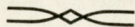


A Souvenir of Germantown



A Souvenir of Germantown
Issued during the
Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration
of the
Emancipation Proclamation
At Philadelphia, Pa., September, 1913



Printed by
BAUGH PRESS
Publishers.

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A SONG OF THE TIMES.

Come, gather roun' me child'en,
 Sence you've nowhar else to go;
Come and che'r the ol' man up,
 For things air mighty slow.

Thar's nothin' in the cellar 'cept rubbish piled up high,
 Thar's nothin' in the garret 'cept dus' to ketch the eye.
Thar's nothin' on the increase 'cept debts; an' they be doublin',
 An' appetites at dinner time. But lors 'taint no use troublin'.

Mammy's sick 'ith whoopin' cough,
 Baby's tooth's achin',
Gran'ma's got a spavined leg,
 An' th' hoss 'ith ager shakin'.

Th' me'cu'y is on the fall, a cold no't wind's a blowin',
 Th' coal man ain' gwi' trus' no mor—Lawd help us, it's a snowin'.
They say that bein' po's no sin, and povahty no disgrace;
 But Lawd it's inconvenient, you feel so out o' place.

Wal'l child'en che'r the old man up;
 His spe'its gittin' low;
Tha's a thousan' bills an' nary cent,
 For things air mighty slow.

W. A. W. Baugh, 1898.

A FOREWORD.

* * *

This year being the fiftieth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, and in view of the fact that it is being celebrated in various ways, we deem it an opportune time to present this booklet, showing in some degree what has been done in Germantown.

It would be impossible to obtain every fact that may be of interest, and to give a picture of every house occupied by our people would make too large a book, the cost of which would also be too much for the purpose.

We have, therefore, endeavored to select those places that would tend to show the greatest progress, comparing same with a few of the earliest localities, without any preference or partiality.

The beautiful suburb of Germantown is located in the county of Philadelphia, about seven miles northwest from the City Hall. It is easily reached by two railroads and four lines of trolley, or by transfer from any part of the city.

* * *

HISTORIC GERMANTOWN.

* * *

Germantown was settled in the year 1683 by Francis Daniel Pastorius with a little band of German Friends and Menonites. Here was built the first flour mill in America, 1683, and the first paper mill in 1690 by William Rittenhouse; also it is recorded that Christopher Sauer in 1772 made the first printing types in America, and printed the first Bible. The town is famed for historic buildings and relics of the Revolutionary War. Two of the buildings (Stenton and Thones Kunder's house) are of interest in this booklet.

During the terms of Washington, Germantown was twice the seat of the National Government, owing to an epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia.

While there are no records of slavery

existing in Germantown, it is possible, since a mild form existed in Philadelphia, according to the Annals of John F. Watson, and to show the aversion to slavery it is recorded that the first slaves to be freed were in Philadelphia in 1733 by Ralph Sandiford.

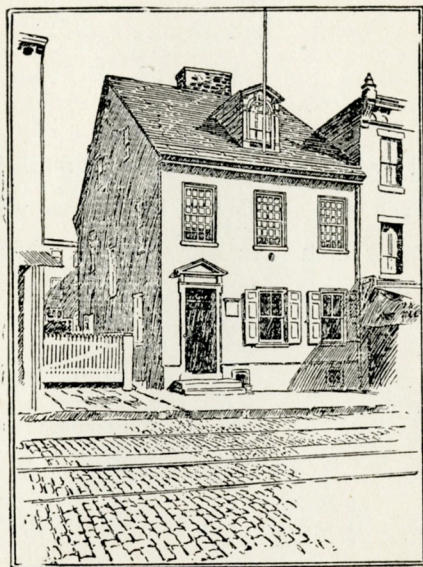
* * *

In 1854 Germantown was incorporated into the city of Philadelphia, and is now known as the Twenty-second ward. It retains the management of its almshouse, has a branch tax office in the Old Town Hall. District high schools for boys and girls, separate schools with Negro teachers are maintained, from the kindergarten to the eighth grade. The high schools are mixed pupils, with white teachers.

"All the Negro race asks is that the door which rewards industry, thrift, intelligence and character, be left as wide open for him as for the foreigner who constantly comes to our country. More than this, he has no right to request less than this a Republic has no right to vouchsafe."

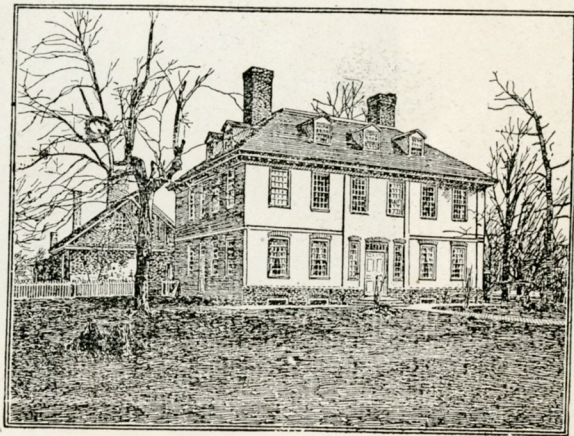
—Booker T. Washington.

Thones Kunder's house is where the first meetings of the Society of Friends in Germantown were held, and it was from the members of this little meeting that a public protest against slavery was issued as early as 1688. The paper was written by Pastorius, signed by him and three others, and being appropriately referred to their monthly and quarterly meetings, it was forwarded to and weightily considered in the yearly meeting held at Burlington.—Charles F. Jenkins' Historic Germantown.

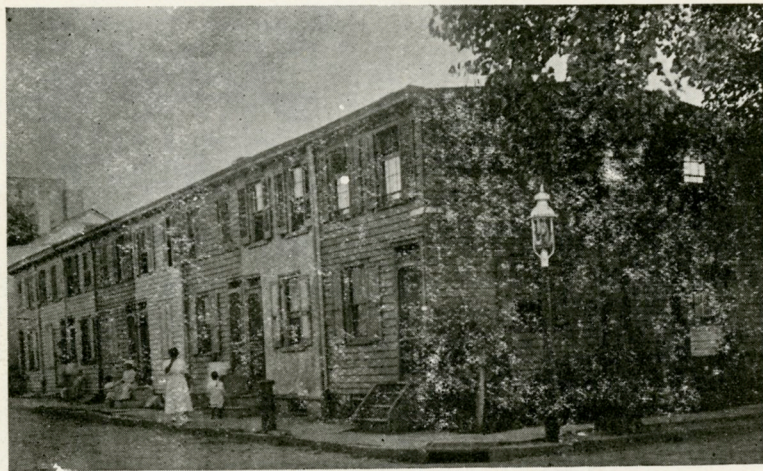


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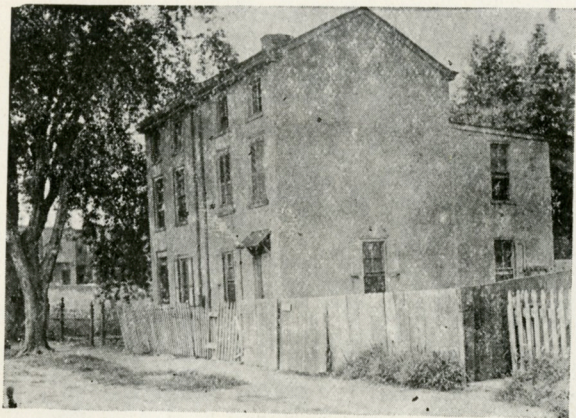
During the winter of British occupation an order was issued to burn all the mansions between Germantown and Philadelphia, and seventeen were consumed at one time. Stenton is said to have been saved by the ready wit of the old colored woman left in charge. The two British dragoons who came to burn it went to the barn to get some straw to start the flames. While they were gone a British officer rode up looking for deserters. The old woman in answer to his question, said she had seen two men who looked like deserters, and that they had just gone to the barn. Just then the soldiers returned, and despite their indignant protests and explanations, the officer seized them and marched them off to the provost guard. Stenton was saved for the time, and the efforts to burn it were not repeated.—Charles F. Jenkins's Historic Germantown.



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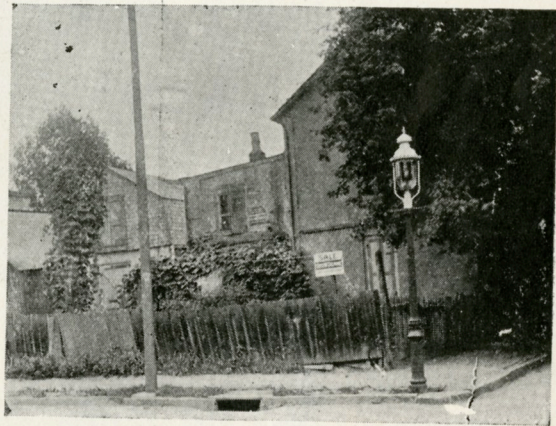


Penn and Newhall Streets. A centre of Negro population 30 years ago. Some of the early properties purchased. The corner property, the home of the late Rev. J. D. Brooks, founder of Enon Baptist Church, and pastor until his death, one of the longest pastorates in Philadelphia. The house is now occupied by his widow, daughter and son-in-law.



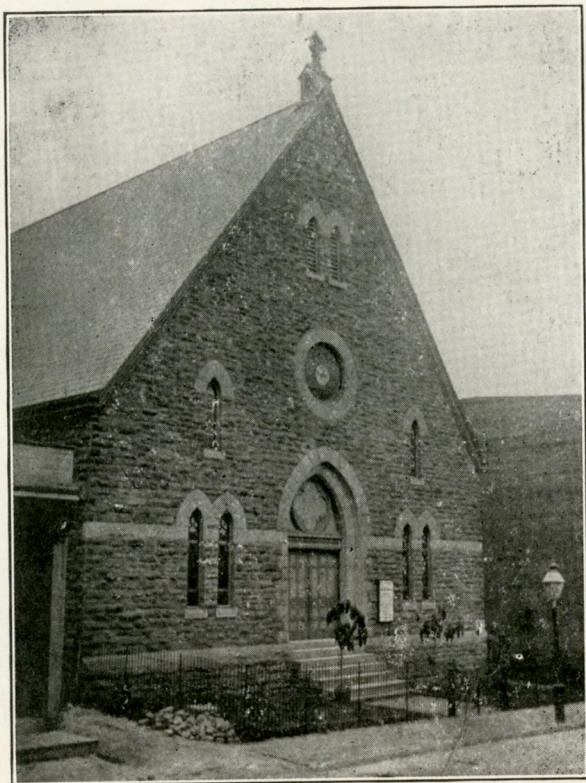
Crowson Street above Phil-Ellena
showing one of the oldest properties purchased

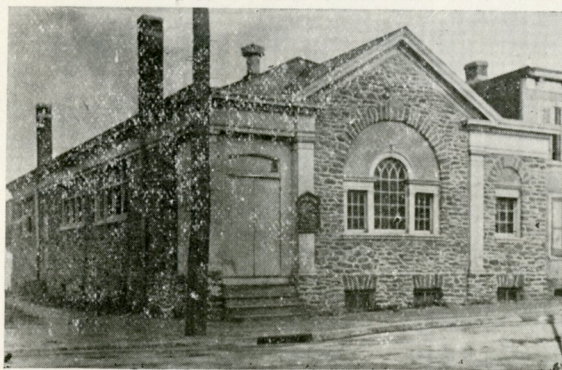
Coulter and Priscilla Streets
another of the old land marks.



