

CHESTER TIMES – July 31, 1915 – BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD –
Arrangements Nearing Completion for Celebrating 138th Anniversary of Spot

The arrangements for the dedicatorial ceremonies connected with the marking of the Battlefield of Brandywine on Saturday, September 11, 1915 – the one hundred and thirty-eighth anniversary of that event – assumed definite form yesterday afternoon, when the general committee, appointed by Judge William B. Broomall, president of the Delaware County Historical Society, assembled in the judge's chambers in this city. The Pennsylvania Historical Commission of which Senator William C. Sproul is chairman, visited the battlefield several weeks ago, when it was decided in connection with the Chester and Delaware Counties Society, to commemorate the important incident, with appropriate ceremonies.

It is proposed to erect suitable markers, showing the march of the British troops under Howe and Cornwallis; that of the Hessians under Knyphausen; the Continental Army under Washington to the field of battle; the fords where the enemy crossed the Brandywine, and the points where the actual clash of arms occurred – Chad's Ford, Birmingham Friends' Meeting House and Dilworthtown, where Greene halted the pursuing enemy; Howe's headquarters and the place where the young La Fayette was wounded. These markers will be of such character that the passerby in an automobile can readily read them.

The memorial exercises are to be held at two o'clock in the afternoon at the Birmingham Meeting House, on the 11th of September. The program as outlined, is as follows:

Welcome, Dr. George M. Phillips, president of the Chester County Historical Society; president of the meeting, Hon. William B. Broomall; invocation, Rev. Philip H. Mowry; Pennsylvania Historical Commission, Hon. William C. Sproul, its president; patriotic song, First Baptist Church of Chester, Pa., quartette; Ode by Professor Russel Hayes of Swarthmore College; "Battle of Brandywine Geographically and Tactically Considered," by Prof. Smith Bunting of the West Chester Normal School; "The Plowshare Has Succeeded the Sword," by Hon. Isaac Johnson; patriotic song, by the quartette; "Battle of Brandywine Historically and Militarily Considered," by Brigadier General Tusker Howard Bliss, U.S.A., of the General Staff, Washington, D.C.

This program will be somewhat changed in its arrangement, for, since it was completed His Excellency Jean J. Jusserand, Ambassador of France has accepted an invitation to be present and make brief remarks, and President Wilson will forward a letter appropriate to the occasion.

General Bliss, it may be well to say, resides at Rosemont, this county, a son of the late Professor Bliss for Crozer Theological Seminary and is a speaker of wide reputation.

At the meeting at Judge Broomall's office, Chairman Henry Graham Ashmead announced the following subcommittees:

Finance – Col. Jas. A. G. Campbell, chairman; George M. Booth, George M. Bunting, John P. Crozer, Clarence Deshong, Dr. C. A. Ernst George C. Hetzel, Edmund Jones, Kingsley Montgomery, Garnett Pendleton, J. Howard Roop, William I. Schaffer, Charles T. Schoon and Richard Wetherill

Transportation – Frederick A. Howard, chairman; Col. T. Edward Clyde, Andrew J. Dalton and John E. McDonough

Invitations – Charles Palmer, chairman; Dr. Anna E. Broomall Col. Chas. E. Hyatt, Hon. David M. Johnson, Hon. Fred Taylor Pusey, Geo. E. Darlington and William W. MacFarlane

Badges – A. B. Geary, chairman; Charles R. Long and Josiah Smith

Entertainment – Joseph H. Hinkson, chairman; A. A. Cochran, Gen. Wm. G. Price, Jr., and Hon. William Ward

Publication – Charles R. Long, chairman; H. G. Ashmead, Chester F. Baker and Henry Pleasants

Music – Dr. C. I. Stitelet, chairman; Col. Frank G. Sweeney

Reception – Hon. O. B. Dickinson, chairman; Miss Emma A. Brewer, Mrs. F. Lewis Crozer, Mrs. Mary D. Cutler, Rebecca A. Easby, Miss Sallie Flickwir, Mrs. Kate B. Harvey, Mrs. Joseph W. Hawley, Mrs. E. E. Irving, Mrs. W. Shaler Johnson, Mrs. Sarah Brooke Lewis, Mrs. J. Watts Mercur, Mrs. Clara B. Miller, Joseph H. Parrish, W. G. C. Smith, Mrs. Walter M. Sharples, Mrs. William E. Trainer Mrs. J. E. Woodbridge, Christian Sanderson, Dr. Arthur H. Cleveland and Austin C. Leeds.

Chairman Ashmead is visiting West Chester today to arrange for a joint meeting of the Chester County Historical Society committees with those of the Delaware County Historical Society at Media, an intermediate point, to complete the final arrangements for the ceremonies of an event which will become historical in the story of this section, this Commonwealth and the nation, as well.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION