MORTON

Morton is a thriving village in Springfield Township on the line of the Philadelphia and West Chester Railroad, about 10 miles from Philadelphia. It was first projected about 22 years ago and named after John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and now has a population of about 600, with good schools and churches, a number of handsome houses, a hotel, public hall, and several well equipped business houses enjoying quite a large trade, the more enterprising of which will be found described.

CONRAD K. DOLBEY – General Merchandise, Morton Ave. and the Railroad

This place dates its inception back about 20 years, the present proprietor succeeding S. Morton in 1876. The salesroom occupied is 20x40 feet in dimensions and contains an immense stock of dry goods, notions, oil cloths, boots and shoes, groceries, flour, feed, earthenware, queensware, hardware, window glass, barbed wire fence, powder, etc. Two assistants are employed and a kept, all goods being delivered free. Estimates are cheerfully furnished for glass, paint and hardware supplies. This gentleman is a native of Chester County and was born in 1834. For 10 years he was postmaster of this village. He was for one term school director in Upper Darby Township, is now treasurer of the Kedron Building and Loan Association and also of the Ridley Park Baptist church was the organizer of two building associations. He has been secretary in various secret organizations and has passed all the chairs in the Royal Arch Chapter of Free Masons at Media. At present he acts as agent for the American Fire Insurance Co., of Philadelphia, and deals extensively in real estate.

MRS. L. GRAHAM – General Merchandise

Dating its establishment from 1873 this is the oldest mercantile stand in Morton. It occupies a room 20x20 feet in dimensions, where is carried an excellent stock of general and miscellaneous merchandise. The grocery department contains a superior line of staple and fancy table and culinary supplies of the choicest quality and absolute purity. The leading specialty of the business however, is in dry goods and here at times will be found a thoroughly good assortment of the products of foreign and American looms. The stock also includes notions and trimmings in profusion, glass and queensware and other household necessities are kept constantly in stock. A team is kept, and goods are delivered free of charge. The proprietress is a native of Philadelphia and has had many years’ experience in the mercantile line.

B. GLENN– Blacksmith, Main St.

In the spring of the present year this gentleman began the practice of the blacksmith trade at the above site. He occupies a shop 12x30 feet in dimensions which contains one forge. Here he executes all branches of smith work including carriage ironing, repairing of agricultural implements and general jobbing of every description. Horses receive the best attention in shoeing, as he makes a leading specialty of this department. A native of Cecil County, Md., he was born in 1866. He learned his trade there and came here and established and his shop is a popular one.

A.W. PALMER – Groceries and Provisions, Cor. Morton and Linden Aves. Rutledge

The neat salesroom here occupied is 18x49 feet in dimensions and contains a large and choice selection of staple and fancy groceries, canned and bottled goods, jellies, preserves, pickles, fresh and cured meats, fresh, dried and evaporated fruits, teas, coffees, spices, sugars, syrups, etc., also fine family flour and mill feed, cigars, tobacco, French and American confectionery and notions generally. Two assistants are employed and two teams kept for purposes of delivery. This store dates its inception back about two years. The proprietor is a native of this county and was born in 1846. He has been engaged in the grocery business since 1882 previous to which time he followed agricultural pursuits. The post office has just been established here and occupies a portion of this store; Mr. Palmer was honored by being the first postmaster.

EBER SPEAKMAN – Boot and Shoemaker, Morton Ave.

This gentleman established his shop at the present site in 1883 and has built up a prosperous trade. He makes a specialty of fine custom work and manufactures to order boots and shoes for men, women and children. Repair work in all its branches is executed and he guarantees his material and workmanship to be of the highest order and his charges are moderate. Born in Chester County in 1828 he learned his trade in early life and has followed it since. He is much esteemed in this community.

GEORGE LODGE – Wheelwright, Main St.

This gentleman was born in this county in 1840 and has followed his trade since 18 years of age. He has been located in his present quarters since 1886 and occupies here a two-story shop 20x30 feet in dimensions where he executes all kinds of wheelwright work such as the building of heavy or light vehicles and repairing or painting the same, and attends promptly to all orders for general job work, using only the best material and guarantees his work to be unsurpassed and is enterprising and energetic.

JOHN M. McLaughlin – Tonsorial Artist, Main St.

This handsome tonsorial room was established by this gentleman about a year ago. It is 12x20 feet in dimensions and contains two fine chairs and other first-class appointments. Clean, easy shaving and fashionable hair cutting are the specialties for which the place is particularly noted. This proficient tonsorial artist and crinicultural manipulator is a native of Chester city and was born in 1869. He learned this art in one of the best establishments of that city and came here and established.