Mt. Zion Baptist Church
West Rittenhouse Street,
near Germantown Ave.

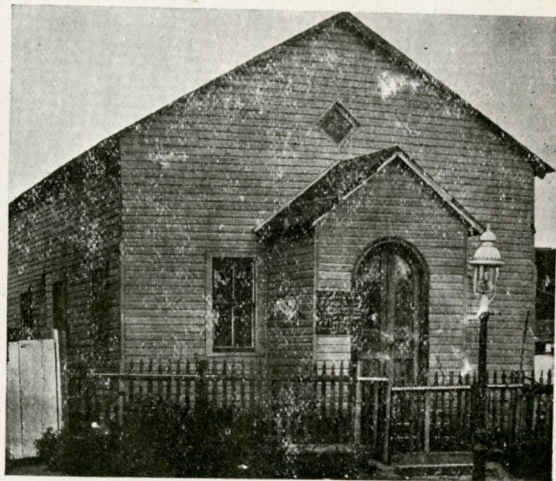
Organized 1890
Valuation of Property \$75,000





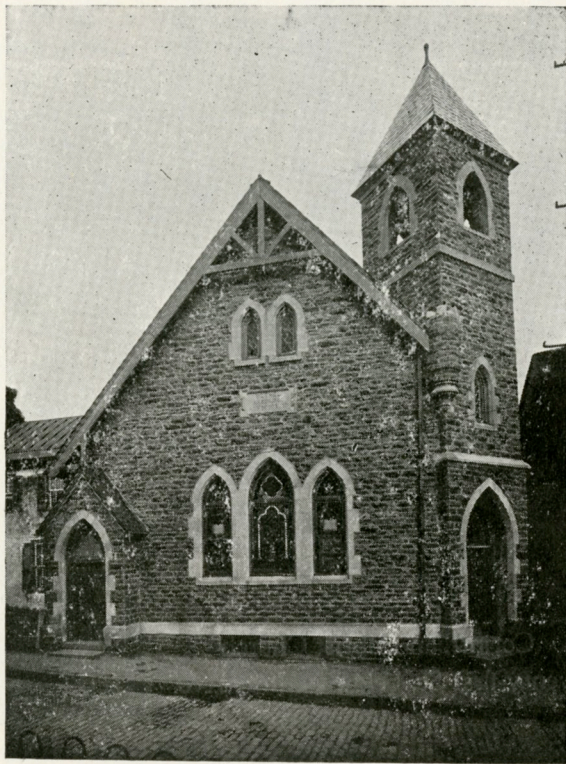
Canaan Baptist Church
Haines and Musgrove Streets
Organized 1908
Value of Property \$6,000

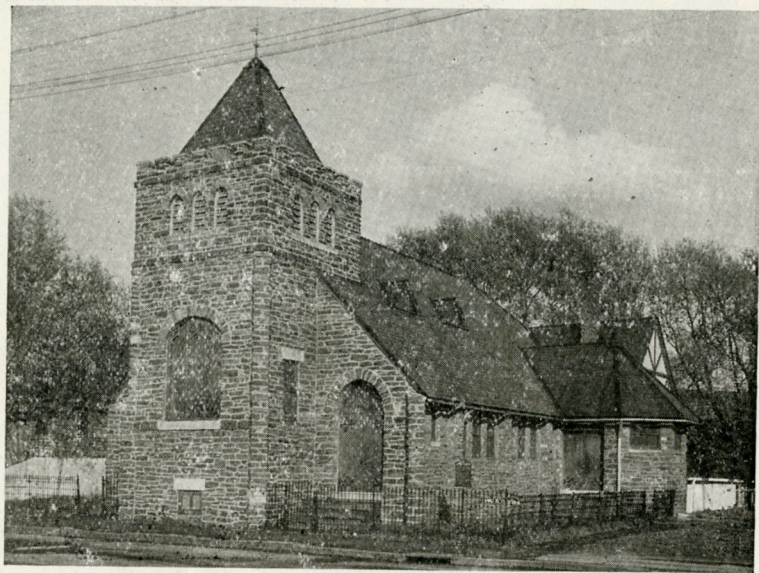
Corinthian Baptist Church
Twenty-first St. below Godfrey Ave.



