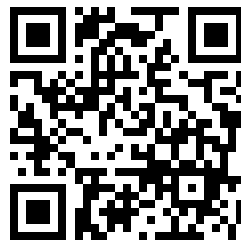

This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google™ books

<https://books.google.com>











—1784.—

HISTORY

—OF—

CHENANGO AND MADISON COUNTIES,

NEW YORK,

WITH

VOLUME ONE

Illustrations and Biographical Sketches

OF

SOME OF ITS PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS.

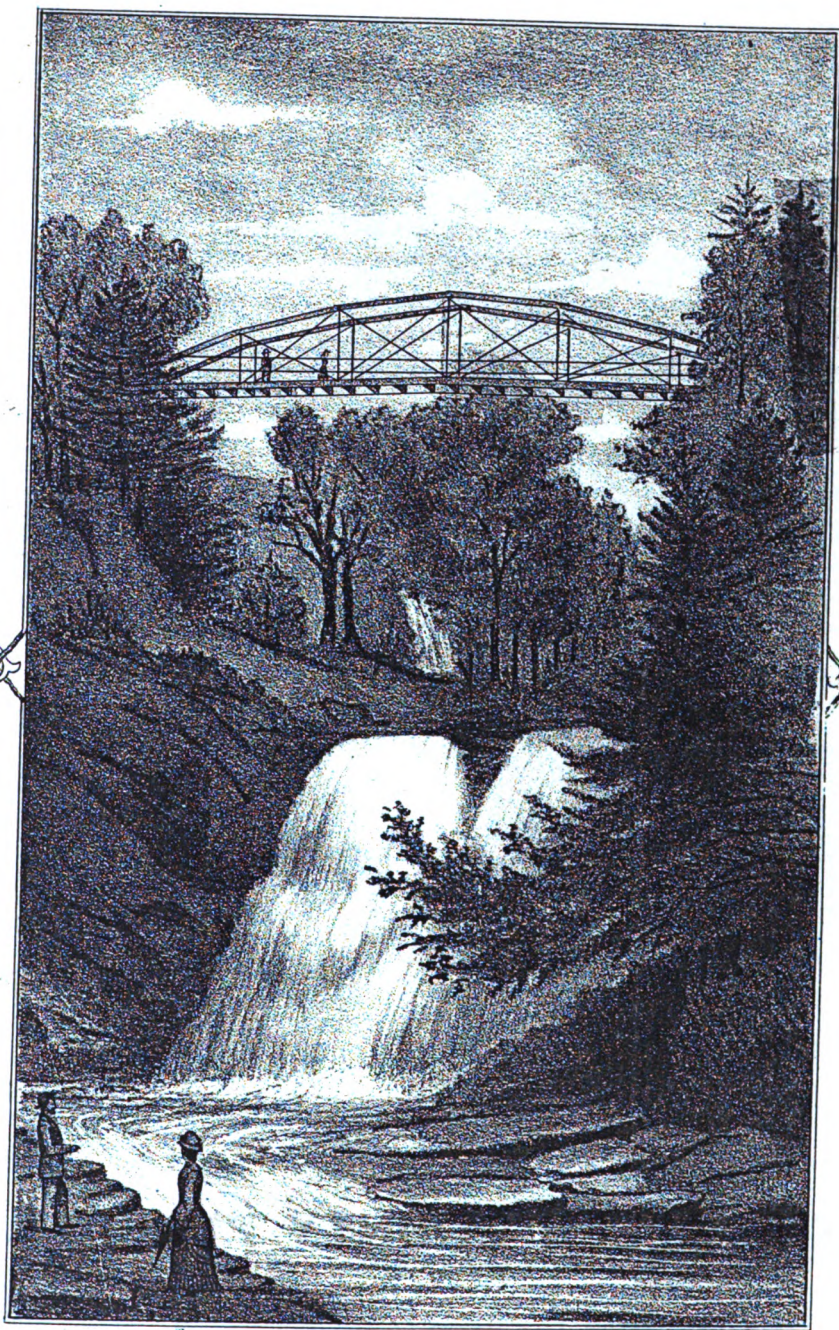
By **JAMES H. SMITH.**

Published by **D. MASON & CO.**

SYRACUSE, N. Y.

—1880.—

F
127
C76
S65
Pl. 1



SHERBURNE FALLS, SHERBURNE, CHENANGO CO. N.Y.

CONTENTS.

HISTORY OF CHENANGO AND MADISON COUNTIES.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
CHAPTER I.—History of the Aborigines—The Iroquois Confederacy—Its Origin and Organization—Tribal Relations—Secret of its Power—Its Superiority and Supremacy—Its Degeneracy.	9	pal Missions—New England Missions—David Fowler—Rev. Samuel Kirkland—Episcopal Missions Renewed—Rev. Eleazer Williams—Methodist Missions—Brotherton Indians—Rev. Sampson Occum—Stockbridge Indians—Skenandoah.....	55
CHAPTER II.—History of the Aborigines, Continued—Indian Mutability—Indian Habits and Usages—Indian Dwellings—Manner of Constructing Them—Their Uses—Indian Towns—How Built and Fortified—Social Usages—Dress and Ornaments—Law of Marriage—Experimental Marriages—Family Discipline—Home Employments—Gambling Universal—Dances and Feasts—The War Dance—Tortures—Religion and Superstition—Stated Annual Festivals—Medical Feasts—Dreams—Wizards and Witches—Burials—Wampum—Hospitality.....	19	CHAPTER VI.—Chenango and Madison Counties, Early Land Grants in—Indian Title Extinguished—Line of Property—Treaty and Cession of 1784—Massachusetts' Claims—Treaties and Cessions of 1785, '88 and '95—Chenango Twenty Townships—Military Tract—Original Owners of the Twenty Townships—Area of Twenty Townships—The Gore—Brakel Township—Road Township—Proceeds of Gospel and School Lots in Twenty Townships Misappropriated—The Gore in Oxford—Fayette Township—Clinton Township—Harper Patent—Township of Greene—Livingston Tract—French Tract—Chenango Triangle—Vermont Sufferers—Oneida Reservation—New Petersburg Tract—Canastota Tract—Cowassalon Tract—Other Minor Tracts in Madison County.....	66
CHAPTER III.—History of the Aborigines, Continued—Early Discoveries—European Competition in the Western Continent—French, English and Dutch Settlements and Claims—The English Supersede the Dutch in New Netherlands—Iroquois and Early Colonists—Champlain's Invasions of 1609 and 1615—Location of Fort attacked by Champlain in 1615—Iroquois make Peace with the French—Iroquois Conquests and Supremacy.....	31	CHAPTER VII.—History of Chenango County—Early Civil Divisions—Formation of Chenango County—Its Boundaries—Original Towns in Chenango County—Origin of Name—Topography of Surface—Area—Streams and Ponds—The Susquehanna—The Unadilla—The Chenango—The Otselic—Soils—Climate—Death Rate of Chenango County—Industries—Agricultural Productions—Dairy Interests of Chenango County—Comparisons with other Counties in Agricultural Productions... ..	71
CHAPTER IV.—History of the Aborigines, Continued—French and English Rivalry—French and English Colonization Compared—Expedition of M. de Courcelle against the Mohawks—M. de Tracy's Expedition against the Mohawks—Conditions of Peace between French and Iroquois—Peace of Breda—French and Iroquois again at War in 1669—Peace of 1673—M. de la Barre's Expedition against the Senecas—M. de Nonville's Expedition against the Senecas—French and English War of 1689—Schenectady Sacked and Burned—Attack on Montreal and Quebec—Frontenac's Barbarity—French Destroy Three Mohawk Castles—Peace Negotiations Fail—Frontenac Invades the Onondaga Country—Treaty of Ryswick—Iroquois Alienation—Treaty of Utrecht—Tuscaroras Admitted to the Iroquois Confederacy—French and English War of 1744—1748—Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle—War Renewed in 1755—Treaty of Paris—Pontiac's Conspiracy—War of the Revolution—Sullivan's Expedition—Present Status of Iroquois.	59	CHAPTER VIII.—History of Chenango County—Geology—Hamilton Group—The Lowest Rocks in the County—Tully Limestone—Genesee Slate—Portage or Nunda Group—Ithaca Group—Chemung Group—Catakill Group—Deceptive Indications of Coal—Quaternary Deposits—Clays—Sulphur Springs.....	77
CHAPTER V.—History of the Aborigines, Concluded—The Oneidas—Their Origin, Symbols and Town Sites—Frontenac Destroys their Village in 1690, and Brant during the Revolutionary War—Jesuit Missions—Jogues' Mission to the Mohawks—LeMoine's Mission at Onondaga—Jesuit Missions Renewed—Mission of St. Francis Xavier at Oneida—Father Pierre Millet succeeds Jacques Bruyus in that Mission—Decline of Jesuit Missions—Cause of the Failure of the Jesuit Missions—Episco-		CHAPTER IX.—History of Chenango and Madison Counties—First Settlements and Measures Leading Thereto—Population at Different Periods—Homes and Privations of the Early Settlers—Their Clothing—Primitive Methods of Grinding Corn—Pioneer Sociability—Condition Ameliorated by the Introduction of Improvements—Settlement Retarded by remarkable Ice Freshet—Evidences of Wealth and Prosperity of Present Inhabitants—Routes and Means by which the Pioneers reached their Wilderness Homes—Navigable Streams the Public Highways—Indian Trails—Routes Indicated by Blazed Trees—Chenango Road—Rapid Multiplication of Local Roads.....	81
		CHAPTER X.—History of Chenango and Madison Counties—Internal Improvements—Western Inland Lock Navigation Company—Old Genesee Road—Seneca Turnpike Co.—First Mail	

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Through Madison County—Other Turnpikes—Other Means of Transportation—First Survey for Erie Canal—First Board of Canal Commissioners—Remarkable Instance of Engineering Skill—Construction Authorized—Commissioners of the Canal Fund—First Contract on Erie Canal—First Packet Boat on—Celebration of Erie Canal Completion—Erie Canal Enlargement—Chenango Canal—Preliminary Measures—Construction Authorized—Abandoned—New York Central and Hudson River Railroad—New York, Ontario & Western Railroad (N. Y. & O. Midland) and its Branches—Albany and Susquehanna Railroad—Cazenovia and Canastota Railroad—Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Railroad—Utica, Clinton and Binghamton Railroad—Utica, Chenango and Cortland Railroad—Syracuse and Chenango Valley Railroad—Railroad Indebtedness of Chenango and Madison Counties.....	85	Robert Corbin—Trial and Conviction of Albert Holmes—Trial and Conviction of George H. Rogers—Examination and Insanity of John P. Hall—Examination and Insanity of Matthew Brady—Trial and Conviction of William Brushell—Trial, Conviction and Execution of Felix McCann.....	120
CHAPTER XI. —History of Chenango County—Societies—County Medical Societies Authorized—Chenango County Medical Society—Its Organization and First Officers—Seal—Schedule of Charges in 1807—Provisions of By-Laws—Public Library—Medical Library—Disposition of Library—Succession of Presidents of the Society—Names of Members from its Organization—History of Homeopathy—Its Introduction into Chenango County—The Homeopathic Medical Society of Chenango County—Its Organization and First Officers—Professional Status—Presidents of the Society—Members—The Chenango County Bar Association—Its Organization, Object, Officers and Members—The Chenango County Agricultural Society—Preliminary Measures—Town Societies.....	97	CHAPTER XV. —History of Chenango County—The War of the Rebellion—114th Regiment—Its Commander Chosen—The First Company—Efforts Attending the Organization of the Several Companies—Mustering into the United States' Service—Its Departure for the Seat of War—Interesting Presentations and Speeches—The 114th joins Banks' Expedition—In Camp in Brashear City—Battle of Bismalnd—Death of Colonel Smith—Siege of Port Hudson—Texas Expedition—First and Only Case of Capital Punishment—Casualties in the 114th—Red River Expedition—Battle of Sabine Cross Roads—Battle of Pleasant Hill—General Dwight's Testimony to the Bravery of the 114th in these Engagements—Perilous Situation of the Red River Fleet—Its Salvation Credited to the Suggestion of a Member of the 114th Regiment—The 114th Transferred to the Army of the Shenandoah—Battle of Opequan—Severe Losses of the 114th—Battle of Fisher's Hill—Disastrous Defeat and Glorious Victory at Cedar Creek—The Signal Bravery and Fearful Losses of the 114th—Close of the War—The 114th Mustered Out—Its Welcome Home.....	123
CHAPTER XII. —History of Chenango County—The Press of the Country—Its Marvelous Growth Compared with that of Other Nations—Present Publications in the County—The "Western Oracle," the First Paper Published in Chenango County—"The Chenango Union"—"The Chenango Telegraph"—"The Oxford Times"—"The New Berlin Gazette"—"The Chenango American"—"The Bainbridge Republican"—"The Sherburne News"—"The Home Sentinel"—"The Guilford Wave"—"The Entomologist's Exchange"—"The Quill and Press"—Obsolete Newspapers.....	106	CHAPTER XVI. —History of Town of Afton,	184
CHAPTER XIII. —History of Chenango County—Early Courts—Chenango County Courts—First County Officers—First Courts in Chenango County—Court Houses in Norwich—First Courts in Norwich—Trial of General David Thomas—Brilliant Array of Legal Talent—Jail Limits—Jails—County Clerk's Office—County Poor House—Chenango County Civil List—Circuit Judges—Surrogates—First and County Judges—District Attorneys—County Clerks—Sheriffs—Special Judges—County Treasurers—Superintendents of Common Schools—School Commissioners—State Senators—Members of Assembly—Members of Constitutional Conventions—Presidential Electors—United States Senators—Representatives in Congress.....	111	CHAPTER XVII. — " " " Bainbridge,	185
CHAPTER XIV. —History of Chenango County—Capital Criminal Calendar—Trial and Conviction of Rufus Hill—Trial, Conviction and Execution of George Dennison—Trial and Conviction of Robert Maynard—Trial and Acquittal of Russell Cady—Trial and Acquittal of Dan Foote—Indictment and Discharge of Horace R. Burlison—Examination and Discharge of Lavinia Hilliard—Trial and Conviction of		CHAPTER XVIII. — " " " Coventry,	180
		CHAPTER XIX. — " " " Greene,	192
		CHAPTER XX. — " " " Guilford,	224
		CHAPTER XXI. — " " " Oxford,	252
		CHAPTER XXII. — " " " Smithville,	293
		CHAPTER XXIII. — " " " Norwich,	306
		CHAPTER XXIV. — " " " Preston,	357
		CHAPTER XXV. — " " " McDonough, ...	368
		CHAPTER XXVI. — " " " German,	378
		CHAPTER XXVII. — " " " New Berlin,	382
		CHAPTER XXVIII. — " " " North Norwich, 405	
		CHAPTER XXIX. — " " " Plymouth,	413
		CHAPTER XXX. — " " " Pharsalia,	422
		CHAPTER XXXI. — " " " Pitcher,	430
		CHAPTER XXXII. — " " " Columbus,	440
		CHAPTER XXXIII. — " " " Sherburne,	449
		CHAPTER XXXIV. — " " " Smyrna,	464
		CHAPTER XXXV. — " " " Otselic,	474
		CHAPTER XXXVI. — " " " Lincklaen,	483
		CHAPTER XXXVII. —History of Madison County—Early Civil Divisions—Formation of Madison County—Derivation of Name—Topography of the County—Table showing the Comparative Amount of Improved Land in the Various Towns in 1823 and 1875—Waters of the County—Climatology—Soils—Productions and Industries—Comparative Statistics of the Agricultural Productions of the County and Towns from the Census of 1875.....	489

	PAGE.
CHAPTER XXXVIII.—History of Madison County—Geology—General View of the Geological Formation of the County—Clinton Group—The Lowest Rock in the County—Niagara Group—Onondaga Salt Group—Red Shale—Gypsaceous Deposit—Vermicular Limerock—Localities of Gypsum—First Plaster Discovered in Sullivan—Water Lime Group—Pentamerous Limestone—Oriskany Sandstone—Onondaga Limestone—Corniferous Limestone—Marcellus Shales—Hamilton Group—Tully Limestone—Genesee Slate—Ithaca Group—Quaternary Deposits—Boulders—Lake Marl—Calcareous Tufa—Peat—Sulphur Springs—Petrifying Springs—Saline Springs.....	492
CHAPTER XXXIX.—History of Madison County—County Societies—Madison County Medical Society—Organization and First Officers—Officers of 1879-'80—Names of Members from its Organization—Madison County Homeopathic Medical Society—Organization and First Officers—Present Officers—Officers from 1865 to 1876—Members Elect—Madison County Agricultural Society—Organization and First Officers—Its Influence Upon the Agriculture of the County—Local Agricultural Societies.....	505
CHAPTER XL.—History of Madison County—Shire Towns—Early Courts—First County Officers—Justices of the original Five Towns—Cazenovia Designated as the County Seat in 1810—First Court House—County Seat Removed to Morrisville in 1817—Court Houses and Other County Buildings at Morrisville—County Poor House—Pauper Statistics—Home for Destitute Children of Madison County—Increase of Idsane Pauperism—Civil List—Delegates to Constitutional Conventions—State Senators—Members of Assembly—County Judges—Surrogates—District Attorneys—Sheriffs—County Clerks—County Treasurers—County Superintendents of Common Schools—School Commissioners—Presidential Electors—Representatives in Congress.....	510
CHAPTER XLI.—The Press of Madison County.....	516
CHAPTER XLII.—History of Madison County—Schools—Progress of Education—Pioneer Life Unfavorable to Mental Cultivation—Early Scholastic Disadvantages—School Discipline—Early School Buildings, Books and Teachers—State Patronage—Common School System Established—State Legislation in the Interest of Education—County Supervision of Schools—Teachers' Institutes—Free Schools—Compulsory Education—Schools of Chenango and Madison Counties—Decadence of Academies.....	519
CHAPTER XLIII.—History Town of Brookfield.....	525
CHAPTER XLIV.— " " Hamilton.....	545
CHAPTER XLV.— " " Lebanon.....	574
CHAPTER XLVI.— " " Georgetown.....	585
CHAPTER XLVII.— " " DeRuyter.....	593
CHAPTER XLVIII.— " " Madison.....	609
CHAPTER XLIX.— " " Eaton.....	623
CHAPTER L.— " " Nelson.....	641
CHAPTER LI.— " " Cazenovia.....	653
CHAPTER LII.— " " Smithfield.....	684
CHAPTER LIII.— " " Fenner.....	694
CHAPTER LIV.— " " Stockbridge.....	705
CHAPTER LV.— " " Lenox.....	716
CHAPTER LVI.— " " Sullivan.....	738

ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE.
Allen Sam'l P., Genesee, Livingston Co., portrait, facing	467
Armstrong Jabin and wife, Lebanon, Madison County, portraits.....	facing 584
Atkyns D. L., Sherburne, Chenango County, portrait....	456
Berry Geo., Lenox, Madison Co., view of residence, facing	720
Blair Jeremiah and wife, Nelson, Madison County, portraits.....	facing 646
Brownell N., Hamilton, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 573
Brown Alfred A., Georgetown, Madison County, portrait.....	between 586-587
Brown Elijah, Georgetown, Madison County, portrait.....	between 586-587
Buckingham Joel, Otselic, Chenango County, portrait.....	facing 475
Burchard & Buel, Eaton, Madison County, view of residences and stock farm.....	facing 641
Bush Hon. Joseph, Bainbridge, Chenango County, portrait.....	between 158-159
Bush Hon. Joseph, Bainbridge, Chenango County, view of residence.....	between 158-159
County Buildings, Chenango County.....	facing 71
County Buildings, Madison County.....	facing 489
Chapman B. F., Lenox, Madison County, portrait (steel).....	facing 784
Chapman B. F., Lenox, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 718
Chase T. B., Madison, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 616
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Hamilton, Madison County.....	facing 563
Clark Lucius P., Eaton, Madison County, portrait, facing	639
Clarke Rev. J., DeRuyter, Madison County, portrait....	608
Clark Joseph, Brookfield, Madison Co., portrait.....	facing 533
Clarke Wait, Brookfield, Madison Co., portrait.....	facing 530
Coe Albert E., Lenox, Madison County, portrait.....	736
Crumb Joseph H., DeRuyter, Madison County, portrait	607
Coe Arietta, Madison, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 720
Cole T. A., Madison, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 623
Collester Isaac, Madison, Madison County, view of residence.....	between 612-613
Collester Isaac, Madison, Madison County, portrait.....	between 612-613
Coolidge James, Madison, Madison County, portrait.....	facing 615
Crandall Henry D., Brookfield, Madison County, portrait.....	544
Fiak Ephraim, Lebanon, Madison Co., portrait, facing	579
First Congregational Church, Norwich, Chenango County, view of church dedicated 1819.....	347
First Congregational Church, Norwich, Chenango County, view of church dedicated 1862.....	348
First Congregational Church, Norwich, Chenango County, view of church as enlarged 1874.....	349
Gage Edwin L., DeRuyter, Madison County, portrait....	607
Greenwood Levi P., M. D., Nelson, Madison County, portrait.....	facing 648
Hubbard Calvin, Hamilton, Madison County, portrait.....	facing 572
Hurlburt M. D. and wife, Greene, Chenango County, portraits.....	facing 200
Hawks Horace, Georgetown, Madison County, portrait.....	facing 588
Hess M. M., Lenox, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 725
Hill John and wife, Fenner, Madison County, portraits.....	facing 699
Harris Thos. L., M. D., Cazenovia, Madison Co., portrait,	683
Hale Chanucey H. and wife, Lenox, Madison County, portraits.....	facing 736
Hoyt Joseph B., Cazenovia, Madison County, portrait....	683
Hamilton David and wife, Nelson, Madison County, portraits.....	facing 645
Hyatt Francis A., Fenner, Madison County, portrait....	705

	PAGE.
Jarvis Thomas N., Lenox, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 725
Johnston E. M., Afton, Chenango County, view of residence.....	facing 142
Kern Lambert B., DeRuyter, Madison County, portrait	608
Lewis Daniel, Lenox, Madison County, portrait.....	facing 736
Lincklaen John, Cazenovia, Madison County, portrait...	681
Lawrence George, Lenox, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 737
Maydole J. H., Eaton, Madison County, portrait, facing	640
Morrow John B., Georgetown, Madison County, portrait	.....facing 592
Miner H. C., DeRuyter, Madison County, portrait	" 601
McDougall Duncan, Lenox, Madison County, portrait	.....facing 722
Montague Linus, Cazenovia, Madison County, portrait	.....facing 660
Moseley Zinah Josiah, Georgetown, Madison County, portrait	.....facing 590
Mygatt Henry R., Oxford, Chenango County, portrait (steel).....	facing 290
Parsonage, Church of the Immaculate Conception, Hamilton, Madison County.....	facing 563
Phelps Ambrose, Madison, Madison County, portrait	.....facing 621
Payne Elisha, Hamilton, Madison County, portrait, facing	547
Page Ruel, Sullivan, Madison County, portrait.....	759
Perkins Willess C., Cazenovia, Madison County, portrait, ..	facing 654
Perkins Wilson L., Cazenovia, Madison County, portrait, ..	facing 654
Palmer Ephraim, Lebanon, Madison County, portrait, ..	facing 584
Phipps A. A., Lenox, Madison County, portrait, ..facing	728
Risley M. F., Madison, Madison County, view of residence.....	facing 610
Ross H. & Co., Sherburne, Chenango County, view of Cotton Mills,	between 456-457
Ross Alexander, Sherburne, Chenango County, view of residence,	between 456-457
Ross Mrs. H., Sherburne, Chenango County, view of residence,	between 456-457
Ross Hector, Sherburne, Chenango County, portrait,	facing 458
Sherburne Falls,	frontispiece
Saunders A. L., M. D., Brookfield, Madison County, portrait,	facing 534
Seymour Alfred and wife, Lebanon, Madison County, portraits,	facing 576
Storrs Dan and wife, Eaton, Madison County, portraits,	facing 640
St. Mary's church, Hamilton, Madison County, view of church and parsonage,	facing 563
Smith L. N., Sherburne, Chenango County, view of residence,	facing 450
Smith John E., Eaton, Madison County, portrait, ..facing	631
Spear Prof. P. B., Hamilton, Madison County, portrait, (steel).....	facing 571
Tracy John, Oxford, Chenango County, portrait, (steel)	.....facing 289
Tillinghast Bradley, Eaton, Madison County, portrait,	facing 632
Tooke Michael, Eaton, Madison County, portrait, facing	635
White Devillo, M. D., Sherburne, Chenango County, portrait,	facing 455
Webb Geo. W., Greene, Chenango County, view of residence,	facing 224
West C. and wife, Eaton, Madison County, portraits,	facing 624

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

	PAGE.
Allen Samuel P., Genesee, Livingston County.....	facing 467
Armstrong Jabin, Lebanon, Madison County.....	584
Atkyns D. L., Sherburne, Chenango County.....	456
Blair Jeremiah, Nelson, Madison County.....	facing 646
Barlow Thomas, Canastota.....	737
Brown Alfred A., Georgetown, Madison Co., between	586-587
Brown Elijah, Georgetown, Madison County	" 586-587
Berry George, Oneida.....	738
Buckingham Joel, Otselic, Chenango County.....	facing 475
Burchard & Buell, stock farm, Eaton, Madison County,	641
Bush Hon. Joseph, Bainbridge, Chenango County	.....between 158-159
Brownell Nathan, Hamilton, Madison County.....	573
Bentley A. V., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	606
Chapman B. F., Lenox, Madison County.....	734
Crumb Joseph H., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	607
Clark Lucius P., Eaton, Madison County.....	639
Coe Isaac, Madison, Madison County.....	623
Clark Joseph, Brookfield, Madison County.....	facing 533
Cole Truman, Madison, Madison County.....	623
Clarke Wait, Brookfield, Madison County.....	facing 580
Colleston Isaac, Madison, Madison County.....	between 612-613
Coolidge James, Madison, Madison County.....	facing 615
Crandall Henry D., Brookfield, Madison County.....	544
Clarke Rev. J., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	608
Coe Albert E., Lenox, Madison County.....	736
Fisk Ephraim, Lebanon, Madison County.....	facing 579
Gage Edwin L., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	607
Greenwood, Levi P., M. D., Nelson, Madison Co., facing	648
Hubbard Calvin, Hamilton, Madison County.....	572
Huriburt M. D., Greene, Chenango County.....	facing 200
Hawks Horace, Georgetown, Madison County.....	588
Hess M. M., Lenox, Madison County.....	735
Heeler Ephraim B., Cazenovia, Madison County.....	684
Hill John, Fenner, Madison County.....	facing 699
Hill Isyphene, Fenner, Madison County.....	699
Harris Thomas L., M. D., Cazenovia, Madison County..	683
Hale Chauncey H., Lenox, Madison County.....	736
Hoyt Joseph Barnum, Cazenovia, Madison County.....	682
Hamilton David and wife, Nelson, Madison Co., facing	645
Hyatt Francis A., Fenner, Madison County.....	705
Jarvis Capt. Thomas N., Canastota.....	738
Kern Lambert B., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	608
Lewis Daniel, Lenox, Madison County.....	737
Lincklaen John, Cazenovia, Madison County.....	681
Ledyard Jonathan Denise, Cazenovia, Madison County	682
Lawrence George, Lenox, Madison County.....	737
Maydole James H., Eaton, Madison County.....	640
Morrow John B., Georgetown, Madison County.....	facing 592
Mygatt Henry R., Oxford, Chenango County.....	290
McDougall Duncan, Lenox, Madison County.....	facing 722
Miner H. C., DeRuyter, Madison County.....	601
Moseley Z. J., Georgetown, Madison County.....	590
Montague Linus, Cazenovia, Madison County.....	660
Page Ruel, Sullivan, Madison County.....	759
Phelps Ambrose, Madison, Madison County.....	facing 621
Payne Elisha, Hamilton, Madison County.....	547
Palmer Ephraim, Lebanon, Madison County.....	584
Phipps A. A., Lenox, Madison County.....	facing 728
Perkins Willess C., Cazenovia, Madison County.....	654
Perkins Wilson L., Cazenovia, Madison County.....	654
Ross Hector, Sherburne, Chenango County.....	458
Saunders, A. L., M. D., Brookfield, Madison Co., ..	534
Seymour Alfred, Lebanon, Madison County.....	576
Storrs Dan, Eaton, Madison County.....	641
Smith John E., Eaton, Madison County.....	facing 631
Spear Prof. P. B., Hamilton, Madison County.....	571
Tracy John, Oxford, Chenango County.....	289
Tillinghast Bradley, Eaton, Madison County.....	facing 632
Tooke Michael, Eaton, Madison County.....	635
White Devillo, M. D., Sherburne, Chenango Co., ..	455
Webb George W., Greene, Chenango County.....	224
West C., Eaton, Madison County.....	facing 624

INTRODUCTION.

IN THE preparation of the history of the two counties treated of in this volume the author has endeavored to confine himself to a concise and truthful statement of facts, leaving deductions and moralisms, except where such were necessary to a proper elucidation of the subject, to the individual reader; and in gleaning these facts he has laid under contribution every available source of information in the effort to arrive at correct data. This, however, has not always been possible, for much is given that rests for its authority entirely upon verbal statements, which, even among the best informed, are subject to the lapses of memory. When conflicting statements have been observed, as was to be expected there would be in so broad a field of inquiry, an honest effort has been made to reconcile them and make them conform to the probable fact; for while each individual expects the record of a fact to conform to his remembrance, it is notorious that all do not retain precisely the same recollection of it. To this end also records have been consulted where such existed and were accessible, both to supplement and establish a verbal fact, and as an original source of information. These, however, were often fragmentary, sometimes entirely wanting, and while their incompleteness was perplexing, their frequent indefiniteness was even more so, so that it was often necessary to supplement them by verbal information.

The materials for such a work were widely scattered. They laid in the imperfect town, county, church, school, society and private records, and in the vague and faded memories of individuals. Much time, labor, diligent research and patient inquiry have been required to gather these materials and collate them into systematic order. Every town has been visited, and its records and well-informed citizens consulted. In addition to these, the files of local and other papers have been scrutinized, and the works of numerous authors laid under contribution; but as the latter have generally been referred to in the text, especially when quoted, we do not deem it necessary to enumerate them here.

Much more might have been given, enough to swell the volume to twice its present size, by the multiplication of details which some would regard with interest and others as unimportant; much indeed was prepared and still more gathered, but it was found necessary to eliminate it to bring it within the scope of this work. In discarding matter we have aimed to retain that which seemed most important—most worthy of preservation.

An earlier preparation of the work would have lessened the labor and produced more satisfactory results; would have given access to the personal experience and relations of the very first settlers, with whom have died facts and incidents which are now beyond recall. But few of the first generation of those who settled and subdued this wilderness are now left with us, and fewer still of that sacred remnant retain their faculties sufficiently to relate coherently and positively the interesting incidents of that early period; but we still have their "oft told tales" from the lips of their immediate descendants, and have thus been able to collect and chronicle, with a close approach to accuracy, the facts of early history. It must, therefore, be obvious that the time for the publication of this work had fully come, and that a longer delay would only have added to the obscurity of the facts and the difficulty of their acquisition.

Happily the very full and scholarly "Relations" of the faithful Jesuits and other French missionaries give us a minute and definite account of the manners and customs of the American Indians, the supposed aboriginal occupants of this country, with whom they mingled as early as the fore part of the last half of the seventeenth century, though they are chiefly concerned with the relation of their efforts to christianize them, and to engraft upon their rude natures some of the arts and usages of civilization in their time. Numerous evidences of this intercourse have been disclosed by means of the plow and other agencies in both counties, but more especially in Madison county, which, in part, was the home of two numerous and powerful tribes of the Six Nations, the Oneidas and Tuscaroras. These consist of gaudy trinkets and other articles of use and adornment, which possessed an intensely magnified value in the eyes of the untutored savage, and were the means by which these zealous missionaries sought to ingratiate themselves with the natives and prepare the way for the successful accomplishment of their ulterior object.

Though these counties are not as rich in historical incidents fraught with tragic interest as the counties which bordered on the confines of civilization during the French and Indian wars, the sanguinary struggle of the Revolution, and the more recent but memorable war with the mother country, which etched in lines of blood the history of their eventful scenes, they have a pacific history to which many will recur with interest—yea, with reverence; and it is a most interesting fact that *savants*, deeply learned in antiquarian lore, refer to their borders an event which furnishes one of the earliest recorded evidences of European and aboriginal intercourse on this continent, so that in all probability their history reaches back to a period when civilization first gleamed upon the unenlightened mind of the Indian.

The author takes this opportunity to tender his grateful acknowledgments to the many who, in various ways, have so kindly aided him in this laborious work, and to testify to the uniform courtesy which was extended to him, and the cordiality with which his labors were seconded by the hosts from whom it became his duty to solicit information. A few noted exceptions—and but a few—might be stated, but he prefers to conceal these with the mantle of that charity which the exceptional few so wantonly violated.

HISTORY

-OF-

THE ABORIGINES.

CHAPTER I.

ABORIGINES—THE IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY—ITS
ORIGIN AND ORGANIZATION—TRIBAL RELATIONS
—SECRET OF ITS POWER—ITS SUPERIORITY AND
SUPREMACY—ITS DEGENERACY.

WE have no authentic history of a people inhabiting this country anterior to those who occupied it on the advent of the Europeans, and who are classed under the generic term *Indians*. Even their history prior to their intimate association with civilized people is shrouded in obscurity and is transmitted to us in the form of vague and fragmentary legends. The aborigines were a barbaric race and have left no written history, except that we occasionally discover traces of their rude paintings and still ruder engravings. But this is in a measure compensated by the more enduring relics, consisting of the implements of husbandry, the chase and war, which the plow and other means of excavation have numerously disclosed. Their fortified villages and places of burial are rich also in suggestive incidents.*

This was a part of the broad domain of the Iroquois† Confederacy, which extended, in general terms,

* The Indians were accustomed to bury with their dead various articles of ornament and use, which, it was supposed, would be serviceable in their passage to a future abode, of which the most barbaric had some conception.

† Iroquois was the French name for the five confederated nations of Indians residing mostly within this State. By the Dutch they were called "Naquaa." They denominated themselves "Mingos," meaning United People—*Clark's Onondaga*. Their true name is "Hodemosaunee" or "People of the Long House," because the five nations were ranged in a long line through Central New York, and likened to one of their long bark houses.—*Parkman's Jesuits*. Rutenber says they bore the title of "Aquisobioos," or "Konosbioni," having the same meaning.]

from the Hudson to the Genesee, and from the north to the south boundary of this State. This confederacy was composed of the following nations, located in the following order from east to west, the Mohawks, (*Ganegaonos*,*) on the river which bears their name, the Oneidas, (*Onayotekaonos*) Onondagas, (*Onundagaonos*) Cayugas, (*Gwengwehonos*) and Senecas, (*Nundawaaonos*) mostly adjacent to the lakes which bear their names.† Its origin is buried in the obscurity of vague tradition and was unknown to civilized nations in 1750.‡ The traditions of the Iroquois ascribe it, as well as the origin of the individual nations, to a supernatural source. They, like the Athenians, sprung from the earth itself. "In remote ages they had been confined under a mountain near the falls of the Oshwah-kee,§ or Oswego river, whence they were released by *Tharonhyjagon*, the Holder of the Heavens,¶ Schoolcraft inclines to the opinion that the Confederation is to be referred to a comparatively recent date, early in the fifteenth century; Mr. Webster, the Indian interpreter, a good authority, about two generations before the white people came to trade with the Indians; Pyrlaus, a missionary among the Mohawks, "one age, or the length of a man's life, before the

* The Iroquois termination in *onos*, means people.—*Parkman's Jesuits*.

† Gallatin classes the Iroquois in three divisions: the eastern, consisting of the confederation known as the Five Nations; the western, of the Wyandots, or Hurons, and the Attionandrons, or neutral nation, north, and Erigas and Andastes, or Guandastogues, (Guyandots,) south of lake Erie; and the southern, of the Tuscaroras, the Tutelos, and the Nottowas, of North Carolina. The Tuscaroras and Tutelos removed to the north, and were incorporated into the confederacy, the former in 1715, becoming its sixth member, and the latter in 1758.—*Indian Tribes of Hudson's River*. Rutenber.

‡ *Colden's Five Nations*.

§ Signifying, "I see everywhere and see nothing."—*Clark's Onondaga*.

¶ *Indian Tribes of Hudson's River*.—Rutenber.

white people came into the country;" while Clark, "from the permanency of their institutions, the peculiar structure of their government, the intricacy of their civil affairs, the stability of their religious beliefs and the uniformity of their pagan ceremonies, differing from other Indian nations in important particulars," thinks it must have had a longer duration.

Long ago, says the Iroquois tradition, *Taounyawaatha*, the deity who presides over the forests and streams, came down from his abode in the clouds to make free the former to all, to remove the obstructions from the latter, and to bestow good gifts upon the people. In the locality of Oswego he disclosed to two hunters of the Onondaga nation whom he there met, the object of his mission, and prevailed on them to accompany him up the river and over the lesser lakes,—while he made ample provision for the sustenance of men, and taught them how to cultivate the soil and live happy, united and prosperous. Having accomplished this beneficent mission he divested himself of his divine character and took up his abode among men, assuming their habits and character. He chose for his habitation a beautiful spot on the shore of *Teonto* (Cross) Lake,* where he built a cabin and took a wife of the Onondagas, by whom he had an only and beautiful daughter, whom he tenderly loved. His excellence of character, great sagacity and wise counsels won for him a profound regard, and by universal consent he was named *Hiawatha*, signifying *very wise man*. His advice upon matters both grave and trivial was eagerly sought and he was regarded as possessing transcendent powers of mind and consummate wisdom. Under his direction the Onondagas early gained a pre-eminent distinction as the wisest counselors, the most eloquent orators and expert hunters, and the bravest warriors.

While *Hiawatha* was thus living quietly among the "people of the hills," the tribes were attacked by a ferocious and powerful enemy from the north of the great lakes, who invaded the country, laid waste their villages, and slaughtered indiscriminately men, women and children. While a bold resistance could not intensify the ferocity of the enemy, neither did supine submission ensure palliation; utter destruction seemed inevitable. In their extremity they looked to *Hiawatha*, who, after thoughtful contemplation, advised a grand council of all the tribes that could be gathered, "for," said he, "our safety is not alone in the club and dart, but in wise counsels."†

This council is supposed to have been held on the east bank of Onondaga (*Ohmentaha*) Lake, on the

**Ruttenber*.—According to Clark the name of the lake is *Teunugtkoo*, the discrepancy probably arising from a difference in tribal dialects.

†*Ruttenber*.—Clark puts this language into the Chieftain's mouth, "our safety is in good counsel, and speedy, energetic action;" and Clayton, the following: "Become a united people and you will conquer your enemies."

high ground where the village of Liverpool now stands. There was a vast assembly of chiefs, warriors, men, women and children, and although the council fire had been burning three days they still awaited the presence of *Hiawatha*. Messengers were dispatched and found him troubled with melancholy forebodings of ill-fortune. He had resolved not to attend the council by reason of this distress of mind, but he yielded to their importunities and set out with his daughter to join the waiting throng. The *white canoe* in which the venerable *Hiawatha* made his journeys by water, and which was regarded by his people with almost as much veneration as himself, glided silently down the deep waters of the Seneca, through the narrow outlet and into the placid Onondaga, and as it appeared to view, the assembled multitude welcomed their chief with a gladdening shout. As he ascended the steep bank and approached with measured tread the council ground, a loud sound was heard like a rushing, mighty wind. Instantly all eyes were turned upward and beheld a mass of cloudy darkness rapidly descending into their midst, and increasing in size and velocity as it approached. All sought safety in flight save *Hiawatha* and his lovely daughter, who calmly awaited the impending calamity, the former having uncovered his silvered head. With a mighty swoop a huge bird, with long distended wings, descended and crushed the cherished girl to the earth, destroying in her remains the very semblance of a human being, and perishing itself in the collision.

The dismayed warriors cautiously returned to view the dismal scene. The bird was covered with a beautiful plumage of snowy white, and each warrior plucked therefrom a plume to adorn his crown. From this incident the Iroquois braves forever after made use of the plumes of the white heron, as their most appropriate martial decoration.

Hiawatha was disconsolate. He prostrated himself with his face upon the ground and gave himself up to the most poignant grief for three days and nights, refusing to be consoled. His grief was shared by the whole assembly, who sincerely mourned his great and sudden bereavement.

At length he regained his composure and took his seat in the council, whose deliberations were participated in by the ablest counselors of the assembled nations. At the conclusion of the debate, *Hiawatha*, desiring that nothing should be done hastily and inconsiderately, proposed that the council be postponed one day, so that they might weigh well the words which had been spoken, when he promised to communicate his plan for consideration, assuring them of his confidence in its success. The following day the council again assembled and amid breathless silence the sage counselor thus addressed them:—

*"Friends and Brothers:—*You are members of many tribes and nations. You have come here, many of you, a great distance from your homes. We have convened for one common purpose, to promote one common interest, and that is to provide for our mutual safety, and how it shall best be accomplished. To oppose these hordes of northern foes by tribes, singly and alone, would prove our certain destruction; we can make no progress in that way; we must unite ourselves into one common band of brothers. Our warriors united, would surely repel these rude invaders and drive them from our borders. This must be done and we shall be safe.

"You, the Mohawks, sitting under the shadow of the 'great tree,' whose roots sink deep into the earth, and whose branches spread over a vast country, shall be the first nation, because you are warlike and mighty.

"And you, Oneidas, a people who recline your bodies against the 'everlasting stone' that cannot be moved, shall be the second nation, because you give wise counsel.

"And you, Onondagas, who have your habitation at the 'great mountain,' and are overshadowed by its crags, shall be the third nation, because you are greatly gifted in speech and mighty in war.

"And you, Cayugas, a people whose habitation is the 'dark forest,' and whose home is everywhere, shall be the fourth nation, because of your superior cunning in hunting.

"And you, Senecas, a people who live in the 'open country' and possess much wisdom, shall be the fifth nation, because you understand better the art of raising corn and beans and making cabins.

"You, five great and powerful nations, must unite and have but one common interest, and no foe shall be able to disturb or subdue you.

"And you, Manhattans, Nyacks, Metoacks and others, who are as the 'feeble bushes;' and you, Narragansetts, Mohegans, Wampanoags and your neighbors, who are a 'fishing people,' may place yourselves under our protection. Be with us and we will defend you. You of the South and you of the West may do the same, and we will protect you. We earnestly desire your alliance and friendship.

"Brothers, if we unite in this bond the Great Spirit will smile upon us, and we shall be free, prosperous and happy. But if we remain as we are we shall be subject to his frown; we shall be enslaved, ruined, perhaps annihilated forever. We shall perish and our names be blotted out from among the nations of men.

"Brothers, these are the words of Hiawatha. Let them sink deep into your hearts. I have said it."

The council was adjourned one day to afford time to consider this weighty proposition, which had made a deep impression on its hearers. It may seem strange in the light of a century of our own federate existence that time should have been required to reach a conclusion so obvious; but it was a marked characteristic of the Iroquois to act only after mature deliberation on questions of grave importance, and in this lies much of that great power they exerted both in council and in war. Their proceedings in council were conducted with marvelous decorum and fidelity to

parliamentary usage. Assembling the next day, the wisdom of the proposition was unanimously conceded, and then was formed that celebrated Amphictyonic league of the five Indian nations which no external power has effectually broken. Whatever may have been the circumstances connected with its origin, which is invested in the hyperbole and metaphor with which the Indian language abounds, its great effect-iveness is matter of history, and stamps the mind which conceived it a genius of the highest order.

Pending this action, *Hiawatha*, admonished by the death of his daughter, that his mission on earth was accomplished, prepared to take his final departure. As the assembly was about to separate, he arose in a dignified manner and said:—

*"Friends and Brothers:—*I have now fulfilled my mission upon earth. I have done everything which can be done at present for the good of this great people. Age, infirmity and distress set heavy upon me. During my sojourn with you I have removed all obstructions from the streams. Canoes can now pass safely everywhere. I have given you good fishing waters and good hunting grounds. I have taught you the manner of cultivating corn and beans and learned you the art of making cabins. Many other blessings I have liberally bestowed upon you.

*"Lastly, I have now assisted you to form an everlasting league and covenant of strength and friendship for your future safety and protection. If you preserve it, without the admission of other people, you will always be free, numerous and mighty. If other nations are admitted to your councils they will sow jealousies among you, and you will become enslaved, few and feeble. Remember these words, they are the last you will hear from the lips of *Hiawatha*. Listen, my friends, the Great Master of Breath calls me to go. I have patiently waited his summons. I am ready; farewell."*

As his voice ceased, sweet sounds from the air burst on the ears of the multitude; and while their attention was engrossed in the celestial melody, *Hiawatha* was seen, seated in his white canoe, rising in mid-air with every choral chant, till the clouds shut out the sight, and the melody, gradually becoming fainter, ceased.*

* Both reason and tradition point to the conclusion, that the Iroquois formed originally one undivided people. Sundered, like countless other tribes, by dissension, caprice or the necessities of a hunter's life, they separated into five distinct nations.—*Parkman's Jesuits.*

"The Oneidas and Cayugas," says Gallatin, "are said to have been compelled to join [the confederacy.] Those two tribes were the younger and the three others the older members." Zinzendorf, speaking of the Iroquois, says "the Oneidas and Cayugas are their children."—*Indian tribes of North America.*

"By the early French writers, the Mohawks and Oneidas were styled the lower or inferior Iroquois; while the Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas, were denominated the upper or superior Iroquois, because they were located near the sources of the St. Lawrence. The Mohawks, who are commonly supposed to be the first nation in the confederacy and were considered the most warlike people in the land, were also styled elder brothers of the other nations, and so esteemed themselves. To [them] was always accorded the high consideration of furnishing the war captain, or 'Tekarahogea,' of the confederacy, which distinguished title was retained with them till the year 1814, when the celebrated Ho-a-ho-a-quah, an Onondaga, was chosen in general council at Buffalo to fill that important station."—*Clark's Onondaga.*

The political and social organizations of the Iroquois though simple in their structure were effective in their operation. They were calculated to violate as little as might be the high regard this people had for individual liberty, which they required should be the largest, consistent with the general welfare. The method by which they secured efficiency without imposing undue restraint was as unique as it was simple and happy. No light tie could hold to the harmonious development of a common interest so fierce and barbarous a people as these. The problem was eminently worthy of the genius which solved it; for while it held them inflexibly, yet unrestrainedly, to all matters relating to their federate existence, it secured the utmost elasticity and freedom in their tribal and national relations. The entire control of all civil matters affecting the common interest was vested in a national council of about fifty sachems, though in some instances as many as eighty, chosen at first from the wisest men in their several nations, and afterwards hereditary in their families. All met as equals, but a peculiar dignity was ever attached to the *Atotarho* of the Onondagas.* All the nations were represented and each had one vote in the council. This general council was held by common consent in the principal village of the Onondagas, the central nation.† Thither, if the matter under consideration was of deep and general interest, not the sachems alone, but the greater part of the population, gathered; and while the sachems deliberated in the council-house, the chiefs and old men, the warriors, and often the women, were holding their respective councils apart, and their opinions, laid by their deputies before the council of sachems, were never without influence on its decisions. All questions of tribal, national and federal polity were discussed and decided in councils. They had no written constitution, and no attempt was made to coerce a nation or individual. The authority of these sachems was measured by the estimate the people put upon their wisdom and integrity; and the execution

* *Parkman's Jesuits.*

† *Loakiel* gives us a description of the Onondaga council house in 1745, from the pen of Gottlieb Spangenberg, a Bishop of the United Brethren, who spent several weeks at Onondaga in that year. "The council-house," he says, "was built of bark. On each side six seats were placed, each containing six persons. No one was admitted besides the members of the council, except a few, who were particularly honored. If one rose to speak, all the rest sat in profound silence, smoking their pipes. The speaker uttered his words in a singing tone, always raising a few notes at the close of each sentence. Whatever was pleasing to the council, was confirmed by all with the word *Nee*, or *Yes*. And at the end of each speech, the whole company joined in applauding the speaker by calling *Hoho*. At noon, two men entered, bearing a large kettle filled with meat, upon a pole across their shoulders, which was first presented to the guests. A large wooden ladle, as broad and deep as a common bowl, hung with a hook to the side of the kettle, with which every one might at once help himself to as much as he could eat. When the guests had eaten their fill, they begged the counselors to do the same. The whole was conducted in a very decent manner. Indeed now and then one or the other would lie flat upon his back to rest himself, and sometimes they would stop, joke and laugh heartily."—*History of the Mission of the United Brethren among the Indians of North America.*—*Loakiel.*

of their plans rested upon the voluntary acquiescence of those whom they represented. But the Iroquois were actuated by a high regard for personal and national honor, which ever sufficed to impress them with a deep sense of duty. Women were excluded from the deliberations of the councils.

A marked feature of the Iroquois civil polity was that which made the concurrence of all the nations necessary before any measure could be adopted. To secure this unanimity the most persuasive powers of reason and eloquence were constantly employed. Their speakers studied euphony in the selection and arrangement of their words, and their discourses were made highly impressive, if not always eloquent and convincing, by the use of graceful attitudes and gestures. In this severe school were trained those orators, whose efforts have challenged favorable comparison with the best in civilized nations, and reflected not less renown on the federation than its bravest warriors.*

Parkman, in his work on the Jesuits, says:—

"The ease and frequency with which a requisition seemingly so difficult was fulfilled afford a striking illustration of Indian nature,—on one side so stubborn, tenacious and impracticable; on the other so pliant and acquiescent. An explanation of this harmony is to be found also in an intense spirit of nationality: for never since the days of Sparta were individual life and national life more completely fused into one.†

"There was a class of men among the Iroquois always put forward on public occasions to speak the mind of the nation or defend its interests. Nearly all of them were of the number of the subordinate chiefs. Nature and training had fitted them for public speaking, and they were deeply versed in the history and traditions of the league. They were in fact professed orators, high in honor and influence among the people. To a huge stock of conventional metaphors, the use of which required nothing but practice, they often added an astute intellect, an astonishing memory, and an eloquence which deserved the name.

"In one particular, the training of these savage politicians was never surpassed. They had no art of writing to record events, or preserve the stipulations of treaties. Memory, therefore, was tasked to the utmost,

* "An erect and commanding figure, with a blanket thrown loosely over the shoulder, his naked arm raised, and addressing, in impassioned strains, a group of similar persons sitting upon the ground around him, would, to use the illustration of an early historian of this State, give no faint picture of Rome in her early days."—*Smith's History of N. Y.*

DeWitt Clinton says of the speech of Garangula to the French General De la Barre, "I believe it impossible to find in all the effusions of ancient or modern oratory a speech more appropriate or convincing. Under the veil of respectful profession it conveys the most biting irony, and while it abounds with rich and splendid imagery, it contains the most solid reasoning. I place it in the same rank as the celebrated speech of Logan."

† The history of the Iroquois, however, furnishes numerous exceptions to this rule. During the French and Indian wars with the English-American Colonies, it often became difficult to secure unity of action in favor of the latter, and in 1755 it was entirely defeated. In 1763, Sir Wm. Johnson did not class the Senecas among the "friendly tribes;" and in 1775, the English were obliged to resort to tribal alliances in view of the determination of the council in favor of neutrality.

and developed to an extraordinary degree. They had various devices for aiding it, such as bundles of sticks, and that system of signs, emblems, and rude pictures, which they shared with other tribes. Their famous wampum belts were so many mnemonic signs, each standing for some act, speech, treaty, or clause of a treaty. These represented the public archives, and were divided among various custodians, each charged with the memory and interpretation of those assigned to him. The meaning of the belts was from time to time expounded in the councils. In conferences with them nothing more astonished the French, Dutch and English officials than the precision with which, before replying to their addresses, the Indian orators repeated them point by point."

All business between other nations and the Iroquois was brought to the council fire of Onondaga,* and the conclusion there reached carried with it all the weight of a kingly edict. The deliberations of the sachems were conducted with the utmost decorum, and a rigid adherence to their notions of parliamentary usage which challenged the admiration of civilized nations. No speaker interrupted another. Each gave his opinion in turn, but not until he had stated in full the subject of discussion, to prove that he understood it, and had repeated the arguments *pro* and *con* of previous speakers. Thus their debates were exceedingly prolix, but resulted in a thorough sifting of the matter in hand. Their sachems received no compensation for their services. Honor and esteem were their chief rewards; shame and being despised, their punishment. Their principal men, both sachems and chiefs, were generally poorer than the common people; for they affected to give away and distribute all the presents or plunder they got by treaty or in war.† They held their office by reason of merit and the esteem in which they were held by the people, and forfeited this distinction when that esteem was lost. Thus while the system held out ample incentives to valorous achievement, there was nothing to tempt the covetous and sordid. A respect for native superiority, and a willingness to yield to it were always conspicuous. In his own nation each sachem was a civil magistrate and decided the differences between his people in public audiences of his tribe. In military matters he had no control; these were confided to the chiefs of tribes. If he engaged in war he held only the rank of a common warrior.

Each of the Iroquois nations was divided into nine clans or tribes, each having a specific device or totem, denoting original consanguinity. These totems were universally respected, and were often tattooed on the person of the Indian and were painted rudely on the gable end of his cabin, some in black, others in red. They entitled the wandering savage to the hospitality

* This council fire was finally extinguished January 19, 1777, but the reason therefor has never been satisfactorily explained.

† Colden's *Five Indian Nations*.

of the wigwam which bore the emblem corresponding with his own. These devices consisted of animals, birds, &c. They had various uses, but the most important was that which denoted tribal relation.

E. B. O'Callaghan, M. D., in *Doc. Hist. vol. I. p. 3. (Paris Documents of 1666)*, says:—

"The Iroquois Nation consists of nine tribes, which form two divisions, one of four tribes and the other of five.

"They call the first division GUEY-NIOTITESHESGUE, which means the four tribes; and the second division they call OUCHE-NIOTITESHESGUE, which means the five tribes.

"The first is that of the Tortoise, which calls itself *Atiniathin*. It is the first because they pretend when the Master of Life made the earth, that he placed it on a tortoise; and when there are earthquakes, it is the tortoise that stirs.

"The second tribe is that of the Wolf, and calls itself *Enanthayonni*, or *Cakenhisenhonon*, and brother of the Tortoise tribe. When there is question of war they deliberate together; and if the affair is of great moment, they communicate it to the other tribes to deliberate together thereupon; so of all the other tribes. They assemble in the hut of a war-chief when the question is of war, and in the hut of a council-chief when it is for ordinary matters of state.

"The third tribe is that of the Bear, which they call *Atinanguin*.

"The fourth tribe is that of the Beaver, and brother to that of the Bear. These four tribes compose the first division. * * *

SECOND DIVISION.

"The fifth tribe is that of the Deer, which they name *Canendeshe*.

"The sixth is that of the Potatoe, which they call *Schoneschironon*.

"The seventh is that of the Great Plover, which they call *Otinanchahi*.

"The eighth is that of the Little Plover, which they call *Asco*, or *Nicohes*.

"The ninth is that of the Kilion [Eagle], which they call *Canonchahonronon*. [It] derives its origin from a cabin that was in the interior (*daus les terres*,) and composed of several fires or establishments. In the middle of the cabin was a partition which divided [it] in two.

"Weary of knowing no one, and consequently unable to marry, they all married among themselves; which is the reason that their name signifies two cabins united together."

Parkman, in speaking of the ninth tribe, which he denominates the Potatoe, says, if it existed it was very inconspicuous and of little importance. Other authors name only eight tribes. Ruttenber designates nine.

Previous to the formation of the Iroquois confederacy, each of the five nations composing it was divided into five tribes. When their union was effected, each tribe transferred one-fifth of its numbers to every other nation, thus giving each nation nine tribes. The tribal names were as follows: Tor-

toise, or Turtle, Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Deer, Potatoe, Snipe, Heron and Hawk.*

These tribes formed two divisions, the second subordinate to the first, which was composed of the four first named. The members of each division were regarded as brothers to those in that division to which they belonged, while they were only cousins to those in the other divisions. Each tribe constituted a family, and while all its members were accounted brothers and sisters, they were also brothers and sisters of the members of all the other tribes having the same device. The indissoluble bond thus formed by the ties of consanguinity was still further strengthened by the marriage relation. Originally marriage was interdicted between members of the same division, but in time the restriction was limited to those of the same tribe. It was held to be an abomination for two persons of the same tribe to intermarry; hence every individual family must contain members from at least two tribes. The child belonged to the clan of the mother, not the father, from whom it could not inherit anything. All rank, titles and possessions passed through the female. The son of a chief could never be a chief by hereditary title, though he might become one through personal merit; but a grandson, great-grandson or nephew might succeed him.†

"This system of clanship, with the rule of descent inseparable from it, was," says Parkman, "of very wide prevalence. Indeed, it is more than probable that close observation would have detected it in every tribe east of the Mississippi; while there is positive evidence of its existence in by far the greater number."

The Chippewas, however, furnished an exception to this rule. With them the son of a chief had a legal right to succeed his father.

The rule, though binding, was very elastic, and capable of stretching to the farthest limits of the tribe—each tribe being allowed to select its chief from among its own members. Almost invariably the chief was succeeded by a near relative, always on the female side; but if these were manifestly unfit, his successor was chosen at a council of the tribe from among remoter kindred, in which case he was nominated by the matron of the late chief's household.‡ In any event the choice was never adverse to the

* These are the more modern names as given by Morgan, though he and other authors omit the Potatoe. The Snipe and Heron correspond with the Great and Little Plover, and the Hawk, with the Eagle, of the early French Documents

† That excellent observer, Champlain, noticed this rule of descent among the Hurons in 1615, and doubtless referred it to its true origin, viz: a child must be the son of his mother, while he may not be of his putative father: a consideration, says Parkman, of more than ordinary force in an Indian community.

The same observation had been made with reference to the tribes in Virginia several years before by Capt. John Smith.

‡ Laflau.

popular inclination.* The new chief was inducted into office by a formal council of the sachems of the league; and on assuming its duties he dropped his own name and substituted that which, since the formation of the league, had belonged to his especial chieftainship.† The chief was required to be a skillful hunter, if not the best in his tribe, and liberal with his game. He must also be a good physician, and able to advise and assist the sick in every circumstance. It was his duty to take care of orphans, to harbor strangers, and to keep order in the town. But he, like the sachem, had no power of compulsion; and like him, also, must keep up his reputation by a prudent, courteous and winning behavior.‡

The tribes were by no means equal in numbers, influence and honor, says Parkman. So marked were the distinctions among them that Colden and other early writers recognized only the three most prominent,—those of the Tortoise, Bear and Wolf. They were eminently social in their habits; and without any law, other than that of common usage, or means of enforcing justice, these rude, uncultured barbarians lived together, in communities aggregating thousands, with a harmony which civilization might envy.

Says Parkman:—

"Though vain, arrogant, boastful and vindictive, the Indian bore abuse and sarcasm with an astonishing patience. Though greedy and grasping, he was lavish without stint, and would give away his all to soothe the moans of a departed relative, gain influence and applause, or ingratiate himself with his neighbors. In his dread of public opinion he rivalled some of his civilized successors.

"All Indians, and especially these populous and stationary tribes, had their code of courtesy, whose requirements were rigid and exact; nor might any infringe it without the ban of public censure. Indian nature, inflexible and unchangeable, was peculiarly under the control of custom. Established usage took the place of law—was in fact, a sort of common law, with no tribunal to expound or enforce it.

All were prompt to aid each other in distress, and a neighborly spirit was often exhibited among them. When a young woman was permanently married, the other women of the village supplied her with firewood for the year, each contributing an armful. When one or more families were without shelter, the men of the village joined in building them a house. In return, the recipients of the favor gave a feast, if they could; if not, their thanks were sufficient.§ Among the Iroquois and Hurons, and doubtless among the kindred tribes, there were marked distinctions of noble and base, prosperous and poor; yet while there was food in the village, the meanest and poorest need not suffer

* Parkman.

† Ibid.

‡ Lookiel.

§ "The following testimony concerning Indian charity and hospitality is from Ragueneau: 'As often as we have seen tribes broken up, towns destroyed, and the people driven to flight, we have seen them to the number of seven or eight hundred persons, received with open arms by charitable hosts, who gladly gave them aid, and even distributed among them a part of the lands already planted, that they might have the means of living.'" *Relation*, 1650, 28.

want. He had but to enter the nearest house, and seat himself by the fire, when, without a word on either side, food was placed before him by the women.

"Contrary to the received opinion, these Indians, like others of their race, when living in communities, were of a very social disposition. Besides their incessant dances and feasts, great and small, they were continually visiting, spending most of their time in their neighbors' houses, chatting, joking, bantering one another with witticisms, sharp, broad, and in no sense delicate, yet always taken in good part. Every village had its adepts in these wordy tournaments, while the shrill laugh of young squaws, untaught to blush, echoed each hardy jest and rough sarcasm."

There was another council, says the same author, between which and that of the subordinate chiefs the line of demarcation seems not to have been very definite. In its character it was essentially popular, but popular in the best sense, and one which can find its application only in a small community. Any man took part in it whose age and experience qualified him to do so. It was merely the gathered wisdom of the nation. The Jesuit Lafitau, familiar with the Iroquois at the height of their prosperity, compares it with the Roman Senate, and defines it as the central and controlling power, so far, at least, as the separate nations were concerned. He thus describes it: "It is a greasy assemblage, sitting *sur leur derriere*, crouched like apes, their knees as high as their ears, or lying, some on their bellies, some on their backs, each with a pipe in his mouth, discussing affairs of state with as much coolness and gravity as the Spanish Junta or the Grand Council of Venice."

The young warriors also had their councils; so, too, had the women; and the opinions and wishes of each were represented by means of deputies in this council of old men, as well as the grand confederate council of the sachems. The government of this unique republic resided wholly in councils; by which all questions were settled, all regulations established—social, political, military and religious. The war-path, the chase, the council-fire, in these was the life of the Iroquois; and it is difficult to say to which he was most devoted.

In this blending of individual, tribal, national and federal interests lies the secret of the immense power wielded by the Iroquois—a power which successfully resisted for a century and a half the hostile efforts of the French; which made them for nearly a century (from 1664 to 1763,) an immovable wedge between the contending French and English Colonies in America, alike feared and courted by both; and enabled them to exterminate or effectually subdue neighboring tribes with whom they had long waged war with varying success.

The Iroquois were not always the same fierce, rapacious and blood-thirsty people which they are now

familiarly known to have been, but were once engrossed in the peaceful pursuits of the husbandman. Colden graphically relates the circumstances which led them in a measure to forsake that occupation, and involved them in a war with the Adirondacks, in which they were engaged when the French first settled Canada. We quote:—

"The *Adirondacks* formerly lived three hundred miles above *Trois Rivières*, where now the *Utawawas* are situated; at that time they employed themselves wholly in hunting, and the *Five Nations* made planting of corn their business. By this means they became useful to each other, by exchanging corn for venison. The *Adirondacks*, however, valued themselves, as delighting in a more manly employment, and despised the *Five Nations*, in following business, which they thought only fit for women. But it once happened that the game failed the *Adirondacks*, which made them desire some of the young men of the *Five Nations* to assist them in hunting. These young men soon became much more expert in hunting, and able to endure fatigue, than the *Adirondacks* expected or desired; in short they became jealous of them, and, one night, murdered all the young men they had with them. The *Five Nations* complained to the chiefs of the *Adirondacks* of the inhumanity of this action; but they contented themselves with blaming the murderers, and ordered them to make some small presents to the relatives of the murdered persons,* without being apprehensive of the resentment of the *Five Nations*; for they looked upon them as men not capable of taking any great revenge.

"This, however, provoked the *Five Nations* to that degree, that they soon resolved by some means to be revenged; and the *Adirondacks*, being informed of these designs, thought to prevent them, by reducing them with force to their obedience.

"The *Five Nations* then lived near where *Mont Real* now stands; they defended themselves at first but faintly against the vigorous attacks of the *Adirondacks*, and were forced to leave their own country, and fly to the banks of the lakes, where they now live.

*It was customary with the Iroquois, as with other Indian nations, to expiate murder by means of presents given to the friends of the deceased. It is a most peculiar reflection that the efforts were directed not to bringing the murderers to a just punishment, but to satisfying those who had a right to feel aggrieved. Murder was the most heinous crime except witchcraft, and was rare. If the slayer and the slain were of the same household or tribe, the affair was regarded as a family quarrel, to be settled by the immediate kin on both sides. This, under the pressure of public opinion, was commonly effected without bloodshed. But if the murderer and his victim were of different clans or nations, still more if the slain was a foreigner, the whole community became interested to prevent the discord or the war which might arise. To this end, contributions were made and presents collected. Their number and value were determined by established usage and differed with different nations. The Iroquois demanded 100 yards of wampum for the murder of a man and 200 for that of a woman. If the victim was of a foreign tribe, a higher compensation was demanded, as it involved the danger of war. Authors differ as to the result which followed in case of refusal on the part of the relatives of the deceased to accept the proper atonement, which they might do if they chose. Parkman says the murderer was given them as a slave, but they might by no means kill him. Colden says they "have such absolute notions of liberty that they allow no kind of superiority of one over another, and banish all servitude from their territories." Luskier implies that the punishment of death may be inflicted.

The Jesuit Lalemant, while inveighing against a practice which made the public and not the criminal answerable for an offense, admits that heinous crimes were more rare than in France, where the guilty party himself was punished.—*Parkman*.

As they were hitherto losers by the war, it obliged them to apply themselves to the exercise of arms, in which they became daily more and more expert. Their *Sachems*, in order to raise their people's spirits, turned them against the *Satanas*, a less warlike nation, who then lived on the banks of the lakes; for they found it was difficult to remove the dread their people had of the valor of the *Adirondacks*. The *Five Nations* soon subdued the *Satanas*, and drove them out of their country; and their people's courage being thus elevated, they, from this time, not only defended themselves bravely against the whole force of the *Adirondacks*, but often carried the war into the heart of the *Adirondacks'* country, and, at last, forced them to leave it, and to fly into that part of the country where Quebec is now built.*

While the Iroquois were waging war with the *Adirondacks*, the French, who early signalized their enmity to the former, had, by the establishment of their fur trade, drawn most of the neighboring nations to Quebec, and supplied them with firearms. These nations joined in the war against the Iroquois. The *Adirondacks* now resolved on the utter destruction of the *Five Nations*; but their young warriors, from their superiority in numbers and arms, became rash and insolent and restive under the disciplinary restraints of their chiefs. The Iroquois, who were thrown on the defensive by the rash impetuosity of their enemies, soon discovered the advantages they gained by this want of discipline, and became themselves more submissive to their chiefs and diligent in executing any enterprise. They opposed strategy, for which they were so conspicuously distinguished,† to the superiority in numbers and arms of the enemy, who were adroitly drawn into ambuscades and thereby suffered great losses. This warfare was continued until it culminated in the disastrous defeat and dispersion of the *Adirondacks* and their allies, the *Quatoghies*, or *Hurons*, in a terrible battle fought within sight of the French settlements at Quebec. They pursued these enemies to their place of refuge with a relentless persistency which only relaxed with their dispersion and almost utter extermination.

With the same terrible, deadly vehemence they pursued other enemies, prominent among whom were the *Neutrals* and *Eries* to the west and the *Andastes* to the south of them, their vengeance never satiated until they were wiped out of existence as nations. Thus they eventually became the dictators of the Continent, their sway extending over a territory estimated to be twelve hundred miles long by eight hundred broad, embracing a large part of New England and reaching thence to the *Mississippi*; while the French occupants of Canada, and the *Cherokees* and *Catawbas* in the far south were humbled by their

* *History of the Five Indian Nations.*

† "The *Five Nations* are so much delighted with stratagems in war, that no superiority of their forces ever makes them neglect them." — *Colden.*

power. But they held in actual possession only the limited territory previously described.

From the conquered nations they exacted tribute, and drew conscripts for their armies. The *Tuscaroras*, who resided in Carolina, were incorporated into the confederacy in 1715, and thereafter they were known as the *Six Nations*. From the extent of their conquests, the number of their subject nations, and the tribute and military aid rendered them by the latter, they have been called the "Romans of the New World." When we reflect that of their own warriors they could bring into the field barely 2,000 braves, and with this number subjugated nations numerically more than twice as large, and spread terror and consternation among the French settlements in Canada, threatening their utter extinction, the magnitude of their achievements may be faintly comprehended.

Their great successes, however, are scarcely referable to the perfection of their military organization, which, though unquestionably better than that of their neighbors, was wretchedly poor. Occasionally, though rarely, they acted in concert as a great confederacy; but usually their wars were carried on by detached parties, small in numbers, or at best by individual nations, by whom their great conquests were mostly made.

They were in a chronic state of warfare, and were easily diverted from other pursuits whenever an opportunity offered to avenge their enemies. The inveterate wars waged by them against their kinsmen, as for instance the *Hurons*, *Eries* and *Andastes*, all mighty and valorous nations, is one of the unexplained passages in their history. Any of their warriors who was desirous of avenging a personal insult, rebuking a tribal or national affront, or ambitious to distinguish himself by some deed of valor, might take the war-path with such following as he could get. He first communicated his design to two others of his most intimate friends and if they approved of it an invitation was extended in their name to the warriors of the village to attend a feast of dog's flesh, which was always used on such occasions.* His purpose was publicly proclaimed by the singing of war-songs, dancing the war-dance, and sticking his hatchet in the war-post. Any who chose joined him. After a night spent in alimentary debauchery they set out, dressed in their finest apparel, with faces hideously bedaubed with paint, to make them objects of terror to their enemies, usually with a little parched corn meal and maple sugar as their sole provision. They were always followed on such occasions by the women, who took with them their old clothes and brought back the finery in which they marched from the castle. They

* *Colden's Five Indian Nations.*

always recorded these exploits by the aid of their mnemonic symbols, rudely sketched on the smooth side of a piece of bark, peeled for that purpose from a tree—usually an oak, as being most durable. These expeditions generally provoked retaliation, and the vengeance of the injured party was wreaked on any of the offending nation with whom they came in contact. Thus the history of Indian warfare is largely the history of the daring exploits of individuals and small bands of warriors, who harassed their enemies and kept them in perpetual fear of danger. This mode of warfare proved peculiarly distressing to the early settlements of the American colonies.

The Iroquois had a discipline suited to the dark and tangled forests where they fought. Here they were a terrible foe; but in an open country, against a trained European force, they were, despite their ferocious valor, less formidable. Their true superiority was a moral one. They were in one of those transports of pride, self-confidence, and rage for ascendancy, which, in a savage people, marks an era of conquest.* They were proud, arrogant, vindictive, sagacious and subtle, and esteemed themselves by nature superior to the rest of mankind. They styled themselves *Ongue-houwe*, signifying "men surpassing all others."† Great care was taken to inculcate this opinion in their children, and to impress it upon other nations.‡

Authors differ as to the military status of the Iroquois, and it would be difficult, perhaps, with our limited exact knowledge of the various Indian tribes with whom they came in contact, to award them their just meed. It would be manifestly unjust to compare them with civilized nations, though in some respects this would not reflect disparagingly upon them. De Witt Clinton awards them a high measure of praise. He says:—

"They reduced war to a science, and all their movements were directed by system and policy. They never attacked a hostile country till they had sent out spies to explore and designate its vulnerable points, and when they encamped they observed the greatest circumspection to guard against surprise. Whatever superiority of force they might have, they never neglected the use of stratagem, employing all the crafty wiles of the Carthagenians. To produce death by the most protracted suffering was sanctioned among them by general immemorial usages."

The horrible, cruel and remorseless tortures with which they, in common with other Indians, persecuted

* *Parkman's Jesuits.*

† *Colden's Five Indian Nations.*

‡ Colden cites an instance which admirably illustrates this feature in their character. A party of Mohawks who were about to take the war-path notified the officer then in command of Fort Hunter that they should expect the usual military honors as they passed the garrison. His men were drawn up in line and brought to a *present arms*, and the drums beat a march, while the Indians marched past in single file with great gravity and profound silence. Each as he passed took his gun from his shoulder and fired into the ground near the foot of the officer.

their prisoners, forms one of the blackest pages in their history; while the heroism and fortitude with which they endured these tortures is the marvel of civilization. Even women were not exempt from them; for both men and women were inexorably subjected to the most revolting and ignominious tortures, even to burning alive,* though the latter less frequently than the former. But they are said to have never violated the person of their female prisoners, notwithstanding the shameless license which prevailed among themselves.†

The superiority of the Iroquois, as compared with others of their race in the whole western hemisphere, and even with the civilized races of Mexico and Peru, with a few doubtful exceptions, is clearly proved by the size of their brain. The average internal capacity of five Iroquois crania, as compared by Mr. Morton, was eighty-eight cubic inches, which is within two inches of the Caucasian mean.‡ The difference in volume is chiefly confined to the occipital and basal portions—the region of the animal propensities—and on this is predicated their ferocious, brutal and uncivilizable character.§ In this remarkable family occur the fullest developments of Indian character, and the most conspicuous examples of Indian intelligence. If not here then nowhere are to be found those higher traits popularly ascribed to the race.¶ They unified and systematized the elements which, among other nations, were digressive and chaotic.

There were marked physical and temperamental differences between the various Indian tribes of this country. The Iroquois were erect and commanding in figure; they were reserved and haughty, cool, deliberate and cunning. The prairie Indians, with very different habits, were more nervous, social and excitable. Charles T. Hoffman, Esq., thus traces the causes of these differences:—

"The Pawnees, following the buffalo in his migra-

* The burning of male prisoners was a common occurrence; and Parkman says, women were often burned by the Iroquois. He cites the case of Catherine Mercier in 1651, and many Indian women mentioned by the early writers. He also states, on the authority of a Cayuga Indian, that on the night after the great battle in which the Erie were destroyed as a nation, in 1655, that "the forest was lighted up with more than a thousand fires, at each of which an Erie was burning alive." This is undoubtedly a gross exaggeration. The same authority says they even eat the prisoners thus tortured. This indeed was a common occurrence.

† This remarkable forbearance towards female captives was probably the result of superstition, rather than an inherent heroic virtue, to which some authors ascribe it. Early writers bear abundant testimony of their unchastity. Lafitau, who wrote in 1724, says that in his time the nation was corrupt, but that it was a degeneracy from their ancient manners. La Potherie and Charlevoix make a similar statement. Megapoleusis, however, in 1644, says they were then exceedingly debauched; and Greenhalgh, in 1677, gives ample evidence of a shameless license. Morgan, one of their most earnest advocates of the present day, admits, in his *League of the Iroquois*, that the passion of love among them had no other than an animal existence.—*Colden's Five Indian Nations, Parkman's Jesuits and Doc. Hist. of New York.*

‡ *Crania Americana*, 195.

§ *Admeasurements of Crania of the Principal Groups of Indians in the United States*, J. S. Phillips.

¶ *Parkman's Jesuits.*

tions, and having always plenty of animal food to subsist upon, are a much better fed and a larger race than those who find a precarious subsistence in the forest chase, while the woodland tribes, who, though not so plump in form, are of a more wiry and, perhaps, muscular make, have again a decided advantage in figure and gait over the fishing and trapping tribes of the North-west that pass most of their time in canoes. This difference in character and physical appearance between the different Indian [tribes], or rather between those which have such different methods of gaining a livelihood, has not been sufficiently attended to by modern authors, though it did not escape the early French writers on this country. And yet, if habit have any effect in forming the character and temper of a rude people, it must of course follow that the savage who lives in eternal sunshine upon flowery plains, and hunts on horseback with a troop of tribesmen around him, must be a different being from the solitary deer-stalker who wanders through the dim forest, depending upon his single arm for subsistence for his wife and children."

The advent of the European nations to the American continent was the precursor alike of the downfall of the Iroquois Confederacy and the ultimate extinction of the American Indian. This was due, not so much to the organic defects of the confederacy itself, as to causes inherent in the structure and mental incapacity of its authors. Stimulated at first by the attrition of rugged Saxon thought, they were destined ere long to be consumed by it. Though radically intractable, this race possessed in certain external respects a plastic mind; but while they felt and were, in a measure, influenced by this contact with a superior intellect, they lacked the ability to adapt themselves to the conditions essential to its evolution. It intensified their savage nature, rather than eradicated it; for, unhappily for them, they were brought more in contact with its vices than its virtues. It cannot be denied, however, that the efforts of the early missionaries had a softening tendency, and what might have been the result of their labors under more favorable conditions can only be conjectured. But the missionaries themselves give ample evidence of the great difficulty attending their conversion;* and it should not be overlooked that the instances which gave unmistakable evidence of genuine conversion were extremely rare. The large liberty allowed by their national compact was an element of great danger with a barbarous people, given, as they were, to the gratification of many of the worst impulses of their nature; for it held little or no restraint over them. The worst phases of our civilization—a polished barbarism rather—were engrafted on their natures, and served

* "It is necessary first," says Father Gabriel Marest, Missionary of the Society of Jesus, in 1712, "to transform them into men, and afterwards to labor to make them Christians." *The Early Jesuit Missions of North America.*—Right Rev. Wm. Ingraham Kip, D. D., Bishop of California.

as a stimulus to appetites and passions already abnormally developed.*

Advanced as the Iroquois were beyond most other American tribes, there is no indication whatever of a tendency to overpass the confines of a wild hunter and warrior life. They were inveterately attached to it, impracticable conservatists of barbarism, and in ferocity and cruelty they matched the worst of their race. That they were sagacious is past denying; but it expended itself in a blind frenzy which impelled them to destroy those whom they might have made their allies in a common cause. Their prescience, apparently, could not comprehend the destiny of a people capable of emerging from barbarism into civilization. Their decline may be said to have begun when their conquests were ended. They soon became a hopeless dependency, without the means, if they had the design, which they probably did not, to stop the encroachments of the whites upon their domain. As early as 1753, their dissolution was foreshadowed, though it did not take place till about a quarter of a century later.†

* The struggle for supremacy between the French and English, which involved the American colonies in war, and the subsequent American and English wars, developed traits scarcely less monstrous than those which characterized their Indian allies. Massachusetts first gave twelve, then forty, and finally one hundred pounds for a scalp. In 1745, the Colonial Legislature of New York passed an act offering a reward for scalps; and in 1746, the Governor of the Colony, Admiral George Clinton, not only paid for two scalps of Frenchmen in money and fine clothes, but thanked the three Indians who brought them to Albany, and promised "Always to remember this act of friendship." American scalps were received and paid for in English money by the officer in command at Malden, in the war of 1812.

† At a conference with the Six Nations at Onondaga, Sept. 8, 1751, Col. William Johnson, whom the Iroquois called *Warraghigegay*, thus addresses them:—

"BRETHREN OF THE SIX NATIONS:—

"It grieves me sorely to find the road hither so grown up with weeds, for want of being used, and your Fire almost expiring at Onondaga, where it was agreed by the wisdom of our ancestors that it should never be extinguished. You know it was a saying among them that when the Fire was out here you would be no longer a People. I am now sent by Your Brother the Governor to clear the Road, and make up the Fire with such wood as will never burn out, and I earnestly desire You would take care to keep it up, so as to be found always the same when he shall send among you. A Belt.

"BRETHREN OF THE SIX NATIONS:—

"I have now renewed the Fire, swept and cleaned all your Rooms with a new White Wing, and leave it hanging near the Fire place, that you may use it for cleaning all dust, dirt, &c., which may have been brought in by Strangers, no friends to You, or Us. A String of Wampum.

"BRETHREN OF THE SIX NATIONS:—

"I am sorry to find on my Arrival among You that the fine Shady Tree which was planted by your Forefathers for your ease and Shelter should be now leaning, being almost blown down by Northerly Winds. I shall now endeavor to set it upright, that it may flourish as formerly while the roots spread abroad, so that when we sit or stand on them You will not feel them shake, should any storm blow, then should You be ready to secure it. A Belt.

"BRETHREN OF THE SIX NATIONS:—

"Your Fire now burns clearly at the old place, The Tree of shelter and protection is set up and flourishes; I must now insist upon your quenching that Fire made with Brambles at Swegachey, and recall those to their proper home who have deserted thither: I cannot leave disswading you from going to Canada; the French are a delusive People, always endeavoring to divide you as much as they can, nor will they let slip any opportunity of making advantage of it. A Large Belt."

—*Doc. Hist.*, Vol. II, p. 631.

CHAPTER II.

INDIAN MUTABILITY—INDIAN HABITS AND USAGES—INDIAN DWELLINGS—MANNER OF CONSTRUCTING THEM—THEIR USES—INDIAN TOWNS—HOW BUILT AND FORTIFIED—SOCIAL USAGES—DRESS AND ORNAMENTS—LAW OF MARRIAGE—LICENSE—EXPERIMENTAL MARRIAGES—FAMILY DISCIPLINE—HOME EMPLOYMENTS—GANBLING UNIVERSAL—DANCES AND FEASTS—THE WAR DANCE—RELIGION AND SUPERSTITION—STATED ANNUAL FESTIVALS—MEDICAL FEASTS—DREAMS—WIZARDS AND WITCHES—BURIALS—WAMPUM—HOSPITALITY.

WE purpose giving in this chapter some of the more prominent features of Indian domestic and social life, which furnish the best index to their true character. The Indian, viewed as a distinct branch of the human family, has some peculiar traits and institutions which may be advantageously studied. They furnish the key to those startling impulses which have so long made him an object of wonder to civilized communities, and reveal him as the legitimate product of the conditions attending his birth, his forest education, and the wants, temptations and dangers which surround him. They show him also to be as patient and politic as he is ferocious.

"America, when it became known to Europeans, was, as it had long been, a scene of wide-spread revolution. North and South, tribe was giving place to tribe, language to language; for the Indian, hopelessly unchanging in respect to individual and social development, was as regarded tribal relations and social haunts, mutable as the wind. In Canada and the northern section of the United States, the elements of change were especially active. The Indian population which, in 1535, Cartier found at Montreal and Quebec, had disappeared at the opening of the next century, and another race had succeeded, in language and customs widely different; while in the region now forming the State of New York, a power was rising to a ferocious vitality, which, but for the presence of Europeans, would probably have subjected, absorbed or exterminated every other Indian community east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio."

Hence we shall see that their habitations were not characterized by that durability and permanency which is manifest in stable communities. This mutability was governed primarily by success or non-success in war, or the fear of ambitious neighbors, for not unfrequently whole nations, or fragments of nations, submitted to expatriation to save themselves from extermination; and secondarily by the mode of Indian life. They subsisted generally by hunting and fishing. Their agriculture was usually of the most primitive character; and when, in the course of years,

* Parkman's Jesuits.

the fertility of their small clearings became exhausted, not conversant with the art of refertilization, they removed to and cultivated new fields. The scarcity of game and fuel also necessitated their removal to localities where it was more abundant.

Usually, however, they had large central villages, which exhibited in a more marked measure the elements of permanency. Thus the Iroquois, though living at different times in various localities in this State, retained their central habitations in or near the localities where the whites first found them. Of the Iroquois, who subsisted mainly by the chase, the Senecas, who occupied the most fertile portion of the State, brought agriculture to the highest degree of perfection, and had the best houses. When General Sullivan passed through their country with his army in the fall of 1779, thousands of acres had been cleared, old orchards of apples, pears, peaches and other fruits existed, and evidences of long cultivation abounded.*

Their dwellings differed in shape and size, and, though rude, were generally built with considerable labor and care.† They are generally about thirty feet square and of the same height.‡ The sides were formed of hickory saplings set in two parallel rows and bent inward, thus forming an arch. Transverse poles were bound to the uprights and over the arch. The whole was covered with bark, overlapping like shingles, and held in place by smaller poles fastened to the frame with cords of linden bark. An open space about a foot wide extended the whole length of the ridge and served the double purpose of window and

* General Sullivan reported that in 1779 "the Indian town of Genesee contained one hundred and twenty-eight houses, mostly large and elegant. It was beautifully situated, encircled by a clear flat extending a number of miles, over which fields of corn were waving, together with every kind of vegetable that could be conceived of." Similar towns were also found at other points on his march. The whole valley presented the appearance of having been cultivated with care for generations.

Col. Wm. L. Stone, in his *Life of Joseph Brant*, says, "they had several towns and many large villages laid out with considerable regularity. They had framed houses, some of them well finished, having chimneys and painted; they had broad and productive fields."

† Schoolcraft thus describes the lodge, which, he says, was in general use by the tribes north of latitude 42 deg., the south line of New York State:—

"It is made of thin poles, such as a child can lift, set in the ground in a circle, bent over and tied at the top, and sheathed with long sheets of white birch bark. A rim of cedar wood at the bottom, assimilates these white birch sheets to the roller of a map, to which in stormy weather a stone is attached to hold it firm. This stick has also the precise use of a map roller, for when the lodge is to be removed, the bark is rolled on it, and in this shape carried to the canoe, to be set up elsewhere. The circle of sticks, or frame, is always left standing, as it would be useless to encumber the canoe with what can easily be had in any position in a forest country. * * * It is, in its figure, a half globe, and by its lightness and wicker-like structure, may be said to resemble an inverted bird's nest. The whole amount of the transportable materials of it is often comprehended in some half a dozen good rolls of bark, and as many of rush mats, which the merest girl can easily lift. The mats, which are the substitute for floor cloths, and also the under stratum of the sleeping couch, are made out of common lacustris or bulrush, or the flag, cut at the proper season, and woven in a warp of fine hemp net thread, such as is furnished by traders in the present state of the Indian trade. A portion of this soft vegetable wool is dyed, and woven in various colors."—*The Indian in His Wigwam, or Characteristics of the Red Race of America*, 1848.

‡ Many were much larger, and a few were of prodigious length. In some of the villages there were dwellings 140 feet long, though in breadth and height they did not much exceed the others.—*Brebeuf, Relation des Hurons*, 163, 31.

Champlain says he saw them, in 1615, more than thirty fathoms long: while Van der Donck reports the length, from actual measurement, of an Iroquois house, at 180 yards. These were occupied by numerous families, with little or no regard for privacy.—*Parkman's Jesuits*.

chimney. At each end was an enclosed space, for the storage of supplies of Indian corn, dried flesh, fish, etc., which were kept in bark vessels. Along each side were wide scaffolds, some four feet from the floor, which, when covered with skins, formed the summer sleeping places, while beneath was stored their firewood gathered and kept dry for use. In some cases these platforms were in sections of twelve to fourteen feet, with spaces for storage between them. Five or six feet above was another platform, often occupied by children. Overhead poles were suspended for various uses, to make and dry their fish and flesh, and hold their weapons, skins, clothing, corn, etc. In cold weather the inmates slept on the floor, huddled about the fires, which ranged through the center of the house. In their larger structures the sides usually consisted of rows of upright posts, and the roof, still arched, formed of separate poles. The door consisted of a sheet of bark hung on wooden hinges, or suspended by cords from above. Generally they were lined with a thick coating of soot, by the large fires maintained for warmth and for cooking. So pungent was the smoke, that it produced inflammation of the eyes, attended in old age with frequent blindness. Their wolfish dogs were as regular occupants as the unbridled and unruly children. The Iroquois preserved this mode of building in all essential particulars till a recent period, and it was common and peculiar to all tribes of their lineage.

Says Parkman, to whom and to the Colonial Documents we are indebted for the foregoing description:—

"He who entered on a winter night beheld a strange spectacle: The vista of fires lighting the smoky concave; the bronzed groups encircling each, cooking, eating, gambling, or amusing themselves with idle badinage; shrivelled squaws, hideous with three-score years of hardship; grisly old warriors, scarred with Iroquois war-clubs; young aspirants, whose honors were yet to be won; damsels gay with ochre and wampum; restless children, pell-mell with restless dogs. Now a tongue of resinous flame painted each wild feature in vivid light; now the fitful gleam expired, and the group vanished from sight, as their nation has vanished from history."*

The Indian towns were generally but an irregular and confused aggregation of Indian houses, clustered together with little regard to order, and covering from one to ten acres. They were often fortified, and a situation favorable to defense was always chosen—the bank of a lake, the crown of a difficult hill, or a high point of land in the fork of confluent rivers. These defenses were not often constructed with any mathematical regularity, but made to conform to the nature of the

* Reference is here made to the Huron nation, who were kinsmen of the Iroquois, and whose houses were essentially alike. The same is true of their fortifications and other economic arrangements.

ground.* Frequently a precipice or river sufficed for a partial defense—and the line or embankment occurred only on one or two sides.

An embankment was constructed of the earth thrown up from a deep ditch encircling the town, and palisades, of twenty to thirty feet in height, planted thereon, in one to four concentric rows, those of each row inclining toward those of the others till they intersected. These palisades were cut by the alternate process of burning and hacking the burnt part with stone hatchets,† from trees felled in the same manner, and were often interlaced with flexible branches, to prevent their destruction by fire, a common effort of the enemy. They were lined to the height of a man with heavy sheets of bark; and on the top, where they crossed, was a gallery of timber for the defenders, together with wooden gutters, by which streams of water could be poured on fires kindled by the enemy. Magazines of stones, and rude ladders for mounting the rampart, completed the provision for defense. The forts of the Iroquois were stronger and more elaborate than those of other Indian nations, and large districts in New York are marked with the remains of their ditches and embankments, some instances of which occur both in Chenango and Madison Counties, and will be more minutely described in connection with the towns in which they are known to exist.

Large quantities of timber were consumed in building these fortifications, and hence clearings of considerable extent were made and opened to their rude cultivation. In that work the squaws were employed, assisted by the children and superannuated warriors; not as a compulsory labor, but assumed by them as a just equivalent for the onerous and continuous labor of the other sex, in providing meats and skins for clothing, by the chase, and in defending their villages against their enemies and keeping intruders off their territories.‡ The implement used for tilling the soil was a bone or wooden hoe, (*pemideag akwut*.) and the chief crops, corn (*mondamin*), beans, pumpkins, tobacco, sunflowers and hemp. There was no individual ownership of land, but each

* The forts attacked by Champlain in 1615 and M. de Tracy in 1666, furnish exceptions to this statement, and the diagram of the former also shows that the enclosed village was built with great regularity. The former was in the form of a hexagon, without bastions, "with strong quadruple palisades of large timber, thirty feet high, interlocked the one with the other, with an interval of not more than a foot between them, with galleries in the form of parapets, defended with double pieces of timber;" and the latter was a triple palisade, twenty feet in height, and flanked by four bastions. Both were provided with the means of extinguishing fires. Water was conducted to the former from a pond with a never-failing supply of water by means of gutters; while in the latter it was kept in bark tanks: *L'opuscule de la Nouvelle France par le Sr. de Champlain Paris, 1632.*

Relation 1665-6.

Doc. Hist. of New York.

† The Indian had no metallic ax capable of felling a tree, prior to 1492.—*Schoolcraft.*

‡ *Schoolcraft.*

family had for the time exclusive right to as much as they saw fit to cultivate. The clearing process was a laborious one, and consisted in hacking off branches, piling them together with brushwood around the foot of the standing trunks, and setting fire to the whole.

With the Iroquois the staple article of food was corn, "cooked without salt in a variety of different forms, each," says Parkman, "more odious than the last." This, cooked with beans of various colors, was highly esteemed by them, but was more of a dainty than a daily dish. Their bread, which was of indifferent quality, but an article of daily consumption, was made of corn; from which they also made a porridge, called by some *Sapsis*, by others, *Duundare* (boiled bread). Venison was a luxury found only at feasts; dog flesh was held in high esteem; and in some of the towns captive bears were fattened for festive occasions.*

These stationary tribes were far less improvident than the roving Algonquins, and laid up stores of provision against a season of want. Their main stock of corn was buried in *caches*, or deep holes dug in the earth. In respect to the arts of life, also, they were in advance of the wandering hunters of the North. The women made a species of earthen pot for cooking, but these were supplanted by the copper kettle of the French traders. They wove rush mats with no little skill. They spun twine from the hemp, by the primitive process of rolling it on their thighs; and of this twine they made nets. They extracted oil from fish and from the seeds of the sunflower, the latter, apparently, only for the purposes of the toilet. They pounded their maize in huge mortars of wood, hollowed by alternate burnings and scrapings.† To the woman belonged the drudgery of the household, as well as the field, though it may be questioned if the task was as onerous as it is generally supposed to have been.‡ Among the Iroquois there were favorable features in her condition. She had often a considerable influence in the decisions of the councils. To the men, in addition to the duties already enumerated, belonged that of making the implements of war and the chase, pipes, which were often skillfully

* A Paper treating of the *Natives, their Appearance, Occupation and Food*, published in the *New York Colonial History*, Vol. 1., p. 181, states that "their food is poor and gross, for they drink water, having no other beverage: they eat the flesh of all sorts of game that the country supplies, even badgers, dogs, eagles, and similar trash, which Christians in no way regard: these they cook and use uncleaned and undressed. Moreover, all sorts of fish; likewise snakes, frogs, and such like, which they usually cook with the offals and entrails." Colden confirms this statement with regard to their freedom in eating. He says: "Their men value themselves in having all kinds of food in equal esteem. A Mohawk sachem told me, with a kind of pride, that a man eats everything without distinction, bears, cats, dogs, snakes, frogs, &c., intimating that it is womanish to have any delicacy in the choice of food.—*History of the Five Indian Nations*.

† *Parkman's Jesuits*.

‡ See *Schoolcraft's Notes*, where it is stated, in considering the relative duties of the male and female Indian, that those of the latter are not disproportionately great.

and elaborately wrought, and canoes. These are of two kinds; "some of entire trees, excavated by fire, axes and adzes,"* and others made of bark. Those of the Hurons, and other northern tribes, were made of birch bark; while those of the Iroquois, in the absence of birch, were made of elm, which was greatly inferior, both in lightness and strength.

The dress of both men and women consisted of skins of various kinds, dressed in the well-known Indian manner, and worn in the shape of kilts, or doublets thrown over the shoulders, the men often wearing it only over the left shoulder, so as to leave their right arm free. Formerly these coverings were made of turkey feathers, woven together with a thread of wild hemp; † but latterly both these and the skins were superseded by a piece of *duffels*, ‡ which they obtained in trade from the whites. The rich wore a piece of blue, red or black cloth about "two yards" long, fastened around the waist, the lower seam of which in some cases, was decorated with ribbons, wampum or corals. The poor covered themselves with a bear-skin, and even the rich did the same in cold weather, or in its stead, a pelisse of beaver or other fur, with the hair turned inward. They made stockings and shoes of deer-skins or elk-hides which, says Loskiel, were "tanned with the brains of deer," which made them very soft; and some even wore shoes made of corn husks, of which also they made sacks. The dress which peculiarly distinguished the women, was a petticoat, made of a piece of cloth about two yards long, fastened tight about the hips, and hanging down a little below the knees.§ This they wore day and night. A longer one would have impeded them in walking through the woods and working in the fields. Their holiday dress was either blue or red and sometimes black, hung all round, frequently from top to bottom, with red, blue and yellow ribbons. "Most women of rank," says Loskiel, "wear a fine white linen shift with a red collar, reaching from their necks, nearly to the knees. Others wear shifts of printed linen or cotton of various colors, decorated at the breast with a great number of silver buckles, which are also worn by some as ornaments upon the petticoats." The men also frequently appeared in a white shirt with a red collar, worn over the rest of the clothes. The dress "of the women, according to the Jesuits,"

* *Colonial History of New York*.

† *Loskiel and Colonial History of New York*.

‡ Verazzani, who explored the coast of North America in 1524, speaks of the natives whom he met in the harbor of New York, as not differing much from those with whom he had intercourse at other points, "being dressed out with the feathers of birds of various colors."

§ A kind of coarse cloth resembling frieze.

¶ "The lower body of this skirt," says Van der Donck, the Dutch Historian, in describing an Indian belle, "they ornament with great art, and nestle the same with strips which are tastefully decorated with wampum. The wampum with which one of these skirts is ornamented is frequently worth from one to three hundred guilders."

says Parkman, in speaking of the Hurons, "was more modest than that of our most pious ladies of France! The young girls on festal occasions must be excepted from this commendation, as they wore merely a kilt from the waist to the knee, besides the wampum decorations of the breast and arms. Their long black hair, gathered behind the neck, was decorated with disks of native copper, or gay pendants made in France, and now occasionally unearthed in numbers from their graves. The men, in summer, were nearly naked, those of a kindred tribe wholly so, with the sole exception of their moccasins."^{*}

All Indians were very much addicted to personal ornamentation, the women more so than the men. In these decorations consisted their wealth, and they were a means also of marking their rank among themselves.† The men paid particular attention to the dress and adornment of their wives, and thought it scandalous to appear better clothed than they.‡ Their robes of fur were often richly decorated on the inside with painted figures and devices, and elaborately embroidered, and were of great value. Much time and labor was bestowed in decorating their faces and bodies with paint and other devices. The latter was frequently covered entirely with black, in case of mourning, and was most singularly tattooed with representations of serpents, birds and other creatures. The entire body was thus sometimes covered, and though the operation was severe and painful, at times resulting in death, not a murmur escaped the sufferer. From these decorations they sometimes acquired appellations by which their pride was exceedingly gratified; thus an Iroquois chief, whose breast was covered with black scarifications, was called the Black Prince.§ The face each day received a fresh application of paint, and this was an object of special care if they were going to a dance. Vermillion was their favorite color, and with it they frequently painted the entire head. At other times half the face and head were painted red and the other half black. Near the river Muskingum was found a yellow ochre, which, when burnt, made a beautiful red color. This the Huron warriors chiefly used for paint, and did not think a journey of a hundred miles too great a price to pay for it. Some preferred blue, "because," says Loskiel, "it is the color of the sky, when calm and serene, and, being considered an emblem of peace, it is frequently introduced as such in their public orations." White clay, soot and the red juice of certain berries, were among the agents employed in these fantastic

^{*} It was customary, says Father Marest, a missionary among the Indians of Illinois and Michigan in 1712, for the women to cover their breasts with a piece of skin. "They are all modestly clothed when they come to church. Then they wrap the body in a large skin, or clothe themselves well in a robe made of many skins sewed together.—*Kip's Jesuits*.

† *Kip's Jesuits*.

‡ *Loskiel*.

§ *Ibid.*

decorations. Some wore a large pearl, or piece of silver, gold, or wampum, suspended from a hole bored in the cartilage of the nose. From their ears, which had been previously distended and lengthened as much as possible, depended pearls, rings, sparkling stones, feathers, flowers, corals, or silver crosses. A broad collar made of violet wampum was deemed a most precious ornament, and the rich even decorated their breasts with it. "It is always necessary," says Father Sebastien Rasles, "to add a small piece of porcelain, which hangs at the end of the collar."^{*}

The hair was worn in various and grotesque fashions, and decorated with silver and other trinkets of considerable weight. The women suffered it to grow without restraint, and thus it frequently reached below the hips. Nothing was thought more ignominious in women than to have it cut off, and this was only now and then resorted to as an act of punishment. They anointed it with bear's grease to make it shine. "The Delaware women," says Loskiel, "never plait their hair, but fold and tie it round with a piece of cloth. Some tie it behind, then roll it up, and wrap a ribband or the skin of a serpent round it. * * * But the Iroquois, Shawanose, and Huron women wear a queue, down to their hips, tied round with a piece of cloth, and hung with red ribbands." The men did not allow their hair to grow long, and some even pulled so much of it out by the roots, that a little only remained round the crown of the head, forming a round crest of about two inches in diameter. This was divided into two parts, plaited, tied with ribbon, and allowed to hang on either side of the head. The crown was frequently ornamented with a plume of feathers, placed either upright or aslant; and the hair at feasts, with silver rings, corals, wampum, and even silver buckles. With some the hair was braided tight on one side and allowed to hang loose on the other; while with others, it bristled in a ridge across the crown, like the back of a hyena.†

It was common to rub their bodies with the fat of bears or other animals, which was sometimes colored, to make their limbs supple, and to guard against the sting of mosquitoes and other insects.

The Iroquois studied dress and ornamentation more than any other Indian nation and were allowed to dictate the fashion to the rest.

The Iroquois married early in life, the men sometimes in their eighteenth, and the women in their fourteenth year. Both marriage and divorce were effected with equal facility and were attended with very little ceremony. The marriage ceremony consisted in the acceptance of a gift from a suitor by the intended

^{*} *Kip's Jesuits*.

† See LeJeune, *Relation*, 1633, 35, 'Quelles Hures!' exclaimed some astonished Frenchmen. Hence the name *Hurons*.—*Parkman's Jesuits*.

wife, and the return on her part of a dish of boiled maize and an armful of fuel.* Divorces ensued at the pleasure of the parties, for the most trivial causes, and without disgrace to either, unless it had been occasioned by some scandalous offense.† The man signified his wish to marry by a present of blankets, cloth, linen, and perhaps a few belts of wampum, to the nearest relatives of the object of his desire. If they happened to be pleased with the present and suitor, they proposed the matter to the girl, who generally decided agreeably to the wish of the parents or relatives. If the proposal was declined the present was returned by way of a friendly negative. The woman or girl indicated this desire by sitting, with her face covered with a veil. If she attracted a suitor, negotiations were opened with parents or friends, presents given and the bride taken.

Monogamy was the rule; but polygamy was tolerated, though it mostly obtained among the chiefs. Among the Iroquois and kindred nations "experimental marriages" were common, but were usually of short duration. "The seal of the compact was merely the acceptance of a gift of wampum, made by the suitor to the object of his desire or his whim. These gifts were never returned on the dissolution of the connection; and as an attractive and enterprising damsel might, and often did, make twenty such marriages before her final establishment, she thus collected a wealth of wampum with which to adorn herself for the village dances. This provisional matrimony was no bar to a license, boundless and, apparently, universal, unattended with loss of reputation on either side."‡ But notwithstanding this great freedom, the great majority of Iroquois marriages were permanent.

Indian women performed the functions of maternity with a facility almost unknown at the present day; but Schoolcraft bears testimony to the fact that the average number of children borne by them, who reached the adult period, scarcely exceeded two. "Much of this extraordinary result" he ascribes "to their erratic mode of life, and their cramped means of subsistence. Another cause is to be found in the accidents and exposure to which young children are liable, but still more to their shocking ignorance of medicine."

Family discipline was little resorted to. Filling the

* Van der Donck says the gift consisted of "some wampum or cloth, which [was] frequently [taken] back on separating, if this [occurred] any way soon."—*New York Colonial History*.

Schoolcraft says, "The only ceremonial observance, of which I have heard, is the assigning of what is called an ablinos, or permanent lodge seat to the bridegroom."—*The Indians in his Wigwam*.

† Loskiel says, "Sometimes an Indian forsakes his wife because she has a child to suckle, and marries another, whom he forsakes in her turn for the same reason."—*History of the Mission of the United Brethren among the Indians in North America*.

Van der Donck assigns as a reason for frequent separation the excessive unchastity and lasciviousness of both men and women.

‡ Parkman's *Jesuits*.

mouth with water and spurning it over the refractory urchins, or denuding and plunging them into cold water, were the principal means employed.* The children were always considered the property of the wife, and in case of divorce followed her; though those who had grown up might stay with the father if they chose. Both parents were very desirous of gaining the affection of their children, and hence never opposed their inclinations, that they might not lose it. Their education therefore was not much attended to. The father generally gave the child a name in his sixth or seventh year, and pretended that it was suggested to him in a dream. This was done at a sacrifice, in a song. The same ceremony was performed when an adult person received a name of honor in addition to the former.

Taciturn, morose and cruel as the Indians were usually in their hunting and warlike expeditions, in their own cabins and communities they were very social, patient and forbearing; in their festal seasons, when all were at leisure, they engaged in a round of continual feasting, gambling, smoking and dancing. In gambling they spent much of their leisure, and staked all they controlled on the chances of the game, their food, ornaments, canoes, clothing, and even their wives. Various devices were employed, plum stones or pieces of wood, painted black on one side and white on the other, these were put into a wooden bowl, which, being struck heavily upon the ground, caused the balls to bound upward, and the betting was upon the white or black faces that were uppermost when they fell. The game had a peculiar fascination, in which two entire villages sometimes contended, and cases are related where some of the contestants lost their leggings and moccasins, and complacently returned home barefooted through the snow. Some of the Iroquois believed that they would play this game in the spirit land.†

Dancing was both a common amusement and a solemn duty with all Indians, and not a night passed during these periods of leisure without a dance in one family or another to which the youth of both sexes resorted with eagerness. The common dance was held in a large house or in an open field around a fire. A circle was formed and a leader chosen. The women danced with great decorum, even gravity, never speaking a word to the men, much less joking with them, as that would injure their character. They neither jumped nor skipped, but moved one foot lightly backward and forward, till by gradual advances they reached a certain spot, when they retired in the same manner. They kept their bodies straight and their arms hung down close to their sides. The men shouted, leaped and stamped with great violence, their extreme

* *Ibid.*

† Parkman's *Jesuits*.

agility and lightness of foot being shown to great advantage. The sole music consisted of a single drum, made by stretching a thin deer skin over an old barrel or kettle, or the lower end of a hollow tree, and beat with one stick. Its sound was disagreeable, and served only to mark the time, which they kept with exactness, even when dancing in great numbers. The intervals between the rounds were enlivened with singing by the drummer. These dances commonly lasted till midnight.

Another kind of dance was attended only by men. Each rose in his turn and danced with great agility and boldness, extolling the great deeds of himself or forefathers in a song, to which the whole company beat time, by a rough, monotonous note, sung with great vehemence at the commencement of each bar.

Other dances were held upon particular occasions, the chief of which was the dance of peace, called also the *calumet*, or pipe-dance, because the *calumet*, or pipe of peace, was handed about during the dance. The dancers joined hands and leaped in a ring for some time. Suddenly the leader let go the hand of one of his partners, keeping hold of the other. He then sprang forward, turned round several times, so that he was encircled by the rest of the company. They disengaged themselves as suddenly, keeping hold of each other's hands during all the evolutions and changes of the dance, which, as they explained it, represented the chain of friendship. A song, composed especially for this solemnity, was sung by all.*

The War Dance, held either before or after a campaign, was dreadful to behold. No one took part in it but the warriors themselves. They affected with such marvelous fidelity the fierce passions which actuated them in their bloody deeds of valor, as to give to the shuddering spectator an exact pantomime representation of the scenes in which they had actually engaged—representations as horrible as life-like. It delineated the preparations for the war, and all the common incidents attending it—their arming, departure, arrival in the enemy's country, the encampment, the attack, the struggle, the victory, and lastly the torture of captives.

Clark's Onondaga gives a most thrilling and minute description of this dance, of which the following is an epitome:—

A returning war party, fully armed and hideously painted, with the scalps of the slain suspended from their girdles, rush, with a deafening war-whoop, thrice repeated, to the council-house, and are cordially received by the chiefs and aged men of the nation, to whom they recount in detail, with simulated earnestness and reality, how and where they met the foe, how

* *Loskiel.*

many they had slain, the fortitude of prisoners under torture, the snares and ambuscades they escaped, the daring feats they themselves performed, and their willingness to again take the war-path. Then follows the war-dance, which, for singularity of effect, and the thrilling animation it imparts to the actors, is not surpassed by any rite of modern times. The fantastic figures painted on their almost naked bodies, the rude head dresses and ornaments, consisting of bells, brooches, rings, a profusion of ear and nose jewels, with deers' hoofs dangling about their ankles, gave the performers a most singular and grotesque appearance. A young brave approaches the securely-bound captive and with great vehemence and earnestness of manner, thus taunts him: "Your glorious deeds are now at an end; you must prepare yourself for torture by fire; no mercy will be shown you; your character for heroism will be established by the fortitude with which you withstand your sufferings." With a terrific war-whoop, the warriors commenced preparations for the torture of their captive. Their rude music—the monotonous beating of a barrel-head drum—accompanied with singing, now struck up, and the warriors engaged in a dance of the most frantic character; during which the sweat rolled profusely from their bodies, their breasts heaved from excessive exertion, and with dilated nostrils, and eyes flashing the spirit of the intense passion which wrought them to the utmost frenzy, amid the most horrid grimaces and prolonged war-whoops, they continually brandished their gleaming hatchets and flourished their war-clubs about the head and person of their victim, who stood with the utmost composure and apparent unconcern, singing occasionally his own achievements in war and taunting his captors with their ignorance in the art of torture. This scene of almost inconceivable torture, lasted more than two hours, when the cord which bound the prisoner was cut. Having stood, apparently, on the verge of eternity, and awaited the fatal blow which seemed inevitable, the hope of escape which this liberation seemed to give, sent the stagnating life-blood surging through his veins and animated him with a desperate energy. He bounded like a panther for the opening made only to tempt him; but his merciless tormentors pursued him with increased fury, amid the most terrific yells, till he fell dead beneath their hatchets. The slow and melancholy death-song, chanted by the whole party as they moved solemnly in single file around the prostrate body closed the scene.

It may be of service in this connection to cite a few of the almost innumerable instances of the most revolting and exquisite torture practiced by the Indians on their prisoners; premising that these tortures were often protracted and perhaps rendered more agonizing

by the effort to extort from the sufferers a cry of pain, for to fail in this was thought to augur disaster to the victors, and was a sweet revenge to their savage victims, whose fortitude was thereby strengthened.

In 1638, a party of 100 Iroquois was met in the forest by 300 Hurons, and defeated. Among the prisoners taken by the Hurons was an Oneida chief named *Ononkwaya*, who was put to the torture.

"On the scaffold where he was burned, he wrought himself into a fury which seemed to render him insensible to pain. Thinking him nearly spent his tormentors scalped him, when, to their amazement, he leaped up, snatched the brands that had been the instruments of his torture, drove the screeching crowd from the scaffold, and held them all at bay, while they pelted him from below with sticks, stones and showers of live coals. At length he made a false step and fell to the ground, when they seized him and threw him into the fire. He instantly leaped out, covered with blood, cinders and ashes, and rushed upon them, with a blazing brand in each hand. The crowd gave way before him, and he ran towards the town as if to set it on fire. They threw a pole across his way, which tripped him and flung him headlong to the earth, on which they all fell upon him, cut off his hands and feet, and again threw him into the fire. He rolled himself out, and crawled forward on his elbows and knees, glaring upon them with such unutterable ferocity that they recoiled once more, till, seeing that he was helpless, they threw themselves upon him, and cut off his head."*

In 1649, the Jesuit Jean de Brébeuf, the founder of the Huron mission, was captured with others, by the Iroquois in one of their eruptions into the Huron country, and subjected to the most excruciating torture.

"Brébeuf was led apart and bound to a stake. He seemed more concerned for his captive converts than for himself, and addressed them in a loud voice, exhorting them to suffer patiently, and promising Heaven as their reward. The Iroquois, incensed, scorched him from head to foot, to silence him; whereupon, in the tone of a master, he threatened them with everlasting flames, for persecuting the worshipers of God. As he continued to speak, with voice and countenance unchanged, they cut away his lower lip and thrust a red hot iron down his throat. He still held his tall form erect and defiant, with no sign or sound of pain; and they tried another means to overcome him. They led out Lalemant, [an associate missionary, captured at the same time,] that Brébeuf might see him tortured. They had tied strips of bark, smeared with pitch, about his naked body. . . .

[They] made him fast to a stake, and set fire to the bark that enveloped him. As the flame rose, he threw his arms upward, with a shriek of supplication to Heaven. Next they hung around Brébeuf's neck a collar made of hatchets heated red hot; but the indomitable priest stood like a rock. A Huron in the crowd, who had been a convert of the mission, but was now an Iroquois by adoption, called out with the malice of a renegade, to pour hot water on their heads, since they had poured so much cold water on those of

others. The kettle was accordingly slung, and the water boiled and poured slowly on the heads of the two missionaries. 'We baptize you,' they cried, 'that you may be happy in Heaven; for nobody can be saved without a good baptism.' Brébeuf would not flinch; and, in a rage, they cut strips of flesh from his limbs, and devoured them before his eyes. Other renegade Hurons called out to him, 'You told us that the more one suffers on earth, the happier he is in Heaven. We wish to make you happy; we torment you because we love you; and you ought to thank us for it.' After a succession of other revolting tortures, they scalped him; when, seeing him nearly dead, they laid open his breast, and came in a crowd to drink the blood of so valiant an enemy, thinking to imbibe with it some portion of his courage. A chief then tore out his heart and devoured it. . . . Lalemant, physically weak from childhood, and slender almost to emaciation was constitutionally unequal to a display of fortitude like that of his colleague. When Brébeuf died, he was led back to the house whence he had been taken, and tortured there all night, until, in the morning, one of the Iroquois, growing tired of the protracted entertainment, killed him with a hatchet."*

Says the Jesuit Ragueneau:—

"We saw no part of his body, from head to foot, which was not burned, even to his eyes, in the sockets of which these wretches had placed live coals." †

"Last summer," writes Lalemant in 1643, "two thousand warriors of the Neutral Nation attacked a town of the Nation of Fire, well fortified with a palisade, and defended by nine hundred warriors. They took it after a siege of ten days; killed many on the spot; and made eight hundred prisoners, men, women, and children. After burning seventy of the best warriors, they put out the eyes of the old men, and cut away their lips, and then left them to drag out a miserable existence. Behold the scourge that is depopulating all this country!" ‡

Prodigality was as much a characteristic of their feasts as their dances and other amusements, with which they were often associated, and like them are supposed to have had their origin in religion.§ They were often participated in by whole villages, sometimes even by neighboring villages, and in this way a vain or ambitious host applied all his substance to one entertainment. Brébeuf relates an instance of this kind which occurred in the winter of 1635, at the village of Contarrea, where thirty kettles were over the fires, and twenty deer and four bears were served up.|| The invitation was simple and consisted in the concise summons, "Come and eat." To refuse was a grave offense. Each guest took his dish and spoon and as he entered, greeted his host with the ejaculation, *Ho!* He then ranged himself with the rest, squatted on the earthen floor or on the platform along the sides of the house, around the steaming kettles. A long prelude of lugubrious singing preceded the

* Parkman's Jesuits.

† Relation des Hurons, 1634, 15.

‡ Relation des Hurons, 1644, 98.

§ Charlevoix.

|| Parkman's Jesuits.

* Lalemant. Relation des Hurons, 1639, 68.

feast. The host, who took no share in the feast, then proclaimed in a loud voice the contents of each kettle and at each announcement the company responded in unison, *Ho!* The attendant squaws then filled the bowls of the guests, who interspersed their feasting with talking, laughing, jesting, singing and smoking, at times protracting the entertainment throughout the day.

When the feast partook of a medical character it was indispensable that each guest should eat all that was served to him, however enormous the quantity, even if he should die. Should he fail, the host would be outraged, the community shocked, and the spirits roused to vengeance. Disaster would befall the nation; death, perhaps, the individual. A vicarious alternative was provided, however; and when one found himself unable to conform to the ridiculous practice, he engaged, when he could, another of the company to eat what remained of his portion, generally rewarding his benefactor with a present. This was the only way of getting out of the dilemma. "In some cases the imagined efficacy of the feast was proportioned to the rapidity with which the viands were dispatched. Prizes of tobacco were offered to the most rapid feeder; and the spectacle then became truly porcine." These feasts were much dreaded, but were never known to be declined.*

The Indians had rude, though positive religious ideas, which were associated with—almost entirely embodied in—superstition, that natural concomitant of ignorance. As observed by the early Jesuits, before being contaminated by those of civilized nations, they were in strict accordance, as with other nations, civilized or barbarous, with their mental and moral development, and hence differed in different nations. They evinced, in perfect analogy with the barbaric condition of the Indians themselves, a greater fear of evil than of reverence for good; and hence their devotions consisted more in propitiating evil spirits than invoking the interposition of the good. Indeed, and here we realize the beauty of their simplicity, it was deemed superfluous to importune the source of goodness. Analogous to this difference in their religious ideas is their differing cosmogonies.† The belief in

* *Kip's and Parkman's Jesuits.*

† That of the Iroquois is thus described by Brebeuf, *Relations des Hurons*, 1646, 86, and, though no two Indians told it precisely alike, nearly all agreed as to its essential points:—

"While the world was as yet a waste of waters there was . . . a heaven filled with lakes, streams, plains and forests, inhabited by animals, by spirits, and, as some affirm, by human beings. Here a certain female spirit, named Antaentsic, was once chasing a bear, which slipping through a hole, fell down to the earth. Antaentsic's dog followed, when she herself, struck with despair, jumped after them. Others declare that she was kicked out of heaven by the spirit, her husband, for an amour with a man; while others, again, hold the belief, that she fell in the attempt to gather for her husband the medicinal leaves of a certain tree. Be this as it may, the animals swimming in the watery waste below saw her falling, and hastily met in council to determine what should be done. The case was referred to the beaver. The beaver commended it to the judgment of the tortoise, who thereupon called on the other animals to dive, bring up mud, and place it on his back. Thus was formed a floating island, on which Antaentsic fell; and here, being pregnant,

immortality was almost universal, but, though rarely, there were those who denied it;* even animals were endowed with it, and were deified and worshiped.† This veneration for the animal kingdom is reflected in the common practice of selecting from it the names by which the tribes were designated.

The Indians' God, whom the Iroquois called *Haw-enniio* (meaning *he rules, he is master*), was endowed with attributes akin to their own, but primitively not with that of moral goodness. The Indian language had no word expressive of our abstract idea of deity. The Iroquois had another God, with equal claims to supremacy. Him they called *Areskoni*, and his most prominent attribute was that of a god of war. He was often invoked, and the flesh of animals and captive enemies was burned in his honor. They had also a third deity, called *Taren-yowagon*, or *Teharonhiawagon*, whose place and character is not well defined. In some traditions he appears as the son of *Jouskeha*, the ruler of the world, and endowed with great influence, for he it was who spoke to men in dreams. Some writers identify him with *Hia-watha*, to whom the Iroquois ascribe their confederation; while Vander Donck assumes that he is God, and *Areskoni*, the Devil.‡ Beside these they had numerous objects, both animate and inanimate, which were endowed with supernatural powers and supplicated. These the Iroquois called *Okies*; the Algonquins and other tribes, *Manitous*. There were local *manitous* of streams, rocks, mountains, cataracts and forests, which, when they revealed themselves to mortal sight, bore the semblance of beasts, reptiles or birds, in unusual or distorted shapes, their conception betraying, for the most part, a striking poverty of imagination. There were *manitous* without local habitations, some good, some evil, countless in number and indefinite in attributes. They filled the world and controlled the destinies of Indians, who were held to be under a spiritual rule distinct from that which governs the white man. These were, for the most part, in the shape of animals. Sometimes they took the form of stones, and, though less frequently, assumed human

she was soon delivered of a daughter, who, in turn loved two boys, whose pater- nity is unexplained. They were called *Taonscaron* and *Jouskeha*, and presently fell to blows, *Jouskeha* killing his brother with the horn of a stag. The back of the tortoise grew into a world full of verdure and life; and *Jouskeha* with his grandmother Antaentsic ruled over its destinies. "According to Van der Donck, Antaentsic became mother of a deer, a bear, and a wolf, by whom she afterwards bore all the other animals, mankind included."—*Parkman's Jesuits.*

* * * Father Gravier says that a Peoria Indian once told him that there was no future life.—*Parkman's Jesuits.*

† It is the settled belief among the northern Algonquins that animals will fare better in another world, in the precise ratio that their lives and enjoy- ments have been curtailed in this life.—*Schoolcraft's Notes.*

‡ Loskiel says the Devil is an European importation; that they seem to have had no idea of him previous to the advent of the whites. Rutenber says, "to them God had less to do with the world than did the devil, who was the principal subject of their fears, and the source of their earthly hopes. No expeditions of hunting, fishing or war were undertaken unless the devil was first consulted, and to him they offer the first fruits of the chase, or a victory."

proportions. Each Indian had his guardian *manitou*, to whom he looked for counsel, guidance and protection. These spiritual allies, says Parkman, were gained as follows:—

“At the age of fourteen or fifteen, the Indian boy blackens his face, retires to some solitary place, and remains for days without food. Superstitious expectancy and the exhaustion of abstinence rarely fail of their results. His sleep is haunted by visions, and the form which first or most often appears, is that of his guardian manitou, * * *. An eagle or a bear is the vision of a destined warrior; a wolf, of a successful hunter; while a serpent foreshadows the future medicine-man, or, according to others, portends disaster. The young Indian thenceforth wears about his person the object of his dreams, or some portion of it, as a bone, a feather, a snake-skin, or a tuft of hair. This in the modern language of the forest and prairie, is known as his medicine. The Indian yields to it a sort of worship, propitiates it with offerings of tobacco, thanks it in prosperity, and upbraids it in disaster. If his medicine fails to bring the desired success, he will sometimes discard it and adopt another. The superstition now becomes mere fetich-worship, since the Indian regards the mysterious object which he carries about him rather as an embodiment than as a representative of a supernatural power.”

The points of the compass and the winds were also personified as *manitous*. There was a Summer-Maker and a Winter-Maker, and the latter was kept at bay by throwing fire brands into the air. The hunter sought to propitiate the game he desired to kill, and was often known to address a wounded bear in a long apologetic harangue. This is also true of the fish, which, says Parkman, “were addressed every evening from the fishing-camp, by one of the party chosen for that function, who exhorted them to take courage and be caught, assuring them that the utmost respect should be shown to their bones. The harangue, which took place after the evening meal, was made in solemn form; and while it lasted, the whole party, except the speaker, were required to lie on their backs, silent and motionless, around the fire.” The fish-nets were no less objects of solicitude, and to induce them to do their work effectually, were married every year to two young girls, with a ceremony far more formal than that observed in human wedlock. As it was indispensable that the brides should be virgins, mere children were chosen.*

Though believing in the immortality of the soul, the Indian did not always accompany it with a belief in a state of future reward and punishment; and when such belief did exist, the reward and punishment were sensuous rather than moral. Some, though but few, believed in the transmigration of the soul. They had religious teachers, whose code of morals, says Loskiel, was as severe as their own non-observance of it was universal. To the poor they recommended vomiting,

* Parkman's Jesuits.

among other things, as the most expeditious mode of purification from their sins. “Some,” says Loskiel, “who believed in these absurdities, vomited so often that their lives were endangered by it.” He pertinently adds, “few indeed persevered in attending to so severe a regimen.” Others, he says, recommended stripes as the most effectual means to that end, “and advised their hearers to suffer themselves to be beaten with twelve different sticks, from the soles of their feet to their necks, that their sins might pass from them through their throats.” “Even these,” he says, “had their willing scholars, though it was apparent that the people became no better, but rather worse by these wretched doctrines.”

The Iroquois had five stated annual festivals, each conducted in a manner appropriate to the special event commemorated.

The first was held in the spring, after the close of the sugar-making season, in gratitude for the abundance of sap and quantity of sugar they had been permitted to make. The aged chiefs admonished the young men to rectitude and virtue as the way to merit a continuance of these favors. It was usually closed with dancing, singing and games.

The second was held immediately after corn-planting; when thanks were rendered for a favorable seed-time, instructions given for the care and cultivation of the crop, and the great spirit invoked to give it a healthy growth.

The third, called the green-corn feast, was held when the corn was ready for use, and thanks were rendered for this valuable gift, which was prepared and consumed in great quantity and in a variety of ways. Songs and dances entered largely into the ceremonies of the occasion, which were closed by the famous succotash dance. The pipe of peace was usually smoked on these festal days by the head men of the nation.

The fourth was held after the close of the corn harvest, for which thanks were given, and was followed by the usual festivities.

To the preceding festivals, which latterly occupied but one day each, three days each were formerly allotted.

The fifth, the last, and crowning festival of the year, the one to which the greatest importance was attached, was held late in January or early in February, immediately after the return of the hunters from the chase, with their wealth of game and skins, and was celebrated with great pomp and ceremony. When every preparation had been made by managers chosen for that purpose, runners were sent to every cabin in the nation, to give notice of the fact. The fire was extinguished in every cabin, each of which was then visited and purified by persons designated

for that purpose, who scattered the ashes, swept the hearth and rekindled the fire. This occupied the first day. On the second the managers, fantastically dressed, visited each house and received the gifts of the people, which consisted of various articles useful for food, incense or sacrifice. This was continued several days, according to the time allotted for the continuance of the festival, during which time the people assembled at the council-house were engaged in various sports. All must give something, or be saluted with a "rub" by the solicitors, which left a mark of disgrace not easily effaced, and be excluded from the sacrificial absolution.

Preparations were made on the day preceding the last for the great sacrifice, which was to take place on the succeeding one. The offerings which had been collected were presented separately by the giver to the master of ceremonies, who, with the utmost gravity, uttered a short ejaculatory prayer, to which those present made a hearty response. These gifts as they were returned were hung around the council room. The sins of the people, which were supposed to have been concentrated in the managers, were transferred by them to two individuals clad in white, who, in turn, transferred them to two white dogs, which had been previously fantastically painted with red figures, decorated with small belts of wampum, ribbons and feathers, and killed by strangulation. These were then taken to the council-house and laid upon a platform, the whole proceedings being characterized by the most devout solemnity. They were subsequently carried with formal ceremony to the fire, which had been kindled outside the house, and around which the multitude gathered. Each in turn was thrown upon the fire, the act being preceded by prayer and song. Baskets of herbs and tobacco were thrown upon the fire at intervals and the whole consumed.*

An Indian community swarmed with sorcerers, medicine-men and diviners, whose functions were often united in one person. The former, by charms, magic songs and feasts, and the beating of drums, professed power over spirits and those occult influences inherent in animals and inanimate things. The Indian mind, so prone to mysticisms, was largely influenced by these deceivers. The doctors knew how to cure wounds, and treated simple diseases successfully, but were not skilled in the practice of medicines. The general health was due more to their habits than to a knowledge of remedies. One method of treatment was the sweating bath, which was literally an earthen oven, around which heated stones were placed to raise the temperature. Into this the patient crawled, and after remaining under perspiration a certain length of time, was taken out and im-

mersed suddenly in cold water, a process well calculated to "kill or cure." The oil obtained from beavers was used by them in many forms and for various purposes. It was a remedy to which the Dutch attached much value. But they relied far more on magic than natural remedies. Diseases, they believed, resulted from supernatural causes, and hence supernatural and extremely ludicrous *curative* agencies were resorted to. They beat, shook, pinched and bit their patients, and sought to expel the evil spirits by deafening noises and various incantations. These, together with dances, feasts, dreams, an unearthly din in the cabin of the invalid, kept up for hours, and sufficient to make the well sick, strewing ashes about the hut, and rolling one of their number in skins, were the principal remedies.

The diviners, or prophets, had various means of reading the secrets of futurity, and wielded an immense influence with the people, who, apparently, were incapable of abstract thought. For the spiritual and purely æsthetic they cared nothing; but directed their study chiefly to physical phenomena, with which they were so intimately associated, always referring their causes to a supernatural agency. Hence their mind was a fruitful field for the mystic arts of divination.*

The sorcerers, medicine-men and diviners did not usually exercise the functions of priests, says Parkman. Each man sacrificed for himself to the powers he wished to propitiate. The most common offering was tobacco, thrown into fire or water; scraps of meat were sometimes burned to the *manitous*; and on a few rare occasions of public solemnity, a white dog, the mystic animal of many tribes, was tied to the end of an upright pole, as a sacrifice to some superior spirit or to the sun, with which the superior spirits were constantly confounded by the primitive Indian.

Among the Iroquois, and, indeed, all the stationary tribes, there was an incredible number of mystic ceremonies, extravagant, puerile, and often disgusting, designed for the cure of the sick or for the general weal of the community. Most of their observances seem originally to have been dictated by dreams, and transmitted as a sacred heritage from generation to gen-

* Says Parkman: "There was a peculiar practice of divination very general in the Algonquin family of tribes, among some of whom it still subsists. A small, conical lodge was made by planting poles in a circle, lashing the tops together at the height of about seven feet from the ground, and closely covering them with hides. The prophet crawled in and closed the aperture after him. He then beat his drum and sang his magic songs to summon the spirits, whose weak, shrill voices were soon heard, mingled with his lugubrious chanting, while at intervals the juggler paused to interpret their communications to the attentive crowd seated on the ground without. During the whole scene, the lodge swayed to and fro with a violence which has astonished many a civilized beholder, and which some of the Jesuits explain by the ready solution of a genuine diabolic intervention." This practice, he says, was first observed by Champlain. From his time to the present numerous writers have remarked it. Le Jeune, in the *Relation* of 1637, treats it at some length.

* Clark's *Onondaga*, in which may be found a more minute description.

eration. They consisted in an endless variety of dances, masqueradings, and nondescript orgies; and a scrupulous adherence to all the traditional forms was held to be of the last moment, as the slightest failure in this respect might entail serious calamities.

Dreams were the great Indian oracles, and were implicitly obeyed. They believed them to be direct emanations from the Great Spirit, and as such were immutable laws to them. From this source arose many of their evils and miseries. In them were revealed their destiny and duty; war and peace, health and sickness, rain and drouth, were all revealed by a class of professional dreamers and dream interpreters.

Wizards and witches were the great bane of the Iroquois, and objects of utter detestation. Murder might be condoned, but witchcraft was punishable with death in all cases. Any one might kill a witch on sight with impunity. They believed that witches could transform themselves at will into any one of the wild animals or birds, or even assume the shape of logs, trees, rocks, &c., and, in forms invisible, visit public assemblies or private houses, and inflict all manner of evils. The delusion was at one time so prevalent and their destruction so great as to seriously lessen the population.*

The Indians never destroyed rattlesnakes, because they believed them to be the offspring of the devil, who they thought, would revenge the act by preventing their success in hunting.

Indian burials were attended with solemn ceremonies, and differed somewhat in the method of conducting them. The most ancient mode of burial among the Iroquois was first to place the corpse upon a scaffold, some eight feet high, and allow it to remain there till the flesh fell off, when the bones were interred.† How long this method prevailed is not known, but latterly, and from their first association with the whites, a more commendable one prevailed. The corpse was clad, usually in the best attire of the deceased. The grave, usually about three feet deep, was lined with bark, into which the body was laid. Then were deposited in the bark coffin a kettle of provisions, deer skin and the sinews of the deer (to sew patches on the moccasins, which, it was believed, would wear out in the long journey to the spirit land,) bows and arrows, a tomahawk, knife, and sometimes, if he was a distinguished person, a gun. These were deemed indispensable to a prosperous and happy journey to the Indian's land of shades. The final covering was then placed over the whole, and the grave filled with earth. This done the Indian women kneeled down by the

grave and wept. The men were silent for a time, but eventually set up a doleful cry, chanted the death dirge, and all silently retired to their homes. It was formerly customary for the friends to visit the grave before sunrise and after sunset for twelve successive days, but this practice has been abandoned.

The practice of putting into the grave certain articles designed to promote the journey of the deceased to the great hunting ground was common to all Indian nations, and often very costly ornaments and trinkets belonging to the deceased were buried with them. The face and hair of the corpse were sometimes painted red, to obscure the palor of death, and give it an animated appearance, and the obsequies were celebrated with all the pomp of savage splendor. With the Natchez it was customary for the mourning friend to name the degree of relationship he sustained toward the deceased, and the nearest relatives continued this ceremony for three months.

With the Delawares, says Loskiel, "the first degree of mourning in a widow consists in her sitting down in the ashes near the fire, and weeping most bitterly; she then rises and runs to the grave, where she makes loud lamentations, returning again to her seat in the ashes. She will neither eat, drink, nor sleep, and refuses all consolation. But after some time she suffers herself to be persuaded to rise, drink some rum, and receive some comfort. However, she must attend to the second degree of mourning for one whole year, that is to dress without any ornaments, and wash herself but seldom. As soon as she appears decent, combs and anoints her hair, and washes herself clean, it is considered a sign that she wishes to marry again." The Nanticokes, he says, have the singular custom of disinterring the remains after three or four months, and having cleaned and dried the bones and wrapped them in new linen, to re-inter them. A feast was provided for the occasion, consisting of the best they could afford.

Colden says the custom was to make a large round hole, in which the body was placed in a sitting posture. It was then covered with timber, to support the earth, which was heaped up in a round hill.

"At intervals of ten or twelve years," says Parkman, "the Hurons, the Neutrals, and other kindred tribes, were accustomed to collect the bones of their dead, and deposit them, with great ceremony, in a common place of burial. The whole nation was sometimes assembled at this solemnity; and hundreds of corpses, brought from their temporary resting places, were inhumed in one capacious pit. From this hour the immortality of the soul began. They took wing, as some affirmed, in the shape of pigeons; while the greater number declared that they journeyed on foot, and in their own likeness, to the land of shades, bearing with them the ghosts of the wampum-belts, beaver-skins, bows, arrows, pipes, kettles, beads, and rings buried

* The last execution of witches at Oneida occurred about 1805, when Hon Yost, according to the decree of a council, tomahawked two women in their cabins, who were charged with that offense.

† *La Fort.*

with them in the common grave. But as the spirits of the old and of the children are too feeble for the march, they are forced to stay behind, lingering near their earthly villages, where the living often hear the shutting of their invisible cabin-doors, and the weak voices of the disembodied children driving birds from the corn-fields."

Cleared areas were chosen for this sepulcher. The ceremonies attending the event lasted for days and were very imposing. The subsequent discovery of these immense deposits of bones have elicited much curious inquiry on the part of those not familiar with the facts. Father Brébeuf saw and fully explained one of these burials in 1636.

Wampum, or *Zewant*, served the Indians as a currency, as an ornament, and as the public archives of the nation. It was, therefore, an important factor in all their civil, social, political and religious affairs. It was of two kinds, purple or black, and white, both being used as a measure of value, the black being estimated at twice the value of white. The purple wampum was made from the interior portions of the common conch, (*venus merceneria*), and the white from the pillar of the periwinkle. Each kind was fashioned into round or oval beads, about a quarter of an inch long, which were perforated and strung on a fibre of deer's sinew, but latterly on linen thread, after that was discovered. The article was highly prized as an ornament, and as such constituted an object of traffic between the sea coast and interior tribes. It was worn in various ways, upon the clothing and in the form of necklaces, bracelets, collars and belts; and when these strings were united, it formed the broad wampum belts, by which solemn public transactions were confirmed. As a substitute for gold and silver coin, its price was fixed by law, though its value was subject to variations, according to time and place. Three purple beads, or six white ones, were equal to a stiver with the Dutch, or a penny with the English, each equal to two cents United States currency. The price of a string six feet long, denominated a fathom of wampum, ruled at five shillings in New England, and was known to reach as high as four guilders in New Netherland.

Previous to the advent of the Europeans wampum was made largely of small pieces of wood of equal size, stained black or white. Its manufacture from shells was very difficult, and although much time was spent in finishing it, it presented a very clumsy appearance, owing to the want of proper tools. The Dutch introduced the lathe in its manufacture, polished and perforated it with exactness, and by supplying an article far superior to that previously in use, soon had the monopoly of the trade, which they found very advantageous. The principal place of manufacture was Hackensack, N. J., and the principal deposit

of sea shells, Long Island. Imitations in glass and porcelain soon became abundant.

The most important use to which wampum was applied, however, was in confirming compacts and treaties between nations, both Indian and European, for which purpose it took the place of feathers, which had been previously employed. Every speech and principal part of a speech was made valid by a string or belt of wampum, the value of which was determined by the gravity of the subject under consideration. The color of the wampum was of no less importance than its other qualities, as it had an immediate reference to the things which it was meant to confirm; thus a black belt implied a warning against evil, or an earnest reproof, and if it was marked with red and had the added figure of a hatchet of white wampum in the center, it signified war. Black or purple always signified something grave, if not of doubtful import; while white was the symbol of peace. It was necessary that the answer given to a speech be confirmed by strings and belts of the same size and number as those received. The Indian women dexterously wove these strings into belts of wampum, and skillfully wrought into them elaborate and significant devices, suggestive of the substance of the compact or speech, and designed as aids to memory. These strings and belts of wampum became the national records, and one or more old men were charged with their safe keeping and interpretation. At certain seasons the Indians met to study their meaning, and as it was customary to admit to these assemblies the young men of the nation who were related to the chiefs, a knowledge of these documents was thus transmitted to posterity. The figures on wampum belts were, for the most part, simply mnemonic; so also were those carved on wooden tablets, or painted on bark and skin, to preserve in memory the songs of war, hunting or magic. The Hurons had, however, in common with other tribes, a system of rude pictures and arbitrary signs, by which they could convey to each other, with tolerable precision, information touching the ordinary subjects of Indian interest.

The Indian standards of value were the hand or fathom of wampum, and the *denotas*, or bags, which they themselves made for measuring and preserving corn.

Hospitality among the Indians was proverbial, not only among their own race, but was extended also with the greatest freedom toward strangers. They regarded it as a sacred duty, from which no one was exempt. Whoever refused relief to any one, committed a grievous offense, and not only made himself an object of detestation and abhorrence, but subjected himself to the liability of revenge from the

offended person. Loskiel relates a remarkable instance in which the war-like intent of a party of two hundred Huron warriors, who had taken the war-path against the Delawares, were dissuaded from their purpose by the generous hospitality tendered them by the latter.*

CHAPTER III.

EARLY DISCOVERIES—EUROPEAN COMPETITION IN THE WESTERN CONTINENT—FRENCH, ENGLISH AND DUTCH SETTLEMENTS AND CLAIMS—THE ENGLISH SUPERSEDE THE DUTCH IN NEW NETHERLANDS—IROQUOIS AND EARLY COLONISTS—CHAMPLAIN'S INVASIONS OF 1609 AND 1615—LOCATION OF FORT ATTACKED BY CHAMPLAIN IN 1615—IROQUOIS MAKE PEACE WITH THE FRENCH—IROQUOIS CONQUESTS AND SUPREMACY.

BEFORE proceeding to the consideration of the events immediately preceding the settlement of this portion of our country, it will be well to glance cursorily at the more salient of those earlier events which prepared the way for it.

The first Europeans who visited America were the Scandinavians, who colonized Iceland in 875, Greenland in 983, and about the year 1000 had discovered North America, as far south as the present State of Massachusetts. But it was not known to Southern Europe until the latter part of the fifteenth century, when it was accidentally discovered while in quest of a westerly route to India and China. In 1492, Columbus, a Genoese, set out on a voyage of discovery under the patronage of the Spanish Government, and in that and the two succeeding years made his tropical discoveries. John Cabot discovered New Foundland and portions of the adjacent continent in 1497; and in 1500, the coast of Labrador and the entrance to

* Both Colden and Greenhalgh bear testimony to their generosity. The former says:—

"The Hospitality of these *Indians* [the Five Nations] is no less remarkable than their other Virtues: as soon as any Stranger comes, they are sure to offer him Victuals. If there be several in Company, and come from afar, one of their best Houses is cleaned and given up for their Entertainment. Their Complaisance, on these Occasions, goes even farther than Christian Civility allows of, as they have no other Rule for it, than the furnishing their Guest with every Thing they think will be agreeable to him: for this Reason, some of their prettiest Girls are always ordered to wash themselves, and dress in their best Apparel, in Order to be presented to the Stranger for his Choice; and the young Lady who has the Honor to be preferred on these Occasions, performs all the Duties of a fond Wife, during the Stranger's Stay. But this last Piece of Hospitality is now either laid aside by the *Mohawks*, or, at least, they never offer it to any Christian. This Nation indeed has laid aside many of its ancient customs, and so likewise have the other Nations, with whom we are best acquainted: and have adopted many of ours; so that it is not easy now to distinguish their original and genuine Manners from those which they have lately acquired; and for this Reason it is that they now seldom offer Victuals to Persons of Distinction, because they know that their Food and Cookery is not agreeable to our delicate Palates."—*History of the Five Indian Nations of Canada*.

Says Greenhalgh, in his notes of a journey westward from Albany, in the Summer of 1677:—

"Here [at Canagorah, a Seneca town,] ye *Indyans* were very desirous to see us ride our horses, wch wee did: they made great feasts and dancing, and invited us yt when all ye maidens were together, both wee and our *Indyans* might chouse such as lyked us to ly with."—*Doc. Hist.*, Vol. I., p. 13.

the Gulf of St. Lawrence, were explored by two Portuguese brothers named Cortereal. In 1508 the St. Lawrence was discovered by Aubert, and four years later, in 1512, Ponce de Leon discovered Florida. Magellan, a Portuguese, passed through the Straits which bear his name in 1519, and was the first to circumnavigate the globe. In 1534, the St. Lawrence was explored by Jacques Cartier as far as Montreal. In 1539, Florida was explored by Fernando de Soto. Upper California was discovered in 1578, by an English navigator named Drake. These data will be of service in aiding to a proper understanding of the relative importance of the events which subsequently transpired.

Thus we see that within a decade from the time that Columbus discovered America the different maritime powers of Europe were engaged in active competition for the prizes of the New World. Spain, actuated by the greed of gold and lust of conquest, conquered Mexico in 1521, seized upon the rich treasures of the Montezumas, and in 1540 carried her conquests into Peru. Stimulated by these successes, she took possession of Florida and that portion of the Northern Continent bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, and in 1565, seventy-three years after Columbus' discovery, and fifty-three years after Ponce de Leon's discovery, planted the first Spanish colony in North America, at St. Augustine, Florida.

While the Spaniards were pushing their territorial acquisitions in the South, the French, attracted by the rich prize of the New Foundland fisheries, had gained a foothold in the northern part of the continent. As early as the beginning of the sixteenth century the French, Basques, Bretons and Normans fished for cod along the entire coasts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and those in the vicinity, and traded for peltries. In 1518, Baron Livy settled there. In 1524, King Francis I. of France sent thither Jean Verrazani, a distinguished Florentine mariner, on a voyage of exploration. He sailed along the coast twenty-one hundred miles in frail vessels, and returned safely to report his success to his sovereign. Ten years later, the same King sent thither Jacques Cartier (Quartier), a pilot of St. Malo, who made two voyages, and ascended as far as Montreal, previously called Hochelaga. As he sailed up the broad expanse of waters on St. Lawrence Day (August 10, 1534,) he applied to the river the name of that illustrious saint whose virtues that day commemorates. In 1540, Cartier was sent back with Jean Francis de Robarval, a gentleman of Picardy, whom King Francis I. appointed his Lieutenant-General over the new countries of Canada, Hochelaga and Saguenay. In 1543, Robarval came the second time from France, in company with the pilot Jean Alphonse of Saintouge,

and they took possession of Cape Breton. At this time the settlement of Quebec was commenced. In 1598, King Henry IV. of France conferred on the Marquis de la Roche, a Breton, the government of the territories of Canada and the adjacent countries; and in 1603, he conferred his commission of Lieutenant-General in the territories of New France, Acadia (Nova Scotia,) Canada and other parts, on Sieur de Mons, a gentleman of Saintouge, who, in 1608, built a fort at Quebec, the government whereof he left to Sieur Champlain, the first discoverer of the Iroquois.

The year previous, in 1607, the English Colonists made the first permanent settlement at Jamestown, Virginia, under the immediate supervision of that Englishman of heroic spirit and indomitable energy, Capt. John Smith. In 1620, the English planted a second colony on this western continent, at Plymouth Rock, which was destined to exert an important influence in the affairs of this country. These two colonies were the successful rivals of all others of every nationality, in that competition for empire which has made their descendants the masters of North America.

Henry Hudson, an intrepid English navigator, in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, moored his vessel, the *Half Moon*, a mere yacht, in the waters of the river which bears his name, September 3, 1609. He met and entertained the natives and was in turn entertained by them. He imparted to them a knowledge of the baneful effects of intoxicating liquor, and before his departure, became embroiled with them, losing one of his men. But he returned to Europe and imparted the information he had gained, which led soon after to the establishment of a colony by the Dutch, by the name of New Netherlands.

On the foregoing discoveries three European nations based claims to a part of the territory embraced in the State of New York. England, by reason of the discovery of Cabot, who sailed under letters patent from Henry VII, and on the 24th of June, 1497, struck the sterile coast of Labrador, and on that made the following year by his son Sebastian, who explored the coast from New Foundland to Florida, claiming a territory eleven degrees in width and extending westward indefinitely; France, by reason of the discoveries of Verrazani, claimed a portion of the Atlantic coast; and Holland, by reason of the discovery of Hudson, claimed the country from Cape Cod to the southern shore of Delaware Bay.

The Dutch became the actual possessors of the country, and in 1614 they planted a fort on Manhattan Island, and one at Albany the following year. Their establishment increased, and in 1621 the Dutch West India Company was formed, and took posses-

sion of New Amsterdam by virtue of its charter in 1622-3. For fifteen years the colonists lived on amicable terms with the Indians, but the harshness and cruelty of Wm. Kieft, who was commissioned Director-General in September, 1637, soon provoked the just resentment of the Indians, involving the colonists in a war with the latter, which continued with slight interruptions during the remainder of the Dutch occupancy, and jeopardized the very existence of the colony.

On the 12th of March, 1664, Charles II., of England, conveyed by patent to his brother James, Duke of York, all the country from the River St. Croix to the Kennebec, in Maine, also Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Long Island, together with all the land from the west side of the Connecticut River to the east side of Delaware Bay. The Duke sent an English squadron, under Admiral Richard Nicolls, to secure the gift, and on the 8th of September following Gov. Stuyvesant capitulated, and the territory till then held by the Dutch, passed into the hands of the English, who changed the name of New Amsterdam to New York. The victory was an easy one, for restricted in their rights, and desirous of enjoying the privileges and liberties accorded to the neighboring English colonists, the Dutch settlers refused to contest the supremacy, and Stuyvesant, unsupported, was obliged, though reluctant, to resign.

When the French first assumed a military dominance in Canada, they found the Iroquois at war with the Adirondacks, the latter of whom lived in Canada, in the vicinity of Quebec. The French allied themselves with the Canadian and Western Indians, and maintained friendly relations with them during the period of their supremacy in Canada. They espoused the cause of the Adirondacks against the Iroquois, with whom they were at sword's-points during much of that period, and long after the Adirondacks had been exterminated by their inveterate enemies. Champlain, having raised the drooping spirits of the Adirondacks, by an exhibition of the wonderful effect produced by the French guns, armed them and joined them in an expedition against the Iroquois in 1609, and thus commenced that horrible series of barbarities, which continued for more than a century and a half, and from which the European colonists, both in Canada and New York, suffered beyond description.

Champlain and his Indian allies met on the lake which bears his name a party of two hundred Iroquois. Both parties landed; but the Iroquois, dismayed at the murderous effect of the strange weapons, retreated to their fastnesses in the wilderness, leaving the French to return to Canada, without, however, having accomplished the object of their mission, which was to force the Iroquois to easy terms of peace.

This was the first meeting of the Iroquois with the whites, and the circumstances certainly were not such as to give a very favorable opinion of them, nor soften the savage nature so largely predominant in them.

Emboldened by this success, Champlain, with a few Frenchmen, and four hundred Huron allies, renewed the attack on the Iroquois in 1615. This event, there is good reason to believe, connects the history of Chenango County with one of the earliest, as well as most memorable events, in the history, both of the State and of the nation.* In view of this probability therefore, we deem a minute description of this expedition both warranted and pertinent.

This expedition was directed against the stronghold of the Onondagas. Champlain proceeded to the Upper Waters of the Ottawa River; thence crossed over to Lake Nipissing, and having discovered Lake Huron, joined the natives of that name in the contemplated expedition. We will allow him to describe it in his own language:—

"On the seventh of August I arrived at Cahiague,† where I was received with great joy and gratitude by all the Indians of the country. They had intelligence that a certain Nation of their allies, with whom the Iroquois were at war, and who resided three good days' journey higher up (*plus haut*) than the Entouhonorons, wished to assist this expedition with five hundred good men, and enter into alliance and amity with us, having a great desire to see us, and that we should wage war altogether; and they testified their satisfaction at being acquainted with us; and I, in like manner, for having obtained this opportunity to satisfy the desire I had, of learning something about that country. That Nation is very warlike, according to the representation of the Attigonotans.‡ They are only three villages in the midst of more than twenty others against which they wage war, not being able to receive assistance from their friends, especially as they must pass through the Country of the Chouontourouon, which is very populous, or else go a great way round.

"Having arrived at this village, it suited me to sojourn there whilst waiting until the warriors should come in from the circumjacent villages, then to leave

* The precise location of the fort against which Champlain directed his efforts in 1615 has long been in controversy. E. B. O'Callaghan, M. D., the able editor of *The Documentary History of the State of New York*, assigns to it the neighborhood of Canandaigua Lake; while others locate it on the shore of Onondaga Lake. Gen. John S. Clark, of Auburn, a most excellent authority on Indian antiquity, made a recent and most critical examination of the locality, which discloses physical and other features so precisely corresponding with Champlain's description, as to make irresistible the conclusion, that the site is on the farm of Rufus H. Nichols, about three miles east of Perryville, near the Mile Strip, four corners, which was, at that time, the home of the Onondagas. Gen. Clark says: "That the east branch of the Limestone is the dividing line absolutely between the historic and pre-historic town sites of the Onondagas; and that Champlain's narrative contains internal evidence, in statements of fact, unquestionably, that the fort was within a few miles at least, and south of Oneida Lake."

† Stated to be in 44 1-2 degrees north latitude; probably between Lake Simcoe and the Georgian Bay of Lake Huron, which was at that time the Huron country:

‡ One of the five confederated tribes of the Wyandot, or Huron Nation; it was composed of twelve villages, and gave its name to Lake Huron, which was called, at the time of its discovery by Champlain, Lake Attigonotan.

it as soon as possible. During this interval it was a continual series of feasting and dancing, through joy for seeing us so determined to assist them in their war, and as a guarantee already of victory.

