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PATERSON, THE "FEDERAL CITY."

Paterson, the city of mills and factories, owes its beginnings to the dreams of one of the fathers of the country, the brilliant first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton. The realization of the dream was somewhat delayed, and perhaps has fallen short of the hopes of the founder; but Paterson has nevertheless followed the pattern laid out for it in the early days of the country's history.

Though the Revolution had left America politically independent of Great Britain, leading minds soon realized that the fruits of liberty would be bitter if the new country could not secure her industrial independence as well.

The new world had been looked on as a producer of precious metals, pelts, and raw materials to be turned over to the mother country for manufactured articles, which the colonists had no choice but to buy at advanced prices. They were prevented from making woolen, cotton, or linen cloth for sale, nor were they allowed to build furnaces to convert the native iron into steel.

When Washington was inaugurated the newspapers took pains to attract the public's attention to the fact that he was wearing a suit of broadcloth of the finest American manufacture.

Even during the Revolution, Alexander Hamilton had been impressed with the site of the Great Falls of the Passaic. His fertile imagination envisioned a great manufacturing center to supply the needs of the country. Here was the water power to turn the mill wheel and a navigable river to carry the manufactured goods to the market centers.

With raw materials and minerals at hand it seemed that a little faith and energy was all that was needed. The Revolution over, in the midst of the thousand and one details of organization of the government that occupied him, Hamilton proceeded to put his pet idea into motion. His plan was to form a large stock company which would engage in all sorts of manufacturing and would encourage private enterprises as well. Although he was convinced that the Great Falls of the Passaic was the logical site for a manufacturing center, he cannily kept that part of his plan to himself. He enlisted the services of the newspapers of New York and Pennsylvania, as well