that had been found to be sufficiently refractory. He brought to this
country Louis de Gée, of Ougréé, Province of Liège, Belgium, to super-
intendent their construction. Other Belgians came with De Gée and
they were followed by still others in succeeding years. The Belgian
furnaces proved to be successful and in July 1859 began producing
spelter.

During this time the ore was hauled from the mines to the Bethle-
hem furnaces by wagon or, in case of unusually bad roads, carried by
pack mules.

It is interesting to recall that up to this time spelter had been made
commercially at only one place in the country. In 1838, at the United
States arsenal in Washington, the first brass was produced in this
country. It was made from the zincite ore found at Franklin Furnace
and Stirling Hill, N. J., and ore from Perkiomen, Pa., and was used
in the manufacture of the standard weights and measures for the
U. S. Customs Department. The method was the one known for
hundreds of years of producing brass from zinc ore and native copper.
The process, however, was so expensive that it was many years before
any other attempts were made to utilize the zinc ores of this country.
The industry did not meet with much success for several years because
the oxide of iron in the franklinite of the ore formed a fusible silicate
with the siliceous matter of the clay.

Experiments in making metallic zinc from New Jersey ores were
commercially unsuccessful until 1865 when a small regular produc-
tion began at Newark, New Jersey using refuse zinc oxide. In 1866
the first spelter was successfully made from willemite ore. The first
really successfully spelter furnace, using New Jersey ore, was built in
1869 at Jersey City by the Passaic Zinc Company. Thus the produc-
tion of spelter from the Friedensville ores in the furnaces erected at
South Bethlehem were the first entirely successful zinc furnaces in
the United States.

On February 16, 1860, by an act of the Legislature, the name of the
company was changed to the Lehigh Zinc Company, by which it is
best known. There was much litigation concerning the ownership of
the property until 1861, when the company purchased the land
outright.

In 1864 and 1865 the company erected a mill for rolling sheet zinc
with a capacity of 3,000 casks or 1,680 tons per year. The mill started
operations in April 1865.

From 1853 to 1876 the parent company continued to operate its
Friedensville mines without interruption. From the beginning of
operations until 1875 this company was the only one operating in the
district. It, however, never owned the property of the Jacob Correll
estate lying just west of the Friedensville church. This property was
originally leased by the Passaic Zinc Co., by whom it was sublet to
the Lehigh Zinc Co. on high royalties. In 1875, this lease expiring,
the Bergen Point Zinc Co. of Bergen Point, N. J., obtained the lease
and began operations. For about a year, therefore, until the closing
of the Lehigh Zinc Co.'s operations, two companies were at work in
the region. The Bergen Point Zinc Co. continued to operate until
1881. The mine has been called the Correll and also the Saucon.