was written by William P. Wilson. November, 1939.
2. Harvey Cochran Bounds, A Postal History of Delaware. Wilmington, 1938, page 45.
3. Memories of many of the present day citizens who recall their parents speaking of the town as being called Huckleberry Swamp.
4. Ibid. as 2. page

5. Delaware Republican, published in Wilmington in 3rd street between Market and King Streets. July 19, 1858.
page 1.
6. This information was presented by Howard Townsend a grandson of Samuel Townsend for whom the town was named.

7. Ibid. as 5, column 1.

8. Information obtained from Ralph Wilson present secretary of the Delaware Railroad. April 1951. Dover , Delaware.

The History of Townsend, Delaware.

Townsend is located in Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. Appoquinimink Hundred was originally that portion of New Castle County lying between Appoquinimink and Duck Creeks. Scharf in his History of Delaware says that "mention is made of the territory as a hundred in a deed bearing date January 15, 1708, from William Grant, of "Appoquinimini" Hundred to John Demarcier." The meaning of the word Appoquinimink is still to be determined, Scharf thought Appoquinimink to mean "wounded duck" , George Johnson who wrote the History of Cecil County derived the name from apokwe, a Seminole word meaning "settlement" and nemen, "to see". A more recent study of the word, Appoquinimink, by C.A. Weslager and A.R.Dunlap, in their book, Indian Place Names in Delaware, suggests that the first element may be appo, a shortening of mattappu, "he sits down", with possible reference to, the end of the portage between Bohemia River and Appoquinimink Creek.

By an act of the legislature, passed March 9, 1875, this land was divided into two hundreds, the northern part retaining the name Appoquinimink, and the southern part, Blackbird, after the stream which forms its southern boundary. The present Appoquinimink Hundred is bounded on

the north by St. Georges Creek and Hundred, on the south by Blackbird Creek and Hundred, on the west by Maryland, and on the east by the Delaware River. In the present hundred, Townsend is the only town and is therefore the business, social, and political center of the area.

Previous to 1850 the only buildings within the present limits of the town were a frame dwelling at the north end of Townsend, believed to have stood for a hundred years previous to this time,¹ and two or three huts occupied by Negroes. The most noted of these Negroes was Charles² Lloyd, after whom the village was called Charley Town. The town at this time was merely a crossroads and because of the low swampy area and the dense growth of huckleberry bushes, the town was called Huckleberry Swamp by many of the later inhabitants.³

The Delaware Railroad was opened from Wilmington to Middletown in 1855. After some dispute the Railroad Company was given authority to come through Charley Town, and in 1856 the Delaware Railroad was completed from Middletown to Delmar.⁴ It was said that Samuel Townsend the largest landowner in the area was opposed to the railroad, but he defended himself several years later in a local newspaper, The Delaware Republican, thus:

Townsend July 13, 1858

Mr. Editor:

In that old lying Gazette of last Friday, C.P. Johnson says the reason why I stopped my paper several years ago was, that he favored the Delaware Railroad, and that I was opposed to it, and stopped my paper because he would not oppose it also.

Now, a few words in justification of myself. Since the proposition to make the railroad from Dover to Seaford was abandoned and the present route adopted, I have never opposed the road, which is very well known to those whose business it is to know.

Since the railroad has been finished, I have freighted on it every bushel of grain I had to sell, and every bushel of lime I have used, besides other freight. I have in addition, planted out in the last two years, nearly nine thousand peach trees, and calculate to plant out five thousand more next spring; and when they come into bearing, every basket of them I expect to send up on the road;

4.

and if all my present and future preparations to put freight on the Delaware Railroad make me an enemy to it, I think it likely the Company would like to have a few more enemies of the same sort.

Samuel Townsend⁵.

With the coming of the railroad to Charley Town a town was laid out, lots sold, and houses built. It was necessary to do a lot of grading and filling in of ravines; these ravines had to be filled in before the railroad could come through Townsend. One of these deep ravines was located one mile north of Townsend at what is now called the "Pines" . This ravine, it is said, was filled in by a small horse cart. It was necessary that wooden structure be built over the stream which passed from Harmon's Pond to Noxentown Pond. A single track was all that was built at first through the town.⁶.

The following is a Delaware Railroad schedule of 1858:

Delaware Railroad Schedule

Summer Arrangement- 1858

On and after Monday, June 21st, 1858,
trains for the accommodations of
passengers will run as follows:

Seaford to Philadelphia

Leave Seaford 6:25 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.

Leave Townsend 8:45 A.M. and 6:15 P.M.

Arrive Wilmington 10:10 A.M. and 8:40 P.M.

Arrive Philadelphia 11:40 A.M. and 10:15 P.M.

Leave Philadelphia 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M.

Arrive Townsend 11:38 A.M. and 7:30 P.M.

The evening trains North and the morning trains South are freight trains with passengers cars attached.

Passengers leaving any point on the Delaware Railroad by morning trains going north, can have nearly five hours in Philadelphia and return same evening.

E. Q. Sewall Jr.

Supt. Delaware R. R.

7.

On January 26, 1859, an act was passed by the state legislature to provide the sum of five thousand dollars for the building of a storehouse, a ticket office and water tank at Townsend.⁸ This station was built near the present home of Daisy Johnson and the home of Elsie Schwatka on Harmon's Road. Among the station agents at the old station were Rufus Jones and William Reynolds.

9. Information obtained from Karalene Carpenter who remembers her mother speak of her childhood days when such guests were brought to her parents home.
10. Information obtained from J. Taney Wilcox, secretary of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. April 5, 1951.

The coming of the railroad through Charley Town determined the present name of the town. The railroad stop had to be given a name, and, as usually happens, many suggestions were proposed. The two prominent names suggested were Lancaster, which was the original name of tract of land, and Townsend, after the man who had granted the land for the railroad. Townsend was finally agreed upon in respect to the man who had allowed the railroad to be built through the community.

When the railroad was completed, everyone in the community came to see the first train pass through the town. With the coming of the railroad, many strangers came to spend the night in Townsend: for example salesman going on to the Maryland communities and needing to hire carriages to take them on their travels, would have to have overnight lodging if they arrived in Townsend in the evening. These people would be taken to the homes of the townsmen for overnight lodging. Many wives of the hospitable men would often wonder where they would place the next guest. 9.

In December 1866, a branch of the railroad was begun from Townsend to Massey, Maryland. This road did not at first connect with the Queen Anne and Kent R.R.'s. It is believed that the branch road was built to ship logs and grain from the vicinity of Van Dyke. This branch road was completed to Massey, Maryland in 1869. The

11. Memories of James L. and Estella Dickinson. March 1951.

road consists of 4.17 miles in Maryland and 5.09 miles in Delaware, making a total of 9.35 miles. This branch road became known as the Queen Anne and Kent Railroad. Townsend after this became an important railroad junction. Grain, peaches and lumber were among the many types of freight which were shipped from this town. It is said that the platform would be crowded with passengers between the change of trains at Townsend for Chestertown or Centreville or other Maryland communities on this line. With the coming of the junction, it was necessary to build or erect a turntable for the trains coming from the Maryland line. This turntable was erected and the engine was turned around by hand and headed back toward Maryland as the trains only went as far as Townsend, where it was necessary to change trains for Wilmington or other northern points and for the southern points on the peninsula. Everyone would walk down to the station in the evening to meet the eight o'clock train to mingle in the crowd and to see who would arrive. 11.

In 1902 or 1903 a double track was built through the town. About this time the present railroad station was built at Townsend on the opposite side from the old station. William Reynolds and Richard Hodgson were among the first agents in the new station. The water tank and turntable were done away with in later years and a Y-

track was built so that the trains could back around and then head back to Massey in this manner.

Watchmen have served at the crossings in the town since the beginning of the railroad. Harvey Naylor, one of watchmen at the crossing stated during his service that a train passed through Townsend every ten minutes during the peak of the produce season.

The railroad station was used at election time for receiving national election returns over the telegraph. The politicians sat in the station and stood around it to get the election returns: for example one resident remembers especially the election of Mc Kinley.

For many years a telegraph office was located below the station. At this place trains were given the right to proceed to the next town or to halt. This system has been replaced by automatic lights which show whether a train is in a certain block or not. Edward Reynolds, Roland Reynolds, and William were among the employees at this telegraph office.


Today the Maryland railroad passenger service has been discontinued, and only about one train stops in Townsend for passengers a day. Mail is delivered to the town by truck except what mail is discharged by express trains. Most of the freight is shipped to Townsend by truck except for some car loads of grain and coal which come by railroad. Practically nothing is shipped from the town by rail. Travelers find it

12. Bills of Delaware 1885. AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF
TOWNSEND. April 3, 1885. For complete data see appendix B.



necessary to go by car or walk to Ginn's Corner and take the Red Star Coaches.

Today the town has many former railroad employees as its citizens a fact which proves the importance of the town as a railroad center during early years.

The village grew rapidly after the coming of the railroad, and on April 3, 1885, was incorporated as a town. The incorporators were Eli C. Welsh, George M.D. Hart, James T. Taylor, Daniel B. Maloney, and Albert Lynam, who were instructed to secure the services of a skillful surveyor and to survey and lay down on a plot the town of Townsend in New Castle County, and to lay out the streets, which they did accordingly.^{12.} 

Other commissioners are given by Scharf for the years 1886 and 1887. They are David Wells, Thomas Bratton, John W. Naudain and John Townsend. Later town commissioners who served from around 1927 to the present day were Walter Gill, Richard Hodgson, M. B. Donovan, C. A. Greenwood, James A. Hart, William A. Scott, William P. Wilson, Walter Lee, Daisy W. Johnson, Fletcher Daniels, and Wilson Monev.

The collectors of town taxes from 1929 to the present day have been Mrs. James Carpenter, Irving B. Hart, and Ethelwyn J. Maloney, who is the present collector.

13. Laws of Delaware, February 21, 1929. See appendix C.
Complete act is quoted there.
14. Minutes of the Town of Townsend, 1929-1946.

In 1929 an act was passed to authorize the commissioners of the town to borrow money and issue bonds for the purpose of supplying the town with water for the purpose of fire protection and personal use. The commissioners were authorized to borrow up to \$15,000 for the purpose of installing, constructing and erecting such work and apparatus as might be necessary. ^{13.}

The contract was given to George and Lynch Company who were the low bidders. A large water tank was erected and water mains laid. The cost of having water connected to one's home was ten dollars. The principal on the bonds issued for the installing of water could not be paid 30 years and it has been necessary to pay the interest on these bonds since 1929. The water lines even go beyond the town limits and many citizens are supplied with water who do not have to pay any town property tax. This policy has been condemned by many of the residents but has never been remedied. ^{14.}

Delaware Power and Light Company brought electricity to the town around 1921 and still provides the town with it. The rate for the street lights has been lowered from time to time since the electric power was first installed. The town previous to this period was lighted by oil lamps placed on lamp posts. These lights were lighted each night and then put out in the morning. The lamplighter received fifty cents a night for his services being paid by the

15. Memories of Oscar Lockerman and others.

town board. The lamplighter carried a small stool in one hand and in the other hand an oil can. Some of the men who were lamplighters were Frank Wells, William Wells, and Kenneth Watts who was the last lamplighter. 15.

