



# The Society Scroll

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“Telling The Stories Of Ocean County”

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## A History of Monmouth and Ocean Counties

By Edwin Salter

Originally published in 1890 by E. Gardner & Son, Publishers

The following excerpt was taken from “Old Times in Ocean County”, pages 101-102.

### ORIGIN AND SIGNIFICATION OF SOME OF THE NAMES IN OCEAN COUNTY, HISTORICAL, TRADITIONAL, AND CONJECTURAL.

**Manahawkin:** This name is from the original Indian designation of the place and signifies “good corn land”.

**Barnegat:** From the Dutch and signifies “Breakers Inlet”, or an inlet with breakers. It was first written “Bar-ende-gat”, then “Barndegat” and finally the present orthography was adopted.

**Waretown:** So called from an early settler names *Abraham Waeir* who died in that village March 24<sup>th</sup> 1768, aged 85 years.

**Toms River:** So called from a noted Indian living there previous to the Revolution. It is said he held some office under the British Government, but proving a defaulter was deprived of it and disgraced.

**New Egypt:** One tradition says this place was formerly called “Kimmons Mills” a man named Kimmons owning the mills there; and from the amount of corn raised and sold in the vicinity, people at a distance used to speak jokingly of “going to Egypt to buy corn”, and hence the name.

**Goodluck:** There is a tradition to the effect that a man on horseback being pursued by some enemies intent on taking his life, rode his horse into the bay and swam him across to the point of land near the mouth of Toms River now known as Goodluck Point but which means he escaped and to commemorate his deliverance he called it “Goodluck Point”. In regard to the name of Goodluck applied to the village, another tradition says it was given by Rev. John Murray on account of the good luck which he seemed to meet with there. As Murray must have originally landed near Goodluck Point, it is not improbable that fancying the name as applied to the Point he might under the circumstances have bestowed it upon the village.

**Barendegat:** The name Barendegat in Dutch signifies *Breakers inlet* or an inlet with breakers; it appears to have been applied to the inlet, not as a permanent name, but only as on *descriptive* of the inlet, by the first discoverers along our coast; the same name is found upon some ancient maps applied both to Absecon and Barnegat.

The name Barnegat in ancient times was not only applied to the inlet and bay but to much or most of the land bordering on the bay.

