

# DELAWARE

## *Tercentenary* *Almanack*

&

## Historical Repository

19  38

Being a valuable *Compendium* of  
HISTORICAL INFORMATION  
concerning the STATE, of DELAWARE  
lavishly embellished and enlivened with felicitous  
*Illustrations* by the most eminent *Artists* and  
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OLD COURTHOUSE at *New Castle Del.*

## JANUARY

- 1 Sa. 1782, Del. Continental troops join Greene's army in the Carolinas.
- 2 Su. 1777, Col. Haslet killed in battle of Princeton. 1868, R. C. McMullen, Gov., born.
- 3 M. 1663, Gov. Johan Printz dies, Sweden. 1837, First Board of Trade organized, Wil-
- 4 Tu. 1752, Col. David Hall born, Lewes. 1772, Caesar A. Rodney born, Dover. [mington.
- 5 W. 1788, The Library Company of Wilmington founded.
- 6 Th. 1800, Memorial "funeral procession" for Geo. Washington at New Castle.
- 7 F. 1803, Washington's portrait, now in State House, Dover, delivered to Genl. Assembly.
- 8 Sa. 1633, David deVries lands at Fort Nassau.
- 9 Su. 1633, DeVries buys corn and furs from friendly Indians.
- 10 M. 1656, Dutch at Fort Casmir try to fix price for deer-skins.
- 11 Tu. 1823, Newport Turnpike Co. given permission to erect toll gates.
- 12 W. 1881, Court-house, Wilmington, first occupied.
- 13 Th. 1834, First public theatrical performance in Wilmington.
- 14 F. 1889, New Century Club, Wilmington, organized.
- 15 Sa. 1870, Pierre S. duPont, philanthropist, born, Wilmington.
- 16 Su. 1781, Capt. Kirkwood's troops encamped at Cowpens.
- 17 M. 1781, Battle of Cowpens, Delaware troops cited for "gallant behavior."
- 18 Tu. 1832, Wilmington chartered as a city.
- 19 W. 1776, John Haslet commissioned Col. of Del. regt. 1869, Henry Ridgely, born, Dover.
- 20 Th. 1807, Wilmington Bridge Co. inc. 1855, Nautilus Pearl Fishing Co. inc.
- 21 F. 1845, Ole Bull, famous violinist, plays in Wilmington, "immense audience."
- 22 Sa. 1813, Branch of Farmers' Bank at Wilmington authorized.
- 23 Su. 1856, First Del. R. R. train arrives at Dover.
- 24 M. 1789, Gunning Bedford appointed Justice of the Peace.
- 25 Tu. 1826, Del. Fire Ins. Co. incorporated.
- 26 W. 1847, Troops recruited at Swan Hotel, Wilmington, for Mexican War.
- 27 Th. 1859, Wilmington Institute incorporated.
- 28 F. 1821, D. M. Bates, Chancellor, born, Laurel. 1869, Masonic Hall Co. organized,
- 29 Sa. 1801, Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Co. incorporated. [Wilmington.
- 30 Su. 1787, General Assembly of Delaware grants Oliver Evans two patents.
- 31 M. 1809, Charles I. du Pont, manufacturer, dies.



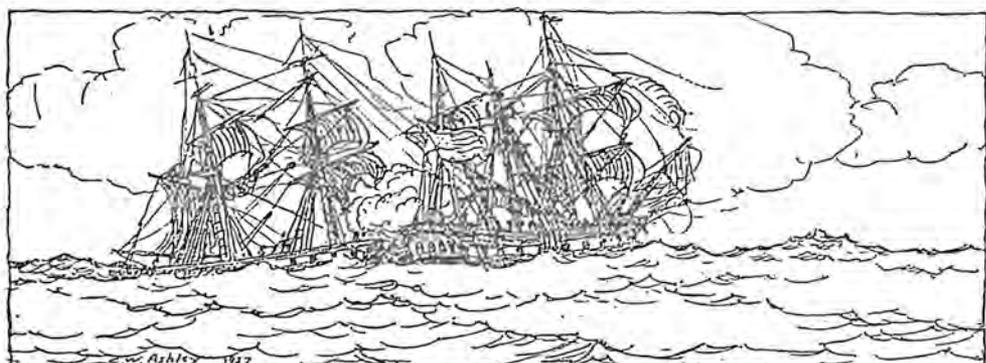
## F E B R U A R Y

- 1 Tu. 1779, Delaware delegates authorized to ratify Articles of Confederation.
- 2 W. 1654, Ship *Orn* leaves Sweden for New Sweden.
- 3 Th. 1787, Delaware Assembly grants John Fitch exclusive right to operate steamboat.
- 4 F. 1807, Farmers' Bank of Del. inc. 1864, Wilmington City Railway Co. inc.
- 5 Sa. 1833, New Ark College (U. of D.) chartered. 1805, R. M. Bird, famous author,
- 6 Su. 1849, New Castle County Mutual Fire Ins. Co. incorporated. [born New Castle.
- 7 M. 1640, *Key of Kalmar* starts on 2d expedition to New Sweden.
- 8 Tu. 1865, Delaware General Assembly rejects 13th Amendment of U. S. Constitution.
- 9 W. 1796, Bank of Delaware inc. 1864, First Del. Regt. reunited at Stony Mountain.
- 10 Th. 1857, Young Men's Association for Mutual Improvement incorporated.
- 11 F. 1866, Gen. Thos. A. Smyth Post No. 1, G. A. R., organized, Wilmington.
- 12 Sa. 1901, Delaware General Assembly ratifies 13th Amendment of U. S. Constitution.
- 13 Su. 1837, Delaware Academy of Natural Sciences, Wilmington, incorporated.
- 14 M. 1808, John Dickinson, "Penman of the Revolution," dies, Wilmington.
- 15 Tu. 1643, Rev. John Campanius and Johan Printz, new Governor of New Sweden,
- 16 W. 1829, Dover incorporated as a town. [arrive.
- 17 Th. 1842, Alfred P. Robinson, Chief Justice, born.
- 18 F. 1696, King Charles XI of Sweden orders missionaries to Christinahamn.
- 19 Sa. 1789, Nicholas Van Dyke dies, New Castle.
- 20 Su. 1890, Delaware Hospital opened.
- 21 M. 1683, Penn presides in court at New Castle, naturalizing Swedes and Dutch.
- 22 Tu. 1800, Celebration of G. W.'s birthday in Wil. 1822, Brandywine 20 ft. up, floods.
- 23 W. 1849, John M. Clayton resigns as Senator, to become U. S. Sec. of State.
- 24 Th. 1721, John McKinly, first President of Del. State, born, Ireland.
- 25 F. 1875, New Castle incorporated as a city.
- 26 Sa. 1873, Big Frank, escaped bank burglar (Bank of Del.) captured, Philadelphia.
- 27 Su. 1918, 1st Delaware Infantry designated 59th Pioneer Infantry.
- 28 M. 1861, Artisans' Savings Bank, Wilmington, incorporated.



## MARCH

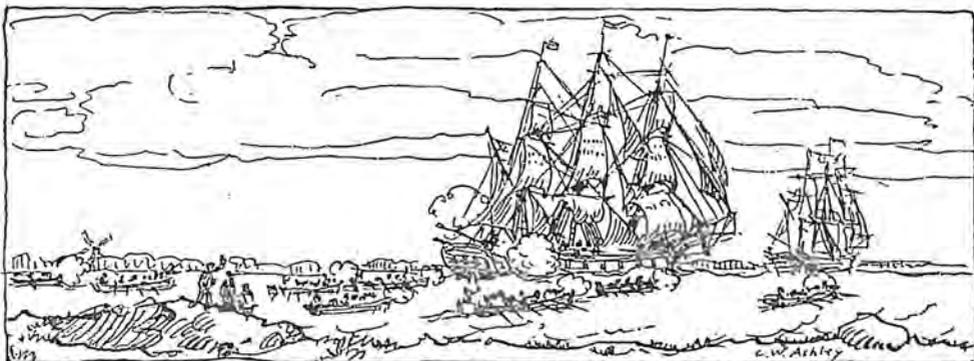
- 1 Tu. 1814, African School Society organized, Wilmington.
- 2 W. 1846, Thomas Stockton, Governor of Delaware, dies.
- 3 Th. 1845, St. Paul's M. E. Church dedicated, 7th and Market, Wilmington.
- 4 F. 1922, Cornerstone of Wilmington Institute Free Library laid.
- 5 Sa. 1853, Howard Pyle born, Wil. 1874, D. O. Hastings, Senator, born, Somerset Co.,
- 6 Su. 1782, Capt. Robt. Kirkwood's company attacks British forces under Tarleton. [Md.
- 7 M. 1832, Richard H. Bayard, first mayor of Wil. 1849, John M. Clayton, U. S. Sec. of
- 8 Tu. 1872, Street market removed from Market Street to King Street. [State.
- 9 W. 1797, Washington lodges at Wilmington on way home after end of 2d term.
- 10 Th. 1684, General Assembly of Pennsylvania and 3 Lower Counties meets at New Castle.
- 11 F. 1847, Richard H. Bayard resigns as Brigadier General of Delaware militia.
- 12 Sa. 1664, Charles II grants Duke of York land from Maine to east side of Del. River.
- 13 Su. 1659, Day of fasting and prayer ordered at Fort Altena (Fort Christina).
- 14 M. 1656, *Mercurius*, last Swedish ship, arrives, Fort Altena.
- 15 Tu. 1781, Capt. Kirkwood's Del. troops fight gallantly and victoriously at Guilford C. H.
- 16 W. 1812, British warships demand supplies from Lewes—refused. 1831, Charles B. Lore,
- 17 Th. 1678, Rev. John Yeo comes to New Castle from Md. [Chief Justice, born, Odessa.
- 18 F. 1642, Gov. Berkeley of Virginia protests Swedes' possession of River.
- 19 Sa. 1734, Thomas McKean, Signer, born, New London, Pennsylvania.
- 20 Su. 1867, General Assembly authorizes building of 3rd Street bridge.
- 21 M. 1830, Duel, Claymont, Miller killed by Hunter. 1890, C. D. Buck, Governor, born,
- 22 Tu. 1791, Washington lodges at Buck Tavern (Summit Bridge). [Wilmington.
- 23 W. 1813, Demand by British Commodore Beresford for provisions refused.
- 24 Th. 1672, Gov. Lovelace meets Indians in peace council in Delaware.
- 25 F. 1760, Col. S. B. Davis, defender of Lewes in War of 1812, born, Lewes.
- 26 Sa. 1883, Old Thomas West house, 5th and West St., Wilmington, torn down.
- 27 Su. 1776, British warship *Roebuck* threatens Lewes.
- 28 M. 1882, Royal Hand-bell Ringers and Glee Singers of London in concert, Grand Opera
- 29 Tu. 1638, Minit and Swedes buy Rocks from Indians. 1867, V. B. Woolley, [House
- 30 W. 1721, General John Dagworthy born, Trenton, N. J. [jurist, born, Wil.
- 31 Th. 1778, Caesar Rodney becomes President of Delaware State.



AMERICAN SLOOP WAS BOARDING THE FROLIC. Oct. 18, 1812

## APRIL

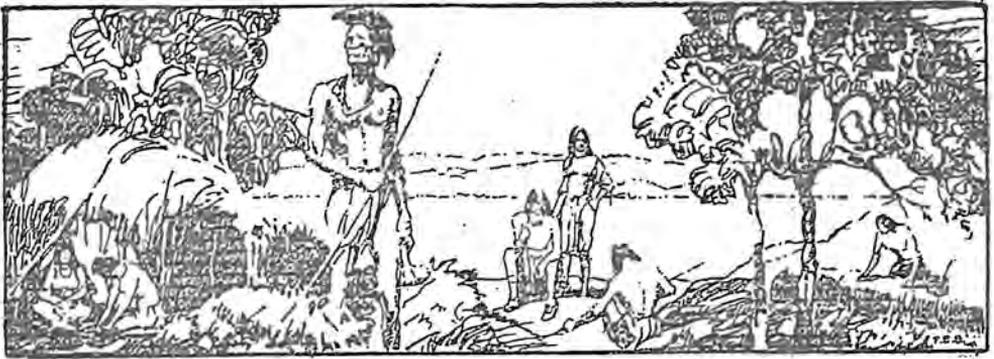
- 1 F. 1935, Last street gas-lamp in Wilmington extinguished.
- 2 Sa. 1846, Pony-express brings news from Phila. to Wilmington, 28 miles, in 1 hr. 20 min.
- 3 Su. 1865, Wilmington celebrates surrender of Richmond, Virginia.
- 4 M. 1843, New Ark College name changed to Delaware College.
- 5 Tu. 1808, First bridge across Christina River, at Wilmington, opened.
- 6 W. 1812, British fleet bombards Lewes—no one hurt.
- 7 Th. 1812, British attempted landing at Lewes repulsed.
- 8 F. 1782, Am. sloop of war, *Hyder Alley*, defeats British sloop, *Gen. Monk*, off Henlopen.
- 9 Sa. 1865, Gen. Thos. A. Smyth fatally shot day of Lee's surrender.
- 10 Su. 1773, Wilmington Academy (Market bet. 8th and 9th) incorporated.
- 11 M. 1798, Alfred Victor du Pont born, Paris.
- 12 Tu. 1657, Name of New Amstel changed to New Castle.
- 13 W. 1846, First electric telegraph operated, Wilmington to Philadelphia.
- 14 Th. 1789, Chas. Thomson of New Castle certifies Washington's election as President.
- 15 F. 1824, Work begun on Del. and Ches. Canal. 1847, Victories at Buena Vista and Vera
- 16 Sa. 1861, Demonstration in favor of Union, Old Town Hall, Wil. [Cruz cheered in Wil.
- 17 Su. 1640, *Kalmar Nyckel*, second expedition, arrives Fort Christina.
- 18 M. 1872, Masonic Temple dedicated, Wilmington.
- 19 Tu. 1850, John M. Clayton signs Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.
- 20 W. 1781, Capt. Kirkwood's Del. troops cited for "gallant behavior" in battle.
- 21 Th. 1813, British land at Little Creek and are repulsed.
- 22 F. 1873, Flags of Civil War regiments presented to Historical Society of Delaware.
- 23 Sa. 1864, Benjamin Niolds made Lieutenant Colonel "for gallantry."
- 24 Su. 1784, G. Washington at wedding of Ann Van Dyke and Kensey Johns, New Castle.
- 25 M. 1789, Burgesses of Wil. present address to Washington on his election as President.
- 26 Tu. 1775, News of Lexington reaches Wil. 1824, New Castle devastated by fire.
- 27 W. 1888, F. O. C. Darley, famous artist, dies, Claymont.
- 28 Th. 1658, Evert Pieterse, first schoolmaster, arrives New Amstel.
- 29 F. 1767, Caleb Rodney, Governor of Delaware, born.
- 30 Sa. 1861, Delaware Blues under Capt. Thos. A. Smyth leave Wilmington for the war.



Resisted by American ROW GALLEYS, H.M. Ships ROEBUCK & LIVERPOOL retire down the Delaware. First Naval Engagement of the Revolution. May 8, 1776

## MAY

- 1 Su. 1804, First du Pont powder for sale. 1863, 1st and 2nd Del. Regts. in Battle of
- 2 M. 1852, Delaware Railroad Company organized. [Chancellorsville.]
- 3 Tu. 1780, Del. battalion Continental Army embarks at Elkton for Southern campaign.
- 4 W. 1840, George Gray, U. S. Senator and judge, born, New Castle.
- 5 Th. 1631, Zwaanendael bought from Indians. 1864, Del. regts. in Battle of Wilderness.
- 6 F. 1638, Kieft, Dutch Gov. of Manhattan, protests Swedes' occupancy of Ft. Christina.
- 7 Sa. 1677, Duke of York gives Gov. Andros permission to return to England.
- 8 Su. 1775, Washington lodges in Wil. on way to 2d Continental Congress. 1834, New Ark
- 9 M. 1776, American galleys fight British warships off Wilmington. [College opened.]
- 10 Tu. 1638, Fort Christina completed. 1865, Capture of Jefferson Davis by Gen. James
- 11 W. 1864, Three Delaware regiments in Battle of Spottsylvania. [H. Wilson of Del.]
- 12 Th. 1787, Washington lodges in Wil. at O'Flin's tavern, Sign of the Ship, S. E. Cor. 3d
- 13 F. 1847, Delaware troops start for Mexican War. [and Market.]
- 14 Sa. 1822, Dr. James Tilton, Surgeon Genl. U. S. Army, dies, Wilmington.
- 15 Su. 1748, French privateer captures Delaware sloop off Cape Henlopen.
- 16 M. 1648, Rev. John Campanius leaves for Sweden.
- 17 Tu. 1672, New Castle inc. as a bailiwick. 1750, Lord Hardwicke fixes Del.-Md. boundary.
- 18 W. 1778, Capt. Allen McLane and his Kent Co. troops set fire to British defenses at
- 19 Th. 1870, Wilmington Fountain Society organized. [Philadelphia.]
- 20 F. 1735, William Shipley buys land, 2d and Market, Wilmington.
- 21 Sa. 1654, Swedish Gov. Rising captures Ft. Casimir (New Castle).
- 22 Su. 1829, Col. Allen McLane dies, buried Asbury Church yard, Wilmington.
- 23 M. 1864, First Del. Regiment in Battle of North Anna.
- 24 Tu. 1632, Minit reports Zwaanendael massacre in Holland.
- 25 W. 1748, Spanish privateer captures Delaware sloop off Reedy Island.
- 26 Th. 1875, Walter Hullihen, Pres. Univ. of Del., born, Staunton, Virginia.
- 27 F. 1654, Gov. Rising announces his arrival to Gov. Stuyvesant.
- 28 Sa. 1698, Old Swedes' Church corner-stone laid. 1813, Pea Patch Island ceded to U. S.,
- 29 Su. 1815, Gove Saulsbury, Gov. of Del., born. 1829, Henry du Pont enters [Fort Del.]
- 30 M. 1871, Soldiers Monument unveiled, Del. Ave. and Broom St., Wil. [West Point.]
- 31 Tu. 1871, John G. Townsend, Jr., U. S. Senator, born, Worcester Co., Md.