The town commissioners meetings are held several times during the year to pay all bills and to hear any complaints from the citizens of the town and also to grant special privileges. For example, when the Negro campmeeting was held in town, it was necessary for the minister to ask for permission to have the portion of the street near the church roped off. This permission was granted by the town commissioners. The town board appoints a health board to care for sanitary conditions in the town. Some of the members of the health committee were Dr. J. D. Niles, John W. Guessferd, John A. Lynam, Edward Daniels, and Mabel Harmon. Among the other duties of town commissioners are the care and upkeep of the streets, the connecting of water to the various homes, and provision for the protection of the citizens from disturbances and nuisances as well as consideration for the general improvement of the town.

The Industries and Businesses of Townsend 1851-1951.

The first general merchandise store was opened by Levi Wesley Lattomus, having moved to the town from Fieldsboro a nearby community. The store opened around 1851 was a typical country store, having for sale clothes, hardware, and novelties as well as groceries and produce.

The store at the southeast corner of Commerce and Main Streets, was two stories high; the second story being used mostly for storage. By the 1870's the store was doing a most prosperous business. One of the local residents has said that on Saturday evenings the town would be full of horse teams and carriages. All the stores had carriage sheds which were used for hitching the horses; hitching posts were also located all over the town. On Saturday evening every available space was filled with carriages, and it was often necessary for the people to hitch their horses to the back wheels of other carriages.

People did not go to Middletown or other communities to do their dealing or shopping as the other towns did not have any more to offer than Townsend. The Lattomus store employed nine clerks to take care of the sales. When twelve o'clock arrived, the tired clerks would start putting out the lights and telling the people to get out of the store. With the coming of the railroad in 1856, Levi Lattomus was named postmaster and the general store also housed the first Post Office. In the winter in the early years of the town, the men gathered around the stove in the store and smoked and chewed tobacco, while they discussed the current topics of the day. This custom is not uncommon today. Some of the hitching posts are still standing on the west side of the store, and it is not an uncommon sight now to see several teams hitched to the posts on Saturday afternoons.

The store was operated by the Lattomus family for over 75 years. Since the late 1920's the store has been operated by Robert Morgan, Clarence P. Donovan, Huey Graham, and several others, and today it is owned by Albert Buckworth, who operates a freezer locker plant in the rear of the store the only such plant in this locality; the grocery store is operated by Edward Walker.

Another store of general merchandise was built by William Scott, and its characteristics were similar to the Lattomus store. This store which also had living accommodations was located on the northeast corner of Commerce and Main Streets and was destroyed by fire. Another store was built in its place and after this the store was operated by Joseph C. Hutchison, a man named De Valinger, William Money, Thomas Lattomus, Hart Wright Hart, Clarence Greenwood, and is now owned and operated by Leslie F. Smith, who conducts a modern self-service store.

A third store was operated by Edward Graves on the northwest corner of Commerce and Main Streets in the present building operated by Ethel O. Reynolds. Later Edward Graves built a new store and home on the corner of Taylor and Main Streets and conducted his business there. This business was later operated by Edward Lurty. The store is no longer in operation, but George Lurty operates a pool room in the original store.

The store which Edward Graves first operated was later operated by a Jewish family. Then the store became a drugstore operated by Dr. J. Niles and Rufus Jones. This store is now

operated by Ethel O. Reynolds, who has been in business for twenty-five years. Mrs. Reynolds is the only woman in Townsend who has operated her own business for this period of time. She has also been active in politics, in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, in the Parent Teachers Association, Red Cross, brought the Chataqua to Townsend, and is also one of the local correspondents for the Middletown Transcript and the Wilmington newspapers. The Reynolds store sells general merchandise, patent medicines, gifts, magazines, newspapers, and there is also a soda fountain and lunch counter within the store.

A confectionery store was operated by John Rittenhouse near the old railroad station on Harmon's Road. This store was within the Rittenhouse home; the store being operated for the convenience of railroad passengers. This store was later operated by William Garton, Bayard Schwatka, and Isacc Weiner, and was last operated by James Guessford. The store is no longer in operation and was operated within the present home of Elsie Schwatka on Harmon's Road.

A bakery and grocery store was operated by Thomas Bratton for a short time on the southwest corner of South and Main Streets. This was the first bakery in Townsend. Later this dwelling became a printing office and home operated by Evans Moffett. Today the present dwelling is the home of Joseph Hutchison Jr. whose wife operates the only beauty shoppe in Townsend from her home.

16. Memories of the citizens of Townsend.

17^x. John Thomas Scharf, History of Delaware, volume 2
page 1022 .

Another bakery was operated by a man named Venn, who did his own baking, and later by William Lynam and was last operated by Samuel Watts. This bakery was located on South Street. Henry Mc Monigall was the baker for William Lynam. He was known as "Henry the baker". After he retired from his occupation, he became a "wayfarer". Among the baked goods sold were sugar cakes, ginger cakes, drop cookies, cinnamon buns, and white bread and rolls. The children coming from school would stop in at the bakery and buy penny sugar cookies. The baked goods was baked in a large brick oven. Among the other bakers was a man named Fred Conure. 16.

A drugstore was operated by John Lattomus next to the Lattomus store. Mr. Lattomus carried all types of medicines and filled prescriptions issued by the few doctors. The store it is said was piled high with cartons and urns of medicine. This early drugstore provided the medical needs for many people who could not afford the care of a doctor, being patronized by both Negro and white.

Hotels.

"The first hotel in Townsend was erected about 1857 by Abraham Ingram. It was first occupied by Joseph T. Hill. The property was afterwards owned by William Scott and Levi W. Lattomus." 17. Levi W. Lattomus operated the hotel around 1865. The hotel was later converted into a dwelling and has housed many occupants. Today the dwelling is the home of Mrs. Walter Money.

Another hotel was built by Samuel Townsend. Before this hotel was built, the travelers who had to spend the night at Townsend between trains had been lodged at the Townsend home. Mr. Townsend, knowing the need for a hotel built one on the corner of Main Street and Harmon's Road. The hotel was first contained a restaurant and was operated by James C. Townsend about 1870. It was operated by several proprietors and was bought by James L. Dickinson Sr. around 1886. This hotel was known as the "Townsend Hotel" and had as its motto, "A First Class House in all its Appointments." Along with the hotel, Mr. Dickinson had horses and carriages to hire or exchange. Within the hotel was a bar and near the hotel a pool room. The hotel burned in 1925 and the property was sold to Thomas Lattomus. The building was later built into apartments and the first floor was used as a drugstore by Jerome Niles and Rufus Jones, who moved from the present Reynolds store. William C. Deakyne later operated the drug and confectionery store until his death. Dr. Claude Keith had a doctor's office in the rear of the store during the Deakyne management of the store. The store has since been managed by Ethelwyn Maloney, Rena Hart, Calvin Jones, Willard Laird, and is now operated by a man named Willis, who sells confectioneries, patent medicines, toilet articles, magazines, and gifts. The store around 1942 housed the first youth center in Townsend which was operated by the Townsend Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Hardware Store and Lumber Yard.

The first hardware store in Townsend was operated by Thomas Maloney, whose brother, Daniel B. Maloney operated a lumber yard near the hardware store. The hardware store and lumber yard after the death of Thomas Maloney were both operated for some time by Daniel B. Maloney. Walter Gill owned the store after this, and at his death it was sold to Darwin Beardsley, who is the present owner of the hardware store and lumber yard. The hardware store is used as a gathering place by the farmers in the mornings, and here they smoke and talk about the daily events. In the summer the men can be found sitting on nail kegs in front of the store.

Thomas Maloney , for whom the store was built, is remembered by the children of the day for his sunny and cheerful disposition. When they would be sent to the hardware store, for ten penny nails, he would sing while he would wait on the customer: "ten penny, ten penny, ten penny, ten penny."

The watchmaker and jeweler of the town was Lemuel B. Shockley, who operated his business on east Main Street. Mr. Shockley repaired clocks and watches and sold rings and other jewelry. When Mr. Shockley died he had been ^{a jeweler} in Townsend for about fifty years. The town hasn't had a jeweler since his death.

Blacksmith and wheelwright shops have been operated in Townsend by Daniel B. Maloney, Israel Pritchard, and later by his son Joseph Pritchard. In the same shop Armour Quillen was wheelwright. This shop was located between the Pritchard home and the home of Milton Hart on Main Street. Another shop was operated on the south end of South Street by _____ Webb and Charles Schwatka. Another blacksmith and wheelwright shop was operated by George Stant and Charles Wells on West Main Street.

The last of the blacksmiths in Townsend were Lynch Watts and George Biddle, both having shops on the south end of South Street. The blacksmiths and wheelwrights shod horses, cut carriage and wagon rims or tires, as they were then called, did welding work, and built dearborn bodies and wagon bodies. There were many blacksmiths in Townsend during the horse and buggy era.

Peach Industry.

The peach industry flourished in this area from 1860 until around 1890. Samuel Townsend was known as the "Peach King of Delaware" because of the great number of peaches he shipped from Townsend to Philadelphia, Boston, and New York. In the Delaware Republican, a Delaware newspaper printed in Wilmington, Mr. Townsend, mentioned the number of peach trees he had planted (this was printed in 1858): "I have planted out in the last two years, nearly nine thousand peach trees, and calculate to plant out five thousand more next spring." 17.

It was customary for a buyer to come down from the large cities and buy the peach grower's entire crop. Then they would grade the peaches and ship them to the large cities.

According to an account written in 1888, "Appleton and Hart erected a frame building twenty four by forty feet, on the corner of Commerce and Gray Streets, in 1882. They fitted it up with two evaporators and commenced evaporating peaches. In 1884 Appleton sold his share to Hart, who enlarged the size and capacity of the manufactory. The present capacity is eight hundred baskets per day. The evaporating season lasts six weeks per year and during this period gives employment to one hundred operatives. George M.D. Hart ships the fruit principally to New York and Philadelphia." 18.

