

He told how he saw houses and trees, and hills, and roads, etc. Evidently this impressed the officer, for he patted Philip on shoulder, and asked him how he would like to join the corps. This quite took the boy's breath away, for he had a great inclination to do just that very thing. The officer invited himself to dinner at Philip's house the next day, and talked long and seriously with the parents. But Philip's father would not consent, so the corps went away without him. They were sorry not to take Philip along, for they had trouble to get good material for recruits, and after examining Philip, as to his education etc., they wanted to have him very much.

When Philip came over to this country, a year before his cousin was married, he stayed in New York City for a half year, clerking, and waiting for his parents, who came over six months later. They all came direct to "Grandpapy's" in Fulton County, then, and settled on the adjoining farm. Philip farmed in the summer, and taught school over the "Ridge," in the winter walking over and back each day. When the war broke out in the sixties, he went to the army, and served as quartermaster. He told me how he showed the soldiers to make palatable soup out of the beans, and hard tack, and dried vegetables that he received. Then when the war was over, he received a pension of course. At this time, he had trouble in securing the money, on account of the change of spelling in his name. In the old country, of course, they spelled their name "Von Schneider", but finding a great deal of trouble in making people understand the name, they changed it to "Snider". This caused all kinds of complications, and cut the family out of anything coming to it from the old country. Philip always, regretted this, as did many of the family, for as he said, in the old country the name, denoting a family of nobility, carried with it many privileges, and some distinction. "Over in Germany we were something, but here were like anybody else." For instance, grandfather's grandfather, Carl, was quite wealthy, and Aunt Anne said he had the finest plate, she ever saw. When he died one of the daughters inherited everything, and the others were left with small pensions.

But to return to grandfather, when he came to Greensburg he set up a good shoe-making shop, which was a small factory in itself. He had gone to Philadelphia and learned the trade. When he came back, he started in business for himself, employing nine men under him. One man would make the women's shoes; he was called the "Womans-man". Another did pegged work another sewed, and others repaired. Grandfather did the cutting, measuring, and fine work, as well as overseeing the business. Families came in to town from all around the country, perhaps for fifty miles, and ordered shoes for all the family at once. He had often seventy-five pairs of shoes ahead at one time, and did a very prosperous business there.