

Alexandria Gazette 19 Jun 1809

VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE – Pursuant to a deed of trust made by Elisha Janney to the subscriber for the benefit of his creditors, will be exposed to public sale, before the tavern door of Zachariah Ward, in the town of Occoquan, at twelve o'clock, on Friday, the twenty-first day of next month.

THAT VALUABLE MILL – SEAT, the property of the said Janney, situated in the said town of Occoquan. On this site was erected, about ten years ago a spacious three story brick mill house, which ever since has been occupied as a manufacturing mill until about five weeks ago it was destroyed by fire, the stone work of the mill and a considerable part of the brick work still stands and would be found sufficiently substantial to erect new work upon it – considerable part of the iron work would also answer for a new mill, which might with these aids be erected in time to grind the growing crop of wheat. The advantages appertaining to this valuable property which in the driest season never wants water, are so generally known as hardly to need a particular enumeration. Suffice it to state, that it is situated in a healthy and flourishing little town at the falls of Occoquan River, about 16 miles south of Alexandria, on the great stage road leading from north to south, in the heart of a fine wheat country, and has navigable tide water to the mill door where vessels may come of sufficient burthen to carry 400 to 500 barrels of flour.

ALSO at the same place will be exposed to sale THE TANKARD and the improvement thereon, which are calculated for the carrying on the tanning business to advantage and on a large scale, together with the stock of leather, &c. on hand. Also will be exposed for sale, at the same time and place, ONE UNDIVIDED MOIETY of a tract of land, containing about 500 acres, situated on the north side of the Occoquan River, very valuable from the quantity of fine timber which it contains.

TERMS OF SALE for the real property will be, ten per cent on the purchase money payable within 60 days by negotiable notes well endorsed, for the residue a credit will be given of one, two, and three years on equal payments. A deed of trust upon the property to secure the payments will be required. For further particulars, those who may desire to purchase will be pleased to apply to Mr. Nathaniel Ellicott, at Occoquan, or to the subscriber at Bush Hill near Alexandria.

Richard M. Scott, Trustee
June 19, 1809

Alexandria Gazette 12 July 1809

TO MILLERS – I have invented a machine called a WHEAT RUBBER, for which I obtained a patent on the first day of this month. The machine may be seen in operation in the mill of Nathaniel Ellicott, Occoquan. Those millers, who feel an interest in investigating its merit and have not an opportunity of visiting Occoquan, may be fully informed by application to Mr. Ellicott. My WHEAT-RUBBER, I do verily believe is upon entire new principles, the cost of erecting it a trifle, the materials of which it is composed easily attainable in any part of our country, and the plan simple in the extreme: any workman of common capacity will be able to erect it from description only. Practical millers know, that in a great proportion of the wheat that comes to market (from the manner it is stacked in fields by the farmer and exposed to the weather) a number of sprouted and unsound grains mingle with the mass, and has eluded the ingenuity of the miller to separate it from the sound grain – they also know those unsound grains injure materially the taste and color of flour --- my machine not only frees the wheat of stone,

onion, cockle, dirt, &c. but does absolutely take from it every unsound grain, from what cause so ever it may have been injured, as my machine will not let any unsound wheat pass it – millers may have their screen wire much finer than hitherto used, and thereby save considerably --- it will also be found that the grain in passing the rubber, is polished, and that even the eyes of the wheat is picked perfectly clean of dust or dirt. Some instances having occurred of certificates being obtained, saying much more in favor of a new invention than the public are willing to admit after trial – I hope it will be a sufficient apology for my taking a different course. My price for the privilege of using the rubber is fifty dollars for each pair of wheat stones the mill contains. Letters directed to me post paid shall be attended to.

James Deneale
Dumfries, Va. July 10, 1809

Alexandria Gazette 4 May 1810

FOR SALE at the town of Occoquan, on the 26th day of May next at Public Auction, that VALUABLE MILL SEAT, late the property of the Elisha Janney, situated in the said town of Occoquan, on this site was erected, about eleven years ago a spacious three story brick mill house, which ever since has been occupied as a manufacturing mill until about twelve months ago it was destroyed by fire, the stones and bricks of the former walls, and the iron work of the building are upon the spot, and would answer for a new mill, which might with these aids, be erected in time to grind the growing crop of wheat.

The advantages appertaining to this valuable property which in the driest season never wants water, are so generally known as hardly to need a particular enumeration. Suffice it to state, that it is situated in a healthy and flourishing little town at the falls of Occoquan River, about 16 miles south of Alexandria, on the great stage road leading from north to south, in the heart of a fine wheat country, and has navigable tide water to the mill door where vessels may come of sufficient burthen to carry 500 barrels of flour. With this valuable seat for water works of any description, there may be had about 250 acres of well timbered land, lying on the opposite side of the river.

For this property one tenth of the purchase money will be required in hand, and the residue in three equal annual payments, with interest from the day of sale.

