A CIRCUITOUS CITY RAMBLE SOUTH OF CHESTNUT STREET

The stroke line shows the itinerary described; notched lines indicate portions of railroad tracks.

hardly believe, from its present appearance right here, that time was when Washington street, formerly Prime street, was known also as Love Lane, and that it was largely patronized by the youths of the day as a shady rural retreat where “As bees fly hame wi’ ladies o’ treasurers, The minutes winged their way wi’ pleasure.”

A change has come over the spirit of that scene, too, as well as over the surroundings of Walnut Grove. None the less, you will find it in our old newspaper files that at the beginning of the present century (about 1804) Love Lane was shaded with large sycamore trees. From Eleventh street, on the south side, there was a hedge and fence as far as Passyunk road, and a pleasure garden ran across Tenth street. In front of it was a double row of linden trees, an open slat fence, a hedge of low grass, etc. The house was concealed by vines, trees and shrubbery. A puzzle garden, laid out with various paths, edged with clover and boxwood, twisting and turning in all kinds of shapes, with beds of tulips, hyacinths, flags and other varieties of flowers and