"On the assembling of the major part of our forces, we set out from the village on the first day of September, and passed along the border of a very small lake, distant three leagues from the village, where they take great quantities of fish, which they preserve for winter. There is another lake adjoining, 26 leagues in circumference, descending into the smaller by a channel where a great catch of said fish is taken by means of a number of stakes, which almost close the passage, leaving only small openings, over which they place their nets to catch the fish. These two lakes disembogue into the Fresh Sea [Lake Huron.] We sojourned a while at this place to wait for the rest of our Indians, where, being all assembled with their arms, meal and necessaries, consultation was had for the selection of some of the most resolute men of the troop to carry advice of our departure to those who were to assist and join us with five hundred men, in order that we may meet at the same time, before the enemy's fort. This deliberation adopted, they dispatched two canoes, with twelve of the most robust Indians, and one of our interpreters, who requested of me to make the voyage. This I willingly permitted him, as he was so disposed, and would see the country by that means and acquire a knowledge of the people who inhabit it. The danger was not trifling, inasmuch as they had to pass through the midst of enemies. We continued our route towards the enemy, and made five or six leagues through the Lakes, whence the savages carried the canoes about ten leagues over land and came to another Lake extending about six or seven leagues in length, and three in width. A river issues from this which discharges into the Great Lake of the Entouhonorons.* And having traversed this Lake, we passed a water fall, proceeding always down along the course of said river, about sixty-four leagues, which is the entrance of the said valley of the Entouhonorons, and passed by land five rapids (*sauts*;) some four or five leagues long, where there are several Lakes of pretty considerable extent; the said river which flows between them also abounds with good fish, and all this country is very fine and agreeable. In several places along the banks, the trees would seem to have been planted for ornament. All this country was formerly inhabited by Savages, who have since been constrained to abandon it, through fear of their enemies. Vines and nuts are in great quantities, and grapes come to maturity there, but they leave always a sharp sour taste, which proceeds from want of cultivation; but those that have been cultivated in these parts are of pretty good flavour.

"We continued along the border of the Lake of the Entouhonorons, always hunting * * * *; being there, we crossed over at one of the extremities, extending Eastward, which is the beginning (*l'entree*) of the river Saint Lawrence, in the parallel of forty-three degrees of Latitude. There are some beautiful

* Lake Ontario, presumed to have been so called by the Hurons from the fact of their having to cross it to get to the Antonoronons, or Senecas, who lived on the south side of it.

and very large Islands in this passage. We made about fourteen leagues to cross to the other side of the Lake, proceeding southward, towards the enemy's country. The Indian's concealed all their canoes in the woods, near the bank. We travelled by land about four leagues over a sandy plain, where I observed a very pleasing and fine country, watered by numerous small streams, and two little rivers which empty into said Lake, and a number of ponds and prairies, where there was an infinite quantity of game, a great many vines and fine trees, vast number of chestnuts, the fruit of which was yet in the shell. It is quite small, but well flavored.

"All the canoes being thus concealed, we left the bank of the Lake, which is 80 leagues long and 25 wide. It is inhabited for the greater part by Savages, along the sides of the streams, and we continued our journey overland some 25 to 30 leagues. In the course of four days we traversed a number of streams and one river issuing from a lake which empties into that of the Entouhonons. This lake is 25 to 30 leagues in circumference, with many beautiful Islands, and is the Iroquois fishing ground, fish being in abundance there.

"The 9th of October; Our Indians going out scouting, encountered eleven Savages whom they took prisoners, to-wit: four women, three boys, one girl and three men, who were going fishing, four leagues distant from the enemy's fort. Now is to be noted that one of the chiefs seeing these prisoners, cut the finger off one of those poor women, as the commencement of their usual tortures. Whereupon I interfered, and censured the Iroquet Captain, representing to him that a Warrior, as he called himself, was not in the habit of acting cruelly towards women, who have no defense but their tears and who, by reason of their helplessness and feebleness, ought to be treated with humanity. That on the contrary this act would be supposed to proceed from a vile and brutal courage, and that if he committed any more of those cruelties, he would not encourage me to assist them, nor to favor their war. Whereupon he replied, that their enemies treated them in the same manner. But since such customs displeased me, he would not act so any more to women, but exclusively to men.

"Next day, at three o'clock in the afternoon, we arrived before the enemy's fort, where the savages had some skirmishes, the one against the other, though it was not our design to discover ourselves until the morrow. But the impatience of our savages would not brook this, as well through the desire they felt to see us fire on their enemies, as to liberate some of their men who had ventured too far. Then I advanced and presented myself, but with the few men I had; nevertheless I shewed them what they never saw nor heard before. For as soon as they saw us, and heard the reports of the Arquebuse, and the balls whistling about their ears, they retired promptly within their fort, carrying off their wounded and dead; and we retreated in like manner to our main body, with five or six of our wounded, one of whom died.

"This being done, we retired within gunshot, beyond the view of the enemy, contrary, however, to my advice, and to what they had promised me. Which moved me to make use of and express to them pretty rude and angry words, in order to incite them to their

duty, foreseeing that if everything went according to their fantasy and council nothing but misfortune would result, to their ruin and destruction. Nevertheless, I failed not to send to them and propose means necessary to be used to overcome their enemies; which was to construct a movable tower (*cavalier*) of timber to overlook their pickets, whereupon I should post four or five of our Arquebusiers, who would fire over the palisade and galleries, which were well supplied with stones, and by this means the enemy who annoyed us from their galleries would be dislodged; and in the meantime we should give orders for some boards to form a species of parapet to cover and protect our men from the arrows and stones. These things, namely the tower and parapets, could be moved by main force; and one was made in such a way that water could not extinguish the fire to be applied to the front of the fort; and those on the tower would do their duty with some Arquebusiers posted there, and thus acting, we should so defend ourselves that they could not approach to extinguish the fire, that we should apply to their pickets. Approving this, they began next morning to construct and prepare said tower and parapets; and made such progress that these were finished in less than four hours. They were expecting the arrival this day of the five hundred men that had been promised, which was however doubtful; not being at the rendezvous as directed, and as they had promised, our savages were much afflicted. But seeing that they were numerous enough to capture the forts, and for my part, considering delay to be always prejudicial, at least in most cases, I urged them to attack said fort, representing that the enemy discovering their strength and the effect of our arms, which pierced what was arrow-proof, would barricade and shelter themselves, which, indeed, they did very well. For their village was inclosed with strong quadruple palisades of large timber, thirty feet high, interlocked the one with the other, with an interval of not more than a foot between them, with galleries in the form of parapets, defended with double pieces of timber, proof against our Arquebuses, and on one side they had a pond with a never-failing supply of water, from which proceeded a number of gutters which they had laid along the intermediate space, throwing the water without, and rendered it effectual inside for the purpose of extinguishing fire.

"Such was their mode of fortification and defense, which was much stronger than the villages of the Attigouatans [Hurons] and others.

"We advanced, then, to attack the village, causing our tower to be carried by two hundred of our strongest men. They placed it within a pike's length in front, and I posted on it four Arquebusiers, well sheltered from any arrows and stones that might have been shot at them. Nevertheless, the enemy did not, for all that, cease discharging and throwing a great number of arrows and stones over their pickets. But the multitude of Arquebuse shots that were fired, constrained them to vacate and abandon their galleries. But according as the tower was moved, instead of bringing the parapets as ordered, and that on which we were to have placed the fire, they abandoned them and commenced to yell against their enemies, shooting arrows within the fort, which, in my opinion, did not do much execution. They are very excusable,

for they are not soldiers, and are, moreover, averse to discipline or correction, and do only what they like. Wherefore, one inconsiderately applied the fire to the wrong side of the fort, or to leeward, so that it produced no effect. On the fire being kindled, the most of the savages began to set wood against the pickets, but in such small quantities, that they did not do much good. The disorder that supervened was in consequence so great, that it was impossible to hear. In vain I cried to them and remonstrated as well as I was able against the imminent danger to which they exposed themselves by their stupidity. They heard nothing in consequence of the violent noise they made. Seeing that by shouting I was only splitting my skull, and that my remonstrances were in vain, and that this disorder was irremediable, I resolved to do what was in my power with my men, and fire on those we could discover or perceive. Yet, the enemy profited by our disorder. They went to the water and discharged it in such abundance that rivers, it may be said, spouted from their gutters, so that the fire was extinguished in less than no time, and they continued to pour arrows on us like hail. Those on the tower killed and wounded a great many.

"This engagement lasted about three hours. Two of our chiefs and leaders were wounded; to wit, one called Ochateguain; the other Orani, and about fifteen individuals besides. The rest, seeing their folks and some of their chiefs wounded, began to talk of retreating, without fighting any more, expecting the five hundred men, whose arrival was not far off; and so they withdrew, having accomplished nothing save this disorderly splutter. However, the chiefs have no absolute control of their companions who follow their whim, and act their pleasure, which is the cause of their disorder and ruins all their affairs. In having taken a resolution, any poor devil can make them violate it and change their plan. Thus, the one with the other, they effect nothing, as may be seen by this expedition.

"Having received two wounds from arrows, one in the leg and the other in the knee, which sorely incommoded me, we withdrew into our fort. Being all assembled there, I remonstrated with them several times on account of the disorder that had occurred. But all my talk was in vain; they said many of their men had been wounded and I also, and that it would be very inconvenient and fatiguing to carry them on the retreat; that there was no means of returning again to the enemy as I had proposed to them; but that they would willingly wait four days more for the five hundred men that were expected, on whose arrival they would renew the effort against the enemy, and execute what I had told them, better than they had already done. It was necessary to stop there to my great regret. * * *

"Next day blew a very strong and violent wind which lasted two days, particularly favorable for setting the enemy's fort in a blaze, which I strongly urged on them. But fearing a failure, and moreover representing themselves as wounded, they would not do anything.

"We remained encamped until the 16th of the month. Several skirmishes occurred during that time between the enemy and our people, who became oftenest engaged with them rather by their imprudence

than through want of courage; and I can assure you, that every time they made a charge, we were obliged to extricate them from the difficulty, not being able to help themselves, except by the help of our arquebuses which the enemy dreaded and greatly feared. For as soon as they perceived one of our Arquebusiers, they immediately retired, telling us by way of persuasion not to meddle with their fights, and that their enemies had very little courage to require our assistance; with many other such like discourses.

"Seeing that the five hundred men were not coming, they proposed to depart and retreat at once, and began to make certain litters to convey their wounded, who are put in them, tumbled in a heap, doubled and strapped in such a way that it is impossible to stir less than an infant in its swaddling clothes, not without considerable pain, as I can certify, having been carried several days on the back of one of our Indians, thus tied and bound, so that I lost all patience. As soon as I had strength to bear my weight, I got out of this prison, or to speak plainer out of hell.

"The enemy pursued us about the distance of half a league, endeavoring to catch some of the rear guard. But their labor was in vain and they retired.

"All I remarked in these wars is, that they retreated in good order, placing all their wounded and old people in their center, they being in front, on the wings and in the rear, well armed and arranged in such wise according to order, until they are in a place of safety, without breaking their line. Their retreat was very tedious, being from 25 to 30 leagues, which greatly fatigued the wounded and those who carried them, though they relieved each other from time to time.

"On the 18th of said month some snow fell which melted rapidly. It was accompanied by a strong wind that greatly annoyed us. Nevertheless we contrived to get to the border of the lake of the Entouhonorons and at the place where we had concealed our canoes which we found safe; for we feared lest the enemy might have broken them."*

This narrative of Champlain's is accompanied by a diagram of the fort, which is in the form of a hexagon, situated on a slight elevation, in the angle of a stream, which is at once the inlet and outlet of a pond, which, with the stream, bounded three sides of the fort. The stream flowed into and out of the pond at points but a few rods apart. The situation is a peculiar one, and it is scarcely probable that another one could be found which so exactly corresponds with Champlain's description. While writers differ as to the exact location of the fort, nearly all agree that Champlain's last encampment before he attacked the fort was at or near the mouth of Chittenango Creek, for none other of the interior lakes meet the requirements of his description as to the presence of islands. Of the western lakes, Cayuga is the only one thus graced, and that has but a solitary one. Oneida is the only lake upon which he could have encamped that has islands. The locality indicated by Gen. Clark as the probable site of the fort has long been regarded an important one in connection with Indian antiquity,

* *Documentary History of New York, Vol. III, p. 10.*

and has yielded many rare and interesting relics, which are now in the government collection in the Smithsonian Institute. A large part of the area which bears evidence of having been inclosed within the well-defined outlines of the fortification, has been cultivated for years, but a part is covered by venerable forest trees of great size. The plow has disclosed many bits of crockery and broken stone implements, which have enriched many private cabinets; but, singularly, none of those articles so clearly referable to the Jesuit missions, and generally found in great abundance elsewhere, reward the searcher for antiquarian relics here. This fact is a strong confirmation of the correctness of Gen. Clark's deductions, as it clearly proves the existence of the fortification anterior to the advent of the Jesuits.* In the undisturbed ground can be plainly seen marks left by the decay of the deeply-set palisades, and indentations, apparently where corn was *cached*. From the high points adjacent, the eye commands a wide range of country of unusual beauty, and an alarm fire on these commanding heights would be seen from near Lake Ontario to the western peaks of the Adirondacks. A small pond, whose ancient water-mark was much higher than at present, is fed by a stream which enters and leaves it on the south, and a low, broad knoll lies between these streams.

These coincidences are striking ones; but the elements of correspondence are so peculiar as to make it scarcely possible that they are merely coincidences.†

These unprovoked attacks of Champlain on the Iroquois provoked hostilities which ended only with the extirpation of French domination in North America. Great must have been the chagrin of the proud and boastful French General to be compelled to retreat thus ingloriously before a "savage" horde, whom he confidently expected to overawe into submission. But he was destined to still greater humiliation.

The Iroquois, alarmed but not dismayed, now artfully sued for peace. The French gladly listened to these overtures from an enemy from whom, in their weak state,‡ they had so much to apprehend, and consented to a truce, imposing as the only condition that they might be allowed to send missionaries among them, hoping by this means to win them over to French allegiance. But the Iroquois held the Jesuit priests

* The first Jesuit Mission in Canada was established in 1615. These learned, devout and faithful disciples of Loyola, the hero of Panpeluna, adopted as their own the rugged task of Christianizing New France, supplanting the Franciscans (*Peres Recolets*), who were commissioned by royal decree, in 1615, missionaries in Canada, and who celebrated Mass in Quebec that year.

† We have been aided in these investigations by a contribution from the pen of Mr. L. W. Ledyard, of Cazenovia, to the *Cazenovia Republican* of March 20, 1879.

‡ The French admitted that if the Iroquois had known their weakness at that time, they might easily have destroyed the whole colony.—*Colden*.

thus sent them, as hostages to compel the neutrality of the French, while they prepared to wage a deadly war against the Adirondacks* and *Quatoghies*† (Hurons,) the latter of whom they defeated in a dreadful battle fought within two leagues of Quebec. This defeat: within sight of the French settlements, and the terrible loss inflicted on the French, who were then the Indian allies of the French, who were then numerous, having been attracted to the locality of Quebec by reason of the profitable trade carried on with the French, who supplied them with many useful conveniences. Many of them fled, some to the northward, others to the southwest, beyond the reach, as they hoped and supposed, of their terrible enemies, but only to enjoy a temporary respite, for they were sought out by the vindictive Iroquois and murdered in detail.

The Adirondacks, however, remained, and on them the Iroquois planned another raid. They had been supplied with fire-arms by the Dutch traders of Albany,‡ and in 1646, they sent word to the Governor of Canada, (whom the Iroquois called *Yonnendis*,) that they intended to pay him a friendly visit during the winter. They set out with a thousand warriors§ and reached the village of the Adirondacks at a time when the warriors of that nation were engaged in their annual hunt. They captured the women and children, and a party of ten set out in search of the absent warriors. They fell in with Piskaret, a renowned Adirondack chief, who was returning alone. They knew his prowess from previous encounters with him and feared to openly attack him. They therefore approached him in the attitude of friends, Piskaret being ignorant of the rupture of the treaty of peace concluded with his and other nations in 1645. After learning from him that the Adirondack warriors were divided into two bodies, and their whereabouts, one of the party treacherously ran him through with a sword, and returned with his head to their army. They then divided their own forces, surprised and fell upon the unsuspecting Adirondacks, whom they almost exterminated. Thus a once powerful people, whom Colden regarded as "the most warlike and polite" of all the Indian nations of North America, were almost wiped out of existence by an enemy they had once despised.¶

* This is the Iroquois' name for the Algonquins. † Also called Wyandots.

‡ The Report of the Board of Accounts of the New Netherlands in 1644, shows that fire-arms for fully 400 men, together with powder and lead, had been given to the Mohawks in exchange for furs, by the fur traders.—*New York Colonial History*.

§ *Schoolcraft*.

¶ Colden says the number was 1,000 to 1,200; while Parkman ascribes the raid to the Mohawks. He says all the fighting men of that nation set out before spring, (1647,) but that all but some 200 returned, complaining that the season was too severe.

|| An enumeration of the Indian tribes connected with the Government of Canada in 1736, shows that there were then twenty Algonquins settled with the Iroquois of the Two Mountains, and adds, "This is all that remains of a nation the most warlike, most polished and most attached to the French."—*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*

While the Mohawks were engaged in their work of death and devastation in the locality of the French settlements, the Senecas and others of the western nations of the Iroquois league were carrying out a similar programme with regard to the Hurons and other western nations. The war between the Hurons and Iroquois dates back previous to the time when the whites gained a knowledge of them, and was kept up in a desultory manner, with varying success, till 1650, when a series of decisive battles were fought, resulting in the complete success of the Iroquois and the almost utter destruction of the Hurons. The small remnant of them forsook the once populous villages near the lake which bears their name, and took refuge under the French guns at Quebec. They established a colony on the Isle of Orleans. But even there they were not safe from the inroads of their old enemies, for in 1656, the Iroquois made a descent upon them and carried off a large number of captives, under the very cannon of Quebec; the French not daring to fire upon the invaders, lest they should revenge themselves on the Jesuits who were then in their country. This calamity was followed four years later by another, when the best of the Huron warriors, including their leader, the crafty and valient Etienne Annaotaha, were slain, fighting side by side with the French, in the desperate conflict of the Long Sault. After various removals to and in the near locality of Quebec, they finally located at Indian Lorette, on the St. Charles, about a dozen miles from Quebec, where a remnant of them still remain.*

The Tobacco nation, a division of the Huron family who, favored by their isolated position among the mountains, had held their ground longer than the rest, together with the Hurons who had sought refuge with them were pursued with like vehemence by the Iroquois, who destroyed the villages of the former in 1649, having eluded by strategy the warriors who, hearing of their approach, sallied forth to meet them. They returned from their bootless raid, without having met the Iroquois, to find their villages in ashes, and their old men, women and children made captives. They sought safety in flight, and made their way to the Island of Michilimackinac, where they were joined by the Ottawas, who, with other Algonquins, had been driven by fear of the Iroquois from the western shore of Lake Huron and the banks of the River Ottawa. At Michilimackinac they were again attacked by the Iroquois, and after several years they again moved

* The first missionaries arriving among the Hurons were of the order of the Recollets, in 1615. The Jesuits came to their aid in 1625. The mission was interrupted from 1629 to 1632, by the English occupancy of Quebec: and was resumed and maintained with signal heroism and success. In 1634, Jean de Brebeuf, with three of his colleagues, Gabriel Lalemant, Charles Garnier and Noel Chabanel, shared the cruel fate which befell their converts, at the hands of the savage conquerors. The mission was abandoned in 1650, when the red hands of the Iroquois fell so heavily upon its devoted followers.

and took possession of the islands at the mouth of the Green Bay of Lake Michigan. Even there their old enemy did not leave them in peace; whereupon they fortified themselves on the main land, and afterwards migrated southward and westward. This brought them in contact with the Illinois, an Algonquin people, then very numerous, but who, like many other tribes at that epoch, were doomed to a rapid diminution from wars with other savage nations. Continuing their migrations westward the Hurons and Ottawas reached the Mississippi, where they became involved with the Sioux, who drove them from their country, and ultimately, about 1671, compelled them to return to Michilimackinac, when they afterwards removed to Detroit and Sandusky, where they lived under the name of the Wyandots till within the present century, exerting a marked influence upon the surrounding Algonquins. They were active allies of the French in the war which ended in the reduction of Canada; and were the most formidable enemies of the English in the war under Pontiac. The United States at length removed them to reserves on the western frontier, where a remnant of them may still be found.

The Atticamegues, or nation of the White Fish, who lived far to the north of Three Rivers, thought themselves safe by reason of their remoteness and the difficult nature of the intervening country; but a party of Iroquois, marching on snow-shoes, a distance of twenty-one days' journey to the northward of the St. Lawrence, fell upon one of their camps in the winter of 1651-2, and made a general butchery of the inmates.*

Having dispersed the Hurons and their allies, the Iroquois next directed their attention to the Neutral Nation, (Attionandrons,) who were a numerous people, having twenty-eight towns, besides many small hamlets, occupying wide and fertile districts, forty leagues in length, on the north shore of Lake Erie.† Though maintaining a strict neutrality between their warring kindred, the Hurons and Iroquois, the deadly strife they waged with other tribes showed them to be abundantly ferocious. At the close of the fall of 1650, the Iroquois assaulted and took one of the principal towns of the Neutrals, which was said at the time to have had more than sixteen hundred men. Early the following spring they took another town. The slaughter was prodigious, and the victors drove back troops of captives for slaughter or adoption. It was the death blow of the Neutrals, who abandoned their cornfields in the wildest terror, dispersed themselves in the forests, where they died by thousands for want of food, which the forests could not yield for so

* *Parkman's Jesuits.*

† Their name was due to their neutrality in the war between the Hurons and the Iroquois proper. Lalemant estimated their population, in 1640, at 12,000, in forty villages.—*Parkman's Jesuits.*

vast a multitude. From that time they have ceased to exist as a nation.

During the two or three succeeding years the Iroquois contented themselves with harrassing the French and Algonquins; but in 1653, each of the Five Nations made separate treaties of peace, and the colonists and their red allies had an interval of rest. There was no rest, however, for the Iroquois.* The Eries, who occupied the country bordering on the south shore of Lake Erie, were the next to feel their avenging arm. That nation had made a treaty of peace with the Senecas, and in 1653 sent a deputation of thirty of their principal men to confirm it. One of the latter killed a Seneca in a casual affray, and to avenge his death his countrymen murdered the thirty deputies. A war ensued, and in 1654 the Iroquois, twelve hundred strong, invaded the country of the Eries, who, as the former approached, retired to the westward, till all were gathered in one body, when, fortifying themselves with palisades and felled trees, they awaited the onset. The Iroquois rushed to the assault, but were met with a shower of poisoned arrows, which killed and wounded many and drove the rest back. They renewed the attack with unabated ardor; this time carrying their bark canoes over their heads like huge shields, to protect them from the storm of arrows. These they planted upright, and, mounting them by the cross-bars, scaled the barricade with such impetuous fury that the Eries were thrown into a panic, and by the frightful butchery which ensued were soon wiped out of existence as a nation. But the Iroquois suffered so heavily that they were compelled to remain two months in the Eries' country, to bury their dead and care for their wounded.

Their worst and last formidable enemies, of their own race, the Andastes, who occupied the country to the south of them on and adjacent to the Susquehanna, were yet to be subdued. They were inferior in numbers to either the Hurons, Neutrals or Eries, but they gave their assailants more trouble than all these united. There had long been a deadly enmity between the Andastes and Mohawks, the latter of whom seem at first to have borne the brunt of the Andastes' war, and were so roughly handled by these stubborn adversaries between the years 1650 and 1660, "that they were reduced from the height of audacious insolence to the depths of dejection."†

Having disposed of their other adversaries, the remaining four Iroquois nations took up the quarrel,

* In May, 1653, an Onondaga orator, on a peace visit to Montreal, said, in a speech to the Governor, "Our young men will no more fight the French; but they are too warlike to stay at home, and this summer we shall invade the country of the Eries. The earth trembles and quakes in that quarter; but here all remains calm." *Le Mercier, Relation, 1654-9.* — *Parkman's Jesuits.*

† *Parkman.*

and fared scarcely better than the Mohawks. In the spring of 1662, eight hundred of their warriors invaded the Andastes' country for the purpose of striking a decisive blow; but the Andastes, having received aid and counsel from neighboring Swedish colonists, had surrounded their town with a double palisade, flanked by two bastions, on which several pieces of cannon were mounted. These formidable preparations deterred them from making an assault. They therefore resorted to treachery, and on pretense of settling the terms of a peace, twenty-five of their warriors gained an entrance; but here, too, they were foiled, for the Andastes, suspecting their motive, placed all of them on high scaffolds, and tortured them to death before the eyes of their countrymen, who decamped in miserable discomfiture. The hope of the French colonies and their Indian allies now rested in the Andastes; but, singularly enough, while their interests depended so much on the success of that nation in the war with the Iroquois, they concerted no measures to assist them.* The Andastes planned a counter stroke and carried the war into the country of the Senecas, who were by far the most numerous of the Iroquois nations, and this, too, when they were full of despondency at the ravages of the small-pox. The Andastes war was continued with varying success, and without positive advantage to either till 1675, when they were overborne by the Senecas. Though subdued, they were not entirely destroyed, for a remnant of this valiant people continued to exist, under the name of the Conestogas, for nearly a century, until 1763, when they were butchered by the white ruffians known as the "Paxton Boys."†

Says Parkman:—

"The bloody triumphs of the Iroquois were complete. They had made a solitude and called it peace." All the surrounding nations of their own lineage were conquered and broken up, while neighboring Algonquin tribes were suffered to exist only on condition of paying a yearly tribute of wampum. The confederacy remained a wedge thrust between the growing colonies of France and England.

"But what was the state of the conquerors? Their triumphs had cost them dear. As early as the year

* Father Raffeix, the French missionary, wrote in 1662, "God preserve the Andastes, who have only three hundred warriors, and bless their armies to humiliate the Iroquois, and preserve to us peace and our missions." He adds elsewhere, "None but they can curb the pride of the Iroquois."

† The French were too eager to gain the good graces of the Iroquois to interfere in any quarrel in which they had only an indirect interest. Dec. 11, 1665, a treaty of peace was concluded by Gov. de Tracy, between them and the four western nations of the Iroquois, and was ratified by the Mohawks July 12, 1666. The Oneidas protested at the time "that their only object was to destroy the Algonquins and Hurons, their mortal enemies, protected by the French arms." — *New York Colonial History.*

† Gallatin locates the Andastes, called also the Guyandots, on the Alleghany River, and states that their principal town is supposed to have been near Pittsburgh. They have left their name to the Great and Little Guyandotte, two tributaries to the Ohio, in the south-west part of Virginia. — *New York Colonial History*, Vol. III. p. 125.

1660, a writer, evidently well-informed, reports that their entire force had been reduced to twenty-two hundred warriors, while of these not more than twelve hundred were of the true Iroquois stock. The rest was a medley of adopted prisoners,—Hurons, Neutrals, Eries and Indians of various Algonquin tribes. Still their aggressive spirit was unsubdued. These incorrigible warriors pushed their murderous raids to Hudson's Bay, Lake Superior, the Mississippi and the Tennessee; they were the tyrants of all the intervening wilderness; and they remained for more than half a century a terror and a scourge to the afflicted colonists of New France."

CHAPTER IV.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH RIVALRY—FRENCH AND ENGLISH COLONIZATION COMPARED—EXPEDITION OF M. DE COURCELLES AGAINST THE MOHAWKS—M. DE TRACY'S EXPEDITION AGAINST THE MOHAWKS—CONDITIONS OF PEACE BETWEEN FRENCH AND IROQUOIS—PEACE OF BREDA—FRENCH AND IROQUOIS AGAIN AT WAR IN 1669—PEACE OF 1673—M. DE LA BARRE'S EXPEDITION AGAINST THE SENECAS—M. DE NONVILLE'S EXPEDITION AGAINST THE SENECAS—FRENCH AND ENGLISH WAR OF 1689—SCHENECTADY SACKED AND BURNED—ATTACK ON MONTREAL AND QUEBEC—FRONTENAC'S BARBARITY—FRENCH DESTROY THREE MOHAWK CASTLES—PEACE NEGOTIATIONS FAIL—FRONTENAC INVADERS THE ONONDAGA COUNTRY—TREATY OF RYSWICK—IROQUOIS ALIENATION—TREATY OF UTRECHT—TUSCARORAS ADMITTED TO IROQUOIS CONFEDERACY—FRENCH AND ENGLISH WAR OF 1744—1748—TREATY OF AIX-LA-CHAPELLE—WAR RENEWED IN 1755—TREATY OF PARIS—PONTIAC'S CONSPIRACY—WAR OF THE REVOLUTION—SULLIVAN'S EXPEDITION—PRESENT STATUS OF IROQUOIS.

THE peaceful relations which subsisted between the Dutch colonists and the Iroquois were perpetuated by the English on their accession to the Dutch possessions in 1664; and, with immaterial exceptions, the Iroquois remained the firm allies or friends of the English till the domination of the latter was broken by the triumph of the colonists in the war of the Revolution. But from the time the English supplanted the Dutch, the jealousy and strife which characterized the English and French intercourse in Europe were extended to this portion of the Western Continent. A sharp rivalry was maintained in the acquisition of territory, and in the effort to gain an acknowledged supremacy over the Iroquois, of whose country Mr. Lauson, then Governor of New France,

took formal possession in 1656. The French displayed the most enterprise in the extension of her dominions; while the English were most successful in gaining the allegiance of the Iroquois, though their dilatory movements in wars with the French often provoked sharp criticisms from their savage and impetuous allies.* The French sent out parties in various directions, to the west, north-west and south-west, to explore new sections of country and take possession, which they did by erecting the King's arms and drawing up *proces-verbaux* to serve as titles.† They thus gained a useful knowledge of the country and its savage occupants, and enlarged the scope of their fur trade, which, together with the zeal of propagandism, were the vital forces operating in the colonization of New France.

But the prosperity of the French colony was not commensurate with the zeal of the Jesuits or the enterprise of the fur traders, as compared with that of the English colonies.‡ The reason is quite obvious. Those who composed the English colonies came with the intention of making this their home, and though immigration had virtually ceased, the natural increase had been great. The strong desire to escape persecution had given an impulse to Puritan colonization; while, on the other hand, none but good Catholics, the favored class of France, were tolerated in Canada. These had no motive for exchanging the comforts of home and the smiles of fortune for a starving wilderness and the scalping-knives of the Iroquois. The Huguenots would have emigrated in swarms; but they were rigidly forbidden. Of the feeble population of the French colony, the best part were bound to perpetual chastity; while the fur-traders, and those in their service, rarely brought their wives to the wilderness. The fur-trader, moreover, is always the worst of colonists; since the increase of population, by diminishing the number of the fur-bearing animals, is adverse to his interest. But behind all this there was in the religious ideal of the rival colonies an influence which alone would have gone far to produce the contrast in material growth.§ The Puritan looked for a substantial reward in this life; while the Jesuits, lightly esteeming life themselves, and looking wholly for reward in a future life, endeavored to inculcate the same idea in those with whom they came in contact. The interests of the French King were of far

* *New York Colonial History.*

† M. Talon, in a letter to the King bearing date of Nov. 10, 1670, complained "that the Iroquois are in the habit of pulling down the arms and written placards, which are attached to trees at the places of which possession is taken, and of carrying them to the English."—*New York Colonial History.*

‡ The Jesuit, Gabriel Drulletes, evidently observed this disparity during his visit to Boston in 1650. In his *Journal* of that year he notes, "that Boston, meaning Massachusetts, could alone furnish 4,000 fighting men, and that the four united colonies could count 40,000 souls."—*Parkman's Jesuits.*

§ *Parkman's Jesuits.*

less moment to them than those of their Heavenly King.*

While the Iroquois were engaged in exterminating their kindred nations they kept up a desultory warfare with the French, broken by brief intervals of peace, when their interests or necessities demanded a cessation of hostilities.

In 1650, they had brought the French colonists to such extremity that the latter endeavored to gain the powerful support of New England. Massachusetts had expressed a desire for the establishment of a reciprocal trade between her own and the French colonists, and it was thought this concession might be made the condition of securing her military aid in subduing the Mohawks. It was urged that as the Abenakis, an Algonquin people, living on the Kennebec in the present State of Maine, were under the jurisdiction of the Plymouth colony, and had suffered from Mohawk inroads, it became the duty of that colony to protect them. Gabriel Druillettes, a Jesuit missionary, was deputed to make these representations to the Massachusetts Government, and proceeded to Boston for that purpose. Druillettes met with a cordial reception, but received no encouragement with regard to the object of his mission, as it was scarcely to be expected that the Puritans would see it for their interest to provoke a dangerous enemy in a people who had never molested them.†

The French Government now resolved to put an end to the ruinous incursions of the Iroquois. In June, 1665, M. de Tracy was appointed Viceroy of the French possessions in America, and brought with him to Quebec four regiments of infantry. March 23,

* M. de Dentonville, in a letter to Gov. Thos. Dongan, June 5, 1686, says of these faithful missionaries, their "zeal to preach the gospel leads them to expose themselves to the brutalities and persecutions of the most ferocious tribes;" and in a letter to the same gentleman, Aug. 22, 1687, adds, "I assure you there is not one who would not willingly be burnt alive were he assured that he could attract by his martyrdom all the Indians to the Christian and Catholic faith."

Gov. M. de Frontenac had a less exalted opinion of the Jesuits. He thus expresses it in a letter to M. Colbert, Nov. 2, 1672: "I expressed forcibly to them my astonishment at seeing that, of all the Indians that are with them at *Notre Dame de Foi*, which is only a league and a half from Quebec, not one spoke French, though associating with us, and told them that they ought, in their missions, bethink themselves, when rendering the savages subjects of Jesus Christ, of making them subjects of the King also; that for that purpose it would be necessary to inspire them with a desire to learn our language, as the English taught them theirs; to endeavor to make them more sedentary and make them abandon a life so opposed to the spirit of Christianity, and that the true means to render them Christians was to make them become men. But whatever pretense they manifest they will not extend that language, and, to speak frankly to you, they think as much about the conversion of the Heaver as of souls: for the majority of their missions are pure mockeries, and I should not think they ought to be permitted to extend them further until we see some where a better formed church of those savages.—*Paris Documents, New York Colonial History.*"

† It is worthy of note that but three years before, the Massachusetts Legislature had enacted that Jesuits entering the colony should be expelled, and if they returned, hanged. Exception was made, however, to those who came as ambassadors or the envoys of their government. With the unimportant exception of Isaac Jogues' embassy to the Mohawks in 1646, it is the first occasion on which the Canadian Jesuits appeared in a character distinctly political.

1665, Daniel de Runy, Knight, Lord de Courcelles, was appointed Governor of Canada, and in September of that year arrived with a regiment, several families, and everything necessary for the establishment of a colony. January 9, 1666, M. de Courcelles, with 500 men, set out on a most hazardous expedition to the country of the Mohawks. The journey was undertaken in snow shoes. After a perilous march of thirty-five days, during which many of his men were frozen, he arrived within twenty leagues of their villages, when he learned from prisoners taken that the greater part of the Mohawks and Oneidas had gone to a distance to make war with the "Wampum Makers." Deeming it "useless to push further forward an expedition which had all the effect intended by the terror it spread among all the tribes," he retraced his steps, having "killed several savages who from time to time made their appearance along the skirts of the forest for the purpose of skirmishing," and lost a few of his own men, who were killed by the enemy.*

This expedition, so bootless in material results, had the effect to induce the Iroquois to sue for peace. May 22, 1666, the Senecas sent ten ambassadors to Quebec, who represented "that they had always been under the King's protection since the French had discovered their country," and demanded for themselves and the Onontae nation, "that they be continued to be received in the number of his Majesty's faithful subjects," requesting that some Frenchmen be sent to settle with them, and "Blackgowns" to preach the gospel among them and make them understand the God of the French, promising not only to prepare cabins, but to work at the construction of forts for them. This having been granted, the treaty was concluded May 25, 1666. July 7, 1666, the Oneidas sent ten ambassadors to Quebec on a like mission for themselves and the Mohawks, and ratified the preceding treaty July 12, 1666.†

Pending these negotiations the Mohawks committed an outrage on a portion of the garrison of Fort St. Anne, and M. de Tracy concluded that to ensure the success of the treaty it was necessary to render the Mohawks more tractable by force of arms. Accordingly in September, 1666, at the head of 600 troops and 700 Indians, he made an incursion into the country of the Mohawks, who, with their usual sagacity, being unable to cope with so powerful an enemy, fled to the forests on their approach, and left them to exhaust themselves in a contest with privation and hardships in the wilderness. After destroying their villages, corn and other products, M. de Tracy returned.

Following this expedition, Oct. 13, 1666, the Iroquois ambassadors of the Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca

* *Relation, 1665-6.—Doc. Hist. of N.Y.*

† *New York Colonial History.*

and Oneida nations repaired to Quebec to request a confirmation of the continuance of his Majesty's protection, which was granted by divers articles on several conditions, among others: that the Hurons and Algonquins inhabiting the north side of the River St. Lawrence, up from the Esquimaux and Bertiamites into the great lake of the Hurons, and north of Lake Ontario, should not be disquieted by the four Iroquois nations on any pretext whatsoever, his Majesty having taken them under his protection; and that on the contrary, the said Iroquois should assist them in all their necessities, whether in peace or war; that, agreeably to their urgent prayers, there should be granted them two "blackgowns," one smith and a surgeon; that the King, at their request, allow some French families to settle in their country; that two of the principal Iroquois families should be sent from each of these four nations to Montreal, Three Rivers and Quebec; that all hostilities should cease till the return of the ambassadors with the ratification of the present treaty; that the Mohawks (*Guagenigronons*), having been informed of the establishment of the French on the River Richelieu, without sending ambassadors to demand peace, should be excluded from the preceding treaty, his Majesty reserving unto himself the right to include them therein, should he deem it fitting so to do, whenever they sent to sue for peace and his protection. The Mohawks acquiesced in the conditions of the treaty, but under circumstances which induced a belief in their lack of fidelity.*

The following year (July 31, 1667,) was concluded the Peace of Breda, between Holland, England and France. By it Acadia (Nova Scotia,) was left to the French, and its boundary fixed, and the New Netherlands to the English. In 1668, a treaty of peace was signed between France and Spain, whereby Louis XIV. surrendered his claims to the Spanish Netherlands, but was left in possession of much he had already conquered. A general peace now ensued; but it was of short duration, for in 1669 the French and Iroquois were again at war. The harvests of New France could not be gathered in safety, and much suffering and the greatest consternation prevailed among the French colonists. Many prepared to return to France. Louis de Brande, Count de Frontenac, was appointed Governor and Lieutenant-General of Canada April 6, 1672, and under his

* *New York Colonial History*.

M. Talon, who became Intendant of Canada May 10, 1665, wrote to Lord Colbert under date of August 15, 1667:—"I should have wished, for the greater security of the colony, that they had transmitted to us a greater number of their families than they had left with us, according to the stipulations of the treaty concluded with all the nations, for I cannot divest myself of the idea that the Mohawks, who know not good faith, yielded considerably to existing circumstances, and to the war with the Mobeigans (*Loups*), from which they are suffering."—*Ibid.*

efficient management confidence was restored and a treaty of peace again ratified in 1673.*

In 1784, another rupture occurred between the French and Iroquois, the latter of whom, (the Senecas,) in that year pillaged seven hundred canoes belonging to Frenchmen, arrested the latter to the number of fourteen and detained them nine days, and attacked Fort St. Louis, which was successfully defended.† M. de la Barre, who was then Governor of New France, that year led an expedition against the Senecas to punish them for this outrage. But before he reached the Senecas' country a rumor reached him that, in case of an attack, Col. Dongan, Governor of New York, had promised the Senecas "a reinforcement of four hundred horse and four hundred foot." This so alarmed him that he decamped the next day. Sickness had made such inroads in his army "that it was with difficulty" he found a sufficient number "of persons in health to remove the sick to the canoes."‡ The only fruit of the expedition was a treaty made in the most indecent haste, with the Onondagas, Oneidas and Cayugas at La Famine. An expedition of such magnificent proportions, yet so barren of good results, brought censure upon M. de la Barre, and led to his superseding the following year by the Marquis de Nonville, who was instructed to observe a strict neutrality.

De Nonville thoroughly examined the situation, and, having reached a conclusion, he wrote his royal master that the reputation of the French among the Indians, whether friends or enemies, was absolutely destroyed, by the ill-starred expedition of la Barre, and that nothing but a successful war could avert a general rebellion, the ruin of the fur trade, and the extirpation of the French. Louis responded with additional reinforcements, and not only approved the war, but advised that Iroquois prisoners be sent to him for service as galley-slaves. De Nonville therefore determined to divert the Iroquois from their inroads among the river Indians by giving them employment at home; and especially to overawe and punish the Senecas. Accordingly, in the summer of 1687, he invaded them with two thousand French and Indians. Having arrived at Irondequoit Bay, he constructed a palisade for the protection of his batteaux and canoes, which was finished on the morning of July 12th. That day he set out for the Senecas' villages, and on the 13th met the enemy in ambush as he passed a dangerous defile. The Senecas gave way before the superior number of the enemy, and on the following

* Count de Frontenac writes September 14, 1574:—"In spite of the efforts of the Dutch to get the Iroquois to make war on the French, the Iroquois came last year on solemn embassy to Montreal, brought eight children belonging to the principal families of their villages, and ratified the treaty made with them in 1673."—*New York Colonial History*.

† *Memoir of M. de la Barre, Paris Doc. 11, Doc. Hist., Vol. 1., p. 109.*
‡ *Ibid.*

day, when de Nonville moved his army towards their first village, he found it in ashes and the fort "quite nigh" abandoned. "We had five or six men killed," he says, "on the spot, French and Indians, and about twenty wounded, among the first of whom was the Rev. Father Angleran." The loss of the Senecas, as reported to him by a deserter, was forty-five killed, and over sixty "very severely wounded." The succeeding ten days were spent "at the four Seneca villages," which, he says, "must exceed 14 to 15 thousand souls," in destroying corn, "which was in such great abundance that the loss, including old corn which was in *cache*, which we burnt, and that which was standing, was computed according to the estimate afterwards made, at 400 thousand minots.* There was a vast quantity of hogs which were killed."† He did not pursue the enemy any further, but, regretting that sickness, the extreme fatigue, and the uneasiness of the savages, who began to disband, prevented his visiting other villages, he repaired to Niagara, and constructed a fort, in the angle of the lake, on the Seneca side of the river. He left a hundred men under the command of Sieur de Troyes to garrison it, provisioned it for eight months, and returned with his army. This fort was so closely besieged by the Iroquois that nearly all the garrison perished by hunger.

The Iroquois were alarmed at this bold incursion into the country of the strongest nation of their league, and applied to Governor Dongan of New York for protection, which was promised them. He advised them not to make peace with the French, and promised them supplies of arms and ammunition. But de Nonville called a meeting of the chiefs of the Five Nations, at Montreal, for the purpose of arranging terms of peace, and they decided to send representatives for that purpose.

In this year, 1687, the English colonists of New York resolved to avail themselves of the peace which then existed between the English and French, to attempt a participation in the fur trade of the upper lakes. They induced the Iroquois to liberate a number of Wyandot or Huron captives to guide them through the lakes and open a trade with their people, who were then living at Michilimackinac. The party, which was led by Major Gregory, was intercepted by a large body of French, their whole party captured, and their goods distributed gratuitously among the Indians. The lake Indians, who had favored the project, by reason of the high price and scarcity of goods, now became anxious to disabuse the French of the suspicions their action had engendered, and to prove their fidelity to them. To this end Adario, a celebrated chief of the Wyandots, shrewd and wily in

his plans, and firm and courageous in their execution, led a party of one hundred men against the Iroquois. Stopping at Fort Cadaraqui for intelligence which might guide him, the commandant informed him of the impending peace negotiations, that the Iroquois ambassadors were expected at Montreal in a few days, and advised him to return. But perceiving that if this peace was consummated, it would leave the Iroquois free to push their war against his nation, Adario resolved to prevent it, and waylaid, surprised and killed or captured the Iroquois embassy, with the forty young warriors who guarded them. By dissembling he fully impressed his captives with the belief that the treachery, of which he was made the unwitting instrument, was instigated by de Nonville. With well-simulated indignation he looked steadfastly on the prisoners, among whom was Dekanefora, the head chief of the Onondagas, and said: "Go, my brothers, I untie your bonds, and send you home again, although our nations be at war. The French Governor has made me commit so black an action, that I shall never be easy after it, until the Five Nations have taken full revenge." He then dismissed them, with presents of arms, powder and balls, keeping but a single man, an adopted Shawnee, to supply the place of the only man he had lost in the engagement.*

The Iroquois were deeply incensed and burned to revenge the base treachery. They refused to listen to a message sent by de Nonville disclaiming any participation in the act of perfidy. On the 26th of July, 1688, twelve hundred Iroquois warriors landed, with the stealth and deadly purpose of enraged tigers, on the upper end of the island of Montreal, and pursued their murderous work without anything to impede them. They burned houses, sacked plantations and massacred men, women and children of the French inhabitants, and retired with twenty-six prisoners, most of whom were burnt alive. In October following they visited the lower part of the Island with as deadly a scourge as they had previously done the upper.

These incursions were incalculably disastrous to the French interests in Canada, and reduced the colonists to the most abject despondency. Their minds were filled with the fear of foreboding ills. They burned the two barks they had on Cadaraqui (Ontario,) Lake and abandoned the fort at Cadaraqui. They designed to blow up the fort, and lighted a match for that purpose; but in their fright and haste they did not wait to see that it took effect. The Iroquois, hearing of the destruction of the fort, took possession of it. The match the French had lighted went out without igniting the train. They found twenty-eight barrels of powder, besides various other stores.

* A minot is equal to three bushels.

† Paris Document 111, Doc. Hist. Vol. I. p. 237

* Colden.

These disasters to the French soon spread among their Indian allies, already disgusted with la Barre's miserable failure, and whose confidence the questionable success of de Nonville had not restored. The French influence over them was greatly lessened, while their dread of the Iroquois was immeasurably increased. Many sought an alliance with the English, with whom this misfortune to the French enabled them to open a trade; and they would have murdered the whole French colony to placate the Iroquois, "and would certainly have done it," says Colden, "had not the Sieur Perot, with wonderful sagacity and eminent hazard to his own person, diverted them."

The French colony was in a most pitiable condition, for while the larger proportion of the men had been engaged in the expedition against the Senecas, in trading with the western Indians, and in making new discoveries and settlements, tillage had been neglected. Several thousand of the inhabitants had been killed. The continual incursions of small parties of the Iroquois made it hazardous to go outside the forts; they were liable at any moment to sacrifice their scalps to a lurking savage, to have the torch applied to their cabins, and the tomahawk fall upon the defenseless heads of their wives and children. Their crops were sown in constant fear, and were often destroyed before they could be gathered. To add to the horrors of their situation, famine was rapidly decimating those who had escaped the hatchet of the revengeful Iroquois, and threatened to put a miserable end to their existence.

But this deplorable condition was destined to a favorable and most unexpected change, toward which the bitter animosities and divided counsels of the English colonies, growing out of the revolution in England at this time, which resulted in the accession of the Prince of Orange to the throne, contributed in no small measure. The Count de Frontenac, whose previous management of the colony had been eminently wise and satisfactory, was again appointed Governor, May 21, 1689, and though he had arrived at an age when most men prefer a retired life to the onerous burdens of State, he entered upon his duties with such energy and manifest wisdom as to revive the flagging spirits of the colonists, notwithstanding the impending danger of a war with the English colonies, which soon ensued. He arrived on the second of October, 1689, and at once commenced an effort to negotiate a peace with the Iroquois, having learned by sad experience that they could not hope to gain by the continuance of war with them. He was the more anxious to effect a peace with them, as they then had a war on their hands with the English, which was declared that year. Failing in this he hoped to terrify them into neutrality, and for this purpose, and to

lessen the influence of the English with them, he fitted out three expeditions that winter, one against New York, another against Connecticut, and a third against New England. It was a hazardous undertaking at that season of the year, but the desperate condition of the French colonists demanded heroic treatment.

The first expedition was directed against Schenectady, which was sacked and burned, on the night of February 9, 1690, only two houses being spared, that of Major Sander, (*Coudre*), from whom the French had received good treatment on a former occasion, and that of a widow, with six children, to which M. de Montigny, one of the leaders of the expedition, was carried when wounded. They spared the lives of some fifty to sixty old men, women and children, who escaped the first fury of the attack, and some twenty Mohawks, "in order to show them that it was the English and not they against whom the grudge was entertained." The loss on this occasion in houses, cattle and grain, exceeded 400,000 livres.* "There were upwards of eighty well built and well furnished houses in the town." They returned with thirty prisoners, loaded with plunder, and with fifty good horses, only sixteen of which reached Montreal, the rest having been killed on the road for food. They lost one Indian and one Frenchman in the attack on the town, and nineteen on the return march.†

This disaster at Schenectady so disheartened the people of Albany, that they resolved to abandon the place and retire to New York. Many were packing up for that purpose, when a delegation of Mohawks, who had come to condole with them on the loss, on hearing of their design, reproached them and urged them to a courageous defense of their homes. This passage in our colonial history is filled with humiliating reflections, when we contrast the supineness of the English colonists, arising from the bitter dissensions incident to the governmental changes which the recent revolution wrought, with the magnificent energies exerted by the French colonists under the energizing influence of the sagacious Frontenac. Our admiration is not less challenged by the heroic conduct of the Iroquois, who, notwithstanding French intrigues and Jesuitical influence, combined with an exasperating English apathy, which appeared willing to sacrifice these savage, but noble allies, kept firmly to their early allegiance.

Count de Frontenac, encouraged by the answer made to his former message, renewed his efforts to bring about a peace with the Iroquois; but they compelled his ambassadors to run the gauntlet and then delivered them over as prisoners to the English.

* A French coin, now superseded by the franc, equal to 18 1-2 cents.

† Paris Document IV. *Doc. Hist. Vol. 1, p. 297.*

The English account places the number killed at 60, and the number taken prisoners, 27, including several negroes.—*Ibid.*

Foiled in this he endeavored to prevent the peace which the Iroquois were on the point of making with the *Utawawas* and *Quatoghies*. The Iroquois continued to harass the French in small bodies and kept them in constant alarm.

In the summer of 1691, New York and New England concerted an attack by a combined land and naval force. The former, under command of Major Peter Schuyler, was directed against Montreal; and the latter, consisting of thirty sail, under command of Sir William Phips, against Quebec. Both failed of the ultimate object for which they set out; though Schuyler inflicted a heavy loss upon the enemy, killing three hundred, which exceeded his entire command,* having seventeen killed and eleven wounded of his own forces. But finding the enemy vastly more numerous than he expected he was obliged to retire. The naval attack was illy directed and proved an ignoble failure. It was likewise attended with considerable loss, both in men and material, without inflicting much damage on the enemy, who, with ordinary promptness and prudence, might have been routed. The Iroquois, however, continued their stealthy raids, which were more dreaded and really more destructive to the French interests than the more imposing efforts of their English allies. The French were prevented from tilling the ground, or of reaping the fruit of what they had sown or planted, and a famine ensued, "the poor inhabitants," says Colden, being "forced to feed the soldiers gratis, while their own children wanted bread." The French fur trade was also stopped by the Iroquois, who took possession of the passes between them and their allies, the western Indians, and intercepted the traders and others passing over those routes.

Count de Frontenac was pierced to the heart by his inability to revenge these terrible incursions of the Five Nations. His desperation drove him to the commission of an act which must have been as revolting to him in his normal condition as it was barbarous. He condemned two Iroquois prisoners to be burnt publicly alive, and would not be dissuaded from executing the sentence. One of them, however, killed himself with a knife which was thrown into his prison by "some charitable person." The Hon. Cadwallader Colden thus describes the execution of the other, who was taken to the place designated, by the *Christian* Indians of Loretto, "to which he walked, seemingly with as much indifference as ever martyr did to the stake:—

"While they were torturing him, he continued singing that he was a warrior brave and without fear; that the most cruel death could not shake his courage; that the most cruel torment should not draw an indecent expression from him; that his comrade was a

* Colden.

coward, a scandal to the Five Nations, who had killed himself for fear of pain; that he had the comfort to reflect that he had made many Frenchmen suffer as he did now. He fully verified his words, for the most violent torment could not force the least complaint from him, though his executioners tried their utmost skill to do so. They first broiled his feet between two red hot stones, then they put his fingers into red hot pipes, and though he had his arms at liberty, he would not pull his fingers out; they cut his joints, and taking hold of the sinews, twisted them round small bars of iron. All this while he kept singing and recounting his own brave actions against the French. At last they flayed his scalp from his skull, and poured scalding hot sand upon it, at which time the Intendant's Lady obtained leave of the Governor to have the *coup de grace* given."

June 6, 1692, the Iroquois entered into a formal treaty of alliance and friendship with Major Richard Ingoldesby, who assumed the Gubernatorial office of New York on the death of Colonel Henry Sloughter, July 23, 1691. The speech of *Cheda*, an Oneida sachem, on that occasion is a rare piece of pathetic eloquence.

The French colonists, having been obliged to remain so long upon the defensive, were becoming despondent, so that Count de Frontenac felt it imperative to undertake some bold enterprise to restore confidence. He therefore planned an expedition against the Mohawks, and as it was necessary to surprise them, it was undertaken in the winter, when it would be least expected. January 15, 1693, a force of six hundred to seven hundred French and Indians, under command of three captains of the regulars, started with snow-shoes from *la Prairie de Magdaleine*, and after a long and perilous march through the forests, surprised and captured three of the Mohawks' castles, in only the latter and largest of which did they meet with any resistance. They returned with about three hundred prisoners, and though pursued by a party of Albany militia and Mohawks to the number of about five hundred, hastily gathered and commanded by Major Peter Schuyler, and reduced to such extremity for want of food that they eat their shoes, they escaped with the loss of eighty men killed and thirty-three wounded. This successful raid greatly alarmed the English settlers and dispirited the Iroquois, who saw that surprises could be made by their enemies as well as themselves. The latter were now more inclined to listen to the French proposals of peace, and having been the greater sufferers from the war, were quite anxious that it should cease.

The years 1693-4 were spent in efforts to negotiate a peace between the French and the Iroquois, which the English endeavored to prevent. The three intermediate nations, influenced by the Jesuits priests, were more inclined thereto than the Senecas and Mc-

hawks. The Senecas held the French in abhorrence, and were not so much influenced by the Jesuits; while the Mohawks were the near neighbors of the English and much influenced by them in favor of continuing the war, although they had been the greatest sufferers from it. The reason for listening to the French proposals for peace is thus indicated in the speech of *Sadakanahitie*, an Onondaga sachem, made in the council convened at Albany, May 4, 1694, by Colonel Fletcher:—

"The only reason, to be plain with you," continued he, "of our sending to make peace with the French, is the low condition to which we are reduced, while none of our neighbors send us the least assistance, so that the whole burden of the war lies on us alone. Our brethren of New England, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, of their own account, thrust their arms into our chain; but since the war began we have received no assistance from them. We alone cannot continue the war against the French, by reason of the recruits they daily receive from the other side of the great lake.

"Brother *Cayenguirago*,* speak from your heart, are you resolved to prosecute the war vigorously against the French, and are your neighbors of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New England resolved to assist us? If it be so, we assure you, notwithstanding any treaty hitherto entered into, we will prosecute the war as hotly as ever. But if our neighbors will not assist, we must make peace, and we submit it to your consideration by giving this great belt fifteen deep." †

The same speaker, in reviewing the speech just alluded to, in the council held at Albany in August of that year, and composed of representatives, in addition to New York, from New Jersey, Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut, added:—

"Our brother *Cayenguirago*'s arms and ours are stiff and tired of holding fast the chain, [which bound them in mutual interests,] whilst our neighbors sit still and smoke at their ease. The fat is melted from our flesh, and fallen on our neighbors, who grow fat, while we grow lean; they flourish while we decay.

"This chain made us the envy of the French, and if all had held it as fast as *Cayenguirago*, it would have been a terror also. If we would all heartily join and take the hatchet in our hand, our common enemy would soon be destroyed, and we should forever after live in peace and ease. Do you but your parts, and thunder itself cannot break our chain."

Colonel Fletcher, being unable to give any assurance of a vigorous assistance, consented to their making a peace for themselves, provided they kept faithful in their chain with the English. They, however, would not accept of any peace which did not

* *Cayenguirago*, signifying a great swift arrow, is a name which was given by the Mohawks to Colonel Fletcher, in token of the promptness with which he hastened to their assistance, when their three castles were destroyed by the French in 1693.

† The importance attached by the Indians to any speech, or part of one, was indicated by the number of strings of wampum of which the belt was composed, usually five or six.

include their English allies; and, moreover, the French terms were inadmissible. They required that the English cease to trade with the Canadian Indians, or the other Indian allies of the French; that the French be permitted to rebuild and garrison the fort at Cadaraqui; and that their Indian allies should be included in the peace. To these terms the Iroquois would not accede, and the negotiations ceased.

Governor de Frontenac now resolved to coerce them to submission, and to that end made arrangements to attack the Mohawks with the whole force of Canada. But learning that the Mohawks had been advised of his intention by an escaped prisoner, and the preparations that had been made to repel him, he changed his plan, and instead sent three hundred men to the neck of land between lakes Erie and Cadaraqui, the usual hunting place of the Iroquois, hoping to surprise them while carelessly hunting, and at the same time to observe the condition of Fort Cadaraqui, which was found in better condition than was expected. In the summer of 1695, he sent a strong force to repair and garrison the fort, which then took his name. This fort was of great advantage to the French from its proximity to the beaver hunting grounds of the Iroquois, thus enabling the garrison to make incursions on them when so engaged. It was also important to the French trade with the western Indians, as a place of deposit for supplies; and not less so as a place of refuge in time of war with the Iroquois. The French also succeeded in putting a stop to the peace negotiations then progressing between the Iroquois and Dionondadies; but in order to accomplish that end perpetrated an act of cruelty which, for fiendishness, parallels anything in the annals of Indian horrors. But notwithstanding the French opposition a treaty was concluded soon after covertly.

The French Governor now began preparations on a large scale to make the Iroquois feel his resentment of their refusing his terms of peace. He assembled all the regular troops and militia of the colony, together with the Indians adjacent to the French settlements and all the western Indians he could muster, to strike the Onondagas a deadly blow and exterminate them, ordering his troops to show no quarter. He embarked from the south end of the Island of Montreal, July 4, 1696, equipped with cannon, mortars, and every destructive military device known to the times. The Onondagas, informed by an escaped Seneca prisoner of the host of the enemy and the destructive engines they used, burned their castle and bark cabins, and fled with their families to the forests, leaving nothing but their corn for this formidable army to expend its fury on. When Frontenac's army reached the Onondaga village it was deserted by all

save one, an Indian sachem, about a hundred years old, who would not retire with the rest, but chose this time to end his days. Him they tortured to death; but he bore it with remarkable fortitude. Having destroyed the Onondaga's corn, the Chevalier de Vaudreuil was sent with a detachment of six or seven hundred men to destroy that of the Oneidas, which was done without resistance. The Jesuit Milet had lived for the most part with the Oneidas and had infused into them the most favorable sentiments towards the French, to whose terms of peace they had been most inclined to listen. Thirty-five of them staid in their castle to make the French welcome; but the only favor they obtained was to be made prisoners and carried to Montreal.

On the return of the French the Onondagas followed close upon their heels and found opportunities to revenge themselves in some measure by cutting off every canoe which happened to become detached from the main body.

The only loss in men sustained by the Onondagas, in this by far the most formidable invasion of the Iroquois country, was the old sachem, who became a voluntary sacrifice to his country's honor. It was, however, a great drain upon the feeble resources of the French colony. In it had embarked the great body of the agriculturists, and at a season of the year when their labors were required to cultivate and secure the crops. A famine ensued, producing great suffering, aggravated by repeated inroads of small bodies of the Iroquois, who carried away many captives and much property, and kept the settlements in constant alarm till the treaty of Ryswick, concluded September 12, 1697. A party of French undertook an expedition against the settlements near Albany in the winter of 1696, but were met and routed by a party of Mohawk and Scahcock Indians. The commander and two others saved themselves by running to Albany; the rest were either killed or perished in the woods, so that not one got back to Canada.

The treaty of Ryswick, while it established peace between the English and French, left unsettled a question with regard to the Iroquois. The French, while they insisted on including their own Indian allies in the terms, were unwilling to include the Iroquois, and made preparations to attack the latter with the whole force of Canada; but the English as strenuously insisted on extending the terms of the treaty to their allies, and Earl Belmont notified Count de Frontenac that he would resist an attack on the Iroquois with the whole force of his Government if necessary. This put an end to French threats, and the question of sovereignty over that nation was relegated to commissioners to be appointed pursuant to the treaty. But the question arose in another

form, with regard to the exchange of prisoners. The French insisted on negotiating with the Iroquois; but the English refused to yield, even by implication, the right of sovereignty which they claimed, and demanded that the exchange be made through them. The Iroquois refused to negotiate independently of the English, and thus the French were obliged to yield the point.*

Still the old rivalries between the French and English continued. The former, through the great influence of the Jesuit priests residing with the Iroquois, had an advantage which the English did not possess. Large numbers of the Iroquois were induced to locate in Canada, where they were clothed and maintained by the French, instructed in the Roman Catholic faith, and taught to regard the English as their enemies and the French as their best friends. So great had been this exodus, that, in 1700, Robert Livingston, the English Secretary of Indian Affairs, reported that "more than two-thirds of them had removed." The success of this Jesuitic influence during the three years succeeding the treaty of Ryswick must have been immense; for under date of August 13, 1698, the Earl of Belmont thus wrote to Count de Frontenac:—

"To show you how little our Five Nations of Indians regard your Jesuits and other missionaries, they have entreated me repeatedly to expel these gentlemen from among them, representing to me at the same time that they were overwhelmed and tormented by them against their will, and that they would wish to have some of our Protestant ministers among them, instead of your missionaries, in order to instruct them in the Christian religion And you will do well to forbid your missionaries interfering any more with them, unless they desire to undergo the punishment provided by the laws of England, which, assuredly, I will cause to be executed every time they fall into our hands, the Indians having promised me to bring them as prisoners before me."

The English became thoroughly alarmed at this alienation and adopted the most active measures to counteract it. For this purpose repeated councils were held with the Iroquois, their wants and grievances ascertained, and steps taken to supply the former and redress the latter. The fullest assurances were given that the English, who had always been their friends, would protect them; they were admonished that the French had always sought to destroy them, and that the Jesuit priests had filled their ears with false stories only to cheat them. They promised to build forts for their protection, supply them with arms, ammunition, clothing and necessary utensils, and send Protestant ministers to instruct them.

At one of these councils, held August 11, 1700, at

* This question was not finally settled till the treaty of Utrecht, April 11, 1713, by which the French surrendered all claims to the Five Nations, who were acknowledged to be subjects of Great Britain.

which each of the Five Nations was represented, they promised that "they would discredit the idle tales of the French, continue firm to the Crown of England, if it will protect them from its enemies, and were thankful for the promise of Protestant ministers," and that, though the French had promised them Jesuit priests, they were determined to "stick to the religion of the King." At a succeeding conference held August 26, 1700, the Earl of Belmont advised them to seize all Jesuits and send them to Albany, promising to pay "100 pieces of Eight for every Jesuit." He added, "We have a law in the Province for the seizing and securing of all Popish Priests and Jesuits and I would very gladly put that law into execution against those disturbers of mankind." The Indians promised compliance with this advice, and to not allow them in their country.

The proposition to send them Protestant ministers provoked the following note-worthy response from *Sadakanahie*, whom we have previously quoted:—

"God hath been pleased to create us, and the sun hath shined long upon us. We have lived many years in peace and union together, and we hope, by your instructions, to be taught to be good Christians and to die in the Christian faith. Let us, therefore, go hand in hand and support each other. We were here before you, and were a strong and numerous people, when you were but young and striplings. Yet we were kind and cherished you, and, therefore, when we propose any thing to you, if you cannot agree to do it, let us take counsel together that matters may be carried on smoothly, and that what we say may not be taken amiss. When we are to be instructed in the Protestant religion, pray let not such severity be used as the Jesuits do in Canada, who whip their proselytes with an iron chain, cut off the warrior's hair, put them in prison, and when they commit any heinous sin the priest takes his opportunity when they are asleep and beats them severely. Now as a token of our willingness to be instructed in the Protestant religion, we give nine beaver skins."

Having thus happily established peace and good will, it was sought to give it permanency and prevent future alienation; and to that end the Colonial Assembly of New York, in 1700, enacted a stringent law imposing the penalty of hanging upon every Jesuit who voluntarily came into the Province. The English were most assiduous in their efforts to keep bright the chain of friendship with their Indian allies, for on that depended the success of their trade with them and the security of their frontier settlements. Liberal presents were distributed to the chiefs, five of whom were taken to England to give them an idea of the splendor and power of the government that protected them. But these attentions did not prevent the conclusion of a peace with the French in September, 1700, and its ratification August 4, 1701;*

*The anxiety of the Iroquois to secure an enduring peace with the French is explained by the immense losses they had sustained. The return made to

notwithstanding they had previously, July 19, 1701, conveyed to Great Britain, through Lieut. Governor Naufair, their hunting grounds in which they had subdued the old inhabitants, lying "a thousand miles west of Niagara, all around the lakes," in the following words:—"We do give up and render all that land where the Bevor Hunting is which we won in war eighty years agoe, to *Coraghkoe*, our Great King, and pray that he may be our Protector and Defender there."

The fulfillment of the promise to build forts in the country of the Iroquois was long deferred; though Col. Romer was sent to explore the Onondaga country, which he did without finding a suitable location for a fort. October 11, 1711, Governor Robert Hunter contracted for the construction of two forts, one in the Mohawks' and one in the Onondagas' country; each to be one hundred and fifty feet square, the curtains to be made of logs a foot square, laid one upon another and pinned together, to the height of twelve feet, with a block-house at each corner twenty-four feet square, two stories high, with double loop holes; and a chapel twenty-four feet square in the center. They were to be finished by July 1, 1713.*

Peace, such as had not fallen upon the wilderness of the New World since the Europeans added their conflicting interests to the field of savage contests, prevailed at the opening of the eighteenth century; for not only had the Europeans and their allies ceased to war, but the Indians themselves had buried the hatchet. It was of short duration, however; for with the succession of Anne to the English throne, on the death of King William in March, 1702, the war of the Spanish succession, or Queen Anne's war, was inaugurated, and continued till the treaty of Utrecht, April 11, 1713. Although New England was ravaged with ruthless hand, New York scarcely knew its existence; notwithstanding the Province was put in a condition for defense.

The success of the French in establishing themselves among the northern and western Indians, annoyed the English of New York, who saw in embroiling the peaceful tribes in war the only method of arresting more formidable alliances. By special efforts the Iroquois and other Indian tribes in the eastern part of the State were induced to join an expedition against Canada under General Nicholson, who sailed

Gov. Fletcher in 1698 gives the strength and losses of the different nations as follows:—

	Strength in 1689.	In 1698.	Losses.
Mohawks,	270	110	160
Oneidas,	180	70	110
Onondagas,	500	250	250
Cayugas,	320	200	120
Senecas,	1100	600	700
Total,	2,370	1,230	1,140

—*New York Colonial History*, Vol. IV., p. 137. London Doc. XI.

**New York Colonial History*, Vol. V., p. 281.

from Boston with seven veteran regiments in 1710, expecting to be joined under the walls of Quebec by the colonial forces of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, with their Indian allies. But the plan was frustrated by disasters to the fleet, which became enveloped in a fog, lost eight of the vessels of which it was composed, and eight hundred and eighty-four men drowned.*

Not until after the treaty of Utrecht did the settlements in New York make much progress, owing to the massacres that in King William's war were committed by the French and their Indian allies on the outskirts of the settlements. At its conclusion, or soon after, settlements in the Mohawk country were begun. By that treaty the French engaged not to attack the Five Nations, who were acknowledged to be subjects of Great Britain, and a free trade with them was guaranteed to both England and France.

The Iroquois, being thus debarred from continuing their predatory raids on the northern and western Indians, extended their conquests in the south, and chastised their old enemies, the Flatheads, living in Carolina. While on this expedition they adopted into their confederacy the Tuscaroras, of North Carolina, one of the most powerful Indian nations of the south, who, in resisting the encroachments of the proprietaries of Carolina, who assigned their lands to the German Palatines, were almost destroyed in their fort on the River Taw, March 26, 1713, having lost eight hundred in prisoners, who were sold as slaves to the allies of the English. They became the sixth nation of the Iroquois confederacy, which was afterwards denominated by the English the Six Nations. They were assigned territory west of and in close proximity to the Oneidas.†

From 1744 to 1748 the French and English were again at war, which was concluded by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, April 30, 1748, which virtually renewed the treaty of Utrecht. The contest had been for the possession of the Mississippi Valley, which the English claimed as an extension of their coast discoveries and settlements, and the French by right of occupancy, as their forts extended from Canada to Louisiana, and formed "a bow, of which the English colonies were the string." At this time the English colonists numbered over a million, while the French had only about sixty thousand. This war, while it was without positive results to the principal contestants, was the turning point in the supremacy of the Iroquois, as well as in the ardor of their attachment to the En-

* The number of Iroquois who joined this expedition was: Mohawks, 155; Oneidas, 91; Onondagas, 99; Cayugas, 127; and Senecas, 182.—*Col. Hist.*

† In 1761, their principal village was at Canaseraga, in the town of Sullivan, in Madison County. They had "several others about the Susquehanna," and numbered 140.—*Enumeration of Indian Tribes*, by Sir William Johnson, Nov. 18, 1761, *Col. Hist.*

glish.* The Iroquois could not be induced to engage in the strife until 1746, when the French and their allies became the aggressors; and they were chagrined at its sudden termination, as their losses were unavenged and they had compromised themselves with their old enemies, the allies of the French, who, owing to French assiduity, had become numerous and dangerous. The war reopened the old controversy of Iroquois supremacy in a more aggravated form. Five nations of the confederacy made peace with the French and subscribed their tokens to the declaration "that they had not ceded to any one their lands" and "were not subjects of England."†

The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle was very imperfect, as it left unsettled many important questions which must sooner or later demand adjustment. The contest was renewed in 1755. The French, immediately after the cessation of hostilities, had entered upon the vigorous prosecution of a policy inaugurated by them as early as 1731, of connecting St. Lawrence with the Gulf of Mexico by a chain of forts, and by the end of 1753, had a connected line of forts from Montreal to French Creek in Pennsylvania. The completion of the fort on French Creek provoked the resentment of Virginia, and a force was sent out by that colony under Major George Washington, with instructions "to make prisoners, kill or destroy all who interrupted the English settlements" in the invaded territory. The success was only temporary, for Washington was soon compelled to capitulate within the feeble breastworks of Fort Necessity.

The early and sweeping successes of the French, allied to their interests the western Indians generally, and caused the Iroquois, now about equally divided in their numerical representation in New York and Canada, to falter in their fealty to the English Crown. The divisions in the ranks of the Iroquois increased as the war progressed, with results altogether favoring French interests. In April, 1757, the Senecas, Onondagas and Cayugas threw off the disguise of active friendship and made peace with Canada, saying, "our promise to remain firm to the English was given with the understanding that the war should be prosecuted vigorously." Failing to secure their aid Johnson determined to make the best possible use of their neutrality. "As you have declared yourselves neutrals," he said, "I shall expect you to act as neutrals and not permit either the French or their Indians to pass through your settlements to make war upon the English, and that you do not directly or indirectly give our enemies or their Indians information to our prejudice. Should you violate these rules of behavior, we shall look upon the covenant chain as absolutely broken between us." This they promised to observe

* *Rittenber.*

† *Colonial History Vol. X. p. 187.*

and they remained neutral till the summer of 1762, when the Senecas, to the number of one thousand, lent their aid to the Pontiac conspiracy, continuing their hostility till April, 1764, when, to avoid imminent destruction, they sued for peace.

The English colonies were wholly unprepared for the vigorous onslaught with which the French followed the overt act of Virginia; and being divided in their councils—lacking centralization—it required some time to collect themselves and interpose an effectual resistance.* Among the earliest measures concerted were four expeditions planned by General Edward Bullock, the first to effect the complete reduction of Nova Scotia, the second to recover the Ohio Valley, the third to expel the French from Fort Niagara and form a junction with the expedition to the Ohio, and the fourth to capture Crown Point. The latter was intrusted to Colonel Johnson, who was to have the militia of New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut and the warriors of the Six Nations. He convened the latter in council at Mount Johnson on the 21st of June, 1754, hoping to induce them to join the expedition; but with all the art he was master of he could obtain little else than excuses. Hendrik and his Mohawks, with here and there a warrior from the other nations, to the number of fifty, left Albany with him on the 8th of August. At the "carrying place" some two hundred warriors joined him, giving him, with the militia, a force of about thirty-five hundred men. The French, marching in about equal force to Oswego, were called back and sent, under Baron Dieskau, to the defense of Crown Point. Leaving the larger portion of his forces at that fort, Dieskau pushed on to attack Fort Edward, cut off Johnson's retreat, and annihilate his army. Misled by his guides, he found himself on the road to Lake George and only four miles distant from Johnson's encampment at Ticonderoga. Leaving his position, Johnson detached one thousand men and two hundred Indians to bring on an engagement. The opposing forces met on the 8th of September. Finding the French too powerful the English fell back to Ticonderoga; the French pursued and resumed the battle under the walls of Johnson's position. After a severe engagement of four hours the French retreated. The losses on both sides were heavy, that of the English being one hundred and fifty

* Hendrik, a Mohawk chief, reproached the colonies for their want of success and supineness, at a convention of delegates from the several colonies, (not all of which were represented, however,) held at Albany, June 14, 1754, "to consider a plan for a general union for mutual protection." "'Tis your fault, brethren," he said, "that we are not strengthened by conquest: for we would have gone and taken Crown Point, but you hindered us. * * * Instead of this you burnt your own fort at Saratoga, and ran away from it, which was a shame and a scandal to you. Look about your country, and see, you have no fortifications about you; no, not even to this city. Look at the French: they are men; they are fortifying everywhere. But, we are ashamed to say it, you are all like women, bare and open without any fortifications." —*Col. Hist.*, Vol. VI., p. 370.

—eight killed, including King Hendrik and thirty-eight of his warriors, ninety-two wounded and sixty-two missing; while that of the French was between three and four hundred. Johnson was wounded slightly, and Dieskau, mortally. The French retreat was unmolested; Crown Point was not reduced.*

For the most part the remainder of the war was a prolonged and sanguinary contest with the savage allies of the French, which brought the war to the doors of the colonists and gave them ample work to defend their homes. The border settlements of Pennsylvania were especially afflicted by this desolating scourge. In 1756, forts were built at Onawaroghare, † (Oneida castle, in the town of Vernon,) and Onondaga, and a block house at Canaseraga. The forts were similar in their construction. That at Oneida was one hundred and twenty feet square and built of sixteen feet logs, set four feet in the ground. It had two block houses at opposite corners, each twenty-four feet square below, and the upper part projected so as to enable its occupants to fire down upon an enemy who might attempt to fire it. It was built by Capt. Marcus Perry. The block-house at Canaseraga was similar to those in the angles of the fort at Oneida. The Tuscaroras had previously built a fort at Canaseraga, and Colonel Johnson instructed Jacob Vroman, who was sent to build the block-house, to make such alterations in it as the sachems might desire. At a council held at Onondaga June 19, 1756, permission was given Colonel Johnson to build a fort or magazine at Oswego Falls, for the storage of provisions, but he was required to destroy it or give it up as soon as the difference between the French and English was settled. At that council an Onondaga sachem promised him the assistance of the Oneidas and Tuscaroras in building a road from the German Flats to *Canagsaragy*, and of the Onondagas in building one from thence to Oswego. ‡

The war, which for many years threatened disaster to the English, finally resulted in their favor, and was concluded between the English and French, by the treaty of Paris in 1763, leaving England in possession of Canada and the territory west of the Mississippi. It was continued, however, with unabated fury two years longer by the Indians under Pontiac, king of the Ottawas, who in the summer of 1762, formed a league to drive the English from the country.

Following the cessation of hostilities, territorial disputes arose between the various Indian tribes and the colonies, to adjust which Colonel Johnson in 1765, proposed the establishment of a line, which should be recognized alike by the Indians and the English as a boundary beyond which neither should pass. To this

* *Rittenber.*

‡ *Colonial History.*

† Spelt on Sauthier's map *Onawaroghare*

the Indians assented; but its execution was delayed till the irritation of the Indians under the aggressions of European immigration, became threatening and alarming. The Senecas, smarting under these aggressions and the humiliating treaty they had been forced to make, said by a large belt to the Lenapes and Shawanoes, in 1763: "Brethren, these lands are yours as well as ours; God gave them to us to live upon, and before the white people shall have them for nothing, we will sprinkle the leaves with blood, or die, every man in the attempt." Finding that the matter could not longer be safely delayed, a conference was called at Fort Stanwix, and the treaty by which the boundary line was established was concluded November 5, 1768. This line, which was long known as the "Property Line," is indicated on a map accompanying the treaty.* This treaty was ratified by Sir Wm. Johnson in July, 1770.

But this action did not long suffice to preserve inviolate the Indian territory. The influx of new settlers and the avarice of traders led to encroachments which soon provoked complaints. At a congress of the Six Nations at Johnson Hall, in June and July, 1774, a Seneca orator complained that the whites and traders encroached upon their territory, followed their people to their hunting grounds with goods and liquor, "when," he says, "they not only impose on us at pleasure, but by the means of carrying these articles to our scattered people, obstruct our endeavors to collect them." "We are sorry," he added, "to observe to you that your people are as ungovernable, or rather more so, than ours."

At this congress the Six Nations acceded to a proposition made at the request of the Montauk Indians to locate the latter on their lands, and agreed to settle them at Conawaroghere, which Lieutenant Johnson speaks of, Nov. 30, 1762, as being "a new village of the Oneidas." The Montauk Indians were in a distressed condition, being surrounded by the white people of Long Island, by whom "they were in a fair way of being dispossessed of all their lands."

The continued and alarming encroachments on the Indian domain prepared the way for hostility which characterized the action not only of the Iroquois, but also the western Indians, against the colonists during the war of the Revolution, which soon followed. The Indians had adopted a settled and well-understood policy, involving resistance to further encroachments; and the Iroquois, who had hitherto preserved a uniform friendship towards the colonists, now, with the

* This treaty recognized as Indian domain all the lands lying north and west of the Ohio and Alleghany rivers to Kittanning; thence in a direct line to the nearest fork of the west branch of the Susquehanna; thence following that stream through the Alleghanies, by the way of Burnett's Hills and the Eastern branch of the Susquehanna and the Delaware into New York, to a line parallel with the Nonaderha, (Unadilla,) and thence north to Wood Creek, east of Oneida Lake.—*Col. Hist. Vol. VIII, p. 135.*

exception of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras and possibly a few others, opposed them. Eighteen hundred* of their warriors allied themselves with the British, and only two hundred and twenty, with the colonists. The atrocities of the former, under the leadership of the redoubtable Brant, who succeeded King Hendrik as chief of the Mohawks, will long be remembered by both New York and Pennsylvania.

The Six Nations at first resolved in council at Onondaga to remain neutral, and were disposed to adhere to that determination; but while the efforts of the colonists had been to induce that conclusion, those of the mother country had been directed to securing them as their active allies. Joseph Brant, (*Thayendanegea*), then a prominent and rising man in the Confederacy, from his close affiliation with the Johnson family, was warmly attached to the interests of the mother country. He was sent to England, where he was feasted and toasted as his predecessors had been, and returning in the winter of 1776, he at once entered upon the work of organizing a force of Iroquois. In the spring of 1777 he appeared at Oquaga (Windsor, Broome county,) with a retinue of warriors; and in June he ascended the Susquehanna to Unadilla, where he demanded food for his warriors, who drove off a large number of cattle, sheep and swine, and so impressed the inhabitants of the exposed settlements of that locality with their danger, that they retired to Cherry Valley. Some families in the vicinity fled to German Flats, and others to Kingston and Newburgh on the Hudson.

For the purpose of obtaining positive information of the intention of the Indians, General Herkimer was instructed to effect an interview with Brant at Unadilla, which he did, and learned from the latter "that the Indians were in concert with the King, as their fathers had been; that the King's belts were yet lodged with them, and they could not violate their pledge;" and finally, that they had "made war on the white people when they were all united, and as they were now divided the Indians were not frightened." A few days after this Brant withdrew his warriors from the Susquehanna and joined Sir John Johnson and Colonel John Butler, who had collected a body of Tories and refugees at Oswego, preparatory to a descent upon the Mohawk and Schoharie settlements. In August, 1777, this motley force, united to that of St. Leger, co-operating with Burgoyne, who recaptured Crown Point and Ticonderoga, which had been reduced by the colonists soon after hostilities commenced, attacked Fort Schuyler, to which they laid siege. During this siege the memorable and

* Rittenber says there were not more than eight hundred engaged at any time.

Clinton says there were 1,580.

sanguinary battle of Oriskany was fought, between a portion of these forces and a force of colonists, under General Herkimer, who were marching to the relief of the fort, and in which the heroic Herkimer fell. While this battle was in progress a sally was made from the fort, which was then commanded by Col. Gansevoort, resulting in the seizure of the camp of Sir John Johnson, who, with his Tory allies, were put to disgraceful flight, and the capture of twenty-one wagon loads of spoils, five British standards, the baggage and papers of Sir John, and the clothing of his Indian allies.

After the battle, Brant took occasion to chastise the Oneidas for their neutrality, by destroying their upper and lower castles, wigwams and crops, and driving off their cattle; but the latter retaliated and visited destruction on the castles and plantations of the Mohawks, blotting out forever the seats of power which had once swayed the destinies of a mighty people.

This siege was raised precipitately on the 22d, owing to a panic created by the appearance in the camp in breathless haste, of Hon Yost Schuyler, a nephew to Gen. Schuyler, who reported that the Americans were approaching in numbers like the forest leaves, and that he himself had barely escaped with his life, in confirmation of which he directed attention to his coat, which bore the marks of several bullets.* The Indians, who had lost about seventy of their number in the battle of Oriskany, were thoroughly alarmed and fled in great haste to their boats on Oneida Lake, killing on the way thither many of their tory allies, and became, in their terror, wrote St. Leger, "more formidable than the enemy they had to expect."

Following these events was a long list of Indian and tory atrocities on the border settlements of New York and Pennsylvania, including the terrible massacres of Wyoming, Cherry Valley and Minnisk, which determined the action of congress which resulted in the successful expedition of General Sullivan, which was organized in the summer of 1779, to invade the country of the Senecas, which the tories and their allies made their rendezvous, and to put an end to this desolating border warfare. To this end General Sullivan was instructed "to cut off their settlements, destroy their crops, and inflict upon them every other injury which time and circumstances would permit."

Anticipating a blow from this formidable enemy

* Hon Yost Schuyler had been captured and sentenced to be hung by Gen. Arnold, who was marching to the relief of Gansevoort. But Major Brooks prevailed on Arnold to make use of Schuyler, a half-witted fellow, in a novel manner. He was promised his liberty if he would go to the Camp of St. Leger and give such an exaggerated account of the number of Arnold's army as would be likely to create a panic in St. Leger's Indian allies as would compel him to raise the siege: and failing in this his brother, who was held as hostage was threatened with the death to which he had been condemned. Right well did he fulfill his mission.

upon the exposed western frontier, the Colonial Government had contemplated an invasion of the Iroquois country in the early part of 1778, previous to the Wyoming massacre. Had this measure been acted upon that calamity would have been avoided, but unfortunately other counsels prevailed and the project was deferred. In October of that year, the public mind having been aroused by that horrible intervening event, strenuous efforts were again made in this direction; but the season of active operations being far advanced, and circumstances rendering delay unavoidable, it was put off till 1779.

General Sullivan's army consisted of three divisions: one from New Jersey, under command of General Maxwell; another from New England, under command of General Hand; and the third from New York, under command of General James Clinton. The New Jersey and New England divisions marched from Elizabeth, N. J., via Easton, thence to Wyoming and up the Susquehanna to Athens. These two divisions, under General Sullivan, left Wyoming July 31, 1779, and moved up the east side of the river. They numbered thirty-five hundred men. In transporting the baggage and stores, one hundred and twenty boats and two thousand horses were employed. The boats were propelled up the stream by soldiers with setting-poles, and were guarded by troops. The provisions for the daily subsistence of the troops were carried by horses, which threaded the narrow path in single file, and formed a line about six miles in length. The Indians in considerable numbers had collected at Athens on the arrival of the army there, but awed and dismayed by its formidable appearance, they yielded their stronghold with only a few inconsiderable skirmishes. On the 22d of August, a few days after the arrival of Sullivan's forces at Athens, they were augmented by those under Clinton, to the number of fifteen hundred, making a combined force of five thousand, fully armed and equipped and supplied with cannon.

Clinton collected his forces at Canajoharie. He endeavored to induce the Oneidas and Tuscaroras to join the expedition; and his efforts would doubtless have proved successful, as he at first supposed they were, but for an address, written in the Iroquois language, and sent them by General Haldimand, then Governor of Canada, which discouraged all but a few of the Oneidas from sharing in it. Bateaux to the number of two hundred and twenty, which had been constructed the previous winter and spring at Schenectady, were taken up the Mohawk to the place of rendezvous, and from thence transported by land to Otsego Lake, a distance of twenty miles. Each bateau was of such size that in its transit from the river to the lake, four strong horses were required to

draw it, and, when placed in the water, was capable of holding from ten to twelve soldiers.

About the first of July, Clinton proceeded with his troops to the southern extremity of the lake, and there awaited orders from General Sullivan. He had previously scourged the Mohawk country and destroyed every village, with a single exception,* which was spared at the solicitation of homeless frontier settlers, who begged that they might occupy it until they could procure other shelter. The villages of the Oneidas and Tuscaroras were also spared.

In the meantime he constructed a dam across the outlet, in order to make the passage of the river feasible and rapid. He waited through the whole of July for orders from General Sullivan, who, immediately on his arrival at Athens, dispatched a force of eight hundred men under General Poor, to form a junction with Clinton and with him rejoin the main army at that place; but not until the 9th of August was the dam torn away and the flotilla committed to the bosom of the river thus suddenly swelled, which afforded a current not only sufficiently deep to float the bateaux, but at Oquaga and other places overflowed the river flats, and destroyed many fields of corn belonging to the Indians. The detachment of Sullivan's forces met the troops under Clinton near the mouth of the Chocout, about thirty-five miles from Athens, and returned with them to that place.

What emotions must have swelled the swarthy bosoms of the Iroquois at the sight of this formidable hostile array, which portended to them the destruction of their loved homes and the breaking of the sceptre by which they had so long held the supremacy of this vast territory; and coming too in a dry season, on the bosom of a river, swelled much beyond its ordinary dimensions, can be better imagined than described. So much was it invested in mystery that little resistance was offered to the advancing foe. The Indians fled from their homes and cultivated fields, in many of which, it was remembered by those who participated in the expedition, corn was growing in abundance and great perfection, and cautiously watched their progress from the neighboring hills.

After the junction between Sullivan's and Clinton's forces was effected the whole army proceeded up the Chemung River.† In the vicinity of *Newtown*,‡ (El-

* The castle of the "Praying Maquis," at the Schoharie Creek, consisting of four houses.

† The crossing of the Susquehanna by those who came by the way of Wyoming, and the mouth of the Chemung, was effected by fording. At the latter place the water was nearly up to the soldiers' arm-pits, and each was ordered to keep hold of his file leader's shoulder that the current might not break their order.—*Annals of Binghamton*.

‡ Authors differ as to the exact locality of this battle. Stone, in his *Life of Brant*, says it occurred at Elmira; Wilkinson, in *Annals of Binghamton*, fixes the locality at a distance of six miles below that place, nearly opposite Wellsburgh, in which opinion he is generally confirmed by modern writers; while others designate a mile from *Newtown* as the locality.

mira,) where the Indians under their trusty leader, Brant, were concentrated, a battle was fought and its issue hotly contested. The Indians and Tories combined, the latter under command of Col. John Butler, a British officer, numbered fifteen hundred. The field of battle was well and maturely selected by the Mohawk warrior, and evinced the sagacity and military tact, with which he is credited. Upon the result of this contest the Indians staked their all. Their success or defeat was to determine whether the invaders should encroach further upon the Iroquois territory, or be hurled back with such disaster as they considered their temerity justly merited. Hence they fought with desperation. Driven from the heights they first occupied, the Indians made another stand one and one-half miles further up the river; but the choice of position could not compensate them for the fearful odds against which they so heroically contended. Their valor only delayed the completion of the bloody contest. At the Narrows, ten or twelve miles above Elmira, they made a final and determined stand. Thither the victorious army pursued them, and though they fought with a desperation born of despair they were forced to a precipitate retreat.

Thoroughly defeated and dispirited they did not again invite a general engagement, and Sullivan, with little further hindrance, penetrated to the Genesee country, and marked his pathway with the desolation of fire and sword, destroying in his course, villages, orchards and crops. "The Indians shall see," said Sullivan, "that we have malice enough in our hearts to destroy everything that contributes to their support," and most effectually was that purpose executed.

The intrepid Brant, however, did not lose sight of his powerful enemy from the time his warriors sustained their disastrous defeat to the time when the colonial army retraced its steps, leaving behind it a scene of desolation and woe. He hovered around it and harassed it by making sudden descents upon its advanced guards and small detached parties, but kept a safe distance from the main army. Among those who thus felt the weight of his avenging hand was a party of fifteen or twenty men under command of Lieutenant Boyd of the rifle corps, who were detached on the 13th of September at *Hanneyc*: "to reconnoiter the next town, seven miles distant." On his return, he was "surrounded by five or six hundred savages," and his retreat cut off; but he defended himself till all save himself and one other were cut off, when he surrendered. His body was afterwards found mutilated in a most cruel manner. The horrid death of this young and gallant officer is thus related by Colonel Stone in his *Life of Brant*:—

"From the battle-field, Brant conducted Lieutenant Boyd and his fellow captive to Little Beard's Town,

where they found Colonel Butler with a detachment of (British) rangers. While under the supervision of Brant, the Lieutenant was well treated, and safe from danger; but the chief being called away in the discharge of his multifarious duties, Boyd was left with Butler, who soon after began to examine him by questions as to the situation, numbers and intention of General Sullivan and his troops. He, of course, declined answering all the improper questions; whereat Butler threatened that if he did not give him full and explicit information he would deliver him up to the tender mercies of the Indians. Relying confidently upon the assurances of the generous Mohawk chieftain, Boyd still refused, and Butler, fulfilling his bloody threat, delivered him over to Little Beard and his clan, the most ferocious of the Seneca tribe. The gallant fellow was immediately put to death by torture, and in the execution there was a refinement of cruelty of which it is not known that a parallel instance occurred during the whole war. Having been denuded, Boyd was tied to a sapling, where the Indians first practiced upon the steadiness of his nerves by hurling their tomahawks apparently at his head, but so as to strike the trunk of the sapling as near to his head as possible without hitting it, groups of Indians in the meantime brandishing their knives and dancing around him with the most frantic demonstrations of joy. His nails were pulled out, his nose cut off and one of his eyes plucked out. His tongue was also cut out and he was stabbed in various places. After amusing themselves sufficiently in this way, a small incision was made in his abdomen and the end of one of his intestines taken out and fastened to the tree. The victim was then unbound and driven around the tree by brute force until his intestines had been literally drawn from his body and wound around the tree. His sufferings were then terminated by striking his head from his body.*

Each of the four hostile nations was visited with this terrible retributive justice. Catharinstown, the home of Catharine Montour, whose inhumanity was conspicuously displayed in the finale of the Wyoming massacre,* Kendaia, Kanadaseagea, the capital of the Senecas, near the head of the lake which bears their name, with its sixty well-built houses and fine orchards; Kanandaigua, with its "twenty-three very elegant houses, mostly framed, and, in general, large," and its fields of corn and orchards of fruit; and Genesee Castle, the capital of the Onondagas, with its "one hundred and twenty-eight houses, mostly large and elegant," were alike destroyed. "Forty Indian towns were burned; one hundred and sixty thousand bushels of corn in the fields and in granaries, were destroyed; a vast number of the finest fruit trees were cut down; gardens covered with vegetables

* Catharine Montour, the Queen Esther of the Senecas, was a half-breed, a native of Canada, and a putative daughter of one of the French Governors, "probably," says Lossing, "of Frontenac." Her superior mind gave her great ascendancy over the Senecas, among whom she was indeed a Queen. She "assumed the office of executioner, and, using a maul and tomahawk, passed around the ring of prisoners, who had been arranged at her bidding, deliberately chanted the song of death and murdered her victims to its cadences in consecutive order."—Lossing and Rutenber.

were desolated; the proud Indians, who had scarce felt the touch of the colonists except in kindness, were driven into the forests to starve and be hunted like wild beasts; their altars were overturned, their graves trampled upon by strangers, and their beautiful country laid waste."* The terror-stricken Iroquois fled to Niagara, where they perished in large numbers from diseases caused by the absence of accustomed food, and insufficient protection from the severity of the succeeding winter, which was one of unexampled rigor, and was distinguished as the *hard winter*.†

Says Rutenber:—

"The punishment administered by Sullivan was indeed terrible, but was it just? That the projectors of the expedition, including Washington, so regarded it, is well known; that four of the tribes had broken their pledge of neutrality and carried forward their revenges and prejudices to the account of the innocent, is also known. That they were the victims of the wiles of designing men—had learned their lessons of hatred in the earlier controversies between the contending civilizations—was as strongly urged in their behalf then as it can be now. Had they been without warning, the destruction of their towns would have been without justification: but they had been both warned and entreated. In December, 1777, Congress had addressed to them an earnest and eloquent appeal to preserve their neutrality, and refrain from further hostilities, to sit under the shade of their own trees and by the side of their own streams and smoke their pipes in safety and content; but they would not listen, and grew bold in the supposed impossibility of being reached by the government. The visitation which they had provoked was a necessity."

But the measure of their atrocities was not yet filled. Their hatred was intensified by their misfortunes. They sullenly turned a deaf ear to the pleadings of Red Jacket to stay the avenging hand. Though crippled, they were yet powerful for predatory warfare. During the winter they re-organized, and, under the leadership of Corn-Planter, fell upon the Oneidas and Tuscaroras; burned their castle, church and village, and drove them upon the white settlements near Schenectady, where they remained till the close of the war, in active alliance with the colonists. The following May they visited the white settlements on a similar mission and penetrated to Saugerties on the Hudson. In the meantime Sir John Johnson, at the head of five hundred Indians and refugees, stole through the woods from Crown Point to Johnson

* Rutenber.

† They thus appealed to Governor Haldimand: "The great King's enemies are many, and they grow fast in number. They were formerly like young panthers: they could neither bite nor scratch: we could play with them safely: we feared nothing they could do to us. But now their bodies are become big as the elk, and strong as the buffalo: they have also got great and sharp claws. They have driven us out of our country for taking part in your quarrel. We expect the great King will give us another country, that our children may live after us, and be his friends and children as we are."—Appendix, *Stah's Life of Brant*.

Hall, for the purpose of removing a quantity of treasure which he had buried on the occasion of his first flight to Canada, and to punish some of his old neighbors; in both of which he was successful. The torch was applied to the dwellings of all, except Tories, for several miles along the Mohawk, and the defenseless inhabitants murdered. The village of Caughnawaga, which occupied the site of Fonda, was laid in ashes. They killed the cattle, and took away all the horses that could be found, together with many prisoners and much booty.

During the autumn, Sir John Johnson, with three companies of refugees, one company of German Yagers, two hundred of Butler's Rangers, and one company of British regulars, accompanied by Brant and Corn-Planter, with five hundred of their warriors, entered the Schoharie valley and spread destruction in their path. Not a house, barn or grain-stack known to belong to a whig was left standing; one hundred thousand bushels of grain were burned in a single day. The houses of the Tories were spared, but no sooner had the enemy retired than the exasperated whigs set them on fire, and all shared the common fate. The valley of the Mohawk was next visited. At Caughnawaga the buildings which had been left standing at the previous visitation, as well as those which had been rebuilt, were destroyed, and every dwelling on both sides of the river, as far up as Fort Plain, was burned. Murder and rapine attested alike the hatred of Johnson for his former neighbors and the vengeance of his dusky allies.

But Governor George Clinton, advised of their movements, promptly marched to the relief of the district, and was joined on the way by a strong body of Oneidas, led by their chief, Louis Atyataronghta, who had been commissioned a Colonel by Congress. The opposing forces met near Fort Plain. After a sharp encounter, in which the Oneidas did signal service, the forces under Brant and Johnson broke and fled. Brant, wounded in the heel, sought refuge behind the reserve forces of his friends; and Johnson immediately made hasty retreat to his boats on Onondaga Lake, and escaped to Canada by way of Oswego.

Similar incursions were made in the lower counties of the Hudson in 1781; and in October the Mohawk valley was again visited by Major Ross and Walter N. Butler, at the head of about one thousand troops, consisting of regulars, Tories and Indians. The settlement known as Warren Bush, was attacked so suddenly that the people had no chance to escape. Many were killed and their houses plundered and destroyed. Colonel Willett, with about four hundred men, including Oneidas, and Colonel Rowley, with the Tryon county militia, marched to the defense of the valley. By a preconcerted arrangement, Colonel Willett attacked

the enemy in front, while Colonel Rowley gained their rear, and delivered his blow just as Willett's forces were giving way, forcing the enemy to retreat. They were pursued the next morning, but were not encountered till evening. A running fight ensued, in which the notorious Butler was killed. He was observed by an Oneida to be watching the fight from behind a tree, and the moment his head was exposed, he fell from a quick shot from the Oneida, who bounded across the stream which separated the contestants, and while Butler cried for quarter finished his work, and tore from his head the reeking trophy which he sought, and bore it as a banner in the onward charge of his comrades, before whom the enemy fled in confusion. Thus ended the incursions on the border settlements of New York.*

Of the Iroquois, who, says Clark, "hung like the scythe of death in the rear of our settlements," and whose "deeds are inscribed with the scalping-knife and tomahawk, in characters of blood," but few ever returned to their native lands; and in the treaty of peace which put an end to this internecine struggle, no stipulation whatever was made respecting them. Keenly sensible of the deadly scourge which had devastated her border settlements, the New York Legislature evinced a disposition to expel them all from her territory, but, through the influence of Washington and Schuyler, better and more humane counsels prevailed; and, though, according to common usage, they, as conquered allies of the British, had forfeited all territorial rights, they still pressed claims, which both the State and Federal Governments generously recognized and respected by subsequent treaties. Ungenerously left without provision by the allies who so strenuously courted their assistance, many of them migrated to the West. Their descendants are now largely located at Forestville, Wisconsin, where they are said to number six thousand, of whom the Cayugas form the larger part. Two thousand of their number can read and write; and they have twenty-nine day and two manual labor schools. They support themselves by agriculture, and display their superiority over the other tribes in the arts of civilization in as marked a degree as they did in the prowess of their savage warfare. They are not dying out. Their numbers rather increase than diminish.†

* *Ruttenber.*

† Enumeration of Iroquois at different periods:—

	1685.*	1689.†	1698.‡	1761.‡
Mohawks,	300	270	110	160
Oneidas,	150	180	70	250
Onondagas,	100	500	250	150
Cayugas,	200	320	200	200
Senecas,	1,200	1,100	600	1,050
Tuscaroras,	—	—	—	140
	2,050	2,370	1,230	1,950

* *Paris Document III. Doc. Hist. I. 196.*

† *London Document XI. Doc. Hist. I. 650.* The column under date of 1689 shows the number at the beginning of the war of that period; that under date of 1598, the number at its close. († See foot note next page.)

Not so unmindful of the Iroquois, however, was the Federal Government. At the conclusion of the Revolutionary war, Oliver Wolcott, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee were appointed commissioners to amicably adjust their rights and claims, and at a council held at Fort Stanwix in 1784, reservations were assigned to each of the Six Nations, except the Mohawks. Special legislation had been previously had with regard to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras. October 15th, 1783, Congress passed a series of resolutions relating to the Iroquois, of which the sixth reads as follows:—

"Whereas the Oneida and Tuscarora tribes have adhered to the cause of America, and joined her armies in the course of the late war, and Congress has frequently assured them of peculiar marks of favor and friendship, the said Commissioners are therefore instructed to reassure the said tribes of the friendship of the United States, and that they may rely that the land which they claim as their inheritance will be reserved for their sole use and benefit, until they may think it for their advantage to dispose of the same."

CHAPTER V.

THE ONEIDAS—THEIR ORIGIN, SYMBOLS AND TOWN SITES—FRONTENAC DESTROYS THEIR VILLAGE IN 1696, AND BRANT DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR—JESUIT MISSIONS—JOGUES MISSION TO THE MOHAWKS—LEMOINE'S MISSION AT ONONDAGA—JESUIT MISSIONS RENEWED—MISSION OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER AT ONEIDA—FATHER PIERRE MILET SUCCEEDS JACQUES BRUYUS IN THAT MISSION—DECLINE OF JESUIT MISSIONS—CAUSE OF THE FAILURE OF THE JESUIT MISSIONS—EPISCOPAL MISSIONS—NEW ENGLAND MISSIONS—DAVID FOWLER—REV. SAMUEL KIRKLAND—EPISCOPAL MISSIONS RENEWED—REV. ELEAZER WILLIAMS—METHODIST MISSIONS—BROTHERTON INDIANS—REV. SAMPSON OCCUM—STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS—SKENANDOAH.

The origin of the Oneidas, like that of other Indian tribes, is ascribed to supernatural agencies. It is hopelessly lost, and conjectures respecting it are useless. They were not as migratory in their habits as many tribes, and not as much so as some which belonged to the same confederacy. There is no authentic record of their having lived elsewhere than in the immediate locality of where the Europeans first found them. They had two symbols, a *tree* and a *stone*. From the former, which signified *stability*,

† Enumeration of Sir William Johnson, London Document XXXVI. Doc. Hist. I. 26. There should be added to the column for 1761, the Oswegatchies, emigrants from the Six Nations, mostly Onondagas, settled at La Galette, on the River St. Lawrence, 80; and the Nanticokes, Conoys, Tutecoos, Saponeys, &c., who removed from the south and settled on and about the Susquehanna on lands allotted by the Six Nations, 200.

they acquired the name *Nehawvetahgo*, meaning *big tree*; and from the latter, which they regarded as being endowed with life and intelligence, and was their national symbol, that of *Oneida* (*Onoya*), meaning *living stone* (*Onei* signifying stone and *ta*, life.) Thus they were known as the *people of the stone*, and their distinguishing characteristic was a stone set in the fork of a tree.* Tradition ascribes their origin to a stone, which, says Schoolcraft, "is a large, but not enormous, boulder of syenite, of the *erratic block group*, and consequently geologically foreign to the location," there being "no rocks like this till we reach the Adirondacks." "This stone," says the same author, "became the national altar," and "when it was necessary to light their pipes and assemble to discuss national matters, they had only to ascend the hill through its richly wooded groves to its extreme summit," an eminence in the town of Stockbridge, where, he says, this stone, and the first castle of the Oneidas was located. The Oneidas and Cayugas, writes Count Zinzendorf, in 1742, "are styled children" of the other three original nations of the confederacy, which, says Gallatin, they were compelled to join.

The first known place of residence of the Oneidas was an eminence, covered formerly by a butternut grove, in the present town of Stockbridge. "The ancient town," says Schoolcraft, "extended in a transverse valley south of this ridge of land, covered as it was by nut wood trees, and was completely sheltered by it from the north winds. A copious, clear spring of water issued out at the spot selected for their wigwams." The time when this village was abandoned for the present Oneida Castle, in the town of Vernon, is not known. Lieut. Johnson, who stopped at both villages in 1762, speaks of the latter, *Canowaroghère*, as being "a new village of the Oneidas."† When the Tuscaroras became the sixth nation of the Iroquois confederacy, a portion of them were settled at the old village at Stockbridge, and others at Canaseraga. There were also other villages of this nation on the Susquehanna, but these were removed to the principal village during the war of the Revolution. At the close of the war the Senecas gave them lands in the present county of Niagara, to which they removed in 1784, in

* M. de Joncaire, who was adopted at an early period by the Senecas, among whom he had much influence, in enumerating the Indian tribes in 1736, says "the Oneidas number one hundred warriors," and have "for a device a stone in a fork of a tree, or in a tree notched with some blows of an axe."—*Paris Doc. VIII. Doc. Hist. I. 15.*

† *Col. Hist.*

Greenhalgh, in a journey from Albany westward in 1677, observes, "the Onyades have but one town, which lies about 130 miles westward of the Maquacs. It is situate about 20 miles from a small river which comes out of the hills to the southward and runs into lake Teshiroque, and about 30 miles distant from the Maquacs' river, which lies to the northward; the town is newly settled, double stockaded, but little cleared ground, so that they are forced to send to the Onondages to buy corn. The town consists of about 100 houses. They are said to have about 200 fighting men. Their corn grows round about the town."—*London Document III. Doc. Hist., Vol. I, p. 12.*

which year the Stockbridge Indians took possession of their village, which was denominated the "upper Oneida Castle," and when the first white settlers came in, their cabins dotted the whole valley of the Oneida. A remnant of the Tuscaroras still remains in Niagara county.

The following description of this ancient site of the Oneidas was dictated, in 1845, by Mrs. Daniel Warren, one of the pioneers of that vicinity:—

"Forty years ago the hill known as 'Prines Hill,' and celebrated as the great council ground of the [Oneidas,] was covered with a dense wilderness, save a small spot on the summit, comprising an area of about a half acre, and in shape a complete circle, bordered all around with a thick growth of shrubs, consisting of alders, wild plums and hazels. On the east was a narrow place of entrance of barely sufficient width to admit two persons abreast. Not far from this entrance place, and within the area, was a circle of earth of some twenty feet in diameter, which was raised about two feet above the general level and covered over with fine coals, having the appearance of a coal-pit bottom of the present day. The remainder of this oasis in the wilderness was overgrown in the summer with wild grass, wild flowers and weeds, and appeared as if a tree had never encumbered it since the dawn of creation. When or by whom this spot was cleared, is not known, nor will it ever be known. In all probability, hundreds of years have rolled over it and found it the same, save that different races have been born and swept away successively around the same spot. The face of the earth around, indeed, indicates that it has once been peopled with a race considerably advanced in civilization. Within a radius of three miles from this spot, are found graves, with trees growing over them, so that the roots spread from the head to the foot. A great many of these graves were some years since excavated, and found to contain various bones, and in some cases entire skeletons of people of giant proportions, the skulls and jaw-bones of which would cover the head and face of the most fleshy person of our day. In these graves were also found hatchets of very symmetrical shape, brass kettles somewhat in the form of our brass kettles, smoking pipes of various shapes, small metal bells, beads of all shapes and sizes, and various other articles of use and ornament, some of them bearing letters, characters or devices in an unknown language. The trees found growing upon these ancient graves count from two to four hundred grains, making, according to the usual way of reckoning the age of trees, the same number of years [of growth.] Not many years since a skull was dug up which contained a bullet of common size; the skull bone was a sound one, and had a hole in it of the size of the ball. From this, and other like circumstances, it is inferred that this race, or those who made war upon them, knew the use of fire-arms. There is no one among the oldest of the Indians, who are now or have been residents anywhere in this region of country, who can give any traditionary account reaching so far back as to tell the fate of these people. Such traditions as we do get come orally, and go no further back than about one hundred years, though there is a tradition,

that a long time ago there was a very destructive war waged between some tribes in this section of country and those of Canada. A great battle was fought between them on this very ground, and with such fury and determination on both sides, that each were nearly all slaughtered."*

In August, 1696, the village of the Oneidas was visited and destroyed by a detachment of Count Frontenac's army which invaded the Onondaga country in that year. The Oneidas, who, under the spiritual tutelage of the Jesuit Milet, had been most inclined to accede to the peace which Frontenac was so anxious to conclude, on the 5th of that month sent a deputation, consisting of one of their own nation and a French captive, with a belt, to Frontenac's camp to solicit peace, which was promised "on condition that they should establish themselves with their families among" the French, with the assurance "that they should receive land and wherewithal to sow it." Frontenac added that "if their wives and children were not ready, they should bring five of their most influential chiefs as hostages, and that they should be soon followed by the army to oblige them by force to execute the conditions imposed on them."

On the 6th, M. de Vaudreuil was sent "with a detachment of six to seven hundred of the most active men of the whole army, soldiers, militia and Indians," from the Onondagas' (*Onontagues*) village, to destroy the village of Oneida (*Onejoust*). "They arrived," says the record, "on the same day before sundown within a league of the village; they would have pushed even farther if the convenience of encamping on the bank of a beautiful river had not invited them to halt. They were at the first dawn in sight of the village and as they were about to enter the fields of Indian corn, they met the deputies of all that nation.

"They requested M. de Vaudreuil to halt, fearing that our savages would spoil their crops, assuring him that they would execute in good faith the orders which M. le Compte had given to their first delegate.

"M. de Vaudreuil, determined also on his side to obey punctually those which he had received, told them it was useless for them to think of preserving their grain, as, according to the word of their Father, they should not want for any when retired among us; that, therefore, he should cut all down; that their fort and cabins would not, either be spared, having everything ready for their reception.

"He found in the village but 25 to 40 persons, almost all having fled at the sight of the detachment, but the most influential chiefs had remained. M. de Vaudreuil consented that two or three men should follow these fugitives to try to bring them back."

* Having burned the village and destroyed the corn, he returned on the morning of the ninth with thirty-five prisoners, among whom were the principal chiefs of the nation. "The celerity of his movements,"

* *History of Madison County*, Mrs. L. M. Hammond.

says the record, and the thirty-five Oneidas, "agreeably surprised" M. le Compte (who had been unable to capture a single Onondaga,) "since he occupied only three days in going, coming and executing all he had to do, although from one village to the other was fourteen good leagues in the woods with continual mountains and a multitude of rivers and large streams to be crossed."^{*}

The village of the Oneidas was again destroyed by Brant during the war of the Revolution, as previously stated. In both cases aid was extended to them by the Colonial Government. In 1792, the Oneidas numbered about 550 and were described as being "very friendly."[†] In 1875 they numbered 150, only eleven of whom were living off the Reservation.[‡] They have removed in large numbers at various times to Green Bay, where they now number fifteen hundred. The larger proportion removed between 1822 and 1833. The last removal took place in 1844. They own farms all along the Oneida valley from the castle southward to the old tavern known as the "Five Chimneys."

The advent of the Jesuit missionaries among the Iroquois was a marked event in the history of the latter, as from the Jesuit *Relations* we obtain the earliest, most exact and most authentic information regarding them. The Jesuits were men of culture and intelligence, who forsook homes of luxury in Europe and submitted with a wonderful patience and heroism to the most menial offices, the utmost hardships and privations, and cheerfully accepted missions attended with the most inconceivable danger, in the zealous pursuit of their calling. Whatever estimate we may put upon them as men, we must admit their great devotion and self-sacrifice.[§]

The first Jesuit missionaries arrived in Canada in 1625 and from that period exerted a vast influence upon the interests of the French colony in that province. The mission was interrupted during the English occupancy of Quebec, from 1629 to 1632, and was resumed the latter year. They were instrumental in securing and holding the friendly aid of the northern and western Indians to the French arms in Canada. Had their influence been the first directed towards the Iroquois, it is probable their friendship, possibly their aid, might have been secured, and then American colonization might have presented a vastly different phase. But while their beneficent policy attracted, that inaugurated by Champlain and pursued by his successors repelled them and provoked a deadly hatred.

^{*} *Paris Document V. Doc. Hist. I. 334.*

[†] *Mass. Hist. Coll.*

[‡] They ceded their lands to the State in 1788, reserving to themselves and their posterity the right to hunt and fish in the forests and streams of that extensive territory forever.

[§] Says Parkman, "No religious order has ever united in itself so much to be admired and so much to be detested."

Failing in their efforts to coerce the Iroquois to terms which they presumed to dictate, the French colonists, chagrined and deeply humiliated, sought to gain their friendship by the aid of the missionaries of a religion whose precepts they had so wantonly violated, and in 1646, Father Isaac Jogues was sent in the double capacity of ambassador and missionary to the Mohawks, who were the first of the Iroquois nations to be outraged by the French lust for dominance, and by whom, three years previously, he had been captured, subjected to the most horrid torture, and threatened with death, which he escaped through the friendly intervention of the Dutch settlers at Albany (*Fort Orange*.) His mission, like his office, was of a double nature. He was commissioned by his Father Superior to establish on the scene of his torture a mission which was given in advance the prophetic name, *the Mission of the Martyrs*; and by Charles Huault de Montmagny, who succeeded Champlain as Governor of Canada, to use his influence with the Mohawks in perpetuating a peace which had been concluded the previous year, through the instrumentality of the Jesuit Guillaume Couture, who was captured by the Mohawks at the same time as Jogues, and adopted into one of their families in place of a dead relative.^{*} Jogues, suffering under a keen recollection of his recent tortures, apprehensive also of his reception, and having, as he wrote a friend, a presentiment of death, at first revolted at the thought; but it was only a temporary weakness. Exchanging the uniform of Loyola for a civilian's suit, by advice of an Algonquin convert, he sat out on his mission about the middle of May. His appearance in that character created no little amazement in the Mohawk village; but he was respectfully received, and he delivered the gifts and wampum belts, with the message of peace, of which he was the bearer from the Governor, his speech being "echoed by a unanimous grunt of applause from the attentive concourse," and eliciting confirmations of peace in return. Two Algonquins accompanied him as deputies; but their overtures of peace were rejected.

"The business of the embassy was scarcely finished," says Parkman, "when the Mohawks counselled Jogues and his companions to go home with all dispatch, saying, that, if they waited longer, they might meet on the way warriors of the four upper nations, who would inevitably kill the two Algonquin deputies, if not the French also. Jogues, therefore, set out on his return; but not until, despite the advice of the Indian convert, he had made the round of the houses, confessed and instructed a few Christian prisoners still remaining there, and baptized several dying Mohawks."

^{*} It was a common practice among the Iroquois to adopt their prisoners after having tortured and killed a sufficient number to glut their vengeance. In this way, and this alone, they made up for the losses sustained in battle, and at an early day a very large proportion of their population consisted of adopted prisoners.

Jogues returned to his mission the following August, but only to meet his death, which occurred on the 18th of October following.*

Eight years later the first successful mission among the Iroquois (*St. Marie*) was established at Onondaga, by Father Simon Le Moine, who left Quebec on the 2d of July, 1654, and arrived at the principal Onondaga village on the 5th of August. How different was his reception compared with that of the lamented Jogues. He says:—

"There is nothing but comers and goers on the road who come to salute me. One greets me as brother; another as uncle—never did I have such a number of relations. A quarter of a league from the village I began a harangue, which gained me much credit. I named all the chiefs, the families and persons of note in a drawing voice and with the tone of a chief. I told them that Peace walked along with me; that I drove War afar off among the distant nations, and that Joy accompanied me. Two chiefs made their speech to me on my arrival, but with a gladness and cheerfulness of countenance which I never had seen among savages. Men, women and children, all were respectful and friendly.

"At night I called the principal men together to make them two presents. The first to wipe their faces, so that they may regard me with a kindly eye, and that I may never see a trace of sorrow on their foreheads. The second to clear out the little gall which they still might have in their hearts. After several other discourses they retired to consult together, and finally they responded to my presents by two other presents richer than mine.

"6th.—I was called to divers quarters to administer my medicine to weakly and hectic little things. I baptized some of them. I confessed some of the old Huron Christians, and found God everywhere."

On the 10th of the same month he held a general council of peace with the deputies of the four western nations in Ondessonk's cabin. He continues:—

"I opened the proceedings with public prayer, which I said on my knees and in a loud voice, all in the Huron tongue. I invoked the Great Master of heaven and of earth to inspire us with what should be for his glory and our good; I cursed all the demons of hell who are spirits of division; I prayed the tutelar angels of the whole country to touch the hearts of

* The circumstances attending his death are briefly as follows: "A division existed among the tribes with regard to the acceptance of the proffered peace, the Bear tribe clamoring for war, and the Tortoise and Wolf tribes, adhering to the treaty. Some Huron captives, hoping to draw favor to themselves by abusing the French, charged them with being sorcerers and bringing upon their nation drought, famine, pestilence and a host of insupportable miseries. The suspicion of the Mohawks had been previously aroused by a box containing a few personal necessaries left by Jogues on his last visit, and although he showed them its contents they could not divest themselves of the suspicion thus strengthened by the charges of the Hurons, and with a wonderful facility ascribed to him the evils with which they were afflicted. On the evening in question, Jogues, having been invited to a feast, was led to the lodge of the Bear chief, and as he entered, an Indian concealed within struck with his hatchet, which severed the arm of an Iroquois, (whom the French called Le Berger,) which was bravely held out to ward off the blow, and sunk into the brain of the missionary, "one of the purest examples of Roman Catholic virtue which the Western continent has seen."—*Parkman's Jesuits. Bancroft, Vol. III., p. 138.*

† The name by which the Indians addressed Le Moine.

those who heard me, when my words should strike their ear.

"I greatly astonished them when they heard me naming all by nations, by tribes, by families, and each particular individual of any note, and all by aid of my manuscript, which was a matter as wonderful as it was new. I told them I was the bearer of nineteen words to them.

"At each present they heaved a powerful ejaculation from the bottom of the chest in testimony of their joy. I was full two hours making my whole speech, talking like a chief, and walking about like an actor on a stage, as is their custom."

The sachems, after consulting together two hours, called Le Moine among them, and having seated him "in an honorable place," gave their answer. The first speaker was succeeded by an Oneida sachem, whose speech is worth recording. Addressing himself through Le Moine to M. de Lauzon, then Governor of New France, he said:—

"Onnontio* thou art the pillar of the Earth; thy spirit is a spirit of peace and thy words soften the hearts of the most rebellious spirits. * * * Thy voice is wonderful to produce in my breast at one time two effects entirely dissimilar; thou animatest me to war, and softenest my heart by the thoughts of peace,† thou art great both in peace and war, mild to those whom thou lovest, and terrible to thine enemies. We wish thee to love us, and we will love the French for thy sake."

The Oneida sachem was followed by an Onondaga, who thus addressed Le Moine:—

"Listen Ondessonk; five entire nations speak to thee through my mouth. My breast contains the sentiments of the Iroquois Nations, and my tongue responds faithfully to my breast. Thou wilt tell Onnontio four things, the sum of all our councils.

"1. We are willing to acknowledge him of whom thou hast spoken, who is the master of our lives, who is unknown to us.‡

"2. Our council tree is this day planted at Onnontaga. [Meaning that that would be, henceforth, the place of their meetings and of their negotiations for peace.]

"3. We conjure you to select on the banks of our great lake an advantageous site for a French settlement. Fix yourself in the heart of the country, since you ought to possess our hearts. There we shall go for instruction, and from that point you will be able to spread yourself abroad in every direction. Be unto us careful as fathers and we shall be unto you submissive as children.

"4. We are engaged in new wars; Onnontio encourages us. We shall entertain no other thought towards him than those of peace."

Le Moine adds, "I can assure you their counte-

* The name by which the Iroquois always addressed the Governor of Canada.

† Le Moine's 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th presents put a hatchet into the hands of each of the four Iroquois nations, for the new war they were waging against the *Cat Nation*.

‡ By his "seventeenth word" Le Moine "exhorted them to become acquainted with the truths of our faith, and made three presents for this object."

nances told more than their tongues, and expressed joy mingled with so much mildness that my heart was full." He returned to Quebec in August, 1654.*

The Onondagas having "for a long time and earnestly demanded that some priests" be sent to them, Fathers Joseph Chaumonot and Claude Dablon embarked on the 19th of September, 1655, and arrived at Onnontagui November 5th of that year. Dablon returned the following March to Quebec for additional help, and in May following he set out for the Onondaga country, in company with three Fathers and two Brothers of the Society and a goodly number of Frenchmen. In 1657, "the harvest appearing plentiful in all the villages of the upper Iroquois, the common people listened to the words of the gospel with simplicity and the chiefs with a well disguised dissimulation." Fathers Paul Ragueneau and François Du Peron, some Frenchmen and several Hurons came to their aid.

August 3d, 1657, "the perfidy of the Iroquois," says the *Relation*, "began to develop itself by the massacre which they made of the poor Hurons whom they brought into their country, after thousands of protestations of kindness, and thousands of oaths, in their style, that they should treat them as brothers. And had not a number of Iroquois remained among the French, near Quebec, to endeavor to bring with them the rest of the Hurons, who, distrusting these traitors, would not embark with the others, the Fathers and the Frenchmen who ascended with them would have then been destroyed; and all those who remained on the banks of Lake Ganentaha, near to Onontagui, would shortly after have shared the same fate. But the fear that the French would wreak their vengeance on their countrymen staid their design, of which our Fathers had had secret intelligence immediately on their arrival in the country."†

The missionaries soon learned that they, together with their countrymen who had accompanied them, to the number of some fifty, were regarded as hostages, though the *Relation* credits the Onondagas with sincerity when they originally requested their presence in their country. Being fully apprised of the danger of their situation, measures were concerted to escape from it, and it was resolved to abandon the mission secretly and in a body.

Their departure and the incidents connected with it are so full of thrilling interest that we transcribe from the *Relation* of Father Ragueneau as follows:—

"To supply the want of canoes, we had built, in secret, two bateaux of a novel and excellent structure, to pass the rapids; these bateaux drew but very little water and carried considerable freight, fourteen or fifteen men each, amounting to fifteen or sixteen hun-

dred weight. We had, moreover, four Algonquin and four Iroquois canoes, which were to compose our little fleet of fifty-three Frenchmen.

"But the difficulty was to embark unperceived by the Iroquois, who constantly beset us. The bateaux, canoes and all the equipage could not be conveyed without great noise, and yet without secrecy there was nothing to be expected save a general massacre of all of us the moment it would be discovered that we entertained the least thought of withdrawing.

"On that account we invited all the savages in our neighborhood to a solemn feast, at which we employed all our industry, and spared neither the noise of drums, nor instruments of music, to deceive them by harmless device. He who presided at this ceremony played his part with so much address and success, that all were desirous to contribute to the public joy. Every one vied in uttering the most piercing cries, now of war, anon of rejoicing. The savages, through complaisance, sung and danced after the French fashion, and the French in the Indian style. To encourage them the more in this fine play, presents were distributed among those who acted best their parts, and who made the greatest noise to drown that caused by about forty of our people outside who were engaged in removing all our equipage. The embarkation being completed, the feast was concluded at a fixed time; the guests retired, and sleep having soon overwhelmed them, we withdrew from our house by a back door and embarked with very little noise, without bidding adieu to the savages, who were acting cunning parts and were thinking to amuse us to the hour of our massacre with fair appearances and evidences of good will.

"Our little lake on which we silently sailed in the darkness of night, froze according as we advanced and caused us to fear being stopped by the ice after having evaded the fires of the Iroquois. God, however, delivered us, and after having advanced all night and all the following day through frightful precipices and waterfalls, we arrived finally in the evening at the great Lake Ontario, twenty leagues from the place of our departure. This first day was the most dangerous, for had the Iroquois observed our departure they would have intercepted us, and had they been ten or twelve it would have been easy for them to have thrown us into disorder, the river being very narrow, and terminating after traveling ten leagues in a frightful precipice where we were obliged to land and carry our baggage and canoes during four hours, through unknown roads, covered with a thick forest which could have served the enemy for a fort, whence at each step he could have struck and fired on us without being perceived. God's protection visibly accompanied us during the remainder of the road, in which we walked through perils which made us shudder after we escaped them, having at night no other bed except the snow after having passed entire days in the water and amid the ice.

"Ten days after our departure we found Lake Ontario on which we floated, still frozen at its mouth. We were obliged to break the ice, ax in hand, to make an opening, to enter two days afterwards a rapid where our little fleet had well nigh foundered. For having entered the Great *Sault* without knowing it, we found ourselves in the midst of breakers which,

* *Relation de la Nouvelle France et années, 1653 and 1654. Doc. Hist. I. 33.*

† *Relation, 1657-8.*

meeting a quantity of big rocks, threw up mountains of water and cast us on as many precipices as we gave strokes of paddles. Our bateaux, which drew scarcely half a foot, were soon filled with water and all our people in such confusion, that their cries mingled with the roar of the torrent presented to us the spectacle of a dreadful wreck. It became imperative, however, to extricate ourselves, the violence of the current dragging us despite ourselves into the large rapids and through passes in which we had never been. Terror redoubled at the sight of one of our canoes being engulfed in a breaker which barred the entire rapid and which, notwithstanding, was the course that all the others must keep. Three Frenchmen were drowned there, a fourth fortunately escaped, having held on to the canoe and being saved at the foot of the *Sault* when at the point of letting go his hold, his strength being exhausted. * * * The 3d of April [1658] we landed at Montreal, in the beginning of the night.

"The departure was managed with so much address, that the Iroquois, who, cabined at the doors of our house, never perceived the removal of the canoes and bateaux and baggage * * * nor the embarkation of fifty-three persons. Sleep, in which they were deeply enveloped, after considerable singing and dancing, deprived them of all consciousness; but at length night having given place to day, darkness to light, sleep to awaking, these barbarians left their cabins, and roving around our well-locked house, were astonished at the profound silence of the Frenchmen. They saw no one getting out to work; they heard no voice. They thought at first that they were all at prayer, or in council, but the day advancing and these prayers not getting to an end, they knocked at the door. The dogs, which our Frenchmen designedly left behind, answered by barking. The cock's crow which they heard in the morning and the noise of the dogs, made them think that the masters of these animals were not far off; they recovered the patience which they had lost. But at length the sun began to decline, and no person answering neither to the voice of men nor the cries of animals, they scaled the house to see the condition of our people in this terrible silence. Astonishment now gave place to fright and trouble. They open the door; the chiefs enter everywhere; ascend the garret; descend to the cellar; not a Frenchman makes his appearance dead or alive. They regard one another—terror seizes them; they imagine they have to do with devils. They saw no bateaux, and even if they saw them they could not imagine that our Frenchmen would be so rash as to precipitate themselves into rapids and breakers, among rocks and horrible dangers in which themselves, though very expert in passing through *saults* and cascades, often lose their lives. They persuade themselves either that they walked on the waves, or fled through the air; or, as seemed most probable, that they concealed themselves in the woods. They seek for them; nothing appears. They are quasi-convinced that they rendered themselves invisible; and as they suddenly departed, so will they pounce as suddenly on their village."

Father Ragueneau thus premises the *Relation* in which the above account is given:—

"The present is to inform Y. R. of our return from the Iroquois mission, loaded with some spoils rescued from hell. We bear in our hands more than five hundred children and a number of adults, the most part of whom died after baptism. We have re-established faith and piety in the hearts of a poor captive church, the first foundations of which we had laid in the Huron country. We have proclaimed the gospel unto all the Iroquois nations, so that they are henceforth without excuse, and God will be fully justified against them at the great day of judgment.

"The devil, enraged at seeing us reap so fine a harvest and enjoy so amply the fruits of our enterprise, made use of the inconstancy of the Iroquois to drive us from the centre of his estates; for these barbarians, without other motive than to follow their volatile humor, renewed the war against the French, the first blows of which were discharged on our worthy Christian Hurons, who went up with us to Onnontagui at the close of the last summer, and who were cruelly massacred in our arms and in our bosom by the most signal treason imaginable. Then they made prisoners of their poor wives and even burned some of them with their children of three and four years, at a slow fire."

The apparent desire for peace on the part of the Iroquois immediately after M. de Tracy's expedition in 1666, seemed to be a favorable opportunity to establish missions among them, and in that and the one or two succeeding years, missions were established in each of the Five Nations.* Fathers Jacques Fremin, Jean Pierron and Jacques Bruyas, in July, 1667, visited the Mohawks (*Aguiex*), where the former two remained, while the latter, in September of that year, established the first mission—*St. Francis Xavier*—at Oneida, (*Onneiout*), where he remained four years. His *Relations* furnish us the earliest and most reliable data respecting the characteristics of this people, who then numbered one hundred and forty warriors, and were said to have "never wished to listen to any negotiations for peace," but on the contrary, to have "always embarrassed affairs when they appeared about to be arranged."†

Father Bruyas arrived in Canada August 3, 1666, and though he spent two months with the Mohawks, to whom he returned in 1672, this may be properly

* July 7, 1666, the Oneidas sent ten ambassadors to Quebec to solicit peace for themselves and the Mohawks, and asked to be received under the protection of the King of France and "among the number of his true subjects," promising to restore all the Frenchmen, Algonquins and Hurons whom they held as prisoners, and to send families from among them to be held as hostages. They demanded the return of all those of their nation held as prisoners by the French, and that French families and some "Blackgowns" (priests) be sent "to preach the gospel to them and to make known to them the God of the French, whom they promised to love and adore: also that trade and commerce be open to them with New France, by the *Lake du Saint Sacrement*, (L. George,) with the assurance on their part that they will provide in their country a sure retreat as well to the said families as to the trading merchants, not only by preparing cabins to lodge them in, but also by assisting to erect forts to shelter them from their common enemies, the *Andastaeronnons* and others." These ambassadors were Soenres, Tsensersouanne, Gannoukouenioton, Aaregouenioton, Aaregouame, Tsendiagou, Achinnhara, Togoukouaras, Okarakuets and Akouchen, the former of whom was their orator and chief.—*Paris Dec. 1. Dec. Hist. I. 74.*

† *Dec. Hist. I. 60.*

regarded his first mission among the Iroquois. He was a close student of the manners and language of the natives, and afterwards became a distinguished Indian philologist.

Father Bruyas, while he conceded that the Oneidas surpassed the other Iroquois in intelligence, regarded them as more vigilant and suspicious. While they were apparently less pronounced upon matters of religion, they also seem to have been less susceptible to the arts of the Jesuit priests. Count Zinzendorf says "when at any time they have general proposals made them about Christianity they give for answer that they will follow the Onondagas and do the same as they;"* while the disciples of Loyola affirm that they "are of all the Iroquois the least tractable, and the arms of the French not yet having penetrated so far, they fear us only through the experience of their neighbors the Mohawks. This nation, which despises the others in their defeat, is in a disposition contrary to the Christian faith, and by its arrogance and pride, tries the patience of a missionary very sorely. It was necessary that Providence should assign them a peculiar man, and choose for them a spirit who might by his mildness conquer or allay their wild and fierce disposition. Father Bruyas has been the man destined for their service, but his labors have generally been rewarded only by rebuffs and contempt. . . . The number of baptized amount already to near thirty, most of whom are already in glory."†

Father Pierre Milet succeeded Father Bruyas and remained till July, 1684. In 1683, Colonel Thomas Dongan, then Governor of New York, though himself a Catholic, had well nigh succeeded in destroying the French influence over the Iroquois. He clearly saw the dangers which menaced the English Government under the stimulus of Jesuit influence and intrigue, and was too loyal to allow his religious convictions to cause him to swerve from political rectitude. He therefore directed all his efforts to expel the Canadian missionaries from among the Iroquois, and to conciliate the latter promised to send them English ministers and build churches in their cantons. He had so far succeeded that as early as 1684 the greater part of the Jesuits had abandoned their missions, and in 1687, the last, Jean de Lamberville, had left his station at Onondaga, and gone to Niagara; his brother, Jacques de Lamberville, left the same station the previous year.‡ From this time, or a few

* *Memorials of Moravian Church I*, 124.

† *Relation*, 1668-9.

‡ When Dongan became Governor, August 27, 1682, each of the Five Nations was a seat of a Jesuit mission. M. de Nonville, Governor of New France, under date of August 21, 1687, testily alludes to this fact, and adds that almost all of them "the heretic merchants have caused to be expelled even in your time. . . . It is only three years since the greater number were forced to leave: the Fathers Lamberville alone bore up against the insults and ill treatment they received through the solicitations of your traders."—*Col. Hist.*

years later, the Jesuit missions began sensibly to decline.

Father Dablon thus sums up the condition of the several nations:—

" . . . the Iroquois missions render great glory to God and contribute largely to the salvation of souls. This encourages the missionaries amid the evident danger of death in which they have lived constantly for three years that the Iroquois speak of making war on us; so that they have not been willing to leave their missions, although they were urged by their friends, who warned them of the evil designs formed against their persons. They accordingly persevere in laboring for the conversion of these people, and we learn that God has rewarded their constancy by a little calm which he gives them, and by more than three hundred baptisms which they have conferred this last year, to which I add that the preceding year they had baptized three hundred and fifty Iroquois. The year before, Father Garnier had baptized fifty-five in one of the towns of the Sonnontouans;* Father de Carheil, as many at Oiougouen;† Father Milet, forty-five at Oneiout (Oneida); Father James de Lamberville, more than thirty at one of the towns of Agnie (Mohawk,) and Father Bruyas, in another, eighty; Father John de Lamberville, seventy-two at Onnontage; and Father Pierron, ninety at Sonnontouan. It is estimated that they have placed in heaven more than two hundred souls of children and sick adults, all dead after baptism."‡

This indicates a certain measure of success; but, compared with that enduring, self-sustaining and self-perpetuating moral heroism which becomes a vitalizing, active force, it is not commensurate with the zeal and energy of the Jesuit priests, nor the far reaching genius of the French. The aim of the Jesuits was to Christianize, and they employed means calculated to attain that end, while that of the French government was only ostensibly so, and the means they employed to compass their illy-disguised ulterior object were sadly at variance with the peaceful arts of the Jesuits and inimical to their success. With the Jesuits the religious idea was paramount; while with the French government the impelling motive was to make everything subservient to national aggrandizement. The Jesuits alone, like the early Dutch colonists in New Netherlands, would have lived on terms of amity with the Indians, studied their character, gained their friendship and confidence, and made that the basis of a higher culture. But French pride and impetuosity could not conform to these humble conditions, and sought to coerce what they would not take the trouble to win by pacific agencies. With the tribes whose ambition had been broken by Iroquois puissance, and whose only desire was to live, the French had no difficulty in ingratiating themselves, for they were glad of any alliance which gave promise of protection from

* Senecas.

† Cayugas.

‡ *Relations*, 1673-4, Chap. V., Sec. VII. (*Shay's Edition*.)

that inveterate enemy; but to coerce to a similar submissiveness a people who brooked no species of servitude among themselves, and who asserted an equality which more than once they compelled the French to acknowledge, was quite another matter.

That civilization—at least what we denominate such—was not the proper lever to raise the Indian from his savage brutality and degrading superstitions, seems very apparent from a close analysis of his character and the record of his contact with *civilized* communities. The success of the Jesuits was greater with those tribes remote from European settlements than with those living in close proximity to them; and we shall find on careful investigation, that the Indian character, gross and sensuous as it unquestionably was, evinced much true nobility and in many of its social phases compared favorably with our much vaunted civilization. The non-success of the Jesuits among the Indian tribes is clearly traceable in a very large degree to the avarice and lust of civilized nations, which had their counterpart, though on a lower plane of development, in the Iroquois, or, more specifically, the Five Nations; and if we may assume that this continent was destined to be the home of a riper thought, a larger civil, social and religious liberty, then no people were better calculated to preserve it from a less noble fruitage than the Iroquois, themselves so royally free and independent. The Huron mission—the most hopeful and promising of the Jesuit missions among the American Indians, was literally cut out of existence by the hatchets of the Iroquois, which spared neither priest nor neophyte. Had the French been unmolested in their work of colonization, to which the Iroquois were unquestionably the greatest opposers, they “would have occupied the West with traders, settlers and garrisons, and cut up the virgin wilderness into fiefs, while as yet the colonies of England were but a weak and broken line along the shore of the Atlantic; and when at last the great conflict come, England and liberty would have been confronted, not by a depleted antagonist, still feeble from the exhaustion of a starved and persecuted infancy, but by an athletic champion of the principles of Richelieu and of Loyola.

“Liberty may thank the Iroquois, that, by their insensate fury, the plans of her adversary were brought to naught, and a peril and a woe averted from her future. They ruined the trade which was the life-blood of New France; they stopped the current of her arteries, and made all her early years a misery and a terror. Not that they changed her destinies. The contest on this continent between Liberty and Absolutism was never doubtful; but the triumph of the one would have been dearly bought, and the downfall of the other incomplete. Populations formed in the ideas and habits of a feudal monarchy, and controlled by a hierarchy profoundly hostile to freedom of thought,

would have remained a hindrance and a stumbling-block in the way of that majestic experiment of which America is the field.

“The Jesuits saw their hopes struck down; and their faith, though not shaken, was sorely tried. The Providence of God seemed in their eyes dark and inexplicable; but from the stand-point of Liberty, that Providence is clear as the sun at noon. Meanwhile let those who have prevailed yield due honor to the defeated. Their virtues shine amidst the rubbish of error, like diamonds and gold in the gravel of the torrent.”*

The Dutch colonists did not give the matter of Christianizing the Indians much consideration; and the government of New York made no effort in this direction, further than to pay, for some time, a small salary to the clergyman at Albany† to attend to the wants of such Indians as might apply to him.‡ The Rev. Mr. Freeman translated a great part of the English liturgy, the morning and evening prayers, the litany, the Athanasian Creed, with some passages of the old and new Testament, into the Indian tongue; but those professing to be Christians in 1710, are represented as “so ignorant and scandalous that they can scarce be reputed Christians.”§ In 1712, Rev. William Andrews was sent, by the Society for Propagating the Gospel, as missionary to the Mohawks, succeeding in that capacity Rev. Thoroughgood Moor, and extending his labors occasionally to the Oneidas. But he abandoned his mission in 1719, having had no greater success among the natives than his predecessor;|| and as he was the first, so was he last, that resided among them for a great many years, the Society afterwards contenting themselves by imitating the policy of the government, and allowing a small stipend to their clergyman at Albany to act as a missionary among the Mohawks, in which capacity he did them but very little good.¶

Revs. Henry Barclay and John Ogilvie, who succeeded to the rectorship of St. Peter's Church, Albany, the former in 1737, and the latter in 1749, also extended their labors to the Oneidas. Mr. Barclay, who was a son of Rev. Thos. B. Barclay, the second rector of that church, was a native of Albany, and was graduated from Yale College in 1734. In 1735, at the recom-

* *Parkman's Jesuits*, p. 447.

† The Rev. Mr. Talbot was the first Episcopal clergyman in the vicinity of Albany. He was succeeded after a short stay by Rev. Thoroughgood Moor, who arrived in New York in 1704, and proceeded thence to Albany, as missionary to the Mohawks. “Owing to the influence of the fur-traders, his efforts to convert the heathen were entirely without fruit, and he returned to New York.”—*Doc. Hist. III.* 115.

‡ The clergy at Manhattan succeeded in teaching one young savage the prayers so that he could repeat the responses in church, and also to read and write well. He was then furnished with a Bible and was sent to evangelize the heathen: but he pawned the book for brandy, became a thorough beast, and did more harm than good.—*O'Callaghan's New Netherland II.*, 319.

§ *Doc. Hist. IV.*, 505.

|| He became discouraged and asked to be recalled, saying, “there is no hope of making them better—heathen they are and heathen they still must be.”—*Hammond's History of Madison County*, 106.

¶ *Doc. Hist. IV.*, 505.

mendation of Rev. Mr. Milne, who preceded him in the rectorship of St. Peter's, he was appointed catechist to the Indians at Fort Hunter. He closed his rectorship at Albany in 1746, when he became rector of Trinity Church, New York, where he died in 1764. Mr. Ogilvie was a native of New York and a graduate of Yale. Being a Dutch scholar, he was appointed to this mission in 1748, and arrived at Albany in March, 1749. In 1760, he joined the expedition against Niagara and continued attached to the army till the close of the French war. He succeeded Mr. Barclay as rector of Trinity Church, and died Nov. 26, 1774.*

In 1748, the people of New England turned their attention to this field of labor, and Revs. Messrs. Spencer, Timothy Woodbridge and Gideon Hawley visited successively the tribes on the Mohawk and Susquehanna rivers. The commencement of the French war soon after interrupted all missionary efforts west of Albany, and they were not renewed till 1761, when Rev. Dr. Eleazer Wheelock directed his attention to this quarter, and endeavored, by introducing Indians as missionaries and schoolmasters, to reclaim the natives from their savage life. He gives the result of his efforts and experience in these words:—

"Among those whom I have educated, there have been near forty who were good readers and writers, and were instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, as their age and time would admit, and were sufficiently masters of English grammar, arithmetic, and a number considerably advanced in a knowledge of Greek and Latin, and one of them carried through college, and was a good scholar, and others carried through a course of learning with not less expense for each of them, than would have been necessary to have supported an English youth through a course of collegiate studies, and they have generally behaved well while they were with me, and left my school with fair and unblemished characters, and under the influence of every motive I could set before them, to a good improvement of the distinguishing talents which God had given them, and many of them have gone immediately from my school into good and reputable business, and such business as they were equal to, and generally to serve as schoolmasters, but some as interpreters, etc., and nothing has prevented their being employed usefully, and reputably in various capacities till this day, but their want of fortitude to resist the power of those fashionable vices which were rampant amongst all the tribes. * * * Of all the number before mentioned, I do not hear of more than half who have preserved their characters unstained, either by a course of intemperance or uncleanness, or both; and some, who, on account of their parts and

* These three—Messrs. Andrews, Barclay and Ogilvie, translated the book of common prayer into the Mohawk language, and an attempt was made in 1763 and again in 1766 to have it printed in New York, by Mr. Weyman. But the difficulty of printing such a language was found almost insurmountable, as there was not then "a Letter-Maker's foundry house" in the colonies. Weyman completed nine sheets, or as far as the 74th page, when he died bankrupt. In 1771, the work passed into the hands of Hugh Gaine, when 400 or 500 copies it is said, were printed.—*Doc. Hist. III.*, 1152.

learning, bid the fairest for usefulness, are sunk down into as low, savage, and brutish a manner of living as they were in before any endeavors were used with them to raise them up; and there are some of them I did, and do still, entertain hope that they were really the subjects of God's grace, who have wholly kept their garments unspotted amongst the pots. And six of those who did preserve a good character are now dead."*

Rev. Samuel Kirkland was for many years a distinguished missionary among the Oneidas. He was born in Norwich, Connecticut, December 1, 1741, and educated at Dr. Wheelock's Indian school. In 1761 he was sent to the Mohawk Indians to learn their language. He entered Princeton College in 1762, and in 1764 returned to the Mohawk country to teach school and perfect himself in that language. He received his collegiate degree in 1765, and in that and the following year was employed among the Senecas. July 19, 1766, he was ordained at Lebanon as an Indian missionary, and in July following took up his residence at Oneida Castle, continuing to labor among that tribe for forty years. In the summer of 1769, he married in Connecticut, Jerusha Bingham, an "excellent woman, well-fitted by her good sense and devout heart to become the wife of a missionary," with whom he soon returned to his chosen field of labor. He acquired great influence over the Oneidas, who were thus deterred from taking sides against the colonists during the Revolutionary war, during which he was in the employ of the United States as Chaplain. In 1779 he was Brigade Chaplain in General Sullivan's campaign against the Indians in Western New York. At the close of the war he remained with the Oneidas, and in 1788 assisted at the great Indian council for the extinction of

* *Wheelock's Narrative for 1771*, p. 19. *Doc. Hist. IV.*, 505.

One of these students, David Fowler, a Montauk Indian, "entered the Indian school at Lebanon, about 1759. He early showed an aptitude for agriculture, and it was Dr. Wheelock's opinion that he would make a good farmer if he should ever have the advantage of experience. In June, 1761, he accompanied Sampson Ocum to the Oneidas and returned in August with three Indian youths. He was approved as an Indian teacher in March, 1765, and set out accordingly for the Oneida Nation on the 27th of April. He shortly after wrote Dr. Wheelock the following letter from his new residence:—

KANAWAROHARE, in Oneida, June 15, 1765.

"HONORED AND REV. SIR—This is the twelfth day since I began my school; and eight of my scholars are now in the third page of their spelling book. I never saw children exceed these in learning. The number of my scholars is twenty-six, but it is difficult to keep them together; they are often roving about from place to place to get something to live upon. I am also teaching a singing school. They take great pleasure in learning to sing. We can already carry three parts of several tunes. I am well contented to live here, so long as I am in such great business. I believe I shall persuade the men in this castle, at least the most of them, to labor next year. They begin now to see that they could live better if they cultivated their lands than they do now by hunting and fishing.

"I ask the continuance of your prayers that God would give me grace, and fill my heart with love of God and compassion to perishing souls; and that God would make me an instrument of winning many souls to Christ, before I leave this world.

"Please to accept much love and respect, from your affectionate and unworthy pupil,
DAVID FOWLER."

"The famine which visited Western New York this year obliged the Oneidas to remove in search of food to another quarter, and David Fowler returned to New England for further aid. * * * He is stated to have been alive in 1811 at Oneida, an industrious farmer and useful man."—*Doc. Hist. IV.*, 353-4.

their title to the Genesee country. The Oneidas made him the recipient of a tract of land, and, so sensible was the State government of the value of his services, that, in 1789, it granted him a tract of land two miles square in the town of Kirkland, whither he removed. In 1792, he made a liberal endowment of land for the purpose of forming a school, which was originally called the *Hamilton Oneida Academy*, and was incorporated as *Hamilton College* May 26, 1812. He died after a life of much public usefulness February 28, 1808. He was a noble man, the friend of his race, both red man and white, and a long line of good deeds proclaim his zeal and liberality in promoting the interests of religion and learning. His labors among the Oneidas were in many instances attended with happy results; a large portion of the nation espousing the Christian religion while he was with them, among them the great chief, Skenandoah.*

In July, 1751, David Zeisberger and Gottfried Rundt visited Onondaga to request permission to reside there to learn the language of that nation, pursuant to the provisions of a treaty concluded with the Iroquois two years previously. "Shortly before they reached that town," says Loskiel, "they were met by twenty chiefs of the Oneida tribe, * * * who with great vehemence opposed their proceeding on their journey, pretending to be entirely ignorant of the covenant made between the Brethren and the Iroquois at Onondaga, and frequently repeating these words, 'You are wicked men, we have been warned against you by the white people, and therefore forbid you to proceed at your peril; what business have you to learn the language? other people are engaged to do that.' The Brethren did not suffer themselves to be so easily repulsed, and relying on the help of the Lord, desired that a solemn council might be held on the following day by the chiefs, to consider their business. This being granted, Brother Zeisberger addressed them so powerfully that they changed their minds, and having contemplated the strings of wampum, which the Brethren were carrying to the council in Onondaga, and considered their meaning, they granted them full liberty to proceed, adding:—'We

* *New York Colonial History; Jones' History of Oneida County; Williams' Early History of Clinton; Hammond's History of Madison County.*

An anonymous writer, in the *Massachusetts Historical Collection*, in 1792, thus refers to Mr. Kirkland's labors:—

"I cannot help being of the opinion that Indians * * * never were intended to live in a state of civilized society. There never was, I believe, an instance of an Indian forsaking his habits and savage manners, any more than a bear his ferocity.

"The Rev. Mr. Kirkland, who acts as missionary among the Oneidas, has taken all the pains that man can take, but his whole flock are Indians still, and like the bear which you can muffle and lead out to dance to the sound of music, becomes again a bear when his muffler is removed and the music ceases. The Indians will attend public worship and sing extremely well, following Mr. Kirkland's notes; but whenever the service is over, they wrap themselves in their blankets, and either stand like cattle on the sunny side of a house, or lie before a fire. This is their mode of passing life; even the bold energy of their forefathers, which was conspicuous in the chase, is unstrung in their descendants, and instead of sliding to the grave 'like a shock of corn in its full ear,' they become ripe for it in youth and often find it by the most disgraceful means."—*Doc. History 11*, 1105.

are convinced that your business is not a bad one, and that your words are true.'"

In 1816 a mission was established at Oneida Castle by Bishop Hobart, and Rev. Eleazer Williams, the putative son of Thomas Williams, a distinguished Mohawk Chief of the St. Regis tribe, was placed in charge. Mr. Williams was a descendant of Rev. John Williams, who, with his family and parishoners, were made captives by the Indians at Deerfield, Mass., in 1704. He was liberally educated, and officiated as lay-reader, catechist and school-teacher. His labors were eminently successful, and resulted in the conversion to Christianity of a large number of those who had hitherto been known as the pagan party. January 25, 1817, they sent to Governor De Witt Clinton an address adopted in council and signed by eleven of the head men of the nation, and expressed a desire to be known as the *Second Christian Party* of the Oneida Nation. In 1818, this party sold a piece of land for the erection of a chapel, which was dedicated as St. Peter's Church, September 21, 1819, by Bishop Hobart, who confirmed in all five hundred persons connected with this mission. Mr. Williams removed to Green Bay with a portion of the nation, and was succeeded in the mission here, in 1822, by Solomon Davis, who removed to the same place with another portion. The chapel was removed to Vernon in 1840.†

Rev. Dan Barnes established a Methodist mission among them in 1829. They were supplied at first by missionaries from among their own race, educated for the purpose, among whom were William and John Doxtater from Canada. Rev. Dan Barnes was their first white preacher after the establishment of the Methodist mission. He remained with them three years, and was the instrument of a revival more powerful than any they had hitherto experienced. The morals of the people, which had hitherto been sadly neglected, were now assiduously cultivated. The first Methodist mission chapel was built at the Orchard,‡ in the south-west corner of Vernon, and it, together with the land, was sold in 1833, by the company of Indians who removed in that year to Green Bay. Another house was soon after erected in the same locality, near their burying ground. About the same time the "Windfall party" built a meeting house, about three miles south of Oneida Castle, in the town of Lenox.

