



THE
HISTORICAL DIRECTORY

OF
SUSSEX COUNTY, N. J.

CONTAINING

A brief summary of events from its first Settlement, with
Descriptive and Historical Notices of each Town ;

ALSO,

The Name and Post-Office Address of each Freeholder.

EMBELLISHED WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

AND

A VALUABLE MAP OF THE COUNTY.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

EDWARD A. WEBB.

1872.

reason that changed the name of West Vernon to McAfee's Valley.

WALLPACK TOWNSHIP.

The township of Wallpack lies in the southwestern extremity of the county, bounded north by Sandyston, south by Warren County, east by Stillwater, and west by the Delaware River. The Delaware in the southwest corner sweeps around a large bend and flows back about a mile in the opposite direction nearly to Flatbrookville, where it makes a short bend and returns. The eastern portion of the township is mountainous and very thinly inhabited. The population is scattered through the centre, along the Flatbrook, which flows through a most beautiful valley.

From Stillwater it is separated by the Blue Mountains. The line separating Wallpack from Sandyston is a part of the division line which separated what in our father's time was called East and West Jersey. Flatbrookville and Wallpack Centre are the only villages in the township.

FLATBROOKVILLE.

This village is situated on the west bank of the Flatbrook, near its mouth, where it empties into the Delaware. It is hemmed in on all sides by the Blue Mountain range, which cuts it off from the constant communication with the county seat which is enjoyed by other small towns.

It has been built up in the last fifty years, previous to * which a saw-mill only marked the place. This mill has gone through many changes; at first it was built of logs, with the cumbrous old gearing of that period. At the present time we find there a large frame building with modern improvements in machinery to utilize the water power, which is most excellent at this place. A mail route and stage line is established be-

* The first grist mill in the county was erected here in 1741.

Wallpack township is separated from Sandyston by the Blue Mountains.

In the grave yard near the site of the old Shapaneck Dutch Church is buried the wife of Judge John Cleves Symmes, the mother-in-law of Mrs. Henry Harrison. She was a daughter of Gov. Mr. Livingston, of New Jersey.

tween this place and Newton, running three times a week and returning the same day. There is also a mail route on Saturday of each week between this place and Layton's in Sandyston, stopping also at Wallpack Centre. There are two good stores, a wagon manufactory and an hotel here. Flatbrookville is beautifully located. The Delaware, making the graceful sweep around the mountain before referred to, doubles its track with a shorter curve, and then bears away to the south along the base of the mountain. From many points on these mountains, the eye traverses a range of mountain scenery from fifty to sixty miles in extent. This vast landscape is continuously intermingled with woodlands and flourishing fields.

FLATBROOKVILLE (REFORMED) CHURCH.

This is one of the oldest churches in the county. It dates back to 1737, and is one of the four Reformed churches on the Delaware, of which Johannes Casparus Freyenmoet was pastor, of which mention is made in the sketch of the Mahackameck Church. In 1793 it was incorporated as the Reformed Dutch Church of Wallpack, which name it retained until 1860, when a geographical division was made, dividing this township into Upper and Lower Wallpack, placing this congregation with that of the church at Bushkill, Pa., and since known as the Reformed Dutch Church of Lower Wallpack. In 1855 the present church edifice was erected at a cost of \$1,400. The present pastor is the Rev. John Fletcher Shaw.

congregation (not-removing)

WALLPACK CENTRE.

This is a small post village in the northern portion of the township, situated on the Flatbrook. It contains a store, a blacksmith shop and a Methodist church. Part of the blacksmith shop now standing here was once a portion of an old school-house then known as Myres' School-house. In form it was an octagon and in its day was quite celebrated. Until about twenty years since the locality was known by this name. About a mile west of the village, on the Delaware, there was once an old fort, and near this spot for many years there stood a church long since removed.

The old Shapaneck Reformed Dutch Church is the one here referred to. It was erected previous to the Revolution. It, and not the Myres School House, was octagon in form. The old School House was a four square wooden structure unpainted and now forms the village blacksmith shop at that place. A new School House built about 18 years ago.

** Rev. John F. Shaw is pastor of the Reformed Church of Lower Wallpack. Rev. S. Miller is pastor of the Wallpack Centre M. E. Church, and it has no connection whatever with the church at Dingman's Ferry, Pa. The Reformed churches of Dingman's Ferry, Pa., and of Peter's Valley, N. J., are known in the denomination as upper Wallpack. The present pastor is Rev. S. S. Garretson.*

WALLPACK CENTRE M. E. CHURCH.

* This church, together with the church at Dingman's Ferry, is now under the charge of Rev. John F. Shaw. The corner stone of this edifice was laid in June, 1871, on land donated by Jacob Roe. It is a frame building with brick foundations and a slate roof. It is 60x38 feet, and will seat 300 persons. The audience room, 20 feet from floor to ceiling, is handsomely painted and frescoed. This elegant structure, which took the place of a quaint old meeting-house, a relic of primitive days, was dedicated in March, 1872, and on the day of its dedication \$1,500 was raised by subscription to pay off the debt.

WANTAGE TOWNSHIP.

Wantage is about eleven miles long and about seven broad. It is the largest township in the county, having an area of over 40,000 square acres. It is bounded north by Orange County, N. Y., south by Frankford, Lafayette and Hardyston, east by Vernon and Hardyston, which are separated from it by the Wallkill, and west by Montague.

Wantage comprises that portion of the Kittanny Valley which lies between Pochunk Mountain on the east, and the Blue Mountains on the west.

The surface of this valley is uneven, covered with several ridges of low hills, running north and south, with bottoms of considerable width, in which is land of great fertility. Along these valleys run two small streams, tributaries of the Wallkill.

The natural scenery of this region is rarely surpassed. It is thickly settled throughout, and contains about a sixth of the whole population of the county. Less than one hundred and fifty years ago the Indians claimed the whole of the district as their hunting grounds, where now villages and farm houses thickly dot the surface. The early settlers of Wantage