



Bulletin of the

Passaic County Historical Society

Museum Headquarters
LAMBERT CASTLE
Garret Mountain Reservation
Paterson, N. J.

Vol. IV

JUNE, 1956

No. 6

The launching of the sale of the new five-dollar Hamilton postage stamp in Paterson recently draws particular attention to Alexander Hamilton and his immense contributions to our country. This great American, by adoption, was born on the island of Nevis in the West Indies, January 11, 1757. His mother was a French woman; his father a Scotchman.

When a lad of only fifteen, Hamilton left his native West Indies for the American continent, landing in Boston in the fall of 1772. From Boston, he went almost directly to Elizabethtown (Elizabeth), New Jersey and entered the well known private school whose headmaster was the highly respected Francis Barber.

The young man had the good fortune of meeting William Livingston whose mansion was situated a few miles from Elizabethtown (the house is still standing). Mr. Livingston was well known throughout the colonies and shortly was to become the colonial governor of New Jersey. Taking a liking to the lad, he arranged for him to live with his family. While here, Hamilton met many men of great influence among them being the Daytons and the Boudinot brothers.

Before the youth had completed twelve months in Mr. Barber's school, the Headmaster recommended him for higher education and Hamilton, very naturally, desired to enter Old Nassau (Princeton College). He went to Princeton and talked with



ALEXANDER HAMILTON
FATHER OF A GREAT CITY

President Witherspoon but not being able to enter the college upon his own terms, he decided to try King's College (Columbia) in New York and was admitted there in the winter of 1773-74.

This was a period when great political turmoil was prevalent throughout the thirteen colonies. For several years past, the colonists had been protesting the various acts of the British Parliament respecting the colonies in America and by the spring of 1774, many of the colonists became convinced that war was inevitable unless England withdrew the intolerable acts. Young Hamilton saw eye to eye with the colonists and he seized every opportunity to make his thoughts and feelings known. He often spoke to assembled crowds, wrote numerous articles to the newspaper and

issued short tracts—forceful little essays on "Rights of the Colonists."

This youth of seventeen years had most unusual vision and foresight coupled with a terse and convincing manner of delivery. Let it be remembered that in one of these discussions, he called attention to the great need for "the ESTABLISHMENT OF MANUFACTURING, ESPECIALLY OF COTTON FABRICS IN THIS COUNTRY AS A POSSIBLE CONDITION FOR POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE." This idea had very powerful repercussions in the years following.

(Turn to Page 34)



ROSWELL L. COLT

Courtesy of New York Public Library and W. A. Lucas

ROSWELL L. COLT and HIS ESTATE

In Volume III, Number 9 of "THE BULLETIN" a short biography of John Colt appears. He was the son of Peter Colt, a native of Connecticut and the Superintendent of the S.U.M. in 1793. Another son of Peter Colt was Roswell L. who took over the management of the S.U.M. in 1814 and continued, with slight interruptions, until a few years prior to his death in 1856.

Roswell L. Colt became Governor of the Society at a period when the organization was in very depressive circumstances. Several of the directors had died; its stock had depreciated until it was almost worthless. As early as 1808 Mr. Colt began buying up a great many shares at a much reduced price. At a meeting of the Society in April 1814, a proposition was made to dissolve the Society but, after extended discussion and much urging by Mr. Colt, a decision was reached to reorganize it and make another effort to manufacture "useful goods." The Board of Directors also agreed to sell mill sites and lots and to make an earnest and aggressive effort to revive the almost defunct organization. Of the 2,620 shares in S.U.M. stock, the various members of the Colt family now owned 1,991 of which

Roswell L. Colt owned the greater part. Under the organization Roswell L. Colt became the Governor with his brother, John, Deputy Governor. Through the excellent management of the Colt brothers, the Society was rebuilt into a profitable organization.

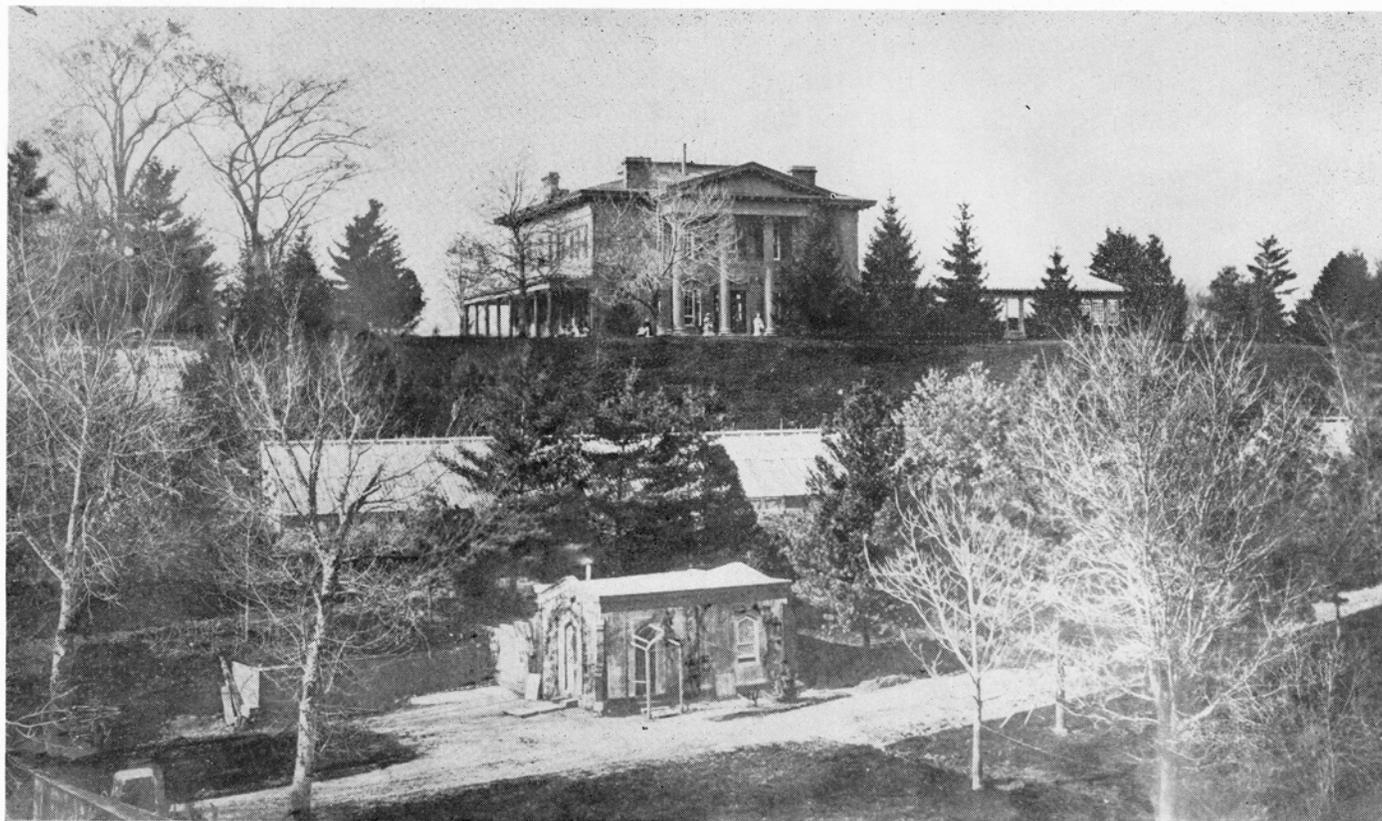
"No single member of the Colt family has left his impress on the history of Paterson to the same degree as Roswell L. Colt . . .," said L. R. Trumbull writing in 1882. When only twenty-eight years of age, Mr. Colt came to Paterson and for a period of over forty years he was identified with the city's cultural and industrial life. A man of eminent culture and keen business acumen, Mr. Colt was a most outstanding citizen of the city for many years.

About the time when Roswell L. Colt took over the management of the S.U.M., he married the daughter of Robert Oliver, a shipping merchant of Baltimore and one of the wealthiest men in America. For a time after the marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Colt resided in Baltimore but later moved to Park Row in New York City. Mr. Colt made frequent visits to Paterson while living in New York.