The peaches were picked and hauled to the grader and there graded. The larger peaches were placed in hampers, while the small peaches were kept and dried at Townsend. Some of the peaches were peeled and seeded; others were merely seeded. The employees were paid five cents a basket for cutting the peaches in half and taking the seeds out, and ten cents a basket for peeling and seeding the peaches. The inhabitants of the town would gather up the seeds, and dry them and use them for fuel in the winter. The employees were white people. The only attention given the peach trees was ploughing and working between the peach rows; spraying was not necessary.

After the peach trees became diseased and died out, the farmers in the neighborhood of Townsend planted pear and apple orchards. The Keifer pear became the outstanding fruit in the vicinity of Townsend. Walter Hart bought the pears for about fifteen cents a basket. These pears were emptied into box cars and shipped to miners in Pennsylvania. Some of the better pears were packed and shipped to Philadelphia, placed in cold storage, and then brought out in the winter and sold. Many of them, however, did not stay firm and the buyers lost considerable on the pears. The pears did not prove very profitable, and soon the growers didn't bother to pick their pears for shipping. Some of the pear trees are still bearing on ~~the~~ property of Howard Townsend, Wilmer Fennemore, and James L. Dickinson. The last of the apple orchards were those owned by John W. Derrickson and William C. Money. These man had many varieties of apples which hore at various intervals.

Feed and Grain Stores.

George M. D. Hart and son operated a feed, grain, and seed store on the northeast corner of Commerce and Main Streets and later erected a building between this store and Maloney's lumber yard. Here the Harts added a coal yard. Mr. Hart specialized in seeds and later bought wheat and loaded it in box cars at Townsend. The Harts had the monopoly on seed and grain for many years and also sold lime to the farmers. One of the outstanding features of Hart's coal business was the coal box, which stood near the scales at Hart's office. This coal box was one of the traditional landmarks of the town for many years. While it was standing, one could always see someone sitting or sleeping

on the coal box both day or night. In fact, the top of the box was as smooth as glass, having been worn down by so many people sitting on it. This coal box was used by all types and characters of people. When it was finally destroyed, the town lost a part of its individuality.

Around 1904 or 1905 a feed store was operated by a Mr. Evans, who had a custom mill at Noxentown. This feed store was managed by Frank Spry. Mr. Evans purpose in having the store had Townsend was to exchange with the farmers grain for feed. This store was located at the north end of Harmon's Road and Main Street.

The present day grain and feed stores are operated by Samuel Gunning, who has a feed and grain store on Commerce Street; Darwin Beardsley, who operates the former Hart store; and Fred Dolby and Elmer Case, who operate the Townsend Grain and Feed Company, which has recently been built near the railroad siding. This business has proved very prosperous, for feed is delivered for many miles around the vicinity of Townsend. The Townsend Grain and Feed Company has started many people in the chicken business by furnishing the feed for them and sharing the profit with the owner of the chickens when they are sold. This company specialized in Purina Feeds.

All of these feed and grain dealers grind and mix feed for the farmer and dairyman. However, grain is no longer bought and shipped by railroad. The feed and grain stores merely buy enough grain to supply their own needs. Large quantities of grain are now sold to grain dealers in Middletown or Smyrna.

19. Ibid.as 17A page 122.

20. Ibid. as 17A page 122.

The first grain and feed mill stood one mile north of Townsend at what is now Harmon's Pond. "The earliest record of the mill is found on the assessment list of 1816, when it was the property of Joseph and Whitby, who was a large landowner in the vicinity of the mill. At his death the mill passed to his son, John, who operated it for sometime, before selling it to Garrett Ottison. It was afterwards owned by _____ Hunter, who sold it to _____ Mc Daniel, by whom it was repaired and generally improved. The mill was next owned by John Lewis and William Johnson, by whom it was conveyed to its present owner, I.A. Harmon. It is a two-story frame building. It is fitted up with burrs and grinds custom work exclusively." 19.

This mill was run by water power. A large mill was located on the north end of the building. Harmon's Mill was later operated by George H. Wiggin and then William Moore, who was the owner when the mill burned in the late 1930's. Every part of it was destroyed except the large water wheel.

Brick Yards.

"In 1872 a brick yard was opened a short distance south of Townsend by Samuel R. Warren. It was operated for a year by him and then sold to Daniel B. Maloney, who owned the mill in 1888. Bricks were manufactured here during six months of the year and employment was given for that period to five men. About one hundred and seventy-five thousand bricks are manufactured annually. Samuel Warren opened another brick yard on his farm in 1886. This yard gave employment to six men for six months in the year, and manufactured about two hundred thousand bricks annually." 20.

21. Memories of Karalene Carpenter whose father Edward Hart
drove the wagon loads of bricks to the wharves.
22. Ibid. as 17A page 122.

Some bricks were used locally for chimneys and foundations for homes in the vicinity of Townsend, but the larger per cent of the bricks were hauled by wagon to Smyrna Landing, Blackbird Landing, or Cantwells Bridge (Odessa) and loaded on boats and shipped to Philadelphia. ^{21.}

Saw Mills.

"In 1883 Samuel R. Warren erected a saw mill on his premises in Appoquinimink Hundred. This he operated until 1887, when he moved it to Sudlersville. It had a capacity of two thousand five hundred feet per day and gave employment to thirteen men. Merchant and custom work was executed." ^{22.}

Other saw mills were operated by Edward Hart, William Fortner, and Benjamin Lockerman who operated a saw mill near Dulaneys around 1881. The logs were hauled on two sets of cart wheels and the logs were chained to the cart wheels and then pulled by mules. Then the logs were hauled to the railroad siding and placed on flat cars and shipped by railroad. Present day dealers in logs are John Farrow, Clarence Pierson, and Leon Buckson. Today the logs are hauled by truck and are used for piling and telephone poles, while the softer wood, such as willow or poplar, are used for gun powder, baskets and hampers, toothpicks, and wooden eating utensils. In former years the oak, walnut, and chesnut trees were used for the making of furniture. For local use posts were hewed out for fences and rafters were hewed for buildings.

23. The history of the creamery was given to me by several residents of the town among these Daisy Wiggins Johnson, William Money, and Oscar Lockerman.

Creameries.

Captain and Mrs. George Wiggins had a creamery near the railroad at the present location of the Supplee-Wills-Jones creamery. Milk was bought from the farmers and made into butter. When the farmers brought the milk to the creamery it was poured into a separator, from which the skim milk was separated from cream. The skim milk went into a separate tank. Then the farmers would take the skim milk back to feed it to their hogs. The cream was made into butter and shipped; milk could not be shipped because of the lack of refrigeration. This creamery was burned and was not rebuilt.

William H. Smith, or "creamery Smith", as he was called, had a creamery on Walnut Street. This creamery was similar to the Wiggins creamery and was later operated by William C. Money. Supplee built another creamery on the sight of the old Wiggins property and later in 1914 bought out the creamery originally owned by Smith. Milk from the Supplee creamery was at first shipped by cans in milk cars on the railroad and later in tank cars. These cars were loaded by a hose into the tank cars and shipped to Philadelphia. The milk was just cooled at this creamery. Now the milk is cooled and shipped by milk truck. Today the creamery is operated by Supplee-Wills-Jones. Dairy farming has become one of the outstanding means of financial gain in this area today. 23.

Canneries.

Hearn and Walls operated a tomato cannery in Townsend in 1902 or 1903. Four cents an hour was paid for labor, fifty cents a day for boys, one dollar and a quarter a day for men, and one and one-half cents was paid for each bucket of tomatoes peeled. A copper chekk was given to the laborer after he or she had peeled a bucket of tomatoes. These copper and also fiber checks or discs were honored at the stores during the canning season; afterwards the company would cash in these discs . Many of the women kept tobacco sacks around their necks in which they would drop their discs. Both Negroes and whites worked in the cannery, and women as well as men. ^{24.}

Later the cannery was run by Wright and Company and Justwright and Company, and is now operated by the Phillips Canning Company. These later companies canned corn and peas, as well as tomatoes. Many of the people look forward to the canning season as it is very beneficial financially to many families of the community as most of the employees are local inhabitants. During World War Two, however, German war prisoners were used as laborin the cannery. These prisoners were brought from Fort Du Pont and were guarded by military police. Today the sweet corn that is canned in Townsend is grown locally, but the peas are no longer grown in this area and are brought to Townsend from Pennsylvania to be canned.

Carpenters and Painters.

The outstanding carpenters of the town were the members of the Wells family. Frank Wells, Benjamin Wells, Charles Wells, Albert Wells, and later William T. Wells, Charles Wells, Jr., Irving Wells and Albert Wells took up the carpenter trade. It is said by the older residents of the town that the Wells boys built practically every house in Townsend. They would build a home and live in it awhile themselves and then sell the home. The Wells' were very particular, and many times instead of sending to the lumber yard for needed lumber would go themselves and pick out the exact piece that they desired. Among the homes which they built were the Maloney and Lattomus homes, which are largest houses in Townsend today.^{25.}

Other carpenters were John H. Green and his son William D. Green, who did most of their work in neighboring towns. The outstanding carpenters of the present day are Oscar Biddle, George Burge and son, Welden, Thomson Beardsley, Allie Wells, and Elwood David.

Joseph Clayton, William Naylor, and Thomas Naylor were outstanding exterior and interior painters. The painters today are William Garton, Elmer Pritchard, John Naylor, and Elwood Graham, who do painting outside of Townsend as well as in town.

Physicians.

The first physician in Townsend was Dr. Thomas A. Enos. He was an outstanding doctor, giving all his time to the sick. He thought only of giving his service, and when he was called to the home of the poor, it is said that he would know their

financial status and would not bother to write down his fees. Dr. Enos traveled both day or night in his carriage ministering to the sick. When he died at the age of fifty-five, the citizens of the community erected a tombstone in his honor, as he had placed service above financial gain and died a penniless man.

Other physicians of nearby communities ministered to the sick after the death of Dr. Enos. Dr. Francis Townsend, Dr. Money, Dr. Jerome D. Niles, and Dr. Claude Keith were all successors of Dr. Enos in Townsend. Dr. Niles is the only doctor within the town today. However, physicians from other towns visit the sick in Townsend when they need medical attention. Among these physicians are Dorsey Lewis, Walter H. Lee, Jerome Hoch, the later two having been home town boys, and Allan Cruchley all of Middletown; Dr. Claude Keith of Pinetree, and Drs. Pritchard and Lagener , both of Smyrna.

Barbers.

Haircutting was done in the home by the parents of the children. The older boys of the family would cut the younger boys' hair. Shaving was also done at home by using a straight razor. Some of the men who wore long beards, were George Stant; Israel Pritchard, John Atwell, Frank Lattomus, Nicholas Watts, and Stringer Finley. Barber shops were located on the second floor over Maloney's office, in James L. Dickinson's hotel, and later in the present location of the Guessferd barber shop on Main Street. George Bramble, a Mr. Woodall, Thomas Wells, and Harry Stradley were some of the early barbers in Townsend.

