

CHESTER TIMES – May 20, 1887 – A PRETTY LITTLE VILLAGE – The Attractive Farming Center of Upper Darby Township

Garrettford is a pretty little village of a hundred or more inhabitants located in Upper Darby Township, about a mile from the borough of Clifton Heights. There are no large mills or industrial works here but all around is a succession of smiling farms and comfortable homes.

The route from Clifton Heights to Garrettford is quite a romantic one, especially if you cross on foot. You pass Oak Hill on the way, called Oak Hill probably because there are no oaks near it. There are plenty of maple trees, however, and shade of all kinds and plenty of rocks and stones.

The St. Charles Catholic Church, with the church, school, the priest's residence are located here and form quite a cluster of buildings that can be seen a long distance. There is also a public school at Oak Hill, established about a year ago, of which Miss Emma Grace, is teacher.

A half mile further on is the village of Garrettford. It contains several stores, two of them quite flourishing concerns and doing a good business.

**BUSINESS OF JACOB SOMMERS** – One of the most prominent is the store of Jacob Somers. It is one of the oldest store stands in the county, and was established here nearly forty years ago. It came into possession of Mr. Somers by purchase from William H. King eleven years since. In his store Mr. Somers keeps a line of everything usually found in a country store, and at this time of year keeps a fine line of garden implements and farm seeds which are in demand among the farmers. In the grocery line a full stock is kept on hand and the goods are being received constantly and are always fresh and of the best quality.

Mr. Somers' trade is not confined to Garrettford alone but extends to Clifton Heights, Heyville, Kellyville, Lansdowne, Fernwood, and other nearby towns, several teams being constantly engaged in delivering the goods. The stock is purchased in large quantities and sold at the lowest prices. Mr. Somers gives the business his close attention and is ably assisted by his sons, Jacob and Joseph, young men of push and energy. He is postmaster of Garrettford and one of the best-known citizens in Upper Darby Township. He keeps a good store, sells at living prices, and in the community round, which is for the most part a funny one, his store is considered a great convenience.

**STORE OF SAMUEL GRIFFITH** – Samuel Griffith established a general store at Garrettford about three years ago and has within the last few years built up a good business.

He commenced in a small way but he gave his patrons full value for their money and kept a fresh stock always on hand. Last spring he was obliged to enlarge his store and now has a very complete and commodious store room. Mr. Griffith's trade extends to Kellyville, Clifton Heights, Heyville and all around, the goods being delivered there by wagons every morning.

Few men are better known about Clifton Heights and Garrettford than Samuel Griffiths. For a number of years he owned the morning newspaper route in this section and was a daily visitor to all the houses in the towns of this locality. The route was a good one and was retained by Mr. Griffith until about two months ago, when owing to the pressing demands of his store business here at Garrettford, he was obliged to sell out.

Since enlarging his store he has increased his stock and area of trade and now has a good business. The stock embraces everything usually found in a general country store. The proprietor is a live, energetic business man and is worthy of the patronage of Upper Darby's best citizens.

The space allowed us in the *Times* is all taken up but our notes of Garrettford are not exhausted. Tomorrow or next day we will give some account of what we saw at the Drexel mansion and grounds and at the Garrettford Poultry Yards.