← Turkey Tribe of the Lenni Lenape Indians · 1602

## JUNE

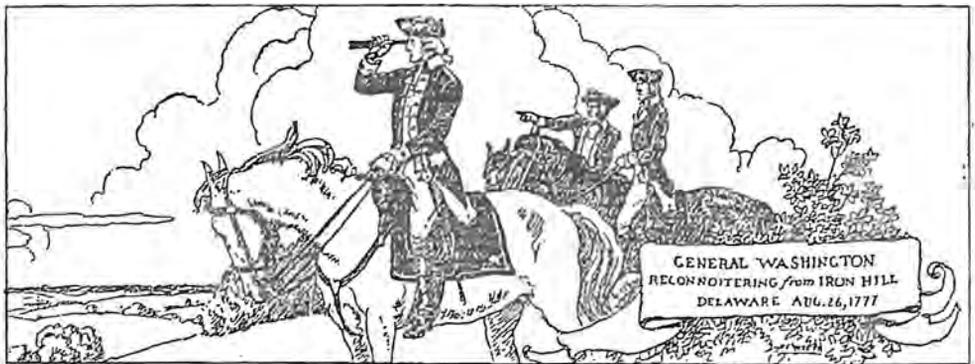
- 1 W. 1630, Godyn and Blommaert obtain patent for land at Henlopen.
- 2 Th. 1820, Willard Saulsbury, Chancellor, born. 1864, Del. troops in Battle of Cold
- 3 F. 1936, Ground broken for new Friends School Building, Wilmington. [Harbor.
- 4 Sa. 1842, J. Watson Webb of N. Y. and Thos. F. Marshall of Ky., fight duel at Claymont.
- 5 Su. 1846, Devastating tornado in Wilmington. 1864, 1st Del. Regiment in Siege of
- 6 M. 1806, Grand Lodge of Delaware A. F. & A. M. organized. [Petersburg.
- 7 Tu. 1629, Charter to colonize New Netherland granted by Holland.
- 8 W. 1919, 59th Pioneer Infantry, Delaware troops, return from France.
- 9 Th. 1845, W. Keith and M. Meredith of Phila. in duel at Claymont, both wounded.
- 10 F. 1824, Caesar A. Rodney dies, Buenos Aires. 1898, New State Constitution adopted.
- 11 Sa. 1654, Gov. Rising writes Ch. Oxenstierna to find him a good wife and send her over.
- 12 Su. 1657, G. Van Dyke appointed first sheriff, New Amstel. 1792, Second State Con-
- 13 M. 1776, Armed Tories, assembled at Cedar Creek, dispersed. [stitution adopted.
- 14 Tu. 1626, Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, charters 2nd Swedish Exploration Co.
- 15 W. 1776, General Assembly assumes temporary authority in name of Three Counties.
- 16 Th. 1671, First land grant in Kent Co. by Gov. Lovelace to Thomas Young.
- 17 F. 1836, Richard H. Bayard elected U. S. Senator.
- 18 Sa. 1781, General Assembly appropriates £7,875, share of national tax.
- 19 Su. 1812, War declared against Great Britain.
- 20 M. 1813, British frigate *Niemen* burns Delaware boats, Indian River.
- 21 Tu. 1813, *Chesapeake*, steamboat on Delaware, initial trip.
- 22 W. 1894, Du Pont smokeless powder for sale.
- 23 Th. 1847, Pres. Polk received in honor in Wil. 1865, Rear Adml. S. F. du Pont dies, Phila.
- 24 F. 1771, E. I. du Pont de Nemours born, Paris, France. 1817, Thomas McKean, Signer,
- 25 Sa. 1785, Eleazer McComb suggests borrowing in Holland for State bank. [dies.
- 26 Su. 1784, Caesar Rodney, Signer, soldier and statesman, dies.
- 27 M. 1938, Celebration of the 300th Anniversary of the settlement of Delaware by the
- 28 Tu. 1778, Battle of Monmouth, Delaware troops engaged. [Swedes at Wilmington.
- 29 W. 1774, Freeholders meeting, N. C. Co., declares against Boston Port Bill.
- 30 Th. 1921, Congress ratifies boundary agreement between Del. and Pa.



CAESAR RODNEY rides from DOVER to PHILADELPHIA ~ July 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1776.

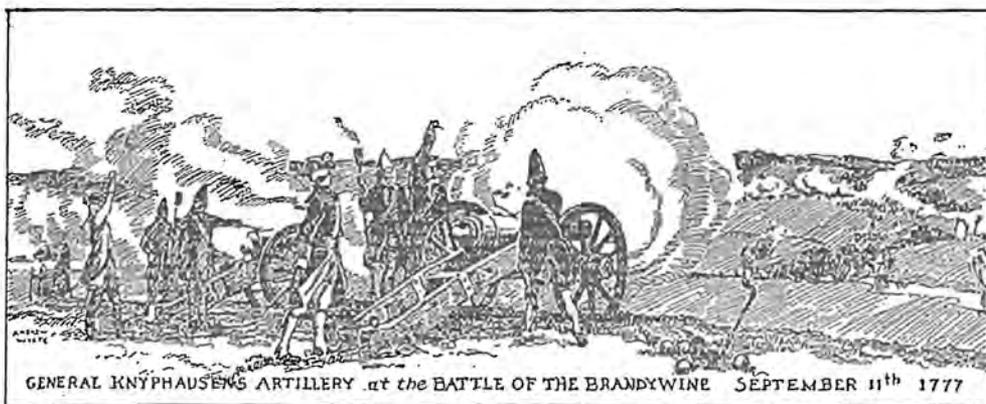
## JULY

- 1 F. 1776, Caesar Rodney rides to Philadelphia.
- 2 Sa. 1776, Rodney and McKean cast Delaware vote for Independence.
- 3 Su. 1775, Washington takes command of Continental Army at Cambridge, Mass.
- 4 M. 1776, Declaration of Independence adopted. 1875, Philip Cook, Bishop, born, [Kansas City, Mo.]
- 5 Tu. 1776, Picture of George III burned of Dover Green.
- 6 W. 1709, French privateers attempt to land at Lewes.
- 7 Th. 1690, Provincial Council commissions Peter Alrichs judge, Supreme Court.
- 8 F. 1813, Wilmington branch of Farmers' Bank opened.
- 9 Sa. 1779, Articles of Confederation signed by T. McKean, J. Dickinson and N. Van
- 10 Su. 1781, Thomas McKean chosen President of the Congress. [Dyke for Delaware.]
- 11 M. 1697, Rev. Eric Biorck preaches first sermon at Cranehook Church.
- 12 Tu. 1747, Privateers plunder houses in New Castle. 1835, Wm. P. Bancroft born, Wil-
- 13 W. 1805, Oliver Evans, Delaware inventor, completes his steam-wagon. [mington.]
- 14 Th. 1867, Wilmington street-cars begin running on Sunday, for churchgoers only.
- 15 F. 1812, Revolutionary veterans organize for home defense, Wilmington.
- 16 Sa. 1862, Commodore S. F. duPont made Rear Admiral.
- 17 Su. 1736, First public market held in Wilmington.
- 18 M. 1864, Delaware called on for 2445 soldiers by President Lincoln.
- 19 Tu. 1651, Stuyvesant buys land on Delaware River for Dutch from Indians.
- 20 W. 1592, Johan Printz born, Bottnaryd, Sweden.
- 21 Th. 1813, James A. Bayard, Commissioner for peace with England, arrives, St. Peters-
- 22 F. 1829, Banquet to Louis McLane, Minister to England, Old Town Hall, Wil. [burg.]
- 23 Sa. 1774, Sussex Co. freeholders at Lewes protest taxation without representation.
- 24 Su. 1796, John M. Clayton born, Dagsboro.
- 25 M. 1825, Lafayette revisits Wil. and Chadds Ford, spends night with E. I. duPont de Ne-
- 26 Tu. 1644, Klas Fleming, organizer New Sweden Co., killed in war with Denmark. [mours.]
- 27 W. 1654, Stuyvesant writes to Holland of capture of Fort Casimir by Swedes.
- 28 Th. 1764, Wil. Borough Council declares quarantine against "sickly persons," penalty £10.
- 29 F. 1813, Delaware flotilla of galleys attack two British warships, Delaware River.
- 30 Sa. 1658, William Beckman appointed Commissary at Ft. Altena.
- 31 Su. 1837, First railroad train runs from Baltimore to Wilmington.



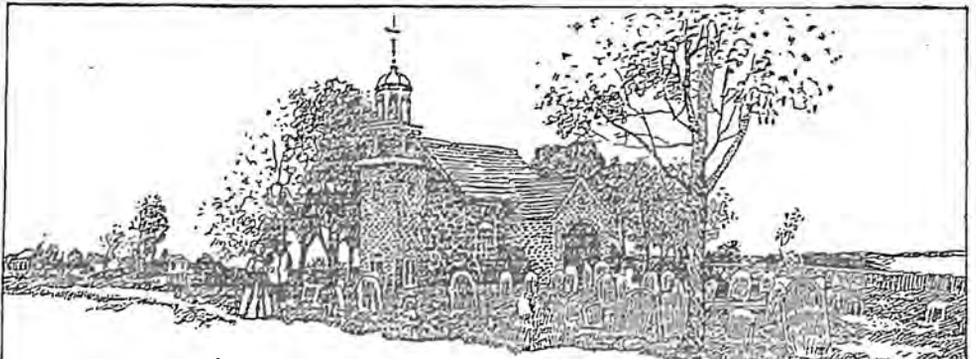
## AUGUST

- 1 M. 1774, Delegates to Cont. Congress elected. 1879, D. J. Layton, Ch. Justice, born.
- 2 Tu. 1776, Declaration of Independence signed by Rodney, Read and McKean for Dela.
- 3 W. 1804, Thomas Macdonough commissioned Lieutenant for bravery at Tripoli under
- 4 Th. 1795, Town meeting, Wilmington, to protest against Jay's treaty. [Decatur.
- 5 F. 1863, Draft for Civil War, Delaware's quota 3,430. 1889, Henry duPont dies.
- 6 Sa. 1815, James A. Bayard dies. 1817, Pierre S. duPont de Nemours dies.
- 7 Su. 1780, Benj. Ferris, historian, born, Wil. 1868, J. P. Nields, Federal judge, born, Wil.
- 8 M. 1746, Col. Allen McLane born, Phila. 1812, Gen. Henry duPont born, Eleutherean
- 9 Tu. 1778, First State seal received by Gov. Rodney. [Mills
- 10 W. 1795, Washington breakfasts at Elkton, dines at New Castle, lodges in Wilmington.
- 11 Th. 1703, Inhabitants of New Castle petition Bishop of London for English clergyman.
- 12 F. 1813, Dr. James Tilton appointed Surgeon General of U. S. Army.
- 13 Sa. 1862, Four companies of cavalry authorized in Delaware for Civil War.
- 14 Su. 1656, Stuyvesant sends orders to Swedes at Christinahamn and above.
- 15 M. 1642, Johan Printz commissioned Governor of New Sweden.
- 16 Tu. 1780, Delaware battalion nearly annihilated at Camden, S. C.
- 17 W. 1795, Bank of Delaware opened for deposits.
- 18 Th. 1737, Geo. II of England orders Md. and Pa. to cease hostilities over boundaries.
- 19 F. 1812, *Constitution-Guerriere* fight; Lieut. W. S. Bush killed leading boarding party.
- 20 Sa. 1874, Mass meeting of unemployed asks building of reservoir, Wil., relief measure.
- 21 Su. 1789, Thomas Garrett, famous Abolitionist, born, Upper Darby, Pa.
- 22 M. 1848, Banquet in Old Town Hall for soldiers returning from Mexican War.
- 23 Tu. 1857, Alexis duPont fatally injured in explosion.
- 24 W. 1682, William Penn obtains grant of Three Lower Counties from Duke of York.
- 25 Th. 1776, Del. troops at Long Island last to leave field. 1777, British Army lands at Head
- 26 F. 1777, American Army arrives Wil., Washington reconnoitres at Iron Hill. [of Elk.
- 27 Sa. 1776, Convention to set up Delaware as State convened at New Castle.
- 28 Su. 1609, Delaware Bay discovered by Henry Hudson.
- 29 M. 1918, 59th Pioneer Infantry, Delaware regiment, embarks for Brest, France.
- 30 Tu. 1682, William Penn sails from England in *Welcome* for New Castle.
- 31 W. 1898, Corse Payton Co.-10, 20, 30-in "Camille," Grand Opera House, Wilmington.



## S E P T E M B E R

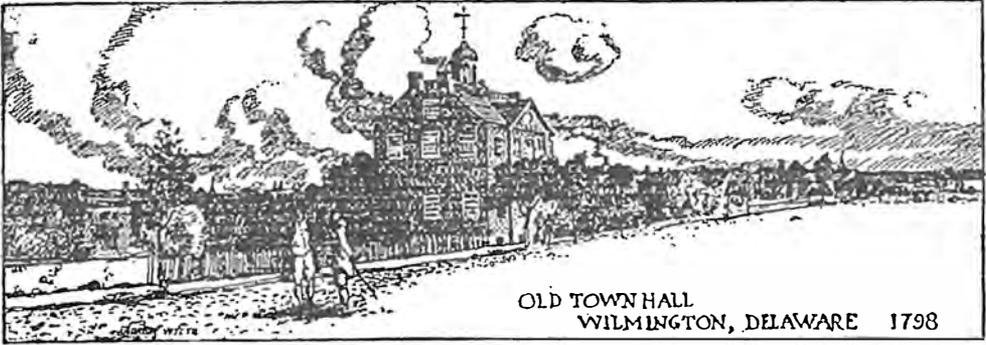
- 1 Th. 1923, First unit Wilmington Marine Terminal complete.
- 2 F. 1846, Daniel Rodney, Governor of Delaware, dies, Lewes.
- 3 Sa. 1766, Howe's army marches north from Elkton; skirmish at Cooch's Bridge.
- 4 Su. 1659, Stuyvesant reports New Amstel in "deplorable and low state" fears complete
- 5 M. 1774, Rodney, McKean and Read at Continental Congress, Philadelphia. [ruin.
- 6 Tu. 1655, Stuyvesant's fleet and army arrive in Delaware River.
- 7 W. 1918, 59th Pioneer Infantry, Delaware regt., disembarks at Brest, France.
- 8 Th. 1781, Kirkwood's Delaware troops in Battle at Eutaw Springs.
- 9 F. 1777, Washington's army leaves Wilmington for Chadd's Ford.
- 10 Sa. 1832, First trip of locomotive-drawn train, New Castle & Frenchtown R. R.
- 11 Su. 1777, Brandywine Battle: Maj. Lewis Bush killed. 1814, Macdonough defeats British,
- 12 M. 1777, British occupy Wil., capture John McKinly, Pres. of Del. [Lake Champlain.
- 13 Tu. 1755, Oliver Evans, inventor, born, Newport, Delaware.
- 14 W. 1663, Dutch West India Co. cedes Ft. Altena (Christina) to City of Amsterdam.
- 15 Th. 1655, Fort Christina surrendered to Stuyvesant.
- 16 F. 1776, Continental Congress fixes Del. quota for Continental Army at 800 men.
- 17 Sa. 1862, Del. regiments in Battle of Antietam. Two Confederate spies arrested, Wil.
- 18 Su. 1733, George Read born, Cecil Co. Maryland.
- 19 M. 1787, Washington "baited at Wilmington, dined at Christiana Bridge."
- 20 Tu. 1776, Delaware adopts first State constitution.
- 21 W. 1798, George Read dies. 1861, L. Heisler Ball, Senator, born.
- 22 Th. 1676, Courts in each of the Three Counties established by English.
- 23 F. 1796, Richard H. Bayard, first mayor of Wilmington, born, New Castle County.
- 24 Sa. 1795, Henry Pepper opens first night-school.
- 25 Su. 1738, Nicholas Van Dyke, President of Delaware, born, New Castle.
- 26 M. 1731, Thomas Willing buys land to lay out Willingtoun.
- 27 Tu. 1803, Rear Admiral S. F. du Pont born, Bergen Point, New Jersey.
- 28 W. 1898, Thomas F. Bayard statesman and jurist, dies, Wilmington.
- 29 Th. 1902, Committee of Wilmington City Council meets to consider new City Charter.
- 30 F. 1793, George Read appointed Chief Justice.



OLD SWEDES' CHURCH : 1699

## OCTOBER

- 1 Sa. 1664, New Amstel (New Castle) captured by English under Sir Robt. Carr.
- 2 Su. 1849, Rockland Cotton Mill on Brandywine burned.
- 3 M. 1739, Rev. George Whitefield preaches in Lewes.
- 4 Tu. 1776, Del. troops in Battle of Germantown; Col. David Hall wounded.
- 5 W. 1803, William Killen, Chancellor, dies.
- 6 Th. 1824, Lafayette attends wedding of Dorcas Van Dyke and Chas. I. duPont, New  
7 F. 1728, Caesar Rodney born, near Dover. [Castle.]
- 8 Sa. 1785, First Baptist Society organized, Wilmington.
- 9 Su. 1841, Hance Naff, old Revolutionary soldier, dies, Wilmington.
- 10 M. 1882, Richard S. Rodney, jurist and historian, born, New Castle.
- 11 Tu. 1655, Gov. Rising leaves Ft. Christina. End of New Sweden.
- 12 W. 1880, Lamot duPont, president duPont Co., born, Wilmington.
- 13 Th. 1817, George P. Fisher, U. S. District Judge, born.
- 14 F. 1905, Porter Reservoir, Wilmington, completed.
- 15 Sa. 1862, President Lincoln annuls draft in Delaware.
- 16 Su. 1813, Wilmington illuminated in honor of victory, Battle of Thames.
- 17 M. 1829, Delaware & Chesapeake Canal opened.
- 18 Tu. 1812, Capt. Jacob Jones of Del., sloop *Wasp*, captures British sloop *Frolic*.
- 19 W. 1781, Delaware troops at surrender at Yorktown.
- 20 Th. 1777, Legislature meets first time in Dover. 1861, First Del. regt. leaves for front.
- 21 F. 1776, Col. Haslet's Delaware troops defeat Rogers's Tories at Mamaroneck.
- 22 Sa. 1699, Sven Colberg engaged as schoolmaster at Christinahamn.
- 23 Su. 1776, First General Assembly of State elected.
- 24 M. 1772, Second Presbyterian Church dedicated, Wilmington.
- 25 Tu. 1900, Wm. Jennings Bryan, candidate for Presidency, addresses two meetings, Wil.
- 26 W. 1850, Commodore Jacob Jones buried, Wilmington and Brandywine Cemetery.
- 27 Th. 1682, Wm. Penn in ship *Welcome*, arrives at New Castle.
- 28 F. 1682, Penn takes possession by delivery of "turf and twig, water and soil."
- 29 Sa. 1828, Thomas F. Bayard, U. S. Senator and 1st Ambassador to England, born, Wil.
- 30 Su. 1764, John Vining appointed Chief Justice. 1854, George A. Elliott born.
- 31 M. 1877, Josiah O. Wolcott, U. S. Senator and Chancellor, born, Dover.