Richard M. Scott,
Trustee for Creditors of E. Janney
April 25, 1810

Alexandria Gazette 8 June 1810

A TOLL KEEPER IS WANTED at the Occoquan Bridge immediately; none need apply without the most satisfactory proof of their honesty integrity and sobriety. An elderly person without a family, who is a tradesman, such as a tailor, shoemaker, or schoolmaster, would be most suitable – as it would add income to himself, and be more agreeable to the owner. Apply at the Town of Occoquan.

N. Ellicott
May 30, 1810

Alexandria Gazette 9 Aug 1810

HAVING A DESIRE TO DECLINE THE BUSINESS of Store Keeping at Occoquan, we wish to dispose of the present small stock of goods on hand, to a person who would be willing and more able to keep a store well assorted than ourselves, and who would do business on a scale sufficiently extensive for their interest, and to do justice to so valuable a situation.

WE WILL ALSO SELL OR RENT that valuable and convenient Brick Store House and Wharf we at present occupy, being calculated for a store and counting room upon the first floor, and for a family upon the second floor, with an excellent dry cellar under the whole building, together with a brick kitchen adjoining. This stand has probably been equal to any in Virginia for the sale of both Dry Goods and Groceries; and if the present growing crops of grain should be realized equal to its present appearances, there is no doubt but this stand will be equal to former times, as we propose to keep up a constant cash market for wheat, and will probably buy 70 to 80,000 bushels.

Ellicott, Campbell & Wheeler
Occoquan, Va. June 22, 1810

Alexandria Gazette 9 Oct 1811

OCOQUAN MILLS – The proprietors offer for sale this valuable estate, consisting of LANDS, MILLS, MILL – SEATS, DWELLING HOUSES, STORES & other valuable property, all upon navigation and convenient to market.

To those who are unacquainted with the premises it may be stated that they are situated at the Falls of Occoquan River, in Virginia, which empties into the Potomac, 16 miles below Alexandria and about 8 or 10 below Mount Vernon, the seat of the late General Washington.

At no one spot, probably, can there be united more advantages for flour mills, or any kind of manufactory or mechanical operations requiring the agency of water; the stream is large, generally affording enough for twenty water wheels at a time, contiguous to several of the finest wheat counties in Virginia, and being upon navigation has, besides, the whole range of the river Potomac on both sides to its mouth a distance of at least 100 miles. The great mail stage road from north to south passes through it, a post office at the spot and a daily mail throughout the year affords early and constant information of the state of markets and whatever else may be interesting. The buildings here in after described, with several others built and owned by different people, gives to the place the appearance of a handsome little village, remarked by strangers for the romantic scenery around it, and by its inhabitants for the unequalled celebrity of its air.

First in importance of the buildings is a very complete Merchant Mill with all the most approved modern machinery for the manufactory of flour, of which article it has and can make twenty thousand barrels a year with ease. Next is a Country Toll Mill, which has given annually three to four hundred barrels of Indian Corn and other grain from its toll alone; there is also a Mill for pounding and grinding Plaster Paris, an article in much request throughout the neighboring counties; a well constructed Saw Mill in good repair; and a Toll Bridge that produces twelve hundred and fifty to fifteen hundred dollars a year; besides which there are several well fitted Store Houses, six or eight Dwellings suitable for tradesmen exclusive of their Work Shops, and Stablage for at least fifty head of horses and cattle. The whole is overlooked by a large commodious Stone Mansion House, with every office suitable for the residence of a genteel family; and at the door is a never-failing Spring of fine Water.

Unimproved, are several valuable Mill Seats, two of which immediately adjoin the present and are supplied with water from the same race and dam; besides these (as there is nearly thirty feet more head and fall of water than has ever yet been found necessary to use in the present works) other mills may be erected so much above, as not to interfere with those already mentioned. Indeed 52 feet fall, which there is here, would admit of all the water being worked twice over if desired.

There is, belonging to the estate, near one thousand acres of land, some adjoining and none of it very distant from the mills, mostly in wood and some parts pretty well timbered; through immediately adjoining, are some well improved productive Meadows and Grain Land & several enclosed Town Lots. If it be asked why so desirable and productive a property should be offered for sale, it may be answered "that the advanced age and distance residence of two of the partners make a narrower circle of concerns desirable to them, and all the parties are desirous to pay off their debts."

Any person inclined to purchase will find the price reasonable, and the time of payment for a large proportion of the purchase money will be made as easy as the purchaser could expect or wish.

For further particulars application may be made to James Campbell, at Petersburg; Samuel G. Griffite, Esquire, of Baltimore; James Taylor Jun. Esq. of Norfolk; or on the premises to Nathaniel Ellicott and Luke Wheeler, the latter of whom will remain a few weeks at this place, to assist in effecting the object of this advertisement.

Ellicott, Campbell & Wheeler
27 September 1811