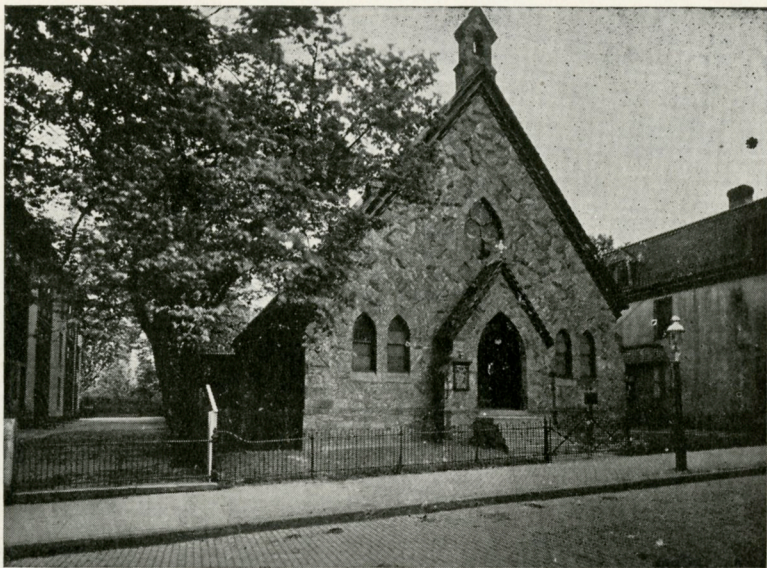
Bethel A. M. E. Church
E. Rittenhouse and Morton Sts.

Organized 1859
Valuation of property \$18,000





Janes M. E. Church. East Haines and Musgrove Streets.
Founded 1872. Valuation of property \$15,000.00

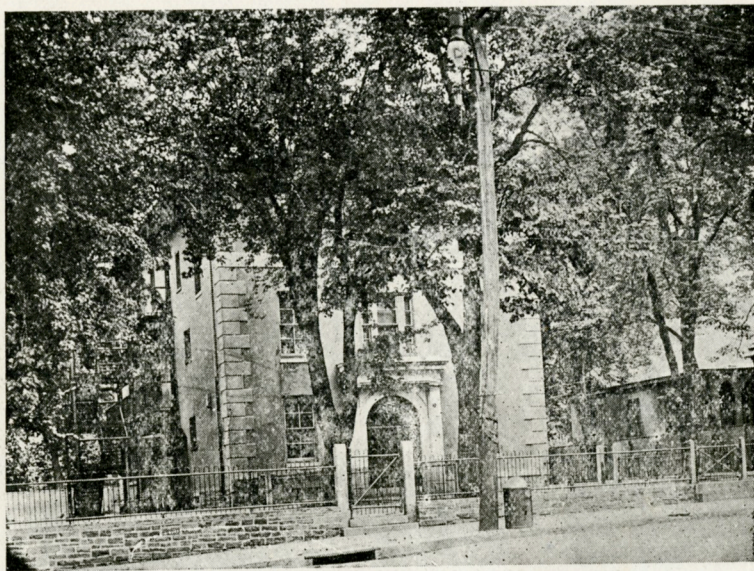


St. Barnabas P. E. Church. West Rittenhouse Street, near McCallum.
Organized 1904. Valuation of property \$16,000

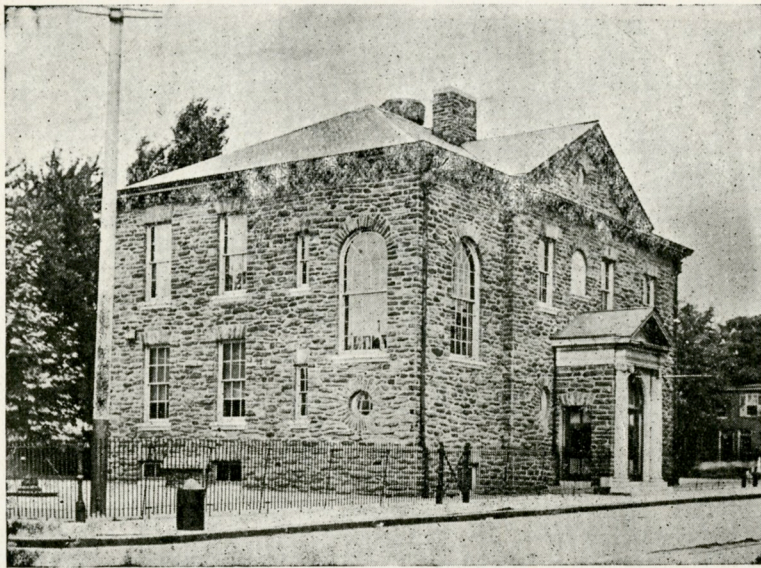


By courtesy of the club management

A Class in the Wissahickon School Club.



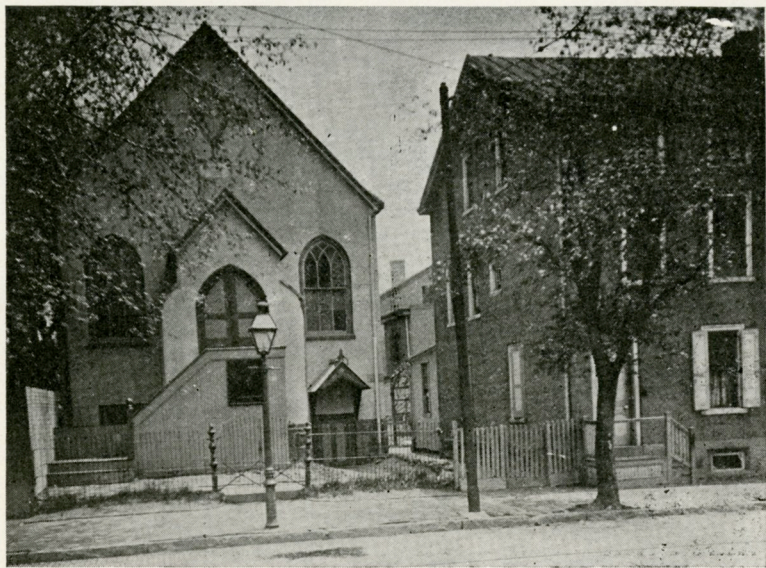
Joseph E. Hill Public School, West Rittenhouse Street. Founded 1868 by Willam Cole. In 1892 named in honor of Jos. E. Hill, a pioneer Negro educator of Philadelphia.