It was shortly after 1830 when Mr. Colt decided to make his residence in Paterson. He and Mrs. Colt looked over the entire area in an effort to find a suitable site for their home. The only site which pleased Mrs. Colt was Garret Mountain and she let it be known that she would live there or nowhere else except in Europe. Mr. Colt had been impressed for a long time of the great possibilities of the large tract of land belonging to the S.U.M. in the center of the city between Ward Street on the north, Bond Street on the south, the Turnpike on the West and south and the easterly boundary was near the line of the Erie railroad of later years. On this area was a barren sand hill the center of which was approximately at the County Administration Building and the Court House and it extended northward toward Smith street, westerly to Main and towards Grand and Prince streets. This sandy elevation was one of the several glacial drifts brought down from the mountains to the westward ages ago.

Mrs. Colt absolutely refused to live on the sand hill so she and Mr. Colt decided to separate. Taking their six oldest children with her, Mrs. Colt sailed for Europe where she made her home until she died a few years later. Mr. Colt began to lay out his plans for the development of his estate on what later became well known as "Colt Hill."

Reference has already been made in this "BULLETIN" to Major L'Enfant. One of the ideas of the Major was the development of the town of Paterson which the newspapers said would "far



"ROSWELL HOUSE"
Home of Roswell Lyman Colt

A John Reid photograph.

surpass anything of the kind yet seen in this country." While the idea never progressed beyond the paper stage, L'Enfant planned that the sand hill area (Colt's Hill) would serve as the center from which avenues would radiate and circle after the fashion of Washington, D. C.

In 1830, this entire area was a wasteland covered with saplings and underbrush and huckleberry bushes when Roswell L. Colt decided to establish his estate and home on it.

Mr. Colt employed hundreds of workmen who brought in top soil. Large trees and shrubbery were brought in and planted. The grounds were graded, drives and walks were laid out, gardens were designed and planted until, as it was said, the tract rivaled "the lordly parks of England in extent and beauty." A spring on the estate furnished the water for a lovely fountain which was pumped up by a steam engine. Beyond the many squared gardens, the slopes, terraces and flower bordered walks were parks for deer and fowl from other countries. "Graperies," orchards of fruit trees and greenhouses provided luscious fruits while below the hill on the easterly and southerly side lay two lakes. One of these was close to Ward street and lay in an

elongated ellipse with its south end just north of what is now Grand street. The principal part of it occupied the site of the present Dale avenue and the site of the two large mills lying east of it today. The other lake lay in a northeast-southwest position roughly bounded by the streets now Prince, Grand and Green, a portion of it lying in Spring and Jackson streets. Each of these lakes were approximately 500 feet in length with a width from 150 to 250 feet. Both of these were well stocked with fish and aquatic fowl. The "Guide Book to the Falls" published in 1859 said that, "the once ugly and uncared-for area in the center of the town on which rested a barren sand hill had been transformed into an earthly paradise."

A wall of brownstone, quarried from the Colt quarries at Garret Mountain, was built by Samuel Pope along the entire tract on the Turnpike and Ward street sides. At the junction of Ward and Main streets, stood a gate house. This structure is still standing in 1956 and forms the rear of the building known as 311 Main street. The original structure stands about 35 feet back from the curb on Main street and the brownstone wall is about 28 feet long, 7½ feet high with a second story of brick.

On the top of the sand hill, Mr. Colt's mansion house, known as "Roswell House" was erected. This beautiful home was made up of a 66-foot square section with lower additions on the east side. A huge center hall ran through the first floor. It was so wide that it was said that a coach-and-four could be driven with little difficulty through it. Here Roswell L. Colt lived in princely style. Many great leaders in politics, letters, art and science were entertained in this home of great refinement and elegance.

For many years, the people of Paterson were free to visit "Colt's Hill." They were permitted to walk its shaded paths, to enjoy the shrubs and flowers, the fish, birds and deer. With but very few exceptions there was no vandalism for the citizens of Paterson went to enjoy not destroy.

Following the death of Mr. Colt in 1856, the estate was occupied by various members of his family until about 1881. Throughout this period, however, changes in the property were made gradually to accommodate the growing city. The two lakes were filled, some of the land on the fringes of the estate, especially on the easterly and southern sides, was sold and streets and buildings soon occupied the land. A map of Paterson in 1875 shows that the Colt Estate was, at the time, compressed into an area bounded by Prince, Ward, Grand and Main Streets with St. John's church, the Third Presbyterian church and five houses occupying three of its corners while the gate house occupied the fourth.

