

The City's Progress.

Philadelphia Foremost in Art, Science and Industrial Progress.

HER PROUD HISTORY.

Philadelphia leads the world. It does not lead the cities of the world in point of population. Its area does not include miles of prairie. Within its confines are not the most densely populated districts of the globe. But it stands first and foremost among the prouder communities of all countries.

It is a city founded on the nobler principles of the brotherhood of man, fostered on the lines of honest labor and industry and supported by a foundation of wealth, culture and all that goes to perpetuate a community in prosperity and peace.

Historical.

The events of the past bear closely upon the affairs of the present. Everything in life is said to be relative, and thus, while the scope of this edition comprehends, primarily, those live matters pertaining to this city of today—its institutions, resources, material wealth and prosperity—there is so much that is so notable in the history of the settlement, progress and growth of the City of Brotherly Love germane to the subject matter hereinafter presented, that a review thereof from the earliest period seems eminently fitting by way of a prologue to the chapters that follow.

Founding of Philadelphia.

It is in no other way the master mind of the great William Penn shows itself than in the founding of this City of Brotherly Love. He planned it not merely for his own day and generation, but for all time and all generations, and if Penn had lifted the veil of the centuries and looked into the distant future with a prophetic vision, he could not have made his plans better.

Penn was, perhaps, in many respects better qualified for the founding of a great city than any other man of his day. In his youth, his father, Admiral Penn, who was a man of prominence in his day and a friend of the King, had sent him to the Continent of Europe, in the hope of breaking up his growing belief in the doctrines of the Quakers.

Thomas Penn, son of the founder of the city, arrived here in 1722, the city at that time being in its infancy. Its importance as a trading and commercial center in the Western Hemisphere was a matter of course, and the first settlement of the city was in 1682, when the first Quaker settlers arrived.

In the War of 1812 Philadelphia manifested much martial spirit and patriotism. The city was the seat of the Federal Government from 1790 to 1800. The spirit of the young nation was in its infancy, and the city was the seat of the Federal Government.

City Parks and Squares.

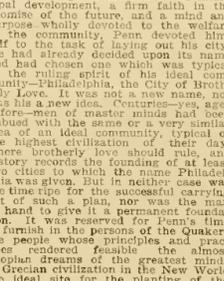
Delightful Breathing Spots Are Enjoyable Pleasure Grounds of the People.

LOVELY FAIRMOUNT.

Physically speaking, Philadelphia is a gem among cities. Fine public buildings, well-kept streets and good municipal government is not all that is required by the population of a great city when comfort and happiness is sought.

There must, in addition to these very excellent attributes, be spots of beauty here and there where the delightful verdure of nature may thrive and where pure air and cooling breezes may be found in the heated summer time.

Such reservations as parks and squares for the general enjoyment of the people have been made in a majority of the wards of the city and they very nicely provide for the needs of our citizens. They are the result of a policy inaugurated by the founder of the State, who laid out on the plan of the city four squares, at its four angles, containing together twenty-eight acres, and further intended that the whole front of the



SCENE ON CHESTNUT STREET.

Where We Are First.

The first law school in America opened here in 1790.

The first American flag was made at No. 23 Arch Street.

The first American volunteer fire company was organized here in 1792.

The first school in the United States was established here in 1773, by act of Congress.

The first medical college in the United States was inaugurated in Philadelphia in 1765.

The first steam locomotive in America was built here in 1825.

The first electric street car in America was run here in 1831.

The first telephone exchange in America was installed here in 1876.

The first automobile race in America was held here in 1895.

The first skyscraper in America was built here in 1897.

The first motion picture in America was shown here in 1895.

The first radio broadcast in America was made here in 1906.

The first airplane in America was flown here in 1903.

The first automobile race in America was held here in 1895.

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of it for the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. It lies on both sides of the Schuylkill River, in the western portion of the city plan, and extends from its east entrance westward three and a half miles, northward five and a half miles along the Schuylkill River, to the northwest corner of the city, and a further distance of six and a half miles along Wissahickon, an tributary stream which flows into this river, the whole tract embracing an area of land and water of nearly 300 acres.

It is dedicated to the use of the whole people of the State as a public common, and is in charge of a Board of Commissioners, who are authorized to make the necessary expenditures for its proper maintenance from appropriations made annually for this purpose by the Council of the city. It was acquired by the city under the authority of the State, mainly by purchase. A large portion of the portion of it is the Schuylkill River, which passes through it is the main supply of the water of the city, and the preservation of its purity was the purpose of the acquisition of the city and its waters within the grounds. The whole tract was formerly a series of farms, the portion of it was the residence of John Penn, the last Colonial Governor of Pennsylvania; another, the estate of Judge Peters, the Secretary of War of the colonies, during the Revolution; another, the country seat of Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution.

Chief among the modern buildings at Fairmount Park are Memorial Hall and Horticultural Hall. Memorial Hall was built from appropriations made by the State, and at a cost of one and a half million dollars. It is a picture of a leading feature of this building, which is the Schuylkill River, which flows through it. The building is a masterpiece of architecture, and is a fitting monument to the city's history.

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