* *Mission of the United Brethren, II*, 141.

† Mr. Williams was at one time the subject of considerable speculation as to his being heir to the throne of France. It was said, and an effort was made to prove, that he was the lost Dauphin, the son of Louis XVII., whose fate was enshrouded in mystery.—*Hammond's History of Madison County.*

‡ Named from an old and very large orchard in the south-west corner of Vernon, which was set out by the Indians long before the first white settlers came in, at which time it is said to have been an old orchard. From it the Indians living in that locality are known as the "Orchard Party."

The Brotherton Indians were adopted by the Oneidas during the latter half of the eighteenth century. They located mostly upon and near the Oriskany in the town of Marshall, Oneida County. They derived their name from the fact of their being a union of many tribes, or brothers. Having no common language, they adopted that of the English. Rev. Sampson Occum, a highly educated Mohegan Indian, was a celebrated preacher in this tribe, with whom he remained many years in that capacity. He visited England to solicit aid for the Indian school at Lebanon, Connecticut, and while there was the recipient of many marked favors, occupying the pulpits of "the noblest chapels in the kingdom," including Whitfield's and the chapel of George III., before whom he preached, and by whom he was presented with a gold-mounted cane, which he carried during his subsequent life. He possessed a cultivated mind and pleasing manners, and was often called upon by the early white settlers to preach, attend funerals and solemnize marriages. He died at New Stockbridge in 1792.

The Stockbridge Indians, who derived their name from that of their native home in Massachusetts, were ministered to by Rev. John Sergeant, who came with them and established a church immediately after their settlement at Stockbridge. Sixteen of the four hundred and twenty then composing the tribe, constituted the original membership of this church. Mr. Sergeant regularly spent six months of the year at New Stockbridge till 1796, when he removed here with his family and continued to reside with them till his death, September 7, 1824, having served these Indians as missionary for thirty-six years. In 1796, the Legislature granted him a patent for a mile square adjoining Stockbridge, which was presented to him by the Indians. In 1818, about one-fourth of the tribe removed to the west. In 1821, the Six Nations, together with the Stockbridge, St. Regis and Munsee tribes, purchased of the Menominees and Winnebagoes a large tract of land upon Green Bay, and the Winnebago and Fox rivers in Wisconsin. In 1822, a large part of the tribe remaining removed to that territory, and the rest soon followed. There they have made considerable advances in civilization, and are generally sober and industrious.*

We copy from *Mrs. Hammond's History of Madison County* the following sketch of the illustrious Skenandoah, which originally appeared in *Jones' Oneida* :—

" * * * the name which stands more prominently upon the page of history, and which will be remembered until the original inhabitants of this continent are forgotten, is that of Skenandoah, the white man's friend. He was born about the year 1706, but of his younger days little or nothing is known. It has

* *Hammond's History of Madison County.*

been stated, but upon what authority the writer does not know, that he was not an Oneida by birth, but was a native of a tribe living a long distance to the north-west, and was adopted by the Oneidas when a young man. * * * In his youth and early manhood, Skenandoah was very savage and intemperate. In 1755, while attending upon a treaty in Albany, he became excessively drunk at night, and in the morning found himself divested of all his ornaments and clothing. His pride revolting at his self-degradation, he resolved never again to place himself under the power of *fire-water*, a resolution which it is believed he kept to the end of his life. In appearance he was noble, dignified and commanding, being in height much over six feet, and the tallest Indian in his nation. He possessed a powerful frame, for at the age of eighty-five he was a full match for any member of his tribe, either as to strength, or speed on foot; his powers of endurance were equal to his size and physical power. But it was to his eloquence and mental powers, he owed his reputation and influence. His person was tattooed, or marked in a peculiar manner. There were nine lines arranged by threes extending downward from each shoulder, and meeting upon the chest, made by introducing some dark coloring matter under the skin. He was, in his riper years, one of the noblest counselors among the North American tribes; he possessed a vigorous mind, and was alike sagacious, active and persevering. As an enemy he was terrible—as a friend and ally he was mild and gentle in his disposition, and faithful to his engagements. His vigilance once preserved from massacre the inhabitants of the little settlement of German Flats; and in the Revolutionary war his influence induced the Oneidas to take up arms in favor of the Americans. Soon after Mr. Kirkland established his mission at Oneida, Skenandoah embraced the doctrines of the gospel, and for the rest of his life he lived a consistent Christian. He often repeated the wish that he might be buried by the side of his old teacher and spiritual father; that he might go up with him at the great resurrection; and several times in the latter years of his life he made the journey from Oneida to Clinton, hoping to die there. Although he could speak but little English, and in his extreme old age was blind, yet his company was sought. In conversation he was highly decorous, evincing that he had profited by seeing civilized and polished society in his better days. He evinced constant care not to give pain by any remark or reply. * * * To a friend who called upon him a short time before his decease, he thus expressed himself by an interpreter: 'I am an aged hemlock; the winds of an hundred winters have whistled through my branches; I am dead at the top. The generation to which I belonged has run away and left me; why I live the Great Good Spirit only knows; pray to my Jesus that I may have patience to wait for my appointed time to die.' * * *

"After listening to the prayers read at his bed-side by his great-grand-daughter, Skenandoah yielded up his spirit on the 11th day of March, 1816, aged about one hundred and ten years. Agreeably to a promise made by the family of Mr. Kirkland, his remains were brought to Clinton, and buried by the side of his spiritual father. Services were attended in the Congregational meeting-house in Clinton, and an address

was made to the Indians by Dr. Backus, President of Hamilton College, interpreted by Judge Dean; and after prayer and singing appropriate psalms, the corpse was carried to the grave, preceded by the students of the college, and followed in order by the Indians, Mr. Kirkland and family, Judge Dean, Rev. Dr. Norton, Rev. Mr. Ayres, officers of the college and citizens.

"Skenandoah was buried in the garden of Mr. Kirkland, a short distance south of the road leading up to the college. A handsome monument stands in the college burying ground, with the following inscription:—

"SKENANDOAH. This monument is erected by the Northern Missionary Society, in testimony of their respect for the memory of Skenandoah, who died in peace and hope of the Gospel, on the 11th of March, 1816. Wise, eloquent and brave, he long swayed the Councils of his Tribe, whose confidence and affection he eminently enjoyed. In the war which placed the Canadas under Great Britain, he was actively engaged against the French; in that of the Revolution, he espoused that of the Colonies, and ever afterwards remained a firm friend to the United States. Under the Ministry of Rev. Mr. Kirkland he embraced the doctrines of the Gospel; and having exhibited their power in a long life, adorned by every Christian virtue, he fell asleep in Jesus at the advanced age of 100 years."

CHAPTER VI.

INDIAN TITLE EXTINGUISHED—LINE OF PROPERTY—TREATY AND CESSION OF 1784—MASSACHUSETTS' CLAIMS—TREATIES AND CESSIONS OF 1785, 1788 AND 1795—CHENANGO TWENTY TOWNSHIPS—MILITARY TRACT—ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE TWENTY TOWNSHIPS—AREA OF TWENTY TOWNSHIPS—THE GORE—BRAKEL TOWNSHIP—ROAD TOWNSHIP—PROCEEDS OF GOSPEL AND SCHOOL LOTS IN TWENTY TOWNSHIPS MISAPPROPRIATED—THE GORE IN OXFORD—FAYETTE TOWNSHIP—CLINTON TOWNSHIP—HARPER PATENT—TOWNSHIP OF GREENE—LIVINGSTON TRACT—FRENCH TRACT—CHENANGO TRIANGLE—VERMONT SUFFERERS—ONEIDA RESERVATION—NEW PETERSBURGH TRACT—CANASTOTA TRACT—COWASSELON TRACT—OTHER MINOR TRACTS IN MADISON COUNTY.

UNTIL after the close of the Revolutionary war, in 1783, the territory embraced in the present Counties of Chenango and Madison was included in the indefinite Indian domain, the east line of which, known as the *Line of Property*, was established by a treaty held at Fort Stanwix November 5, 1768, and extended from a point on Wood Creek, near the mouth of Canada Creek, thence to the head waters of the Unadilla, down that stream to its mouth, and thence south to the line of Pennsylvania. By a treaty held at Fort Stanwix (Rome) October 22, 1784, the

Iroquois ceded to the Federal Government a large portion of the land west of that line, then known as Western New York.* By treaties made by the State in 1785 and 1788, the Indian title to the major portions of the two counties was extinguished; and in 1795 further portions of the Oneida Reservation in Madison County were ceded to the State.

June 28, 1785, Gov. George Clinton, in behalf of the State, negotiated a treaty with the Oneidas and Tuscaroras at Fort Herkimer, by which the latter, in consideration of the receipt of eleven thousand, five hundred dollars in goods and money, ceded the territory bounded as follows:—

"Beginning at the mouth of the Unadilla or Tianaderha river, where the same empties into the Susquehanna; thence up the said Unadilla or Tianaderha river ten miles, measured on a straight line; thence due west to the Chenango river; thence southerly down the Chenango river to where it empties into the Susquehanna river, and to the line, commonly called the *line of property*, established at a treaty held at Fort Stanwix in the year 1768; thence along the said line to the place of beginning."

By this treaty the State acquired all that part of Chenango county lying south of the south line of the town of Norwich and east of the Chenango River, in addition to much other territory without the bounds of this county. This tract was soon after disposed of by the State to patentees.

September 22, 1788, Governor Clinton effected a second treaty at Fort Schuyler (Utica) by which all the lands owned by the various nations then treating, except certain reservations, were ceded to the State.

Some of the Indians had the prescience to understand what would be the inevitable result of these large cessions of their dominion. An Oneida sachem, with an apparent forecast of the destiny of his race, gave a happy and forcible illustration of this when the cession of 1788 was made. At the conclusion of the treaty, the sachem in question seated himself on a log close beside Governor Clinton, who, with becoming courtesy, moved to make room. His example was followed by the sachem, who again seated himself in close proximity to the Governor, whereupon the latter again moved, but only to be followed as before by the sachem. This was repeated till at last the Governor found himself off the log, when he inquired

* Claims were established by Massachusetts under Colonial Patents to the right of soil of a large portion of Western New York, and were confirmed by a Commission appointed by the two governments, which met at Hartford, Conn., December 16, 1786, and which, while it reserved to New York the right of sovereignty, conceded to Massachusetts the right to pre-empt the soil from the native Indians of all that tract of land lying west of a line, known as the *Pre-emption Line*, extending north from the eighty-second mile-stone from the Delaware River at the north-east corner of Pennsylvania, through Geneva and Sodus Bay, on the meridian of Washington, (except a tract a mile wide along Niagara River,) and an additional tract east of that line, known as the *Boston Ten Towns*, lying in the Counties of Broome, Tioga and Cortland. Certain reservations were excepted by subsequent treaties with the Indians.

the meaning of this singular conduct. The Oneida significantly replied:—"Just so white man crowd poor Indian; keep crowding; keep crowding; by and by crowd him clear off! Where poor Indian then?"

February 25, 1789, the Legislature passed an act directing the Surveyor-General, Simeon Dewitt, to lay out and survey in the lands acquired by the latter treaty, and immediately north of those acquired by the former one of 1785, twenty townships, each to be as nearly five hundred chains square as the circumstances would admit, and subdivided into four equal sections, and lots of two hundred and fifty acres each. The townships were to be numbered from one to twenty, and the lots from one to one hundred. Two lots in each township, as near the center as might be, were to be designated one gospel and the other school lot, and reserved for religious and educational purposes. After the completion of the survey, which was finished in 1789 and 1790, the Commissioners of the Land Office, by and with the advice of the Surveyor-General, were to select five of the choicest of these twenty townships, which were to be sold only for gold or silver, or to redeem certain bonds which the State had issued in the form of bills of credit. They were farther required to affix to the lands such price as was best calculated to effect a ready sale, and at the same time ensure the greatest revenue to the State Treasury; but were restricted in the exercise of this discretion to a minimum of three shillings per acre. The commissioners were required to give not to exceed three months' public notice of the contemplated sale, by advertising in the papers published in the cities of Albany and New York, in the latter of which the sales were to take place. The sales took place, but owing to the brief notice and the imperfect means of travel and communication, they were lightly attended, and the "towns in many cases fell naturally, easily and unavoidably into the hands of jobbers and wealthy capitalists, who were in attendance upon legislative action, and always on the alert for lucrative investments,"* and who immediately advanced the price of small purchases to twenty shillings per acre.

This tract is now variously known as the *Governor's Purchase* and the *Chenango Twenty Townships*. It extends in general terms from the Unadilla to the *Gore*, and from the north lines of Smithville, Oxford and Guilford to the south lines of Fenner, Smithfield and Stockbridge, in Madison County, and Augusta and Marshall, in Oneida County. In the effort to make the township lines straight, small angular pieces were left bordering the Unadilla. It was at first supposed that it filled the interval between the Unadilla

* Clark's History of Chenango County.

and the Military Tract;* but owing to a misapprehension in fixing upon the point of departure and a variation of the compass, there was left between the west line of the Twenty Townships and the east line of the Military Tract a strip which was denominated the *Gore*, which extended from north to south the entire length of the Twenty Townships, being slightly wider at the north end than the south.† The Twenty Townships were for many years designated by the numbers assigned to them by the Commissioners of the Land Office, but this practice has lapsed into disuse, so that it would now be as difficult for the majority of the present inhabitants of the county to designate a township by its number as it would have been for the early settlers to have designated it by name. We append a list of the names by which the towns are at present known in connection with the numbers by which they were originally designated, though there have been slight changes in the outlines of some of them, the principal of which are the addition of parts of ten and fifteen to sixteen, and of fourteen to fifteen.

Township No. 1	is now known as	Nelson.
" 2	"	" Eaton.
" 3	"	" Madison.
" 4	"	" Hamilton.
" 5	"	" Lebanon.
" 6	"	" Georgetown.
" 7	"	" Otselic.
" 8	"	" Smyrna.
" 9	"	" Sherburne.

* The Military Tract embracing the present counties of Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga, Cortland and parts of Wayne, Steuben and Oswego, was set apart for the payment of land bounties to the Soldiers of the Revolution under the laws of Congress and of this State. September 16, 1776, Congress passed an act, stipulating that each non-commissioned officer and private should receive one hundred acres of land, and each commissioned officer a proportionately increased quantity, corresponding with the grade of his rank. March 20, 1781, the State Legislature made provision for the enlistment of two regiments, and as an inducement to promote enlistments offered bounties of land. July 25, 1782, certain lands were set apart for the payment of these bounties. March 27, 1783, after the close of the war, the State Legislature made provision for the redemption of these promises, and enacted that each non-commissioned officer and private, whose residence was in the State at the time of his enlistment, should receive five hundred acres of land in addition to the one hundred acres offered by the general government, and each commissioned officer a proportionately increased quantity, corresponding with the grade of his rank, that which had been promised being designated as *bounty*, and that which had not, as *gratuity*, lands. The original acts granting these lands were subsequently modified and amended from time to time. February 28, 1789, the Commissioners of the Land Office were authorized to direct the Surveyor-General to lay out as many townships, of sixty thousand acres each, as was necessary to satisfy the claims arising under these acts; and April 22, 1789, that officer was directed to lay out by actual survey twenty-five townships. The survey of twenty-six townships was completed, and July 3, 1790, was presented to the Commissioners of the Land Office, consisting of the Governor, George Clinton; the Lieut.-Governor, Pierre Van Cortlandt; the Speaker of the Assembly, Guleen Verplanck; the Secretary of State, Lewis Allaire Scott; the Attorney-General, Aaron Burr; the Treasurer, Gerardus Bancker; and the Auditor, Peter T. Curteneus, who numbered and named the lots and townships, making the names perpetuate the names of Rome's military heroes and sages. *Galen* was added in 1792, to comply with the law requiring grants for hospitals, and *Sterling*, in 1795, to meet the still unsatisfied claims for bounty lands.

† The actual length of the north line of the *Gore* as surveyed was 352 chains and 80 links; that of the south line, 326 chains and 75 links.

Township No. 10 is now known as North Norwich.				
" " 11 " " " Plymouth.	"	"	"	"
" " 12 " " " Pharsalia.	"	"	"	"
" " 13 " " " McDonough.	"	"	"	"
" " 14 " " " Preston.	"	"	"	"
" " 15 " " " Norwich.	"	"	"	"
" " 16 " " " New Berlin.	"	"	"	"
" " 17 " " " Columbus.	"	"	"	"
" " 18 " " " Brookfield.	"	"	"	"
" " 19 " " " "	"	"	"	"
" " 20 " " " Sangerfield.	"	"	"	"

The *Gore* comprises the present towns of German, Pitcher, Lincklaen, DeRuyter and the southern and larger half of Cazenovia.

Purchases of the Twenty Townships were made pursuant to an act passed March 22, 1791, amendatory of an act previously passed for the disposition of the lands of the State. The following applications are recorded and marked accepted.

Leonard M. Cutting applied for No. 15, containing 25,000 acres, at the rate of three shillings and one farthing per acre, 600 £ to be paid on or before October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, one on or before April 1, 1793, and another on or before February 1, 1794. He further applied for Nos. 11 and 14, containing 50,000 acres, at three shillings and three pence per acre, one-sixth to be paid October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, one, April 1, 1792, the other January 1, 1793.

James Tallmadge and Ezra Thompson applied for No. 10, containing 25,000 acres, at the rate of three shillings per acre, one-sixth part to be paid October 1, 1791, and the remainder in two equal installments, the first May 1, 1792, and the second January 1, 1793.

Michael Myers, Jedediah Sanger and John J. Morgan applied for Nos. 18 and 20 and the unsold portions of 19, containing 67,130 acres, the first two at the rate of three shillings and three pence per acre, and the last at three shillings and one penny, one-sixth payable October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, the first April 1, 1792, the second January 1, 1793.

John Taylor applied for the unsold portions of Nos. 16 and 17, containing 43,377 acres, at the rate of three shillings and three pence per acre, one-sixth payable in six months, one-half the residue in one year, and the other half in eighteen months from date, which is not given.

Col. William S. Smith applied for Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9, containing 150,000 acres, at the rate of three shillings and three pence per acre, one-sixth to be paid October 1, 1791, one-half the residue January 1, 1792, and the other half January 1, 1793.

Alexander Webster, Edward Savage and John Williams applied for No. 1, containing 25,000 acres, at three shillings and three pence per acre, one-sixth to be paid October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, the first April 1, 1792, the second January 1, 1793.

White Matlack and Jacob Hallet applied for Nos. 12 and 13, at three shillings and five pence per acre, one-sixth to be paid October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, the first January 1, 1792, the second January 1, 1793.

Robert C. Livingston applied for No. 7, containing 25,000 acres, at three shillings and six pence per acre, one-sixth to be paid October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, one January 1, 1792, the other January 1, 1793.

An application was made by Thomas Ludlow and Josiah Shippey for two townships, (not designated,) containing 50,000 acres, at three shillings and five pence per acre, one-sixth payable October 1, 1791, and the residue in two equal payments, one January 1, 1792, and one January 1, 1793. No. 6 was the only one not covered by previous applications.

Those who applied, however, did not, in all cases, it appears, consummate the purchase. The first certificate of purchase was issued November 2, 1792, and the first patent was granted December 29, 1792, to Leonard M. Cutting, for the 15th township. The west part of No. 14, 7,049 acres, was purchased by Melanchthon Smith and Marinus Willett, November 3, 1792; and the east part, by Mr. Cutting, November 9, 1792, at which time he also bought the 11th township. The patents for the respective purchases were dated June 1st, and January 28, 1793. Robert C. Livingston purchased the 7th township January 12, 1793, and received a patent therefor on the 31st of the same month. William S. Smith purchased the townships for which he made application. His certificate was issued April 6, 1793; and patent, April 16, 1794. The 10th township was bought by the applicants, both of whom were supposed to be residents of Dutchess County; so also was the 12th, for which the certificate was issued April 6, 1793. The 10th was patented to James Tallmadge, January 13, 1793; and the 12th to William Matlack, Sr., April 16, 1794. The certificate for the 13th township, which was bought by Thomas Ludlow and Josiah Shippey, was issued February 6, 1793. The patent was issued to the same parties March 2, 1793. John Taylor bought Nos. 16 and 17, February 2, 1793. His patent was issued February 14, 1793. Nos. 1, 18, 19 and 20, were bought by the applicants; and No. 6 by Messrs. Ludlow and Shippey. No. 1 was patented to Alex. Webster June 4, 1793; Nos. 18,

19 and 20, to John J. Morgan May 3, 1793; and No. 6 to Thos. Ludlow, Jr., March 2, 1793.*

The whole of the Twenty Townships were embraced in Chenango County at its organization; but the 20th was transferred to Oneida County April 4, 1804; and the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 18th and 19th were set off when Madison County was erected, March 21, 1806.

The *Gore*, to which reference has been previously made, was purchased by John W. Watkins and Augustus Sackett and by John W. Watkins and Royal Flint. Messrs. Watkins and Sackett bought 15,000 acres in the south part, which now constitutes the town of German, at three shillings and five pence half-penny per acre; and Messrs. Watkins and Flint, that portion extending from the south line of Cazenovia to the south line of Pitcher, embracing 41,000 acres, at three shillings and eight pence per acre. These two tracts were known as *Brakel Township*. The remaining portion, extending from a line in prolongation of the north line of Nelson to the south line of Cazenovia, was known as the *Road Township*, from the fact that the proceeds arising from its sale were to be applied to the construction of roads. This, together with the previous tract, soon after came into the possession of the Holland Land Company through the instrumentality of Theophilus Cazenove, their agent, through whom the Holland Purchase in the Genesee country was also obtained.

Notwithstanding reservations of gospel and school lots were provided for by law in each of the Twenty Townships, the lots set apart for that purpose were unscrupulously sold for the benefit of the State. The early New England settlers, who protested that they were in a large measure induced to settle by reason of this provision for religious and educational purposes, justly regarded this action as an outrage, and in response to their earnest and persistent remonstrance, reparation was made in 1805 by the appropriation of a corresponding number of lots of like dimension in the Canastota tract, in Madison County, to be devoted to that purpose.

The other tracts of land in the county were: that portion of the town of Oxford lying west of Chenango River and east of a line in prolongation of the west line of the fourteenth township till it reached the Chenango, which was also known as the *Gore*, embracing 6,000 acres, and which was originally sold at four

shillings and one penny per acre, to Melanchthon Smith and Marinus Willett, who subsequently divided it into sixty-nine lots of nearly uniform size; the *Township of Fayette*, which embraced the town of Guilford, most of that part of Oxford lying east of the Chenango, and a small part of the north-east part of Coventry, which was surveyed and subdivided into one hundred lots of about six hundred and forty acres each, and patented by the State to various individuals; the *Township of Clinton*, which was subdivided in the same manner as *Fayette*, and embraced the towns of Afton, Bainbridge and the Harper Patent, which comprised sixteen thousand acres granted by letters patent to Robert Harper, January 4, 1787, and was by him divided into lots of one thousand to two thousand acres each, and re-sold to various individuals; the *Township of Greene*, which embraced that part of the town of Greene lying east of the Chenango, the western part of the town of Coventry, and a portion of Oxford, and in the eastern part of which was a tract of 16,138 acres, granted by the State to Walter Livingston in 1788, and by him subdivided into one hundred and fifty-two lots of about one hundred and six acres each, according to the field book of Rickitson Burlingame, who surveyed the tract, (the residue of the *Township of Greene*, 15,835 acres, granted to Malachi Treat and Wm. W. Morris in 1787 or '88, and called the *French Tract*, was surveyed by their agent, Charles BoLyne assisted by Captain John Harris, a surveyor, and subdivided into one hundred and fifty lots of various sizes, exclusive of the French village plot on the east side of the Chenango, in the village of Greene;) and the easterly portion of the *Chenango Triangle*, which comprised the lands embraced in the angle of the Chenango and Tioughnioga rivers, extending as far north as the south line of the Military Tract, the *Gore* and the Chenango Twenty Towns, and east to that part of the town of Oxford which was originally sold to Melanchthon Smith and Marinus Willett. This tract was purchased by Col. William S. Smith in 1791, at three shillings and three pence per acre. It was divided into four townships, numbers 1, 2 and 3 ranging from west to east across the northern portion, and number four occupying the remaining and southern portion. Parts of numbers two and three constitute the town of Smithville. The residue of number three is partly in Oxford and partly in Greene. The remaining portions of numbers two and four lying in this county are in the town of Greene. Number one and parts of numbers two and four are now in Broome county.

A part of *Clinton Township* was devoted to the relief of the *Vermont Sufferers*, a class of people who had purchased lands of this State in the present State of Vermont, on territory to which both New York and

* Following is the number of acres contained in each township, as indicated by the patent:—

No. 1.....	27,187 acres.	No. 11.....	26,200 acres.
" 2.....	25,245 "	" 12.....	24,185 "
" 3.....	24,624 "	" 13.....	24,218 "
" 4.....	24,400 "	" 14.....	26,010 "
" 5.....	26,200 "	" 15.....	25,115 "
" 6.....	24,184 "	" 16.....	18,713 "
" 7.....	24,180 "	" 17.....	18,058 "
" 8.....	25,780 "	" 18.....	22,565 "
" 9.....	24,205 "	" 19.....	20,750 "
" 10.....	24,200 "	" 20.....	24,856 "

New Hampshire laid claim, and to which, after a long and angry discussion, New York surrendered her claim, when Vermont became an independent State.

- That part of the county of Madison lying north of the Twenty Townships and the Gore was embraced in the Oneida Reservation when the cession of 1788 was made. A large part of this tract was acquired by the State in 1795, and by subsequent purchases made at various times, the Reservation within this county had been reduced to very narrow limits. The last treaty was held in 1840, "when they ceded all their lands held in common and received individual portions."* The territory so ceded was cut up into large tracts.

The principal one of these divisions was the *New Petersburgh Tract*, which was leased of the Indians in 1794, for a term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, by Peter Smith, from whom it derives its name. The tract comprised fifty thousand acres, and embraced nearly all of Smithfield and Fenner, that part of Cazenovia lying north of the *Gore*, a part of Stockbridge, and a large portion of Augusta in Oneida county. It was included in the cession of 1795. Much of the eastern part of the tract had been leased by Mr. Smith to settlers, previous to the extinguishment of the Indian title, for a term of twenty-one years. In 1797 the Legislature made provision to grant patents to those who held these leases, on the payment of \$3.53½ per acre. Mr. Smith, in consideration of his original lease, was allowed a reduction on the 22,299½ acres not leased, which made the cost to him about two dollars per acre. The tract was divided into four allotments, the first of which contained seventy-four lots fifty-five of which were located in Augusta, fourteen in Stockbridge, and five in Smithfield. The patents to lessees covered portions of this allotment, which ceased from that time to be distinguished as a part of the *New Petersburgh Tract*.

The Oneidas were then divided into two parties, known respectively as *Christian* and *Pagan*, the

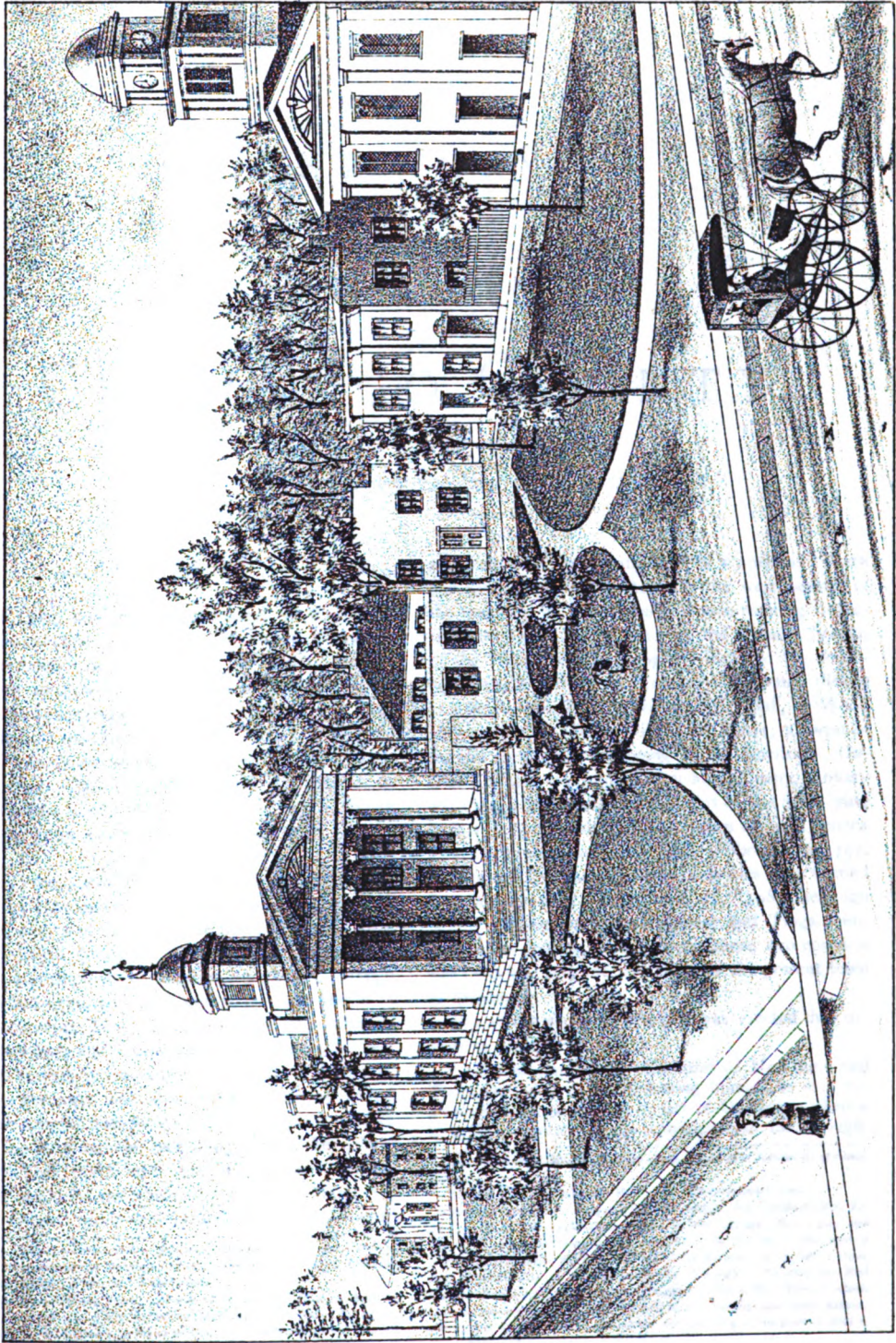
former, with the famous Skenandoah at the head, favoring, and the latter opposing the lease to Mr. Smith.

The *Canastota Tract* comprised ninety-one lots in the town of Lenox, and extended from the shore of Oneida Lake to within about a half mile of the Seneca Turnpike. In 1805, ten thousand acres, the major part of this tract, was appropriated as a substitute for the gospel and school lands in the Chenango Twenty Towns, the proceeds of which had been unauthorizedly appropriated to the State funds. The avails of these lands have been thus applied.

The *Cowasselon Tract* was purchased from the State in 1797, by Dr. Enoch Leonard. It comprises twenty-five lots, lying in two tiers in the north part of Fenner, between the Chittenango and Cowasselon creeks, and from the fact of its being a mile in width is also known as the *Mile Strip*. It was a cession from the Reservation of the Oneidas.

Various other small tracts have been ceded from time to time in the towns of Lenox, Stockbridge and Sullivan; among which are the *East Hill Tract* and *West Hill Tract* in Stockbridge, the former comprising fifty and the latter forty-two lots; also the *Mile Strip*, *Oneida Creek Tract* and *New Guinea Tract* in the same town; all ceded, at different times, between the years 1822 and 1830; the *Two Mile Strip*, of twenty-four lots, in four tiers, two of which are in the west part of Lenox, and two in the east part of Sullivan, the south line being a part of the south line of those towns; to the west of this six lots, commonly designated as *West of Two Mile Strip*; a tract of eight lots to the north of *Two Mile Strip*; the *Bell Tract* of fourteen lots, purchased by an Englishman named Bell, and extending on both sides of the Central railroad from Canaseraga Creek to Chittenango Creek; the *Forty Rod Strip*, north of the *Bell Tract*, bought of the State by Dr. Jonas Fay; and the *Varrick Location*, purchased of the State by Richard Varrick, of New York City, the latter three lying in the town of Sullivan.

**Hough's State Gazetteer*, which also says cessions were made in 1796, 1798, 1802, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1815, 1817, 1824, 1826 and 1827.



COUNTY BUILDINGS, NORWICH, CHENANGO CO. N. Y.

HISTORY

-OF-

CHENANGO COUNTY.

CHAPTER VII.

EARLY CIVIL DIVISIONS—FORMATION OF CHENANGO COUNTY—ITS BOUNDARIES—ORIGINAL TOWNS IN CHENANGO COUNTY—ORIGIN OF NAME—TOPOGRAPHY OF SURFACE—AREA—STREAMS AND PONDS—THE SUSQUEHANNA—THE UNADILLA—THE CHENANGO—THE OTSELIC—SOILS—CLIMATE—DEATH RATE OF CHENANGO COUNTY—INDUSTRIES—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS—DAIRY INTERESTS OF CHENANGO COUNTY—COMPARISONS WITH OTHER COUNTIES IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

THE Province of New York was divided into counties November 1, 1683, and the counties then formed, twelve in number, were named from the titles of the Royal family.* Albany county, one of the twelve, was the first civil division to which Chenango county belonged, and then embraced "the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, Schenectady and all the villages, neighborhoods and Christian plantations on the east side of Hudson's river, from Roeloffe Jansen's Creek; and on the west side from Sawyer's Creek to the outermost end of Saraghtoga." By subsequent statutes it was made to include everything within the colony of New York north and west of its present limits, and, at one time, the whole of Vermont. March 12, 1772, Tryon† county was formed from Albany county

* These original counties were: Albany, Cornwall (now in Maine,) Dukes, (now in Massachusetts,) Dutchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester.

† Named from William Tryon, Colonial Governor, and changed April 1, 1784, in consequence of Tryon's manifest disloyalty to the colonies during the Revolution, to Montgomery, in honor of Gen. Richard Montgomery, who fell at the capture of Quebec.

and comprised the country west of a north and south line extending from St. Regis to the west bounds of the township of Schenectady, thence running irregularly south-west to the head of the Mohawk branch of the Delaware, and along the same to the south-east bounds of the present county of Broome; thence in a north-westerly direction to Fort Bull, on Wood Creek, near the present village of Rome; all west of the last mentioned line being Indian territory. Ontario* county was formed from Montgomery, January 27, 1789, and included all that part of the State lying west of a north and south line drawn through Seneca Lake, two miles east of Geneva. February 16, 1791, Herkimer,† Otsego and Tioga‡ counties were formed from Montgomery; and March 15, 1798, Chenango county was erected from Herkimer and Tioga counties. The dividing line between those two counties was on a line with the south line of the present town of Sherburne.

The act by which the county was erected thus defines its boundaries:—

"All that part of the Counties of Herkimer and Tioga, included in the following bounds, to wit: beginning at the south-east corner of Onondaga, thence in a direct course to the confluence of the Tiough-

* Named from the lake of the same name, which then formed its northern boundary.

† Named from Gen. Nicholas Herkimer of Revolutionary fame.

‡ Written in Morgan's *League of the Iroquois*, in the Oneida dialect, *Te-ah-o-ga*; in the Mohawk, *Ti-yo-ga-ga*; in the Cayuga, *Da-a-o-ga*; and Seneca, *Da-yo-o-gah*, meaning "at the forks." In the text of that work it is written *Ti-yo-o-ga*, the first *a* having the broad sound as in *fall*. Upon Guy Johnson's map of 1771, it is written *Ti-a-o-ga*. The eloquent Red Jacket pronounced it *Tah-ah-o-gah*, discarding the suffix "Point," which has been universally added when applied to the locality now called Athens, saying, that the Indian word carried the full meaning—"the point of land at the confluence of two streams," or "the meeting of the waters."

nioga and Chenango rivers; thence up the last mentioned river to the north-west corner of a tract of land granted to John Jay and others; thence along the north bounds thereof, and the same line continued until it meets the west line of Clinton township; thence along the same south to the most north-westerly corner of the town of Warren; thence easterly on the division line between the said townships of Clinton and Warren, to the line of property; thence northerly along the west bounds of the Counties of Delaware and Otsego, to the town of Bridgewater in Herkimer County; thence on the southerly and westerly line thereof to the north bounds of the Twenty Towns, so called; thence along the same westerly to the south-west corner of lot No. 50 in the first allotment of a tract of land called New Petersborough; thence northerly on the west line of said lot No. 50 and 69, to the south line of New Stockbridge; thence the shortest line to the main branch of the Oneida Creek; thence northerly down said creek to the Oneida Lake; thence westerly along the southerly shore of the Oneida Lake to the County of Onondaga; thence southerly along the said County of Onondaga to the place of beginning."

Chenango county derives its name from the river which flows centrally through it. It is an interior county lying south-east of the center of the State, and is centrally distant ninety-four miles from Albany. It is bounded on the north by Madison county, on the east by Otsego and Delaware counties, on the south by Broome county, and on the west by Broome and Cortland counties. It contains 546,956 acres.* It is geographically situated between 42° 12' and 42° 44' north latitude, and 1° 2' and 1° 36' east longitude from Washington. Its greatest length is about forty miles and greatest width about thirty-four miles.†

There were only eight towns within the original bounds of Chenango County at the date of its erection; but two, De Ruyter and Greene, were organized at the same time. Each covered a very large area. They were *Jericho*, (Bainbridge,) formed February 16, 1791; Norwich and Oxford, January 19, 1793; and Brookfield, Cazenovia, Hamilton, Sangerfield and Sherburne, March 5, 1795. The earlier towns in the State, however, had a much larger area. Whitestown, formed March 7, 1788, included an indefinite amount of territory, practically all that part

* Assessment of 1878. The *Census* of 1875 says it contains 534,800 acres; the *State Gazetteer*, 574,730 (898 square miles); Clark, (1850) 514,800; and Spafford, (1824) 499,300.

† The subjoined table shows the number of acres of improved land in each town in 1824 and 1875:—

	1824.	1875.		1824.	1875.
Afton*		17,582	Otaelic	1,369	16,797
Bainbridge	10,444	14,446	Oxford	10,009	24,153
Columbus	9,904	17,714	Pharsalia	3,939	15,730
Coventry	7,136	21,330	Pitcher†		12,782
German	7,350	11,633	Plymouth	5,452	18,198
Greene	10,587	31,707	Preston	6,935	16,737
Guilford	11,858	28,236	Sherburne	10,595	21,466
Lincklaen‡		11,871	Smithville	8,088	21,965
McDonough	2,555	17,885	Smyna	6,722	19,221
New Berlin	4,399	20,543			
North Norwich		12,289			
Norwich	14,551	21,441	Total,	116,895	396,155

* Afton included in Bainbridge.

† Lincklaen included in German.

‡ North Norwich included in Norwich.

§ Pitcher included in German.

of the State lying west of Utica. It had at that time a population of less than two hundred. Sangerfield was transferred to Oneida County April 4, 1804; and Madison County was formed from Chenango County March 21, 1806.

The surface is a hilly upland, broken by the deep ravines of the streams. The highlands consist of two principal ridges, extending north and south, the first lying between the Unadilla and Chenango rivers, and the second between the Chenango and Otselic. These ridges are subdivided by numerous parallel and lateral valleys, and their declivities are often too steep for profitable cultivation. The summits are broad and rolling, and of nearly uniform elevation throughout the county. The highest points are six hundred to eight hundred feet above the principal valleys.*

The following excellent topographical sketch was published in the *Oxford Gazette* in 1823:—

"The principal part of the county lies in the region of what is called the grand Alleghany ridge of mountains; its surface is therefore elevated and hilly; the hills run generally in a north-easterly and south-westerly direction and are separated by valleys of moderate width. The Susquehanna River runs across the south-east corner of the county, and opens a wide and beautiful valley of intervalle land of a superior quality, extending from the south-east line of the county, to the mouth of the Unadilla river, winding a distance of about fourteen miles. The hills on the sides of the river are precipitous and lofty, approaching almost to the character of mountains; and formerly were thickly covered with the towering and majestic white-pine, so justly styled the pride of the American forest. This valley, with a slight interruption, continues up the Unadilla river to the north line of the county, presenting a tract of uncommonly fine and fertile land, particularly adapted to the cultivation of grain. It is of various widths, expanding towards the west as you proceed up the river.

"At a distance of a few miles west of this valley lie the elevated towns of Coventry, Guilford, the eastern section of Greene, Oxford, Norwich, Sherburne and the eastern parts of New Berlin and Columbus. The soil of this range of highlands is loam, intermixed with gravel, stony and hard to till, but is exceedingly fertile in grain and grass, and richly rewards the plowman and grazier. The forest trees are beech, maple, birch, ash, elm, linden, chestnut, oak, poplar, tulip, hemlock, with less pine than is found on the hills near the river.

"West of this range of hills opens the charming valley of Chenango, formed by the river and its numerous branches. This river, having at its source an east and west branch uniting at Sherburne, rises in Madison County, near the head waters of the Oriskany and Oneida Creeks, and pursuing a south-westerly direction through the whole extent of Madison and Chenango Counties and part of the County of Broome, falls into the Susquehanna at Binghamton, or Chenango Point. This delightful valley, for the beauty of its winding stream, its richly fringed

* *State Gazetteer*.

margin of highly cultivated fields, its gentle and graceful slopes, its easy and varied acclivity, its picturesque landscapes, mellowed with all the variegated hues of verdure and fertility, is scarcely surpassed by any section of the United States. In this far-reaching valley are situated the pleasant and flourishing villages of Binghamton, in Broome County; Greene, Oxford, Norwich and Sherburne in Chenango County; also Hamilton in Madison County.

"Beyond this valley, to the westward, commences another and yet higher range of most excellent farming lands. No better grazing lands can be found in any region in the same latitude than are contained in the towns of Smithville, Preston, Plymouth, Smyrna, McDonough and Pharsalia. This is abundantly proved by the numerous herds of fine cattle, and the flocks of sheep that are every year driven from these towns to our different markets. The degrees of comfort, independence and wealth which are hence derived to the farmers of these towns, are facts that speak for themselves, and are the best evidence of industry and the excellence of the soil. The forest trees of this range are similar to those east of the valley of the Chenango, on the Guilford range.

"The towns of Pharsalia, Otselic and German are principally watered by the Otselic River and its numerous branches. This stream runs through the north-west corner of the county and falls into the Tioughnioga River, in the town of Lisle, in Broome county. The lands on the Otselic and its branches, are of a superior quality, better adapted to the cultivation of grain than the Preston range. The timber in this locality is the same as that already described.

"The whole surface of the Chenango is beautified and enriched with innumerable springs, brooks and rivulets of the purest water, affording desirable sites for mills of almost any power or description; and the saw-mills have heretofore produced immense quantities of lumber for Baltimore, Philadelphia and other southern markets.

"Small lakes or ponds of transparent, healthy water have been found in almost every town in the county, but the number is not precisely known. These, together with the different streams, are plentifully stored with fish. In no case have these waters been known to render the climate unhealthy.

"The kinds of grain most extensively cultivated are wheat, rye, Indian corn, barley, oats and flax. Potatoes and the various garden vegetables and melons, common to the climate, thrive well.

"Of fruits, apples, both of the common and superior sorts, are, in most seasons, abundant. The valley of the Chenango, particularly in the middle and northern sections, appears extremely favorable to the plum; and abundance of the most delicious and fine flavored are produced almost every year. Grapes grow spontaneously in the field, and the finest exotics are cultivated in the gardens.

"The principal sources of wealth to the farmers are neat stock, wool and the dairy. A large supply of maple sugar is manufactured every year; and for a few years past immense quantities of what are called 'black salts,' produced from the lixivium of ashes, have been made into pot and pearl ash for foreign markets."

The Susquehanna * River, within the limits of the county, is confined to the towns of Afton and Bainbridge. It rises in Otsego Lake, enters the county near the north-east corner of the latter town, and crossing both towns diagonally, in a south-westerly direction, leaves it near the south-west corner of Afton. Passing nearly its entire length through mountainous country, whose prominences are oft-times abrupt and irregular, it is subject to frequent changes in its course; and though this feature detracts from its value for navigable purposes, it adds vastly to the beauty of the country adjacent to its banks. It receives on the east line of the county the waters of the Unadilla,† which forms the east line of the county above its confluence with the Susquehanna. The Unadilla is a flat, though beautiful stream, rising in the south-east corner of Oneida County, flowing in a southerly direction, and having numerous tributaries both from the east and the west, the principal of which is Butternut Creek, in Otsego County. The Unadilla valley is about one thousand feet above the sea.

The Chenango,‡ from its position in the county, is by far the most important stream. It rises by two branches which unite at Earlville, the westerly and principal one in the highlands in the north of Nelson and Eaton, and the easterly one in the town of Sangerfield, near the sources of Oriskany and Sauquoit creeks. Entering the county in the north-west corner of Sherburne, it flows in a southerly direction through the west part of that town and North Norwich to near the center of Norwich, when it deflects to the south-west, leaving Norwich in the south-west corner, and crossing diagonally the towns of Oxford and Greene, leaves the county in the south-west corner of the latter town, where it receives the waters of the Tioughnioga§ from the north, forming the Chenango Forks at the village of that name, and flows thence in a southerly direction to the Susquehanna, into which it discharges its waters near the southern limits of the city of Binghamton. Hemmed in, like the Susquehanna, in its northerly course, by high ridges, towards the south it expands,

* In Smith's *History of Virginia*, the name of this river is written *Sasque-in-han-nough*; and by Mr. Morgan, in the Onondaga dialect, *Ga-wa-no-wa-na-neh*.

† *Che-on-a-dit-ha* in the Oneida dialect, *Spofford*. The name is variously spelled on old maps and documents; on Guy Johnson's map of 1768, *Tienaderha*; on his map of 1771, also on Sauthier's map of 1779, *Tienaderha*; on the map of Simeon DeWitt, Surveyor-General, made about 1790, *Tienaderha*; in the Narrative of Rev. Gideon Hawley's journey to Broome County, Oquaga, (*Onohogawige*.) in 1753, *Teyonadelough*; while on Vaughan's *Chorographical Map* of an early day it is designated the Susquehannock River.

‡ Spelled *O-che-zwang* in Morgan's *Language of the Iroquois*. The "Indian name," says French's *State Gazetteer*, "is *O-nan-no-gi-is-ha*. Shagbark hickory," the second and fifth syllables being accented; while Joel Hatch, Jr., says the name signifies "beautiful river," which certainly is more in consonance with the fact, if not more truthful.

§ "This name is formed from *T'rah-hah-hogue*, the meeting of roads and waters at the same place."—*Spofford's Gazetteer of New York*, 1813, p. 176.

like it, into a beautiful broad intervalle. It has a uniform descent of five or six feet to the mile, and is free from rapids and sudden turns. Its numerous tributaries furnish many valuable mill sites. Among these are the Handsome, Lyon, Eddy, Padget and Page Brooks on the east, and Genegantslet, Ludlow, Bowman, Fly Meadow and Canasawacta Creeks and Mill, Cold and Pleasant Brooks on the west. The most important of these are the Genegantslet and the Canasawacta, both of which rise in the high lands of the town of Pharsalia. The former, which is often designated as a river, flows in a southerly direction through a deep, narrow and highly picturesque valley, through the south part of Pharsalia, and the west parts of McDonough, Smithville and Greene, emptying into the Chenango a little below the village of Greene; while the latter flows in a south-easterly direction through the north-east part of Pharsalia, diagonally across the town of Plymouth, and empties in the Chenango in the village of Norwich. Both have rapid currents and afford an abundance of eligible mill sites. The Canasawacta is fed by streams having their source in Smyrna and Otselic; and the Genegantslet, by numerous small streams, the principal of which is Five Streams, rising in the north-east part of German and flowing south through the eastern part of that town. The latter is also fed by Genegantslet Lake, the most considerable body of water in the county, situated in the west part of McDonough. Other ponds are Steeres, in Preston, Matthewson, in New Berlin, North and Guilford, in Guilford, and Pratt's, in Afton, all small, and occupying basins among the hills, far above the valleys.

The only other considerable stream in the county is Otselic Creek, which rises in Georgetown and crosses the north-west corner of the county, flowing in a south-westerly direction through a deep valley like its recipient, the Tioughnioga, with which it unites at Whitney's Point, crossing diagonally in its course the towns of Otselic and Pitcher and the north-west corner of Pharsalia. It receives the waters of Middletown Brook and Brackel Creek on the east, and Mud Creek and Manns, Buck and Ashbel Brooks on the west.

These lateral streams have worn deep, narrow gorges in the shaly rocks which form their bed. All the valleys give evidence of having been formed by agencies much more powerful than those now operating.

The soils are almost entirely derived from the disintegration of the rocks. In a few localities is found a very limited amount of drift. The soil of the uplands is principally a shaly loam, resting upon rocky beds or a substratum of hard earth impervious to water and the plow; while that in the valleys is a fine

quality of productive alluvium, intermixed in places with gravel. Grass is the most natural production of the up-lands, which respond most readily to the application of fertilization, and yield a sweeter, more nutritive and substantial crop than the richer valleys, where the growth is more rank and luxuriant. The soil in the valleys is open and porous, and being devoid of the tenacious substratum of the high lands, its fertility needs more frequent replenishing.

Owing to the altitude and location of the county, its climate is less subject to those extreme variations than localities which are adjacent to large bodies of water. It is about two hundred miles north-west from the nearest point on the Atlantic coast, and about sixty miles south-east of the south shore of Lake Ontario. The Catskill mountains are very nearly between the county and the proximate point on the sea shore; and Ontario is several hundred feet below the Chenango valley, with no very remarkable intervening elevations. Heavy snow-clouds visit this region, coming mostly from east north-east; and the north-west winds chill the air and exhibit phenomena common to the same currents of air in the more immediate neighborhood of the inland fresh water seas, situated in high latitudes. The difference is in degree and duration.

The severe frosty weather sets in usually during November, but is less disagreeable and less injurious than the chilly north-west winds in March and April. The east wind, a terror to the people inhabiting the sea coast, seldom prevails here, but when it does it renders the atmosphere too cool for comfort or health and retards vegetation. The summer season is quite uniform and the heat is seldom oppressive. The air, like that of all elevated countries, is invigorating; free from noxious vapors and well supplied with oxygen. Unlike that which prevails in countries adjacent to salt water, it is remarkably elastic. Sound lungs are required to resist its action; but with a respiratory organization unimpaired, long life may be expected. Cutting away the forests has doubtless exerted some climatic influence and tended to shorten or modify the distinguishing characteristics of the spring and autumn seasons.

This locality is comparatively free from those terrific winds which generally make the month of March so much dreaded, especially near the lakes. It has its cold, penetrating, disagreeable blasts, but they are temporary and soon pass off. Sleet, hail, rains and thick mists involve the atmosphere more or less during this month, and exert a disagreeable influence till the month of April, and, if the spring is a late one, till a much later period. But these objections are trivial compared with the piercing, tempestuous blasts which sweep the lake country, leaving malignant

fevers in their train. But while, as compared with this region, the springs in the lake country are more rigorous and retarded, the autumns are milder and longer, reaching well into the month of December. This is due to the fact that in spring the temperature of the water is lower than that of the superincumbent atmosphere, which is chilled thereby until an equilibrium is restored; while in the autumn it is higher, and constantly imparts the warmth it retains.

Along the streams in this region in the fall season, and, though less frequently, in the spring, heavy fogs arise in the morning, but vanish by nine or ten o'clock. They present a curious spectacle to the residents of the uplands, which they seldom visit, as marking the course of the streams through the deep gorges, the view is one of surpassing splendor. They produce a heavy, unelastic atmosphere which is oppressive to strangers, but not so to the residents.

Those who emigrate from this county to the vast prairies of the West undergo re-acclimatization, and usually, sooner or later, encounter bilious attacks; while those who emigrate towards the Atlantic, except consumptives and asthmatics, renew their health by the change.*

The industries of the county are almost exclusively agricultural, and this disparity between agricultural and mechanical pursuits is increasing. There were fifty more manufacturing establishments in the county in 1870 than in 1875; though in the latter year there were thirty-five counties in the State having a less number of manufacturing establishments than Chenango. These considerations of soil and climate determine the agricultural productions of the county; and since there is little material variation in climate throughout the county, and, though some difference in the quality, but little in the character of the soil, we observe a great similarity in the staple productions. The chief branch of agriculture is dairying, in the products of which the county takes a high rank, standing fourth in the State in the quantity of butter made in private families,† and second in the quantity made in factories, of which there were forty-eight in the county in 1874.‡ Indeed nearly if not quite the entire

*We have drawn largely from Clark's *History of Chenango County* for these climatological observations. The percentage of deaths in this county as returned by the enumerators to the total population for the year ending June 1, 1875, was 1.34, while that for the State was only 1.15.—*Census of 1875*.

†The butter product of Chenango county in families in 1875 was 4,751,542 pounds. The counties whose product exceeded it were St. Lawrence, which produced 8,546,746 pounds; Delaware, 6,816,791 pounds; and Chautauqua, 4,956,715 pounds.

‡Nine counties exceeded Chenango in the number of its factories: twelve in the quantity of milk used therein, which, in this county, was 14,204,188 pounds; thirteen in the average number of cows whose milk was sent to factories, which, in Chenango, was 10,850; thirteen in the average number of patrons, which, in Chenango, was 799; sixteen in the quantity of *full cream cheese*, which, in Chenango, was 1,221,715 pounds; while in *skim milk cheese* it took the lead, making 1,520,127 pounds. The only other county which approximated it in the latter was Cattaraugus, which produced

capacity of the county is developed by the dairy products. The dairy business was commenced about 1837 to 1840 and developed rapidly.* In a few rare instances dairying had been followed many years earlier. The following is an extract from a paper read before the Chenango County Agricultural Society in 1849, and gives the estimated product of that year:—

"A large proportion of our farmers are engaged in the business of making butter and cheese. Our fine pastures and pure water enable our dairymen to manufacture large quantities of excellent butter, which commands good prices in market. *It is to be noticed to the credit of our butter making, that at the last State Fair, the first premium on butter was awarded to a Chenango farmer.* The books kept at the canal offices and store-houses enable us to state the quantity of butter and cheese sent to market by the Chenango Canal this year. It is as follows:—Of butter, after deducting weight of tubs and firkins, 1,966,929 pounds; of cheese, 1,035,256 pounds.

"It is estimated that one-tenth of the quantity of butter and cheese manufactured finds its way to market by the New York and Erie Railroad, and by routes other than the Chenango Canal, which, when added to the above figures, makes, in the aggregate, 2,185,476 pounds of butter, and 1,150,284 pounds of cheese that was sent to the market from this county during the year."

This was independent of the amount consumed in the county, which, it was believed, would increase the butter product to three and a half million pounds, and cheese to two million pounds.

Hops, which are the staple production of Madison County, are cultivated to a limited extent in the northern part of this county. Chenango County lies immediately south of the belt which defines the wheat growing country of this State; while Madison County lies on its southern border and near its eastern extremity. Notwithstanding, it yields fair crops of winter wheat, and ranks as the twenty-sixth county in the State. In 1874, the average yield of winter wheat per acre was 15.29 bushels;† the average throughout the State was 16.16. Of the other great staple productions—hay, oats and corn—Chenango County ranked as follows: twenty-fifth in hay, of which 1.15 tons were yielded to the acre, the State average being 1.13, and the highest average, in Herkimer County, 1.35; ninth in oats, of which 33.25 bushels were yielded to the acre, the State average being 28.50,

1,514,568 pounds. The only county which exceeded it in the quantity of butter made in factories was Franklin, which made butter alone, producing, 500,010 pounds from 10,761,948 pounds of milk. Chenango county used 21,789,918 pounds of milk, from which 441,654 pounds of butter and 1,510,127 pounds of skim milk cheese were made. Chenango county had \$95,150 invested in cheese factories in 1874.

*The dairy product of the county in 1844, was 2,816,291 pounds of butter and 1,145,957 pounds of cheese.

†The fertility of the soil in Chenango County has rather increased than diminished. In 1845, the average yield per acre in wheat was thirteen bushels.—Ebenazer Emmons, M. D., *Natural History of New York, Part V., Agriculture*.

and the highest average, in Monroe County, 36.97; and sixteenth in corn, of which 36.47 bushels were yielded to the acre, the State average being 32.33, and the highest average, in Yates County, 47.82. In barley it ranked third, yielding 25.82 bushels per acre, the State average being 22.83, and the highest average, in Saratoga County, 32.87; in buckwheat, fifth, yielding 18.96 bushels to the acre, the State average being 15.14, and the highest average, in Steuben County, 19.99; in rye, nineteenth, yielding 12.86 bushels to the acre, the State average being 11.82, and the highest average, in Herkimer County, 21.63; in potatoes, seventh, yielding 127.20 bushels to the acre, the State average being 102.22, and the highest average, in Kings County, 153.64. The ratio of milch cows to the acreage of improved land, June 1, 1875, was 12.07, the State average being 8.44, and the highest average, in Herkimer County, 14.89, Chenango ranking as seventh. It ranked as twenty-first in the average yield per cow of dairy products in 1874, its average being 127, that of the State 124, and the highest, Orange County, 172.* In its wool product it ranked thirtieth, the average weight of fleece in 1875 being 4.38 pounds, while that of the State was 4.90, and the highest, in Ontario County, 5.99. The average yield of spring wheat per acre in 1874 was 13.58 bushels, while that of the State was 12.19, and of the highest, Kings County, 45; of hops, 366.63 pounds, while that of the State was 489.64, and the highest, Cattaraugus County, 826.46. In the former it ranked eighth, tying Queens County, and in the latter, thirtieth. Thus it is seen that, with the exception of winter wheat, hops and wool, its average production exceeded the State average in every particular enumerated.

In the production of hay, Greene takes the lead, as compared with other towns in the county. Coventry, Guilford, New Berlin, Norwich, Oxford, Sherburne and Smithville exceed the general average, which is 7,716 tons per town. Smyrna takes the lead in barley. Columbus, Coventry, Otselic, Pitcher, Plymouth and Sherburne exceed the average, which is 305 bushels per town. Greene takes the lead in Indian corn. Afton, Coventry, Guilford, Norwich, Oxford, Sherburne and Smithville exceed the average, 14,279 bushels. All the towns produce oats abundantly, Sherburne taking the lead. Afton, Columbus, Coventry, Greene, Guilford, New Berlin, Oxford, Smithville and Smyrna exceed the average, which is 33,782 bushels. Sherburne also takes the lead in winter wheat. Afton, Bainbridge, Green, Guilford, North Norwich and Smyrna exceed the average—915½ bushels—while German, Lincklaen, McDonough,

* In this estimate two and a half pounds of cheese, one pound of butter and three gallons of milk are considered equivalents.

Pharsalia and Preston did not produce any in 1874. Sherburne took the lead in hops, of which all the towns except Smithville produced more or less. Sherburne, Plymouth and North Norwich produced considerably more than half the quantity raised in the county—258,838 pounds—and Sherburne nearly three times as much as any other town, 97,846. Only three other towns, Afton, Otselic and Smyrna, produced the average quantity, 12,942 pounds. Potatoes were a plentiful crop with all the towns, Otselic, however, taking the lead by the production of 45,398 bushels. The least quantity—13,280 bushels—was raised by German. Afton, Bainbridge, Columbus, Greene, Guilford, New Berlin, Oxford, Plymouth, Sherburne and Smyrna produced the average quantity, 26,898 bushels. The apples of the county have a peculiarly fine flavor. They are raised readily in all the towns and are quite a common crop. The largest quantity, 30,831 bushels, is raised by Greene; German producing the smallest quantity, 8,098 bushels. Most of the towns closely approximate the average quantity, 17,560 bushels, while Guilford and New Berlin, each producing about 19,000 bushels, Norwich, 23,451, Oxford, 27,199, Pitcher, 17,583, Sherburne, 29,828, and Smyrna, 27,830, are the only other ones which exceed the average. Maple sugar is also a common and valuable production, the greatest quantity, 64,805 pounds, being made in Guilford, which more than doubles the quantity made in either of the other towns, except German, McDonough, Pitcher and Smithville, each of which, as well as Coventry, Lincklaen, Pharsalia and Plymouth, exceed the average product, 23,331 pounds. The smallest quantity, 650 pounds, is made in North Norwich.*

The average number of milch cows kept in the several towns is, with one or two exceptions, pretty uniform. Greene has the largest number, 4,113, which is nearly double the number kept by the majority of the other towns. Guilford, with 3,599, and Oxford, with 3,031, most nearly approximate it. German has the smallest number, 1,224. Columbus, Coventry, New Berlin, Norwich, Plymouth, Sherburne, Smithville and Smyrna come up to the average, which the latter just equals, 2,278. Milk from 12,256 cows was sent to the factory in 1874, while in the following year the number was increased to 13,143. Neither Afton, Bainbridge nor Smithville sent any to factories in either year; and German, which sent the milk from 119 cows in 1874, did not send any in 1875. Columbus sent from the largest number, 2,025, which was increased from 1,896 the previous year; and McDonough from the smallest number, 11, which was half the number of the previous

* We observed that many of the trees in the handsomely-shaded village of Norwich perform the double office of shade and sugar producers.

year. Only four others exceeded a thousand, New Berlin, Plymouth, Sherburne and Smyrna. Only two others, Greene and Lincklaen, reached the average number, which was 773. Greene took the lead in the staple product, butter, made in families. The number of pounds made was 489,537, which was closely approximated by Guilford, which made 476,253 pounds. Most of the other towns produced less than half that quantity. Columbus produced the least quantity, 85,165 pounds. Afton, Coventry, Norwich,* Oxford, Preston and Smithville exceeded the average which was 226,264 pounds, the total product being 4,751,542 pounds. Bainbridge, McDonough, Otselic and Pitcher closely approximated the average, and German, New Berlin, Pharsalia and Sherburne less nearly so. Norwich led in the quantity of cheese made in families, producing 34,080 pounds, the total product being 115,765 pounds. Only Greene, Guilford, McDonough, New Berlin and Plymouth reached the average quantity, 6,093, while the others, except Sherburne, fell far below it. North Norwich made 200 pounds, the least quantity made by any in which cheese was made.

CHAPTER VIII.

GEOLOGY—HAMILTON GROUP—THE LOWEST ROCKS IN THE COUNTY—TULLY LIMESTONE—GENESEE SLATE—PORTAGE OR NUNDA GROUP—ITHACA GROUP—CHEMUNG GROUP—CATSKILL GROUP—DECEPTIVE INDICATIONS OF COAL—QUARTERNARY DEPOSITS—CLAYS—SULPHUR SPRINGS.

CHENANGO County is covered by the old red sandstones of the modern classification, or the Erie and Helderberg divisions of a former period, the Catskill group of the latter division being probably the only one of its members in the county. The lowest rocks in the county are the Hamilton group, which appear upon the north border. Successively above these toward the south appear the Tully limestone, Genesee slate, and the Portage, Ithaca, Chemung and Catskill groups.

The *Hamilton group* is confined to the towns of Sherburne, Smyrna, Columbus and New Berlin, a strip only extending into the latter two towns along the Unadilla, and passing under the higher rocks below the village of New Berlin. It is well exposed along Handsome Brook to the north-east of Sherburne village, exhibiting a mass from sixty to one hundred feet

* The dairy product of Norwich, which sold 12,167 gallons of milk in the market and made 14,080 pounds of cheese, was equivalent to 126,630 pounds of butter.

thick, chiefly of the dark-colored shale of the group, and abounding in its characteristic fossils. The shale constitutes the fall of the creek, and extending towards its mouth, is soon lost under the covering of alluvion and soil. This is the most southerly exposition of the group in the Chenango valley. The same mass appears east of the village of Smyrna, beyond which, at a lower level, are those of the upper rocks, exposed at Madison University, at Ladd's quarry, and on the canal above Sherburne. The ridge from Madison county, composed of the Hamilton group, appears to incline rapidly near Sherburne, so as to expose the Sherburne flags about two miles below that village. The group is exposed in the sides of the creek in the north part of New Berlin, and at the quarry and mill-dam back of New Berlin village, on the road to the Chenango valley. The fossils are numerous and the same in all respects with those in the creek near Sherburne.

The group, though but little exposed in the county, presents four points of interest; the first in Ladd's quarry on the canal, near the line of Madison county, in the continuation of the range of West Hamilton. The quarry is rich in many of the fossils of the group, being in all respects like that back of Madison University, near the top of the hill. Considerable stone was here taken out, being convenient for transportation. The second point is the falls and bank of Handsome Brook, north of Sherburne. The water falls sixty or more feet and the sides of the creek expose about a hundred feet of the finer kind of shale. Many fossils, which are common in the mass below the encrinal limestone at Ludlowville, and the mass of the group generally, may be obtained at the creek.* The third locality is on the road from Hamilton to Smyrna, where the two kinds of rocks are seen, as well as the common fossils of Hamilton and the shale of Handsome Brook, the latter above the former. The fourth point of exposition is at the creek and quarry west of New Berlin village, which does not differ from those near Sherburne, but the rock is coarser and harder.

The fossils of the group, the *Macronated delthyris* the *Flabella avicula*, *Keeledatrypa*, *Syrtales strophomena*, *Plebiana atrypa*, *Prow delthyris*, *De Kay's dipleura*, *Goniatites punctatus*, etc., are found in great abundance, especially at Ladd's quarry, which is a little above the canal. In most cases the calcareous particles of the testaceous fossils have been removed, and their place in part occupied by hydrate of iron, forming a pleasing contrast with the yellow-gray color which the rock assumes after exposure. In Ladd's quarry, the State Geologist, Lardner Vanuxem, found on a thin slab two or three small perfect *trilobites*,

* Dr. Fort Van Keuren, of Sherburne, has some remarkably fine specimens obtained from this locality.

with the same caudal structure which distinguishes the English genus, and associated with the *Dipleura* of the same size, the largest not over an inch in length. The only difference observed between them was the tail. "This fact," says Vanuxem, "settles the question of difference as to genus, which, with the British geologists, appeared to be doubtful." The specimens are in the State collection. With the exception of two instances only in an upper position, this *trilobite* is confined to the Hamilton group. It is rare in the fine slate or shale, but common in the coarse shale and sandstone.

The *Tully limestone* takes its name from the village of Tully, near which it is quarried and burned for lime. It is of importance, being the most southern mass of limestone in the State, and as a dividing line easy to find in all the counties where it exists, separating two important divisions of rocks. It is an impure limestone, fine grained, usually of a dark or blackish-blue color, often brownish. The mass is more or less accretionary, breaking into irregular fragments which are usually small, owing to the particles of carbonate of lime separating from a mixed mass at innumerable points. The usual thickness is about fourteen feet; the greatest observed thickness, twenty feet. It makes a good, but not a white, lime; owing, in all probability, to the presence of carbonates of iron and manganese. Minute veins of carbonate of iron are seen in the limestone; and the fossils of the rocks above it are often replaced by the two carbonates, particularly the encrinital stems and disks.

It has not been seen east of the town of Smyrna; but west from thence it extends through the Counties of Madison, Onondaga and Cayuga, and further west, though it has no exposition in Madison County. The first and only point in the county where it is observed is on the turnpike from Sherburne to DeRuyter, about eight miles from the former village, in the north-west part of Smyrna. It appears in a low side-hill, forming the bank of the creek where the road crosses it. About four layers are exposed, ranging by the side of the creek. It is more impure than further west. It next appears in Onondaga County, about two miles north-west of DeRuyter village. It terminates all those deposits in which calcareous matter forms an essential part. There are two fossils wholly peculiar to it, the *Cuboidalotrypa* and the *Tully orthis*.

The *Genesee slate*, though it appears at New Berlin, was not distinctly recognized east of the town of Smyrna, owing probably to its intermixture with sandstone. West of that town it may be seen at several points along the road from Smyrna to DeRuyter. It underlies the latter village, and appears in all the side-hills around it. But it does not form the same well-defined rock to the east that it does to the west.

It is an argillaceous fissile mass, which, with great propriety, may be termed, according to English local geological phraseology, a *mud rock*. Its color is black and very uniform; its structure also preserves the latter quality. It is more or less slaty and somewhat hard and brittle; but, like all the upper fine-grained argillaceous rocks of the district, though its edges resist the weather, its surface, when exposed, falls into pieces and readily decays. The joints in the rocks are two in number, usually well defined, and their direction nearly at right angles to each other.

This rock contains but few fossils, which are not generally diffused, but are quite numerous in a few localities on Cayuga Lake. Few or no fossils have been observed, except fucoids.

The *Portage* and *Ithaca groups* appear to be the surface rocks of the town of Lincklaen; of the west part of Pitcher and German; of Otselic; the north part of Pharsalia; all those parts of Sherburne, Smyrna and Columbus not occupied by the lower rocks; all but the south-west part of Plymouth; the north and west portions of North Norwich; extending on both sides of the Chenango below the village of Oxford; and the east side of the town of New Berlin, with the exception of those parts towards the river, where the rocks of the Hamilton group hold position.

Numerous quarries of building and flagging stone are opened in all the different towns of the groups, in the lower part of which the better kind of flagging stone occurs. At Skinner's quarry, south of Sherburne, the flags examined were large and smooth, but the quantity of shale and slate upon them was considerable. At Church's quarry, about two miles south of that village, they were more accessible, but not so good. The opening here was about twenty feet in depth upon a side-hill, rising about forty feet above the valley, and showed dark-blue or blackish slaty shale with the sandstone. The same appears in the quarry back of New Berlin village, and shows the *graphic fucoids* of Cayuga Lake, Ithaca, and other localities. At Harris' quarry, west of North Norwich, which was opened for the Chenango Canal, the stone exhibits a fair sample of the quality of the group generally. Fossils are somewhat numerous, and it is the second best locality of the *Curtain fucoid*. At Norwich many quarries have been opened in the hill to the west of the village and elsewhere; the stone is inferior in quality to that of the upper group. Among the rocks around Norwich appear three fossils common to the Hamilton group, the *Posidonia tirata*, *Strophomena carinata* and *Atrypa plebia*, showing that localities existed which favored the continuance of certain species long after their total destruction in others. Two other fossils are very generally distributed throughout this group, which are considered

to be the same as the *Linear* and *Umbonated Strophomenæ* of the Hamilton group.

The *Portage* or *Nunda* group may be considered the commencement of the upper part of the Erie division, considering the Tully limestone and Genesee slate as dividing masses; the Tully limestone, however, properly forms the terminal portions of the lower part of the division, and the slate of the intervening one. At Sherburne this group presents more of the hard sandstone layers than in the west, where the hard coarse shale predominates.

The rocks of the *Ithaca* group consist of a series of coarse hard shales and sandstone, the whole generally of a dark color, and without any observed definite arrangement. A few of the sandstone layers are regular in outline and resemble some of those which belong to the group below; but this is rare.

In this group those highly curious fossils, the *Caudagalli fucoids*, are well defined, and more extraordinary in shape than in their lower positions. At Burdick's quarry to the south-east of DeRuyter village, on the hill, near the foot of which the Genesee slate is seen, covering the valley, and along the road towards Smyrna, these fucoids are quite numerous and cover a considerable extent of surface. The greater number are the kind compared to the folds of a curtain by Dr. Locke, of Ohio, who also found them in the Waverly sandstone of that State. A second locality is the Harris quarry, near the top of the hill to the west of North Norwich. In the State collection are a number of these fucoids, obtained from DeRuyter and this quarry, "which," says Vanuxem, "will not fail to convince the most skeptical that the nature or origin of these singular productions was organic and vegetable."*

The *Chemung* group is rather obscure in the county except in the town of Greene. But little was positively recognized in the Chenango valley to the north of that town; "although," says Vanuxem, "from its great thickness south and west it should there appear; but it is also possible that it terminates short of the north line of the Catskill group, which may extend beyond it as at Oneonta, where no part of it was recognized, and where the Catskill group appears to repose immediately upon the Portage and Ithaca groups, or a mass which corresponds with the side-hill quarries at Norwich and Port Crane, and which, by the fossil character, are referable only to those groups."

The group consists of sandstones and shales, more or less slaty, and mixtures of the two in endless proportions. The former furnishes good building and flagging stones; the latter is often of soft, decomposable masses, but in less degree than the shale of the Ham-

*The stone of which the large academy at the village of DeRuyter is built was obtained from Burdick's quarry in that town. It is a gray sandstone, associated with bluish slate and shale, as is usual with those upper rocks.

ilton group. The sandstone in the north part of the group shows well defined layers, in which respect it resembles the lower ones. The sandstone is of a lighter color than the lower group, the greenish or olive color being more general, and the shale more disposed to assume the same color when altered-concretions of a large size often appear in the shale and sandstone, the nucleus being more solid than the surrounding parts. Carbonate of iron often replaces its fossils, particularly its encrinites, which are usually about half an inch in diameter and different from those of the Ithaca or any rock below it. Some of the sandstone masses are loaded with shells, the cement being limestone, making a more durable building stone; and some of the varieties make good fire stones from the mixture of shells.

At Cameron's quarry in Greene was found the large species of *Tricircled encrinite*, a very characteristic fossil of this group. It consists of three different sized crinoid joints, grouped together. It is usually replaced by lamellar carbonate of iron colored yellow or buff.

The *Catskill* group is the immediate predecessor and the base, therefore, of the coal formation. It is the terminal group of the New York series, and therefore holds the highest position relatively to the other rocks, capping some of the elevations in this, Broome, Otsego and Tioga counties, to which it is entirely confined. It has an extensive range in the county, covering a large area of the high ground between the Unadilla and the Chenango and the Chenango and Genegantslet, extending in places to the west of the latter stream. It covers the towns of Bainbridge, Coventry, Guilford and the greater part of Oxford; receding a few miles below Oxford village from the Chenango, also from the Unadilla to the north of Guilford, diminishing in width between the two rivers, and terminating in the towns of Sherburne and Columbus. West of the Chenango it appears about a mile or so to the north of the village of Greene, forming part of the mass in the town of Oxford; and extends north on both sides of the Genegantslet, covering three-fourths of the town of McDonough, the greater part of Preston, the south-west portion of Plymouth, and the larger south half of Pharsalia, its northern limit being in the latter town.

The group affords better building materials than the lower rocks of the southern counties, especially the grindstone variety, which occurs to the west of Chenango River. This latter rock is abundant in the towns of Preston, McDonough and Pharsalia. It is easily wrought, of a good lively color, hardens by exposure, and is the handsomest building material of the whole of the southern counties. The court-house at Norwich is built of this material.

It consists of light-colored, greenish-gray sandstone, usually hard; of fine-grained red sandstone, red shale or slate; of dark colored slate or shale; of grindstone grit; and of a peculiar accretionary and fragmentary mass, appearing like fragments of hard slate, cemented by limestone. This mass, though usually but a few feet in thickness, is a constant associate of the group, and is well known in England as *cornstone*.

The structure which the hard gray sandstone often presents, is also highly characteristic of it. It appears in many localities, generally forming the surface rock, usually in layers of from four to ten feet thick, and nearly horizontal in position. Each of these layers is subdivided into numerous parts, one or more inches thick, often disposed in oblique divisions; the surface of some is straight, others bent; the divisions usually overlap each other, and show considerable symmetry, presenting altogether a singular conformation, and a highly picturesque rock. Where this rock has not been exposed for a long time to the weather, the structure is not so obvious as in those masses which for ages have been subjected to it; the latter exhibiting it fully. Among the many localities where this structure exists in the most marked manner, is one on the road from Norwich to New Berlin, near Matthewson's Pond; on the west side of the Chenango, above the village of Greene, and on the Genegantslet, above the same village.

The oblique lines of structure are highly characteristic of the gray sandstone of the Catskill group as it appears in Chenango county. "Three causes," says Vanuxem, "present themselves in explanation of this structure: *first*, oblique depositions by water or wind; *second*, infiltration of water, carrying and depositing the finer particles in an oblique manner; and *third*, the crystalization of one or more of the constituents or parts of a rock in which this structure exists."

Between the Catskill and Chemung groups no line of demarkation was observed. In ascending from the Chemung group, the first signs of change which usually appeared was a diminution, then a disappearance, of the fossils of the Chemung, a more solid or hard rock succeeding, often accompanied by red sandstone or red shale, and the gray sandstone sometimes accompanied by thin beds of *cornstone*, which readily attracts the eye, when long exposed to the weather, from its cellular appearance and dark umber color; the former caused by the removal of accretions, etc., of limestone, and the latter by the oxidation of iron and manganese associated with the calcareous material. Above all these, and usually capping the whole, was the complex-structured sandstone.

The group is very barren in fossils; the only ones observed in this State which could with certainty be referred to it being the *Catskill cypricardite*, (*C. Cat-*

skillensis), the *Narrow cypricardite*, (*C. angustata*), and the half probably of a third species, from Richmond's quarry above Mt. Upton; but no other fossils, except vegetable remains of the smoother sort, or rather the kind without marks or configurations, having simple lanceolate forms.

In this group, both in England and Pennsylvania, are the remains of a peculiar class of fish, which show the value of the fossil character, since the position of the rock is well established; holding the place of base to those of the coal in both countries; being above the Devonian system according to some geologists, or forming its other member according to others, just as it may be included in or excluded from that system. These remains have been found in many places in Pennsylvania. As yet but small fragments only have been found in this State. They exist in the *cornstone* near Oneonta, and in the same mass near Oxford, and, no doubt, will generally be found in that fragmentary portion. The small fragments in the *cornstone* show that besides containing accretions of limestone or carbonate of lime, it also contains those which have been subjected to a mechanical action, which has rounded some of its particles.

Though shells and bones are rare in this group, plants appear to be much more numerous; accumulations existing similar to those of the Ithaca and Chemung groups, but in greater number and frequency, and giving rise to their seams of coal, none of which, however, exceeded a foot in length and breadth, and an inch in thickness; and they were generally found in the gray sandstone rock. These accumulations are rarely accompanied by pyrites, the decomposition of which stains the rock of an ochery color. The sandstone, coal and ochery appearance being three of the common characters of coal in its proper series, is the reason why the strongest hopes have been entertained of finding coal where they exist, the great fact of position and more important associates of the coal beds being overlooked.

The rock of this group is quarried on the west side of the Chenango, north of the village of Greene, where it is but a few feet above the road, and shows thick beds subdivided into courses obliquely arranged. It is hard and unchangeable. On the east side is the McNeil quarry, four miles south of Oxford village. It produces flags, step-stones, etc., some of which are sent to Binghamton.

Quarternary Deposits, though not as abundant in this county as in some localities, exist here. These are of two kinds, first, those which have been transported from a greater or less distance, as clay, sand, gravel, boulders, etc., and are commonly known as *alluvial* deposits, or products of alluvion; and second, the deposits in place from solution, as

lake marl, calcareous tufa, ferruginous tufa, or of the products of vegetation, as peat or muck.

There are numerous points where the alluvion appears to have been formed over the hill side; such is the mass west of Onondaga village; the descent into the valley north-west of Waterville; and north of the village of Greene, in the Chenango valley. These deposits of alluvion, near the line of dividing waters, greatly resemble certain accumulations of similar deposits noticed in the survey of Massachusetts, called *diluvial* elevations.

Immense accumulations of these alluvial deposits exist south of the north line of the Helderberg division, either filling up the valleys and forming level surfaces, or ranging by the side of the valleys as terraces, or thrown into irregular hills in the valleys, and also occurring on the heights apparently in no regular order. They consist of rolled stones, large and small, sand, clay and earth. The rolled stones are in prodigious quantity; nearly two-thirds of them form rocks north of the Helderberg range. They consist chiefly of primary rock and gray and red sandstone. In some localities those of limestone are numerous; and when they exist, as their gravel and soil are often present, they give rise to deposits of tufa or lake marl; the former kind if air only be present, the latter if deposited in water.

The excavation of the Chenango Canal from Oriskany Falls south is entirely in alluvial materials; showing frequently in the northern part of the town of Madison a mass of gravel and large rolled stones as an upper deposit. Below the rolled stones there is often a deposit of blackish or dark-colored sand, fine or coarse, which is the common sand of the whole of the south valleys. The lighter colored sands exist, but are rare, comparatively. The lower part of the canal at Chenango Forks was in the sand of this kind, above which was a mass of coarse gravel from six to eight feet thick, with rolled stones from one to eight inches in diameter, having on the top finer gravel with thin layers of sand.

The clays in this locality are usually of a lighter color than those of the Mohawk; the dark ones exist, but are rare. Small pebbles of limestone appear to exist also in the clay, as at Norwich. Some of the bricks are thus apt to burst and crumble after being burnt and exposed to the weather. This shows the northern origin of at least a portion of the materials.

There are several sulphur springs in the county, the water from many of which has been used with benefit for cutaneous diseases. Among these is one which issues from the slate of the Hamilton group, at the foot of the falls on Handsome Brook, near Sherburne village; Shee's Spa, in the south edge of McDonough; one, two miles from Norwich village, "which has been

much used for cutaneous disorders"; one in the town of Pharsalia; several in the east part of Pitcher, which made that town at one time a place of popular resort; all of which emit sulphuretted hydrogen.*

CHAPTER IX.†

FIRST SETTLEMENTS AND MEASURES LEADING THERE-TO—POPULATION AT DIFFERENT PERIODS—HOMES AND PRIVATIONS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS—THEIR CLOTHING—PRIMITIVE METHODS OF GRINDING CORN—PIONEER SOCIABILITY—CONDITION AMELIORATED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS—SETTLEMENT RETARDED BY REMARKABLE ICE FRESHET—EVIDENCES OF WEALTH AND PROSPERITY OF PRESENT INHABITANTS—ROUTES AND MEANS BY WHICH THE PIONEERS REACHED THEIR WILDERNESS HOMES—NAVIGABLE STREAMS THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS—INDIAN TRAILS—ROUTES INDICATED BY BLAZED TREES—CHENANGO ROAD—RAPID MULTIPLICATION OF LOCAL ROADS.

IN the events connected with the Colonial struggle for independence, especially that which witnessed the devastation of the Iroquois country by the invading army of General Sullivan in 1779, we trace the immediate agencies which opened up to European immigration the whole of Western New York, for until after the close of that struggle, as we have seen, the whole of that vast extent of country west of the east line of Chenango county was a reserved Indian domain. Having thrown off the oppressive burdens imposed on them by the mother country the mind of the colonists expanded with the new and invigorating thought of liberty and they were stimulated to the development of new enterprises and new industries. It is fair to presume that those who had been favored during the war with a view of the beauty and fertility of this country, as were some of the soldiers who accompanied Sullivan's expedition, bridged with prophetic vision the interval which must elapse ere the return of peace should enable them to make this fair land their future home, which many of them did, and that the favorable reports given of it to their associates in arms and their neighbors at home, gave direction to the minds of many who subsequently took up their abode in this wilderness; certain it is that the extinction of the Indian title and the immediate subsequent opening of

* This chapter is prepared mostly from Lardner Vanuxem's report on *Geology*, and Lewis C. Beck's report on *Mineralogy*, published by the State in connection with other reports on the *Natural History of New York*.

† For the sake of convenience, and in order to avoid a repetition which would otherwise be inevitable, we have thought best to treat the subjects embraced in this and the succeeding chapter as though the two counties were one.

these lands by survey and sale to settlement, was the signal for a vast hegira from the New England States, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the eastern counties of this State to this section of country.

Within two years from the close of the war we find the first permanent settlers threading their way through the almost trackless forests to their new homes in Southern Chenango, which was opened to settlement before the northern and central portions, and was occupied even before the extinction of the Indian title, and while the country was still threatened with Indian hostilities. Settlements had been previously made by squatters on the Oneida Reservation in the vicinity of Oneida, but they were not permanent. The settlement of the original county of Chenango dates from 1784, a more detailed account of which will be given in the history of the towns of Afton and Bainbridge. The settlement was rapid when once commenced. In 1800, two years after its organization, and sixteen after its first settlement, Chenango county had a population of 16,087; and in 1810, notwithstanding its territorial reduction by the erection of Madison county four years previously, it had increased to 21,704, while Madison county then had a population of 25,144. Indeed the substantial numerical increase took place within the first three decades, up to 1814, when it had a population of 24,221. Its subsequent growth up to 1835 was slow; and since that period there has been no permanent increase and but little change, as is shown by the subjoined table, showing by half decades the population of the two counties from 1800 to 1875:—

Years.	Chenango.	Madison.
1800.....	16,087	—
1810.....	21,704	25,144
1814.....	24,221	26,276
1820.....	31,215	32,208
1825.....	34,215	35,648
1830.....	37,238	39,038
1835.....	40,762	41,741
1840.....	40,785	40,008
1845.....	39,900	40,987
1850.....	40,311	43,072
1855.....	39,915	43,687
1860.....	40,934	43,545
1865.....	38,360	42,506
1870.....	40,564	43,522
1875.....	39,879	42,342

The pioneers of Chenango county, unlike those who subdued the prairies of the Great West, encountered a forest of giant growth, from whose dominion a portion of the soil had to be redeemed by hard and persistent labor, with many accompanying privations, as preliminary and necessary steps to making it yield them and their families a subsistence. At least one generation was worn out in this sturdy battle with the giant forest and the poverty which environed most of

those who were the pioneers of this locality. It required a hardihood and perseverance which we of this generation can scarcely appreciate. Having made a sufficient clearing, the pioneer next erected his rude cabin of logs, covered it with peeled elm bark, and floored it with the halves of split logs. Greased paper answered the purposes of a window, for glass had not yet made its way into the settlement; and the door, when that consisted of anything more substantial than a suspended blanket, was made of hewed planks, fastened together with wooden pins, and hung upon hinges of the same material. A spacious hole in the roof constituted the provision for a chimney, and a bare spot on the earthen floor, the fire-place. Some were fortunate in the possession of a scanty supply of furniture brought with them from their eastern homes; while others were contented with furniture as primitive in its construction as their cabins. These latter were sometimes made more comfortable by hewing the logs so as to make a close joint; while at others the searching winds and pelting rain and snow were excluded by chinking the openings and plastering them with mud. The cattle which some of the first settlers were able to bring with them were foddered at first by browsing on the terminal buds and succulent branches of trees felled for the purpose, and some of which, especially bass-wood, yielded a good supply of this food, of which the cattle became very fond. The rank grass which grew in great luxuriance upon some of the flats and small Indian clearings afforded in some instances a temporary supply.

Having provided a temporary shelter (for while many of the hardy pioneers occupied these rude habitations for many years, others soon provided themselves with more comfortable homes, from the product of the mills which speedily sprang into existence,) he next addressed himself to the task of clearing a spot for the crops which were to supply the ensuing year's provision for the family. Thus annual inroads were made in the dense forests, which slowly, but gradually, receded from his humble habitation, and the spacious and fruitful farms which now adorn Chenango's beautiful slopes were plotted out. The seed was reverently deposited amid the blackened stumps which still pressed their claim to the virgin soil, and marred for many years the otherwise beautiful scene, and was nurtured with a tender care and solicitude, as it was often the only dependence for the next year's bread. The friendly maples supplied an abundance of sugar, while the forests abounded with game and the streams with fish. Indeed, without these, life would have been impossible with the class of people upon whom the subjugation of this wilderness devolved.

But the forests, while abounding in game, were also

infested with numerous ravenous beasts, which preyed upon the scanty flocks of the settlers, and imperiled the lives of the latter. They were a constant source of annoyance long after they ceased to occasion any serious apprehensions to the settlers themselves, a fact which the early town records bear abundant evidence. They became the common enemy. Every man's hand was lifted against them, and a deadly war of extermination was waged against them, to which an additional stimulus was given by the payment of generous bounties. Under these vigorous efforts, combined with the increase in population and the constant removal of their haunts—the forests—they were driven to more congenial climes, never more to molest the onward march of civilization in this region of country.

The deer in the forests not only supplied them with venison, but also in some measure, with clothing, both men and women wearing garments fashioned from the skin of that animal; for after the clothing with which they emigrated from their eastern homes became un-serviceable, *home manufacture* was the rule. This, for a time the associate of wool and flax, as the materials for the manufacture of clothing, gradually gave way to the latter, which were for many years the dependence of the early settlers, with whom the spinning wheel was almost as common and indispensable as the sewing machine of the present day.

The absence for a few years of grist-mills was a fruitful source of inconvenience, and compelled them to resort to the Indian method of reducing their corn, which consisted in pounding it in mortars rudely constructed from hard-wood stumps, which were hollowed out by repeated burnings and scrapings. The pestle consisted of a stone attached to, or suspended from a bent sapling. Wheat was sometimes boiled and eat with milk. This difficulty was soon obviated in some localities by the erection of mills, but in others it remained a source of inconvenience for many years, owing to the inaccessibility of mills, in the absence of suitable roads, and often of any roads at all.

There was one circumstance which largely compensated for the hardships and privations of pioneer life—the spirit of true fraternity and sociability, which they developed to a degree to which we of the present age are strangers, except through tradition. Their interests and sympathies were mutual, and commencing, as most of them did, with a life of poverty and its attendant associations, they felt mutually dependent, were on a plane of social equality, and manifested a true and kindly spirit of helpfulness. That social ostracism engendered by *caste*, a relic alike of ignorance and barbarism, which it is the mission of

the genius of American institutions to eradicate, and which inexorably separates the individual members of a community at the present day, was to them unknown. They mingled freely with each other, and shared each others' joys and sorrows. In conversations with that venerable remnant of pioneer settlers, or rather the immediate descendants of the pioneers, we have been deeply impressed with the regretful earnestness with which they recur to those happy days of their pioneer toils, sympathies and joys.

The excessive stringency of pioneer life was gradually ameliorated by the introduction of public improvements, as the influx of settlers rendered them necessary and possible. Public roads were opened, bridges erected, and better means of conveyance than the early rough state of the country rendered serviceable were introduced. Mills were erected by private capital and individual enterprise. These improvements not only vastly mitigated the severities experienced by the early settlers in reclaiming this wilderness to the uses of civilization, but tended also to attract to it others who were looking for eligible homes in the West, as this country was then justly considered.

The settlement was retarded by a remarkable ice freshet in the winter of 1787-8, which destroyed most of the property of the settlers upon the river intervals. Scarcely less calamitous to life and property was the scarcity that followed in 1789.

From this time this section of the Susquehanna's beautiful valley attracted many sturdy and active emigrants from the comparative luxury of their eastern homes to grapple with the temporary hardships and privations incident to the settlement of a new country. A steady and healthy growth was maintained for many years; and though Chenango and Madison cannot point to any gigantic commercial or manufacturing enterprise within their borders, they can, with just pride, refer the stranger to the no less gratifying evidences of wealth, prosperity and contentment exhibited by the tillers of the soil, who have supplemented nature by improving an already beautiful country and transformed it from its pristine wilderness to the productive and attractive farms which adorn its hillsides and gentle slopes. If we do not hear the busy hum of mechanical industry as it greets us in large and populous cities and villages, neither do we see nor deplore the disparaging contrasts between affluence and poverty which the latter picture invariably presents. Here all are producers, and the wealth of the country is more uniformly distributed. While few have an excessive abundance of this world's goods, few also are driven to a position of dependency.

What a series of struggles with savage, unsubdued nature, is implied in the contrast between the primitive

condition and present cultivated state of the country.

In the vivid language of the poet:—

"Through the deep wilderness where scarce the sun
Can cast his darts, along the winding path
The Pioneer is treading. In his grasp
Is his keen ax, that wondrous instrument,
That like the talisman transforms
Deserts to fields and cities. He has left
The home in which his early years were passed,
And led by hope, and full of restless strength,
Has plunged within the forest, there to plant
His destiny. Beside some rapid stream
He rears his log-built cabin. When the chains
Of Winter fetter Nature, and no sound
Disturbs the echoes of the dreary woods,
Save when some stem cracks sharply with the frost;
Then merrily rings his ax, and tree on tree
Crashes to earth; and when the long, keen night
Mantles the wilderness in solemn gloom,
He sits beside the ruddy hearth, and hears
The fierce wolf snarling at the cabin door,
Or through the lowly casement sees his eye
Gleam like a burning coal."*

We turn from the fruitful and inviting subject of pioneer life to the consideration of the means by which the pioneer reached his home in the wilderness and the projects of internal improvement which subsequently engaged his attention. When the first settlers came in there was not a road in the county. There were two principal routes by which they came, denominated the north and south water routes—the former the Hudson and Mohawk rivers; the latter the Susquehanna; and the most navigable streams were the most frequented highways for some years after they arrived. Many, however, compassed the entire distance from the far New England States on foot, bringing nothing with them but an ax. Those who came with their families generally came with ox teams drawing sleds, sometimes wood-shod, or covered wagons, often performing the entire journey in this manner, and frequently driving a few sheep, cattle and other animals before them. Many, however, resorted to this mode of conveyance only to and from the termini of the water routes. The winter season was generally selected, as then they could reach points in the wilderness which were inaccessible to their rude conveyances at other seasons. Many who came by the northern route threaded forests unbroken from Whitestown, except by the few scant, rude clearings made by the Indians. Blazed trees were the forest guide boards, and by their aid the forests were traversed from one locality to another. But these human denizens could not prosper in their isolated settlements; they must needs open communication with

* Alfred B. Street.

each other, and to this end roads were indispensable and of the first importance.

The pioneers first followed the Indian trails and from these branched off into routes indicated by marked trees. The earliest authentic representation of these trails which has come under our observation indicates one extending south-west from the Mohawk at about the locality of Utica, through Oneida, (*Onei-out*), about four miles north of the position supposed to have been attacked by Champlain in 1615, and Cazenovia Lake, about the same distance south of Onondaga Lake, passing thence near the foot of lakes Skaneateles and Owasco (*Asco*) to *Goi-o-gouen*, the seat of the mission of St. Joseph, on the east shore of Cayuga (*Tichero*) Lake. This crosses two trails within the limits of Madison county, one extending from the mouth of Salmon (*Otihtangué*) River, along the westerly branch of Fish Creek, passing the east end of Lake Oneida, (*Lac Techiroguen*) to the position of the Fort of 1615, thence in a south-westerly direction to a point nearly midway between Ithaca and Elmira, intersecting at that point a trail extending from Great Sodus Bay (*Bay des Goi-o-gouen*) along the east shore of Cayuga Lake into Pennsylvania; and the other starting from the Fort of 1615, and extending in a north-westerly direction passing about the point at which Chenango Creek begins to form the west boundary of Madison county, thence to *Techiroguen* at the foot of Oneida Lake, intersecting at that point a trail extending from the one starting at the mouth of Salmon River, at about the locality of Pulaski, and thence south to *Ganentaha*, on the east shore of Onondaga Lake, where the latter trail intersected one extending from Oswego (*Chouegouen*) along the west side of Oswego River, (*R. des Onnontagues*), crossing the Seneca at Three River Point, and running thence through *Ganentaha* to the trail first described, near the town site of the Onondagas in 1654, intersecting at that point also a trail extending from the one on Salmon River from a point about on the first degree of longitude east of Washington, running thence a little east of south, striking the north shore of Lake Oneida at a point which the prolongation of the line forming the southern portion of the western boundary of Madison county would intersect, and extending with slight deviations along that line to the point on the trail first described where it is intercepted by the trail from Oswego, and thence in a south-westerly direction to the locality of Pine valley, in Chemung county, touching in its course the heads of Tully and Cayuga lakes.* A representation of the trails of a more modern period represents one extending from Fort Schuyler (Utica) through the "Old Oneida Castle," which is there named

* Map of the Iroquois Five Nations and Mission Sites, 1656-1684, by John S. Clark, 1879.

Canowaroghare,* *Canadassto*, which apparently corresponds with the position of East Boston, and *Canasaraga Castle* to *Three Rivers*. A little south-west of Canaseraga a branch extends to Onondaga, south of the lake of that name.† Another map indicates a trail extending from Oneida village in a general westerly direction, passing through "*Canaghsaraga*, a Tuscarora Town," and Onondaga, crossing the Seneca apparently in the locality of Montezuma, and thence through *Canadasegy*, *Canadaragey*, and *Chenifsio*, (Geneseo) to Fort Sclosser (Buffalo).‡ This and the last preceding trail doubtless corresponds with that which is well known to have crossed the northern part of Madison county, passing through Oneida Castle, Wampsville, Quality Hill and Canaseraga, leaving the county at Deep Spring; and it is equally certain that it was the first work of internal improvement in the county from which the first settlers derived advantage, though constructed as it was for purposes vastly at variance with theirs.§

When the first settlers located in the southern part of Chenango County, they found a road extending from Bainbridge to the mouth of Page Brook, some three miles below Chenango Forks, which is known as the "Chenango Road," and on which many of the pioneers located. It extended through Coventry and the southern part of Greene. The growth of timber upon it indicated that it had then (about 1792) been opened some fifteen years or more. It is not positively known by whom it was cut through, but De Witt Clinton and Wm. L. Marcy, who were consulted in regard to it, expressed the belief that it was constructed by a detachment of Sullivan's army under Gen. James Clinton, and the former stated that it was paid for by the State.

Local roads were rapidly opened in the various towns. In the town of Sherburne, where a very complete record has been kept, not less than forty-seven roads were laid out as early as 1800, eight years after the first settler established himself in that town.

* This evidently refers to the present Oneida Castle. A village located near the Oneida Lake is designated the "New Oneida Castle." A note in reference to the line of this trail in 1757, which had then become a road over which the English had driven cattle and horses, appears in *Doc. Hist.* 1, 526, as follows:—"The road goes to the Great Oneida Village, about two leagues from the Lake. A picket Fort with four bastions, had been constructed in this village by the English. It was destroyed by the Oneidas in observance of their promise given at a council held between them and the Marquis de Vaudreuil. Each of its sides might have been one hundred paces. There is a second Oneida Village, called the little village, situated on the bank of the Lake. There is no fort in the latter."

† *Sauthier's Map of 1779*, on which the trail described is the only one indicated affecting this county.

‡ *Guy Johnson's Map of 1771*.

§ This road was traveled and improved in 1790 by William and James Wadsworth, who passed over it with a cart drawn by oxen, on their way to the Genesee country. West of Whitesboro they were obliged to cut away logs, build causeways, ford streams, and at Cayuga Lake, to construct a pontoon, using for that purpose two Indian canoes, which they lashed together and covered with poles.

CHAPTER X.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—WESTERN INLAND LOCK NAVIGATION COMPANY—OLD GENESSEE ROAD—SENECA TURNPIKE CO.—FIRST MAIL THROUGH MADISON COUNTY—OTHER TURNPIKES—OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION—FIRST SURVEY FOR ERIE CANAL—FIRST BOARD OF CANAL COMMISSIONERS—REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF ENGINEERING SKILL—CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED—COMMISSIONERS OF THE CANAL FUND—FIRST CONTRACT ON ERIE CANAL—FIRST PACKET BOAT ON—CELEBRATION OF ERIE CANAL COMPLETION—ERIE CANAL ENLARGEMENT—CHENANGO CANAL—PRELIMINARY MEASURES—CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED—ABANDONED—NEW YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD—NEW YORK AND OSWEGO MIDLAND RAILROAD AND ITS BRANCHES—ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD—CAZENOVIA AND CANASTOTA RAILROAD—UTICA, CHENANGO AND SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY RAILROAD—UTICA, CLINTON AND BINGHAMTON RAILROAD—UTICA, CHENANGO AND CORTLAND RAILROAD—SYRACUSE AND CHENANGO VALLEY RAILROAD—RAILROAD INDEBTEDNESS OF CHENANGO AND MADISON COUNTIES.

FROM an early period in English colonial history, the subject of improving the internal water courses between the Hudson and the great lakes engaged the attention of the Government. In 1724, Cadwallader Colden, then Surveyor-General of New York, after mentioning the communication between Oswego (*Onondaga*) River and Lake Ontario, (*Cadaraqui*), intimates that Seneca River might give a more advantageous route to Lake Erie, and avoid the Falls of Niagara, (*Jagara*), by which the French were obliged to reach it.* This is doubtless the first speculation in regard to an interior water communication between the Mohawk and Lake Erie; and "was but the expression of a hope that a more safe, as well as convenient way might be found to the trade of the upper lakes than that frequented by the French, and made dangerous to the frail boats then employed in the fur trade by the storms of Lake Ontario."† In his report of that year, (1724), Colden describes the portage between the Mohawk and Wood Creek as being three miles long, except in very dry weather, when goods must be carried two miles further. This portage was obviated as early as 1766, for Carver, who traversed the lake country in that year, said the passage between those streams was effected by means of sluices.‡ In 1768, Sir Henry Moore, in a message

* *Colden's Memoir*, 28.

† *Origin and History of Erie Canal*, by George Geddes, 2.

‡ *Colden's Memoir*, 12.

to the Colonial Legislature, suggested as a remedy for the obstructions to navigation in the Mohawk between Schenectady and Rome, (Fort Stanwix,) sluices like those in the great Canal of Languedoc, France.* In 1784, and again in 1785, Christopher Colles, of New York city, memorialized the Legislature and procured an appropriation of one hundred and twenty-five dollars to enable him to examine the Mohawk River, with a view to its improvement; † and in 1786, Jeffrey Smith, a member of the Legislature, introduced a bill to effect this improvement, and for "extending the same, if practicable, to Lake Erie." ‡

Before and during the Revolutionary war, the Mohawk was navigated by bateaux of light draught and easy transport over the carrying place at the lesser falls. At this time the main traveled road between the East and West Canada Creeks was on the south side of the river. As early as April, 1790, the Legislature appropriated "one hundred pounds for the purpose of erecting a bridge across the East Canada Creek, not exceeding three miles from the mouth thereof, upon the road from the Mohawk River to the Royal Grant." §

In 1791, Gov. George Clinton urged upon the Legislature the necessity of improving the natural water channels, so as to facilitate communication with the frontier settlements, and in that year a law was passed to authorize the Commissioners of the Land Office to survey the portage at Rome and the Mohawk to the Hudson, for improvement by locks, and one hundred pounds were appropriated for the object. ¶ The survey was made by Abraham Hardenburgh, under the advice of William Weston, an English Engineer. ¶¶ The report of the Commissioners was so favorable that March 30, 1792, the Legislature incorporated the "Western Inland Lock Navigation Company," with power to open lock navigation from the Hudson to Ontario and Seneca Lakes, to "encourage agriculture, promote commerce and facilitate intercourse between the citizens" of the State. ** The capital stock of the company was fixed at twenty-five thousand dollars, and afterwards increased to three hundred thousand dollars. †† The improvement made consisted in the construction of locks and a canal around Little Falls, the removal of other obstructions in the Mohawk, connecting that river with Wood Creek by

a canal from Rome, straightening Wood Creek and shortening the distance over it nearly one-half, and the removal of obstructions in Oswego and Seneca rivers. These improvements, slight as they were, are said to have doubled the value of contiguous lands, and greatly aided the settlement and development of the resources of Central and Western New York.*

As early as 1796, navigation was opened from Schenectady to Seneca Lake for boats of sixteen tons burden, in favorable stages of the water in the rivers; but the locks being constructed of wood and brick soon failed and had to be replaced with stone. In 1813 the company had expended \$480,000, towards which, in 1795, the state subscribed \$10,000, and in 1796, loaned \$37,500, taking a mortgage on the canal and locks at Little Falls. †

In 1794 and 1795 the State made appropriations for the improvement of the road which followed the trail extending through the north part of Madison County, afterwards known as the "Ontario and Genesee Turnpike," and subsequently as the "Genesee Road," which was completed to New Amsterdam (Buffalo) as early as 1809, in which year also a "New State Road" was finished to within a few miles of Rochester, passing through Madison County in close proximity to Oneida Lake. ‡ Two years previous to the former date, (in 1792,) Oneida is described as an Indian town of five hundred and fifty inhabitants, who (the natives) were "very friendly." Between that village and Clinton, which was described as a "very large and thriving town," there were no inhabitants. §

Some idea of the condition of the old Genesee Road at this period may be formed from the following

* Says Hon. George Geddes, in *Origin and History of the Erie Canal*:—"The high tolls and other expenses of this navigation were so onerous that land carriage on the poor roads of that day still continued to be the usual mode of communication between the interior and the sea board."

† The tolls were 51 cents on a barrel of flour for a hundred miles, and \$5.72 for a ton of goods the same distance.—*State Engineer's Report*.

‡ The trip from Utica to Schenectady was rapid and agreeable, but the return was so slow and tedious that passengers did not incline to embrace it.—*Benton*, 211.

§ The history of both the Western and Northern [The "Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company" was incorporated at the same time as the Western to open lock navigation from the Hudson to Lake Champlain] Internal Lock Navigation companies is but a repetition of failures, and a record of disappointed hopes. The friends of internal improvements in the interior and western parts of the State, by the end of the last century, ceased to look to the Western Company as likely to furnish any relief to their over-burthened coast of transportation. The Statesmen of that day despaired of any advancement of the population and dignity of the State to be brought about by this abortive enterprise.—*Geddes*, who quotes *Hosack's Memoir*, 181.

† *Geddes*, 1.

‡ Investigation has shown that these Indian trails passed over the most feasible routes, and were generally followed in laying out the early roads.

§ The record says of that locality:—

"It would appear to you, my friend, on hearing the relation of events in the western country, that the whole was a fable; and if you were placed in Whitestown, or Clinton, ten miles west from Fort Schuyler, and could see the progress of improvement, you would believe it enchanted ground. You would there view an extensive and well-built town, surrounded by highly cultivated fields, which spot in the year 1783, was the 'haunt of tribes' and the hiding place of wolves, now a flourishing happy situation, containing about six thousand people."—*Description of the Country Between Albany and Niagara in 1792*. *Mass. Hist. Coll.* 1.

* *Calden's Memoirs*.

† *Clark's Onondaga*, II., 51.

‡ *Turner's Holland Purchase*, 619.

§ *Benton's Herkimer County and Upper Mohawk Valley*, 212.

The Royal Grant was a tract of land embracing 91,000 acres, in the present county of Herkimer, and was patented to Sir John Johnson April 16, 1765.—*French's State Gazetteer*.

¶ *State Engineer's Report* 1862, 619. The Commissioners who had charge of the work were Elkanah Watson, General Schuyler and Goldsboro Banyer.

¶¶ *Clark's Onondaga*, II., 51.

** *Benton*, 212; and *Geddes*, 1.

†† *Geddes*, 1.

extract from the description of a journey to the Genesee country:—

"On the 15th of February, 1792, I left Albany, on my route to the Genesee River; but the country was thought so remote, and so very little known, that I could not prevail on the owner of the sled I had engaged to go further than Whitestown, a new settlement on the head of the Mohawk River, one hundred miles west from Albany. The road, as far as Whitestown, had been made passable for wagons; but from that to the Genesee River it was little better than an Indian path, just sufficiently opened to allow a sled to pass, and the most impassable streams bridged. At Whitestown I was obliged to change my sled; the Albany driver would proceed no further; he found that for the next one hundred and fifty miles we were not only obliged to take provision for ourselves and our horses, but also blankets as a substitute for beds. After leaving Whitestown, we found only a few straggling huts scattered along the path at a distance of from ten to twenty miles, and they affording nothing but the convenience of fire and a kind of shelter from the snow. On the evening of the third day's journey from Whitestown, we were very agreeably surprised to find ourselves on the east side of the Seneca Lake, which we found perfectly open and free from ice as in the month of June. The evening was pleasant and agreeable, and what added to our surprise and admiration, was to see a boat and canoe plying on the lake. This, after having passed from New York over three hundred and sixty miles of country completely frozen, was a sight of pleasure and interest."*

In 1797, the State authorized the raising of forty-five thousand dollars by lotteries, to be expended in improving various roads. Of that sum, thirteen thousand, nine hundred dollars were appropriated to the improvement of this road from Fort Schuyler to Geneva.† "The inhabitants of the country through which the road passed made a voluntary offer of their services, to aid the State Commissioner, and subscribed four thousand days' work, which they performed with fidelity and cheerfulness. By this generous and uncommon exertion, and by some other contributions, the State Commissioner was enabled to complete this road of near one hundred miles, opening it sixty-four feet wide, and paving with logs and gravel the moist parts of the low country through which it was carried. Hence, the road from Fort Schuyler * * to Genesee, from being, in the month of June, 1797, a little better than an Indian path, was so far improved, that a stage started from Fort Schuyler on the 30th of September, and arrived at the hotel in Geneva in the afternoon of the third day, with four passengers. * * Not less than fifty families settled on it in the space of four months after it was opened."‡

The Seneca Turnpike Company was chartered in 1800, having for its object the improvement of this

* *Doc. Hist. of New York*, II., 1, 111.

† *Hammond's History of Madison County*, 128.

‡ *Doc. Hist.*, II., 1142. Letters of Capt. Charles Williamson, who came to this country as the agent of Sir Wm. Pultney and Governor Hornby, for the settlement of their lands in Western New York, in 1792.

road.* The company was required to construct a road six rods wide from Utica to Canandaigua; twenty-five feet of it, in the center, was to be covered with gravel, or broken stone, to the depth of fifteen inches. They were permitted to place gates at intervals of ten miles, and exact twelve and one-half cents toll for two-horse teams, and twenty-five cents for four horses. Its charter was amended in 1801, so as to allow the company to change the direction of the road and thus avoid Canaseraga and Onondaga hills. Mrs. Hammond thus facetiously describes an incident which occurred at that time:—

"They [the commissioners] found little opposition to the changes made from Westmoreland to Chittenango; as there were but few white inhabitants on the way, but at the latter place they were met by a large delegation from Manlius and Onondaga, who feared the commissioners would select a more northern route. The settlers on the northern route had not sufficient interest in the road to send on their advocates, and consequently, by the aid of a pretty fair ruse, those in favor of the southern, had it all their own way. Being well acquainted with the country, they proposed to pilot the commissioners over the most suitable ground for the road. They first led them up the ravine north-west of Chittenango, a mile and a half, when they found themselves hemmed in on three sides by a perpendicular ledge of rocks more than a hundred feet high, with no way of getting out but by backing out. With well feigned sincerity, the guides explained this as a mistake, and the commissioners were led over the next best passable route, across this ravine along the great hill toward Hartsville and into one of the most dismal of all places, then dignified by the very significant name of Gulf of Mexico, now called the Basin, a place where the mountainous heights permit the sun to make only short diurnal visits.

"The forbidding aspect of the country all about them compelled them to return to Chenango the way they had come. The weary Commissioners resigned themselves to the sophistry of those interested advocates; the northern route was declared impracticable, and the Seneca Turnpike was laid out over the hill passing the county line a short distance above Deep Spring, where William Sayles kept tavern in 1793, on through Manlius Square, Jamesville and Onondaga Hollow. Not long afterwards the company learned they had not availed themselves of the most favorable route. They solicited an amendment to the charter, which was granted in 1806. They were now enabled to build a new road from Chittenango through the Onondaga Reservation, near the Salt Springs, to Cayuga Bridge.† and fifty thousand dollars were added to the capital stock. * * * * *

* The capital stock was \$110,000, in shares of \$50 each. Jedediah Sanger, Benjamin Walker, Charles Williamson and Israel Chapin were appointed Commissioners.

† This celebrated bridge was begun in 1799, and finished September 4, 1800. It speedily became the great highway of western emigration. It was for many years looked upon as one of the greatest public improvements in the State, and was considered the dividing line between the east and the west. It was just about a mile long, twenty-two feet wide, and twenty-two feet between the trestles. Eighteen months were consumed and \$150,000 expended in its construction. It was built by the *Cayuga Bridge Company*, which was chartered in 1797, and consisted of John Harris, Thomas Morris, Wilhelmus Mynders, Charles Williamson and Joseph Annin. It was destroyed 1808, rebuilt in 1812-13, and finally abandoned in 1857. Nothing is now left of it but the spiles and timbers, which are mostly hidden by the waters of the lake.

"The First United States mail through this county [Madison] was carried by a Mr. Langdon, from Whitestown to Genesee on horseback, in 1797 or '98, who distributed papers and unsealed letters by the way, before intermediate offices were established. Mr. Lucas succeeded Mr. Langdon in transporting the mail, which, in 1800, had become so heavy as to require a wagon to carry it. Mr. Lucas established a sort of two-horse passenger hack, and did a brisk and profitable business. The first four horse mail coach was sent through once a week by Jason Parker, in 1803, and in 1804 commenced running regularly twice a week from Utica to Canandaigua, carrying the United States mail and passengers. In 1804, an act was passed, granting to Jason Parker and Levi Stephens, the exclusive right for seven years, of running a line of stages for the conveyance of passengers, at least twice a week, along the Genesee Road or Seneca Turnpike, between the villages of Utica and Canandaigua. They were bound to furnish four good and substantial wagons or sleighs, and sufficient horses to run the same; the fare not to exceed five cents per mile for each passenger, with fourteen pounds of baggage. They were by law bound to run through in forty-eight hours, accidents excepted, and not more than seven passengers were allowed in any one carriage, except by the unanimous consent of the said seven passengers; and, if four passengers above the seven applied for passage, they were bound to immediately fit out and start an extra for their accommodation; or any number less than four should be accommodated by paying the fare of four.

"In 1808, a daily line was established, and afterwards several others, which were continued until the completion of the Syracuse and Utica Railroad."*

The condition of the road in 1804 was far from being what could be desired, as is shown by the following extract from a letter written by James D. Bemis† to friends in Albany, in January of that year, where, while enroute to Canada, he was induced to stop and open a store, which he had contemplated doing in Canada:—

"After being detained at Utica upwards of seven weeks,' says Mr. Bemis, 'my patience was so far exhausted, that I determined, notwithstanding the badness of the roads, to make one more attempt to gain the place of my destination; and accordingly hired two wagons to take me to Canandaigua. They had proceeded about fifty rods, when one of them got mired to the hub! Good start! you will say. Well! we got out in about an hour and traveled eight miles the first day. * * * Next morning, after taking a warm breakfast, I again "weighed anchor," and trudged in solitude along the muddy waste, (for it is indeed solitary to have no company but swearing teamsters,) till we reached Oneida village, an Indian settlement, where, about dark, both wagons got again

* *History of Madison County*, 128-130.

† Mr. Bemis was the veteran editor of the *Canandaigua Repository*, and was, when living, the oldest editor in Western New York. He also published, in 1812, the "first bound book printed between Seneca Lake and the Pacific Ocean." It was entitled *Political Essays*, and contained "A series of letters addressed to the People of the United States by Timothy Pickering, late a Senator in Congress."—Henry O'Rielly, in *The Historical Magazine*, Vol. 1, Second Series, No. 4, 193.

mired to the hub! Zounds and alack! what a pickle we were in! How did I invoke the aid of old Hercules to give one tug at the wheel! However, after lifting, grumbling, hallooing, and tugging three hours and a half, with the assistance of an Indian, we once more got "on land." It was now ten o'clock, and no tavern within our power to reach. Cold, fatigued and hungry, we were glad to get under shelter, and accordingly stopped at the first Indian hut we found, where there was no bed and no victuals, except a slice of rusty pork.

"After a night spent in yawning, dozing, and gaping, we again got under headway, and hove in sight of a tavern about ten o'clock;—but nothing like breakfast was to be had—all confusion—and we went on to Onondaga (50 miles west of Utica) where we arrived about ten at night. Here the house was full; and I obtained the privilege of sleeping with two strangers by paying for their lodging, and giving them a glass of bitters—an odd bargain to be sure! But I thought it cheap, had it been my last shilling. But fate decreed that the troubles of that day should not end by going to bed!" * * *

But we will not dwell upon those nocturnal difficulties. His letter continues:—

"At this place, Onondaga, (near the site of the present city of Syracuse,) the wagoners got discouraged, and despaired of the practicability of traveling! They accordingly stored the goods and made the best of their way home again! Here I was obliged to remain two weeks, when a fine snow falling, I hired a man with a three horse sleigh, to carry me to Canada, and arrived at this place (Canandaigua) on Saturday evening the 14th of January, after a "short and pleasant passage" of sixty-two (62) days from Albany!"*

Other companies were speedily chartered and roads constructed, prominent among which were the Esopus and Ithaca turnpike, extending through Southern Chenango, and crossing the towns of Bainbridge, Coventry and Greene about 1809; the Peterboro turnpike, extending from Vernon, through Peterboro to Cazenovia, in 1804; and the Cherry Valley turnpike, extending from Cherry Valley to Manlius, through Madison, Eaton, Nelson and Cazenovia, about that time. Population increased with wonderful rapidity and the public means of transportation were inadequate to meet the demands upon them. They were supplemented by private freight wagons, which carried to Albany the surplus productions of the farms and returned laden with merchandise. A caravan of teams from a neighborhood would go in company and assist each other, by doubling teams up steep hills and through the deep sloughs. These long journeys, the round trip often occupying two weeks, were thus cheered by mutual aid and sympathy, and were rather interesting episodes in the routine of early farm life. At the hospitable *inns*, which arose by the way-side every few miles, these hardy and happy teamsters

* Henry O'Rielly in *Historical Magazine*, New Series, Vol. 1, No. 4, p. 195.

would pass a noon, or night, as cheerfully as any modern traveler in the pretentious hotels of to-day. Besides these farm teams, heavy transportation wagons were regularly run over the Seneca Turnpike, often drawn by seven, sometimes nine horses, and carrying a proportionate load. The wagons were massive, with very broad-tired wheels, to prevent them from penetrating the road bed. It was no uncommon thing to see long strings of these farm wagons, laden with produce, approaching some central and important mart, to the number of fifty or a hundred.

But the enterprise which had the most marked effect upon the settlements of Central and Western New York was the completion of the Erie Canal.

With the rapid increase in population came the demand for increased facilities for transportation. The old methods were inadequate, and for several years in the early part of the present century the minds of public men, statesmen and those whose genius adorned the humbler walks of life, were agitated by this intensely absorbing topic, as the necessities of its proximate cause became more immediate and pressing. To Gouverneur Morris is due the credit of first broaching the subject of connecting the waters of Lake Erie with those of the Hudson, a thought which took form in his brain as early as 1777,* and found more tangible expression in 1800, in December of which year, he wrote his friend, John Parish, then of Hamburg, and in descanting on the glories of Lake Erie which he visited in that year, said:—

"Here again the boundless waste of waters fills the mind with renewed astonishment; and here, as in turning a point of wood the lake broke on my view, I saw riding at anchor nine vessels, the least of them 100 tons. Can you bring your imagination to realize this scene? Does it seem like magic? Yet this magic is but the early effort of victorious industry. Hundreds of large ships will in no distant period bound on the billows of these inland seas. At this point commences a navigation of more than a thousand miles. Shall I lead your astonishment to the verge of incredulity? I will. Know, then, that one-tenth of the expenses borne by Britain in the last campaign would enable ships to sail from London through Hudson's River to Lake Erie."†

In 1803, in a conversation with Simeon DeWitt, who was then and had long been Surveyor-General of New York State, Mr. Morris adverted to the long cherished "project of *tapping Lake Erie* and leading its waters, in an artificial river directly across the country to Hudson's River;" but DeWitt, with his intensely practical mind, regarded it as a chimerical scheme, and related it on several occasions in a spirit of levity, among others to James Geddes, a surveyor, who, in 1794, removed from Pennsylvania with the facilities for manufacturing salt, and located near the Onon-

daga salt springs, from whence, in 1804, he was sent to the Legislature. Mr. Geddes was strongly impressed with the plan, which, he afterwards wrote, "struck me as a grand desideratum," and untiringly pursued his investigations in regard to the nature of the intervening country, thus acquiring data which not only made him an ardent advocate of the project, but enabled him to create a public sentiment in its favor, so that it was made a political issue, and in April, 1807, Judge Joshua Forman, of Onondaga county, was elected to the Assembly as the representative of its advocates and supporters.

October 27, 1807, the first of a series of articles from the pen of Jesse Hawley, appeared in the *Ontario Messenger*, over the signature of *Hercules*, strongly advocating the construction of the canal. March 21, 1808, in consonance with a resolution previously introduced by Mr. Forman, the Assembly passed a bill instructing the Surveyor-General "to cause an accurate survey to be made of the rivers, streams and waters, (not already accurately surveyed,) in the usual route of communication between the Hudson River and Lake Erie, and such other contemplated route as he may deem proper, and cause the same to be delineated on charts or maps for that purpose accompanying the same, with the elevations of the route, and such explanatory notes as may be necessary for all useful information in the premises, of which one copy shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of this State, and another transmitted to the President of the United States, which the person administering the government of this State is requested to do." The Senate concurred April 6th, and on the 11th of that month *six hundred dollars* were appropriated to carry out the provisions of the resolution.* Upon James Geddes was devolved the task of making these surveys; and on the 11th of June, 1808, the Surveyor-General wrote him the following instructions:—

"As the provision made for the expenses of this business is not adequate to the effectual exploring of the country, you will, in the first place, examine what may appear to be the best place for a canal from Oneida Lake to Lake Ontario in the town of Mexico, and take a survey and level of it;—also whether a canal cannot be made between Oneida Lake and Oswego, by a route in part to the west of the Oswego River, so as to avoid those parts along it where it will be impracticable to make a good navigation. The next object will be the ground between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, which must be examined with a view to determine what will be the most eligible tract for a canal, from below the Niagara Falls to Lake Erie. If

* "Some of the members said they voted for the resolution," for the reason it "could do no harm, and might do some good." "The very small sum appropriated was in itself proof that but little was expected to be done, and that was probably doled out to silence the importunities of the persistent representative of Onondaga," who had carefully "estimated the cost at \$10,000,000, which, he said, was a mere 'bagatelle' to the value of such a navigation." —*Origin and History of the Erie Canal*, p.

* *Hosack's Memoir*, 250.

† *Hosack's Memoir*, 257.

your means will admit of it, it would be a desirable thing to have a level taken throughout the whole entire distance between the two lakes. As Mr. Joseph Ellicott has given me a description of the country from Tonnewand Creek to the Genesee River, and pointed out a route for a canal through that tract, it is important to have a continuation of it explored to the Seneca River. No leveling or survey of it will be necessary for the present, (because the appropriation will probably by this time be expended.) It must be left as a work by itself, to be undertaken hereafter, should the Government deem it necessary. A view of the ground only, with such information as may be obtained from others, is all that can now be required of you."

Mr. Geddes faithfully carried out the instructions of his superior, notwithstanding they did not contemplate the object of his desire, and their only practical utility was in determining the ineligibility of the Lake Ontario route. But in December of that year he satisfied himself of the feasibility of the interior route, advancing from his own funds the cost of the examination—seventy-three dollars—which was afterwards refunded to him by the State. January 20, 1809, he submitted his report to the Surveyor-General, who afterwards wrote that it marked out a route "almost precisely in the line which, after repeated, elaborate and expensive examinations, has been finally adopted," and thus was "the fact satisfactorily established, that a canal from Lake Erie to Hudson's River was not only practicable, but practicable with uncommon facility."*

The feasibility of the route having been satisfactorily established, Mr. Forman repaired to Washington and had an interview with President Jefferson, hoping thereby to enlist the aid of the General Government in the further prosecution of the enterprise. But he received no encouragement. After listening attentively to a narrative of the advantages which, it was urged, would follow its completion, the President replied it is a very fine project and might be executed a century hence; and after referring to the fact that the completion of a canal of a few miles, projected by General Washington, which, if finished, would make Washington a fine commercial city, languished for the want of an appropriation of \$200,000 by the General Government, added, "it is a little short of madness to think of it at this day." †

The favorable report of Judge Geddes silenced much local opposition, and induced the Legislature,

* *Canal Laws, I., 40, 41.*

† In a letter to Governor Clinton in 1812, Mr. Jefferson alludes to this interview, and says: "Many, I dare say, still think with me that New York has anticipated, by a full century, the ordinary progress of improvement. This great work suggests a question, both curious and difficult, as to the comparative capability of nations to execute great enterprises. It is not from great surplus of produce, after supplying their own wants, for in this New York is not far beyond other States: is it from other sources of industry additional to her produce? This may be: or is it a moral superiority—a sounder calculating mind, as to the most profitable employment of surplus, by improvement of capital, instead of useless consumption? I should lean to this latter hypothesis, were I disposed to puzzle myself with such investigations." —*Hausch, 148.*

March 15, 1810, to unanimously authorize the organization of a Board of Commissioners, "with powers and means to prosecute the business." That Board consisted of Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Simeon DeWitt, William North, Thomas Eddy and Peter P. Porter. During the session three thousand dollars were appropriated for the use of the Commission. From this time, De Witt Clinton, who was then a member of the State Senate, was a warm friend of the project, and gave it the aid of his vigorous and capacious intellect. In July, 1810, the Commissioners, accompanied by Mr. Geddes, passed over the mooted routes, to Oswego and Niagara, and March 2, 1811, they made a report recommending the adoption of the interior route, and protested against any private individual or company having the control of it, urging that it would prevent cheap transportation.

May 8, 1811, Robert R. Livingston and Robert Fulton were added to the Commission, who were empowered to employ engineers to make further surveys, and to apply to the National and State Governments for aid. Fifteen thousand dollars were appropriated in furtherance of that end. In November, 1811, Judge Benjamin Wright, of Rome, was employed to survey the north side of the Mohawk, and thus became an associate with Mr. Geddes. March 14, 1812, the Commission made a second report, based on the surveys of these gentlemen, after having submitted them to Mr. Weston, the English surveyor, who said, "From the perspicuous topographical description and neat plan and profile of the route of the contemplated canal, I entertain little doubt of the practicability of the measure." They were unsuccessful in their efforts to secure the aid of other Governments.

June 19, 1812, the commission was authorized to purchase all the right and interest of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, with certain provisos, and to borrow five millions of dollars to be used in the construction of the canal, but the ensuing war necessitated a suspension of operations, and April 15, 1814, the law authorizing this loan was repealed. Early in 1814, however, an English engineer was employed to ascertain the best line for a canal. In their report of March 8, 1814, the Commissioners expressed a "desire to not be held as committed *exclusively* to a canal descending according to the level of the country like an inclined plane."

* *Canal Laws, I., 105.* The first thought of the Commissioners was to make the canal one vast inclined plane, from the Erie to the Hudson, with a uniform descent of six inches to the mile. This idea originated in the brain of Gouverneur Morris, "and to carry it out," says Mr. George Geddes, "he was willing to make the enormous embankments that would be required to cross the valley of the Genesee, twenty-six feet high; Seneca River, eighty-three feet high; and Cayuga, one hundred and thirty feet." He even advocated the "breaking down the mound of Lake Erie, and letting out the waters to follow the level of the country, so as to form a sloop navigation with the Hudson, without any aid from any other water." —*Campbell's Life of Clinton, 54.* But these vagaries of a fertile imagination were gradually relinquished in the attrition with practical knowledge, by the members of the Commission generally, though they were retained by Mr. Morris till his death.

The project was revived in the fall of 1815. Public meetings were held along the whole line of the projected canal, and signatures to the number of more than a hundred thousand procured to a memorial to the Legislature, asking that the construction of the canal be proceeded with at once. In response to this appeal, on the 17th of April, 1816, the Legislature passed "an act to provide for the improvement of the internal navigation of this State," and after a very long discussion was so amended as to provide for the making of surveys and the gathering of information in regard to the whole cost, not only of the Erie Canal, but of a canal along the Hudson from tide water to Lake Champlain. But no authority was given to commence the work.* A new board of Commissioners was appointed, consisting of Stephen Van Rensselaer, DeWitt Clinton, Samuel Young, Joseph Ellicott and Myron Holley.† Twenty thousand dollars were appropriated to carry out the provisions of the law.

Additional surveys were made. The route was divided into three sections, eastern, middle and western, and entrusted respectively to Charles C. Broadhead, Benjamin Wright and James Geddes. The eastern section extended from Rome to the Hudson; the middle, from the Seneca River to Rome; and the western, from Lake Erie to the Seneca River. Ineffectual efforts had been made to secure the services of competent European engineers; but failing in this the Commissioners were obliged to engage home talent. This was a new source of difficulty, as it was taken advantage of by the enemies of the project to destroy or weaken the confidence of the people in the ability of the resident engineers. To put an end to these carpings the Commissioners decided, in 1817, to verify the work of the previous year. For this purpose Mr. Geddes was directed to start at a given point on the canal line at Rome and carry a level along the road to the east end of Oneida Lake, and taking the height of the lake while the water was tranquil, to then connect that lake with Onondaga Lake; then carry a level to the canal line, and from thence work eastward, laying off sections along that line. This he did, and laid out nine miles towards Rome. Mr. Wright was directed to start from the same point in Rome. He carried a level westward to the stakes set by Mr. Geddes; and when he had finished, the levels of these two engineers, which embraced a circuit of nearly one hundred miles, differed less than an inch and a half.‡ This astonishing care and precision had the desired effect.

In March, 1817, the Commissioners made an

* George Geddes.

† The Commissioners met at New York, May 17, 1816, and appointed Mr. Clinton President; Mr. Young, Secretary; and Mr. Holley, Treasurer.

‡ *Canal Laws, &c.*, 1819-70, and *Origin and History of the Erie Canal*, 14.

elaborate report, and from revised estimates placed the cost at \$5,000,000. April 15, 1817, the bill which established the canal policy of the State passed the Legislature, after a sharp and talented controversy, in which the opinions of Martin VanBuren in the Senate and the eminent Elisha Williams, of Hudson, in the Assembly, had great weight in turning the decision in its favor. Mr. Van Buren in an able and impressive speech insisted that the facts fully warranted the commencement of the work; while Mr. Williams, appealing to the members from New York City, who, almost to a man, were hostile to the project, said, addressing the leading members of that delegation, "if the canal is to be a shower of gold, it will fall upon New York; if a river of gold, it will flow into her lap."[§] But it had still to pass the ordeal of the Council of Revision, where it had a precarious maternity. From the account given of the action of that body by Judge Platt, of Oneida county, who ardently favored it, we learn that, of the number, consisting additionally of Lieutenant and Acting Governor Taylor, Chancellor Kent and Chief Justices Thompson and Yates, the latter was the only other one who at first favored it. The Chancellor being called on for his opinion, "said he had given very little attention to the subject; that it appeared to him a gigantic project, which would require the wealth of the United States to accomplish; that it had passed the Legislature by small majorities, after a desperate struggle; and he thought it inexpedient to commit the State in such a vast undertaking until public opinion could be better united in its favor." Thompson said he "cherished no hostility to the canal, and that he would not inquire as to the majorities, as the Legislature had agreed to the measure he would be inclined to leave the responsibility with them; but he said the bill gave arbitrary powers to the Commissioners over private rights, without proper guards," and he therefore opposed it. But a more temperate examination of the bill, following a warm discussion, obviated in some measure the objections of the Chancellor and Chief Justice. Taylor "panted with honest zeal to strangle the infant Hercules in its birth by casting his vote in the negative." Daniel D. Tompkins happened in and joined in the discussion, decidedly opposing it. But singularly enough his objections determined its passage. Among other objections he stated that "the late peace with Great Britain was a mere truce; that we should undoubtedly soon have a renewed war with that country; and that instead of wasting the credit and resources of the State on this chimerical project, we ought immediately to employ all the revenue and credit of the State in providing arsenals, arming the militia, erecting fortifications and preparing for war. 'Do you

[§] *Honck*, 450.

think so, sir?' said Chancellor Kent. 'Yes, sir,' was the reply; 'England will never forgive us for our victories on the land and on the ocean and the lakes; and my word for it, we shall have another war with her within two years.' The Chancellor, then rising from his seat, with great animation declared, 'if we are to have war, or to have a canal, I am in favor of a canal, and I vote for the bill.'* This action turned the majority in its favor.

The Canal Commissioners were authorized by that law to commence constructing the canals from Lakes Erie and Champlain to the Hudson. The first contract for the Erie Canal was made June 27, 1817, with John Richardson, of Cayuga County; and the first spadeful of earth was raised at Rome, with appropriate ceremonies, July 4, 1817. Ninety-four miles of canal, including the lateral branch to Salina, were completed in the autumn of 1820, on the middle section; and October 26, 1825, it was finished the entire length, a distance of three hundred and sixty-three miles, at a cost of \$7,143,789.†

In July, 1820, the first packet boat, the *Oneida Chief*, of which George Perry, a resident of Sullivan, was Captain, commenced running between Utica and Montezuma, three times a week, the trip occupying two days. The fare, including board, was \$4. The following year the canal was open to Schenectady.‡

The final completion of the canal was the signal for an outburst of the wildest enthusiasm along its entire length, and the event was celebrated with imposing ceremonies at New York and other points, on the 4th of November, 1825. As the first boat, with Governor Clinton on board, entered the canal at

* *Origin and History of the Erie Canal*, 15.

The law "created the board known as the 'Commissioners of the Canal Fund,' consisting of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Comptroller, the Attorney-General, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer, whose duty it is to manage to the best advantage all things belonging to said fund."

This "fund was created by imposing a duty of twelve and a half cents per bushel upon all salt to be manufactured in the western district of this State; a tax of one dollar on every passenger that should make a trip of over one hundred miles on any steamboat on the Hudson River, and half that sum for any distance less than one hundred miles and over thirty miles; the proceeds of all lotteries which should be drawn in this State, after the sums then granted on them were paid; all the net proceeds from the Western Inland Navigation Company's property which was to be purchased; all the donations made or to be made; all the duties upon sales at auction, after deducting \$11,500 annually, which sum was appropriated to the hospital, economical school, orphan asylum, and foreign poor in the City of New York.

"Besides these several means of resource, \$250,000 were to be raised by levying a tax upon all the lands and real estate lying along the route of said canals, and within twenty-five miles thereof on each side, the assessment to be made by the Canal Commissioners according to the benefit which in their opinion will be derived from the canals.

"This financial scheme proved eminently successful, the salt duties alone paying towards the canals more than \$1,000,000, which is considerably more than one-third of the cost of both of them, and by September, 1833, the salt and auction duties had paid \$5,812,621. The tax on steamboat passengers was suspended the next year, and the tax on lands along the canals was never collected, and the lotteries never paid anything."—*Ibid.*

† *State Engineer's Report*, 1878, p. 85.

‡ When the water was first let in, and for some time after, it would not flow farther east on the Syracuse level than the Stone Bridge. It disappeared in a bed of loose gravel; but the difficulty was remedied after some time.

Buffalo, on the morning of October 26th, the fact was signalled to New York by means of cannon previously stationed at intervals of a few miles along the entire length of the line and down the Hudson. The Governor was everywhere greeted with enthusiasm, and on reaching New York, the boat passed down to Sandy Hook, and the waters of Lake Erie were ceremoniously mingled with those of the Atlantic. New industries sprang into existence along its course, and Madison County was no exception to its invigorating influence. Lines of transportation which had hitherto converged at Albany, gave place to others extending from the interior villages to the nearest canal port, and the conveniences of travel and transportation were indefinitely multiplied.

Within the first decade after its completion the necessity for its enlargement was felt, and this work, which was ordered May 11, 1835, was commenced in August, 1836, and completed in September, 1862, at a cost of \$36,495,535. This improvement reduced its length from 363 miles to 350½ miles; changed the number of locks from 83, each 90 by 15 feet, to 72 each 110 by 18 feet, reducing the number of feet of lockage from 675.5 to 654.8; increased the width at top from 40 to 70 feet, and at bottom from 28 to 56 feet, and the depth from four to seven feet; and increased the burden of boats from 75 tons to 220 tons. The difference in length was occasioned by a change in route in various places, one of which was the locality of Chittenango.

The tolls on one hundred tons each way have decreased from \$1,530 in 1830 to \$140 in 1877; the freight, for the same period, from \$1,378 to \$314; and the total charge from \$2,908 to \$454. The number of tons carried to tide water by the Erie Canal increased from 497,839 in 1835 to 2,298,008 in 1877.*

The *Chenango Canal*, though of far less magnitude, had a marked and beneficial influence on the industries of the country through which it passed, prior to the advent of the railroads, which, while they have stimulated some enterprises have depressed others. The project of connecting the Chenango Valley with the Erie Canal was agitated soon after the construction of the latter work was begun; and Judge Elisha Smith was among the earliest advocates of the measure. Other friends of the project were Governor Bouck, Henry Seymour, Rufus Bacon, James B. Eldridge, John G. Stower, Sands Higinbotham, Moses Maynard, Lot Clark, Julius Pond, and Thomas Wylie, all widely known and influential throughout Central New York. In November, 1823, ten years before its construction was authorized, the following reference to it appeared in the *Oxford Gazette*:—

"Few counties can approach the Erie Canal with so

* *State Engineer's Report*, 1878, p. 81.

much ease and facility as Chenango, that are situated so far from it. We may therefore justly consider Chenango as destined, at some future period, to become an important branch of that vast inland navigation which secures to New York a proud pre-eminence among the States of the Union. The Chenango River can be made boatable to its source, and by a short canal, the expense of which would be comparatively trifling, may be united with the waters of the Oneida Creek, which leads directly into the Erie Canal. This has been pronounced by competent judges practicable and safe; and at no distant day will engage the attention of our enterprising citizens."

The plan herein indicated was substantially that advocated by Judge Smith, and conformed to the idea then very generally entertained of using the Chenango River in part. The idea of a canal as at present constructed began to take shape about 1824, in which year John F. Hubbard, then a member of the Assembly from Chenango, presented a memorial to the Legislature setting forth the views and wishes of the community. The committee to whom it was referred made a favorable report, but it was not acted upon.

In 1825, a survey was made by direction of the Legislature, and the following year a bill for the construction of the canal was introduced, but the Legislature, fearing the survey had not been made with sufficient accuracy, rejected it.

In 1826, the residents of the Chenango valley, at their own expense, employed Mr. Jones, an engineer then residing at Utica, to survey a route through the valley for a canal connecting with the Erie, and make an estimate of the cost of its construction; but he was taken suddenly ill at Norwich, and died before the completion of the survey. In 1827, a bill passed the Assembly, but was rejected by the Senate; and during the summer of that year the citizens, at great expense, procured another survey. They employed Mr. Roberts, an able engineer, who concluded that the canal could be constructed for less than a million dollars; an opinion which was concurred in by Mr. Hutchinson, who carefully examined the estimates, and by Mr. Wright, who personally reviewed the whole line. In 1828, a bill for its construction again passed the Assembly, and was a second time rejected in the Senate.*

In 1829, an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the Canal Commissioners to survey the route and commence work upon it, if, upon examination, it was certain that there was an adequate supply of water; that the cost of construction would not exceed one million dollars; and that when completed it would produce to the State in connection with the increased tolls on the Erie Canal, for the first ten years after its construction, tolls equaling in amount the interest on its cost, together with the cost of repairs and the ex-

* Report of John F. Hubbard, 1831.

pense of attendance. If a negative conclusion was reached on either of these provisos the Commissioners were directed to report their surveys and estimates to the next Legislature.

January 21, 1830, the Commissioners made an elaborate but adverse report, which stated that an adequate supply of water might be procured by a resort to reservoirs for the summit level, without taking any of the waters of Oriskany or Sauquoit creeks; that the cost would exceed one million dollars; and lastly that it would not produce tolls "equal to the interest of its cost and the expense of its repairs and superintendence, or of either of them."†

During the four succeeding years of Legislative inactivity, the Hon. John F. Hubbard did not allow the project to rest or lose interest, but "dealt out strong, vigorous and telling arguments" in favor of the immediate construction of the canal. In 1831, while a member of the Committee on Canals, he prepared an elaborate report dissenting from the conclusions of the Commissioners' report of 1830. To his energetic championship was largely due the Legislative action, which, on the 23d day of February, 1833, authorized the construction of a canal from Utica to Binghamton. Work was commenced in July, 1834, and was completed in October, 1836, at a cost of \$4,542,107.‡ The canal is ninety-seven miles long; forty feet wide at the top and twenty-eight at the bottom, and four feet deep. There are one hundred and sixteen locks, each ninety by fifteen feet, all of which are constructed of rubble stone. There are 1,015½ feet of lockage. The greatest lift of locks is thirteen feet; and least, five feet. From Utica to the summit it rises 706 feet by seventy-six locks; and from thence it descends 303 feet, by forty locks. It is supplied by Chenango River and six reservoirs, viz: Madison Brook, Woodman's Pond, Leland's Pond, Bradley's Brook, Hatch's Lake and Eaton Brook reservoirs, all of which are in the south part of Madison County.

Both the commencement and completion of the work occasioned great rejoicing along its route, and were made the subject of elaborate celebrations. It continued for some years to be a great convenience to the section of country through which it passed; but the revenues failing to meet the running expenses it

* The report of the Commissioners fixes the estimated cost at \$992,307 exclusive of damages to individuals.

† The report also showed that from Utica to the summit level of the canal in Madison county, a distance of twenty-three miles, there would be required twenty-eight locks and as many levels, forming in the aggregate an elevation of 702 feet. The depth of cutting on the summit level, which extends three miles, was something over twenty feet. From the southern termination of this level the canal, they reported, enters the valley of the Chenango and follows the general course of that stream to Binghamton, a course of sixty-nine miles. From the southern extremity of the summit level to the last mentioned place, there is a fall of 307 feet, requiring thirty-six lift locks.—Clark's History of Chenango County, 100.

‡ The engineer's estimated cost of construction was \$1,960,450; that of the contractors, \$1,859,349.—Engineer's Report, 1872, 95.

became a leech upon the public treasury and was abandoned in 1876, forty years after its completion. The laws of 1877, amended in 1878, provided for its sale, which was advertised April 8, 1879, to take place in July of that year. But the sale was postponed, and the canal remains a *literal stench* in the nostrils of those it once benefited.

The *New York Central and Hudson River Railroad* was incorporated November 1, 1869, and was formed by the consolidation of the two roads named in its title, the former of which was formed April 2, 1853, by the consolidation of ten companies,* and the latter May 12, 1846. That portion of the road extending through the towns of Lenox and Sullivan, in the northern part of Madison county, constituted a part of the *Syracuse and Utica Railroad*, which was incorporated May 11, 1836, and superseded the old *Seneca Turnpike*, which it robbed of its passenger traffic as the Erie Canal had some years before of its freight. It received the hearty support of men of influence in the northern part of that county, and was completed and opened for business in 1839; forming a connection east with the Utica and Schenectady Railroad opened in 1835, and west with the Auburn and Syracuse Railroad, opened in 1836. It was fifty-three miles long and was merged in the New York Central Railroad in 1853, its stock being received at one hundred and sixty.

The New York Central and Hudson River Railroad is, doubtless, all things considered, the best sample of American railroads in the country. Running parallel with its great competitor, the Erie Canal, it has far outstripped that, and, indeed, all the canals of the State combined in the aggregate amount of its annual tonnage.† The canal was a work of great national importance. It opened a cheap, ample and, comparatively, rapid means of communication between the populous East and the nearly unoccupied West, and

* The roads merged into this road, and the amount allowed for the stock of each was as follows:—

Albany and Schenectady, 117; Schenectady and Troy, 75; Utica and Schenectady 115, Mohawk Valley, 155; Syracuse and Utica, 150; Syracuse and Utica Direct, incorporated Jan. 20, 1853, 150; Rochester and Syracuse, 130; Rochester, Lockport and Niagara, 125; Buffalo and Rochester, 140; Buffalo and Lockport, 125; Of these the Mohawk Valley and Syracuse and Utica Direct had not been and have not since been built. They were all merged in 1853.

† In 1860, the Canals of the State moved 809,524,596 tons one mile, and received \$.994 per ton per mile; the Central Railroad, 199,231,392 tons, and received \$2.06; the Erie Railway, 214,084,395 tons, and received \$1.84; all the other railroads of the State, 564,056,505 tons, and received \$2.09. In 1870, in which year the Hudson River road is included in the Central returns, the result was as follows:—Canals, 994,351,572 tons, receipts \$.83; Central, 769,087,777 tons, receipts \$1.86; Erie, 898,862,718 tons, receipts \$1.17; all other roads, 2,654,147,549 tons, receipts \$1.70. During the succeeding seven years the Central gained steadily on both the Canals and the Erie, and the year 1877 shows the following result: Canals, 857,305,563 tons, receipts \$.505; Central, 1,619,948,685 tons, receipts \$1.01; Erie, 2,114,586,220 tons, receipts \$.96; all other roads, 5,004,643,104 tons, receipts \$1.06. The aggregate number of tons moved one mile from 1860 to 1877, both inclusive, is as follows:—Canals, 16,625,182,180; Central, 13,171,683,421; Erie, 12,471,712,722; and all other roads, 42,817,766,455.—*State Engineer's Report, 1878, p. 80.*

facilitated the exchange of the manufactures of the former for the agricultural productions of the latter. The settlement of the West was made both possible and profitable. To its broad and fertile prairies the surplus labor and capital of the East was speedily turned, and its settlement and general improvement were rapid beyond all precedent, doubtless advanced a full quarter of a century beyond what they would have been without that great avenue of commerce. Railroads, after experience had perfected them, would at a later day, have produced similar results, but their construction would have been delayed; for the passengers and freight to be transported between the East and West were the outgrowth of the Erie Canal improvement that had populated the latter.

In 1827, the Hon. Francis Granger, a man of large experience, and, so far as time had developed results, of generally sound views, predicted that railroads could never successfully compete with canals, but would become valuable tributaries to them. Could he have foreseen the changes which a half century has produced, he would have revised his conclusion.

In 1877, the New York Central Railroad carried 6,803,680 tons, of which 4,300,000 was eastward bound freight—a quantity sufficient to load one of the largest canal boats now in use every fifteen minutes, day and night, during the entire season of canal navigation. Yet it is but one of six trunk lines running from the West to the seaboard, and their united eastward bound freight would require a fully loaded boat to depart every two and a half minutes. But the facilities for the transportation of passengers have not only kept pace with those for the movement of freight, but have, in many respects, surpassed them. Wherever the nature of the country would permit it, air line railroads have been constructed, connecting the main points of the country by the shortest practical routes; the road-beds are carefully graded and firmly ballasted; steel rails have taken the place of iron, thus securing safety and durability; strong locomotives with an extreme power of movement of little less than a hundred miles per hour; coaches luxurious in their appointments, wherein days and nights may be spent in the enjoyment of conveniences nearly equaling those of a good hotel, and in which may be reached in a few days the farthest bounds of the continent, have all been brought into requisition.

The *New York and Oswego Midland Railroad*, now known as the New York, Ontario and Western Railroad, was incorporated January 11, 1866, and has since been the subject of much special legislation. It extends from Jersey City, opposite New York, to Oswego, a distance of about two hundred and forty miles, passing through the eastern portion of the towns of Lenox, Stockbridge, Eaton and Lebanon, in

Madison County, and Smyrna, the north-east corner of Plymouth, the western parts of North Norwich and Norwich, the north-east part of Oxford, and diagonally across the town of Guilford, in Chenango County, leaving the county in the south-east corner of the latter town. It was opened from Oneida to Central Square, a distance of thirty-one miles, in October, 1869; from Oswego to Norwich, one hundred miles, in November, 1869; from Norwich to Sidney Plains, twenty-five miles, in June, 1870; from Middletown to Thompson's Station, (except the tunnel,) twenty-nine miles, in January, 1871; and completed to New York in 1872. Much of the line is through an exceedingly rugged country, presenting some magnificent landscapes, but requiring the exercise of a good deal of engineering skill. It crosses some of the most inaccessible portions of Madison County, and presents some points of interest in Chenango County, where some heavy grades occur, especially in the town of Guilford. From the Susquehanna Valley it commences an ascending grade over the divide between that valley and the valley of the Chenango, attaining an elevation of 390 feet at Guilford Center, 1,486 feet at Guilford, less than two miles distant, and 1,616 feet at the summit, one and one-half miles beyond. In the next five miles the descent is 460 feet. About three miles north of Oxford it crosses Lyon Brook, which is spanned by an iron trestle bridge, 800 feet long and 165 feet high. This is one of the finest triumphs of engineering skill on the line of the road. The Shawangunk * tunnel, in Sullivan County, is another fine specimen of engineering skill. It is 1,470 feet long, 26 feet wide, and 24 feet high, and is cut through solid rock, the stratification of which is so even that the roof is nearly perfectly smooth. The work upon it was begun in March, 1869, and finished so as to admit the first train of cars January 24, 1872.

The road has numerous branch connections, two of which interest Chenango County: first the New Berlin Branch, which leaves the main line two and one-half miles beyond the Susquehanna, at East Guilford, in the south-east corner of Guilford, extends thence northward twenty-two miles up the valley and on the west side of the Unadilla, crossing the east borders of Guilford, Norwich and New Berlin, and terminating at New Berlin village, to which point it was completed in August, 1870; and the Auburn Branch, extending from Norwich up the valley of the Canasawacta and down those of Middletown and Mann's Brooks, crossing diagonally the towns of Plymouth and Otselic and the south-west corner of Smyrna, in Chenango county, and the south-west corner of Georgetown, and the southern portion of DeRuyter in Madison county. From thence it extends through Trux-

ton and Cortland to Freeville, and thence north up the valley of Salmon Creek, to Scipio Summit, twelve miles south of Auburn, to which point it was open and in operation in 1872. In 1879, the road was abandoned between Norwich and DeRuyter, one train a week only being run between Norwich and Otselic during the summer and fall to accommodate the cheese factories on its line.

