

ation to something like its former state, of the ravine that lay here in its primitive beauty before the Centennial Exhibition. The bridge that carried so many thousands across from this point to Horticultural Hall has been removed, but the four sets of pillars that ornamented each of its corners are still there, holding to your gaze the suggestive date 1876, as a memento of "the glories that were."

BELMONT AVENUE

When we strike Belmont avenue we have ridden $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Lansdowne drive entrance; strange as it may seem, the distance between the two points by way of Fortieth and Girard avenue is just the same, the connecting drive-ways being mostly straight lines.

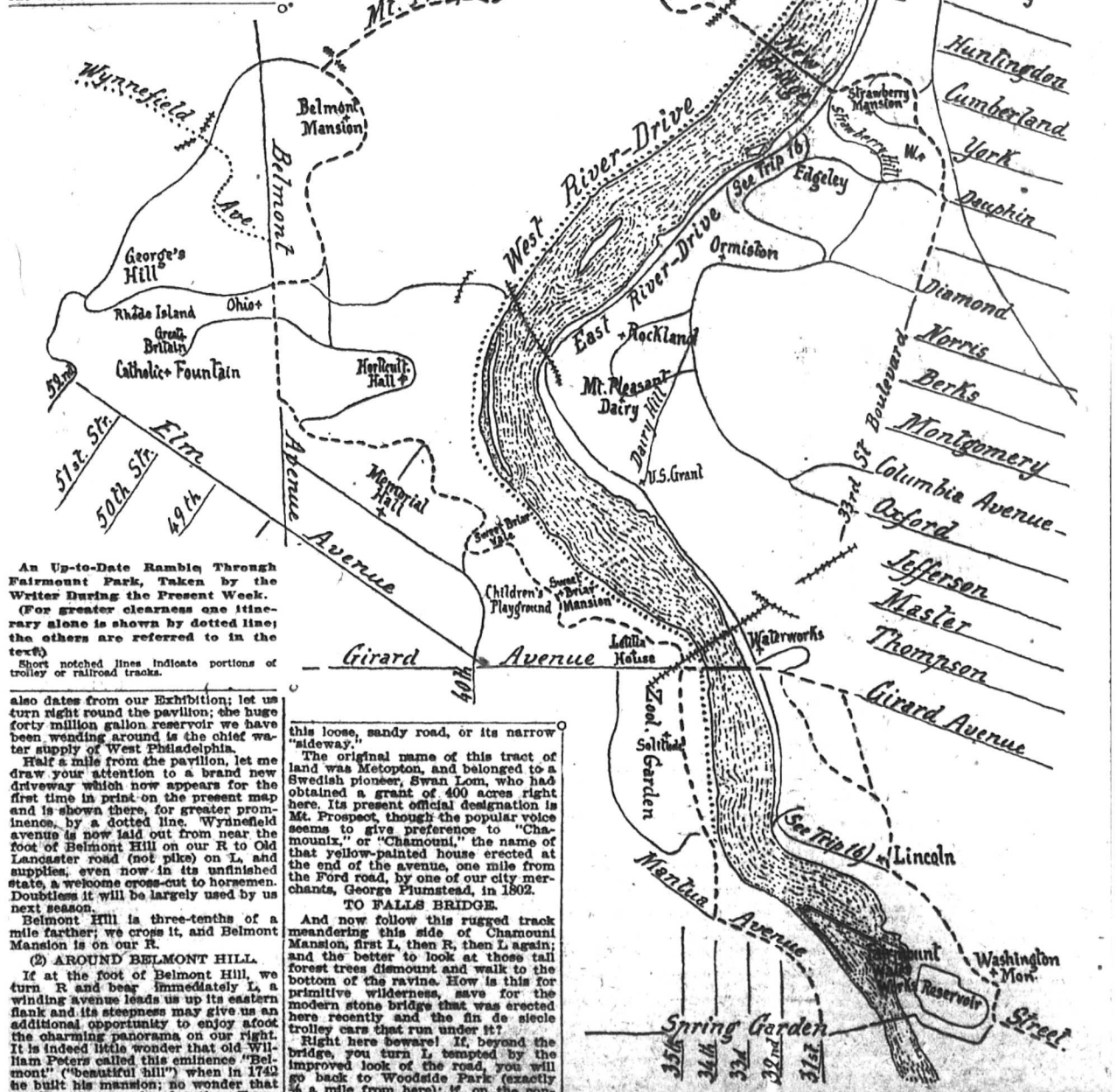
We turn R into Belmont avenue and a few whirls of our wheels bring us to the cross-road at the foot of Belmont Hill.