OLD TOWN HALL  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 1798

## NOVEMBER

- |    |     |  |
|----|-----|--|
| 1  | Tu. | 1797, Yellow fever epidemic in Wilmington at an end.                                   |
| 2  | W.  | 1640, 3rd Swedish expedition arrives, Fort Christina. 1682; Penn convenes first court, |
| 3  | Th. | 1818, Singing-school opened, "stone schoolhouse," Brandywine village. [New Castle.     |
| 4  | F.  | 1791, Major Robert Kirkwood killed in Battle of Miami.                                 |
| 5  | Sa. | 1842, John M. Clayton supports candidacy of Henry Clay in meeting, Old Town            |
| 6  | Su. | 1781, John Dickinson elected 3rd President of Delaware State. [Hall.                   |
| 7  | M.  | 1861, Rear Admiral S. F. du Pont in command, Battle of Port Royal.                     |
| 8  | Tu. | 1656, New Castle elects first town officers.   |
| 9  | W.  | 1682, Weekly public markets ordered held, New Castle. 1856, John M. Clayton dies,      |
| 10 | Th. | 1624, Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, charters Swedish South Sea Co. [Dover.        |
| 11 | F.  | 1758, Capt. Caleb P. Bennett born, Chester Co., Pa.                                    |
| 12 | Sa. | 1682, Court held at New Castle.  |
| 13 | Su. | 1732, John Dickinson, Pres. of Del. State, born, Md. 1804, James A. Bayard elected     |
| 14 | M.  | 1873, 2nd Fall trotting-meeting at Schuetzen Park. [U. S. Senator.                     |
| 15 | Tu. | 1873, Robert H. Richards, Attorney General, born, Georgetown.                          |
| 16 | W.  | 1739, Borough charter granted Wilmington, name changed from Willingtown.               |
| 17 | Th. | 1750, Commissioners meet, New Castle, to determine boundaries of Delaware.             |
| 18 | F.  | 1682, Wm. Penn issues writs for election of deputies to General Assembly.              |
| 19 | Sa. | 1781, Gov. John Dickinson proclaims day of thanksgiving and prayer.                    |
| 20 | Su. | 1677, Magistrates appointed for Sussex County.   |
| 21 | M.  | 1848, Gov. Tharp proclaims day of public thanksgiving.                                 |
| 22 | Tu. | 1813, Delaware Bible Society organized, Wilmington.                                    |
| 23 | W.  | 1833, Wilmington Whaling Company organized.  |
| 24 | Th. | 1796, John M. Clayton born, Dagsboro. 1843, Edgar Allan Poe lectures, Wilmington.      |
| 25 | F.  | 1873, Illustrated lecture, Grand Opera House, by Thomas Nast, famous cartoonist.       |
| 26 | Sa. | 1823, Leonard E. Wales, U. S. District Judge, born, Wilmington.                        |
| 27 | Su. | 1837, Trains begin service on Wilmington & Susquehanna R. R.                           |
| 28 | M.  | 1813, "Elegant supper" at Smith's Hotel, Wilmington, for Henry Clay.                   |
| 29 | Tu. | 1655, J. P. Jacquet made Dutch Vice Director at New Castle.                            |
| 30 | W.  | 1776, First Delaware Continental Line troops mustered in, Dover.                       |



## DECEMBER

- 1 Th. 1825, Commodore Thomas Macdonough buried at Middletown, Connecticut.
- 2 F. 1831, New State constitution adopted.
- 3 Sa. 1874, Buffalo Bill in "Scouts of the Plains," Grand Opera House, Wilmington.
- 4 Su. 1802, Vestry of Old Swedes Church resolve to build tower and belfry.
- 5 M. 1645, Fort New Gothenburg (Tinicum) burned.
- 6 Tu. 1632, De Vries arrives, Zwaanendael (Lewes), finds colony destroyed.
- 7 W. 1787, Delaware ratifies United States Constitution, "First State."
- 8 Th. 1678, Site of Middletown first surveyed.
- 9 F. 1779, Thanksgiving Day in Delaware.
- 10 Sa. 1782, Trial of Cheney Clow, Tory leader.
- 11 Su. 1856, Delaware R.R. opened to Seaford. 1863, T. Coleman du Pont, born, Louisville,
- 12 M. 1630, De Vries Dutch expedition sails from Holland for Delaware Bay. [Ky.]
- 13 Tu. 1836, Siamese Twins exhibited in Wil. 1862, Del. regts. in Battle of Fredericksburg.
- 14 W. 1682, First Genl. Assembly of Pa. and Three Lower Counties meets, Chester.
- 15 Th. 1675, Gov. Edmund Andros grants Duck Creek land to Peter Bayard.
- 16 F. 1783, George Washington received by Burgesses of Wilmington.
- 17 Sa. 1817, New steamboat, *Superior*, begins daily trips, Phila. to Balto. via Wilmington.
- 18 Su. 1790, U. S. Letters Patent, No. 3, granted to Oliver Evans of Newark.
- 19 M. 1777, Delaware and Maryland troops go into winter-quarters in Wilmington.
- 20 Tu. 1807, Company to bridge Christina at Market St., Wilmington, incorporated.
- 21 W. 1777, Del. troops encamped, Wil., Lovering Ave. 1876, Irene duPont, born, Wil-
- 22 Th. 1821, Female Bible Society organized, Wilmington. [mington.]
- 23 F. 1784, Thomas Macdonough, victor in Battle of Lake Champlain, born.
- 24 Sa. 1814, Treaty of Ghent signed by James A. Bayard, one of U. S. commissioners.
- 25 Su. 1655, Fort Casimir reported "decayed in its walls and batteries."
- 26 M. 1776, Del. troops in Battle of Trenton. 1848, Barnum exhibits Gen. Tom Thumb in
- 27 Tu. 1799, Masonic "funeral procession," in honor of Washington. [Wil.]
- 28 W. 1878, Richard H. Bayard, first Mayor of Wilmington, buried, Wil. and Brandywine
- 29 Th. 1817, Eli Saulsbury, U. S. Senator, born, Dover. [Cemetery.]
- 30 F. 1782, Letters of marque issued to Capt. T. Robinson, brigantine, *Polly*, of Wil.
- 31 Sa. 1775, Maj. J. MacPherson of Del. killed, Quebec. 1791, Del. adopts 1st State Con-  
[stitution.]

## Chronicle



Henry Hudson

- 1609 *Henry Hudson* in *Haelve Maene* (Half Moon), while seeking Northwest Passage discovers Delaware Bay.
- 1610 *Capt. Samuel Argall*, Englishman, sails into Bay, names it Delaware after *Thomas West, Lord de la Warre*, Governor of Virginia.
- 1614 *Capt. Cornelis Mey* from Manhattan enters Bay, names Fenwick's Island Cape Hindlopen, present Cape Henlopen he names Cape Cornelis, opposite point Cape Mey.

- 1615 *Capt. Cornelis Hendricksen* explores South River (Delaware) up to Schuylkill.
- 1621 Dutch West India Co. chartered for trading and colonizing in America.
- 1623 *Capt. Mey* sails up Prince Hendricks River (Delaware), builds Dutch trading post, Fort Nassau, site of Gloucester, N. J.
- 1629 Holland grants land at Cape Henlopen to *S. Blommaert, S. Godyn, David de Vries* and associates, giving them title of Patroons.
- 1631 *Capt. Peter Heyes* makes settlement at Zwaanendael on Hoorn Kill (Lewes Creek), 28 men.
- 1632 *Capt. David Pieterssen De Vries* comes to Zwaanendael, finds colony destroyed, settlers massacred by Indians.
- 1637 New Sweden Company organized in Sweden. First expedition in *Kalmar Nyckel* (Key of Kalmar) and *Fogel Grip* (Bird Griffin) sails from Gothenburg, Sweden.
- 1638 Expedition under command of *Peter Minuit* arrives in Minquas Kill (Christina River), disembarks at The Rocks, builds Fort Christina, names river Christina Kill. Colony consists of 23 men, *Capt. Mans Kling, Hendrick Huygen* commissary. *This was the first permanent settlement of white men in Delaware and the entire Delaware River Valley.*
- 1640 Two more expeditions arrive, with *Peter Hollandaer* as Governor of the colony, *Rev. Reorus Torkillus*, the first clergyman, and a few involuntary immigrants.
- 1641 Fourth expedition arrives, with *Herr Christoffer*, a clergyman and 35 colonists including a number of Finns.
- 1643 Fifth Swedish expedition arrives with *Lt. Col. Johan Printz*, new Governor, *Rev. John Campanius* and more involuntary immigrants. *Printz* builds Fort Elfsborg at Varkens Kill, N. J., Fort New Gothenburg at Tinicum, Pa. and a blockhouse at Upland (Chester), establishes a tobacco plantation on the Schuylkill; population now 118. First law court held at Tinicum.

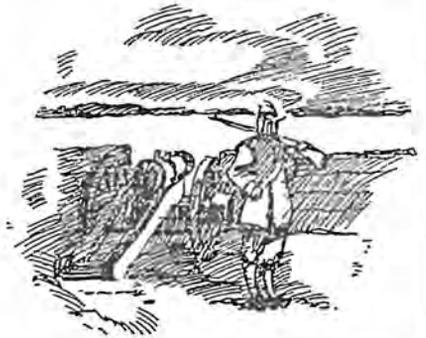


The Half Moon



- 1644 Sixth Swedish expedition arrives with more involuntary immigrants, but losses by death and by those returning to Sweden reduce population to 98.
- 1646 Seventh Swedish expedition arrives, with trade-goods, but only a few colonists. *Printz* expels Dutch settlers, from New Amsterdam, at Schuylkill.
- 1648 Eighth expedition arrives with trade-goods, but few settlers. Now only 79 men in the colony, of whom only 28 are farmers—but the Swedes control the River.

- 1649 Ship *Kattan* (The Cat), bringing supplies and settlers, wrecked near Porto Rico.
- 1651 Gov. *Pieter Stuyvesant* of New Amsterdam sends fleet of 11 ships to the River, marches overland with 120 soldiers, occupies Sandhook (New Castle), builds and garrisons Fort Casimir there. Dutch thus control the River.
- 1653 *Printz* resigns governorship, returns to Sweden. 36 families at Casimir; population of New Sweden decreasing.
- 1654 Many Swedish settlers arrive, with *Johan Rising* as Governor. He takes Fort Casimir from Dutch. Population of New Sweden now 368. More land cleared, new farms established, first roads made, a village, Christianahamn, laid out behind Fort Christina. Fort Casimir, now Fort Trefaldighet, garrisoned by Swedes. Swedes now control River. Tenth Swedish expedition misses Delaware Bay, arrives at Manhattan and is seized by Stuyvesant.
- 1655 *Stuyvesant* returns with 7 armed ships and 300 soldiers. Fort Trefaldighet's little garrison surrenders; it becomes again Fort Casimir. The Dutch then besiege Fort Christina and burn Christinahamn. After 12 days the fort is surrendered. The Dutch hold all the River. *So ends New Sweden.*
- 1656 Ship *Mercurius* from Sweden arrives with 110 new settlers. *Jean Paul Jacquet*, Dutch Vice-Director of the colony, refuses permission to land, but they disembark at Tinicum.
- 1657 The colony is divided. Fort Casimir and the town beside it, New Amstel, become seat of government for territory below Christina, Fort Christina, now Fort Altena, for northern part. *Jacob Alrichs*, new Director, with 125 Dutch settlers, including *Evert Pietersen*, first schoolmaster, arrives at New Amstel, now the metropolis of the Delaware with "about 100 houses".
- 1658 Trading post established at Hoorn Kill (Lewes).
- 1659 Dissatisfaction, hunger and disease depopulate New Amstel. Scarcely 30 families remain. *Lord Baltimore*



Fort Casimir.



William Penn

claims ownership of western shore of Delaware. *Stuyvesant* sends *Augustine Herrman* and *Resolved Waldron* to discuss the matter with *Gov. Fendall* of Maryland, without satisfactory results.

1662 *Peter Plockhoy* from Holland establishes Menonite colony at Cape Henlopen.

1663 Upper colony, above Christina River, still Swedish in character, with a population of about 700, mostly farmers, "110 good farms". The two colonies are politically consolidated.

1664 *Charles II* grants land in America, from Maine to New Jersey inclusive, to his brother *James, Duke of York*. English fleet takes New Amsterdam. Two ships, under *Sir Robert Carr*, come down to Delaware River and take possession of upper colony without resistance. Fort Casimir resists. After two broadsides from the ships, English storm and capture the fort, 3 Dutch killed, 10 wounded; name changed to New Castle. English hold all the River. *Carr* "destroys quaking colony of *Plockhoy* to a naile".

1667 *Sir Francis Lovelace* Governor of *Duke of York's* territory, *Carr* deputy governor of Delaware colony.

1669 *Konigsmark*, "the Long Finn", attempts insurrection against English rule; transported to Barbadoes.

1671 Indian malefactor shot and hung in chains in New Castle.

1673 Courts established at Upland, New Castle and Hoorn Kill. War between England and Holland; Dutch fleet re-takes New York; Delaware colonies submit.

1674 Treaty of Westminster returns New York and the Delaware to English. So ends Dutch rule on the River. *Duke of York* appoints *Sir Edmund Andros* as Governor of New York and its Dependencies, including Delaware territory.

1676 New Castle offers bounty of 40 guilders for wolf heads. *Duke of York's* Code of Laws formally promulgated by *Andros*.

1680 Hoornkill County divided into St. Jones County (Kent) and Deal County (Sussex). First Court for St. Jones County held. Erection of log Courthouse at Hoornkill (Lewes) authorized, to cost 5000 pounds of tobacco.

1681 Pennsylvania granted to *William Penn* by *King Charles II*.

1682 *Duke of York* grants Delaware Counties to *Penn*. *Penn* arrives in ship *Welcome* at New Castle, October 27th, receives possession by tokens of turf and twig, water and soil. His deputy, *William Markham*, similarly receives possession of two lower counties. First General Assembly of "Province of Pennsylvania and Three Lower Counties on the Delaware" meets at Upland. *Penn* gives present names to Kent and Sussex.

1684 *Col. George Talbot*, on behalf of *Lord Baltimore*, claiming Three Lower Counties, builds small fort near present town of Christiana. Population of Three Lower Counties about 4,000.

1688 Kent County Court removed to "*James Maxwell's* ordinary", site of Dover.

1689 Immanuel Episcopal Church, New Castle, founded.

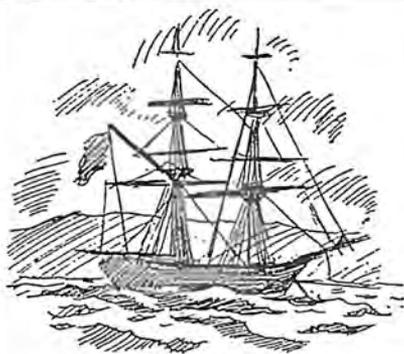


*Pirate*

- 1690 "Hundreds" first established by Provincial Council. Fairs established in New Castle, May and September.
- 1691 Government of Three Lower Counties separated from the Province; *William Markham* appointed Deputy Governor.
- 1692 *Benjamin Fletcher*, Governor General at New York, appointed by *William* and *Mary* Captain General and Governor in Chief over Pennsylvania and Three Lower Counties.
- 1693 *Fletcher* appoints *William Markham* Lieut. Governor.
- 1694 *William* and *Mary* restore *Penn's* colonies to him; he appoints *William Markham* his Lieut. Governor.
- 1696 New "constitution" adopted by General Assembly.
- 1697 Kent County's second court-house built at Dover on site of present State House. *Erick Biork*, *Andreas Rudman* and *Jonas Aureen* come from Sweden as missionaries of Lutheran church.
- 1698 Pirates sack Lewes, capture vessel off New Castle.
- 1699 Old Swedes' Church dedicated, Trinity Sunday, July 4th.
- 1700 Assembly of Pennsylvania and Delaware counties meets at New Castle, enacts famous "New Castle laws".
- 1701 *Penn* grants new constitution for his Province and the Delaware counties, allowing separate assemblies. *Isaac Taylor* and *Thomas Pierson*, surveyors, establish 12 Mile Circle boundary.
- 1703 Welsh Baptists settle on Welsh tract between Newark and Glasgow.
- 1704 General Assembly for Delaware Counties meets at New Castle, *William Rodney* of Kent speaker. Immanuel Church built in New Castle.
- 1707 Fort built at New Castle to compel all vessels to "report and receive leave to pass".
- 1708 Philadelphia businessmen protest this control.
- 1709 Nine Delaware Assemblymen petition English Government for complete separation from Province of Pennsylvania.
- 1713 *Rev. Andreas Hesselius* from Sweden succeeds *Rev. Erick Biork* in Old Swedes' Church.
- 1716 *Wm. Keith* commissioned Lieut. Governor.
- 1717 Dover Green laid out in accordance with *Penn's* order of 1683.
- 1718 *Penn* dies. Old Swedes' Church receives gift of communion service from Falun Mining Co. of Sweden. Pirates commit depredations in River.
- 1719 *William Keith* commissioned Governor.
- 1722 Third court-house at Dover built on site of old one.
- 1726 *Patrick Gordon* commissioned Lieut. Governor.