The road was projected on a magnificent scale, but has been encompassed with various difficulties from an early period in its history. It was built mainly by town subscriptions, and the disasters which have befallen it have entailed heavy losses and imposed heavy burdens on the towns along its line, most of which issued bonds for large sums in its aid.*

The first passenger train on the main line was run between Oneida and West Monroe, August 29, 1869, for the purpose of bringing in hop pickers. It was

* Following is a statement of the towns which bonded in aid of the Midland, with the amount of bonds issued by each:—

CHENANGO COUNTY—	
Norwich, Town	\$171,600
" Village	75,000
" Personal	77,000—\$323,600
Oxford	300,000
McDonough	30,000
Pharsalia	25,000
Smyrna	130,000
North Norwich	100,000
Preston	30,000
New Berlin	150,000
Columbus	40,000
Guilford	180,000
Plymouth	100,000
Otselic	81,700
New Berlin Branch, Personal	12,500
Auburn	3,800—\$1,581,400
MADISON COUNTY—	
Easton	150,000
Lebanon	125,000
Stockbridge, Town	141,000
" Personal	18,000—161,000
DeRuyter, Town	102,500
" Village	30,000—132,500
Oneida, Village	40,000
" Personal	149,800—189,800
Madison County, Personal	30,500—768,600
CORTLAND COUNTY—	
Cuyler	64,000
Truxton	124,000—188,000
OSWEGO COUNTY—	
Constantia	87,500
Oswego	600,000
" Personal	100,000—700,000
Oswego County	11,500
Scriba	30,000
Volney	300,000
Hastings	80,000
West Monroe	40,000—1,261,100
ONEIDA COUNTY—	
Vienna	68,500
DELAWARE COUNTY—	
Sidney	50,000
Walton	161,000
Delhi	150,000
Hamden	100,000—561,000
SULLIVAN COUNTY—	
Falburgh	99,500
Liberty	108,500
Mamakating	171,000
Rockland	34,500—413,500
ORANGE COUNTY—	
Minisink	75,000
Wallkill	300,000—375,000
ULSTER COUNTY—	
Wawarsing	150,000
OTSEGO COUNTY—	
Edmeston	40,000
Pittsfield	40,000—80,000
	\$5,556,800

The railroad indebtedness of Chenango County in 1875, which was \$1,064,950, exceeded by more than half a million dollars that of any other county in the State, except Oswego, which had a railroad indebtedness of \$1,014,112.

* Pronounced *Shon-gum*, and said to signify "South Mountain."

drawn by engine No. 4, the *Delaware*, Edwin Williams was engineer, and James T. Purdy, conductor.*

Under an act passed April 5, 1871, the company are permitted to extend their road to any point on Lake Erie or the Niagara River. A line was early proposed from Hancock, crossing the Susquehanna near Nineveh, and the Chenango near the mouth of the Genesantslet; thence through Smithville, Willett, Cincinnati and Solon to Cortland.

The *Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company* was organized April 2, 1851, and was largely aided in the construction of its road by State grants and local subscriptions, by counties, towns and the city of Albany. During an active rivalry for the control of the road in 1869, most of the towns sold their stock at par. The road was completed from Albany to Schoharie, fifty-five miles, September 16, 1863; to Cobleskill, ten miles, January 2, 1865; to Richmondville, five miles, June 1, 1865; to Worcester, twelve miles, July 17, 1865; to Schenevus, five miles, August 7, 1865; to Oneonta, fifteen miles, August 28, 1865; to Otego, eight miles, January 23, 1866; to Unadilla, nine miles, March 2, 1866; to Sidney, four miles, March 2, 1866; to Bainbridge, five miles, July 10, 1867; to Afton, six miles, November 11, 1867; to Harpersville, six miles, December 25, 1867; and to Binghamton, twenty-eight miles, January 14, 1869. The road was leased February 24, 1870, for the term of its charter, one hundred and fifty years, to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, under powers given to the latter by an act of May 9, 1867. The rent is \$490,000, or seven per cent. on its capital and bonded debts, the lessees to pay taxes, cost of maintenance and repairs, and all payments due or to become due, not exceeding \$15,000,000.

The road enters Chenango County with the Susquehanna near the north-east corner of the town of Bainbridge, and extends along the valley and west bank of that river through Bainbridge and Afton, leaving the county near the south-west corner of the latter town.

The *Cazenovia and Canastota Railroad* was incorporated January 22, 1868, with a capital of \$300,000. It was completed in 1870 between the termini indicated in the title, a distance of 14½ miles, and extended in 1872 to DeRuyter, connecting there with the Utica, Chenango and Cortland Railroad. It crosses the south-western part of Lenox, the south-east corner of Sullivan, the west border of Fenner, the central part of Cazenovia, and the northern and western parts of DeRuyter, terminating at DeRuyter village.

The first directors were: Benj. F. Jarvis, Charles Brown, Lewison Fairchild, O. W. Sage, Charles Stebbins, Jr., and George L. Rouse, of Caze-

* *Hammond's History of Madison County*, 136.

novia; Dr. Theodore Mead and John Wilson, of Fenner; and Charles Stroud, John Montross, Thomas N. Jarvis, Perkins Clark and Ralph H. Avery, of Canastota. Lewison Fairchild was the first president.

The *Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Railroad Company* was formed January 11, 1866, and received aid from Utica to the amount of half a million dollars and considerable sums from towns along the line, under the provisions of chapter 50 of the laws of 1866. The road was constructed to a point on the Midland near Sherburne Four Corners in 1868-'9; and in 1870, under the provisions of an act passed April 21, 1868, was extended to Chenango Forks, where it connects with the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad, which is operated by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, by whom this extension was made, and by whom this road is now leased and operated, as the Utica Division of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad. The right of way from Greene to Chenango Forks was transferred to this company by the Greene Railroad Company.* The road enters the county of Madison in the north-west corner of Brookfield, crosses the south-east corner of Madison, extends diagonally across Hamilton, the western part of Sherburne, the north-east part of Plymouth, running parallel with the Midland from North Norwich to Norwich, from which point it deflects to the west, following the Chenango Valley through the west part of Norwich and diagonally across the towns of Oxford and Greene.

The *Utica, Clinton and Binghamton Railroad* was incorporated as the *Utica City Railroad*, August 13, 1862, and the name changed to the *Utica City and Waterville Railroad* in 1864. The name was again changed as above March 25, 1868.† It was opened in 1870 to Smith's Valley, in Lebanon, where it connects with the Midland Railroad. It is leased and operated by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company. It enters Madison County in the north-east part of the town of Madison, extends through the northern and western portions of that town and the north-west corner of Hamilton, uniting with the Midland in the east part of Lebanon.

The *Utica, Chenango and Cortland Railroad* was incorporated April 9, 1870, with a capital of \$800,000 and extends from the terminus of the Ithaca and Cortland Railroad at Cortland to Otselic, about thirty-two miles, and formed a link of the Auburn branch of the Midland between those points.

The *Utica, Georgetown and Elmira Railroad* was organized March 28, 1870, with a capital of \$350,000, for the purpose of constructing eighteen miles of rail-

* See History of town of Greene in this work.

† *Hough's Gazetteer of New York*, 152.

road from Otselic to connect Utica with the Utica, Chenango and Cortland Railroad; but the road was not built.

The *Syracuse and Chenango Valley Railroad* was incorporated April 15, 1868, with a capital of \$1,000,000; and by an act passed May 7, 1868, the *Syracuse, Fayetteville and Manlius Railroad Company* were allowed to transfer their franchises to this company. The road extends from Syracuse to Earlville, a distance of about fifty miles, through a beautiful and fertile section of country, which it greatly benefits, and was completed in 1872. It enters Madison county on the west line of Cazenovia, passing near that point through a tunnel sixteen hundred feet in length, and crossing diagonally the central part of that town, the south-west part of Nelson, the north-east part of Georgetown and the town of Lebanon, connects with the Midland in the south-east corner of the latter town. At its northern terminus it connects with the New York Central, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and the Syracuse Northern railroads.*

CHAPTER XI.

SOCIETIES—COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETIES AUTHORIZED—CHENANGO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—ITS ORGANIZATION AND FIRST OFFICERS—SEAL—SCHEDULE OF CHARGES IN 1807—PROVISIONS OF BY-LAWS—PUBLIC LIBRARY—MEDICAL LIBRARY—DISPOSITION OF LIBRARY—SUCCESSION OF PRESIDENTS OF THE SOCIETY—NAMES OF MEMBERS FROM ITS ORGANIZATION—HISTORY OF HOMEOPATHY—ITS INTRODUCTION INTO CHENANGO COUNTY—THE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF CHENANGO COUNTY—ITS ORGANIZATION AND FIRST OFFICERS—PROFESSIONAL STATUS—PRESIDENTS OF THE SOCIETY—MEMBERS—THE CHENANGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION—ITS ORGANIZATION, OBJECT, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS—THE CHENANGO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—PRELIMINARY MEASURES—TOWN SOCIETIES.

THE formation of county medical societies was authorized in 1806, by an act of the Legislature, which conferred on them certain powers and imposed certain duties. Previously, all persons desiring to practice "physic and surgery," were required to present evidence of their competency to the Chancellor of the State, to a Judge of the Supreme or Common Pleas Court, or to a Master in Chancery, and on receiving a certificate entitling them to practice, to file it in the county clerk's office, under penalty of receiving no remuneration, or in case pay was received, of

being fined twenty-five dollars each time it was so received. The law authorizing county medical societies conferred on them authority to grant licenses and recognize diplomas from other States and countries, but such licenses and diplomas were required to be filed in the county clerk's office under like penalties.

The *Chenango County Medical Society* was organized at the village of Oxford, "for the diffusion of friendship and medical science," August 5, 1806. That meeting was attended by Tracy Robinson, Jonathan Johnson, George Mowry, Isaac F. Thomas, Ebenezer Ross and Cyrus French, who were the constituent members of the society. Tracy Robinson was chairman of the meeting, and George Mowry, secretary. Tracy Robinson was elected President of the society; Jonathan Johnson, Vice-President; George Mowry, Secretary; and Isaac F. Thomas, Treasurer. The meeting was adjourned to meet the first Monday in October following, at the house of Benjamin Edmunds in Norwich, at one o'clock P. M. At that meeting, which was held October 6, 1806, and attended by the same persons, Dr. Robinson was elected the first delegate to the State Medical Society; the remaining five members were constituted a Board of Censors. These officers were re-elected in 1807.†

July 1, 1807, the society met at the house of Joseph Brooks in Norwich, and appointed Isaac F. Thomas and George Mowry a committee to make choice of some device for a seal and procure the same for the use of the society. January 4, 1808, it was "voted that the emblem of a seal for the said society shall represent a lady leaning upon an anchor." May 2, 1808, the American eagle was adopted as a temporary device.

At the annual meeting held October 5, 1807, it was voted that the members of the society charge for their services as follows: "traveling fees, one shilling and sixpence per mile; *E. Dente*, two shillings if charged; *V. Sitis*, one and sixpence; emetic or cathartic, one

* The Railroad indebtedness of the several towns and villages in Chenango and Madison Counties in 1875 was as follows:—

CHENANGO COUNTY—TOTAL, \$1,966,950			
Afton	\$ 30,000	Otselic	\$ 81,700
Bainbridge	27,000	Oxford	200,000
Columbus	40,000	Pharsalia	21,500
Greene	198,700	Pitcher	5,000
Guilford	180,000	Plymouth	100,000
Lincklaen	20,000	Preston	19,000
McDonough	20,000	Sherburne	121,550
New Berlin	149,800	Smithville	21,000
North Norwich	100,000	Smyrna	120,000
Norwich	371,000	Norwich Village	75,000
MADISON COUNTY—TOTAL, \$1,008,375			
Cazenovia	128,900	Nelson	49,475
DeRuyter	102,300	Stockbridge	143,000
Eaton	150,000	Canaasota Village	50,000
Fenners	19,300	DeRuyter "	20,000
Georgetown	26,400	Hamilton "	50,000
Lebanon	125,000	Oneida "	30,000
Madison	85,000		

† George Mowry filled the office of secretary with much ability and credit to himself and to the satisfaction and honor of the society, till October 9, 1821. The neat and varied chirography which the records exhibit during that period are a pleasing episode in the history of the society. He was succeeded by Dr. D. McWhorter.

and sixpence; for every case in the obstetric art, if natural, three dollars, but if we are obliged to have recourse to instruments, six dollars, if we are detained over nine hours, one dollar for every additional six hours, and traveling fees if over four miles; for every dislocation or simple fracture, two dollars; for consultation, twelve shillings.* Interest on all accounts, after six months' standing. Every member for undercharging shall forfeit the sum of one dollar for each offense." At this meeting it was voted that a crane be worn on the left arm by the members for fourteen days, as a testimony of respect to Dr. Cyrus French, late of Stonington, deceased. This is the first recorded death in the Society. Tracy Robinson also delivered a dissertation, which, at the next meeting, July 4, 1808, it was resolved to publish.

At the latter date the first case of expulsion is recorded. William Warriner was expelled "for immoral conduct and contempt of this society." May 1, 1809, Isaac F. Thomas was expelled "for refusing to disclose certain nostrums relative to the practice of physic and surgery." Having "disclosed the nostrums," he was re-admitted July 3, 1809.

As the law required societies to enforce its provisions in their respective counties, January 2, 1809, Dr. Henry Mitchell, who became a member July 1, 1807, was appointed advocate of the society, to take notice of all complaints of its members one against another. But the records do not show that many prosecutions were necessary.

The by-laws of the society were adopted October 4, 1813. There is no record of the adoption of any prior to that time.† They provided that the meetings should be held the first Monday in October, January, May and July, at such place as a majority by ballot should direct. The officers were to consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and not more than five nor less than three censors. Each member was required to pay an annual tax, commencing with the annual meeting in October, 1807. The eighth section of the by-laws provided "that no member of this society shall hold nostrums or tenets of any kind that may be useful to the healing art; but shall, on the application of any member, freely communicate to the society whatever information he may be in possession of relative to the practice of physic and surgery, and upon his refusal to communicate such information he shall be expelled from the society." Section eleven required every member to "conform to a uniform mode of charging, under such penalty for non-compliance as a majority of the society shall think proper to inflict;" and section twelve provided "that the society shall stipulate the prices of services

* The charge for consultations was left discretionary with the physician; so also was the traveling fee in obstetric cases.

† The records imply that the Society adopted an earlier code of by-laws.

and medicine at each annual meeting, varying the prices from year to year as they may think expedient."

At the semi-annual meeting held in Gates Hotel, Norwich, June 11, 1816, it was voted that each member present (seven in number,) advance four dollars towards purchasing a public library; and Drs. Mitchell, Johnson and Crumb were appointed a committee to select the books. The balance of the money in the treasury was devoted to the same object, but the amount is not stated. The four dollars were refunded May 14, 1822.

October 6, 1816, it was voted to meet three times each year, on the second Tuesday in February, June and October. Dr. Mitchell was chosen librarian,* and it was voted that each member advance two dollars towards making an addition to the library.

May 8, 1821, Drs. Mitchell, Mason and Ross were appointed a committee with discretionary powers, "to prosecute all persons practicing physic and surgery within this county contrary to the laws of this State, provided they do not expend more than \$15 of the funds of this society to accomplish this object." October 9th of this year it was resolved "that each practitioner of medicine in this county be taxed one dollar annually for the purpose of purchasing a medical library, apparatus, &c."

May 14, 1822, Drs. Pierce, Mason, Harris, Ross and Mitchell were appointed a committee to digest a code of medical ethics and report at the next annual meeting. The code of medical ethics of the State Medical Society was adopted October 13, 1830. New by-laws were also adopted at the latter date. In 1849, the code of ethics, adopted by the American Medical Association in 1847, was incorporated into the articles of the society.

May 13, 1828, it was resolved "that the revised statute relating to medicine and surgery meets the entire approbation of this society, and is considered to be every way calculated to elevate the character and standing of the profession.

October 13, 1830, Drs. Farr, Boynton, White, Mitchell, Ross and McWhorter, were appointed to make a medical topographical survey of the county in conformity with a request of the State Medical Society. The committee were discharged from further duty at the semi-annual meeting in May, 1831. The records do not show the character of their report, nor, indeed, that they made any. October 8, 1839, Dr. Willard read before the society an able address on the subject of the Medical Botany of Chenango County.

October 11, 1831, the president was instructed to take such legal steps in relation to practicing physicians not members of the society as the statutes re-

* Dr. Mitchell was succeeded in this office October 10, 1826, by Dr. P. Hard. He was re-elected October 13, 1829, and served till October 11, 1836.

quired. At this meeting Dr. Levi Farr read a dissertation on the character, symptoms, treatment, and probable origin of small-pox as it presented itself in the county the previous season; and Dr. Royal Ross gave a verbal history of that disease as it appeared under his observation. May 9, 1837, Dr. William D. Purple submitted a series of resolutions, urging the necessity of legislative action to prevent the ravages of that disease. Drs. Willard, Purple and Cornell were appointed to consider and report thereon, and on the 10th of October following, presented an able report, which was ordered printed. The same committee were instructed to draft a memorial to the Legislature praying the passage of a law embracing the objects recommended. It was further resolved to lay the report of the committee before the State Medical Society.

October 11, 1836, the society adopted the following resolutions presented by a committee previously appointed to consider the subject of the attendance of physicians on coroners' juries:—

"*Resolved*, That this society acknowledges the right of the legally constituted authorities of the State to call on whomsoever they may deem necessary, by writ of subpoena or otherwise, to give evidence in cases coming within the criminal jurisprudence of the State.

"*Resolved*, That this society knows no law, nor right, nor tradition, nor form of subpoena, nor any other writ which can compel the physician, or any other person, to seek for and ferret out the evidence he is afterwards to give before a coroner or court of justice.

"*Resolved*, That we, the members of this society, do not consider ourselves either morally or legally bound to render extra services to the State, aside from our services as citizens, without adequate compensation."

October 13, 1840, the Society resolved to sell or otherwise dispose of the library at its next meeting; October 12, 1841, the matter was indefinitely postponed. A final disposition of the matter was not reached until January 11, 1848, when the books composing it were divided among the members.

The society took early and creditable action upon those questions which agitated the community about the time that Homeopathy began to force its just claims on public attention, and even anticipated legislative action thereon. The legislative action which soon followed—in 1844—was regarded by many with grave and honest apprehension, for it was thought that it would prove detrimental to the interests of the profession. It has, however, worked beneficially, in restoring the prestige of the profession upon its real rather than its assumed merits.

January 9, 1844, on motion of Dr. William D. Purple, it was

"*Resolved*, as the sense of this Society that the law prohibiting or restraining the practice of physic and surgery by persons unlicensed be repealed, and that all who practice the same be responsible for mal-practice in the same manner as persons legally licensed."

June 11, 1844, it was

"*Resolved*, That the Chenango County Medical Society approve the late act of the Legislature of this State, by which unlicensed practitioners are allowed to collect their fees, and like the regularly educated physician are made liable to action for mal-practice, believing that public as well as a professional interest will be thereby promoted."

June 10, 1845, on motion of Dr. Willard, it was

"*Resolved*, That this Society, since the Legislature of this State has seen fit to abolish virtually all law bestowing any peculiar immunities on physicians as a body, deem that it is not now bound to receive all practicing physicians on application, as the law seems to require; in other words that physicians are not members of this Society by virtue of their diplomas, and furthermore that this Society possesses, since the passage of the act of May 6, 1844, the power of expelling or otherwise dealing with its members, without reference to the judiciary of the county."

June 8, 1847, the Society adopted the following preamble and resolution:—

"*WHEREAS*, *The medical laws* of this State impose very stringent and onerous burthens on each member of the medical profession without extending to him any immunities not secured to all, except it be an exemption to *indictment as a nuisance*; and whereas, if nothing be given, nothing should be required at the hands of the profession; therefore,

"*Resolved*, As the sense of this Society, that the committee appointed by the State Society for that purpose, be requested to use all proper exertion to *abrogate all law* on medical subjects, except the corporate powers of the State and county medical societies, leaving to such *societies by their by-laws to fill up* the details in relation to the profession as they shall deem proper."

This vigorous action was followed, January 13, 1852, by the following:—

"*Resolved*, That it is improper for any member of this Society to countenance quackery in any of the forms it is presented to the public, either by recommending or prescribing quack medicines, inventing secret nostrums, or counseling with quacks, whether in the shape of Homeopathy, Hydropathy, Thomsonian, or any that are not members of this or some other legally authorized medical society."

But if the resolution had not excepted presumed members of that school to which the Society belongs, and which, since the advent of other schools of medicine, has been denominated allopathic, it would savor less of that unworthy animus with which, unfortunately, it is suspiciously chargeable.

At its annual meeting, January 11, 1876, the society was for the first time honored by the presence of a female physician, in the person of Dr. Sarah R.

Munroe, of Philadelphia, who, on motion of Dr. Beecher, was invited to participate in the proceedings. The society has not yet had a lady member, though it is probable that ere this goes to press Dr. Emma Louise Randall, of Norwich, the first lady physician in Chenango County, will have been admitted.

The following gentlemen have served the society as president, generally after having served the previous year as vice-president, especially in the latter part of the society's history:—

Tracy Robinson.....	1806-'7
Israel Ferrell.....	1808-'13
Henry Mitchell.....	1814-'15, 1821-'25
Colby Knapp.....	1816-'17
William Mason.....	1819-'20
Levi Farr.....	1826-'7
Nathan Boynton.....	1828-'9
Daniel Bellows.....	1830-'31
Augustus Willard.....	1832-'3
N. B. Mead.....	1834-'5
Austin Rouse.....	1836-'7
William D. Purple.....	1838-'9
H. Harris.....	1840-'41
Royal Ross.....	1843-'4
Deville White.....	1845-'6
Daniel Clark.....	1847-'8
Andrew Baker, Jr.....	1849-'50
Dyer Loomis.....	1851-'2
Elijah S. Lyman.....	1853-'4
S. Beebe.....	1855-'6
Thomas Dwight.....	1857-'8
William H. Beardsley.....	1859-'60
W. A. Smith.....	1861
H. H. Beecher.....	1862
H. K. Bellows.....	1863-'4
S. F. McFarland.....	1865
E. L. Ensign.....	1866
George Douglass.....	1867
J. T. Jameson.....	1868
S. M. Hand.....	1869
S. F. McFarland.....	1870-'71
Horace Halbert.....	1872-'3
William H. Stuart.....	1874
G. O. Williams.....	1875
D. M. Lee.....	1876
J. V. Lewis.....	1877
G. W. Avery.....	1878
J. W. Thorpe.....	1879

Following is a list of the members who have joined the Society since its organization, with the date of joining, as far as they can be ascertained from the records:—

Abbott, Frank B., New Berlin.....	1862
Adams, Salmon.....	May 8, 1827
Alling, L. H., Smithville.....	June, 1861
Avery, George W., Norwich.....	1865
Avery, La Fayette, South Otselic.....	June 10, 1851
Babcock, Corrington.....	Oct. 8, 1833
Bailey, Thos. J., Norwich*.....	1860
Baker, Andrew, Jr., Norwich.....	June 13, 1843
Baker, Follet.....	June 13, 1843
Ballou, Russel.....	May 14, 1822

* Died Sept. 4, 1868.

Bancroft, Reuben.....	Oct. 12, 1824
Barnes, N. R., Earlville.....	1862
Bartlett, Elam.....	May 10, 1836
Bartoo, Jesse E., Greene,*.....	June 11, 1878
Baxter, —.....	May 13, 1834
Baxter, William.....	May —, 1833
Beardsley, B. F., Coventry.....	1865
Beardsley, Wm. H., Coventry.....	Jan. 14, 1845
Beebe, Seneca M., McDonough.....	Jan. 13, 1846
Beecher, Harris H.....	June 8, 1847
Bellows, Daniel, Norwich.....	Oct. 9, 1821
Bellows, Horatio K., Norwich.....	June 8, 1847
Benton, A. Willard.....	Oct. 13, 1830
Bingham, Charles.....	Jan. 2, 1809
Birdsall, Henry R., Greene.....	June 12, 1877
Bonn, Austin.....	Oct. 12, 1819
Boomer, Samuel.....	June 9, 1818
Bowen, James K.....	May 9, 1837
Boynton, Nathan.....	June 9, 1818
Bradley, Stephen R.....	May 13, 1834
Brooks, L. J., Norwich.....	Oct. 13, 1874
Brooks, Palatine.....	May 14, 1822
Brooks, Thomas.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819
Brown, Cyrus N., Bainbridge.....	June 14, 1859
Brown, Harvey.....	May 8, 1832
Brown, Henry C.....	May 13, 1834
Buckingham, Augustus.....	May 9, 1826
Burch, Russel B., New Berlin.....	Oct. 13, 1830
Burgess, Vincent, Brisbin.....	Jan. 8, 1878
Burns, Timothy T.....	July 1, 1807
Burr, Lemuel.....	May 11, 1824
Camp, John, Jr.....	May 2, 1808
Case, Josiah W.....	Oct. 14, 1823
Chapelle, Silas G.....	Oct. 9, 1827
Charter, —.....	Jan. 14, 1842
Church, B. Alvin, Columbus.....	June 11, 1878
Clark, Chas. A., Bainbridge.....	Jan. 10, 1854
Clark, Daniel, Smithville.....	Oct. 10, 1826
Clark, John, Guilford, †.....	Oct. 8, 1833
Clark, R. M., Guilford.....	June 14, 1870
Clark, T.....	Oct. 9, 1838
Clarke, Samuel R., Oxford, †.....	Oct. 8, 1822
Cleveland, G. W.....	Oct. 13, 1835
Coggeshall, James S.....	Jan. 9, 1844
Comstock, F. F., Smyrna.....	June 10, 1873
Cone, Dwight E.....	June 8, 1875
Cook, James B., Afton.....	Jan. 13, 1846
Coon, Lewis, Afton.....	Jan. 8, 1861
Copley, H. D., Bainbridge.....	June 13, 1876
Corbin, S. W.....	Oct. 13, 1830
Cornell, Edward A.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813
Crumb, —.....	June 11, 1816
Crumb, DeWitt, Preston.....	June 18, 1871
Cushman, Diodate.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813
Cushman, Isaac.....	June 13, 1843
Day, Wm. H., Plymouth.....	June 13, 1848
Dewey, Luke.....	May 8, 1821
Dickerman, Clark.....	May, 1829
Douglass, George, Oxford.....	June 13, 1848
Dwight, Thomas, Preston.....	June 10, 1851
Dyer, H. S., New Berlin.....	June 13, 1876
Emerson, Isaac B.....	Oct. 9, 1827
Ensign, Eneas Lee, McDonough.....	Jan. 12, 1858

* Licensed by this Society.

† Died March 15, 1874, of gastric inflammation.

‡ Died in June, 1860.

Evans, R. D. L., Bainbridge.....	1872	Lyon, A. T., New Berlin.....	June 11, 1850
Farr, Levi.....	May 2, 1808	Marshall, John F.....	Oct. 2, 1808
Ferrell, Israel.....	July 1, 1807	Mason, James F.....	May 2, 1818
Ferrell, Israel.....	May 13, 1834	Mason, Milton.....	Oct. 9, 1832
Finch, M.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813	Mason, William, Preston....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813
Fisk, Joshua M.....	June 13, 1843	Mather, John F.....	Oct. 13, 1830
Foot, Dan.....	May 8, 1838	Matterson, David.....	May 11, 1841
Ford, Norman.....	May 10, 1825	McFarland, Solomon F., Oxford.....	Jan. 12, 1858
French, Cyrus.....	Aug. 5, 1806	McWhorter, D.,.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819
Frost, E. K.....	Oct. 13, 1835	Meachum, I. D., Bainbridge.....	1868
Gardner, H. S., Earlville.....	June 11, 1872	Mead, Nicholas B.....	—
Gibson, Stamford C., So. New Berlin.....	Jan. 14, 1842	Mead, O.,.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813
Glason, D. A., Oxford.....	Oct. 12, 1875	Mead, Thompson.....	May 10, 1836
Gorton, John C.....	May 13, 1828	Miller, Charles.....	Oct. 12, 1841
Grant, Isaac.....	July 1, 1807	Mitchell, Charles.....	May 10, 1836
Gray, Herman.....	May 13, 1834	Mitchell Henry,*.....	July 1, 1807
Griffin, Alfred.....	May, 1831	Mitchell, Henry, Norwich.....	Jan. 8, 1867
Gritman, Wm. S.....	May 10, 1825	Monger, —,.....	Oct. 8, 1822
Guernsey, Jonathan.....	one of the oldest members.	Morley, R. W.,†.....	applied Oct. 9, 1827
Guthrie, Samuel, Jr.....	May 2, 1808	Mosher, D. J.....	Oct. 15, 1874
Guy, J. D., Coventry.....	Jan. 11, 1870	Mowry, George.....	Aug. 5, 1806
Halbert, Horace, Pitcher.....	Jan. 10, 1854	Myers, Chas. H., Earlville.....	June 11, 1872
Hall, —,.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819	Nichols, Chas. B.....	May 13, 1828
Hand, S. Milton.....	June, 1864	Noyes, James B.....	June 8, 1875
Harrington, James.....	May 13, 1834	Odell, E. V., Norwich.....	Jan. 8, 1856
Harris, Blinn, Norwich.....	Oct. 11, 1836	Ormsby, B. J., Plymouth.....	1868
Harris, Harvey, Norwich.....	Oct. 12, 1819	Ottman, R.....	June 10, 1845
Harris, John P., Norwich.....	Jan. 9, 1844	Packer, Nelson B.....	May 8, 1838
Hayes, P. A., Afton.....	Oct. 10, 1876	Packer, Perez.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813
Hayward, Isaac.....	May, 1829	Page, William W.....	Oct. 14, 1823
Hayward, Levi.....	Oct. 10, 1820	Payne, Peter.....	Oct. 11, 1831
Haywood, E. D.....	Oct. 9, 1838	Pierce, —,.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819
Hazard, W. C., South New Berlin.....	June 12, 1866	Pratt, Seth H.....	May 14, 1822
Heminger, I. L.....	Oct. 12, 1824	Prentiss, S. B.....	Jan. 14, 1845
Heminway, —,.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819	Prindle, R. B., Norwich.....	1865
Hoffman, Herman.....	May 13, 1828	Purdy, Chas. M., Norwich.....	1849
Holcomb, B. F., Greene.....	June 14, 1870	Purdy, L. J., McDonough.....	June 18, 1871
Holmes, G. P.....	May 14, 1839	Purple, Wm. D.,‡.....	May 10, 1825
Hugan, —,.....	as early as Feb. 11, 1817	Purrington, William.....	Oct. 10, 1826
Hyde, Gurdon.....	May 8, 1827	Randall, Wm. H., Norwich.....	June 10, 1879
Jameson, J. T.....	June 9, 1803	Reynolds, I. J., South Otselec.....	Jan. 11, 1870
Jenkins, Elias M.....	Jan. 12, 1864	Reynolds, Jasper G., Greene.....	1862
Jewell, J.....	June 10, 1845	Riddell, Sanford S., Norwich.....	Jan. 9, 1872
Johnson, Jonathan.....	Aug. 5, 1806	Robinson, Berlin.....	May 14, 1822
Johnson, L. M., Greene.....	June 12, 1866	Robinson, Tracy.....	Aug. 5, 1806
Jones, Anson.....	May 14, 1822	Rogers, G. A.....	May—1823
Jones, G. A., New Berlin.....	1868	Rood, Weller D.....	Oct. 13, 1830
Josslyn, Charles.....	July 1, 1807	Root, Erastus.....	Oct. 8, 1822
Kellogg, John L.....	May 12, 1840	Ross, Ebenezer.....	Aug. 5, 1806
Kendall, Henry D.....	Oct. 13, 1840	Ross, Royal, New Berlin.....	May 14, 1822
Kenyon, Thomas B.....	Oct. 6, 1816	Rouse, Austin, Oxford.....	1821
Kinnier, Wm. H.....	Jan. 9, 1872	Sands, Wm. G.....	May 8, 1832
Knapp, Colby, Guilford,*.....	May 2, 1808	Sheldon, Ira.....	June 11, 1816
Knapp, William.....	Oct. 12, 1824	Shepard, Ralf.....	May 12, 1835
Knight, Daniel.....	June 13, 1820	Shoales, Geo. A., Plymouth,§.....	June 12, 1866
Knight, Horatio G.....	previous to Oct. 4, 1813	Sill, Blin S., Bainbridge.....	1839
Lacy, E. T.....	May, —, 1823	Skinner, William.....	May 10, 1836
Lee, Coville.....	Oct. 13, 1829	Smith, B. F., Mt. Upton.....	June 14, 1859
Lee, D. M., Oxford.....	1806	Smith, H. M., Norwich.....	Oct. 8, 1872
Lewis J. V., North Norwich.....	1862	Smith, Pliny.....	Jan. 4, 1808
Livermore, Oromel.....	May 13, 1834	Smith, Wm. A., Norwich.....	June 13, 1854
Loomis, Dyer, New Berlin,.....	" 12, 1840	Snow, Nathan,||.....	May 10, 1825
Lowe, Arthur L., Smithville.....	June 10, 1879		
Lyman, H. C., Sherburne.....	June 11, 1872		
Lyman, Elijah S., Sherburne.....	May 12, 1835		

* Was made an honorary member of the society by reason of age and exempted from taxation, Jan. 14, 1845.

• Died January — 1856.

† Withdrew application May 11, 1838.

‡ Licensed by this Society, Oct. 1, 1824.

§ Died Feb. 7, 1868.

|| Licensed by this Society in May, 1824.

Southworth, Tracy.....	May 10, 1825
Spencer, C. D., Butternuts.....	June 12, 1866
Spencer, M. D., Guilford.....	Jan. 10, 1860
Squires, Wm. B.....	Jan. 12, 1847
Stacy, Consider H.....	Oct. 9, 1821
Starky, Lewis F.,*	.....1824
Stebbins, Nehemiah.....	Oct. 9, 1832
Steers, Henry.....	July 3, 1809
Stephens, Josiah.....	May 2, 1808
Stuart, W. H., Smyrna.....	.....1862
Storrs, Huchins,†.....	Oct. 12, 1819
Sturges, George A.....	June 13, 1843
Taylor, Russel.....	Oct. 8, 1833
Thomas, Isaac F.....	Aug. 5, 1806
Thompson, James, Norwich,‡.....	May 13, 1834
Thorp, Lewis E.....	Oct. 8, 1872
Thorp, J. W., Oxford.....	June 18, 1871
Truesdell, Joseph R., So. New Berlin.....	Jan. 13, 1846
Tucker, Laban.....	May 8, 1832
Van Keuren, Fort, Sherburne.....	Jan. 14, 1868
Wagner, L. P., Oxford.....	June 12, 1855
Wakely, E.....	Oct. 8, 1833
Wales, Elisha S.....	May 1, 1815
Warriner, William.....	May 2, 1808
Weeks, B. A., Mt. Upton.....	.....1866
Whitcomb, C.....	May 8, 1838
White, ———.....	previous to Oct. 12, 1819
White, Devillo.....	Oct. 14, 1823
White, Homer H., Earlville.....	June 11, 1878
Whitney, ———.....	Jan. 14, 1842
Wilber, ———.....	Jan. 10, 1843
Willard, Augustus.....	May 11, 1824
Willard, Chas. C., Greene.....	Jan. 11, 1853
Williams, Geo. O., Smithville Flats.....	Jan. 14, 1868
Williams, Henry.....	Oct. 14, 1828
Wilmott, Asahel.....	Oct. 13, 1835
Winslow, Orrin P.....	May, 1831
Wood, Chas. L., Greene.....	June 8, 1852
Wood, M. M.....	June 8, 1858
Yale, John, Guilford.....	Jan. 13, 1857
York, Edward.....	May 10, 1825
"—wne," Eli.....	Oct. 10, 1820

THE HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF CHENANGO.

The therapeutics of the homeopathic school of medicine is founded on the theory of *similia similibus curantur*. The principle was discovered by Samuel Hahnemann, who was born in Leipsic, in the Province of Saxony, April 10, 1755. He was an accomplished and skillful practitioner of the old school of medicine, and having proved certain remedies upon himself and others, he abandoned a lucrative practice under government patronage, at Gommeon, near Madgeburg, on account of conscientious scruples against administering drugs according to the vague formulas then in use, and in 1796, first enunciated the principles of homeopathy, the practice of which he commenced in his native place. He was soon

* Licensed by this Society in March, 1824.

† Died in Utica in 1832.

‡ Died April 6, 1872, aged 76.

driven from thence by the bitter opposition he encountered, to Paris, where he met with success and secured converts, among whom was Doctor Hans B. Gram, of Copenhagen, an American by birth, who, having won the highest grade of merit in the Royal Academy of Surgery in that city, came to New York in 1825, and introduced the new practice into America, continuing it in that city till his death in 1840, three years previous to that of his preceptor, Hahnemann, who died in Paris in 1843. It spread rapidly, notwithstanding the prejudice and bitter opposition against it, and was first introduced into Chenango county in 1841, by George Washington Roberts, a dentist of Troy, who, on account of ill health had abandoned his profession, and removed to a small farm of fourteen acres near the village of Greene, where he had relatives living.

While living in Troy he had become acquainted with the new system through Dr. C. F. Hoffendahl, who was then practicing homeopathy in Albany, and was called to attend Mr. Roberts' infant son Charles, who was suffering from *morbus coxaricus*, a disease which had baffled the best allopathic skill in Troy and Albany, but which, under Mr. Hoffendahl's treatment, was decidedly benefited. He frequently visited Dr. Hoffendahl's office, asking advice and instruction, and when he removed to Chenango county he brought with him a set of books and homeopathic medicines for family use, to avoid the necessity of calling in the professional aid of the allopaths, against whom he had acquired a prejudice. While thus situated he was frequently appealed to by his neighbors to afford relief by administering his homeopathic remedies; and meeting with success in many simple cases these demands on him increased, so much so as to interfere with his agricultural pursuits. A field seeming thus to invite his efforts he sold his farm and removed to the village of Greene, where, being conscious of the insufficiency of his medical knowledge, he wrote Caspar Bruchhausen, a former student of Dr. Hoffendahl's, then pursuing his medical studies in New York city, inviting him to come to his assistance and avail himself of the opening for homeopathic practice, which he did in August, 1842, the two practicing in company with mutual benefit.

In the spring of 1843, Messrs. Roberts and Bruchhausen separated, the latter establishing himself in Oxford, and five years later in Norwich, where, though well advanced in years, he still ministers to a limited village patronage, such as his age and infirmity enable him to serve. Mr. Roberts found it advisable to fortify himself against the opposition he encountered by an improved medical education, and for that purpose he attended lectures and obtained a diploma from a medical college in Vermont, which, however,

was subsequently prevailed on to annul it.* He continued an acceptable practice till his death, February 10, 1870.

The new system of therapeutics continued to spread; the disciples of Hahnemann and the literature of the school to increase; and new remedies to multiply. In 1825, when Dr. Gram introduced homeopathy into New York, he stood alone in this country. In 1830, there were only six homeopathic physicians in this country, and these, with perhaps one or two exceptions, were located in New York. In 1841, when Dr. Roberts introduced it into this county, there were not more than thirty to thirty-five practitioners in the country. But now the State numbers them by thousands, and the country, by tens of thousands. Within the last twenty years the system has made rapid progress. Its literature has been largely increased by the addition of new works on pathology, therapeutics, and a new *materia medica*; eight or ten colleges, one State asylum† and numerous hospitals have been established under its auspices; ‡ and the intensely bitter opposition which heralded its inception and marked its early growth, has measurably diminished, although a strong professional prejudice against it still exists.

Previous to 1857, homeopathic societies existed as informal associations only, having no legal status. April 13, 1857, the Legislature authorized the formation of homeopathic county medical societies, with equal privileges and immunities enjoyed by similar allopathic associations. In 1862, the Legislature passed an act to incorporate the Homeopathic Medical Society of the State of New York. Under that act a re-organization was effected whereby county societies then existing became auxiliary to the State society, and the following year it was formally inaugurated.

The *Homeopathic Medical Society of the County of Chenango* was organized under the act of 1857, at a meeting convened for the purpose at the office of Dr. Charles A. Church in the village of Norwich, on Wednesday, September 27, 1871, and attended by the following physicians: J. T. Wallace, of New Berlin; I.

* Statement of Dr. Caspar Bruchhausen, of Norwich.

† This asylum was the first, and in 1876, the only homeopathic asylum for the treatment of the insane in this country. It is located at Middletown, N. Y., and was incorporated April 28, 1870. The act provided that it should be placed under the management of a Board of Trustees, nominated by the Governor and appointed by and with the consent of the Senate, who should be "adherents of homeopathy," thereby securing the treatment of insane patients according to the theory and practice of the homeopathic school of medicine.—*The Progress and Status of Homeopathy in the State of New York*, by L. M. Pratt, M. D., in the *Transactions of the Homeopathic Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1871-'7.

‡ In 1876, there were in the State of New York, ten homeopathic hospitals, including the New York Homeopathic Charity Hospital, instituted September 10, 1875, the first institution of its kind in the world; sixteen dispensaries: one insane hospital; one lying-in asylum; three medical journals; and five medical schools and colleges.—*Ibid.*

C. Owen, of Sherburne; R. E. Miller, of Oxford; C. C. Miller, of Greene; C. Bruchhausen and Charles A. Church, of Norwich; and George B. Palmer, of East Hamilton; who were the constituent members. J. T. Wallace was made temporary chairman, and Charles A. Church, secretary. The following officers were then chosen:—J. T. Wallace, President; R. E. Miller, Vice-President; Charles A. Church, Secretary and Treasurer; and I. C. Owen, R. E. Miller and C. A. Church, Censors. Drs. Church, Owen and C. C. Miller were appointed to report a constitution and by-laws, which were presented, amended and adopted January 9, 1872, at which time Charles A. Church was elected a delegate to the State Society. On the recommendation of the Censors a diploma was granted to C. Bruchhausen; and the delegate to the State Society was instructed to present his name to that body for recommendation to the Regents of the University for the honorary degree of M. D., which he received August 2, 1872. At the latter meeting the President appointed the following committees: on surgery and surgical diseases, Dr. Church; on *materia medica*, Dr. Bruchhausen; on diseases peculiar to women and children, R. E. Miller; on clinical medicine, Dr. Owen; and on prevailing epidemics, C. C. Miller.

Section 10 of the by-laws provides that "any surplus funds which the society may have above its necessary expenses, may be used at the discretion of the members in the purchase of rare and valuable books, apparatus and instruments for the use of members of the society."

That the society maintains a highly creditable professional standing is evinced by the following extracts from its archives, which have been enriched from time to time by contributions from the able pen of Dr. Bruchhausen and others:—June 18, 1872, Dr. Cook, of Butternuts, was elected an honorary member, and related a case apposite to the subject under discussion—ulcers of the leg—where the ulcer extended entirely around that member, attended by an extensive loss of tissue. The ulcer was healed and the lost tissue restored by grafting the cuticle of the arm into the ulcer. July 25, 1876, Dr. Bruchhausen communicated a paper on electricity as a means, (a new discovery,) in dubious cases, of distinguishing real from apparent death, the mode to apply it and to decide it; a subject sufficiently important to command attention and elicit comment, which was not wanting. January 16, 1877, the latter gentleman read a historical review of small-pox, inoculation and vaccination, in which, among other things, he ventured the opinion that *varicella*, varioloid and *variola* were essentially the same disease, varying only in degree of virulence; and on the 19th of June of that year, he read a paper on diphtheria, presenting in brief its history and thera-

peutics, and advanced the opinion that the disease is contagious.

The following named gentlemen have served the Society in the capacity of President: J. T. Wallace, 1871-2; R. E. Miller, 1873 and 1878; I. C. Owen, 1874 and 1879; C. C. Miller, 1875; C. Bruchhausen, who was elected January 18, 1876, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the removal of Dr. Miller to Detroit; and Isaac Miller, 1877.

Following is a list of the members who have joined the Society, with the date of joining:—

J. T. Wallace, New Berlin,*	Sept. 27, 1871
R. E. Miller, Oxford	" "
Ira C. Owen, Sherburne	" "
C. C. Miller, Greene,†	" "
C. Bruchhausen, Norwich	" "
Charles A. Church, Norwich,‡	" "
Isaac Miller,§	Jan. 21, 1873
Wm. C. Cook,||	" "
Samuel J. Fulton, Norwich	Jan. 16, 1877
Louis E. Rade	June 19, 1877
T. D. Brooks	June 17, 1879
Geo. B. Palmer, Norwich,¶	Sept. 27, 1871

THE CHENANGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION.

The Bar of Chenango County was early distinguished for the ability, influence and success of its members; but not until quite recently were any steps taken to unify and conserve by an organized effort the mutual interests of its members.

The *Chenango County Bar Association* was organized and adopted a Constitution and By-Laws, May 20, 1878. Article second of the Constitution states the object for which the Association is established to be: "to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of the law, to cultivate social intercourse among its members, and to increase its usefulness in promoting the due administration of justice." Section one of article three makes "any member of the profession in good standing, residing in the County of Chenango," eligible to membership in the Association. Article fourth makes the officers of the Association consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, composed of five members, of which the President is an ex-officio member; and article sixth provides that an annual meeting shall be held on the third Tuesday of December in each year, and a semi-annual meeting on the third Tuesday of June in each year.

The first officers were elected May 20, 1878, and were:—Hon. E. H. Prindle, of Norwich, President; James W. Glover, of Oxford, Vice-President; Wil-

* Removed to Oneida County in 1876.

† Removed to Detroit, Mich.

‡ Removed to Passaic, N. J., in the spring of 1876.

§ Removed to Delhi, whence he came, about 1876.

|| Removed to Moravia, in 1874, where he is now practicing.

¶ Removed to Madison County.

liam R. Mygatt, of Oxford, Secretary; E. J. Arnold, of Greene, Treasurer; and Isaac S. Newton, Hon. Wm. F. Jenks, A. F. Gladding, of Norwich, and O. F. Matterson, of New Berlin, Executive Committee. D. L. Atkyns, of Sherburne, Robert A. Stanton and George W. Ray, of Norwich, William H. Hyde of Oxford, and Marshall F. Porter, of Greene, were constituted a committee on admissions.

The succeeding and present officers are:—James W. Glover, President; Hon. W. F. Jenks, Vice-President; William R. Mygatt, Secretary; A. F. Gladding, Treasurer; E. J. Arnold, Wm. H. Hyde, I. S. Newton, R. A. Stanton, and D. L. Atkyns, Executive Committee; and C. W. Brown, E. H. Prindle, G. M. Tillson, C. A. Fuller and D. H. Knapp, Committee on Admissions.

June 18, 1878, D. L. Atkyns, George M. Tillson and O. H. Curtis, were appointed a committee to direct the attention of the court to the necessity of a revision of its rules of practice. This action had a beneficial effect. The association has before it a future, which this early action augurs will be a useful one.

The following named persons have become members of the organization:—

James W. Glover, William H. Hyde, Samuel S. Stafford, Charles W. Brown, Solomon Bundy, Oscar H. Curtis, William R. Mygatt, E. H. Prindle, W. F. Jenks, John W. Church, Isaac S. Newton, W. N. Mason, D. L. Atkyns, E. J. Arnold, David H. Knapp, Henry M. Tefft, M. F. Ufford, Charles A. Fuller, Stephen Holden, George M. Tillson, Robert A. Stanton, George W. Ray, O. F. Matterson, M. F. Porter, C. L. Tefft, Albert F. Gladding, Charles H. Stanton, George A. Haven, Elliott Danforth, E. C. Dart, H. Harrington.

THE CHENANGO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

While the attention of the early settlers was fully engrossed with the harsh conditions of pioneer life, but little thought could be expected to be given to the abstruse questions involved in their mutual interests, and which now so profitably engage the earnest efforts of agriculturists. The stern contests with rude nature, maintained for a full generation, left little time for anything else. The dense forests had to be removed, roads constructed, streams bridged, mills erected, and the land adapted to the improved implements of agriculture now in use, and which superseded the old bull-plow, with its wooden mold-board and wrought-iron and steel-pointed share, and the home-made drag, formed from the forked limb of a tree, and supplied with wooden teeth. The cattle pastured in the woods in summer and often browsed in winter upon the buds and branches of forest trees; while the swine ran wild in the woods, and subsisted upon the

roots and nuts found therein, becoming as wild and venturesome almost as the savage denizens of the forests. These and their rude accompaniments were not suggestive of agricultural exhibitions, yet these were the conditions from which was evolved scientific agriculture; and as soon as agriculture emerged from them, efforts for the mutual improvement of those engaged in it began to take definite shape. The State Legislature early recognized the need and importance of improved methods of agriculture, and on the 7th of April, 1819, passed an act to attain that end, by the creation of a Board of Agriculture and the appropriation of \$10,000.00 annually, for two years, to be distributed in the several counties for the promotion of agriculture and family domestic manufactures, on condition that a similar sum be subscribed by the county societies formed under the act. But this had little direct benefit; for it proved no exception to the rule which generally applies to acts of special legislation, which tend to destroy the objects sought to be benefited, by fostering a spirit of dependency rather than stimulating to healthy and effective exertion. It was important, however, as a recognition of the efforts then taking shape in the formation of local organizations, having for their object the same end. These were multiplied, but, owing to the crudities involved in their imperfect conception, were mostly short-lived. They were not without benefit, however, as they gave direction to the public mind in the effort to supply a felt want, and the elements which contributed to their failure indicated with greater certainty measures which gave better promise of success and durability. Agricultural societies have been successful in proportion to the extent to which the agriculturists have been educated to a just conception of their possible advantages and to their honest and efficient management.

The *Chenango County Agricultural Society* was organized in 1846, and the first Fair under its auspices was held at Norwich in October of that year. The Fairs for the next two years were also held at Norwich, and the succeeding ones at Oxford and Sherburne respectively. In the summer of 1851, the Society resolved to have a permanent place for holding their Fairs, and for this purpose leased for a term of years a lot of five acres in the village of Norwich, upon which they erected a floral hall, and around which a track, about one-third of a mile in extent, was laid. From this time until 1864, inclusive, the Fairs were held on these grounds. In 1865, the managers changed the site to another part of the village, and secured a lot of fourteen acres, upon which is an excellent trotting course a half-mile in extent.

The old floral hall was taken down and reconstruct-

ed and enlarged, making it one hundred and six feet in length. The first Fair upon the new grounds was held in the fall of 1865, and was a decided success. After paying all the expenses connected with the removal of floral hall and the erection of new pens, the balance in the treasury of the Society amounted to \$550. The Society was reorganized May 10, 1870.

The county society has been supplemented by various town organizations, among them the *Afton Agricultural Society*, organized February 2, 1857; the *Agricultural Association of Oxford and other Towns*, organized September 15, 1860; the *Bainbridge Agricultural Society*, organized January 3, 1857; the *Coventry Agricultural Society*, organized March 23, 1857; the *Otselic, Pitcher, Pharsalia and Lincklaen Agricultural Society*, organized June 27, 1857; which, together with the county society, are auxiliary to the State society.

The State Society was organized in February, 1832, and reorganized in 1841, in which year measures were adopted for raising funds and holding an annual fair, which had not hitherto been held regularly. For several years it received no support from the State; but May 5, 1841, the Legislature appropriated \$8,000 for the encouragement of agriculture, of which sum \$700 was to go to the State society, and the remainder to the county societies, to be divided in the ratio of representation then existing. Since then annual State fairs have been regularly held, and a large and exceedingly valuable volume of the transactions of the society annually published. These have been extensively published and widely circulated throughout the State, and containing as they do valuable papers on agricultural subjects, have exerted a salutary influence on the farming community.

The great utility of these societies when properly managed cannot be questioned. They stimulate to healthy activity, create a worthy ambition, promote a generous rivalry in the effort to attain the highest degree of excellence in the culture of the varied productions of the farm, garden and orchard, and in the care and breeding of stock, and afford abundant opportunities for the study and comparison not only of these, but of the many improved machines and implements designed to expedite and relieve the drudgery of farm labor. They also bring into more intimate social relations the rural population; and not only afford a comparison of the productions of the farm and household and the implements used in their production, but also facilitate a comparison of methods, in which respect they are in the highest and best sense educational. They are susceptible and subject to many abuses, but these may be eradicated by time and the elimination of selfish interests.

CHAPTER XII.

THE PRESS OF CHENANGO COUNTY—THE PRESS OF THE COUNTRY—ITS MARVELOUS GROWTH—COMPARED WITH THAT OF OTHER NATIONS—PRESENT PUBLICATIONS IN THE COUNTY—THE "WESTERN ORACLE," THE FIRST PAPER PUBLISHED IN CHENANGO COUNTY—"THE CHENANGO UNION"—"THE CHENANGO TELEGRAPH"—"THE OXFORD TIMES"—"THE NEW BERLIN GAZETTE"—"THE CHENANGO AMERICAN"—"THE BAINBRIDGE REPUBLICAN"—"THE SHERBURNE NEWS"—"THE HOME SENTINEL"—"THE GUILFORD WAVE"—"THE ENTOMOLOGIST'S EXCHANGE"—"THE QUILL AND PRESS"—OBSOLETE NEWSPAPERS.

IN THIS chapter we have to consider what has been very appropriately termed the "art of arts"—"the art preservative." It is to be regretted, however, that the art which has given us so fully the history of other enterprises, is so deficient in that of its own.

In view of the immense influence exerted by the Press, whose power, says Douglas Jerrold, "is as boundless as that of society," it may not be inappropriate to preface its history in this county with the following account of its origin:—

"Among the millions who are in the habit of consulting the columns of a newspaper, doubtless there are few, comparatively, who are acquainted with its origin. According to D'Israeli, we are indebted to the Italians for the idea; although in ancient Rome, reports of important events, and the doings of the Senate, were frequently published, under the title of *Acta Diurna*.^{*} The periodical press properly commenced at Vienna and Augsburg, Germany, in 1524; these bulletins were, however, not printed. About

^{*} Printing was probably practiced in China as early as the 6th century, but does not appear to have come into general use until the 10th. In 912, at the instance of two ministers of the Emperor, it was decided to revise and print the "Nine Classics," which had hitherto existed only in manuscript, and in about twenty years copies were in circulation. By the end of the 11th century most of the literature of former ages had been printed. Books dating as far back as the Sung Dynasty (960-1279) are still extant. Block printing, essentially after the Chinese method, was practiced in Italy, Spain and Sicily, for designs on fabrics of silk and cotton, which were printed in ink, as early as the last ten years of the 12th century. This method was also used in the production of playing cards; and somewhere near the beginning of the 15th century, for illustrated manuals of devotion, each page containing a picture and a few lines of reading, all engraved on a single block. One of the earliest specimens of this kind bears date of 1451. The most noted *block-book* known is the so-called *Biblia Pauperum*, a small folio of forty leaves, supposed to have been engraved and printed as early as 1400; though other good authorities believe the date was not earlier than 1430, a few years before the European invention of movable types, the essential feature of modern typography. Practically the art of printing waited for the invention of paper, which, according to Hallam, was not a staple of commerce before the close of the 14th century. There is still some question as to the time when, the place where, and the persons by whom movable types were invented and brought into practical use. The honor rests between Laurens Coster, of Haarlem, who died about 1440; Johann Gutenberg, of Mentz, who died about 1468; Johann Faust or Fust, of Mentz, who died about 1466; and Peter Schoffer, the son-in-law of Faust, who died about 1502.—*The American Cyclopaedia, Article on Printing.*

the year 1563, at the suggestion of the father of the celebrated Montaigne, offices were first established in France, for the purpose of making the wants of individuals known to each other. The advertisements received were pasted on the wall to attract attention; as in the case of the Romans, this ultimately led to a systematic and periodical publication of advertisements in sheets. The epoch of the Spanish Armada, is also the epoch of the first orthodox newspaper; although we are told by Chalmers, and it is often repeated, 'to the wisdom of Elizabeth and the prudence of Burleigh,' we are indebted for the first English newspaper, yet it is also claimed that the first English newspaper was the *Liverpool Mercurie*, begun May 28, 1576, forty-five years after the *Gazetta* at Venice. It is also said, on very good authority, that the copies of *The English Mercurie* in the British Museum are forgeries. The circumstance of their being printed in the modern Roman character, instead of the black letter of that period, (1588,) awakens suspicion of their authenticity. As to their *orthodoxy*, it is the first time we have seen it alluded to.^{*} During the reign of James I., newspapers in the quarto form were occasionally issued; but during the thirty years' war, when the exploits of Gustavus Adolphus attracted the eyes of the civilized world, we find a regular weekly paper, edited by Nathaniel Butler, and published under the title of '*The Certain News of this Present Week*,' which may be regarded as the first regular weekly newspaper.† During the civil war in England in 1643, there were, however, a score of the 'Diurnals' and 'Mercuries' in circulation. So important an auxiliary was the press considered, indeed, that each of the rival armies carried a printer along with it. In the reign of Queen Anne, in 1702, there was but one daily paper published in London, the others being weekly issues. Steele introduced politics as an essential element of the press, and Addison sought to devote it to purely literary purposes; the result has been the establishment of distinct vehicles for both.‡ The first journal having the character of a magazine or review, was the *Journal des Savants*, established in Paris in 1693; in England, the first monthly of this sort appeared in 1749. From these simple elements has grown up an engine whose potency and influence is now felt throughout all classes of the civilized world."§

The first printing press in America was set up in Mexico in 1536; the second was at Lima, in 1586; and the third, and the first in the United States, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1639. The first American newspaper was issued at Boston, September 25, 1690. It was published by Benjamin Harris and printed by Richard Pierce, and was intended to be published once a month, but was immediately suppressed by the authorities. The only copy known to exist is in the State Paper office in London, and is

^{*} "The *English Mercurie*, of 1568, long regarded as the first printed English newspaper, was proved a forgery in 1839, and again in 1850, by Thomas Watts, of the British Museum."—*Ibid.*

† "The first regular series of weekly newspapers hitherto discovered was entitled 'The Weekly News from Italy, Germanie, &c.' (1621.)"—*Ibid.*

‡ "The first literary paper, the *Mercurius Librarius*, was published in 1680."—*Ibid.*

§ *Typographical Miscellany, 60.*

headed, "Publick Occurrences, both Foreign and Domestick." The "Boston News Letter," published by John Campbell, appeared April 24, 1704, and was continued weekly until 1776. October 16, 1725, William Bradford, who founded the "American Weekly Mercurie" at Philadelphia, December 22, 1719, commenced the "New York Gazette," the first newspaper in the city indicated by its name. Daily newspapers did not make their appearance until the eighteenth century. The first daily morning newspaper was the *Daily Courant*, in 1709.*

The press of this country has had a marvelous growth. In 1840, there were in the whole United States but sixteen hundred and thirty-one newspapers of all kinds; now we have over seven thousand. The circulation of all the newspapers in 1840 was one hundred and ninety-five million copies a year; but now it is over two thousand millions, more than ten times greater than in 1840, and an average annual increase for nearly forty years of about 30 per cent. But in the gain in the size of sheets now published, in the amount, quality and variety of matter, in the number and character of the illustrations, in the quality of the paper and the perfection of the letter-press, the progress has been still greater. In the number of newspapers published, the United States are far in advance of any of the older nations. We issue more newspapers than the four principal nations of Europe, viz: Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy, notwithstanding one of them exceeds us in population, and a second is inferior in this respect by only an inconsiderable amount, while the other two closely approximate us.† This fact is important as showing the reading habits of our people as compared with those of Europe.

The mechanical facilities for the neat and rapid production of press work have kept even pace with, if they have not led, the other departments of mechanical progress. The contrast between the rude presses of even seventy years ago and the marvelous perfection of those of to-day is surprising. The former would print a few hundred small sheets, by the severe toil of two strong men; the latter, twenty thousand mammoth sheets in a single hour, and fold and direct them ready for the mails, all by mechanism, aided only by the slender fingers of delicate girls.

There are ten weekly newspapers at present published in the county, and one monthly publication, a scientific journal devoted to the interest of entomology. These are the *Chenango Telegraph* and the *Chenango Union*, published in Norwich; *The Oxford Times*; *The*

Chenango American, published in Greene; the *Bainbridge Republican*; *The Home Sentinel*, published in Aston; *The Sherburne News*; *The New Berlin Gazette*; *The Guilford Wave*; *The Quill and Press*, published in North Pharsalia; and *The Entomologist's Exchange*, published at New Berlin.

Chenango County, though the seat of one of the earliest literary institutions in the State, was not as early distinguished for its newspaper enterprise as some of its more westerly neighbors;‡ but in the number of its publications, though many of these had but an ephemeral existence, it made up in a measure for this.

The first newspaper published in Chenango county was the *Western Oracle*, which was established at Sherburne Four Corners in 1803, by Abraham Romeyn, from Johnstown, assisted by his brother Nicholas, and was printed in the front part of the building now occupied by Milton Bently. It was a single octavo sheet, at first of bluish paper, and contained very few advertisements and but little local news. This latter feature, indeed, was one which peculiarly characterized all our early newspaper publications, and one which is abundantly regretted at the present day. A newspaper of that early day, as rich in local details, as are our present newspapers, would be invaluable to the present generation. Its pages were chiefly occupied by *foreign intelligence*, and largely by public documents relating to our affairs with France. It was probably discontinued as early as 1806.† Damon Merrill, of Sherburne Four Corners, has a copy of this paper.

The *Oracle* was followed in May, 1806, by *The Olive Branch*, which was established on "West Hill," in the town of Sherburne, by Phinney & Fairchild. In 1808, John F. Fairchild became the sole proprietor. — Miller, Lot Clark, and John B. Johnson were successively interested in its publication until 1812 or '13, when Mr. Johnson changed its name to *The Volunteer*. In 1816, John F. Hubbard purchased the press and commenced the publication of *The Norwich Journal*, which he sold in October, 1847, to LaFayette Leal and J. H. Sinclair, who merged with it the *Oxford Republican*, and continued the publication at Norwich under the name of THE CHENANGO UNION. January 1, 1854, Mr. Leal sold his interest to Harvey Hubbard, who also purchased Mr. Sinclair's interest in September, 1859, and continued its publication till his death,

* The first newspaper published in the State, west of Whitestown, was the *Ontario Gazette*, established in 1792, at Geneva; the second was the "*Levanus Gazette*; or *Onondaga Advertiser*," established at Levanus, July 20, 1791, by John Delano.

† French's *State Gazetteer* fixes as the date of its discontinuance, 1808 or '9; but a carefully prepared history of the press of Onondaga county, embodied in a lecture delivered by Mr. Charles E. Fitch (then editorially connected with the *Syracuse Standard*, but now of Rochester,) before the Onondaga County Historical Association, and preserved in its archives, shows that Abraham Romeyn established at Manlius, in 1806, *The Derne Gazette*, the first newspaper published in Onondaga County, as at present bounded.

* *The American Cyclopaedia*, Article on Printing.

† The population of Germany in 1867 was	40,186,139
" " " France in 1866 was	36,528,291
" " " Great Britain in 1871 was	31,187,108
" " " Italy in 1862 was	25,906,937
" " " United States in 1870 was	38,555,983

September 14, 1862. January 1, 1863, John F. Hubbard, Jr., became the proprietor, and continued such till July 1, 1868, when he sold to G. H. Manning, who has since published it. It has undergone several changes in size, having been reduced during the war and again enlarged at its close. The last enlargement was made in October, 1873. Its present size is twenty-eight by forty-six inches; and its circulation twenty-seven hundred. It has been ever since its establishment devoted to the advocacy of the principles of the Democracy.

The Chenango Patriot was commenced at Oxford in 1807, by John B. Johnson, who continued its publication three or four years.

The President was published in 1808 by Theophilus Eaton.

The Republican Messenger was started at Sherburne Village in 1810, by Jonathan Pettit and James Percival.

The Oxford Gazette was established in 1814, by Chauncey Morgan, who published it several years. It was afterwards sold to George Hunt and subsequently to Hunt & Noyes. In 1826, Mr. Noyes again became its proprietor, and a few years later it was discontinued.

The Republican Agriculturalist was commenced December 10, 1818, by Thurlow Weed. It soon after passed into the hands of — Curtis, who continued it but a short time.

The People's Advocate was started at Norwich, in 1824, by H. P. Brainard. It subsequently passed into the hands of William G. Hyer, and after a short time was discontinued.

The Chenango Republican was started at Oxford, in 1826, by Benjamin Corey. In 1828, it was purchased by Mack & Chapman. March 31, 1831, William E. Chapman and T. T. Flagler commenced a new series and soon after changed its name to *The Oxford Republican*. In 1838, Mr. Chapman became sole proprietor. During the next few years it was successively published by J. Taylor Bradt, Benjamin Welch, Jr., R. A. Leal, C. E. Chamberlin and Lafayette Leal. In October, 1847, it was merged with the *Norwich Journal* and published as *The Chenango Union*.

The Anti-Masonic Telegraph was commenced at Norwich, in November, 1829, by Elias P. Pellett. In 1831, B. T. Cook became associated in its publication, and its name was subsequently changed to *The Chenango Telegraph*. On the death of Elias P. Pellett, January 8, 1840, it passed into the hands of his brother, Nelson Pellett; and upon his death in 1851, it was conducted for the estate by E. Max Leal and F. P. Fisher. In September, 1855, it was purchased by Rice & Martin. B. Gage Berry acquired a half interest in 1861 and the remaining half in 1864. November

10, 1865, it was united with *The Chenango Chronicle*, started August 19, 1864, by Rice & Prindle, and the united papers published as the *Telegraph and Chronicle*.

The Chenango Patriot was commenced at Greene, in 1830, by Nathan Randall. It subsequently passed into the hands of Joseph M. Farr, who changed its name to *The Chenango Democrat*, and in a short time it was discontinued.

The New Berlin Herald was commenced in 1831, by Samuel L. Hatch. In 1834, it was published by Randall & Hatch. It soon after passed into the hands of Isaac C. Sheldon, and subsequently into those of Hiram Ostrander, who changed its name to *The New Berlin Sentinel*. It was discontinued about 1840.

The Chenango Whig was published in Oxford a short time, in 1835. *The Miniature*, a small monthly, was issued from the same office.

The Sherburne Palladium was commenced at Sherburne village, in 1836, by J. Worden Marble, who was afterwards interested in the publication of the *Broome County Courier*, at Binghamton, to which place the *Palladium* was removed in 1839.

THE OXFORD TIMES was commenced in 1836, by a joint stock company, and was conducted for some time by H. H. Cook. In 1841, it passed into the hands of E. H. Purdy and C. D. Brigham. In 1844, it was published by Waldo M. Potter; in 1845, by Potter & Galpin; and in 1848, Judson B. Galpin became the sole proprietor. He has continued its publication to the present time, as an advocate of republican principles. In size it is twenty-four by thirty-nine inches.

The Bainbridge Eagle was started in 1843, by J. Hunt, Jr. In 1846, its name was changed to *The Bainbridge Freeman*; and in 1849, it was merged in *The Chenango Free Democrat*, which was commenced at Norwich, January 1, 1849, by Alfred G. Lawyer. J. D. Lawyer became associated in its publication, and it was in a short time removed to Cobleskill, Schoharie County.

The New Berlin Gazette was established in 1850, by Joseph K. Fox and Moses E. Dunham, who published it in company a little less than a year, when Mr. Fox bought his partner's interest and changed the name to *The Saturday Visitor*. It was continued under that name two or three years, when it was changed to *The New Berlin Pioneer*, and in February, 1871, it was again changed to THE NEW BERLIN GAZETTE, under which name it has since been published by Mr. Fox. It is an eight column paper published every Saturday, is independent in politics, and has a circulation of eight hundred and thirty.

The Chenango News was commenced at Greene in 1850, by A. T. Boynton. J. M. Haight soon after

became interested in its publication and subsequently its sole proprietor. He removed the press to Norwich and, in connection with A. P. Nixon, commenced the publication of *The Temperance Advocate* in 1855, discontinuing it on the expiration of a year.

The Spirit of the Age was commenced at New Berlin in 1852, by J. K. Fox, with J. D. Lawyer as editor. It was published only a short time. *The Social Visitor* was an ephemeral publication of this period.

The Oxford Transcript was commenced in 1853, by G. N. Carhart, and was published about six months.

The Sherburne Transcript was commenced in 1855, by James M. Scarritt, and published about two years.

THE CHENANGO AMERICAN was started at Greene, September 20, 1855, by J. D. Denison and Francis B. Fisher, who published it till 1868, when Mr. Denison bought his partner's interest, and in 1869, became associated with George C. Roberts, with whom he has since continued its publication. It is a seven-column paper, and has not undergone any change in that respect since its establishment. Originally conducted in the interest of the *American* party, when that was disbanded it espoused the cause of the Democratic party and advocated its principles till 1860, when it became and has since continued a supporter of Republicanism.

The Daily Reporter was commenced at Norwich in 1857, by G. H. Smith. In 1858 it was purchased by Rice & Martin, and was soon after discontinued.

The Literary Independent was commenced at Norwich in 1858, by a company of gentlemen connected with the Academy, and was published about four months.

The Chenango Ledger was started at Bainbridge August 23, 1867, by G. A. Dodge, and its name was changed the following week to *The Bainbridge Ledger*, at the request of many of the citizens of Bainbridge, who were desirous of seeing the name of the village at its head. The name was afterwards (as early as January 24, 1872,) changed to *The Saturday Review*. It was sold to Harvey Ireland, who, September 4, 1875, merged it in the *Bainbridge Republican*, which was started as the *Monday Review*, July 10, 1871, by E. H. Orwen and Henry A. Clark, who sold about a year afterwards to the present proprietor, Harvey Ireland, who changed the name to the BAINBRIDGE REPUBLICAN, under which it is still published. Its size is twenty-four by thirty-two inches, the same as when started; and its circulation between thirteen and fourteen hundred. It was originally a Republican paper, but on its consolidation with the *Saturday Review* it became independent.

The Chenango County Democrat was started at Oxford, November 26, 1863, by LaFayette Briggs, and

was published at short intervals during political campaigns, about four years, by Briggs and others, among whom were ——— Burtis and E. S. Watson. It was revived as the *Chenango Democrat* June 4, 1868, by E. S. Watson, and continued its fitful existence for a short time. Both were weekly papers, printed from the same material, in the interest of the Democratic party.

The Home News was started at Sherburne, Wednesday, March 2, 1864, by S. B. Marsh. The first three editions were printed on a single sheet, about nine inches long and three inches wide, "designed to be increasingly enlarged as Patronage demands." The price was ten cents per month. The first edition solicited patronage, and requested that since "Home Interests have their place and importance in every community, scribblers will please keep the compositor posted on these topics." It also contained a notice of a grand concert at White's Hall that evening by the Sherburne Musical Association, Mr. L. N. Beers, conductor, and Miss Ellen Wickham, pianist; also of an exhibition under the auspices of the Union School, of Sherburne, under the direction of Mr. W. L. Race. The second edition contained a list of letters remaining in the post-office at Sherburne, March 1, 1864, signed by L. N. Smith, P. M.; and a telegram from Utica of the same date, stating the result of the charter election in that city. The third edition contained a notice of an election to be held at White's Hall, March 8, 1864, "for the purpose of deciding the right of soldiers in the field to vote." We venture the assertion that to Sherburne belongs the honor of printing not only the first paper in the county, but also the most diminutive one. The second issue, dated March 9, 1864, was increased to twice the size, printed in two columns, the first having only one. The third issue, dated March 16, 1864, was increased to about seven by eleven inches, and was printed on both sides; while the first and second numbers were printed on one side only. The fifth number was increased to a four-page paper, making it just twice the size of number three, which it retained till February 26, 1865. The increase with the third number made room for an addition to the name of the word "*The*." With No. 1, Vol. II., April 20, 1865, the name was changed to the *Sherburne Home News*, and it became "an independent journal of home interests and general intelligence"; it was changed also to a two-page paper, with about the same amount of matter, but with the third number the size was doubled by making it a four-page paper.

LaMonte Gardiner Raymond became its publisher October 18, 1866. He reduced it from six to five columns April 25, 1867; and April 23, 1868, increased it to its former size, and changed it to THE SHERBURNE

NEWS. It passed successively into the hands of Matteson Brothers, October 14, 1869; Frank D. Matteson, April 21, 1870; Matteson & Peters, September 28, 1871; Frank D. Matteson, January 11, 1872; and Thomas Randall, February 3, 1872.* February 1, 1874, Mr. Randall, enlarged it, by the addition of four columns, to its present size, twenty-four by thirty-six inches. It is still published by Mr. Randall, as an independent journal, every Saturday, and has a circulation of eight hundred.

The *Otselic Valley Register* was established at Pitcher April 8, 1874 by J. Edwards Lyons, who published it about four months, when he was succeeded in its publication by Eneas Fenton, who continued it a like period, and sold it to J. H. Graves, who continued it some two years, when he removed it to Cincinnatus, where he sold it to D. V. Joyner, who still continues its publication under the same name. It was a six column paper published weekly, and neutral in politics.

The *Sunday Times* was published at Norwich, a few months in 1874, by W. L. Griffing.

The *Smyrna Citizen* was established December 4, 1875, by George A. Munson, son of Albert Munson, and continued by him till November 25, 1876, when the outfit was sold and removed to Earlville. It was devoted to literature, news and home interests, and was neutral in politics. It was edited by George A. Munson, who had then just attained his majority.

The *Afton Eagle* was started in February, 1875, by G. E. Bradt, who published it till November of that year, when he sold it to Jacob B. Kirkhuff, who issued one number and abandoned it. It was an independent paper.

THE HOME SENTINEL was commenced at Afton, April 8, 1876, by John F. Seaman, who has since been its editor and publisher. It was originally an independent paper, but was changed in 1878, becoming an exponent of the principles of the Greenback party; though it is still conducted with an independence which makes it free from slavish subserviency to party. In size it is twenty-four by thirty-six inches; and has a circulation of about twelve hundred.

The *Norwich Sentinel* was established in the spring of 1878, by a company, of whom William W. Peters and Jasper L. Griffing were the principal ones, and was published in the interests of the Greenback party till the fall of that year, when it was discontinued.

THE GUILFORD WAVE was commenced at Guilford village, February, 13, 1879, by Brown Bros., (C. C. and C. O. Brown,) by whom it is still published. It is edited by C. O. Brown. It is a six column paper, twenty-two by thirty inches; devoted to home interests; and independent in politics. It has a circula-

*These are the dates of the first issue by the respective publishers.

tion of three hundred. It is the first paper published in Guilford.

THE ENTOMOLOGISTS' EXCHANGE was established at New Berlin in March, 1879, by Addison Ellsworth, who still continues it. It is the only paper in the two counties which comes within the purview of this work that is devoted to scientific subjects, and the only one in the State devoted exclusively to entomology. It is an ably-edited monthly, and counts among its two hundred subscribers some of the most advanced Entomologists in the country. It is an enterprise which richly deserves the hearty encouragement of Chenango's citizens, and a liberal patronage from those interested in its specialty. Its author claims to have the best collection of *lepidoptera* in Central New York. It is a four-page, octavo sheet printed at the *Gazette* office in New Berlin. The subscription price is twenty-five cents. It bears an excellent motto—*Vestigia nulla retrorsum.*

THE QUILL AND PRESS was established in June, 1878, at North Pharsalia, by Joseph C. White, its present editor and proprietor, as *The Juniper*, an amateur weekly; with No. 10 of Vol. II the name was changed to *White's American Greenbacker*, advocating the principles and doctrine of that party. It is at present issued as the QUILL AND PRESS—"an independent weekly paper"—and is a four page quarto sheet.

THE CHENANGO TELEGRAPH.—The *Telegraph* is the lineal descendant of *The American Agriculturalist*, published by Thurlow Weed in 1818-19, although an interregnum of two years intervened between the suspension of that and the starting of the TELEGRAPH. The *Telegraph* was first issued on the eighth of April 1829, Elias P. Pellett and B. T. Cook editors and publishers. It then bore the title of *The Anti-Masonic Telegraph*, and its birth was immediately brought about by the excitement growing out of the now historical Morgan affair, and the aggressive movement of Masonry, which was supposed to have some connection with the "Federal" party in the county which was then largely in the ascendancy. The vigorous fights of Editor Pellett, revolutionized the county at the second election and carried the county for Frank Granger for Governor over Throop, by over twelve hundred majority, an unprecedented majority for those primitive days.

The paper continued to carry the name of *Anti-Masonic Telegraph* until April, 1835, when it was changed to the *Chenango Telegraph*, and enlarged to a five column paper. Elias P. Pellett continued to publish it until his death, when he was succeeded by his brother, Nelson Pellett, who conducted it until his death, a period of about fifteen years. Soon after that, in 1853, it was purchased by Messrs. Leal & Fisher, who published it until 1855, when it was pur-

chased by Rice & Martin. They remained its publishers until 1861, when Mr. Martin retired, B. Gage Berry taking his interest, the firm being Rice & Berry, under which style it continued until the spring of 1864, when Mr. Berry purchased Rice's interest, and became its sole editor and proprietor. Soon after, Hon. Lewis Kingsley, a lawyer of prominence, purchased a half interest, and continued in partnership until 1870, when he was succeeded by Hon. Samuel P. Allen, who remained for four years, when he assumed control of the *Livingston Republican*. Mr. Berry continued sole publisher until Jan. 1, 1876, when John R. Blair, of Cambridge, N. Y., purchased an interest, the firm being B. Gage Berry & Co., which still continues.

The *Telegraph* had reached the large circulation of upwards of three thousand copies and the dimensions of nine long columns, when its publishers found a pressure upon them for oftener publication. With considerable hesitation they commenced the publication of a semi-weekly in place of the weekly on January 1, 1877. After one year's experience they were obliged to increase its size from seven to eight columns, and they still continue to publish it as such. Since they embarked upon the semi-weekly quite a number of others have tried it, but continued for only a short time. The *Semi-Weekly Telegraph* has now a circulation of upwards of thirty-one hundred, twice in every week, an advertising patronage which often drives the publishers to supplements to meet the demand upon their columns, and an influence, politically and socially, second to no paper in Central New York. Its politics is Republican.

CHAPTER XIII.

EARLY COURTS—CHENANGO COUNTY COURTS—FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS—FIRST COURTS IN CHENANGO COUNTY—COURT HOUSES IN NORWICH—FIRST COURTS IN NORWICH—TRIAL OF GENERAL DAVID THOMAS—BRILLIANT ARRAY OF LEGAL TALENT—JAIL LIMITS—JAILS—COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE—COUNTY POOR HOUSE—CHENANGO COUNTY CIVIL LIST—CIRCUIT JUDGES—SURROGATES—FIRST AND COUNTY JUDGES—DISTRICT ATTORNEYS—COUNTY CLERKS—SHERIFFS—SPECIAL JUDGES—COUNTY TREASURERS—COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF COMMON SCHOOLS—SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS—STATE SENATORS—MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY—MEMBERS OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS—UNITED STATES SENATORS—REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

PREVIOUS to the erection of Chenango County, in 1798, the whole of Madison County and all that

part of Chenango County lying north of the south line of Columbus, Sherburne, Smyrna, Otselic and Lincklaen was embraced in Herkimer County, and the remaining part of Chenango County, in Tioga County. The courts of Herkimer County were held at the meeting house in Herkimer Village till 1793, when one term was directed to be held at Whites town. Colonel Henry Staring was appointed First Judge, February 17, 1791. He was a man of remarkable honesty and integrity, though of limited education; and many amusing anecdotes are told of his manner of administering justice. The first court at Whites town, under the provisions of the act of 1793, was held in Jedediah Sanger's barn, Judge Staring, presiding, assisted by Judge White. The late Judge Jonas Platt was then clerk of Herkimer County, and Colonel William Colbraith, sheriff, both appointments being synchronical with that of Judge Staring's. Colbraith had seen service in the Revolution, but acquired his military title as a militia officer subsequent to that war. He was a jolly, good-humored man, and a great lover of fun.

Judge Staring held a term of court at the meeting-house in New Hartford in January, 1794, where he was assisted by Justices Jedediah Sanger and Amos Wetmore. Colbraith and Platt were the officiating sheriff and clerk. We copy from Mrs. Hammond's *History of Madison County* the following anecdote of this court, as related by William Tracy, Esq., in a lecture before the Young Men's Association of Utica:—

"A gentleman who attended the court as spectator, informs me the day was one of those cold January days frequent in our climate, and that in the afternoon, and when it was near night, in order to comfort themselves in their by no means well-appointed court room, and to keep the blood at a temperature at which it would continue to circulate, some of the gentlemen of the bar had induced the sheriff to procure from a neighboring inn a jug of spirits. This, it must be remembered, was before the invention of temperance societies. Upon the jug's appearing in court, it was passed around the bar table, and each of the learned counselors in his turn upraised the elegant vessel, and decanted into his mouth, by the simplest process imaginable, so much as he deemed a sufficient dose of the *delicious* fluid. While the operation was going on, the dignitaries of the bench, who were no doubt suffering quite as much with the cold as their brethren at the bar, had a little consultation, when the First Judge announced to the audience that the Court saw no reason why they should hold open court any longer, and freeze to death, and desired the crier forthwith to adjourn the court. Before, however, this functionary could commence with a single 'Hear ye,' Col. Colbraith jumped up, catching, as he rose, the jug from the lawyer who was contemplating its contents, and holding it up toward the bench, hastily ejaculated: 'Oh! no, no, no, Judge, don't adjourn yet; take a

little gin, Judge; that will keep you warm; 'taint time to adjourn yet;' and suiting the action to the word, he handed his honor the jug. It appeared there was force in the sheriff's advice, for the order to adjourn was revoked, and business went on."

The subsequent courts of Herkimer county up to 1798, were held at Whitestown; and the jail at Whitesboro in that town was used by this county to confine prisoners in until 1808 and by Madison county till 1812. On its erection, Tioga county had two shire towns, and courts were held alternately at *Chenango Point*, (Binghamton,) and *Newtown*, (Elmira.) The first county officers were: Abram Miller, *First Judge*; William Stuart, *District Attorney*.* Thomas Nicholson, *County Clerk*; James McMaster, *Sheriff*; and John Mersereau, *Surrogate*; all of whom were appointed February 17, 1791, except William Stuart, who was appointed March 31, 1796.†

When Chenango County was erected, Hamilton and Oxford were each constituted half-shire towns, and continued such till the formation of Madison County, in 1806, when North Norwich and Oxford became the shire towns for Chenango County, and Hamilton and Sullivan, (now Lenox,) for Madison County. Norwich became the county seat of Chenango county in 1809, by the act of March 6, 1807.

The first county officers were: Isaac Foote, *First Judge*; Joab Enos and Joshua Leland, *Judges*; Oliver Norton and Elisha Payne, *Assistant Justices*; Uri Tracy, *Sheriff*; Sidney S. Breese, *Clerk*; and John L. Mersereau, *Surrogate*.

By the terms of the law forming the county, the first Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace, was held at the log school-house, near the house of Elisha Payne, in the town of Hamilton, in June, 1798, and the first business transacted was the entry of an order that Thomas R. Gold, Joseph Kirkland, Nathan Williams, Stephen O. Runyon, Nathaniel King, Arthur Breese, Peter B. Garnsey and Medad Curtis be admitted to practice as attorneys and counselors of the court; the second was held at Oxford, in October of the same year. Subsequently court was held alternately at these two places three times each year. The Judges were authorized to open the court on Tuesday, but not to continue it beyond Saturday of the same week. They could adjourn at any time before Saturday.

The Act left it discretionary with the Supreme Court Judges respecting the appointment of a Circuit. The first Circuit Court was held July 10, 1798, at the Academy in Oxford, Justice, afterwards Chancellor, James Kent, presiding; but no business was transacted at this, neither at the second term of that

* The district, the Eighth, then (1796) comprised the counties of Onondaga, Ontario, Steuben and Tioga.

† The office of District Attorney, which was originally denominated Assistant Attorney-General, was created February 12, 1796.

court, which was held in Hamilton, in July, 1799, Justice Jacob Radcliff presiding.*

March 6, 1807, the Supervisors were authorized by the Legislature to select a site for a court house and jail in Norwich village, within one mile of the residence of Stephen Steere, which then occupied the site of the Eagle Hotel; and empowered to levy on the freeholders of the county and collect, not to exceed five thousand dollars, to be paid one-half in one year and the residue in two years, for the purpose of defraying the expense connected with the purchase of the site and the erection of the buildings.† By virtue of authority vested in them by the act, the Supervisors appointed Commissioners to carry out its provisions. The site for the buildings, consisting of about one and one-half acres, was generously donated by Peter B. Garnsey. It comprises the plot on which the present court house stands, and that part of the village green lying west of the main street. The Commissioners contracted with Josiah Dickinson and George Saxton for the erection of the court house and jail, the former of which was ready for occupancy early in the spring of 1809. It was a wooden structure, two stories high, and substantially built. It was square and well proportioned; but its interior dimensions proved inadequate to the accommodation of the large audiences which congregated when trials of interest took place. Its entire cost was sixty-five hundred dollars, exceeding the amount provided for by legislative action by fifteen hundred dollars, which was reimbursed to the contractors by an additional assessment, which was authorized by the Legislature at its session in 1809.

As the necessity for the erection of a new court house began to foreshadow with certainty the demand for it, a sharp rivalry grew up between the villages of Norwich and Oxford, which are about equi-distant from the geographical center of the county, for the coveted prize, and as the verbal contest increased in interest the northern towns of the county were arrayed in advocacy of the claims of Norwich, against the southern towns, allied with Oxford, in opposing them. Oxford became a formidable competitor, and, for the purpose of inducing a decision in its favor, its citizens

* Following is a list of the succeeding Circuit Courts held up to 1809: The *third* term was held in the school house at Hamilton June 30, 1800, Morgan Lewis presiding; the *fourth*, June 29, 1801, Judge John Lansing, Jr., presiding; the *fifth*, in June, 1802, Judge Kent presiding; the *sixth*, at Oxford, June 29, 1803, Smith Thompson, Esq., presiding; the *seventh*, at Oxford, May 29, 1804, Ambrose Spencer, Esq., presiding; the *eighth*, at Hamilton, in May, 1805, Daniel D. Tompkins, Esq., presiding; the *ninth*, at Hamilton, in May, 1806, Brockholst Livingston, Esq., presiding; the *tenth*, at Oxford, in May, 1807, Daniel D. Tompkins, Esq., presiding; the *eleventh*, at North Norwich, May 30, 1808, Judge Joseph C. Yates presiding; the *twelfth*, at the meeting-house in North Norwich, June 8, 1809, Smith Thompson presiding.

† An act was passed by the Legislature in April, 1804, authorizing the Council of Appointment to select Commissioners to locate a site for a county seat, but no action was taken in the matter.

freely offered to erect the necessary buildings at their private expense. The Legislature was besieged by lobby delegations from the several towns representing and urging the rival claims and interests of the two factions. But notwithstanding the strenuous exertions of the "Oxonians" and their allies the decision of the Legislature was adverse to their wishes, for March 24, 1837, an act was passed by that body authorizing the erection of a new court house at Norwich. When the protracted controversy was thus ended, elaborate preparations were made to appropriately celebrate the event, and the welcome extended to the successful lobbyists on their return home partook of the nature of an imposing ovation.

The act authorized the levying of a tax on the taxable property of the county for the building of the new court house, to the amount of seven thousand dollars, not more than four hundred dollars of which was to be levied in any one year. The County Treasurer, on presentation of his bond officially executed to the Comptroller, was authorized to draw the entire amount, at six per cent. interest, from the school fund, if he should deem it expedient so to do. His bond was to become due in five years from its date. The bond was accordingly executed and the money drawn. The Legislature appointed William Randall, of Norwich, and William Knowlton, of Smithville, to superintend the construction of the new building; subsequently David Griffing and Alfred Purdy, both of Norwich, were substituted in their place. The law authorized the sale of the old court house, and the application of the proceeds to the erection of the new one. The plan of the new building was on an expensive scale, and its cost exceeded the amount originally allowed by nine thousand dollars. It is a plain, but slightly and imposing structure, built in the Grecian style of architecture, with a portico borne by four massive Corinthian columns. The material is stone, obtained from a quarry about four miles south-west of Oxford Village, which was purchased by the county while the court house was under construction. Clark says of it in 1850, "the edifice itself is elegant! perhaps the most elegant of any structure of the kind in the State;" but, he says, the court room, which occupies the entire upper story, "is not constructed in harmony with the principles of acoustics." He adds elsewhere that, perhaps, it "is not more objectionable on this account than large rooms generally." The lower floor is partitioned off into rooms, on either side of a central spacious hall, which are occupied for various county purposes.

The first court held in Norwich was the Court of Common Pleas, which met in the newly-completed court house in June, 1809. The first Circuit Court

held in Norwich was opened in the court house in June, 1810, and was presided over by Smith Thompson, Esq.

In 1812 occurred the most remarkable trial which, perhaps, has ever taken place in Chenango County, remarkable alike for the character of the accused and the eminent ability of the counsel employed in the case. General David Thomas, of Salem, Washington County, then State Treasurer, was indicted for an alleged attempt to bribe a State Senator from this county. Thomas Addis Emmet, who was then Attorney-General, appeared as prosecuting attorney. This trial, says his biographer,* fully developed his great intellectual powers,† which, coupled with his adventures and misfortunes, and the still greater calamity that befel his brother, sufficed to awaken a deep and general interest in him, and attract a large audience to witness the proceedings. The opposing counsel were Mr. Foote, of Albany, and the eminent Elisha Williams, of Hudson, of whom Major Noah says:—"In addition to a fine commanding figure, a pleasant face, and a clear-toned silver voice, he was distinguished by great forensic abilities, and was nearly omnipotent before a jury." The distinguished Wm. P. Van Ness presided as judge of the Oyer and Terminer. The jury were, Asa Sheldon, Benjamin Edmonds, Oliver Richmond, Jr., Marcena Allen, Nathan Phillips, John Simmons, Smith Bradley, Henry Manwarring, David Foulton, Roswell Darrow, Ezekiel Peck and Miles Curtis. The trial occupied about fifty hours and resulted favorably to the accused. It created great interest in this county and in the State generally.

The jail limits of Chenango County were established at Sherburne Four Corners, by the Court of Common Pleas, in July, 1796. In 1802, they were transferred to Oxford, and in October, 1805, to Norwich, where they have since remained. The early jail limits were restricted by law to three acres, and those in Norwich were surveyed by Judge Caspar M. Rouse.

* Dr. R. R. Madden, who further says that Mr. Foote, in his argument before the jury, stated that "Mr. Emmet's promotion to the office of Attorney-General was the reward of party efforts, and that in conducting this prosecution, he was doing homage for that office;" to which Mr. Emmet sarcastically replied, "It is false and he knows it. The office which I have the honor to hold, is the reward of useful days and sleepless nights, devoted to the acquisition and exercise of my profession, and of a life of unspotted integrity, claims and qualifications which that gentleman can never put forth for any office humble or exalted."

† Elisha Williams, in his concluding remarks to the jury on another trial, says Major Noah thus testified to the ability of Mr. Emmet:—

"Gentlemen, I cannot conclude without cautioning you against the powerful reasoning and eloquence of my learned friend. I know that he will make a powerful appeal to you against my clients. He will attack your passions and steal your hearts: he will knock at the door of your understanding and gain an entrance. How many men have suffered by his powers, how many his eloquence has sent to your prisons, God only knows. I hope they were guilty. I have met him on trials, and know his talents. He destroys my arguments, he carries away my juries, and he convicts my clients. Let me caution you against the irresistible force of his eloquence." Extract from the *New York Sunday Times* in Clark's *History of Chenango County*.

They were enlarged in 1819 to the size of the corporation of Norwich village. The old jail was built within the Court-House, as was also the jailor's residence, and like it was built of wood; but it was very insecure, and "desperate felons often effected a general jail delivery," says Clark, without awaiting the vicissitudes of a regular trial agreeably to the tedious forms of criminal procedure." "Fire," he says, "artfully applied, generally secured an escape. Sometimes the flames would rage beyond control; endangering the lives of the incendiaries and jeopardizing the edifice itself." To afford greater security, the Legislature, in 1830, authorized the Supervisors to levy and collect by tax two thousand dollars for the construction of a stone building for the custody of prisoners. The present stone jail which is contiguous to and to the north of the Court-House is the fruit of this action, and was erected soon after the passage of the act. Charles York, Henry Snow and Thompson Meade were appointed commissioners to plan, contract for and superintend its construction.

In April, 1814, the Legislature authorized a tax of eight hundred dollars, one-half payable in one year and the other half in two, for the erection of a new fire-proof building for the County Clerk's office, which was built in 1815, on a plot of ground donated for the purpose by Peter B. Garnsey. This plot forms a part of the site of the Congregational church in Norwich village, and when the Clerk's office was removed, reverted back to the Garnsey family. The building then erected was constructed of brick. The doors and windows were protected with sheet iron, and a composition of ashes and salt was spread upon the upper ceiling, but the roof was covered with shingles. After a few years it proved too small to accommodate the business transacted in it, and in 1850 its removal was authorized, but was not effected until 1852, when it gave place to the present fire-proof brick building, which stands nearly opposite the former one, on the north side of the west village green, on which it fronts. It is contiguous to the Court-House and Jail, which also front on the west village green, on the west margin of which they stand, facing the east, while the Clerk's office faces the south.

The county poor-house is situated on a farm of about seventy-five acres in the town of Preston, six miles west of Norwich and six miles north of Oxford. The buildings, which are of wood, are three stories high above the basement, and are pleasantly situated on a fine eminence, facing the west. They consist of a central part, forty by eighty feet, and two wings extending to the north and south, each thirty by forty feet. They were erected in 1862, afford accommodations for one hundred and twenty-five inmates, and admit of a partial classification of the aged, infirm,

idiotic, feeble-minded and children. It is abundantly supplied with water, and has good arrangements for bathing. The buildings are maintained in good repair. The old building which gave place to the present one was formerly used, a part of it for a barn, to which use a portion of it is now applied. The remaining portion forms a part of the insane asylum, which is contiguous to the poor-house, and has been thrice enlarged. The last and principal enlargement of several feet to the south end, was made in 1878, at which time also it was raised one-story, so that it is now three stories high. The sexes are kept separate, except in the necessity of labor. A portion of the dependent children of the county have been for the last nine years sent to the Susquehanna Valley Home in Binghamton. Since the recent establishment of St. Mary's Home, a Catholic institution in that city, the Catholic children have been sent there.

The farm, which is devoted to dairying, is under good cultivation, and is tilled by the paupers and insane. The stock upon it consists of twenty-three cows, nine calves, five horses, a yoke of oxen and five yearlings, besides hogs, pigs and fowl. All the milk is consumed in the support of the paupers, who are allowed a meal of milk once a day. What is not thus consumed is manufactured into butter and used in the house.

The present (August, 1879,) number of members is eighty, a little more than half of whom are males. Only four of the males are under forty, while one is in his hundredth year. Most of the inmates are old and decrepit, and generally unable to perform manual labor. The majority possess less than the average intellect, and lack the power of self-support. Mental, moral and physical weakness are the chief causes of pauperism, and this, indeed, is true as a general hypothesis. A few have become paupers from intemperance, but that is not the chief cause; indeed it is nearly certain that the conditions which induce pauperism are also fruitful causes of intemperance. The younger paupers are mostly very deficient in intellect, and nearly all belong to the lower classes of society.*

* We quote from the *Twelfth Annual Report of the State Board of Charities for 1878*:—

"The investigations of this Board show that in all the poor-houses and alms-houses throughout the State, are congregated large numbers of persons of both sexes, not endowed with sufficient mental power to protect themselves against the rapacity and vice they must encounter in the outside world."

Again from the Report of M. B. Anderson, Commissioner of the Seventh Judicial District, dated Rochester, December 12, 1878, and published in the work just quoted. He says:—

"The inmates of our alms-houses are generally weak in body and mind. The general average of vitality is, in the majority of cases, congenitally low, and this naturally low average has been reduced almost universally below its normal condition by crowded dwellings, insufficient clothing, bad air, want of cleanliness, and food deficient in quantity and bad in quality."

"This depressed condition of mind and body is quite generally accompanied by a morbid desire for stimulants, and a tendency toward the more degrading forms of licentiousness. When these causes reach a certain degree of activity, the feeble capacity for self-support which such persons naturally possess is neutralized, and they are thrown on their relatives or the State for maintenance. All investigation goes to show that the number of intelligent, moral and respectable persons who, by wounds, sickness or old age, are obliged to resort to the alms-house, is exceedingly small. They are, in fact, so few in number that we shall throw them out of consideration in the discussion before us."

The keepers of the poor-house have been Rufus Graves, eight or nine years; William W. Brown, formerly sheriff of this county, nine years; George Buell, fifteen months; and Nehemiah Leach, who has had charge of the institution since April 1, 1875.

We copy from the *Report of the Superintendents of the Poor*, for the year ending November 1, 1878, the following statistics regarding this institution:—

INVENTORY.

REAL ESTATE.

County Poor House Farm..	\$13,000 00	
Wood lot in Plymouth....	500 00	—\$13,500 00

PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Live Stock on Farm.....	1,609 50	
Farm Products.....	1,223 25	— 2,832 75
Farming Tools.....	504 00	
Household Furniture.....	630 80	
Household Furniture, In- sane Department.....	321 50	— 1,456 30
Whole Number of Paupers Supported.....	196	
“ “ “ “ County.....	38	
“ “ “ “ Transient.....	59	
“ “ “ “ Town.....	99	

COUNTY POOR HOUSE EXPENSES.

Poor House Supplies.....	\$5,488 97	
Fixtures.....	1,195 11	
Keeper's salary and help not paid in Supply Bills, to April 1, 1879.....	1,564 00	
Transportation of town pau- pers.....	51 55	
Transportation of County paupers.....	12 30	
Burial Expenses, Town.....	54 00	
“ “ County.....	45 00	
Physicians' Bills, “.....	74 85	
“ “ Town.....	65 75	— 8,551 53
Temporary Relief Outside of Poor House.....		3,842 65
Total.....		\$12,394 18

The following statement shows the number of paupers from each town, the length of time they were supported, and the cost of their support:—

	No.	Weeks.	Days.	Amount.
Afton.....	4	93	3	\$ 98 20
Afton and Bainbridge.....	2	114	0	77 72
Bainbridge.....	4	186	0	151 94
Columbus.....	2	104	0	81 66
Coventry.....	1	52	0	38 24
Greene.....	10	365	6	312 34
Guilford.....	7	245	5	228 55
German.....	2	104	0	81 01
Lincklaen.....	2	79	0	76 11
McDonough.....	5	234	2	180 56
Norwich.....	11	430	0	352 96
North Norwich.....	3	81	1	73 35
New Berlin.....	5	129	5	113 64
Oxford.....	15	677	6	569 42

	No.	Weeks.	Days.	Amount.
Otselic.....	2	63	0	49 43
Pharsalia.....	5	208	4	177 05
Pitcher.....	1	50	4	52 25
Preston.....	1	52	0	44 36
Plymouth.....	7	336	5	269 17
Sherburne.....	3	151	0	118 38
Smyrna.....	6	294	6	266 21
Smithville.....	0	52	0	38 12

We extract the following additional statistics from the Twelfth Annual Report of the State Board of Charities for the year ending November 30, 1878:—

The number in the house Dec. 1, 1877, was..	110	
“ “ received during the year was....	52	
“ “ born in the poor house was....	1	— 163
“ “ discharged was.....	26	
“ “ died was.....	18	
“ “ remaining Nov. 30, 1878, was..	44	— 119
“ “ of males was.....	58	
“ “ of females was.....	61	
“ “ supported was.....	119	— 163
“ “ temporarily relieved was.....	59	
“ “ of insane was.....	222	— 35
“ “ of idiots was.....	35	5
“ “ of epileptics was.....	5	5
“ “ of blind was.....	2	2
“ “ of children was.....	4	4
“ “ of native born was.....	132	
“ “ of foreign born was.....	31	— 163

The value of labor of paupers was..... \$500

CHENANGO COUNTY CIVIL LIST.

Chenango county holds an important position in the civil list, having furnished a member of the Council of Appointment, John Noyes, of Norwich, who was appointed for the Middle District, February 2, 1817; a Lieutenant-Governor, John Tracy, of Oxford, who was elected November 5, 1832;* two Inspectors of State Prisons, Thomas Miller, appointed March 15, 1824, and again March 11, 1826, and William Newton, appointed April 8, 1840; a member of the Commission for the revision of the Constitution of New York in 1872, John F. Hubbard, Jr.; a State Treasurer, Alvah Hunt, of Greene, elected November 2, 1847; a Canal Commissioner, Samuel H. Barnes, elected November 6, 1860;† a Justice of the Supreme Court, David L. Follett, of Norwich, elected November 8, 1874, an office he still holds; and a Diplomatic

* Daniel S. Dickinson, though not a native of Chenango county, nor acquiring public distinction here, spent his youth and early manhood in the town of Guilford, and there laid the foundation for his future greatness. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor while residing at Binghamton, November 6, 1842; was appointed United States Senator by the Governor, November 30, 1844, and re-appointed by the Legislature, February 4, 1845; and was appointed United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, April 10, 1865.

† Died at Norwich, November 13, 1860.

Officer, Anson Burlingame, who, though little of his life was spent here, was a native of New Berlin, and after serving in the Massachusetts Senate and representing that State in Congress, was appointed by President Lincoln in 1861, Minister to Austria, and subsequently to China, which latter position he resigned in 1867, to accept a diplomatic appointment from China to the European Powers and the United States.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

Circuit courts were provided for by the Constitution of 1821, and on the 17th of April, 1823, the State was divided into eight circuits, corresponding with the eight Senate districts. The County Clerks were clerks of this court. The court was abolished by the constitution of 1846. Robert Monell, of Greene, was the only resident of Chenango county who held that office. He was appointed February 1, 1831, succeeding Samuel Nelson, of Cooperstown, who was the first appointed to that office. Mr. Monell was succeeded January 13, 1846, by Hiram Gray, of Elmira, who held it until the office was abolished.*

SURROGATES.

Previous to 1821, Surrogates were designated by the Council of Appointment; from 1821 to 1846, by the Governor and Senate; and since the latter date the office has been elective. Chenango county furnished the first Surrogate of Tioga county, in the person of John L. Mersereau, of Guilford, who was appointed February 17, 1791, and held the office till the formation of Chenango county, when (March 22, 1798,) he was appointed to the same office for that county. His successors have been, James Birdsall, appointed March 25, 1811; David Buttolph, March 16, 1813; John Tracy, March 6, 1815; Nathan Chamberlin, July 8, 1819; John Randall, June 7, 1820; John Tracy, March 7, 1821; Smith M. Purdy, January 11, 1833; Samuel McKoon, December 1, 1837; Roswell Judson, January 20, 1843, holding the office till it was abolished by the constitution of 1846, which devolved its duties on County Judges, except in counties having a population exceeding 40,000.

FIRST AND COUNTY JUDGES.

The Court of Common Pleas was continued from the Colonial Period. For most of the time under the First Constitution the number of Judges and Assistant Justices in the various counties differed, reaching, in some counties, as many as twelve of each. March 27, 1818, the office of Assistant Justice was abolished, and the number of Judges limited to five, including

* Chenango county was in the Sixth District, which also included Broome, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga and Tompkins counties, until April 18, 1826, when Steuben was annexed and Delaware transferred. March 29, 1836, Chemung was added, and May 23, of that year, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Livingston and Steuben were annexed and Otsego and Cortland transferred.

the First Judge. The Judges were appointed by the Governor and Senate for a period of five years. The Constitution of 1846 provided for the election of a County Judge for each county, except the city and county of New York, and the new Judiciary article extended the tenure of office from four to six years, upon the election of the successors of the present incumbents.

The First Judges of Chenango county were Isaac Foote, appointed October 30, 1800; Joel Thompson, June 8, 1807; Obadiah Gernan, March 16, 1814; James Clapp, March 27, 1819; Uri Tracy, July 8, 1819; John Tracy, February 6, 1823; Smith M. Purdy, January 11, 1833; Levi Bigelow, February 13, 1838; Roswell Judson, February 13, 1843. The County Judges have been, Smith M. Purdy, elected in June, 1847; Roswell Judson, in 1851; Dwight H. Clark, in 1855; Horace G. Prindle, in 1863;* and William F. Jenks, in 1877, the latter four in November.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

The original appellation of this office, which was created February 12, 1796, was that of Assistant Attorney-General, who was appointed by the Governor and Council. The office of District-Attorney was created April 4, 1801. At first the State was divided into seven districts, Chenango county belonging to the sixth,† until March 29, 1809, when it was transferred to the ninth.‡ In April, 1818, each county was constituted a separate district. The office was made elective by the Constitution of 1846.

Thomas R. Gold, of Oneida, was the first and only Assistant Attorney-General for Chenango county. He was appointed February 26, 1797, while it was yet a part of Herkimer county. He represented the seventh district, which then embraced Herkimer and Otsego counties. He was succeeded by Nathan Williams, of Oneida county, August 20, 1801; Nathaniel King, Daniel Kellogg and Joseph L. Richardson, up to the time the act of 1818 took effect; but Nathaniel King was the only one who was from Chenango county, and the first after it was united with the ninth district. The District-Attorneys subsequent to 1818 were:—Simon G. Throop, appointed June 11, 1818; Lot Clark, April 11, 1822; John C. Clark, in October, 1823; Robert Monell, 1827?;§ Lot Clark, 1828?; John Clapp, 1836?; George M. Smith, 1841?; Robert O. Reynolds, 1843?; George M. Smith, —; James M. Banks, elected in June,

* Re-elected.

† The sixth district embraced also Herkimer, Lewis, Oneida, Otsego, Madison from 1806, and Jefferson from 1805 to 1808.

‡ The ninth district embraced also Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga, and Cortland till 1817.

§ The dates followed by ? are obtained from unofficial data and may be incorrect.

1847; Dwight H. Clarke,* in 1850; Isaac S. Newton, 1853; Elizur H. Prindle, 1859; Solomon Bundy, 1862; Calvin L. Tefft, 1865; Robert A. Stanton, 1868; Calvin L. Tefft, 1871; David H. Knapp, 1874; John W. Church, 1877.

COUNTY CLERKS.

County Clerks, in addition to keeping the county records, were required by the act of February 12, 1796, to act as clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and of the Oyer and Terminer. At present they are clerks of the Supreme Court in their respective counties, and their seals are declared to be the seals of the court. Their term of office, like that under the Second Constitution, is three years.

When Chenango County was first formed the records were kept at Cazenovia, and Samuel Sidney Breese, of that village, was appointed the Clerk of Chenango County March 19, 1798. He has been succeeded in that office by Uri Tracy, appointed August 13, 1801; David G. Bright, February 13, 1815; Perez Randall, March 6, 1819; Nathan Chamberlin, June 7, 1820; William Mason, November 10, 1820; Perez Randall, February 13, 1821; Jarvis K. Pike, November, 1831; Perez Randall, November, 1834; Cyrus Wheeler,† March 29, 1839; Albert Purdy, November, 1839; John Latham, November, 1842; Burr B. Andrews, November, 1845; Nelson Pellet,‡ elected in 1848; Horace S. Reed, 1851; Thomas Milner, 1854; James G. Thompson, 1857; Andrew Shepardson,§ 1872.

SHERIFFS.

Under the First Constitution (1777-1821) Sheriffs were appointed annually by the Council of Appointment, and no person could hold the office for more than four successive years. The Sheriff could not hold any other office, and must be a freeholder in the county to which he was appointed. Under the Second Constitution (1821 to 1846) Sheriffs were elected for a term of three years, but were ineligible to election the next succeeding term. These provisions are operative at the present time.

"The Sheriff," says Mr. Clark, "was once an officer held in great respect by the citizens of this county. He arranged all the ceremonials of the court. He formally announced to the Judges the particular hour the court-room was in order for their reception. He was also equipped with side arms, and kept his sword of office unsheathed on the desk in front of his seat. He, with his deputies in charge, formally inducted the Judges from their lodgings to the court-room; the jurors closing the procession. He opened the court

* Dwight H. Clarke and those who succeed him were elected in November.

† Appointed on the death of Perez Randall, March 29, 1838. Randall's tombstone states that he was for twenty years Clerk of Chenango County.

‡ Nelson Pellet and those who succeeded him were elected in November.

§ Re-elected each subsequent term.

by solemn proclamation. In every respect the office of Sheriff was once of more import in the public estimation than now."*

The first Sheriff of Chenango County was Uri Tracy, of Oxford, who was appointed March 22, 1798. His successors have been as follows:—Nathaniel Locke, appointed August 12, 1801; Anson Cary, March 1, 1805; William Monroe, March 23, 1809; Isaac Foote, Jr., April 5, 1810; William Monroe, February 8, 1811; Isaac Foote, Jr., February 26, 1813; Samuel Campbell, March 6, 1815; William Monroe, March 6, 1819; Thomas Mead, February 12, 1821; Thomas Mead, elected in 1822;† Samuel A. Smith, 1825; Augustus C. Welch, 1828; Amos A. Franklin, 1831; Jabez Robinson, 1834; William Hatch, 1837; Enos S. Halbert, 1840; Joseph P. Chamberlain, 1843; William Church, 1846; Levi H. Case, 1849; Romeo Warren, 1852; William H. Amsbry, 1855; Peter B. Rathbone, 1858; Edward Childs, 1861; Daniel A. Carpenter, 1864; John E. Matthewson, 1867; Uriah Rorapough, 1870; William M. Brown, 1873; Silas R. Hill, 1876.

SPECIAL JUDGES.

This office was authorized by the Constitution of 1846, and its incumbent is required to perform the duties of County Judge, in case of his inability to act, or of a vacancy, and to exercise such other powers in special cases as may be required by law. The office was created in Chenango County on application of the Board of Supervisors, by an act passed July 11, 1851; which makes the term four years. It has been filled by the following named persons:—William N. Mason, elected in 1855; Hamilton Phelps, in 1860; Alfred Nichols, 1863; Ransom McDonald,‡ April 4, 1864; William H. Hyde, 1864; Oscar H. Curtis, 1868; Charles B. Sumner, 1872; Stephen Holden, 1876.§

COUNTY TREASURERS.

County Treasurers are elected under the Constitution of 1846, for a term of three years. They were formerly appointed by the Boards of Supervisors in the several counties. Thomas Miller was the first person elected to the office in Chenango County, in 1848. He has been succeeded by Charles W. Olen-dorf, James G. Thompson, George C. Rice, Nathan P. Wheeler, Samuel R. Per Lee, Nathan P. Wheeler, John R. VanWagenen, Martin McLean, and at regular intervals of three years, except that Nathan P. Wheeler was elected twice in succession, in 1860 and 1863. All were elected in November.

* Clark's History of Chenango County.

† Thomas Mead and those who succeeded him were elected in November.

‡ Appointed vice Nichols deceased.

§ All, except McDonald, were elected in November.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF COMMON SCHOOLS.

April 17, 1843, the Boards of Supervisors were directed to appoint County Superintendents of Common Schools; and R. K. Bourne, David R. Randall and Isaac B. Collins were accordingly so appointed in Chenango County. The office was abolished March 13, 1847.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

Prior to 1857, School Commissioners were appointed by the Boards of Supervisors. In 1856 the office was made elective; and the first election under that act was held in November, 1859. The office has been held in Chenango County by the following named persons:—Delos Luther, Calvin L. King, Orville Benedict, Boliver Bisbee, Matthew B. Luddington and Andrew G. Freeman in the first district; and R. McDonald, John R. Wheeler, Edgar Garrett, Henry G. Green, Samuel S. Stafford and David G. Barber in the second district. Andrew Y. Freeman, of Sherburne, and David G. Barber, of Oxford, are the present incumbents.

STATE SENATORS.

Under the First Constitution, and while a part of Herkimer and Tioga counties, Chenango county was in the Western Senatorial District, which originally embraced Albany and Tryon Counties, and subsequently other western counties, as they were formed from these; but Chenango furnished no State Senators previous to its organization as a separate county, at which time it belonged to the Middle District, which then, (under the act of March 4, 1796,) included the Counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Orange, Ulster and Delaware, and subsequently, on their erection, Greene and Sullivan. The latter district was entitled to twelve Senators until 1808, and to seven from 1808 to 1815. April 17, 1815, Albany, Chenango, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Orange, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster were entitled to nine Senators.

Under the Second Constitution Chenango county was in the Sixth Senatorial District, which also included Broome, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga and Tompkins till April 18, 1826, when Steuben was annexed and Delaware transferred; March 29, 1836, Chemung was added, and May 23d of the same year, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Livingston and Steuben were annexed and Otsego and Cortland transferred. Chenango and Otsego counties formed the Eighteenth Senatorial District, under the Third Constitution; Chenango, Cortland and Madison, the Twenty-third, under the act of April 13, 1857; and Chenango, Delaware and Schoharie the Twenty-third, under the act of April 25, 1866, which is still in force. There are

thirty-two districts and as many Senators, who are elected each odd year.

Isaac Foote, of Sherburne, (now Smyrna,) was the first State Senator from this county. He served in 1802, '3, '4, '5. He has been succeeded by Nathaniel Locke, of Oxford, who served in 1806, '7, '8, '9; Caspar M. Rouse, 1812, '13, '14, '15; John Noyes, of Norwich, 1817, '18, '19, '20; Tilly Lynde, of Sherburne, 1821, '2, '3, '4, '5; John F. Hubbard, of Norwich, 1829 to 1836; Alvah Hunt, of Greene, 1839 to 1842; Clark Burnham, of Sherburne, 1844, '5, '6, '7; John Noyes, of Norwich, 1850, '1; Henry A. Clark, of Bainbridge, 1862, '3; Frederick Juliard, of Greene, 1864, '5; John F. Hubbard, Jr., of Norwich, 1868, '9, '70; James G. Thompson, of Norwich, 1874, '5.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

The variation of Chenango's representation in the Assembly has corresponded with that of the ratio of her population to that of the State, the extremes being one and four. When formed she had two members; under the apportionment of March 31, 1802, four; after the erection of Madison County, in 1806, two; under the apportionments of April 1, 1808, April 1, 1815, April 12, 1822, April 18, 1826, and May 23, 1836, three; under those of March 8, 1846, and April 13, 1857, two; and under that of April 16, 1866, one, the present number, who is elected annually.

The first Assemblyman from the territory originally embraced in Chenango county was Jedediah Sanger, of Sangersfield, (now in Oneida county,) who represented Herkimer county in 1794, and Herkimer and Onondaga in 1795. He was the only one from the county previous to its organization, except Isaac Foote, who represented Herkimer county in 1798, and Benjamin Hovey, who represented Tioga county the same year.

Those who have represented Chenango county proper are:—Obadiah German and Nathaniel King in 1798-9; Peter B. Garnsey and Nathaniel King, 1800; Jonathan Forman and James Glover, 1800-15; Nathaniel King and Joshua Mersereau Jr., 1802; James Green, Stephen Hoxie, Joel Thompson and Uri Tracy, 1803; Obadiah German, Stephen Hoxie, James Moore and Joel Thompson, 1804; Peter Betts, Obadiah German, Samuel Payne and Luther Waterman, 1804-5; Benjamin Jones, Jonathan Morgan, Samuel Payne and Sylvanus Smalley, 1806; Obadiah German and Joseph Simonds, 1807; Peter Betts and Obadiah German, 1808; Samuel Campbell, Obadiah German and Ebenezer Wakeley, 1808-9; Nathaniel Locke, John Noyes and Ebenezer Wakeley, 1810; Peter Betts, Thompson Mead and Joseph Simons, 1811; Samuel Campbell, Silas Holmes and

Denison Randall, 1812; Nathaniel Medbury,* Ebenezer Wakeley and Thornton Wasson, 1812-13; Jas. Houghtaling, John Noyes and Hascall Ransford, 1814; John Guthrie, Thompson Mead and Robert Monell, 1814-15; Thomas Brown, William Monroe and Russel Waters, 1816; James Houghtaling, Samuel A. Smith and Ebenezer Wakeley, 1816-17; Tilly Lynde, Perez Randall and Simon G. Throop, 1818; Obadiah German, Thomas Humphrey and Ebenezer Wakeley, 1819; Samuel Campbell, Thomas Humphrey and Samuel A. Smith, 1820; William Mason, Edmund G. PerLee and John Tracy, 1820-1 and 1822; Silas Holmes, Austin Hyde and Stephen Stilwell, 1823; John F. Hubbard, John Latham and Daniel Root, 1824; Russel Case, Chas. Medberry and Robert Monell, 1825; John C. Clark,† Tilly Lynde, Robert Monell and John Tracy, 1826; James Birdsall, Joseph Juliand and Augustus C. Welch, 1827; Tilly Lynde, Henry Mitchell and Robert Monell, 1828; Russel Case, Abel Chandler and Amos A. Franklin, 1829; John Latham, Jarvis K. Pike and Charles Squires, 1830; Joseph Juliand, Jarvis K. Pike and Ira Wilcox, 1831; Noah Ely, Joseph Juliand and Edmund G. PerLee, 1832; Abel Chandler, Austin Hyde and William M. Patterson, 1833; Joseph P. Chamberlain, Milo Hunt and Wells Wait, 1834; Hendrick Crain, Henry Crary and Woodward Warren, 1835; William Knowlton, Nicholas B. Mead and Squire Smith, 1836; John F. Hill, Squire Smith and Isaac Stokes, 1837; Henry Balcom, Demas Hubbard, Jr., and Justus Parce, 1838; Samuel Drew, Demas Hubbard, Jr., and Josiah G. Olney, 1839; William Church, Demas Hubbard and Samuel Plumb, 1840; Calvin Cole, Eber Dimmick and Benson H. Wheeler, 1841; Clark Burnham, Richard W. Juliand and Adam Storing, 1842; Edward Cornell, Samuel Medbury and Danforth Wales, 1843; Rensselaer W. Clark, Erastus Dickinson and Daniel Noyes, 1844; Joel Burdick, Solomon S. Hall and Charles B. Miller, 1845; Solomon Ensign, Jr., William G. Sands and Hiram E. Storrs, 1846; Ransom Balcom and David McWhorter, 1847; Levi H. Case and Ezra P. Church, 1848; James Clark and Alonzo Johnson, 1849; Isaac L. F. Cushman and Rufus Chandler, 1850; Levi Harris and Laman Ingersoll, 1851; Thompson White and Joseph P. Chamberlain, 1852; William H. Amsbry and Luther Osgood, Jr., 1853; Levi Harris and Rufus J. Baldwin, 1854; Daniel Palmer and Lewis Fairchild, 1855; Tompkins H. Matteson and Frederick Juliand, 1856; Ansel Berry and Wm. H. Hyde, 1857; Truxton G. Lamb and Wm. Kales, 1858; Grant B. Palmer and Judson L. Grant, 1859; Sam'l L. Beebe and Jos. Bush, 1860;

Thos. Carter and Sam'l E. Lewis, 1861; David B. Parce and Francis B. Fisher, 1862; Elizur H. Prindle and Francis B. Fisher, 1863; George W. Sumner and Dyer D. Bullock, 1864; George W. Sumner and Samuel S. Stafford, 1865; George C. Rice and Romeo Warren, 1866; Frederick Juliand, 1867 and '68; Charles Pearsall, 1869; Samuel L. Brown, 1870; Andrew Shepardson, 1871 and '72; Russell A. Young, 1873; Harris H. Beecher, 1874; Daniel M. Holmes, 1875; Isaac Plumb, 1876; J. Hudson Skillman, 1877; B. Gage Berry, 1878.

MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

John W. Buckley* and Stephen Hoxie represented Chenango county in the first Constitutional Convention, in 1801; Thomas Humphrey,† Jarvis K. Pike and Nathan Taylor, in the second, in 1821; Elisha B. Smith † † and John Tracy, in the third, in 1846, of which John Tracy was President; and Elizur H. Prindle, in the fourth, in 1867. John F. Hubbard, Jr., was a member of the Constitutional Commission of 1872.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

Chenango County has been represented in the Electoral College as follows: Joseph Simonds, 1808; Daniel Root, 1816; Thomas Blakeslee, 1828; Thomas Humphrey, 1832; Augustus C. Welch, 1836; Samuel Balcolm, 1840; William Mason, 1844; William S. Sayre, 1856.

UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Chenango County has furnished only one United States Senator, (except Daniel S. Dickinson,) Obadiah German, who was appointed February 7, 1809.

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

Chenango County has undergone various changes in its Congressional associations. At present it forms, in conjunction with Delaware and Otsego counties, the twenty-first Congressional District, under the apportionment of 1872.

The following have been the Representatives in Congress from Chenango county: Uri Tracy, 1805-7, 1809-13; Joel Thompson, 1813-15; James Birdsall, 1815-17; Robert Monell, 1819-21; Samuel Campbell, 1821-23; John C. Cook, 1827-29; Robert Monell, 1829-30; William Mason, 1835-37; John C. Clark, 1837-43; Smith M. Purdy, 1843-45; Henry Bennett, 1849-59; Demas Hubbard, Jr., 1865-67; Elizur H. Prindle, 1871-73; Solomon Bundy, 1877-79.

* Died February 3, 1813.

† Contested by Tilly Lynde, who succeeded him January 6, 1826.

* Contested by Anson Cary.

† Did not sign the Constitution.

‡ Vote not recorded.

CHAPTER XIV.*

CAPITAL CRIMINAL CALENDAR OF CHENANGO COUNTY
 —TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF RUFUS HILL—TRIAL,
 CONVICTION AND EXECUTION OF GEORGE DENNISON—TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF ROBERT MAYNARD—TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL OF RUSSELL CADY—
 TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL OF DAN FOOTE—INDICTMENT AND DISCHARGE OF HORACE R. BURLISON—
 EXAMINATION AND DISCHARGE OF LAVINIA HILLIARD—TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF ROBERT CORBIN—TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF ALBERT HOLMES—
 TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF GEORGE H. ROGERS—
 EXAMINATION AND INSANITY OF JOHN P. HALL—
 EXAMINATION AND INSANITY OF MATTHEW BRADY—
 TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF WILLIAM BRUSHHELL—
 TRIAL, CONVICTION AND EXECUTION OF FELIX McCANN.

CHENANGO county has witnessed several capital trials, though only eight have resulted in conviction, and in only two has capital punishment been inflicted.

The earliest murder trial in the county on record is that of Rufus Hill, who was convicted of the murder of a child, by throwing upon it an armful of wood, and was sentenced to be hung on the last Friday in August, 1808; but the verdict was disaffirmed by the Governor, and the sentence was never executed. The defense put in the plea that the killing was accidental, and the prisoner affirmed before sentence was pronounced that he was "not guilty of willful murder." The trial was held in the meeting-house at North Norwich, and commenced on Monday, May 30, 1808, before Hon. Joseph C. Yates, Justice. Mr. Talmadge was associated with District-Attorney Williams in the prosecution; Messrs. Gold and Platt were counsel for the prisoner. Sixteen witnesses were sworn, and the trial closed, and sentence pronounced on Friday, the fifth day.

The next trial was that of George Dennison, January 21, 1833. Dennison and his victim, Reuben Gregory, the latter the son of a respectable tavern keeper, on the road from Columbus to New Berlin, were, in 1832, residents of the former town and intimate friends. Dennison was a young man of dissipated habits, and on the day of the murder, September 30, 1832, having visited the inn kept by Gregory's father and drank freely, was refused further supplies of liquor, when he left, feeling indignant and threatening vengeance. The elder Gregory uniformly wore a slouch hat and was in the frequent habit of smoking.

*The facts contained in this chapter are condensed from an article prepared for the *Chenango Telegraph*, which the gentlemanly publisher kindly permits us to use.

On the day in question the younger Gregory was suffering severely from toothache, and having resorted to various remedies without relief, was advised to try tobacco, which he did towards evening, seating himself in a room which opened into the woodshed, with his father's slouch hat drawn down over his eyes. Dennison, in the meantime, had been home and procured his gun, which he loaded with shot, and started out for the purpose of "peppering old Gregory's legs." Stealing along through the deepening twilight to the inn he saw young Gregory sitting in the accustomed seat of his father, and supposing him to be the latter, deliberately fired. The shot entered the heart of the unfortunate young man, who was only twenty-three years of age. Dennison was horrified the following morning on learning of his death. He was lodged in jail in Norwich, and brought to trial January 21, 1833, before Judge Monell. John Clapp was the prosecuting attorney, and Abial Cook, Henry Van DerLyn and S. S. Randall were counsel for the prisoner. The trial was held in the old Presbyterian Church, which occupied the site of the present Congregational Church, and continued two days. The jury returned a verdict of guilty after an absence of one and one-half hours; and the prisoner was sentenced on the 23d. Every effort was made in his behalf, but Governor Marcy refused to interfere with the execution of the sentence, and Dennison was hung March 19, 1833. The place of execution was at the foot of the hill, south-west of the Catholic church, and near where the track of the Auburn branch of the Midland railroad now runs. The crowd which flocked to Norwich from all directions to witness the execution has never been equalled before or since. At 11:30 A. M. on the day of execution, Dennison, robed in white, was conveyed by Sheriff Franklin to the place of execution in a sleigh drawn by two horses and containing his coffin. He exhibited great nerve throughout. On going out of the jail, he noticed that one of the strings of his shoe was untied, and placing his foot upon a chair, he tied it as unconcernedly as though going on a pleasure trip. He took his seat in the sleigh beside his coffin almost cheerfully, and having reached the gallows, sprang from the sleigh and firmly ascended the stairs. He sat with his feet resting upon the fatal drop. On the right sat Deputy-Sheriff Brown, and on the left Deputy-Sheriff Perkins; on an adjoining platform sat several clergymen. The "ceremonies" at the scaffold were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Sprague. The prisoner then read a written address, warning all young men against the use of intoxicating drinks. Addresses were then made by Revs. Swar, Bogue and Birdsall, during one of which the prisoner asked Deputy-Sheriff Brown for his tobacco box, took a chew, coolly put it into his mouth,

and with thanks and a smile handed the box back to its owner. At the conclusion of the addresses the Sheriff adjusted the rope; and as he did so Dennison remarked:—"I have worn a more graceful necktie than this before now." The Sheriff took leave of him by a shake of the hand and descended to the foot of the gallows. While the prisoner stood firmly upon the fatal drop, Rev. Mr. Bogue occupied *three-fourths of an hour* in prayer. At the conclusion of this lengthy appeal the drop fell, and Dennison died without a struggle, at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving a wife and two children.

Robert Maynard, indicted for the murder of his wife, was tried at the September term of Oyer and Terminer in 1842, convicted of manslaughter in the second degree, and sentenced to seven years in Auburn State Prison. The trial took place before Robert Monell, Justice; and George M. Smith, who was District-Attorney, made one of the most eloquent pleas ever heard in the court house. Tradition, the only source of information regarding this homicide, says Maynard pounded his wife to death with a sledge stick.

At the term of the court commencing September 13, 1847, Charles Mason, Justice presiding, Russell Cady, jointly indicted with his mother, Nancy Cady, was tried for the murder, as was alleged in the indictment, by kicks and blows inflicted by himself and mother, of George Manwarring, Jr., of Oxford, an uncle of Cady's and brother of Cady's mother. He was convicted and sentenced to be hung November 23, 1847; but a stay of proceedings was obtained and a new trial granted, on which he was acquitted. Owing to the result of the second trial Mrs. Cady was not tried.

At the same term of court, and following the trial of Cady, Dan Foote, a physician, was tried on an indictment for assaulting, beating, kicking and killing his wife, Sarah Foote, whom he is also said to have poisoned by compelling her to drink blue dye, as, when found, her mouth was discolored by the dye. He was convicted of manslaughter in the first degree, and sentenced on the same day with Cady, October 2, 1847, to State Prison for life. He also was acquitted on a second trial, which was delayed till nearly all the witnesses were dead. The deed was committed in New Berlin.

On the night of Monday, June 25, 1860, John S. White, Orlando Utter and Samuel Robinson, having previously blackened their faces and otherwise disguised themselves, went to the residence of Horace R. Burlison, about a mile east of Oxford, with the intention of razing it to the ground. White, using a bar and Robinson an ax, commenced tearing off the roof, while Utter held a lantern. While they were

thus engaged, Burlison shot Robinson, killing him instantly. His intention was to shoot White, but owing to the darkness and disguises, killed Robinson. The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of murder; but the grand jury failed to indict him and he was discharged.

Lavinia Hilliard, alias Leach, confessed to the accidental shooting on the morning of July 6, 1864, of George W. Harkins, a member of a detachment of the invalid corps which was then stationed at Norwich as a Provost Marshal's guard, and occupied the store-house on Mechanic street for barracks. She was a noted cyprian and had spent the night at the barracks. Being engaged in conversation with Harkins on the subject of revolvers, she alleged she laughingly pointed towards him one she had taken from a comrade's pocket, which was accidentally discharged and inflicted a wound in Harkins's forehead from the effects of which he died the same day. The testimony taken at the coroner's jury substantiated her statement.

On the afternoon of February 10, 1868, Robert Corbin shot and killed Elliot J. Kidder on a lot of arid land in the town of Afton, which was in dispute, being claimed by Kidder and W. V. Caswell, each under a deed from Corbin. On the morning in question, Kidder, with five men and two boys took possession of a log shanty situated in a clearing of some ten or fifteen acres, ostensibly for the purpose of logging and cutting wood. The same morning Corbin sent his ox team, in charge of Mr. Shaw, to Caswell's, to get a load of wood which he had purchased. To go to Caswell's it was necessary to cross the disputed lot, and while doing so they were discovered by Kidder, who forbade Shaw going off the premises or taking the cattle off. Corbin, being advised of the state of affairs, repaired to the locality. Kidder observed their approach and ran toward the team Corbin was driving, stopping it by flourishing an ax, with which he struck one of the horses. Corbin descended and requested Kidder to get out of the way. As the latter did not move Corbin drew from his pocket a pistol, which he pointed towards Kidder, who, saying, "I'll cut you down," attacked Corbin, who, retreating as far as the sleigh, stumbled and fell. As he did so Kidder struck a blow with the ax, which, had it had the effect intended, would have killed Corbin instantly. But as he fell he turned a little to one side, and the ax cut off the outside breast pocket of his overcoat. Kidder prepared for another blow, when William Mallory, who accompanied Corbin, seeing the latter's peril, jumped out and rushing forward, attempted to arrest the impending blow. He was only partially successful, for the descending ax clipped the buttons from his coat. Kidder then aimed a blow with the ax at Mallory,

who seized the weapon with his left hand, and, partially bending, was struggling with Kidder who tried to brain him. At this point, Corbin, seeing Mallory's imminent peril, discharged the pistol and Kidder fell dead. Corbin was tried February 17, 1869, before Judge Balcom. R. A. Stanton, District Attorney, C. L. Tefft, Rexford and Kingsley and Hon. Lyman Tremaine appeared for the people, and Sayre and Winsor, I. S. Newton, E. H. Prindle and Amasa J. Parker, for the defense. Corbin was convicted of manslaughter in the third degree, and was sentenced to Auburn Prison for two years and two months. He was pardoned by the Governor September 19, 1870, and restored to citizenship October 24, 1870.

On the night of February 9, 1874, John Young, Doghlen Morrissy and William Bookpower, young men, brakemen on the Midland railroad, repaired to a house of ill repute on East Main street, in the village of Norwich, known as the Orr House, to which they were refused admission. Instead of going away, they sat upon the stoop on the east side of the house, and annoyed the inmates by shaking the door; whereupon Albert Holmes, the putative husband of one of the Orrs, came out and attempted to push them away, and meeting with resistance he drew and fired a revolver. The ball struck Young, who staggered out of the yard, around to the front of the house, and there sunk down in the snow of the street and died. Holmes was arrested, and tried February 17 and 18, 1875, before Judge Murray, C. L. and H. M. Tefft appearing for the people, and E. H. Prindle for the prisoner, who was convicted of manslaughter in the third degree and sentenced to Auburn Prison for three years and eight months.

On the morning of February 25, 1874, Isaac E. Sabine received injuries at the hands of George H. Rogers, at Preston, from which he died the next noon. Sabine was in the employ of Nathan Rogers, father of George H. Rogers, with the former of whom he got into an altercation about the care of a horse. Sabine, becoming irritated, ordered Rogers from the barn, and on the latter's refusing to go, clinched him. George, believing his father to be in danger, seized a piece of plank and struck a terrible blow which felled Sabine to the floor senseless. When it was discovered how severely he was injured all vied to relieve him. Rogers was arrested and bailed in the sum of \$15,000. He was tried Thursday, November 21, 1874, the people being represented by C. L. Tefft, District Attorney, assisted by Hon. Milo Goodrich; and the prisoner, by Hon. E. H. Prindle and J. W. Glover. He was convicted of manslaughter in the third degree, sentenced by Judge Murray to State Prison for two years and two months, but was pardoned by the Governor the following fall.

Sunday morning, December 27, 1874, Mrs. Sarah M. Fitch, of Norwich, was brained with an ax at Guilford by John P. Hall, who married her only niece, and with whose family Mrs. Fitch was spending the holidays. The deed was committed without any apparent provocation; and the wound inflicted was seven inches long, extending diagonally over the head, terminating about one and one-half inches above the left ear and two and one-half inches above the right. Hall was arrested and imprisoned, but the evidence of his insanity was such that a commission in lunacy was appointed, who reported his insanity. He was taken from jail and confined in the department for insane criminals in the State Prison at Auburn, where, not long since, he died.

On the evening of July 5, 1876, Matthew Brady shot William Jones, who was standing on the porch of his hotel in Earlville, engaged in conversation with William Holhnan. Brady assigned as a cause a grudge of many years' standing against Jones, but it could not be traced to any reliable source. Doubts of his sanity existed, and his counsel, George W. Ray, secured the appointment of a commission in lunacy. Voluminous evidence was taken, both here and in Canada, Brady's former home. A majority of the commission reported his insanity, and on this the court ordered him taken to the Utica Insane Asylum, where he is now confined. During his confinement he attempted suicide, which was nearly successful.

On the morning of February 26, 1877, William Brushell shot John Donovan, an Irishman living on Pleasant street, in the village of Norwich, in a house belonging to Brushell's father. On the morning in question, Donovan, and a woman with whom he was living, were packing up their household effects preparatory to moving into another house. Brushell stood at the window of his father's residence, which was separated from the Donovan place by a lane only, and made faces at Donovan, who becoming enraged, shook his fist at him. Brushell then called to Donovan from the woodshed door and dared him to come down; when the latter advanced to the middle of the lane, and there, amid a war of words, he was struck by a brick thrown, as he averred in his *ante-mortem* statement, by Brushell. Donovan picked up the brick and a club and pursued Brushell through the kitchen to the parlor of the latter's residence, where he was shot by Brushell with a gun he had taken from the pantry on his retreat through the kitchen. Donovan died the next morning. The trial, which lasted three days, took place at the November term of the court in 1877. Brushell was ably defended by E. H. Prindle and George W. Ray. He was convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree and sentenced to Auburn Prison for two years and three months.

December 3, 1878, at "Nigger Holler," about three miles south of Sherburne, Felix McCann shot and instantly killed James M. Hatch, with whom he had lived as near neighbor the two preceding years, for about which period a feud had existed between the two families. On Thursday afternoon of the above date, Hatch, it is claimed, shot one of McCann's chickens, which had trespassed on the premises of the former. McCann was in Sherburne at the time, indulging in one of his periodical drunks. On his return he was told by his wife of the shooting of the chicken. In his drunken frenzy he resolved to be avenged by shooting Hatch. About ten minutes after five of the same afternoon, Mrs. Hatch lighted a lamp and went into a dark recess, leaving her husband standing by the kitchen window, when suddenly she was startled by the heavy report of a gun in close proximity to the house. She heard the rattling of the breaking glass, and looking up she saw her husband stagger from the window, saying, "I'm shot, I'm gone; I shall never get over it." He then fell heavily to the floor, where he immediately expired. Looking from the window, she saw Felix McCann standing by the door-yard fence, some twenty-six feet distant, resting a gun on the rail of the fence. He then shouldered his gun and ran home. McCann's trial began at an adjourned Oyer and Terminer, Tuesday, March 26, 1879, before Judge David L. Follett, and continued six days. He was convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hung May 29, 1879. He was reprieved by Governor Robinson May 13, 1879, till June 6, 1879, at which time he was executed in the jail yard, in the presence of thirty-one spectators, in this respect a marked contrast between the first and second capital execution in this county—the fruit of a reform which had required nearly the entire forty-six intervening years to accomplish.

CHAPTER XV.

THE WAR OF THE REBELLION—THE 114TH REGIMENT—ITS COMMANDER CHOSEN—THE FIRST COMPANY—EFFORTS ATTENDING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE SEVERAL COMPANIES—MUSTER INTO THE UNITED STATES' SERVICE—ITS DEPARTURE FOR THE SEAT OF WAR—INTERESTING PRESENTATIONS AND SPEECHES—THE 114TH JOINS BANKS' EXPEDITION—IN CAMP IN BRASHEAR CITY—BATTLE OF BISLAND—DEATH OF COLONEL SMITH—SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON—TEXAS EXPEDITION—FIRST AND ONLY CASE OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT—CASUALTIES IN THE 114TH—RED RIVER EXPEDITION—BATTLE OF SABINE CROSS ROADS—BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL—

GENERAL DWIGHT'S TESTIMONY TO THE BRAVERY OF THE 114TH IN THOSE ENGAGEMENTS—PERILOUS SITUATION OF THE RED RIVER FLEET—ITS SALVATION CREDITED TO THE SUGGESTION OF A MEMBER OF THE 114TH REGIMENT—THE 114TH TRANSFERRED TO THE ARMY OF THE SHENANDOAH—BATTLE OF OPEQUAN—SEVERE LOSSES OF THE 114TH—BATTLE OF FISHER'S HILL—DISASTROUS DEFEAT AND GLORIOUS VICTORY AT CEDAR CREEK—THE SIGNAL BRAVERY AND FEARFUL LOSSES OF THE 114TH—CLOSE OF THE WAR—THE 114TH MUSTERED OUT—ITS WELCOME HOME.

ON the 12th of April, 1861, within a little more than a month from the time of Lincoln's inauguration as President, was precipitated upon our republic, which the crowned heads, and not less, though from different motives, the common people of Europe, scanned with a curious interest, a contest, which was clearly foreshadowed by the exciting events immediately preceding it, and, though less distinctly, by those of a more remote period; a contest which arrayed on one side the selfish and debasing interests of slaveholding and slave-perpetuating autocracies, and on the other the broad, catholic spirit of liberalism. On that day the stirring events which, during the few preceding months, had kept us in a state of intense mental agitation, culminated in an attack on Fort Sumter, which was surrendered the next day to the rebel armies of the South. On the fifteenth of that month President Lincoln called for 75,000 men to suppress the uprising, which was then regarded, even by those in the best position to judge, as little more than an evanescent *emeute*. The people of the North were ready. This overt act of the South crystallized into a determined opposition that great sympathetic wave of mingled hope and fear which surged over and electrified the entire North, and increased in volume as the defiant attitude of the South became more obtrusive and offensive, and the danger more imminent. They promptly responded to the call of the President, and within fifteen days 350,000 men had offered their services. Had the prescience of the governmental authorities been equal to the readiness and willingness of the common people, in all probability we should have been spared much of the bitter fruitage which early lassitude compelled us to reap. The 75,000 men were called out for three months; but it soon became evident that their time would expire before they could be fully armed and equipped.

The South, by years of anticipation and covert preparation, were in a much better state of readiness, and were thus able to precipitate events with astounding rapidity. The conviction of the extent of that preparation, the magnitude of the struggle, and the

means necessary to oppose it, forced itself only gradually on the minds of the authorities at Washington, who repressed rather than stimulated a popular uprising of the North. Happily, however, the latter was not needed at that time.

On the 4th of May following, the President issued a call for volunteers for three years, and on the 1st of July two hundred and eighty regiments had been accepted. Congress met July 4th and voted five hundred millions of money and five hundred thousand more troops, of which New York's quota was twenty-five thousand men, who were called for on the 25th of July, after the disastrous battle of Bull Run.

Under these calls, Chenango's efforts, which were both liberal and prompt, were conducted by the several towns mostly in their independent capacities, and will be noticed more in detail in connection with the towns. When the war had developed its magnitude and presented its serious phases, after eighteen months' duration, though of little substantial progress, then it was that her grand united efforts were put forth, culminating in the formation of the 114th Regiment, mostly from troops raised within her borders and southern Madison.

The serious losses sustained by the Federal armies in the early campaigns of 1862, induced the President, on the 2d of July of that year, to call for an additional three hundred thousand men, to serve for three years or during the war; and to facilitate and systematize the labor of raising them, and equalize the burdens to be borne, military districts were formed, and committees appointed to represent the various counties embraced therein. Under this call and the succeeding one in August following, for a like number of men, the 114th was formed.*

July 7, 1862, Norwich was designated the recruiting rendezvous for the 23d Senatorial District, embracing Madison, Chenango and Cortland counties. The committee † for this district held its first meeting at the Eagle Hotel in Norwich, Wednesday, July 17th, 1862, and unanimously nominated Gen. Benjamin F. Bruce, of Madison County, for commander of the prospective regiment. But Gen. Bruce declined the nomination, and the choice next fell upon Hon. Elisha B. Smith, of Chenango county, who accepted the honor, not, however, "without many misgivings as to

* Besides the 114th, parts of the 17th, 89th and 161st regiments of infantry, and the 8th, 10th and 23d cavalry, also smaller numbers in various other organizations were enlisted in Chenango County, as will more fully appear in connection with the several towns.

† This committee was composed of the following named gentlemen:—Henry A. Clark, chairman, Bainbridge; B. Gage Berry, Harvey Hubbard, Philander B. Prindle, Norwich; Henry R. Mygatt, Oxford; Gen. Levi Harris, South New Berlin; Dr. Wm. D. Purple, Frederick Juliard, Greene, from Chenango County; Henry S. Randall, Horatio Ballard, R. Holland Duell, Cortland Village; Gen. Benjamin F. Bruce, Lenox; Gen. Zadock T. Bentley, William F. Bonney, Morrisville; John J. Foote, J. Hunt Smith, Hamilton, from Madison County. At the first meeting of the committee, July 16, 1862, J. Hunt Smith was appointed secretary.

his fitness for the place," nor, "without invoking wisdom from on high to guide and direct him in his efforts and crown his labors with success." The committee appointed Dr. William D. Purple, Philander B. Prindle and Hon. John J. Foote to report a just apportionment to each county of the district for the formation of a full regiment.* At a subsequent meeting of the committee, Samuel R. Per Lee, of Norwich, was appointed adjutant, and also acted as mustering officer and quarter-master, and Levi P. Wagner, of Oxford, surgeon. "A rendezvous was established on the grounds of Mr. Stephen Smith, near the west bank of the Chenango, a little north of Rixford street in Norwich village, and the contract for supplying the regiment with rations, awarded to Newman Gates, of Norwich, for thirty-five cents a day for each soldier. Recruiting papers were furnished various responsible individuals, recruiting offices opened in different parts of the district, and the whole machinery rapidly put in working order. Examinations in the surgeon's office, on South Main street, were constantly going on; in some instances, as many as two hundred passed the rigid scrutiny of Surgeon Wagner in a single day. A depot of supplies was opened in the Guernsey Block; and detailed men and clerks were continually employed in perfecting papers and dressing the men in blue. Walter A. Cook, Esq., of Norwich, chief clerk, was unceasing in his labors, and rendered valuable aid. No volunteering, before or afterwards, during the war, was equal to it †

Company "A" of the 114th was recruited in Oxford, whose citizens were fully awake and ready for action, awaiting only a leader. Oscar H. Curtis, a young lawyer, then recently settled in practice in Oxford village, was among those who felt the necessity for immediate action, and on the 19th of July, said to his friends, "I'll go!" Immediately Henry R. Mygatt telegraphed to the Governor for papers authorizing Mr. Curtis to recruit for the regiment. He received the order to that effect on the 22d, and turned his law office into a recruiting station. A public meeting was held at Lewis' Hall, in Oxford, July 24th at 2 o'clock P. M., and was addressed by Henry R. Mygatt, who presided, and Capt. Curtis, J. W. Glover, S. Bundy and W. H. Hyde, of Oxford. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Over a thousand dollars was raised on the spot to defray the necessary expenses of raising a company, and a bounty of ten dollars was voted to each recruit

* From the estimate of the committee, based on the census of 1860, the quota of Chenango County was 240; and of Madison County, 396. The apportionment was disregarded however in the raising of men. Cortland County furnished but few men for the 114th.

† *Record of the 114th Regiment N. Y. S. V.*, by Dr. Harris H. Beecher, late Assistant-Surgeon. By permission of the author we borrow largely from this very full and truthful history of the 114th Regiment, to which we commend the reader who desires details which the scope of and purpose of this work do not contemplate.

for the first Oxford company. Meetings were held in the towns of Preston, Smithville, McDonough, Guilford, Bainbridge and Afton, a corps of able speakers, among whom were Messrs. Bundy, Glover and Hyde, volunteered their services, together with the Oxford brass band. The result was that on the 6th of August a sufficient number were mustered at Oxford to form a company, entitling Captain Curtis to the honor of having raised the first company, thereby securing him the post of honor, the right of the regiment. The company reported at Norwich the same day, and in front of the Eagle Hotel, received the congratulations of Colonel Smith on being the first full company assembled at the rendezvous, and were cheered and welcomed by the citizens of Norwich. This is but an instance of what almost daily occurred by the arrival of other companies, till the regiment was completed.

Company "B" was recruited in Norwich by Jacob S. Bockee, of Norwich, who, in the first part of July, 1862, commenced recruiting a company for Col. Kingsley's regiment of the "Spinola Brigade." Preferring to be connected with a home organization, he visited Albany and obtained permission to recruit a company for the 114th. On the evening of July 30th an enthusiastic war meeting was held in Concert Hall, in Norwich, over which Rev. W. H. Olin presided. Patriotic addresses were made by Gen. B. F. Bruce and Prof. P. P. Brown of Madison county, and by Col. E. B. Smith, B. F. Rexford, Esq., Rev. Messrs. Scoville, Searls, Ward, Benedict and Olin. Volunteers being called for, several came forward and enrolled their names, amid the cheers of the audience. The people generally were awakened to a vigorous effort. August 2d a meeting was held in New Berlin, Rev. Mr. Burnside presiding, and was addressed by E. H. Prindle, B. G. Berry, and Dr. Henry, the latter of Washington. Capt. Bockee also made a few remarks, pledging himself not only to go with his men but to stay with them. On the 8th, a meeting was held at East Pharsalia, and addressed by Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich, and others. Charles A. Sumner, son of Sherman Sumner, of Pharsalia, came forward and enlisted. The father, in commendation of the course of his son, made a thrilling and affecting speech. The example of young Sumner was followed by others. About the same time a meeting was held at North Norwich.* Isaac Burch, a compositor in the office of the *Chenango Union*, having enlisted on the 14th of July, "exchanging the 'shooting-stick' for the 'shooting-iron,'" immediately commenced recruiting in New Berlin. Lieut. Edwin O. Gibson, of South New Berlin, labored successfully in obtaining recruits from that por-

* Loren D. Newell, of North Norwich, who enlisted on the 12th of July, was the first man enlisted both in this Company and the 114th regiment.

tion of the town. The men were mustered on the 10th of August, and formed the second company of the regiment.

Company "C" was also raised in Norwich. About the 4th of August, Platt Titus, of Norwich, was authorized to raise a company. On the evening of the fifth, Rev. S. Scoville, E. H. Prindle and others addressed a meeting held in Plymouth, which was also attended by Captains Titus and Bockee. On that day a number of volunteers were obtained for this company and sworn in. Previous to this, Wm. H. Chamberlain, of Mt. Upton, opened a recruiting office in that village. In addition to the bounties offered by the National and State Governments, the citizens of Mt. Upton offered a bounty of three dollars to each person recruited at that station. On the evening of the 7th a meeting was held in Mt. Upton, and addressed by E. H. Prindle and Hamilton Phelps, of Norwich, and George W. Chamberlain, of Mt. Upton. Mr. Chamberlain obtained in all about twenty-five recruits, and learning that the regiment was rapidly filling up, and fearing that he would not obtain a desirable place for his men, on the morning of the 11th he came with his squad to Norwich, and made arrangements with Capt. Titus whereby they were secured for his company, thus making it sufficiently full for muster on the afternoon of that day. As several of the recruits were minors, not as yet having the consent of their parents or guardians, lest there might be a deficiency for a maximum company, a meeting was held in the evening by Captain Titus, in the Baptist Church at North Norwich, which was addressed by H. G. Prindle, Lewis Kingsley and others of Norwich. Several additional names were obtained. Lieuts. Shubal A. Brooks, Norman Lewis and John Bagg, of Norwich, Harlow C. Glazier and Loren H. Janes, of Plymouth, and other volunteers, were efficient in obtaining recruits for the company.*

Company "D" was organized in Madison County.† About the 1st of August, Henry B. Morse, of Eaton, was authorized to raise a company. As there were then two companies being organized in Hamilton, it was thought best to canvass the county for volunteers. Arrangements were accordingly made with Robert P. York, of DeRuyter, and James E. Wedge, of Lebanon, to assist in raising the company. Meetings were held in Eaton, Morrisville, Lebanon, DeRuyter, Nelson, Georgetown, and other places. Among the speakers were Hon. Sidney T. Holmes, Charles Ken-

* Henry Newton, of Guilford, who enlisted in this Company on the 5th of September, to fill the vacancy of a minor, was the last man enlisted in the regiment before it left Norwich. His death, which occurred at Fortress Monroe early in the month of December, of fever, was the first in the Company.