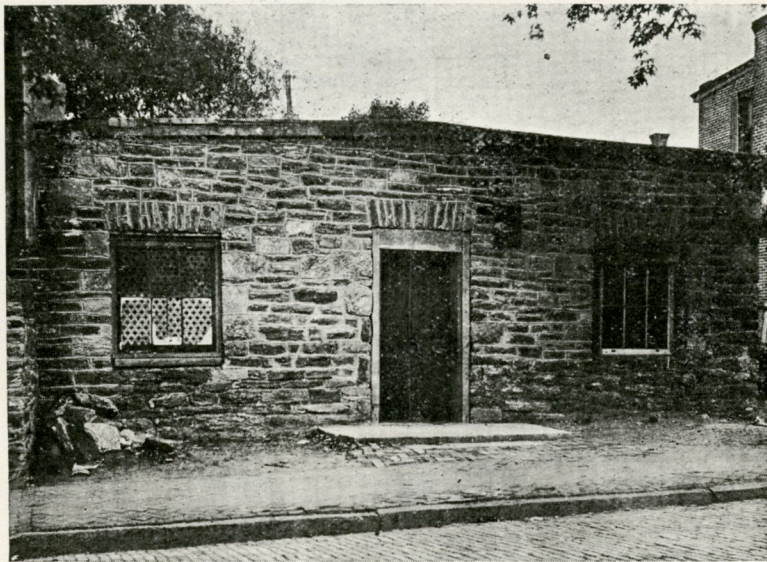
Thomas E. Meehan Public School. Pulaski, Penn and Newhall Streets.
About 35 years old, exact year not known. Present building erected
1901, and named in honor of Thos. Meehan, a Sectional School
Director who labored hard for this school.



Members of the cast of "Sleeping Beauty" produced during 1913 by The Germantown Education Association which was organized in 1910 purposely to encourage co-operation among our High and Other School Graduates.



Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church, West Coulter Street.
Organized 1879. Valuation of real estate (including Church, Home Missionary
Building and house on west side, adjoining) \$15,900.00

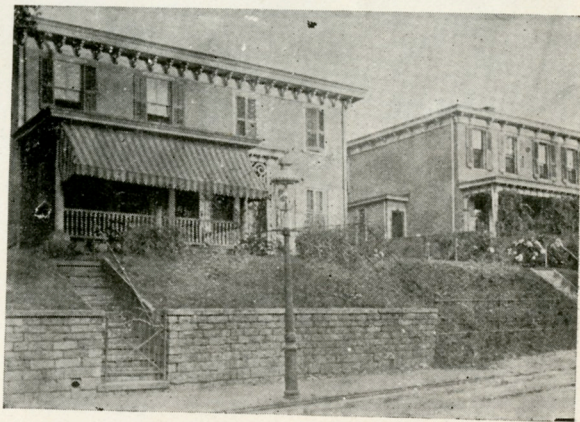


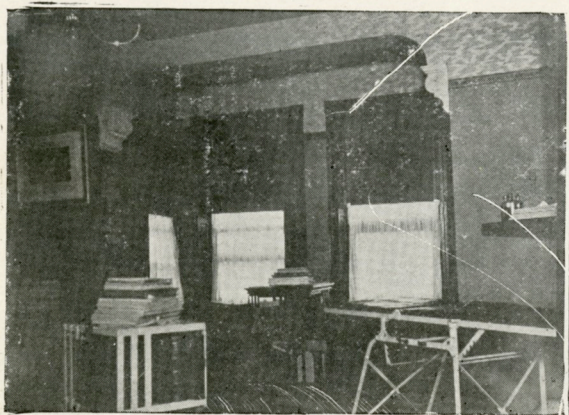
Grace Baptist Church, E. Sharpnack St. near Germantown Ave.
Organized about 1890. The first floor of the building was erected in 1908.



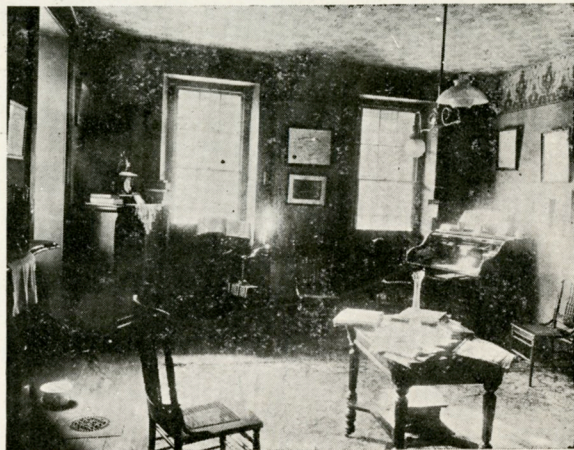
A Vacant Lot Garden
showing what can be accomplished in 8 weeks
Elder's Mill in background.

