

CHESTER TIMES – April 26, 1912

SEVERAL REAL ESTATE DEALS MADE IN COUNTY – Statzell Farm Sold for \$25,000 – Fernwood Hotel Purchased – In City and County

Several large real estate deals have been consummated in this county during the past few days. Realty and building has also been active in Chester as well as the city during the week. The outlook for the coming summer looks exceptionally bright for building. It is said that the present spring boom in building is larger this year than for many years past.

Probably the most important deal in the county is that of yesterday, when William C. DeVoe of Garrettford, consummated the deal through which the Statzell farm, adjoining Drexel Hill, was sold for \$25,000 to Harry P. Hipple of Philadelphia. The old Fernwood Mansion, Fernwood, a large and widely known hotel, is also reported sold. The identity of the purchaser has not been known as yet, but it is understood that a Chester man bought the place.

IN THE CITY – Contractor Amos Sheaff yesterday morning broke ground and commenced operations on the erection of the proposed new store, candy manufactory and dwelling on the northwest corner of Third and Lloyd Streets. Two large trees that have withstood the storms and blasts of many winters, are being cut down and employees of the telephone and light companies are assisting in the work to prevent interference with overhead wires and general traffic on Third Street by limbs and branches.

Contractor William Ward will commence the extensive improvements and alterations to the Franklin House on West Third Street, near the bridge of which Henry Haas is the proprietor, Monday morning. A new front will be constructed, with attractive windows on either side of the main corridor in the center of the building, with reading and reception rooms on the right and the bar on the left. During the progress of the improvements the bar will be transferred to the adjoining building.

The new garage of Contractor H. Louis Morris at Patterson and Barclay Streets is now under roof and will be completed in a few days. It is a two-story brick structure and a marked improvement to the neighborhood.

The twelve brick dwelling houses and one store in process of construction by Colonel William G. Price at Twelfth and Parker Streets for several weeks past are rapidly nearing completion and it is expected that they will be ready for market by the first of the week.

H. Louis Morris, the contractor of 312 West Seventh Street, is engaged in the erection of two modern brick dwelling houses in Fairview village. The excavations have been completed, and the stone masons are now at work. With the favor of the weather, it is believed that it will not be more than thirty days between the floors and the roofs.

A modern brick dwelling house will be constructed at Park Place and Twenty-Fourth Street for Edward Miles, a member of the firm of Harley and Miles, furniture dealers of Seventh Street and Edgmont Avenue. Excavations for the cellar have been completed, and it is believed that with the favor of the weather, it will not be more than 30 days between the floors and the roofs.

George A. Hewes, a well-known contractor of this city, predicts that this will be one of the greatest years in building that Chester has ever experienced. Mr. Hewes alone has under contract the building of nearly thirty houses and the other contractors have many

others. The present spring building outlook is for the erection of at least one hundred houses in and near the city. In neighboring boroughs the outlook is also bright.

Work will be commenced in the near future of the erection of one hundred houses on property purchased by the American Viscose Company, adjoining its property at Marcus Hook. These houses, however, will differ radically from the modern two story houses being erected by local contractors. Expert architects will model the American Viscose Company's houses after the workmen's homes in England, following out the plans of English manufacturing concerns on a larger plan.

In England the houses of the workmen are for the most part owned by large manufacturing plants and rented to their employees. The plan to be followed by the Marcus Hook concern will be not only to rent the houses, which will be built, but also to assist the employees to buy them on easy terms. Besides economizing on their house rents and other necessities much car fare will be saved and time gained by the new system. Work has been commenced by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which owned the land prior to its sale to the Viscose Company, in removing the top surface to a depth of several feet. This dirt will be used in ballasting and other work, principally the elevation of the tracks at Linwood.

Architects were sent to England at the expense of the Viscose Company to draw plans of the houses and consult with other architects.

Gartside Pennell of West Second Street, has purchased a farm in Atco, N.J., where he will reside with his family and indulge in the home comforts of farm life. Mr. Pennell has been living in Chicago for some time ago and has decided to become a Jersey man from a residential standpoint.

William C. Devoe, the real estate broker in Garrettford completed a deal yesterday which is one of the largest made in the county during the past month. Mr. Devoe sold the George W. Statzell residential farm consisting of twelve acres and a fine residence, at the corner of Burmont and Bloomfield Avenues, adjoining Drexel Hill to Harry P. Hipple of Philadelphia for \$25,000.