By 1889 there were but two surviving children of Roswell L. Colt. These were Morgan C. Colt and his sister, Julia (Mrs. De Grasse B. Fowler). They offered the remaining portion of the Colt Estate with the Mansion House to the city for \$100,000 with the suggestion that it be kept as a park for the people of Paterson. The city fathers refused the offer so Mr. Colt and Mrs. Fowler decided to offer the entire property for sale to the public. By 1891, the sand hill had been cut down and the sand taken to Lakeview to fill in the lake there and also to New York where it was used as fill. Streets were laid out and building lots were sold. The once great show place of the city gave way to small homes, office buildings, and a permanent location for public buildings as well as for industrial use. Today, nothing but a slight incline in the streets leading to the Court House is left to remind one of the hill once the magnificent estate of one of the greatest citizens which Paterson ever had—Roswell Lyman Colt.

EARLY PHYSICIANS IN THE COUNTY

The villages and hamlets of the county had their beginnings in the latter part of the 17th and the first quarter of the 18th centuries. Acquackanonk (Passaic) was the first settlement. Here a few Dutch settlers came between the years 1679 and 1683 and within a few years the village became a trading post and the port of entry for the northern section of Essex County as well as for Orange and Sullivan Counties in New York. After Acquackanonk, Pompton was settled. This was in 1695-1697 to be followed by the "Stony Road Neighborhood," Little Falls, Preakness, Wesel and several other small communities.

Historical records are very meager regarding the physicians who ministered to these early communities and it seems probable that there were no practicing physicians within the county for more than half a century after the first settlement was made. However, Jacob Arents practiced medicine in the Delawanna area and later in Acquackanonk about 1707 but it seems unlikely that he resided in the county. The village Dominies and a few housewives ministered to the sick—the latter being very proficient in their knowledge of the healing powers of certain common herbs.

The first resident physician is accredited to a Frenchman, Dr. John De Vausnee who came to Acquackanonk in 1738, married Hester Vreeland and practiced medicine from his home on River Drive. He remained here until his death in 1760.

After Dr. Vausnee's death, Abiarha Millard, M.D., purchased Dr. Vausnee's home at 715 River Drive and practiced medicine from there for about six years when he moved to Newark. He later enlisted in the Continental Army as a Surgeon.

After Dr. Millard left the county, Dr. John Garritse came and settled in a stone house in what is now known as Garfield and Dr. Nicholas Roche settled at Wesel. Dr. Roche was a staunch patriot, and enlisted in the American Army as a Surgeon. Being wounded at the Battle of Princeton, he returned to his home along the Passaic River. On September 13, 1777 he learned that the "Red Coats" were approaching the river on the Bergen County side and he with a neighbor rode throughout the county spreading the alarm.

Perhaps the best known of all the physicians administering to the needs of the first settlers was Dr. Benjamin R. Scudder who arrived in this area about 1769 and practiced here until his death in 1819.

Shortly after the death of Dr. Scudder, Dr. Lambert Sythoff came to Acquackanonk. He soon acquired a high reputation as a physician. In addition to the practice of medicine, Dr. Sythoff taught school and in 1825 became head master of the Paterson Academy. During the spring of 1826, he devoted eight hours daily to teaching and was so well liked as a teacher that the Academy was filled. In the Academy, instruction was given "from the first rudiments of knowledge to the higher classics and to every species of literary acquirement that may qualify them (scholars) for admission into college" or fit them for the various stations of life. Shortly after 1826, Dr. Sythoff moved to Pompton.

Meanwhile Dr. William Colfax was living in Acquackanonk and was practicing medicine there. But his young wife died in 1823 and he decided to return to his native Pompton shortly afterward. Here he practiced medicine for many years.

Dr. Colfax was succeeded in the lower section of the county by Samuel Pratt, M.D., in 1824. Although he had a good practice, he left after about five years when he was followed by Garret Terhune a native of Hackensack.

Dr. Terhune had been an under-study in medicine of Dr. Lambert Sythoff but he also studied medicine in Queens' College (Rutgers) and graduated from that institution in medicine.

The first resident physician in Paterson was Dr. William Ellison. Born in Belfast, Ireland and graduated from Edinburgh University, Dr. Ellison came to Paterson about 1791 where he remained and practiced his profession until his death in 1829. He was not only an eminent physician but an outstanding citizen of the community. For many years, he was active in the affairs of the First Presbyterian Church and united with it in the fall of 1824.