Janes M. E. Church Parsonage
444 E. Haines Street.





The Office of
Charles P. Stubbs, M. D.



Office of
R. Wellesley Bailey, M. D.



St. Catherine's R. C. Church, Penn & King Sts.

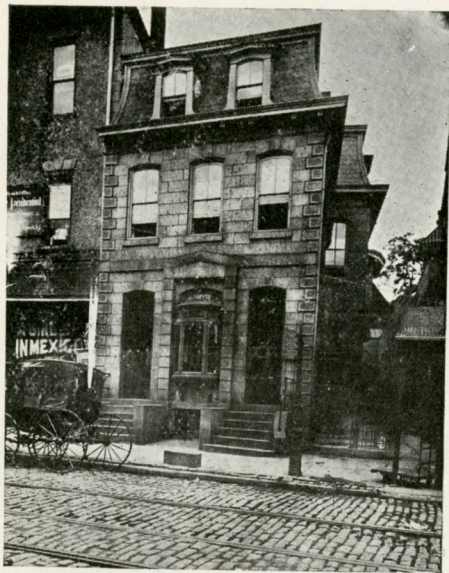
Cost, when completed, \$40,000.00



Trinity M. E. Church
Woodstock Street, below Godfrey Avenue.



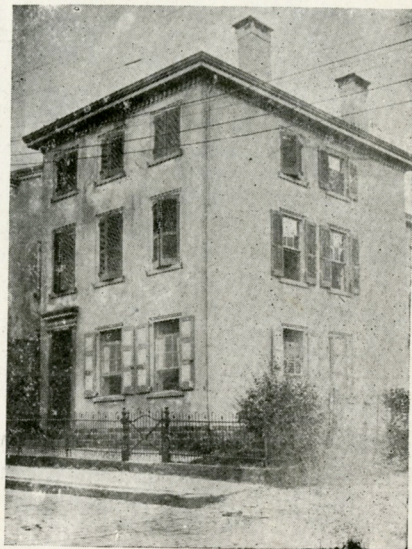
Coulter Street and Pulaski Avenue, looking toward Tacoma Street. Wissahickon School Club Building on the corner. Peoples Presbyterian Mission, started 1906, also conducts services here on Sundays.



East Rittenhouse Street, near Germantown Ave.
Oldest Barber Shop in the town.

John C. FLOWER and sons

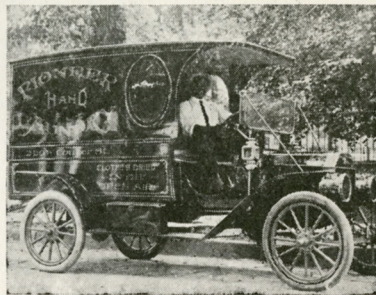
5706 Germantown Avenue. Oldest established
business, and a fine equipped plant. Does a
large catering business giving employ-
ment to many men and women.





Pioneer Laundry
Auto Service

Coulter Street, looking toward Wayne Avenue.
Women's Home Missionary Building, built 1894, in the foreground
First floor occupied by Pioneer Hand Laundry





Office of Our Real Estate Agent
Germantown Avenue, below Haines Street.

Penn and Priscilla Sts., looking towards Morris.
Penn Cafe on the corner.



304 W. Cheltenham Avenue
Our Antique Furniture Dealer.

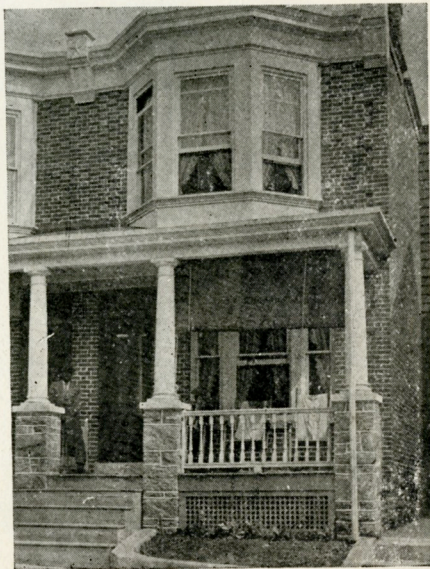


The "Little Print Shop"
Jefferson Street, above Duval.
Built by colored contractor.



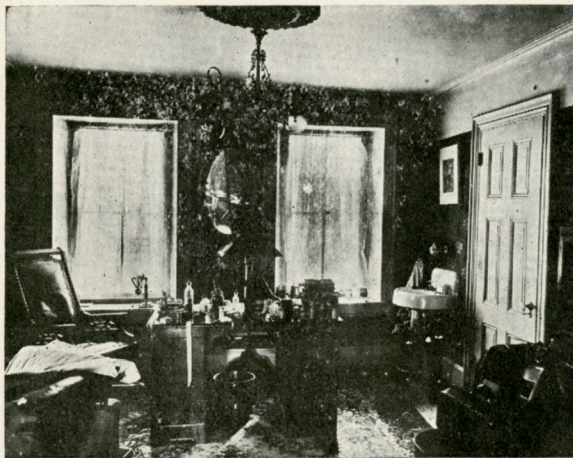
Wissahickon Garage. 730 Carpenter Street
One of the newest enterprises.

One of twin houses in Good Street
Built and owned by Our contractor.