*Mason and Dixon*



Brig "Nancy"

- 1727 *John, Thomas and Richard Penn* become Proprietaries of the Province and the Delaware Counties. General Assembly establishes regular system of law and equity courts.
- 1731 *Thomas Willing* founds Willingtown on land received from father-in-law, *Andrew Justison*, between French and West Streets, Wilmington.
- 1732 First house in Willingtown built, N.W. corner Front and Market. Commissioners appointed by *Penn* and *Lord*

*Baltimore* agree on boundaries between Delaware and Maryland.

- 1735 *William Shipley* buys land, Second to Fifth and Market to West Streets, from *Andrew Justison*, builds three-story brick mansion, S.W. corner 4th and Shipley Streets, Wilmington.
- 1736 Willingtown has 33 houses.
- 1738 *Thomas West* builds house on Quaker Hill, N.W. Corner 5th and West Streets.
- 1739 Wilmington incorporated as a borough, *William Shipley* first Chief Burgess.
- 1740 Bill in General Assembly to raise one thousand pounds to pay for "victualing and transporting" Delaware troops in England's war with Spain. First Presbyterian Church and first sea-going vessel built in Wilmington.
- 1743 New London Academy, forerunner of University of Delaware, established by *Rev. Francis Alison* at New London, Pennsylvania.
- 1747 French and Spanish privateers commit depredations along River in War of Austrian Succession.
- 1748 The Rocks fortified to defend Wilmington against French and Spanish privateers. Nanticoke Indians migrate to Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania.
- 1749 *Rev. Israel Acrelius* comes from Sweden to succeed *Rev. Peter Tranberg* (died 1748) in Old Swedes' Church.
- 1750 *Lord Chancellor Hardwicke* decrees Delaware-Maryland boundaries in accordance with agreement of 1732.
- 1751 New seal adopted bearing arms of King of England and legend "Counties on the Delaware".
- 1754 General Assembly passes bill to raise one company of troops for His Majesty's service and to establish militia for defense in French and Indian War.
- 1758 Charter granted for town at Newark, fairs to be held in April and October, also weekly market.
- 1759 *John McKinly* Chief Burgess of Wilmington, *James Hamilton* Lieut Governor.
- 1763 *Lord Baltimore* and *Thomas and Richard Penn* employ *Charles Mason* and *Jeremiah Dixon*, English surveyors, to establish boundaries.
- 1764 *John Vining* succeeds *Ryves Holt* as Chief Justice.
- 1765 *Caesar Rodney* and *Thomas McKean* attend "Stamp Act Congress" in New York as delegates from Delaware to protest against the Act.

- 1766 *Rodney, McKean* and *George Read* appointed by Assembly to prepare address to George III expressing loyalty of Delaware Counties and gratitude for repeal of Stamp Act.
- 1767 The Alison Academy removed to Newark by its principal, *Rev. Alexander McDowell. Mason* and *Dixon* finish their boundary work.
- 1768 *Rodney, McKean* and *Read* appointed committee to draw up address to *George III* protesting against Townshend Act.
- 1769 Delaware merchants sign Non-Importation Agreement, not to sell English goods nor trade with any who do so. New Ark Academy, forerunner of University of Delaware, incorporated.
- 1770 *Rev. Laurence Girelius* succeeds *Rev. Andrew Borrell* as pastor of Old Swedes' Church.
- 1774 *Rodney, McKean* and *Read* delegates to First Continental Congress, Philadelphia, Sept. 5. Meetings to protest British tyranny held in Lewes, Dover and New Castle.
- 1775 *Rodney, McKean* and *Read* delegates to Second Continental Congress, Philadelphia, May 10.
- 1776 General Assembly at New Castle passes resolution (June 15) declaring Delaware independent of British Crown. *Rodney* rides all night (July 1-2) from Dover to Philadelphia to vote on resolution for independence. *Rodney* and *McKean* cast Delaware's vote (July 2) for the resolution and (July 4) for Declaration of Independence. Convention at New Castle adopts first State constitution. Brig *Nancy* of Wilmington, *Capt. Hugh Montgomery*, first ship to hoist American flag in foreign port. British warships, *Roebuck* and *Liverpool*, in Delaware River; fight (May 8) between them and small boats off Wilmington, ships withdrew down the River; Lewes bombarded. The Rocks at Wilmington again fortified. Picture of *George III* burnt on Dover Green. First State troops mustered in, *Col. John Haslet*, *Lt. Col. Gunning Bedford*, *Major John McPherson* and 800 men; leave Dover for war. Delaware troops nicknamed "Blue Hen's Chickens". Delaware troops, in defeat in Battle of Long Island, among the last to leave the field—not until "an express order from the General commanded them to retreat".
- 1777 Dover made capital, Kent County Court House, built 1775, becomes State House. *John McKinly* elected first President of Delaware State. *Gen. Samuel Patterson's* militia mutinies in Philadelphia, demanding higher wages. *Col. Haslet* killed in Battle of Princeton (Jan. 3). British, 18,000 strong, under *Gen. Howe*, land at Elkton, Md., advance through Delaware. *Washington's* army, 12,000, posted near Stanton. American light infantry, under *Gen. Maxwell*, meets advance British forces in fight at Cooch's Bridge. *Washington* withdraws forces to Chadd's Ford. British Army passes through Newark (Sept. 8). Battle of Brandywine, *Col. Hall's* Delaware regi-



Wilmington, 1832

ment engaged, *Major Lewis Bush* of Delaware killed; defeat of Americans. Wilmington occupied by British troops; *President McKinly* captured. *Thomas McKean* becomes acting President, then *George Read*. *Colonel Hall* severely wounded in Battle of Germantown.

- 1778 *Caesar Rodney* elected President of State, succeeding *McKinly*. Delaware troops in Battle of Monmouth; winter (1777-1778) in Wilmington.
- 1779 Delaware ratifies Articles of Confederation. *Capt. Allen McLane's* Delaware company in capture of Powles Hook (July 19).
- 1780 First Delaware Regiment of Continental Army, *Lt. Col. Vaughn, Major John Patten, Senior Capt. Kirkwood*, 800 men, in *DeKalb's* army in Southern Campaign. In disastrous Battle of Camden, Delawares withstand *Lord Rawdon's* furious charge. *DeKalb* on his death-bed writes about "the gallant behavior of the Delaware regiment," who stood their ground although 265 were killed or wounded. *Lt. Col. Vaughn* and *Major Patten* captured; *Kirkwood* commands remnant of 175 men, who are then brigaded with Maryland and Virginia under *General Smallwood*.
- 1781 At Cowpens, when front line breaks, *Smallwood's* brigade stands fast and saves the day; British defeated. At Guilford Court House the brigade again holds the line when militia retreats, again wins the battle. Special mention in dispatches of "the old Delaware company under brave *Capt. Kirkwood*." After Battle of Hobkirk's Hill, Delaware again cited for "gallant behavior."
- 1783 Delaware troops home from Southern Campaign. *Nicholas Van Dyke* elected President of State succeeding *John Dickinson*, resigned, who had been elected in 1781, succeeding *Caesar Rodney*.
- 1784 *Caesar Rodney* dies at his home, Poplar Grove near Dover, June 26th.
- 1785 *Oliver Evans* builds, near Newport, first flour-mill equipped with his labor-saving machinery.
- 1786 Barratt's Chapel, "Cradle of Methodism," built. *John Dickinson* chairman of Annapolis Convention.
- 1787 *George Read, Gunning Bedford, Jr., John Dickinson, Richard Bassett* and *Jacob Broom* Delaware delegates to Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia (May 14 to Sept. 17). Delaware ratifies Constitution in Convention (Dec. 3 to 7) at Dover; "First State." Delaware grants patent to *John Fitch* for steamboat.
- 1788 First Delaware U. S. Senators *George Read* and *Richard Bassett*, first Representative in Congress *John Vining* elected.
- 1789 *Joshua Clayton* (Federalist) elected last President of State under first State Constitution. *Charles Thomson* of Newark, Secretary of Congress, 1774-89, goes to Mt. Vernon to inform *George Washington* officially of his election as President.
- 1790 Delaware ratifies eleven of first twelve amendments to Federal Constitution. Population of State 59,096. Proposal to make Wilmington national capital fails when



Civil War

- Jefferson and Hamilton* agree on District of Columbia.
- 1791 Fourth Kent County court-house built, State sharing expense in order to use building as State House. State convention meets in Presbyterian Church, Dover, to frame second State Constitution, *John Dickinson* President of Convention.
- 1792 Second State Constitution adopted (June 12).
- 1793 Delaware votes for *Washington* as President. *Joshua Clayton* inaugurated first Governor under new Constitution, *William Killen* first Chancellor, *George Read* first Chief Justice. *Louis Philippe*, afterwards King of France, sojourns in Wilmington.
- 1796 Bank of Delaware, first in the State, incorporated. General Assembly passes first act for establishment of fund for public schools.
- 1797 Delaware votes for *John Adams* (Federalist) for President. Yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia, many refugees in Wilmington.
- 1798 Old Town Hall in Wilmington built.
- 1800 Delaware votes for *John Adams* (Federalist) as President. Population of State 64,273.
- 1802 Yellow fever epidemic in Wilmington. *E. I. duPont de Nemours* buys land for powder-mills near Wilmington from *Jacob Broom* for \$6,740. Building of mills begun.
- 1803 Delaware and Chesapeake Canal begun.
- 1804 Delaware votes for *Charles C. Pinckney* (Federalist) for President.
- 1807 Federal government calls on Delaware for 814 militia. Wilmington public meeting expresses indignation and abhorrence at attack by British sloop-of-war *Leopard* on American frigate *Chesapeake*. Meeting at Lewes resolves that aggressions of Great Britain excite abhorrence and cheerfully anticipates a State of War.
- 1808 Federal government calls (November 15) on Delaware for 1332 militia.
- 1810 Population of State 72,674.
- 1812 U. S. House of Representatives votes for declaration of war on Great Britain; *Henry M. Ridgely*, Delaware representative votes "No". Governor *Haslet* sends (January 7) message to legislature calling for preparation for a crisis and for minds firmly and valorously bent on facing the conflict. Legislature authorizes purchase of arms and equipment. Delaware's quota 10,000. Fort built at Rocks to defend Wilmington. Sloop-of-war *Wasp*, Capt. *Jacob Jones* of Delaware, captures British sloop-of-war *Frolic* (October 18); victory acclaimed throughout nation. Delaware River "swarms with American privateers." Delaware votes for *DeWitt Clinton* (Federalist) for President.
- 1813 British fleet blockades Bay and River, bombards Lewes (April 6) because of refusal of *Col. Samuel B. Davis*, Commander of American troops, of demand for fresh provisions. 1,000 men assemble to defend Lewes, including Wilmington troop of horse; attempted landing repulsed; powder supplied by *duPont*; British capture small vessels, commit dep-



Zwaanendaal House

- redations on shore. Specie in Wilmington and New Castle banks sent to Philadelphia for safety. Pea Patch Island (Fort Delaware) ceded to U. S.
- 1814 *Commodore Thomas Macdonough* of Delaware, in command of American fleet, defeats British fleet on Lake Champlain. Victory celebrated throughout the nation. Treaty of Ghent ending war signed by *James A. Bayard* with the other American commissioners to negotiate a peace.
- 1816 Delaware votes for *Rufus King* (Federalist) for President.
- 1820 Delaware votes for *James Monroe* (Democratic-Republican) for President. Population of State 72,749.
- 1824 Delaware Electors give one vote for *John Quincy Adams*, two for *William H. Crawford* for President. Town Hall, New Castle, built. *Lafayette* visits Wilmington, received with honors in Old Town Hall.
- 1828 Delaware votes for *John Quincy Adams* (National Republican) for President.
- 1829 First State general public school law passed. Delaware and Chesapeake Canal opened (July 4).
- 1830 Population of State 76,748.
- 1831 Third State Constitution adopted. Legislature votes opposition to slave-trade.
- 1832 Delaware votes for *Henry Clay* (National Republican) for President. Wilmington chartered as a city. New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad opened.
- 1834 New Ark Academy becomes Newark College. Memorial funeral procession (May 20) in honor of *Lafayette* dead.
- 1836 Delaware votes for *Wm. Henry Harrison* (Whig) for President.
- 1838 Brandywine Springs Hotel, accommodating 1,000 built.
- 1840 Delaware votes for *Wm. Henry Harrison* (Whig) for President. Population of State 78,185.
- 1843 Newark College becomes Delaware College.
- 1844 Delaware votes for *Henry Clay* (Whig) for President.
- 1846 Secretary of War calls for volunteers for Mexican War; Delaware quota 390; few responses.
- 1848 Delaware votes for *Zachery Taylor* (Whig) for President.
- 1849 *John M. Clayton* appointed U. S. Secretary of State.
- 1850 *John M. Clayton* signs Clayton-Bulwer Treaty with Great Britain. Population of State 91,532.
- 1852 Delaware votes for *Franklin Pierce* (Democrat) for President.
- 1856 Delaware votes for *James Buchanan* (Democrat) for President.
- 1859 *Lammot duPont* discovers use of nitrate of soda in gunpowder.
- 1860 Delaware votes for *John C. Breckinridge* (Democrat) for President. Population of State, 112,216; 19,287 are free Negroes, 1,798 slaves.
- 1861 Legislature votes not to secede from Union. DuPonts refuse to sell powder to Confederate States. Federal government calls for troops (April 14); Delaware's quota one regiment, 780 men. Union demonstration in Old Town Hall (April 16). Wilmington appropriates \$8,000 for defense. Union meetings throughout State. Volunteers called for (April 25). First regiment complete (May 20) for three months' service. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Delaware regiments, three years' service, mustered in. Meeting on Dover

Green opposing war (June 27), 1500 present. Land and naval forces under *General Sherman* and *Commodore S. F. duPont* achieve victory at Port Royal, South Carolina. *Lincoln* tries to arrange for manumission of all Delaware slaves, Federal government to pay \$500 each; caucuses disclose lack of majority of legislature to pass necessary act, one man holding out against plan.

- 1862 Federal government orders draft for 300,000 men, Delaware's quota 3,340; time for draft extended to allow securing volunteers; funds raised to pay bounties for volunteers and quota filled. In election, polls in State are policed by U. S. provost marshals; much complaint about this.
- 1863 Volunteers not sufficient to meet requirements, draft is made; 2,454 drafted; allowed to buy off at \$300 each. Martial law in force because of *Lee's* invasion of Pennsylvania. *Nathaniel B. Smithers* (Union Party) elected Congressman with aid of Federal troops, Democrats declining to vote.
- 1864 Delaware votes for *George B. McClellan* (Democrat) for President. First State debt created, \$1,000,000. Four Delaware regiments, 1st Delaware Battery and 1st Delaware Cavalry mustered out of service, terms expired. Delaware troops during the war fought in battles of Fair Oaks, Gaines' Mill, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Topotomoy, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station and Boydton Road. New draft takes 1,676 men. Provost marshals again police elections against strong opposition. Fort Union built at The Rocks. U. S. Senate requires all senators to take oath of loyalty; *James A. Bayard* takes oath and then resigns, denying constitutionality of required oath.
- 1865 Delaware legislature refuses to ratify Thirteenth Amendment.
- 1867 Delaware legislature refuses to ratify Fourteenth Amendment.
- 1868 Delaware votes for *Horatio Seymour* (Democrat) for President.
- 1869 Delaware legislature refuses to ratify Fifteenth Amendment.
- 1870 Population of State 125,015.
- 1872 Delaware votes for *U. S. Grant* (Republican) for President.
- 1874 Fifth Kent County Courthouse built and present Old State House becomes Capitol exclusively.
- 1876 Delaware votes for *Samuel J. Tilden* (Democrat) for President.
- 1879 New Castle County seat removed to Wilmington.
- 1880 Delaware votes for *Winfield S. Hancock* (Democrat) for President. Population of State 146,608.
- 1884 Delaware votes for *Grover Cleveland* (Democrat) for President.
- 1885 *Thomas F. Bayard* appointed U. S. Secretary of State.
- 1888 Delaware votes for *Grover Cleveland* (Democrat) for President.
- 1890 Population of State 168,493.
- 1892 Delaware votes for *Grover Cleveland* (Democrat) for President.
- 1893 *Thomas F. Bayard* appointed first Ambassador to Great Britain. Circular northern boundary re-surveyed by Pennsylvania-Delaware Commission.
- 1896 Delaware votes for *William McKinley* (Republican) for President.
- 1898 Delaware responds to *McKinley's* call for volunteers for Spanish-American

- War, appropriates \$30,000. First Delaware Regiment in camp at Middletown, Del., then Middletown, Pa.
- 1900 Delaware votes for *William McKinley* (Republican) for President
- 1901 Delaware ratifies 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to U. S. Constitution on Lincoln's birthday.
- 1902 Death of *Eugene duPont*, President of duPont Company. Company re-organized as E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company by *T. Coleman duPont*, *Alfred I. duPont* and *Pierre S. duPont*; commences acquisition of other explosive manufacturing companies.
- 1905 Punishment by pillory abolished.
- 1908 Delaware votes for *William H. Taft* (Republican) for President.
- 1909 State House restored and new wing added.
- 1910 DuPont Company enters textile business, Fabrikoid.
- 1915 Great expansion of duPont Company rendered necessary by demands for powder by the Allies.
- 1917 DuPont Company supplies U. S. with powder in great quantities; expands into paint, chemical and dye fields, also automobile interests.
- 1919 DuPont Company's strictly war-time plants dismantled. New School Code enacted.
- 1920 Delaware votes for *Warren G. Harding* (Republican) for President. Population of State 223,003.
- 1921 Delaware College becomes University of Delaware.
- 1924 Delaware votes for *Calvin Coolidge* (Republican) for President.
- 1928 Delaware votes for *Herbert C. Hoover* (Republican) for President.
- 1932 Delaware votes for *Herbert C. Hoover* (Republican) for President. Three hundredth anniversary of Dutch settlement at Zwaanendael celebrated by erection and dedication of Zwaanendael House at Lewes.
- 1933 New Legislative Hall built at Dover, cost \$748,306.
- 1935 Delaware Swedish Tercentenary Commission appointed to make plans for celebration in 1938.
- 1936 U. S. Congress authorizes appointment of U. S. Delaware Valley Tercentenary Commission and minting of 25,000 commemorative half-dollars. Delaware votes for *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (Democrat) for President.
- 1937 Delaware Tercentenary Commission appointed; The Rocks acquired by State for park.
- 1938 Celebration of the three-hundredth anniversary of first permanent civilized settlement in Delaware by the Swedes.