Later barbers were Curtis Slaughter, Horace Van Horn, Kenneth Watts and John W. Guessferd. The only two barbers in business in the town today are Watts and Guessferd. The Watts barber shop is located on the west end of Main Street, across the railroad and the Guessferd shop is located on the east side of the railroad.

Undertakers.

Joseph Enos of Odessa was the first undertaker for this area. Sherbourne A. Collins was the first undertaker within the town. Funerals were held in the homes or the churches as there were no funeral parlors in the early days. Dinners were always held after the funeral for the funeral guests. Funeral services consisted of singing and sermons and lasted a much longer time than those of the present day. There would usually be several ministers participating in the service.

After the death of Mr. Collins, G. Lester Daniels, formerly an assistant to Sherbourne Collins, became the undertaker. Lester Daniels had the first funeral parlor in Townsend and is still the undertaker, having parlors both in Middletown and Townsend.

Automobile and Farm Machinery Dealers.

Around 1900 W. Harmon Reynolds was a dealer in Studebaker automobiles and farming implements. This business was located on the corner of Commerce and Gray Streets where the peach dryer formerly stood.

After the First World War, James A. Hart Jr. opened a garage at Ginn's corner. Mr. Hart was a dealer in Ford cars and trucks and remained in business for about twenty years.

The establishment which was previously operated by W. Harmon Reynolds is today operated by Ralph G. Faries, a dealer

in Massey Harris farm machinery, selling corn planters, combines, tractors, discs, and corn plakers. Faries, who supplies many of the farmers in this vicinity with farm machinery also sells lime and fertilizers and Hoffman seeds.

Ice Service.

Howard Townsend and Sons operated an ice service in Townsend. Howard Townsend had two large ice houses at Harmon's Pond. In the winter he would take several teams, and cut the ice from the pond, and fill the two ice houses. Between each layer of ice his men would place straw, and more straw would be put along the sides of the ice house. These houses were dug deep in the ground. The cracks between the pieces of ice would be filled with cracked ice. Then, when it became necessary to use ice, the Townsends would load their wagon and peddle it around the town. While one wagon was being delivered, another was being filled to take to the stores in the town so the ice could be used for refrigeration for meat and produce. In more recent years ice has been served to the people of Townsend by the Clayton Ice and Coal Company and now by the Diamond Ice and Coal Company.

26.

Shirt Factory.

George M. Outten operated a shirt factory in Townsend from 1897-1917. The building was erected for Mr. Outten by the citizens of the community who desired that an industry be established in the town to employ those who needed work. This manufacturing house had two long tables which contained thirty two sewing machines and manufactured women's dresses, infants garments, blouses, skirts, and some men's dress shirts. These articles were then shipped to Philadelphia to various

27. Information obtained through interview with Ethel O. Reynolds the daughter of George Outten who operated the establishment for her father. April, 1951.

clothing stores. Mr. Outten's daughter Ethel, operated the business for her father after several years and had as her engineer Harvey Daniels. George Outten himself was a teacher by profession and was the principal of the Townsend School for several years. Before coming to Townsend, he had been a Mathematics and French teacher in New York State. ^{27.}

The manufacturing house was later operated by several other businessmen and was then converted into a home and was later torn down. This factory was located at the south end of Taylor Street.

Other Businesses.

Among the other businesses of the town were the Townsend Roller Mill Company, operated by Lemuel Shockley and Levi Lattomus. This company made flour, corn meal, and cracked corn. This establishment was located at the north end of Walnut Street.

The Horst Weather Strip Company was a company operated by new comers to the community, but was financed locally. This business did not employ any outside help and soon was discontinued.

Townsend has had a large variety of businesses and industries during its hundred years as a town, but today most of the citizens find it necessary to obtain employment in the nearby towns and cities.

28. History of Immanuel Methodist Church, Annamanda Lattomus
Maloney. 1902. See Appendix for complete history of church.
29. Information concerning cost of church etc. from Ethelywn
Maloney's history of the church which was added to the
above, see note 28.

Social and Cultural Life of the Town.Churches.

Previous to any church building in Townsend, services were held at Union Methodist Church just north of Blackbird on the Du Pont Highway. Here the residents would go to attend the regular Sunday meetings and also the revival meetings and other special services throughout the year. Devotions were also held in the individual homes as part of the daily family life. "For a number of years prior to 1871 religious services were held in the little red frame school house. A society was formed: prayer and experience meetings were held and occasionally preaching services." ²⁸. In the summer of 1871 a meeting was called for the purpose of electing a board of trustees to procure ground and to build a Methodist Episcopal Church. The building was completed in August 1871 and dedicated. From time to time the building was improved and enlarged. This building was in use until 1902, when at this time a new brick building was erected to take its place. This present church was built at a cost of \$12,600. A parsonage was erected near the church during the pastorate of Rev. Warren Burr, 1913-1918, at a cost of \$3000. The church today has a membership of 228 members and a Sunday enrollment of 200. At the present time the church is looking forward to enlarging in the near future. In 1946 a lovely Wicks electric organ and chimes were dedicated to the church. The church is the center of religious activity in the community as it is only church in Townsend today. ²⁹.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church was built around 1901 on South Street in Townsend. Captain and Mrs. George Wiggins were responsible for organizing and building the church. The church was dedicated by Bishop Coleman of the Diocese of Delaware. A Mr. Wilkie served as the first rector, and later Rev. Percy Donohough who until the church was closed. The church was in use for about thirty years and then services were discontinued. The property was later sold and was remodeled into a home. Now the members of the Episcopal denomination attend the Episcopal churches in Middletown or Smyrna.^{30.}

The members of the Roman Catholic Faith attend services at the St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Middletown.

There is one Negro church in Townsend which is located on South Street. It is a Methodist church and holds regular weekly services and each summer a campmeeting is held at this church. This service is held in August and draws Negroes from all parts of the Delmarva Peninsula. The church is not very active at the present time, as most of the people attend the Methodist churches at Lee's Chapel, at Pinetree, or Ebenezer Church which is near Van Dyke Station.

The Negro campmeetings were great occasions for the blacks. They would have large wagons filled with straw and the wagons would be drawn by four horses to take the people to the campmeetings. Late at night they returned singing the hymns of the church. Similar campmeetings are held today and the Negroes especially look forward to attending the large Big quarterly in Wilmington, which has been a tradition throughout the years.

Schools.

The land for the first white school in Townsend was given by Samuel Townsend and the school was built on the southwest corner of Gray and South Streets. This school was a little one-room red school building. This little red school was sold in 1883 to James L. Dickinson who moved the building to his premises. In 1883 the school commissioners erected a new two-story frame building. The upper floor was used as a public hall and for exhibition of the school. The lower story was divided into two commodious rooms for school purposes. Samuel Tyson was the principal.^{31.}

In 1917 the legislature appropriated three thousand dollars for the erection of a two-story school building which contained four class rooms on the first floor and two class rooms on the second floor as well as an auditorium. Today the building has been remodeled into a firehall.

In 1932 a new school was built just outside of the town limits on the property of Walter Hart. The school is a large brick building containing six class rooms, a large auditorium and stage, and a kitchen. Along with the new building was a large playground which was an advantage this school held over the old school. A.K. Ratledge was the principal of the new school and also served as the teacher of English and Mathematics. Other teachers were Catherine Bradley, Madeline Manlove, Evelyn Reynolds, Miriam Douglas, and Josephine Pritchard. Since the school opened,

two additional teachers have been added to the teaching staff. At the present time there are two additional rooms and a cafeteria being added to the school. These rooms will be ready for occupancy in September 1951. The present teaching staff consists of a Mr. Kemp, principal. Mrs. Kline Cook, Beatrice Goldsborough, Mrs. Carl Reynolds, Mrs. Fennemore Douglas, Virginia Herbst, Arie Hill, and a Mrs. Moore.

The trustees of the new school were Walter Hart, Burton Donovan, William Money, and Walter Lee. Later James L. Dickinson and Wilmer Fennemore replaced the deceased trustees, Walter Hart and Burton Donovan. The present trustees are Winfield Cochran, Walter Lee, Wilmer Fennemore, and William Carey.

One of the Townsend School traditions dating from the early school when twelve grades were taught is the Baccalaureate and Graduation Exercises, still held for the present eight-grade school as for the earlier twelve - grade school. A pageant or operetta was previously held each year at commencement exercises by members of the eighth grade. Complete graduation exercises with the presentation of diplomas are conducted each June. The graduating class then begins its ninth year at Middletown High School. Each graduate has a flower boy or girl who carries a basket of flowers to the graduate at the close of the exercises. This is a very colorful scene and the occasion is looked forward to by each new graduating class.

There is a small Negro one-room school in Townsend which has six grades. After finishing the sixth grade, the pupils go to Middletown to the junior high school and then by bus to Dover to the high school. Previous to the building of the present brick building, the school stood near the Negro church in Townsend. This was a frame building and was later used as a blacksmith shop by George Biddle.

Post Office.

"The first post office in Townsend was established on August 13, 1856, Levi W. Lattomus, a prominent figure in developing the town was made the first postmaster."³². The post office was located in the Lattomus store." Levi W. Lattomus was succeeded by James C. Wilson and John S. Wilson, and William Scott was appointed October 1, 1885."³³. Later postmasters were Thomas Lattomus, William Money, Joseph Hutchison, Blanche Hutchison, and Ethel Reynolds, and the present post mistress is Edna Conner. Mail from Townsend is served in almost all of Appoquinimink and Blackbird Hundreds of New Castle County. The rural mail carriers today are Oscar Lockerman and Bradford Naylor, and their substitutes are Carl Reynolds and Fletcher Daniels. Former mail carriers were Howard Townsend and Harold Outten.

Fire Company.

Before a fire company was organized it was necessary to fight fires by the bucket brigade. After the coming of the railroad, there has been times when a railroad engine in the town carried water to help fight fires near the railroad. Later man-drawn fire wagons were used. In 1927 the Townsend Fire Company was incorporated; from this time on Townsend has had fire-fighting

equipment. The fire engine was first housed in a garage in back of Bayard Schwatka's home. When the new school was built, the old school building was bought by the fire company to be used for their equipment and to be used as a community hall. Today the volunteer fire company is very active and is always on the job in case of fire. In 1950 a ladies auxiliary to the fire company was organized to be of service to the firemen and to the victims of fire. Both organizations are members of the state and county firemen's organizations. The volunteer fire company has saved many homes from complete destruction.

Trust Company.

Townsend Trust Company was incorporated in 1918. Thomas Lattomus was the first president and served until his death in 1937. Walter Lee succeeded Thomas Lattomus as president and is the present president of the Townsend Trust Company.

Loan Association.

"The Mutual Loan Association of Townsend, Delaware was organized in February 1883. The first officers of the association were: President, John F. Staats; Vice-President, William R. Martin; Secretary and Treasurer, William A. Scott. Directors: John F. Staats, William R. Martin, George M.D. Hart, D.B. Maloney, Thomas Maloney, George L. Townsend, Samuel R. Warren, Dr. J.V. Crawford, T.A. Enos. In 1886 George L. Townsend succeeded William R. Martin as vice-president, L.V. Aspril Jr., and George W. Van Dyke were directors in the place of Martin and Crawford." 34.

The preceding account was taken from Scharf's History of Delaware and was presented as it is the only account which was available at this time concerning the history of the loan association. The Mutual Loan Association is still in existence and has proved one of the best means of investing money. Its influence is felt in the growth of the town. The present name of the association is the Townsend Building and Loan Association.

Jail.

An old red jail building was located back of the property of George Stant. The town was full of strangers in the early years ,especially on holidays. On Whitsuntide the Negroes would have to work and would have large festivals which would draw hundreds of Negroes. The white children would be afraid to go on the streets. These people would drink alcholic beverages and become intoxicated and then start fighting, many times fighting with knives. These people would be fined and jailed. William Lynam was one of the town alderman. Special constables would be appointed for these special occasions. The prisoners were given a little food and after their trial if they were found guilty were taken to the New Castle County Jail.

Many times children of the town while playing in the church grove would hear the prisoners trying to get out of jail. This was exciting for the children. Sometimes the prisoners did escape. No punishment was inflicted upon the prisoners in the local jail.

The last jail or lock-up was in front of the present railroad station. At this time John Timmons was the constable. It is no longer necessary to a jail in the town and constables are only appointed for such occasions as Halloween, when they are watching for pranksters. If police are needed for any reason, today the state police are notified to enforce the law.

Fraternal and Social Organizations.

There have been many fraternal organizations in Townsend, among them the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, the Patriotic Order Sons of America, and the Ku Klux Klan. A branch of the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics was the Golden Rule Council of the Daughters of America. This organization is the only remaining fraternal organization in the town today.

Golden Rule Council of the Daughters of America was granted a charter February 16, 1903, when it had 27 members. It was organized by George Stant and wife, and its aims were (1) to promote and maintain the interest of Americans and shield them from the depressing effects of unrestricted immigration, (2) to assist Americans in obtaining employment, (3) to encourage Americans in business, (4) to establish funds for the payment of benefits in case of sickness, disability, or death of its members, (this was the main purpose of the organization in Townsend) (5) to maintain the public school system of the United States of America and to prevent interference there with and uphold the reading of the Bible there in, (6) to oppose sectarian

35. Minutes of the Golden Rule Council, Daughters of America,
1903-1951. Townsend, Delaware.

36. An article written by Hannah Isaccs and Daisy Johnson
members of the Golden Rule Council, 1951. (April)

interference with State and National affairs, (7) to promote social intercourse and to assist in advancing the objects of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, (8) to establish funds to provide for a home for the aged and infirm members of the order and also to establish funds to assist and care for orphans of deceased members of the order.

35.

According to two members of the group the following information has been given concerning the Golden Rule Council:

We ascribe to loyalty and patriotism for all. We have had 150 members on our roll. At present there are 41 active members. Nine thousand dollars have been paid out in death claims and approximately \$4500. in sick benefits. The first meeting of the Daughters of America was held in the Knights of the Golden Eagle Hall. The national deputy was present and installed the first officers: Mary Van Horn, Councilor, Susie Reynolds, Secretary, Essie Stant, First Secretary, Anna Shockley, Treasurer, which office she held until her death in 1940. Charter members were J.A. Lynam, Essie Stant, Viva Lynam, Susie Watts, Lonah Hodgson, Nettie Atwell, Mary Van Horn, Susie Reynolds, Cassie E. Wright, Anna Shockley, Emma Lynam, Emma Lattomus, Mary A. Lattomus, Alice Watts, Mary J. Brown, Mrs. J. Hayman, Mrs. Daniel Richardson, Georgiana Lovegrove, Mollie Lynam, N.W. Van Horn, W.A. Scott, Martin Lee, E.C. Reynolds, Francis Lattomus, W. Ingram, The first national deputy was George Stant, others were Mrs. Good of Wilmington, Daisy Johnson of Townsend, Mrs. Sergrist of Claymont, Mrs. Alice Corrie of Smyrna. 36.

Among the other organizations were the music and dramatics clubs . These were known as the Philharmonic, Fortnightly, and the other social clubs were the Erodelphian Society, Swastika Club, and the Ladies Aid of the church. The Ku Klux Klan in Townsend was merely a law and order lodge. The Klan met at the various members homes and conducted their business, the members had the costume of the Klan and also carried out the ritual of the Klan at various times by burning a large cross near the town. This local Klan , however , did not enforce corporal punishment.

Recreation in early Townsend consisted of home visits and gatherings. The evenings were spent popping corn or pulling taffy. Later the church socials became the center of attraction in the way of recreational activity. Many of the boys and girls would visit the home of John Townsend and wife in the evenings to play games and then have a few refreshments and return home. The Sunday school teachers would often entertain, for example, George M.D.Hart would have his class meet at his home for study, and then refreshments of ice cream and cake would be served.

In the winter ice skating was one of the more popular sports. In the evenings large bon fires would be built along Harmon's Pond and the town people would come for an evening of skating. If it snowed, several of the men would clear paths on the pond for the skaters.

Sleigh rides were another popular and romantic type of recreation. On Commerce Street in Townsend the men would pack the street with snow and begin at the south end of the street and have sleigh races. Those participating were James L. Dickinson,

Edward Hart, William Scott, George Knotts, George Naylor, Walter Hevelow, and sometimes racers from other towns. Mr. Dickinson's horse "Dan Patch", was usually one of the most frequent winners.

Some of the best skaters in Townsend were Anna Townsend Gill, Mary V. Townsend, Ethelwyn Maloney, Lizzie Dorman, Lizzie Lockerman, Mamie Hulsfelt and sister, Ella Maloney Morgan, Susie Wilson Money, Alec Montgomery, William Naylor, Walter Money, Walter Hart, and William Wells. Some of these better skaters would take the train to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal and get off and spend the day skating up and down the canal, then they would return on the evening train to Townsend.

Another favorite pastime in the winter was riding on Robert Beardsley's large wood sled which was pulled by oxen. Those who could not get on the sled would hookie on their smaller sleds by holding on to the back of the ox-drawn sled and Mr. Beardsley take them riding around the town.

In the summer people went to the sulky races. There were several race tracks near town. Here refreshments were sold and some people remark that they had their first Coca Cola while at the races. The Fourth of July was a popular race day, flags and other decorations were strewn for the occasion. Racers came from Harve de Grace as well as other neighboring points to race. Betting practiced among the spectators. Horse racing proved a favorite pastime for many of the inhabitants.

Baseball was and still is a favorite sport of the residents of Townsend having had a local baseball team for many years. The Townsend club has produced many outstanding players in former years and John Townsend, a local resident became a pitcher for the Phillies, then the Cleveland Indians, and later the Washington Senators.

Swimming and fishing were popular sports among the boys of the town. Summer picnics and excursions were held at Blackbird Landing, Port Penn Piers, Woodland Beach, and Rehoboth; here all types of games were played by the grown ups as well as the children. Excursions were also run to Atlantic City, New Jersey, and Ocean City, Maryland. Another favorite trip was to go ^{to} Georgetown, Maryland, by carriage and take an excursion boat to Tolchester, Maryland. Betterton, Maryland, was also a favorite summer resort.

Festivals were held in the church grove, Strawberry, festivals, and ice cream and cake festivals, and also oystersuppers were sponsored by the church. The town had its own band and a grandstand would be erected and decorated for the occasion. Benjamin Wells was the band leader; other members were William Wells, who played the kettle drum, Charles Wells, bass drum, George Stant, bass horn, Harvey Naylor, cornet, William Naylor, a smaller horn, William Gill, cornet. "Townsend Cresent and Cornet Band" was the full name of this band, which had uniforms of blue and gold braid and wore lights on their hats for evening performances. This band was outstanding in the parade^s of its day having won several prizes, and was organized from about 1898 to 1908. 37.

Punch and Judy shows were often brought to town, and the Chautauqua presented such plays as The Mikado. Pie and watermelon contests were often held at the various festivals. On any special holiday there were always socials or festivals planned for the occasion. The average evening was spent visiting other homes or playing checkers, card games, doing fancy work or reading.

Sabbath Customs.

It was customary for the families to have daily devotions around the family altar in the morning and in the evening! On Sunday people were not allowed to do anything. No newspapers, to read, no games or any activity on the Sabbath. All the food was prepared on Saturday for Sunday. It was known that a Jew, old Simon, as he was called was fined on the Sabbath for greasing his wagon. One Sunday when a group of boys wanted to play baseball the alderman threatened each boy with a fine if they did play. Trains for many years did not run on Sunday. One confectionery storekeeper, would give his key to one of the boys for the weekend and he told him to take the boys in after dusk, but not to make any light as he did not want to be arrested. So there were violations of these Sabbath Blue laws. It was so strict that one gentleman remembering the era stated "You were violating the law if you went out of the house on Sunday and did not go to church in the eyes of the strict observers."

Among the social organizations today are the Methodist Youth Fellowship for young people. The Boy and Girl Scouts have been functioning in recent years. The Mr. , Mrs. , Miss Club for young adults of the church, the Women's Society of Christian Service and the Mizpah Bible Class for the women of the church.

38. Ibid. as 5 page 3.

39. Information obtained from Ethelwyn J. Maloney, grand-daughter
of Levi W. Lattomus.

Other social organizations are the Daughters of America, Erodelphian Society, Bridge and Canasta Clubs, the Baseball Club, the Parents Teachers Association, the Volunteer Firemen's Organization and Auxiliary, and the Home Demonstration and Four H Clubs for those interested in farming and homemaking.

Politics.

Politics has always been an important issue in Townsend. Samuel Townsend was a strong leader of the People's Party and was opposed to the freeing of the slaves. In a Delaware newspaper the following announcement was made in 1858:

A mass meeting of the People's Party will be held in Ginn's woods, Appoquinimink Hundred, near Townsend Station, on the Delaware Railroad on Saturday, the 7th of August, which all persons are invited to attend without distinction of party. The meeting will commence at 10 o'clock and be continued throughout the day. Several eminent speakers will be present on the occasion. Provision will be made to furnish dinner by persons in the neighborhood. Come One! Come All!

