

CHESTER TIMES – May 15, 1906

AUTOMOBILE MAKES RUN TO DARBY IN FAST TIME – Machine Breaks Record in Trip to Darby at Close to a Mile a Minute

The record run in an automobile between this city and Darby was made yesterday afternoon in a Winston racing car, driven by J.R. Hyland of 6227 Chew Street, Germantown. The distance, nine miles, was covered in the remarkably fast time of 9  $\frac{3}{4}$  minutes, or almost a mile a minute on the road.

The start was made by Mr. Hyland from the Imperial Hotel and the destination was the Buttonwood Hotel. The previous record for the run was eleven minutes and this was held by a well-known Delaware countian. The machine was recently purchased and this was the second run. The builders guaranteed that it would run on any road which was passable at the rate of a mile a minute and it was to test the machine and try to break the Delaware County record that the test of sped was made. A stop watch was secured, as were three other watches, and all other preparations made, so that nothing would interfere with the journey.

The start was made at exactly 3 o'clock and in the car, besides Mr. Hyland, was Dr. John MacFayden, his son, John, and a representative of the Times. The car will hold seven people and is one of the latest touring racers. Several other prominent Delaware countians were to have made the trip, but when they saw that the driver was intent on lowering the record, they refused to accompany the party.

The car was started from Seventh and Welsh Streets and proceeded to Madison thence to Broad Street, which was used until the road leading to the Chester and Darby turnpike was reached. The pike was used to Prospect Park, when the road along the Philadelphia, Morton and Swarthmore trolley was used. When the car reached Darby the time was exactly 9  $\frac{3}{4}$  minutes after the start. The machine just lacked  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a minute of covering the distance in a mile a minute.

Those who made the trip experienced considerable difficulty in traveling at times, when ruts were reached, being almost thrown from the auto. At times breathing was done with difficulty. While the driver of the car was anxious to break the record, his time before starting was slated at 10 minutes.

The record is among the fastest, over a rough road in this country and Mr. Hyland is more than pleased at the success of the machine. Mr. Hyland formerly resided here and for many years was a motorman on the Chester Traction Company. A number of years ago he resigned and went to an automobile school and learned the business and today is looked upon as being one of the greatest chauffeurs in this section of the country. The car is owned by M.E. McDowell of Philadelphia. A number of people were at Darby to see the arrival of the auto.