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*Capt. Hugh Montgomery* of Wilmington was master of the brig *Nancy*, which, in the winter of 1775, was chartered by *Robert Morris*, the financier of the Revolution, to take in arms and ammunition at ports in the West Indies for the approaching conflict. These had to be got secretly at various places. While at St. Thomas in the following Summer, *Capt. Montgomery* had news of the Declaration of Independence and the adoption of an American flag. One of the crew made a copy of the new colors and, with proper ceremony and a salute of 13 guns, the British flag was hauled down and the new ensign hoisted. This is believed to have been the first display of the American flag in a foreign port.

## *The Land the First Settlers Found*



Except where it was cut through by little rivers, and where some marsh or morass lay open and where the Indians had cleared their little fields, the land that is now the State of Delaware was, in 1638, covered by a primeval forest, a forest that had never known an axe.

The deep black soil, enriched by rotted leaves that had fallen year by year for thousands of years, bore mighty oaks rising 60 or 80 feet before a single limb thrust itself from their rude columns. Towering tulip trees reared their smooth trunks to great heights. Huge beeches with silvered boles, rough barked chestnuts, walnuts, hickories, maples, buttonwoods and ash trees strove with each other for space to spread their branches. Pines, straight and slim, stood close-ranked like masts in a forest of ships. Cypress grew thick in the swamps and willows lined the streams. Among the greater trees the lesser, sassafras, dogwood, hornbeam, holly, alder, and a multitude of shrubs elbowed each other, and everywhere, spreading over the lower trees, climbing among the branches of the loftiest, grapevines flung a tangled network. Huge tree-trunks, fallen through age or overthrown by storms, lay here and there. Bogs, formed by clogged streams or in naturally undrained spaces, grew rank with reeds and marsh-plants. Only by the few Indian trails was such a forest penetrable without vast difficulty and real danger.

Every kind of vegetable life that flourishes in a temperate and humid climate grew in this fertile soil in profusion. Wild fruits, mulberries, cherries, plums, blackberries, raspberries, strawberries and grapes abounded. Medicinal plants and herbs, specifics for many ailments, flourished in the woods and marshes.

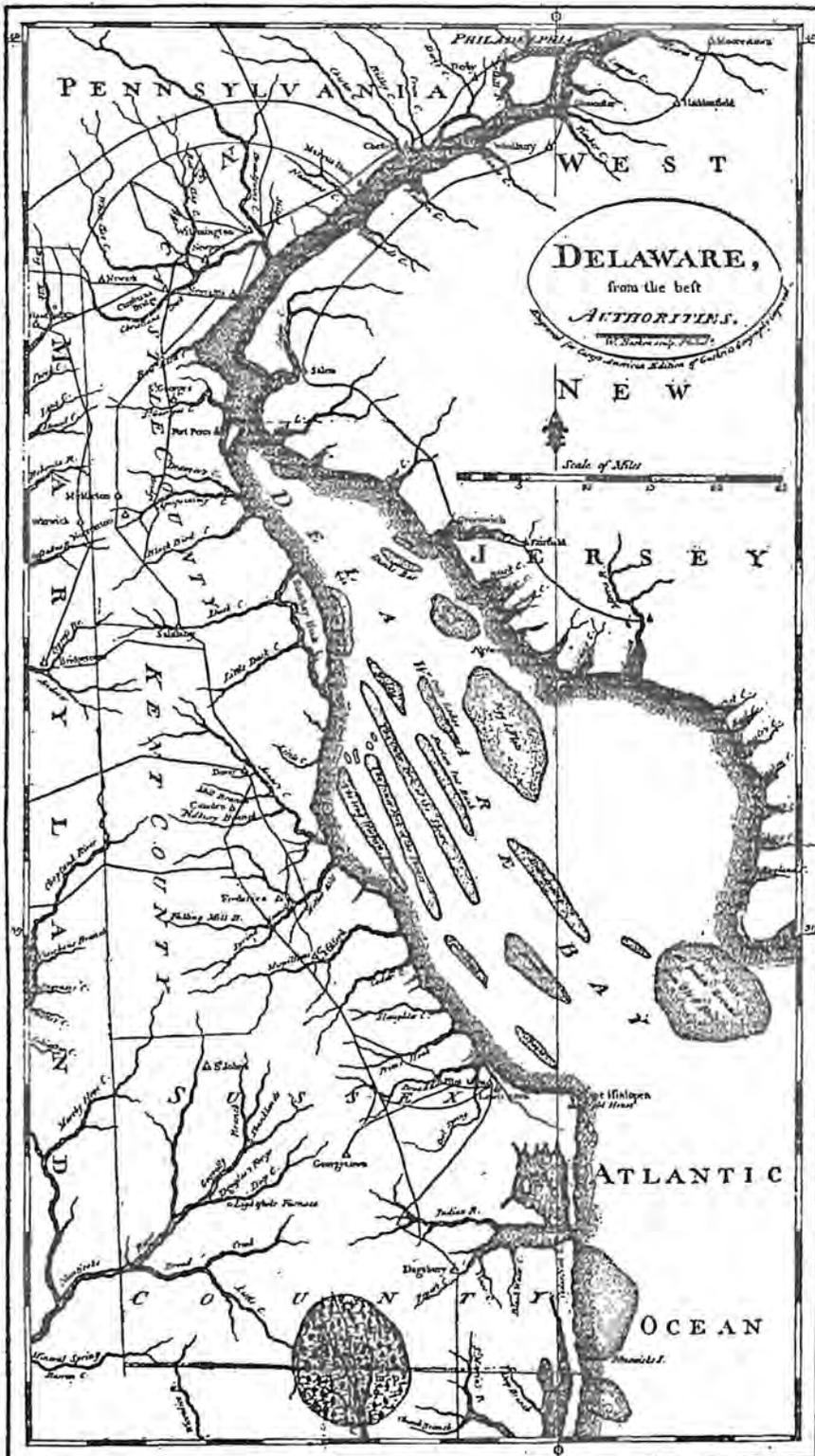
Wild animal life was more varied and abundant than anywhere on this continent today. Beasts of prey, bears, wolves, panthers, wildcats, infested the forest. Elk and deer roamed through it. Foxes, raccoons, opossums, minks, weasels, skunks, rabbits and squirrels were there in multitudes. Beavers, fishers, otters and muskrats haunted the ponds and streams.

There were birds of prey, too, eagles, hawks, and kites, owls, buzzards and crows. Game-birds were plentiful, turkeys of great size, partridges, pheasants, quail, woodcock and snipe, swans, geese and ducks. Song-birds filled the air with their melody. Wild pigeons were so numerous that, flying in vast flocks, they darkened the sun as to clouds.

The River yielded fish in inexhaustible plenty. Halibut, mackerel, rock, bass, pike, trout, perch, catfish and eels were abundant. Herring swarmed in incredible numbers.

Down where the Bay met the ocean, the sportive porpoise leaped from the waves and the jovial whale wallowed in the deeper waters. On the shores the suspicious crab scuttled sidewise over the sands, while the cautious clam and the saturnine oyster reposed in their beds.





*Delaware in 1795*



### *The Lenni Lenape Indians*

*William Penn's* description of these Indians, as noted in the text—"the most merry creatures that live, feasting and dancing perpetually"—is justified by this spirited drawing. This family group, judging by the slightly glazed appearance of their eyes, seem to be on their way home from a party. The Red Man's proverbial indifference to pain is exemplified by the conduct of the manly little lad. His left leg is evidently seriously dislocated, but, though his mother seems a trifle distraught, his father beams with joy to see him hop merrily along on his other foot, a striking display of Indian fortitude.

## *The Aboriginal Inhabitants of Delaware*

The Indians, whom the first settlers found in Delaware, were a branch of the great Algonquin family, known as the Lenni Lenape. Tall, broad in the shoulder, slim in the waist, with well-proportioned, muscular limbs, agile and swift of foot were the men. "They tread strong and clever and mostly with a lofty chin," wrote *William Penn*. All were "well fashioned, strong and sound in body, well fed and without blemish." The women were "fine looking, of middle stature, well proportioned and with finely cut features; with long and black hair and black eyes set off with fine eyebrows."

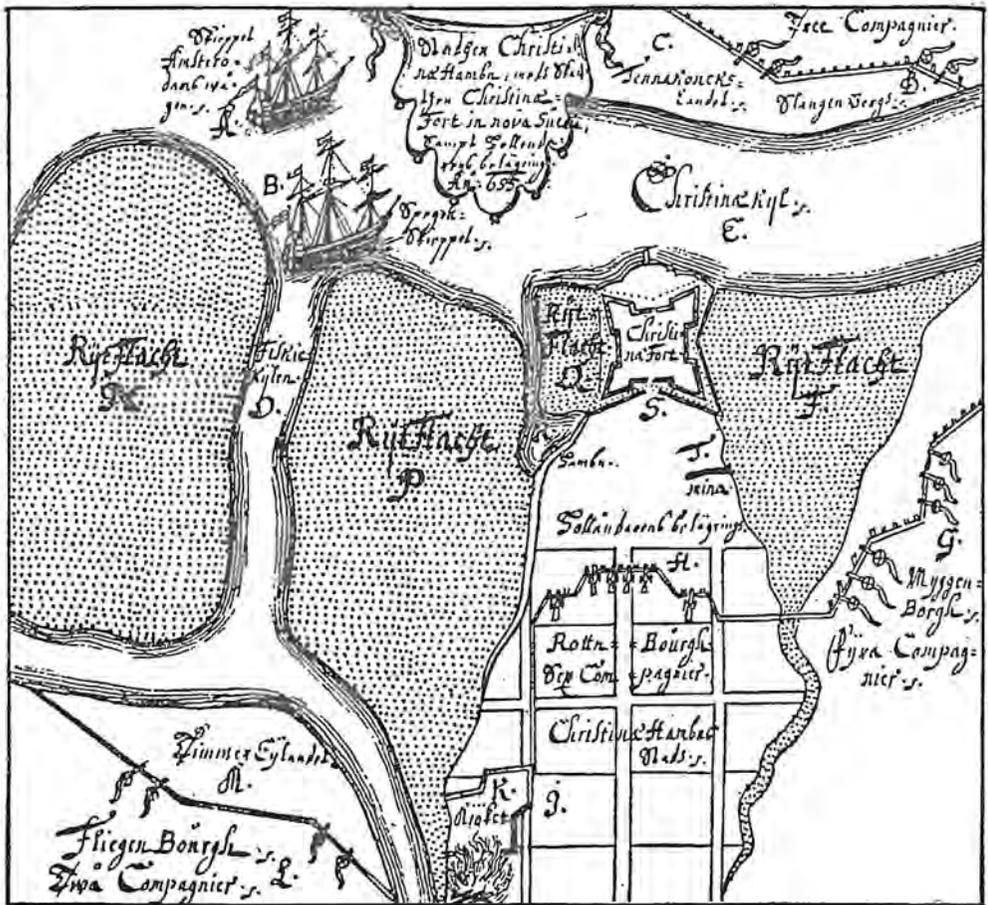
Mentally they were shrewd, clear sighted and intelligent. They used few words and yet were prone to gaiety, to dance and song and games of chance and skill. *Penn* called them "the most merry creatures that live, feasting and dancing perpetually."

They were suspicious of the white man, cautious and apprehensive of being overreached, but, if well treated, they were responsive, hospitable, trustworthy and good hearted. They remembered and repaid kindness, but never forgot nor forgave injury.

Culturally they were of the Neolithic Age, 6,000 years behind the men of western Europe. Their weapons and their few tools were made of stone, bone and wood. They wove baskets of osier, made blankets of feathers, but no cotton or woolen fabrics. They made crude pots, but these were unglazed and porous. They cured skins, but did not tan them. They built huts of bark and skins, but masonry and joiner-work were beyond their skill. They had no chairs or tables. They were ignorant of the simplest mechanical devices, knew not even the use of the wheel. They pounded maize into meal in rude mortars with stone pestles, built boats by burning and scraping logs until hollow. Their only weapons were bows and arrows, stone axes, spears and clubs.

For many years these Indians lived in close contact with the settlers on the Delaware. The white men had guns, swords, knives, cloth, kettles, every sort of thing exceedingly desired by the Indians and impossible of procurement elsewhere. The colonists were few in number and thinly scattered along the River. The Indians were many, individually strong and daring, highly skilled in the kind of warfare most effective against such little unguarded communities. One well-concerted attack would have wiped out New Sweden and enriched the Indians beyond their fondest imaginings. Yet there was no such attack. In all that time but nine white men were killed by Indians, and at least two of these killings were strictly legal executions from the Indians' point of view, punishments for the murder of a sachem by the Dutch.

The Swedes were a peaceable people, just and fair minded, treating the Indians well. They deserved well of the Indians and the Indians treated them as they deserved.

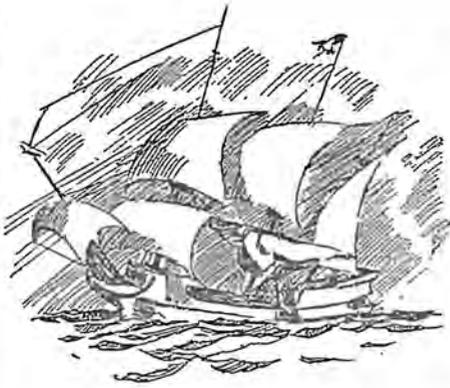


### *Fort Christina Under Siege By Stuyvesant*

This plan, drawn by the Swedish engineer, *Pehr Martensson Lindstrom*, shows Fort Christina (S) and the village Christinahamm (I) as they appeared in 1655 during the siege of the fort by the Dutch under *Pieter Stuyvesant*, governor of Manhattan. Two of the Dutch ships, the *Waag* (A) and the *Spegel* (B) are shown anchored at the mouth of *Fiske Kyl* (Brandywine, O). Surrounding the fort are the siege-works; an earthwork (D) on *Tennaconck's land* (C), across *Christina Kyl* or River (E), with 4 guns manned by 3 companies, and other batteries of logs, *Mosquitoburg* (G) with 6 guns and 4 companies, *Ratburg* (H) with 6 guns and 6 companies, and *Flyburg* (L) on *Timber Island* (M), with 4 guns and 2 companies. These were so named by the Dutch according to the pests peculiar to each. In advance of these appear a mine (T) and in the rear the Dutchmen's kitchen (K). The little harbor (R) is to be seen at the left of the fort.

The plan shows the strategic value of the position of Fort Christina at that time, close to the end of a tongue of fast land terminating at the Rocks, a natural wharf, and flanked by marshes (N, P, Q, F). The river having since been bulk-headed and the marshes filled in, these strategic advantages have disappeared.

## The Swedish Settlement



"*Kalmar Nyckel*"

with the Indians, these colonists were massacred.

No further effort at colonization was made until 1638, when two Swedish ships, *Kalmar Nyckel*, (Key of Kalmar) and *Vogel Grip* (Bird Griffin) landed 23 soldiers and two officers on a ledge of rocks on the banks of a river, which they named Christina after their queen. The country they called New Sweden. They built a fort of palisades and earth and settled themselves for an indefinite stay. This was the beginning of the first permanent settlement of white men in Delaware and in the whole Delaware Valley.

Other expeditions, bringing supplies and new colonists from Sweden, followed. In 1640 came the second with the first governor, *Peter Hollandaer*, the first clergyman, *Rev. Reorus Torkillus*, and a few others. About 35 more came in 1641 and brought with them horses, sheep, cattle and hogs. New houses were built outside of the fort, more ground was cleared for farming and a grist-windmill was set up.

In 1643 two ships came with more supplies and settlers, also a new governor *Lt. Col. Johan Printz*. For 10 years he ruled New Sweden with despotic power. Military leader, as well as civil governor, law-giver, chief judge and head executive, far removed from the home government, he was supreme in the colony. Physically he was "a man of brave size, who weighed over 400 pounds". He was great in other ways, an intelligent man, a brave soldier, a strict disciplinarian, a shrewd manager, an able administrator. He had the faults of his qualities; he was headstrong, tyrannical, rough, violent, overbearing, arrogant and arbitrary. He ruled the colony with a heavy hand, his dictatorial ways giving just cause for dissatisfaction among the colonists. But he swept the River clear of his Dutch competitors and kept off English would-be intruders. For eight years New Sweden was true Swedish territory.

He started at once on his arrival to extend his domain. He built Fort Elfsborg on the eastern side of the River at



*Gov. Printz*



what is now Mill Creek, Fort New Gothenburg on Tinicum Island just below the present site of Philadelphia, a blockhouse at Upland, now Chester, and another at the mouth of the Schuylkill. The garrisons of these posts were small, from 8 to 12 men each. In all there were about 90 men in the colony, about 50 were soldiers and artisans, the rest tillers of the soil. *Printz* had found that he could get corn from the Indians, in trade for tobacco, cheaper than he could raise it, so mostly he raised tobacco.