-By order of the Central Committee.^{38.}

Levi Wesley Lattomus was representative to the state legislature in 1863-1864. There were only nine representatives at this time. Mr. Lattomus, an advocate for calling the town of Townsend- Lancaster, gave his address at this time as being Lancaster.^{39.} Mr. Lattomus was a Republican.

William A. Scott was a strong defender of the Democrat Party and would be on the ticket for some position at each election. Mr. Scott served in many county offices such as levy court commissioner, assessment board member and collector of internal revenue.

40. Information obtained from the minutes of the General Assembly 1951 who passed a resolution of sympathy upon the death of Edward Hart.

Edward Hart was another active Democrat, having served five terms in the House of Representatives and three terms in the Senate. This is the longest term anyone has served in the Delaware General Assembly.⁴⁰ Mr. Hart entered the House of Representatives in 1903 and retired from public office in 1934.

Benjamin G. Lockerman was an advocate of the Republican Party, holding such political offices, as deputy collector of internal revenue, weigher of the mails at Wilmington and Philadelphia and also postal inspector, collector of taxes for Appoquinimink Hundred and worked in Washington, D. C. as secretary to Senator Henry A. Du Pont from 1906-1917.

Richard Hodgson was another outstanding Republican of this area, having been Speaker of the House of Representatives and at one time was Governor of the State for a few hours as the Governor and Lt. Governor were both out of the State.

Levi Lattomus Maloney was another Republican leader and was State Senator in 1935, and at this time served as President pro tempore of the Senate.

Frank Lattomus was the first Republican Senator from this district. At this time the United States Senators were elected by the legislature and a Republican Senator from this district helped the Republican Party to elect a Republican Senator to Congress. Henry A. Du Pont was the man elected to United States Senate as a result of this election in 1906.

There were very few Republicans in this area in the early years of the town. Most of the people were Democrats. The present legislators from this district are both Democrats, Representative James L. Dickinson, 3rd, and Senator Fred Dolby.

Local politicians of the present day are N. W. Van Horn, Ethel O. Reynolds, Joseph C. Hutchison Sr., Joseph C. Hutchison, Jr., Margaret H. Buckson, David Hutchison, and Preston Lattomus, who are Republican leaders and Walter Lee, Lester Daniels, Jesse Watson, and Edward Slaughter, Democratic leaders.

All affairs of the town are based on political interests. This is even evidenced in church meetings. In the town elections, however, there is little political competition. The state and county elections cause the most interest. It is said that the party having the most money to spend will win the election in Townsend. Many times a party has sold out its candidate to the other party. The town itself was for many years Democratic, but the town today is fairly evenly divided in political matters. Townsend is the election center for Appoquinimink Hundred. There are two voting districts which are divided by the railroad. The Young Democrats have the only active political organization in the town to meet regularly during non-election years.

Townsend today is a small community of about five hundred
41. people. Its citizens have served their country in the Civil War, the Spanish American War, and World Wars One and Two, sacrificing their lives for the sake of their national heritage. These men and women who entered the service of their country were supported on the

home front by prayers, sacrifices and work. Many of the citizens of the community entered war work during the Second World War, and made ammunitions and weapons for war purposes. People of the community opened their homes to laborers who had been brought from the southern United States to work in the minition plants at Elkton, Maryland. At home the women knitted and sewed for the Red Cross, while others met once week in the Red Cross rooms to sew and wrap bandages. Among those who met to sew were Hannah Isaccs, Mary Van Horn, Daisy Johnson, Margaret Webb, Ella Savin, Bernice Burge, Mary Chadwick, Clara Lattomus, Susie Reynolds, Estella Dickinson, Mabel Daniels, Bessie Hanby, and Frèida Hart.

Paper, scrap iron, tin cans were salvaged for the purpose of war use, and War bonds and stamps were purchased by many people of the community. The men, women, and children offered their services as airplane spotters and air raid wardens. Everyone contributed in some manner to the war effort. An Honor Roll was erected by the citizens of the town to honor the men and women who served in the World War Two.

The families of Townsend have always been noted for their generosity since the early beginnkings of the town. Samuel Townsend and his wife would always send woodto the poor; and pack barrels of meats and vegetables for the poor in the winter. When anyone was sick and needed special diets, Mrs. Townsend would prepare puddings and foods which the sick could eat. It is known of Mr. Townsend to have been on to pray by a new minister and he thinking of the poor having such a hard winter prayed as follows: " Lord, send the poor a barrel of floor, a barrel of salt, a barrel of meat, a barrel of pepper; Lord, no thats too much pepper."

Other philanthropists were William Scott and Edward Hart. If anyone needed any money, food, clothing or whatever their need may be, these kindhearted gentlemen would see that they had their needs provided for if it were possible. Many times they deprived themselves for the sake of helping others.

Townsend's oldest citizen today is the wife of John Townsend, Etta Collins Townsend who celebrated her 95th birthday this spring (1951).

Townsend is a community where the citizens live together as one large family. Practically everyone is related to each other and it is a common practice for the people to call each other cousin, aunt, or uncle. Everyone knows everyone else and each citizen shares the happinesses or the sorrows of the other. Each person shares the personal affairs of his neighbor ; that is merely unharmed gossip as is proven when a friend is needed they are always near to comfort or rejoice with their neighbors. Townsend has expanded very slowly in the one hundred years of its existence but has carried with it the traditions of the years and its citizens have been not only state and national citizens, but also have become citizens of the world, because they have learned to live and share together, regardless of race or color.

Appendix A.

Historical Townsend House Has Checkered Background- Wm.P. Wilson

An unpainted frame house in the north end of Townsend that for over a century has sheltered natives and travelers alike, and with the passing years has become a landmark in the neighborhood, has been established as the town's oldest building.

Its origin prior to 1827 is a mystery , but the prevailing opinion among historians in this section is that the house has stood for over 200 years. Over its span it has sheltered a recluse who walked abroad only at night; at one time it was converted into an inn and housed many men on their way to service in the Civil War; among its other occupants have been a master of fox hounds, and a coin and stampcollector.

At first occupied by one family, it was later regared as suitable for two and has been used accordingly for about 60 years. At one time a man nmaed Joseph Fleming, the recluse lived there and was seldom seen outdoors. He appeared at night only, but seldom, if ever spoke to others he chanced to meet in his rambles. He had a dog, an inseperatable companion when taking a short stroll on the winding dirt road, now an improved highway that borders the ancient dwelling.

Another tenant who followed Fleming was Samuel Powell. He kept many fox hounds and wou^d go out to hunt foxes to accomodate wealthy hunters who paid him to accompany them on a long hunt, sometimes remaining three days before returning.

In later years Henry Honson and wife, a quiet old couple residing there had a hobby of collecting coins, stamps, and whatnot. He scoured the country for miles around for all the odd specimens to add to his large collection.

The dwelling has had more tenants it seems, than any other place. Many staying only for two or three months, leaving for one cause or another. But in later years the place has been constantly occupied by the same tenants, who apparently find it a serene abode. Another interesting phase of its history is the belief that more photographs have been made of the dwelling than any other old place on the peninsula and the snap shot idea still goes merrily on.

In 1858 the dwelling was converted into an inn. The proprietor was George Blint who must have believed in advertising freely, considering the crude methods that hampered his plans to a great extent. He is said to have had a sign nailed on a pole near the door of the inn reading "All empty persons will be satisfied with the rich meals served here. Come in! "

The place was still run as an inn when the Civil War started in 1861 and many soldiers stopped there for a meal and night's lodging. Some of them were on sick leave while others were going to Wilmington to report for war service.

The landmark is still somewhat sturdy, the rafters and other material comprising its construction being of oak and joined in a crude but substantial manner. Much of the material is said to be the out put of crafty woodsmen who made a neat job trimming for the framework.

Townsend, Delaware November 4, 1939

William Penn Wilson, Correspondent

Appendix B.

An Act to incorporate the Town of Townsend.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware in the General Assembly met (two-thirds each branch of the Legislature concurring).

Section 1. That Eli C. Welch, Geo. M.D. Hart, James T. Taylor, Daniel B. Maloney and Albert Lynam are hereby appointed commissioners, whose duty it shall be, and they, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized and empowered, with the assistance of a skillful surveyor, to be by them chosen, to survey and lay down on a plot the town of Townsend in New Castle County, establishing its limits, and making, describing and naming its streets and alleys, and shall when the service is performed, return the plot, under their hands, to the Recorder's office, at Wilmington, to be recorded, and the original and the record, or a certified copy thereof, shall be evidence. The commissioners and the surveyor, before entering upon their duties under this section, shall take oath or affirmation to discharge them with fidelity, and the aforesaid return shall show that this qualification was complied with.

Section 2. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, That the commissioners hereby appointed, and their successors in office, to be chosen as hereinafter provided, shall be a politic and corporate, in fact and in law, by the name of the Commissioners of the Town of Townsend, and may sue and be sued by that name. They shall, in addition to the power hereinbefore conferred, have power to regulate the streets, alleys, and sidewalks of said town, and may direct the latter, or such part thereof as they may determine, to be put in a safe and passable condition at the expense of the owners of the lands adjacent;

(provided further, that there will be no compulsion for anyone to pave their sidewalks for five years from date of this act); on complaint of any citizen to examine any chimneys, stovepipe fixtures, or any matter dangerous to the town, and if adjudged dangerous, to require and compel it to be repaired, remedied, or removed; to prevent or remove nuisances therein; to prohibit the firing of guns or pistols, the making of bonfires, or the setting off of fireworks, or any dangerous sport or practice in said town.

Section 8. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, That the commissioners herein named shall continue in office until the first Saturday in May, A.D. 1886, on which day, in that year, there shall be held an election in said town of Townsend, at the school house, from 2 o'clock, P.M. , for the election of five commissioners: three of them for one year, and two for two years; and on the aforesaid first Saturday of May in every year thereafter to elect three or two commissioners as the requirements may be; and three of the said commissioners shall be freeholders, but any married man, resident of said town, may be considered eligible for the office. The said election may be held by the justice of the peace and two citizens, chosen by the people present entitled to vote, who shall be judges of said election, and shall decide the legality of the votes offered. They shall receive the ballots, ascertain the result, and certify the same on the books of the commissioners. At such election every male and unmarried female taxable of said town, above the age of twenty one years, and shall have paid the town tax last assessed to them, shall be entitled to a vote; and it is further provided that, if so preferred, the female taxables can vote by proxy. The commissioners elected in the year 1887,

and every year thereafter to hold their office for the term of two years; and if any vacancies shall occur in said board of commissioners by death, resignation, or refusal to serve or otherwise of any member thereof, the remaining commissioners shall have the power to fill such vacancy or vacancies.