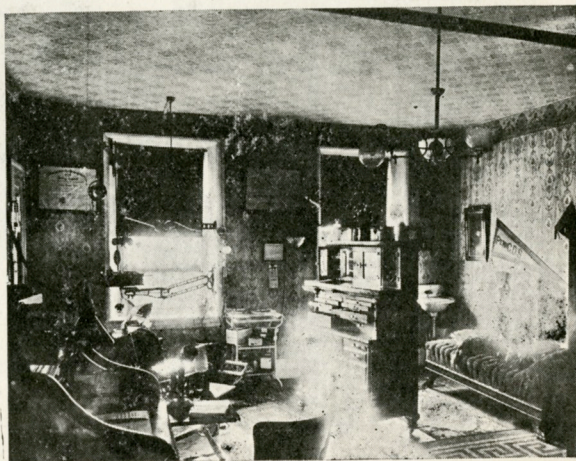




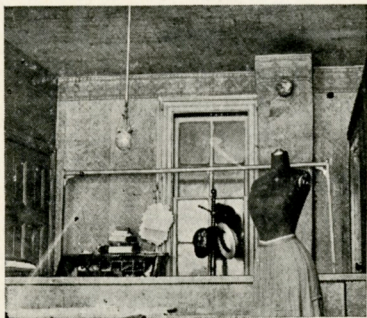
William Byrd's Stone Quarry



The Office of
William H. Warrick, M. D.



Office of
V. Pinnock Bailey, D. D. S.



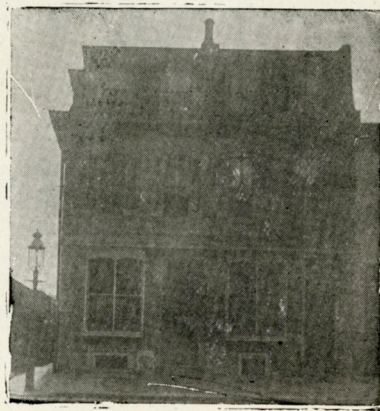
The Cheltenham Tailoring Est.
C. Young, Prop.

Julius Harris



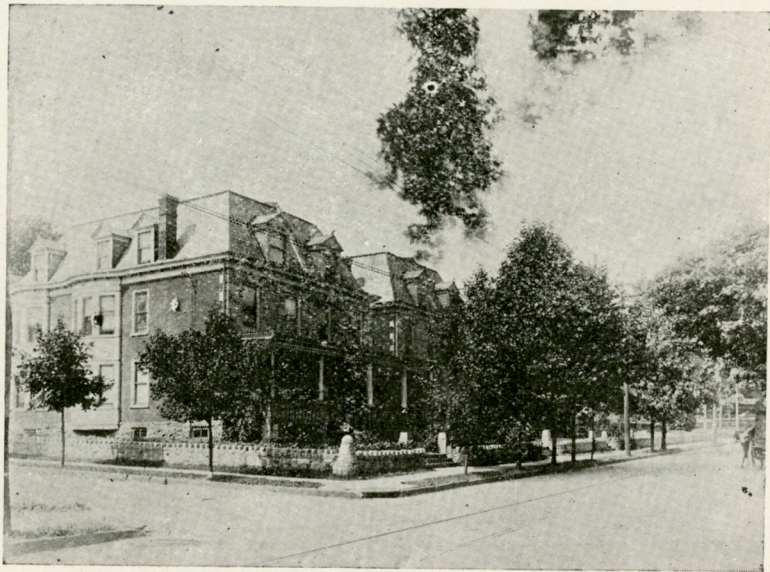
Cigars & Confections.

Robinson's Restaurant

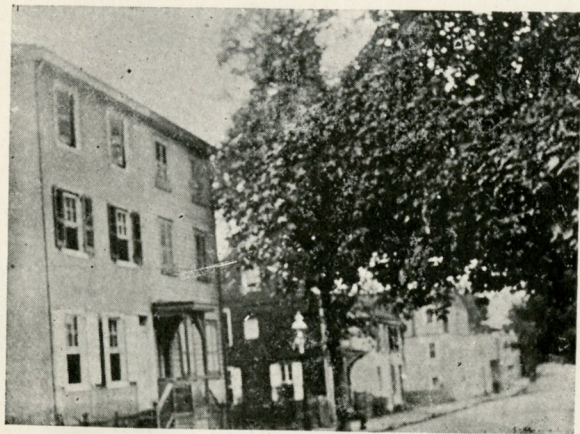




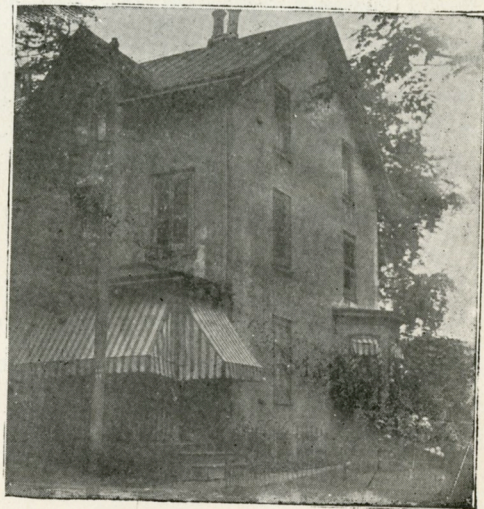
Pulaski Ave , below Queen Street, (east side.) A row partly owned and entirely occupied by our people



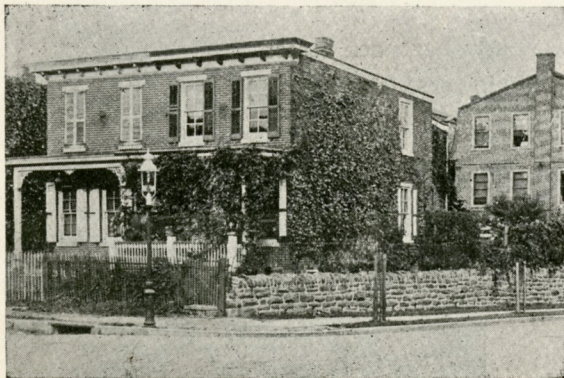
North side of Coulter Street, looking from Tacona St., towards Wayne Avenue.



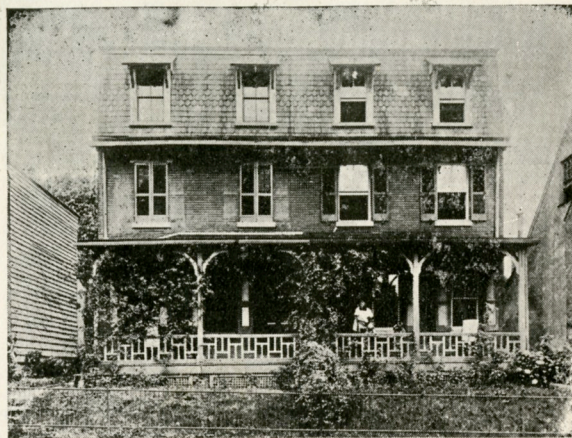
East Sharpnack Street
(looking east from No. 79)



The home of
Our Dealer in Butter and Eggs.



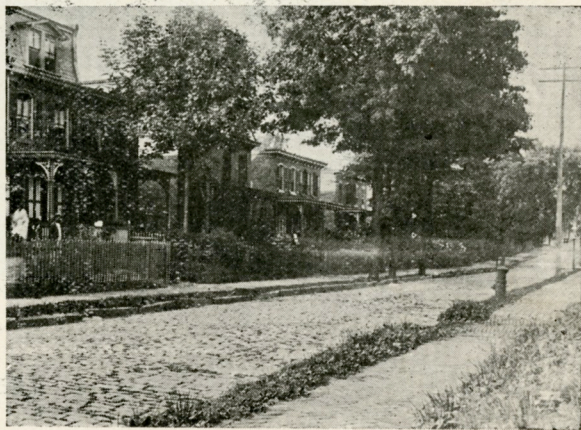
A corner residence
Duval and Jefferson Streets



Twin homes, East Haines Street
Near Germantown Avenue



West Duval Street
Looking west from No. 219



West Duval Street
Looking east from No. 45



A Residence at Jefferson and Duval Streets

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS.

* * *

The Negro population is made up largely of people from Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, although some may be here from several other States. Coming, as most of them did, without money, friends, or anything to depend on except menial labor, and no one to fire their ambition, their progress is good. It is only within the past fifteen years that the necessity for owning real estate has been forced upon them. It must not be forgotten, however, that every family paying rent, pays the taxes indirectly.

In the annual report of the Poor Board for 1912 there were 75 inmates at the almshouse, and of that number only three were Negroes.

The total assessed valuation of taxable property in the Twenty-second ward is \$87,077,345. The branch tax office esti-

mates that the Negro pays taxes on an assessed valuation of \$120,000. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that the market value is at least \$160,000, and it probably cost him more to obtain it.

* * *

Eleven churches, estimated value \$180,000. (5 Baptist, 3 Methodist, 1 Episcopal, 1 Catholic, 1 Presbyterian).

Four physicians, 2 trained nurses, 1 dentist, 1 real estate agent, 1 contractor, 3 paperhangers, 3 upholsterers, 1 cabinetmaker, 3 printers, 12 dressmakers, 6 hairdressers, 1 milliner, 1 tailor, 3 laundries, 5 barber shops, 3 restaurants, 12 landscape gardeners, 4 bootblack stands, 1 butter and eggs dealer, 3 caterers, 3 coal and ice companies, 3 grocery stores, 2 garages, 4 expressmen, 18 school teachers, 2 post office employes, 1 Custom

House employe, 2 policemen, 1 retired policeman, 2 janitors of apartment houses, 3 (branch offices) undertakers and embalmers, 12 fraternal organizations, 2 baseball clubs, 1 orchestra, 3 inventors, 3 second-hand dealers, 1 dramatic organization.

The U. S. census for 1910 gives the following figures for the Twenty-second ward:

Whole population, 70,245; males of voting age, 19,529; Negro population, 4799; males of voting age, 1205.

The police census for 1910 gives the total population as 70,245, and estimates the Negro population as 11,000. The Police Department does not claim to be accurate; it is only an estimate, yet there is a large floating population, due to conditions of work, and the police census may have been taken when this population was extra large.

Owing to the difficulty in compiling these statistics there are probably some commendable occupations overlooked. If so, it was not intentional. There are quite a large number of chauffeurs, seamstresses and men and women engaged in doing work in all the ordinary walks of life that any other race is doing. The Delmar, Coulter Inn and Cresheim Arms are hostelrys giving employment to a large number of our people; also Elder's mill, Woods & Logan, comfortable manufacturers, and the Midvale Steel Works employs a large force of our men, some highly skilled mechanics at good wages.

While there may be a number who won't work, the percentage is hardly greater than among other races, and a Negro beggar is seldom, if ever, seen on the streets.

—The Publishers.