More ships brought more colonists and carried back beaver-furs bought from the Indians with trade-goods. But, in spite of fresh arrivals, the colony did not grow in numbers. Some people went home from time to time, and the death-toll was heavy. One ship bearing 70 colonists was wrecked in the West Indies, and its people were so maltreated by the Spanish and French that only 19 survived and none reached the colony. Five years after *Printz's* coming there were but 79 men in the whole of New Sweden. Yet with this handful he held the River from Henlopen to Sankikan (Trenton) against the Dutch of New Amsterdam, who persistently tried to establish trading-posts, only to have them abolished, and the English of New England, who repeatedly tried to colonize, only to be ejected.

This monopoly of the River was particularly objectionable to the Dutch on Manhattan, who claimed it by right of discovery. At last *Governor Pieter Stuyvesant* took steps to assert their right. In 1651 eleven Dutch ships sailed up the River, and *Stuyvesant*, at the head of 120 soldiers, marched overland from New Amsterdam. These forces took possession of Sandhook, where now is New Castle, and built a fortification 200 feet long and 100 feet deep, which they named Fort Casimir. Its guns commanded the channel of the River and no ship could pass it without leave.



*Printz* had not the force to expel these intruders and so for two years the overlordship of the River was divided between the two nations. In 1653 he resigned his office and sailed for Sweden. In the next year came two ships with a new governor, *Johan Rising*, 50 soldiers and 250 colonists. With this show of force the Swedes took Casimir without resistance, renaming it Fort Trefaldighet (Trinity) and New Sweden again held the whole River.

A population of 368 men, women and children demanded new houses; so a village, *Christinahamn*, was built behind the fort. Land was allotted to the new settlers above and below *Christina*. Cattle were bought from the English of Virginia and distributed among them. The forts were strengthened and new



cannon mounted. More and more land was cleared, fields were fenced, the first roads were laid out. Churches were established at Upland, Christina and Trefaldighet. A court of law was set up. Altogether New Sweden was impressively prospering, but it was not yet self-supporting. Supplies of all kinds were lacking, and there was even a shortage of food. In 1655 the grain crop failed because of the severity of the previous winter. One supply-ship blundered into the North (Hudson) River and was seized by *Stuyvesant*. The colony had to look to the Indians for corn and to the English of Maryland and Virginia for provisions and many other things.

But the sturdy Swedish peasants were digging themselves in for a long stay, and back home plans for their support and for additions to their number were being realized. In November 1655 the *Mercurius* with abundant supplies and 110 new colonists sailed from Gothenburg. It seemed that New Sweden's troubles were over, its permanence assured. But before *Mercurius* reached the Delaware New Sweden had disappeared from the map.

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### *Forts at the Rocks*

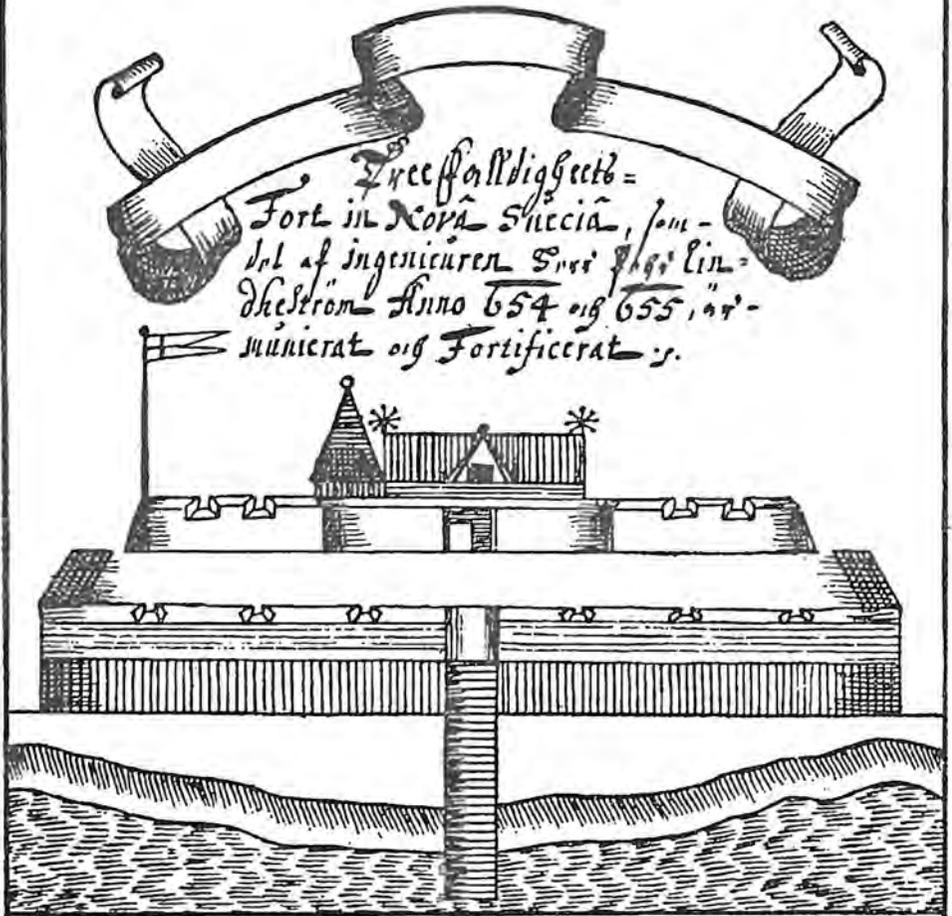
The Rocks on the Christina River are of historical interest and importance, not only because they were the landing place of the first Swedish settlers and the site of their first fort. They also figure largely in the subsequent history of Delaware.

During the war between Great Britain and France, 1744-1748, a part of the War of the Austrian Succession, known in America as King George's War, many French and Spanish privateers attacked the shipping in the Delaware River. To defend Wilmington a "bomb-proof battery and magazine" was built at the Rocks under the direction of *David* and *Charles Bush* and *John McKinly*, who was afterwards the first president of the Delaware State. They proudly reported that it equalled, if not exceeded, "any on the continent for strength and beauty".

At the outbreak of the Revolution, these defensive works were rebuilt and manned by a company of soldiers.

Again, in the War of 1812, the earthworks were rebuilt and mounted with cannon. In this work *Hon. James A. Bayard*, then U. S. Senator, was personally active. Clad in the "garb of a laborer, with ditcher's boots, and a shovel on his shoulder, he marched with the mass to achieve their muddy work" and labored with the others to restore the redoubt.

Yet again, during The Civil War in 1864, defensive works were erected at the Rocks and called Fort Union.



*Scala Rhynlandicâ på 12 fotsige Roeder s.*

12. 24. 36. 48 60 72 84 96 108 120

*Fort Casimir*

*after its capture by the Swedes in 1653,*

*drawn by PEHR LINDESTROM.*

A view of Fort Trefaldighet (Trinity), so called by the Swedes, but by the Dutch, who built it, called Fort Casimir, on the Delaware River in front of the present site of New Castle.

## The Dutch Conquest



Pieter Stuyvesant

News of the capture of Fort Casimir by the Swedes in 1653 vastly astonished and profoundly disturbed the folks at home in old Amsterdam. Hitherto, though irritated by the high-handed conduct of *Governor Printz* in ejecting their fur-traders from the River, the Dutch had abstained from any retaliatory acts of violence. Even when *Stuyvesant* with his overwhelming force had come to the River two years before, he had not attacked Fort Christina. Its capture would have been easy, but the Dutch had a decent respect for the Swedish nation, which, under the great *Gustavus* in the Thirty Year War, had proved its military strength, strutting as cock-of-the-walk all over middle Europe. Therefore *Stuyvesant* had merely built Fort Casimir, a very gentle reprisal. But now stern measures were indicated.

In the streets of old Amsterdam drums beat up recruits. Two hundred were embarked in the warship *Waag*, and sailed for Manhattan. To this force *Stuyvesant* added six armed ships and with over 300 fighting men, soldiers and sailors, set out for the River.

On September 8th, 1655, he anchored above Fort Trefaldighet and posted 50 men below Christina to cut off communication between the two forts. The rest he landed at Trefaldighet and demanded its surrender. There was but a handful of soldiers in the fort; compliance with his demand was inevitable. So Trefaldighet became Casimir once more.

Then *Stuyvesant* went for Christina. Guns were landed and three entrenched batteries established about the Fort on its land-side. The armed ships were anchored at the mouth of Fiske Kill (Brandywine), thus the Fort was regularly besieged.

For 10 days the beleaguered garrison held out, no shot being fired on either side, although the Dutch burned Christinahamn and plundered the farms roundabout. But here again there was no possibility of real resistance. The Fort was surrendered and renamed Altena. So new Sweden disappeared.

But not the Swedes. They at least, were permanent. Though the Dutch now set up their government at Casimir and required the Swedes to swear allegiance to it, there was little interference with them, and from Christina up the River the Swedes lived on, under a sort of extra-legal little government of their own.



*Stuyvesant* took his army and navy back to Manhattan. *Jean Paul Jacquet* was made Vice Director of the colony, now a part of New Netherland. He had been in office but a few months when the *Mercurius*, with its 110 emigrants and its crew of 20 anchored off Casimir, a force numerous enough to smother the Dutch and retake the place. But no such attempt was made. The new people went further up and settled among their own countrymen.

There were political changes a few years later, Altena and Casimir, which was now called New Amstel, becoming the capitals of two separate colonies, but this was of little importance in the life of the people. New Dutch colonists arrived and settled in the lower colony. More Swedes came and settled up-River; the two peoples mingled and dwelt peaceably together. By 1663 the Swedes above were tilling over a hundred farms, well stocked with horses, cattle and swine. There was general prosperity above the Christina, where the population was almost exclusively Swedish engaged in farming, but among the Dutch at New Amstel, though it had grown to be "a goodly town of about 100 houses," things were not going so well.

The Dutch settlers were not farmers, not many of them artisans; they were merchants and dealers in furs and commodities. They did not prosper in what commerce there was. Dissatisfaction, strife, hunger and disease in the years 1658 and 1659 brought New Amstel to the verge of ruin. Food had to be brought from Manhattan. A pestilence carried off many; many others deserted. By the end of 1659, when *Director Jacob Alrichs* died, there were scarcely 30 families left. What would have become of the Dutch colony had not stronger forces appeared on the scene, no one can say, but stronger forces did appear, the English.



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### Miscellany

At the Battle of Brandywine *Gen. LaFayette* was wounded in the leg. A Wilmington woman, *Bell McCloskey*, who had followed her soldier husband to the war, extracted the bullet with a pair of scissors. Nearly 50 years later, in 1824, when *LaFayette* was entertained at dinner in the Old Town Hall, *Bell* appeared and gave him back his bullet.

On the Brandywine where now are the Bancroft mills, *Joshua* and *Thomas Gilpin* built a paper mill in 1787. At that time and for long after, all paper was made by hand in single sheets. *Thomas Gilpin* invented and built the first machine for making paper in continuous sheets of any desired length. This was put in successful operation in 1817. Thus the modern method of manufacturing paper had its birth in Wilmington, where at this time some of the best paper-making machines in the world are built by the Pusey and Jones Company.

The original names of the streets in Wilmington were later changed. The present Fourth Street was High Street, Fifth was Queen, 6th was Hanover, 7th was Broad, 8th was Kent, 9th was Wood, 10th was Chestnut, 11th was Elizabeth, 12th was Dickinson, 13th was Franklin, 14th was Washington, 15th was Stidham, Washington was Pasture.

## The English Conquest



James, Duke of York

Based on the discovery of the Atlantic mainland of North America, made in 1497 by *John Cabot* under the auspices of *Henry VII* of England, *Charles II* laid claim to the whole seaboard and all its hinterland. In 1664 he gave to his brother *James, Duke of York*, about everything in sight from Maine to New Jersey inclusive. The Dutch then held Manhattan, the Hudson River valley, Long Island and the Delaware. To reduce this land to possession, *James*, as Lord High Admiral of the English navy, ordered away a fleet of 3 warships, mounting 120 guns, and a troop transport with 450 soldiers aboard. In September of the same year, this fleet, commanded by *Col. Richard Nicolls*, reached Manhattan and demanded its surrender. *Pieter Stuyvesant*, the Dutch governor had 150 soldiers, a battery of 20 guns and very little powder. There were only 250 other men in the town, and many of these were disaffected and unwilling to resist. Nevertheless *Stuyvesant* refused the demand. Though the burgomasters and the leading citizens pleaded with him to submit, the tough old Dutchman held out for ten days, during which time the English commander out of humanity forbore to fire on the town. At length when troops had been landed below Breukelen (Brooklyn) and two ships had been laid broadside to New Amsterdam (New York), *Stuyvesant* yielded to the tearful protests of two clergymen and gave up the town.

But what had all this to do with the Dutch possessions on the west shore of the Delaware, which were not included in *York's* grant from the King? Soldierlike, *Nicolls* did not bother his head with such legal deficiencies.

"Whereas wee have been enformed that the Dutch have seated themselves at Delaware bay, on his Mty. of Great Brittaines territories without his knowledge and consent . . . Wee, his Maties. Commissioners . . . do order & appoint that his Maties. ffrygotts, the *Guinney* and the *William & Nicholas* and all the Soldyers which are not in the Fort shall with all speed they conveniently can, goe thither under the command of *Sr. Robert Carr* to reduce the same." Such was Sir Robert's commission and he obeyed it.

At New Amstel (New Castle), he landed troops and summoned the town to surrender. In the fort were a few cannon and a handful of men. No real resistance was possible, yet the *Lieut. Alexander d'Hinoyossa*,



John Cabot



the Director of the colony, prepared to fight. Two broadsides from the ships were followed by an assault. The English swept over the meagre defenses and took the fort at the first onslaught. Three Dutchmen were killed and ten wounded. There were no casualties on the other side.

The English then sacked the fort and plundered the town. The country round about was systematically looted. "One hundred sheep and 30 or 40 horses, 50 or 60 cows, between 60 and 70 negroes, the brewhouse, stillhouse . . . the produce of the land for that year, such as corn, hay &c were seized for the King's use . . . all to the value, as near as can be remembered of 4,000 pounds sterling," in fact, everything of value, that was movable, was swept away from the miserable, unresisting colonists. *Carr* took the Director's house and farm for himself, gave other houses to his officers, shipped *d'Himoyossa's* slaves to Maryland and traded them for beef, pork and salt. The Dutch soldiers, prisoners of war, he shipped to Virginia and sold them as bondsmen.

With the capture of New Amstel, then named New Castle, resistance to the *Duke of York's* pretensions on the Delaware was at an end. All the Dutch colonies were lost. The English flag, the third national flag in succession, waved in the breeze over Delaware. Not until a century and a decade had passed was it permanently replaced by the Stars and Stripes.

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### *Nursery Rhymes*

No Gov. of Del. before or since  
Has weighed as much as *Johan Printz*.

In the Thirty Years War, a sad conflict of creeds,  
*Gustavus Adolphus*, the King of the Swedes,  
Astonished the world with his valorous deeds.

*Governor Rising's* valor was such  
That he captured Fort Casimir, built by the Dutch.  
But *Stuyvesant* came with an army of men  
And took all the forts on the River again.

When *Rodney* was summoned by *Thomas McKean*,  
He rode all the night through a downpour of rain  
To vote for *Tom Jefferson's* bold Declaration  
That announced to the people the Birth of a Nation.

The British in Long Island's fight  
Soon put the other Yanks to flight,  
But *Haslet's* men refused to yield  
And were the last to leave the field.

In Princeton's fight brave *Haslet* fell,  
Who'd served his country long and well.

## Delaware Troops In The Revolution



The first Delaware regiment mustered in for service in the Revolution consisted of 800 men under *Col. John Haslet*, *Lt. Col. Gunning Bedford* and *Maj. John McPherson*. On August 25 -27, 1776, as a part of *Washington's* army in their first engagement, the disastrous Battle of Long Island, these four-weeks-old soldiers "behaved with the courage and firmness of veterans". "The Delaware and Maryland troops stood firm to the last: they stood for four hours drawn up on a hill in close array, their colors flying, the enemy's artillery playing upon them, nor did they think of quitting their post until an express order from the General commanded them to retreat." *Gen. Israel Putnam* praised "the unparalleled bravery they showed in view of all the generals and troops within the lines." This regiment constituted one-tenth of the American army; it suffered one-seventh of the total loss.

At White Plains, October 28, 1776, it was the major part of a force that held a hill against a most severe attack by greater numbers, and, when dislodged, retreated in good order with its guns and its wounded.

In subsequent battles it further distinguished itself. But at Princeton gallant *Haslet* fell and, as the regiment was now, through loss in battle, sickness and withdrawals to join the new Continental regiment just being formed, reduced to less than 100 men, it was disbanded.

Late in 1776 the first Delaware Regiment of the Continental Line, the newly established American "regular army", was mustered in under *Col. David Hall*, *Lt. Col. Charles Pope*, *Maj. Joseph Vaughan*. *John Patten* was captain of its first company, *Robert Kirkwood* of its second. In 1777 it was part of *Washington's* army in the Jerseys, taking part in the Battles of Monmouth and Germantown, where *Hall* was so severely wounded that he never again saw active service.

In the latter part of 1778 the scene of activity in the war shifted to the South. Savannah, Augusta and Charleston were taken by the British. There were no regular American forces in South Carolina or Georgia, but the American partisans under *Sumter*, *Pickens* and *Marion* contended desperately with the British army and the Tory irregulars. To reinforce *Gates* in North Carolina two picked bodies of regulars were detached by *Washington* and sent South under *Baron de Kalb*. One was the Maryland division of 2,000 men, the other the Delaware regiment of 800 under *Lt. Col. Joseph Vaughan*.

These soldiers had few uniforms, some wore hunting shirts, some common clothes, "some with hats cocked and some without,"



*Haslet's Death*



Soldier of Haslet's Regiment

but each wore a green sprig in his hat and bore his firelock "with an air of skilful training."