Dr. Ellison was one of the early prominent Freemasons in New Jersey. The first lodge constituted in the province of New Jersey was St. John's, No. 1 of Newark. This took place in 1761. Although the population of the Totowa area was small in 1793, there were several Freemasons among them. Having no lodge, they were obliged to ride horseback to Newark and other neighboring towns for Masonic communications; so they petitioned the Grand Lodge in 1793 to have a lodge constituted at Totowa (Paterson). The petition was granted on January 12, 1796 and Paterson-Orange Lodge No. 13, F. & A. M. was instituted and it remained prosperous until 1826. Dr. Ellison is known to have been one of its founders and was one of the early Worshipful

Masters. The illustration below is of the engraved, gold jewel which was presented to him by the lodge in A.L. 5806 (A.D. 1806) upon the completion of his term as W. Master. The jewel is in the possession of the Passaic County Historical Society having been presented to it many years ago by Mrs. Jennie Tuttle Hobart, one of Dr. Ellison's descendants.



MASTER'S JEWEL

Presented to Wm. Ellison by Orange Lodge No. 13, F.&A.M.
The first Masonic Jewel ever presented in
Paterson to a Mason.

From the Hobart Collection

Photographed by W. A. Lucas

When the Paterson Academy was incorporated in 1811, Dr. Ellison was elected as one of the trustees, his colleagues being Abraham Van Houten, Charles Kinsey, John Parke and Samuel Colt.

Although his usual charge for a professional house call was only a shilling, he amassed a great fortune and at his death he was reputed to have been the richest man in Paterson.

He owned a great deal of property. Most or all of the land bounded by what is now Main, Market, Prospect and Ellison Streets was owned by him.

He had a farm on Mc Curdy's Road and another on Totowa Road with several houses and lots on Holsman and other streets.

Dr. Ellison died on August 12, 1829, at age 65, at his home on York Road where he maintained his office. The site of his home was later occupied by the old Washington Market and now known as the north side of Broadway on or near the corner of Washington Street. He was buried in the Presbyterian Burying Ground on Sandy Hill. He left an estate valued at about \$100,000 and in his will, he bequeathed much of his money and property to his numerous relatives in Paterson and in Ireland. To his niece, Margaret Kelly, he gave his home. A great many of his friends in the medical profession were remembered with sums ranging from \$25 to \$100 each. To his pastor, Rev. Samuel Fisher, he bequeathed \$100 as well as \$50 each to seventy individual members of the church. To Horatio Moses, tin smith and friend, he gave \$50 from which he was to purchase "pious books and tracts to be distributed among the blacks belonging to the Methodist Society of Paterson." William Dickey, father-in-law of Socrates Tuttle, and Judge Barkalow were nephews; while Jane Hamilton, mother of Dr. Weller and mother-in-law of Gen. T. D. Hoxey was his niece. The witnesses of the will were John Colt, P. Parsons (President of the Peoples' Bank), and Henry Whitely (father of Dr. Whitely).

Dr. Ebenezer K. Blachley was another eminent physician of the Paterson area during the latter part of the 18th and the early 19th century. One of the very interesting side lights concerning Dr. Blachley was his interest in building up a spa in the county—one which would become a great health resort. An old spring called by the Indians "Spaw Spring" existed along the present Bloomfield Avenue on the property of Halmagh Sip. Dr. Blachley found that the alkaline waters of this spring had curative properties for mild disorders of the stomach, liver and kidneys as well as for malaria. Messrs. Sip and Blachley entered into an agreement in 1809 to promote a health resort on the property. The waters were well advertised and were known by the local residents. However, the enterprise never reached its fulfillment largely due to the opening of the Saratoga spa in New York. The elaborate plans for the resort were dropped although the waters were used for many years afterward.

By 1829, Paterson had nine physicians, one grocery and drug center and one medicine and drug store. Seven years later the number of physicians

had dropped to six namely: Doctors Elias J. Marsh, William Magee, Donathian Binsee, Hoxey, Lemuel Burr and Alexander W. Rogers. Dr. Garret Terhune was practicing in Acquackanonk while J. R. Riggs, M.D., was in Newfoundland.