Section 4. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, that there shall be four stated meetings in every year of the said commissioners, viz: on the first Saturday of June, September, December, and March, at which meetings they may pass all such ordinances or rules for the good government of the said town, the improvement of the street, the repairs of all trunks or water courses, the planting and protecting of ornamental trees, and for all other matters relating to the general welfare of said town as said commissioners may deem proper; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the State and of the United States. By such ordinances they may impose fines, penalties, and forfeitures, and provide for their collection; also, the president shall, at the request of two or more commissioners, call a special meeting of the commissioners whenever they deem such meetings necessary, and at such meetings they shall have the right to transact any business that they may have power to transact at regular meetings. The said commissioners shall at their first meeting after the election elect one member of their number as president of said board, whose duty it shall be to preside at the meetings of the council, have the general supervision of all streets in said town and of the persons who may be employed by the town commissioners, receive complaints of nuisances, and other complaints of citizens of violation of the laws and ordinances, and present the same to the commissioners at their first meeting for action, and violations or infractions of the laws or ordinances as require immediate action to cause the same to be proceeded on before the aldermen. He shall sign all warrants on the

treasurer for the payment of any money, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by any ordinance or ordinances of the town commissioners. And if any one, being duly elected commissioner, shall refuse to serve, he shall be fined the sum of five dollars, and the same be recovered before any justice of the peace of the county of New Castle, with costs.

Section 5. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, That the commissioners herein named and their successors in the office shall, at their first stated meeting in every year, determine the amount of tax to be raised on said town for that year, not exceeding one hundred dollars, including tax on real and personal property, poll tax and tax on dogs not included, and they shall appoint an assessor, who may or may not be of their number, to make an assessment of persons and property in said town, and shall also appoint a collector and treasurer. It shall be the duty of the assessor of said town, within two weeks from his appointment, to make a true, just and impartial valuation and assessment of all the real estate and assessable personal property within said town, and also an assessment of all male citizens residing in said town above the age of twenty one years, as well as those owning real estate as those not owning such estate within its limits, at twenty five cents per head and also to ascertain the number of dogs within the said town, and assess the owner or keeper of a dog or dogs fifty cents for first male dog, and one dollar for each and every additional dog, and two dollars for each female dog. And the said assessor shall forthwith after making such assessment, deliver to the commissioners for the time being a duplicate containing the names of all the persons assessed and the amount of assessment, distinguishing the real and personal assessment of each. The compensation of said assessor shall be two dollars and

and fifty cents for his service. When the assessment is returned, the commissioners shall give five days public notice of the fact, and they will sit together at a certain place and on a certain day, to be designed by them, from five to seven o'clock in the afternoon, to hear appeals from said assessment. They shall have power on such day to add to or decrease any assessment except that of dogs and poll, which shall always remain at the figures above stated. When the appeal day is past, they shall, without delay, cause the assessment list to be transcribed and the transcript to be delivered to the collector, who shall thereupon collect from each taxable his proportion of ~~the~~ tax laid and pay over the whole amount, deducting commissions and delinquencies, (which shall be allowed by the commissioners), to the treasurer by the first day of February next ~~after~~ the receipt of his duplicate. The collector shall have the same power for the collection of said taxes as are conferred by law on the collector of county taxes. Provided further, that any manufacturing interests that may start in said town shall be exempt from all town for ten years.

Section 6. And be it further enacted as aforesaid, That the commissioners or a majority of ~~them~~, shall have authority to employ and use the money in the treasury of the town for the general improvement, benefit and ornament of the said town, as they may deem advisable, and all money paid out by the treasurer shall be paid upon order of the commissioners, or a majority of them.

Section 7. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, That the Road Commissioners of Appoquinimink Hundred shall annually appropriate for the repair of the roads and streets of said town a sum of money not more than one hundred dollars, and shall make an order for the payment thereof to the

treasurer of the town of Townsend, for the use of said town. The town commissioners shall render to the road commissioners an account of how the said money was expended.

Section 8. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, The commissioners shall appoint an alderman and a town constable.

Section 9. Be it further enacted as aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of the alderman of said town, and of said constable, to suppress all riotous, turbulent, disorderly, or noisy assemblages or gatherings of persons in or at any building used for any fair, festival, concert, or any other social, literary, or religious meeting, or any entertainment whatsoever, or in the streets, lanes or alleys of said town, at any time or season whatever, to prevent all gatherings whatever may obstruct or interfere with the free use of the streets, lanes, alleys, or sidewalks; and for this purpose it shall be the duty of said constable to seize and arrest any such persons so offending and take them or him before the alderman of said town, whose duty it shall be to hear and determine the case, and upon conviction before him the alderman shall sentence any such person so convicted to pay a fine not exceeding ten dollars, and may commit the party or parties to prison for a period not exceeding thirty days, or until the said fines and costs shall be paid. It shall be the duty of the alderman of said town, upon complaint made before him of such riotous, turbulent or noisy assemblages or gatherings as aforesaid, to issue his warrant to the constable aforesaid, commanding him to arrest and bring any such person so offending as aforesaid before him for trial. It shall be the duty of the constable aforesaid to arrest any drunken or disorderly person they may see on the streets of said town, and take such person so arrested before the alderman of said town,

who shall proceed forthwith to hear and determine the case, and upon conviction before him he shall sentence such person in the same manner and to the same punishment provided in this section for the punishment of persons brought before him for the offences in this section first enumerated. If, upon view of the person or persons who may be brought before the alderman of said town for violation of this section, it shall appear to the alderman that in his judgment such person or persons are not in a condition to be heard and tried, he may use his own discretion in fixing or appointing a time for trial of all such persons brought before him for violating this section. The fee to the alderman of said town for the trial of any cause under this section shall be fifty cents, and to the constable making the arrest fifty cents. And in all cases of fees for the alderman and constable not herein provided for they shall be entitled to receive the same fees as are specified by law to be paid to justices of the peace and constables in like cases.

Section 10. Be it further enacted, That this act shall be deemed and be a public act, and shall be printed among the laws of this state.

Passed at Dover, April 3, 1885.

Appendix C.

An act authorizing the " Commissioners of the Town" to borrow and issue bonds therefor, for the purpose of supplying the Town of Townsend and its inhabitants with water.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware in the General Assembly met (with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members elected to each branch of the General Assembly):

Section 1. " The Commissioners of the Town of Townsend ", a Municipal Corporation of the State of Delaware, is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow on the faith and credit of the Town of Townsend, a sum of money not exceeding Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) for the purpose of supplying the said Town and its inhabitants with water, by the acquisition, purchase, construction, and erection of such property, works and apparatus as may be necessary or convenient therefor, and for this purpose to issue bonds of the said Municipal Corporation.

The said moneys so borrowed shall be used for the acquisition, purchase, construction and erection of such property, works and apparatus as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of supplying water in said Town; and title may be taken in the name of the said Municipal Corporation to such property and works as may be necessary for the purpose, whether within or without the Corporate limits of the said Town.

Section 2. The said money shall be borrowed and the bonds issued in such amounts, at such times, in such form and denominations, and at such rate of interest not exceeding six percent, as the Commissioners of said Town shall by ordinance duly passed determine. The principal of said bonds shall be made payable at the expiration of thirty years from the date of the issue therefor, the said Municipal Corporation reserving the right to redeem said bonds, or any of them, at par and accrued interest, at any interest period after the expiration of five years from the date of issue. provided that if at any time the

Corporation shall elect to redeem any of said bonds as aforesaid, such redemption shall be made in pursuance of a notice to that effect published at least twice a week for at least three successive weeks in at least two newspapers of the City of Wilmington. In calling said bonds for redemption, they shall be called consecutively beginning with the lowest number, and the interest on all bonds so called shall cease from the date named in said calls for redemption.

The "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend" shall direct and effect the preparation and printing of and negotiate the sale and delivery of the said bonds. The said bonds shall bear date when issued and shall bear interest from date, payable semi-annually. They shall be signed by the President and the Treasurer of said "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend", and be sealed with the Corporate seal of the said Municipal Corporation and shall be exempt from State, County, and Municipal taxation.

The moneys received from the sale of the said bonds shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend", and held by him as a special fund to be drawn out and used for the purpose of this Act upon direction of the "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend". The Treasurer shall furnish additional bonds to cover such fund, in such an amount as the "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend" may direct.

Section 3. The "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend" are authorized and required to levy and collect annually by taxation such sum of money as shall be sufficient to pay the interest accruing on said bonds; and are further authorized and empowered to levy and collect by taxation from time to time such sum or sums as shall be necessary to provide a sinking fund adequate for the redemption of said bonds at or before their maturity. The taxes for such interest and sinking fund

shall be levied and collected in the same manner as are the other town taxes in said Town. The sinking fund above provided for shall not be available for any other purpose.

All necessary expenses in and about the preparation, printing and sale of said bonds shall be paid out of the moneys herein authorized to be borrowed.

Should any surplus remain after the work contemplated by this Act has been accomplished, said surplus shall be held and applied toward the payment of the principal of said bonds herein authorized.

Section 4. The "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend" shall cause to be published a detailed statement of all expenditures of money borrowed under the authority of this Act.

Section 5. The superintendence, management, operation and control of any such system of supplying water to the Town of Townsend and its inhabitants, as is contemplated by Section 1 of this Act, shall be had and held by the "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend", under and in accordance with such rules, regulations, ordinances, and directions, as the said "Commissioners of the Town of Townsend" may from time to time deem proper to make or adopt. Approved February 21, A.D. 1927.

Appendix D.

A Brief History of the Immanuel M. E. Church of Townsend, Delaware. Annamanda Lattomus Maloney from memory and from facts obtained from the church records.

For a number of years prior to 1871 religious services were held in the little red frame school house. A society was formed; prayer and experience meetings were held and occasionally preaching services. The Society had the pleasure of listening to such ministers as Dr. Wm. Urie, Wm. Gregg, J.B. Man, and others.

On June the 3rd, 1871, the following notice was placed on the school house door by brother Archibald Finley.

Notice.

"Being authorized by the Society of the Methodist Episcopal members that worship at Townsend School House who met June 1st, 1871, I hereby notify the said Society to meet at the school house June 13th at 5 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of electing a board of trustees to procure ground and build a Methodist Episcopal Church at the said place. (Ordered by the Society June 3rd, 1871) A. Finley.

In obedience to the call a number of persons met in the school house on June 13th. Rev. Wm. Urie (Preacher in charge of the Smyrna Circuit) in the chair. Rev. John E. Smith, junior preacher, served as temporary secretary. Brother Urie opened the meeting with prayer and then stated the object of the meeting: being to elect a board of trustees. The following persons were elected: Archibald Finley, Richard Townsend, Israel P. Hall, Isacc Passwaters, George M.D. Hart, William Daniels, David S. Lynam, Nehemiah Davis. Archibald Finley was made President of the Broad. George M.D. Hart, secretary and Richard Townsend, treasurer.