† This company, which was denominated the "Eaton and Lebanon" company, was composed of 140 men, on the 11th of August, 45 of whom were enlisted in the town of Eaton: 34 in Lebanon; 31 in DeRuyter; 18 in Nelson; 7 in Earlville; 2 in Georgetown; and 1 in Smyrna.

ned, L. B. Kern, and Alexander Cramphin, of Morrisville; P. P. Brown and A. N. Sheldon, of Hamilton; and David Mitchell, Esq., of Syracuse. In addition to these, B. E. Hoppin, Messrs. Avery and Baker, of Lebanon; Lucius P. Clarke and others, of Morrisville; Hon. S. Rider, A. V. Bentley, R. E. Fairchild, H. C. Miner, Colonel Whitford, J. B. Wells, and Rev. Messrs. Tomlinson and Clarke, of DeRuyter; Ellis Coman, George E. Morse, Gershom Morse and Walter Morse, of Eaton, rendered efficient aid in raising the company. Smith Case, afterwards Lieutenant, and James S. Stewart, were among the first enrolled, and labored faithfully in obtaining recruits. On the 11th of August the company numbered one hundred and forty men, and on the morning of the 12th it assembled at Eaton, and was presented by the citizens of that place with a flag, which afterwards became the colors of the regiment. The presentation speech was made by Rev. Mr. Wheat, of the Baptist church, and was responded to with much feeling by Col. Morse, in behalf of the company. A large assembly was present to witness the ceremony, and bid adieu to the departing volunteers. After the exercises were concluded, the men left in wagons for Norwich, where they were mustered on the 13th.

Company "E" was recruited in Greene and vicinity by Capt. R. Macdonald, to the number of one hundred and twenty men in less than a week. As a preliminary step a war-meeting was held in Union Hall, in the village of Greene, on Tuesday evening, August 5th, of which the *Chenango American* gives the following account:—

"Union Hall was packed to its utmost capacity, and the enthusiasm was intense. The audience was eloquently addressed by Dr. Wm. H. Doane, of Washington, Gen. B. F. Bruce, of Madison, and H. G. Prindle, Esq., of Norwich—with the words of true patriotism which struck the cord of true 'love of country' in every heart, and made every one present see that he had a duty to perform, and now was the time for action.

"Colonel Elisha B. Smith was present, and addressed the meeting with words that came from the heart. Captain R. Macdonald was also present with his recruiting papers, and the result was most gratifying. John C. Reynolds was the first volunteer, who came forward and put down his name amid a round of cheers. Others came forward with the stern resolve to serve their country if strong arms and willing hearts can do it, and still they come. Our estimable townsman, Mr. N. A. Dederer, has enlisted for the war. When such men come forward and offer their services to their country, why should young men falter? Come forward, then, young men of Greene, and sign the roll, and let it not be said you faltered in the hour of peril."

Over sixteen hundred dollars were raised to carry forward the work so well begun, and a committee, consisting of P. B. Rathbone, M. Birdsall, U. Whit-

tenhall, W. F. Lyon and R. P. Barnard, was appointed to solicit further subscriptions. Captain Macdonald and others addressed meetings held in the towns of Afton, Coventry, and Smithville, each of which furnished a quota of men for the company. Leading citizens of Greene labored zealously and with good effect. N. A. Dederer put forth his best efforts to help raise the company, and proved himself worthy of the position subsequently conferred upon him. Rev. G. G. Donnelly, of Afton, also did much towards recruiting the men from that town and vicinity. "Just before the company left Greene for the rendezvous, the ladies, ever mindful of the future, and anticipating some of the many wants of the boys when far away upon the tented field, presented each soldier with a 'kit,' composed of needles, thread-case, scissors, &c." The presentation was made in behalf of the ladies by F. B. Fisher, and was feelingly responded to by Captain Macdonald.

Company "F" was recruited in Sherburne and New Berlin. A meeting was held in White's Hall, in Sherburne village, on the 29th of July, and was presided over by Capt. R. H. Alcott, of the 1st Michigan Regiment, formerly of New Berlin, then suffering from wounds in the head received before Richmond. A. N. Newton was chosen Secretary. Hon. T. H. Matteson, Isaac Plumb and Archibald Whitford were appointed a committee on resolutions; and Dr. Devillo White, Hiram Briggs, Charles Lewis, Sen., Lucius Newton and Jacob Hickok, to solicit contributions to pay a bounty to volunteers. The meeting was ably addressed by E. H. Prindle and B. Gage Berry of Norwich, and T. H. Matteson and Rev. Mr. Curtis, of Sherburne. Several others made brief but spirited remarks. Charles H. Colwell, of Sherburne, who had been authorized to raise a company, came forward and signed the rolls, and several young men followed his example.

War meetings were also held in Columbus, Smyrna and Earlville, and were addressed among others by Isaac S. Newton, Hon. T. H. Matteson, Revs. Messrs. Brooks and Fletcher, and Capt. Tucker of Hamilton, Capt. Colwell obtained fifty-seven recruits, mostly from Sherburne, the adjacent towns furnishing a few men; and with these he started for Norwich on the 13th of August.

The young men of New Berlin and vicinity only awaited a responsible leader. Adrian Foote, of New Berlin, was authorized to recruit volunteers on the 1st of August, and within a few days had enrolled fifty-two men. But the regiment was rapidly filling up, and as neither Captain Colwell nor Lieut. Foote could hope to seasonably fill a company, they consolidated their men, Lieut. Foote taking into the organization the whole number recruited by him, and Capt. Col-

well, forty-six men, the remainder enlisted by him being transferred to the Madison county regiment. They were mustered on the 13th.

Company "G" was recruited in Hamilton and Brookfield. Charles E. Tucker and Charles W. Underhill, of Madison University, were authorized to recruit a company, and commenced on the 22d of July, when they, and Henry P. Corbin, and Albert A. Nichols, of Hamilton, enrolled their names. Other enlistments soon followed, and the work of recruiting was prosecuted in Hamilton, Brookfield and Stockbridge. Meetings were held in Hamilton, Clarksville, Leonardsville, North Brookfield and Hubbardsville, which were addressed by Capt. Tucker and Lieut. Underhill. Rev. Mr. Fletcher, E. B. Hulbert, Col. P. P. Brown, and numerous citizens of Hamilton, with Messrs. Green, Brownell and Dunbar of East Hamilton, assisted in the meeting and in various other ways. The people generally, of the several towns, co-operated, every effort being put forth which at that early day was deemed necessary.

From July 30th, Homer W. Searles, of Leonardsville, was also engaged in recruiting, principally in Brookfield, going about from house to house and talking with the inhabitants on the subject, seconded in his efforts by Hon. William H. Brand and other prominent citizens of that place; he succeeded in obtaining forty-three recruits from the town of Brookfield. Hamilton furnished nearly the same number and Stockbridge some twelve men. The company was full on the 13th of August, though some changes were made after that date, so that eventually it contained a few men who were enlisted in Norwich. On the 18th, the volunteers of Brookfield and vicinity assembled with their friends at Leonardsville for a final leave-taking. The occasion was one of deep interest and brought together several thousand persons from an extended region of country. Hon. W. H. Brand delivered an address replete with earnestness, eloquence and patriotism, which fully brought the assembly in sympathy with the events of the hour.

Company "H" was recruited in Oxford, Bainbridge and DeRuyter.* So thoroughly had Captain Curtis and his friends aroused the people that recruiting was continued without abatement after the completion of Company "A," and under the direction of Dyer D. Bullock, of Bainbridge, and Edwin M. Osborn, of Oxford, about seventy men were recruited for a second company from southern Chenango. Meetings, addressed by Henry A. Clarke, Chairman of the Dis-

*These are the towns from which the men were chiefly recruited. The company actually contained men from four or five counties and as many as fifteen towns, among them Guilford, McDonough, Smithville, Norwich, Preston, German, Lincklaen and Pharsalia. Their birth places were even more numerous and diversified: no less than eighteen counties and upwards of forty towns in New York State being thus represented. Two were born in England, two in Ireland, one in Germany and one in Philadelphia.

trict Committee, and S. Bundy, of Oxford, were held in various places. On the 14th of August, the company was filled by consolidating with the men recruited by Capt. Bullock and Lieut. Osborn, thirty-four men recruited for Company "D," by Lieut. R. P. York of DeRuyter.

Company "I" was recruited in Otselic. August 4th, J. Floyd Thompson, of Otselic, received authorization papers to recruit a company, and although recruiting was at first dull, such was the energy displayed by himself, Hiram S. Wheeler, Nelson W. Schermerhorn, Dennis Thompson, and others, who early volunteered, and the leading citizens, that by the 13th the company was full, and on the 14th they went to Norwich in wagons and were mustered. On the 11th, an enthusiastic meeting was held at South Otselic (where Mr. Thompson opened a recruiting office,) over which Hon. David B. Parce presided. Spirited addresses were made by B. Gage Berry, of Norwich, Rev. F. Fletcher, of Hamilton, and others. That day fifty-four recruits were added, nearly fifty of whom passed the surgeon's examination. Other meetings were held in Lincklaen and Pitcher, and on the 13th, there was a large gathering at East Otselic. On the 14th, between three and four thousand persons assembled at South Otselic to witness the affecting departure of the company for Norwich. Addresses were made by Hon. D. B. Parce, of Otselic, and Rev. Mr. Selah, of Pitcher, and the former, on his own account, presented each recruit from Otselic with a silver dollar, as a testimonial of his personal regard. On the 27th of August, the Hon. D. B. Parce, in behalf of the ladies of Otselic, presented the company with a beautiful silk flag.* The ceremony took place in front of the court house in Norwich, and a large assembly listened to the impressive speech, which was appropriately responded to by Hon. H. G. Prindle, in behalf of the company.

Company "K" was recruited in Cazenovia. The first step in this direction was the holding of a meeting on the 26th of July, in the Free Church, for the purpose of providing a suitable bounty to the requisite number of men to fill the quota from that town. Mr. Henry Ten Eyck presided over the meeting, which was addressed by Hon. Thomas G. Alvord and L. W. Hall, of Syracuse. A resolution was adopted to raise eighty recruits in the town, and, if possible, a full company. Sufficient funds were subscribed to pay to each a bounty of twenty-five dollars. At that meeting eleven names were appended to the roll, and formed the nucleus for that company. The first to publicly sign were Seneca Lake and Daniel C. Knowl-

*This flag was stored with camp and garrison equipage and officers' baggage at Drashear city, and captured with that place by the enemy, June 23, 1863.

ton, the former of whom opened a recruiting office the following day and sent to Albany for authorization papers.

On Friday evening, August 1st, a meeting was held in New Woodstock, of which Col. Ralph Bell was Chairman. Prof. E. G. Andrews gave an eloquent and patriotic address; and several hundred dollars were added to the bounty fund.

The work went slowly on, until, on the 11th, so large a number enlisted as to make the number enrolled more than was necessary to organize a company. A sufficient number were afterwards added at Norwich to make the maximum number. It was a question with what organization the company should unite; but this was decided by the favorable representations of Daniel C. Knowlton, who had been sent to Norwich to consult the district committee in regard to the matter, and the Cazenovia company became the tenth and last of the 114th. As there were other competitors anxious to secure the place, Capt. Lake hurriedly gathered his men from field and work-shop, and on the morning of the 14th left in wagons for Norwich, where they were mustered the next day.

When all the companies had assembled at the general rendezvous, "Camp Doty" assumed quite a military air and presented a lively appearance. The regiment was supplied with "A" tents and two large *marqueses*; but as these were insufficient to accommodate all, the court house, hotels, private dwellings and vacant houses were fitted up and appropriated to its uses. All who could, however, preferred to occupy the tents because of the novelty attending it. Drilling was practiced, but only to a limited extent. So large a camp, in the heart of a rural district, was a great curiosity, and was thronged with visitors from far and near.

The selection of company officers was left to the men, and within a few days these, together with the regimental officers, were designated. The original regimental roster was as follows:—

FIELD OFFICERS.

Colonel—Elisha B. Smith.
Lieutenant-Colonel—Samuel R. Per Lee.
Major—Henry B. Morse.

STAFF OFFICERS.

Adjutant—James F. Fitts.
Quarter-Master—J. Floyd Thompson.
Surgeon—Levi P. Wagner.
Assistant Surgeons—H. G. Beardsley, Harris H. Beecher.
Chaplain—Henry Callahan.

LINE OFFICERS.

COMPANY A—Captain, Oscar H. Curtis; 1st Lieut., Samuel S. Stafford; 2d Lieut., James E. Gilbert.

COMPANY B—Captain, Jacob S. Bockee; 1st Lieut., Lauren M. Nichols; 2d Lieut., Edwin O. Gibson.

COMPANY C—Captain, Platt Titus; 1st Lieut., S. A. Brooks; 2d Lieut., William H. Longwell.

COMPANY D—Captain, Willie P. Rexford; 1st Lieut., James E. Wedge; 2d Lieut., Smith H. Case.

COMPANY E—Captain, Ransom Macdonald; 1st Lieut., Nicholas A. Dederer; 2d Lieut., George G. Donnelly.

COMPANY F—Captain, Charles H. Colwell; 1st Lieut., Adrian Foote; 2d Lieut., John F. Buell.

COMPANY G—Captain, Charles E. Tucker; 1st Lieut., Charles W. Underhill; 2d Lieut., Homer W. Searles.

COMPANY H—Captain, Dyer D. Bullock; 1st Lieut., Robert P. York; 2d Lieut., Edward M. Osborn.

COMPANY I—Captain, Hiram S. Wheeler; 1st Lieut., Nelson W. Schermerhorn; 2d Lieut., E. Porter Pellet.

COMPANY K—Captain, Seneca Lake; 1st Lieut., Daniel C. Knowlton; 2d Lieut., Erastus S. Carpenter.

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Sergeant-Major, Elijah St. John; Quarter-Master Sergeant, Aug. P. Clark; Commissary Sergeant, George E. Hawley; Hospital Steward, Ebenezer McClintock.

FIRST SERGEANTS.

Company A—Austin S. Southworth; Company B—George Ballou; Company C—Norman Lewis; Company D—James S. Stewart; Company E—John G. Reynolds; Company F—William D. Thurber; Company G—Charles F. Sunny; Company H—Orlando J. Aylesworth; Company I—Dennis Thompson; Company K—Robert N. Eddy.

On Wednesday, the 27th of August, Col. Bliss, State Paymaster, paid the members of the regiment their State bounty of fifty dollars each. He was accompanied by Theodore Roosevelt and Theodore B. Bronson, U. S. Allotment Commissioners, whose business it was to induce soldiers to set apart a portion of their pay for the benefit of their families.*

On the 3d of September, the regiment, which had previously been mustered by companies into the State service, was formally transferred and mustered into the United States' service. Each man received one month's advanced pay, twenty-five dollars United States bounty, fifty dollars State and fifty dollars County bounty, making with the premium of two dollars for enlisting, one hundred and forty dollars to each private. After this, all who desired were permitted to make a short visit to their homes. "It should be recorded, as a remarkable fact," says Dr. Beecher, "for it speaks volumes for the character of the men, that at the appointed day, almost at the very hour, they assembled again at the rendezvous. Scattered forty or fifty miles in every direction, it was found that not a single man

* The ten companies allotted \$8,911, which the Commissioners said was the largest amount allotted by any regiment in the United States. Nearly every man who signed at all, allotted ten dollars, and some gave twelve dollars, per month. The pay of the private soldiers was thirteen dollars per month.

had deserted. The State and Nation are challenged for another such an instance. Is not this in pleasing contrast to the conduct of many of those who subsequently were called upon to fill the quotas of Chenango and Madison?"

On Saturday, the 6th of September, the regiment took its departure for the seat of war, proceeding by canal to Binghamton, and thence by rail. Previous to leaving Norwich, however, a scene of thrilling interest was witnessed in that village by an immense throng of people,—the presentation by Isaac S. Newton, in behalf of many citizens of Chenango county, of a splendid chestnut war-horse, fully equipped, to Colonel Smith; and by Rev. William Searls, then pastor of the First M. E. Church, of Norwich, in the same behalf, of a beautiful horse-equipage, sword, sash and belt, to Lieutenant-Colonel PerLee, and, in behalf of the Ladies' Aid Association, of Norwich, a testament to every member not previously supplied with one.* The remarks and responses on the occasion were made with much warmth and feeling.

Mr. Newton's speech had the ring of true patriotic ardor. He said:—

"Colonel E. B. Smith: A number of your fellow citizens have charged me with the pleasant duty of presenting to you this fine animal. In their name I ask you to accept him. It is, sir, no sporting animal, nor a fancy horse fitted only for pleasure excursions. The events of the day and this occasion forbid such a gift. It is a war-horse, destined, we trust, to snuff the battle, with head erect and nostrils distended, but fearless, to hear martial music, the clangor of arms, the roar of artillery; yes, more, to hear his rider's voice in the thickest fight, as he shall shout to his band from Chenango and Madison the welcome order to charge, and then lead them in the onset.

"This horse is to you, sir, a two-fold pledge,—a pledge of our friendship in by-gone days, and a pledge of our earnest wish that you excel in your untried character as a soldier. To your care we commit a thousand brothers, and close following them are the hopes and prayers of ten thousand watching kindred, left on these hills and in these valleys; and remember sir, when the battle rages, that thousands of eyes will drop tears of joy at their success and yours—of sorrow at the fall of any, the least of these.

"Lead them to victory. Ride this horse manfully before them, giving to each, as you will, an example of sobriety, obedience, courage, heroism, patriotism.

"We ask only that they have a history under your leadership, of which Chenango and Madison shall never be ashamed. Give them a name written high on the annals of time. We wish this,—we expect it.

"But is no time, sir, for words. DEEDS mark the man. Liberty is stabbed in the land of her birth. Bloody treason lurks no longer, but stalks abroad with power. Our fathers' land is red with the blood

of her sons. Our fathers' legacy—a free government—obedience to the expressed will of the people, is that for which we fight. It is worth a struggle. It is worth blood, and it will survive.

"Take this gift then, and go. Go! remembering the teachings of your youth, that not in the horse nor in the rider is safety, only as you trust in the God of battles; thus trusting, lead our brave men to brave deeds. Let them work—not rust—and when our flag shall float again in peace over these states, come back here, with his trappings dusty and worn, and your honors upon you; come back with these our brothers to the greeting."

Colonel Smith, much overcome with feeling, in reply said:—

"I accept this gift from the donors. Carry to them, sir, my thanks. I will strive in no manner to dishonor their gift. I go forth and take these brave men, gathered from the homes of Chenango and Madison, to untried scenes. I go not in my own strength. I remember in this hour of trial the teachings of my childhood here. I do not forget the lessons nor the prayers of yonder mother—the mother I leave for the bloody field of strife. Trusting in the God of battles, who will never see this government perish, I go forth. I, in common with you all, have another mother—this free land of liberty. She has been smitten by her own sons. They say she shall perish, but we go to add our strength, little though it be, to stay the arm that treason has lifted.

"We may not, probably shall not all come back, but I feel to-day that he that falleth by the way will have fallen in a noble cause. I believe, sir, that we go with God's blessing upon us.

"When asked by a committee of citizens to take this command, I *then*, if never before, offered a prayer to God, that I might be guided by His wisdom. Trusting in his guidance, I accepted. In the same faith I go.

"I bespeak for myself, and all my command, the hearty support, the earnest sympathy of the many, many friends we leave in these homes. Again let me thank the kind donors for this noble animal."*

On the arrival of the regiment in Baltimore, Col. Smith received orders from Gen. Wool, Commander of the Middle Department, to go into camp in that city, where they remained two months, employed in drilling and doing hospital and other guard duty. The second day after their arrival in Baltimore, they were armed with Springfield rifles, of the pattern of 1862; and on the 9th of October were brigaded under Gen. Emory, with the 110th, 116th, 128th, N. Y., and the 38th Massachusetts infantry regiments, and the 6th N. Y. artillery. At *dress parade*, on Sunday, November 2d, orders, directing the regiment to be in readiness to march at a moment's notice, on "distant service," were read; and on the 6th they were steaming down Chesapeake Bay, destined to spend a month in the locality of Fortress Monroe, and ultimately to

* On the 25th of August, the Ladies of the Volunteer Aid Association, of Norwich, presented each member of the companies of Captains Titus and Bockee with a copy of the New Testament.

* Record of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Regiment.

join Banks' expedition, on which they started on the 4th of December.*

Arriving in the Mississippi, a few days were spent in camp at Carrollton, about seven miles above New Orleans, a portion of the regiment enjoying the privilege of treading the battle ground, some six miles below New Orleans, made historic, by Jackson's memorable defense behind cotton-padded breastworks, against the unfortunate General Pakenham, on the 8th of January, 1815. The major and latter part of the month of January was spent in guarding the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad, extending a distance of eighty miles, from Algiers, opposite New Orleans, to Brashear City, along the entire length of which the regiment was scattered by companies. They were relieved from this not unpleasant duty on the night of the 8th of February and encamped in the rear of Brashear City, where, for the first time since it left Baltimore, the regiment was again united. In the meantime they had been brigaded with the 75th and 160th N. Y., the 8th Vt. and the 12th Conn. infantry regiments, a battery of the 1st Maine artillery, and two companies of the 1st Louisiana cavalry, under command of Gen. Weitzel, as the Second Brigade, First Division of the Nineteenth (Banks') Army Corps. The division commander was Gen. Wm. H. Emory. This brigade afterwards became an independent organization, and was known as the "Reserve Brigade." It was the one which, afterwards, when tried in battle, Gen. Weitzel said he was proud to command.

At Brashear City, Col. Smith, as senior officer, took command of the post, and Lieut.-Col. Per Lee, of the regiment. This arrangement continued until, a little later, Gen. Weitzel made that his headquarters.

Early in April the tedium of camp life was broken by an advance of Banks' army. On the 9th of that month the fleet began to convey the army which, for some time, had been concentrating in the vicinity of Brashear City, across Berwick Bay, which, opposite Brashear City, is about three-fourths of a mile wide, and the opposite shore of which was occupied by the rebels. Twelve miles above the mouth of Bayou Teche, which empties into Berwick Bay, and is followed in all its course by a narrow strip of arable land, bounded on the north by the swamps of Grand Lake, and on the south by the salt water marsh of the Gulf of Mexico, the rebels had constructed a formidable line of earth-works, extending to the swamps on either side. To flank or invest such a position was entirely

* The regiment sailed partially in three vessels: Col. Smith, with four hundred men, having embarked on the *Thames*, and two other portions on the *Arago* and *Atlantis*. Those on the *Thames*, after a perilous voyage, in which they narrowly escaped a watery grave, were towed into Port Royal harbor, by the *Ericsson*, on which was the 110th, the regiment of Col. D. C. Littlejohn, who had recently succeeded to the command of the brigade. There the *Thames* was examined and pronounced unseaworthy, and the troops and cargo were transferred to the U. S. bark *Vollgeer*.

out of the question. General Grover was sent with his division on transports through Grand Lake, to a landing called "Shell Bank," whence a road but little known led to the Teche, some twenty miles in the enemy's rear. While Generals Emory and Weitzel attacked the enemy in front, he was to cut off his retreat, if possible, if driven from his position, or, if Emory and Weitzel failed to force him, to attack him in the rear. The three divisions moved forward on the 11th of April, Saturday; Grover's from Brashear City, and the other two from Berwick City, on the point of the narrow peninsula, some sixty miles in length, formed by Grand Lake on the east and Bayou Teche on the west, which they occupied on the 9th. The 114th occupied the center in the line of Weitzel's brigade, which led the advance of the land forces, being preceded only by the First Louisiana Cavalry, which was closely followed by a line of skirmishers from the various advance regiments. One company of the 1st U. S. Artillery, under Capt. Bainbridge, and the Sixth Mass. Battery accompanied them.

They proceeded slowly, driving the enemy before them, and bivouacked at night at Pattersonville, nine miles from Berwick City. In the disposition of the second day, the 114th occupied a position near the left of the advance line, the right of Weitzel's brigade resting upon the bayou. This was the position they occupied, when, soon after march was resumed on the second day, it was deemed expedient to form in line of battle. A similar disposition was made on the opposite side of the bayou, by other troops of the division, who crossed by means of a pontoon bridge. They thus advanced, forcing their way with great labor and fatigue, through dense cane-brakes, so high as to almost conceal them from sight. At five o'clock they had progressed only four miles, and the skirmishers had yet failed to discover the enemy in force. Suddenly, and without warning, two cannon were discharged in their front, and two hissing, shrieking missiles passed over their heads, instantly killing a pair of horses attached to a battery following close behind. Before the men had time to recover from their astonishment, the simultaneous discharge of artillery all along the line hurled shot and shell in great profusion among the cane and far to the rear.

The battle of Bisland, thus opened, was fought almost entirely by artillery, the infantry having little else to do than support the batteries. For two days the troops lay under a heavy artillery fire, a most trying position even for veterans, from which, however, they suffered little. The almost entire loss of the 114th was sustained on the second day, when the 75th N. Y., which was on their left, dislodged a body of the enemy, who, under cover of the woods, had gained and were annoying them on the left flank. On the

morning of the 14th it was expected an assault would be made, but the enemy made a hasty retreat in the night to avoid capture, which the presence of Gen. Grover in their rear threatened. Under the trying ordeal through which they had passed, the 114th conducted themselves with such coolness and bravery as to elicit high commendations from Capt. Carruth, whose battery they supported.* The regiment had nine men wounded, one fatally.

The pursuit of the flying enemy was continued, with only slight encounters with their rear guard, until, on the 19th, Col. Smith was ordered to employ his regiment in gathering and driving back to Brashear City, for army use, all the cattle, horses and sheep in the country. The men demurred at being employed as "cattle drivers"; yet none hesitated in the decision to perform faithfully these new duties. From this time till the 27th of May, the regiment was occupied in wearisome marching and counter-marching, having, within less than seven weeks, marched nearly five hundred miles, the last forty-eight of which were forced and toilsome, made with little rest or refreshment, to evade the hot pursuit of a vigilant foe. During this time, Col. Smith, by reason of ill health, had been obliged to leave the regiment in command of Lieut.-Colonel Per Lee. In the meantime, Gen. Banks' army had invested Port Hudson; and on the 29th of May, the regiment left Brashear City to rejoin the brigade, which it did on the first of June, before Port Hudson, where it lay for forty days, engaged more or less constantly, day and night. Companies B, D, E, F and G, formed a part of the assaulting column at Port Hudson on the 14th of June, which resulted so disastrously and fruitlessly, and in which Col. Smith, then in command of the brigade and the assaulting column, fell mortally wounded.† These companies suffered serious losses. The regiment continued in the intrenchments before Port Hudson till the surrender of that place on the 9th of July, with six thousand men and their arms.

Succeeding the reduction of Port Hudson, the regiment, in company with the brigade, spent "twenty days of laziness and discomfort," at Donaldsonville, and about two weeks at Labadieville, leaving the

* The following communication explains itself:—

"NEW ORLEANS, LA., April 29th, 1863.

"Colonel E. B. Smith, Commanding 114th Regt., N. Y. Volunteers:—

"DEAR SIR:—You will permit me to take an early opportunity to express my hearty appreciation of the unflinching bravery displayed by yourself and your regiment in the battle at Camp Bialand, on the 12th and 13th, while in support of the battery under my command.

"During the first engagement, your regiment was subjected to as severe a test as is ever required to establish the reputation of a corps; and during the long hours of the following day, while it was exposed to an incessant artillery fire, its coolness and steadiness were the best proofs of its bravery and determination.

"Please accept my willing testimony of the fact.

"I remain, my dear sir, cordially yours,

"WILLIAM W. CARRUTH,

"Capt. Sixth Mass. Battery."

† Col. Smith died in the brigade hospital, in the rear of the lines of Port Hudson, June 19, 1863.

latter place on the 19th of August for Brashear City, which the 114th New York and 12th Connecticut were detailed to occupy and hold, and which, during the siege of Port Hudson, together with an immense quantity of government stores, was captured by the rebels. On the 2d of September the regiment rejoined the brigade at Algiers, where Major-General Franklin assumed command of the 19th army corps, and joined in the "Sabine Pass Expedition," the results of which Dr. Beecher thus sums up:—

"General Franklin, with ten thousand men,
Went out to sea, and then came back again."

From this expedition they returned again to Brashear City, where, on the 3d of October, they set out on the equally fruitless Texas expedition. They then went into camp at New Iberia. While here their old and loved brigade commander, General Weitzel, left them to unite his fortunes with the Army of the Potomac. Here, too, occurred the only case of capital punishment in the regiment. Charles Turner, of company C, was shot for desertion December 28, 1863. Here, also, was read on the 1st of January, 1864, a *resume* of the events of the year, by order of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry B. Morse, then commanding the regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Per Lee, who, after the death of Colonel Smith was promoted to the colonelcy of the regiment, having gone north on leave of absence. By this *resume* the casualties of the regiment for the year ending December 31, 1863, appear to have been as follows:—

	OFFICERS.	MEN.
Killed in Battle.....	2	12
Died of Wounds and Diseases.....	3	150
Discharged.....	15	100
Deserted.....		5
Transferred.....	1	32
Total.....	21	299

In the early part of January they removed their camp to Franklin, where, on the 25th of January, the regiment, for the first time, participated in a grand review, the 19th corps being reviewed by General Emory. Here, too, on the 12th of February, their shelter tents, with which they started out on the Texas expedition, were exchanged for the more commodious ones, which had been stored for nearly two months in New Orleans. While lying at Franklin a new organization of the army was effected, necessitated by the absence of many of the old regiments, who had re-enlisted and gone home on furlough. The 114th, 30th Mass., 15th Me., 161st and 173d N. Y. regiments composed the First Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, and this connection the 114th retained during the existence of the Nineteenth Corps, though there were many changes in the other regiments composing it. In the final disposition which remained till

the close of the war, the 114th was associated with the 116th, 153d and 119th N. Y., 30th Mass., and 29th Me.

The tedium of their long rest, with its vexatious drills, was broken on the 15th of March, when they started on the famous Red River campaign, marching for the sixth time over the road up the Teche, which had been the scene of so much of their military experience. They were kept continuously marching, with only brief intervals of rest, until the 8th of April, the enemy being rapidly driven back by the advance, consisting of a large force of cavalry under General Lee, a detachment of flying artillery and the 13th corps, who had frequently sharp encounters with the enemy, who, however, did not make a determined stand till the 8th of April, when the advance was repulsed with great slaughter and routed.* The 19th corps were just preparing for a promised rest at Bayou St. Patrics, when they were unexpectedly hurried forward on the "double quick" to the scene of carnage, to cover the retreat of the advance army, who were flying in the utmost confusion before the advancing enemy. Having marched seven miles in an hour and twenty minutes, they reached the scene of battle, at Sabine Cross Roads, and were hastily formed in line of battle along the edge of the forest, behind a rail fence, the 161st N. Y. being thrown forward as skirmishers across the open field in front, to hold in check the enemy, who were advancing in the woods on the opposite side of the clearing. The First Brigade, under General Dwight, formed the front line, the 114th occupying the center, the 116th upon the right, and the 29th Me., upon the left. The Second and Third Brigades, commanded respectively by Gen. McMillen and Col. Benedict of the 162d N. Y., formed on either flank, and nearly at right angles to the rear.

Soon the rebels emerged in force from the woods, and when the order was given a terrific, blinding, stunning crash of fire was poured into their ranks, causing them to reel and stagger and flee in discomfiture to the woods. They renewed the attack with increased force, but were again repulsed with fearful loss. Soon the right and left wings were equally engaged, but the enemy was repulsed on all sides and his advance checked. The 114th entered this battle with eighteen commissioned officers and three hundred and seventy-one men; its casualties were three officers, (including Lt. Col. Morse,) and seven men wounded, one of the latter of whom subsequently died, and another, who was severely wounded, left in the hands of the enemy.

Our army retreated in the night to Pleasant Hill,

*The 13th corps consisted of two divisions, the third and fourth, under Gen. Ransom. Each numbered about 2,000 men, and lost in about twenty minutes, the former 350, and the latter, which received the first shock of battle, 1,156, in killed, wounded and missing.

where the enemy pursued and again attacked in the afternoon of the following day, but were repulsed and routed, after a sharp hand-to-hand encounter, in which our entire army, which here united, was engaged. The loss of the first division in both days' engagements was about six hundred men. The second day the 114th were posted on the road, which they were instructed to hold at all hazards. Their position was concealed by a dense underbrush. Their loss was three killed and five wounded.*

Both armies retreated, ours to Grand Ecore, on Red River, where it entrenched, and remained ten days, and thence continued its retreat, the campaign having been abandoned. The wily enemy gained a formidable position in the rear of our army and thus threatened to cut off its retreat. While preparing to force a passage our army was fiercely attacked in the rear by the main body of the enemy; but it succeeded in routing both forces, and resumed the retreat. In this engagement (the battle of Cane River,) the 114th lost not a man, though portions of the army suffered severely.

The retreat was continued to Alexandria, where the army again entrenched, to guard the gun-boats, which could not pass the falls by reason of the low stage of the water. Here the rebels pursued, and eventually closed the Red River and cut off all communication with this army and the outside world. The situation of the army became so critical that the abandonment of their position and of the valuable iron-clad fleet was seriously contemplated to save it. But the fleet was saved at some hazard and immense labor by the construction of a dam across the river below the falls, which raised the water sufficiently to float the entire fleet over them. This dam was constructed under the direction of Col. Bailey of Gen. Banks' staff, but the suggestion is credited to Theodore Evans, of Bainbridge, the Sergeant in Co. H. of the 114th regiment, afterwards Lieutenant. The fleet thus secured, on the 13th of May the army resumed its retreat, which was sharply contested at one or two points by the rebels.

After forty days of inactivity and rest at Morganza, the regiment embarked in the first part of July and proceeded to join the army of the Potomac in front of Petersburg; but on arriving at Fortress Monroe, they were ordered to proceed with the rest of the 19th

*The day succeeding the arrival of the army at Grand Ecore, Gen. Dwight complimented the regiments of the first brigade, who were drawn up in line before their camps for that purpose. To the 114th he said:—

"Soldiers of the One Hundred and Fourteenth New York: I have sought this opportunity to express to you my thanks for the bravery you exhibited at the battle of Sabine Cross Roads, where you held your position so securely and saved the army from destruction. I compliment you also upon your coolness and courage at the battle of Pleasant Hill, when you were surrounded by the enemy. You have proved yourselves worthy of the name of the soldiers of General Weitzel, from whom nothing but good conduct was expected. You have done your duty, and shall receive the gratitude of the country. Again I tender you my thanks."

corps to Washington, which was then threatened by the rebel raid into Maryland. Here they soon participated in the pursuit of the retreating rebels from in front of Washington, without, however, encountering them in force. Now succeeded a long series of tedious and dispiriting marching and counter-marching in the valley of the Shenandoah, culminating in the memorable and desperately fought battle of Opequan on the 19th of September, in which the 114th covered itself with glory, but lost in the long and sanguinary contest one hundred and eighty-eight men, being three-fifths of the entire number it took into action, a loss exceeding that of any other regiment in the army. For three hours the regiment held its position, unsupported, under a murderous cross-fire of artillery and musketry. Its noble conduct on this occasion elicited highly commendatory notices in general orders.

Sheridan pursued the retreating enemy, who made another stand at Fisher's Hill, from which they were driven on the 22d, with the loss of twenty-one cannon, large quantities of small arms and munitions, and thousands of men. In this engagement the 114th did not participate, being posted on picket duty on the left of the army. The pursuit was continued to Harrisonburgh, when, being out of provisions, and a hundred miles from the base of supplies, it was abandoned by the infantry, but continued by the cavalry to Rockfish Gap. At Harrisonburgh the 114th was detailed to guard an empty supply train down the valley, with which they returned laden with provisions, to Cedar Creek, where it met the returning army, which, being pursued, halted and fought the second battle of Fisher's Hill, defeating the enemy, who were sent "whirling up the valley." Sheridan placed his army in *echelon* behind the bold bluffs which skirt Cedar Creek. Here, during the temporary absence of General Sheridan, General Early surprised and attacked them with such fury and impetuosity, early on the morning of the 19th of October, as to cause a most disastrous rout of the entire army, who, in their hasty retreat, were met by Sheridan, who halted the fleeing columns, reformed them, and achieved the glorious victory which has immortalized his name. Again, in this, their last engagement, the 114th rendered signal service, interposing the first obstinate resistance to the advance of the enemy in the early morning. The Eighth corps, the first attacked, were so completely surprised that the men did not have time to dress themselves before the rebels had overrun their camp in overpowering numbers. They fled in the wildest confusion, many almost in a state of nudity, closely followed by the rebels. The 114th held their line amid fearful carnage, till they were surrounded, when they fell back upon the Sixth corps, which had formed

in line, and with them still contested the rebel advance. Its losses are the best and fittest commentary on its heroism; they were one hundred and twenty-eight in killed, wounded and taken prisoners, fully half it took into the engagement.

On the 9th of November the army retired from Cedar Creek to Newtown, and thence, the 114th, which had been left to guard the stores there, on the 1st of January, rejoined the army at Winchester, where they remained till the 4th of April, when they moved up the Shenandoah valley, anticipating an advance of Lee's forces in that direction, but soon retraced their steps. On the 21st of April, the army of the Shenandoah left the valley of that name and went to Washington, where, on the 23d of May, they participated in the grand military review.

Now that the war was over, the men were anxious to return to the peaceful pursuits from which they were wrested by the clash of arms. They were, therefore, exceedingly rejoiced when, on the evening of the 5th of June, they received the following order:—

"HEAD-QUARTERS DWIGHT'S DIVISION, }
JUNE 5, 1865. }

General Orders, No. 13.

I. Pursuant to General Order, No. 94, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, Current Series, and General Order, No. 58, Head-Quarters Middle Military Division, Current Series, the 114th, 117th and 133d New York State Volunteers, are hereby ordered to be mustered out of the service of the United States.

• • • • •
"III. In parting with these gallant regiments, after so long a period of service, the General commanding feels regret, mingled with pride, when he recalls how patiently they endured, how bravely they have fought, and how nobly they have won. Fort Bisland, Port Hudson, Sabine Cross Roads, Pleasant Hill and Cedar Grove, bear witness to this. To all these regiments the General commanding tenders his heartfelt thanks.

"To the 114th, the General commanding tenders his acknowledgments, especially for the manner in which, under his eye, at the battle of Opequan, they fixed the limit of the enemy's advance on that day, and by obstinate fighting, did such signal, conspicuous service.

"The memory of the fallen will ever be cherished by the Division. They sacrificed themselves to its glory.

By command of

BRIGADIER-GENERAL DWIGHT.

J. G. Leefe, A. A. A. General."

Accordingly, on the 8th of June, the regiment was mustered out, and on the same day started for home. They were detained at Elmira under many chafing discomforts, the principal of which was the conviction that they, who, on the borders of rebeldom, had been treated with the consideration and respect which their heroism merited, were regarded in their native

State with a cold, selfish indifference and inhospitality. But a more generous recognition awaited them at home, where their return was heartily welcomed. On Saturday, the 17th, they were finally discharged and paid, and they left Elmira the same day for home. As the train was moving from the depot, a sad accident occurred. George Agard, of Company B, who had escaped the perils of a three years' service, in jumping upon the platform, fell between the cars, and was instantly crushed to death. In Binghamton they received a hospitable welcome, and remained over night. An hour's ride the next morning brought them to Chenango Forks, where they were met by a delegation of the citizens of Greene with conveyances to carry them to that village. Suffice it to say that the return of the shattered regiment at Greene, Oxford and Norwich, and the towns to which the companies respectively belonged, was welcomed with the most lavish demonstrations of joy and gratitude, not, however, unaccompanied with pangs of the deepest sorrow for the many who never returned, who rest beneath the quiet sod of many a southern battle-field, and whose memory is fragrant with the hallowed associations of a brave, noble, virtuous and valorous life. It was a welcome which reflected honor on the brave sons of a noble parentage.

Let our eulogy be the sentiment of Cowper:—
 "Let laurels, drenched in pure Parnassian dews,
 Reward his memory dear to every muse,
 Who with a courage of unshaken root,
 In honor's field advancing his firm foot,
 Plants it upon the line that justice draws,
 And will prevail or perish in her cause!
 'Tis to the virtues of such men man owes
 His portion in the good that heav'n bestows:
 And when recording history displays
 Feats of renown, tho' wrought in ancient days;
 Tells of a few stout hearts that fought and died,
 Where duty placed them at their country's side;
 The man who is not mov'd with what he reads,
 That takes not fire at their heroic deeds,
 Unworthy of the blessings of the brave,
 Is base in kind, and born to be a slave!"*

CHAPTER XVI.

TOWN OF AFTON.

AFTON is situated on the south-east corner of the county and lies wholly within the original township of *Clinton*. It was formed from Bainbridge November 18, 1857, and derives its name from *Afton Water*, a small river in Ayrshire, England, immortal-

* The 114th was the only complete regiment organized in Chenango county. The further part taken by this county in the prosecution of the war will be noticed in connection with the history of the several towns.

ized by the Scottish poet Burns.* It is bounded on the north by Bainbridge and Coventry, on the east by Delaware county, on the west and south by Broome county.

The surface is a rolling upland, separated into two nearly equal parts by the broad, beautiful and fertile valley of the Susquehanna, which crosses the town diagonally from north-east to south-west, and is one of the most productive in the State. The hills rise by long and gradual ascent to the height of 300 to 500 feet above the valleys. They are very productive and generally susceptible of cultivation to their summits. The principal streams other than the Susquehanna are Kelsey Creek and Harper Brook, which flow through the central part and empty into the Susquehanna on the north, and Bennett Brook, which flows through the north-east part and empties into the Susquehanna on the east, near the north line of the town. Pratt's Pond, situated about a mile north-east of the village of Afton, is a beautiful sheet of water. It is about a mile in circumference, elevated twenty-five feet above the surface of the river, and has no visible inlet nor outlet; yet its waters are pure and fresh, as if constantly changing. It "lies like a mirror, with its frame of sloping banks, grassy and clean on the south and west, while at the north-east there spreads out in beautiful undulations of surface a grove of second-growth chestnut, oak and pine."

The town is underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill group in which on the farm of Perry and Enos Ellis, about four miles east of Afton, a quarry was opened some five or six years ago from which good building and flagging stone is obtained. Another quarry on the Robert Corbin farm, also in the east part of the town, was opened some ten years ago.

The soil is a sandy loam and alluvion in the valleys, with some clay on the valley ridges; and a gravelly loam upon the hills. The soil in the river bottoms is very fertile, well adapted to corn, tobacco and hops. It is a dairy town, nearly every farmer keeping as many cows as his land will subsist. Dairying is carried on very largely in a private way.

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad traverses the town in the valley and to the west of the Susquehanna.

The population of the town in 1875 was 2,237; of whom 2,193 were native, 44 foreign, 2,230 white, 7 colored; 1,140 males and 1,097 females. Its area was 28,369 acres; of which 17,582 were improved, 9,160 woodland, and 1,627 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,216,740; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$138,065; of stock,

* A somewhat bitter feud was engendered by the division of the town of Bainbridge and the discussions preceding it, and to give Afton a precedence over its rival, a name with an initial preceding the letter B was selected. From Rev. E. T. Jacobs' article on The Rise and Present of Afton.

\$149,924; of tools and implements, \$38,395, amount of gross sales from farms in 1874, \$113,321.*

There are 14 districts (13 Common and 1 Union school,) having school-houses within the town and two that have not. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were 17 licensed teachers at the same time during 28 weeks or more. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 639. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, ten male and twenty female teachers were employed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 518; of whom only 9 were under 5 or over 21 years of age; the average daily attendance, during the year was 298.175; number of volumes in district libraries 943, the value of which was \$402; number of school-houses, all frame, 14, which with the sites, including 4 acres and 79 rods, valued at \$1,603, were valued at \$10,405; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts, \$988,420. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 133, of whom 122 attended district school fourteen weeks of that year.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.

Amount on hand Oct 1, 1876.	\$ 14.36	
" apportioned to districts.	1,926.04	
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands	102.47	
Raised by tax.	2,251.58	
From teachers' board.	384.00	
From other sources.	290.36	
Total receipts.		\$4,968.81
Paid for teachers' wages.	\$4,184.38	
" " libraries. . . . .	.67	
" " school apparatus.	10.84	
" " houses, sites, fences out-houses, repairs, furniture, etc.	278.05	
Paid for other incidental expenses	453.11	
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877.	41.76	\$4,968.81.

SETTLEMENTS.—The first settlement in Afton was made in July, 1786, by Elnathan Bush, who came in from Sheffield, Mass., with his family, then consisting of his wife and four children. They came as far as Cooperstown on horseback, and thence by canoe down the Susquehanna, leaving Cooperstown May 2, 1786. He settled on the west side of the river, opposite the forty acre island, known as Stowel's Island, about two miles below Afton. This island* and another near it, one of which contains ten and the other forty acres, had been cleared and cultivated by the Indians, and derive their name from Hezekiah Stowel, who subsequently owned them. Mr. Bush had visited this locality with a view to settlement before the Revolutionary war, in company with two others who were

* Census of 1875.

relatives. The Dominie Johnston (Col. Witter Johnston,) was then living at Sidney Plains, where he settled in 1772. He left his improvements during the war and returned to them at its close, having rendered service therein as Colonel. He (Johnston,) continued his residence there till his death October 4, 1839, aged 86. Lois, his wife, died there July 27, 1787, aged 22; and Jane, his second wife, Sept. 26, 1817, aged 47. January 30, 1790, Mr. Bush exchanged his property here with Hezekiah Stowel for a piece of land on lot 74 in Bainbridge, nominally containing 81, but actually 100 acres, which Stowel had taken up the previous year, the consideration being 80£, to which he removed. It is the farm on which his grandson, Joseph Bush, now resides, and there he resided till his death, May 15, 1791. Joseph Bush, just referred to, says he very well recollects hearing his father say there were no other settlers in the old town of *Jericho* when Elnathan came in. The Kirbys came next, a year or two after, and the Bixbys soon after.*

Hezekiah Stowel, to whom reference has been made, was a Vermont sufferer, and came in from Guilford in that State in 1786, and settled at Bettsburgh, on 220 acres on lot 63, on the east side of the river, and was the pioneer settler on the site of that village. He subsequently removed to the west side of the river, where he is buried, probably at the time he made the exchange with Elnathan Bush. He lived and died in the locality. It is not known that he lived on the place exchanged with Bush in Bainbridge. His children were:—Asa, who settled at Bettsburgh, on the place now owned and occupied by Enos M. Johnston, where, in 1788, he kept the first inn, in a log building † which stood on the river bank, opposite the residence of Mr. Johnston and who married Hannah, daughter of Samuel Bixby, of Guilford, Vt., and died there November 3, 1826, aged 66, and his wife September 18, 1850, aged 88; Elijah, who settled on the west side of the river, on the farm now occupied by Chamberlain, and who died childless, in advanced years, while on a visit to a relative in Pennsylvania, and whose wife, Rebecca, died here Febru-

* It has been generally supposed, and is so stated in French's *Gazetteer of the State of New York*, and subsequent publications copied therefrom, that William Bush, a grandson of Elnathan Bush, was the first child born in the town, in 1786. The fact is, the William Bush referred to was born in Sheffield, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, April 15, 1785, and was brought to the present town of Afton, then a part of *Jericho*, the following July. He died November 15, 1858, aged 73, having been honored with three wives, Esther, who died November 5, 1813, aged 27, Sally, who died December 29, 1828, aged 33, and Maria, who, we believe, is still living.

† This building afterwards gave place to a frame one, which stood a little nearer the highway; and this in turn to a third, also a frame building, which stood on the site of Johnston's residence, for which it gave way in the summer of 1876, when it was moved just across the road, and a little lower down, and has since been converted by Mr. Johnston into a cheese factory, for which purpose it is now used by him. Stowel kept tavern in each of these, and till his death. There has not been a tavern kept there since. Lephah, daughter of Asa Stowel, who married Dr. Boynton, was, it was said, the prettiest woman who has lived in Afton.

ary 25, 1837, aged 70; Betsey, who married Daniel Dickinson, who settled in Guilford and afterwards at Seneca Falls; Isabel, who married Elisha Stowel, who settled at the ferry about two miles below Bettsburgh; Polly, who married Calvin Stowel, who settled on a farm adjoining Asa Stowel's on the south; Levi, who settled on the homestead on the west side of the river, and afterwards, in advanced life, moved to the east side, to the farm now occupied by James Pool, and died at Seneca Falls while visiting relatives there; and Sally, who married Charles Grinnells, and settled on the homestead farm on the west side of the river, where she died. His only grandchild living in the county is Gratia Ann, wife of Gustavus Greene, in Afton, daughter of Levi. Four great-grandchildren are living in the county, Abel, Nathan and Jenette, wife of Henry Jones, in Afton, and Hannah, wife of Charles Bixby, in Bainbridge.

Ebenezer, John, Isaiah and Joseph Landers, brothers, the former of whom had served two or three years in the army during the war of the Revolution, came in from Lenox, Mass., in March, 1787. They started when the ground was covered with snow, with ox sleds, with which they arrived at Unadilla. There they built canoes to carry their families and goods down the river when the ice gave way; but becoming impatient of waiting they proceeded on foot, on the crust of the snow, Ebenezer carrying a feather bed on his back, and his wife, her youngest child, Stephen, in her arms. They reached their destination the last of March. Ebenezer afterwards brought in the goods by the river, making several trips for that purpose. Ebenezer and Joseph had been in the previous year and made some preparation for their settlement. They had made a small clearing, built a log cabin, and planted some corn on Stowel's Island. Ebenezer, who brought his wife, Olive Osborn, of Massachusetts, and three children, settled near Afton, on the east side of the river, on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Charles Landers. He took up 100 acres when he first came in, about forty rods above the place on which he subsequently settled, lying on both sides of the river, but his title proved defective and he had to relinquish it. His second selection was 50 acres on lot 58, to which he subsequently added by purchase. He was a carpenter and worked at his trade for several years. He died where he settled February 14, 1846, aged 87, and his wife, August 27, 1850, aged 93. The children who came in with him were Polly, Thomas and Stephen, the latter of whom was then two years old. Polly was born July 6, 1781, and married David Pollard and settled on the farm now occupied by Hiram Landers, where she died. Thomas was born November 2, 1782. He married Esther, daughter of Moses Hinman, and after living

at home several years, took up the farm now owned by ——— Hard, where he died June 8, 1862, and his wife March 26, 1830, aged 46. Stephen was born August 10, 1785. He married Polly, daughter of Matthew Long, and settled one and one-half miles north of Afton, on the farm now owned by his son Thomas, where he died July 19, 1870, aged 84, and his wife, October 13, 1850, aged 60. Stephen was a millwright and put a great many buildings in the town. Ebenezer's children born after he came here were Joseph, who was born July 6, 1790, and married Jerusha, daughter of Lemuel Warner; Nancy, who was born March 17, 1795, married Billings Church, and died December 25, 1841, aged 48, and her husband, January 7, 1871, aged 82; Hiram, who was born December 31, 1796, and married Sophia, daughter of Jonathan Hammond; Solomon, who was born December 10, 1798, who married Mary, daughter of Benjamin Carpenter, and after her death, January 16, 1829, aged 26, her sister, Elizabeth A., (who died April 27, 1845 aged 45,) and died December 24, 1876, aged 78; and Isaiah, who was born in March, 1801, and died young. Hiram is the only one now living. John Landers, brother of Ebenezer, settled in Lisle; Isaiah, another brother, in Afton, where he died August 31, 1844, aged 75, and Thirza, his wife, April 8, 1836, aged 69. Joseph, the other brother settled nearly a mile up Kelsey Creek, on the place now occupied by Luman Pollard. He afterwards removed to Lisle. Jehiel Landers, who lives on the east side of the river, about two miles above Afton, is a son of Isaiah's, and the only one of his children living. Isaiah Landers, Jr., died March 8, 1839, aged 35.

Henry Pearsall came from Long Island about 1787 and settled in the north-east part of Afton, one-half mile west of what was known as the Middle Bridge, which went off in a freshet a number of years ago and was not rebuilt. Having built a small house in the woods, he brought in his family, consisting of his wife, Anna Simmons, and one or two children. The house thus erected answered the double purpose of a dwelling and shop, for he followed his trade till his death. About 1809 he removed to the north line of the town of Bainbridge, about three miles north of Bainbridge village, and took up 88 acres, on which he resided till his death, about 1840. His children were: Amos, who married Clarissa, daughter of John Nichols, an early settler in the north part of Bainbridge, and settled in the locality of his father in Bainbridge, where he died February 18, 1864, aged 72, and his wife July 4, 1878, aged 83; Ann, who married Alson Searles, a resident of Bainbridge, and is now living at Unadilla, her husband having died June 26, 1871; Smith, who married Polly, sister of Alson Searles, and settled

near his father, where he died in 1874; Samuel, who married Sally, daughter of Henry Thompson, of Bainbridge, and settled and died in the same locality; Abigail, who married Ansel Phinney, a blacksmith, with whom she removed to Bainbridge village, where she died; Henry, who married Samantha Norton, of Guilford, and succeeded his father on the homestead farm, where he died December 23, 1871, aged 70, and his wife August 28, 1871, aged 68; and Polly, who married Leonard Norton, of Guilford, where they settled. He died October 23, 1870. She is still living, in Coventry, with her niece, Mrs. Chester Benedict. His grandchildren living in the county are Charles and Reuben, sons of Amos, in Coventry, where the former has been Justice of the Peace for twenty years, was Supervisor in 1856 and '57, and a Member of Assembly from this county in 1869; William and Hiram, sons of Smith, on the homestead of their father in Bainbridge; Frank, Charles, Emma and Sarah Phinney, children of Abigail, all in Bainbridge; James and Polly, wife of Melvin Yale, in Bainbridge, Amanda, wife of Hiram Landers, in Afton, and Matilda, wife of Chester Benedict, in Coventry, all children of Samuel; and Sherman Pearsall and Ada, wife of Jerome Wescott, in Bainbridge, and Lewis Pearsall, in Guilford.

Richard Church came in from Brattleboro, Vt., in the fall of 1788, and settled on the east side of the river, one-half mile below Afton, on the place now owned by the heirs of Levi Church and Andrew Johnston and Joseph Angell, the latter a son-in-law of Billings Church. He was a son of Col. Timothy Church, a Vermont sufferer, who did not settle here, but acquired land as such, on 300 acres of which Richard settled, and which, after the latter's death, in the spring of 1813, was divided between two of his sons, Billings and Levi, Billings' portion being that now occupied by Andrew J. Johnston and Joseph Angell, and Levi's that occupied by his heirs. Richard brought with him his family, consisting of his wife Polly, daughter of David Pollard, and one child, Billings, then an infant. Billings married Nancy, daughter of Ebenezer Landers, and settled on the homestead, where he lived till advanced in years, when, in the spring of 1857, he sold his place to his nephew, Devillo C. Church, and went to live with his daughter Frances, wife of Enos M. Johnston, with whom he died January 7, 1871, aged 82. Richard's children, who were born after he came here, were: Col. Ira, who married Angelia Atherton, sister of Cornelius Atherton, and settled about a half mile above Afton, on the east side of the river, on the farm, a portion of which is owned by Stanton T. Donaghe, afterwards purchasing the Peck farm, about a mile below Afton, on the east side, now owned by Ransom Merrill, and

subsequently the farm which forms a part of the Ives farm, which he subsequently turned over to his sons, and removed to Morris, where he resided till his death, March 12, 1861, aged 70, his wife having died July 15, 1847, aged 56; Rufus, who married Phebe Turner and settled in Afton, and afterwards removed to Orleans County and died there; Polly, who married Dr. Gaius Halsey, of Kortright, Delaware county, where she lived and died; Warren, who married Saloma C. Hall, who died May 2, 1849, aged 37, who was of a roving disposition, and moved and died out of the county, December 24, 1857, aged 57, and Esther, his second wife, April 1, 1858, aged 39; Levi, who married Elathea, daughter of Joseph Works, and settled and died on the homestead; Permelia, who married Ezra Corbin, and is still living in Bainbridge; Rhoda, a maiden lady, who died in the town April 2, 1866, aged 66; Richard, who died, young and unmarried, of small-pox, June 2, 1828, aged 20; and Wilson, who married Eliza Ann Jones and settled in Afton, on the east side of the river, where he now resides, with his second wife, Fanny Nevins. Numerous descendants are living, ten in this county, viz: Devillo C. Church, a banker, Richard, Rush, Clara, wife of James Corbin, Frances, wife of Enos M. Johnston, and Polly, wife of A. E. Estabrooks, in Afton; George Corbin, Eunice, wife of Charles J. Humphrey, and William Corbin, in Bainbridge; and C. A. Church, in New Berlin. Dr. Gaius L. Halsey, a prominent physician in Unadilla; Dr. Richard Halsey, a prominent physician at White Haven, Pa.; Frank Church, Road Agent for the U. S. Express Co. at McGregor, Iowa; Alonzo S. Church, formerly Cashier of J. M. Little's Bank of Mason City, Iowa; Lafayette Church, who keeps a livery at McGregor, Iowa; Gaius H. Church, a prominent farmer at Cresco, Iowa; and George M. Church, a speculator at McGregor, Iowa, are grandchildren of Richard Church's.

Other settlers about this period were Seth Stone, Nathaniel Benton, Isaac Miner and Orlando Bridgeman, all from Vermont.

Seth Stone settled in Afton village, on the east side of the river, nearly opposite the Universalist church, where he died April 22, 1826, aged 65; and Eunice, his wife, July 12, 1815, aged 54. His son Horace married Rebecca Johnston and lived on the homestead farm. He built a tavern about 1825, the first in the village, on the east side of the river, which he kept a good many years. It stood where Noble Buck now lives. He and his wife both died there, the former December 2, 1845, aged 60, and the latter July 5, 1874, aged 83. Seth had two daughters, Rachel, and Irene, the latter of whom married Jesse Easton, both of whom lived and died in that locality. Nathaniel Benton settled on the east side of the river, three miles above

Afton, at what was known as the Middle Bridge, which was built about 1825 or '6, and swept away by a freshet some thirty years ago. The Benton's were considered wealthy, and formed the nucleus for quite a settlement in that locality. A hotel was built there about forty years ago by a man named Stevens. It is now occupied as a dwelling. A grist and saw-mill were built there some sixty years ago. They have since been rebuilt and are still in operation. The Corbins, who also settled in that locality, were interested in the construction of the mills there. Quite a little business centered there at an early day in opposition to Afton. The Benton family mostly died in that locality, Nathaniel May 8, 1845, aged 84, and his wife Hannah, March 11, 1839, aged 71. His children were Belah who was a bachelor and lived and died at home, February 17, 1830, aged 40; Nathaniel, who removed to Ohio at an early day; Col. Ansel, who married Cornelia, daughter of Samuel Weeks, and settled where William B. Grover now lives, near the homestead farm, and died a year or two after his marriage, September 6, 1845, aged 48, leaving one child, Albert Hyde, a druggist in Afton; Eunice, who married Hiram Ramsey and is now living in Ohio, well advanced in years; William, who accompanied Nathaniel to Ohio; Jared, a bachelor, who died there June 30, 1835, aged 35; Julius and Isaac, both bachelors, and both of whom died there, the former March 10, 1837, aged 35; and Orrin, who married a daughter of James V. Humphrey. Orlando Bridgeman settled one and one-half miles below Bettsburgh, on the farm now occupied by John Pool, where he died a good many years ago. Reuben and Abner Bridgeman were sons of his. Abner married Temperance Johnston, and, after living for a number of years below Bettsburgh, removed to Elmira, where he died. Reuben settled in the same locality.

David Pollard came in from Norwich, Conn., in 1790, and settled on the east side of the river, one mile below Afton, on the place now occupied by William Landers. He made a small clearing and built a log cabin and then sent for his family, consisting of his wife Polly, and six children. He died here December 30, 1830, aged 85, and his wife June 9, 1821, aged 69. His children were Polly, who married Richard Church, Lucy, who married William Olden, Cynthia, who married Heman Kelsey, Thomas, who moved to Seneca Falls some fifty years ago and died there, David, who married Polly Landers and lived and died on the homestead, Joseph, who married Polly Pool, and settled about a mile west of Afton, on the north end of the farm now owned by his son Luman C. Pollard, and after becoming too feeble to work it sold it to his son Jeremiah, (who is now living in California, to which State he removed in 1849,) and removed to the village, on the

east side of the river, where he died March 13, 1859. Only two grandchildren are living in the county, Luman C. and Lysander Pollard, both in Afton.

In this year (1790) the first school-house in Afton was built. It was a log structure and stood at the forks of the river and bridge roads on the east side of the river, in the village of Afton, a little north of the water tank in that locality. The first teacher was Nathaniel Church. In this school-house the first church in the town was organized twelve years later.

Settlements were made as early as 1795, probably earlier, by Abijah Stevens, Abraham Benton, and Heth Kelsey, and as early as 1796 by Thomas and Capt. Enos Cornwall.

Abijah Stevens came in from Connecticut, and settled on the east side of the river, about one and one-half miles above Afton, on the farm now occupied by the widow of John Carr, where both he and his second wife, Esther, died, the former May 9, 1844, aged 87, and the latter January 1, 1832, aged 76. His children were John, who married Clara Landers and settled where Jonathan Farnsworth now lives, and died there, he and his wife, the former March 9, 1861, aged 73, and the latter November 11, 1877, aged 84; and Harvey, who removed to Ohio, children by his second wife. He had one child by his first wife, Lydia, who died September 1, 1822, aged 76, viz.: Sally, who married Samuel Hinman and died on the homestead. Abraham Benton, settled on the site of Afton, on the west side of the river, on a portion of the farm now occupied by Luman C. Pollard. His house stood just east of the railroad track. He was the first settler on the site of the village, on the west side. He died here August 3, 1816, aged 53, and Desire, his wife, who afterwards married William Beardsley, January 24, 1858, aged 85. Heth Kelsey, a Revolutionary soldier, settled in the upper part of the village, near the mouth of the creek which bears his name, where he kept a tavern. He afterwards removed to Coventry and lived with his daughter and died there February 5, 1850, aged 94, and Rhoda, his wife, November 26, 1838, aged 80. His children were Russell, who married Fanny Mersereau, of Otego, and settled on the homestead farm, afterwards removing to Bainbridge, subsequently to the locality of Elmira, and finally dying in a poor-house; Heman, who married Cynthia, daughter of David Pollard, and settled on one-half the homestead farm of 396 acres (Russell taking the other half,) and afterwards removed to the Chemung River and died there; Lois, who married Clark Smith, of Coventry, where both she and her husband died, the latter, in a fit, October 8, 1864, aged 82; Lodema, a maiden lady, who died in Afton; Rhoda, who married Alpheus Wright, who, in 1823, in company with his brother Josiah, built the

Sullivan House in Afton, and kept it 15 to 20 years. Rhoda died in Afton. Her husband afterwards removed with his brother Josiah to the Chemung River and died there.* Thomas and Enos Cornwell were brothers. They settled on some 300 acres about one and one-half miles below Afton, on the east side of the river, which has since been cut up into several farms and divided among Thomas' heirs. Abel Cornwell, son of Thomas, is living on a part of the farm, and is the only one of his children living there. Thomas died on the place February 12, 1841, aged 71; and Anna, his wife, who was born February 3, 1783, died February 27, 1860. Enos was a bachelor. He deeded his farm to Samuel, Thomas' eldest son, to take care of him in his old age. He died July 27, 1843, aged 76. Samuel removed to Elmira several years ago.

Joab, Abner and Daniel Buck, brothers, came from England before the war of the Revolution. Joab settled at Canton, St. Lawrence county; Abner, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, to which county he gave his name; and Daniel, settled first in Danbury, Connecticut, and a few years previous to 1800 removed to Afton, and settled on the farm now occupied one-half of it by Robert Clark, and the other half by William Ives. Daniel was a Presbyterian minister and organized in 1802 the first church in the town. Daniel S. Buck, his son, came in with him, but afterwards removed to Sheshequin, Pennsylvania, where he died February 8, 1870, aged 87, but was brought here for interment. Anna, his first wife, died July 25th, 1835, aged 57, and Eunice, his second wife, October 9, 1851, aged 61. Three sons of Daniel S. are living, Noble, in Afton; Daniel S. H., in Greene; and Lyman, in Hooper, below Binghamton.

Daniel S. Buck was a noted hunter. He took 300 acres of land for which he paid with the bounties received for the destruction of wild animals, \$60 for each wolf and \$75 for each panther, of the latter of which he killed eleven in one year. He made hunting his business while game lasted and some seasons made more than his neighbors did at lumbering. While in Afton we spent an evening very pleasantly with his genial son Noble, who is now well advanced in years, listening to the recital of his father's adventures while on hunting expeditions; but two must suffice to illustrate his prowess. At one time, about 1811 or '12, he, in company with Robert Church, followed a panther to its lair, which was in a ledge of rocks, about five miles south of the village of Afton,

* We think it probable that Heth Kelsey, who died in Afton, July 3, 1846, aged 63, and whose wife Clarissa died January 20, 1852, at the same age, was a son of the one who died in Coventry, though none of the authorities consulted mention him in connection with the latter's children. He is probably the Heth Kelsey who kept tavern in the yellow building now occupied as a residence by Silas Fairchild in the village of Afton.

in the town of Sanford, in Broome county. The passageway to the den was about three feet high and two feet wide, and terminated at the distance of 24 feet in a cave about 20 by 30 feet and 11 feet high. His dog led the way into the den, and soon returned very weak from the loss of blood from a severe wound in the throat. Buck took from his neck a handkerchief and tied it around his dog's throat, and having stationed Church at the entrance of the cave with an ax in hand to assail the panther if it followed him out, he proceeded into the den himself with his rifle. He threaded the narrow passageway on his hands and knees. At its terminus there was a descent of some two feet to the floor of the cave, which was covered with leaves. There he halted, and on peering through the darkness discovered at the further side of the den the glaring eye-balls of the panther. He aimed between these orbs and fired, observing at the instant he did so a slight change in their position. After delivering his fire he backed out closely followed by the panther, which forced its head into his face, but owing to the closeness of the quarters was unable to hurt him. On reaching the outer terminus he discovered Church retreating in the distance, notwithstanding his cries to him to be prepared to assist him should the panther emerge from the opening. Having prevailed on Church to resume his post he re-entered the den, again took deliberate aim at the glaring eye-balls, and was again followed in his retreat by the infuriated beast. He entered the third time and noticed but one orb, the second shot having taken effect in the other. He aimed at the remaining one, fired and again backed out, this time without being pursued. His dog, though weak, was then sent into the cavern, and was followed by Buck, who, on reaching the further extremity of the entrance way, heard it lapping blood. He proceeded into the den on his hands and knees and had not proceeded far when his hand came in contact with the animal's head. This sent a cold shudder through him, but the panther was dead and was dragged from its den.

At another time, about 1815, while proceeding toward a deer he had chased through a thick brush, about two miles south of Afton, and shot, he discovered a huge panther standing upon the body of the prostrate deer, from the side of which he had torn a fragment of flesh. Without an instant's warning, the panther, as soon as it discovered him, leaped toward and within thirty feet of him. Quick almost as lightning, Buck raised his rifle, took aim between the eyes, and fired, and so nearly was the animal upon the point of making a second spring, that it half spanned the intervening distance, and, changing ends, fell dead. It measured eleven feet from the end of its nose to the tip of its tail, and was spotted with jet black spots

as large as a silver dollar, in this respect differing from the ordinary panther.

Daniel Hyde came in from Claverack, Columbia county, in 1801, and settled two and one-half miles north of Afton, at what is known as Ayrshire or North Afton, on the farm now occupied by Edward Wilkinson, where he died. His children were: Edward, who married Lydia, daughter of Nathan Bateman, and settled in the same locality, and who afterwards removed to Masonville and died there; Daniel, who married a woman named Graham, and settled in Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he died; Chauncey G., who married Lucretia, daughter of Amasa Newton, and settled and died near the old homestead; Elijah, who married Jemima, daughter of Amasa Newton, and also settled and died near the homestead; Sophia, who married a man named Martin, and removed with him to Paris, Canada, and died there; Polly, who married Leighton Joyce, and settled in Greene county, and died in Brooklyn; Cynthia, who married Dr. Archibald Welch, and settled and died in New Haven, Conn.; and Olive, who married Wells Newton, and settled in Bainbridge and died there. The grandchildren living in the county are: A. C. Hyde, only child of Chauncey G., a druggist in Afton; and Daniel A., Rosanna, wife of Jas. M. Olendorf, William E., Lodosca, wife of George Knight, Chauncey G., and Harriet, wife of Justus Carr, children of Elijah, also in Afton.

Judge Peter Betts came in as early as 1803 and settled at Bettsburgh, to which place he gave his name. He was a large land-holder, and opened there in 1805 the first store in the town, which he kept till his removal to Bainbridge, about 1820-'25, where he was also engaged in mercantile business. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1804-'5, again in 1808, and again in 1811. He was born in Norwalk, Conn., January 17, 1772, and died in Bainbridge, June 19, 1849. Eliza, his wife, died February 9, 1819, aged 40. His children were: Peter, Sally, who married a man named Kassam, Pamela, who married Robert Harper, Eliza, who married a man named Rathbun, all of whom are dead.

Cornelius Atherton came in from Pennsylvania in 1803 or '4. He was born in Cambridge, Mass., in 1736, and was the fourth in descent from Gen. Humphrey Atherton of Boston, from whom all the Athertons in America are descended. He married Mary Delano and with her removed to Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1763. He was a blacksmith by trade, and having discovered the process of converting iron into American steel, in 1772 he entered into a contract with the Messrs. Reed, merchants of that place, to superintend the erection of steel works, to be constructed by them, and to instruct their workmen in the art. The works were erected and were in successful

operation during the war of the Revolution. From Amenia he returned to Cambridge, where he superintended an armory belonging to John and Samuel Adams and John Hancock, which was burned by the British soldiers during the Revolutionary war. Thence, in 1775 or '6, he removed to Plymouth, Luzerne Co., Pa., where he worked at his trade. He was drafted at the time of the Wyoming massacre, but his place was filled by his eldest son, Jabez, who volunteered to become his substitute, and was accepted and mustered in. The youthful patriot fell in that sanguinary engagement and his name heads the list on the Wyoming monument. Atherton's wife, by whom he had seven children, died soon after the Wyoming massacre. He afterwards re-married and had seven children by his second wife. After his removal to Afton he continued to work at his trade till his death, December 4, 1809. Humphrey, his oldest son by his second wife, was a miller. He married a widow lady named Wicks, but had no children, and died in Afton, December 11, 1849, aged 62. Charles, his second son, was a blacksmith. He married a lady named Bramhall, with whom, a few years after, he removed to Friendship, Allegany Co., where he worked at his trade several years, till the death of his wife, when he sold his property and went with a friend to Emporium, Cameron Co., Pa., where he died May 13, 1869, aged 76. He had no children. Hiram, the third son, married Miss Lovina Sisson, of Plymouth, and followed his trade of wagon-maker a few years in Afton and subsequently for several years in Norwich, from whence he removed to Greene, and engaged in the cabinet business, which he pursued till his death, March 19, 1870, aged 73. They had five children, all of whom are dead, except one daughter, who is living with her mother in Norwich. William, the fourth son, was a shoemaker. He married Miss Jane E. Hamlin, by whom he had two children, both of whom died in infancy. They finally removed to Paterson, N. J., where both died, he August 2, 1879, aged 77. Cornelius, the youngest son, is still living in Afton. He has one son who is a telegraph operator on the Baltimore & Ohio R. R.

William Johnston, a Revolutionary soldier, came in from Hartwick, Otsego county, in 1807, and settled a half mile south of Bettsburgh, on the farm now occupied by Devillo Dutton. He took up 50 acres in Broome county, on the line of Afton, and bought about one and one-half acres in Afton, the title to which proved defective. He subsequently purchased it of Asa Stowel. He afterwards removed to the town of Sanford, in Broome county, where he died February 10, 1843, aged 91, and Deborah, his wife, April 14, 1843, aged 81. He had six children, only one of whom is now living, Levi, in Afton, aged 77.

John Johnston, brother of William, also a Revolutionary soldier, came in from Montgomery county two or three years later, and settled about half a mile south of Bettsburgh, on the place now occupied by Ira Woodruff, where he and his son Samuel started a tannery and carried on the shoe business, and where he died. His children were: John S., William, Nathaniel, Nancy, Persis, Henry and Betsey, all of whom came in with him, and all of whom are dead. Nancy married Joshua Crosby, and Betsey, Whittington Sayre. Enos M. Johnston, a banker and merchant in Afton, but a resident of Bettsburgh, is a grandson of John and son of Henry Johnston, the latter of whom was a lumber dealer, speculator and oil stock dealer, and acquired considerable wealth. Andrew Johnston, a farmer in Afton, is also a son of Henry's, and these are the only two of his children living in the town. Several of William's grandchildren are living in the town, among them Lydia, wife of Jonathan Farnsworth. Samuel Johnston, brother of William and John, also from Montgomery county, came in a few years later, and has numerous descendants living in the town. He died December 1, 1830, aged 68. Nathaniel, a bachelor brother, and Mary and Christiana, maiden sisters of William Johnston, came in with him and lived with him till their death.

Oliver Easton came in from Wilmington, Vt., in 1809, and settled on Long Hill, where Matthew Long, from Vermont, with a large family of grown-up children, was the first settler at an early day. Easton settled on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Henry Devillo Easton, about three miles north-west of Afton. He leased 60 acres of gospel lands, which he occupied till his death December 11, 1839, aged 74. Delight, his wife, died January 5, 1860, aged 86. He carried on farming and lumbering, mostly the latter. His children were eleven in number: Chauncey, who married Lucinda, daughter of Taft Pollard, (an early settler from Vermont, on the farm now occupied by Hiram Landers,) and settled and died at Ayrshire; Ebenezer N., who studied for the ministry and removed to Andover, Mass., where he married when well advanced in years and died; Jesse C., who married Irene, daughter of Seth Stone, and settled in the village of Afton, on the east side of the river, where Fayette Benton now lives, and who afterwards removed to Wellsville, N. Y., where he now resides, aged 80; Louisa, who married Stephen Williams, and settled in the south-west part of the town, and afterwards removed to Coventry, where she died; Lester, who married Asenath, daughter of Luke Nichols, and settled and died on the homestead, where Devillo Easton now lives; Lucretia, who married Heman B. Smith, for several years a merchant in Afton village, where she still resides; Rufus, who

married Prudence DeWolf, and settled in Windom, Pa., and died in Afton while on a visit, September 10, 1845, aged 37; Riley, who was born in 1809, married Betsey, daughter of Nathan Bateman, who settled in Windom, Pa., and after fifteen years returned to Afton, where he and his wife still reside; Abby Ann, who married S. C. Bump, and settled in Afton, about two miles north-west of the village, and afterwards removed to the edge of the village, where, about 1846, her husband rebuilt the grist-mill erected several years previously by his father, and where she died, her husband subsequently remarrying and is now living in Baltimore; Elijah, who married Jerusha, widow of James Nichols, settled in Wisconsin, and is now post-master at Winona, Minn.; Cynthia M., who married J. C. Flagg, a wagon-maker in Afton village, where she died.

Other early settlers were William Bateman, Aaron Slade, Joseph Peck, Levi Pratt, Silas Wright and Moses Hinman. William Bateman came from the New England States and settled at Ayrshire, on the farm until recently occupied by his grandson Henry Bateman, where he died. He was an Irishman and a Revolutionary soldier in the American army. His sons were Nathan, who married Dolly, daughter of Samuel Nichols, who settled at Ayrshire, opposite his father, and died there; and David, who married Margaret Campbell and settled in Bainbridge. After the death of his wife he went to live with his daughter in Masonville. He died June 7, 1866, aged 89, and his wife, September 5, 1862, aged 75. Aaron Slade was from Vermont. He too settled at Ayrshire and died there. Among his children was Aaron, who went to Buffalo with the Mormons when *en route* for Nauvoo, but returned and settled on the Chemung. He had a grandson also named Aaron. Joseph Peck settled about a mile below Afton, on the east side of the river, where Hezekiah Medbury now lives, and died there. His children were Joseph, who lived and died at Ayrshire; John, who lived in the south part of the town, where Abel Stowel now lives, and afterwards removed to Lisle; Ezekiel, who married Electa Buck, and after living some years in the town joined the Mormons; Noah, who was a bachelor; and Benjamin, who married Phebe Crosby, and lived and died on the homestead farm April 30th, 1829, aged 41. Levi Pratt came in from the New England States and settled near the Pond which bears his name, on the farm now owned by Joshua Hallett, where he died March 3, 1846, aged 81, and his wife, Sarah, August 11, 1858, aged 92. Silas Wright came in from Vermont and settled on the site of the village of Afton. He bought of David Church, who came in shortly previous and was dissatisfied with the quality of the land, a plank house which the latter had erected on the site of Dr.

James B. Cook's residence, and lived there till his death, May 27, 1827, aged 75. He was a farmer and lumberman. His sons were Alpheus and Josiah, the former of whom married Sophia Mersereau of Otego, and the latter Rhoda, daughter of Heth Kelsey, and who jointly built and kept for several years the Sullivan House in the village of Afton. Both subsequently removed to the Chemung River country and died there. He had one daughter, who married a man named Kelley, who is also dead. Moses Hinman settled about one and one-half miles above Afton, on the east side of the river, on the farm known as the Carpenter farm. He was a wheelwright and worked at his trade. He died July 22, 1872, aged 81. None of his children are living. Harvey, John, Seth and Pliny, who live in the south part of the town are grandsons of his.

TOWN OFFICERS.

The officers elected March 2, 1858, were as follows: Daniel A. Carpenter, Supervisor; Edgar Garret, Clerk; Hiram Willey and Morris J. Madge, Justices; William Corbin,* Robert M. Littlefield and Jackson W. Poole, Assessors; Albert Pratt, Commissioner of Highways; Thomas Yale and George F. Hard, Overseers of the Poor; Eli M. Shay, Collector; Luman C. Pollard, William Corbin and James Poole, Railroad Commissioners; † Whitcomb Broad, Harvey A. Wakeman, Wilson Landers ‡ and Reuben Dean, Constables; James Poole and J. Dwight Chaffee, Inspectors of Election.

Following is the succession of Supervisors and Clerks from the organization of the town:—

	SUPERVISORS.	CLERKS.
1858-9.	Daniel A. Carpenter.	Edgar Garret.
1860.	Charles W. Griswold.	Lewis Post.
1861.	Jonathan Farnsworth.	Alonzo L. Farnam.
1862.	Joseph B. Chaffee.	Geo. M. Champlin.
1863-4.	James B. Cook.	do.
1865.	Jonathan Farnsworth.	do.
1866-7.	Edgar Garret.	do.
1868.	Jonathan Farnsworth.	do.
1869.	Erastus Fisher.	do.
1870.	Presson R. Peck.	do.
1871.	Horace C. Chamberlin.	do.
1872.	Robert M. Littlefield.	John C. Chamberlin.
1873.	John C. Chamberlin.	Henry G. Carr.
1874-7.	do.	Martin D. Howard.
1878-9.	Eli M. Shay.	Marshall G. Hill.

The following list of the officers of the town of Afton, for the year 1880-'81, was kindly furnished by Charles W. Spencer:—

Supervisor—Eli M. Shay.
Clerk—Charles W. Spencer.

* William Corbin did not qualify and John Carr was appointed in his place March 16, 1858.

† Before the division of the town, Bainbridge had issued bonds for \$60,000 in aid of the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad, and \$30,000 of this was assigned to Afton as her share of the indebtedness.

‡ Wilson Landers did not qualify and Potter Thomas was appointed in his place March 16, 1858.

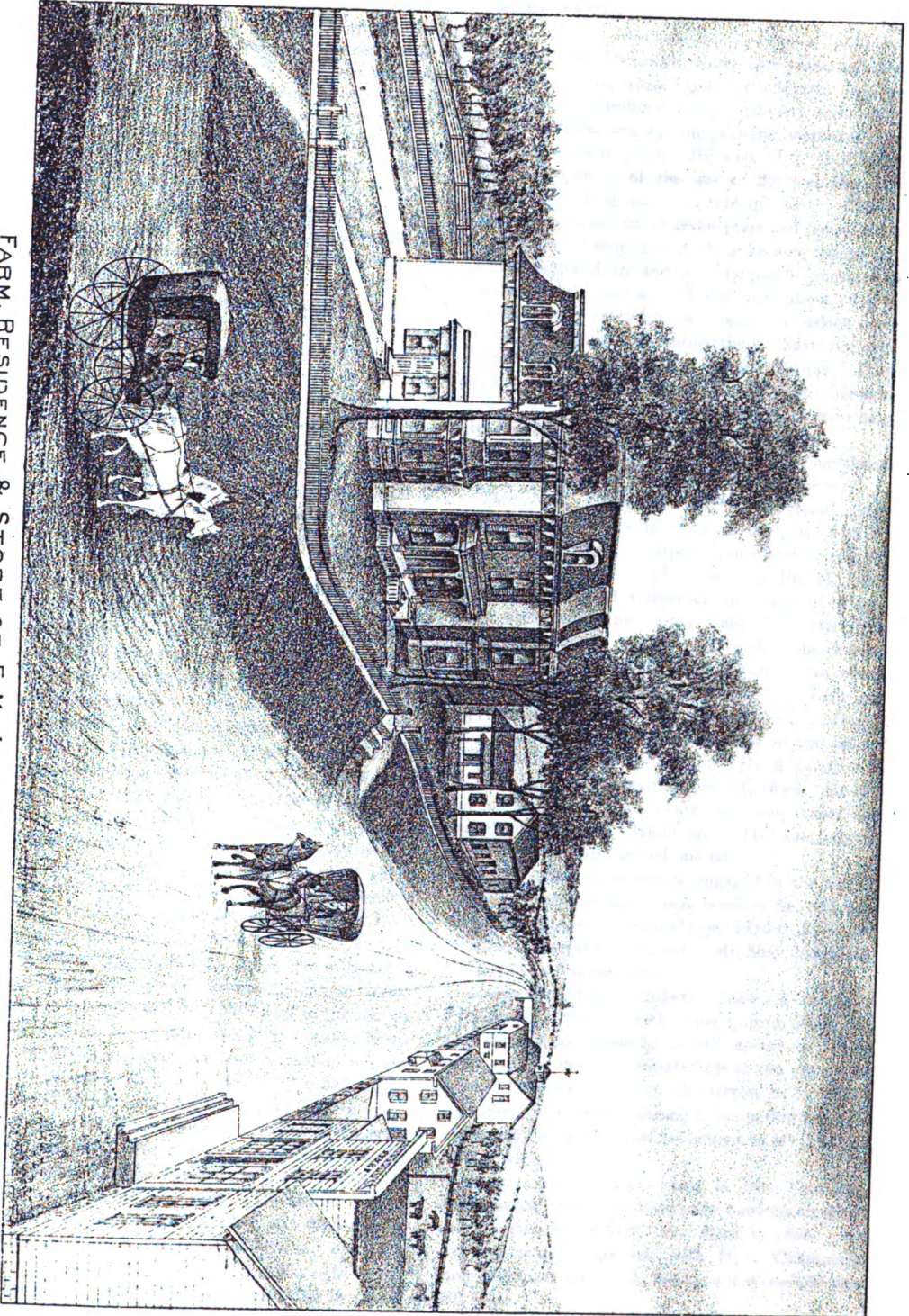
Justices—Oliver N. Swift, Reid Peck, Elijah R. Snell and L. E. Jackson.
Assessors—Warren Dutton, Lucius Hunt and John Hinman.
Commissioner of Highways—George Clapper.
Overseers of the Poor—Isaiah Snell and Harry Hull.
Collector—John Skelley.
Town Auditors—Cornelius Atherton, Samuel Weeks and Morris J. Madge.
Game Constable—Samuel Jamison.
Constables—Justus H. Carr, Norman Hall, John Hoyt, Eri W. Lingle.
Inspectors of Election—Hiram Cornwell, Orlando Coss, George M. Champlin.
Sealer of Weights and Measures—E. Fairchild.
Excise Commissioners—Edward V. St. John, J. B. Mayhew and Abijah Carrington.

AFTON VILLAGE.

AFTON is situated on the Susquehanna River, near the center of the town, and on the Albany & Susquehanna R. R., by which it is distant 28 miles from Binghamton and 114 from Albany. It lies mostly upon the west side of the river, and principally along the street running parallel with it. The hills which bound the valley upon the east side are somewhat precipitous and largely covered with primitive forest or second-growth timber; while upon the west they are more rolling and susceptible of cultivation.

It contains five churches, (Baptist, Episcopal, M. E., Universalist and Presbyterian,) a Union school, with academic department, three hotels, a newspaper office, (*Afton Home Sentinel*, John F. Seaman, publisher,) a private bank (Enos M. Johnston & Co.,) a flouring and grist-mill, a saw-mill, a sash and blind factory, two wagon shops (kept by L. E. Jackson and W. E. Fleming,) three blacksmith shops (kept by H. M. Swift, O. E. Sackett, Jr., and Wm. R. Herkimer and Allen Estabrooks,) four shoe shops (kept by W. A. Piper, J. R. Brown,—— Randall and Eli Christian,) two manufactories of butter tubs and firkins, one harness shop (kept by R. E. Smith,) thirteen stores of various kinds, and a population of 700. The village is growing very rapidly.

The Susquehanna is spanned in the upper part of the village by a suspension bridge, which is one of the finest structures of its kind in the State, and is at once an ornament to the village and a credit to the enterprise of the people. The bridge has a main span of 362 feet and an approach span upon the east side of 74 feet. It is supported by six cables 558 feet in length, each composed of 132 wires. They are double anchored, and were manufactured at Trenton, N. J. The height of the towers is 36 feet, and the arch of the bridge 4 feet. The suspending rods are five-eighths of an inch in diameter, attached to needle beams four feet apart. The roadway is 16 feet wide,



FARM, RESIDENCE & STORE OF E. M. JOHNSTON, AFTON, N. Y.

and a railing four and one-half feet high, extends the whole length. The weight of the bridge is 100 tons, and the supporting weight 240 tons. It was built in 1868, at a cost of \$15,000. The contractors were G. W. & J. V. V. Fishler, of Wellsburgh, Chemung county, N. Y., and James Crowell, the master-builder. A meeting was held on the evening of April 1st, 1868, in the village of Afton, and a bill authorized to be drawn for a charter for its construction, and A. C. Hyde, Thomas Landers and H. R. Caswell were appointed a commission to supervise the work. To pay for the bridge the town issued its bonds for \$12,000, \$2,000 of which was to be paid in February, 1869, and the remainder in annual installments of \$2,000 each.

Soon after the close of the war a beautiful covered bridge which spanned the Susquehanna within this village was lifted from its piers and dashed to pieces by a fearful tornado, leaving the town with nothing but a scow to cross the stream. The bridge company by duplicating their stock, erected another in its place, quite inferior and unsafe from the first. After standing about 18 months, "a reproach to the builder and a disappointment to the company, as well as constantly threatening peril to the public," it was carried off by an ice floe. The bridge company then proposed to surrender their franchise to the town, on condition that a good, substantial, free bridge be erected, and this action resulted in the present noble structure.*

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants in Afton were probably Sayres Burgess and Isaac Miner, who did business during the war of 1812 and a few years afterwards in a frame building which stood on the site of the store now occupied by Harris Briggs. Burgess lived and died in the town. His death occurred January 7, 1832, aged 35. Miner, in company with David Cooper built on Kelsey Creek, about 1809, the first saw-mill in the town. There has been a mill there ever since. The old mud-sills are still in use. The mill is about one-fourth mile above the village and some seventy rods above the mouth of the creek. The water is conducted from the creek to the mill by means of a race about forty rods long. Albert Neely did business some three or four years and left the town at an early day. Hiram Long, a native and resident of the town till his death, February 9, 1844, at the age of 45, did business some six or seven years from about 1825. He afterwards, about forty years ago, built the Musson House, which was kept by his brother Lewis some ten years. Heman B. Smith, who was born September 11, 1803, and died August 28, 1858, came from Delaware county and opened a store about 1828 or '9, and kept it some eight or ten years, when he failed. He was succeeded by David

Loveland, who continued about two years, and died here August 20, 1842, aged 63. Murrin Jackson came from Butternuts, Otsego county, soon after Loveland failed, and was the principal merchant here for a good many years. He sold to J. B. Chaffee about the opening of the war of the Rebellion and removed to Binghamton, where he died. Chaffee did business some six or seven years and failed, when he removed to Binghamton where he now resides.

Whittington Sayre and — Goodsell commenced business on the east side of the river about 1815 or '16 and continued some two years. Goodsell came from Cooperstown and returned there. Sayre removed to Elmira and engaged in the lumber business. Their store stood a little above where Stanton Donaghe now lives. They are the only merchants who have done business on the east side of the river.

Following is an account of the present merchants and those who have been associated with them:—

Daniel A. Carpenter, general merchant, commenced business here in 1854, in company with his brother-in-law, Daniel Carpenter, to whom he sold his interest in 1857. In 1859, he and Eli M. Shay bought out Daniel Carpenter, to whom they sold again at the expiration of five years. The latter continued about three years, a part of the time in company with his son-in-law, James Collins, with whom two or three years later he removed to Bath and afterwards to Addison, where they now reside. Daniel A. Carpenter recommenced business in the fall of 1869, and has since continued it. He is a native of Afton, where he was born August 13, 1820. He is a son of Benjamin S. Carpenter, an early settler and prominent man in Bainbridge. He was elected Sheriff in 1864, and served one term.

Eli M. Shay subsequently engaged in the sale of groceries and clothing, which business he still continues, having been associated from 1876 to February, 1878, with Norval W. Fletcher. Mr. Shay came from Colesville, in Broome county.

George B. Hickox, hardware dealer, a native of Gilbertsville, Otsego county, came in from Sherburne and commenced business in the spring of 1865. After one year he was associated about two years with Robert Paddock, who sold his interest to B. Frank Williams. The latter remained a like period and sold to Charles Fisher, who sold his interest to Mr. Hickox, April 1, 1879.

Harris Briggs, grocer, came in from Coventry, where he had carried on mercantile business six years, and commenced business here April 1, 1866. He was associated as partner with H. S. Chamberlin three years, and with C. L. Seeley about one and one-half years.

R. N. Gallup, came from Walton, Delaware county,

* From Rev. E. T. Jacob's article on "The Rise and Present of Afton."

in the spring of 1866, and commenced the hardware business. In March, 1877, he sold to his son, *Russell Gallup*, who still carries on the business, having been associated the first six months with Robert Beach, the second six months with Porter G. Northrup, and the succeeding two years with Robert Yale.

Charles Hill, grocer, came from Meredith, Delaware county, and commenced business in December, 1868.

Albert C. Hyde, druggist, who is a native of Afton, commenced business in the early part of 1869, in company with Joseph Angell, under the name of Angell & Hyde, and bought his partner's interest at the expiration of five years.

Martin D. Howard, furniture dealer and undertaker, commenced business December 29, 1869. He came from Hartford, Conn., where he was engaged in the manufacture of locks.

Enos M. Johnston & Sons. In the spring of 1875, Enos M. Johnston, Hiram Cornell and H. B. Johnston, commenced a general merchandise business, under the name of Johnston, Cornell & Co. In the spring of 1878, E. M. Johnston bought Cornell's interest and admitted to partnership another son, E. C. Johnston, and the business has since been conducted under the name of Enos M. Johnston & Sons.

Joseph A. Decker, grocer, commenced business in August, 1877. He is a native of the town.

Henry G. Carr, druggist, commenced business in October, 1877. He is a native of the town. He bought out T. L. Willey, who had done business some three years.

H. J. Fox, general merchant, commenced business April 1, 1878. He came from Binghamton, where he had done business nearly four years.

Mrs. A. L. Welch, milliner and fancy goods dealer, came from Worcester, Otsego county, and commenced business in March, 1879.

POSTMASTERS.—Previous to the division of the town of Bainbridge, the village and post-office at Afton were known as *South Bainbridge*. The first postmaster was probably Albert Neely or Joseph P. Chamberlin, at least fifty years ago. Josiah Wright succeeded Chamberlin about 1830. Next was Zaccheus Smith, who came here from Delaware county and kept hotel in the Sullivan House. He held the office till about 1840, and was succeeded by Murlin Jackson. Cornelius Ather-ton was appointed about 1855 or '6, and was followed in 1861 by Lewis Post, who held it till his death February 12, 1863, aged 54, when Daniel A. Carpenter was appointed. Carpenter was succeeded in a short time by E. M. Shay, who held the office till June 23, 1877, when Theodore L. Willey, the present incumbent, was appointed.*

* We have been utterly unable to procure a satisfactory list of the postmasters at Afton. The above is as complete and accurate as the best available authorities could make it.

PHYSICIANS.—William Knapp, who lives at Bainbridge, is believed to have been the first physician who practiced in this locality. He removed to Elmira. Dr. Nathan Boynton, who was located at Bettsburgh, and Drs. Starkey and Root, who studied with Boynton, and the latter of whom practiced in company with him at Bettsburgh, practiced here at an early day. They all removed to Elmira.

Abraham Benton, brother of Orange Benton, studied medicine with Dr. Boynton at Bettsburgh and settled in the village on the east side of the river, where he practiced several years nearly fifty years ago. He was a noted temperance man. He sold out in 1837 to Elam Bartlett and removed to Illinois. Dr. Bartlett practiced some ten years, when he bought a small farm in the town of Colesville, on which he died, January 9, 1862, aged 53. Herschel D. Spencer, M. D., came in from Lisle, his native place, and bought out Dr. Bartlett. He practiced here till his death July 27, 1857, aged 33. Dr. Koon, who came from Mt. Upton, succeeded Spencer, and remained about three years.

The present physicians are James B. Cook, Philetus A. Hayes and George Bissell.

James B. Cook, was born in Harwinton, Litchfield Co., Conn., July 20, 1817, and studied medicine in Oswego, N. Y., with Drs. Gardner and Brown, with whom he remained a little over two years. He next pursued his studies for one year with Dr. Frank Hine, in Franklin, Delaware county. He attended courses of lectures at the Fairfield Medical School in 1838 and '9, and in 1840 he attended a course of lectures at the Albany Medical Institute, where he was graduated in Feb'y, 1841. He commenced practice the latter year in Hobart, Delaware county, and removed thence in January, 1842, to Afton, where he is still practicing.

Philetus A. Hayes was born in Castle Creek, Broome county, September 10, 1848. He commenced the study of medicine in his native place with Dr. S. P. Allen, with whom he remained two years, one year before entering college and one between terms. He entered Geneva Medical College in the fall of 1868, and was graduated January 27, 1870. He commenced practice at Killawog, Broome county, immediately after graduating, and a year afterwards he removed to Afton, where he has since practiced.

George Bissell came from Valcour Island, Clinton county, N. Y., in the spring of 1877, and practiced a few months, till about the 1st of December, when he returned to Clinton county. He again came in the fall of 1878 and has since practiced here.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer in Afton was probably George Smith, who was here in 1830. He came in a young, single man and married a daughter of Henry Olendorf. He practiced here several years and re-

moved to Norwich, where he died. He was the only lawyer of any note who located here until the present ones came in.

The present lawyers are Jacob B. Kirkhuff, George A. Haven and Josiah D. Merritt.

Jacob B. Kirkhuff was born in Stanhope, N. J., September 12, 1836. He read law in Red Creek, N. Y., with Jacob B. Decker, with whom he remained six months. He entered the Albany Law School March 7, 1861, and was admitted on examination in November of that year. He commenced practice in Red Creek the same year and after six months removed to Savannah, in the same county. After two years spent west, in 1870, he located in Afton, where he has since practiced, since the spring of 1879 in company with Josiah D. Merritt. He has been a notary public since 1873.

George A. Haven was born in Pitcher, N. Y., October 1, 1844, and read law in Oxford with Hon. Solomon Bundy. He entered the Albany Law School in September, 1872, and was graduated May 17, 1873, having been admitted a month or two previously at a general term. He commenced practice in Oxford in 1873, and removed to Pitcher in 1875, and from there in April, 1878, to Afton.

Josiah D. Merritt was born in Bainbridge, September 24, 1852, and commenced the study of law at Chicago, Ill., in the Law Department of Chicago University. He subsequently pursued his legal studies in the North-Western University, from which he was graduated June 9, 1877. During his second college year he also read law in the office of Bage, Denslow & Dixon, of Chicago. He was admitted June 13, 1877, and commenced practice in Racine, Wis., where he remained about a year, when he removed to Hampshire, Ill. He removed thence after about eight months to Afton and formed a law partnership with Jacob B. Kirkhuff, which still continues.

BANKS.—The first bank in Afton was established in the winter of 1875, by Carver & Crassaus, who did business only one winter, in the building now occupied as a saloon by Brower & Hunt. They were from Bainbridge and continued their residence there.

E. M. Johnston & Co.'s Bank (private,) located in Willey's Block, was established Jan. 1, 1876, by Enos M. Johnston and Devillo C. Church.

MANUFACTURES.—The grist and flouring-mill is located one-fourth mile north-west of the village, and is owned by Asa Pixley. The saw-mill is located about one-fourth mile up the river, on Kelsey Brook, about seventy rods above its mouth, and is owned by George Landers. It was originally built about 1809, and the mud-sills in the present building are the same as were used in the construction of the first. The water from the creek is conducted to the mill by a race about forty rods long.

Wright & Hinman's sash and blind factory was built in the fall of 1869 by Addison Brewer and Wm. A. Wright, who did business a little over four years, about half the time in company with J. B. Pierce, when Brewer sold his interest to the remaining partners, who, in 1875, admitted Harvey Hinman to partnership. In September, 1878, Pierce sold his interest to Wright and Hinman, who have since conducted the business. They employ from six to eight men in the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, moldings, brackets and scroll work. The machinery is propelled by a sixteen-horse-power engine; which also furnishes power for the establishment of John B. Pierce, who gives employment to six men in the manufacture of butter tubs, pails and firkins in the same building.

HOTELS.—Cook's Hotel was opened in December, 1878, by Nathaniel M. Cook, the present proprietor, who in that year converted it to its present use from a saloon, which he had kept there since 1872.

The Central House is owned by Richard Munson and kept by Miles Parsons, who became the proprietor in April, 1879.

The Sullivan House was built about fifty-six years ago by Josiah and Alfred Wright, brothers, and is now owned by Erastus Sullivan, who has kept it since March 10, 1869. He came here from Oneonta, his native place, in 1845. A hotel which stood on the site of James Nickerson's residence was previously kept by Madison Slater.

The Union Free School District No. 12, of the town of Afton, was formed a joint district August 8, 1874, by consolidating districts numbers 5 and 12, under authority of D. G. Barber, School Commissioner of the Second School District of Chenango county, given July 8, 1874. The number of persons in the district at the time of its formation qualified to vote was 184.

The first school meeting in the new district was held at the Union school-house in district number 12, Sept. 25, 1874. R. M. Gallup was chosen Chairman, and Thomas Covert, Clerk. D. A. Carpenter, Thomas Covert and D. C. Church were elected trustees; G. M. Champlin, Clerk; and Deloss Lyon, Collector.

At a special school meeting held in the new school-house of District No. 12, Oct. 6, 1874, at which time there were 200 persons qualified to vote, it was decided to establish a Union Free School within the limits of that district, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 555, of the laws of 1864, and the amendments thereto, and the following named trustees were elected:—Edgar Garret to serve for three years; Thomas Covert for two years; and G. M. Champlin for one year.

The trustees met as a Board of Education, Oct. 7,

1874, and organized by the election of Edgar Garret, Chairman, and G. M. Champlin, Clerk. The Board appointed Deloss Lyon, Collector, and George Hickox, Treasurer, but the latter refusing to serve, Eli M. Shay was appointed Treasurer Oct. 12, 1874.

G. M. Champlin was re-elected trustee in 1875, and Thomas Covert in 1876. In 1877, D. A. Carpenter was elected trustee in place of Edgar Garret; and in 1878, Amos D. Caswell was elected in place of G. M. Champlin. The Board at present (1879) consists of D. A. Carpenter, President, A. D. Caswell, Clerk, and Thomas Covert, Trustees; Eli M. Shay, Treasurer; and Joel Gillett, Collector.

January 2, 1875, the school-house and lot in what was formerly known as District No. 5, on the east side of the river, was sold at public auction to Harvey Church for \$280.

The following amounts have been appropriated for school purposes:—In 1874, \$1,393; in 1875, \$1,366; in 1876, \$1,555; in 1877, \$1,650; and in 1878, \$1,630.

The school building is constructed of wood. It consists of a main part 28 by 56 feet, two stories high, and a wing 28 by 40 feet, also two stories. It is kept in good condition, well ventilated and clean, and is supplied with patent iron standard folding seats. It contains three school rooms, one recitation room, with good black-boards extending on all sides of each room, two cloak rooms and a library room.

The present estimated value of building is.	\$4,000 00
“ “ “ lot is.	1,100 00
The Academy library contains 314 volumes, valued at.	200 00
The Philosophic Apparatus (original cost) is valued at.	173 00

Total value of school property is.	\$5,473 00
Revenues and expenditures during the year 1878:—	
Received from tuition.	\$ 192 45
“ “ Regents.	82 36
“ “ Common Sch'l	
Fund.	558 85
Received from local tax.	1,602 42
“ “ Gospel and Literature Fund.	47 87
	<hr/>
	\$2,483 95

Paid for salaries of teachers.	\$1,949 90
Paid for repairs of building and other property.	510 27
Paid for apparatus (Globe).	5 00
Excess of expenses over expenditures.	18 78—\$2,483 95

The teachers in 1878 were James M. Sprague, principal, and Mary E. Littlefield, assistant.

The whole number of scholars taught during the year ending August 29, 1878, was 95; of whom 39 were males and 56 females. Their average age was 15 5-10 years.

The number of academic students June 29, 1878, or enrolled during part of the year ending that day, who pursued for four months or more of that year classical studies, or the higher branches of English education, was 34; of whom 13 were males, and 21 females. The average age of the males was 17 3-10 years; and that of the females, 17 years. The number of scholars pursuing classical studies during the year was 11, 8 males and 3 females. The number preparing for college in that year was 2.

Rates of tuition—Common English studies, \$18.00; mathematical and higher English, \$24.00; classical, including the preceding, \$30.00.

CHURCHES.—The first church in the town was of the Presbyterian order. It was organized in 1802, by Rev. Daniel Buck, who was the first pastor, in the log school-house, which stood on the east bank of the river, within the limits of the present village of Afton, and was the first school-house in the town. That church disbanded about forty years ago, but is perpetuated in a measure by the Presbyterian Church of Nineveh, which was organized in 1831, largely by members from this. Many of the members of this church had united with the Universalists, who were a numerous and influential organization at an early day, and with whom the Presbyterians were associated in the building of the Universalist Church, which was erected in 1818, and is the only one of the churches in the village on the east side of the river.

The Baptist Church of Afton was organized as the South Bainbridge Baptist Church. At a meeting of a number of members of several Baptist Churches, at the house of Moses Caswell, Friday, January 15, 1836, to take into consideration the propriety of locating a church of this denomination in “South Bainbridge,” articles of faith and practice were agreed upon and it was unanimously resolved to request a council of examination to convene at the house of Isaac Seely, February 17, 1836, to admit them to fellowship as a church. Rev. E. B. Sparks was delegated to invite delegations for that purpose from the Second Church in Guilford, the churches in Coventry, Masonville, South New Berlin and the Second Church in Butter-nuts, and to request the attendance of Rev. Aaron Parker.

The council convened at the appointed time and organized by choosing Rev. E. B. Sparks moderator, and Rev. H. Robertson clerk. Delegates were in attendance as follows:—Jesse Skinner, Wm. Mudge, Samuel B. Covey and Peter Surine, from the First Church in Guilford; Rev. E. B. Sparks, Elon Yale, Asa Jordan, Martin Post and Uriah Yale, from the Second Church in Guilford; Deacon Luman King, from the Church in South New Berlin; E. Porter, L. Hendrick and George Smith, from the Church in

Coventry; Rev. H. Robertson, Deacon A. Cady, P. Bennett and L. Chandler, from the Church in Masonville.

The following communication was addressed "To the Brethren of the Council to be convened at the house of Isaac Seely, in Bainbridge, on the 17th of February, 1836:"—

"*Dear Brethren*—We, the undersigned, believing it to be the duty of all who profess godliness to do all that is in their power to promote the interest of the Redeemer's kingdom in the world, and being desirous to promote it in the south part of Bainbridge, where Satan's seat has been of long standing, and we being located so that we cannot enjoy privileges of church fellowship, humbly ask you to take into consideration our situation and the blessed cause of Christ and if expedient give us your fellowship as a Church of Christ, for which your brethren and sisters do humbly pray."

The council decided to extend the hand of fellowship, and Rev. H. Robertson was delegated to preach the following day, and Rev. E. B. Sparks to present the hand of fellowship and address the church. The following named persons were thus constituted a church:—Eli Seeley, Seth Seeley, Garrit Dedrick, Savilian Thomas, Charles Toby, Moses Caswell, Eunice Seeley, Nancy Dedrick, Phebe Smith, Caroline Thomas, Nancy Tobey, Abigail Caswell, Bernetty Woodard, Lydia Night and Elizabeth Woodard.

The church petitioned to unite with the Chenango Association July 16, 1836.

Their first pastor was Rev. E. B. Sparks, who closed his labors with them in April, 1838. He was succeeded the following May by Rev. Mr. Crane, who remained two years. November 28, 1840, a call was given Rev. Jeremy H. D. Dwyre, who was voted a letter of dismission October 20, 1841.

The church was probably built in 1841, for July 11th of that year the records show that action was taken relative to finishing it and procuring a bell.

The next pastor whose name appears on the records is Rev. Daniel M. Root, who entered upon his labors March 5, 1842, and was granted a letter of dismission May 6, 1843. Rev. Levi Peck commenced his pastoral labors the third Sunday in May, 1843, and was dismissed in April, 1846. Rev. Lewis Robinson assumed the pastoral relation in May, 1846, and was ordained the last Thursday in August of that year. His resignation was accepted September 30, 1848. Rev. A. Virgil entered upon the duties of pastor February 24, 1849, and received a call April 1, 1849. He was granted a letter of dismission May 19, 1850.

July 14, 1849, the church adopted the declaration of faith and covenant recommended by the New Hampshire Convention.

The church seems to have been for some time without a regular pastor. They were ministered to at

intervals by Revs. A. Virgil and Martin. October 12, 1852, a call was given to Rev. J. W. Vanhorn, who entered upon his labors and united with the church Nov. 1, 1852. He was voted a letter of dismission September 3, 1853. Geo. Balcom, who was received to fellowship March 5, 1854, was ordained to the ministry October 4, 1854, and officiated as pastor till April 1, 1856. From that time till July 1, 1856, there was no stated preaching, and the meetings and records were much neglected. About the latter date Elijah Baldwin commenced preaching once in two weeks, and from the 1st of November of that year each week. April 1, 1857, his services were engaged for a year. He and his wife were received from the Unadilla church. His resignation was accepted March 2, 1859; but he seems to have been re-engaged, for it was again accepted March 10, 1860. During the first year of his pastorate, August 30, 1857, the church had a membership of 91. Rev. G. G. Donnelly appears to have been the next pastor, but just when his labors were begun or ended, the records do not conclusively show. He was admitted to church fellowship September 1, 1860, and officiated here as late as April 5, 1862.

Rev. G. A. Hogeboom commenced his labors November 1, 1862, and continued them about five months. Rev. A. R. Hamlin closed a two years' acceptable pastorate the first Sabbath in April, 1865. There was no preaching for several weeks following. Rev. E. Baldwin, then in poor health, commenced preaching one sermon each Sabbath, and continued, with some interruptions, until March following. Rev. E. T. Jacobs commenced his labors with this church in the early part of March, 1866, and continued them till February, 1870. Rev. J. A. Ball, from Laceyville, became the pastor about the middle of April, 1870, and closed his labors in February, 1871.

March 9, 1871, it was "Resolved, That we have no fellowship with secret societies founded on oaths and death penalties, and will not receive such into our fellowship, nor continue fellowship with such as are in our midst, or may become such." Eight votes were cast in favor of and four against the resolution. This action was rescinded March 23, 1871, at a meeting at which 35 were present, with but two dissenting voices.

Rev. John Smith commenced ministerial labor with this church March 16, 1871, and received a call to the pastorate March 23, 1871. He closed his labors April 1, 1873. Rev. Jenkins Jones, the present pastor, (July 4, 1879,) assumed that relation April 5, 1874, the pulpit having been supplied the preceding fall and winter by Rev. Mr. Martin, who closed his labors April 1, 1874.

The church was repaired in 1875 at a cost of about

\$400. The present (July 4, 1879,) number of members is 101.

St. Ann's Church (Episcopal) of *Afton*—Occasional church services were held here from quite an early period, of which no very accurate record can now be obtained. Episcopal services were conducted as early as 1793, by Rev. Joseph Badger, at Harpersville, but a few miles distant, in the north edge of Broome county, and *St. Luke's Church* of that village was organized April 15, 1799, by Rev. (afterwards Bishop) Philander Chase, who was its first pastor. It is presumed that these ministrations extended occasionally to this locality, though there is no record of the fact. The Rev. N. M. Adams, of Unadilla, preached here once certainly prior to 1838. Rt. Rev. W. N. DeLancey, D. D., first Bishop of Western New York, officiated here twice, once in the Baptist and once in the Universalist meeting-house, in the years 1840 and '42. The first attempt at regular services was made by Rev. W. E. Eigenbrodt, D. D., who, in 1838, the first year of his ministry in *St. Peter's Church*, Bainbridge, commenced services, which he continued during the four years of his rectorship at Bainbridge, generally in the afternoon, at 5 or 6 o'clock, after the full services at Bainbridge, occasionally, but rarely, by candle-light. The services were held in the old school-house, a forlorn and rickety building, and were entirely gratuitous.

Mr. Eigenbrodt, in writing of these services, January 28, 1860, in answer to inquiries made on the subject, says:—

"I rode down sometimes with one, sometimes with another of the congregation, [of Bainbridge,] generally with Colonel Juliard; and Captain Newton would often go to give us his valuable aid in the music. I always used the church service in full in the school-house. Mrs. Damaras Garrett lived near it; and there I was often refreshed and put on my gown. Sometimes I went on horseback. Mrs. Garrett was a good woman and deserves to be remembered. I always thought that, generally beloved as she was for her goodness and resorted to for her intelligence, she was the light that was eventually to drive off the thick darkness of the neighborhood. For I do think there were few spots in a civilized State, less favored with a knowledge of truth than South Bainbridge was at that time. Universalism was dominant and strong, and the sects in their attempts to cope with it only made it more obstinate and indifferent."

The old school-house stood by the Baptist meeting-house, but was afterwards moved across the road and used as a cooper shop.

Rev. Israel Foote also held services in the Baptist meeting-house, (to which the church had a claim when not used by the Baptists,) towards the close of his ministry in Bainbridge, about the years 1849-'52.

In 1857 a seemingly providential opening led Rev. W. A. Johnson, then officiating at Bainbridge, to pro-

pose fitting up a suitable room for regular services. The work was begun in the summer of 1858, and the chapel opened for services November 21st. Previous to this Rev. Mr. Johnson held no religious services in the place, the only preparation for the full and regular worship of the church being a lecture on "the church and popular prejudice," delivered by him in the Baptist meeting-house two weeks previous.

A two story building erected for a select school-house, but looking extremely like one of the common smaller meeting-houses, fell under the control of the only male communicant in the place, Mr. Harrison R. Caswell. The upper story was fitted up in a plain way for a chapel, at an expense of a little over \$300, more than one-third of which was generously given by Mr. Caswell from his moderate means. The larger portion of the remainder was contributed by liberal church people, chiefly in the City of New York. The chapel was 38 by 23 feet, but sufficiently large for the needs of the place, which then contained only three communicants. A chancel ten feet deep was formed by setting off a vestry and library room on each side.

In this, evening services were held once a fortnight by Rev. W. A. Johnson, of Bainbridge. The first service was held November 21, 1858, and through the aid of Rev. Noble Palmer, of Harpersville, twice given, and of Rev. Dr. S. R. Johnson, of New York, weekly services were held till January, 1859.

In April, 1859, a Sunday school was opened which numbered during the term ending Christmas, some 28 scholars; in 1860, about 40; and in 1861, from various causes, but 14.

A parish library, of loaned books, was formed, and a Sunday school library of 127 volumes procured in 1859.

The Bishop visited the congregation for the first time September 11, 1859, when two were confirmed. The consent of the Bishop having been obtained November 29, 1859, legal notice of a meeting for the organization of a parish was given on the 8th and 15th of January, 1860. On the 16th a meeting was held in the chapel, when the persons present incorporated themselves under the name and title of "The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of *St. Ann's Church* in the town of *Afton*," and John Russell and Harrison R. Caswell, were elected Wardens; and William Wilkinson, Z. Woodard, Wright Dean, George Landers, Eli M. Shay, Daniel Carpenter, Daniel A. Carpenter and Horace Jones, Vestrymen. Rev. W. A. Johnson was chosen rector, and served as such till October 13, 1862.

Up to October, 1859, services had been held once a fortnight; from that time till October, 1861, every week, either in the afternoon or evening, with a single

morning service, and the Bishop's second visitation, also in the morning. The holy communion was administered four times during the diocesan year ending August 1, 1861. During 1860, the offertory yielded \$50.06.

The records do not show that there was any pastor from the date of Mr. Johnson's resignation till April 3, 1866, when the name of Rev. J. A. Robinson appears as rector. He continued his ministrations until April 7, 1871. During his rectorship, the present church seems to have been built, probably in 1867-8. It was consecrated Thursday, Oct. 1, 1868, by Arthur Cleveland Coxe, Bishop of Western New York. June 25, '66, Daniel Carpenter, Z. Woodard and H. R. Caswell were appointed a committee to locate a site for the church; Sept. 10, 1866, H. R. Caswell and Charles Seeley were appointed to circulate a subscription for the purpose of raising money to build it; and April 30, 1867, H. R. Caswell, H. Hinman and George Cook were constituted a building committee.

Rev. E. Dolloway succeeded Mr. Johnson in the rectorship, and continued afternoon services till Oct. 29, 1871. Rev. N. Palmer then conducted morning services from Nov. 5th to Dec. 17, 1871. Dec. 18, 1871, an invitation was extended to Rev. S. S. Lewis to take charge of the parish. The records do not show how long he served then, but his name appears as rector in connection with a confirmation service by Bishop F. D. Huntington, May 11, 1872. May 26, 1872, an indefinite call was extended to Rev. Moses E. Wilson, who seems to have commenced his services that day. He continued them as late as May 4, 1873. He was succeeded by Rev. Joel Davis, who was the rector June 20, 1874, but the records do not show when he commenced or closed his labors.

Rev. G. W. Porter, D. D., accepted an invitation to become the rector of this church in connection with St. Peter's church, of Bainbridge, in August, 1874, and entered upon the duties of his joint rectorship on the 16th of that month. His rectorship was terminated June 30, 1876, when he removed to Hamilton. Rev. A. W. Cornell, of St. Luke's church, at Harpersville, commenced his ministerial labors with this church in July, 1876, and still continues them.

It appears from the records that there are thirty families connected with the church; that 56 have been baptized, 9 by Wm. Allen Johnson, 30 by James A. Robinson, 1 by E. Dolloway, 5 by Moses E. Wilson, 3 by Joel Davis, 2 by G. W. Porter, and 6 by A. W. Cornell; that 31 have been confirmed; that 16 marriages and 27 burials have been solemnized, and that the whole number of communicants has been 69, of whom 24 have been lost by death, removals, &c., and that the present number of communicants is 45.

The M. E. Church of Afton was organized as the *M. E. Church of South Bainbridge*, Nov. 24, 1851, by Rev. E. D. Thurston, at the district school-house at "South Bainbridge." Its incorporation dates from the same time, and the first trustees, then elected, were Dor Stowell, Charles W. Griswold, Samuel C. Bump, Luman C. Pollard and Isaac Ferguson. The applicants for incorporation were Jesse C. Flagg and Dor Stowell, and the articles of association were certified before S. T. Donaghe, Justice of the Peace.

Meetings were held occasionally previous to the organization and until the erection of their church edifice in 1853, in the district school-house.

April 22, 1853, forty-four rods of land on lot 57 in Afton was purchased of Damaras Garrett for a building site for \$150. The church edifice was completed in the fall of 1853, through the indefatigable efforts of the pastor, Rev. E. D. Thurston, at a cost of a little more than \$1,500, and was dedicated in September of that year.

The Rev. Mr. Thurston was succeeded in his pastorate in 1853 by Rev. B. B. Carruth, who served them during that year; Rev. R. L. Southworth, 1854-'55; Rev. J. Moon, as supply, in 1855; Revs. Joel Davis and T. J. Bissell, 1856-'57; Rev. J. W. Mitchell, 1858-'60; Rev. W. S. Queal, 1860-'62; Rev. Leonard Bowdish, 1862-'64; Rev. B. H. Brown, 1864-'67; Rev. W. W. Andrews, 1867-'70; Rev. B. B. Carruth, 1870-'73; Rev. T. P. Halsted, 1873-'75; Rev. H. N. Van Dusen, 1875-'78; and Rev. N. G. Hawley, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in April, 1878.

The number of members, April 1, 1879, was 93 and 24 probationers. The estimated value of the church property is \$2,000, and of the parsonage, \$1,800.

The M. E. Church at Ayrshire in the north part of the town, is on the same charge as this. It has a membership of 77, with 11 probationers. The church property is valued at about \$1,800.

The First Universalist Church of Afton was originally incorporated as "The First Universalist Society of the town of Bainbridge," at a meeting held in the school-house in the Kirby settlement September 14, 1818, of which Matthew Long and Thomas Humphrey were presiding and returning officers. James Johnston, Reuben Kirby, Ebenezer Landers, James Davidson, Stephen Stilwell and James H. Humphrey were elected trustees. Their house of worship was erected in 1818. How long this organization continued there is no record to show, but that it exerted a wide and powerful influence for many years thereafter the records of the Baptist and Episcopal churches abundantly testify. It was re-organized as "The First Universalist Society of South Bainbridge," May 5, 1855, at a meeting held at the Universalist Church in

South Bainbridge, (Afton,) and presided over by Rev. Chas. S. Brown, the pastor. Noble Buck, Reuben Kirby, Thomas Humphrey, Murlin Jackson, Stephen D. Pratt and Philo Landers were elected trustees, and a constitution was adopted. The records of the society subsequent to 1855 are very meager and furnish very little definite information in regard to its history. Rev. J. G. Bartholomew commenced his labors as pastor June 22, 1856, preaching half the time, and closed them April 18, 1858. Rev. W. Delong commenced preaching here one-fourth time May 14, 1865, but how long he continued does not appear; neither do the records show who filled the interval between 1858 and 1865. The desk was occupied every Sabbath in 1867 by Rev. J. F. Porter. The church was again organized under its present name February 20th, 1860. Rev. T. L. Dean filled the office of pastor from November 8, 1874, to May 1, 1875, after an interval of two years of partial inactivity. Our informant, who is a member, says, "The Society is in a low state and has the appearance of becoming extinct, as there is not life enough in the present members to do anything towards keeping up the organization."

The Presbyterian Church of Afton.—The Presbyterians, though the first to cultivate the spiritual field, suffered a long period of decline and inactivity. Under their instrumentality, in 1802, the first church in the town was organized, and February 1, 1819, was incorporated as the "South Presbyterian Society and Meeting-House of the town of Bainbridge," at a meeting of the inhabitants in the south and west part of that town, "assembled at the new meeting-house near the house of Horace Stone." Calvin Stowel and Silas Stevens were chosen presiding and returning officers, and they together with Asa Stowel and Arad Stowel were elected trustees. This society seems to have been short-lived and to have subsequently changed its name and form of government to Congregational. February 8, 1825, it is recorded that "at a meeting of divers persons inhabitants of the town of Bainbridge
• • • being male members of full age belonging to the late *Congregational Society of South Bainbridge*, assembled at the place where they stately attend for divine worship," February 7, 1825, at which Deacons Calvin and Arad Stowel, two of the members of said society presided, *The South Bainbridge Presbyterian Society* was organized, and Arad Stowel, David McMaster and Nathan Boynton were elected trustees.

A long interval elapsed from the decline of this Society in which the Presbyterians ceased to have an organized existence. In January, 1875, at the request of several residents of the village of Afton and vicinity, Rev. Wm. H. Sawtelle, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Nineveh, commenced preaching

once in two weeks, on Sabbath afternoons, in the Baptist Church in Afton, with a view to the organization of a Presbyterian Church. Soon after, notice of a meeting to be held in the Baptist Church of Afton, on Friday, February 19, 1875, for the purpose of organizing a Presbyterian Society, signed by G. P. Smith, B. Whittaker and Robert Yale, was read from the pulpits of the village churches. At that meeting, of which Rev. Wm. H. Sawtelle was Chairman, it was resolved to incorporate under the name of the First Presbyterian Church of the town of Afton, and Henry Doolittle, Robert Yale and Geo. P. Smith were elected trustees. The proceedings were certified to before J. B. Kirkhuff, Notary Public, February 23, 1875.

The persons who then united in church fellowship were Robert and Harriet L. Yale, from the Presbyterian Church in Unadilla; Ira A. and Martha Yale, from the Presbyterian Church in Bainbridge; Deloss Lyon, from the Presbyterian Church in Laurens; "Selar" and Mary E. Decker, and Henry, Betsey and Henry S. Doolittle, from the Presbyterian Church in Nineveh; and Emeline Merritt, from the Presbyterian Church in Windsor. They were formally organized by a committee of the Presbytery June 1, 1875, at which time "Selar" Decker, Henry Doolittle and Ira A. Yale were elected elders. Deloss Yale was elected elder June 30, 1876; Henry Doolittle re-elected June 26, 1877; and "Sebar" Decker June 25, 1878.

February 7, 1875, Rev. Wm. H. Sawtelle, of Nineveh, commenced to supply the pulpit every other Sabbath, at 3½ P. M., and continued his labors with them till January 13, 1878. He was succeeded, April 21, 1878, by Rev. D. Grummon, of Bainbridge, who still supplies the pulpit every Sabbath at 2 P. M.

The whole number of members who have united with the church is 42; of whom three have been dismissed and one has died, leaving a present membership (July, 1879,) of 38. Four have been baptized, two adults and two infants.

In the spring of 1876 measures were taken to erect a house of worship. A building site was purchased of Edgar Garret for \$500. The trustees, consisting of Henry Doolittle, Robert Yale and Wm. A. Wright, were associated with Deloss Lyon as a building committee. Subscriptions of money, materials and labor were solicited, and the work of construction was begun early in the summer. A building 28 by 40 feet, with an alcove for the pulpit and choir, and a front extension for the vestibule, was erected at a cost of \$3,000. It was completed, furnished and formally dedicated January 31, 1877.

A grant of \$800 was obtained from the Board of Church Erection. The rest of the sum was raised by subscriptions from the citizens of Afton and some of

the neighboring towns, except a few contributions from some of the neighboring churches; so that the church was cleared from all indebtedness soon after the dedication.

It is but justice to say that the Society is largely indebted for the success of the enterprise to the devotion and perseverance of Robert Yale, one of the trustees, who superintended the work, procured most of the subscriptions, and generously gave his time and labor until the building was completed.

SOCIETIES.—*Afton Lodge, No. 360, F. & A. M.*, was organized as *Nineveh Lodge*, January 11, 1855, at which time the first communication was held, and was chartered June 20, 1855. The name was changed June 24, 1862, when it was decided to remove the lodge from Nineveh, where the meetings had formerly been held, to Afton. The first officers were Harvey Bishop, *Master*; Platt Bishop, *S. W.*; C. G. Northrop, *J. W.*; Fenner Brown, *Secretary*; W. H. Scott, *Treasurer*; T. C. Healy, *S. D.*; J. Kelly, *J. D.*; Jesse Brown, *Tiler*; E. M. Brown and E. Badger, *Stewards*. Meetings are held on the 2d and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

Vallonia Chapter, No. 80, R. A. M., was organized December 19, 1856, as No. 62, at Vallonia Springs, in the town of Colesville, in Broome county, where the meetings were originally held. The charter was granted February 3, 1857. The first officers were R. W. Juliard, *High Priest*; T. C. Healy, *King*; and E. Bishop, *Scribe*. The chapter meets the 1st and 3d Tuesdays of each month.

Vanderburg Post, No. 12, G. A. R., S. N. Y., was organized April 5, 1878. The charter members were John Robb, Alonzo Phillips, Washington Mead, W. H. Wilder, John S. Kelley, Perry Ellis, A. Huffcut, Geo. P. Smith, Theodore Cables, Charles G. Aynsworth, James A. Houston, B. Whitaker, Geo. Figger, John Higley, Geo. Woods, F. L. Willey, Charles Handy, Geo. B. Hickox, Charles Fisher, Thomas Wilkins, Zenas Tarble, Frank M. Mead, Charles A. Davis and Henry Andrews. The number of members in July, 1879, was 98. Meetings are held every Saturday evening.

Susquehanna Lodge, No. 185, A. O. U. W., was organized December 5, 1878. The charter officers were Rev. N. J. Hawley, *P. M. W.*; T. L. Willey, *M. W.*; Harvey Hinman, *G. F.*; C. W. Spencer, *O.*; Wm. E. Hyde, *Recorder*; M. D. Howard, *Financier*; H. B. Johnston, *Receiver*; L. B. Farnsworth, *G.*; J. B. Pierce, *I. W.*; J. H. Carr, *O. W.* The additional charter members were G. B. Hickox, Devillo W. Colvin, H. G. Carr, Washington Mead, Chester Corbin, W. A. Wright, Britton Whitaker, John F. Seaman, G. R. Bissell, M. D., and Geo. W. Woods. The officers remain the same, except that D. A. Hyde was elected

to fill the vacancy occasioned by the withdrawal of C. W. Spencer. The number of members in July, 1879, was 27. Meets the 1st and 3d Mondays of each month.

— *Lodge, No. —, I. O. G. T.*, was organized March 21, 1879. The charter members were M. B. Dutton, *W. C. T.*; Minnie M. Bolt, *W. V. T.*; W. E. Mead, *W. Chap.*; D. Van Woert, *W. S.*; Nellie Swift, *W. A. S.*; Geo. Tanner, *W. F. S.*; Annah Garret, *W. T.*; E. A. Goodsell, *W. M.*; Ella L. Stanton, *W. D. M.*; M. A. Garret, *W. I. G.*; J. E. Searles, *W. O. G.*; Ollie Bolt, *W. R. H. S.*; C. E. DeVoe, *W. L. H. S.*; P. A. Hayes, *P. W. C. T.*; Gertie Merritt, Allie Gallup, Minnie Estabrook, Jennie M. Bolt, Olivia Bolt, Polly Estabrook, Cora Mead, Agnes E. Gallup, Kate A. Hyde, Thomas Hannahan, Frank Carpenter, R. E. Merritt, Edgar Garret, Mary A. Bliss, N. J. Hawley, Mary Seymour, Mrs. Abbott, R. M. Gallup and Effa Jay.

BETTSBURGH.

BETTSBURGH is a hamlet situated in the south part of the town, on the east side of the river, about two miles below Afton. It was once a place of considerable importance, but its business has been diverted to contiguous villages. The first post-office in the town was established at this place, and was first kept by Peter Betts, who held the office until his removal to Bainbridge. He was succeeded in the office by Dr. Nathan Boynton, who held it several years, till his removal to Elmira, when Peter Dickinson was appointed. He held it about eleven years, till his removal to Afton.

The first store at Bettsburgh was kept by Peter Betts, from whom the place derives its name. He traded some ten or fifteen years and was succeeded by Dr. Nathan Boynton, who traded during the period of his medical practice there. He also carried on a saw-mill and a grist-mill. Robert Grant, who was located just over the line, in Colesville, traded some three years, in 1857, '8 and '9, and also carried on a tannery. Enos M. Johnston, who had previously kept a small grocery, opened a store after Grant's failure, and traded several years, until his store in Afton was opened. Frank Shepard kept a store here a few years at an early day.

Asa Stowel built a saw and grist-mill at Bettsburgh some seventy years ago. It was destroyed by fire about 1872. A grist-mill was built on the same site about two years after by Isaac N. Smith, who still operates it. It has three run of stones.

A carding machine was established and operated several years at Bettsburgh by Thomas Terry.

There is a cheese factory located at Bettsburgh, which is owned by Enos M. Johnston, by whom it was

converted to its present use from a dwelling-house in April, 1878. He is making 550 pounds of cheese per day.

NORTH AFTON.

Ayrshire, or North Afton, is a hamlet in the north part of the town. There is a M. E. Church here, which is known as the *North Afton M. E. Church*. It was incorporated Feb. 17, 1829, "at a meeting of the members of the society of the M. E. Church and congregation in Newton Hollow, in the west part of the town of Bainbridge, at the store-house of Benjamin Jacobs in said town," at which Geo. Evans, their preacher in charge, and Peter G. Bridgeman presided, and Cooley Wilkins, Charles Curtis, Lewis Weeks, Thos. Newton and Peter Bridgeman were elected trustees, as the *West Bainbridge M. E. Church*.

Having become dissolved by the failure to elect proper officers, it was reincorporated Sept. 10, 1833, at an adjourned meeting held at the chapel, their usual place of holding meetings, at which time Edward Z. Hyde and Reuben Reynolds were chosen presiding officers, and Dann Post, Button Stowel, Wm. Cleveland, Westley Cleveland and Edward Z. Hyde were elected trustees.

Their house of worship was built in 1829, at a cost of \$1,500.

MANUFACTURES.—On the east side of the river, about two and one-half miles above Afton, is a grist and saw-mill, operated by water from the river, and owned by Preston R. and Frank Peck.

On Bump's Creek, about a mile west of Afton, is a saw-mill owned by Wesley Seeley.

On Kelsey Creek, about one and one-half miles north-west of Afton, is a saw-mill owned by Henry Kirtland & Son.

On Lander's Creek, on the east side of the river, about two miles east of Afton, is a steam saw-mill owned by Messrs Baker & Newton.

About two miles north-west of Afton is a butter factory, owned by a stock company, which was organized in the spring of 1879, at which time the factory was built. It is managed by Hiram Derby.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—At a special meeting of the inhabitants of this town, held March 29, 1864, it was resolved by a vote of 54 to 1, to raise a bounty of \$610 to be paid to volunteers, applied on the quota of the town under the last call of the President for 200,000 men. If the Board of Supervisors paid a bounty for the same purpose, the amount so paid was to be deducted from the amount voted by the town, so that the aggregate bounty paid by the town, county, State and U. S. should not exceed \$1,000, except to veteran volunteers. It was further resolved that in

case of inability to fill the quota with volunteers, and a draft should be ordered to supply the deficiency, to pay \$300 to each man so drafted or who furnished a substitute credited on the quota of the town. Wm. Beatman, S. T. Donaghe, D. A. Carpenter, J. B. Chaffee and John Carr were appointed a committee to carry the above resolutions into effect, and to issue the bonds of the town to raise the money therefor.

The next call was anticipated, and at a special meeting held July 15, 1864, it was unanimously resolved to offer a bounty of \$300 to a sufficient number of volunteers to fill the quota thereunder. Three days thereafter, July 18, 1864, the call for 500,000 men was made, and at a special meeting, held on the 30th of the same month, it was voted to offer a bounty not exceeding \$500 each to a sufficient number of volunteers to fill the quota under it. At a special meeting held Sept. 10, 1864, it was decided by a vote of 178 to 9 to offer an additional bounty of \$500 each to a sufficient number of volunteers to make up the deficiency existing in the quota under that call, Aug. 31, 1864.

At a special meeting held January 4, 1865, it was decided by a vote of 142 to 31 to offer a bounty, not to exceed \$800, to each volunteer and person furnishing a substitute to apply on the quota of the town, under the call for 300,000 men.

Under these resolutions bounties were paid as follows:—In 1864, \$610 to 13 men, \$500 to 9 men, and \$1,000 to 27 men; and in 1865, \$700 to 24 men.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR WAR PURPOSES.

Received from local (town) taxes in 1864.....	\$11,147 24	
" " " " " " 1865.....	17,505 13	
		\$28,652 37
Received from town loans in 1864.....	\$39,430 00	
" " " " " " 1865.....	16,800 00	
		56,230 00
Received from State Paymaster, in 1865, to reimburse for bounties paid in 1865, in cash.....	5,600 00	
State Bonds.....	5,000 00	
		10,600 00
Total.....		\$95,482 37
Paid for town bounties.....	\$56,230 00	
" recruiting fees and other expenses connected with enlistments.....	772 66	
" interest on town loans.....	4,675 99	
" principal of " " " ".....	21,951 37	
" support of families of soldiers.....	242 35	
On hand at date of statement, Feb. 1, 1866		
State Bonds.....	5,000 00	
Cash.....	5,600 00	
		95,482 37

STATEMENT OF TOWN LOANS FOR WAR PURPOSES.

April 15, 1864, 50 Bonds, running 1 to 3 years, at 7 per cent. interest \$ 6,800	
June 1, 1864, 3 " " " " " " " " " " " "	1,220
Aug. 24, 1864, 8 " " " 1 to 2 years, " " " " " "	7,110
Sept. 15, 1864, 55 " " " 1 to 3 years, " " " " " "	24,300
Jan. 16, 1865, 17 " " " " " " " " " "	16,800

These bonds were issued to residents of the town mostly, in amounts varying from \$50 to \$1,000.

Quotas of the town of Afton:—

1. By order of Governor Morgan, under President's call of July and August, 1861, for 600,000 men	55
2. By Provost Marshal, under calls of 1861, which were united in Proclamation of February 1, 1864, for 500,000 men, (including the draft of 1861,) and all calls to latter date	40
3. By Provost Marshal, under call of March 4, 1864, for 500,000 men.....	13
4. " " " " July 18, 1864, " 500,000 " "	24
5. " " " " Dec. 19, 1864, " 300,000 " "	15
Total	147

Men furnished:—

1. Under President's call of July and August, 1861, for 600,000 men.....	56
2. " " " " 1861, for 500,000 men, embracing all enlisted July 1, 1861, until such calls were filled.....	26
3. Under President's call of March 14, 1864, for 500,000 men, embracing all enlistments after filling quota under former calls to July 1, 1864.....	13
4. Under President's call of July 18, 1864, for 500,000 men, (for one year, 35 men; for two years, 1 man; for three years, 1 man.).....	37
5. Under President's call of December 19, 1864, for 300,000 men.....	24
Whole number of men furnished by the town during the war.....	156

Of this number, 1 united with the 51st Regt. N. Y. V.; 1 with the 89th N. Y. V.; 33 with Co. G, of the 114th N. Y. V.; 51 with the 5th N. Y. Art., 7 with Co. E, and 35 with Co. G; 1 with the 8th N. Y. Cav.; and 6 with the 144th N. Y. V. It does not appear with what branches of the service the remaining 63 were connected.

The number of men between the ages of 20 and 45 enrolled in the town under the U. S. Enrollment Act in 1863 was 292. Of this number 51 were drawn; and of the number drawn 16 passed the medical examination. Fourteen of these sixteen commuted by the payment of \$300, leaving only two of the number drafted who entered the service personally.

The town also furnished voluntarily for objects connected with the draft \$200 by individual subscriptions and \$600 by associations.

MORMONISM.—It is a fact worthy of note that a portion of the early career of Joseph Smith, Jr., the author of Mormonism, was spent in Afton, and that here were enacted some of the incidents which were precursors of his subsequent notoriety.

Joseph Smith, Jr., was born in Sharon, Windsor Co., Vt., Dec. 23, 1805, and in 1815 or '16 removed with his father, Joseph Sr., and his family, to Palmyra, and soon after just across the line of that town into Manchester, some two miles south-west of Palmyra village. Previous to the Mormon dispensation Joseph Smith, the father of the "prophet," supported himself and family by digging and peddling "rutes and yarbs," selling cakes, beer, etc. When a mere lad, as appears from evidence elicited in his examination before a court of justice in Afton, in 1826, Joseph Jr., became acquainted with a girl in the neighborhood of his home who was reputed to be able to see in a glass things which were hidden from others. He had frequent opportunity to look into this mystical glass, which always revealed to him a small luminous stone, situated, apparently, beneath the root of a tree, stand-

ing near a small stream which empties into Lake Erie not far from the New York and Pennsylvania line. This singular circumstance occupied his mind for some years, and he subsequently made a journey to the locality indicated and procured the treasure thus revealed to him. The stone in question was exhibited on his examination and is described as being "about the size of a small hen's egg, in the shape of a high-stepped shoe." It was composed of layers of different colors passing diagonally through, and was very hard and smooth.* By means of this stone, placed in his hat so as to exclude the light, he claimed to be able to see whatever he wished, even in the depths of the earth, and there were not wanting those whose testimony corroborated this affirmation. In 1819 or '20 the Smiths commenced digging for money and other hidden treasure for a subsistence. Their vocation was noised around among the community, and not a few were credulous enough to believe that they were within reach of a "chest of gold," "which had repeatedly eluded their grasp," and contributed money to enable them to continue their excavations. The Smiths, it is said, used the money thus obtained for the support of the family, and in the meantime kept their friends in a feverish state of excitement and expectancy while treasure hunting. Invocations, the blood of sheep slaughtered for the purpose, sprinkled upon the earth, and other mystical rites, were employed in the presumed effort to propitiate the angry demon who was supposed to guard the coveted treasure.

During the progress of these events in the obscure town of Manchester, Isaiah Stowel, a Vermont sufferer, and an early settler on the Susquehanna in this town, about two miles below Afton; a deacon in the First Presbyterian church of Afton, educated in the spirit of orthodox puritanism; a man of much force of character, possessing an indomitable will; a very industrious and exemplary man, who, by severe labor and frugality, had acquired property which "excited the envy of many of his less fortunate neighbors;" and who at this time had "grown up sons and daughters to share his prosperity and the honors of his name," became infatuated with the idea that he must go in search of hidden treasures, which he believed were buried in the earth. With hired help and provisions he repaired to the vicinity of Lanesboro, in Northern Pennsylvania, where for weeks at a time he encamped on the bleak hills of that region and prosecuted his search for hidden treasure, heedless of the admonition of his neighbors, the members of the church, and the importunities of his family. Rumors of the success of the Smiths in discovering concealed treasure reached

* Dr. W. D. Purple's *Historical Reminiscences of the town of Afton*, 1877.

his ears and fanned into a blaze his cherished hallucination. With his wagon filled with provisions he started in search of the youth, whose mysterious powers would, he fully believed, make him the possessor of untold wealth. He arrived in due time at the rude log cabin of the Smiths, who were living in squalor and poverty, and the object of his search, with his mystic stone, was soon transferred to his more pretentious mansion.

Mr. Stowel with his ward and two hired men, who were, or professed to be, believers, spent much time in excavating near the State line on the Susquehanna and many other places, among them his own farm. Rocks containing iron pyrites were drilled for gold.

In February, 1826, the sons of Mr. Stowel then residing with their father, seeing that the latter was squandering his property in search for hidden wealth under the direction of the youthful seer, caused the arrest of Smith, who was tried in that month before Albert Neeley, Esq., father of Bishop Neeley, of Maine. The trial was largely attended and the proceedings attracted much attention, though they elicited little but his history from his early boyhood. The witnesses examined besides Smith, were his father, Deacon Isaiah Stowel, and a Mr. Thompson, an employé of Stowel's who always attended the deacon and Smith in their nocturnal labors.

Smith, while here, attended school in District No. 9. He gathered around him a few who were profoundly impressed with the reality of his supernatural powers, and these, (some of whom afterwards joined him in the west, Stowel among the number,) he formed into a society at the house of "Joe Knight," on the south side of the river, near the Lobdell House in Broome county. It is related that in order to convince unbelievers that he possessed supernatural powers, he announced that he would walk upon the water. The performance took place in the evening, and to the astonishment of many, he did walk upon the water, where it was known to be several feet deep, sinking only a few inches below the surface. This proving a success, a second trial was made which bid fair to be as successful as the first; but when he had proceeded some distance into the river, he suddenly sank, much to the chagrin of himself and proselytes, but to the great amusement of the unbelievers. It appeared on examination that planks were laid a few inches below the surface of the water, and that some *wicked* boys, being actuated by a greater desire for fun than to promote the prophet's fame, had removed one of them. Smith also pretended to heal the sick, cast out devils, etc., but his career here was terminated by his prosecution as an imposter before Joseph P. Chamberlain, Esq. Two pettifoggers named John S. Reed and James Davison volunteered to defend him, and three

witnesses, Mr. Knight and his son and Mr. Stowel, testified that they had seen him cast out devils.

It may be well to relate here an incident replete with interest from its intimate connection with the rise and progress of Mormonism. In 1809, Rev. Solomon Spaulding, then residing in Conneaut, Ohio, formed the basis of a romance purporting to give the history of a lost race of people, the idea being suggested by the numerous mounds and relics of dilapidated fortifications in that vicinity. The original design of this literary production, which was entitled *Manuscript Found*, was merely to amuse himself and friends by an imaginary history. It claimed to have been written by one of the lost nations, and recovered from one of the mounds. After its completion it was left for perusal with a Mr. Patterson, publisher of a newspaper there; but as it possessed no real merit, Mr. Patterson refused to publish it. Spaulding neglected to call for the manuscript, and it was finally thrown among the waste paper, where it came under the observation of Sydney Rigdon, who was at that time connected with the office, and who took a copy of it. Rigdon, upon hearing of the doings of the Smith family in Palmyra, conceived an idea which resulted in the printing of the Mormon Bible. He at once proceeded to Palmyra, and had long and frequent private interviews with Joseph Smith, Jr. At this time, it is supposed, they formed the plan of a new religious dispensation. From this romantic legend the Book of Mormon was paraphrased. Smith repaired at night to a cave in the hillside, and dictated to his amanuensis, Oliver Cowdery, what he "mysteriously translated from golden plates," which he pretended to have found while digging for money in September, 1823, by the aid of spirit revelation, but was not permitted to take them from the earth until 1827, about the time the Bible was commenced. The greatest secrecy was observed during these pretended revelations, which were only given in the cave at night, without any light, no one else but he being able to read the inscription on the plates. When it was completed, they were in a quandary as to how to get it printed. This obstacle was soon removed, however, by Martin Harris, a convert, mortgaging his farm to defray the expenses, ruining himself in doing so. Application was made about June, 1829, to Mr. Egbert B. Grandin, the publisher of the *Wayne Sentinel* at Palmyra, for the printing of the book. Grandin at once advised them against the folly of the enterprise. All importunity, however, was resisted by Harris, and resented with assumed pious indignation by Smith. Upon the refusal of Grandin, application was made the same year to Mr. Weed, of the *Anti-Masonic Inquirer*, at Rochester, who likewise refused. They again applied to Grandin, who, seeing their determina-

tion, consented to print it, stipulating to print 5,000 copies of the book for a compensation of \$3,000.

From such insignificant seed sprang the giant evil, which for fifty years, on the soil of a distant Territory, has subverted all principles of law and order, built a mighty hierarchy of falsehood and licentiousness, and has thus far thwarted nearly every effort made to suppress it.

CHAPTER XVII.

TOWN OF BAINBRIDGE.

BAINBRIDGE was constituted a town and named *Jericho*, February 16, 1791, at which time it formed a part of Tioga county. Its name was changed April 15, 1814, in honor of Commodore Bainbridge of the American Navy. It originally included portions of Norwich and Oxford, which were taken off January 19, 1793; of Greene, one part of which was taken off March 15, 1798, and another the following year; and the present town of Afton, which was taken off November 18, 1857. It lies upon the east border and near the south-east corner of the county. It is bounded on the north by Guilford and Oxford, on the east by Otsego and Delaware counties, on the south by Afton, on the west by Afton and Coventry. The surface is a rolling upland, beautifully diversified, and is abundantly watered by the Susquehanna, which crosses it diagonally from north-east to south-west, and the smaller streams tributary to it; the principal of which are the Unadilla, which unites with it on the east border of the town, a portion of which it forms, Kelsey Creek, which flows south through the west border, and Bennett Creek, which flows in a westerly direction near the south line. The Susquehanna enters the town on the east border, from one to two miles south of the north line, and flows in a westerly direction till it reaches the village of Bainbridge, where it deflects to the south and maintains that course until it leaves the town. The valley of the river is about a mile wide and is bordered by moderately steep hillsides. The summits of the highest hills are 400 to 600 feet above the valleys.

It is wholly underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill group, in which quarries of good building and flagging stone have been opened, two near the north line of the town, on the farms of Richard Bush and M. Frank, and a third just east of the village, on the east side of the river, on the farm of Jehiel Evans. From the Bush quarry excellent, massive blocks for underpinning and building purposes are obtained; while that obtained from the Frank quarry, on an adjoining

farm, is only suitable for flagging, the layers being thinner. From the Evans farm quarry, good massive building stone is obtained, but the superincumbent mass to be removed makes it too expensive to be profitably worked. It supplied the stone used in the abutments of the bridge crossing the river in the village of Bainbridge. The soil upon the hills is a gravelly and shaly loam, and in the valleys a fine fertile clay loam and alluvium. Dairying forms the chief, and almost exclusive branch of agriculture. The dairies are all private ones, the largest being that of Jerome B. Sands, who milks some fifty cows. There is not a factory in the town, nor has there been. The butter product is marketed in New York.

In 1875 the town had a population of 1,928; of whom 1,857 were natives, 71 foreigners, 1,917 white, and 11 colored. Its area was 20,982 acres; of which 14,446 were improved, 5,852 woodland, and 684 otherwise unimproved.

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad crosses the town along the valley of the Susquehanna, which river it crosses near the east line.

There are twelve Common and one Union Free School districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. During the year ending September 30, 1878, there were 17 licensed teachers at one time during 28 weeks or more. The number of children of school age residing in the districts September 30, 1877, was 550. During the year ending September 30, 1878, there were 9 male and 20 female teachers employed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 471, of whom only 7 were under 5 or over 21 years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 269.66; the number of volumes in district libraries was 653, the value of which was \$1,038; the number of school-houses was 13, 12 frame and 1 brick, which, with the sites, embracing 3 acres and 89 rods, valued at \$1,227, were valued at \$18,877; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$787,199. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age, residing in the districts September 30, 1877, was 130, of whom 113 attended district school fourteen weeks of that year, and two attended private schools, or were instructed at home.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$ 415 36
“ apportioned to district.....	1,777 20
Proceeds of Gospel and School lands.....	51 75
Raised by tax.....	1,428 62
From teachers' board.....	332 50
“ other sources.....	782 50
Total Receipts.....	\$4,787 93

HISTORY OF CHENANGO COUNTY.

Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$3,656	82
“ “ libraries.....	8	09
“ “ school apparatus.....	45	38
“ “ school-houses, sites, fences, out- houses, repairs, furniture, &c.....	173	81
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	835	87
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	67	96
Total Payments.....	\$4,787	93

SETTLEMENTS.—The territory included in this town was at first claimed by Robert Harper, under a grant from the Indians, but the State repudiated the title and granted it, together with the town of Afton, to the “Vermont Sufferers,” by whom the first settlements were made. The Vermont sufferers were persons who, by reason of their allegiance to the Government of the State of New York during the controversy existing between it and the State of Vermont, immediately after the close of the Revolutionary war, relative to lands which were finally ceded to the latter State, were dispossessed of certain property and otherwise punished by the Green Mountain State; and who, as a recompense therefor, were granted lands in the township of *Clinton*, afterwards known as *Jericho*, embracing the whole or the major portions of the present towns of Bainbridge and Afton. February 24, 1786, Col. Timothy Church and Majors Wm. Shattuck and Henry Evans, to the former of whose regiment the majority of the *sufferers* belonged, presented, in their behalf, the following petition to the New York State Government:—

“To his Excellency the Governor and the Honourable the Legislature of the State of New York, the Petition of the Subscribers, in behalf of themselves and others most Humbly Sheweth,

“That your Petitioners and those they represent are Inhabitants of Cumberland county, and by their attachment, zeal and activity in Endeavouring to support the Just and Lawfull Authority of New York, Incurred a Displeasure from those who stiled themselves Freemen of Vermont, But by the encouragements from the several Resolutions of Congress, and Particularly that of the fifth of December, 1782, and the laws and Resolutions of the State of New York, your Petitioners were induced to believe that the Lawless and ungratefull usurpers would be brought to submit to its Lawfull authority, or at least to permit your Petitioners to remain peaceably on their Farms, under the Jurisdiction of New York. But notwithstanding the Resolutions and Laws, these Lawless usurpers, raised in Arms to the Number of four or five Hundred, Drove some of your Petitioners from their habitations, Imprisoned others, Killed one, and wounded others, confiscated their Estates and sold their Effects.

“Your Petitioners cannot but hope that having thus sacrificed their all, suffered such exquisite Tortures, Banishments, Imprisonments in loathsome Goals, half starved, and threatened with being put to Ignominious Deaths. But, that your Honours will take their case into your most serious Consideration, and

grant them some relief in their Deplorable Situation, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever be good Citizens of the State of New York.”*

February 28, 1786, the same petitioners signed a deposition, which was sworn to before John Hobart, giving a list of the civil and military officers in the county of Cumberland who were commissioned by the State of New York, together with the number of privates, as nearly as could be ascertained, who were either imprisoned, banished, or had their effects taken from them by the authority of Vermont, and also the amount of losses sustained by them, which were estimated by a committee under oath to amount to 16,663*ℒ*, 13*s.*, 7*d.*

In the Senate, March 1, 1786, Mr. L'Hommedieu, from the committee to whom was referred the above petition, reported:—

“That it appears to the Committee that the Petitioners with many others holding offices both civil and military under the authority of this State, with other inhabitants of the said County have greatly suffered in their persons and Estates and are still subject to heavy fines imposed by the Authority of the Assumed State of Vermont for no other Crime than supporting the lawful Authority of this State in the said County which from time to time have done in pursuance of sundry Resolutions of Congress the Several Laws of this State and the directions of their Superiors in Office, that the Petitioners with others whom they represent, being deprived in a great measure of the means of subsistence and having become odious to the present Government of the Assumed State by reason of their supporting the Laws of this State in the said County are unable to continue longer in the said County without the greatest inconvenience to themselves and families, and are desirous of removing immediately into the western parts of this State, Provided they could procure vacant lands fit for cultivation, That in the Opinion of your Committee the said Petitioners and others whom they represent have a Claim on the State for some compensation for their sufferings and Losses, and that it will be proper for the State to Grant to the Petitioners and the Persons they represent a quantity of vacant land equivalent to a Township of Eight miles square.”†

The recommendation of the committee was made the action of the Senate and was concurred in by the Assembly.

Following is a list of the “persons deemed by the Commissioners of the Land Office, Sufferers in Opposing the Government of the pretended State of Vermont, with the proportion of Land adjudged to each set Opposite to their respective names, together with the Number of the Lots Balloted to them respectively by the Secretary in the presence of the Board.”‡ It may very appropriately appear in this connection, as

* *Documentary History of New York*, Vol IV, p. 1014.

† *Ibid.*

‡ We have preserved, for obvious reasons, the spelling of names as they appear in the *Documentary History*. It will be no difficult task to supply the correct orthography.

many of them soon after become settlers upon this tract and pioneers in this portion of the State:—

"From Land Papers endorsed Petitions of Vermont Sufferers.

NAMES.		
6	Timothy Church (Colonel), 3,840 acres	No. 47, 35, 60, 90, 71, 84.
5	William Shattuck (Major), 3,200 acres	No. 36, 53, 65, 82, 78.
2	Francis Prouty, (Lieut.), 1,180 acres	for Prouty, No. 52.
	Isaac Kendell, 100 acres	for Prouty & Kendell, No. 86.
1	William White (Capt.), 640 acres	No. 83.
1	Joseph Peck (Capt.), 640 acres	No. 68.
1	Daniel Ashcroft (Capt.), 640 acres	No. 88.
	Thos. Baker (Capt.), 260 acres	No. 81.
1	Samuel Bixby (Justice), 380 acres	for Stowell, No. 37.
	Hezekiah Stowell, 840 acres	for Stowell, Bridgman & Clark, No. 73.
2	Orlando Bridgman, 260 acres	
	Samuel Clark, 180 acres	
	Ephraim Knapp	ACRES. 100
	Artems How (Lieut.)	200
1	David How	170
	Reuben Smith	170
	Samuel Meldy	420
1	Jonath. S. Alexander (Ensign)	220
	James Davidson	500
1	James Wallace	140
	David Lamb (Ensign)	300
1	Jacob Stoddard	170
	Samuel Earl	170
	Elisha Pierce	200
1	Aleazer Church	260
	R. B. Church	180
	Joseph Chamberlin	380
1	Oliver Teal	260
	John Adams	160
	Charles Packer	160
1	Jonathan Stoddard, junr.	160
	Benjamin Ballow	160
	Joseph Wells	360
1	Asa Packer	280
	Caleb Nurse	240
1	David Thurber, junr.	200
	Jonath. Stoddard	200
	Amos Yeaw	210
1	Eleazer Tobe	210
	David Culver	220
	Josiah Price	200
1	Newel Earl	200
	Joseph Coleman	240
1	David Thurber	640
	David Thurber	200
1	Asa Stowel	220
	Edmund Beamos	200
	Abraham Avery	430
1	William Gault	210
	Seth Clark	160
1	John Alden	160
	James Parker	320
3	Henry Evens, (Major), 1920	Nos. 73, 79, 80.

		ACRES.	
	John Alexander, (Lieut.)	280	No. 77.
1	Isaac Crosby	180	
	Reuban Church, (Ensign)	180	
	Noah Shepherdson	90	No. 74.
1	Joel Bigelow, (Adjutant)	350	
	Joshua Nurse	200	
	Nath'l Carpenter	280	No. 96.
1	Samuel Colefax	180	
	Jotham Bigelow	180	
	Charles Phelps	508	No. 42.
1	Nathan Avery	132	
	Timothy Phelps, (Sheriff)	280	
1	Samuel Cutworth	180	No. 70.
	John Burrows	180	
	Daniel Shepherdson, (Justice)	280	
1	Moses Yeaw	180	No. 95.
	Israel Field	180	
	Elijah Prouty, (Justice)	465	
1	Jonathan Dunkley	175	No. 44.
	Hezekiah Broad	350	
	Benjan Baker	97	
1	Ephraim Rice	97	No. 100.
	Joseph Garsey	95	
	Joseph Shepherdson	203	
1	Jonathan Church	217	No. 67.
	John Collins	160	
	Samuel Noble	214	
1	Thos. Whipple	214	No. 91.
	Adonijah Putnam	212	
	Icabod Parker	214	
1	Amos York, junr.	214	No. 62.
	Nathan Culver	212	
	Elisha Clark	100	
	Caleb Ellis	180	No. 93.
	Elijah Curtis	180	
	Isaac Slatter	180	
	Daniel Whitney	180	No. 57.
	Artemus Goodenough	180	
1	Joseph Whipple	180	
	Dean Chace	100	No. 59.
	John Gault	280	
1	Hal Salsbury	180	
	Samuel Curtis	180	No. 69.
	Aseph Carpenter	350	
	Matthew Ellis	97	
1	Asa Clark	97	No. 69.
	Ithamer Goodenough	96	
	Cyrryl Carpenter	220	
	Henry Evens	100	No. 41.
1	Paul Nicolls	140	
	Daniel Wilkins	90	
	Shabal Bullock	90	No. 49."
	David Goodenough	340	
	Edward Carpenter	300	

Lots Nos. 43, 45, 46, 54, 61, 72, 75, 76, 85 and 89 were not drawn.

By act of March 20, 1788, Lots Nos. 45 and 61 in Clinton Township were allotted to "Philip Frisbee, Ephraim Guthrie, Gould Bacon, Joseph Landers, Samuel Frisbee, Eben Landers, Heman Stone, Rodrick Moore, Philip Frisbee, junr., Seth Stone, Nath'l Benton, jr., and their associates on their applying for the same."

The following persons also had grants, viz: "Isaac Crosby, Israel Smith, Henry Morgan, Col. Seth Smith—780 acres; James Comins, William Pierce, Francis Comins, James Cummins Junr., 500 acres; Obadiah Wells, Capt. Joseph Elliot 450 acres; Joshua Lindes, Samuel Lindes, Judathan Roberts, Giles Roberts, John Sherburn, Ensign Rutherford Hays, Amariah Parks, Zephaniah Shepardson."

The names of Lieuts. Elihu Root, Isaac Wells and Daniel Danilson, and Ensigns Simion Terrel and Joshua Russ appear in the list of "sufferers," but not in that of grantees.

Thus it is seen that the first settlers in this locality came under duress, having been driven from the homes of their birth or adoption to the inhospitable wilds of a country thickly studded with gigantic pines and infested with wild beasts. But even the rigors of a life in such a wilderness, remote from civilization, were gladly accepted in exchange for the comforts and social advantages which they were no longer allowed to enjoy in their former homes, and the persecution and social ostracism to which their fidelity had subjected them. Hither they came with naught save their strong, brawny arms and resolute wills to grapple with the new conditions of life, and well they succeeded in wresting from them the elements of a comfortable and happy existence, as the beautiful homes, thriving industries, and attractive villages, with their educational and religious institutions, and other social advantages, bear abundant testimony; but the hardships and privations they endured as the price of these can be appreciated by but a few of the present generation, who have entered into their labor and enjoy the fruits of their heroic, persistent, intelligent and devoted efforts.

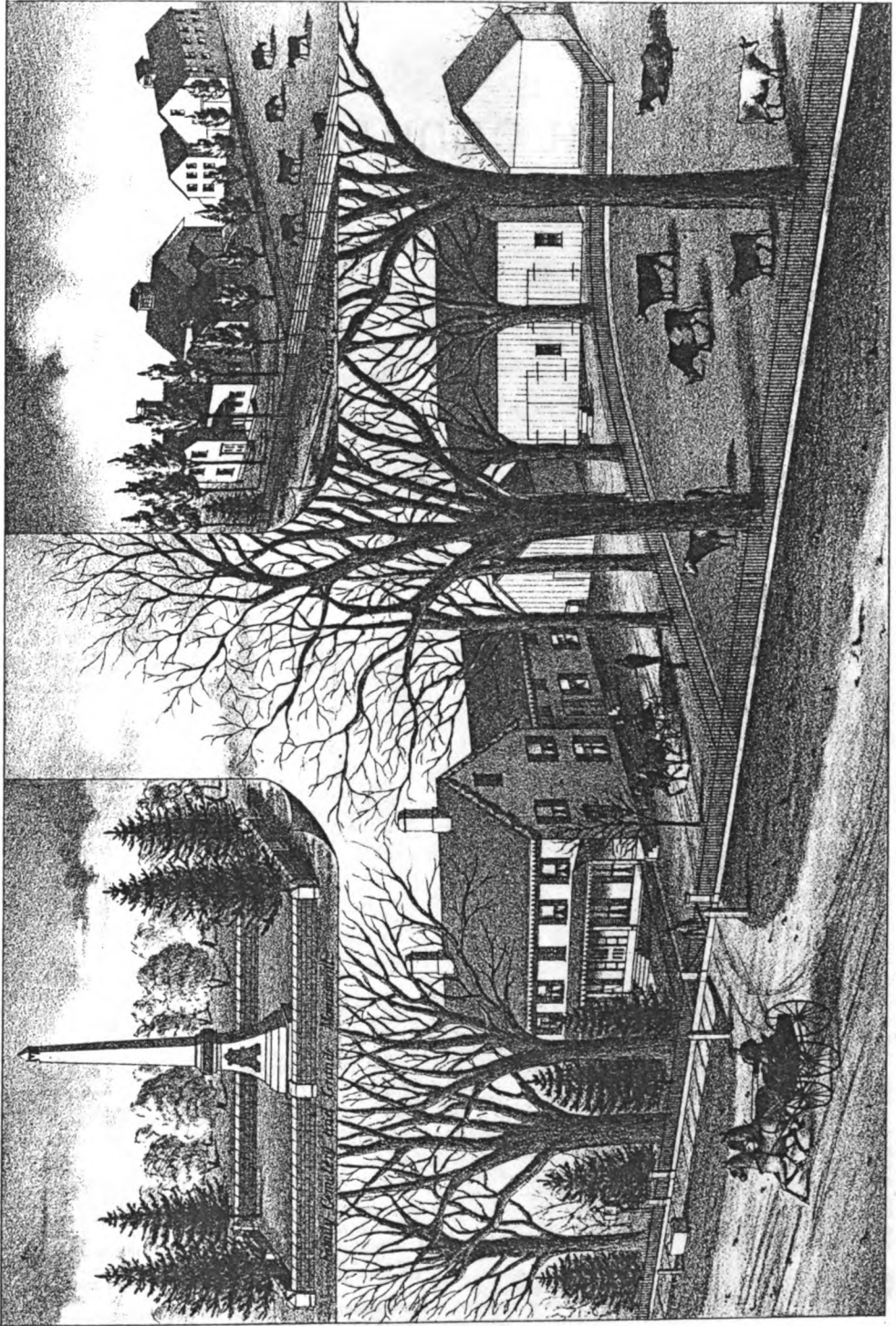
The first settlement upon the tract granted to the Vermont sufferers, and, so far as our information extends, in the original county of Chenango, was made near Bettsburgh, in the present town of Afton, in 1784, by Elnathan Bush, who came from Sheffield, Mass., where for eighteen years, he held under the King the office of sheriff, which, his sympathies being with the Americans, he resigned at the opening of the Revolutionary war, in which his son Charles served during the whole period of its continuance.

Mr. Bush brought in his family, consisting of his wife, Vashti Stebbins, of Sheffield, and four children, Charles, Japhet, Joseph and Polly. They came as far as Cooperstown on horseback, and thence by canoe down the Susquehanna, leaving Cooperstown on the 2d of May. He first settled on the west side of the river, opposite Stowel's Island, about two miles below Afton. January 30, 1790 he exchanged this property with Hezekiah Stowel, whose grandson, Nathan Stowel, still occupies it, for 81 acres (really 100 acres though

the deed specifies only 81,) on lot 74, in the town of Bainbridge, about a mile above the village, on the west side of the river, which was acquired by Stowel the year previous, and to this he removed the following April. The consideration was 80£. This piece was deeded by Stowel to Japhet and Joseph Bush, sons of Elnathan, and now forms the residence farm of the latter's grandson, Joseph Bush, having remained in the family since 1790. Mr. Joseph Bush has made additions to the farm, which now embraces 255 acres. Elnathan's log cabin stood about fifteen rods in a south-westerly direction from the present residence of Joseph Bush, and was occupied by the family ten years, till 1800, in which year the latter was built. There is no trace left of the old log cabin or its site. The present house which superseded it, was the first frame house in the town of *Jericho*. It was built by Joseph Bush, father of the present occupant, and although it has been remodeled and modernized, the frame and size and shape of rooms remain as at first. The barn which stands about eight rods from the house, the most southerly one on the homestead farm, and the only one unpainted, is an object of great interest, as it is, perhaps, the oldest relic of those bygone days remaining in the country. It was built by the same individual in 1791, and is still in a remarkable state of preservation. It has only been changed from its original condition by having been re-shingled and ceiled, the changes made being such only as were necessary to preserve it. The marks of the scribe are still clearly discernable on the frame, which is, apparently, as sound as ever.

Elnathan Bush died on the homestead in Bainbridge, where he and others of his family are buried. The family burying-ground consists of a plot three by four rods, inclosed by a substantial cut-stone wall. This, together with a strip around it two rods wide, and a roadway to the highway three rods wide, was perpetuated in the title April 10, 1879, so that it cannot be alienated from the family. A magnificent dark Quincy granite monument, tastily ornamented, stands in the center of the inclosure. From the base, which is six and one-half feet square, to the top of the shaft, is thirty feet. The dates of death of those interred therein are inscribed thereon, and from it we learn that Elnathan died May 15, 1791, aged 63, and his wife November 8, 1813, aged 81. The death of the former was the first in the town.

Charles Bush, son of Elnathan, married Joan Harrington in 1794. This was the first marriage contracted in the town. Charles lived with his mother on the homestead until his removal, about 1810, to Vincennes, Ind. He died at Batavia while on his way to Bainbridge on a visit, soon after the close of the War of 1812. None of his children are living.



RESIDENCE OF THE HON. JOSEPH BUSH. BAINBRIDGE, CHENANGO CO. N. Y.





Joseph Bush

Joseph Bush, the subject of this sketch, was born in Bainbridge, Chenango county, N. Y., where he now resides, on the 23d of February, 1823. He was the youngest of a family of seven children, viz: Horace, Alvah C., Maria, Leapha, Isaac, Jabin S. and Joseph; only three of whom are now living, Alvah C. and Jabin S., of Tioga, Pa., and himself. His paternal grandfather was from Holland. His grandparents emigrated from Massachusetts to Jericho, Tioga county, now Bainbridge, Chenango county, as early as 1784. They were the pioneers in the almost unbroken forest, and descended the Susquehanna river from its head at Coopers-town, with their four children, in canoes constructed by themselves; there being no roads through the wilderness in those days. They settled in the valley of the Susquehanna and in the year 1790 selected and located on the very farm now occupied by their grandson whose name heads this article. His father, Joseph Bush, was the youngest son of the said four children. He died on the 23d of September, 1851. His mother's name was Betsey Strong, a native of Connecticut. She died on the 5th of February, 1853. She was a sister of Cyrus Strong, former president and founder of the old Broome County Safety Fund Bank at Binghamton.

Mr. Bush had the advantage of being reared and guided to mature manhood by parents of rare good sense, shrewd business tact and remarkably good habits. He either benefited by their judicious training and example, or inherited their sterling qualities in large degree. But they have long since passed away and their remains now rest, with other old pioneers and relatives of the family, in a beautiful cemetery, walled in with cut stone by the present owner, (to which he has perpetuated the title), on the farm which they cleared nearly a century ago, and in which cemetery he has caused to be erected to their memory, at large expense, an imposing and graceful monument of granite, to stand as a lasting memorial of his respect and gratitude.

Mr. Bush received a good English education in the common and select schools in the village near him and was much improved and benefited by the instruction and assistance of an older brother, who was a graduate of Hamilton College, and for a short time of a brief life, a practicing lawyer of much promise.

Although he received from his father a goodly inheritance, his enterprising disposition and special training in the lumber

business induced him to spend about five years, from 1852 to 1857, in lumbering in Upper Canada; where his uncommon sagacity, experience and business talent enabled him to be successful.

A year or two after this, in the fall of 1859, he was induced by his friends to accept a nomination for Member of Assembly from Chenango county, and was elected; receiving in his own town, where almost every voter had known him from childhood, every vote cast except sixteen. While in the Assembly he served on one of the most important committees, that of Ways and Means. He took an active part in obtaining assistance from the State for the construction of the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad and materially aided its construction by his wealth and influence.

After the expiration of his term in the Legislature he resided in New York city, and was engaged in real estate and other speculations of those times successfully, until 1870, when he returned to his farm in Bainbridge, the old homestead above referred to, which had descended to him from his grandfather and father, and had always received his special care and supervision. It lies on the Susquehanna River and consists of about 250 acres of the choicest lands, in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Bush brings the same good sense, sound judgment and business capacity to the cultivation and management of his farm which has distinguished him in his other undertakings. The farm is a model one for general convenience, neatness and judicious management, and causes its owner to be ranked among the most successful agriculturists in the county.

Mr. Bush is six feet high, of fine presence, prepossessing countenance and frank social and agreeable manners, and a remarkably good judge of character; qualities which peculiarly fit him for a successful politician. Yet he is entirely averse to taking office, and has always, since his term in the Legislature, refused. It is not because he has not decided political opinions. Few men are better informed or have more thorough convictions on political questions than he has. He assists his political friends zealously and liberally, and manifests a deep interest in the success of the Republican party, to which he has belonged since its organization. Prior to that he was a Whig.

His integrity is never questioned, and his morals and habits are unexceptionable. He pays liberally for the support of the gospel and charitable objects. Mr. Bush is a bachelor.

Japhet, the second son, married and lived with his mother. He removed with his brother Charles to Vincennes, Ind., and died there. Joseph, the third son, married, in 1795, Susan Weeks, whose father was an early settler in the town of Guilford. He settled upon the old homestead, which he occupied till his death, which occurred September 23, 1851, aged 82. His wife died December 29, 1797, aged 22. April 5, 1799, he married Betsey, daughter of Jabin Strong, of Glastenbury, Conn., who died February 5, 1853, aged 73. He had one child by his first wife, Susan, who married Alanson Burr, of Caneadea, N. Y., and removed with him to that town and died there. His children by his second wife were: Horace, who was born January 29, 1801, and died single on the homestead October 8, 1827; Alvah C., born November 13, 1804, married September 20, 1830, Ellen, daughter of Judge Levi Bigelow, and removed to Tioga, Penn., whence she returned to Bainbridge, where she died in 1831, at the birth of her first child, Ellen, wife of John A. Matthews, of Winona, Minn., September 21, 1841, Alvah C. married Annah Bigelow, sister of his first wife, by whom he had no children; Maria, who was born October 3, 1806, married September 3, 1827, Charles A. Baxter, of Sidney, to which place she removed, and from whence, after the death of her husband, March 8, 1845, she returned to Bainbridge, to live with her father, and died there September 13, 1846, leaving five children, all of whom are living—Mary E., wife of Wm. C. Beatty, in Bloomfield, N. J., Wm. S. in Highland, Minn., Julia, wife of Edwin R. Mead, in New York City, Susan E., wife of Thomas A. Johnson, in Animas City, Col., and Charles A. in Selma, Minn.; Leapha, who was born September 29, 1808, married September 9, 1829, Wm. S. Sayre, a lawyer in Bainbridge, and died June 23, 1850, leaving three children, all of whom are living—Horace in Minneapolis, Minn., Susan in Bainbridge, and Sarah in Binghamton; Isaac, who was born October 14, 1810, married August 23, 1839, Martha, daughter of Hon. John H. Prentiss, of Cooperstown, and died on the homestead June 16, 1843, leaving no children; Jabin S., who was born June 16, 1817, married December 31, 1839, Eliza Del'uy, and settled at Tioga, Penn., where he now resides; and Joseph, who was born February 23, 1823, and is now living unmarried on the homestead in Bainbridge.

Polly, daughter of Elnathan Bush, married Gideon Freeborn, of Cazenovia, where she resided till after his death, when she went to live with her only son Rodman, in Caneadea, N. Y., where she died. Rodman still resides there.

The first settlement within the present limits of the town of Bainbridge, was made, if we are correctly informed, in the summer of 1786, by Caleb Bennett,

who came in company with his brothers, Phineas, Silas and Reuben, from Pownal, Vt. Caleb settled on the south-east corner of the cemetery in the village of Bennettsville, which derives its name from him. The excavation for the cellar under his house still remains to mark the locality. Phineas settled on the river one and one-half miles below, in Afton, on the farm now owned and occupied by Samuel Corbin. He was the first Supervisor of the town of Bainbridge, in 1791. His house stood opposite the brick-yard. Silas settled at "Crookerville," opposite Unadilla, where he built a grist-mill, which is believed to have been the first on that site. Reuben afterwards settled in Ithaca, where he lived and died, and to which place Phineas also removed. Caleb continued to reside here till his death, which occurred March 22, 1830, at the age of 72 years. Elizabeth, his wife, died June 25, 1849, aged 89. He and Reuben Bennett built the first mills at Bennettsville in 1798, on the stream which bears their name. This was the first grist-mill in the town.

Caleb Bennett's children were Anna, who was born February 3, 1783, married Thomas Cornwell and settled in Afton, where her son, Abel, now lives, where both died, he February 12, 1841, aged 70, and she February 27, 1860, leaving ten children, five sons and five daughters; Phineas, who married Sophia, daughter of Henry Chandler, an early settler in Coventry, and settled in Bennettsville, where he built, sixty-five years ago, the house now occupied by the families of George Slater and Adelbert Winsor. He died there December 28, 1856, aged 72, and his wife, August 24, 1863, aged 78, leaving ten children, seven of whom are living, five in this town,—Phineas M., Susan, wife of Elder H. Robertson, Clarissa, widow of Pliny Kirby, Jane E., wife of Porter B. Van Horne, and Benjamin,—and Rufus, in Greeley, Col., and Augusta, wife of Samuel Corbin, in Afton; Abel, twin brother of Phineas, who was born December 25, 1784, married Flavilla Hoag, and settled in Bennettsville, where he died October 23, 1860, leaving three of seven children, who are still living,—Abel and Edward E., at Binghamton, and James, on the homestead; "Naby," who married Jeremiah Thurber, and settled and died in the town April 15, 1811, aged 25 years, leaving one daughter, who is also dead; Hannah, who married Charles S. Merritt and settled in Bennettsville, where she still resides, and where he died April 12, 1862, aged 73, leaving two children, who are still living,—Eliza, wife of Orville Hill, and Richmond; Eunice, who died in childhood; Prudence, who married Enos Goodman and settled in this town, where both died, the former October 9, 1864, aged 75, and the latter December 2, 1861, aged 78, leaving seven children, only two of

whom are living,—Luther and Merritt; Arnold, who married Nancy Forbes, settled in Bennettsville, and afterwards removed to Bainbridge, where he now resides, and three of whose four children are living,—Elizabeth, Leroy and Clarissa; and Hiram, who married Gratie Chandler, and settled at Bennettsville, where both died, the former September 4, 1876, aged 73, and the latter, September 21, 1873, aged 71. None of their children are living.

Reuben Kirby and Wm. Guthrie, his father-in-law, came from Litchfield, Conn., their native place, in 1787, and settled on lands on lot 85, purchased of Robert Harper, of Harpersfield, Delaware county. They built their cabins and made some improvements, and returned the following fall to Connecticut. In the spring of 1788 they returned with their families, crossing the Hudson River at Hudson, and proceeding thence via Cherry Valley to Otsego Lake. There they constructed a float by placing boards upon two canoes, and on this their families and household goods were conveyed down the Susquehanna to the place of settlement. They drove through the forests some cattle and a horse, the latter of which, after having been subsequently lost for nearly four months, was returned to them by the Indians. Their title to these lands proved defective in consequence of the repudiation of Harper's claims, which were based on a purchase made of the Indians, and they therefore soon after relinquished their claims to them. Guthrie repaired to Albany, and after an absence of some three months, succeeded in purchasing a mile square, lot 81, lying on both sides of the river, but mostly on the west side, together with about 200 acres on lot 85, a part of his first purchase, including his improvements. Kirby abandoned his first purchase, and took a part of lot 81, lying on the east side of the river. His first house, which stood near the river and nearly opposite to where Robert Corbin now lives, was liable to be overflowed when the river was high. He therefore built near the place now occupied by Wm. R. Kirby, about two miles below the village of Bainbridge. Guthrie settled on the farm now owned by Philo Kirby, about the same distance from the village, but on the opposite side of the river. Their first facilities for grinding corn consisted of the primitive mortar and pestle so common to all the new settlements in this section of country. Their first grinding at a regular mill was done at the stone mills in Sidney, on the Ouleout Creek, a tributary of the Susquehanna, about eighteen miles distant; but when the mill at Bennettsville was made accessible by the opening of a road leading thereto that labor was very much lessened. They obtained salt of the Indians, who were numerous in this locality for several years after the first settlements were made. Their dusky neigh-

bors, who were generally friendly, would borrow a kettle of them and in a few days return with a supply of the needed article. It was never known to the settlers from whence they obtained it, as they dare not follow them on such occasions. Guthrie kept in 1793, on the place of his settlement, the first tavern in the town, a business in which he was succeeded at his death by his son William. Both Kirby and Guthrie, also their wives, died on their respective homesteads. Kirby's first wife, Anna, daughter of Wm. Guthrie, died in 1793. The following year he returned to Connecticut, and married Naomi Patterson, of Washington, in that State. He came back with a sleigh, drawn by oxen, and crossing the Hudson on the ice at Catskill, proceeded thence by way of Harpersfield, and the mills on the Ouleout, thence down that stream to the place on the river known as "Wattles Ferry," and thence down the river to his home in Bainbridge. His second wife lived to be over 90, and died at the residence of her son Pliny.

Reuben Kirby's children were Laura, who married Miles Hinman, and settled in Upper Lisle, where both died; Lois, who married Robert Foster, settled in Otego, and subsequently removed to the Wyoming Valley, near Wilkesbarre, where both died; Sally, who married Sylvester Smith, (who settled at Masonville, afterwards removed to Painted Post, where he became a judge and died,) and who, after his death, returned to Bainbridge, where she still resides (June, 1879,) aged 88 years; all of whom were by his first wife. His children by his second wife were Reuben, who was born April 26, 1795, married Patience E., daughter of Sylvester Corbin, and after her death, Dec. 28, 1834, at the age of 34 years, Louisa D., widow of Levi Kneeland, with whom he is still living on a part of the homestead farm, aged 84 years; Joseph, who married Sally, daughter of Samuel Corbin, settled on a part of the homestead farm, and afterwards removed to Bainbridge village, where he died Sept. 12, 1875, aged 77, and where his widow still lives; Philo, who married Susan, daughter of Wm. Guthrie, Jr., settled on the homestead farm and subsequently removed to the Guthrie homestead, where he now resides, his wife having died Nov. 15, 1867; and Pliny, who married — Bennett, and settled first on a part of the homestead farm, and afterwards on the place now occupied by his widow, where he died. Numerous grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren of Reuben Kirby's are living in the town. G. F. Kirby, of Chicago, a civil engineer, who was employed in the construction of the Pacific Railroad through Iowa, and the bridge which spans the Mississippi River at Clinton, is a son of Philo Kirby and grandson of Reuben, Sr. The four brothers, sons of the second wife of Reuben Kirby, though farmers, followed lum-

bering while the pine in this section lasted. It was marketed in Philadelphia.

Wm. Guthrie died in August, 1806, and Susan, his wife, in March, 1813. Their son William, who was born Dec. 3, 1768, married in 1799, Sarah Whitney, of Binghamton, who was born May 8, 1775. He died March 14, 1813. The children of William, Jr., were: William 3d, who was born Aug. 12, 1800, married Sarah Rynders, and having followed the lumber business in Chemung county, is now living in Elmira; Gershom, who was born Jan. 15, 1802, married Elizabeth Ketchum, by whom he had four children, and also followed the lumber business in Chemung county, where he and his wife died, the former March 28, 1855, and the latter Feb. 2, 1853; Sarah, who was born Nov. 25, 1803, married Hezekiah Tarble, had three children, and died in Bainbridge, Oct. 27, 1833; Susan, who was born Jan. 25, 1805, married Philo Kirby, had four children, and died in Bainbridge, Nov. 15, 1867; Olive, who was born Aug. 6, 1806, married Allen Randall, of Lisle, where she died April 17, 1874, having had eight children; Emeline, who was born Aug. 11, 1808, and married Samuel Stow, of Binghamton, where she died in 1869; George W., who was born Feb. 15, 1810, was for a number of years in the Custom House at Philadelphia, was afterwards in the employ of the Government at Washington, and subsequently in San Francisco, where he married Emma Garson, by whom he had six children; Orphelia, who was born Aug. 31, 1812, married Washington C. Lane, editor of the *Philadelphia Ledger*, and died in Philadelphia in 1844, having had one daughter.

Wm. Guthrie, Sr., had six daughters, Anna, who married Reuben Kirby, Sr., and died in Bainbridge in 1793; Eunice, who married a man named Graham, and had two sons and five daughters; Mima, who married Dr. Hyde, and had two sons, Ira and Charles; Rhoda, who married a Kelsey; Lois, who married Col. Witter Johnston, who came to Sidney Plains in 1772, served in the Revolution, and was afterwards a resident of Sidney Plains till his death, October 4, 1839, aged 86, and where she died July 27, 1787, aged 22; and Ruth, who married — Cooper, and lived and died in Bainbridge.

Asahel Bixby, who was, we believe, the first of the Vermont Sufferers to settle in the town, came from Guilford, Vt., in October, 1787, then in his eighteenth year. His father, Samuel Bixby, had been allotted 380 acres of lot 81, by the Commissioners of the Land Office, on the distribution to the Vermont Sufferers. This lot, as we have previously seen, was purchased about this time by Wm. Guthrie. Young Bixby therefore located on lot 75, originally an unassigned lot, 380 acres of which were patented to his father January 12,

1789. On this lot, which lies mostly on the east, but partially on the west side of the river, his first improvements were made. He came in alone and on foot, but was joined at Cherry Valley by Israel Stowel, an acquaintance of his, also from Vermont. He went to live at first with his sister Hannah, wife of Asa Stowel, at Bettsburgh, and remained there till February following, when he moved on to his father's land, on the east side of the river, and built and occupied a log shanty covered with brush, and made a small clearing. The following June he was joined by his father's family, for whom he had in a measure prepared the way.

Samuel, who was a Justice of the Peace in Vermont, was one of the first Assessors in Bainbridge. His children were Priscilla, who married in Vermont and remained there, Hannah, Sibyl, Betsey, Asahel and Samuel. Hannah also married in Vermont, Asa, son of Hezekiah Stowel, who had previously settled in Afton, where she also settled and died September 18, 1850, aged 88. Her children were Arad, Hannah, who married Isaac Miner, Asa, Elijah, Jemima, who married Wm. Loop, and Leapha, who married Dr. Nathan Boynton. Not one is now living, though all lived to be over eighty, except Asa, who died young. Sibyl was married after removing here to Henry Evans, Jr., son of the original settler in the town by that name. She died July 29, 1846, aged 80. Her children were Tirzah, who married Manasseh Hadley, Maria, who married Orrin Jacobs, Sibyl, who married Calvin Morley, Henry and Edward, the latter of whom is the only one by her first husband, Henry Evans. Three are living, Maria, Sibyl and Henry. Betsey married Russell Redfield, who came in from Vermont at an early day, and settled, after marrying, on 50 acres of Samuel Bixby's land, given him by the latter, and died March 14, 1853. Her children were Gratia, who married Ansel Evans, Harvey, Sibyl, who married Lawrence Conklin, Hannah, who married Asa Warner, Clarina, who never married, Betsey, who married Chester Buck, Powers, Philip, and Luranca, who married Dr. Hall. Five of them are living, but none in this State, Powers, Philip, Sibyl, Betsey and Luranca. Asahel married Clarina, daughter of Deacon Israel Smith, and settled on the west side of the river, on the farm now owned and occupied by Peter Leonard, where he died October 5, 1862, aged 92, and his wife May 22, 1847, aged 72. His children were Lois, who married Chauncey Austin, Chandler, who died in Angelica, N. Y., December 30, 1868, aged 72, Rial, who died May 15, 1847, aged 46, Priscilla, who married Robert B. Warner, Ira, and Charles, the latter of whom, the youngest, is the only one living in Bainbridge. Samuel married Lois Atwater, from Connecticut, and settled on the homestead farm, now occupied by his son Samuel and daughter Dinah, a maiden lady, the only two of his

children living in the town, and where he died July 23, 1857, aged 83. His wife died April 2, 1852, aged 75. His other children were Jonas, Mary, who married Elisha Sharp, Titus, Joel, Henry and Asa, of whom only Mary, Joel and Asa are living.

Major Henry Evans was one of the earliest of the Vermont Sufferers to settle in this locality. Precisely what year he came we are unable definitely to determine, but it was probably in or about 1789, the date fixed by another authority,* for it is traditional among his descendants that his death, August 6, 1792, occurred about three years after his settlement here. July 11, 1786, he received patents for lots Nos. 73 and 79, each containing 640 acres, and lot 80, containing 593 acres; and April 5, 1789, a patent was given to Henry Evans, Jr., in pursuance of Acts of the Legislature passed May 5, 1786, and March 20, 1788, for 100 acres in the southernmost part of lot 41.

Major Evans came in with his family, consisting of his wife Abigail, who died April 12, 1821, aged 77, and two sons and six daughters. He settled on lot 80, which lies upon the east border of the county, and the north-west corner of which centers in the Susquehanna. The homestead farm is now occupied in part by his grandson, Weston Evans, and is situated about two and one-half miles east of Bainbridge village. Stephen Stiles had previously settled on this lot, under a title received from Robert Harper, which proved defective. He located nearly a mile from the county line, opposite to where Chapin Underwood now lives. Stiles, after the marriage of his daughter, an only child, to a man named Nye, who lived in Otsego county, went to live with her. He was demented many of the latter years of his life. Lot 73, containing the Bainbridge village plot, was sold by Evans in 1793 to Col. Timothy Church, for eighteen cents an acre. The two remaining lots he retained till his death, at the age of 58 years, and when the youngest of his children became of age, were divided. The death of Major Evans was probably the third one in the town. The stone which marks his grave in the village cemetery at Sidney Plains, bears this quaint and primitive epitaph:—

“This man came to this country

At an early day,

Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,

Or men as fierce and wild as they.”

His children were: Abigail, who married Elijah Curtis, who settled in the same locality at an early day; Anna, who married Orcus Bradt, who settled first on the Delaware, and after the division of the Evans lots, removed to this town; Mehitabel, who married Aaron Owens, who also settled on the Delaware, whence he removed, after the division, to the

portion allotted to his wife, where he died, January 13, 1846, aged 69, and his wife, August 5, 1814, aged 34; Lucy, who married John Compton, who also settled on the Delaware; Lydia, who married Ezra White, an early settler in Sherburne, where both died; Achsa, who married Pardon Redfield, who settled early near the east line of the town, and after the division removed to his wife's portion of land, where both died; and Henry and Josiah. Henry, Jr., married, in Vermont, Sally, daughter of Josiah Rice, of that State, and had two sons when he moved in, Ansel and Newel. He settled near his father, on a part of the homestead farm, where his wife died. He afterwards removed to Bainbridge village and died there, having previously married Sibyl, widow of Edward Davidson, who (Sibyl) died July 29, 1846, aged 80. Henry, Jr., had four children by his first wife, Ansel, Newel, Jehial and Sally, the latter two of whom were born in Bainbridge. Ansel lived on a farm included in the original patent, and died Feb. 10, 1873, aged 83. Newel married Phebe, daughter of Dr. Benjamin Yale, of Guilford, and settled on the site of Bainbridge village, where his wife died Oct. 27, 1826, aged 30. He afterwards removed to Delaware county and married Harriet Webb, of Deposit, where she is still living. He died in that county. Jehial, who was born in 1795, is still living in Bainbridge village, to which he removed in 1800. Sally married Benjamin Jacobs, from Vermont, and removed to Canada, where she died. The children of Henry, Jr., by his second wife were: Maria, who married Warren Jacobs, and is living in Bainbridge; Tirzah, who married Manasseh B. Hadley, now dead; Sibyl, who married Calvin Morley, and is now living in Bainbridge; Dinah, who died at the age of about six years; and Henry, who married Betsey, daughter of John Peters, and is living in Deposit.

Deacon Israel Smith came in about this year (1789,) from Brattleboro, Vt., with his family, which was large, and settled on lot 76, on the east line of the county, opposite the mouth of the Unadilla. His farm lay upon both sides of the Susquehanna, and was a little north of and partly adjoining that of Samuel Bixby. It has since been cut up into smaller farms and is occupied by several individuals. He continued to reside there till his death, June 7, 1811, aged 73. Abigail, his wife, died November 10, 1791, aged 50, and was probably the first female who died in the town. He was one of the first commissioners of highways, also one of the first poormasters in the town. His children were Deacon Israel, Jr., Simeon, Amos, Chloe, Sibyl, Clarina, Asor and Abigail. Deacon Israel, Jr., who was one of the first assessors of Bainbridge, married Electa Church, and settled on the southern portion of the homestead farm, and died

* French's Gazetteer of New York.

there Jan. 27, 1837, aged 72, and his wife, February 23, 1841, aged 72. His farm was afterwards divided among four of his sons, Heber, Rufus, Deacon Elihu and Otis, the latter of whom occupied the homestead, which is now in possession of his son Samuel. The farm of Deacon Elihu, who died October 8, 1865, aged 62, is occupied by his daughter Angeline, who married Amos Clark. Two daughters of Deacon Israel, Jr., Electa and Abigail, maiden ladies, are living in Bainbridge. Simeon, son of Israel, Jr., married Susan Stockwell and settled on the west side of the Susquehanna, opposite the homestead, and died there, leaving a large family, only one of whom, Giles, is living in the town. Amos married Betsey Allason and settled in Colesville. He afterwards removed to Ash-tabula county, Ohio, when that county was new, and died there. Chloe married in Brattleboro, Vt., and remained there. Sibyl married Jared Redfield, who came in as early as 1791, and settled on the west side of the river, opposite her brother Israel, and died near there Feb. 24, 1844, aged 75, and her husband, May 1, 1814, aged 48. Clarina married Asahel Bixby in 1793, and died on the place on which her husband settled May 22, 1847, aged 64. Only one child survives her, Charles, who is living in Bainbridge. Asor married Hepsy Smith and settled on the homestead. He afterwards removed to Afton, where he died childless. Abigail married David McMaster, settled on the east side of and a little above the mouth of the Unadilla, in Otsego county, and afterwards removed to Afton, where she died, leaving two sons, Judge David, now living in Bath, and Cyrus, who died on the homestead in Afton in the early part of 1879.

Settlements were made about this year (1788,) by Abraham Fuller and Gould Bacon from Conn. Bacon settled on lot 76, on the east side of the river, one and one-half miles above Bainbridge, where Nelson Humphrey now lives. He afterwards removed to the mouth of the Unadilla, and died there April 1, 1821, aged 75. He was an eccentric genius, and a bachelor, living alone in a small log hut, which stood upon a low flat, adjacent to the river. He furnished us many anecdotes both as principal and narrator, says William S. Sayre in his *Centennial History of Bainbridge* which we quote, as any of the early settlers. "Of his many hair-breadth escapes by flood and field we briefly relate the following:—

"Bacon's hut was on a low flat, and there occurred in the fall a remarkable flood in the Susquehanna River, referred to in after years as the 'pumpkin freshet,' from the fact that the corn fields along the river were overflowed and pumpkins swept off. Bacon was awakened in the night by the waters, which had risen to cover the floor of the cabin, upon which he slept, and found that it was necessary to move. He made a hasty meal from a pail of cold succotash, and

taking his gun and ax started for higher ground, which, however, he was unable to reach. Owing to the rapidly rising current he was compelled to take passage on a floating log, which lodged with other flood-wood against a tree, where he remained until found by Deacon Israel Smith and taken off in a canoe. While occupying quarters upon the flood-wood he was able to kindle a fire and roast a pumpkin that floated to him, on which he subsisted very comfortably. During his stay a 'painter,' which like himself had been set adrift, came swimming towards his miniature island. When he was sufficiently near Bacon admonished him that he was an unwelcome visitor by a salute from his rifle, and the animal sought some other landing.

"On another occasion prior to this, he shot a large bear on what is known as Humphrey's hill. So fat and heavy was bruin that he found it necessary to go after his oxen in order to remove the carcass to his hut. But the oxen refused to go near enough to the bear to allow him to hook the log-chain. Bacon finally resorted to the stratagem of covering the bear with leaves; he then carefully *backed the oxen up* and hitched the chain around bruin's neck. But as soon as the dead bear made his appearance from under the leaves the oxen cast one terrified look behind and away they went through the woods, over knolls and down the steep hill at the top of their speed. Bacon found it no difficult task to track them to his hut by remnants of the bear, which were strewn along the course they had taken; and he never told the story in after years without a sigh for the large fat bear, the loss of which as a store for his larder he sorely felt and deeply lamented."

Thaddeus Newton came in from Dummerston, Vt., about 1790, and settled in the south part of the town on the farm adjoining that now owned and occupied by his great-grandson, George W. Newton, buying 75 acres in the south-west corner of lot 45, to which he removed three years after, and on which he, his son Amasa, and grandson, Marshall, died,—Thaddeus, in August, 1812, Amasa, in May, 1855, and Marshall, in February, 1864. His children were Charles, who married Sally Jeston, settled on the lot next west of his father's, No. 44, and afterwards removed to Oxford, where he died about 1841; Obediah, who married and settled on the farm adjoining Charles' on the south, and afterwards removed to Ohio, where he died; Amasa, who came in 1793, married Jemima, daughter of James Nichols, an early settler in the town of Afton, on the farm on which his grandson, Samuel G. Nichols, now lives, and where he and his wife died; Betsey, who married James Fraser and died in Bainbridge; and Polly, who married Levi Bemus, and after some years removed from the county; all by his first wife, Jane Smith, who died in Worcester, Mass., during the Revolutionary war. He afterwards married a widow, Sally Belcher, (*nee Bump*;) by whom he had four children, Lucy, who went west while single; Abigail, who married Lloyd

Holcomb and lived and died in Coventry; Jane, who married Martin Slade and lived and died in Coventry; and William S., who married Caroline Annable and is now living in Oxford. Only one grandchild is living in the county, Lucretia, daughter of Amasa, and widow of Chauncey Hyde, in Afton, though numerous descendants are still living in the town, even to the seventh generation.

William Allison came in among the first and settled on the site of the village of Bainbridge. His log hut stood on the south-east corner of Main and Mill streets, where Benjamin F. Newell now lives. He claimed that it was the first, or one of the first, within the limits of the village. He continued to reside there till his death. His son William succeeded him on the homestead, which he afterwards sold and removed to the Charles Bush place, where he died November 20, 1865, aged 81. Sarah, his wife, died February 12, 1839, aged 47. Martin O., son of William, Jr., still occupies the place. William, another son of William, Jr.'s, is living in Michigan. Betsey, daughter of William Allison, Sr., married Amos Smith, and removed with him to Colesville and died there. Joseph Landers was also among the first settlers. His daughter, Relief, who was born in March, 1791, is reputed to have been the first female child born in the town.

James Graham and Jared Redfield settled in the town as early as 1791, probably earlier. Their names appear among the town officers elected that year. Graham settled about a mile below Bainbridge, on the west side of the river, where Walter Higley now lives, and died there. He had two sons and two daughters, James, one of the sons, removed from the town at an early day; and Wm., the other, was a bachelor and occupied the homestead a good many years after his father's death. He sold it to Walter Higley and removed to Afton, where he died August 9, 1872, aged 87. The daughters were Anna, a maiden lady, and another who married Warren Harper, a resident of Windsor. James Graham was one of the first assessors of the town. Jared Redfield was from Connecticut, and settled on the west side of the Susquehanna, near the east line of the town, where Charles Anderson now lives. He died at Lanesboro, Pa., May 1, 1814, aged 48, while returning from Baltimore, whither he had been with a raft of lumber. He married Sibyl, daughter of Deacon Israel Smith, by whom he had a large family. His children were Henry, who died March 11, 1853, aged 62, Asahel, Chester, who died December 27, 1857, aged 60, Abigail, who married John Allen, Julia, who married John Mercereau, Parnold, who married Hiram Fish, Levi and Benjamin, only the latter of whom is living, in Michigan.

Moses, Aaron and Abel Stockwell, brothers, came

in as early as 1792 and settled on the west side of the river. Moses located about a mile above Bainbridge, where Giles Smith, his son-in-law, now lives, and died there March 11, 1857, and 87. Urania, his first wife, died Jan. 28, 1807, aged 37, and Electa, his second wife, Jan. 8, 1864, aged 82. Aaron located just over the line, in Guilford, where he built and operated mills and died. Abel was of a roving disposition and never made a permanent settlement here. He died in Binghamton Sept. 10, 1855, aged 72, and his wife, Emila, April 18, 1852, aged 61. Moses' children were Abel, Eli, Henry, Zenas, Urania, who married Chandler Bixby, Sabra, who married — Thompson, Patience, who married Asa Searles, Leapha, who married and moved west, and Lucinda, who married Giles Smith, of whom Eli, Urania, Sabra and Lucinda, are living. Aaron's children were Leonard, Joel, Thomas, Aaron, Stephen, Malinda, who married Stowell Jacobs, and Susan, who went west with her brother. None of them are living in the county. Abel's children were Davis, Abel, Julia, who married Chester Redfield, Emily, who married Joseph Smith, Leapha, who died in girlhood, Clarissa, who married Cyrus Stockwell, a cousin, Cynthia, who married a man named Bennett, and Betsey Ann, who went west. None of them are living in the county.

David Hitchcock settled on the west side of the river, about a mile above Bainbridge, as early as 1793. He had only a small place, which now forms a part of the Hickok farm, recently sold to a Mr. Clark. He removed with his family to the Genesee country.

Samuel Nourse came in from the New England States as early as 1796 and settled on the east side of the river, about a mile above Bainbridge. The farm has been divided and is occupied at present by Alexander Moody and Russell Williams. He removed to Ohio at an early day and was one of the first settlers of that State. His family, which was large, went with him. James Davidson settled as early as 1797, on 500 acres of the north part of lot 39, in the north-west part of the town; and John Olden, as early as 1795, on 160 acres, the north quarter of lot 48.

John Campbell and Benjamin S. Carpenter made settlements in the town as early as 1800, and Major Frederick Dezang about that year. Campbell was a Scotchman, and settled on the farm next below that of Samuel Nourse, where his grandson Burr C. Campbell now lives, and died there. His children were John, who was a cooper by trade, a shiftless sort of fellow, who raised a large family who were in indigent circumstances, and lived in various places; Archibald, who was also of a roving disposition, and finally left his wife and the town; Margaret, who married David Bateman, and lived and died in the town, Sept. 5, '62, aged 75, and her husband June 7, 1866, aged 89;

Daniel, who is living on the old homestead, aged over eighty, and has been completely deaf the last ten years; and Peter, who went west when a young man. Benjamin S. Carpenter came from Orange county and settled in Bainbridge village, and bought the major portion of the lands comprising the village site. He kept a hotel and engaged in mercantile pursuits, continuing till about 1800 or '12, when becoming pecuniarily involved, he removed to the farm in Afton now occupied by Abel Briggs, about a mile above Afton village, where he died Dec. 28, 1836, aged 70, and Catharine, his wife, April 27, 1827, aged 50. He had eleven children, only two of whom are living, Daniel A., a merchant in Afton, and Martha A., wife of Daniel Carpenter, in Addison, Steuben county. In 1802, Benjamin S. Carpenter donated two acres of land which is now occupied by the Presbyterian church and the village green, to encourage the establishment of a church and school, and to provide a parade ground on certain conditions, which he afterwards claimed were not complied with. He again took possession of it and fenced it. The villagers became incensed at the action and tore down the fence, and such was the opposition manifested that the attempt to reclaim it was practically abandoned. Major Dezang was a Frenchman, and came in from Geneva. He settled on the west side of the river, near the bridge in Bainbridge village. He was one of the proprietors of the turnpike from Esopus to Geneva, and built, in 1805, with his partner, Mr. Olendorff, the first bridge across the Susquehanna in Bainbridge. The work of construction was done by Henry Evans and Luther Thurston. He was engaged in mercantile business in the locality of his settlement till about the close of the war of 1812. His family was one of considerable prominence and business enterprise in their day. His son Richard, after a good many years of active business life spent here, returned to Geneva. His other sons were Philip, William and Arthur. He had two or three daughters, one of whom was named Amelia. One married Dr. Houghtaling, another a man named Griswold, and a third, Richard Lawrence, who came here about the same time as the Dezangs, and was engaged in mercantile and milling business, in company with Richard Dezang. Their mills were located at the mouth of the Unadilla, but have gone to decay.

Orra Myers, a Dutchman and a blacksmith, settled as early as 1801 on the east line and in the north-east corner of the town. His farm is the north-east corner farm in the town, and is now occupied by a son of John Peckham. He worked at his trade in connection with his farm, and died of a cancer. His children were Aaron, who died July 9, 1845, aged 75, Andrew, a daughter who became the wife of Aaron Colton, Dinah and another daughter.

Solomon Warner and Reuben Beals, settled in the town about 1802 or '3. Warner, who was a Revolutionary soldier, came in from New Milford, Conn., and settled on a farm adjoining that of Asahel Bixby on the south-west, on the same lot. The place is now occupied by Hiram Locke. It was originally settled by Jedediah Smith, who came in from the New England States in company with Cyrus Strong, within a few years after the first settlers, as early as 1795, and kept there in company with Strong a store and bartered goods for lumber. Smith was detected in passing counterfeit money and left the town in consequence at an early day. Strong continued his residence in the town some 15 or 20 years, engaged in speculations. He then removed to Binghamton, where he became quite wealthy, and was president of the first bank in that city. Warner lived on the farm till his family was grown up, when his sons Robert B. and Lemuel took it, and he removed to the farm now occupied by Alvah Lyon, where he died Aug. 10, 1839, aged 78, and Rachel, his wife, Feb. 25, 1834, aged 70. Robert B., his son, died June 8, 1865, aged 69. Others of his children were Solomon, Asa, who died Dec. 30, 1866, aged 67, Mercy, who married Arad Stowel, Sally, who married Lewis Newell, an early and prominent merchant in Bainbridge, Zeruah, who married Joseph, son of Eben Landers, Cornelia, who married Ezra Hutchinson, Athalia, who married William Coleman, not one of whom is now living. Athalia, who died in Allegany county in 1879, was the last of the family left. Reuben Beals was from Vermont. He settled on the west side of the river, about a mile above Bainbridge, on the place now occupied by Dr. Garvis Prince, where he kept a tavern at an early day. He afterwards removed to the village and died there Dec. 17, 1843, aged 69, and Hannah, his wife, April 29, 1851, aged 75. His children were James, David, Polly, who married Chauncey Hoffman, Atalanta, who married Hiram Schrom, and died April 30, 1833, aged 30, and Nancy, who became the second wife of Hiram Schrom, who died Sept. 17, 1875, aged 68. Not one of them is living. The last, David, died in the town two years ago.

Thomas Humphrey came in from Connecticut in 1804, with three of his children, Nathaniel, Charles and Johanna, and lived with Abner and Thomas Humphrey, sons by his first wife, who came in several years previously, as early as 1796, and settled on the river road, at what is now known as Humphrey Settlement, Abner where Perry Humphrey, his grandson, now lives, and Thomas where Albert Newell now lives. The elder Humphrey had been a Revolutionary soldier, and was a cripple when he came in. He died in the town. His son Abner died Sept. 20, 1820, aged 54, and Abigail, the latter's wife, Sept. 2,

1829, aged 63. His son Thomas died June 20, 1839, aged 63, and Sela, his wife, Dec. 7, 1835, aged 59. He had seven children by his first wife and three by his second. Nathaniel, who is living in Bennettsville with his son, Oren H. Humphrey, in his 90th year, is the only one living. James H. Humphrey, another son by his first wife, took up, in company with his brother-in-law, John Pratt, a part of the farm now occupied by Albert Newell. He died Oct. 1, 1846, aged 63, and Lydia, his wife, Sept. 30, 1856, aged 68.

Daniel Hyde, who was born in Lebanon, Conn., Sept. 11, 1782, settled in Bainbridge soon after 1800, and married Oct. 28, 1828, Clarissa, daughter of James and Eunice (Guthrie) Graham, who was born at Sharon, Conn., Dec. 27, 1786. Their first child, Amanda M., was born here Oct. 20, 1809. She married Collins Allen, of Colesville, where they settled, and she died May 30, 1854. The family removed, about 1815, to Colesville, and subsequently to Mentor, Ohio, where he died April 3, 1841.

Silas Fairchild came in from Dummerston, Vt., in 1806, and settled at Bainbridge, where he worked at carpentering and cabinet-making, and died. He had nine children, only two of whom are living, Silas in Afton village, and Jesse in Oneonta.

Following are other of the early settlers, some of them, in all probability, among the first, but we have been unable to determine definitely the date of settlement:—Reuben Bump, James B. Nichols, Edward Prince, Abel Conant, Thomas, Samuel, Henry and Mott Pearsall, Charles Curtis, David Sears, Samuel Banks, John Y. Bennett, John Thompson, Eli Seely, Richard L. Lawrence, Jabez S. Fitch, Orange Benton, Abner Searls, Jacob, Thomas and James Ireland, William, Charles, Daniel and Samuel Lyon, Seth Johnson and John Nichols.

Reuben Bump came from the East and settled on the east side of the Susquehanna, in the east part of the town, where Eleazer Spencer's family now reside. He afterwards removed to Afton and died there July 29, 1868, aged 91. Jerusha, his wife, died March 12, 1855, aged 76. He had two sons and a daughter, Josiah, who moved to the locality of Elmira, Carpenter, who is now living in Baltimore. James B. Nichols settled at West Bainbridge, on the place now occupied by his son Thomas. He had one other son, James, who removed to Steuben county. Edward Prince came in from Connecticut and settled on the south line of lot 71, on the place now owned by Judge Smith, of Cortland, and occupied by William Benner, and died there. His children were, Noble, Caesar, Jervis, Huldah, a maiden lady, a daughter who married Ephraim Hill, Electa, who married Jacob Ireland, and a daughter, who married a man named Vibbard, and resided in Otsego county. All are

dead. Abel Conant came from Vermont and settled in the north-east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by the widow of Henry Scott, and died there. He had a numerous family. Mrs. Stephen Pettys living at West Bainbridge is a daughter. The Pearsalls came from the East. Thomas settled on the brook, on the south part of lot 71, on the place now occupied by the widow of his son Robert, and died there; Samuel, on the north line of the town, directly north of Bainbridge, where his grandson, James Pearsall, now lives, and died there; Henry, on the farm adjoining Samuel's on the west, where his grandson, Sherman Pearsall now lives, and died there; and Mott, on the west side of the brook, opposite Thomas', from which he afterwards moved. Thomas' children were Sutton, William, Thomas, Joseph, Gilbert, Nathaniel, Jemima, who died unmarried, Sally, who married William Bush, Amy, who married Asa Warner, and Phebe, who married Albert Neally. None of them are living in the county. Samuel had a numerous family of children, among whom were Samuel and Amos. Charles Curtis settled first one and one-half miles above Bainbridge, on the west side of the river, and started the hat business, which he afterward carried on in the village, where, after living retired some years, he died. His children were Charles, George, Adaline, who married Colonel Hiram Schrom, Helen, who married Henry A. Clark, a lawyer in Bainbridge. Both daughters are living in Bainbridge. David Sears came in from Connecticut. He bought the Gould Bacon farm, on which he died. His children were Lucretia, who married Philip Dezang, Polly, who married Henry Redfield, Amelia, who married David Knapp, David, Isaac and Talcott, all of whom are dead. Samuel Banks, who was born April 18, 1755, settled on the west side of the river, about three-fourths of a mile below Bainbridge, on the place now occupied by his grandson, John Banks, where he and his son William died, the former June 24, 1826, and the latter, who was born September 27, 1783, March 24, 1855. Charity, wife of Samuel, who was born September 28, 1760, died December 2, 1848. His other children were Pernelia, who married Isaac Seely, and died April 6, 1828, aged 46, and a daughter who married Sutton Pearsall and is also dead. John Y. Bennett was from the New England States. He settled on the west side of the river, near the mouth of the Unadilla. He had a large family of daughters, and, though a farmer, it is believed that he never took up land, and that he went west quite early. John Thompson settled on the north line of the town, east of the Pearsalls who settled in that locality, on the farm now occupied by John Parsons, where he died. His children were Henry and Jacob, who went west, Kate, and another daughter

who married an Ingersoll. Eli Seely settled on the west side of the river, about two and one-half miles below Bainbridge, where Homer Bristol now lives. He afterwards removed to Afton, and died there by choking September 20, 1850, aged 88. He was twice married. His first wife, Sally, died in Bainbridge, November 5, 1821, aged 51, and his second, Ann, January 23, 1866, aged 57. The Lyons were in as early as 1792.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The following were the first town officers of Bainbridge, elected April 19, 1791, at a meeting of which Captain Israel Smith was moderator: Supervisor, Phineas Bennett; Town Clerk, John Salisbury; Assessors, James Phelps, Samuel Bixby, James Graham, Benjamin Jones and Orlando Bridgeman; Constables, Israel Smith, Jr., and Seth Stone; Commissioners, Israel Smith, Joshua Mercereau and Benjamin Jones; Poor-Masters, Israel Smith and Hezekiah Stowel; Pathmasters, Isaac Fuller, Jared Redfield, Joseph Bicknell, Asa Stowel, John Allison, Eleazer Church and Rufus Wells.

At the town meeting held in 1792, a bounty of forty shillings each was voted for the destruction of "wolves and painters." The following year the bounty on wolves was increased to three pounds sterling, in addition to the State bounty. The town legislation respecting these forest pests sufficiently indicate how troublesome they were to the persons and flocks of the settlers. At the latter meeting it was also voted that swine should not be allowed to run at large in that part of *Jericho* called *Clinton*.

The town records show that in the division of school moneys in Tioga county June 4, 1796, the amount apportioned to *Jericho* was 36£, 19s., 10d., "payable as soon as the moneys came into the county treasury for the current year," and the further sum of 59£, 10s., 2d., payable the 1st of April following. The first school in Bainbridge of which we have any information was established about that time in the village. Lots 50 and 51 in the present town of Afton were reserved, the former for the School and the latter for the Literature lot.

The following list of the officers of the town of Bainbridge, for the year 1880-81, was kindly furnished by E. S. Gilbert:—

Supervisor—Don A. Gilbert.
Town Clerk—E. S. Gilbert.
Justices—John D. Newell, Henry Robertson, Reuben Fosberry, C. P. Perry.
Assessors—Edward Loomis, Joseph Juliand, David W. Fredenburgh.
Commissioner of Highways—T. C. Northrup.
Overseer of the Poor—James W. Smith.
Constables—George Ayelsworth, W. M. Hastings, Lyman Redfield, Addison Benedict.
Collector—Frank Davis.

Inspectors of Election—Manville Stilson, H. T. Green, A. M. Akerley.

Town Auditors—M. T. Johnson, Ezra P. Church, J. B. Sands.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—F. B. Phinney.

Game Constable—William Houghton.

Excise Commissioners—Corsman Ireland, Curtis Cooper, N. A. Humphrey.

BAINBRIDGE VILLAGE.

BAINBRIDGE is pleasantly situated on the west bank of the Susquehanna, nestled among the finely sloping hills which bound the tortuous valley of that river. It is a station on the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad, by which it is distant 108 miles from Albany and 35 from Binghamton. It is surrounded by a thrifty farming community and is increasing in population and commercial importance. It contains five churches (Presbyterian, Baptist, M. E., Episcopal and Free Methodist,) a Union graded school, one newspaper office, (*The Bainbridge Republican*, Harvey Ireland, proprietor,) one bank, two hotels, some 18 stores of various kinds, a saw-mill, bending works and saw-mill, a grist-mill, two carriage shops, (Augustus A. Priest and Milton Lyon, proprietors,) four blacksmith shops, (H. D. Bingham, Davy & Esterbrook, Buell Smith and Charles Phinney, proprietors,) one millinery shop, (Mrs. Salisbury, proprietor,) a livery, kept by Willard M. Hastings, two marble dealers, (Leroy Scott and L. B. Clark,) a merchant tailor, (John D. Leith,) and a population of about 1,800.

The river is spanned at this point by a wooden bridge, which was built about 1853, in which year the former bridge on this site was swept away by a freshet. It is 420 feet long and consists of four spans. It was built by the Bainbridge Bridge Company, by whom it was managed as a toll bridge, and was bought by the town in 1874 for \$7,500.

The village was incorporated April 21, 1829, and the first officers were elected May 5th of that year, as follows:—Trustees, Richard Juliand, Jehial Evans, Theodore Daniels, Charles Curtis and Robert Harper; Assessors, Ansel Evans, Ebenezer Munger and Eli Farnham; Clerk, William D. Purple; Constable, Henry Redfield; Collector, William Shaw, Jr.; Treasurer, Dexter Newell; Pound Keeper, Theodore Daniels; Overseer of Highways, Lawrence C. Conklin. At a meeting of the trustees held May 14, 1829, Richard W. Juliand was elected President of the Board.

Following is a list of the Presidents and Clerks of the village from 1829 to 1879:—

YEARS.	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1829.	Richard W. Juliand.	William D. Purple.
1830-1.	do.	William S. Sayre.
1832.	D. Newell.	do.

YEARS.	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1833.	Levi Bigelow.	Daniel Castle.
1834.	William S. Sayre,	do.
1835.	Levi Bigelow.	George M. Smith.
1836.	William S. Sayre.	Isaac Bush.
1837.	Wm. S. Sayre.	J. E. Owens.
1838.	Winthrop Fairchild.	Richard Griswold.
1839.	Henry Redfield.	M. W. Seely.
1840.	Elisha Bishop.	Newel Evans.
1841.	Hiram Schrom.	Moses Burgess.
1842.	A. K. Maynard.	Simeon "Sheparson."
1843.	Hiram Schrom.	do.
1844.	Moses Burgess.	do.
1845.	Blin. S. Sill.	do.
1846.	Wm. S. Sayre.	do.
1847.	Stephen M. Brown.	A. G. Owens.
1848.	R. W. Juliand.	do.
1849.	Stephen M. Brown.	Theodore B. Fairchild.
1850-1	Wm. H. McCollom.	do.
1852.	Henry A. Clark.	do.
1853.	Wm. S. Sayre.	do.
1854.	O. B. Tyler.	do.
1855.	A. A. Comstock.	C. A. Clark.
1856.	Wm. S. Sayre.	John D. Newell.
1857.	Richard Griswold.	do.
1858.	D. D. Bullock.	do.
1859-60.	Henry A. Clark.	do.
1861.	Joseph Kirby.	do.
1862.	A. B. Smith.	do.
1863.	W. W. Davis.	Daniel Bullock.*
1864-5.	Joseph Juliand, 2d.	J. D. Newell.
1866.†		do.
1867.	Wm. W. Davis.	do.
1868.	Geo. H. Winsor.	do.
1869.	Isaac Sterling.	do.
1870.	Charles Bixby.	Alfred A. Van Horne.
1871.‡	Wallace W. Davis.	Charles B. Sumner.
1871.‡	Joseph Juliand.	Asa J. Yale.
1872.	Brown Dimock.	Charles B. Sumner.
1873.	Wm. W. Davis.	do.
1874.	Clark Butts.	do.
1875-6.	Brown Dimock.	Alfred A. Van Horne.
1877.	Wallace W. Davis.	do.
1878.	Charles M. Priest.	do.
1879.	Clark Butts.	do.

The following named village officers were elected March 18, 1879:—

President—Clark Butts.
 Trustees—Luman B. Clark, Joseph Juliand and Harvey Ireland.
 Treasurer—Charles M. Priest.
 Collector—Frank B. Phinney.

The boundaries of the village were changed April 30, 1864.

* Daniel Bullock refused to serve, and J. D. Newell was appointed in his place.

† The records do not show who was President in 1866.

‡ A special election was held January 3, 1871, in conformity with the provisions of an Act of the Legislature, relating to the election of village officers, passed April 20, 1870, the electors of the village having decided, Dec. 3, 1870, by a vote of 79 to 68, to incorporate under that act, which makes elective the office of President, which had previously been filled by appointment by the trustees, and appointive the office of Clerk, which had hitherto been elective.

§ Elected at the annual election held March 21, 1871.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in Bainbridge of whom we have any authentic information was Albert Minor, who was doing business in 1805, but had discontinued previous to 1812. He removed to Ohio. Major Frederick Dezang was probably the next merchant. His store stood near the end of the bridge, on the west side of the river. He traded as late as 1815, but probably not long after the close of the war. Richard Dezang, his son, and Richard Lawrence, his son-in-law, succeeded him, and traded in an oldgamble-roof building, which for many years thereafter, stood on the site of J. Mitchell Roberts' residence, to which it was removed from the site of the "Mammoth block," near the Park Hotel, in 1818, in which year they erected a new building on the latter site. Dezang & Lawrence sold a few years later to Judge Peter Betts and Jabez S. Fitch, who dissolved after trading a few years, Betts continuing in the same store, in company with his son Peter, and Fitch in one built by him on the corner diagonally opposite, where the new brick block now stands. After about two years Judge Betts was succeeded by his son-in-law, Robert Harper, who continued in trade till about 1831 or '2, in company with the younger Betts, who afterwards did business alone. Fitch continued in trade till about 1842 or '3, when he sold to Ansel Evans and Josiah E. Owens, who traded some three or four years. Mr. McEwen, a connection of Judge Betts', traded three or four years from about 1823.

Lewis Newell commenced mercantile business about 1810 and continued till about 1814, when he removed to Oneonta. His store was the building now occupied as a residence by Jehial Evans. He also carried on blacksmithing very extensively. — Parker succeeded Newell in the same store and did business a good many years.

William Shaw was granted a license to keep a grocery May 28, 1829; but whether he had previously been engaged in mercantile business, and how long he continued to trade we are not advised. He was a butcher and followed that business a good many years. In 1830 a license was granted to Elisha Sharpe to open a grocery. He traded about three or four years. Sharpe lost an arm the day preceding the Fourth of July celebration in the village in 1828 or '9, by the premature discharge of a cannon, which had then recently been received for the use of the artillery company which had been organized in this vicinity. The discharge forced the ramrod through a part of the body of John Reese, and tore off the right arm of Dr. William Knapp and the left arm of Elisha Sharpe.

Moses Gaylord Benjamin and Albert Neally commenced mercantile business on opposite sides of the street about 1820. Benjamin continued till his death Jan. 18, 1833, the latter part of the time in company

with Dexter Newell, who continued till his death, June 17, 1850, and a part of the time with Ellicot Kidder. Neally traded some three or four years, in company with Moses Burgess, who afterwards engaged in the foundry business in Bainbridge, which he carried on till his death Oct. 9, 1865. In 1866, the foundry passed into the hands of Don A. Gilbert, who was engaged in mercantile business from 1863 to 1866, was burned in 1867, re-built in 1868 and again burned in 1875. The saw-mill attached, now owned by Porter Van Horne, was not burned. Neally went west.

Abraham Owens, who married a daughter of Dexter Newell, commenced trading shortly before the death of the latter and continued till near the opening of the war, when he removed to Unadilla.

About 1834, Stephen Brown and Josiah B. Northrop commenced the tinsmith business, to which hardware and subsequently dry goods were added. They continued in company till about 1860, having been associated some seven or eight years the latter part of the time with Ozias B. Tyler. Northrop went west; so also did Brown a few years later. Tyler still resides in the village.

Wallace W. Davis and — Chaffee commenced trading about 1860. After about two years Chaffee withdrew and returned to Unadilla, from whence he came. Davis continued till he was burned out in February, 1878, a part of the time in company with Gilbert Sherwood, his brother-in-law.

Dudley Bullock came in from California and commenced trading a few years previous to the war, in which he participated as Captain of a company in the 114th Reg't, raised in this town. He did not again engage in mercantile business. Daniel Bullock, his nephew, from Oswego county, in company with Don A. Gilbert, succeeded to Dudley's business. After a year or two Bullock sold to Joel Bixby. Bixby & Gilbert sold to Mitchell Roberts and Ransom Mitchell, who after two or three years sold to Clark Butts and James K. Whitmore from Otsego county. They sold after about three years to — Conkling, who traded about two years.

Following are the present merchants in Bainbridge: *Gaylord S. Graves*, furniture dealer, who came from Mt. Upton, and has traded here since 1849, for two years in company with Mrs. Harriet Seely; *Mrs. Helen B. Campbell*, a native of Norwich, dealer in dry goods and millinery goods, who about 1872 succeeded her husband, Theodore R. Campbell, who commenced the dry goods and grocery business about 1870, millinery goods having been substituted for groceries in the spring of 1878; *Charles M. Frisbie*, druggist, who came from Delaware county, and has traded since November, 1871; *Charles M. Priest*, general merchant, a native of Bainbridge, who came

from Masonville, Delaware county, where he had been engaged in mercantile business in 1872, since which time he has traded here, in company in 1873 and '4 with Bennett P. Van Horne; *Garriss Prince*, hardware dealer, who came from New York, and commenced business in 1875, in company with George L. Babcock, with whom he was associated one year; *Luman B. Clark*, grocer, who has resided in the village since May 17, 1855, and been engaged in mercantile business here since 1876; *A. Frank Moses*, druggist, who came from Clymer, Chautauqua county, where he had carried on the same business, and bought out L. A. Wright in 1876; *Joseph B. Ehrich*, jeweler, a native of Brooklyn, who came here from Oak Hill, Greene county, and succeeded his brother, Samuel S. Ehrich, who commenced the business in December, 1876; *Isaac G. Hancock*, dealer in boots and shoes, who came from Syracuse and commenced business in March, 1877; *Mrs. Julia Ann Holcomb*, milliner, who came from Troy in 1869, in the interest of her sister, Mrs. George R. Salisbury, who established the business the previous year, and in September, 1877, sold to the present proprietor; *John M. Roberts*, grocer and dealer in lime, plaster and cement, who has also been station agent at Bainbridge since 1870, commenced the dry goods business in 1865, which he continued about two years in company with Ransom Mitchell, and the grocery business in Dec., 1877; *Charles P. Perry*, hardware dealer, who came from Unadilla March 16, 1878, having carried on the same business there some four years, in company with W. H. Heslop; *Henry Walker Curtis*, general merchant, commenced business here April 1, 1878, having previously carried on the same business at Mt. Upton and Sidney Plains, from the latter of which places he came here; *Thomas Jefferson Lyon*, dealer in groceries, boots and shoes, a native of Bainbridge, who commenced business in the spring of 1878, at which time he bought the stock of his brother-in-law, J. R. Kelley, who had carried on the business some twenty years; *Adelbert L. Palmer*, general merchant, who commenced business Oct. 1, 1878, having previously resided in the village some thirteen years; *T. Van Alstine*, confectioner, who came from Philmont, Columbia county, and commenced business in April, 1879; *Nathan Hoppe*, who came from Elmira, and commenced business May 7, 1879; and *Frank W. Crain*, jeweler, who came from Laurens, Otsego county, in 1876, and commenced business June 1, 1879.

POSTMASTERS.—The first post-office in the town of *Jericho* was established in a house which stood about twenty rods east of the residence of Dr. Garvis Prince. It was kept by Eliab Skeel and David Hitchcock, but which was first cannot now be determined.

It was kept there about three years, and removed to Bainbridge village in 1805, when the bridge was built there. The mail was brought on horseback from Catskill once a week. The locality first mentioned had been surveyed and laid out with a view to its becoming the village, and a tavern was kept there then and several years afterwards by Reuben Beals, in a little frame building which occupied the site of Dr. Prince's residence while the post-office was located there. But the building of the bridge about a mile below determined the location of the village there and the removal of the office also.

The first postmaster after the removal of the office to Bainbridge was Hon. John C. Clark, who held the office till his election to Congress in 1826, when his son-in-law, Col. Moses G. Benjamin, was appointed, and held it till his death, Jan. 18, 1833. He was succeeded by Dexter Newell, who held it till 1849, when Abram G. Owens was appointed. Samuel L. Banks succeeded Owens, and held it till his death, Sept. 22, 1853, when Simeon Shepardson was appointed. He and Col. Hiram Schrom filled the interval till 1861, when Edward H. Van Horne was appointed, and held the office three or four years. He was succeeded by Theron R. Hollister, who held it till his removal to Binghamton. Blin S. Sill next held it till his death in 1873. John W. Cudworth next held it till April 1, 1877, when Frederick J. Nichols, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Bainbridge, of whom we have any information, was Dr. Porter, a skillful physician, but intemperate man, who practiced here as early as 1805, and for several years thereafter. Dr. Houghtaling was contemporary with him. Nathan Boynton, who was located at Bettsburgh, also extended his practice to this locality at an early day. William Knapp came in soon after 1805 and practiced as late as 1836, but left soon after. Charles B. Nichols was a contemporary practitioner with Knapp, and left about 1845. Knapp went to the locality of Tioga Point, and Nichols to Vermont. William D. Purple, of Greene, practiced here from 1824 to 1830. Erastus Root and Ebenezer Munger were practicing here in 1827. The latter continued till about 1840. Both joined the County Medical Society in 1822. P. Smith took a farm at an early day, and afterwards removed to the village, continuing practice till about 1826 or '27. Hinman Hoffman, a very skillful physician, who was licensed in New Hampshire, practiced here over fifty years ago, and occasionally till his death. He lived near the mouth of the Unadilla. Elam Bartlett and — Cooke were practicing here in 1843, also S. W. Corbin, M. D., who joined the County Medical Society in 1830. Bartlett died Jan. 9, 1862, aged 53.

Blin Smith Sill, who was born April 3, 1809, was practicing here as early as 1839, in which year he joined the County Medical Society. He continued practice till his death in 1873. He married Catharine A. Lathrop, who died May 11, 1845, leaving three children, Arabella, Stella and Erastus L.

Dr. McLaury came from Delaware county about —, and practiced four or five years. He returned to Delaware county.

J. W. Freiot, M. D., who was born Nov. 14, 1801, came from Troy about 1843, and resided here till his death, Nov. 14, 1875, though he practiced but little. He was a man of large property. His widow and two children still reside in the village. William Purinton, M. D., came here from Harpersfield, where he had previously practiced, about 1840, and practiced till his death, June 23, 1855, aged 61. Eliza R., his wife, died July 15, 1866, aged 58. Charles A. Clark was practicing here in 1854, and Cyrus N. Brown in 1859, in which years they joined the County Medical Society. John Yale, from Guilford, practiced here eight or ten years from about 1861. Drs. Whitney and Van Horne, the latter from Otsego county, came here some twenty years ago and practiced, the former about seven or eight and the latter about ten years. Isaac D. Meacham came from Triangle in 1866, and practiced here till 1879.

The present physicians are Robert D. L. Evans, Heman D. Copley and Orville J. Wilsey.

Robert D. L. Evans was born in Bainbridge May 30, 1835. He studied medicine in Pittsfield, Mass., with Dr. A. M. Smith. He entered the Berkshire Medical College in Pittsfield in 1855, and was graduated Nov. 22, 1858. He commenced practice the latter year in Lee, Mass., and removed thence in 1862 to Bainbridge, where he has since practiced.

Heman D. Copley was born in Harpersfield, N. Y., Jan. 21, 1851, and studied medicine at Davenport, in his native county, with Dr. J. E. Norwood. He entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1871, and was graduated March 3, 1875. He commenced practice in 1875 at Chatham, N. J., and removed thence in 1876 to Bainbridge.

Orville J. Wilsey was born in Otego, N. Y., Oct. 17, 1854, and commenced the study of medicine, at Unadilla, with Dr. Joseph Sweet. In 1876 he entered the University of the City of New York, where he was graduated Feb. 19, 1878, having during the intermediate year (1877) attended a course of medical lectures in Albany. He commenced practice at West Oneonta and removed thence to Bainbridge May 28, 1879.

LAWYERS.—Simon G. Throop, who resided at Oxford, was the first lawyer who practiced here.

The first resident lawyer was John C. Clark, who was born in Connecticut, Jan. 14, 1793, and was graduated

from Williams College in 1811. He removed from Massachusetts to Hamilton, and from thence, after a brief residence, to Bainbridge, about 1818. He was elected District Attorney of this county in Oct., 1823; and represented it in the Assembly in 1826, and in Congress from 1827 to '29 and again from 1837 to '43. About the close of his last Congressional term he gave up the practice of law and removed to Chemung county, where he engaged in the lumber business. He died there Oct. 25, 1852. He was an eminent lawyer.

William S. Stow came in about 1820 and practiced till about 1825, when he removed to Wayne county, where he practiced a good many years. John B. McCrea came about 1828, and after practicing a year or two returned to Saratoga county, whence he came, and where he soon after died. Horace Dresser came in about 1835 or '6 and practiced some three or four years, a part of the time in company with John C. Clark. He removed to New York and practiced there a number of years. George M. Smith came from Norwich about 1836-'40, and after practicing three or four years returned and died there. He was elected District Attorney of this county in 1841 and again in 1844.

Isaac Bush, son of Joseph and Betsey Bush, of Bainbridge, where he was born, studied law with his brother-in-law, William S. Sayre, in company with whom, after his admission, about 1836, he practiced some five years. He continued practice here till his death June 16, 1843, aged 32.

James M. Banks, a native of Bainbridge, read law in Oxford with James Clapp, and commenced practice in Bainbridge about 1848, with William S. Sayre, with whom he continued five or six years, when he removed to Chicago, where he now resides. He was elected District Attorney of this county in June, 1847, holding the office till November, 1850.

George L. Winsor, from Guilford, read law with William S. Sayre and his uncle, George H. Winsor, with whom, after his admission in June, 1854, he practiced till shortly before his death, in 1878.

John Beverly, from Herkimer county, came in 1871 and practiced for awhile with Charles B. Sumner, and afterwards, for a short time, alone. He went to Grand Rapids, Mich.

Arba K. Maynard came from Sherburne, where he had previously practiced, in 1835, and practiced here three or four years. He was a man of some talent and acquired some notoriety in the county. He removed from here to New York, where he was Judge of the Marine Court some six years. He was subsequently in Minnesota, and was at one time the Democratic candidate for Governor of that State.

The present attorneys are William S. Sayre, Henry

A. Clark, George H. Winsor, Charles B. Sumner, Leroy Bennett and Elliot Danforth.

William Strong Sayre was born in Romulus, N. Y., March 5, 1803. He was graduated from Hamilton in 1824, and read law at Norwich with David Buttolph and Charles A. Thorp, and afterwards in Bainbridge with John C. Clark in company with whom, after his admission in October, 1827, he practiced about four years. He has since practiced here without intermission, having been associated at different times with Isaac Bush, James M. Banks, George H. Winsor and Leroy Bennett, with the latter of whom he has been in company about two years, under the name of Sayres & Bennett. He was Justice of the Peace from 1833 to '37; Supervisor of Bainbridge in 1840 and '58; and Presidential Elector in 1856.*

Henry A. Clark was born in Sidney, Delaware county, August 3, 1818, and pursued his legal studies in Buffalo, with John L. Talcott, now Judge of the Supreme Court of this State. He was admitted to the bar in 1841, and commenced practice in Bainbridge, where he has since continued. He was a State Senator from the 23d District, embracing this county, in 1862 and '63, and was chairman of the Committee on Internal Affairs.

George H. Winsor was born in Guilford, N. Y., March 23, 1815, and read law in Delhi with A. & E. Parker, and subsequently in Masonville with George Ketchum. He was admitted in 1854, and commenced practice that year at Masonville. He removed thence November 20, 1855, to Bainbridge, where he has since practiced. He was a Member of Assembly from Delaware county in 1850.

Charles B. Sumner was born in New Berlin, N. Y., August 18, 1847, and read law in his native town with Henry Bennett. He was admitted May 12, 1869, and commenced practice in Bainbridge August 10th of that year, in company with Horatio N. Warner, who came in with him from Utica, to which city he (Warner,) returned after two months' practice. Mr. Sumner was subsequently in company with Melville Keyes, who came in from Oneonta in October, 1869, and returned there the following spring. Mr. Sumner was Special Judge of this county from January, 1873, to January, 1877.

Leroy Bennett was born in Bennettsville in this town September 12, 1837, and pursued legal studies three or four years with Henry A. Clark, of Bainbridge. He was admitted at the General Term in Binghamton in May, 1877; in February, 1878, he commenced practice with William S. Sayre, with whom he still continues.

Elliot Danforth was born in Middleburgh, N. Y., March 6, 1850, and read law in the office of his

* He died since the above was written, January 20, 1880.

father, Judge Peter S. Danforth, of Middleburgh, where, after his admission at the January General Term at Albany, in 1872, he commenced practice. He removed thence to Bainbridge, August 10, 1878, and formed a law partnership with George H. Winsor, which still continues. In 1874, Mr. Danforth, by invitation delivered a Fourth of July oration in Bainbridge. He then formed the acquaintance of Miss Ida, daughter and only child of Dr. Garvis Prince of that village, and December 17th of that year he was united in marriage with her.

BANKS.—The Phoenix Bank of Bainbridge, which was doing business March 21, 1853, was the first bank in Bainbridge. L. S. Banks was then president. The bank was started by a man named Houghton from Vermont, and occupied a small building which stood on the site of the Park Hotel. It has since been removed and is now occupied as a law office by Winsor & Danforth. It was a bank of issue, but did not do business long.

About 1867, J. E. Dutton & Co. started a banking business in the building now occupied as a harness shop by Charles Colburn. They afterwards removed to the Prince Block, the place now occupied by the Bainbridge Bank, and did business several years. George Carver and F. H. Crassons afterwards did business some two years, and G. H. Carver and O. B. Tyler, under the name of G. H. Carver & Co., about a year in the same place. The latter were succeeded by the present bankers, Zachariah Curtis & Co., (I. M. and M. Curtis and H. Westover,) who commenced business in December, 1876, which they continue under the name of the Bainbridge Bank. Z. Curtis is president and I. M. Curtis cashier.

MANUFACTURES.—The manufactures of Bainbridge, aside from the various shops incident to a village of its size, consist of a grist-mill and two saw-mills. The grist-mill is owned by Jehial Evans and is operated by Wallace May. It was built in 1823, by Jehial and Newell Evans. A saw-mill was built in connection with it and put in operation that year. The grist-mill was not got in operation till 1827. It contains two run of stones, which are propelled by water from the Susquehanna, with twenty inches head. One saw-mill is owned and operated by Porter Van Horne, and the other by Don A. Gilbert; both are propelled by steam. With the former was formerly connected a foundry, which was built by Messrs. Gilbert & Bixby in 1868, and burned in 1875. The latter was in process of erection July 1, 1879, at which time the frame was up and partially enclosed, and an engine of thirty-horse power and one large circular saw in operation. The building is a wooden structure, 32 by 60 feet, and three stories high, and is situated

contiguous to the depot. Mr. Gilbert proposed putting in either bending works or a grist mill, in which he was undecided.

HOTELS.—The Park Hotel was built in 1867, by Orrin Atwater, who kept it four or five years. The present proprietor, Orrin W. Day, took possession of it May 7, 1877. The Central House was built in 1806 by Cyrus Strong. Isaac H. Willsey, the present proprietor, took possession in 1877. He came here from Schenectady. Josiah Rice was keeping an inn a little south of the rectory about 1810 or '11. Luther Thurston probably kept the first tavern on the site of the Central House. The building is still standing, having been surrounded by additions. The work was done by Henry Evans, son of Major Henry Evans, who was an excellent mechanic and built a great many houses in Bainbridge.

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 11, IN THE VILLAGE OF BAINBRIDGE.—March 16, 1868, P. M. Packard, E. W. Thomas, Blin S. Sill, Charles Bixby, R. W. Akerley, D. A. Gilbert, Joseph Juliand 2d, W. M. Newton, G. A. Dodge, A. J. Yale, L. B. Yale, Dwight S. Scott, T. R. Hollister, J. W. Treadway, Giles Hayes and H. L. Marsh, lawful citizens of school district No. 13, in the village of Bainbridge, requested the trustees of that district to call a meeting of the inhabitants thereof, for the purpose of determining whether a Union Free School should be established therein, in conformity with Title Nine of the General School Laws of this State, as amended by the laws of 1865, '66 and '67. March 18, 1868, A. Campbell, O. B. Tyler and I. D. Meacham, trustees of said district, issued a call for a meeting for that purpose, to be held at the school-house in said district, on Monday, March 30, 1868. At that meeting, of which A. Converse was chosen chairman, and J. D. Newell, clerk, the following was unanimously adopted:—

"Resolved, That we the inhabitants of School District No. 13, in the village of Bainbridge, regarding the means of instruction in said district inadequate to the public demands therein, and being confident that a Union Free School would better accommodate, more fully meet the wants and better subserve the ends of education of the people thereof, do change the same into a Union Free School District, in conformity with chapter 555, of the laws of 1864, as amended by the laws of 1865, '66, and '67."

The following Board of Education was then elected: H. L. Marsh, G. A. Dodge, and A. J. Yale for one year; Charles Bixby, G. S. Graves and W. W. Davis, for two years; and B. S. Sill, D. A. Gilbert and A. Converse for three years.

At a meeting of the Board, held April 9, 1868, A. Converse was elected President, and G. A. Dodge, Clerk; and Asa J. Yale was appointed Treasurer, and G. S. Graves, Collector.

During this time, but just when does not appear, the number of the district was changed from 13 to 10.

April 14, 1868, notice was given of a meeting to be held on the 27th of that month to take into consideration the question of securing a site and erecting suitable school buildings thereon, but what action was taken does not appear from the records, which are very incomplete, entirely deficient with regard to the earlier action taken for the formation of the Union school, for information respecting which we necessarily had recourse to the local newspapers. It appears, however, from subsequent action that this was not consummated, for Jan. 10, 1871, we find it recorded that at a special meeting held that day, it was resolved to authorize the Board to levy a tax of \$4,500 upon the taxable property of the district, to be used with the avails of the old school-house in purchasing land in addition to the present site and building a new school-house thereon.

April 15, 1871, the job of building a school-house was let to Northrup & Thayer for \$4,000. When the foundation was nearly completed, a suit was commenced by the Wardens and Vestry of St. Peter's church, Bainbridge, involving the question of title to the land. Pending the litigation which ensued, building operations were suspended, and school was held in the basement of Mrs. J. J. Bixby's residence on Bridge street, and in the basement of the Baptist church.

The suit was terminated by the acceptance, March 8, 1873, of the first of two propositions presented by Joseph Juliand, Charles B. Sumner and John Banks, as a committee of the Vestry of St. Peter's church, as follows:—

"We, the Vestry of St. Peter's church, for the purpose of settling a certain suit now pending in the Supreme Court, * * * hereby offer the Board of Education of School District No. 11, in the town of Bainbridge, the following propositions, to wit:—

"1st. That said church will pay the sum of \$350 to said Board of Education upon receiving from said Board a quit-claim deed of all their right, title and interest in and to the old school-house site now in litigation between these parties * * * said Vestry allowing the members of said Board of Education to remove the foundation stone now upon said old school-house site.

"2d. In case said Board of Education, by and with the consent of the majority of the said district, shall purchase the premises of R. W. Akerley in said town, we hereby offer \$300 and the foundation stone as above, and to give said district a warranty deed of as many square feet of land north-east of the Akerley property as are contained in the old school-house site or within two feet of the school-house now standing on the church land, excepting and reserving the right of way along the south-west side of said school-house to the rear of the same."

This settlement was ratified at a meeting of the inhabitants of the district, and it was decided to sell the 50 by 20 feet of land purchased adjacent to the old school-house site to Joseph Juliand for \$50, the amount paid for it to H. C. Clark. The amount paid for the foundation was \$300. The consent of the Supervisor, Gilbert Sherwood, to the change of site was given March 5, 1873.

The site selected and adopted March 8, 1873, is one acre of land situated on Richard W. Juliand's farm, and bounded on the east by the highway called Juliand street, on the south-west by the highway running near the house of Rufus and Samuel H. Bennett, and on the north-east and north-west, by the lands of said Juliand, being 10 rods on Juliand street and 16 rods on the other street. The price paid was \$400. A warranty deed for it was executed March 27, 1873. March 22, 1873, the sum of \$8,000 was voted to build a new school-house on this site, and for necessary fixtures and furniture. July 19, 1873, the building of the school-house was let to O. C. Latimore, of Bainbridge, for \$7,800. Oct. 14, 1873, the Board was instructed to furnish the necessary seats for the school-house, procure the necessary library and apparatus, and establish an academical department, the whole to cost not to exceed \$1,000.

January 19, 1874, the building, a two-story brick structure, was completed and formally dedicated, and school opened, with Prof. E. W. Rogers as principal, and Miss E. H. Gilbert and Addie Baldwin, assistants.

Cost of Building,—Contract price.....	\$7,800 00
Paid for drawings, &c.....	9 00
Extra work, as per bill.....	117 80

Total.....\$7,926 80

The fall term of school commenced August 17, 1874, with the following corps of teachers:—Prof. E. W. Rogers, principal; Misses E. H. Gilbert and Addie Baldwin, assistants to principal; Miss Libbie Bates, principal of primary department, and Miss Lottie Lee, assistant.

Professor Rogers' resignation as principal was received and accepted July 14, 1876. He was succeeded by Professor A. G. Kilmer, of Cobleskill, who remained till the close of the summer term of 1879. W. D. Graves succeeded him.

The number of scholars taught during the year ending June 27, 1879, was 97; of whom 52 were males, and 45 females. Their average age was 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. The number of academic students June 27, 1879, or enrolled during a part of the year ending that day, who are claimed by the trustees to have pursued for four months or more of said year, classical studies or the higher branches of English education, or both, after having passed the preliminary academic exami-

nation, was 18 males and 26 females. The average age of the males was 16 $\frac{1}{6}$ years, and of the females, 17 $\frac{1}{6}$ years.

The value of philosophical apparatus connected with the school July 7, 1879, was \$931.43; of geological specimens, \$372.90; and of the library, comprising 615 volumes, \$1,062.46.

The Social Library of Jericho.—The members of Jericho Library, judging themselves to possess property in "books, notes, &c.," to the amount of 40£, met at the house of Reuben Kirby, February 14, 1809, for the purpose of choosing a chairman and trustees and becoming incorporated, pursuant to an Act of the Legislature passed April 1, 1796. David Cooper was chosen chairman, and Joel Chapin, Pliny Smith, Thomas Humphreys, Jr., Reuben Kirby and David Cooper, trustees. The application for incorporation was by the following, in addition to those above named: Jared Redfield, Darius Smith, Jr., Uzziel Taylor, Heth Kelsey, Pardon Redfield, Elijah Stowel, Stephen Landers, Eleazer Church, Israel Smith, Jr., Joseph Landers, Joshua Weeks, Nathaniel Benton, James Graham, Asahel Bixby and Azor Smith. How long it continued to exert its beneficent influence upon the community we can not say, but presume that, like most of its contemporaries, it was short-lived.

There is at present a literary society in the village, recently organized, but of its exact nature we are not advised.

CHURCHES.—*Presbyterian Church of Bainbridge.* Within nine years from the time the first settler planted himself in the midst of the gigantic forests of this region the devotion of its New England pioneers had found expression in an organized religious society.

At a meeting of a number of the inhabitants of *Jericho*, held April 30, 1793, the *Congregational Church of Silesia** was organized by Rev. William Stone, a missionary of the Vermont Domestic Missionary Society. Its jurisdiction extended from the Unadilla, one mile above its mouth, west eleven miles on the south line of *Fayette*, (Guilford,) thence south nine miles to the north line of *Warren*, in Broome county, thence east to the old line of property, or east line of the county, thence following that line to the junction of the Unadilla and Susquehanna, and up the former river to the place of beginning. At that meeting Israel Smith and William Guthrie were chosen "returning officers," and Israel Smith, Samuel Bixby, Abel Stockwell, Heth Kelsey, Hezekiah Stowel and Orlando Bridgeman, trustees. Gershom Hide was chosen Clerk of the Board of Trustees.†

* This name is variously spelled in early records as *Cilicea*, *Selicia* and *Cilicia*.

† This Society was reorganized Feb. 12, 1816, as *The Congregational So-*

The following names of members are appended to the minutes of a meeting held May 7, 1793: "Jared Redfield, Israel Smith, Israel Smith, Jr., Simeon Smith, Amos Smith, Russel Redfield, Henry Evans, Samuel D. Curtis, Samuel Bixby, Jr., Asahel Bixby, James Price, John Yaw, James Tucker, Samuel Bixby, Ephraim Bixby, Moses Stockwell, Jedediah Smith, Aaron Stockwell, Japhet Bush, Lemuel Haskins, Luther Chamberlain, John Alison, George McCloud, John Day, Joseph Bush and Gershom Hide." The name of Seth Stone appears as Collector June 24, 1793.

Aug. 21, 1794, the church voted to hire Rev. William Stone the ensuing year, and give him 65£. He remained with the church about two years. The membership being widely scattered over a large territory, Bainbridge and South Bainbridge (now Afton) were the alternate preaching places on the Sabbath. During 1796-'97 missionary labor was supplied by Joel T. Benedict, of Franklin, David Harrower, of Walton, Daniel Buck, of Afton, and Joseph Badger.*

At a meeting "of the upper part of the Society of Celicia," at the house of Abel Franklin, March 8, 1798, Thaddeus Newton, Israel Smith, Jr., James B. Nichols, William Guthrie, Jr., and Heth Kelsey were appointed a committee to superintend the building of a meeting-house near the house of Abel Franklin. This house is said to have been built in 1799; but the first record of its being occupied for the meetings of the Society occurs Sept. 30, 1802. Previous to that the meetings were held in private houses, generally at the house of William Guthrie. The church was never finished, and in 1814 was burned, many persons imagined intentionally; but whether intentional or not, it is certain that its destruction gave rise to the change of the name of the town, *Jericho* having become odious from its association with the epithet "church-burners." "If the building was fired," says our informant, "it was not on account of a disrelish for the religion of which it was a symbol, but because the building itself was considered no ornament to the town." It stood about the center of the village green in Bainbridge. Previous to the burning of the meeting-house, the Society had become so weakened that meetings were not held in it. In 1818 another building was erected in front of where the

ciety of Selicia, having become dissolved, by reason of its neglect to choose proper officers, since May 1, 1811; and again March 14, 1818, as *The Congregational Society of Cilicia*. At the latter date the number of trustees was apparently reduced to three, as only that number were chosen.

* Sept. 11, 1794, it is recorded that the trustees leased to John Adams 100 acres of land in lot No. 6, in the gospel and school lot in the town of *Jericho*; and Oct. 27, 1794, that they leased to Stephen Dutton lot No. 1, "in the Society lot": to Joseph Peck, lots Nos. 2 and 5; to Ezra Pratt, No. 3; and to Henry White, No. 4, at the following valuation:—No. 1, 9£ per annum, afterwards reduced to 7£; No. 2, 8£, reduced to 6£, 10s.; No. 3, 6£; No. 4, 5£; No. 5, 4£; and No. 6, 6£, 12s. May 16, 1797, John Adams having forfeited his lease, the lot assigned to him was leased to Benjamin and Luke Nichols.

Episcopal Church now stands. It is still standing, though it is now appropriated to secular uses.

In 1831 the present church edifice was erected. Its gallery, high pulpit and high-back seats are remembered by the older citizens. In 1868, the interior was entirely remodeled, the galleries removed, the pulpit placed in the rear of the building instead of in front, more comfortable seats placed within it, and a general renovation took place. In 1875 further improvements were made. The choir was removed to the rear of the church, and a recess was built in the rear for the new organ which was then placed in its position.

July 7, 1793, the first sacrament was administered at John Allison's.

May 15, 1789, a call was extended to Joel Chapin, "whose holy life has given him a fragrant memory here." He was ordained and installed pastor in Sept., 1798. He served the church as pastor six years, but resided in the parish till his death, Aug. 6, 1845, aged 84 years. His tombstone bears the inscription, "First pastor Presbyterian Church, Bainbridge, ordained September, 1798." During his pastorate in 1802, the Church was divided, that portion of its members residing in the south part of the town (now Afton) being formed into a separate church. Its members were again diminished by the formation of the church at Sidney Plains in 1808.

After Chapin, Rev. Anson S. Atwood, a Home Missionary from Connecticut, labored here a part of a year. After this it seems to have had no regular pastor for a time and the church suffered a very serious decline. The ordinances of religion were neglected and the Church well nigh lost its life. But for the vigilance of Mr. Chapin, who after his dismissal labored as a missionary in the destitution of the region about until the infirmities of age compelled retirement from active life, it would have lost its legal organization and the property decided to it. He called together at his house the remaining seven members and together they held a week of fasting and prayer.

Nov. 25, 1817, the Church was reconvened, and Dec. 14, 1817, there was a public confession and re-organization. The year following a new church was built.

From 1818 to 1820 Rev. Jacob Burbank labored here, dividing his time equally between this church and that at South Jericho. Rev. Egbert Rossa served the church a short time in 1825. This same year Rev. Sayres Gazlay commenced a two years' pastorate. Dr. Elias Fairchild labored with them a few months in 1827, and this same year Rev. Ethan Pratt was installed pastor. He resigned Dec. 19, 1831. Rev. George Spaulding became the pastor in 1832 and remained such four years. In 1837 Prince Haves commenced his labors as a stated supply and contin-

ued them four years, the last year serving three-fourths of the time with this Church and one-fourth with the Church of Bainbridge and Nineveh.

July 8, 1841, the trustees were authorized to invite Rev. Calvin Warner to preach three months with a view to settlement, and Sept. 29, 1841, he was invited to become the settled pastor. He served two years. Rev. U. S. Doubleday became the pastor in 1845 and served two years. He was followed by Rev. J. Davidson, who also served two years.

In 1850 Rev. Ethan Pratt was recalled and served till his death, Nov. 4, 1850. Rev. Charles H. Force succeeded to the pastorate in 1851 and remained one year. Rev. Lemuel Pomeroy was the next pastor. He served two years.

Rev. Andrew Huntington assumed the pastoral care Sept. 3, 1854, and was released at his request April 7, 1856. In 1857 Rev. Alfred Ketchum became the pastor and remained seven years, dividing his time between this church and that at Sidney Plains. He was succeeded in 1864 by Rev. A. S. Yale, in 1866, by Rev. H. W. Lee, and in 1869, by Rev. Julius S. Pattengill. This latter year a parsonage was bought.

During Mr. Pattengill's pastorate the Church was involved in a law suit concerning the title to the village green. The Courts decided that the Church owned the larger portion of it in fee and the rest of it in trust for a public parade ground.

Rev. D. N. Grummon the present pastor, commenced his labors in 1873. This is his first pastorate.

Revs. Joel Chapin, Ethan Pratt, Calvin Warner and Daniel Grummon were ordained here.

During Mr. Ketchum's ministry, in 1859, the most precious revival the Church has had occurred; 22 were added at one time.

The Church was organized with some 20 members. In 1819 the number was 51; in 1860, 81; in 1863, 58; in 1869, 61; in 1876, 100; in 1879, 107.

The Church was originally Congregational in form of government. In 1818 it united with the Union Association, and in 1828 with the Presbytery of Chenango. Till 1833 its internal government was Congregational. In that year a board of elders was elected, and Oct. 14th, the session, composed of seven, held its first meeting. In 1837 they returned to the Congregational policy, though still remaining under the care of the Presbytery. In 1864 they united with the Chenango Association. Nov. 11, 1873, the Church became Presbyterian, ordained six elders, and united with the Binghamton Association.

St. Peter's Church at Bainbridge.—The male persons of full age belonging to the Church, Congregation and Society at Bainbridge, in which divine service was celebrated according to the rites of the Protestant Episcopal Church, met at the school-house in the vil-

lage of Bainbridge, June 27, 1825, for the purpose of incorporating. Marcus A. Perry, Presbyter of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was called to the chair, and Solomon Warner and Erastus Root were elected Church Wardens, and Moses G. Benjamin, John C. Clark, Richard W. Juliand, Albert Neely, Stephen Stilwell, George Howe, Abraham B. Williams and Philip M. Dezang, Vestrymen.

The first meeting of the wardens and vestrymen was held June 27, 1825, and Solomon Warner was chosen President of the Board, John C. Clark, Secretary, and Moses G. Benjamin, Treasurer.

March 20, 1826, the vestry resolved to employ Theodore Daniels to build a church for the use of the society, exclusive of underpinning, similar in all respects to the Episcopal church in Binghamton, for \$2,100, and Moses G. Benjamin, Richard W. Juliand and John C. Clark were appointed a committee to draft a contract with Mr. Daniels. The church was built in 1827, and consecrated Sept. 12th of that year by Bishop Hobart.

Previously meetings and services were held in the little school-house which once stood upon a part of the lot the Presbyterian church now occupies. The seats were hard benches, cut and marred by the jack-knife of the school boy. The "faithful ones" were few in number, and though encompassed with many discouraging circumstances, were not in the least discouraged or faint-hearted. But shortly previous, there was only one Episcopal family here.

The vestry sold the pews Dec. 29, 1827. The following are the names of persons who bought slips at that time: Peter M. Dezang, Levi Bigelow, R. W. Juliand, M. G. Benjamin, Alvah Bush, Winthrop Fairchild, Theo. Daniels, L. Conklin, Albert Neely, John Newton, H. VanBergen, Daniel Garrit, S. Stilwell, Solomon Warner, Dexter Newell, Jehial Evans and J. S. Fitch, the amount bid being \$2,140. There were then only sixteen communicants.

Rev. Marcus A. Perry, under whose labors after holding a few services the parish was organized, was sent as a missionary to this field. Being called away soon after the organization, he was succeeded by Rev. Norman H. Adams of Unadilla, who in 1828 reported that he had baptized 17, married 8, and buried 8; also that there was a Sunday School of about 50 children. For the year 1830 he reported 25 communicants, 14 baptisms, (4 adults and 10 children,) 4 marriages, and 12 funerals; and notwithstanding the expenses incurred in building the church and purchasing a bell and organ, they were yet disposed to be liberal and had been prospered even beyond the sanguine expectations of the most ardent friends of the Church. Mr. Adams continued his labors as late as June 12, 1836, possibly later.

Jan. 6, 1831, it was resolved to convert the grounds around and in rear of the church into a burying ground.

Feb. 10, 1838, it was resolved to invite Rev. Anthony TenBroeck to become the rector. The invitation was apparently not accepted, for June 2, 1838, the vestry resolved to extend the same invitation to Rev. Wm. E. Eigenbrodt, and Rev. G. B. Engle was requested to officiate for a few Sundays until Mr. Eigenbrodt could be heard from. Mr. Eigenbrodt commenced his labors as early as Aug. 14, 1838, and closed them June 26, 1842. During his rectorship there were 57 baptisms, 39 confirmations, 11 marriages and 25 funerals. He founded the parish school and was instrumental in procuring, with the aid of the two Ladies' Societies connected with the parish, a silver communion set.

Rev. James Jay Okill became the rector in December, 1842. His resignation was tendered September 1, 1844, and accepted September 10, 1844. During his rectorship there were 10 baptisms, 4 confirmations, 4 marriages, (among them Mr. Okill himself,) and 8 burials.

Rev. Israel Foote, of Rochester, accepted a call tendered him March 4, 1847, to serve the parish one-half the time from December 25, 1846. His resignation was received and accepted April 15, 1854. During his ministry the interior of the church was painted, repaired and carpeted; the parish library founded; and 46 baptized, 44 confirmed, 24 married (himself among the number,) and 30 buried.

Rev. John Bayley served as rector from June, 1855, till April, 1857, officiating also, apparently, at Guilford. During his stay 6 were baptized and confirmed, 6 married and 9 buried.

May 30, 1857, a call was given William Allen Johnson, then a student in the General Theological Seminary of New York, to serve them half the time and the Guilford church half the time. The call was at first declined, but on being renewed was accepted. He commenced his pastoral labors September 6, 1857. August 25, 1859, he dissolved his relation with the Guilford parish and commenced to devote himself wholly to this, continuing his labors till October 19, 1862. During his rectorship, in 1859, the church was enlarged. There were 85 baptized, 22 confirmed, 23 married, (including himself,) and 2 buried.

Rev. John W. C. Baker commenced his labors in this parish January 11, 1863, and closed them apparently in the summer following on account of ill health. He was followed by Rev. James A. Robinson, December 31, 1863, and the following year the rectory was built; over \$800 of the money raised for that purpose having been contributed by the Ladies' Society. It is worthy of note that this sum was the proceeds arising from the sale of beans and onions raised and overalls

made by the ladies of the Society. Mr. Robinson's ministry witnessed 48 baptisms, 40 confirmations, 21 marriages and 26 burials; and the removal of the armory building to the south-west part of the parsonage lot and its conversion to school purposes. He closed his ministry April 10, 1871.

Rev. S. Seymour Lewis commenced his labors May 8, 1871, and tendered his resignation in December, 1873, but continued his ministrations till the spring of 1874, having assisted in 13 baptisms, 15 confirmations, 19 marriages, and 26 burials. He was succeeded by Rev. G. W. Porter, D. D., who commenced his labors August 23, 1874, serving two-thirds of the time in Bainbridge, where he resided, and one-third in Afton. His rectorship continued till June 21, 1876, when William S. Sayre, a resident of the village and a member of the church, was requested to hold lay services until a rector could be obtained. During his rectorship 21 were baptized, 6 confirmed, 1 couple married, and 7 buried. The parochial school also seems to have been abandoned, for January 13, 1875, the Vestry resolved to put the school building in a tenable condition for renting.

Rev. John L. Egbert began his labors with this parish November 5, 1876, and still continues them. (June 30, 1879.)

The records do not show the statistics with regard to baptisms, &c., from 1827 to 1838, but the aggregate from 1838 to 1877, is as follows:—baptisms, 324; confirmations, 195; marriages, 117; burials, 166. The number of communicants in 1838 was 42; in 1877, 90.

The Ladies' Sewing Society of this parish was organized March 24, 1874, and during the succeeding three and one-half years raised \$720 and expended the amount in benevolent objects.

The M. E. Church of Bainbridge was incorporated as *The North Bainbridge Village Society of the M. E. Church*, Feb. 11, 1833. Charles Curtis and Reuben Reynolds were chosen presiding officers of an adjourned meeting, held "for the purpose of organizing a lawful religious society," and Charles Curtis, William Banks, David Scott, John Newton, Joseph Badger and Ambrose Lyon were elected trustees. We have no further data regarding this church.*

The Baptist Church in Bainbridge was organized with sixteen members, June 9, 1867, and received into church fellowship by a council convened for the purpose July 31, 1867. Articles of faith and covenant were adopted Aug. 25, 1867.

The meetings for six months, about the time of the organization, were held in the basement of Mrs. Joel Bixby's residence. They were afterwards held in the

*We find it recorded that "The First Episcopal Methodist Society of the town of Bainbridge" was incorporated March 25, 1816, and that Samuel Banks, Israel Stowel and William Banks were elected trustees.

M. E. Church, and subsequently until their house of worship was finished, in the Presbyterian Church.

For two years, one before and one after the organization, they enjoyed the ministerial labors of Rev. Luman Yale, through whose exertions the organization was perfected. The first communion service was held Sept. 8, 1867. Mr. Yale was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. D. B. Collins, who served a like period.

Rev. E. M. Blanchard settled with the church April 1, 1871, and closed his labors April 1, 1874. During his pastorate their house of worship was finished at a cost of \$10,000. It was completed, finished and dedicated June 21, 1871.

Rev. James S. Backus, Secretary of the Home Missionary Society, preached the dedicatory sermon. Two years after its completion there was an indebtedness upon it of \$7,196.

Rev. G. W. Abrans commenced his labors with this Church April 1, 1874, and closed them March 1, 1875. The pulpit was occupied for four months by D. C. Babcock, a student from Madison University.

Rev. D. C. Haynes assumed the pastoral care Aug. 22, 1875, and continued his labors till March 29, 1879. During his pastorate the *Second Baptist Church of Guilford* and the *Baptist Church of Bennettsville* disbanded and united with this, the former April 29, 1875, and the latter Aug. 5, 1875.

Rev. L. E. Wheeler, the present pastor, commenced his labors April 20, 1879, and was called to the pastorate on the 30th of that month.

From the records it appears that the whole number who have belonged to the Church is 131; of whom 101 were received by letter, 27 by baptism, 2 on experience, and 1 by recognition. Of this number 28 have been dismissed by letter, 8 have died, and 5 have been expelled; leaving a present membership of 90. The average attendance at Sabbath School is 85.

We find it recorded that "The Second Baptist Church and Society in Bainbridge" was incorporated July 6, 1844, at a meeting held at the school-house in District No. 14 in Bainbridge, and that Philander Loomis was elected trustee for one year, Reuben C. Vosburg for two years, and Martin Post for three years; but we find no record of a Baptist Society in this town anterior to this.

SOCIETIES.—Susquehanna Lodge, No. 167, F. & A. M., was organized Sept. 17, 1850. The first officers were: Augustus Willard, *W. M.*; S. W. Corbin, *Secretary*. These are the only ones mentioned in the minutes. It meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month, in Masonic Hall in the Prince block. The present number of members is 72. The whole number who have been members is 207. R. W. Juliand and A. C. Pratt are honorary members—the only two in the lodge.

BENNETTSTVILLE.

Bennettsville is situated in the south-east part of the town, near the line of Afton, about three miles south-east of Bainbridge. It is located on Bennett's Creek, which flows through a narrow and somewhat romantic gorge, and furnishes a good mill privilege, and which, together with the village, derives its name from Caleb Bennett, one of the first settlers in the town at this place.

It contains one church, (Baptist,) a district school, one general store, a grist and saw-mill, two wagon shops, kept by Orrin H. Humphrey and George R. Bradstreet; two shoe shops, kept by Nathan Hand and Ely Seely; one cooper shop, kept by Aaron N. Lathrop; a blacksmith shop, kept by Frank M. Knapp; and a population of 161.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Bennettsville was Amasa Cowles, who came from Otego about 1836 and opened a store in the building which now forms a part of the residence of David Fredenburgh. He traded about three years. Royal Shepard, also from Otego, bought out Cowles and continued three or four years, when he sold out to David Van Horne, from Monticello, N. Y., who traded till his death, April 22, 1863, aged 59. James W. Bennett, a native of Bennettsville, where he still resides, did business a few years after Van Horne. Porter Van Horne, son of David, and now residing in Bainbridge village, did an extensive business for some five years. William Corbin and William C. White were trading here in 1871, perhaps a year or two earlier. Corbin soon after sold to his partner, who, in connection with his son, did business till Aug. 1, 1878, when they were succeeded by William C. Jones, the present merchant, who came here from Afton.

POSTMASTERS.—David Van Horne, who was appointed soon after he commenced mercantile business here, is believed to have been the first postmaster at Bennettsville. He held the office till 1861, and was succeeded by Ezra B. Church, William C. White and Charles J. Humphrey, the latter of whom, the present incumbent, was appointed July 1, 1877. The office had previously been established on the river, and was known as Bainbridge Center. It was removed thence to this place.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Bennettsville was Blin S. Sill, who came about 1848 from Bainbridge, to which village he returned after three or four years' practice. He was succeeded after an interval of seven or eight years by Lewis Livingston, a deaf mute, and a descendant of the Livingstons of Livingston Manor, in Columbia county, and still practices here when not engaged in traveling.

MANUFACTURES.—The Bennettsville grist and saw-mills are owned and operated by George R. Corbin and C. J. Humphrey. Mr. Corbin came in possession of the property in 1876, at which time he bought it of his uncle, William Corbin, and in 1877 he admitted Mr. Humphrey to partnership. The grist-mill contains three run of stones, and the saw-mill three saws—log, cut-off and shingle. They are propelled by water from Bennett's Creek, on which they are located, and which has a fall of twenty feet, furnishing a constant water-power. They saw about 300,000 feet of lumber and 200,000 shingles per annum.

The original mills on this site were built in 1789, by Phineas and Reuben Bennett, the grist-mill first. Both have been rebuilt two or three times.

CHURCHES.—*The Bennettsville Baptist Church* was organized Dec. 28, 1856. Meetings had occasionally been held for some time previous in the school-house.

The original members were Abijah Cady, Phineas Bennett, William Cook, Phineas M. Bennett, Isaac Benedict, John Crosier, Rufus Bennett, Ira Bennett, Lockwood Chandler, Marvin Bennett, Edmund C. Cook, Esther Birdsall, Sophia Bennett, Sabra Cady, Prudence Goodman, Flavilla Bennett, Anna Cook, Polly Bennett, Graty Bennett, Hiliam Bennett, Lucy Van Horne, Margarette Cook, Charlotte A. Bennett, Jane M. Bennett, Augusta M. Corbin, Clarissa Kirby, Lydia Ann Humphrey, Desire Vanderburgh, Maria Partridge, Sally Goodman, Mary Ann Cady, Mary Ann Chandler, Sophia A. Chandler, Sarah A. Chandler, Lydia Bennett and Sarah Scofield, who had been members of the Masonville Baptist church.

Phineas Bennett and Abijah Cady were chosen deacons in May, 1846, they having previously held that office in the Masonville church.

The society was incorporated Nov. 8, 1848, and the first trustees were William Cook, Marvin Bennett and George Birdsall.

The first pastor was Joel Hendrick, whose name first appears in the records Feb. 24, 1849, and last June 16, 1849. April 21, 1849, E. C. Cook was invited "to improve his talent within the bounds of the church" and was ordained Jan. 7, 1851. H. Robertson, who appears to have been the next pastor, was admitted by letter April 21, 1851, and dismissed by letter July 16, 1854. He was recalled Dec. 25, 1854, and March 30, 1856, it was voted to renew the letter. Nathaniel Wattles commenced his labors in the spring of 1856 and continued them as late as Aug. 18, 1860. Oct. 7, 1860, the Church voted to license Edwin Bennett to preach. Elder G. A. Hogeboom was pastor apparently Dec. 15, 1860, and Elder Allaben, Jan. 19, 1861, but the records do not show whether they were settled as such. Elder Wattles seems to have been

recalled; he was voted a delegate to the Association Aug. 17, 1861. He removed to Sidney Dec. 28, 1861, unable to preach. Elder Merrill was the pastor as early as Nov. 16, 1861, and as late as March 15, 1862. Elder G. A. Hogeboom was received on letter May 17, 1862, and was succeeded in the pastorate in the latter part of that year by Elder N. Wright, whose name appears as delegate to the Association as late as Aug. 20, 1864. Elder N. Wattles again became the pastor April 1, 1865. He was succeeded June 23, 1867, by Rev. R. L. Warriner, and April 1, 1869, by Rev. D. B. Collins, the latter of whom served as late as March 19, 1870. Elder Wattles died March 11, 1868. Oscar Slater, a licentiate, preached about six months in 1870. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. H. Robertson, who served the church till its disbandment, Aug. 5, 1875, at which time it was resolved that, "in view of the great reduction of members by death and removal and our consequent inability to sustain the ordinances of public worship, * * * we will unite with the Baptist Church of the village of Bainbridge, if this shall find acceptance with that Church." The resolutions, the substance of which are here given, were signed by Susan Robertson, Jane B. Olmstead, S. J. Robertson, L. Robertson, Lydia Ann Bennett, Louisa D. Kirby, A. M. Corbin, Daniel Olmstead, G. H. Olmstead, H. Robertson, P. M. Bennett and S. Y. Scofield.

Their house of worship, which was previously built, was purchased in 1849, \$450 being paid for the house and \$20 for the ground on which it stood. Nov. 14, 1849, the work of completing the house, which was then unfinished, was let to P. M. Bennett, by whom it was built. The cost of finishing and furnishing it was \$213.68. It was given at the disbandment to Elder Robertson, who now occupies it as a residence.

Bainbridge Center Church, (Baptist,) at Bennettsville, was organized March 28, 1855, at the house of Charles M. Humphrey, by Charles M. Humphrey, William Cook, Isaac Benedict, Nathaniel Humphrey, Reuben Stilson, William H. Neff and Chester W. Neff, who separated for that purpose from the Bennettsville Baptist Church on account of a disaffection arising from a case of discipline. It was recognized by a council convened for the purpose June 2, 1858.

William Cook and Nathaniel Humphrey were chosen deacons, and C. M. Humphrey clerk.

They incorporated May 5, 1855, under the name of the "Baptist Church and Society of Bainbridge Center," and C. M. Humphrey, E. L. Bennett and Reuben Stilson were elected trustees.

George Balcom, an evangelist, from South Bainbridge, (Afton,) held services here a few weeks in the school-house in the spring of 1855, commencing April

2d, and preached here evenings occasionally till the early part of 1856.

Thomas Durfee became the first pastor in the spring of 1856, and resigned Feb. 27, 1858.

The building of the church was begun in the fall of 1855 and finished the following spring. It was dedicated July 9, 1859, Elder Olney, of Deposit, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

Rev. M. L. Bennett was called to the pastorate April 23, 1858, to serve half the time from May 1st. He staid one year. He was followed by Rev. Simeon P. Brown, who commenced his labors May 28, 1859, and also remained one year. Rev. Elijah Baldwin, who resided at Afton, commenced his labors here May 26, 1860, and closed them Jan. 1, 1864. During his pastorate, June 28, 1861, the church was received into the Franklin Association.

Dec. 6, 1863, a call was given Rev. R. J. Reynolds, of Delphi, who entered upon his labors the following month. He was granted a letter May 28, 1865.

Rev. Sylvanus Smith commenced his labors as a supply Nov. 25, 1865, and closed them Feb. 24, 1866. He was followed March 24, 1866, by Rev. E. T. Jacobs, who resigned March 27, 1869. He returned as a supply July 24, 1869, and preached through the fall and winter.

Rev. Alanson Thomas was the pastor March 26, 1870. He resigned Feb. 7, 1874. Rev. J. Jones succeeded to the pastorate in the spring of 1874, and served two years. Rev. N. Ripley, the present pastor, commenced his labors May 14, 1877. The present number of members is 39.

WEST BAINBRIDGE.

West Bainbridge is a hamlet near the north-west corner of the town, on the stage route from Greene to Bainbridge, and is distant about three miles north-west of Bainbridge. There is a post-office there, and William Watrous is the postmaster. The office was established about forty years ago. Thomas Nichols was the first postmaster, and held the office twenty-eight years. He was succeeded by Timothy S. Lane, who held it till its discontinuance in 1861. It was subsequently re-established.

The Bainbridge Steamboat Navigation Company was organized in 1852, with a capital of \$20,000, to open river navigation to Lanesboro and connect the village of Bainbridge with the Erie Railroad at that place. A steamboat was built that year at a cost of \$6,000, and named *The Enterprise*. It was a flat-bottom, stern-wheel boat, 120 feet long, of thirty tons burden. It was supplied with an eighty-horse-power engine, and was launched with great pomp and ceremony near the bridge. It was christened by "a beautiful and queenly lady," by breaking a bottle of

liquor over its prow. Orrin Jacobs was its projector and captain. But the foreshadowing of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad deterred the stockholders from making needed improvements in the river, which would have involved an expense of \$10,000, and the project was abandoned. The boat was sold and was run between Tonawanda and Athens.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—The records furnish but meager data with regard to the part taken by this town in that memorable and sanguinary struggle.

At a special town meeting held August 17, 1864, it was resolved thereafter to pay to each volunteer and to each resident of the town furnishing a substitute credited on the quota of the town under the call for 500,000 men, a sum not to exceed \$500 each, for one year, and Asa J. Yale, G. H. Winsor and Joseph Juliand 2d, were appointed a committee to issue bonds and carry the provisions of the resolution into effect. At a special meeting held September 12, 1864, it was resolved to pay to each volunteer thereafter enlisted for one year and credited on that quota, not to exceed \$500, in addition to the \$500 previously voted; to every person theretofore enrolled in the town and liable to be drafted, who had furnished a substitute who had been or should be credited on that quota, the actual amount paid to said substitute, but not in any case to exceed \$1,000 each; and to each volunteer residing in the town who had previously been, or should afterwards be, credited on that quota, a sum equal to the average amount paid to persons who had furnished substitutes. Charles Bixby and Jerome B. Sands were added to the committee previously appointed. The amount involved in these appropriations, as appears from a subsequent record, was \$28,905.16, and bonds were issued for that amount payable February 1, 1864.

At a special meeting held November 10, 1864, the resolution passed September 12, 1864, directing the payment of bounties to persons who had procured substitutes, was repealed.

At a special meeting held January 19, 1865, it was resolved to raise on bonds of the town, payable February 1, 1866, \$20,000, or so much thereof as might be necessary, to pay bounties to volunteers or substitutes, for one, two or three years, to apply on the quota of the town under the call of December 19, 1864, for 300,000 men.

CHAPTER XVIII.

TOWN OF COVENTRY.

COVENTRY was formed from Greene, Feb. 7, 1806 and derives its name from Coventry, in Connecticut, from whence the first settlers came.

Parts of Green and Oxford were annexed in 1843. It lies near the center of the south border of the county and is bounded on the north by Oxford, on the east by Bainbridge and Afton, on the south by Afton and Colesville, in Broome county, and on the west by Greene. It occupies the ridge which forms the water-shed between the streams which flow into the Susquehanna on the south-east, and the Chenango on the north-west. The hills, whose highest elevations are midway between the rivers, are about 800 feet above the valleys, and generally have gradual slopes and are tillable to their summits. The surface is well distributed into arable, pasture and meadow lands. Its waters consist of the headwaters of small streams, the principal of which are Harper's and Kelsey's creeks, both tributaries of the Susquehanna. It is wholly underlain by the rocks of the Catskill group. The soil is mostly a sandy and gravelly loam, interspersed occasionally with beds of red loam. The town is admirably adapted to grazing. Dairying forms the chief branch of its agriculture. There are four factories for cheese and butter, one known as the Babel Factory, located in the south-west part of the town, which has a capacity for 300 cows, and is owned by Horace Packer of Oxford, by whom it was built in 1873, one located two and one-half miles south-west of Coventryville, owned by Timothy Parker, by whom it was built in 1878, and one located one and one-half miles south-east of Coventry, owned by T. D. and Ezra Foote, in which about 85 pounds of butter and 300 pounds of cheese are made per day.

In 1875 the population of the town was 1,345; of whom 1,307 were natives, 38 foreigners, and all white.

Its area was 27,815 acres; of which 21,326 were improved; 6,465 woodland; and 24 otherwise unimproved.*

There are eleven common school districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30th, 1877, was 373. During the year ending Sept. 30th, 1878, there were 7 male and 14 female teachers employed, of whom 11 were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 309; of whom only 4 were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 171.391; the number of volumes in district libraries was 280, the value of which was \$44; the number of school-houses was 11, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing 2 acres and 142 rods, valued at \$425, were valued at \$3,600; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$688,030. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30th, 1877, was 179, of

* Census of 1875.

whom 166 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and Disbursements for School Purposes:—	
Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$ 101.15
“ apportioned to district.....	1,194.10
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands...	2.68
Raised by tax.....	712.03
From teachers' board.....	336.50
	\$2,346.46
Paid for teachers' wages.....	1,838.27
“ “ school apparatus.....	5.00
“ “ “ houses, sites, fences, out- houses, repairs, furniture, etc.....	353.96
“ “ other incidental expenses.....	119.76
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	29.47
	2,346.46

SETTLEMENTS.—The first settlement in the town of Coventry was made in 1785 by Simon Jones, who came from Coventry, Connecticut, and located on the old Chenango road, near the center of the town, on 100 acres, which are now occupied by Timothy D. Parker, and died there childless Jan. 12, 1817, aged 67. William Goodell and Andrew Clark settled near Mr. Jones, on the same road, the following year, the latter on land which now forms a part of Timothy Parker's farm. They remained but a short time and but little is known of them.

Benjamin Jones, cousin of Simon Jones, came in from the same place in 1788, and settled on the same road, one and one-half miles south-east of Coventry village, where Thomas Tift now lives. He took up 250 acres of land, and kept there that year the first inn in the town, in a frame building which is still in use as a wagon house. He kept tavern but a few years, being principally engaged in farming. He was for some years the agent for the sale of lands in this locality. He removed about 1833 with a portion of his family to Wellsville, where two of his children now reside, Zenas H., a lawyer, and Clarissa, wife of William Gifford. Two sons remained here, Benjamin John Lewis and Luman P., the latter of whom still lives here, having carried on the boot and shoe business in Coventry some thirty-five years. The former settled about two miles east of Coventry, where Edgar Pearsall now lives. He subsequently removed to Susquehanna, where he died June 22, 1858, aged 52. Sylvia M., his wife, died Feb. 16, 1875, aged 63.

Benjamin Jones joined the Revolutionary army at the age of eighteen years, and served till the close of the war. During his residence here, in 1806, he represented this county in the Assembly, and during his legislative term he was instrumental in securing the formation of the town, of which he was one of the first officers, and in giving it the name of his native

place in Connecticut. He was the first member of the Legislature from this town,* and was one of the first assessors of the town of Bainbridge in 1791. The first post-office of the town was kept in his house and was removed to Coventryville on the establishment of the tavern there.

Burrage Miles came from New Haven, Conn., about 1789, and took up 200 acres, comprising the whole of the site of Coventryville, where he settled. Having kept a hotel in New Haven, Conn., his native place, he erected a frame house in which he kept tavern. In 1811 he built the present hotel in Coventryville, which he kept till his death, Sept. 12, 1848, aged 83. He married in New Haven, Elizabeth, sister of Ozias Yale, of Cheshire, Conn, who died Sept. 15, 1832, aged 68. His children were Betsey, who married Augustus Martin, Luman, who is now living in Coventryville, and is the only surviving member of the family, and Burrage, who lived and died in Coventryville July 23, 1829, aged 24. They were all born in Coventry, and Luman, who was born in a hotel, has kept one ever since he was able to do business.

When Miles came in, Royal Wilkins had squatted on the creek, one-fourth mile south of Coventryville, and had made a small clearing and built a shanty; but he removed soon after to Afton, where he settled and raised a family. His location here was near where Charles Pearsall now lives.

Ozias Yale and Deacon William Stork made settlements in 1792, and Deacon Richards about that time. Yale came from Cheshire, Conn., and settled one-half mile north of Coventryville, where T. M. Williams now lives, and died there May 26, 1853, aged 86. He was a farmer, and held the office of justice several years. He was twice married. Hannah, his first wife, died Dec. 23, 1810, aged 55; and Agnes A., his second wife, March 8, 1875, aged 88. Two sons are living, Thomas, in Bainbridge, and Robert in Norwich. Evaline, wife of Nathaniel Smith, living in Norwich, is a daughter of his. The deaths of his daughter Hannah and son H., both children by his first wife, the former Oct. 3, 1796, at the age of three years, and the latter July 9, 1800, at the age of six years, were among the earliest in the town; and the birth of the former, must have been among the first, if not the first in the town.†

Deacon William Stork was also from Cheshire, Conn. He took up 200 acres, in the east part of the town, where he and his wife died, the former Dec. 3, 1822, aged 52, and the latter,

* Five members of the State Legislature from this town are still living, four of them in the town. Rufus Chandler and William Kales, who were in the Assembly in 1858, and Romeo Warren and Charles Pearsall, who were in the same body, the former in 1866 and the latter in 1869. William Church, now living in South Orange, N. J., was in the Assembly in 1840.

† Williams, son of Moses Allis, born in 1794, is credited with being the first child born in the town.—*French's Gazetteer of New York*.

Rebecca Parker, March 17, 1832, aged 59. He was a carpenter and joiner, and carried on that business in connection with farming. He had eight children, only four of whom lived to attain their majority. Two were born in Connecticut, but died in infancy, as also did the other two, who died young. The four who lived to maturity were Julia, who was born in Coventry Sept. 16, 1799, married Don C. Parker, of Cazenovia, where they settled (and where she now lives,) afterwards removed to Greene, where he died Nov. 2, 1862; Anna, who died a maiden lady on the homestead in Coventry; Lauriston, who married Rheuby, daughter of William Clark, of Cazenovia, where they settled and he died; and William L., a lawyer, now living in Cazenovia.

Deacon Richards settled on the old Chenango road; also Hardin Bennett, about 1792-5.

Roger Edgerton settled about four miles south of Coventry, where his grandson, George Edgerton, now lives, and was killed there by falling down stairs. He came as early as 1790, in which year a son of his died, his death being the first in the town. Two of his sons are living, Hiram in Franklin, Delaware county, and Albert in Minnesota. One other grandchild is living in Coventry, Eliza Ann, widow of Cyrus Smith.

Philo Yale settled in the town in 1794, when nineteen years old, and built his house in 1800. He dug the first grave in the cemetery at Coventryville, for William Button. It is in the north-east corner of the yard.

Moses Allis came in as early as 1795 and Zenas Hutchinson and Levi Parker about that year. Allis was a shoemaker and settled three miles south of Coventry, where the widow Martin now lives. He resided there till well advanced in years, when he went with his son to Ohio, where he died. None of his children are living here. His son William, who is generally supposed to have been the first child born in the town, removed to Ohio about 1830 and died there. Hutchinson came from Coventry, Conn., where he was born Sept. 17, 1782, and settled on the first farm west of Coventry village, which is now owned by John Kales. He afterwards removed to the Corners and died there Nov. 3, 1869. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for thirty years, and was town clerk and school teacher a great many years. He married Electa Trumbull, who was born March 3, 1794, and whose father was an early settler in the town, where she died Feb. 18, 1870. He had two children, both daughters, Calista, wife of Chauncey S. Williams, living in Coventry, and Sophia, who died at the age of seventeen. Parker came from Cheshire, Conn., and settled on the site of the Congregational parsonage in Coventry village. He afterwards removed to the west part of the

town, to the place where his son Levi now lives, and died there April 9, 1846, aged 79. Phebe, his wife, died Oct. 4, 1859, aged 89. His children were Eldad, who settled at Coventryville, where he died June 4, 1820, aged 26; Levi, who married and settled where his daughter, Mrs. Daniel Beecher, now lives, and died there Oct. 3, 1864, aged 68, and Polly G., his wife, Oct. 5, 1854, aged 59; Aaron, who was a Baptist minister, and is now living at an advanced age; Luman, who settled at Coventryville; Laura, who married Merit Stoddard, and after his death Oct. 12, 1820, Ahira Barden, with whom she is now living in Tioga county, aged about 90; Phebe, who married A. B. Dodge, and is living in Triangle, Broome county, aged about 70; and Lucinda, who died young and unmarried. James S. Parker, a merchant in Coventry, Mrs. Daniel Beecher, of Coventry, Merrit S. Parker, a merchant in Greene, and Mary, wife of Dr. M. B. Spencer, of Guilford, are grandchildren of his.

Record Wilbur came in from Vermont as early as 1798, and settled about a mile south of Coventry, on the place where Loren B. Porter now lives, and died there Jan. 29, 1862, at the advanced age of 99 years. Naomi, his wife, died Jan. 21, 1842, aged 76. They had no children. A man named Childs, whose wife was a sister of Record Wilbur's, came in soon after Wilbur and made a clearing and planted corn on the place now owned by Susan Judd. He remained only one summer, and returned to Vermont, from whence he came. His wife never came here.

Captain Jotham Parker came in as early as 1795, probably about that year, and settled one mile south of Coventryville, on the place now owned by Reuben Pearsall. He built in that locality, in 1795, the first grist-mill in the town. He kept there also, in addition to the south part of his house, the first store in the town. Hiland, his son, afterwards kept store there in company with Benjamin Jones. Capt. Parker also kept a tavern. He died there, after a short but active business life, July 19, 1815, aged 62. His wife, Sarah, survived him many years, and died Nov. 15, 1848, at the advanced age of 90 years. His children were: Hiland, Jotham, Jr., who died in February, 1839, aged 42; Luman, who died Oct. 8, 1801, aged 20; Emily, and the widow Loveland. Emily is the only one now living.

The grist-mill built by Captain Parker was located on a small brook, one-fourth mile south of Coventryville, near the residence of Charles Pearsall. A portion of the stone foundation may yet be seen. It was operated as a grist-mill till about 1854, when William Warner converted it into a carpenter shop, which was burned about four years ago.

Simeon Parker settled at an early day one and one-half miles north of Coventryville, where his grandson,

Peter Parker, now lives, and where he and his wife died, the former Feb. 7, 1824, aged 48, and the latter July 30, 1835, aged 60. He married Polly Sprague. Their marriage was the first one contracted in the town. Their children were: Lucius, Hiram, Simeon, Joel, Henry, Merrit, Polly, Betsey, Sally, Louisa and Nancy, only two of whom are living, Nancy, a maiden lady, in Oxford, and Betsey, who married a man named Coy, and is living in Butternuts.

A man named Stimson settled in the north-east corner of the town on the farm now occupied by Draper Easton, in 1800, and died there. He had six children, Jason, who married Betsey Johnson, Simeon, Roswell, who married a sister of Jason's wife, Nancy, who married Ira Bartholomew, Betsey, and another daughter who married the father of William Gilbert, all of whom are dead.

Deacon John Stoddard, who was born July 1, 1763, came in from Watertown, Conn., his native place, in 1801, and settled at Coventryville, on the farm now owned and occupied by his grandson, Wm. A. Stoddard, where he died Feb. 24, 1821. He came in with his family, consisting of his wife, Sarah, daughter of Nathan Woodward, of Watertown, Conn., and six children, Curtis, Merit, Polly, John, Sarah and Elijah Woodward. Three were born after they came here, Abigail, Wells and Abiram, but not one of the nine is living. He took 250 acres of land, nearly 100 acres of which is still occupied by his grandsons, John and William A. Stoddard. His wife died January 2, 1849, aged 83.

The Stoddards have been a prominent, influential and highly respected family. Curtis married Hepsy, daughter of Samuel Martin, from Watertown, Conn., who came in with Mr. Stoddard in 1800 and prospected the lands they took up and accompanied him in his settlement the following year. Mr. Martin died here Jan. 17, 1840, aged 76, and Phebe, his wife, March 22, 1841, aged 76. Curtis Stoddard settled on 50 acres of his father's farm, where he raised a family of eight children. After the death of his wife he removed to Little St. Joseph, Ohio, where he died in 1834. Merit Stoddard, married Laura, daughter of Levi Parker, and settled in the west part of the town, where he died Oct. 12, 1820, aged 32 years. Polly Stoddard married Sylvester Stephens, of Camden, Oneida county, and removed with him to that county, where he died. After his death she returned to Coventry, and subsequently married Daniel Benedict. She died here in 1876. John Stoddard, who also became a deacon, married Merab, daughter of Oliver Parker, an early settler in the town, where he died March 29, 1856, aged 85, and Abigail, his wife, Jan. 10, 1861, aged 89. John settled on the homestead of his father and died there Jan. 20, 1855, aged 60.

His wife died March 20, 1857, aged 60. He was a Justice of the Peace for twenty years. Sarah Stoddard married Deacon William Albert Martin, a resident of Coventry, where both lived and died. He died March 22, 1846, aged 53. Elijah Woodward Stoddard, who was born in 1799 and died in 1837, was graduated at Hamilton College in 1823, studied theology in Philadelphia and was licensed to preach in June, 1826. He married Althea Coye, of Coopers-town, and in 1826 was settled as pastor at Lisle. He subsequently preached in Windsor, in each place six years, and removed to Little St. Joseph, Ohio, where he died. Abigail married Miles Doolittle, a resident of Coventry, who built in 1815 the first and only carding-mill and cloth-dressing establishment in the town. It stood on a small stream which was early known as Great Brook, about a mile south of Coventryville.* Abigail died Aug. 7, 1830. Wells Stoddard married Eunice, daughter of Eliakim Benedict, and settled in Coventry. They removed in 1833 to Marion, Iowa, where he died in 1853, and where his widow still resides. Abiram married Lavinia Smith, of Derby, Conn., where he practiced medicine and died in 1839. Four of John Jr.'s children, Henry, John, Albert and Lewis, and one of Curtis', Hepsy, wife of Joseph Johnson, are living in Coventry.

Deacon Philo Minor came from Woodbury, Conn., 1802, a single man, and made a clearing of two acres about a mile east of Coventryville, on the place now occupied by C. Burlison. He returned to Connecticut the following fall and married Polly Stillson, and in the winter brought in his wife on an ox sled. About 1850 he removed to the place now occupied by Lewis Stoddard, and subsequently to Afton, where he died Nov. 16, 1864, aged 83. His wife died Feb. 6, 1848, aged 64. He had nine children, five of whom are living, George, born in 1803, Clark, and Esther, widow of Seneca Reed, in Coventry, and Mary, wife of Sylvester Cornwell, and Sarah A., widow of Calvin Franklin, who died Sept. 8, 1861, in Norwich.

At one time Mrs. Philo Minor left her home to go to a place near the Brocket Pond to arrange some weaving. She went on horseback. There were then no roads except "log roads." Taking the wrong one she got lost and remained in the woods all night. It was dark and rainy, and when she could no longer see she perched herself upon a leaning tree as high as she could and still hold the horse. She placed the saddle over her head as a protection against the falling rain and so passed the night, with the wolves howling all around her, but she kept them at bay by beating the

* It is erroneously stated in *French's Gazetteer of New York* that the first carding and cloth-dressing mill in the town was built by A. & William H. Rogers about 1795.

stirrups together, thus making music which they apparently did not like.*

John Minor came in about the same time, and he and his wife, Anna G. Beardsley, died here, the former Feb. 9, 1854, aged 84, and the latter March 4, 1852, aged 79. Their daughter, Elizabeth D., married John Foote, a native of Coeymans, N. Y., who was a tanner and shoemaker, and settled in Coventry, where he held several military and town offices, and was Deacon of the Congregational Church. They had two children, Lydia Ann, who married Henry Milton Ketchum and removed to Minnesota, and Jane Amanda.

John Mandeville and Elisha Warren came in from Massachusetts, the former from Granby in that State, in 1805. Mandeville settled in the south part of the town, four miles south of Coventry, on 50 acres which now forms a part of Charles Martin's farm, and died there about 1819. He was the first Supervisor in Coventry. He had eight children, Asenath, who married Chauncey Brewer, Sophia, who married Lemuel Jennings, John, William C., James, Horace, Homer and Melancthon S., only two of whom are living, Homer in Foxburgh, Pa., and Melancthon S., in Coventry. Two grandsons, Asahel and Harry, are living in the town on lands afterwards acquired by him. Warren settled in the east part of the town, one and one-half miles south-east of Coventryville, on the place now occupied by Clark L. Horton, where he died Jan. 13, 1806, aged 41. Lois, his wife, survived him many years. She died March 20, 1848, aged 80. He had three sons and one daughter, Woodward, who was born in Watertown, Conn., Jan. 17, 1791, was an architect and carpenter, and died Sept. 7, 1855, aged 64, Elisha, Lydia, who married Hial Benedict, and Romeo, the latter of whom represented this county in the Assembly in 1856, and now resides in Coventryville, is the only one living.

Settlements were made in 1806 by Jabez Manwarring, Henry Chandler and Pardon Beecher.

Jabez Manwarring came from New London, Conn., and settled first three miles south-west of Coventry, on the farm owned by John Beals and occupied by Franklin Seymour. In 1812 he removed to the farm lying next north, and resided there till his death, April 23, 1861, aged 80. In 1808, he married Sally Hopkins, from Waterbury, Conn., who died Oct. 21, 1863, aged 79. They had ten children, seven of whom are living, viz.: Charles B., in Nanticoke, Broome county, Henry and Edward S., in Windsor, Broome county, Lucius in Coventry, William in Grandville, Mich., and Samuel and Albert in State Center, Iowa. George, who died in Clinton county, Iowa, about 1864, and Sally Maria, who married Albert Pratt, of

*From Hon. Charles Pearsall's notes of Coventryville.

Afton, and subsequently David Blakley, of Wisconsin, where she died, were children of theirs.

Deacon Henry Chandler came from Brattleboro, Vt. He stopped about six months in Bainbridge, and removed thence to this town. He settled at Coventryville and had charge of the grist-mill which was then in operation a little south of that village. He built a log-house into which he moved his family, and after about a year he bought a farm of nearly fifty acres about one and one-half miles south of Coventryville, now known as the old Sanford place. He afterwards removed to the farm now occupied by Benedict Foote, in the north part of the town. He went to live with his children in Bainbridge during the latter years of his life, and died there July 21, 1826, aged 72. Penelope, his wife, died March 25, 1841, aged 72. His children were Nelly, who married Hardin Burnett, Sophia, who married Phineas Bennett, Nabby, who married Calvin Niles, Michael, Henry, Selah, Rufus, David, Lockwood and Lois, who married William Wilson. Rufus, who resides in Coventry is the only one living.

Parson Beecher removed from the parish of Salem, Conn., now Nangatuck, and, like many others of the early settlers, fearing the miasmatic diseases and reputed sickness of the low lands and river courses, sought out an elevated location between the Chenango and Susquehanna rivers. He took up 100 acres of wilderness land a mile below Coventry, and there raised up a family to usefulness, honesty and sobriety. He continued his residence there till his death, Aug. 10, 1843, aged 60. His house is said to have been the first frame house on that part of the Livingston tract lying in Coventry, and the first on the Catskill and Ithaca turnpike between Bainbridge and Greene, a distance of sixteen miles. There town meetings and elections were "regularly held," as well as stated preaching every fourth Sabbath. In January, 1808, he married a lady of his native town, (who died in 1875, at the advanced age of 91 years, with mind unimpaired,) and removed her to a log cabin in his forest home. The farm was retained in the hands of the family till within some 25 years, when Julius Beecher, who succeeded his father in its occupancy, sold it and removed to Wellsville, Alleghany county, where he now lives. Parson Beecher's other children were Sarah, who married a son of Curtis Stoddard, and after his death, Amos Yale, and is now living a widow on the Amos Yale place in Guilford, where her husband died Feb. 17, 1857, aged 49; Daniel, who was twice married, and is now living with his second wife, Betsey Parker, in Coventry; Annette, who married Russell M. Smith, and died in Coventry in the spring of 1877; Harris H. and Harry, twins, the latter of whom married the widow Phebe Ann Rice and

is now living in Norwich; Hector, who married a lady named Leonard, with whom he is now living in the south edge of Oxford; Elbridge, who married and removed to Ohio and died there; and Jane, who married John B. Hoyt, both of whom are living in Pittston, Pa. Julius married Elizabeth Payne, and after her death, Sarah Ann Stewart, who is living with him in Wellsville.

Lewis Warren, son of Nathaniel Warren, came in from Watertown, Conn., about 1808 or '9, and settled about three miles south-west of Coventry, where Ira Fairchild now lives. He returned to Connecticut about 1811, and remained there till 1822. He died in the west part of the town, where his widow and two daughters now reside. Harvey Judd removed from Watertown to Delhi, Delaware county, in 1809, and the following year to Coventry, to the place now occupied by Monroe Foote, but owned by the widow of Harvey P. Judd, about a mile south-west of Coventry, where he, his wife, Sarah Castle, and son Harvey P., died. He died Sept. 27, 1857, aged 94; his wife Feb. 18, 1845, aged 80; and his son Dec. 27, 1869, aged 64. Only one child is living, Susan, widow of Lewis Warren, who was 89 years old June 9, 1879.

Francis Kales came from Albany in 1811 and settled on the south line of the town, on the farm now occupied by Mark J. Keogh, but owned by his father, William Kales. Both he and his wife were of Irish descent and both died there, the former in April, 1852, and the latter in February, 1847. John and William, both residing in Coventry village, are the only members of the family living. The latter was a Member of Assembly from this county in 1858.

David Hungerford came in from Watertown, Conn., his native place, in 1812, and settled about three miles south-west of Coventry, where his son Chauncey has lived since his birth in 1830. He continued to reside there till his death, Jan. 12, 1860. His widow, who is a native of Vermont, still survives him, in her 97th year, with mental faculties but little impaired. He came in with his wife, to whom he was married in Watertown, and four children, Maria, widow of Moses Hatch, and Susan, widow of Harvey P. Judd, living in Coventry; Rachel, wife of John R. Gobles, living in Fulton City, Ill.; and Lavinia, who married Joseph Snell and died in Kattelville in Broome county March 6, 1849. Two sons and three daughters were born after their settlement here, Sally, a maiden lady, living with her brother on the homestead; Anna, widow of Townsend Barnum, living in Hastings, Minn.; Laura, wife of Ralph Baird, living in Coventry; David, living in Kansas; and Chauncey, living on the homestead.

Most of the early settlers in the locality of Coventryville and on the road extending north into the south part of Oxford were from Cheshire, Conn., from

which fact the little hamlet in the south part of that town derives its name, and the road in question is known as Cheshire street.

The first school-house in the town was a log structure, located about ten rods north of Charles Pearsall's blacksmith shop.* Sherman Page, the first teacher, then a young, single man, was a resident of Unadilla, and afterwards became somewhat distinguished as a lawyer and legislator. Among the first school-girls were Roxy Miles, Patty Miles, Hannah Yale and Sally Miles, who afterwards became respectively the wives of Russell Waters, Amasa Ives, — Jones and — Beckwith. Mrs. Walters died April 10, 1873, aged 85, and her husband, May 11, 1835, aged 48; and Mrs. Ives, March 16, 1858, aged 84, and her husband Oct. 6, 1823, aged 60. After a few years another school-house was built in what was called the Warren district. It stood between the lands now occupied by Erastus Judd and Joel Judd, (formerly known as the Benedict farm,) and was afterwards removed to near where Elam Barstow now lives, where it remained till after that district was united with the Coventryville district.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the school-house, near Burrage Miles', (Coventryville,) Tuesday, March 4, 1806, and the following named officers were elected:—

Supervisor—John Mandeville.

Clerk—Roswell Marshall.

Assessors—Jotham Parker, Moses Allis and Abijah Benedict.

Collector—Daniel Wylie.

Overseers of the Poor—Ozias Yale and Simon Jones.

Commissioners of Highways—John Stoddard, Samuel Martin and Nathaniel Manning.

Constables—Daniel Wylie and Jabez Manwarring.

Fence Viewers—Benjamin Jones, Record Wilbur and Luther Holcomb.

Pound Keepers—Benjamin Burnett and Nathaniel Manning.

Overseers of Highways—George Lowry, Joel Goodenough, Peter Bowen, John Stoddard, Simon Jones, Benjamin Jones, William M. Thomas, Nathaniel Manning and Henry Allen.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Oliver Parker.

At an annual election held in this town April 29 and 30, and May 1, 1806, the following votes were cast:—

For Freegift Patchen, for Senator	12
For Evans Wharry, " "	12
For John McWhorter, " "	12
For Joseph Annin, " "	12
For John Ballard, " "	10
For Nathan Smith, " "	10
For Salmon Buel, " "	10
For Jacob Gebhard, " "	10

* One authority says it was north and another west of that shop.

For Reuben Humphrey, for Member of Congress	.. 42
For Thomas Lyon, " " " " Assembly	.. 43
For Benjamin Jones, " " " "	.. 14
For Elisha Smith, " " " "	.. 9
For Obadiah German, " " " "	.. 3
For Roswell Marshall, " " " "	.. 2
For Ozias Yale, " " " "	.. 1

John Mandeville, Moses Allis and Jotham Parker were the Inspectors of that election.

Town officers elected in Coventry, in February, 1880:—

Supervisor—J. M. Phillips.

Town Clerk—J. D. Guy.

Justice—J. S. Parker.

Assessor—C. L. Horton.

Commissioner of Highways—D. B. Easton.

Overseer of the Poor—Miles Hartwell.

Constables—Frank Pierce, Nelson Cahoon and Charles Laman.

Collector—Frank Pierce.

Inspectors of Election—District No. 1, Lucius Manwarring, H. E. Ingersoll and J. H. Willoughby; District No. 2, to be appointed.

Town Auditors—Romeo Warren, E. D. Newton and John Wylie.

Game Constable—Martin Seeley.

Excise Commissioner—Henry Andrews.

COVENTRY VILLAGE.