By the fall of 1843, Doctors Marsh, Binsee, Burr, Terhune and Riggs petitioned the Medical Society of New Jersey for the organization of The Passaic County Medical Society, and on January 16, 1855 at the Franklin House on Main Street the county society was formally organized with Garret Terhune, M.D. the first president, Dr. Burr, secretary, and Dr. Magee, treasurer.

Among other things accomplished at the organization meeting, fees were agreed upon. In 1852 the prevailing fee for a house visit was 50 cents while an ordinary obstetric case was \$5.00. Ten years later the house visit fee was increased to 75 cents with an addition 50 cents if after midnight while the obstetric fee was increased to \$10.

The Passaic County Historical Society has, in its possession, many articles belonging to early Paterson physicians and druggists, especially to Drs. Rogers, Bordon, Neer and Balleray all highly respected and successful physicians.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

(Continued from Page 29)

From this time on, great events took place with rapidity. The American Revolution began. George Washington took command of the armies. Hamilton, still under twenty-one, enlisted in the army where he was made a captain and within a few years he was advanced to colonel and appointed secretary and aide-de-camp to Washington in which capacity he served from 1777 until 1781.

During this period, Washington and his staff, as well as many other generals, became frequent visitors to the region lying in the proximity of the Great Falls of the Passaic. Colonel Hamilton was greatly impressed with the wonderful potentialities of the cataract for industrial use.

After long and bitter fighting and much suffering, the war ended. America was now politically free from England and a new Nation was about to be created. When Washington took the oath as the first president of the United States of America, under the new constitution, Alexander Hamilton was only thirty-two years old.

His former commander and friend, George Washington, appointed him to one of the five cabinet posts—that of Secretary of the Treasury. As

a Nation without credit, money or industries, the task of creating these commodities fell to the lot of the Secretary of the Treasury. Money was rather quickly obtained by the levying of taxes and duties upon imports. Soon many of the war debts to foreign governments, to states, to colonial financiers and to the soldiers of the revolution became partially or entirely liquidated.

But the problem of creating American industries was much more difficult. When England levied the highly objectionable taxes upon the American colonists, many of them set up small enterprises of their own in their homes or in small sheds adjoining them. Here shoes, hats, cloth, stockings were made for the family use and in some cases for the neighbors. However, during the Revolution and immediately after the end of the war there were no factories in America. For many years the leaders among the colonists had been opposed to American industry. Their policy had been to make this country primarily an agricultural one with the addition of a few other raw materials; and to import from Europe, principally, manufactured items. As late as 1768, the great American sage, Benjamin Franklin, held the view that manufacturing in the colonies was very desirable. This view was held, but in a somewhat modified degree, by George Washington, John Adams and many other of the leading statesmen.

Alexander Hamilton had been in complete disagreement with this policy for a long time. The young Secretary of the Treasury held that America MUST have economic and industrial independence as well as political independence and he pressed this policy. Hamilton's views were opposed by the Anti-Federalists led by Thomas Jefferson. Now while Alexander Hamilton had the reputation of being somewhat of a dreamer, he was quite practical in many respects. Before he "fathered" an enterprise, he obtained and assembled many facts and figures concerning it; and when once his mind was made up as to the proper course of action, he persevered with enthusiasm, energy and great clarity to convince others. Hamilton was usually able to sweep away all obstacles which his opponents placed before him.

Congress was finally prevailed upon to do something and it passed a resolution in January of 1790 directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to the Congress on the subjects of manufacturing and protection. The Secretary conducted very extensive investigations both in the United States and in foreign lands. The material obtained was crystallized in Hamilton's famous document which he sub-



ALEXANDER HAMILTON
First Secretary of the Treasury

mitted to the House of Representatives on December 5, 1791. *The Report* is regarded by many critics as one of the ablest State Papers ever prepared by Hamilton.

When George Washington was inaugurated president, there was only one factory for the making of cloth in the United States. This was a woolen mill located in Hartford. It opened in 1788 under the control of Jeremiah Wadsworth and Peter Colt and it was from this factory that the dark brown broadcloth was woven from which Washington's inaugural suit was made.

Several "societies" were organized in the States for the promotion of manufacturing. One of these was in Boston in 1786 which was followed with other similar organizations in 1788, 1789, 1791 and 1792. However, only a very few if any actually got into production.