The place is one of the best located in Upper Darby Township and it plainly shows that real estate values in that section are continually jumping, which is due to the excellent trolley facilities. Mr. Hipple expects to occupy the place in the near future.

The Fernwood Mansion at Fernwood, which for a number of years has been conducted by Richard A. Donnelly, will have a new proprietor. William C. Devoe, the real estate man of Garrettford, has sold the good will and fixtures of this well-known hostelry, so it is understood, to a prominent hotel man in Chester. The price paid for the business is said to be \$25,000. The hotel is one of the best paying stands in this county, and it has been successfully conducted for more than twelve years by Mr. Donnelly. The hotel property, which is a large three story building with many rooms, is owned by the Kelley Estate of Philadelphia. The price is believed to be the highest paid in years for hotel business, not including the property.

IN THE COUNTY – Building is more or less on the boom at East Lansdowne. At present a property fifty feet by fifty feet is being erected at the corner of Lewis and Baltimore Avenues. It is a store property and is being built by Benjamin Fitzgerald of Atlantic City, N.J. The construction is of brick. A dwelling house will be erected in this borough by Anthony Napollon of Philadelphia, this spring. The contract has been awarded.

Real estate broker C.N. Valentine of Fernwood has sold the Frank Hoopes property in East Lansdowne to Walter Erb, a manager for a large department store in Philadelphia. The new owner expects to move to the property next Monday. Mr. Valentine has also rented John Kershaw's house in East Lansdowne to H.C. Cunningham, head of the Crucible Steel Company of Fernwood.

Groud was broken yesterday by Contractor Frank Gillespie for five brick houses on Walnut Street, Clifton Heights for C.H. Hagerty. Frank Shee is the builder.

Darby Borough – Joseph B. Swope of Darby Borough to John R. Shaw of Darby, brick store, house and lot, 18 by 90 feet, subject to \$2500 mortgage, \$7,000.

Colwyn – Daniel Melyneux of Bordertown to Joseph P. Swope of Darby Borough, house and lot 20 by 90 feet, subject to \$1400, mortgage, \$2500.

Llanerch – J. Edward Dunwoody of Haverford to Ethel K. Whitacre of same place, lot 50 by 132 feet, \$300.

Brookline – Midland Realty Company of Pennsylvania to John B. Congdon of Philadelphia, Lots No. 4, 34, \$190.

Midland Realty Company of Pennsylvania to Jacob Y. Brown of Philadelphia, lots No. 43, 44, \$820.

Chester – James A.G. Campbell, Receiver of Chester to The Keystone Fiber Company of Chester, mill buildings and lot (known as the Erey Manufacturing Company, Limited Mill No. 1).

Upper Darby – Ella K. Marshall of Upper Darby to Samuel W. Cape of Philadelphia, buildings and lot 72 1-4 by 157 feet, also lot 45 by 164 feet, \$1600.

Collingdale – Ezekiel Kirkpatrick of Collingdale to Irvin L. Tetter of same place, lot 60 by 2228 feet, \$1400.

Radnor – Harry N. Childs Son, executor of Pennsylvania to Nathan Hayward of Radnor, tract of 6.545 acres, \$12,425.50.

Darby Borough – William H. Harrison, Sr. of Prospect Park to Harry Tarbottom, three lots, \$7500.

BUILDING PERMITS – Building Inspector H.A. Fairlamb has issued the following permits since the first of April:

J.H. Phipps, bay window to house at 23 East Fourth Street.

Howard Taylor, two-story store and frame dwelling on Twenty-fourth Street, west of Crozer Street.

Hugh McCaffery, addition to Gallagher's garage on Seventh Street.

J.H. Phillips, one-story office building in rear of his home, 234 East Fourth Street.

H. Louis Morris, two-story brick garage at northwest corner of Barclay and Paterson Streets.

William J. Wisner, one-story frame kitchen to house at northwest corner Sixth and Kerlin Streets.

Charles Z. Jackson, one-story garage, covered with corrugated iron on Second Street between Flower and Edwards Streets.

Nolan Brothers, repairs to building at northeast corner Third and Market Streets: two-story brick dwelling at northeast corner Ninth and Howell Streets.

Amos P. Sheaff, two brick dwellings, two stories high, at northwest corner Third and Lloyd Streets.

William Bateman, garage, covered with iron, in rear of 207 West Eighth Street.

Albert Lindsay, two brick dwellings, two stories high, on west side of Fulton,
between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION