

Extract from "Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington, including MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland" by G.M. Hopkins, C.E., 320 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, 1879. Included is a "History of Montgomery County, Md." by Dawson Laurence, Page 20.

"Among the tracts of land surveyed early in the eighteenth century "Benjamin's Lot" granted to Benjamin Gaither in 1725, part of which is now the famous Triadelphia Mill property, which was founded in 1809, by three brothers-in-law, Isaac Briggs, Thomas Moore and Caleb Bentley, and is now the residence of Hon. Thomas Lansdale; this gentleman was born in Berry District in 1808; moved to Ohio early in life, and returned to Savage Factory, in Anne Arundel, now Howard County, and was extensively engaged there in mechanical operations for a number of years. He was one of the inventors and builders of the first wood planing machines. He also invented the metallic yoke for swing bells. He came to Triadelphia in 1842, remained five years and went to Ellicott's Mills on the Patapsco River, in Baltimore County, to build the Granite Factory (Cotton Mills); This he successfully accomplished, devoting ten years to the work. He was the first manager who introduced steam into a factory for heating purposes; this was done about 1852, and excited surprise and admiration of visitors, from different parts of the country interested in such projects. This factory was burned down twice, rebuilt and finally swept away by the destructive flood of 1868, which left hardly a vestige behind it to mark the site of its repeated calamities. Being unsuccessful in his efforts to purchase complete control of the Granite Works, he returned to Triadelphia about the year 1856; from that time until war, fire and flood had made many changes in that, as in other localities simultaneously visited, Triadelphia was a busy,

thriving and attractive village of 300 or 400 inhabitants and about 30 dwellings, beside the large three story cotton factory, saw, plaster, bone and grist mills, store and mechanical shops.

Mr. Lansdale was a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1864, and was elected to the Senate of Maryland in 1865. He has been active in lending his aid to various public works for the advantage of the State and County, and liberal in fostering local institutions designed to promote the welfare of the people, genial in manners, especially hospitable in a land of hospitality; broad, comprehensive and patriotic in social and political views and aims; exhibiting unquestioned integrity in his political and commercial career, and universally respected by the large circle of operatives, business men and politicians with whom he was associated, he lives in the enjoyment of the confidence and profound esteem of the friends and neighbors within reach of his extended and beneficent influence." 21

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At foot of page 21;
Died in 1878.

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