Coventry is pleasantly situated a little north-west of the center of the town, about seven miles east of Greene and eight west of Bainbridge, with which villages it is connected by daily stage. It contains three churches, (Congregational, Baptist and Methodist Episcopal,) a district school, a hotel, the first in the village, which was built by Henry Allen shortly before 1812, and is now kept by Frederick H. Scofield, one general store, a grocery, a tannery owned by Joel Guy and operated by Edson Dibble, a blacksmith shop, kept by Chester Tryon, a wagon shop, kept by Luther T. Hazen, a harness shop, kept by Vincent White, two shoe shops, kept by L. P. Jones and James Nelson Hoyt, and a population of about 150.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Coventry, it is believed, was Henry Allen, who came in from Coventry, Connecticut, shortly previous to 1810, and kept a store in a part of his tavern. He left the town at an early day. Dr. Diodate Cushman opened a store about 1818 or '19 and continued as late as 1827, about which time he left the town. George Ryder was associated with him about a year.

William Church, whose father Josiah Church, from Vermont, was an early settler at Church Hollow, which derived its name from him, commenced business about 1830, in company with David Everett, who sold soon after to Rufus Chandler and Zerah Spencer, the latter of whom died Feb. 5, 1832, aged 33. About which time the business was discontinued. Church

returned to Church Hollow and opened a store there. Chandler resumed business about 1834, with Gilbert D. Phillips, to whom after about a year he sold his interest.

Mr. Phillips came in from Greenville, Greene county, and settled three miles south-west of Coventry, where he engaged in farming, wagon-making and running a foundry, which he continued till he engaged in mercantile business, when he removed to the village, where he died Dec. 18, 1872, aged 82. His widow is still living in Coventry in her 83d year. From 1840 to 1858, he was associated in mercantile business with his sons Edgar A., and James M. Phillips, under the name of G. D. Phillips & Sons. Amasa J. Hoyt became a partner in 1851 and Frederick LeRoy Martin in 1858, in which year the name was changed to Phillips, Hoyt & Martin. James M. Phillips withdrew in 1852 and F. L. Martin in 1860, since which time the business has been conducted by the remaining partners, Edgar A. Phillips and Amasa J. Hoyt, under the name of Phillips & Hoyt, who keep a general stock of merchandise.

Romeo Warren, William Church and Edwin Birge bought out Dr. Cushman. After about a year Rufus Chandler bought Birge's interest. The business was continued some two years, when Chandler and Warren sold to Church, who continued trading some four years.

J. S. Parker & Son, grocers, commenced business in February, 1877.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster at Coventry was Dr. Tracy Southworth, who was appointed about 1833 or '4 and held the office several years. Gilbert D. Phillips next held it five or six years, and was succeeded by his son Edgar A., who held it some four years. George Cornish next held it about two years, till his removal. He was succeeded by William Church who held it till about 1860, when his son Charles was appointed and held it till June, 1861, when Amasa J. Hoyt was appointed. Hoyt was succeeded Dec. 10, 1877, by Mary A. Kales, the present incumbent.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician was Diodate Cushman, who commenced practice in the east part of the town as early as 1813. He afterwards located in Coventry and practiced there till within a few years of his death, which occurred about 1838 or '9, while on his way to New York with a drove of cattle. He was also engaged in mercantile business here and at Chenango Forks. The next was Tracy Southworth, who came from New Berlin during the latter part of Cushman's practice, as early as 1827, and practiced here some ten years. Alfred Griffin came in about 1830 and was succeeded in the spring of 1835, by

Asahel Wilmott, who removed in 1843 to the west part of the State. George Sturges came in from Coventryville in 1843 and practiced a year or two. S. B. Prentiss practiced here some two years, about 1845, and at the meeting of the County Medical Society June 9, 1846, was made the subject of commendatory resolutions by reason of his contemplated removal. He went to Kansas, having sold his practice to William H. Beardsley, from Butternuts, who removed to a farm about three miles south of Coventry in April, 1869, and is still practicing there. R. Ottman came in from Pennsylvania in 1845, but remained about a year only.

The present physicians are James D. Guy and Jesse E. Bartoo.

James D. Guy was born in Oxford, N. Y., Dec. 23, 1840, and studied medicine at Harpersville, Broome county, with his uncle, Dr. Ezekiel Guy, and at Nineveh, in the same county, with another uncle, Dr. Timothy Guy. He entered Geneva Medical College in the fall of 1866, and was graduated Jan. 21, 1868, in which year he commenced practice in Harpersville. He removed thence to Coventry Nov. 28, 1869, and has since practiced here.

Jesse E. Bartoo was born in Jasper, Steuben county, Feb. 28, 1847. He studied medicine in Dansville, N. Y., with Dr. Preston, and in Greene with Dr. R. P. Crandall. He entered the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati in the fall of 1875, and was graduated there May 9, 1876. He commenced practice in Greene in that year, and continued till the spring of 1879, when he removed to Coventry.

CHURCHES.—The *Second Congregational Society of Coventry* was organized Dec. 9, 1822, at a meeting held in the school-house near Pliny Nichols', in said town, which was attended by David Beebe, Samuel Porter, Oliver Trumbull, Jehu Minor, Parson Beecher and many other inhabitants of the town of Coventry, and of which Samuel Martin was chosen moderator and William A. Martin clerk. Parson Beecher, Timothy B. Bidwell and Samuel Porter were elected trustees.

The following named persons were members to Jan. 5, 1824: Samuel Martin, David Beebe, Ralph Johnson, Oliver Packard, Samuel Bronson, Philo Scott, Artemas Goodenough, Paul Beardslee, Gideon B. Minor, Samuel Porter, Calvin Thayer, Mark Scott, Juna Humiston, Ira S. Beardslee, John B. Hodge, Lemuel Beardslee, Jabez Manwarring, Geo. L. Rider, Timothy B. Bidwell, Gilbert D. Phillips, Sheldon Porter, Diodate Cushman, Anson Packard, Justus Dayton, Reuben J. Warner, James Smilie, David Lowry, Parson Beecher, Enoch Johnson, Oliver Trumbull, John Niven, Daniel Rigby, Chauncey Smith, Abel M.

Beardslee, Elisha Porter, Case Larkin, D. Packard, Jonathan Atwater, Nathaniel Blakeslee, Elnathan Beebe, Henry Chandler, Reuben Cary, Luther Stork, Joel Smith, Rufus Chandler, Loren B. Porter, William A. Martin, David Chandler, Jeriah Seymour, Zebah W. Matson.

At its organization the Society consisted of twenty-seven members, who withdrew from the *First Congregational Church of Coventry* for that purpose.

In the early part of 1824 they commenced building their church edifice, which was finished during the year, and dedicated in the early part of 1825. In 1849, the original building being found too small for the accommodation of the Society, it was decided to enlarge and thoroughly repair it, which was done at an expense of about \$1,000.

The Church proper connected with this society was organized June 21, 1845, as the *Second Congregational Church of Coventry*. The original number of members was fourteen, viz: Calvin Thayer, Curtis Stoddard, William A. Martin, David Beebe, Sarah Beebe, Samuel Porter, Lucy Porter, Phebe Martin, Sally B. Beardslee, Phebe Case, Margaret Beecher, Azubah Trumbull, Esther Scott and Patty Porter, all of whom were members of the First Church.

There have been but few changes in its ministry. It had only two settled pastors in the early days of its existence. The first of these was Rev. Ira Smith; the second Rev. Asa Donaldson; but they served for only brief seasons, the Church depending mostly on supplies. The first stated supply was Rev. Seth Burt, who labored successfully, while the Church manifested a steady increase for the space of three years.

In 1829 Rev. John B. Hoyt became the stated supply, dividing his labors between this Church and the First Church of Greene. He was installed pastor of this Church June 19, 1833, and sustained that relation for thirty years. In 1860, owing to feeble health, Isaiah B. Hopwood, then a licentiate of Auburn Theological Seminary, was invited to labor with Mr. Hoyt as stated supply during his summer vacation of that year. In the early part of 1861, Mr. Hopwood having finished his theological studies, was invited to become the pastor of the Church, to which he assented; but his acceptance was afterwards modified by making the condition that of his being associated with Mr. Hoyt in the pastorate. This being agreeable he was ordained and installed July 15, 1861. March 20, 1861, the Church resolved to raise annually \$250 for the support of Mr. Hoyt, so long as he remained with them. His long and happy pastorate was closed by death July 4, 1862, at the age of 68 years. Mr. Hopwood closed his pastoral labors in Jan., 1863, and was succeeded by Rev. W. A. Smith, of Maine, who commenced his labors Aug. 1, 1863, and continued them

till Jan. 9, 1865. Rev. A. J. Buel sustained the pastoral relation from Feb. 27, 1865, to Jan. 6, 1868.

Jan. 4, 1869, a call was extended to Rev. Amos Crocker, who entered upon a pastorate which continued till Jan. 29, 1878. He was followed in Jan. 1879, by Rev. Dr. William B. Stewart, the present pastor.

In 1831 and '32 the Church was visited by a most fruitful revival, 110 persons being received into the Church on profession of faith. Several marked seasons of revival occurred during the pastorate of Mr. Hoyt, in 1834 and '5, 1840, 1843, 1846, 1851, and lastly the winter of 1855 and '6, as the fruits of which 340 were received on profession of faith.

Following is a summary of its membership up to Nov., 1861, when the number of members was 205:—

Original number of members.....	14	
Received on profession of faith.....	383	
Received by letter.....	123	
	—	520
Dismissed.....	195	
Deceased.....	75	
Suspended.....	34	
Withdrawn.....	8	
Excommunicated.....	3	
	—	315

Number of members in Nov., 1861..... 205

The number of members in June, 1879, was 184; the average attendance at Sabbath School about 80.

The Coventry Baptist Church.—The meetings by members of this denomination in Coventry were held in 1814, and the first church organization was perfected the same year. It was composed mainly of the members of twelve families who were formerly members of the First Congregational church of Coventry, but believed in immersion. As the early records of the church were lost in the fire which destroyed their house of worship in 1843, the number of original members can not now be ascertained; but prominent among them are remembered Oliver Parker, William Spencer, Perez Gilmore, Phineas Nichols, Levi Parker, Oman Gilmore, David Hodge and Record Wilbur.

The Society connected with this church was organized Sept. 27, 1819, at a meeting held at the school-house near Treat Spear's, which was attended by Levi Parker, Oliver Parker, William Spencer, Perez Gilmore, William Stork and many other inhabitants of the town of Coventry, and of which Perez Gilmore was chosen moderator, and Phineas Nichols, clerk. The *Baptist Society in the Town of Coventry* was adopted as the name, and Levi Parker, Oman Gilmore, and Perez Gilmore were elected trustees.

Their first church edifice was built in 1819 or '20, and was destroyed by fire on the morning of Jan. 1, 1843. The present one was soon after built.

The first ministers were two brothers named Hol-

comb, and were succeeded in the order named by Revs. Gray, Sawyer, Kellogg, Tucker, Robinson, Birdsall, Parker, Litchfield, Bush, Church, Parker, M. M. Everts, N. R. Everts, Merrills, Turnbull, Beebe, Hobart and E. T. Jacobs, the latter of whom is the present pastor.

For the last twenty years the church has suffered largely from diminutions in its numbers, by the removal of many prominent members from its borders, who have gone to help swell the membership of churches in the far west and elsewhere. The present number of members is 34. The attendance at Sabbath School is 45.

The church has ordained and called to the ministry Aaron Parker, Daniel Root, F. M. Beebe and N. R. Everts. The latter is now pastor of a prominent Baptist church at Sing Sing, N. Y.

The Coventry Methodist Episcopal Church.—The first organization of Methodists in Coventry dates back to 1819, April 20th of which year a meeting was held in the school-house in district No. 6 of Coventry, at which "Michael Burdge, Elder and Joseph B. Young, preachers, both the regular ministers of said society, were chosen to preside," and the "First Methodist Episcopal Society in Coventry called Union" was formed. Philo Clemmons, Ransom Adkins, Samuel I. Thomas, Whiting Cornish and William M. Thomas were elected trustees.

The *West Coventry Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, formed in 1829, seems to have been a re-organization of the above society. It was organized at the same place, and if we substitute the name of Apollos Tuttle for that of Ransom Adkins, the official board was the same.

A house of worship was erected three miles south of Coventry, and occupied a good many years. It has been taken down, and the center of Methodism in Coventry is now in Coventry village.

The *Coventry Methodist Episcopal Church*, in Coventry village, was organized as a separate station in 1849, and their house of worship was built in 1853.

The following named pastors have officiated here since 1849: E. D. Thurston, L. D. Brigham, who died shortly after coming here, — Nickerson, Hiram Gee, who was here in 1853, during the building of the church, which he labored hard to consummate, W. M. Spickerman, Wesley Peck, 1854, M. S. Wells, 1855–6, E. H. Orwin, 1857, S. G. Green, 1858, T. M. Williams, 1859–60, E. Puffer, 1861–3, L. Bowditch, 1864 and '5, H. R. Northrup, 1866 and '7, D. Bullock, 1868–70, David Davies, 1871 and '2, George E. Hathaway, 1873, T. C. Roskelly, 1874 and '5, L. A. Wild, 1876 and '77, and William Burnside, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in the spring of 1878.

The number of members reported in the spring of 1879 was 82. The attendance at Sabbath-school is 10 teachers and 75 scholars. The estimated value of church property is—church \$2,000, parsonage, \$1,000.

COVENTRYVILLE.

Coventryville is situated about one and one-half miles east of Coventry, on the stage route from Greene to Bainbridge. It contains one church (Presbyterian,) a district school, one hotel, kept by George A. Race, built in 1811 by Burrage Miles, whose son, Luman Miles, now owns it, one store, a cooper shop, kept by William Laman & Sons, a wagon shop, kept by Henry H. Calkins, a blacksmith shop kept by Henry Willett, and a population of 50.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Coventryville is supposed to have been Otis Loveland, who traded some three or four years from about 1809. He was succeeded by Russell Waters, who traded till 1816, when he removed to the farm now occupied by Charles Pearsall.

About 1818 or '19 Levi Parker built a store on the site of the residence of George Minor, which is believed to have been first occupied by Thomas W. Watkins, whose father-in-law, Burrage Miles, leased the land on which it stood, the condition of the lease being that it should be occupied as a store and nothing else "so long as grass grows and water runs." A part of Minor's residence is still fitted up as a store, to comply with the requirement of the lease, though it is not occupied as such. Watkins traded but a few years. John Reed and Charles G. Osborn traded in the same place, under the name of Reed & Osborn till about 1833. George Minor kept a small store on the same ground about two years, when Benjamin Slater, from Norwich, rented it and kept it some two years. In the meantime he built the store now occupied by William H. Ireland, which he occupied till 1851, when he sold to Calvin Franklin and Peleg Pendleton, who traded about three years and removed to Greene. Harris Briggs and Rufus L. Cornwell bought out Franklin & Pendleton and traded some two years, when Cornwell bought Briggs' interest. In the spring of 1867, Cornwell sold to William H. Ireland, who has since carried on the business, having been associated about one and one-half years, in 1867-8, with his cousin, Oliver Ireland, and afterwards with his brother-in-law, Thomas Green.

POSTMASTERS.—The postoffice at Coventryville is believed to have been established in 1797 and kept first by Jotham Parker, about a half mile south of the village, where he also kept a tavern and a small store. Just when the office was removed to the village, and who

first kept it there, whether Thomas W. Watkins or Russell Waters, who are believed to have followed in succession, is uncertain. Waters, it is presumed, held it till 1816, when he was succeeded by Dr. Edward Cornell, who held it till his death, July 19, 1849. He was succeeded by Leonard R. Foote, who held it about four years and was followed by E. G. Waters, who held it till about 1857, when Peleg Pendleton was appointed, and was succeeded about 1861 by Rufus Cornwell, who held it till the spring of 1867, when William H. Ireland, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first of whom we have any authentic information was Asahel Wilmott, who removed to Coventry in the spring of 1835. Edward Cornell, whose father, Lemuel Cornell, was one of the first settlers in Guilford, was practicing here in 1827, and continued till his death, July 19, 1849, at the age of 56. Tracy S. Cone came in about 1850 and practiced twelve years, and removed to Oxford. Charles G. Roberts came in a few years after Cone left and practiced till the death of his father, George W. Roberts, in Greene, Feb. 10, 1870, when he went there and took his place. Dwight E. Cone, a nephew of Tracy S. Cone, came in about 1875 and practiced two years. There has been no physician here since.

CHURCHES.—*The First Congregational Church of Coventry*, at Coventryville, was organized Nov. 19, 1807, by Rev. David Harrower, of Sidney, with the following members: Noah Richards, Stephen Dodge, Benjamin Benedict, Abijah Benedict, Benjamin Hotchkiss, Sarah, wife of John Stoddard; Anna, wife of Eliakim Benedict; Abigail, wife of Abijah Benedict; Lois, wife of Stephen Dodge; Beulah, wife of John Hoskin; Isabella, wife of Noah Richards; Roxalina, wife of Daniel Brown; Hannah, wife of Ozias Yale; and Penelope, wife of Henry Chandler.

For several years previous to the organization of the church, public worship was maintained in private houses, though there was not a man in the settlement who was a professor of religion. The wives of these New England pioneers, impelled by the early training received in their Eastern homes and the desire to perpetuate the sacred offices of religion in their new abodes, incited meetings on the Sabbath. The services consisted at first of reading, singing and praying, and were conducted by a man who was deemed most capable, though he "was not pious." The number who attended was not large at first, but they attended regularly, though they lived at remote distances from each other. They struggled in poverty and in midst of the trials incident to a new country, their dependence for a leader for a year or two being on one man of poor health and one very aged man, holding their meetings after a time in the school-

house; but their numbers gradually increased with new accessions to the settlements, which also brought an addition to their leaders, in the person of an aged man, who came five miles on horseback and assisted when he could. The reading of printed sermons was soon added to the services. Their meetings were continued several years, when an old preacher named Camp joined them and preached a part of a year. He was followed by a gentleman from England, styling himself a Presbyterian or Congregationalist, who preached a year or two and left. In 1807 a sufficient number, either professors or those interested in devotional exercises, had settled in the locality to warrant the formation of a society, and articles of faith and covenant were adopted by each of the fourteen previously named, except Stephen Dodge and Beulah Hoskin, who dissented from the article respecting the dedication of children in baptism.

Numerous additions were made to the membership by baptism and otherwise during the early years of the organization. Twenty-four joined the following year, and in 1823 the membership had increased to 116.

Sept. 1, 1808, Christopher S. M. Stork and Noah Richards were chosen deacons.

The Society connected with this Church was organized at the school-house in the east part of the town, at a meeting over which Benjamin Jones and Ozias Yale presided, Feb. 7, 1804, and Jotham Parker, James Wylie, Jr., and Christopher S. M. Stork were elected trustees. The name then adopted was the *First Congregational Society in Greene*, of which this then formed a part. Sept. 14, 1819, the name was changed to *First Congregational Society of the Town of Coventry*.

At this time Rev. Horatio T. McGeorge was the pastor. He was dismissed March 16, 1807. Feb. 24, 1808, a call was extended to Rev. Joseph Wood to preach the gospel in this place. It is presumed that the call was accepted, for Sept. 4, 1808, it was recorded that he became a member of the Church.

In the fall of 1811, Charles W. Thorp, of Butter-nuts, a candidate for the ministry, engaged to preach for a short time in this place, and Jan. 13, 1812, the church voted to call him to the pastorate. He was ordained July 8, 1812, Revs. David Harrower, Joel T. Benedict, Joel Chapin and Henry Chapman being the officiating clergymen.

Mr. Thorp's pastorate was closed June 10, 1823. He was followed after an interval of two years, which was filled by occasional supplies, by Rev. Ambrose Eggleston, who commenced his labors in May, 1825. June 14, 1827, Mr. Eggleston received a call to the pastorate and was ordained June 21, of that year. He continued his labors as pastor three years. During his pastorate several members of this church withdrew

to form and unite with the Second Presbyterian Church of Coventry.

In 1830, Rev. N. Gould labored with them a part of a year; and Rev. Oliver Hill a portion of the year 1831, as stated supply. Rev. Daniel B. Butts commenced his labors in 1833, and closed them the third Sabbath in June, 1835. In 1836, Rev. Elijah Whitney was sent by the Home Missionary Society, to whom application for aid was made February 8, 1836. He remained one year. Rev. S. A. McEwen commenced his labors May 15, 1837, and closed them in May, 1841. He was succeeded in the fall of 1841 by Rev. Crispus Wright, who was installed pastor May 11, 1842, and dismissed April 1, 1851. Rev. G. M. Smith entered upon a one or two years' pastorate Sept. 1, 1851, as stated supply. He was succeeded after an interval of about two years by Rev. William H. Lockwood, who served four and one-half years. After an interval of a year Rev. Isaac D. Cornell became the pastor and remained seven years, until 1865. An interval of about a year elapsed, when Rev. S. S. Goodman began his labors and continued them one and one-half years. After an interval of some six months Rev. George D. Horton began an eight years' pastorate. He was succeeded by Rev. Henry C. Cronin, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in December, 1878.

April 7, 1808, the church voted to build a meeting-house 54 by 36 feet, and the following year the present church edifice was erected. Philo and Ozias Yale scored the first stick of timber used in its construction, and the former drew it to the spot where the church now stands after it was hewed by Abijah Benedict. After the church was inclosed, services were held in it for two or three years without any fire to make the worshipers comfortable. Benches without backs supplied them with seats. In this rude structure, contrasting so strangely with the comfortable, even luxurious appointments of our present houses of worship, men, women and children assembled in cold winter weather and listened to two sermons each Sabbath, with naught save clothing of their own manufacture to keep themselves warm. After a time square box pews, then in vogue, were substituted for the rough benches. The church was remodeled and repaired and a new bell and steeple added in 1840, at a cost of \$1,492; and some twelve or fifteen years later the interior was repaired and remodeled at an expense of \$500. Only occasional trifling repairs have since been made. The church has had a good parsonage for many years.

The pecuniary embarrassments of the church were very great and very great sacrifices were made in these early efforts to sustain the gospel. During Mr. Thorp's pastorate the Society was confronted with the neces-

sity of raising an indebtedness which stood against it or suffer a loss. Mr. Thorp made strenuous efforts to raise the money and after all was raised that it was thought could be there was a deficiency of \$65. In this dark hour he went with trouble to Deacon Stoddard, grandfather of the Stoddards now residing in Coventryville. The Deacon was in his field plowing with a yoke of oxen. He sat upon the plow beam, and after a few moments reflection he arose, unhitched the oxen, drove them away and sold them and paid the debt with the proceeds. Such were the difficulties which confronted the little colony in their efforts to establish in the inhospitable wilds of their new home that religious culture which had hallowed the associations of their native land, and such the heroism and devotion with which they were met and overcome. The residents of this town still retain more thoroughly than in most parts of this territory the sterling character of their Puritan ancestry.

The ministers who have been raised in this church are, so far as remembered, Lucius Smith, Elisha W. and Samuel Stoddard, Harvey Smith, a son of Rev. J. B. Hoyt, two sons of Thaddeus Hoyt, (one a Baptist and one a Presbyterian minister,) and Aaron Parker, Baptist, all except the first three from the west church.

Among the prominent men in earlier days noted for piety and energy were C. S. M. Stork, John Stoddard, 1st, John Stoddard, 2d, A. Ives, P. Yale, O. Yale, Philo Minor, B. Benedict, I. Blake, Ithuel Rogers and Russell Waters; and later, Eden, Eliakim and Ira Benedict, Moses Milcs, Marshal Miles; and still later, Jared Bassett, B. Bulkly and B. Taggart.

Previous to 1815 the Church was connected with the Northern Associated Presbytery; in February of that year it united with the Union Association.

June 19, 1827, it was received under the care of the Chenango Presbytery. April 17, 1842, it resolved to ask for a dismissal from the Association and to stand neutral for a while, until prepared to choose where to unite. June 10, 1845, it was again received under the care of the Chenango Presbytery. At present it stands related with the Presbytery of Binghamton.

The number of members in June, 1879, was 150; the average attendance at Sabbath School was 60.

MANUFACTURES.—About a half mile west of Coventryville is a saw-mill owned by Harry Griswold and built a great many years ago by his brother Samuel.

About a mile north of Coventryville is a saw-mill owned by William Seeley, by whom it was built some twenty years ago; and one and one-half miles north is another owned by George Hodge, and built some fifteen years ago by Edward Ogden.

About three miles south-east of Coventryville is a

grist and saw-mill which was built some thirty years ago by John Landers, and owned till recently by his sons Frederick and John.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—At a special town meeting held Sept. 5, 1862, 131 votes were cast for and 30 against a proposition to raise by tax \$1,500 to pay to each of thirty volunteers the sum of \$50 as a bounty for enlisting, the men so enlisted to apply on the quota of the town under the call for 600,000 men. March 4, 1863, the Board of Town Auditors issued three bonds for this amount and the expenses connected therewith, the first to Apollos Foot for \$550, at six per cent., payable Jan. 1, 1864; the second to R. Chandler for \$546.24, at six per cent., \$246.24 payable Jan. 1, 1864, and \$300 payable Jan. 1, 1865; and the third to T. D. Porter for \$450, at six per cent., payable Jan. 1, 1865.

At a special meeting held Jan. 2, 1864, 49 votes were cast for and 4 against a resolution to pay \$323 to each person enlisted and applied on the quota of the town (21 men) under the call for 300,000 men; and E. A. Phillips, James S. Parker and David Beecher were appointed a committee to draft the necessary papers and report the most feasible way of obtaining the money. On the recommendation of the committee the officers constituting the Board of Town Auditors were instructed to issue and sell the bonds of the town in sums of \$50 to \$500. James M. Phillips and S. F. Allis were appointed a committee to act with the Board. To carry out the provisions of this resolution bonds bearing seven per cent. interest were issued as follows:—

17	four years' bonds,	\$100 each	.....	\$1,700.00
17	three " "	100 " "	.....	1,700.00
16	two " "	100 " "	.....	1,600.00
2	" " "	50 " "	.....	100.00
15	one " "	100 " "	.....	1,500.00
4	" " "	50 " "	.....	200.00
				\$6,800.00
71	revenue stamps at 10c. each	.....		7.10
				\$6,807.10

At a special meeting held April 11, 1864, it was decided by a vote of 32 to 4 to authorize the Board to pay such sum as they deemed necessary, not exceeding \$500 each to the requisite number of volunteers to fill the quota of the town under the call for 200,000 men; and on that day the Board issued bonds numbered from 72 to 78, both inclusive, amounting to \$2,200, and April 25, 1864, a like number, from 79 to 85, in like amount, bearing seven per cent. interest, and payable Jan. 1, 1865.

At a special meeting held Aug. 2, 1864, 127 votes were cast for and 38 against a resolution authorizing the Board to pay such sum as they deemed necessary,

not to exceed \$500, to each volunteer credited on the quota of the town under the call for 500,000 men. The same provision was extended to persons who might be drafted under that call; and at a special meeting held Aug. 22, 1864, it was unanimously resolved to extend the same provision to persons furnishing substitutes under that call. At a special meeting held Sept. 10, 1864, it was resolved by a vote of 128 to 24 to so amend the latter resolution as to pay to each person furnishing an acceptable substitute the sum actually paid to such substitute, deducting all bounties received by the principal from the Government, not to exceed \$1,000; to authorize the Board, if they in their judgment deemed necessary to pay, not to exceed \$1,000, to each volunteer required to fill the quota under that call; and to rescind the resolution to pay \$500 to drafted men. Pursuant to these resolutions the Board issued Aug. 29, 1864, 12 bonds, amounting to \$3,150, payable Jan. 1, 1865; and Sept. 19, 1864, 54 bonds, amounting to \$24,490, payable, \$10,780 in 1865, \$11,410 in 1866, \$1,200 in 1867, and \$1,100 in 1868.

At a special meeting held Dec. 31, 1864, it was resolved by a vote of 131 to 36 to pay to each volunteer credited on the quota of the town under the call for 300,000 men, a sum not to exceed \$600 for one year's men, \$800 for two years' men, and \$1,000 for three years' men. The same provisions were extended to persons furnishing substitutes, but they were in no case to be paid a greater sum than was actually paid for such substitute. Pursuant to this resolution bonds were issued as follows: Jan. 9, 1865, bonds Nos. 67 to 78, both inclusive, amounting to \$3,150, payable \$900 in 1866, \$1,350 in 1867, and \$900 in 1868; Jan. 18, 1865, bonds Nos. 79 to 96, both inclusive, amounting to \$7,638.50, payable \$1,600 in 1866, \$2,138.50 in 1867, \$2,700 in 1868, and \$1,200 in 1869; Jan. 26, 1865, bonds Nos. 97 to 109, both inclusive, amounting to \$6,350, payable \$1,050 in 1866, \$4,800 in 1867, and \$500 in 1868; and Feb. 14, 1865, bonds Nos. 110 to 114, both inclusive, amounting to \$1,467.50, payable, \$1,300 in 1867, and \$167.50 in 1866.

CHAPTER XIX.

TOWN OF GREENE.

GREENE lies in the south-west corner of the County, and is bounded on the north by Smithville, on the east by Oxford and Coventry, and on the south and west by Broome county. It was erected March 15th, 1798, from Union, Broome county, and *Jericho*, (now Bainbridge,) both then in Tioga county, and was

named in honor of Gen. Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary fame. It comprises the south-easterly portion of the Chenango Triangle and the westerly portion of the *township* of Greene, the dividing line between these tracts being the Chenango river, which crosses the town diagonally from north-east to south-west,—a part of *Jericho* was annexed in 1799. Coventry was taken off Feb. 7th, 1806, and Smithville April 1, 1808, a part of Barker, Broome county, was taken off April 28th, 1840, and a part of Coventry in 1843.

The surface of the town is a rolling and hilly upland, broken by deep, fertile and beautiful valleys, that on the Chenango being about a mile in width. The hills, which rise to a height of 500 to 700 feet above the river, and whose low curving outlines form surfaces of great beauty, are susceptible of cultivation to their summits. It is well watered by the Chenango and its tributaries, the principal of which are Genegantslet creek, which flows south through the western part, and Page Brook,* which flows in a south-westerly direction across the south-east corner.

It is underlaid by the rocks of the Chemung and Catskill groups, the former covering the greater part of the town, and the latter capping the highest elevations. Quarries have been opened in both and a good quality of flagging and building stone obtained. From a quarry on the farm of Edward G. Cowles, in the south-west part of Greene village, stone was obtained for the aqueduct upon which the canal crosses the river just below the village of Greene. This quarry has not been worked for several years. A quarry is opened in the north-west part of the town, in and on both sides of Brag Pond Brook, on the farms of Ceber Whitmarsh and Stephen W. Davis; another is opened on Birdsall Brook, just north of Greene village, from which good building stone is obtained; and a fourth on the Haynes farm, about two and one-half miles below Brisbin, which was opened for the culverts on the canal and Christie's Creek,† and has not been used since the canal was completed. The quarry on Birdsall Brook exposes, but a few feet above the road, the rock of the Catskill group in thick blocks, subdivided into the courses obliquely arranged. The rock is hard and unchangeable.

These quarries exhibit in a measure the characteristic fossils of the groups. That on the Cowles farm also contains the large species of encrinite, so common and which appears to be confined to the Chemung group.‡ "It is almost invariably replaced wholly, or in great part, with lamellar carbonate of iron. The upper part of the quarry is a compact

* Named from Isaac Page, who settled upon it in the town of Fenton, Broome county, in 1807.

† Named from John F. Christie, an early settler in this town.

‡ *Natural History of New York, Geology.*—Lardner Vanuxem.

rock with concretions; the lower part consists of thin and irregular masses, with slaty shale. The floor of the quarry showed tentaculites.*

Alluvial deposits cover the valleys and appear in places over the hill sides, notably to the north of the village of Greene. They consist chiefly of primary rock † and gray and red sandstone. Upon the hills generally the soil is a gravelly and shaly loam.

It is a dairy town, for which purpose it is admirably adapted; what little grain is raised is used chiefly for fodder. The milk is largely carried to factories, of which there are not less than five in the town, though private dairying is carried on very extensively. Frank Blanding operates a creamery and a cheese factory, the former known as "Day Spring" creamery, located about three and one-half miles above Greene, and the latter known as the Johnson factory, about three and one-half miles east of Greene. One and one-half miles above Greene is Nathan Smith's cheese factory; midway between Greene and Chenango Forks, on the farm of John C. Marcy, is the Marcy cheese factory; this latter being also operated by Frank Blanding.

In 1878, a new cheese factory, known as the "Sacker's Harbor" factory, was built by a stock company.

The Chenango Canal and the Utica division of the D., L. & W. R. R. extend through the town along the valley of the Chenango River. The latter connects with the main line of that road at Chenango Forks, in the south-west corner of the town, and opens up a quick and easy communication with all the principal markets for its extensive dairy products.

The population of the town in 1875 was 3,560; of whom 3,427 were native, 133 foreign, 3,537 white, and 25 colored, 1,742 males, and 1,818 females. Its area was 43,053 acres, of which 31,767 acres were improved, 9,732 acres woodland and 1,554 acres otherwise unimproved.

SCHOOLS.—There are twenty-one common and one Union School districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town, and three common school districts which have not. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 1,014. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were 18 male and 36 female teachers employed, 28 of whom were licensed. The number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 894, of whom 4 were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the attendance during the year was 461,396; the number of volumes in District Libraries

* *Ibid.*
† *Ibid.*

In the light of more recent scientific investigations there is good reason to doubt whether we have any strictly primary rocks, as evidences of sedimentary deposit, though greatly modified by heat and other agencies, have been found in them all; and organic remains have been found, within a few years, much below the formations formally regarded as the lowest limit.

was 2,218, valued at \$1,872; the number of school-houses was 22, of which 21 were frame and one brick, which, with the sites, embracing five acres and 140 rods, valued at \$2,195, were valued at \$17,835; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$2,313,790. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 376, of whom 365 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—

Amount on hand, Oct. 1, 1876, . . .	\$ 33 40
“ apportioned to districts. . .	3,464 31
Proceeds of Gospel and School lands.	42 94
Raised by Tax.	2,767 63
From teachers' board.	646 00
“ other sources.	1,214 78
	\$8,169 00
Paid for teachers' wages.	\$6,494 77
“ libraries.	60 60
“ school apparatus.	10 31
“ houses, sites, fences, out-houses, repairs, furniture, &c.	920 04
“ other incidental expenses,	604 83
Amount remaining on hand, Oct. 1, 1877.	78 60
	\$8,169 15

The Indians, the former occupants of this country, continued through its heavily wooded hills and vales in quest of game and fish long after their title to the lands was surrendered. They mingled freely with the whites, the first settlers, and were generally very friendly toward them. They were principally Oneidas, and their chief, Abram Antoine,* notwithstanding his subsequent perfidy, is known to have frequently interposed in behalf of the whites in unfriendly altercations between them and the Indians. They had a village and treaty house † on the west bank of the Tioughnioga, ‡ a little north of the bridge crossing that river at Chenango Forks, and were quite numerous there as

* *Clark's History of Chenango County*, page 15. In *Wilkinson's Annals of Binghamton*, the name appears as Abraham Antonio. Antoine had himself been previously made the victim of a perfidious act perpetrated by a white man named Patterson, who, either through his own base designs, or at the instigation of others, inveigled him and his father, Squire Antoine, into signing a deed for the reservation of one-half mile square, known as the "Castle Farm," near the mouth of Castle Creek, in the town of Chenango, Broome county, under the supposition that they were merely executing a bond for the faithful fulfillment of a contract made by Abram for the delivery of a certain number of bear skins at a specified time, in payment for a silver-mounted rifle with which the latter's cupidity had been purposely excited. For this act of perfidy, however, Patterson is believed to have forfeited the lives of himself and family at the hands of young Antoine, who either followed him for the purpose to Ohio, whither he moved, or accidentally met him there and summarily revenged the treachery.

† The Treaty House was a large double log house, erected for the accommodation of the Indians and commissioners who effected there the treaty for the Boston Ten Townships. There is reason to doubt that they had here a village of any considerable size or permanency, as their reservation was but a few miles distant.

‡ "This name is formed from Te-ah-lah-houge, the meeting of roads and waters at the same place."—*Spafford's Gazetteer of New York*, 1811, page 176.

late as 1812. The numerous remains, buried in a sitting posture, and surrounded and covered with stones, which have been exhumed in excavating cellars in Chenango Forks, indicate that they had a burying ground on the site of that village, east of the Tioughnioga. Numerous Indian relics, such as brass kettles, tomahawks, arrow heads and wampum, have also been disclosed by similar excavations from the same locality.

This town furnishes one of those ancient relics fraught with so much interest to the antiquarian; but whether referable to our immediate predecessors, the Indians, or to a race anterior to them, is yet a matter of conjecture. It is one of those links which connect the present with the obscure, uncertain past, whose history is imperfectly traced by rude, fragmentary, but enduring monuments, of which we have only vague traditions, which are corrupted and distorted by the mystical channels through which they necessarily pass. It consisted of a circular mound forty feet in diameter, situated on a beautiful plateau of some fifty acres, about two miles below Greene village, near and below the mouth of Genegantslet Creek, and about ninety rods from the river bank. Before being plowed over it was six or seven feet above the surface of the surrounding ground, and was surmounted by several lofty pines, one of which, though dead when the whites came in, showed, when cut, 180 concentric circles. An examination of this mound, made in 1829, after the timber had been removed, revealed a large quantity of human bones, so intermingled with each other as to indicate a hasty irregular interment, as of those who had fallen in battle, and so much decayed as to crumble or fall apart on being exposed and handled. With these remains were exhumed fragments of rude pottery, curiously wrought into various shapes; stone chisels of different shapes; axes; pestles for pounding corn; a silver ring, about two inches in diameter, extremely thin, but wide, enclosing, apparently, the remains of a reed pipe, supposed to have been some sort of a musical instrument; a large piece of mica, cut into the form of a heart, the border much decayed and the laminae separated; and numerous arrow heads, which have also been turned up by the plow in various parts of the town. Of the latter, 200 were found quite in one pile, all of either yellow or black flint, a substance not found in this part of the State; and in another part of the mound, about 60 of the same form were found lying together.* The remains were two or three feet below the surface of the surrounding land. The mound has been leveled by the plow and other agencies, and no trace of it now remains. Its site is occupied by the barn and other buildings of Mr. Samuel C. Wagner.

* *Annals of Binghamton*, and contributions to the local press, by Dr. William D. Purple, of Greene, to whom we cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge our indebtedness for much valuable information relative to this town.

The settlement of the town was commenced in 1792, on lot 11, on the site of the present village of Greene, by Stephen Ketchum, who came from Ballston, Saratoga county, with an ox team to Oxford, and thence on a raft to his place of destination. Mr. Ketchum was a man of great energy and character, and admirably fitted for pioneer life. His rude cabin, though not a public house in the common acceptation of that term, was the seat of a generous hospitality which was dispensed freely to all the adventurers in this section of the country. He was for many years the most noted man in the town; he was its first magistrate, and was the recipient of other important public trusts. He died April 15, 1810, aged 58 years. His children and their descendants were among the most respected residents of the town. His sons were Stephen and Daniel, the former of whom died May 17, 1863, aged 85, and the latter, August 19, 1842, aged 42. Stephen married Esther Sheldon, who was born in Torrington, Conn., March 1, 1783, and died Sept. 10, 1847, aged 64. Hester, wife of Daniel, died April 17, 1866, aged 74. He had two daughters, both of whom are dead. One married Stephen Bradley, some of whose children are now living on the Genegantslet in this town; the other married William Hoyt, none of whose children are living in the town.

In the fall of this same year, 1792, the first detachment of a colony of French refugees, who are supposed to have arrived at Philadelphia the preceding year, came on and formed a settlement. They consisted of M. de Bo Lyne, M. Shamont, M. Le Fevre, M. Bravo, M. Du Vernet and M. Obre, who, with their associates, fled from their own country to escape the terrors of the revolution. One of their number, Charles Felix de BoLyne,* had preceded the main body and purchased of Malachi Treat and Wm. M. Morris, to whom it was patented in 1787 or '8, a tract of 15,835 acres on the east side of the Chenango, which was subdivided in 1792, by Captain John Harris, a surveyor, into about 150 lots of various sizes, exclusive of the French village plot. It was resurveyed in 1807, by William McAlpin.

This advance party, a portion of whom had their families, which comprised some young ladies, came by the way of the Hudson and Mohawk rivers to Fort Plain, and thence across the country to Butter-nuts, in Otsego county, where they induced Simon Barnett, a Frenchman, who had previously resided in Philadelphia, and had acquired some knowledge of the English language, to accompany them in their settlement in Greene. They were, mostly, gentlemen and ladies of education, refinement and polished

* This name is variously spelled Buloin and Bulogne. We have preferred to adopt the orthography of Charles Felix Bo Lyne Barnett, of Greene, who was named after this worthy gentleman.

manners, and their leader, M. de Bo Lyne, is said to have been a titled nobleman in France. Until they could provide shelter for themselves and families they enjoyed the hospitality of Stephen Ketchum, whom they employed to cut a road through the wilderness from their settlement to the "Chenango road," at or near the point where the east line of the present town of Greene intersects it. This road, the vestiges of which are still visible, seems to have never been used after the colony was broken up. A village plot was laid out, each lot containing ten acres, and the whole embracing about 300 acres.

"The plans of operation in carrying on their agricultural pursuits were the same adopted in many parts of their native country, where the agriculturist with his family resides in the village and owns and works a farm, more or less remote from his residence. With this view each was to select his farm on other portions of the tract, thus combining social intercourse and good society with rural pursuits."

Rude dwellings were constructed from the materials at hand, and each settler proceeded to put a small patch of land under complete cultivation; while their supplies of provisions were drawn from great distances at much labor and expense. "Under these circumstances," says Dr. Purple, before quoted, "it is not strange that persons reared in affluence and accustomed to the pleasures of refined society should yield to the pressure of the misfortunes that soon overtook them."

In 1794 the little colony was visited by the celebrated French diplomatist, Talleyrand, who was then sojourning in this country. He came from Philadelphia on horseback, accompanied by a traveling companion and a servant, and after remaining here a few days, pursued his journey to Albany. Having while here made the acquaintance of M. Dutremont and family, who had previously joined the settlement, and become much interested in his eldest son, on leaving he prevailed upon the latter, with the consent of his parents to accompany him to France, where he subsequently became his private secretary.

In the spring of 1795, M. de Bo Lyne, while on his way to Philadelphia, was drowned while crossing the Loyal Sock, a tributary of the west branch of the Susquehanna, then much swelled with the spring floods. This untimely death of their leader, and the failure to pay the balance of the purchase money due on their land (on which a considerable sum had been paid and a mortgage given for the balance,) and the consequent inability to secure valid titles thereto, led to the ultimate dispersion of the colonists, the majority of whom left in 1796. They descended the Chenango, in such boats as they could procure for the purpose, to its intersection with the Susquehanna, and thence down that river to a point on its western bank

in Bradford county, Pa., where they again commenced a settlement which they named *Asylum*, but which afterward acquired the name of French Town.

Their lands in Greene reverted to the original patentees. Simon Barnett, the only one of the French refugee colonists who remained here, was born of French parents on the Isle of Martinique, in the West Indies. At the early age of 14 years, during the Revolutionary war, he started for this country in a French privateer, which was captured by a British man-of-war and brought to Philadelphia, where young Barnett made his escape. He afterwards learned the trade of a ship carpenter, and worked at it till he had acquired some property, including a house and lot in Philadelphia, which he exchanged for land in Butternuts, to which town he removed a few years after the close of the war. He married in Philadelphia Margaret Sidell, who emigrated with her parents from Germany. From Butternuts, in 1792, he accompanied the French refugees to their settlement in this town, locating on a half acre of the Joseph Juliand farm in Greene village, and after their dispersion, removed to a 200 acre tract four miles below the village, on the east side of the river, 100 acres on each of Nos. 8 and 9 of the Treat and Morris tract, the lower half being now occupied by William Baker, and the upper one having recently been sold to Stephen Galaway. Here he resided till within a short time of his death, at an advanced age, in March, 1838, when he removed to the residence of his son, Charles Felix Bo Lyne Barnett, who was born in Butternuts, Nov. 23, 1792, and is the only survivor of a numerous family.

Captain Joseph Juliand joined the French colony just before its entire dispersion, as early as 1796, in which year he was chosen an officer in the old town of Bainbridge. He was born in Lyons, France, Jan. 17th, 1749, and in early life received a good Academic education. His subsequent studies were directed with a view to his becoming a medical practitioner and he acquired a good general knowledge of that science, which in after life, as commander of a ship's crew and a pioneer in a new country, proved very serviceable. His tastes, however, led him to abandon the study of medicine and adopt at an early age a maritime life, in which he rose through all the subordinate grades to the rank of commander of a vessel in the mercantile marine of France. In this capacity he made several voyages across the Atlantic, principally between the ports of Nantes and Bordeaux in France and Boston and Philadelphia in this country. His periodical visits to this country afforded him opportunity to travel in the interior, mingle freely with the people, and learn their language, manners and customs. On one of these occasions, while spending some time in the vicinity of New Haven, Connecticut,

he made the acquaintance of Hannah Lindsley, the daughter of a respectable farmer, whom he married in 1788, and soon after removed to a farm near Greenfield, Massachusetts.

In 1798, having heard of the establishment of the French colony here, on being solicited to do so, he made preparations to join it. After disposing of his property he set out on his journey with his family consisting of his wife and two children. He penetrated this then almost unbroken wilderness "in the expectation of finding a new home and congenial society." Leaving his family in the present town of Coventry he proceeded to prepare for their reception here. On arriving at the settlement he was surprised to find that many had gone and that others were preparing to follow; but nothing daunted he purchased the land, including the town plot, abandoned by his disheartened countrymen, and made it his home during the rest of his life. He lived to witness the success of his enterprise and enjoy in some measure the fruits of that prosperity to which he contributed so much. He came here as the agent of John Jukel, who acquired through his wife, who was a Livingston, a large portion of the French tract. He died Oct. 13th, 1821; and his wife, who was born in New Haven, Connecticut, Jan. 27th, 1763, April 11th, 1851. He had five sons and one daughter, all of whom lived to be heads of families and resided in the vicinity. Four sons are still living, viz: Lewis, George and Frederick in Greene, the former, the eldest, on the homestead, and Richard W., in Bainbridge. Joseph, who was born Feb. 23, 1797, died Feb. 13, 1870. His wife, A. M., who was born May 6, 1804, died May 1, 1860. Irene, wife of Richard W., died Feb. 8th, 1818, aged 25. His grandchildren living are Joseph in Bainbridge, and Stephen, wife of James M. Banks, in Chicago, children of Richard W.; William L., Joseph B., and Emma C., children of Lewis, on the old homestead in Greene; Charles and Henry, children of George, in Greene; Joseph E., a banker, Cornelia, wife of William Russell, senior partners in the firm of Russell & Juliand, bankers, children of Joseph Juliand, deceased, both in Greene; and John, Sarah and Minnie, wife of E. J. Arnold, a lawyer, children of Frederick, all in Greene.

Frederick Juliand, the youngest son of Captain Joseph Juliand, was born in Greene, October 9, 1806, and received an academic education in Oxford and Utica. He was one of the incorporators for locating the Soldiers' Home, and a trustee of the Inebriate Asylum in Binghamton from its inception in 1853 to 1868. He was a Member of Assembly in 1856, serving on the Committee on Banks, and was State Senator from the 23d District, comprising Chenango, Madison and Cortland counties, in 1864 and '65, when he was Chairman of the Committee on Public

Printing and a member of the Committees on Banks, Roads and Bridges, and Poor Laws. In the Senate he was instrumental in securing the extension of the Chenango Canal from Binghamton to Athens. In 1867 he was again elected to the Assembly. In the summer of 1864 the town of Greene had occasion to forward funds to an agent at Newberne, N. C., who was there endeavoring to enlist men to fill their quota. Mr. Juliand, much against his will, was induced to undertake the task. He started by the way of Washington and Norfolk, taking the steamer *Fawn* at the latter place for Roanoke Island, by the way of the Dismal Swamp Canal. When about 150 miles from Norfolk they were attacked by guerrillas and nine of the party of thirty, killed and wounded. Mr. Juliand and the remainder of the survivors were taken prisoners and robbed of all their baggage. The steamer was burned and they were compelled to march all night, a distance of 30 miles, to Elizabeth City, where, after being robbed of \$6,000, a portion of the funds he was transporting, he and Major Jenney, of Syracuse, were paroled, through the interference of a friend, the remainder of the party being marched off to a vile southern prison, where it has since been ascertained more than half of them died horrible deaths. He and his companions made their escape from Rebel dominion in a sail-boat, after being without food or shelter for about two entire days.

In 1793, Nathaniel Kellogg, Cornelius Hill and Daniel Tremain settled at Brisbin; Kellogg was a clergyman and organized there, in 1795, the first Baptist church in Chenango county. He settled on the farm now owned by — Lietch and removed to Steuben county about 1820. He had only one child, a daughter, who married Selah Barnes. Hill settled on the Tillotson place and built near there, three miles above Greene village, the first grist-mill on the river within the town. He subsequently removed to Smithville and died there. Tremain, father of Daniel, Erastus and Silas Tremain, settled on lot 9 of the Livingston tract, on the east side of the river, about one-fourth mile below Brisbin, on the place now occupied by his grandson, Richard Tremain, where he and his sons died, Daniel, Sr., Dec. 21, 1853, aged 94, Mary, his first wife, April 9, 1819, aged 57, and Sabra, his second wife, June 4, 1842, aged 64. Daniel, his son, died Feb. 24, 1841, aged 51, and Cynthia S., his wife, July 14, 1849, aged 47. Silas died Jan. 26, 1818, aged 30. Mary, wife of Samuel Walker, of Greene, Richard Tremain, of Brisbin, and Erastus Tremain, of Smithville Flats, are grandchildren of his. Erastus, son of Daniel, succeeded his father on the homestead.

Conrad Sharp, a Dutchman, came in from the eastern part of the State in 1793, and settled on the west

side of the river, about three miles below Brisbin, on the farm now owned and occupied by the widow of Seth Hollenbeck, where, in 1794, he opened the first tavern in town. It was a log structure and in 1806 he had the honor of entertaining in it Governor Morgan Lewis, who was then interested in the establishment of brigade military trainings.

Sharp was succeeded there about 1807 by David S. Crandall, who soon after built a frame house, and about 1838, the stone one now occupied by the widow Hollenbeck. He kept hotel there till his death, Oct. 31, 1857, and was succeeded by his son till within about 26 years. Crandall was born Nov. 9, 1772; his wife, Anna, was born April 30, 1782, and died Oct. 23, 1856. Dr. Ralph B. Crandall, of Greene, is a son of his. Harrison, another son, is living in Pennsylvania. Sharp's children left the town at an early day. Sharp built in 1795 the first saw-mill in the town. It stood near the grist-mill erected the previous year by Abraham Storms and Henry Vorse.

Amos Gray and Samuel Wheeler settled in 1794, the former one-half mile below Brisbin, and the latter on the site of the village, on the east side of the river, on the farm now occupied by Eli Bartoo, where he died. Gray, who was blind, was a brother of Elder Jeduthan Gray, who organized at Genegantslet, in 1807, the Second Baptist Church Society of Greene, of which he was for twenty-five years the pastor. The Grays were from Berkshire county, Mass. Amos died where he settled. His children were: Jeduthan, 2d., who, after attaining his majority, about 1807, removed to Greene village, where he kept the hotel on the site of the Chenango House, and removed West about 1810 or 1812; Enoch, who kept at Brisbin, in 1796, the second school in town, teaching some ten winters in succession,* and lived and died in Greene village; and Amos, who lived on the homestead till well advanced in years, when he removed to Greene village, where he died May 9, 1868, aged 77. Warren and Bethuel were sons of Elder Jeduthan Gray, who settled on a farm between Greene and Genegantslet in 1807, and removed about 1825 to northern Pennsylvania, where he died, in 1830, at an advanced age. Warren possessed a highly intellectual and judicial mind. He enjoyed a large share of personal popularity, and held various town offices, among them that of Magistrate for fifty consecutive years. He died in December, 1868, aged 83. Bethuel died February 4, 1866, aged 79, and Cornelia, his wife, July 7, 1869, aged 75.

Samuel Wheeler was an Englishman. His father served in the British army during the Revolutionary war under Burgoyne, and on the surrender of that General, remained in the country. Samuel's children

were: William; Samuel, who died March 26, 1847, aged 57, and Nancy, his wife, December 27, 1860, aged 71; Harry; Ephraim, who died July 17, 1873, aged 68; Sally, who married Samuel Williams, (who died April 16, 1849, aged 63,) and is now living in Chicago; Margaret, who married Esbon Corbin; and Jeannette, who married Silas Betts.

Abraham Storms, from Cossackie, and Henry Vorse, from Cherry Valley, came in as early as 1794, in which year they built, on the Tillotson farm, at the mouth of Crandall Creek, which empties into the Chenango about two and one-half miles above Greene village, the first grist-mill in the town. Storms brought in with him from the Hudson River country the stones for the mill, with a yoke of oxen. The mill did not stand many years, as every vestige of it was gone in 1807. The creek upon which it stood is now mostly dried up. Previously, the most accessible mill was at Tioga Point.

Storms settled first in the locality of the mill. He afterwards removed to the farm now occupied by John M. Chappell, on the east side of the river, about two miles above Chenango Forks, where both he and his wife died a good many years ago. None of his children are living. Vorse's children living are: Polly, widow of Jonas Underwood, in Illinois; Betsey, widow of Zenas Chase, in Michigan; and William, probably in Minnesota. All of his children removed from the town at an early day, except Urania, who married Samuel Race, and lived in the town till her death, November 6, 1866.

About this year (1794) settlements were made on the west side of the river, a few miles below Brisbin, by Derrick Race and John Hollenbeck. Race, who was born June 24, 1770, came from Egremont, Mass., having previously been here as a surveyor. He settled two miles above Greene, on the farm now owned and occupied by his son Derrick, and known as the Race Farm. He died there June 17, 1857, and Hannah, his wife, who was born July 2, 1770, January 7, 1861. His children, in addition to Derrick, were William B., now living in Oxford, aged 84; Abigail, widow of William Race, in Greene; Christina, wife of Erastus Brown; Charles T. and Stephen A., in Chicago; Nicholas, who died April 24, 1873, aged 79, and Annie, his wife, August 23, 1874, aged 78; Lucretia, who married Erastus Tremain, who died seven or eight years ago; George T., who died June 2, 1850, aged 49; and Smith, who died July 31, 1877, aged 71. Many of Race's grandchildren are living in Greene and Oxford.

Settlements were made from 1792 to 1795 on the Chenango road, in the south part of the town, by Nathan Bennett, Joshua Root, Eleazur Skinner, Thomas and Joab Elliott, Roswell Fitch, Aden El-

* The first school was taught near Chenango Forks in 1794, by an Englishman named Thomas Cartwright.

liott, Philo Clemmons and Captain Mandeville, who located in the order named from west to east. Bennett settled on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Oliver Bennett, on Page Brook, and died there. Aden Elliott opened the second tavern in town in 1795.

David Parsons came from Armenia, Dutchess county, in 1794-96, with his family, and settled on the west bank of the river, about a mile above Chenango Forks, where the widow of John Ockerman now lives. About 1810 he removed to the place now occupied by the family of his son Alva, in the upper part of the village of Chenango Forks, where he died about 1873. Chauncey Parsons, who was born in the last named locality, Oct. 13, 1810, and now resides in that village, is the only one of his children living. Alva died May 22, 1871, aged 75.

In 1796, Isaac Rosa settled on the east of the river, on the farm now owned by David Baird, about two miles above Greene. He subsequently kept a public house, at Genegantslet, where most of the public business of the vicinity was done. He was elected the second Supervisor of the town, in 1799, and was re-elected for five years. He was a man of marked character in the early settlement of the town. He was the first master of the Eastern Light Lodge. He removed to Waterloo, Seneca county, about 1818, and died there about 1838. Settlements were made in the south part of the town, west of the river, as early as 1796 by Elisha and Noah Gilbert, Stephen Palmer, Joseph and Cornish Messenger, and Peter and Jacobus Terwilliger. The Terwilligers, who were Dutchmen, were kinsmen, and came from the Esopus country, though Jacobus is believed to have come immediately from the Mohawk country. Peter settled about a mile north of Chenango Forks, where Cyrenus, son of Hiram Terwilliger, now lives, and Jacobus, two miles north of that village, where Simon S. Terwilliger now lives. Both died where they settled. Peter was the father of Captain Herman Terwilliger, and Jacobus of James.

Nathan Smith was born in Massachusetts in 1781, came in from Dutchess county with his mother in 1799, and settled on lot number 77, upon which he was the first settler. Underhill Miller, from the New England States, settled at Brisbin, and Benjamin Robbins, Daniel Brooks, Peter Perry, David Fitch and Eseek L. Hartshorn, at Greene village, previous to 1800. Squire Loren Miller, of Brisbin, is a son of Underhill. Hartshorn settled on the east side of the river, on a portion of the lands formerly occupied by the French colonists. He removed from the town with his family after a residence of eight or ten years. With the exception of Miller none of their descendants are living here.

Henry Beals, who was born December 31, 1790,

came in about 1800 with his mother and sister and settled in the village of Greene. He was a carpenter and joiner and built most of the frame houses in that village. He married Ruth, daughter of Samuel Martin, of Coventry, who was born August 14, 1801, and died January 1, 1833. He died November 24, 1852, leaving two sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. William, the eldest son, is a prominent man in the town of Barker, of which he has been supervisor for the last twenty years. DeWitt, the other son, moved west about 1840 to '45, and is now a prominent teacher there. His daughters are Susan, who married a Mr. Stoddard, of Coventry, where she is now living; and Clarissa, a maiden lady, who is living with her mother, Beal's second wife, in Greene village.

Edmond Harrington, Joel Winston and Jared Page, settled on Page Brook, in 1801.

Lyman Noble, Daniel Boardman, Herman Carter, Joseph Anderson, Joseph Winchell, David Winchell, Zachariah and Ezra Whitmarsh and William Driskall, settled on the Genegantslet as early as 1801.

Carter settled first on the western bounds of the town, on the place since known as the Boughton farm; and when the Catskill and Ithaca turnpike was completed he located upon it and kept a public house at Genegantslet Corners. He raised a large family, many of whom are still living. He died Jan. 16, 1846, aged 82; and Mariam, his wife, Jan. 17, 1838, aged 73. David Winchell died May 17, 1873, aged 79, and his wife, Philura, Oct. 4, 1853, aged 53. The Whitmarshes came in from the Hudson River country, from the locality of Cossackie, and settled a mile above the Corners, on farms adjoining that of Eli Webb. Both died in the town, Ezra on the homestead, which is now occupied in part by his grandson, Ceber Whitmarsh. Aber Whitmarsh, who is living near Brisbin, is the only survivor of Ezra's children. Zachariah had two sons and four daughters, two of the latter of whom are living, Rheuama, widow of Earlman Rogers, near Whitney's Point, and Belinda, wife of Peter Perkins, in Smithville.

As early as 1802, Elisha Smith, Thomas Wattles, Hial Wattles, Jacob Holt, Platt Brush, Sherman Boardman, John Boardman, Stephen Ketchum, Jr., Daniel Ketchum, Chandler Cummings, Joseph Rundall, Elias Forbes, and Reuben Wilder had made settlements on or near the site of Greene village; and Solomon and Benjamin Harrington, Waters Hine, Asel Stockwell, Elihu Spencer, Samuel A. Skeel, James Burroughs, George Byram, Benjamin Townsend and Daniel Low in the south-west part of the town.

Elisha Smith was the first local agent of the Hornby estate, receiving his appointment in 1802, and all the

sales on the Chenango Triangle from that period to 1812, when he resigned the agency and removed to Norwich, were made by him.* He procured the survey of the village of Greene in 1806, and to him the residents of that village are indebted for its spacious streets. He erected in 1803 the first building in the village on the corner occupied by the Rathbone Block, which he occupied as a dwelling and store. He was for several years Judge of the Common Pleas of Chenango county. He was a man of much enterprise, and his character was venerated by the early settlers. He died in Norwich about 1825. He was the father of Elisha B. Smith, Colonel of the 114th regiment, who was killed at the head of his regiment at Port Hudson in 1863.

Thomas Wattles was a brother-in-law of Elisha Smith's. He built, in 1803, the first frame house, for a tavern, on the site of the Chenango House, which stood till the latter was built, having been several times repaired and remodeled. It was first kept for some years by Wattles. Hial Wattles was Thomas' brother. Both removed from the town previous to 1814. Thomas was afterwards engaged in establishing mail routes in various parts of the State. Joseph Holt was from the Eastern States and settled and died on the site of Frank V. Turk's residence, in the village of Greene. His wife died before him. He had no children. He had charge of supply trains during the Revolutionary war and was popularly known as Colonel. Platt Brush settled just north of the farm now occupied by Lewis Juliand, within the corporation of Greene. He removed at an early day to Oxford. John and Sherman Boardman, brothers, settled near the village of Greene, and about 1812 removed to Genegantslet, where they died. Their children removed from the town at an early day. Chandler Cummings settled first in the neighborhood of the village. He was then a single man, but afterwards married and removed to the place now occupied

* Judge Smith was succeeded in the agency by Robert Monell, who resigned in 1819, when John D. Henry served temporarily in that capacity till the appointment of Charles Cameron in 1821. Mr. Cameron continued to act in that capacity till 1848, when all that remained of the tract, about 5,000 acres, was sold to Col. Joseph Juliand. He removed to this place from Canandaigua at the solicitation of his friend and countryman John Greig, who was appointed general agent of the tract in 1805, and acted as such till all the lands were disposed of. Mr. Greig acquired a princely fortune by his agencies for foreign landlords. Greene continued to be the place of residence of the local agent. Mr. Cameron continued his residence here till his death, Dec. 26, 1852, aged 79 years. He was a native of Scotland, where he received a respectable academic education, and immigrated to this country at the age of eighteen, with Col. Charles Williamson who came as agent of the Pultney estate. The party landed in Norfolk, Va., in December, 1791. For many years Mr. Cameron superintended the business operations of Col. Williamson, surveying lands and building mills and roads. He laid out the village of Bath in 1795, and was the first merchant there. He was the local agent at Lyons from 1798 to 1805, and built the first flouring mill there. He sent the first fruits of the Genesee Valley to an eastern market. He was one of the earliest merchants at Canandaigua, when the entire business of the Genesee country was done there. Few men were more extensively and favorably known as pioneers in Western New York.

by his son, James C., about two miles north of Greene. One other son, Edwin, is living on the homestead farm. Joseph Rundall was a blacksmith in the village and removed from the town at an early day. His wife was a stout, robust, masculine woman, well fitted for pioneer life and was known to cut beech trees two feet in diameter to browse her cattle. Their son, Johnstone Rundall, was the first child born in the town, an honor which was subsequently suitably acknowledged by a gift to the mother of a deed for fifty acres of land from the Hornby estate. Elias Forbes took up the farm now owned by Henry Mattemson, about two miles north of the village. After two years he removed to the farm which now forms a part of the one owned by his son Aaron Forbes, and died there. Captain Samuel A. Skeel afterwards settled near Brisbin, on the west side of the river. He was a surveyor and afterwards became a Universalist minister. He was a man of fine native endowments, conspicuous mental vigor and strong reasoning powers. He removed to the western part of the State about 1830 and pursued his calling in the ministry until his death in 1856.

Captain Joseph Tillotson came in from the Hudson River country about the beginning of the century and settled on the west side of the river, about three miles above Greene, on the farm now occupied by George Chamberlain, who married his grand-daughter, Augusta Tillotson. He was a man of great industry and frugality and acquired a large tract of land, including 1,000 acres in one body. He and his wife died on the homestead. His children were Sabrina, who married William B. Race and died April 11, 1833, aged 37; Jeremiah, who is still living in Oxford; and Silas, who died April 14, 1872, aged 62.

Garry Rice came in from Connecticut soon after 1800 and settled on Page Brook, in the east part of the town. He is still living on the east side of the river, about two miles below Greene, aged 85 years. Five children are living: Maria, wife of William Lament, in Coventry; Phebe, wife of John Flagg, in Binghamton; and Robert; Amanda M., widow of William Parker and proprietor of the Chenango House; William; and Lucy, wife of Nehemiah Sherwood, a milliner, all in Greene.

David Bradley settled in 1803, and William Bates as early as that year. Bradley came in from Kent, Litchfield county, Conn., and being in good circumstances, took up considerable land, for which he paid down. He settled half a mile above Genegantslet, the farm being now in the possession of A. B. Robinson. August 29, 1803, he deeded to his sons, Zachariah and Smith, the farm, a part of which is now occupied by Philo Webb. He died upon the farm upon which he settled, May 30, 1837, aged 84, and Lydia,

his wife, on the farm next above it with her son David, July 30, 1845, aged 83. His children were: Zachariah and Smith, who settled on the farm now owned by Philo Webb, and the former of whom died March 24, 1863, aged 83, and his wife, Lodema, May 23, 1846, aged 68, and the latter October 15, 1816, aged 35; David, who was born in Kent, Conn., October 31, 1784, married Sally, daughter of Stephen Ketchum, settled on a farm of 120 acres, given him by his father, and now owned by Daniel Bradley, a grandson of the elder David, and died there March 25, 1872; Timothy, a single man, who lived with his parents, and died May 13, 1818, aged 28; Orlow, who lived on the homestead, and was for many years a Magistrate; Mercy Fanny, afterwards wife of Dr. Levi Farr, who was born in Kent, Conn., February 14, 1787, and died February 28, 1847; and another daughter, who married a man named Beckwith, then living in Triangle; all of whom are dead. Daniel D. Bradley, Rachel, wife of Nathaniel Moore, Mercy, widow of Robert Edwards, and Maria, wife of William Harrington, all living in Greene, and Mary, wife of James Cromby, living in Brooklyn, are grandchildren of the elder David.

William Bates also came from Connecticut. He settled on Crandall Creek, (named from David Crandall, an early settler,) about three miles above Greene, where he died about 1810. The farm is now owned by Derrick Race. He had three sons, Loren, who is a clock-maker in Connecticut, Harris, who is living in Greene, and William, who went west some thirty years ago. His daughters were: Laura, afterwards wife of Hiram Bartoo, father of George Bartoo, a hardware merchant in Greene; and Anna, widow of George T. Race, (who died June 2, 1850, aged 49,) now living in Greene.

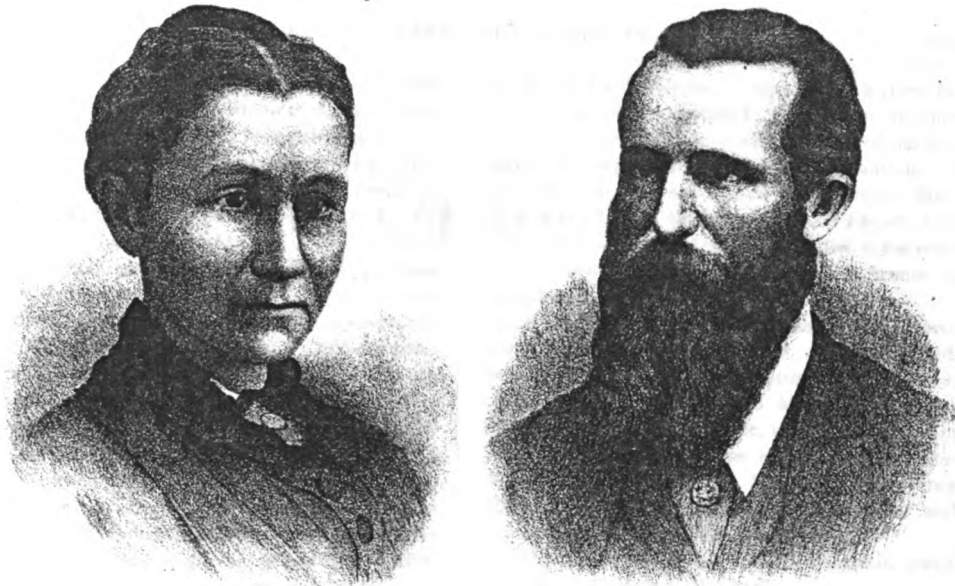
Samuel Ladd, the most prominent tanner in this part of the State, and a brother-in-law of Elisha Smith, came in about 1803, and settled in the north part of Greene village, on the place now occupied by Albert Mead. His tannery, which was a large one, stood directly opposite his residence. He carried on the tanning business some twelve or fourteen years, when he sold out to Robert Wilson and removed to Sherburne, where he died. None of his family are living there. Wilson came in company with a man named Barden, who settled directly north of the residence of Lewis Juliard. Both were sea captains, and were driven from the ocean by the embargo of 1812. They were high-toned men and bitter politicians. Both removed from the town in the latter part of 1815.

John Upham, a poor, but energetic, thorough-going Dutchman, came in from the Hudson river country about 1804, and settled in the village and died there.

He had considerable of a family, most of whom are dead. John, his eldest son, and Thomas, the next eldest, born August 21, 1802, were good thrifty farmers, and lived and died in the town, the former Sept. 5, 1863, aged 65, and the latter April 10, 1873. Elizabeth B., wife of John, who resided in the vicinity of Genegantslet, died June 26, 1863, aged 74. He had two or three daughters, who married and settled in the town.

Samuel Peck came in from the New England States about 1805 and settled in the north part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Mr. Culver, where he died April 1, 1860, aged 79, and his wife, Betsey, July 6, 1864, aged 80. He was well educated and a worthy man and a prominent member of the Congregational church in Greene. He raised a large and respectable family of whom three sons, Daniel, Philo and Asahel, and one daughter Clarissa, widow of Levi Morse and mother of E. C. and Edward Morse, merchants in Greene, are living in this town.

Eli Webb came in from Egremont, Massachusetts, where he was born July 19, 1771, in 1806, and settled on the west side of Genegantslet creek, a mile above the corners of that name, on the farm now occupied by Stephen Davis, whose father Dow Davis was an early settler in the same locality and died there, he and his second wife, Cloe, the former June 6, 1871, aged 90, and the latter July 2, 1852, aged 57. Mr. Webb died on the place May 3, 1846, and Polly, his wife, July 27, 1854, aged 72. He had three children, all of whom are living, Sarah, wife of Heman Carter, in the village of Greene; Ann, (widow of Moses B. Adams, who died March 9, 1873, aged 67,) in Smithville Flats, with her daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Brown; and Philo, (his wife, Mary E., died Oct. 4, 1875, aged 64,) near Genegantslet. Nathan Webb, brother of Eli, came in from Massachusetts, about the same time and settled on Brag Pond Brook where Harris Monk now lives. He resided there a good many years and moved to Triangle and died near there. None of his descendants are living in the town. One son, Mason, died here; the rest of the children removed from the town. Other early settlers were Col. John Forbes, who settled on the Genegantslet as early as 1807, and removed, about 1845, to Batavia, where he now resides, "in the yellow leaf of old age," "enjoying the conscious reflection of a well spent life." Henry Birdsall, the Terwilliger Bros., Solomon, Barney, Herman and Simon; and Levi Farr, Elisha Ladd and Jeduthan Gray, who also settled on the Genegantslet as early as 1807. Henry Birdsall was from Westchester county, and settled among the first on the east bank of the Chenango, a little below the Storms farm, on the place now occupied by the family of his grandson, John Birdsall, who died there in the spring of 1879.



Lucy Ann Hurlburt. M. D. Hurlburt.

MALCOLM DOUGLASS HURLBURT.

Mr. Malcolm Douglass Hurlburt was born in Broome Co., New York, in 1829.

He was the son of Mr. Isaac A. Hurlburt of that county. His early boyhood life was dissimilar from that of many at his age, as he early manifested a taste for books and an anxious desire for knowledge. But owing to the limited means of his father, he was compelled to put forth every effort possible to avail himself of even the meagre chances offered in the common district school. But his determined purpose enabled him to persevere and in the face of many difficulties secure something of an education. Fitting himself for the vocation of a school teacher he successfully engaged in that work for several years, aiding to mold the lives of many who are now living and respected. Turning his attention to farming he purchased a farm of some 200 acres which he thoroughly improved. Not resting with this he purchased a second farm in Chenango county.

From early life he gave considerable attention to the care and training of horses. Such was his

admiration and fondness for the horse that he devoted much time to the education and training of them in speed and various tricks. The well known horse Mazeppa was owned and trained by his partner, Mr. Rockwell.

On November 4th, 1875, he left VanCouver's Island for California, on board the steamer *Pacific* with a span of well trained horses, but he with the other passengers, little realized the fate before them, for in a few hours the steamer collided with the ship *Orpheus*. The steamer sank instantly and all on board were lost except two. Thus ended the life of the husband and father.

October 3d, 1852, he was married to Miss Lucy Ann Holcomb, the daughter of Ashbel Holcomb of Broome county. She was born in 1829.

The fruits of this marriage, (six children,) are Mary E., born in 1854; Lucy E., born in 1856; Douglass M., who died at the age of six and a half; Lottie Jane, born in 1860; Watson, born in 1862; Guy, born in 1866; and Genevieve, born in 1871.

Henry and his son Henry also died there, the latter about a year ago. Deborah, widow of Amos Parsons, now living on the homestead is believed to be the only one of the children of the elder Henry living. The Terwilligers were Dutchmen and came in from Amsterdam. Solomon, Barney and Simon settled in the "sap bush," in the south part of the town, Solomon, on the farm now owned and occupied by his grandson Solomon Terwilliger, where he and his son Deacon Simon died, the former August 21, 1826, aged 78, and his wife, Gitty, Feb. 29, 1817, aged 60, and the latter October 19, 1876, aged 80, and his wife, Matilda, April 27, 1878, aged 75; Barney, on the farm now owned and occupied by Theodore Terwilliger, a grandson of Solomon's where he died; and Simon, on the farm now owned and occupied by his grandson, Simon S. Terwilliger, where he also died. They came in single young men, but subsequently married, and leave numerous descendants now living in the town. Harmon B. Terwilliger, son of Barney, now residing in Triangle, is believed to be the only one of their children living. Philo B. Palmer, another early settler, was a native of Pennsylvania and became a resident of this town in 1810. He was a mechanic and enlarged and beautified the public house in the village, of which he was for several years the owner. He was a man of literary attainments, and removed to his native State in 1825.

The Birdsall family, though not as early in their settlement as many others, deserve mention from their business and social prominence.

Colonel Benjamin Birdsall came to Greene from Hillsdale, Columbia county, in 1816, accompanied by his three sons, Benjamin, George and Maurice, all middle-aged men, with families, who also became residents of the town. James Birdsall, another son, settled at Norwich a few years previous, and was engaged in legal and banking business. He was an active politician and represented the 15th district in Congress from 1815 to 1817, and this county in the Assembly in 1827.

Colonel Birdsall held a colonel's commission in the Revolutionary war and represented Columbia county in the Assembly in 1792, '3, '6 and 1804, and in the State Convention in 1801. He was a man of much enterprise, great force of character, urbane and gentlemanly, and possessed of an unusual share of mental vigor. He died in Greene, Oct. 8, 1828, aged 84 years, and Elizabeth, his wife, September 9, 1836, aged 83.

Benjamin Birdsall, Jr., his eldest son, was a man of much intellectual force, and was a magistrate for many years. He resided for many years a few miles west of Greene village. His children were: Colonel Benjamin, an officer in the war of 1811, and while in command of the military station at Greenbush, in 1818,

was shot and killed by one of his soldiers, a crime for which the latter was executed; Samuel, an attorney at Waterloo, Seneca county, who represented the 25th District in Congress from 1837 to 1839, and died in 1872; William, who was a physician in Wayne, Steuben county; Betsey, who married Noah Ely, of New Berlin; Melinda, a maiden lady, who died some years since in Pennsylvania; and George, a farmer in Pennsylvania.

James Birdsall, son of Colonel Benjamin, of Revolutionary fame, settled in Norwich, as before stated. His children were: Henry, an attorney in Addison, Steuben county; Benjamin and Maurice, merchants at Fentonville, Mich; Adelaide, who married William Fenton, of Norwich, who was subsequently Lieutenant-Governor of Michigan; Sarah, wife of Henry Dillaye, of Syracuse; and Elizabeth, Rispah and Catherine, who reside in San Francisco.

George Birdsall, son of Colonel Benjamin, was a physician in Greene. He had two daughters, one who married Mr. Perkins, a teller in the Bank of Norwich, and subsequently a clergyman now residing in Springfield, Ill.; and Charlotte, wife of Rev. Mr. Payne, residing in the same place.

Maurice, son of Colonel Benjamin Birdsall, was a farmer and lived in the village of Greene. He was a man of high social standing, upright and universally esteemed. He died Jan. 7, 1852, aged 77. His first wife was Ann Pixley, of Columbia county, who died June 12, 1829, aged 51. He subsequently married Ann Purple, of Greene, who still survives him. He had eight children: John, an early lawyer in Greene;* Anna, who married Alvah Hunt, an early merchant and prominent man in Greene, and died February 20, 1878; Polly, who married Hon. Thomas A. Johnson, (who was elected Supreme Court Justice for the 7th District June 7, 1847, and held that office till his death, in 1872,) and died in 1865; Benjamin, who was a well-to-do farmer in Wisconsin, and removed in 1871, with his numerous family, to Iowa; Emeline, who married Robert O. Reynolds, a very respectable lawyer in Greene; Maurice, Jr., who married Elizabeth Juliand, of Bainbridge, and after her death, Maria Randall, of Norwich, and who has been actively engaged in mercantile and other pursuits in Greene nearly forty years, and who is now extensively engaged in the produce business; Louisa, who married the late Judge Washington Barnes, of Steuben county, and died in 1859; and James, a physician in Wisconsin.

The following, illustrative of the character of and hardships and privations endured by the early settlers of this town, we quote from Dr. Purple's contributions before referred to:—

"The pioneer settlers of this town, at least for the

* Further mention is made of him under the head of lawyers in Greene.

first few years, were the subjects of great privations. Their roads were little else than Indian paths along the streams. The canoe was the principal mode of conveyance. Their corn was pounded and converted into samp by means of a mortar made in the end of a section of a log with a pestle suspended by a sweep, or taken to Tioga point, a distance of sixty miles, to a mill. These journeys were made in a canoe, and occupied several days.

"The road on the west side of the river was first traveled in 1794. That on the east side was not used until some years later. The road on the Genesetlet was made passable in 1802. Edward Loomis, in the employ of the Hornby estate, cut the road from Oxford to Smithville Flats in 1804.* The road north from Conrad Sharp's was cut through the same year.

"The Susquehanna and Bath Turnpike, which passed east and west through the town, was made in 1807. The first bridge over the Chenango was built the same year.

"They (the first settlers,) mostly came from the New England States, though many of them had settled in the eastern counties of this State. They came poor. Few were able to even make a small payment for their lands. Much want and even suffering was the consequence. But common necessities produced common sympathy. They evinced to the new-comers the spirit of genuine hospitality, and in all the relations of life, from the raising of the log-cabin to the supplying the destitute at their tables, they exhibited more the spirit of family affection than of mere neighborhood sympathy.

"Their only resources were derived from the manufacture of shingles for the Baltimore markets; or in felling the trees of the forest, cutting and burning them, and from the ashes making black salts for an Eastern market; and until they could have time to clear the land and raise food from the earth, they were very dependent on their more fortunate neighbors. This appeal was responded to with alacrity, 'not grudgingly,' but freely, even to the dividing of the last loaf. In this respect, at least, they exhibited Christian principles that would not unfavorably contrast with their more fortunate and refined descendants."

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Conrad † Sharp, the first Tuesday in April, 1798. Nathaniel Kellogg was Moderator. The following named officers were elected:—

Supervisor—Benajah Loomis.

Town Clerk—John Hollenbeck. ‡

Assessors—James Wiley, Isaac Perry and Allen Butler.

Poormasters—Abijah Loomis and Aden Elliott.

Commissioners of Highways—Record Wilbur, Daniel Perry and Jacob Pease.

Constable and Collector—Peter Perry.

Path-masters—Elijah Fitch, Daniel Curtis, James Smith, Stephen Ketchum, Daniel Perry, Conrad Sharp,

* Daniel Loomis, of Oxford, son of Edward, says that this road was cut through in 1800. He received from the Hornby estate as compensation for this labor fifty acres of land in Smithville, where he settled.

† This name is spelled Coonrod in the town records.

‡ Hollenbeck held the office of Clerk till 1806 continuously.

Jacob Pease, Nathan Bennett, Daniel Trinmon, (probably Tremain,) and Charles Hunt.

School Commissioners—James Wiley, Nathaniel Kellogg and Jacob Pease.

Fence Viewer—Derrick Race.

Isaac Rosa was elected Supervisor in 1799, and held that office till 1804, in which year he was superseded by Elisha Smith, who held the office till 1809.

The following list of the officers of the town of Greene, for the year 1880-'81, was kindly furnished by John C. Stoughton:—

Supervisor—Joseph E. Juliand.

Town Clerk—John C. Stoughton.

Justices—Lucius T. Darby, George W. Lenderson, Miles Johnson and William G. Welch.

Assessors—Samuel P. Thomas, Charles W. Van Valkenburg and Austin D. Kinsman.

Commissioner of Highways—Abel H. Smith.

Overseer of the Poor—Ransom Page.

Constables—Oscar E. Merrill, D. S. H. Buck, Jas. P. Smith and Benjamin F. Parsons.

Collector—Oscar E. Merrill.

Inspectors of Election—District No. 1, Elwyn E. Race, Thomas H. Oliver and A. Hunt Smith; District No. 2, John Winter, A. B. Holcomb and Reuben S. Bowe.

Town Auditors—Fred S. Race, Richard W. Tenbroeck and Henry D. Race.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—John W. Bennett.

Game Constable—Fred Dedrick.

Excise Commissioners—Philo Peck, Benjamin S. Hayes and David Sherwood.

Overseer of Bridges—Azariah Bolt.

GREENE VILLAGE.

This village is beautifully situated in the valley of the Chenango, and presents a highly picturesque appearance when viewed from the surrounding hills. It lies in the center of the town, upon both sides of the river, (which is spanned by a substantial wooden bridge, resting upon stone piers,) nine miles by rail above Chenango Forks. It is on the line of the Utica branch of the D., L. & W. R. R., which connects with the main line of that road at Chenango Forks. The Chenango Canal passes through the village near the center, and crosses the river upon an aqueduct near its south boundary. This once important highway of commerce is now practically abandoned.

The village was laid out in 1806, under the direction of Elisha Smith, who was then agent of the Hornby estate, and named *Hornby*; but as the post-office was called Greene the recorded name of *Hornby* never came into general use. It was incorporated April 12, 1842, and has a population of about 1,200. The first village officers, who were elected the first Tuesday in May of that year, were: Joseph Juliand, (deceased,) Lyman D. Lewis, (now residing in New York city,) Egbert C. Reynolds, (deceased,) Robert B.

Monell, (deceased,) and George R. Lyon, (still residing in the village,) Trustees. Lewis Juliand, (still residing in the village,) John H. Sherwood, (now residing in New York city,) and George R. Lyon, Assessors. W. Cushman, Treasurer. S. S. Nichols, (deceased,) Clerk; and Myron Cowles, Collector. At a meeting of the Trustees, held May 10, 1842, Robert B. Monell was elected President.

Following is a list of the Presidents and Clerks since the incorporation of the village:—

	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1842-3.	Robert B. Monell.	S. S. Nichols.
1844.	Joseph Juliand.	William Irvine.
1845.	Alvah Hunt.	Charles Squires.
1846.	Augustus Willard.	Elisha M. Hawley.
1847.*	—	G. W. Griswold.
1848.	John H. Sherwood.	E. N. Hawley.
1849.	Robert B. Monell.	L. R. Hitchcock.
1850.	J. G. Reynolds.	do.
1851.	A. D. Adams.	Frank Cunningham.
1852.	S. S. Nichols.	C. F. G. Cunningham.
1853.	do.	C. M. Brown.
1854.	do.	E. B. Jackson.
1855.	do.	Charles H. Barnard.
1856-8.	M. Birdsall.†	C. C. Willard.
1859.	Joseph Willson.	do.
1860.	do.	George W. Baker.
1861.	C. C. Willard.	do.
1862-3.	L. R. Hitchcock.	Samuel A. Willard.
1864.	Peter B. Rathbone.	do.‡
1865-6.	William F. Russell.	George W. Baker.§
1867.	M. Birdsall.	Chas. F. G. Cunningham.
1868.	Peter B. Rathbone.	Joseph E. Juliand.
1869.	Rob't P. Barnard.	do.
1870.	M. Birdsall.	C. F. G. Cunningham. ||
1871-2.	Curtis Winston.	H. W. Frost.
1873-4.	do.	E. J. Arnold.
1875-6.	J. E. Juliand.	do.
1877.	John W. Davidson.	do.
1878.	Jesse E. Bartoo.	do.
1879.	John W. Davidson.	M. F. Porter.

The present officers (1879) are: John W. Davidson, *President*; Maurice Birdsall, Joseph E. Juliand, Robert P. Barnard and J. D. Van Valkenburgh, Jr., *Trustees*; George H. Bartoo, Harvey June, Jr., and Nathan Smith, *Assessors*; W. F. Russell, *Treasurer*; M. F. Porter, *Clerk*; Charles P. Matteson, *Collector*; Frank V. Turk, *Chief Engineer*; Orlando F. Cowles, *Assistant Engineer*; L. M. Johnson, M. D., *Health Officer*; George H. Bartoo, E. B. Jackson, William F. Purple, William G. Welch and J. B. Hunting, *Board of Health*; Azariah Bolt, *Pathmaster*; John W. Davidson and J. D. Van Valkenburgh, Jr., *Fire Wardens*.

* Minutes do not show.
 † M. Birdsall resigned as President in 1857 and P. B. Rathbone was elected to fill the vacancy.
 ‡ George W. Baker was elected Clerk May 17, 1864, *vice* Willard, resigned.
 § E. B. Jackson was appointed Clerk May 7, 1866, *vice* Baker, declined.
 || Robert L. Brougham was elected Clerk May 20, 1870, *vice* Cunningham, declined.

Greene contains four churches, (Congregational, Episcopal, Baptist and Methodist Episcopal,) a Union school, two hotels, a newspaper office, (*The Chenango American*), a private bank, twenty-four stores of various kinds, a butter firkin manufactory, a grist-mill, a steam saw-mill, a foundry and machine shop, six blacksmith shops, (kept by John J. Harris, John F. Smith, B. S. Hayes, Joseph Anderson, Fredenburgh & Johnson and Norton Barnes,) two carriage shops, (kept by Jesse Bartoo and T. B. Rowison & Edward Belcher,) two cabinet shops and undertaking establishments, (John S. Atwater and Johnson & Graves, proprietors,) a cider mill, (owned by Ezra B. Wheeler,) a gun shop, (kept by E. K. Livermore,) a livery, (Ambrose W. Taft, proprietor,) and the marble works of Jacob Warner.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in the village and in the town, was Elisha Smith, who came in from Norwich as the agent of the Hornby estate in 1802, and in 1803 opened a store in a frame building erected by him that year on the site of the Morse store, opposite the Chenango House, for the double purpose of a store and dwelling. He did business till his return to Norwich in 1812. The building he occupied was burned about 1836-'8. David Finn, the first postmaster, did business from 1805 to '17; and Osburn B. Scoville from about 1808 to '15, when he removed to Maryland. William Porter and Taylor did business in company from about 1815 to '20, when they removed from the town. Simeon Hunt came in from Rhode Island, directly after the close of the war, in 1815 and traded till about 1819, when he went South to recuperate his health and died at Natchez of consumption in 1821, aged 36. He occupied the corner on which the Barnard store now stands.

Charles E. Barnard came in from Cooperstown in the fall of 1820 and bought an acre of ground and the store which occupied the site of the present post-office and in which David Finn previously did business. In the spring of 1821 he opened a stock of goods there and the following year formed a partnership with William Hatch, who was elected sheriff of the county in November, 1837, serving one term of three years. This partnership continued till 1837, when it was dissolved. Barnard continued the business and the same year formed a partnership with Frederick Meloy, which continued one year. In 1838, his son, F. E. Barnard, became his partner and the business was conducted under the name of Barnard & Son till 1843, when they dissolved. F. E. continued until 1852, when he admitted his brother, Robert P. Barnard, to partnership, and the business was carried on under the name of F. E. Barnard & Bro., till 1855, when F. E. withdrew, and R. P.

admitted his brother, Charles H. Barnard, with whom he continued till the death of the latter March 27, 1864, aged 32 years. *R. P. Barnard* has since carried on a general merchandise business alone. Charles E. Barnard built the Barnard store on the site now occupied by his son, in 1827. That building was burned in 1843, and the present block, which perpetuates his name, was built by him the same year. He died in July, 1850, aged 60; and his wife, Laurinda, in April, 1873, aged 75.

Asa Whitney, William Porter and Warren Gray commenced business under the name of Whitney, Porter & Gray about 1822, and continued about a year.

Alvah Hunt and Col. Elijah Rathbone, the latter of whom came in from Oxford, commenced mercantile business in 1823, and in 1837 associated with themselves William Hatch, under the name of Rathbone, Hunt & Hatch; they built the latter year the Chenango House on the site of the first public house in the village. In 1844 Messrs. Hatch & Hunt withdrew, and Mr. Rathbone admitted to the partnership Benjamin H. Thurber, with whom he did business till his death, June 21, 1849, when Peter B. Rathbone succeeded to his father's interest. They closed out the business about 1852. Mr. Hunt was a younger brother of Simeon Hunt. He represented the sixth district in the State Senate in 1839, '40, '41 and '42, and was elected State Treasurer Nov. 2, 1847; serving two successive terms of two years each. He removed to New York at the expiration of his second term in 1851, and died there October 28, 1858. Anna, his wife, died February 20, 1878. Mr. Rathbone was a man of great energy, industry and perseverance and was a very prominent man in the town. He was born April 24, 1792, and continued his residence in the village till his death. Mr. Hatch went to Batavia, where he lived in retirement some time and was suffocated there, he and his niece, by breathing charcoal fumes in their room. Peter B. Rathbone was supervisor of the town in 1858, and Sheriff of the county from 1858 to '61. In 1867 he removed to Syracuse, where he now resides, and is the senior partner of the firm of Rathbone & Knapp, proprietors of a planing-mill in that city.

The Juliand brothers, Joseph, Lewis, Frederick and George, commenced business in 1830 under the name of J. Juliand & Bros., and dissolved in 1840. Frederick continued the business till 1862, when he transferred it to his son, John R. Juliand, who associated with himself as partner Henry Miner. In 1866 they discontinued business here and removed to Binghamton. The Juliand brothers are sons of Captain Joseph Juliand, who is referred to in connection with the early settlement of this town, and all are still living here, except Joseph, who died in 1870. *Frederick*

Juliand was also engaged in the produce commission business, which he still continues. Arad and William W. Gilbert, from the eastern part of the State, commenced business under the name of A. & W. W. Gilbert in 1831, and continued about three years, when Arad removed to Massachusetts and William to the West.

John W. Carter, dealer in hats and caps, came in from Norwich in 1835, and commenced business July 21st of that year, which he still continues. He was associated with Charles A. Wheeler as partner from 1864 to '70.

Maurice Birdsall commenced the mercantile business in company with Willis Sherwood in 1839, and continued with him three or four years. He was subsequently associated with various partners till about 1863, when he discontinued the mercantile business and engaged in banking, in company with Lewis S. Hayes, continuing about three years. He then engaged in the produce commission business, which he has since conducted quite extensively.

L. D. Lewis came in from Sharon, N. Y., in 1834, and carried on the business of harness-maker till the opening of the canal in 1836, when he built the storehouse recently occupied by the late Thomas J. Cole, in which he did a storage and forwarding business till 1854, when, having for the three or four latter years been engaged also in the sale of dry goods he removed to New York City where he now resides. The business was continued here by his son-in-law, C. F. G. Cunningham, till his death, Oct. 13, 1878, when his wife, *E. C. Cunningham*, daughter of L. D. Lewis, succeeded to the business, which she still continues, dealing in fancy and dry goods.

Eugene Cushman came in from Otsego county about 1842 and did business some eight or ten years.

William F. Russell was born in Monticello, Sullivan county, N. Y., and carried on the mercantile business there from 1834 to 1851. He married Oct. 17, 1849, Miss Cornelia Juhel Juliand, daughter of Col. Joseph Juliand, of Greene, and in April, 1851, removed to this town. He built his present residence in the summer of 1851, and engaged in mercantile business here in September of that year, in the block now used as a bank, continuing till March 1, 1859. The following June he engaged in private banking with his father-in-law, Joseph Juliand, continuing till the death of the latter, Feb. 13, 1870, when he became associated in the same business with his brother-in-law, Joseph E. Juliand, with whom he still continues the business under the name of *Russell & Juliand*.

Dr. Wm. D. Purple, dealer in books and stationery, who had formerly practiced medicine in the village for several years, commenced mercantile business in 1853, and still continues it.

Samuel Walker, dealer in boots and shoes, commenced business in 1853, in company with C. B. Wheeler, whose interest he bought after the expiration of a little over a year. He has since done business alone, with the exception of the years 1874 and '75, when his son-in-law, O. E. Merrell, was his partner.

Frank Turk, dealer in fruit and confectionery, commenced business in 1854, having been associated at different times as partner with S. A. Willard and George W. Baker, each about two years.

John S. Atwater, furniture dealer and undertaker, is a native of Homer and removed from German to Greene in 1855. In 1864 he commenced his present business, having been associated as partner from 1867 to '72 with A. P. Kelsey, whose interest he bought in 1872.

James Ramsey, grocer, came in from Smithville in 1865, and the following year commenced business in company with Charles Gray, whose interest he bought after about two years. With the exception of one and one-half years he has since done business alone.

G. H. Bartoo commenced the hardware business in 1866, in company with T. D. Welch, who sold his interest to A. D. Martin, April 1, 1878, and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of *Bartoo & Martin*.

David Terwilliger, a native of Greene, commenced the grocery business in April, 1866, in company with C. B. Wheeler, who did business together under the name of C. B. Wheeler & Co. seven months, when Mr. Terwilliger purchased Wheeler's interest. He admitted Chester Race to partnership in 1869, and bought his interest in April, 1870, at which time William G. Rice became his partner and remained such three years and five months. Mr. Terwilliger has since done business alone.

Lucius T. Darby and Oramel Forbes commenced the mercantile business in 1866, and continued one year, when Mr. Darby bought Mr. Forbes' interest and took in as partner Chaplin B. Perkins, with whom he continued three years, when he sold his interest to Mr. Forbes, who, with Perkins, traded some three years.

E. C. Morse, dealer in dry goods, ready-made clothing, &c., commenced the grocery business in 1866, in company with his uncle, S. M. Morse, who remained with him one year. His brother, Edgar D. Morse, became his partner in 1868, and his uncle again acquired an interest in 1871. The three did business together till October, 1872, when the brothers bought their uncle's interest and separated, E. C. abandoning the grocery business to his brother *Edgar D.*, who has since continued it in a separate store, for five years, from 1873, in company

with Albert Page. E. C. Morse has also carried on the confectionery and tobacconist business in another location since 1872, in which year he bought out S. P. Morse and John W. Davidson.

John W. Davidson, grocer, commenced business in 1872. He came into this town about 1838, from Triangle, from which town he removed to Connecticut, and to the village of Greene about 1854.

J. B. Hunting, jeweler, came in from Bainbridge, and commenced business in June, 1873.

L. Lombard, boot and shoe dealer, who was formerly engaged in farming in Greene, commenced his present business in the fall of 1874, in company with O. Lombard, whose interest he bought April 1, 1878.

Albert H. Shapley, jeweler, came from Hamilton in August, 1874, and in 1875 commenced his present business, which he has since continued.

F. L. Perkins, general merchant, came in from Whitney's Point, where he was engaged in the same business, in Oct., 1877.

J. S. Wood, druggist, who was formerly a resident of the village, commenced business in January, 1878.

Johnson & Graves, (S. M. Johnson and George D. Graves,) furniture dealers and undertakers, came in from Bainbridge, their native town, and commenced business in April, 1878.

James A. Harrison, druggist, who was formerly a resident of the village, commenced business May 1, 1878, at which time he bought out Dr. Marcus M. Wood, who commenced the drug business here in 1857.

Edward G. Kinney, hardware merchant, who was formerly a resident of the village, commenced business April 1, 1879.

G. H. Burlingame & Co., (L. Archambeault,) dealers in clothing, hats and caps, came in from Binghamton and commenced business in April, 1879.

Other merchants who have done business here, are: Calhoun & Conklyn, Benjamin Perkins, B. B. Reed, Glover & Perkins, in 1842; A. D. Adams, C. & A. Squires, Bingham & Maynard, Birdsall, Nichols & Lyon and Israel Baldwin, who are believed to have succeeded each other about in the order named.

POSTMASTERS.—The postoffice at Greene was established in 1807. The route on which it formed a station extended from Cooperstown, *via* Oxford, to *Chenango Point* (now Binghamton.) The first mail carrier was Charles Thorp. The village at first was supplied with a semi-monthly mail. A weekly mail was carried on this route, on horseback, as late as 1819, when a semi-weekly stage route was formed from Utica to Binghamton. In 1822 a tri-weekly stage route was formed from Catskill to Ithaca, which soon became a very general thoroughfare of travel. It was regarded as one of the best stage routes in the State.

The successive postmasters from 1807 to 1879 are as follows: David Finn from 1807-'10; Charles Josslyn, 1810-'24; E. B. Smith, 1824-'33; William M. Patterson, 1833-'34; Erastus Perkins, 1834-'36; Charles Squires, 1836-'41; Frederick Juliard, 1841-'45; Charles Squires, 1845-'49; Chester Bingham, 1849-'53; William D. Purple, 1853-'61; Lucius T. Darby, 1861-'66; Peter B. Rathbone, 1866-'69; and Charles B. Wheeler, the present incumbent, who was appointed April 14, 1869.

PHYSICIANS.—Dr. Guthrie was the first physician in the town. He settled on the river a mile or two below the village, but remained only a short time. Dr. Finch settled by Conrad Sharp's. He, too, remained but a short time.

Dr. Charles Josslyn was the first physician in the village. He came here from Butternuts, Otsego county, in 1805, and located first at Conrad Sharp's. The following year he removed to the village, where for twenty-one years he devoted himself to his professional duties with approbation and success. He was a man of mark among the settlers, and was honored with various responsible public trusts. He was postmaster at Greene for fourteen years, Justice for seventeen years, and County Judge for a like period. He removed from the town about 1826, and died in Windsor, while visiting one of his children there, in 1850.

Levi Farr, M. D., was born in Pittsfield, Mass., July 8, 1787, and removed to this town from Montgomery county in 1807. He settled first at Genegantslet, where he married Mercy Fanny, daughter of David Bradley, an early settler in that locality. He entered at once upon the active duties of his profession, and pursued them with untiring zeal and devotion to the interests of his patrons, who were widely scattered over a large section of sparsely settled country, mingling with his professional services kindly counsel and advice, which were as eagerly sought and for which he was not less highly respected. He "filled a large space in the public mind, and is gratefully remembered by his contemporaries." He removed to this village in 1825, and died here July 22, 1859. From his youth he was troubled with imperfect vision, and about 1840 became entirely blind. He accumulated a very handsome property, and gave by his will \$4,000 as a permanent fund for the benefit of the common school in this village. He enjoyed in a large degree the confidence of his fellow-townsmen, who often elected him to positions of trust and responsibility. He was a Magistrate in the town for a number of years.

George Birdsall came in from Columbia county in 1816, and practiced more or less until his death. S. K. Bradley, son of David Bradley, practiced here from

1831 to about 1836. He removed to Ohio, and died there a few years after.

Augustus Willard, M. D., was born in 1800, and was the eldest son of Samuel Willard, M. D., of Stafford, Connecticut, who was graduated at Harvard college in 1787. He received a good common school and academic education and entered upon the study of medicine with Dr. Thomas of Cooperstown. In 1821 he entered the office of Dr. Charles Josslyn, of Greene, and there, and at Harvard Medical college, where he was graduated in 1823, completed his preparatory medical studies. He was graduated with a class of about forty and received the prize for the best Medical thesis. In 1824, at the written solicitation of a number of its citizens, he located in the village of Greene, where his strong intellectual powers, studious habits, critical research, and undivided application to professional duties soon gave him prominence among his contemporary practitioners. His long and exemplary professional career fully merited the generous confidence reposed in him by the entire community, as an honest, upright and skillful physician. In his professional associations the County, State and National organizations felt the influence of his talents and his ardent devotion to their interests. He was elected President of the State Medical Society, at the semi-centennial anniversary of that organization in Feb., 1857, and in 1858, he delivered the annual address before that Society, in the Assembly Chamber. Dr. Willard was a conspicuous and devoted member of the Masonic fraternity and was rewarded with its highest honors. His obsequies were numerous attended and conducted by members of that fraternity, the services being rendered by M. W. G. M., Clinton F. Paige of Binghamton. He died March 12th, 1868, aged 68, and Catharine S., his wife, April 3, 1845, aged 38.

C. Cameron Willard, M. D., son of Augustus Willard, M. D., was born Nov. 4th, 1828, and studied medicine with his father. He was graduated at New York, and practiced here about three years preceding his death which occurred Sept. 24th, 1862.

Charles S. Wood came in from Connecticut in 1851, and practiced here until about 1862, when he entered the army as surgeon. After leaving the army he went to California and subsequently to New York, where he is now in the full tide of successful practice.

George W. Roberts came in from Troy in 1840, and after spending two or three years on a farm, moved into the village and commenced the practice of medicine, which he continued till his death Feb. 10, 1870. He was the pioneer homeopathist in Chenango county.

The present physicians are: William D. Purple, Marcus M. Wood, Ralph B. Crandall, Leonard M. Johnson, Charles G. Roberts, and Geo. O. Williams.

William D. Purple, M. D., was born in Burlington, Otsego county, April 6, 1802. His father was Edward Purple, an early settler in the town of Smithville. Dr. Purple commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Charles Josslyn of Greene, in 1820, and remained with him four years. He afterwards continued his studies with Arthur Packer and Austin Rouse of Oxford. He was licensed to practice in 1824, and entered upon the duties of his profession in Bainbridge, where he remained six years, when he removed to Greene. He practiced here till 1853, when he abandoned the medical profession and engaged in mercantile business, which he still continues. Dr. Purple possesses a remarkably retentive memory, and his mind is a rich store-house of facts and incidents connected with the early settlements in this locality, with which he is probably more conversant than any other individual in the southern part of the county. His efforts to rescue from oblivion the intensely interesting facts which enter into the early chapters of the county's history, and which are rapidly passing out of the reach of the present generation, are worthy of the highest commendation and of more general emulation. He has been a liberal contributor to the periodical medical literature of the country, and in 1849, on the recommendation of the State Medical Society, received from the Regents of the University of this State, the Honorary Degree of M. D.

Marcus M. Wood, brother of Dr. Charles S. Wood, was born in Litchfield, Conn., August 1, 1833. He entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1825, remaining that and the following year. He then entered the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1857. He commenced the practice of medicine in Greene April 1, 1857, and still continues it. He opened a drug store in the village in 1857, which he conducted till May 1, 1878, when he sold to James A. Harrison.

Ralph B. Crandall was born in Greene, December 27, 1819. He was graduated from the Pennsylvania Medical College of Philadelphia, which he entered in 1854, Feb. 21, 1856. He commenced practice at Montrose, Pa., in 1854, having previously studied medicine, the latter part of the time with Dr. Rufus R. Thayer of that village. He removed thence to Greene in the spring of 1858, and has since practiced here.

Leonard M. Johnson was born in Le Raysville, Pa., Jan. 24, 1830, and was educated at Franklin Seminary, Delaware county, and at Hamilton College. He entered the Albany Medical Institute in 1853 and was graduated in 1855. He commenced practice in Berkshire, Tioga county, in 1856, and in 1858 re-

moved to Nebraska. In 1861 he entered the army as assistant surgeon in the 3d N. Y. Infantry and was promoted to the surgeoncy of that regiment in 1863. He left the army in 1865 and settled at Greene, where he has since practiced his profession.

Charles D. Roberts was born in Troy, N. Y., May 29, 1835, and commenced the study of medicine with his father, Dr. George W. Roberts, at Greene, in 1854. He commenced the practice of his profession here in April, 1870.

George O. Williams was born in Norwich, Conn., April 14, 1843, and commenced the study of medicine with his father, Dr. R. O. Williams, at Upper Lisle. He subsequently pursued his medical studies with Dr. S. H. French at Lisle. He entered the Albany Medical College in September, 1865, and was graduated in December, 1866. He commenced the practice of medicine in the Spring of 1867, at Smithville Flats, where he remained six years, when, in the spring of 1873, he removed to the village of Greene, where he has since practiced.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer in the village of Greene was probably Hon. Robert Monell, a native of Columbia county, who removed to Binghamton in 1808, and opened a law office. John A. Collier was his cotemporary practitioner there, and as there was not sufficient business to sustain both they cast lots to determine which one should leave. It fell to Monell's lot "to fold his tent." He selected this village as the scene of his future operations, and moved here in 1811. Thus Binghamton lost and Greene gained a most worthy citizen. In 1812 he succeeded Elisha Smith as agent of the Hornby estate, and discharged the duties of that office in connection with his legal practice till 1819, when he resigned them into other hands. His duties as land agent brought him into intimate relationship, and formed for him a favorable acquaintance with the residents of this section of country, and prepared the way for his subsequent public usefulness. He was elected to the Assembly from this county in 1813, and again in 1814, being the first of his townsmen thus honored. "In that body, in the dark hours of 1814, he faithfully performed his duty by sustaining the efforts of Gov. Tompkins, in upholding the arms of the national administration in its conflict with Great Britain." In 1818 he was elected to the 16th Congress from the 15th District, then composed of Broome, Chenango, and Otsego counties, and such was his popularity at that time, that, notwithstanding a strong party organization against him, he received but one opposing vote in his own town. In 1825, '6, '8, he again represented this county in the State Legislature; and in 1829, '31, the 21st District, then composed of Broome and Chenango counties, in the 21st Congress. He was Dis-

tract-attorney of Chenango county in 1827. February 11, 1831, he was appointed Circuit Judge of the 6th Circuit, which office he held till 1845, when he was appointed Clerk of the Supreme Court, and removed to Geneva, which was one of the four places in the State where the Supreme Court Clerk's office was located. He remained there in that office till the County Clerks were constituted *Ex-Officio* clerks of the Supreme Court, under the Constitution of 1846, when he returned to Greene and resumed the practice of his profession, which he continued until his death in December, 1860, aged 74 years.

Hon. John Birdsall became a resident of the village in 1816. He had received a liberal education at some of the eastern colleges, and entered the office of Judge Monell as student. He was admitted to the bar before attaining his majority and became the law partner of his preceptor. "He signalized himself as a man of marked character, and held a conspicuous place at the Bar." In 1823, he removed to Mayville, Chautauqua county, where his shining abilities soon attracted attention and led to his appointment, April 18, 1826, as Circuit Judge of the 8th Circuit. He was then only 25 years old. He fixed his residence at Rochester during his judgeship, which he resigned in 1829 and returned to Mayville. In 1831 he represented Chautauqua county in the Assembly, and in 1832, '3, and '4, he represented the 8th District in the State Senate. In 1837 he removed to Texas and formed a law partnership with General Samuel Houston, then President of the Republic of Texas, and was Attorney-General of the "Lone Star" State till his death in 1839.

John J. Taylor read law in the office of Judge Monell and practiced here a year or two, about 1834 or '5, when he removed to Owego, where he now resides.

Nathan Chamberlin, a brother-in-law of Judge Monell, was for some time in partnership with him here. He was appointed surrogate of this county July 8, 1819, and county clerk June 7, 1820, in which year he removed to Norwich, where he was postmaster for some years, and died about 1828.

Adam G. Ransom practiced law here several years, till about 1835, when he sold to Robert O. Reynolds, who studied with him, and removed to Binghamton. Reynolds practiced here till the fall of 1844, when he sold to Lester Chase and removed to Norwich, and subsequently to Cortland, where he died in 1856. He was appointed District Attorney of Chenango county in 1843.

Robert B. Monell came from Hudson, N. Y., about 1830 and read law in the office of his uncle, Judge Robert Monell. After being admitted he practiced here till about 1846 or '7. He was clerk in chancery

till the office was abolished in 1846. He returned to Hudson, where he still resides, and practiced with his father, Joseph D. Monell, till the latter's death. He is a brother of the late Claudius L. Monell, First Judge of the Superior Court, who died a few years ago.

Judge Thomas A. Johnson came in from Colesville, Broome county, about 1830, and read law with Judge Monell. He practiced here a year or two and removed to Corning, Steuben county, where he pursued a very successful practice until elected Justice of the Supreme Court for the 7th District, first, June 7, 1847, again Nov. 6, 1849, and again November, 1857, holding the office at his death in 1872. He was a very eminent judge.

William M. Patterson, a native of Oxford, was practicing here a few years previous to 1836, and continued till 1840, when he removed to Binghamton; after a few years he removed to Wisconsin and died there. Erastus Foote came from the north part of the county about 1836 and read law with William M. Patterson. He was admitted in 1838 and practiced here till April, 1851, when he removed to Wisconsin, and after a few years to Milwaukee, where he died two or three years ago. Alonzo Johnson came from New Berlin in the spring of 1840 and practiced till about 1866 or '7, when he removed to Washington, D. C., to fill a clerkship in one of the departments, and died there a few years ago. Selah Squires, a native of Binghamton, read law with Judge Monell and was admitted about 1848. About 1858 he removed to New York, and afterwards accepted a clerkship appointment in Washington, where he died. Frank Cunningham came in about 1850 and read law with Lester Chase. He was admitted in 1852 and practiced till 1853, in company with his preceptor. He then practiced a year or two in company with Judge Monell. He went west. Ransom McDonald came in from Schoharie county about 1856, and practiced till his death six or seven years ago. He was appointed Special Judge of Chenango county April 4, 1864, *vice* Alfred Nichols, deceased, and held the office the balance of the term. Robert L. Brougham came from the northern part of the State in 1870 and practiced one and one-half years, till 1871, when he removed to Glens Falls, N. Y., and died in Livingston county, while residing in the former place. H. W. Frost came from Windsor, Broome county, about 1870 and practiced till Sept., 1874, when he removed to Wisconsin. William Irving came from Whitney's Point in 1847 and read law with Erastus Foote. He was admitted about 1848 and practiced till 1849, when he removed to Corning, where he practiced till 1861, when he enlisted as a Colonel, was taken prisoner, confined in Libby Prison, and subsequently exchanged. He is now practicing his profession in San Francisco.

The present lawyers in Greene are: Lester Chase, Edgar J. Arnold, Marshal F. Porter and Lester Elwyn Chase.

Lester Chase was born in Triangle, N. Y., May 2, 1815. He commenced the study of law with Robert O. Reynolds in Greene, in 1836, and was admitted in October, 1840, since which time he has practiced his profession here. Since May, 1878, he has been practicing in company with his son, Lester Elwyn Chase, under the name of L. & L. E. Chase. He has been Justice six years, and Notary Public since January, 1869. He was Master in Chancery from 1843 to '46. Lester Elwyn Chase was born in Greene June 2, 1852, and commenced the study of law with his father in October, 1871. He was admitted to practice in May, 1878, in March of which year he was appointed Notary Public.

Edgar J. Arnold was born in New Berlin, Chenango county, May 27, 1850. He was educated in the academies of New Berlin and Oxford, and commenced the study of law in his native town with Messrs. Jenks & Matterson, the former of whom is now Judge of Chenango county. He completed his legal studies with James E. Dewey, of Fort Plain, and was admitted to practice in June, 1871, commencing in Greene, where he has since continued. He was Clerk of the village five years, from 1873 to '78.

Marshal F. Porter was born in New Lisbon, April 30, 1849. He commenced his legal studies with Messrs. Jenks & Matterson, and completed them with E. J. Arnold, of Greene. He was admitted September 10, 1874, and commenced that year, and has since practiced in Greene.

BANKS.—The first bank in Greene was the Hamilton Exchange Bank, which was removed from Hamilton to this village about 1854, and failed in the panic of 1857. It was a State bank, and was located in the store now occupied by Enos C. Morse. T. C. Granis was the banker.

The Juliand Bank, (William F. Russell and Joseph E. Juliand, bankers,) was established in 1859 by Joseph Juliand and William F. Russell, who carried on the business till the death of the former, February 13, 1870, when Joseph E. Juliand succeeded to his father's interest, and has since done business in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Russell, under the name of Russell & Juliand. It is a private bank, and its operations are conducted in a building fitted up for the purpose from a store and standing on the north-east corner of Genesee and Chenango streets, diagonally opposite the Chenango House.

MANUFACTURES.—The foundry and machine shop at Greene, one of its most important industries, was established in 1840, by George R. Lyon, who has car-

ried on the iron business in this place about fifty years, (several years as blacksmith,) from 1822. The present buildings were erected by him. He succeeded Henry A. Lyon and Louis E. St. John in the present business March 13, 1877. They had conducted it some seven or eight years. The building originally used for the foundry was erected for a distillery about 1809, by Elisha Smith, in the interest of the Hornby estate, and was used for that purpose. It was afterwards used as a granary for the storage of grain received by the estate in payment for lands contracted to settlers. It originally stood in rear of the Episcopal rectory in Greene, and is now used as a planing-mill in connection with the foundry. These works give employment to sixteen persons. A specialty is made of small, gray iron castings, in which direction they probably do a larger business than any other foundry in the State.

The Chenango valley mills, at Greene, are owned by Edmund Gould, and operated by him and James M. Chapman. The mills were built by Eli Haynes in 1836. They contain five run of stones, propelled by water-power furnished by the river, with a four foot fall. Connected with them is a plaster mill, built in 1866, and operated by the same company. The plaster used is obtained from the famous Springport quarries.

Ezra B. Wheeler is proprietor of a steam saw-mill, located on the east bank of the river, and erected by him in 1875. The building is 30 by 40 feet, with a wing 30 by 30 feet, and contains two circular mill saws, two edgers, one cutting-off saw, two lath saws, a shingle saw and a stave saw, also a feed run, operated by a sixty-horse-power engine.

George W. Jennings is proprietor of a butter firkin factory. He commenced the business in the spring of 1878, in company with Albert D. Gilkey, whose interest he bought at the expiration of a little less than a year. The building had been previously used as a cooper shop, but confined to hand-made work. Messrs. Jennings & Gilkey put in the machinery, which is propelled by a fifteen-horse-power engine. Eight to ten men are employed, and from 4,000 to 5,000 firkins and tubs made per annum.*

Jesse Bartoo is engaged in the manufacture of carriages. He commenced the business in 1870, in which year the shop he occupies was erected by John F. Smith. The following spring he took in as partner William Alexander, with whom he did business till August, 1872, since which time he has carried on the business alone. The business employs four men, who turn out about ten wagons and carriages per annum.

T. B. Rowleson and Edward Belcher do a repairing business in carriages and wagons.

* This factory was burned June 25, 1879. Loss, \$1,000; insurance, \$1,000.

THE GREENE RAILROAD COMPANY was organized October 14, 1869, and filed articles of incorporation Oct. 18, 1869. The company own the right of way from the village of Greene to Chenango Forks, about eight miles, which they leased April 26, 1870, for 99 years to the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Rail Road Company, who built the road in 1870, and opened it for business Dec. 19, of that year. The town is bonded in the sum of \$198,700 in aid of its construction and subscribed for an equal amount of the capital stock of the company, which is \$200,000. The stockholders, who are the thirteen directors, hold the minimum amount of stock required by law, \$1,300. The road now forms a southern terminus of the Utica branch of D., L. & W. R. R., which was opened in 1870 by a connecting link from Greene to Sherburne, from which point to Utica a road had been previously built by the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Rail Road Company, organized January 11, 1866, and leased by the D., L. & W. R. R. Co. The condition of the lease requires the D., L. & W. R. R. Co. to construct, equip and operate the road on the route located and surveyed by the Greene Rail Road Company in 1870, and to pay the stockholders of the latter company six per cent. per annum on the capital stock for which they were to receive \$100,000 of the town bonds, and \$95,000 in cash from the Greene Rail Road Company, and in case the cost of construction exceeded that amount, the latter company were to issue additional stock under the same lease, or mortgage bonds, which the D., L. & W. R. R. Co. would guarantee principal and interest. The bonds of the town bear seven per cent. interest and mature in thirty years.

The first directors were Robert O. Barnard, Maurice Birdsall, Joseph E. Juliand, Philo Webb, Simeon Walker, Elias B. Jackson, Harmon O. Banks, Stephen A. Race, David Terwilliger, John W. Davidson, William G. Welch, Frederick Juliand and Charles F. G. Cunningham, all of Greene; and the first officers were Maurice Birdsall, *President*; Robert O. Barnard, *Vice President*; Joseph E. Juliand, *Secretary* and Lewis S. Hayes, *Treasurer*. At the annual election in 1870, the same Board of Directors were elected except that Nathaniel F. Moore was elected in place of Simeon Walker. The same officers were elected, except that the additional duties of treasurer were devolved upon Joseph E. Juliand.

January 18, 1871, directors Davidson, Race, Banks and Terwilliger resigned and were succeeded by John Brisbin, Moses Taylor, Percy R. Pyne and Samuel Sloan, the latter of whom was elected Vice-President in place of R. P. Barnard, resigned. This board was re-elected annually, and the officers continued the same till 1879, when Maurice Birdsall, Robert P. Barnard

Joseph E. Juliand, Frederick E. Barnard, Townsend D. Welch, Frederick Juliand, Elias B. Jackson, Philo Webb, Nathaniel F. Moore, of Greene; and Samuel Sloan, Moses Taylor, Percy R. Pyne and John Brisbin, of New York, were elected directors, and Maurice Birdsall, *President*, Samuel Sloan, *Vice-President* and Joseph E. Juliand, *Secretary and Treasurer*.

HOTELS.—The Chenango House, the principal hotel in the village, is kept by Mrs. Kate L. Parker. It was built in 1837 by Messrs. Rathbone, Hunt & Hatch, who were then engaged in mercantile business in the village. The first hotel on this site was built in 1803, by Thomas Wattles. It was the first frame house in the town and stood till the present house was erected. The Union Hotel was built for a residence in 1827. In 1835, the year previous to the completion of the canal, it was enlarged and converted into a hotel by Myron Cowles. It was first kept by Philo B. Callender, who married Cowles' wife's sister, and is now a General of militia in Oregon. It has been kept for the last two years by Charles H. Hunt, who succeeded his father, D. M. Hunt, who bought the property of Smith Baker in 1869.

FIRE DEPARTMENT OF GREENE.—How early the first fire company was organized in the village we have been unable to definitely determine, but there does not appear to have been a public organization prior to 1845. March 25th of that year the *Greene Hook and Ladder Association*, in accordance with their own proposition, turned over their property to the village officers, the condition imposed requiring the village to assume the association's indebtedness of \$22.43. August 26, 1845, the village trustees resolved to raise \$333.33 besides collectors' fees, for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine. July 9, 1846, U. Whittenhall and Artemas Haynes were constituted a committee to examine and report to the trustees on the subject of the purchase of a fire engine and apparatus; and January 26, 1846, they resolved to purchase of Thomas Ling a fire engine, "with suction power," at \$350.00, also 200 feet of copper nailed hose.

August 16th, 1846, the following named persons were constituted Fire Engine Company No. 1: U. Whittenhall, Chief Engineer; George S. Roswell, Assistant Engineer; James Fairchilds, George W. Griswold, S. Ferguson, B. Thurber, E. H. Wilcox, Augustus Taylor, P. Watrous, J. A. King, T. Turk, Jr., T. Winter, E. R. Gray, J. Willson, H. Bartoo, Jr., H. Hollenbeck, George English, William C. Watson, H. Lansing, V. Watson, C. H. Squires, C. C. Willard, H. Lyon, George Bradley, William F. Lyon, G. F. Stevens, F. Cowles, J. Kingsman, W. R. Newton, J. F. Cushman, George Van Valkenburgh, Theodore Squires, R. Sherwood, H. Smith and A. Hoyt, mem-

bers; and the following a Hook and Ladder Company: L. D. Lewis, Chief; J. D. Taylor, Assistant; A. D. Storm, N. P. Rose, J. Pangburn, P. Ashley, S. Maxwell, W. Watrous, R. W. Parker, C. Whitbeck, E. Green, M. Cowles, H. Hoyt, J. Fredenburgh, P. Hollenbeck, F. Dinnen, Elijah Adams, R. Austin, H. N. Slocum, L. T. Darby, S. S. Nichols, A. Morris, H. Smith, Jr., J. G. Reynolds and L. R. Hitchcock, Members.*

August 25th, 1846, a lot was purchased of Rathbone & Hunt for \$150, on which to build an engine house, which was erected the following year.

May 20th, 1853, the members of the Fire Company in good standing were exempted from paying poll tax.†

August 10, 1853, a code of by-laws adopted by "Ocean Fire Engine No. 1," Aug. 2, 1853, were approved by the village trustees. In 1853, also, an Engine, Hose-Cart and one set of connecting screws were purchased at a cost of \$892.75.

March 1, 1873, it was resolved to organize a Hook and Ladder Company to be composed of thirty members, and to create the office of Chief Engineer, that officer to be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Engine, Hose and Hook and Ladder Companies. The election of F. V. Turk to that office was confirmed by the trustees in May, 1873. He has been annually elected since. G. C. Roberts was elected assistant engineer in 1874, '5, '6, and Orlando F. Cowles in 1877, '8, '9.

May 24th, 1879, on motion of J. E. Juliand, it was resolved that the President be authorized to build for fire purposes a reservoir on the premises of Robert P. Barnard, Robert E. Rice, James Ramsey, or Weston Holcomb, another near the cooper shop "of about 400 superficial feet," and a third near the depot; also to build a dam where the brook crosses the road at the foot of the west hill of the height of about eighteen inches, and to set a hogshead at or near where Birdsall brook crosses Main street, and that he have power to contract for labor and materials.

The department at present comprises: Ocean Fire Company, organized August 2, 1853, Henry Bolt, Foreman, and Charles Bolt, Assistant Foreman; Active Hook and Ladder Company, organized April 1st, 1873, John Ramsey, Foreman, and N. A. Dederer, Assistant Foreman; and Ocean Hose Company, organized Jan. 6th, 1874, M. M. Wheeler, Foreman and F. J. L. C. Cunningham, Assistant Foreman. Its equipment consists of one Button Engine, one Hose Cart, one Parade Hose Carriage, 1,600 feet of first class Leather Hose, and a good Hook and Ladder Truck, with all the necessary appurtenances.

* Augustus Willard, N. R. Strong and William Laman were appointed Hook and Ladder men, vice A. D. Storm, E. Green, and H. Smith declined; and H. F. Weedon, Fireman, vice Phineas Watrous, declined.

† A like exemption is recorded in the years 1856-'60, 1861-'71, and 1879.

SCHOOLS.—A meeting of the legal voters in school district number 4, of Greene, was held at Union Hall in the village of Greene, Feb. 12, 1874, and it was unanimously decided to establish a *Union Free School** within the limits of that district, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 555 of the laws of 1864, and the amendments thereto, and the following named persons were chosen members of the Board of Education: Robert O. Barnard and Joseph E. Juliand to serve three years, Lewis E. St. John and George O. Williams, two years, and Addison D. Adams, one year. The Board met Feb. 26, 1874, and elected Robert O. Barnard, President, and Joseph E. Juliand, Secretary, March 4, 1874, it was decided to establish an academic department in said school; and March 9, 1873, the Board voted \$130.00 for a set of philosophical apparatus and \$2.50 for a set of geometrical blocks, and decided to apply to be received under the visitation of the regents.

At a special meeting of the voters of the district held June 23, 1874, it was resolved to use the room known as Union Hall in the school building exclusively for school purposes, and the Board was authorized to expend not to exceed \$600.00 in partitioning and furnishing it. In that year repairs amounting to \$855.00 were made on the building, and furniture added valued at \$181.14; in August, 1875, an organ was purchased at a cost of \$150.00.

Aug. 4, 1874, Jesse E. Bartoo† was chosen principal, Miss A. V. Mead, preceptress, and Misses Agnes Purple, Lottie Hayward, S. Bell Willard, assistants. July 26, 1875, A. J. Osborn was employed as principal and Miss Jennie Williams, assistant in place of Miss Hayward. E. W. Rogers was chosen principal July 12, 1876, and July 24, 1876, Misses Julia M. Stevens and Kate A. Hearn were chosen assistants in the place of Misses Mead and Williams. November 20, 1876, Miss Florence McIntosh was chosen assistant in place of Miss Purple. There was no further change in teachers till 1879, apparently, except that the position of principal was tendered to C. N. Cunningham. March 12, 1879, E. T. De Bell was hired for one term of fourteen weeks, and March 13, 1879, Miss Clara S. Kinney was hired to take charge of the primary department, Miss Frances S. Seabury of the intermediate department, and Miss Ann V. Mead of the grammar department.

The following named officers of the Board were chosen November 14, 1878: R. P. Barnard, President; J. E. Bartoo, Secretary; W. F. Russell, Treasurer; C. B. Matteson, Collector. J. E. Bartoo's resignation as Secretary was accepted Jan. 31, 1879, and M. S. Parker was elected to fill the vacancy.

* A Union Free School had previously existed here as early as 1868.

† Mr. Bartoo had previously been connected with the school, in all a period of four years.

The present trustees are, R. P. Barnard, M. S. Parker, J. D. Denison and Nathan Smith.

The lot upon which the school building stands fronts on Monell street, and is 212 feet front and 183 feet deep. It slopes gently to the river, which bounds it in the rear. It was purchased in 1859 for \$500. The school is a two-story wooden building, 65 feet front and 40 feet deep, with porch in front, also two stories, 15 feet front by 10 deep, and rests on a good cellar. It was built in 1859, at a cost of \$5,000.00, and has been kept in good repair. The first floor is divided into four school rooms, with necessary halls, and is used by the primary, intermediate and grammar school departments. The grammar department seats 48 pupils, the intermediate 40, and the primary 38.

The second floor is occupied by a large, airy room, for an academic department, with seats for 100 pupils, a room for chapel exercises, and cloak, library and recitation rooms. All the school rooms are seated with modern furniture.

The value of the grounds, as reported to the Regents in 1877, was.....	\$ 1,500 00
The value of the buildings, as reported to the Regents in 1877, was.....	9,500 00
Value of the Philosophical Apparatus....	448 22
Value of the Library, 1,064 volumes....	1,633 78
Value of the other academic property, the Farr Fund *.....	4,000 00

Total value of school property.....\$17,082 00

Receipts and disbursements for the year ending

July 15, 1877:—	
From tuitions collected or collectable.....	\$ 452 00
From income of Farr Fund....	280 00
From apportionment from Literature Fund made in November, 1876.....	117 20
From local taxes.....	826 80
For educating teachers of common schools.....	200 00
For purchase of books and apparatus in January, 1877.....	201 00
	—————\$2,077 00
For teachers' salaries.....	\$1,578 00
For repairs of building, etc....	45 00
For fuel, and other incidental expenses.....	52 00
For purchase of books and apparatus.....	402 00
	—————\$2,077 00

The whole number of scholars taught during the year was 134, of whom 65 were males and 69 females. Their average age was 16, ⁵/₆ years. The number of academic students who pursued classical studies or

* The Farr Fund is a legacy of \$1,000 from the late Dr. Levi Farr, the income of which is to be applied to the payment of the wages of teachers in school District No. 4, now constituting the Union Free School District.

higher branches of English education for four months or more of said year was males, 14, females 28. The average age of the males was 17, ⁵/₆ years, and of the females, 17, ¹/₆. The number who pursued classical studies during the year was 10, 7 males and 3 females.

CHURCHES.—*Zion Church* (Episcopal) was organized March 12, 1833. The original members were Robert Monell, Elijah Rathbone, William Hatch, Charles Squires, Alvah Hunt, George R. Lyon, John Winter, Adam G. Ransom, Joseph Juliand and Charles Cameron.

Joseph Juliand and Charles Cameron were the first church wardens and each held the office till his death, the former in 1870 and the latter in 1852. Frederick E. Barnard was elected warden on the death of Mr. Cameron and Frederick Juliand on the death of his brother. Both still hold the office. The first vestrymen were Robert Monell, Elijah Rathbone, William Hatch, Charles Squires, Alvah Hunt, George R. Lyon, John Winter and Adam G. Ransom.

The present vestrymen are Lewis Juliand, George Juliand, William F. Russell, Maurice Birdsall, Joseph E. Juliand, Townsend D. Welch, Uri Whittenhall and Samuel P. Thomas.

Aug. 1, 1833, the wardens and vestry forwarded a communication to Trinity Church, of New York, setting forth that they had had the services of a missionary from Jan. 1st, preceding their organization, that they were destitute of a house of worship, had made an effort to raise a sufficient amount (\$2,500) for the purpose of building one but got only \$1,500, and appealed to that Church for such aid in their emergency as they felt disposed to give. The application for aid was renewed June 2, 1834. The records do not show whether they received the desired aid, but the well-known liberality of that society toward churches struggling for existence in various parts of the country warrants the belief that their appeal was not in vain. Almost immediate steps were taken to secure the erection of a church edifice. Sept. 9, 1833, they resolved to proceed to erect a church with the amount subscribed, and Charles Cameron, Joseph Juliand and Elijah Rathbone were appointed a building committee. Jan. 1, 1834, a proposition was accepted from Theodore Daniels to build a church for \$2,245; and March 6, 1835, the committee were authorized to allow Mr. Daniels \$2,487 for building the church and for extra work.

December 26, 1834, application was made to have Greene disconnected from Guilford, and made a separate missionary station, and Rev. Francis Tremayne was requested to continue to officiate here until suitable arrangements could be made to supply preaching. February 6, 1835, the resignation of Mr. Tremayne was accepted. August 1, 1835, Rev. John V. Van

Ingen was requested to become the minister, which he consented to do. Mr. Van Ingen's resignation was tendered to take effect April 10, 1844.

June 6, 1836, the church was received under the jurisdiction of Right Rev. Benjamin Treadwell Onderdonk, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of New York and consecrated by the name of Zion church.

In 1842 a parsonage and out buildings, including barn, were erected at a cost of \$1,085.

March 20, 1844, Rev. Alfred Louderback was requested to become the rector. He commenced his labors as such in April of that year, and continued them till May 26, 1845, when his resignation was accepted. July 31, 1845, Rev. William E. Eigenbrodt was solicited to assume the temporary rectorship, which he consented to do August 2, 1845. He closed his labors June 12, 1846. Rev. W. D. Wilson supplied the pulpit after Mr. Eigenbrodt left till Sept. 12, 1846, when an invitation was extended to Rev. Ferdinand Rogers, D. D., of Brownsville, N. Y., and was accepted by him Sept. 15, 1846. His rectorship continued till his death Jan. 17, 1876, aged 60 years.

In 1856 the church was enlarged by the addition of 18 feet to the rear, at a cost of \$1,500; and in 1875, repairs to the amount of \$1,400 were made on the church. The church first erected is the one now in use.

The harmonious, steady and wholesome growth of the parish during the long pastorate of Mr. Rogers attest the happy influence of its life under his ministrations. The reverence for religion in the whole sphere of his ministry and the general grief and sorrow of which his departure called out so many and marked expressions evince the measure of respect his labors evoked.

Rev. Dr. John V. Van Ingen, then residing at Rochester, attended the funeral of Mr. Rogers and supplied the pulpit for a few months.

March 24, 1876, an invitation was extended to Rev. Albert W. Snyder, of Muskegon, Diocese of Michigan, to become the rector. His ministerial labors were discontinued Dec. 4, 1877. After Mr. Snyder left, the pulpit was supplied for a few weeks by Rev. Frank B. Lewis, principal of the academy at Oxford.

January 28, 1878, a call to the rectorship was extended to Rev. James Ferdinand Taunt, of Groton, who accepted the charge Feb. 18, 1878, and still continues his ministrations among this people.

The number of communicants reported in 1878 was 178; the attendance at Sabbath-school was 9 teachers and 60 scholars. The church was valued at \$15,000, and the rectory at \$3,000.

Occasionally services were held by persons of this religious persuasion prior to the organization, and were conducted by Revs. W. B. Lacey and L. Bush,

rectors of the church in Oxford, and E. G. Gear, then residing in Binghamton, the latter as a missionary.

Sylvan Lawn Cemetery, on the east side of the river, is the property of this society, but is held for public use. It includes nearly six acres, three of which were purchased June 6, 1857, and the remainder July 8, 1873. It is well fenced and kept in admirable condition. It is a credit to the village and to those having it in charge.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Greene.—The first religious meetings in the town by members of this denomination were held at the house of Benjamin Townsend, about four miles below Greene village, and there the first class was formed about 1814. In 1817 the place for holding the meetings of the class was changed to the house of Abel Norton, two miles below Greene, near the Genegantslet bridge, and Mr. Cameron was then the circuit preacher. The present Methodist Episcopal church in Greene village is the outgrowth of these early efforts. It was organized at the house of Benjamin Jackson, Sept. 25, 1827, and Benjamin Jackson, Horatio N. Gere, Benjamin Harrington, Reuben Chase and Dr. Isaac Grant were the first trustees.

The church edifice now used by the Society was built about that year. The church has been twice repaired, the last time in the summer of 1872.

Rev. Mr. Barnett was a local preacher here before the organization was effected. Following is as complete a list of the pastors of this church as the memory of the present members, in the absence of any records, is able to supply: D. Simons, in 1846; P. Compton, 1848-'49; George P. Porter, 1849-'51; Arnold G. Burlingame, 1851-'53; Hiram Gee, 1853-'55; Ellis D. Thurston, 1855-'56; David C. Dutcher, 1857-'58; Benjamin Shove, 1859-'60; George S. White, 1861-'62; Marvin S. Wells, 1863-'64; I. B. Hyde, 1865-'67; William Burnside, 1868-'70; A. F. Brown, 1871-'72; C. O. Hanmer, 1873; William H. Gavitt, 1874-'76; E. P. Eldridge, 1877; Henry Newton Van Dusen, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in May, 1878.

The present number of members is a little over 200. The church property is valued at \$4,000.

The Central Baptist Church and Society of Greene was organized at a meeting held at the "Methodist Episcopal Chapel" in the village of Greene, Feb. 29, 1836. The meeting was called to order by Daniel W. Litchfield, who, in conjunction with George W. Crosby, was chosen to preside. Hilem Huntley, Henry Perry, Asel S. Holcomb, Daniel Corbin, Jr., Allen Newton and Levi Farr were elected the first trustees.

January 14, 1842, it was resolved to build a meeting-house, and April 12, 1843, A. Haynes, J. Cook, Deacon A. Newton, L. D. Lewis, E. Adams, E.

Forbes and J. Spofford were appointed a building committee. February 27, 1844, it was "resolved to sell the old house and as much of the lot as might be thought best." The church seems to have been completed March 9, 1844, as the trustees were then authorized to effect an insurance on it.

Elder C. Darby is the first pastor whose name appears on the records, but not earlier than April 12, 1843. Whether or no he was the pastor from the organization we are not advised; but he apparently served as late as Feb. 27, 1854. He was succeeded by Elder J. D. Webster, who remained until April 1, 1864. Feb. 27, 1864, it was voted to engage the services of Rev. H. Garlick, whose resignation was accepted Dec. 6, 1868. March 14, 1869, it was resolved to extend an invitation to Rev. J. H. Sage to become the pastor. He continued his labors till Dec. 30, 1877. Rev. S. T. Ford, the present pastor, commenced his labors in 1878, and was ordained May 1, 1879.

The number of members May 16, 1879, was 141.*

SOCIETIES.—*Eastern Light Lodge, No. 126, F. & A. M.*, was organized October 1, 1811, and held its first meeting at the public house of Heman Carter, on the Genegantslet, about two miles west of the village of Greene, October 31, 1811. There were present at that meeting, Isaac Rosa, *W. M.*; Levi Farr, *S. W.*; Robert Monell, *J. W.*; Timothy Clark, *Treasurer*; James Anderson, *Secretary*; Asa Whitney, *S. D.*; Namon Harrison, *J. D.*; Asahel Olmsted, *Tiler*; Jonathan Phelps, Elisha Smith, Smith Bradley, Orrin C. Dow, Horatio Warner, Abel Case, Daniel Gates and Thomas Lyon. The regular monthly communications were continued under a dispensation until September 2, 1812, when they received their charter. Elisha Sadd, Samuel A. Skeel, Russell Peck, Rev. Jeduthan Gray, Russel Roseter, Jacob Decker, John Forbes, Gurdon Williams and Philo B. Palmer were admitted to membership during that time. The charter was signed by De Witt Clinton, *Grand Master*; Martin Hoffman, *Deputy Grand Master*; Cadwallader D. Colden, *Senior Grand Warden*; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, *Junior Grand Warden*; and Elias Hicks, *Grand Secretary*. The ceremonies attending the institution and installation were conducted by Tracy Robinson, of Columbus, Chenango county, in the Lodge room at the inn of Heman Carter, September 29, 1812. The meetings of the lodge were held in this tavern, on the second floor, directly over the bar-room, till 1816, when the headquarters were transferred to Greene village. The members were scattered over a wide section of country, a majority of

*The records of this church are so incomplete as to make it impossible to glean a satisfactory history of it from them. Promised data regarding it have not been furnished.

them living from four to seven miles from the lodge-room. Some of them came on horseback, but more on foot. The lodge contracted with Heman Carter to furnish the room, together with fuel and five tallow candles to light it when necessary, for three years, at \$12 per year.

"The Lodge," says Dr. Purple, "was invariably called from 'labor to refreshment' during the communication, when the members all repaired to the dining room, where they stood around a table bountifully supplied with bread, butter, cheese, cakes, pies, etc., never forgetting one or more kinds of ardent spirits. * * * They met at 3 o'clock in the summer, and 6 in the winter. It was the duty of the Stewards to call for this refreshment, according to the number present, and collect 12½ cents from each member and pay it over to 'mine host.'"

In Greene the meetings were held in the tavern which occupied the site of the Chenango House.

The Lodge suspended in 1826 and surrendered their charter in 1831, under the stress of the anti-masonic excitement incident to the alleged abduction of Morgan.

The Lodge was revived in 1847, and in June of that year, through the efforts of Dr. Augustus Willard, who was sent to the Grand Lodge for the purpose, with the aid of his cousin John D. Willard, who was then the Grand Master, the old charter and number were restored. The first meeting was held in Odd Fellows' Hall, near the canal, in the village of Greene, Feb. 10, 1848, and the Lodge duly organized. Dr. Levi Farr, the Master named in the charter of 1812, presided, and the following officers were duly elected and installed by him: Augustus Willard, *W. M.*, R. Monell, *S. W.*, W. Gray, *J. W.*, C. E. Barnard, *Treasurer*, E. Rathbone, *Secretary*, J. S. Avery, *S. D.*, and Levi Farr, *J. D.* Its progress has since been slowly and gradually onward.

The present officers are: Edgar J. Arnold, *M.*, Curtis Weston, *S. W.*, John B. Hunting, *J. W.*, Alfred G. Rose, *Treasurer*, J. D. Van Valkenburgh, *Jr.*, *Secretary*, A. B. Holcomb, *S. D.*, G. E. Tarbell, *J. D.*, J. F. Smith, *S. M. C.*, S. P. Morse, *J. M. C.*, Oscar Lombard, *Organist*, A. G. Rose, *Chaplain*, Thomas H. Oliver, *Tiler*.

Greene Royal Arch Chapter, No. 106, was instituted June 24, 1826, in the Lodge Room in the village of Greene. Perez Randall, High Priest of the Norwich Chapter, officiated in the services, by direction of the Grand Chapter. Levi Farr was High Priest that year. The Chapter suffered a suspension of 25 years. Its charter was renewed Feb. 8, 1850.

Eureka Council, No. 8, Royal and Select Masons, was organized at Greene, Oct. 10, 1855. Companion Augustus Willard was the first T. I. Master and continued so till his death in 1868. It has been a thriv-

ing organization, and the center from which has radiated the cryptic organizations in this vicinity. The Councils at Norwich and Sherburne have sprung from its membership.

CHENANGO FORKS.

Chenango Forks lies in the narrow valley of the Chenango and the somewhat less contracted valley of the Tioughnioga rivers, mostly in the former, which is bounded somewhat abruptly by hills whose steep acclivities rise to the height of over 100 feet. It is situated in the forks of these rivers, on the Syracuse, Binghamton & New York Railroad, by which it is 15 miles above Binghamton, and is the southern terminus of the Utica, Chenango & Susquehanna Valley Railroad, now the Utica Branch of the D., L. & W. R. R. It is located in two counties, Broome and Chenango, mostly in the former, and three towns, Barker, Chenango and Greene, the former two in Broome county, but principally in Barker. The village is scattering, and extends about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles up the Chenango, wholly on the west side, about one-third of it lying in Chenango county. It contains three churches, (Congregational, Methodist Episcopal and Episcopal,) two district schools, three hotels, five general stores, three or four small groceries, one drug store, a grist-mill, saw-mill, planing mill, two harness shops, (kept by Thomas Stoddard and J. E. Weller,) four blacksmith shops, (kept by Wilhelmus Mosher, Robert T. Hanes, Jenkins Palmer & George English, and Thomas Hosmer,) a tin shop (kept by E. G. Arnold,) a cabinet shop and undertaking establishment, (kept by James D. Seeber,) one carriage shop, (kept by D. J. Child-ester,) and a population of about 500.

There are two depots on the Utica Branch of the D., L. & W. R. R., one at the upper and one at the lower end of the village.

The first permanent settlement on the site of the village was made in 1791, by John Barker, from Branford, Conn. He came by the Susquehanna to Binghamton, and thence up the Chenango, with his family, and settled on the east bank of the Tioughnioga, on the place now owned by Simeon Rogers, and the heirs of John Rogers, his brother. He took up some 60 or 70 acres of land, which extended to near the mouth of the Chenango, and purchased the improvements of Thomas Gallop, who came in 1787, and whom he found living in a hermitage-like life, just west of the Tioughnioga, in the town of Chenango, near the site of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and with his family took up his residence in the Treaty House. He continued his residence here till his death, Nov. 29, 1836, aged 94 years. Mary, his first wife, died August 25, 1800, aged 56; his second wife, also named Mary, July 18, 1824, aged 73. None of his children are living. The town of

Barker, in Broome county, is named in honor of him. Samuel Barker, a brother of John's, came in from Connecticut, shortly before him, and settled just out of the village, in the town of Greene, where he lived a good many years, and died there. He kept for several years the gate of the bridge built across the Tioughnioga, about the close of the war of 1812. Beverly Barker was a son of his.

Simeon Rogers, a young, unmarried man, came in soon after from Branford, Conn., and settled on 100 acres, adjoining John Barker's place on the north. In 1792, he married Mary, daughter of John Barker. This was the first marriage contracted in the town of Barker, in which these settlements were made; and Chauncey Barker, their son, who was born in September, 1793, and died June 29, 1844, was the first white child born in what was afterwards the old town of Lisle. Simeon Rogers kept the first inn in Barker, where he also kept the first store and built the first mill. He died here March 26, 1856, aged 93, and Mary, his wife, Feb. 5, 1859, aged 85. Two children only are living, George, on the homestead, and John B., also in Chenango Forks. The latter was born May 6, 1796, and is probably the oldest settler living in this locality.

In 1792, John Allen, Asa Beach and Solomon Rose, also from Connecticut, joined them in the settlement. All located on the east bank of the Tioughnioga. A family named Stead settled among the first near the west end of the iron bridge, and kept the first ferry across the Tioughnioga, in which river Stead and one of his sons were drowned. None of his children are living here.

Deacon Joseph Willard was born Oct. 5, 1876, and came in from Lenox, Mass., about the beginning of the century and settled near the east end of the iron bridge. He was a young single man and a hatter by trade, which business he followed here a great many years, until within a few years of his death, Nov. 17, 1869, aged 83. Sept. 6, 1810, he married Eliza, daughter of Robert Faulkner, an early settler in the locality of Binghamton, she died August 7, 1829, aged 34. He was one of the original members of the Congregational church of Chenango Forks, in 1821, and an active deacon of it from that time till his death. Four children are living, Simon, in Marathon, Joseph, in Greene, Robert, in Barker, and Harriet E. wife of Daniel Lowell, a merchant in Chenango Forks.

The Tioughnioga is spanned by a fine iron bridge, which was built in 1876, at a cost of a little over \$10,000, jointly by the towns of Barker and Chenango. It is 325 feet long and has two spans. The commissioners for Barker were, William H. Beals, J. W. Kinyon and C. Parsons; and those for Chenango, S. E. Judd, H. King and S. H. Bishop. The Chenango

is spanned by a wooden bridge, about 320 feet long, with four spans. It was built in 1870, at a cost of \$4,500, by the Barker and Chenango Bridge Co., which was chartered March 31, 1869.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in Chenango Forks was Simeon Rogers, who opened a small store in his log house about the beginning of the present century for the accommodation of his neighbors. He brought his goods in from Catskill, the journey occupying two weeks. Robert O. Edwards, from Mass., opened the first store of any considerable importance about 1817 or '18, in a building erected for the purpose opposite to where Dr. Lodowick Hanes now lives. It stood in the road and was afterwards torn down. He continued business a great many years, till within a few years of his death, December 11, 1861, aged 76. He was a prominent man in this locality and raised a large family of children, none of whom are now living here. A son and daughter, Charles and Susan, are living in Albany. Caroline his wife died April 7, 1828, aged 39. He was succeeded in the mercantile business by his son Edward, who continued but a short time.

Dr. D. Cushman opened a store about 1828 and kept it five or six years. He was a drover and the store business was conducted by John Willard, who succeeded him, and continued it till his death, Nov. 9, 1847, aged 41. John B. Rogers opened a store in 1829 and kept it about forty years, during a large portion of which time he was engaged in buying and selling butter.

There were no other merchants here of any considerable prominence, except those now doing business, and those interested with them.

Daniel Lowell, general merchant, commenced business in 1834. He was in partnership with John H. Thomas in 1853, and with Charles O. Root, of Binghamton, from 1854 to '60.

Maurice Hagaman, general merchant, commenced business about 1836, in company with John B. Rogers, with whom he continued about six years. He was subsequently associated some six years with his brother James. In 1863 his son John became his partner and continued such till his death, Dec. 26, 1878, aged 38.

Hiram King commenced business about 1844, in company with Townsend Bagley, and closed out after about two years. Bagley went to California. After an interval of a few years spent in boating, about 1855, he resumed the general mercantile business and has since continued it, from about 1867, in company with his son, George R., under the name of *Hiram King & Son*.

George Hoadley, general merchant, a native of the town of Barker, commenced business in 1864. He was associated with his brother W. H., from 1864 to 1867.

Joseph P. Johnson, grocer, from New York, commenced business in 1867.

John W. Kinyon, dealer in hardware and crockery, commenced business in the fall of 1868. He formerly lived in Broome and Chenango counties, in the former of which he was born.

Thomas R. Lakey, general merchant, came in from Westchester county, N. Y., May 1, 1857, and commenced mercantile business in 1868.

S. H. Harrington commenced the drug business in the fall of 1870, in company with H. C. Hall, with whom he continued one year. In the spring of 1879 Weller Roos became his partner and the business has since been conducted under the name of *S. H. Harrington & Co.*

Rufus B. Bennett, grocer and hardware dealer, came in from North Fenton and commenced business in 1875, in company with Alexander Ferris, whose interest he bought after the expiration of two years.

Charles N. Hollister, a native of Chenango Forks, commenced the grocery business in 1876.

John Barker Hogan, hardware dealer, commenced business in 1877.

POSTMASTERS.—Simeon Rogers, the first postmaster, was appointed as early as 1802, probably as early, as is believed, as 1799, and kept the office till about 1826, when his son, John B., was appointed and kept it 29 years, till about 1855. He was succeeded by Dr. William B. Squires, who held it till his death, Jan. 20, 1858, when Dr. Royal R. Carr was appointed and held it about two years. Theodore S. Rogers, son of John B. Rogers, was next appointed and held the office two or three years, when Henry Augustus Rogers, his brother, was appointed and held it till his death, July 3, 1876, aged 55. His widow, Harriet A. Rogers, succeeded him and still holds the office.

PHYSICIANS.—Royal R. Carr, who died recently in Binghamton, William B. Squires, from Chenango county, and Reuben Winston, from Westerlo, Albany county, were practicing medicine here in 1846; but how early they commenced and who preceded them, if any one did, we have not been able to definitely determine. Carr continued practice till about 1870, when he removed to Binghamton, where he practiced till his death. Squires did not practice much after 1846, owing to ill health. He removed to a farm and remained on it, in the effort to reclaim his health, till his death, Jan. 20, 1858, aged 34. Winston was practicing in company with Dr. Squires and left for Wisconsin in 1846. William Dorr came in from Vermont in 1848, and practiced till 1856, when he removed to Binghamton.

The first resident physician was probably Sidney A. Sheldon from Otsego county, a young, single man,

who came about 1826, and soon after married Mary Ann, daughter of Robert O. Edwards, one of the early settlers in this locality, and a prominent merchant and lumberman at Chenango Forks. He practiced here five or six years, when he removed to Mississippi, where he died. His wife is now living in Kingston, Canada. A Dr. Peets practiced here two or three years previous to 1846; and a Dr. Churchill a corresponding time, about 1837 or '8.