Richard Townsend and Nehemiah Davis were appointed as a committee to purchase the land, attend to the surveying and procure a deed. The land which they decided to purchase was apart of the grove near the old red school house, it was entailed and in the possession of Samuel B. Ginn, who could only sell a life time right, which he agreed to do for the sum of \$100.

On the 20th of June 1871, the committee employed Henry Davis to survey the ground containing one acre. On the 24th of June the trustees decided to build a temporary plank church and that Archibald Finley, Richard Townsend and Wm. P. Forest should serve as a building committee. It was also decided at this meeting that the name of the church should be Emmanuel.

On the 20th of August 1871, the church was dedicated by brothers Urie and Clymer, of Smyrna, Delaware. It was found on that day that enough money was subscribed to pay all bills against the church.

On September 14th, 1871, by order of Archibald Finley, a meeting of the official board was called for the purpose of having the church somewhat improved and made comfortable for the winter (it having been put up in a rather hurried manner, more especially for summer use). It was decided to plaster it and put on a shingle roof. The entire cost, including the lot and the improvements, amounted to \$775.17.

From 1871 until we were made a station by the conference of 1878 we were an evening appointment and were served by the following ministers- Rev. Wm. Urie, Rev. C. W. Prettyman, Rev. J. B. Killian and Rev. James Carroll. On June 13th, 1879, the pastor (our first) Rev. John Heston Willey, called a meeting of the Board of Trustees. At this meeting

Richard Townsend and Daniel B. Maloney and George M.D.Hart were appointed to repair, improve and enlarge the church which they did at the cost of \$600. The church was reopened in the early fall. The following minsters were present- Bishop Levi Scott, Rev. George Brister and our pastor, Rev. J.H. Willey. At the solicitation of Samuel Townsend Sr. the Pennsylvania Railroad presented the church with a bell. Said bell had been used by the Company in the town of New Castle to warn the people of the incoming and outgoing trains.

On the 22nd of August, 1881, a meeting of the trustees was called and on motion of Levi W. Lattomus it was agreed to buy one and one half acres of land from James T. Taylor for a cementary at the cost of \$250.

In 1886, during the pastorate of Rev. E. P. Roberts, a lecture room was added to the church which cost \$175. In the year 1891, during the pastorate of Rev. F. Fletcher, a parsonage was built which cost \$1591.17. On July of the same year the Ladies was organized.

In 1894 we were again made a circuit, our mother church, Old Union, being one of the appointments. In the year 1897 the church was reseated with opera chairs and repainted and papered at a cost of \$350.

During the pastorate of Rev. Albert Chandler, in 1898, Blackbird was added to the circuit.

After the death of Samuel B. Ginn a committee was appointed to secure our church lot. On October 1st, 1900 the said committee was reported that they had arranged with the heirs of Mr. Ginn and their attorney Frank Biggs, for the purchase of the original one acre of ground with the addition of a lot 70ft. front and running back the full depth of the

of the old lot, for the sum of \$400. The trustees accepted their report and authorized them to close the matter on the day of the public sale of the Ginn land, which they did. The money was easily raised on a Sunday morning by our pastor the Rev.G.P.Jones.

A meeting was held at the W.C.T.U. Hall on April 5th,1901. Members present were Rev.G.P.Jones, George M.D. Hart, Armwell L. Quillen, Daniel B. Maloney, W.A. Scott, John R. Carpenter, George E. Pindar, Winfield Lattomus. The meeting was called for the purpose of deciding as to whether we should repair the old church or build a new one. Wm. A. Scott moved that we build a new one, which motion was seconded by D.B. Maloney; the matter was discussed pro and con, George M.D. Hart was elected chairman of the building committee of three with power to appoint the other two members. After consideration he appointed Wm.A. Scott and Daniel B. Maloney. The pastor was ready and enthusiastic in the matter and did all he could to get the work started but the trustees could not see their way clear until it was late in the year. In March, 1902, the powers that gave the itinerate wheel a turn and took Rev! Jones away from us but sent us Rev. John H. Beauchamp who, as ministers usually do, took up the work where Brother Jones left it and has done what he could to make it a success. It is the opinion of the writer that the Lord would not make the way clear to the trustees because they had in their minds a frame church.

Our ministers since 1878 have been as follows-

Rev. John Heston Willey	1878-1881
Thomas E.Bell	1881-1883
Charles K. Morris	1883-1886
David H. Corkran	1885-1886 ?
E.P. Roberts	1886-1887
S. M. Morgan	1887-1890
I. Watkins	March 1890- September 1890

5.

Herman Roe	September 1890-March 1891
Rev. Frank Fletcher	1891-1893
Rev. F. F. Carpenter	1893-1895
Rev. Albert Chandler	1895-1898
Rev. George P. Jones	1899-1902
Rev. J. H. Beauchamp	1902-

To those of us who worshipped in the old church, from childhood, every inch of it is dear yet we are glad to see it take its place on the back of our church lot and give way to the handsome new brick structure now in process of erection. We truly believe that "Hitherto hath the Lord led us." And to Him we give the honor, glory and praise forever. (This history was read at the laying of the Corner Stone by Wm. A. Scott, September 10th, 1902.)

The corner stone was laid on September 10th, 1902. The following ministers were present- Rev. J. H. Beauchamp (pastor), Rev. G. P. Jones, Rev. C. T. Wyatt, Rev. C. S. Baker, Rev. T. F. Beauchamp, Rev. G. L. Hardesty, and H. K. McCabe (local preacher).

Programme.

Song- How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings.

Reading by Rev. G. P. Jones

Prayer by Rev. C. S. Baker

Reading by Rev. Hardesty and others.

History of church- W. A. Scott

History of Sunday School- D. B. Maloney

Junior League- Ethelwyn J. Maloney

Sermon- Rev. C. T. Wyatt- the text "She hath done what she could"

Prayer by the Rev. G. P. Jones.

Annamanda Lattomus Maloney.

Brief History of the Emmanuel M.E. Sunday School of Townsend,
Delaware.

In about the year 1864 a Sunday School was started in the public school of this place. Soon after it was to close, when a band of little girls, five in number, got together and talked the matter over. They were Emma and Laura Ennis, Katie Bell, Cassie Naudain and Annamanda Lattomus. They concluded that a certain lady, who was an especial favorite with them (because of her sunny disposition and her fondness for music) would be the one to take charge of the Sunday School. Accordingly they formed themselves into a delegation and went in abody to call on her., she being no other than Mrs. Sallie A.C. Townsend, wife of Richard Townsend. She was at that time a professed infidel but the children knew nothing about that. They thought, in their little hearts that she was the one to save the school so they plead with her until she finally consented to lead the school in everything but prayer. Mrs. Townsend afterward claimed that it was through her study that she was led to Christ. Her husband was also soon brought into the church.

From the time the school was organized until the church was built it was in the care of the following Superintendents: Wm. J. Lank 1865 to 1868, Sallie A. C. Townsend, Joseph C. Hutchison, J. Thomas Budd. In a short while after the first church was dedicated Daniel B. Maloney was elected Superintendent and with the exception of one year, 1902, when Daniel B. Maloney served, has continued in office ever since.

September 10th, 1902

By Annamanda Lattomus Maloney

2.

History continued by Ethelwyn J. Maloney

The present enrollment of the school is as follows-

Officers and Teachers	20	
Beginners and Primary	60	
Cradle Roll	35	
Home Department	12	
Intermediate and Senior	120	average attendance of 135
Total	247	

The records show that Daniel B. Maloney served as Superintendent for 54 years and his daughter, Ethelwyn served as Superintendent for twelve years, making a record of 66 years of continuous service for one family.

January 5th, 1937

Ethelwyn J. Maloney

E.J. Maloney served five years after this was written making a total of 71 years for she and her father. 1942.

The following is a short history(continued history) of the church by Ethelwyn J. Maloney since 1902.

The following ministers have served since 1902-

Rev. J.H. Beauchamp	1902-1904
J. Wheeling Jones	1904-1906
F.C. Mc Sorley	1906-1911
L.I. Mc Dougle	1911-1913
Warren Burr	1913-1918
L.E. Barrett	1918-1919
Z.H. Webster	1919-1920
George P. Jones	1920-1923

Rev. O.H. Connelly	1923-1927
Robert Hodgson	1927
Clarence N. Jones	
A.W. Strickland	

Not one of the original trustees are living. The records show that Daniel B. Maloney was recording Steward for fifty seven consecutive years (his daughter Ethelwyn J. Maloney, has been for twelve years since his death in 1925.)

The present church was built at a cost of \$12,600. The parsonage was built at a cost of \$3000. during the pastorate of Rev. Warren Burr. The Baptismal Font was given in memory of the father and mother of William Salmon, he being the donor. There are a number of memorial windows, which are said to be equal to any of the windows in the Wilmington churches. The bell in the present church was given by the members of the Sunday School Class of Ethelwyn J. Maloney in 1902. The church was renovated at a cost of \$1900.

Ethelwyn J. Maloney

History of the church continued by John W. Dickinson.

Ministers who served continued-

Rev. D'Arcy Littleton	-1940
Jacob C. Hanby	1940- 1944
Tilghman Smith	1944- 1948
William Bubdick	1948-

In 1946 a Wicks Organ and Chimes were dedicated to the church. The Mizpah Bible Class were responsible for the dedication of the electric organ, the funds for the organ were obtained from members of the community and families who had moved away from the community. The Chimes were presented by Ethelwyn J. Maloney in memory of her mother and father , Daniel B. Maloney and Annamanda L. Maloney. The cost of the organ and chimes amounted to \$4500

worship center was dedicated for the use of the Methodist Youth Fellowship by Thomson Beardsley, who made the beautiful worship center himself. In 1951 a brick wall with a iron railing was added to the front steps of the church for the convenience of its members. This railing was placed by the Three M's Class and a generous contribution was made by Mrs. Thomas Lattomus.

The church today has a membership of about 228 members. The Superintendents of the Sunday School since the retirement of E.J. Maloney have been Nellie E. Money who had served as assistant superintendent for many years, Willard Robinson, who later entered the minister, and the present superintendent John W. Guessferd, assistant superintendent, John W. Dickinson, also director of youth, the superintendent of the primary department is Catherine Dukes. The president of the Official Board of the church is Walter Lee, the secretary, Clara U. Reynolds, and treasurer, Joseph C. Hutchison, and assistant secretary and treasurer, Edna A. Hart. The church has grown and today plans are being made for an addition to the Sunday School building.

April 28, 1951

John W. Dickinson

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