Instead of going straight up the hill, as we have done before, let us take either turn, R or L; both routes can be made to converge above Belmont Mansion (see map).

(1) AROUND GEORGE'S HILL.

Did you know that the Guard House here on R was the Ohio State building at our Exposition in 1876? Turn L around W; the asphaltum pavement you ride over for a while is a relic of that time, too; further on our L as we ride up is the British building, and nearer to us, higher up, is that erected by Rhode Island on our World's Fair grounds.

What think you of the view from the pavilion on the summit of this George's Hill, 210 feet above high tide? Don't misname it "St. George's Hill," as some people do. Jesse George and his sister, Rebecca, were large-hearted enough to present these lovely 83 acres to the city for a public park in 1868. Their respected names should be guarded from the blunders of Angliomania. From this point you might run down to Fifty-second street, or to the Catholic Total Abstinence Fountain, which



An Up-to-Date Ramble Through Fairmount Park, Taken by the Writer During the Present Week. (For greater clearness one itinerary alone is shown by dotted line; the others are referred to in the text.) Short notched lines indicate portions of trolley or railroad tracks.

also dates from our Exhibition; let us turn right round the pavilion; the huge forty million gallon reservoir we have been wending around is the chief water supply of West Philadelphia.

Half a mile from the pavilion, let me draw your attention to a brand new driveway which now appears for the first time in print on the present map and is shown there, for greater prominence, by a dotted line. Wynnefield avenue is now laid out from near the foot of Belmont Hill on our R to Old Lancaster road (not pike) on L, and supplies, even now in its unfinished state, a welcome cross-cut to horsemen. Doubtless it will be largely used by us next season.

Belmont Hill is three-tenths of a mile farther; we cross it, and Belmont Mansion is on our R.

(2) AROUND BELMONT HILL.

If at the foot of Belmont Hill, we turn R and bear immediately L, a winding avenue leads us up its eastern flank and its steepness may give us an additional opportunity to enjoy about the charming panorama on our right. It is indeed little wonder that old William Peters called this eminence "Belmont" ("beautiful hill") when in 1742 he built his mansion; no wonder that

this loose, sandy road, or its narrow "sideway."

The original name of this tract of land was Metokton, and belonged to a Swedish pioneer, Swan Lom, who had obtained a grant of 400 acres right here. Its present official designation is Mt. Prospect, though the popular voice seems to give preference to "Chamounix," or "Chamouni," the name of that yellow-painted house erected at the end of the avenue, one mile from the Ford road, by one of our city merchants, George Plumstead, in 1802.

TO FALLS BRIDGE.

And now follow this rugged track meandering this side of Chamouni Mansion, first L, then R, then L again; and the better to look at those tall forest trees dismount and walk to the bottom of the ravine. How is this for primitive wilderness, save for the modern stone bridge that was erected here recently and the fin de siècle trolley cars that run under it?

Right here beware! If, beyond the bridge, you turn L tempted by the improved look of the road, you will go back to Woodside Park (exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ a mile from here); if, on the con-

noid, best known to cyclists as The Dairy.

MOUNT PLEASANT.

It was purchased by the city in 1868, previous to which it had been a bear garden called Washington's Retreat.

The mansion, however, was erected as far back as 1761 by Sea Captain John McPherson, a scion of the McPhersons of Clunie in Scotland, who christened his new residence "Clunie." The name does not seem to have been very generally adopted, for I once found in a newspaper of the year 1766 an advertisement of his own in which he described himself as 'John McPherson, of Mt. Pleasant.'

It appears he was then in quest of "A Gardiner," who was to be "well recommended for his Honesty, Sobriety, and Industry," and "a Single Man, of proper Resolution, Discretion