The march to the Carolinas was long and rough. There were few roads, many swamps and rivers, few bridges. They had no proper wagon-train of supplies and food; they lived on the country and a poor country it was. By July, in North Carolina, each man had one-half pound of flour in 14 days and an occasional half-pound of almost uneatable meat. Their condition was "truly miserable, weak and sickly." Throughout the whole campaign they had little or no tentage, supplies of all sorts were lacking. For new shoes they looked to their enemies' feet.

They fought in the Battle of Camden. Before a British charge, the Virginia militia holding the centre and left broke and fled. On the Marylands and Delawares, with one North Carolina regiment posted beside them, fell the whole brunt of the battle, and, says *Lossing*, the historian, "nobly they sustained it."

Attacked in front and on the flank, they answered with a bayonet-charge and took 50 prisoners. Outnumbered, they had to give ground, but regained it. Again driven back, they rallied again and retook their old position. "Never," says *Bancroft*, "did troops show greater courage than these men of Maryland and Delaware." "No men," says *Henry Cabot Lodge*, "could have fought better than these soldiers." *John Fiske* in his *American Revolution* describes the closing scene. "Long after the battle was lost in every other quarter, the gigantic form of *Kalb*, unhorsed and fighting on foot, was seen directing the movements of his brave Maryland and Delaware troops, till he fell dying from eleven wounds."

The Delaware regiment was nearly annihilated. Out of 500, who went into the battle only 188 were left alive and free. *Lt. Col. Vaughan* and *Maj. Patten* were captured. *Capt. Kirkwood* took command of the remnant. Without provision or supplies of any sort, he marched them 123 miles in five days to rejoin the army.

*Greene* now had replaced *Gates* in general command. The two Delaware companies were brigaded with *Col. Wm. Washington's* cavalry and the company of riflemen, all under *Gen. Daniel Morgan*. This was called "The Flying Army." Unhampered by wagons or baggage of any sort these soldiers moved often and rapidly. On November 4th they were sent out to reconnoitre, on the 9th they were back in camp, "100 miles" laconically notes *Sergt. Maj. Seymour* in his journal. On November 28th they started for Rugeley's Mill, 50 miles away. December 1st they arrived, captured 107 Tory soldiers and on the 3rd were back in camp again. Yet at this very time they were all in "the most shocking condition for want of clothing, especially shoes." They were "obliged to march and do duty barefooted, the chief part of them wanting coats and shoes."

*Lt. Col. Tarleton*, that dashing British cavalryman, came upon the Flying Army in January 1781 at Cowpens. With 1100 well-fed troops, part cavalry, and two guns, he furiously attacked *Morgan's*





870 ragged, hungry men. They drew back, but reformed, the Virginians outflanking the British and causing some confusion. Then the old Continentals, those veteran Marylands and Delawares, charged with the bayonet and smashed the British centre. The enemy fled in disorder, leaving their field-pieces behind. *Washington's* cavalry chased them 24 miles. The American loss was 12 killed, 60 wounded. The British lost 10 officers, more than a hundred men killed, 200 wounded and 550 taken

prisoners. A hundred cavalry-horses, 35 wagons and 800 muskets also fell into American hands.

*Greene* was not strong enough to fight *Cornwallis's* whole army. There followed a game of hide-and-seek between them. Again the Delawares and Marylands were part of a mobile force, "a light army," of 700 men, with *Washington's* cavalry and *Harry Lee's* light horse. *Lossing* calls it "the flower of the Southern army." In a long and hard-fought retreat, they were the rear-guard, often in sight of the British advance and always on duty. Six hours sleep out of 48 was the usual allowance. In a running fight at high speed through a rough country, they held the British back until on February 12th, *Greene's* army had safely crossed the Dan River.

On March 16 at Guilford Court-house, this light army sustained and repulsed a charge. A second heavy attack by *Webster's* regulars they withstood "so valiantly that *Webster* recoiled and fell back across a ravine."

At Hobkirk's Hill on April 25th *Lord Rawdon* attacked. "*Captain Kirkwood* with the remains of the Delaware regiment gallantly received and returned the fire of the British van and kept them at bay while *Greene* formed his army."

On May 22nd *Greene's* army came on a stockaded Tory camp called Ninety Six, held by 550 men. The American force was now down to 1000, the Delawares were down to 60. *Greene* invested the fort, but the garrison held out. On June 18th *Lee's* Virginians and *Kirkwood's* Delawares attacked and took the main stockade, but other stockades withstood the attack. *Lord Rawdon's* forces were coming on, and *Greene* had to call off his men. There followed three months of advances and retreats. In four weeks *Kirkwood's* men marched 360 miles, crossing 10 rivers.

At Eutaw Springs on August 22, *Greene* with 2,000 men attacked an equal force. The fighting was fierce; a bayonet charge, in which the Delawares took part, broke the British line. But *Washington's* cavalry got caught in a cross-fire and half of them fell. The Delawares hurried to the rescue of their old comrades and drove the British back. The battle was indecisive, and the Americans withdrew. *Kirkwood's* men and a party of Virginians were the last to leave the field. His journal says "Found our army had withdrawn from the field, made it necessary for us likewise to withdraw. Brought off one of the enemy's 3 pounders through a thick woods for near four miles, without the assistance of but one horse."





After Eutaw Springs there were no more battles, and the surrender at Yorktown virtually ended the war. It remained only for these few heroic survivors of the original 800 to find their way home in their ragged garments and bursted shoes, with no provision for transport nor sustenance, which, however, was what they had been accustomed to in their two years of constant campaigning. So ended the distinguished career of the Delaware Regiment of the Continental Line.

Though in modern times the record of that regiment is little known, and its gallant deeds are unregarded, its contemporaries recognized its merits. *General Greene* in his report of the Guilford battle mentioned "the old Delaware company under the brave *Captain Kirkwood*." *Henry Lee* in his memoirs speaks of "the Company of Delaware under *Kirkwood*, to whom none could be superior." *Greene* again in the orders of the day after *Hobkirk's Hill* mentions "the gallant behavior of the light infantry commanded by *Captain Kirkwood*." After Ninety-Six they are praised for "their judicious and alert behavior." In the orders for Eutaw Springs they are called "the gallant infantry of Delaware." In a letter to the Congress he mentions *Kirkwood's* men as "peculiarly conspicuous" for intrepidity. Congress responds by giving them thanks for "unparalleled bravery and heroism displayed in advancing upon the enemy through an incessant fire and charging them with an impetuosity and ardor that could not be resisted."



*Robert Kirkwood*, to whose inspiration and example these soldiers owed so much, was born in Mill Creek Hundred and educated at Newark Academy. In January, 1776, at the age of 46 he was commissioned a lieutenant in *Haslet's* regiment. He was at the Battles of White Plains, Long Island, Trenton and Princeton and then transferred to the new Continental regiment.

*Henry Lee* in his Memoirs wrote, "The State of Delaware furnished one regiment only and certainly no regiment in the army surpassed it in soldiership. The remnant of that corps, less than two companies, from the Battle of Camden, was commanded by *Captain Kirkwood*, who passed through the war with high reputation; and yet, as the line of Delaware consisted but of one regiment and that regiment was reduced to a Captain's command, *Kirkwood* never could be promoted in regular course. The sequel is singularly hard. *Kirkwood* retired, upon peace, as a Captain and when the army under *St. Clair* was raised to defend the West from the Indian enemy, this veteran resumed his sword as the oldest captain in the oldest regiment. In the decisive defeat of the 4th of November 1791, gallant *Kirkwood* fell, bravely sustaining his point in the action. It was the thirty-third time he had risked his life for his country, and he died, as he had lived, the brave, meritorious, unrewarded *Kirkwood*."





### *The Affair at Cooch's Bridge*

The British army of 18,000 men under *Gen. Howe* landed near Head of Elk (Elkton) August 25, 1777. On September 5, the division commanded by *Lord Cornwallis* marched to Aikin's Tavern (Glasgow). Its advance units were then ordered to proceed to Cooch's Mill, two miles, cross Christina River by the bridge there and take up positions beyond. The leading troops in this advance were Hessians.

*Washington's* army of 12,000 were entrenched behind Red Clay Creek on a line extending from Newport to Stanton, where he expected to give battle. A detachment of 800 light infantry under *Gen. William Maxwell* had been sent to watch the movement of the British army and impede its progress.

As the Hessian advance came along the west side of the Christina, there a very shallow stream, *Maxwell's* men on the other side began firing. So for about two miles a running fight was kept up across the stream.

At Cooch's Bridge the British found the Americans strongly posted to oppose their crossing. A heavy skirmish ensued at that point before *Maxwell's* men were dislodged and driven off toward Stanton. The American casualties, killed and wounded, were about 40, the British loss is unknown.

*Howe* avoided the American entrenchment keeping away to the westward through Newark and thence to Kennett Square and so to Chadd's Ford, to which place *Washington* had withdrawn his army, and there, on September 11 the Battle of the Brandywine was fought.

The affair at Cooch's Bridge was the only fight of the Revolution on Delaware soil.



Early drawing by Howard Pyle. Courtesy of Harper and Bros.

## *The British in Wilmington, September, 1777*

In the night of September 12, 1777, after their victory in the Battle of the Brandywine, a detachment of British dragoons made a sudden descent upon Wilmington. *John McKinly*, President of Delaware State, was surprised and captured in his house on Third Street between King and French. He was taken on board the *Solebay* man-of-war, lying off New Castle, and finally to Long Island, where he remained a prisoner for a year and until he was exchanged for *William Franklin*, royal governor of New Jersey, whom the Americans had taken captive.

A hospital for the British wounded was established in the First Presbyterian Church, then standing on the east side of Market Street at Tenth, the present site of the Wilmington Institute Library building, but since re-erected in Bandywine Park.

A considerable detachment of British troops, the Queen's Rangers, a Scots regiment and some companies of Hessians, garrisoned the town for two or three months. To defend it against possible attack by *Washington's* army, it was fortified. Earthworks were erected where Market Street crosses the Brandywine and a hundred men were posted there. At about where Broom Street reaches the stream other soldiers were stationed. To the west of the town, beyond the King's Road about in a line with the present Tenth Street, a small fort, flanked by a long line of palisades, was built. The palisades extended southerly to the Lancaster Pike and terminated in an earthwork. A hundred and fifty men held this line of defense. The principal encampment was west of the present Washington Street, running from Front Street northerly across Delaware Avenue.

At that time Wilmington had 335 houses and a population of about 1300.

In December, after the British had withdrawn their forces to Philadelphia, *Gen. Washington* ordered an American occupation of the town. *General Smallwood's* division, consisting of two brigades of Marylanders and *Haslet's* Delaware regiment, was established there. Their principal camp was along the line of Shallcross and Lovering Avenues west of Broom Street. They remained in Wilmington until May, 1778, when both armies resumed active military operations.

## The Fight Between The "Wasp" and The "Frolic"



Commodore Jacob Jones

The American sloop-of-war *Wasp*, 18 guns, under Master Commandant Jacob Jones, a native of Delaware, left the Capes on October 13th, 1812 and headed southeast to look for British shipping. A few days later she ran into a terrific gale which split her sails and washed some of her men overboard. Repairs at sea enabled her to keep on. The evening of the 17th she sighted a British fleet. In the gathering darkness Jones was unable to make out whether they were armed and so stood off until morning. Then he saw that they were merchantmen under the escort of the very match for his ship, the 18 gun brig *Frolic*, Capt. Thomas Whinyates. At once Jones shortened sail and stood in for a fight. Capt. Whinyates, having signalled his

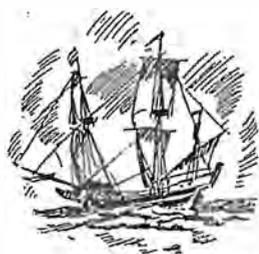
convoy to scatter, also cleared for action.

The seas were still tumultuous. The two ships were side by side within 60 feet of each other when the fight began, but they pitched and rolled so wildly that the muzzles of their guns were now washed by the waves and now pointing skyward. The British ship chose to fire while its guns were pointing upwards and, within ten minutes after the fight began, the *Wasp's* upper masts and yards and most of her running rigging had been shot away; aloft she was a wreck. But the fire of the American ship was delivered while her guns were low. The *Frolic's* hull was desperately pounded and her decks swept by chain-shot and grape.

When Jones's masts were so shattered that they seemed to be about to go by the board, he closed with the *Frolic* for a fight to a finish. The vessels were so near each other that the ends of the American rammers struck the side of the enemy as they drove home their charges. At last the ships crashed together, and Jones gave the order, "Boarders away!" Only two of the Americans were able to clamber aboard the *Frolic*, but they were enough, for there were but four men on her deck, a man at the wheel and three officers so badly wounded that they could hardly stand. They surrendered.

Of the *Frolic's* crew of 110 only 20 were unhurt, of the *Wasp's* crew only 5 had been killed and 5 wounded. It was one of the fiercest naval fights of the war and one of the most brilliantly fought on the part of the Americans, but it had an unfortunate end.

Before Jones could put his ship in order for his return, a British ship-of-the-line, *Poictiers*, mounting 74 guns came in sight. Surrender to it was inevitable. Both the *Wasp* and *Frolic* were carried to Bermuda. Jones and his men were, however, soon exchanged and returned to their own country.



The defeat of the *Frolic*, coming so soon after the victory of the *Constitution*, in its fight with the *Guerriere*, was greeted by the Americans with great enthusiasm. On *Jones's* return he was received with demonstrations of gratitude and admiration. In every city through which he passed "brilliant entertainments" were given in his honor. New York City and the State of Delaware each gave him a sword. Congress voted him a gold medal and, to him and his men, to make up for the prize-money they had lost, the sum of \$25,000. Songs were sung in praise of the victory, one stanza of one of them ran thus:-

"The foe bravely fought but his arms were all broken,  
And he fled from his death-wound aghast and affrighted;  
But the *Wasp* darted forward her death-doing sting  
And full on his bosom like lightning alighted.  
She pierced through his entrails, she maddened his brain,  
And he writhed and he groaned as if torn with the colic;  
And long shall John Bull rue the terrible day  
He met the American *Wasp* on a *Frolic*."

Jacob Jones was born March, 1768, near Smyrna. He graduated in medicine, but, after serving for a while as clerk of the Supreme Court of Delaware, he entered the navy April 10, 1790, as a midshipman. In 1801 he was commissioned second lieutenant. He was aboard the frigate *Philadelphia* when she was captured in the Bay of Tripoli and was a prisoner for 18 months. In 1813 he was given command of the frigate *Macedonian*. He rose to the rank of commodore and remained in the service until his death in 1850.

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### *Pioneer Inventors*

*Oliver Evans*, a native of Delaware, born at Newport in 1755, was one of America's earliest important inventors. After an apprenticeship as a wheelwright, *Evans*, at the age of 21 years, invented a machine for cutting card-teeth used in carding wool and cotton, such teeth having before that time been made only by hand. For certain improvements in flour-milling machinery he obtained patents in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania. In 1787 he designed the first non-condensing high-pressure steam-engine. In 1799 he applied such an engine to a vehicle, which could be used as a steam road-carriage, a steamboat and a dredging machine. It had its first practically successful test in 1804 on land and on the Delaware River. This was the first use in America of steam-power for propulsion of land-carriages.

*Evans* had in mind the principles of steam-railways, which in 1813 he described in some detail, but for lack of funds could not realize his vision. "To the initiative of *Evans* may be ascribed the early general use of high-pressure steam in the United States, a feature which for many years distinguished American from English practice."

In 1790, 17 years before *Robert Fulton's Clermont* made its first trip on the Hudson, *John Fitch* had a steamboat of his own invention in successful operation on the Delaware carrying passengers for hire. He had secured patents from the legislatures of Pennsylvania and New Jersey giving him a monopoly of steam-navigation on the River. His invention was not, however, a financial success. Poverty-stricken and overcome by disappointment, he committed suicide in 1798.

## The Battle of Lake Champlain



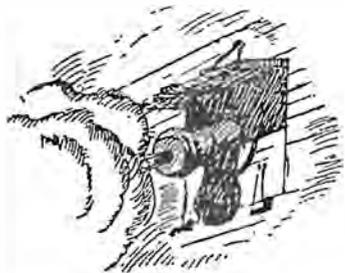
Commodore Macdonough

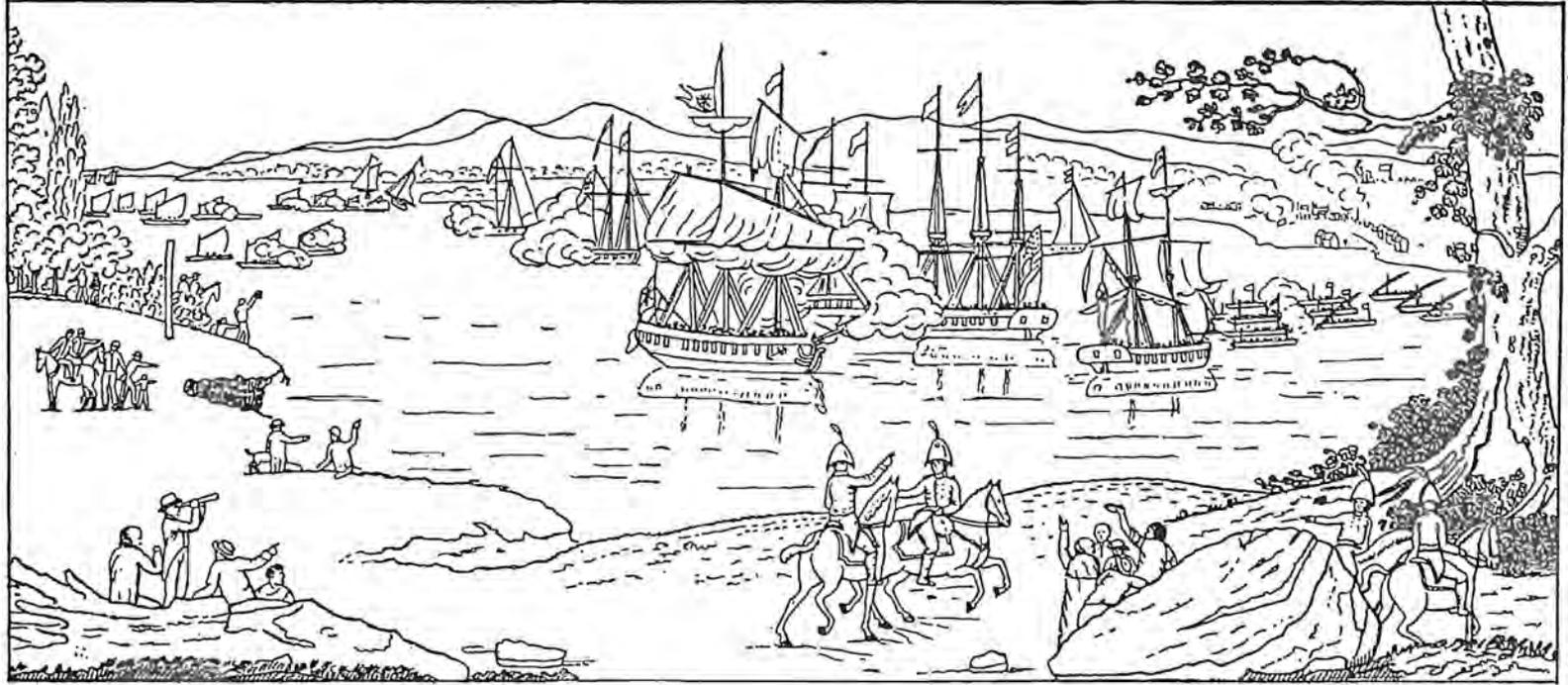
In the late Summer of 1814 *Thomas Macdonough*, a native of Delaware, 28 years of age and 14 years in service in the navy, was in command of the little American fleet on Lake Champlain consisting of his flagship *Saratoga* 200 men and 26 guns, the brig *Eagle* 20 guns, the schooner *Ticonderoga* and the sloop *Preble* 7 guns each and 10 small row-galleys carrying one gun each; in all 86 guns and 882 men. The American army in and about Plattsburg, already in a "deplorable state of unreadiness and inefficiency," had been further weakened by the despatch of 4,000 men to the Niagara territory. *General Prevost* with 10,000 British

soldiers, veterans of the Peninsular campaign under *Wellington*, was marching down from Canada on almost defenseless Plattsburg, whose capture would be followed by an easy conquest of all northeastern New York.

On September 5th the British encamped before the town, awaiting the arrival of *Capt. George Downie* with the British fleet, so that their combined forces might more easily take the town and the American ships, too. *Macdonough* deployed his vessels in Plattsburg Bay and awaited attack. On September 11th *Downie's* fleet arrived, a flagship, *Confiance* 300 men and 38 guns, brig *Linnet* 16 guns, sloops *Chub* and *Finch*, 11 guns each and 12 galleys mounting 20 guns; in all 96 guns and about 1000 men. *Downie* immediately went into action, leading off with the *Confiance* which started for the *Eagle*, but, the wind failing, had to engage the *Saratoga*. The *Linnet* went for the *Eagle* and temporarily disabled her, but the *Chub* was badly mauled and surrendered and the *Finch* ran aground. This left the *Saratoga* to fight it out with the *Confiance*, 200 men against 300, 26 guns against 38.

The first shot of the fight between the two flagships was aimed and fired by *Macdonough* himself as the enemy came on. It sped the entire length of the *Confiance's* deck killing several men and demolishing the wheel. *Confiance's* reply, when she swung into position a cable's length from the *Saratoga*, was a broadside from 16 24 pounders, double shotted and coolly aimed at point-blank range. It swept *Saratoga's* deck, killing or wounding 40 men, one-fifth of the entire crew. So many American gunners were killed that *Macdonough* jumped down from the quarter-deck to serve one of the guns. A shot cut one of his spars, and a piece of wood knocked him senseless. Recovering, he returned to the gun, when the head of the gun-captain was struck off by a shot and hit *Macdonough* in the face, knocking him down again.





### *The Battle of Lake Champlain*

In the middle of the picture is the British flag-ship *Confiance*. She is engaged with *Macdonough's* flag-ship *Saratoga*, shown a little to the right and further back. Further to the right is the American brig *Eagle*. The British brig *Linnet* is further in the rear.

In the extreme right are the American row-galleys and in the extreme left are the British row-galleys. The American schooner *Ticonderoga* appears just back of the *Confiance*. The British sloops *Finch* and *Chub* appear between the British row-galleys and the American sloop *Preble*.

The figures in the foreground are British military officers viewing the battle.



The guns along the fighting side of the *Saratoga* were so pounded by the *Confiance's* fire that all but one were useless. Now this last gun broke loose and plunged down a hatch. The ship was silenced. It seemed time to surrender, but not so to *Macdonough*.

He cut his bow cable, dropped an anchor astern and wound his ship about so that the other side with its useful guns was toward the enemy.

*Confiance* tried a similar manœuvre without success and, after the battle had raged for more than two hours, the British ship was surrendered. The American loss was 52 killed, 58 wounded; the enemy lost more than 200.

The position of the British army was now untenable. The 10,000 veterans withdrew to Canada. So *Macdonough* turned back a tide of invasion that would have overflowed all New York and New England.

*Macdonough's* victory was hailed throughout the States with tremendous enthusiasm and nowhere more so than in Delaware. On September 18th the troops in camp in Wilmington fired a *feu de joie*; the Wilmington Artillerists, in camp at Elkton under *Capt. Rodney*, fired a salute; the Veteran Corps of Wilmington under *Col. Allen McLane* paraded and saluted. The Delaware legislature voted him a sum of money to buy a piece of plate. Congress gave him the thanks of the nation and a gold medal. New York gave him 2000 acres of land and Vermont a similar estate at Plattsburg. It has been said of him, "His fame among naval men outshines *Perry's* and he is rated the greatest fighting sailor who flew the American flag until *Farragut* surpassed them all."

*Thomas Macdonough* was born at The Trap—now called *Macdonough*—December 23, 1783. He came from a fighting stock; his father had been a major in *Col. Haslet's* Delaware regiment, his brother, James, a midshipman aboard the *Constellation* in its fight with *L'Insurgente* and his uncle *Patrick* had fought under *St. Clair* against the Indians in 1791.

He entered the navy as midshipman in 1800, served under *Decatur* in the Tripolitan war and was one of the volunteers who boarded the captured *Philadelphia* in the harbor of Tripoli and burned her. In 1807 he was made a lieutenant and in 1813 a commodore. He died November 10, 1825 and was buried at Middletown, Connecticut.

## “Firsts” in Delaware



*New Amstel*

- 1631 First settlement, by the Dutch, Zwaanendael, perished same year.
- 1638 First permanent settlement, by the Swedes, Fort Christina.
- 1638 First negro slave, *Anthony*, Fort Christina.
- 1640 First clergyman, *Rev. Reorus Torkillus*, Fort Christina.
- 1652 First execution by hanging, *Anders Jonsson* for treason by Gov. Printz.
- 1654 First physician, *Tyman Stidden*, Fort Christina.
- 1658 First schoolmaster, *Evert Pieterssen*, New Amstel.
- 1669 First trial by jury, New Castle.
- 1676 First lawyer admitted to the bar, *Thomas Spry*, New Castle.
- 1687 First grand jury, Sussex County.
- 1693 First tax levied, a penny a pound of property.
- 1704 First legislative assembly of Three Lower Counties.
- 1725 First lighthouse, Cape Henlopen.
- 1730 First Roman Catholic services.
- 1736 First market-house, Wilmington
- 1738 First Friends' Meeting House, 4th and West Streets, Wilmington.
- 1739 First charter for Borough of Wilmington.
- 1739 First Burgesses and High Constable, Wilmington.
- 1740 First election in Borough of Wilmington.
- 1740 First inn in Wilmington, “The Foul Anchor,” Water Street.
- 1740 First sea-going ship built, brig *Wilmington*.
- 1740 First Presbyterian Church, Market near 10th Street, Wilmington.
- 1741 First prison, whipping-post and stocks, Wilmington.
- 1742 First large flour-mill, built by *Oliver Canby*, Wilmington.
- 1748 First Friends' school, 4th and West Street, Wilmington.
- 1761 First printing-press, *James Adams*, Wilmington.
- 1761 First book, *The Child's New Plaything* published by *Adams*.
- 1762 First newspaper, *Wilmington Courant*, published by *Adams*.
- 1765 First Masonic lodge instituted, Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa).
- 1774 First town-hall, Wilmington.
- 1775 First naval officer to fly American flag, Delaware River, *John Paul Jones*, ship, *Alfred*.



*Old Friends' Meeting House*



*First Presbyterian Church*



*Henlopen Lighthouse*

- 1775 First volunteer fire company, *Friendship*, organized in Wilmington.
- 1776 First election of members of Continental Congress.
- 1776 First naval engagement on Delaware River, American fleet of row galleys against two British frigates, *Roebuck* and *Liverpool*.
- 1776 First vessel to fly American flag in foreign port, brig *Nancy* of Wilmington, *Capt. Hugh Montgomery*.
- 1785 First almshouse established, Wilmington.
- 1787 First paper-mill built, *T. & J. Gilpin*, Wilmington.
- 1788 First election of representatives in U. S. Congress, Senators *Richard Bassett* and *George Read*, Rep. *John Vining*.
- 1789 First medical society organized.
- 1790 First postmaster in Wilmington, *Joseph Bringham*, office in his drug-store.
- 1792 First Chief Justice of Court of Common Pleas, under Constitution of 1792, *Richard Bassett*.
- 1793 First Board of Health, Wilmington.
- 1793 First Governor under Constitution of 1792, *Joshua Clayton*.
- 1795 First cotton-mill, *Jacob Broom*, Wilmington.
- 1795 First bank, Bank of Delaware.
- 1796 First free school law enacted (ineffectual).
- 1801 First gunpowder manufactured, *Peter Bauduy*, Eden Park.
- 1802 First vaccination, by *Dr. John Vaughan*.
- 1802 First *duPont* powder-mill, near Wilmington.
- 1803 First Abolition Society, Wilmington.
- 1804 First organized water-supply, Wilmington.
- 1805 First Negro church organized, *Ezion*, Wilmington.
- 1806 First Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. founded, Wilmington.
- 1812 First steamboat, *Vesta* Wilmington to Philadelphia.
- 1814 First Wilmington city directory.
- 1815 First public water-reservoir, Wilmington.
- 1819 First hydrant, house of *Joseph Bringham*, Wilmington.
- 1825 First fire-insurance company, Delaware Fire Insurance Company.
- 1827 First fire-plugs, Wilmington.
- 1829 First effective free school law enacted.
- 1831 First Grand Lodge I.O.O.F., Wilmington.
- 1831 First commercial peach-orchards planted.
- 1831 First railroad, New Castle & Frenchtown, horse-drawn cars.
- 1832 First steam railroad train operated, N. C. & F. R. R.



*Old Powder Mill*

- 1832 First charter for City of Wilmington; first election under it; first Mayor, *Richard H. Bayard*.
- 1833 First public-school house, Wilmington.
- 1833 First illuminating gas company organized, Wilmington Gas Company.
- 1833 First whaling company organized, Wilmington.
- 1834 First theatre, 6th and Shipley Streets, Wilmington.
- 1836 First railway-car wheels manufactured, *Bonney & Bush*, Wilmington.
- 1837 First board of trade, Wilmington.
- 1838 First monthly magazine, *Delaware Register*, *William Huffington*, Dover.
- 1843 First iron ship building yard in U. S., *Betts, Pusey and Harlan*, Wilmington.
- 1844 First sea-going iron propeller ship in U. S. built, Wilmington.
- 1847 First lodge I.O.R.M. instituted, Wilmington.
- 1850 First sewing machine, sold by *Wm. F. O'Daniel*, Wilmington.
- 1852 First astronomical observatory, on Meeting House Hill, Wilmington.
- 1853 First galvanized sheet-iron in U. S. made in Wilmington.
- 1855 First postoffice building, 6th and King Street, Wilmington.
- 1856 First daily newspaper, *Daily Enterprise*, Wilmington.
- 1863 First railway cars built, *Jackson & Sharp*, Wilmington.
- 1864 First State debt created, bonds to pay for substitutes in draft.
- 1864 First street-railway, Front and French to Delaware Avenue and duPont Street, Wilmington.
- 1868 First lodge, K. of P., organized, Wilmington.
- 1870 First public drinking-fountain, Wilmington.
- 1878 First telephone exchange, 3rd and Market Street, Wilmington.
- 1881 First Negro called for jury duty.
- 1882 First public park system organized, Wilmington.
- 1883 First electric street-lights, 35 arc lamps, Wilmington.
- 1883 First "telephone book," Wilmington.
- 1885 First trust company, Security Trust & Safe Deposit Company, Wilmington.
- 1888 First electric trolley line, 10th and Market to Riverview Cemetery, Wilmington.
- 1891 First State College for Negroes chartered.
- 1900 First automobile, owned by *Alfred I. duPont*, Wilmington.
- 1901 First moving picture theatre, Nickelodeon now Savoy Theatre, Wilmington.
- 1920 First radio sending station for public use, *Willard S. Wilson*, Wilmington.



## *Place Names In Delaware As Now And As Formerly*

Delaware River . . . . .	Lenape-wihittuck. Kit-hanne, Svenska Rivier (Swedish River), Nya Swerige's Elf (New Sweden River), Charles River, Zuydt (South) River, Prince Hendrick's River
Bombay Hook . . . . .	Boomptiens Udden, Bomptyes Hoeck, Bombo Hook.
New Castle . . . . .	Tamaconck, Aresapa, Macherish Kitton, Sandhoeck, Fort Casimir, Fort Trefaldighet (Fort Trinity), New Amstel
Wilmington . . . . .	Hopokohacking, Fort Christina, Christinahamn, Fort Altena, Willingtoun.
Christiana . . . . .	Christiana Bridge, Christeen
Delaware City . . . . .	Newbold's Landing
Newport . . . . .	Newport Ayre
Beaver Valley . . . . .	Chandler's Hollow
Grubb's . . . . .	Grubbs Corners
Claymont . . . . .	Naaman's
Stanton . . . . .	Cuckoldstown
Newark . . . . .	New Ark
Glasgow . . . . .	Aikentown
Kirkwood . . . . .	Kemp's Corner, St. George's Station
St. George's . . . . .	Quinquenium
Macdonough . . . . .	Trap
Odessa . . . . .	Appoquinimin, Cantwell's Bridge
Townsend . . . . .	Charley Town
Kent County . . . . .	St. Jones' County
Hazlettville . . . . .	Sewardville, Georgetown
Marydel . . . . .	Halltown
Hartley . . . . .	Arthurville, Butterpat
Smyrna . . . . .	Duck Creek Cross-Roads
Leipsic . . . . .	Fast Landing
Clayton . . . . .	Jimtown, Smyrna Station
Kenton . . . . .	Lewis' Cross-Roads, Grogtown
Cheswold . . . . .	Moorton
Rising Sun . . . . .	Five Points
Camden . . . . .	Piccadilly, Mifflin's Cross-Roads
Wyoming . . . . .	West Camden, Camden Station
Canterbury . . . . .	Irish Hill
Viola . . . . .	Canterbury Station
Petersburg . . . . .	Meredith's Shop
Barker's Landing . . . . .	Florence
Frederica . . . . .	Indian Point, Johnny Cake Landing
Sandtown . . . . .	Lewisville
Vernon . . . . .	Vincent's Causeway
Farmington . . . . .	Flatiron

Williamsville . . . . .	Guinea Town
Harrington . . . . .	Clark's Corner
Staytonville . . . . .	Tea Town
Sussex County . . . . .	Hoorncill County, Deal County
Prettymanville . . . . .	Quakertown
Lewes . . . . .	Zwaanendael, Hoorncill, Lewistown
Redden . . . . .	Carey
Milton . . . . .	Osborne's Landing, Conwell's Landing, Upper Land- ing, Head of Broadkilm
Millsboro . . . . .	Rock Hole, Washington, Millsborough
Adamsville . . . . .	Marshy Hope Village
Bridgeville . . . . .	Bridge Branch
Concord . . . . .	Pine Grove Furnace, Calloway's Harbor
Bethel . . . . .	Lewis' Wharf, Lewisville
Fleatown . . . . .	Federalburg
Coverdale's Cross Roads	Bethel Cross-Roads, Passwaters', Collin's, and Laf- ferty's Cross Roads
Knowles . . . . .	Knowles' Cross Road, Marvel's Cross Road
Johnstown . . . . .	St. Johnstown
Woodland . . . . .	Cannon's Ferry
Seaford . . . . .	Hooper's Landing
Frankford . . . . .	Gum's Store
Roxana . . . . .	Dog's Ear Corner, Centreville
Ocean View . . . . .	Hall's Store

*The Delaware Tercentenary Almanack and Historical Repository*  
by

*Christopher L. Ward.*

Thanks are due to Messrs. *Stanley M. Arthurs, Clifford W. Ashley, Albert Kruse, Frank E. Schoonover, Andrew Wyeth* and *N. C. Wyeth* for drawings contributed, to *Miss Anna T. Lincoln*, Curator of Historical Society of Delaware, *Miss Mary B. Eastman* of the Reference Department of the Wilmington Institute Free Library, *Dr. George H. Ryden*, State Archivist and *Mr. Leon de Valinger Jr.*, Assistant State Archivist, for assistance in the compilation of data and to *Mr. Richard T. Ware* of The Press of Kells for helpful co-operation in the matter of typographical design.

This First Edition was printed December, 1937 at *The Press of Kells*, Newark, Del., on 100% rag paper made by *Curtis Paper Co.*, also of Newark, and bound in Linnene book-cloth made by *Joseph Bancroft & Sons Co.* of Wilmington.

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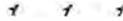
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