

The Bucks County Intelligencer

June 6, 1871

Beaumont Deer-Park Association.—A meeting of the subscribers to this Association was held at the Ingham Spring, in Solebury, on Saturday last. The object of the meeting was to view the property to be enclosed for the Park, and to adopt measures to advance the object of the Association. The day was exceedingly warm, probably the warmest one we have had this season. About a dozen of the stockholders were present, and notwithstanding the meeting had been advertised to convene at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, it was considerably after that time before anything in the shape of business was commenced. The first thing in order was a ride through the park, which lies almost due south of the Trout farm. The course taken in traversing it was along the main drive, which winds first one way and then another, making over a mile from the starting point to its extreme southern terminus. The park is to consist of sixty acres and 130 perches of woodland, fourteen acres of which is large timber and the rest young. Mr. Beaumont said that they now think very strongly of adding eleven acres of cleared land adjoining the Park proper. At the lower end is a stream of water, called "Silver Creek," which, with comparatively small expense, could be converted into a large dam, in which black bass could be raised and kept. Roads branch out in every direction throughout this enclosure, which, with grading, &c., can be made very pretty drives. The Park capital is to be \$12,000, to consist of 120 shares at \$100 each, with the privilege at any time to increase it to \$20,000. All but twelve of the shares are now taken. They intend stocking the Park with two hundred deer, English and German rabbits, and numerous other kinds of game. The stockholders of the Association are principally residents of the immediate vicinity of New Hope and Lambertville, though there are several in Doylestown, Philadelphia and other places. They did not hold any regular meeting on this occasion on account of the subscribers being so poorly represented. There seemed to a diversity of opinion among those present as to what course of action should be pursued; some thinking that the matter had better be dropped until the charter could be obtained at the September term of Court, thus making everything clear before them; others thought they might as well proceed with the work of building a fence around the grounds (a fence, in order to make escape by the deer impossible, must be ten or twelve feet high), grade the roads, and thin out the under-brush if necessary. After thoroughly discussing these points it was concluded to take no further action in the matter until the charter is obtained. Being through with this the visitors were escorted to the Trout farm by J. B. Thompson, one of the firm of Thompson & Tagg, who are the proprietors of the farm. They now have between sixty and seventy thousand

trout, four thousand salmon, and over one hundred terrapin. Next week Mr. Thompson expects to hatch 100,000 shad. With the weather at the present temperature it takes but thirty hours to hatch shad, while it takes 112 days for salmon and 60 days for trout, with the water in which they are hatched at a temperature of 45 degrees. Each degree, either warmer or colder, prolongs the hatching process five days more. The original trout were obtained in the spring on the farm, and the salmon in Canada. They expect to hatch shad throughout this month. In a short time they will commence selling eggs to other parties in the business. A. J. Beaumont has a large pond in which he intends raising black bass, and he will visit some point on the Potomac river in a week or two for the purpose of procuring some of these fish with which to stock the pond. Mr. Thompson called the attention of the party to some deformed fish which he had preserved in a bottle with chloroform, and it was very surprising to see how many different shapes and forms there were, some being triplets, others twins, some with two and three distinct heads, some with crooked tails and many other different shapes. He said he intended, for his own satisfaction, to try the experiment of raising some deformed fish this summer, but did not know whether he would succeed or not.

Transcribed by Suzanne Crilley