In order to sound out public opinion in the states on the subject of creating American manufacturing, a series of six articles appeared in *The American Mercury* in 1791. These articles were entitled, "Observations on the Commerce of the U. S. A." and they appeared over the name of "Lord Sheffield." But in all probability, the actual author was none other than the Secretary of the Treasury,

Mr. Alexander Hamilton. The third of the series, appearing in April 1791 outlined in considerable detail a plan for the organization of a "society." So appealing were these newspaper articles that several men, well known in financial circles and many of them friends of Hamilton, decided to start a subscription for a fund to create a manufacturing society. A prospectus was prepared and circulated and by August of 1791, it was reported that \$123,000 had been subscribed.

In the prospectus, the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York were suggested as a proper location for such a venture and men of finance, interested in the various states, became subscribers. With Hamilton, however, there never existed any doubt as to his choice of the manufacturing site. It was to be at the Falls of the Passaic.

Various politicians interested in the organization, many of them intimate friends of the Secretary, began to prepare for action in the N. J. Legislature when it would convene in the fall. With practically no opposition, the Legislature of the State of New Jersey granted the society a charter on November 22, 1791. This charter, prepared by Alexander Hamilton, established the SOCIETY FOR ESTABLISHING USEFUL MANUFACTURES, better known in after years as the S.U.M. Three days later the Legislature subscribed 100 shares totaling \$100,000 in the newly-created society. The privilege of floating a lottery to obtain more funds was granted the organization and the inhabitants within a district of six miles square were permitted to be incorporated into a city government if and when they so desired.

Now there were but very few families residing in the area of the Falls in 1791. Most of these lived on the southerly side of the river in Essex County while those living on the opposite side were in the County of Bergen. These families were Dutch who had purchased land, brought their families, erected their homes and cultivated the land. They were greatly scattered along the river in little hamlets and villages. The most southerly was known as Acquackanonk (with numerous spellings and pronunciations). Others were called Wesel or Weasel, the Goffe, Preakness, Little Falls, Mead's Basin, Pompton. The farmers residing in the immediate vicinity of the Great Falls consisted of only ten families in 1791. While many of them were rather remote from the falls, they considered their place of abode to be "The Falls" or "Totowa." The latter name was derived from the Indian word "Totauwei" or "Tetauwei."

The organization of the Society was completed at a meeting in New Brunswick late in November 1791 by the appointment of William Duer, John Denhurst, Benjamin Walker, Nicholas Low, Royal Flint, Elias Boudinot, John Bayard, John Neilson, Archibald Mercer, Thomas Lowering, George Lewis, More Furman and Alexander Mc Comb as Directors. Colonel Duer was chosen as their first Governor and Archibald Mercer as Deputy Governor. The stock subscriptions then amounted to \$200,000 and were soon increased to \$262,000.

On January 20, 1792, a committee was appointed to select a site for the location of the "grand manufactory," "the National Manufactory" as the papers called the new project. Throughout the winter and early spring, much confusion existed concerning the location but on May 18, 1792 while meeting in Newark, the committee narrowed the location to some site along the Passaic River in New Jersey; then in July the committee met again at Godwin's Tavern near the Great Falls. Alexander Hamilton arrived here on the fourth of July and within a short time the Falls site was agreed upon for, as Hamilton said, "This is the finest site any where in the world for a National Manufactory." In short order, Hamilton's friend the French engineer, Major Charles Pierre L'Enfant, was appointed to lay out the "town" and many acres of land were purchased in the immediate area of the falls. The great National Manufactory was at last a reality but what a pity it did not bear the name "HAMILTON." Several of the directors had suggested "Hamilton" for a name but the Secretary of the Treasury urged that it be called "Paterson" in honor of Governor William Paterson who had signed the charter.

Thus the town of Paterson, Passaic County was born. It started from nothing but an idea fathered by Alexander Hamilton. A city established at the Great Falls for a great purpose, a national purpose—for establishing useful manufactures in a young Nation which needed these if it was to become industrially independent of Europe. Alexander Hamilton's ideas were soon vindicated and industrial towns sprung up. Within a few years our young Nation was actually free.

Paterson grew, from its ten dwellings of Dutch farmers to become a great industrial city whose importance has been felt throughout our country and internationally. This is especially true in textiles and in the area of transportation. The entire world is indebted to Paterson for its leadership in the building of the locomotive, the submarine and the air plane motor.