& Co. These works have been in successful operation for a number of years, and the cement (which is mined in the neighborhood) is said to be equal in every respect to the celebrated Rosendale cement.

Until 1872 the manufacture of natural cement at this place was continued on a small scale. That year the original plant was leased by General J. Selfridge and more kilns were constructed and the production increased to 200 barrels per day. The company became the Old Lehigh Cement Co. A new quarry was opened on the Hoken daqua Creek about a mile east of the plant. Market conditions were so poor that for the next five years the plant was idle most of the time.

Another natural-cement plant, called the Allen Cement Co., was built nearby on Hoken daqua Creek in 1872 and opened a quarry close to the mill.

The first cement operations in Lehigh County started somewhat later than in Northampton County. In 1866 David O. Saylor and two associates organized the Coplay Cement Company. They acquired property and in the following spring proceeded to develop it. Mathews and Hungerford (1884, p. 506) furnish the following description:

"They built two small kilns for burning the stone, and fitted up an old distillery building near Coplay Station for a grinding-mill. They at first utilized the rock in the small knobs and ridges left between the railroad cut and the river, hauling it about one mile to their works. The business, though small, was profitable, and, as soon as it was practicable to do so, the enterprising proprietors enlarged it. In 1869 they built a frame and stone mill near the small kilns, and then proceeded to erect two additional kilns, which increased the capacity of their works to about two hundred and fifty barrels of natural cement per day. In 1870 the company opened a new quarry and a slope in the greater mass of rock west of the railroad cut. In 1871 they built an addition to their mill, which largely increased the effectiveness of their operations.

"Up to this time only the ordinary, or what is called the natural cement, had been manufactured, but in 1872, Mr. D. O. Saylor, the president of the company, discovered a process by which an improved cement could be made, and secured a patent upon it. The product of this process is known as the 'Anchor Cement.'"

Prime (1878) gives the following description of Saylor's "Anchor Cement":

"This is an improved article of cement which after a trial of five years has proved itself to be equal to any American light burnt cement. It is claimed that the peculiar process employed in manufacturing it (which is patented) makes it different in its chemical nature to all other American cements. It sets rapidly, has great powers of cohesion, and acquires an unusual degree of hardness, both under water and in the air.

"Its color is a beautiful greenish gray which makes a very desirable color for building purposes. It is said to be excellent for the manufacturing of sewer and drain pipe, making smooth and uniform work, setting rapidly; therefore more pipe can be made with the same number of molds than with a slow setting cement. It is, therefore, desirable for concrete or beton for subaqueous foundations, and for piers and abutments of bridges. In a report of the engineers in charge of the construction of the Girard avenue bridge, at Philadelphia, Pa., one of the most substantial and most beautiful bridges in the country, they say that of all the different common American cements experimented with and tested for the beton or concrete for the foundations, the Anchor cement proved the strongest and most satisfactory in all respects."