

CHESTER TIMES – December 18, 1911

**CAPACITY OF BALDWIN PLANT AT EDDYSTONE TO BE DOUBLED –**  
Half a Million Dollars to be Expended in Improvements According to Official Statement –  
Means Much to the Business World

An official announcement was made Saturday by the Baldwin Locomotive Works that the plant at Eddystone is to almost double in capacity, and the news will be received with pleasure by all who are interested directly or indirectly in this mammoth plant. According to the announcement the company will spend about \$500,000 on the improvement. The announcement means much to Chester and the business world in general as the belief had been growing that business conditions are likely to be dull.

It was rumored recently that the Baldwin Company was seeking a site near Chicago, Ill. With the intention of moving the entire plant nearer the western railroads which take nearly all the product of the plant. This announcement sets at rest any anxiety on this point which the public or employees may have felt.

**LARGE FORCE BUSY** – For months past a large force of men has been at work grading the property fronting on Chester Pike, and on which the principal enlargement will be made, and in building the foundations upon which the new erecting shop will be erected. This work is nearing completion at the present time, and in the near future the actual building will be begun.

This new erecting shop will be 500 feet square and will stand between the present erecting shop and the Chester Pike. In it will be ample room to handle in the most convenient method the largest locomotives turned out by the plant, and it is expected that the present erecting shop will be used as a boiler shop, the present facilities for the building of boilers being very limited.

The company also intends building one or more shops on the reclaimed land along the Delaware River, and this, added to the enlargement already mentioned, will practically double the capacity of the plant.

The reclaiming of the lowland along the river had been completed. With the usual foresight of the heads of this company the officials had the entire river front of the property bulkhead, and a bank of cinders placed just inside the bulkhead. When the government engineers in charge of the digging of the thirty-foot channel in the river were looking for a location for the dirt this property was offered, and last week the filling in of these lowlands was finished.

**VALUABLE RIVER FRONT** – This gives the works an excellent river front and will allow ships sailing to foreign ports or to points along the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific seaboard to load locomotives at the plant. This will add considerably to the efficiency of the plant when the facilities for this direct shipping to foreign ports are completed, but it will be some little time before this can be done owing to the fact that the newly made ground must be given an opportunity to settle.

Chester and nearby boroughs will benefit very greatly by this enlargement of the plant as the increased number of employees will mean more houses, more stores and a greater volume of business to the stores already established. Talk of the annexation of Eddystone to Chester is already being heard in many quarters, and if this ever becomes an established fact it will mean an addition of a large amount of taxable property to the city and much additional revenue.