The present physicians are Lodowick Hanes, Salphronius H. Harrington, Zina A. Spendley and Clark W. Greene.

Lodowick Hanes was born in Westerloo, Albany county, March 5, 1809, and studied medicine with Dr. Zina W. Lay, of Westerville, in that town. He was licensed to practice in 1842, and commenced in the town of New Scotland, in his native county, whence he removed to Chenango Forks in 1846. Though not now in active practice, he is occasionally called upon to assist in difficult cases and in surgical operations.

Salphronius H. Harrington was born in Greene, Chenango county, March 2, 1829, and studied medicine at Lisle, with Dr. S. H. French. He was graduated at Union College in 1853, and attended the Albany Medical College in 1854 and '5, graduating there the latter year. He commenced practice at Lisle, in company with Dr. French, in 1855, and removed thence in June, 1856, to Chenango Forks, where he has since practiced.

Zina A. Spendley was born in Binghamton, Oct. 19, 1842, and studied medicine there with Dr. George A. Thayer. He subsequently attended the Eclectic Medical College of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, from which he was graduated June 25, 1869. He commenced practice at Mott's Corners, in Tompkins county, where he removed in 1866, and in 1868 located in Chenango Forks, where he has since practiced.

Clark W. Greene was born in the town of Willett, Cortland county, Oct. 30, 1848, and was graduated from the Normal School at Albany in 1870, in which year he entered the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, where he was graduated March 1, 1873. He commenced the practice of his profession the following April in Chenango Forks, where he now resides.

LAWYERS.—The first and only lawyer at Chenango Forks was Arthur J. Ford, who located here in 1877, and remained about a year.

MANUFACTURES.—The manufactories of Chenango Forks consist of a grist and saw-mill and a planing-mill, the latter of which is owned by Galusha Eldridge. The grist and saw-mills are owned by John B. Rogers and Cyrus Wheeler. Both are in Broome county, be-

ing located on that tract of land annexed to the town of Barker from Greene, April 28, 1840. The saw-mill occupies the site of one built in 1805, by a company of whom William Edwards, of Northampton, Mass., was the principal one, and which was the first mill in this locality. The saw-mill has been the property of the Rogers family since about 1825, when it was bought at sheriff's sale by Simeon Rogers, who the following year, in company with William Edwards, erected a grist-mill on the same dam, on the site of the present grist-mill.* The dam is constructed of wood and rests upon the rocky bed of the Chenango. It gives a fall of about nine feet. The water supply is constant and the site is an excellent one. The grist-mill contains four run of stones. It is a wooden structure and has been repaired, and about 1854 was rebuilt and enlarged. The saw-mill was rebuilt in 1875.

HOTELS.—The Central Hotel is located on the east bank of the Tioughnioga, about the center of the village. It is owned by Mrs. W. H. McDonald, of Binghamton, and kept by George Slater. It was built in 1849, by John B. Rogers, on the site of a building erected for a boarding-house about 1805, by William Edwards, of Northampton, Mass., for the accommodation of the men at work on the saw-mill built that year. The boarding-house was afterwards used as a hotel till 1849, when it was removed by Mr. Rogers to its present site, and has since been used as a store and dwelling. It is now occupied by Thomas R. Lakey as a store. Edward Edwards first occupied it as a boarding-house and used it as such for several years. Russell Austin was the first to keep a regular tavern in it. He occupied it as late as 1837 and before 1829, in which year John B. Rogers built the addition, which is now occupied by Thomas R. Lakey as a dwelling.

Judge William B. Edwards, of Binghamton, is a grandson of Edward Edwards, who kept the boarding-house here, and afterwards kept a hotel in Ithaca and Owego.

The Willard House, located at the upper end of the village, was built by Oliver Willard about 1855, and kept by him and his son Oliver until the property was sold to the railroad company. It has been kept about nine years by James W. Tombs, the present proprietor.

The Gothic House, located in the lower part of the village, was built by George Terwilliger about thirty years ago, and kept by him five or six years. The present proprietor is J. S. Terwilliger, who has

* Joshua Adams was probably the first miller. A negro named Titus, who was formerly a slave of Edward Edwards, was the miller a few years. Titus married a white woman and raised a very respectable family. Edwards gave him a piece of land in the present town of Lisle on which he lived several years.

managed it alone since April, 1879, having previously been associated with his father in its management since 1877.

CHURCHES.—*The Congregational Church of Chenango Forks.*—At the request of a number of the inhabitants at the Forks of the Chenango, a meeting was held May 3, 1821, to take into consideration the propriety of organizing a Congregational church. It was attended by Rev. Charles Thorp, John B. Hoyt and Deacon Benjamin Benedict, delegates from the church in Coventry; Rev. Benjamin Niles, of Chenango Point; Deacon Stiles and Deacon Andrew Woodruff, delegates from the church in Lisle; Deacon Nehemiah Spencer, delegate from the church in Greene, who sat in council and chose Rev. Charles Thorp, Moderator, and John B. Hoyt, Scribe. John Barker and wife, from the church in Lisle; Widow Abigail Willard, Oliver Willard and wife, from the Congregational church in Lenox, Mass.; and Dennison Hoadley, Henry Terwilliger, Ebenezer Russell, Ransford Stevens, Norman D. Stevens, Joseph Willard and Eliza his wife, Pamela, wife of Peter Barker, and Sarah, wife of Ebenezer Russell, the latter of whom were received on examination, were constituted a church.

The Society connected with this church was organized at their house of worship in April, 1832, under the name of The Congregational Society of the town of Barker. Norman D. Stevens and Joseph Willard, deacons, were nominated and chosen to preside as a Board of Inspectors at the election of trustees of said Society; and Simeon Rogers, Norman D. Stevens and John B. Rogers were chosen to that office. These proceedings were certified by the presiding officers April 30, 1832, and acknowledged before T. Robinson, First Judge of Broome county.

Rev. T. H. Griffith was the pastor in 1878. He began his labors that year. The number of members August 31, 1878, was 77, 15 of whom were males and 62 females. The number of Sunday-school scholars was 105; the number of families in the congregation, 90; and the amount of benevolent contributions, \$5.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Chenango Forks.—At a meeting of the inhabitants of Chenango Forks, held pursuant to requisite notice, at the school-house on the south-east side of the Tioughnioga, Feb. 17, 1863, for the purpose of taking into consideration "the necessity and propriety of erecting a house of public worship at Chenango Forks," of which Nicholas Lewis was President, and Samuel Lee, Clerk, an organization was effected under the name of "The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Chenango Forks," and the following named persons were elected trustees: Stephen Palmer, Parley Blair, Erastus T. Wilson, Hiram King and Samuel Lee. At a meeting held at the same place February 28, 1863, it was re-

solved that said Society proceed to purchase a site and build a house of public worship; and "it was voted that the Methodist Episcopal church have the preference of said house of worship for their regular appointments for preaching and quarterly meetings, and at other times [it] be opened to all other evangelical denominations for preaching, and that said house be deeded to the trustees and their successors in office, and governed and controlled by them, subject to the foregoing restriction."

August 21, 1863, Calvin Shepard and Cynthia L., his wife, deeded to the trustees before named, for \$100, for a building site for a house of worship, the piece of land situated on "lot No. 121, in the Grand Division of the Boston Purchase, in the town of Chenango, in Broome county." The church was built in 1864, at a cost of about \$1,800. It will seat 250 persons.

An organization under this name was first effected in 1833, but we have been unable to obtain authentic information regarding it.

At the organization of 1863, the church belonged to the "Broome charge." The name of the charge was changed to *Chenango* in 1866, and to *Chenango Forks* in 1873.

The following are the pastors of the Church since 1863: W. P. Abbott, 1863; Peter S. Worden and F. L. Hiller, 1864; Peter S. Worden, 1865-'66; Stephen Elwell, 1867; Zachariah Paddock, 1868; Enos Puffer, 1869-'71; C. E. Taylor, 1872-'73; J. D. Woodruff, 1874; G. A. Place, 1875-'77; David Perseus, 1878-'79.

The present number of members is 60; the attendance at Sabbath school, about 50.

The present trustees are Hiram King, Charles Spendley and Spink Kinyon.

St. John's Church, (Episcopal) at Chenango Forks, was organized in 1877, under the missionary efforts of Rev. Russel Todd, the first and present rector, and the church edifice, a wooden structure, was erected in the summer of that year, at a cost of about \$1,500. The lot upon which the church stands cost about \$500. The original members were R. F. Willard and Mrs. Harriet Rogers.

It is a mission station and is supported by the Van Wagenen Fund.*

The first services were held April 8, 1877, in the

* *The Van Wagenen Missionary Fund of the county of Chenango* was founded by the will of Gerritt H. Van Wagenen, of Oxford, which bequeathed a tract of land in Saratoga county, known as lot number 44 of Palmer's purchase, lying in Saratoga and Warren counties, the proceeds of which were to be allowed to accumulate until the income derived therefrom should "be sufficient to pay such sum annually as has been usual, or shall then be necessary, for the labors of a missionary of the Protestant Episcopal church in the county of Chenango." The land was sold and the proceeds added to from time to time by members of the family till the amount reached \$15,000, sufficient for the object intended, and a missionary is now regularly employed to labor within the county.

Congregational church, at which time Robert F. Willard, Mrs. Harriet Rogers, Kinyon Bly and wife, Louisa, and Albert Geer, the last three belonging to the parish of Greene, were members. The present number of members is 35, thirty of whom were received by confirmation.

The meetings have been conducted continuously, at first monthly, then fortnightly, and at present weekly, under the ministrations of Rev. Russel Todd, who, until the month of March, 1879, also ministered to the mission at Earlville. Since then his labors have been confined to this mission and at Smithville Flats.

The building committee were Dr. Salphronius H. Harrington, Robert F. Willard, Henry Mayhew and Rev. Mr. Todd. The church was first occupied March 24, 1878. The meetings, with the exception of the first, were previously held in the school-house.

The number who have been baptized since the organization of the church is 50, of whom 23 were adults.

The Sabbath school was established at the opening of the church. The average attendance is 30.

BRISBIN.

Brisbin* is very pleasantly situated on the west bank of the Chenango, and on the canal and railroad, five and one-half miles above Greene. It contains one church (Baptist) two stores, one hotel, a district school, a saw-mill, owned by J. E. Ten Broeck, a planing and shingle-mill, a shoe-shop, kept by Nicholas Race, two blacksmith shops, kept by Hiram Bartoo and Herman Estes, and a population of 150.

The planing-mill was built in 1843, by Truman Pierce, for a sash and blind factory, for which purpose it was used till 1875. S. A. McCullor has carried on the business for the last fourteen years, with the exception of two, and in the spring of 1878, admitted his present partner, E. L. Wilcox, to an interest.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Brisbin was Benjamin Horton, a native of Coventry, who commenced business in 1842, and continued about ten years, when he sold to John R. Wheeler and William Tremain, who, after one year, in the spring of 1852, sold to Charles P. and Albert Jewell, who continued four or five years and dissolved. Charles continued alone and assigned, in 1858 or '9, having been associated one year with Alfred H. Race. Charles Horton and William Tremain succeeded him in 1859, and did business about two years, when Horton bought Tremain's interest and discontinued after about a

* Named from John Brisbin, formerly a Director, now Vice-President of the D., L. & W. R. R. The village was originally known as *East Greene*, by which name it is still very generally known. The name was changed in 1871, after the completion of the U., C. & S. V. R. R., to conform to the name of the station on that road, which had been previously named.

year. This last firm built the store now occupied by Edward L. Webb. Cyrus Tuttle, of Oxford, opened a branch store between 1850 and '60 and kept it some two years. Derrick H. Wells next did business about a year. He was followed by Amos Hinman, in 1870-'1. Charles Schouten succeeded Hinman, taking his goods, and continued one year, when Hinman resumed business which he continued about a year. Joseph Gibson took Hinman's goods in the fall of 1875, and did business about one and one-half years. Then Hinman again did business about a year and removed to Binghamton. Henry F. Balcom, from Oxford, next did business about one and one-half years, from the fall of 1876.

The present merchants are Samuel Lee, who came from Smyrna in the fall of 1875; and Edward L. Webb, who came in from Utica in April, 1879.

Benjamin Horton's store stood opposite the residence of Sherman A. McCullor. It was removed in 1867, and is now occupied as a residence by Hiram Tucker, the station agent of Brisbin.

Chauncey Hill and Eli Haynes, Jr., did mercantile business about one and three-fourths miles below Brisbin about two years. They opened their store shortly before the building of the canal was begun. It was the first one in that locality, which then out-ranked Brisbin in commercial importance, but has long since lost that prestige and relapsed into rural sobriety. Drs. R. B. and Addison Crandall, brothers, next did business there about two years. They bought Hill & Haynes' goods and removed their stock when they discontinued. David Baird subsequently did business there about two to three years. There has been no other store there of any consequence. Others did business there for short periods.

POSTMASTERS.—The first post-office in this locality was established about one and three-fourths miles below the present village of Brisbin, about 1838, and Lorin Miller was the first postmaster. He secured the establishment of the office there, where he was then keeping a hotel, in which the office was kept by him four years. He was succeeded by Uri King, who kept it two or three years. John Stoughton was postmaster in the lower village in 1843, about which year the office was removed to the upper village, now Brisbin. David Smith, who kept the office in the hotel, was probably the first postmaster there. He held it as late as the spring of 1851. He was succeeded by George Race, who removed the office to the lower village and kept it about a year, when Albert Jewell was appointed and moved the office back to the upper village, both being designated *East Greene*. Charles Jewell was appointed in 1853 and held the office till 1861, when Charles F. Horton was appointed and held it till Feb., 1865. Charles M. Schouten was then ap-

pointed and held it as late as 1869. He was succeeded by W. W. Torrey, who held it till April 14, 1873, when Lorin Miller, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Brisbin was probably William Clark, who practiced three or four years from the time the canal was opened, in 1836, and removed to Ohio. James Purple located at the lower village about 1843, and practiced some two years, when he moved west. James B. Fletcher came in about a year after Purple left, but staid only a few months. M. L. Vosburgh came here from Rochester about 1850, and staid about two years, when he moved west. John Tremain, a native of the place, studied with Dr. Vosburgh and commenced practice in the summer of 1852. He remained about two years and removed to Smithville Flats. He is now in Dakota. There was no other resident physician until Vincent Burgess came in. Dr. Burgess was born in Wolverton, England, March 9, 1851, and came to this country with his parents in 1856. He commenced the study of medicine in Kirkwood, Broome county, with Dr. George E. Pierson. In 1874 he entered the Louisville Medical College, of Kentucky, from which he was graduated in 1876. He commenced practice that year at Upper Lisle, and in 1877 removed to Brisbin, where he has since practiced.

HOTELS.—The hotel in Brisbin, of which James P. Smith is proprietor, was built by his father, David F. Smith, in 1846, on the site of the old "Stump tavern," and was kept by him till his death, Oct. 16, 1855, when his wife succeeded him and kept it till the fall of 1867. J. P. Kendall, his son-in-law, next kept it one year, when, in the fall of 1868, it passed into the hands of the present proprietor.

CHURCHES.—*The Oxford and Greene Baptist Church* is located at Brisbin. The first religious meetings in this locality were held in 1793, and were conducted by Rev. Nathaniel Kellogg, who settled there that year. In 1795, under Mr. Kellogg's efficient labors, a church was organized, and was known as the "Greene Church." There were some ten constituent members, among them Zopher Betts, Benjamin Loomis, C. Hill, Daniel Tremain and Nathaniel Kellogg, the latter of whom was the pastor, and continued such twenty-two years. He was succeeded in 1817 by Rev. John Sawyer, who served them one year.

From 1818 to 1830 they were without a pastor, owing to inability to support one, and the pulpit was only occasionally supplied.

In 1830 the present name was assumed, and in 1833 they settled Rev. E. B. Sparks as pastor. He served them one year. For a few years the church was again without a shepherd. In 1838 they settled Rev.

Caleb Bush, who served them two years. He was succeeded by Rev. David Leach, who remained one year. Under his labors, in conjunction with those of his predecessor, the church added about ninety to its membership.

Rev. G. W. Mead was the pastor in 1841-'2. In the former year the present house of worship was erected at a cost of \$788, a goodly sum for the people of that day. Hitherto the meetings had been held in private houses, barns and school-houses.

In 1843, Rev. David Leach again became the pastor, and this time continued his services four years. He was succeeded by Rev. E. T. Jacobs, now serving the church in Coventry. He remained three years. In 1850, Rev. A. Virgil was the pastor, and in 1852-3 the church was served by Rev. A. Gibson. In 1855 I. W. Starkweather became the pastor, and continued two and one-half years. He was succeeded in 1859 by Rev. Aaron Parker, who served them one year. He was one of the trio—Revs. Swan and Chamberlin being the other two—who did so much for the churches in this valley and surrounding country.

In 1860, Rev. I. B. Kimber became the pastor, and in 1861 he was succeeded by Rev. L. E. Spafford, who continued his labors with them three years. Rev. R. H. Spafford, his brother, succeeded him in 1864, and remained six years. In 1870 they enjoyed the pastoral labors of Rev. W. C. Phillips, and the following year he was succeeded by Rev. A. Parker, as a supply, who served them in that capacity three years. The present pastor, D. D. MacLaurin, a young man, commenced his labors with this people in 1874.

The present number of members is 122. The congregations are good and the interest is deep.

This was the first Baptist church organized in Chenango county.

The First Methodist Society of East Greene (Brisbin,) was organized at the house of William Race, in the vicinity of East Greene, March 26, 1840, and Silas Tillotson, Amos Gray, Albert B. Thomas, Abram Matteson, Dyer Rogers, Loren Soles, Joseph Dent, William Race and William Daily were the first trustees. This society is not now in existence.

GENEGANTSLET.

Genegantslet is situated on the creek of the same name, about two and one-half miles north-west of Greene, and a like distance below Smithville Flats. This place, which is now a mere hamlet, was once the commercial center of the town, and exceeded in the importance and magnitude of its business the village of Greene. The water-power on the creek, which has here a fall of seven or eight feet, doubtless attracted settlers to its locality, and induced a growth which was long since eclipsed by its rival. It con-

tains only a saw-mill, blacksmith shop, the latter kept by Chauncey McDonald, fourteen houses within a radius of one-fourth mile, and a population of 50, and the mammoth establishment of Almon B. Robinson, the poulturer and egg dealer.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Genegantslet, of whom we have any authentic information, was a man named Wolford, who was doing business soon after the close of the war of 1812, in a building which stood on the south-west corner, and was torn down some 25 or 30 years ago. He continued business here but a few years. Elisha Sadd, one of the first settlers in the town, was an early merchant at Genegantslet. He died in Greene in 1827, aged 73. Sherlock Willard opened a store about the time, or shortly before, Wolford left, and kept it several years. He also kept a distillery. Willard closed business about 1825, and Greene having then began to assume prominence as a commercial center, no other mercantile business of any consequence was afterwards transacted here.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster was probably Dr. Levi Farr. He held the office several years, till his removal to the village of Greene in 1825. He was probably succeeded by Elisha Sadd, who died in 1827, and he by Moses B. Adams, who held the office four or five years. It then passed into the hands of Alvin Gray, who held it till its discontinuance, about 1863.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Genegantslet was Levi Farr, who practiced here from 1807 till 1825, when he removed to Greene, where he practiced till within ten or fifteen years of his death, in 1859, several years after becoming blind. Daniel Clark came in from Delaware county about the time of Dr. Farr's removal and practiced here several years, when he removed to Smithville. He was the last physician located at Genegantslet.

MANUFACTURES.—The saw-mill at Genegantslet is owned and operated by Daniel D. Bradley, who came in possession of the property some five or six years ago. It is a water-power mill and was built in the winter of 1867-8, on the site of one burned Nov. 29, 1867. The first saw-mill on this site was built by Elisha Smith, while agent for the Hornby estate, from 1802-12.

The grist-mill at this place was carried off by a freshet in December, 1878. The freshet was one of unprecedented magnitude for that period of the year. It was built by Heman Carter, father of Heman Carter, now residing in Greene, and was used both as a grist-mill and carding and cloth-dressing establishment, the latter business having been carried on by

Nicholas B. Slater and Hiram Shepard a good many years.

The establishment of Almon B. Robinson at Genegantslet is one of the largest of its kind in the State, if not in the United States.

Mr. Robinson was born December 9, 1834, in Pharsalia, to which town his parents, who were natives of Otsego county, removed about 1825-30. He removed to Genegantslet in 1850, with his brother, Delos H., who died there Nov. 29, 1864, aged 43. Delos commenced that year the business of farmer and egg dealer. In 1852, Almon became his partner in the egg business and acquired the remaining half interest in 1855. Delos was again associated with him from 1856-61, since which time Almon has conducted the business alone.

About 1866-70 the poultry business was introduced and conducted experimentally. It has proved most successful and has grown to such proportions that Mr. Robinson now handles from 30,000 to 60,000 pounds of poultry per annum, the amount varying with the season. He raises no poultry himself, but fattens all he sells. He handles 140,000 to 180,000 dozen eggs per annum.

The turkeys are fatted in compartments holding 300 to 500 each, and fed with buckwheat, oats, corn and scalded meal. In the turkey yards he uses about as many bushels of gravel as grain, that article being supplied regularly every day. The hens are fed in the same manner as the turkeys, and are kept in compartments holding from 100 to 200 each. The ducks are separated into compartments holding 500 each and are fed with corn. The largest number kept in any one year was 12,000 head, including hens, ducks and turkeys. He uses about 500 bushels of gravel during the season, which lasts from November 1st to January 1st.

The poultry is killed and frozen at the ordinary temperature, and packed in a building constructed for the purpose, and made impervious to heat. It was built in 1878, is 60 by 16 feet, one story high and has a storage capacity of 80,000 pounds. About twenty feet of this building is used for freezing purposes, a process which is accomplished solely by exposure upon shelves to the atmosphere. The interior dimensions of the storage compartment are 30 by 13 feet, 10 feet high. The heat is excluded by the use of saw-dust packing and air spaces.

The eggs, a portion of them, are packed in a lime pickle, because they can thus be kept good longer and at less expense. The major portion, which are sold for fresh, are packed in barrels and stored in a refrigerator, which consists of a massive stone building, erected in 1875, at a cost of \$7,000. Its dimensions are 35 by 50 feet. The walls are 40 feet high.

It has three stories and as many floors. Its storage capacity is 1,600 barrels. About 300 tons of ice are annually used, and the temperature does not vary more than one or two degrees during the whole year. The eggs are sorted in a darkened room, called the "sorting room," by candle light, every egg packed being candled.

Mr. Robinson is also an extensive farmer and dairyman. His farm comprises 750 acres, acquired at different times, 680 of which lie in one body and are under cultivation. The remaining 70 acres are woodland. His dairy, which is a private one, comprises 85 cows.

MANUFACTURES. — The *Greene Woolen Mills* are located two and one-half miles east of Greene. They were established about 1840, by Ephraim Wheeler, who built, owned and run them. They are now owned by Rev. W. W. Shaw and are managed by James Stirk. They are operated by both water and steam; employ about ten persons and a capital of about \$6,000, independent of buildings, machinery, etc.

The knife factory of David McMoran, located on the Genegantslet about one and one-half miles west of Greene, was established over 25 years ago. The cost of the buildings, machinery, etc., was about \$2,500. The property includes two acres of ground and a pond covering ten acres. He uses a capital of about \$1,000 and gives employment to 5 to 10 persons. The capacity of the works is about 100 dozen knives per day. Various kinds of knives are made, but principally shoe, butcher, bread, cigar, kitchen and horse-shearers' knives. The best English cast steel is used. The machinery includes a good trip-hammer, and is propelled by three iron wheels, with a fourteen foot head, giving a power equal to 10 or 12 horses. Mr. McMoran has also a lath and shingle machine.

The pond is known as Round Pond. It is nestled among the hills, with high, precipitous banks, and has an outlet, but no visible inlet. The view of this pond from the road which winds along its border is one of rare beauty.

About three miles above Greene is a grist-mill owned by Edmund Gould and operated by Henry Bingham. It was built about 55 years ago, by Eli Haynes, and contains three run of stones. Connected with it is a saw-mill, under the same management, which was built by Haynes about the same time as the grist-mill. They are propelled by water-power, with a fall of about five feet.

CHURCHES. — The *Coventry and Greene Baptist Church*, located on Page Brook, four miles south-east of Greene, was organized Nov. 28, 1818. The first preacher was Elder John Sawyer, who held meetings in the school-house east of the church about 1809.

Among the constituent members were Hickson Jones and wife, Benjamin Jones (who was afterwards licensed to preach,) and wife, Samuel Gould and wife, Hale Salisbury and wife, Leonard and William Ellis and their wives, — Wilber, Mrs. Chandler, — Everts and wife and Nathan Bennett.

At Genegantslet, in 1807, was organized the *Second Baptist Church of Greene*,* by Elder Jeduthan Gray, who came in the preceding year from Berkshire county, Massachusetts, where he was well and favorably known as a clergyman, and settled in that locality, on the east side of the Genegantslet. Immediately on his arrival he commenced the work of gathering a Church, which soon became respectable both in character and numbers, and extended over that part of Greene and the eastern part of the town of Lisle. Elder Gray was for twenty-five years its pastor. His clerical duties were not confined to any central point, but extended to every neighborhood and hamlet in the vicinity. His unremitting attention to the sick, the dying and the disconsolate, elicited universal praise, while his talent was as universally acknowledged. In 1812 Elder Gray united with Eastern Light Lodge of F. & A. M., and many of his Church, who believed the act to be contrary to the spirit and teaching of the Church, resented it by withdrawing and forming the following year the Church in Smithville. His influence, for a time, was in consequence very much crippled; but "as he literally supported his Church, rather than the Church him," the disturbance soon subsided, "and he was enabled to pursue the even tenor of his way in his work of love and mercy." He died at Sugar Grove, Warren county, Pennsylvania, in 1830, aged 75 years.

WAR OF THE REBELLION. — A special meeting was held in the town of Greene, January 2, 1864, to take into consideration the matter of the proposed draft in that month and year, which required 42 men as the quota of the town for the 300,000 men then recently called for, and 51 to make up its deficiency under former calls; and it was resolved to pledge the faith of the town to pay to each volunteer credited on the quota previous to the draft, in addition to all other pay and bounties, a town bounty of \$310. William F. Russell, Peter B. Rathbone and Maurice Birdsall were appointed a Finance Committee, to aid, advise and direct the Supervisors and Town Clerk in and about the preparation of the coupon bonds, which the latter were directed to issue to the amount necessary to pay the bounty, and to officially sign; the bonds to draw interest at seven per cent., payable annually. The bonds were made payable: \$5,000 in one year from

* This Church was incorporated June 10, 1811, as *The First Baptist Society in the town of Greene* and Elisha Sadd, Erastus Agard, John Grant, John Andrews Jr., and Benjamin Bragg were elected trustees.

the date of issue; \$5,000 in two years; and the remainder of the issue in three years.

At a special town meeting held at Union Hall, April 14, 1864, it was

“Resolved, That, pursuant to an act of the Legislature of this State, passed February 9, 1864, we raise upon the taxable property of this town the sum of \$400, as a bounty to be paid each volunteer soldier who shall be accepted and credited to this town to fill its quota under the last call of the President of the United States for 200,000 men.

“Resolved, That the said sum be paid in the following manner, viz: town bonds be issued by the Supervisor and Town Clerk, made payable, one-half in three years, and one-half in four years from the first day of February next, with interest payable on the whole amount the first day of February next, and annual interest thereafter.”

The Supervisor and Town Clerk were authorized to issue the necessary bonds, sell them at public or private sale, at not less than par value, and pay the bounties, together with the expenses necessarily incurred in issuing them, and the same gentlemen were reappointed to assist them.

At a special town meeting held July 30, 1864, the Town Auditors were authorized to raise, by tax upon the taxable property of the town, a sum sufficient to pay to each volunteer soldier, or to such residents of the town as furnished substitutes before the draft, who were applied on the quota of the town under the call of July 15, 1864, for 500,000 men, a sum not to exceed \$500, for either one or three years; the amount necessary to carry out the provisions of the resolution to be raised by the issue of bonds made payable as follows: one-third, February 1, 1870; one-third, February 1, 1871; and the balance, February 1, 1872, with interest at seven per cent. The same committee were appointed to assist in issuing and selling the bonds.

At a special town meeting held September 9, 1864, the Town Auditors were directed to raise by tax and pay to each volunteer thereafter credited on the quota of the town, under the call for 500,000 men, not to exceed the number requisite to fill the quota, an additional sum not to exceed \$500; and to raise the necessary amount by the sale of town bonds, to be made payable February 1, 1873. Those furnishing substitutes were to receive only \$500 as previously.

At a special town meeting held December 17, 1864, the following action was taken:—

“WHEREAS, The war still continues, and there is a prospect of another large call for troops soon; and whereas, on the last call volunteers and substitutes were paid a much larger amount than necessary had a bounty been voted sooner; and whereas, it is desirable to be prepared early to fill the quota of the town for future calls at as low a price as possible; therefore,

“Resolved, That the Auditors be authorized to raise by tax \$500, to be paid to each volunteer who shall hereafter enlist and be credited on the quota of said town, under the next call of the President for more soldiers, and the same sum to those persons hereafter procuring substitutes.

“Resolved, That the money to be raised to fill the quota for the next call, if any, shall be made by the sale of town bonds, to be made payable February 1, 1874; but if the sum to be raised exceeds \$10,000, then the bonds shall be made payable, one-half February 1, 1874, and one-half February 1, 1875.”

Following is a report of the Board of Town Auditors of the funds received for the sale of bonds issued for the payment of war bounties, and the manner of their disbursement:—

Feb. 1, 1864. To Cash received from sale of town bonds due Feb. 1, 1865, '66 and '67	\$13,100.00
Feb. 1, 1864. To Cash received for premium on bonds	15.97
April 21, 1864. To Cash received from sale of town bonds due Feb. 1, 1868 and '69.	10,800.00
April 21, 1864. To Cash received for premium on bonds	156.39
Oct. 15, 1864. To Cash received from sale of town bonds due Feb. 1, 1867, amount lost by F. Juliard	6,020.00
Oct. 15, 1864. To Cash received from sale of town bonds due Feb. 1, 1871	14,300.00
Oct. 15, 1864. To Cash received for accrued interest from date to sale of bonds	18.25
Aug. 11, 1864. To Cash received from sale of town bonds due Feb. 1, 1870, '71 and '72.	36,000.00
Aug. 11, 1864. To cash received for premium on bonds	15.55
	\$80,445.16
Feb., 1864. By Cash paid 42 men to fill quota, \$110	\$13,020.00
Feb., 1864. By paid for interest on Cash borrowed, stamps and expenses	95.97
April, 1864. By Cash paid Wheeler & Co. for 27 men, \$400	10,800.00
April, 1864. By expenses, printing, stamps, telegraphing, &c	39.65
April, 1864. By paid Supervisor to the credit of the town	116.74
Oct., 1874. By Cash paid for loss incurred by F. Juliard	6,020.00
Aug., 1864. By Cash paid for 22 substitutes credited	11,000.00
Aug., 1864. By Cash paid for 39 men got by Walker	31,850.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid for 1 volunteer at home	500.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid for Geo. C. Roberts, by vote	800.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid for 1 volunteer in place of Levi Lowell (2 years)	325.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid for 7 negroes, by Win. Jones	3,500.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid for 1 volunteer extra in place of 1 not credited in time	350.00
Oct., 1864. By Cash paid over to Supervisor to credit of town over \$25 paid out of Interest Account, instead of issuing a fractional bond	28.80
	\$80,446.16

Copy of a statement sent to Captain Gordon, Aug. 4, 1865, of the amount paid by the town for substitutes and volunteers.

For call of February 1, 1864, 42 three years' volunteers, \$310 each	\$13,020
" " " " " 27 " " " 400 " "	10,800
" " " " " 20 " " " 500 " "	10,000
" " " " " 1 two years' " 500 " "	500
" " " " " 1 one year's " 500 " "	500
" " " " " 39 " " " volunteers 1000 " "	35,000
" " " " " 10 three years' " 1182 " "	11,820
" " " " " 1 one year's " 500 " "	500
" " " " " 5 two years' substitutes, 500 " "	2,500
" " " " " 18 three years' " 500 " "	9,000
	\$97,640

* See page 196.

Copy of a statement sent to the clerk of the Board of Supervisors to be sent to Albany, dated Jan. 20, 1866:—

"Statement of money paid out by the town of Greene for volunteers and substitutes from 1861 to 1865, and expenses attending the same.

For 18 men Subscription Bounty.....	\$ 50	\$ 1,400.00
" 42 " Local ".....	310	13,050.00
" 27 " " ".....	400	10,800.00
" 23 " " ".....	500	11,000.00
" 49 " " ".....	1,000	49,000.00
" 10 " " ".....	1,182	11,820.00
" 24 " " ".....	500	12,000.00

Whole amount paid out for expenses in obtaining 502 men,
as per vouchers on file.....

\$109,040.00

5,117.30

\$114,157.30

"The above does not include some 10 or 12 men who were drafted on the first draft and paid \$300, of which we have no record."

At a town meeting held Feb. 21, 1865, \$110 was voted to William Jones of Norwich, who paid that amount for a recruit at New Berne, N. C., though for some cause he was never reported to the credit of this town.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

G. W. WEBB.

Mr. G. W. Webb, of Greene, son of John William Webb, of Westchester county, N. Y., was born in 1835, and settled in Chenango county in 1869. In 1862 he married Miss Mary J. Barrett, of Otsego county. She was born in 1842 and died in 1875, leaving one son, William, who was born in 1865.

In 1876 Mr. Webb married for his second wife Miss Rosella S. Barnett who was born in Chenango county in 1854, she is the grand-daughter of Charles Felix Bo Lyne Barnett, of Chenango county, who was one of the pioneers of this county.

Mr. Webb is one of the energetic farmers of the county and has a fine farm of 160 acres, a view of which may be seen on another page of this work. His residence commands a fine view of the surrounding valleys.

In early life, after being graduated from Gilbertsville Academy, he taught school for several years, finally preferring farming he purchased his present residence.

CHAPTER XX.

TOWN OF GUILFORD.

GUILFORD was formed from Oxford April 3, 1813, as *Eastern*. Its name was changed March 21, 1817. It lies upon the east border of the county,

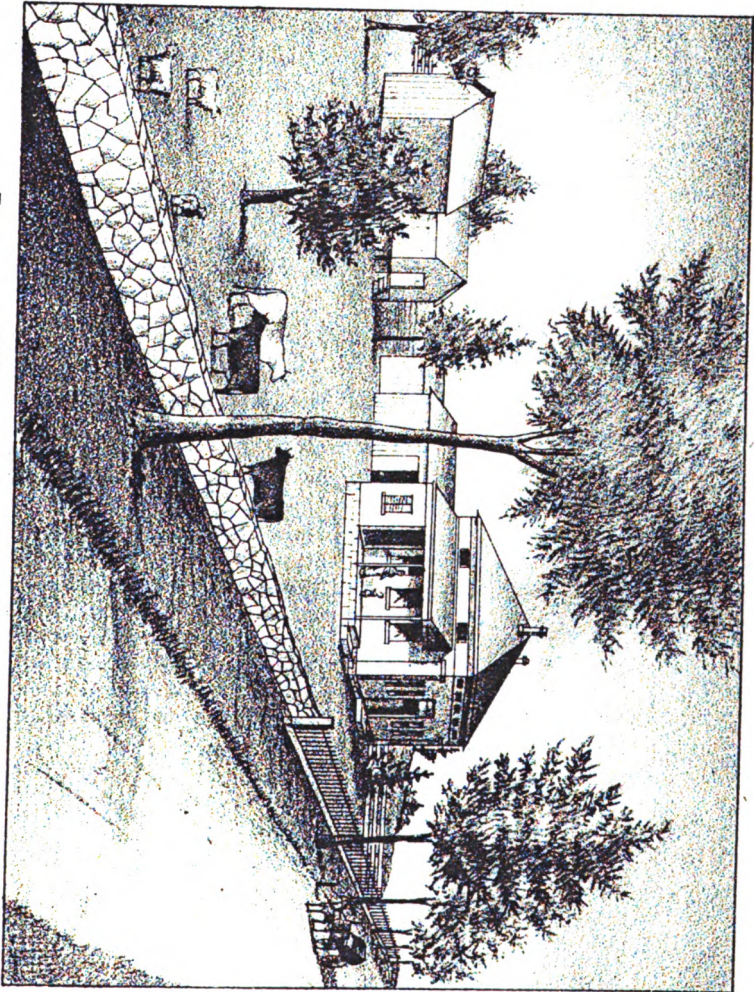
south of the center, and is bounded on the north by Norwich, on the east by the Unadilla, which separates it from Otsego county, on the south by Bainbridge, and on the west by Oxford. The surface is hilly and broken, consisting mostly of the elevated lands lying between the Chenango and Unadilla rivers. The summits of the hills rise from 200 to 700 feet above the valleys. It is drained by the Unadilla and its tributaries, the principal of which is Guilford Creek, which flows diagonally through the town, terminating in a most charmingly picturesque valley and uniting with the Unadilla in the south-east corner of the town.

It is underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill group, which afford excellent flagging stone in several localities in the town, principally in the south-east part. On Guilford Creek, at East Guilford, four quarries have been opened, three of them recently. One, opened some sixteen years ago, has been abandoned. A fifth, located about a mile below Rockdale, on the farm of D. C. Warner, was opened in 1877; and a sixth, on the farm of Mrs. Nelson Reynolds, about midway between Guilford and Guilford Center, has been opened a good many years, and has been worked steadily for the last two years. Eight to ten men are employed in this quarry; while in those at East Guilford some sixteen men are employed. The soil is a sandy loam in the valleys and clay loam upon the hills. It is well adapted to grazing and its agriculture is made to conform to this natural adaptation. Dairying is the chief industry, the milk being taken largely to factories, of which there are five in the town, one at Latham's Corners, one at Rockdale, one at Yaleville, one a little above Guilford, and one about midway between Guilford and East Guilford, at what formerly was known as Humphrey station, a flag station on the Midland Railroad which was abandoned as such about a year after the railroad was built.

The Midland Railroad enters the town in the south-east corner and crossing it diagonally, leaves it near the center of the west border. The New Berlin branch of that road connects with the main line at East Guilford and extends north along the east border of the town.

In 1875 the population of the town was 2,519; of whom 2,397 were natives, 122 foreigners, 2,515 white, and 4 colored. Its area was 37,359 acres; of which 28,836 were improved, 8,040, woodland, and 483, otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,766,440; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$241,850; of stock, \$267,795; and of tools and implements, \$63,370. The amount of gross sales of farms in 1874, was \$206,712.

Following is a census of the town of *Eastern*, taken by Messrs. Robbins & Balden in June, 1814, the year following its organization:—



RESIDENCE of GEO. W. WEBB. GREENE, CHEMUNGO CO. N. Y.

Electors possessed of freeholds of 100£.....	160
“ “ “ of 20£ per year,	4
Electors not possessed of freeholds but who rent tenants of the yearly value of 40 shillings..	108
Free white males under 18 years of age.....	534
“ “ “ of the age of 18 years and under 45.....	285
Free white males of the age of 45 years and upward.....	111
Free white females under 18 years of age.....	473
“ “ “ of the age of 18 years and under 45.....	300
Free white females of the age of 45 years and upward.....	71
Slaves.....	4
Aggregate.....	2050

Heads of families..... 283

There are 19 common school districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 657. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were 18 male and 19 female teachers employed, of whom 19 were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended schools was 541; of whom 6 were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 309.740; the number of volumes in district libraries was 788, the value of which was \$171; the number of school-houses was 19, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing 3 acres and 30 rods, valued at \$1,445, were valued at \$11,670; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$1,482,971. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 271, of whom 245 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and Disbursements for School Purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$ 21.08
“ apportioned to districts.....	2,149.50
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands.....	40.42
Raised by tax.....	728.49
From teachers' board.....	383.00
“ other sources.....	3.51
	<hr/>
	3,326.00
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$3,018.67
“ for school apparatus.....	1.27
“ for libraries.....	1.53
“ school-houses, fences, sites, out-houses, repairs, furniture, etc.....	59.06
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	212.05
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	33.42
	<hr/>
	\$3,326.00

SETTLEMENTS.—It is generally supposed, and is so stated in *French's Gazetteer* and other works consulted, that the first settlement in the town was made

by Ezekiel Wheeler, in 1787. While we cannot disprove the statement, we have good reason to doubt its accuracy. From conversations had with members of this family, we are led to believe that Wheeler did not settle in the town until seven years later. There is little to aid the searcher in this peculiar field of inquiry, and in the absence of documentary proofs, facts can only be stated approximately. While it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to determine with certainty just when and by whom the first settlement was made, it is pretty certain that several families had made settlements in 1790 and '91, a few possibly a year or two earlier. We incline to the opinion that the Mercereaus—Joshua and John L.—were the first. It is certain that the former was here in 1791, for in that year he was elected one of the first officers of the town of Bainbridge, which then, together with the major part of the present county of Chenango, formed a part of Tioga county, which was erected that year from Montgomery county. It is possible that he was here two or three years earlier. French says he built, in 1789, at the mouth of Guilford creek, where he settled, the first mill in town. The Mercereaus, who were brothers and Frenchmen, came here from the locality of New York. Both settled at East Guilford, on the south line of the town, Joshua on the farm now occupied by Matthew Miller, and John L. on that occupied by Adney Talcott. Joshua afterwards removed to Guilford Center, and kept tavern there, and subsequently, after the death of his wife, to Steuben county, and died at Painted Post. John continued to reside in the town till his death. He was the first Surrogate in Chenango county, an office to which he was appointed March 22, 1798. His sons were: Harmon, a bachelor, John, James and Theodore, who removed to Steuben county about 1830. The mill, which was a frame building, stood on the site of the present mills at East Guilford. It had rotted down about 1820.

About 1790 James Hayes moved in with his family from Putnam county, and settled at what is now known as Latham's Corners, on the Unadilla, in the north-east part of the town. His son Ira, who was married, accompanied and settled with him. They came in with a wagon, which is believed to have been the first one brought up the Unadilla, those who preceded him having made the ascent in boats. He died here February 7, 1823, aged 82; also his wives, Elizabeth and Minewell, the former September 28, 1807, aged 61, and the latter April 11, 1824, aged 72. His children were: Ira, Edward J., Lewis, Daniel, Ammi, John, Smith, Sally, Elizabeth, Rhoda and James, Jr., the latter of whom remained in Putnam county, but removed to the town of Smithville some eight or ten years later.

Ira was a saddler and harness-maker, and died on the old homestead April 23, 1841, aged 68. He married Margaret Terry, who died February 25, 1850, aged 73. He had three sons and three daughters: Friend, who married Sally Dunbar, and had one daughter, who is now the wife of Foster C. Place, of Mount Upton; David, who married Ethelinda Bushnell, of Saybrook, Conn., who died June 18, 1836, aged 39, and for his second wife Hannah Cory, and had one son, Cory D., now a banker at Clinton, Oneida county, and one daughter, Edna M., who married George H. Spry, a lawyer at Minneapolis, Minn.; Ur, who married Julia Ann Buckingham, with whom he is now living at Mount Upton; Electa, who died unmarried July 4, 1847, aged 38; Mercy, who married William S. Moore, of McDonough, now of Guilford; and Eliza, who married Benjamin Chapman, of Norwich, where both are now living at an advanced age.

Edward J. married Abigail Terry, sister to Ira's wife, and died April 6, 1813, aged 38. He had three sons, Harry, James and Edward T., the latter of whom, a member of the firm of Hayes & Rider, piano manufacturers at Norwich, is the only one living. He had also one daughter, who married Tompkins Jewell, of Guilford.

Lewis, Anmi and Smith settled in Steuben county. John had two sons, Edward and William, the latter of whom has two sons who are now Methodist ministers. James, Jr., has one son, Elijah, living in Greene. Rhoda married Jesse Green and settled and died in Norwich. Elizabeth married Peter Besanson, a French physician, and lived and died in Cooperstown, N. Y. Sally married Elisha Green and lived and died in Smithville.

This same year, 1790, James Phelps and a man named Button settled near Rockdale, and Robert McLeod, on lot number 1. About this time also Rufus Phelps settled at Rockdale, where he was probably the first settler. His log house stood in the garden in rear of the residence of Alvah Warner. He died there at an advanced age at an early day. His son Rufus removed to Erie county in 1835. James Phelps was one of the first assessors in the town of Bainbridge, elected in 1791. This year also witnessed the settlement of Sullivan Reynolds. He was an important accession to the little colony who had undertaken the subjugation of this wilderness region. He was an active, enterprising business man. He located on the Unadilla at Rockwell's Mills, and established there that year a store, which was the first in the town, and a grist-mill, which was the first one built on the Unadilla. He also kept an ashery and still, stimulating by the productions of the latter, as well as by his energy and enterprise, for many years

the settlements in that locality. He died there some thirty years ago. His children were William, who removed at an early day to Elmira, where he married and died; John, who married Mary Moses and settled in Pultneyville, N. Y., where he and his wife now reside; Sally, who married Charles Westcott and lived in Norwich, where she died about a year ago and her husband a year or two previously; Randolph and Clark, who removed at an early day to Pultneyville, where the latter died; Maria, who married Samuel Burdick, with whom she is now living in Guilford; Deniza, who married John Gilbert and lived and died in Masonville, where her husband now resides; and Sullivan, who married Abigail Griswold and lived on the homestead at Rockwell's Mills, till within about twenty years, when he removed to his present residence just across the river in the town of Butternuts.

Settlements were made in 1791 by Isaac Fuller, Daniel Savage, John Nash, Edward Robbins and Lemuel Cornell. Fuller came from Guilford, Conn., and settled on a small place two and one-half miles south of Mt. Upton, and worked out by the day. He was one of the first elected to the office of pathmaster in the town of Bainbridge. He died there in 1793, his death being the first in the town. The marriage of his widow the same year to a man named Powell was the first in the town. He had two children, Isaac Y. and Prudence. The birth of the latter, in April, 1791, was the first in the town. One of Isaac Y. Fuller's daughters is living in the town, Armenia, who married a man named Cox, a brother of Isaac Cox. Savage, Nash and Robbins, who were then young men, came in company from Ballston, Saratoga county, from Unadilla by a foot-path indicated by *blazed* trees, and settled near what has since been known as the old four corners. Savage located on a part of the farm now occupied by Lucius Shelton, near where the widow Orrin Gridley now lives, about two miles north of Guilford. Nash, on the top of the hill, near Van Buren Corners, on the site of the residence of the widow Brant; and Robbins, where Philo Shelton now lives. Robbins was taken sick with the small-pox, and when sufficiently recovered he and Nash went back to Ballston, leaving Savage to toil alone in the wilderness for seven months, till their return. They came in the spring and the following February Savage brought in his family. There was then but one house in Guilford Center. It stood where John Young now lives and was occupied by a man named Carney, who soon after died, and was buried in the woods on the creek, near the Hiram Burlison place.* Savage died where he settled in 1846. He had three children, Almira, who married Charles Cobb, who,

* Discourse by Rev. S. N. Robinson, A. M., on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, of which he was pastor, to which we are indebted for other facts.

after her death, at the Center, removed to the North River; Giles, who married Keziah, daughter of James Phelps, and settled at Guilford Center, where his wife died Dec. 31, 1864, aged 73; and Clarissa, who married Azor Wood and lived and died near Guilford Center. Giles was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was killed on the railroad in Michigan some years previous to the death of his second wife, having become slightly deranged. One of his daughters who is living in Kansas is the only one of the family left.

Lemuel Cornell settled four miles north-west of Mt. Upton, on the farm now occupied by Miles Houck, who married his grand-daughter, where he died about 1849. His children were Daniel, who married Catharine Wolcott, and settled and died about a mile below his father, on the farm now occupied by his second wife and family; Edward, who married Lovina Miles, of Coventry, where he practiced medicine till his death, July 19, 1849, aged 56, and where his wife died Dec. 2, 1834, aged 39. After her death he married Wrexville Burgess, by whom he had one son, Wm. B. Frank R. E. Cornell, a son by his first wife, settled in Minneapolis, Minn., over twenty years ago. He was Attorney-General and is now a Judge of the Supreme Court of that State; Elihu, who married Phila Root, settled in Unadilla, and is now living in Gilbertsville, to which place he removed a few years ago; and Maria, who married Seth D. Richmond, and another daughter, who married Richard Perkins, both of whom died in Butternuts.

In 1792, a man named Wasson settled on the Deacon Mills place, now occupied by Andrew Burton. He was a pious man, and died soon after from an attack of sickness at a religious meeting. He was the first one buried in the graveyard east of the old four corners.

Gordon and Wyatt Chamberlayne,* originally from Connecticut, were the first settlers in the town of Butternuts, on the opposite side of the Unadilla, in Otsego county. They located at Gilbertsville about 1790, and removed thence in 1793 to Guilford. Both settled at Mt. Upton, Gordon on the farm now owned by Colwell Chamberlayne, his brother Wyatt's grandson, his house standing between the brook and the second house from the corner; and Wyatt on the farm now owned by Foster Place, a little above the village. Gordon died on the farm he took up. None of his children or grandchildren are living in the county. Wyatt's children were Zadock, who married Sarah Swan, of Maryland, and settled on the Gordon Chamberlayne farm, in the house opposite the hotel in Mt. Upton, and died there; Lucy, who married Glazier Wheeler, both of whom lived and died in Mt. Upton; Calvin C., who married Wealthy Deming, and settled

on the farm now owned by his son Cyrenus, to whom, shortly before his death, he surrendered it, and went to live in Mt. Upton, where he died May 24, 1877, aged 84, and his wife Jan. 15, 1871, aged 76; Wyatt, who was a Methodist minister and removed to Canada, where he continued to reside till his death, having during the latter part of his life been engaged in farming and mercantile business; Israel, who married Johanna Price, and served as a Methodist preacher through the Oneida and Genesee Conferences so long as he was able to preach, and finally settled in the town of Yates, Orleans county, where he died; Joel, who married Eleanor Carr, of Baltimore, and settled and died on the farm now owned by Ur Hayes, just above Mt. Upton; Catharine, who married John Dickey, and after a few years spent in the town removed to Utica, and subsequently to Syracuse, where both died; Charlotte, who married Elihu Phelps, and after several years' residence in the town, removed to the St. Lawrence, where they died; Lassie, who died young and unmarried; and Ashley, who married for his second wife Huldah Stetson, and lived mostly in this town, where he died.

Dr. John A. Chamberlayne, a physician in Utica, is a son of Joel's. Calvin's grandchildren are the only ones living in the county. They are Cyrenus, Colwell and Cordelia, wife of Joseph Morse, all of Guilford; Caroline, wife of Benjamin Peck, resided in the town till April, 1878, and is now living in Harpersville, Broome county, where their son, Henry C., is a practicing physician. Descendants of Wyatt's to the fifth generation are living in the town.

Settlements were made this same year (1793,) by John Secor, and William and Nathaniel R. Hyer. Secor came from Haverstraw, Orange county, and settled on the river, near Latham's Corners. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and a cooper by trade. He followed that vocation and died at Mt. Upton, Sept. 27, 1846, aged 84. Mary, his wife, died April 8, 1845, aged 68. His children were Zenas, who removed from the town when a young man; William, who was also a cooper, lived in the locality of Latham's Corners, and died at Mt. Upton; Ezekiel, who married Betsey Masters, (who is now living in Clarksville,) and removed to Cooperstown, where he died; John, who married Cynthia Young, settled on the farm now owned by Perry Rood, and occupied by Franklin Peet, in the locality of Latham's Corners, and afterwards removed to Mt. Upton, and died there; Allen, who removed when a young man to Philadelphia; Russell, who died unmarried a few years ago; James, who married Mary, widow of Lucius Daniels, and practiced medicine in Mt. Upton; Elias, who removed when a young man to Cooperstown, near which place he now lives; Richard, who married

* This name is now spelled by certain members of the family, Chamberlain.

a daughter of Benjamin Marsh, and settled at Mt. Upton; Esther, who married Christopher Gifford and lived and died in the town of Morris; Charity, who married Walter Hyer, and removed to New Berlin, where both died; Sally, who married Russel Boyce, and lived and died in Mt. Upton, but is survived by her husband.

The Hyers came from Columbia county and settled two miles below Mt. Upton, both on the farm now occupied by William S. Moore, where they died, William, July 27, 1845, aged 76, and Lucretia, his wife, May 22, 1833, aged 61; and Nathaniel R., Feb. 25, 1847, aged 75, and Charlotte, his wife, April 26, 1836, aged 63. William's children were William G., who died Aug. 3, 1874, aged 80; Charles; Palmer, who died June 27, 1873, aged 74; Darius, who died March 4, 1865, aged 55, and Harriet, his wife, Dec. 1, 1867, aged 59; Schuyler; Sylvia, who married Heman St. John, and died April 13, 1875, aged 78, and her husband, Dec. 31, 1878, aged 86; Sarah, who married Jared Mudge, Jr., and died June 18, 1877, aged 87, and her husband Nov. 16, 1868, aged 84; Abbie, who married Joseph Smith, and died Nov. 6, 1843, aged 51, and her husband Feb. 9, 1869, aged 83; Lovina, who married Thomas Stuart; and Patty, who died unmarried Feb. 13, 1869, aged 66, all of whom are dead. Numerous descendants are living in the locality. Nathaniel's children were Nathaniel, David, Wesley and Lovisa, who married Elijah Eastwood, and died Feb. 18, 1865, aged 64, of whom only Nathaniel is living.

Ezekiel Wheeler came from New Hampshire in 1790, and settled first at Unadilla Forks. On the death of his wife in 1794, he removed to Guilford and took up 150 acres on the Unadilla, a little south of Latham's Corners. The farm on which he settled has since been retained in the hands of the family, and is now occupied by his grandson, Silas Wheeler. His log cabin stood a little south of the present residence of his grandson Silas, and in it in 1796 he opened a tavern which was the first in the town. He afterwards kept tavern in the house which took the place of the log one and stood on the site of Silas' present residence, for which it gave way in 1851. His son Ezekiel also kept tavern in the old house, but not till after his father's death, which occurred Oct. 2, 1826, aged 78. He was a noted sportsman and spent most of his time till old age disabled him in hunting and fishing. He married a second time; his last wife, Charity, died Nov. 3, 1835, aged 78. He had four sons and one daughter, Heman, Glazier, Ezekiel, Caleb and Hannah. Heman married a lady named Ruger, of Plattsburgh, Clinton county, and removed thence to Ohio at an early day and died there. Glazier married Lucy, daughter of Wyatt Chamberlayne, and settled at Mt.

Upton, where he died Nov. 27, 1826, aged 47. Ezekiel married Sally, daughter of David Demming, and settled and died on the homestead July 8, 1840, aged 56. His widow is still living there in her 90th year. Caleb married a sister of Heman's wife, and lived and died in Plattsburgh. Hannah married Caleb Batterson, who lived in the east part of the town till after her death, when he removed to Unadilla.

Nine of Ezekiel Wheeler's grandchildren are living, Silas; Hannah, wife of Sylvanus Carhart; Amelia and Fanny, both maiden ladies in Guilford; Ezekiel and Caleb Batterson, in Unadilla; Electa, wife of Alanson Nooning, in Morris; and Francis Wheeler and his sister Charlotte, in Preston. A. H. Wheeler, a merchant at Mt. Upton, is a great-grandson of his. Ezra Wheeler, brother of Silas, was born in 1820, and in 1849, removed to Berlin, Wis., where he practiced law. In 1852 he was elected to the Legislature of that State, which he afterwards represented in the Thirty-eighth Congress, serving on the Committee on District of Columbia. In 1854 he was elected County Judge, and held that office eight years. He died in Colorado of consumption, having visited that Territory in the hope of restoring his health.

About 1795 or '6 Samuel and Lyman Ives, Joel Hendricks and Joel Johnson established themselves at what is known as Ives' settlement, Hendricks on the farm now occupied by Lewis Ives. A Mr. Ten-Broeck owned a tract of land four miles square in that part of the town and gave portions of it to those who bought farms of him to induce settlement.

Hendricks' children were Leontas, who married Julia Farnham, of Unadilla, lived near the homestead a good many years and afterwards removed to Coventry and died there; Jesse, who married Lydia Ives and lived in that locality till advanced in years, when he went to live with a daughter who married a Methodist minister and died in the vicinity of Sherburne; William, who lived in that locality several years, married late in life and removed to Coventry; Alonzo, who lived first in Guilford and afterwards removed from the town; Eliza, who married young, but did not live with her husband and died in the edge of Bainbridge; and Abigail, who married Martin Post and lived in the edge of Oxford, when both died.

Uri Yale settled on lot 53, in the south-west part of the town in 1796, and Dr. Benjamin Yale, his brother, on the same lot in 1799. Both died there, the latter at the age of 100 years, and both had large families, whose members have settled in the same locality, which is known as Yaleville. The descendants are numerous, respectable and wealthy.

John Dibble settled at Guilford village at an early day. He kept tavern there in 1798. When he came in, there was but one log house and a small

clearing on the site of that village, and they were abandoned. Dibble was a mill-wright and was given 100 acres of land on the site of the village to induce his settlement there. His tavern occupied the site of the present hotel. He died in 1806 of small-pox contracted in Ohio, where he had gone to contract lands. He married May 29, 1791, Loretta Warner, who continued the tavern a short time after his death, and afterwards married William Cable, who came in at an early day and bought a large tract of land, including the site of Guilford village, where he was an early merchant. Dibble left five children, Russell, Ira, Huldah, who died in childhood, Anna and Maria. Russell was born May 31, 1793. He married Salina Isbell and settled in the village, where George Baldwin now lives. He was a tanner and carried on that business here about forty years. About the close of the war of 1812, in which he served, and for which service he is now drawing a pension, he built the old tannery in Guilford, the foundation of which still remains and forms the substructure of Bradley & Winsor's cabinet shop, which occupies the same site. He is now living in Mt. Upton. His wife died Nov. 19, 1857, aged 60. Ira was born April 13, 1795. He married Charlotte Root and lived in Guilford and died there at an early age. Anna was born June 22, 1799, and married Silas Seely, of Oxford, where she lived and died April 20, 1871, aged 70, and her husband May 17, 1855, aged 56. Maria was born July 21, 1801. She married Niram R. Merchant, a carpenter and joiner and mill-wright, and lived and died in the town in the fall of 1878. Numerous descendants of Dibble's are living in the county. Three grandchildren are living in Guilford village, Andrew P. Merchant, a founder and machinist, and Jane E. and Helen L. Merchant, both maiden ladies. Purley A. Merchant, of Guilford, son of Andrew P., is great-grandson of Dibble's.

Matthew Seymour, a man named Hodge and Amasa Colburn came in previous to 1800. Seymour settled on the place now occupied by the widow of John P. Hall, at Guilford Center; and Hodge on the Anderson place. Colburn settled in the north part of the town, where his sons, Amasa and Azariah, now live, and died there, he and his wife, Experience, the former Dec. 15, 1860, aged 84, and the latter July 16, 1857, aged 83. Two daughters, Martha, widow of William Gunn, and Speedy, a maiden lady, are also living on the homestead. Zenas, the oldest son, died in Chautauqua county. Augusta, a daughter, who was born April 18, 1811, died March 16, 1866. Abigail, who was born April 18, 1805, married Dwight Ives, and both died in Mt. Upton, the former July 24, 1864, and the latter, who was born Sept. 22, 1804, Nov. 29, 1865.

Settlements were made about 1800, by Major David Richmond, Abraham Ives, Colonel Stephen Winsor, Daniel Johnson, Elihu Murray, Joel and Aaron Root and Eliab Ford.

Maj. Richmond came in from Rhode Island and settled at Latham's Corners. His house stood on the site of the one owned by David Westcott of Utica, and occupied at present by Emerson J. Potter. He died there Oct. 14, 1818, aged 71, and Nancy, his wife, July 9, 1844, aged 94. His children were Joseph, Thomas, Polly, Esther, Nancy, David, who lived in Rhode Island, and Seth, who married Keziah Hunt and lived on the homestead till his death in June, 1879, at the age of 89 years. Joseph married Rizpah Hunt and settled on Richmond Pond, about five miles east of Norwich. His farm laid partly in Norwich and partly in New Berlin, but his house was in the latter town. He died there Jan. 25, 1853, aged 80, and his wife May 24, 1836, aged 61. Thomas married Lucy Durand and settled on the flats one-fourth mile above Latham's Corners. He afterwards removed to the Corners and built the rear part of Orson Richmond's residence and subsequently the front part. He lived there till well advanced in years when he went to live with his daughter Nancy, wife of John Holmes, of Smithport, Penn., and died there July 2, 1863, aged 86. His wife died May 14, 1857, aged 76. He and his brother Joseph were active, energetic men who did an extensive lumber business; the latter operated a saw-mill which was located at the mouth of Richmond Pond. Polly married Stephen Arnold and settled and died on the place now owned by Gordon Wood on the south line of Norwich. Esther married David Westcott and lived and died in Rhode Island. Nancy married Joseph Wood and lived and died on the David Cornell farm. Joseph's and David's children are all dead, and only one of Thomas' is living, Nancy Holmes of Smithport, Penn. None of the grandchildren are living in the county. The children of George A. Truesdell at Latham's Corners are great-grandchildren of Maj. Richmonds. Orson Richmond of Latham's Corners, whose wife Euphemia is a writer of some note, is a descendant of Major Richmond's. Mrs. Richmond has written some ten volumes of juvenile sabbath school and temperance works, has been a contributor to the *Ladies' Repository*, and is now a regular correspondent of the *Northern Christian Advocate*, *The Watchword*, the organ of the Good Templars, the *Christian Woman*, of Philadelphia, *The Christian at Work*, the *Rural New Yorker*, and various other publications.

Abraham Ives came in from the New England States, and located in the Ives settlement one and one-half miles south of Guilford. He died there a great many years ago, and his wife, in 1827. His

children were Samuel, who married Lucy Ann Atwater; Lyman, who married Lucy McCall; Elias, who married a sister of Lucy McCall; Abraham, who married Lois Rice; Clarissa who married Ozias Bush; Fanny who married Simon Trask; Merab, who married Elam Yale; Rosilla, who married Stephen Yale; and Eunice, who married Abijah Cornwall.

Col. Stephen Winsor came from Rhode Island, and settled in the north edge of the town, where his grandson, Edson Winsor, now lives. He and his wife Mary, died on that place, the former Jan. 14, 1820, aged 75, and the latter Nov. 2, 1825, aged 76. His children were Joshua, Olney, Paris, Stephen, Wilkes, Eppenetus, and Selanah, all of whom are dead. Joshua, Olney and Paris settled in the locality of their father and raised up families. Joshua married Amy Cook, daughter of Gideon Cook, who died Feb. 18, 1818, aged 39, and for his second wife Chloe Davy, by whom he had two children, Joshua, now living in Norwich, and Amy, who died recently in Guilford. He had no children by his first wife. He died June 17, 1846, aged 72, and his second wife April 17, 1861, aged 76. Olney married Abigail Brown, in Rhode Island, and had a numerous family, only four of whom are living in this locality, Selanah, widow of John Monroe, and Abigail, wife of Lorenzo Burdick, at Polkville, Deloss, at White Store, and Olney J. at Bainbridge. He died April 17, 1842, aged 65, and his wife Aug. 10, 1858, aged 81. Paris married Ruth, daughter of Abner Wood and had several children, of whom Ziba is living in Norwich, Harmon, in Bainbridge, Eppenetus, in Guilford, Otis, in Greene, Roxana, widow of Otis Bowen in Norwich village, and Polly, wife of David Westcott, in Utica. He died July 6, 1840, aged 59, and his wife, Jan. 21, 1836, aged 49. Stephen died March 29, 1859, aged 72. Wilkes went west and died from the effects of a wound received in the war of 1812. Selanah married George Cook, who died April 13, 1859, aged 82. She died March 28, 1848, aged 69. Numerous of their descendants are still living in that locality.

Daniel Johnson settled on the farm now occupied by his grandson of the same name, about a mile south of the Center, and he and his son Seth died there. His children were Hiram, who married an Atwater, settled in the Ives settlement and died at his daughter's in Yaleville; Alpheus, who married Pomona, only sister of Daniel S. Dickinson, and kept a meat market in Guilford village a good many years and died there Nov. 24, 1841, aged 44; Mary, who married a man named Blake, of Coventry, where she now lives; Louisa, who married Lyman Bradley and lived in the Ives settlement; a daughter who married Abraham Pier and removed to Michigan; Seth, who married Jerusha Root and lived and died on the homestead.

A brother of Johnson's came in at the same time and settled in the same locality, where both he and his wife died of fever at an early day. He left two daughters, Lovisa, who married Abial Bush and Lucy, who married Alba Lyman. Both lived and died in the town, the latter Jan. 17, 1840, aged 40, and her husband March 9, 1843, aged 54.

Elihu Murray was a Revolutionary soldier and came here from Connecticut. He settled near Humphrey's Corners, on the farm now occupied by Sylvester Humphrey. He afterwards removed to the Center, where his son Dauphin built about fifty years ago the hotel, now occupied as a dwelling by H. H. Van Cott. He died there June 16, 1835, aged 82, and Lydia, his wife, July 7, 1836, aged 81. Dauphin kept the hotel a few years and removed to Hinsdale, Cattaraugus county, where he was killed by the cars. He had other children, but none of the name are now living here.

Joel and Aaron Root were cousins. They came in from Great Barrington, Mass., and settled at Root's Corners, on the Gospel Lot, Joel, where Mr. Holliday now lives, and Aaron on the farm now occupied by his son Otis. Joel died where he settled, but Aaron gave up his farm to his youngest son and went to live with one of his children who had settled in Chautauqua county, where he died. Joel's children were Milton, who died in Guilford, aged 80 years; George, who was shot dead by accident; Lois; Fanny, who married William Spencer and after living here several years removed to Pennsylvania; a daughter who married Amos Havens; and William, his youngest son, who is living in Smithville and is the only one of the family left. Aaron's children were Amasa, Priscilla, who married and lived in Chautauqua county, and Otis.

Eliab Ford was born in Canaan, Columbia county, N. Y., in 1772. He married Nabby Griswold in 1794, and in 1800 removed to Guilford. He settled on the farm now owned and occupied by B. F. Gregory, about a mile north of Rockdale, where he raised a large family. He died January 18, 1840, aged 68, and his wife November 27, 1847, aged 70. His children were: Ruth, who married Russell St. John; Clarissa, who married Amos Gregory; Russell, who married Cynthia W. Morgan; Patrick H., born December 17, 1800, and died May 20, 1843; Ransom, Enos J., Norman, Philetus and Eliab G., all of whom are dead, except Philetus. Russell and Philetus were lawyers, and held many public offices. Russell was born February 28, 1799. He settled at Mount Upton, on the site of Place & Morse's store. He was a Justice for a great many years, and practiced law here from the time of his admission till his death, August 11, 1863. His wife, who was born May 24, 1805,

died December 1, 1868. His children are: Merlin J., who married Cynthia I. Peck, both of whom, together with their children, Truman R. and Frederick, are living in Mount Upton; and Caroline M., who married Stephen P. Smith, of Pennsylvania, and is now living in Brownsdale, Minn.

Oliver Ingersoll came from Great Barrington, Mass., about 1802, and settled on "Gospel hill," on the place now occupied by Chauncey Wade, where he lived till after the death of his wife, when he went to live with his son Lambert in Oxford, and died there. His children, all of whom were born in Massachusetts, were: Thomas H., Lambert, Lucretia, and Sally, who married in Massachusetts, and remained there; Eva, who married Harry Abby; Lovisa, who married Joshua Bush; David, who married Jerusha Tuttle; Peter, who removed to Chautauqua county and married there; none of whom are living. Lambert and Thomas H. were the only two who remained in the county. Lambert settled on the east line of Oxford, and afterwards removed to Oxford village, where he died September 16, 1849, aged 67. Polly, his wife, died March 16, 1867, aged 76. He had a large family, only four of whom are living: Ethan, on the old homestead; Marietta, wife of John L. Sherwood, in Guilford; Frederick, in Norwich; and Eliza, widow of Thomas Bishop, in Greene.

Thomas Horton Ingersoll came from Great Barrington, Mass., in 1804, with his family, consisting of his wife, Elizabeth, also a native of Great Barrington, and three children, Hannah, David H. and William, and settled on "Gospel hill," about a mile west of Guilford, on the place now occupied by Harvey Brant. He continued to reside there till his death, June 16, 1810. His wife went to live with her son David at Castle Creek, Broome county, shortly before her death, which occurred June 22, 1841. Two children were born after they came here, Laman and Susan, the latter of whom is living in Guilford, and is the only survivor of her father's family. Hannah married Pelatiah Leonard, a native of Worthington, Mass., and removed to the town of New Berlin about 1818 or '19, and died May 9, 1868. David H. married Sally, daughter of Samuel Mills, and lived at Guilford Center till about 1838, when he removed to Castle Creek, and afterwards to Smithville, where he and his wife died, the former March 30, 1879, and the latter May 21, 1862. William was a clothier, and worked a good deal in Binghamton, where he died unmarried, January 15, 1858, aged 55. Laman, who was born April 2, 1805, married Sarah, daughter of Asa Sherwood, and lived and died in Guilford village, December 30, 1863. He held various public offices, among them Justice for several years, Loan Commissioner and Member of Assembly, the latter in 1851. His

wife still survives him, and is living with her son, Dr. Randall E. Ingersoll, in Guilford. Twelve grandchildren are living, but only three of them in the county, viz: Hannah, wife of A. C. Johnson, in Smithville; Mary E., widow of Miles W. Edmister, in Guilford; and H. Elizabeth, wife of Bishop B. Carruth, a Methodist minister now stationed at New Berlin.

William Clark and Silas Hamilton, both from Wilmington, Vt., settled in the town in 1804. Clark located on the farm now occupied by Alson W. Mills, about two miles south-west of Rockdale, to which village he removed in 1827, and engaged in mercantile and milling business. In 1834 he sold his farm to Hewitt Mills, and the following year was engaged on the Chenango Canal. He continued to reside at Rockdale till within seven years of his death, when he went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Sarah H. Bush, in the edge of Oxford, and died there. His children were Silas, who married Lavina Sherwood, of Oxford, removed to Susquehanna, Penn., about 1845, and is now living in Fond du Lac; Hannah, who married Chandler June, afterwards Ansel Quinby and subsequently Royal Smith, and is now living at Laona, N. Y.; Sally, who married Samuel H. Bush, and is now living in Oxford; Julia, who married Arvine Boyd, of Wilmington, Vt., where she is now living; Ransom, who married Elekse Locke, and is now living in Rockdale; Albert, who removed to Georgia, and married there, his wife dying soon after, he subsequently married Adaline Boyd, and continued to reside in Georgia till his death, which resulted from shooting at the hands of one of his negroes; DeWitt Clinton, who removed to Georgia, and died there of fever, unmarried; Elihu, who also removed to Brunswick, Ga., and married there, but died in Florida while transacting business there with his brother; and Clarissa, who died at the age of about 18 years.

Silas Hamilton settled a mile west of Rockdale, on the farm now occupied by Leonard Manwaring, who married his grand-daughter. There he and Hannah, his wife, died, the former Aug. 7, 1816, aged 80, and the latter May 9, 1842, aged 97. His children were Hannah, who married Jonathan Lamb; Silas, who married Fanny Locke; Mercy, who married William Clark; Perses, who married Ira Locke; Hoit, who married but did not live with his wife, and died Dec. 25, 1863, aged 81; and Amos, who married Lydia Wooster, and after her death May 12, 1825, Polly, widow of David Clark. All are dead. Amos died Dec. 25, 1867, aged 83.

Samuel A. Smith came in April, 1805, from Salem, Conn., where he was born Feb. 22, 1782, and settled two miles north of Guilford, at the corners which bear his name. The farm on which he settled, and where he died March 24, 1864, is now owned by Joseph

Winsor. Dec. 25, 1806, he married Wealthy Phelps, who was born in Bolton, Conn., Oct. 18, 1785, and died Sept. 19, 1822. He afterwards married Hannah Thompson, who died Jan. 7, 1855, aged 73, and by whom he had no issue. He represented Chenango county in the Assembly in 1816-17, and again in 1820. He had six children by his first wife: Erastus Phelps; Sally Lavina, who was born Oct. 8, 1809, married Orin Merchant May 12, 1830, and died in the town Aug. 16, 1851; Abigail Eliza, who was born May 17, 1812, married Nathan Delavan Aug. 18, 1834, and died in the town Feb. 23, 1879; Lucia Ann, who was born Oct. 22, 1816, married Dr. John Clark Feb. 6, 1843, and is still living in Guilford, where her husband practiced medicine forty-one years; Wealthy May, who was born Oct. 17, 1818, married Lawrence Bryant, who was drowned in Lake Pepin, on the Mississippi, about 1851, and married after his death Frederick A. Bolles, of Unadilla, where she now resides; and William Augustus, who was born March 31, 1819, married Betsey Wade, of Guilford, and is now practicing medicine in Newark, N. J., and is Clerk of Essex county in that State. Erastus Phelps Smith was born Nov. 23, 1806. He married Betsey Mills, April 15, 1829, and lived upon the homestead until the death of his father, when, having been a lay reader in the Episcopal church, of Guilford, for thirty years, he entered the ministry, in conformity with a long cherished wish, but a step which he had long refrained from taking in deference to the wishes of his father, who strenuously opposed it. He was first rector at Sodus, Wayne county, afterwards at Whitewater, Wis., and subsequently at Hamilton, where he died while rector of St. Thomas' church in that village, Feb. 9, 1876. After the death of his first wife, March 22, 1843, he married Mary, widow of William Cable, who died March 6, 1860, aged 53. He subsequently married Nancy, widow of Dr. Hanford, of Hobart, Greene county, who is still living in Sherburne, with her only son, Homer Lucius Smith. Three daughters are living, Esther Case, wife of Edward Bradley, and Laura Arthusia, wife of Rufus N. Mills, in Guilford, and Betsey, wife of Harvey Shelton, in Norwich.

Simon Trask came in from Massachusetts about 1800, and settled in Preston. He removed thence in 1806 to Guilford, and settled about four miles southeast of Guilford village, on the farm now occupied by George Ferris, where he died Jan. 18, 1831, aged 56. Fanny, his wife, who afterwards married Ozias Bush, died July 4, 1865, aged 83. His children were seven in number four of whom came in with him. They were Almon, who married Lucinda Richmond, Samuel Ives, who married Lucretia Maria Rose; Alice, who married John S. Mitchell; Simon, who married Jane Crane;

Clarissa, who married Arvine Mann; and George, who married Julia Hickok. Only two are living, Samuel I., in Guilford, and George in Illinois. Fanny died in infancy soon after they came in. The whole family were then sick with fever and ague, and this induced their removal to Guilford.

Settlements were made in 1807 by Daniel Thomas Dickinson and Samuel Mills, both of whom came from Connecticut, the former from Goshen and the latter from Norfolk. Dickinson settled one and one-half miles north of Guilford Center, on fifty acres, to which he subsequently added at different times 200 acres. The place has since been cut up into three farms, which are now occupied by Joseph Winsor, James Decker and A. Reynolds. The Dickinson family is a prominent and highly reputable one and has been made conspicuous by at least one of its members both in the State and nation. Mr. Dickinson married Mary, daughter of Roswell Caulkins, of Salem, Conn., and sister of Hon. Samuel A. Smith's mother. He continued to reside here till his death Sept. 17, 1841, aged 74, and raised a family of sturdy, stalwart children—stalwart both intellectually and physically. His wife died April 1, 1831, aged 61. His children were Erastus, William Frederick, Ann Pomona, who married Alpheus Johnson, and is now living in Afton, aged 81 years, Daniel Stevens, Thomas, Ralph, who died in Goshen at the age of four years, John Ralph, and Mary Sophronia, who died at the age of five years.

Erastus Dickinson married Betsey, daughter of Chester Morse, who came in from Massachusetts and settled and died in Guilford. Erastus took up a farm of 100 acres three miles west of Mt. Upton, which is now owned in part by Rufus J. Humphrey. He lived there till well advanced in years and afterwards in Guilford village. He subsequently removed to Ellicottville, Cattaraugus county, and finally to DeWitt, Iowa, where he died some ten or twelve years ago. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was a man of great physical endurance, as was also his brother William F., either of whom could chop an acre of heavy timber in four days. He held the office of Justice here a good many years, and was Side Judge one term. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1844.

William Frederick Dickinson married Polly, daughter of Alexander McNeil, of Oxford, and settled a mile east of his father, on 65 acres, which he afterwards increased to 100. He afterwards removed to the homestead and died there Aug. 17, 1851, aged 56, from the result of an injury received by falling from a fence with a scythe, which cut his hand badly. In sewing up the wound the doctor accidentally caught one of the nerves and amputation at the wrist became necessary. He afterwards suffered a second amputation. The injury finally affected his brain and resulted

in death some ten years after. He held the office of Deputy Sheriff several terms. His wife died June 19, 1846, aged 45.

Daniel Stevens Dickinson was born in Goshen, Litchfield county, Conn., Sept. 11, 1800, the date of Commodore Perry's victory on Lake Erie. He received a common-school education, and without the aid of an instructor mastered the Latin language and became versed in the higher branches of mathematics and other sciences. He learned the trade of carding and cloth dressing in the factory of Chauncey W. Morse, which was located on the turnpike about three miles south-east of Guilford. In 1821 he entered upon the duties of a school teacher, and in 1826 he commenced the study of law at Norwich with Lot Clark and John Clapp, still devoting three months of each winter to teaching. In 1828, before the completion of his studies, he was regularly admitted to practice at the instance of his preceptor, having within two years, notwithstanding the diversion of teaching, mastered all that was required of him. He commenced practice at Guilford Center, where he continued some six years, when, his ambition demanding a broader field of operations, he removed to Binghamton, where his genius soon brought him into prominence, both as a lawyer and politician, and where he continued to reside till his death. In 1836 he was elected State Senator from the Sixth District, and served in that capacity from 1837-'40. He was Judge of the Court of Errors from 1836 to 1841; and from 1842 to 1844, by his election to the office of Lieutenant-Governor, was President of that Court, also of the State Senate. He was a Regent of the University in 1843, a member of the Convention which nominated J. K. Polk for President, and a Presidential Elector at Large in 1844. He was in the United States Senate from 1844 to 1851, and while a member of that body served on important committees, and originated and ably supported several important measures. In 1861 he was elected Attorney-General of the State, and served two years. He was a delegate to the Baltimore Convention in 1864; and in 1865 was appointed by President Lincoln United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York. He died suddenly in New York city while in the discharge of the duties of that office, April 12, 1866. Before accepting the last position, he declined several appointments tendered him by the President of the United States and the Governor of this State. His *Life and Works* were published in 1867, in two volumes. He married Lydia, daughter of Dr. Colby Knapp, of Guilford.

Thomas Dickinson was born Jan. 23, 1803. He married Eliza, daughter of Seth Thompson, of Hartford, Conn., and settled on the homestead, where he

lived till about 1847. He afterwards removed from a farm a mile north of Guilford in 1871, to the farm he now occupies, near that village. He was Deputy Sheriff two terms, under A. C. Welch and Romeo Warren; has been Justice of the Peace since 1835, with the exception of two and one-half terms; and Notary Public eight terms, an office he still retains.

John Ralph Dickinson married Julia Ann Booth, and settled first on the homestead in Guilford, engaged a part of the time in teaching. He removed to Binghamton about 1831, and was for several years teller of the Broome County Bank, which was established that year. He had commenced the study of law before going to Binghamton, and completed his legal studies there with his brother, Daniel S. He was admitted and practiced law, and afterwards became a Judge in Broome county. He was for several years editor and proprietor of the *Binghamton Democrat*. From Binghamton he went to New York and engaged as a Clerk in the Custom-House. He was afterwards engaged in banking business in Chicago with his brother-in-law, James H. Woodruff. He is now Clerk in the Land Office at Washington.

Deacon Samuel Mills was a soldier in the war for Independence. He settled at Guilford Center, on the farms now owned by Alexander Burton and Horace Wade, where he died of a cancer, Jan. 17, 1837, aged 83, also his wife Lucy, Nov. 9, 1826, aged 73. He had six children, only two of whom came with him, Charlotte and Calvin. The others, Abiram, Hewit, Samuel and Daniel came the year following. Charlotte married Ira Bradley, who came in from Stockbridge, Massachusetts, about 1810, and settled on land taken up by her father, where he started a tannery in company with his brother-in-law, which they operated some twenty-five years. He afterwards removed to the Ives settlement, where he died Sept. 4, 1856, aged 69, and his wife May 21, 1833, aged 44. Calvin married Sophia Rogers and settled about one and one-half miles east of East Guilford. He afterwards removed to the town of Alden in Erie county, where both he and his wife died. Abiram, who was born June 2, 1778, married Esther Harris, (whose father came in from Saybrook, Connecticut, about 1808,) and settled just north of his father, on the farm now owned by Wm. Hovey of Norwich, and occupied by Charles Miner. He removed thence to Masonville, and died at Sidney, Nov. 30, 1864. His wife died April 21, 1854, aged 78. Hewit married "Claraisa" Whiting and settled on a farm adjoining his father's on the south, the one now occupied by Ransom Hovey, where his wife died May 12, 1813, aged 27. He afterwards married the widow of Philinda Brazer and removed to Shaver's Corners (E. Guilford,) where he died Sept. 10, 1848, aged 63. Philinda died April

3, 1831, aged 40. His son Alston now occupies the farm on which he died. Samuel married Sally Coburn and was engaged in tanning and currying in company with Ira Bradley. He afterwards removed to Castle Creek, Broome county, where he and his wife died. Daniel married Sarah Harris of Saybrook, Connecticut, and settled about one and one-fourth miles north of Guilford, on the Norwich road, on the farm now owned and occupied by Erastus Carhart, where his wife died July 17, 1833, aged 53. When advanced in years he went to live with his son Uri in Poughkeepsie, where he died. He had lost his right arm before he came in, through bleeding and subsequent malpractice. Several of Deacon Mills' descendants are living in the town. Two grand-children, Lucy and Sarah, daughters of Calvin, became the wives of missionaries to China.

Ira Locke removed from Wilmington, Vermont, in 1801, to Brookfield, Madison county, and thence in 1808, to Guilford. He settled about three-fourths of a mile west of Rockdale, on the farm now owned and occupied by his son Heman J., where he died Jan. 19, 1852, and his wife Perses, Jan. 2, 1864. His children were Asenath who married Wilsey H. Scott, and lived and died, she and her husband, in Nineveh, Broome county; Sophia, who married Gurdon Morgan and lives in Unadilla, where her husband died some years ago; Elekse, who married Ransom Clark, and is now living at Rockdale; Hephzibah, who married Arvine Clark and is now living in Wellsburg, Chemung county; Hiram, who married Olive Hyer and is now living in Bainbridge; Heman J., who married Esther Sliter and is now living on the homestead; and Hannah, who married William P. Peabody and is living in Butternuts.

Ira B. McFarland, a native of Kinderhook, Columbia county, removed thence with his parents to Otsego, and subsequently to Sidney Plains, from which place he removed to Guilford about 1809, with his wife, Polly, daughter of Captain Solomon Fenton of New Haven, Conn. He engaged in farming near Guilford village, working by the month, and afterwards squatted on land belonging to Peter Livingston, on the east side of Guilford Pond. In April, 1816, he removed his family to Oxford and taught school seven winters and one summer in succession. He then bought 30 acres three miles below Oxford village, on the west side of the river, on which, with the additions made thereto from time to time, making the whole 150 acres, he now resides in his 90th year, (he was 89 Aug. 30, 1878.) His wife died during the recent war. They had eight children, seven of whom reached maturity: Edwin Ferris, who married Abigail, daughter of David Simmons, and engaged in teaching, removing about 1842 to Kentucky, where he resumed teaching, and

died of consumption about 1858; Orson Lawrence, who married Julia, daughter of William Holmes, was engaged in farming here and in Steuben county, and subsequently in carpentering, and is now keeping a grocery in Troupsburgh, Steuben county; Jane, who died at the age of seven; Betsey, who married Cyrus Horton, and died in Norwich, where her husband was a molder; Maria, who married Erastus Briggs and died on the homestead farm four or five years ago; Solomon, who married Hannah Folger, and is now practicing medicine in Oxford; Henry, who married Sarah Horton, and is practicing dentistry in Oxford; and Charles Arthur, who married Charlotte Webb and is living on the homestead farm, which was transferred to him by his father.

Deacon Jesse Whiting came in from Norfolk, Conn., in 1810, and settled a mile north of Guilford Center, on the farm occupied until recently by Philip Miner. About 1836 he removed to Masonville, where he died April 22, 1845, aged 82. Hannah, his wife, died Jan. 23, 1852, aged 86. His children were Deacon Erastus B., who was born in Norfolk, Conn., Aug. 18, 1807, married Arthusa Mills, and died May 8, 1857, and his wife, July 26, 1863, aged 59; Julius, who married Lucinda Payne, and died Dec. 29, 1842, aged 58, and his wife, Aug. 4, 1848, aged 62; John F., who married Roxana Dickinson; Claraissa, who married Hewit Mills; and Hiram, who died in Norfolk, Conn., before they moved here. None of the children, and but few of the descendants are living. Only three grandchildren are living in the county, Edwin M. and Hiram L. Whiting in Guilford, and Lucy, wife of William M. Hovey, in Norwich.

William Place settled in the town about 1812; William Gunn, about 1813; and Roger Williams, in February, 1818. Place, who was a stone-mason, settled near Mt. Upton on a small lot which now forms a part of Cyrenus Chamberlayne's farm. He afterwards removed to the locality of Rockwell's Mills, to the place now occupied by his daughters, Mary Ann, widow of Seth D. Richmond, and Harriet, a maiden lady, where he and his wife Sally died. He died Sept. 18, 1827, aged 48, and his wife, Feb. 23, 1870, aged 84. His other children were Hiram G., who married Betsey Thayer, and lived and died in the town Aug. 16, 1874, aged 67; Foster, who married Lucinda Wheeler, and after her death Minerva Hayes, and is now living in Mt. Upton; Helen, who married John Blackman, and lived and died in Mt. Upton; Sally, who married Alpheus Newman, and is now living in Addison, Steuben county; Fields, who married Ursula Peck, and after her death Amy Newton, and is now living near Latham's Corners; Ulrica, who died when ten or twelve years old; Wm., who died in childhood; Mahala, who married Willard Leach, and set-

tled in Norwich, where both died; and Alaxeronia, who married Nelson Green and afterwards Chauncey Graves, and is now living at Latham's Corners. Several descendants are living in the town. Horace Place, a dry goods merchant at Mt. Upton, is a grandson of William's.

William Gunn was a native of Cambridge, N. Y., and removed thence to Guilford in 1810. He settled on the Unadilla at Rockwell's Mills, where he built in the following year the first carding and cloth-dressing establishment in the county. The building stood on the site of Rockwell's stone mill and was burned at an early day. He soon after formed a co-partnership with Joseph Richmond and erected a sizable building on the same site and engaged in the manufacture of cotton and woolen cloths. The building was three stories high above the basement, which was used as a machine shop. The first and third stories were occupied with cotton machinery, and the second floor, with woolen machinery. The building was erected about 1813 or '14, and was burned in the winter of 1831. Gunn sold his interest about 1828 to ——— Stewart and Paris Andrews, having a few years previously dissolved partnership with Richmond, who took for his share the cotton machinery, which was considered about half the value of machinery and fixtures, retaining a half interest in the building till it was burned. Richmond continued the manufacture of cotton cloths till about 1829, when he leased the property to a Mr. Webb, of Norwich, who was carrying on the business when the mill was burned. Stewart & Andrews carried on the manufacture of woolen cloths up to the same period, when the site and mill privileges were sold to William Bowne, of New York City, who erected a stone building and continued the manufacture of cotton goods, with Webb as his agent, some five or six years, when he failed, and the machinery was taken out and sold and the building never after used as a cotton manufactory. The property then passed into the hands of Amasa Ballou, who carried on the manufacture of woolen goods till it came into the possession of the Rockwells in 1849, though but little was done for some years previous to that time.

William Gunn continued to reside there till his death Jan. 19, 1830, at the age of 54 years. He was twice married: Abigail, his first wife, died May 16, 1816, aged 34, and Phila, his second wife, Sept. 19, 1826, aged 43. Three of his children are living, Cynthia, widow of Charles Latham, at Rockwell's Mills, Sophia, wife of Samuel Churchill, in Iowa, and William H., a Justice of the Peace in Norwich village.

Roger Williams, a descendant of Roger Williams, of New England, whose fame has made him a national character, came in from Gloucester, R. I., and set-

tled at the head of Cable Pond, now known as Guilford Pond, on lot 49. In 1834 he removed to Guilford and worked out by the day; and in 1839, to Guilford Center, to the farm now occupied by his son Anthony, where he and his son-in-law, John Harrington, carried on the cabinet business. He died there Sept. 30, 1878, aged 88. His children were Anthony, now living at Guilford Center; Freelove, who married John Harrington and died in Ohio about six years ago; Amanda, who married George Gould, of Herkimer county, and died about thirty years ago; George, who died unmarried June 6, 1875; Alice, who married Peter Van Valkenburgh, subsequently Daniel Bateman, and is still living in Michigan; and Ann, who married Anthony Rasbech, and is still living in Jefferson county.

Other early settlers, some of them among the first, though we have been unable to determine the exact date, were Roswell Morgan, Asa Haven, Captain Joseph Latham, John Eddy, who settled in the north part of the town, on the farm first taken up by Dr. James Mason, and afterwards occupied by Ollis Bowen, and died there April 11, 1820, aged 53, and Captain Abner Wood, who also settled in the north part of the town and died there in October, 1821, aged 76.

Roswell Morgan, was born at Stonington, Conn., in 1764, and married Cynthia Witter in 1786. He was a captain in the American army during the Revolution, and after the close of the war, in which he was wounded, removed to Guilford and settled on the farm now owned and occupied by George Anderson, about a mile north of Rockdale, upon which he raised a family and there died. He, his wife and some of his children are buried in the cemetery upon that farm. His children were Elijah, Lucy, who married Godfrey Gardner, Nathan, Ebenezer, Jasper, Gurdon, John, Thomas B., Cynthia W., who married Russell Ford, father of M. J. Ford of Mt. Upton, Roswell B. and Warham W., all of whom are dead, except Thomas B., now living in Coventry, and Roswell B., living in Fredonia, Chautauqua county.

Asa Haven settled on the farm adjoining that of Silas Wheeler on the west of the one now occupied by E. F. Curtis, where he died Sept. 12, 1856, aged 79. Among his children were Solomon G., who lived in Buffalo, was an associate with Millard Fillmore in the practice of law, represented Erie county in Congress from 1851 to 1857, and died in Buffalo, Dec. 24, 1861; Hiram, who removed to Pennsylvania; John who removed to the town of Pitcher when a young man; James, who lived and died in Buffalo, where he was in the law office of his brother Solomon G.; Alfred, the youngest of the boys, who went west and is now editor of the *Faribault* (Minn.) *Democrat*; Sarah, who

married a Dowd and lived in Pitcher; Polly who married and removed to Michigan; and Jane, who married Henry, nephew of Gen. Welch, of New Berlin and subsequently removed to California, where she died. Haven, after the death of his wife, who was a daughter of John Eastwood, married the widow Sykes, whose son Charles P. Sykes, has been somewhat prominent, was at one time manager of *Pomeroy's Democrat*, and is now interested in silver mining in Arizona. Haven had three children by his second wife, Harriet, who is living with her brother in Faribault, Minn., Caroline, who married Dr. S. Hinman of East Homer, and Euphemia, who married west and died at LaCrosse, Wis.

Capt. Joseph Latham came from Stonington, Conn., his native place, and, like many others of the early settlers, desiring to escape the malarial diseases which prevailed to an alarming extent in the low lands, settled upon the hill about four miles west of Latham's Corners, named from his son Henry B., who settled there after marrying. Latham brought with him his wife, who was a Denison, a native of Stonington, where they were married, and six children, Stanton, Alexander, John, Henry B., Paul W., and George D. Alexander and Paul were bachelors and sea captains. Stanton died at sea; Alexander, on the homestead in Guilford; and Paul in Norwich, to which village he removed after having followed the sea some 25 years. John married Hannah Denison and settled two miles west of Latham's Corners. He was elected County Clerk in 1842, (which office he held three years,) and removed to Norwich, where he afterwards lived and died, both he and his wife, having, after the expiration of his official term, served as book-keeper for H. H. Haynes for eleven years, and till within about a year of his death. Henry B. married Jerusha, daughter of A. Latimer, of New London, whose house was one of the first destroyed at the burning of that town during the Revolution. Henry carried on blacksmithing at Oxford and subsequently at the Corners which bear his name where he also engaged in farming and kept tavern, the latter for thirty-three years. He died there in June, 1853. His widow is living, aged 93, (July, 1879,) with her son Joseph H. Latham, a hardware merchant in Norwich, where he has carried on that business for twenty years as principal and four years as clerk for H. H. Haynes. George married Amanda Everett and settled in Guilford, removing thence to Oxford, where he educated his daughters, and afterwards to Illinois, where he is now living.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Jehial Parsons on Tuesday, March 1, 1814, and the following named officers were elected:—
Supervisor—Samuel Smith.

Clerk—Daniel T. Dickinson.
Assessors—Abijah Cornwell, Benjamin Green and Paris Winsor.
Commissioners of Highways—Stephen Yale, Joseph Wood and Edy Phetteplace.
Poormasters—Daniel Johnson and Paris Winsor.
School Commissioners—Justus Eastman, Thornton Wason and Oliver H. Everitt.
Constables—Abiram Mills, Ira Locke and Ira Hayes.
Collector—Abiram Mills.
School Inspectors—Samuel A. Smith, Perry Packer, Colby Knapp, John Z. Saxton, Justus Eastman, David Harris, Jr., and Lyman Ives.
Pound Keepers and Fence Viewers—Caleb Copper, Daniel Johnson, Amos Burlison, Samuel Kent, Asa Gregory, John Akin, Jr., Ezekiel Wheeler, Jr., and Jehial Parsons.

For the following list of the officers of the town of Guilford, elected 1880, we are indebted to E. A. Whiting:—

Supervisor—George H. Baldwin.
Town Clerk—E. A. Whiting.
Justice—Seth Phillips.
Assessor—Cy. Chamberlain.
Commissioner of Highways—H. A. Burlison.
Overseer of the Poor—Franklin Robinson.
Constables—T. R. Ford, A. R. Warner, E. H. Beckwith, Oliver S. Ferris.
Collector—Elnathan Bromley.
Inspectors of Election—District No. 1: P. Rood, E. D. Arms, Albert Day. District No. 2: George Bradbury, L. S. Pearsall, N. D. Bartle.
Town Auditors—F. S. Clark, Austin Miller and Lucius Shelton.
Sealer of Weights and Measures—
Game Constable—Silas Root.
Excise Commissioner—George W. Angell.

GUILFORD VILLAGE.

Guilford is pleasantly situated on Guilford creek, which has a fall of 140 feet in its course through the village, and affords a very valuable water-power. This stream is fed in part by Guilford pond, which lies just north of the village, and during high water periods covers about 150 acres. The village is surrounded by hills of moderate elevation and generally susceptible of cultivation to their summits. It was formerly known as *Fayette*, the original name of the township, but on the establishment of the postoffice the name of the postoffice originally established at Guilford Center was assumed, to avoid confusion with the postoffice of a similar name in Onondaga county. Though less early developed into the magnitude of a village than its rival one and one-half miles east, it has far outstripped that in commercial importance. It is situated on the Midland Railroad, and is distant about six miles from Oxford and nine from Norwich. It contains three churches, (Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal and Baptist,) one district school, one hotel,

three general stores, one hardware store, one grocery and one drug store, one newspaper office, (*The Guilford Wave*), one grist-mill, one saw and feed-mill, a shingle and planing-mill, a furniture and cheese-box manufactory, a foundry and machine shop, three blacksmith shops, (kept by H. Eckerson, G. H. Delavan and John Markert,) one wagon shop, (kept by James Brant,) a carpenter and joiner shop, (kept by Haynes & Miller,) a butter-tub manufactory, (kept by J. M. Laraway,) two harness shops, (kept by W. W. Day and Rufus Smith,) and a population of about 300.

MERCHANTS.—The merchants at Guilford were: William Cable and his son William W., who came in shortly previous to 1800 and opened a store soon after 1807, and continued to trade till 1830, when Daniel P. Cable, another son, bought the business and continued it till about 1847, when he went to New York, and died there in 1870.

William D. Gilbert, father of Dr. Rufus H. Gilbert, the originator of the elevated railway in New York, and whose father, Abner Gilbert, was an early settler about three miles north-west of Guilford, opened a store about 1836 and traded till about 1844, when he went to Caton, in Steuben county, where he now resides, having been postmaster there about twenty years.

Asa T. Sherwood was an early merchant, and had discontinued trade previous to 1828. His store stood opposite to that now occupied by N. D. Bartle. It was removed opposite the cabinet shop of Bradley & Winsor, and afterwards across the road, by Thomas Dickinson, brother of Daniel S. Dickinson, and was occupied by him as a dwelling. It has since been torn down.

Eastman, Spaulding & Co., locally known as "East India Co.," were early and prominent merchants.

The present merchants are: Daniel Beebe, M. V. B. Winsor, K. E. Bunnell, John F. Sherwood, N. D. Bartle and Jacob A. Haynes.

Daniel Beebe, general merchant, came in from Hartwick, May 1, 1844, and has since carried on business here. He was associated with his son, Daniel Dwight Beebe, from the summer of 1852 till October, 1863. He first rented the store occupied by William D. Gilbert, and afterwards bought it. It was burned April 19, 1864. He then rented a building, which he occupied till his present store was built, in 1873. Mr. Beebe is now (July, 1879,) in his 88th year.

Martin VanBuren Winsor, general merchant, is continuing a business which was established by Harrott & Erkson in the spring of 1867. In 1868, R. E. Bunnell bought Harrott's interest, which he sold to M. V. B. Winsor in the spring of 1870, when the firm name became Erkson & Winsor. In 1873, Erkson

sold his interest to Geo. W. Dexter, who sold to Mr. Winsor, the present proprietor, in 1878.

K. Eugene Bunnell, hardware merchant, commenced the dry goods business in the fall of 1869, in company with Jno. E. Erkson, and April 10, 1871, sold his interest to M. V. B. Winsor. Sept. 1, 1871, he bought out I. H. Willoughby and Andrew Burton, hardware merchants, and Nov. 1, 1873, he took in as partner Albert R. Brown, whose interest he purchased March 1, 1879. He is still associated with Mr. Brown in the manufacture of the "iron-clad milk-pan," which business they commenced in the winter of 1874. They have two patents on that article, one obtained in the spring of 1874, the other in 1876. They also manufacture a butter salting scale and the "Arctic Creamery," for setting milk.

John F. Sherwood, druggist, grocer and boot and shoe dealer, commenced business in 1871 in company with his brother E. C. Sherwood. They sold after about a year to their brother H. M. Sherwood, of whom they originally bought, and who had previously done business some five or six years. In 1874, H. M. Sherwood sold to Newton D. Bartle from Oxford, and Leroy C. Hayes. Mr. Bartle bought Mr. Hayes' interest at the expiration of about a year, and still carries on a general mercantile business. J. F. Sherwood resumed business in 1874, in company with his brother E. C., whose interest he bought May 1, 1878.

Jacob A. Haynes, grocer, commenced business Oct. 23, 1876.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office was established in Guilford in 1838, and Erastus Dickinson was the first postmaster. He held the office till 1841, when Dr. John Clark was appointed. He was succeeded in 1845, by Daniel P. Cable, who held it till his removal to New York, about 1849. Dr. John Clark was again appointed June 22, 1849, and probably held it till 1853. John Hall, Jr., next held it till 1861, when Nathan W. Cady was appointed and held it till his death in Dec., 1875. Geo. W. Dexter, the present postmaster, was next appointed, in January, 1876.

PHYSICIANS.—Guilford was supplied at an early day by physicians who had located at the Center, which was then the largest village of the two. John Clark, M. D., was, we believe, the first physician who located here and he occupied the field till his death, March 15, 1874, at the age of 61 years, and exclusively with the exception of his son, Richard M., and Dr. Spencer, both of whom are still practicing here.

Dr. John Clark was born in Mayfield, Fulton county, N. Y., Dec. 10, 1812. He studied medicine with Dr. Charles Chambers of Broadalbin, N. Y., and was graduated at Fairfield Medical College in 1832, shortly before he had attained his majority. He removed to Guilford in April, 1833, and practiced his profession

here till his death. Feb. 6, 1843, he married Lucia Ann, daughter of Samuel A. Smith, by whom he had three children, John who is a lawyer in Ithaca, and Paris G., and Richard M., twins, both of whom are practicing physicians, the former in Rochester and the latter in Guilford. His widow is still living in Guilford.

Dr. Richard M. Clark was born in Guilford, Oct. 17, 1845, and studied medicine there with his father Dr. John Clark. He entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, in 1866, and was graduated there March 1, 1868. He commenced practice that month and year with his father in Guilford and was thus associated till the death of the latter in 1874. In that year his brother Paris G., who also studied medicine with his father and was graduated at the same time and place as himself, removed from Rochester, where he had been practicing, and formed a co-partnership with him, which continued two years. Paris G., then returned to Rochester, where he is still practicing.

Dr. Marshall D. Spencer was born in Triangle, Broome county, N. Y., May 23, 1833. He studied medicine with his father, Dr. S. I. Spencer, at Triangle, till the death of the latter in June, 1858, from a dissection wound received while holding an autopsy. He afterwards pursued his studies with Josiah G. Beckwith and George Seymour of Litchfield, Conn. In 1854-55 he attended medical lectures at the University of New York, and was licensed by the Broome County Medical Society July 23, 1859. He commenced practice in Halsey Valley, Tioga county, in 1855, and in April, 1856, removed to Guilford, where he has since practiced.

Dr. Harry P. Guy was born in Harpersville, Broome county, Dec. 20, 1848. He studied medicine at that place with his father Ezekiel Guy, and was graduated at Geneva Medical College March 12, 1875. He commenced practice at Cooperstown, where he remained till April, 1877, when he removed to Guilford and formed a co-partnership with Dr. Richard M. Clark, which still continues.

MANUFACTURES.—*The Guilford Iron Works*, of which Andrew Bradbury is proprietor, were established in 1845, by Andrew Bradbury and Niram R. Merchant, in a building erected about 1838 for a plaster-mill, by William D. Gilbert, and used for that purpose till about 1842. The building was subsequently occupied for a short time as a cotton-batten factory by Asahel Edson. It was swept away by a freshet in 1855, and the present building was erected the same year by Messrs. Bradbury & Merchant, who carried on the business of founders and machinists till the death of Mr. Merchant, Dec. 24, 1863, having been associated with Orin G. Merchant, brother of Niram, from 1847 to 1855. Andrew Bradbury has conducted the business alone since the death of his partner, though the latter's

heirs still retain his interest in it. Mr. Bradbury does a general foundry and machine business, including the manufacture of mill gearing, corn crackers, the latest improved Teed's and Merchant's water-wheels, shingle mills and edgers, planers and matchers, single and combined, dog powers and iron and brass castings, making a specialty of planers and matchers and water-wheels. About eight men are employed in the shops. The motive power is furnished by a Merchant water-wheel, the invention of Andrew P. Merchant, which is driven by water from Guilford Creek, with a head and fall of fourteen feet. Andrew P. Merchant is engaged in these shops in the manufacture of a patent coopers' dowering machine, which was invented by his father and patented by him in 1861. The son patented an improvement in 1876. About 10,000 of the machines have been manufactured and the demand for them is steadily increasing.

The Guilford Mills, flouring and grist, owned by Charles A. Winsor and W. O. Nash, were built in 1839, by Jonas Haynes, Orin G. Merchant and Nathan Delavan, who carried on the business in company several years. The present proprietors bought the mills in 1877, of Aldrich Winsor, father of Charles A. Winsor, who had operated them some 17 years. They contain three run of stones, which are propelled by water from Guilford Creek, with a fall of 32 feet, furnished by two dams, the lower being 18 and the upper 14 feet. This is the third building on this site. The first was built about the beginning of the century by a man named May; the second in 1822, by Lemuel and Anson Jewell, who sold to Haynes & Smith. The first contained one run of stones, and stood a little above the present one. The second one stood in the rear of the present one, and was torn down when it was built. The second one was driven by an over-shot wheel; so also was the present one for a number of years. The change to the Goodwin wheel now in use was made in 1867.

Haynes & Miller (Jonas S. Haynes and George C. Miller,) do a general carpenter business, and operate a planing, matching, cider and shingle-mill. The erection of the shop was begun in 1859 by Lorenzo M. Belden, who expended some \$2,000 in blasting for a wheel-pit and tail-race and in constructing the frame, when, having exhausted his means, he sold to Aaron Bradley, who finished the building, and put in machinery for doing a general carpenter business, which he carried on till 1866, when he sold to Jonas S. Haynes and Jonas Haynes Bradley, who did business about two years, after which the former continued till 1874, having been associated at different times with Frank S. Clark and John Phillips of Utica. In 1874, George C. Miller bought Phillip's interest, and the business has since been conducted by the present

proprietors. Shingle making was added to the business in 1874, and cider making in 1876. They make about 200,000 shingles per annum, and 400 to 500 barrels of cider during the season. The motive power is furnished by Guilford Creek, with a fall of 21 feet. The dam is ten feet high, and is built of wood and braced with timbers secured to the rocks with iron pins.

J. M. Laraway has been engaged in the manufacture of butter tubs and croquet sets since 1876. The business was established by R. C. Norton, who conducted it several years. Mr. Laraway makes about 600 butter tubs and 100 to 200 croquet sets per year. Guilford Creek furnishes the motive power; fall $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Bradley & Winsor (Aaron Bradley and Eppenetus Winsor,) are furniture dealers and cheese box manufacturers. They commenced the business in 1871, in which year they bought the building, which was formerly the old Guilford tannery, and was subsequently raised one story. The manufacture of cheese boxes was commenced in 1878, in which year between 5,000 and 6,000 were made.

It is a fact worthy of mention in connection with the manufacturing interests of this town that the first organ made west of the North River was constructed in this town, about 1819, by Elsworth Phelps, who was something of a musical prodigy, and was then about sixteen years of age. This organ was made at the house of Hon. Samuel A. Smith, with whom Phelps was then living, about two miles north of Guilford. The pipes were constructed of wood. It was a parlor organ, and was sold to a gentleman living in Oxford. The manufacture of organs was soon after begun one-half mile north of Guilford Center, and Phelps, who was without means, was voicer and tuner, a very important branch of the organ manufacture. It developed into an important business, and was carried on by different individuals for several years. Nathan P. Holt was the last to engage in that business here. He continued it for a number of years, and so long as he was able to do anything, employing three hands. Phelps afterwards discovered the secret of making lead pipes for organs from a man in New York, who was then the only one in this country who understood the process, and he was the first to introduce that feature of the organ manufacture in this country outside of New York.

HOTELS.—The hotel in Guilford is kept by C. M. Feek, who came in from Oxford, where he had previously kept hotel, March 31, 1879. The building occupies the site of the tavern kept by John Dibble in 1798. The addition to it was built in 1855 by Timothy Dimock, who was then keeping the hotel.

CHURCHES.—Guilford may very properly be denominated the town of churches, a name which is sometimes applied to it. It has no less than fifteen churches, two of which are union churches, representing several denominations, some of whom have organized societies.

Christ Church in the Town of Guilford, at Guilford village, was organized Sept. 9, 1830, under the missionary labors of Rev. Ephraim Punderson, who presided at a meeting on that day of "the male persons of full age belonging to the church, congregation and society worshipping in the village of Guilford Center, at the Center academy," for the purpose of incorporating under the statutes. Eleazer H. Fitch and Dauphin Murray were chosen returning officers; and Nathan P. Holt and Charles Bolt were elected wardens, and Dauphin Murray, Benjamin S. Twitchel, Jno. F. Whiting, Eleazer H. Fitch, Anson Hayden, Thomas Dickinson, Daniel S. Dickinson and Jonah Moses, vestrymen. The first members in addition to those above named were Benjamin Skinner, Daniel T. Dickinson, Elsworth Phelps, A. E. Knapp, J. R. Dickinson, A. C. Moses, Hiram Birdsall, Clark Dickinson, Samuel A. Smith, E. P. Smith, Orin G. Merchant, Alpheus Johnson, Tunis Sharts, W. Cable, Daniel P. Cable, William D. Gilbert, Niram R. Merchant, Orlando S. Gilbert, Zimri Belden, Caleb Winsor, William Ingersoll, Roswell A. Morse, Warren A. Starkey, Jno. D. Laraway and George Sharts.

Services had been conducted some six years previous to this organization. Solomon Blakeslee's name is the first of the rectors which occurs in the records. He seems to have served only a year. He preached every other Sunday.

October 31, 1833, the first official action was taken with reference to the building of a church, which was erected the following year on a lot purchased of William Cable. The corner-stone was laid by Bishop Onderdonk, June 11, 1834, at which time there were only two communicants, and Francis Tremayne was the rector. Orin G. and Niram R. Merchant, carpenters, were largely instrumental in furthering the erection of the church, which was consecrated by Bishop Onderdonk in 1836. Seth S. Rogers was then the rector. Death closed his labor Nov. 3, 1838. Previous to the building of the church, services were held in the academy at Guilford Center.

Following is the succession of rectors from that time as complete as the records enable us to make it. R. F. Burnham, who accepted a call tendered him Dec. 10, 1842; Israel Foote, from July, 1845, to Easter Monday, 1854; John Bayley, from Oct., 1854, to April, 1857; William Allen Johnson, 1858-60; Joseph S. Saunders, 1860-63; T. Southard Compton, from May, 1863, to Feb., 1865; Joseph Hunter, from Nov.,

1865, to Easter, 1868; C. M. Nickerson, from July, 1868, to Aug. 8, 1869; George Heaton, from May 1, 1870, to Nov. 1, 1872; H. B. Gardner, from Jan. 1, 1873, to July 1, 1875; W. De. L. Wilson, from July 1, 1875, to the present time, July 8, 1879.

Erastus P. Smith was a lay reader here for thirty years, and officiated in the absence of pastors. He received orders at the age of about sixty years, having refrained from doing so earlier from his father's repugnance in the matter. His baptism—Dec. 25, 1831,—is the first one recorded in the Parish register.

The first confirmation recorded took place July 31, 1832, when 23 received the holy ordinance at the hands of Bishop Onderdonk.

The church was remodeled during Dr. Foote's rectorship. Previously the pulpit was built up against the wall in the ecclesiastical style of architecture commonly known as "Bishop Hobart's three-decker." This was removed and a more modern one substituted and the seats, which were arranged in semi-circular form, were changed.

The total number who have been confirmed is 288; baptized, 471; marriages, 85. The present number of communicants is 121; families, 70; and individuals, 240.

The *Methodist Episcopal Church of Guilford* was organized Dec. 6, 1841, at a meeting held in the Methodist meeting-house in the village of Fayette, (Guilford) for the purpose of incorporating a religious society, at which Rev. Charles Harris presided. Albert Cornwell and Stephen B. Stead were chosen judges of election, and Stephen B. Stead, Ozias Bush, Albert Cornwell, Cyrus Comstock, Abijah Cornwell, Jr., Levi Yale, Abel Cornwell, Roswell R. Bush, and John Denison were elected trustees. It was incorporated as the *Methodist Episcopal Society of Fayette*.

The church edifice was built in 1840 and enlarged and repaired in 1874.

The church and the Guilford Center church have been on the same charge since their organization. The membership of the charge is 172 and 9 probationers.

Services were held regularly previous to the organization, but we have no information as to the pastors prior to the building of the church. Since then the following named pastors have served the charge: Charles Harris and Philip Bartlett, 1840-41; Revs. Davis, Stockley and Silsby, 1842-3; Andrew Peck and R. S. Rose, 1844-5; C. Starr and Addison Queal, 1846-7; C. Starr, M. M. Tuke and S. Moon, 1847-8; John Crawford and William G. Queal, 1849; White and Francis D. Higgins the latter of whom married here Luciette Hendrick, 1850-1; Charles Starr, 1852-3; Walter Jerome, 1854-5; William Southworth, 1856; L. G. Weaver, 1857-8; Ellis D. Thurston, 1859; Austin S.

Southworth, 1860-2; William R. Cochrane, Sept. 1, 1862, to April 22, 1863; William G. Queal, 1866; William Burnside, 1866-8; Lyman Sperry, 1869-71; Ira B. Hyde, 1872-3; D. R. Carrier, a part of a year; E. W. Caswell, 1874-5; T. P. Halsted, 1876; A. M. Colegrove, 1877-8; and E. L. Bennett, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in the spring of 1879.

The *Baptist Church of Guilford* was organized as the *Baptist Church of Fayette*, June 3, 1843, as a branch of the church in Oxford, and was composed originally of Russell Dibble, Salina Dibble, Susannah Smith, Susan Merchant, Abigail Laraway, Loritta Cable, Eliza Saunders, Anthony Williams, Polly Williams, John Edson Dibble, Elizabeth Guy and Hammon Guy, who were then residing in *Fayette* and vicinity and were members of the church in Oxford. Six others had joined during the year four by letter and two by baptism, viz: Alonzo Hendrick, Clarinda Hendrick, Frances H. Morgan, Mary L. Smith, by letter, and Daniel Dibble and Henry Van Cott, by baptism.

Rev. E. G. Perry was the first pastor. He closed his labors April 27, 1844. The latter date they resolved to form a Sabbath school, and a Mr. Gorham, from Madison University, was to visit them for that purpose and to preach for a few weeks.

June 8, 1844, they resolved to organize as a separate church, and Russell Dibble, John Hull, Jr., Alonzo Hendrick and John M. Wilcox were appointed a committee to draft articles therefor. June 30, 1844, articles reported by the committee were adopted. July 21, 1844, the Church of Oxford was petitioned for permission to withdraw for that purpose. The names affixed to that petition, in addition to those already given, are: Gardner Wade, Harrison H. Van Cott, George Knapp, Roxana Brant, Elizabeth Hull, Salome Wade, Esther Hendrick and John Hull, Jr. Aug. 27, 1844, the covenant of the Oxford church was adopted, and they were recognized by a council which convened at the house of R. Dibble, and was composed of the following delegates: Elder O. Bennett, Sylvanus Moore, Benjamin Randall, Seth Curtis and William Wilcox, from the church in McDonough; Deacon S. Yale, Uriah Yale, Elam Yale and Mark Yale, from the Second Guilford church; David P. Willoughby and Leontes Hendrick, from the church in Coventry; Lyman Root, Samuel Root, John Perry, David Hayes, John Gray and Randall Maine, from the church in Oxford. Randall Maine was chosen Moderator and David Hayes, Clerk of the council. Elder O. Bennett gave the right hand of fellowship. In that year they united with the Chenango association. Sept. 7, 1844, Russell Dibble and John M. Wilcox were chosen deacons.

Aug. 30, 1847, they were incorporated as *The Baptist Society in Fayette*, and Jesse Hendrick, John D. Laraway and John Hall were elected trustees.

Sept. 8, 1844, an invitation was extended to George W. Holbrook, of Madison University, to preach a few Sabbaths with a view to settlement as pastor. This seems not to have resulted as was hoped, for Nov. 3, 1844, it was resolved to invite Elder Judd, of Gilbertsville, to labor as pastor one-half the time the ensuing year.—Albert Guy succeeded to the pastorate in the spring of 1846, and closed his labors April 13, 1851.

Aug. 30, 1847, the trustees were instructed to enter into arrangements with John Hull, Jr., for the purchase of the house and lot then used as a place of worship.

M. J. Knowlton, of Madison University, supplied the pulpit eight weeks in 1851. Jan. 10, 1852, Rev. Aaron B. Jones was called to the pastorate. He closed his labors Jan. 1, 1853. The names of Revs. Everett, N. Ripley and Everts officiated in 1855, but whether either of them became pastor does not appear from the records. Rev. M. L. Bennett united with the church July 2, 1859. He seems to have been the last regular pastor the church has had. Only occasional meetings have since been held. The church is in a feeble condition, its membership not exceeding ten or twelve.

SOCIETIES.—*Guilford Lodge, No. 189, A. O. U. W.*, was organized Dec. 28, 1878. The charter and present officers are: Theodore C. Hutchinson, *P. M. W.*; George H. Baldwin, *M. W.*; Lewis S. Pearsall, *G. F.*; David Dorman, *O.*; Samuel A. Delavan, *Recorder*; Marshall D. Spencer, *Financier*; Martin V. B. Winsor, *Receiver*; Eugene B. Ryan, *G.*; Joseph E. Baker, *J. W.*; Gerret R. Wheeler, *O. W.*

MOUNT UPTON.

Mount Upton is eligibly situated on the west bank of the Unadilla, a little above the mouth of Butternut creek, and on the New Berlin branch of the Midland Railroad, about six miles above its junction with the main line. It contains three churches, (Baptist, Episcopal and Methodist Episcopal,) one district school, one hotel, (kept since April 1, 1879, by Charles M. Prentice and Ora Finch, the former from Butternuts and the latter from Guilford,) four stores, one grist and saw-mill, one harness shop, (kept by G. S. Palmer,) two blacksmith shops, (kept by R. B. Sherman and Albert Babbitt,) one carriage and hearse manufactory, (G. F. Graves, proprietor,) one undertaking establishment, (kept by C. H. Graves,) one shoe shop, (kept by William H. Elwell,) three cooper shops, (kept by J. H. Gregory, Joseph Morse and D. Bowen, the latter one-half mile above the village,) one

jeweler's shop, (kept by C. S. Graves,) one tailor shop, (kept by A. Hock,) and a population of 300.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants at Mt. Upton were George Fenno and John Z. Saxton, who opened a store as early as 1820, possibly a little earlier, and traded till the death of Fenno, April 19, 1829, when Saxton, who came here from Connecticut, removed to Fredonia, Chautauqua county, and from thence to Argyle, Wis., where he died a few years ago. Fenno was an Englishman and came here from New York. He was born Jan. 28, 1786. Oliver M. Mather opened a store directly after the death of Fenno, and continued about five years. He came here from Otsego county and continued to reside here till his death, a few years ago. He was succeeded by Oliver H. Everett, from Connecticut, who bought Mather's goods and continued in trade till his death, about 1837 or '8. Nathaniel Daniels bought Everett's stock and traded one to two years, when he formed a partnership with his sons, Landon and Lucius H., under the name of N. Daniels & Sons. After some five years Nathaniel and Landon withdrew, and Lucius formed a co-partnership with Lucius H. Donaldson, under the name of Daniels & Donaldson, which was continued about three years, when Daniels sold to a man named Tobey, who traded about a year and returned to Dutchess county, whence he came.

Previous to this, about 1842, Willis Gregory and Landon Daniels formed a co-partnership which continued about two years, when they sold to Henry Billings, who came from the west part of the county and did business about ten years, during which time he was associated at different times with Willis Gregory, Ur Hayes, W. Arnold, and Charles P. Sykes. Billings sold to David Westcott, a former resident of the county, who traded about five years, when he sold to Tompkins Jewell, and removed to Norwich and engaged in trade there. He soon after removed to Utica, where he still resides. Jewell, after about two years, sold to Ransom and Jay E. Truesdell, brothers and farmers, from Rockdale. The Truesdell Brothers continued about a year, when Ransom sold his interest to Frederick W. Curtis, of Rockdale. Jay E. Truesdell soon after sold to H. W. Curtis, brother of Frederick. The business was continued by the Curtis Brothers about three years, when they dissolved, and F. W. took his share of the goods to Sidney Plains. H. W. Curtis continued here alone till 1870, when Horace F. Place became his partner, and the business was conducted under the name of Curtis & Place seven years. In 1877, Curtis sold to George A. Gregory and the firm became Place & Gregory, and remained such about sixteen months, when Gregory sold to Franklin Morse. The business, (general

merchandise,) has since been conducted under the name of *Place & Morse*.

About 1835, Seneca Dimmock, of Burlington, commenced trading and continued till about 1838. He sold to Amos Gregory, originally from Connecticut, but for several years a resident of the town. Gregory sold about 1840 to Henry W. Sill, who traded about eight years and sold to Willis Gregory. About this year also (1835) Winsor & Orcutt, (Geo. H. Winsor and Daniel Orcutt,) opened a store and traded about five years, when they sold a part of their goods and removed the remainder to Masonville. Winsor is now practicing law in Bainbridge.

About 1847 or '8, William Gregory, a native of the place, commenced trading here. He sold to William Green, also a native of the town, who sold to William Carpenter, a native of the county. The business passed successively from the hands of Carpenter to those of his brother Chester, James Russell Brett, Charles E. Brett, brother of James R., Dr. Benjamin F. Smith, Lyman D. Ives and *Alexis H. Wheeler*, the latter of whom, a native of the town, still carries on the business of drugs, groceries, boots and shoes, which he commenced in March, 1872.

The other merchants at present doing business here are *Francis H. Peck*, general merchant, who came in from Morris, where he had been engaged in farming for twenty years, and has traded here since the spring of 1867; and *Rood & Lynch*, (Perry Rood and John R. Lynch,) general merchants. This business was commenced in 1869 by John A. Day, who after about two and one-half years sold to Truesdell & Brown, (Harvey A. Truesdell and Albert R. Brown,) by whom the business was carried on till the fall of 1873, when Perry Rood bought Brown's interest, and the firm name became Truesdell & Rood. After one year Rood bought Truesdell's interest and one and one-half years later admitted John R. Lynch to partnership. The business has since been conducted under the above name.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster at Mt. Upton of whom we have any authentic information, was John Z. Saxton, who probably held the office during the period of his mercantile career here. He was succeeded by John F. Mather, Lucius H. Daniels, Lucius H. Donaldson, Russell Ford, from about 1842 to '49, Willis Gregory, from 1849 to '53, Wm. Gregory, who held it till his death Aug. 25, 1854, Chauncey S. Graves, from 1854 to 1861, James R. Brett, Jay E. Truesdell and Jesse Hooker from 1861 to 1865, Merlin J. Ford, from 1865 to 1875, and Alexis H. Wheeler, the present incumbent, who was appointed January 13, 1875.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician to locate at Mt.

Upton was John F. Mather, who came here between 1827 and 1830 and removed to Garrettsville previous to 1843. He was a skillful physician, but became very much addicted to inebriety. He died in Garrettsville. James S. Coggeshall was practicing here in 1843 and '44. David Matteson, M. D., practiced here from about 1838 till his death, Feb. 20, 1847. Joseph C. Brett, James Secor, John Yale and James Matteson, the latter a nephew of Dr. David Matteson, studied about the same time with that gentleman. Brett commenced practice about 1845 and continued till within a short time of his death, which occurred Feb. 2, 1857, with the exception of a few years during the latter part of the time spent in Gilbertsville. Secor and Yale each commenced practice about 1846, and the former continued till his death, in July, 1861. Brett and Yale practiced in company. Matteson probably never practiced here. Yale was a native of the town. His grandfather, Uri Yale, was one of the first settlers at Yaleville, which derives its name from the Yale families who settled there. He practiced here thirteen years, till 1859, and removed to Corning, and thence after a year or two to Bainbridge, where he practiced some eight or ten years. He is now living in Wisconsin. James R. Brett, brother of Dr. Joseph C. Brett, studied with Dr. Yale in 1855-8 and practiced till the opening of the war, when he enlisted and contracted a disease which developed into consumption and terminated his life Feb. 14, 1863.

Ebenezer McClintock came from Delaware county in the fall of 1861 and practiced about a year. He then enlisted in the 114th Regiment, was discharged by reason of disability, came home, and afterwards received an appointment as Assistant Surgeon in a reserve surgical corps. After the war he located at Morris, where he died of consumption. Benedict Arnold Weeks came from Rockdale (where he had practiced about a year,) about 1863, and practiced some two years. He is now living near Hudson. Dr. McDougall came in from New Berlin in 1868 or '9, but practiced only a few months, when he removed to Mt. Vision, in Otsego county. He is now in Oneonta. Henry S. Edson came from Otego in the summer of 1877, and removed in the spring of 1878 to Sidney Plains.

Dr. Jonathan Guernsey, who located two miles above the village, and died there June 27, 1853, and Dr. Colby Knapp, who was located at Guilford Center, were the earliest practitioners in this locality. They traversed a large circuit. Dr. Knapp peddled blue pills and abolition doctrines when it was dangerous to be known as an abolitionist.

The Guernseys were a prominent family in the town. They came from Massachusetts about 1818, and settled on the farm now occupied by George A. Trues-

dell. He married Frances Brownell, who died Nov. 3, 1877, aged 78. His children were Caroline, who married a man named King and lived in North Norwich; Phebe, who married a man named Root, of Madison county, and afterwards Rev. Mr. Murdock, a Presbyterian minister of Elmira; Euphemia J., the authoress, who married Orson Richmond; Addison, Hamilton and Augustus, physicians in Wisconsin; Frank and Henry, the latter of whom died in youth. All the rest are living, the boys in Wisconsin, Caroline in Madison, Phebe in Elmira, and Euphemia J. in Guilford.

The present physicians at Mt. Upton are Benjamin F. Smith and James R. Walker.

Dr. Benjamin F. Smith was born in Unadilla, N. Y., Dec. 10, 1833. He commenced the study of medicine at Mt. Upton in Oct., 1854, with Dr. John Yale, with whom he remained three years. During that time he attended two courses of lectures at the Albany Medical College, where he was graduated Dec. 22, 1857. He commenced practice in Mt. Upton in Jan., 1858, in company with his preceptor, whose practice he bought after one year.

Dr. James R. Walker was born in Butternuts, N. Y., March 3, 1858, and commenced the study of medicine at Mt. Upton, Nov. 27, 1875, with Dr. Benjamin F. Smith. Oct. 1, 1877, he entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and April 1, 1878, the University Medical College of New York, where he was graduated Feb. 28, 1879. He commenced practice in Mt. Upton April 14, 1879.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer at Mt. Upton was Francis Upton Fenno, who was born in Butternuts, Otsego county, Aug. 30, 1819, and practiced here from about 1843 till his death, Aug. 17, 1861, with the exception of about two years spent in New York. The second was Landon Daniels, who studied with Fenno, and practiced from about 1846 till 1860, when he went to Michigan. George Washington Chamberlayne, a native of the town, practiced from about 1848 till within a short time of his death, in 1867, with the exception of a few years spent in California. He was the Democratic nominee for Member of Assembly in this district in 1863. Russell Ford came from Canaan, Columbia county, N. Y., in 1800. He held the office of Justice of the Peace, a great many years, and thus familiarized himself with the ethics of law. He was admitted to the Bar on motion of Daniel S. Dickinson, at the General Term in Binghampton, and practiced law from that time till his death, Aug. 11, 1863, though not as a dependency. Joseph Phelps came from New Berlin, where he read law with Henry Bennett, about 1871, and practiced about two years.

Alvin Bennett, the only lawyer now practicing here, was born in Guilford, Oct. 31, 1846. He read law one year with Hon. D. P. Loomis at Unadilla, and three years with E. C. Belknap at the same place. He was admitted at the General Term at Albany, March 7, 1872, and commenced practice at Mt. Upton the following year.

MANUFACTURES.—The grist and saw-mill at Mt. Upton is owned by John A. Day, who bought a half interest in the property in Oct., 1871, of Caleb S. Davis, and the remaining half interest in Feb., 1875, of Chauncey S. Graves. Mr. Day operates the saw-mill, which contains a log saw, slitting saw, shingle saw, matcher and planer, and wood saw, and leases the grist-mill, which contains three run of stones, to George Pratt. There is also a machine shop connected with the saw-mill. The mills are operated by water drawn from the Unadilla by a raceway about thirty rods in length. The dam is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

HOTELS.—The hotel in Mt. Upton was built in 1853 by William W. Greene, who kept it till within a year of his death, May 11, 1864. He had previously kept the old one on the same site, which was built about 1810 or 1812 by Amos Gregory, who kept it most of the time till 1835. From that time till 1850, about which time it came into the possession of William W. Greene, there were a good many changes in proprietorship. Prominent among those who kept it during that period were George A. Crocker, from Greene county, who succeeded Gregory, Jesse Green and William S. Moore, the latter of whom sold to William W. Green.

CHURCHES.—*The First Baptist Church of Guilford*, at Mount Upton, was organized in 1797, in the locality of Rockdale, and meetings were held in that vicinity till 1875, July 12th of which year it was decided, at a special meeting of the Society, to remove the organization to Mount Upton. Promised data regarding this church have not been furnished, and as the clerk had a *delicacy* about allowing the records to be consulted by a stranger, our information concerning it is meager. From the Society records we learn that Aug. 14, 1820, John Hall deeded to the Society a half acre of land in Mount Upton for the purpose of building a chapel, which was erected that year. Nov. 7, 1833, a meeting was held in the school-house, and action was taken with reference to building a meeting-house, which seems to have been erected in 1835.

Nov. 1, 1819, the church was incorporated as the *First Baptist Church and Society of Guilford*, in Mount Upton. The meeting held for this purpose was presided over by Stephen May and George Fenno. John Z. Saxton, John Aikin, Jr., William Heyer, Sr.,

Gurdon Chamberlin, William Griswold and Jesse Skinner were elected trustees.

April 2, 1845, the Society was reorganized under the act of April 5, 1813. At that meeting, which was held in the meeting-house in Mount Upton, pursuant to notice given by Rev. Truman O. Judd, who was then officiating here, of which Sheldon Davis and B. M. Upham were presiding and returning officers, the name of *The Baptist Church and Society of Mount Upton* was adopted, and Sheldon Davis, Allen Pope, Morris D. Cady, Russell Ford, Charles Blood and Billings Brown, Jr., were elected trustees.

Feb. 7, 1879, it was resolved to organize under the Centennial Trustee Law, passed May 15, 1876; and April 5, 1879, the following trustees were elected under that law: Jesse Van Dusen, John A. Day, H. C. Rockwell and James Metcalf, for the church, and Ur Hayes and William H. Smith, for the society.

August 14, 1875, pursuant to the resolution to remove the organization to Mount Upton, John A. Day, C. W. Rockwell and James Metcalf were appointed a building committee to erect a house of worship in Mount Upton, and Sept. 1, 1875, ground was broken for the foundation of the church; and on the 13th of that month a number of carpenters commenced framing. The edifice was finished and dedicated Jan. 13, 1876, Rev. L. M. S. Haynes, of Norwich, preaching the dedicatory sermon. Rev. I. J. Bailey was then the pastor of the church. The entire cost of the church, furniture and organ was \$6,016, of which about \$3,300 was then unprovided for. About two-thirds of the amount was provided for before the close of that service, and the remainder was pledged at the evening service. Among the contributions for the purpose of clearing off this indebtedness were \$550 from C. W. Rockwell, \$500 from John A. Day, \$425 from James Metcalf, \$200 each from Erastus Rockwell and Howard C. Rockwell, \$150 from Ur Hayes, \$100 each from Jesse Van Dusen, George Cornell, David B. Fitch, Colonel Dunbar, Jarvis W. Place, O. S. Cuffman and Wm. H. Smith, \$250 from J. Rowe, \$125 each from Elisha Garey and H. Stevens, \$55 from Mrs. C. W. Rockwell, and \$50 each from Mrs. Sarah Cornell, Elder Evans, Mrs. Clotilda Colburn and Henry Bowen. The present pastor is Rev. J. R. Merriam.

Grace Church in Mt. Upton was organized March 2, 1833, Rev. Isaac Garvin presided over the meeting held for that purpose, and he and Landon Daniels and George D. Latham were designated to certify the proceedings of the meeting. Alpheus Cody and Levi Bryant were elected wardens, and Richard Morris, Jonathan Guernsey, John F. Mather, Joel Chamberlin, Samuel B. Johnston, William Sterling, Lucius H. Daniels, Ezra W. Houck, Isaac Green and Lemuel Smith, vestrymen.

GUILFORD CENTER.

Guilford Center is situated on Guilford Creek, one and one-half miles below Guilford, and was once the seat of a flourishing academy. It has lost its prestige in the struggle for prominence. It is distinguished as the early residence of Daniel S. Dickinson, who commenced there the legal career which in after life made him so conspicuous.

It contains two churches, (Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal,) one district school, a small grocery, kept some four years by H. W. Payne, who also keeps a shoe shop; one harness shop, kept by D. Parker; a blacksmith shop, kept by John Young; a tailor shop, kept by Thomas P. Hicks; and a population of 61. There is a hotel building, but it has not been kept for twelve to fifteen years.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants at Guilford Center were Caleb Mann and Henry Smith, who sold goods in the tavern four or five years from about 1809; but the first of any considerable importance were Rufus Baldwin and Ephraim H. Denison, the former from Goshen, and the latter a resident of Norfolk, Conn. They opened a store previous to the war of 1812, and traded several years. Rufus continued after their dissolution till about 1836, in company with his brothers, Horace and William, the latter of whom continued till about 1846, when he was succeeded by George B. Dyer, who sold after one or two years to William Baldwin, who discontinued after some two years. Eleazer H. Fitch, from New York, commenced trade about 1820, and continued till his death, Dec. 6, 1852, doing an extensive and lucrative business. Fitch was associated about three years with Cornelius Oakley, also from New York, who owned a mile square in the central part of the town, of which Fitch afterwards bought the unsold portion. Thomas and James Newton were contemporary with the Baldwin Bros., about 1829 or '30, and traded some four or five years in the wing of the hotel. They were thorough business men. They came here young, single men and strangers. Both married here and moved west. W. W. Clark traded here four or five years from 1860; and George H. Baldwin, five or six years from about 1870. Clark is a native of the town, and is now carrying on a cooper-shop in Guilford, to which place he removed.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postoffice in the town was kept at Humphrey's Corners, by Dr. Colby Knapp, from whom it was named *Knaappsville*. It was removed thence to the Center, and the first postmaster at the latter place was Daniel S. Dickinson, who held the office till his removal to Binghamton, when he was succeeded by Asher C. Moses, who had previously

studied law with Dickinson. Moses held it till about 1839. The office was removed about this time to Guilford and there was a short interval when there was no office here. It was re-established about 1841, and the name, which had previously been Guilford, was changed to Guilford Center, to distinguish it from the upper village, which assumed the name of Guilford when the post-office was established there, in exchange for that of *Fayette*, by which it had previously been known. The first post-master after the re-establishment was Charles D. Cobb, who was succeeded by Daniel Morgan, who held the office till 1849, when Thomas P. Hicks was appointed and held it till 1853, when he was succeeded by George F. Humphrey, who was succeeded in 1861 by Franklin S. Clark. Clark held it till Nov. 19, 1867; was again appointed, but held it only three months. George Baldwin next held it several years and was succeeded by George Wooster, who held it till July 24, 1875, when Erastus A. Whiting, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician who located at Guilford Center and the first in the town was Dr. Colby Knapp, who was born in Norfolk, Conn., April 25, 1768, and removed thence in 1800 to Guilford. He located at Humphrey's Corners, about four miles east of Guilford, where he look up a farm and practiced medicine in all this section of country. He subsequently removed to the Center, where he resided and practiced till within a few years of his death, when, having earned a wide-spread reputation, he removed, at an advanced age, to Binghamton, to live with his daughter Lydia, who married Daniel S. Dickinson, and there died March 5, 1853.

"Dr. Knapp had not the advantages of a collegiate education, but being possessed of strong natural powers and studious habits he soon acquired an eminence in his profession that early obtained for him a diploma from Yale College. * * * His mental powers were not so quick and brilliant in their operations as in many of less eminence, but remarkably clear and judicious. With him an opinion upon any subject was the result of careful investigation, and when once formed seldom changed. His peculiarly calm and cool temperament, whatever might be the exciting circumstances in which he was thrown, eminently prepared him for his profession."^{*}

Dr. Knapp had two children by his first wife, from whom he was divorced before coming here, Cyrus, who died young, and Sophia, who married a man named Hewen, who removed south, where he now resides, his wife being insane. He married after coming here Lucinda Murray, who died Sept. 3, 1846, aged 63, and by whom he had ten children: Lydia, who married Daniel S. Dickinson, Eliza, who married

— Dickerman and died in Guilford; Lucy, who married Horace Dresser and died in Bainbridge, where her husband was then teaching school; Lucinda, who married — Wescott, and is now living in Binghamton, her husband having died in Jackson, Miss.; Hannah, who married James Hathaway, a teacher in Chicago, where she is now living; Bessie, who married Hon. Giles Hotchkiss, of Binghamton, where both died; Frederick, who married a southern lady and is living in New Orleans; Cyrus, who married west, and is living in Springfield, Ill.; Colby, who is living west; James, who married a Miss Scott, of Bainbridge, now dead, and is now living with his second wife in Jackson, Miss.

Dr. Farrell and Lee, from Sherburne, located at Guilford Center at an early day, about 1834 or 1835. Lee remained but a short time. Farrell practiced several years in company with Dr. Knapp. William Beardsley came here in 1844, after Farrell left, and after practicing three or four years removed to Coventry. Walter L. Barber came in from Greene county about 1843. He removed to Deposit after two or three years' practice. Dr. Whitcomb, a native of the town, commenced practice here about 1836, and continued three or four years. He removed to Yazoo City, Miss.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer at Guilford Center was Daniel S. Dickinson, who practiced from his admission to the Bar in 1828 till his removal to Binghamton in Dec., 1831; and the only other one was Asher C. Moses, who was a student of Dickinson's, and after some ten or fifteen years' practice removed to Deposit, where he now resides.

GUILFORD CENTER ACADEMY.—Nov. 20, 1827, a committee previously appointed for the purpose by the Center school district, reported it expedient to build by subscription a house of the following description:—

"The lower room to be devoted exclusively to the use of a common school, the upper room to be used for a select school, and different public meetings of a moral, religious and literary nature, and for the accommodation of persons attending meeting on the Sabbath, but a select school at all times to have the preference; the lower room to be under the control of the trustees of said district, the upper room to be controlled by the trustees to be appointed by the subscribers, and any person or persons wishing to occupy said room shall first obtain leave of said trustees; said house to be 36 by 24 feet, 20 feet posts, chimney in rear and with one fire-place above and one below, 8 feet span or entry-way in front, two front doors, one for stairway for upper room and one for lower room; span-way to be supported by partition; both rooms suitably lighted and a Corinthian window in front; lower room to be done off with desks for writers, and about five movable settees, and in all respects

^{*} *Funeral Sermon of Dr. Colby Knapp*, delivered at Guilford, April 5, 1853, by Rev. J. L. Jaynes, pastor of First Congregational Church of Guilford.

finished suitable and convenient for a common school; the upper room to be furnished with seats on the sides attached to the wall, with staging or circular tables in one end and desk in front, suitable for a select school; the floors to be double, of good materials, and the walls to be lathed and plastered, the top to be finished with a cupola and furnished with a cast steel bell of about 25 pounds; the outside to be painted white and the inside dark slate or blue; and the windows furnished with green Venetian blinds."

Then follows the names of subscribers, 159 in number, with the amounts subscribed by each. The amounts aggregate \$505.67, and vary from \$2.50 to \$20, the latter amount being contributed by only four individuals.

At a meeting held at the Center school-house, Dec. 18, 1827, at which Calvin Mills was chosen chairman, and Daniel S. Dickinson, clerk, it was resolved to form a joint society from the subscribers under the name of *Guilford Center Academy*, and a set of resolutions was adopted for the government of the same. Daniel T. Dickinson was elected president, and Daniel S. Dickinson secretary, both to serve during the pleasure of the society. Rufus Baldwin, Daniel S. Dickinson and George Humphrey, were elected a building committee; and a committee was appointed to secure the title to the site on which it was proposed to build of the Messrs. Baldwin.

Nov. 14, 1828, John Latham, Dauphin Murray, Rufus Baldwin, John T. Whiting, Daniel S. Dickinson, Calvin Mills and Phineas Atwater were elected trustees.

The academy was built in 1828, and Nov. 26th of that year, the trustees contracted with Horace Dresser to teach one year, commencing Dec. 1, 1828, for \$75 and board. Dresser taught as late as 1830. The records do not enable us to follow the history of this institution beyond this point. The academy was discontinued shortly before 1844. The building is now used as a district school-house. It was repaired three years ago and the two stories thrown into one.

CHURCHES.—*The First Congregational Church of Guilford Center*.—The first sermon by a clergyman of this denomination in Guilford was preached by Rev. Israel Brainard in 1801, in the new school-house at Ives' settlement, and about a year passed before there was another. Mr. Brainard was pastor of the Church in Vernon, Oneida county, many years, and died in Syracuse in 1854. Rev. Seth Williston then and till 1810 pastor of the church at Lisle, which was organized by him in 1797, preached here a few times previous to the organization. Occasionally a sermon was preached by ministers sent out by the Connecticut and Massachusetts Missionary Societies. Rev. James Jewell preached in different neighborhoods and labored to prepare the way for the organization of the Church.

"But little religious influence was exerted previous to the arrival of Deacon Mills in 1807. The Sabbath was quite generally desecrated. On the first Sabbath after his arrival an application was made for his team to be used for some purpose either of pleasure or business. With decision he refused, thus at once establishing a reputation as a Sabbath-keeping man, and lifting up the standard of morality and truth."

This Society was organized Sept. 26, 1807, at a meeting held at the school-house near Thomas Abby's inn, at which Daniel Johnson and Daniel Savage were chosen inspectors and returning officers. Those there assembled "agreed to form themselves into a religious society by the name of Presbyterian," and chose Abijah Cornwell, Solomon Pier and John Nash trustees. The record of these proceedings was acknowledged before Casper M. Rouse, one of the Judges of the Chenango Court of Common Pleas, Sept. 28, 1808. A second record of this meeting, also acknowledged before Judge Rouse, Dec. 2, 1808, gives the additional information that the name adopted was the *Second Associated Presbyterian Society in Oxford*, and that it comprehended the eastern part of the town. Sept. 20, 1814, at a meeting held at the school-house near the house of Jehial Parsons, it was voted, in view of the fact that the town had been set off from Oxford, to change the name to the *First Congregational Society in the town of Eastern*.

The Church was organized July 14, 1812, in a barn which stood a little west of Mr. Van Cott's, and is still standing though on the opposite side of the street from where it then stood, and with a new covering. Revs. David Harrower and Joel T. Benedict officiated at this ceremony. The constituent members were Samuel Mills and Lucy his wife, Jesse Whiting and Hannah his wife, Daniel Savage and Lydia his wife, Daniel Johnson and Mary his wife, Rachel Skinner wife of Benjamin Skinner, and Lucinda, wife of Julius Whiting.

July 31, 1812, Samuel Mills was elected deacon, and appointed delegate to the Union Association, with which they then resolved to unite.

During the first few years there was only occasional preaching by Revs. Joel T. Benedict, David Harrower, ——— Garvin, of Butternuts, Charles Thorp, of Coventry, Joel Chapin, of Bainbridge, ——— Hyde, of Oxford, ——— Knight, of Sherburne, and James Jewell, the latter of whom the Society voted in February, 1814, to employ half the time.

In August, 1814, the church changed its name to the *First Congregational Church*; and in September following the Society made the same change.

Public worship was steadily maintained on the Sabbath during those early years. Deacon Mills was the leader when no minister was present, and sermons were read. This has been eminently characteristic

of the church during all its history, when the living preacher was not heard, the people assembled to worship God and listen to the reading of sermons. Deacon Mills was chiefly instrumental in establishing and conducting religious meetings of this kind for years previous to the organization of the church. In August, 1816, Jesse Whiting was chosen the second deacon. Julius Whiting, son of Jesse, was the first chorister, and led the singing for several years.

In October, 1815, the Society met to consider the building of a house of worship. The frame was raised in June, 1816. It was inclosed during that summer and autumn, and occupied in January, 1817. The cost, besides a large amount of gratuitous labor, was about \$1,700. Hitherto the school-house was used as a place of worship, and frequently a barn was occupied, as affording increased accommodations. It was about three years before the church was completed, though the congregation assembled in it summer and winter before it was plastered or painted, or furnished with cushioned seats or even stoves. A carpenter's bench was the pulpit. Boards and planks were spread about for seats. January 7, 1822, it was "resolved to *admit* a stove into the meeting-house, provided sufficient means could be raised to procure one." While the building of the house was in progress a revival was also in progress, although the church was without a pastor, and the first time the new house was occupied, 27 were added on profession of faith. The revival continued many months, and during the year, 71 were added to the membership. Rev. Henry Chapman, who was pastor of the church at Hartwick from 1811 to his death in 1823, and Rev. Mr. Thorp, then at Sidney, rendered valuable aid during this revival. In 1820 the church was completed at an additional cost of \$1,087.

The first pastor was Rev. Asa Donaldson, who began his labors in the summer of 1818, was installed by the Union Association May 25, 1819, and continued there till the fall of 1831, when he was dismissed at his own request. The whole number received to the church during his pastorate was 138. He was succeeded immediately by Rev. Leverett Hull, who remained two years, and admitted 129 persons to membership. He removed to Angelica. John W. Fowier, who was afterwards a lawyer and Principal of the Albany Law School, next occupied the pulpit about two years. Rev. Mr. Whitney was a supply for a few months.

In July, 1836, Rev. Edwin Bronson was installed the second pastor by the Presbytery of Chenango. He was dismissed at the expiration of a year. In September, 1837, Rev. Solon G. Putnam was employed, and in April, 1838, was ordained and installed the third pastor. He was a faithful and devoted man

and commenced his ministry with a good prospect of usefulness and success, but owing to ill health he was obliged to ask a dismission in the summer of 1839. He died in Ohio a few months after.

Rev. Justus L. Janes, the fourth pastor, began his labors in the fall of 1839, was ordained and installed in May, 1841, and closed them in the summer of 1855. During his pastorate, in May, 1842, a colony of eighteen members went out from this church and organized the church at Van Buren Corners. The church twice underwent repairs. 192 were added to the membership; 163 were dismissed; and 52 died. In 1854 a malignant and fatal erysipelas fever prevailed in the town. Fourteen adult persons within a mile and a half of the Center became victims of that disease. Mr. Janes removed to Chester, Ohio, and became pastor of the Presbyterian church there.

In 1855 the church was dismantled, leaving only the frame, and rebuilt and lengthened ten feet, at an expense of something more than \$3,000.

In April, 1856, Andrew Huntington, who had been preaching at Bainbridge, was employed. He served four years and added 24 to the membership. Rev. S. N. Robinson began his labors in 1860, and continued them three years. He received 45 by letter and profession, as the fruit of a revival in 1861. During his pastorate, in 1862, the semi-centennial of the church's history was appropriately celebrated. In June, 1863, a call was extended to Rev. S. N. Keeler, whose ordination took place on the 8th of the following month. During his three years' pastorate, 4 were added, 19 dismissed and 8 removed by death.

In the summer of 1866, Rev. J. L. Jones entered upon a seven years' pastorate, during which 40 were added to the membership. He was greatly beloved by his congregation and highly esteemed by the community. He was succeeded in the fall of 1873 by Rev. Samuel Murdock, who served the church about two years. During his ministrations 13 were added, 26 stricken from the roll, 8 removed by death, and 12 dismissed to other churches.

Rev. Philander Griffin, the present pastor, commenced his labors in May, 1876.

During the sixty-seven years of the church's existence the whole number received to its membership was 839; there have been dismissed and recommended to other churches, 383; 52 have otherwise separated from it; and 170 have died; leaving a present (July 10, 1879,) membership of 234.

The government of the church from the beginning has been representative. As early as 1816 a standing committee was chosen to transact the business of the church. In 1824, the church resolved to govern themselves by a committee of six to whom was delegated the duties (with two exceptions,) which the

Presbyterian form of government enjoins upon the elders. In 1832 another committee was chosen with added powers, and in 1842 this was superseded by one with more limited powers, final action on all matters pertaining to government and discipline being taken by the whole body of male members. This committee is continued to the present time.

In 1824, the church united with the Otsego Presbytery, a dismission having been obtained from the Union Association. In 1827, the General Assembly formed the Presbytery of Chenango, and this church was received into its connection the following year. In 1870, the church again united with the Otsego Presbytery and still remains in that connection, yet continues to retain its Congregational name.

The work of the Sabbath School has been vigorously prosecuted in this church since 1819. The attendance at Sabbath School is 110. The superintendent is Franklin Clark.

The Second Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Guilford, at Guilford Center, was organized Sept. 17, 1839, at a meeting of the members and friends of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Guilford, held at the academy in Guilford Center, and Azor Burlison, Almon Trask, John Evans, Jesse Hendrick and Albert Cornwell were elected trustees.

The meetings of which this society is the outgrowth, and indeed the entire Guilford charge, date back to 1801, when David Dunham was preaching on this circuit. The earliest meetings of which we have any information were held at the house of Samuel Steadman, on the old turnpike, about two miles from East Guilford. Samuel Steadman was for some time class-leader. Moses Clark and his wife and two or three other women appear to have composed the membership. The class, however, remained small in numbers for a long time. In 1810 and '11, connected with the work of Ebenezer White and Charles Giles, several women were converted and united with it, among whom were Sarah, Ruth and Alma Harris, distinguished Methodists in after years. From the fact of its being composed mostly of females, it was called "The Woman's Class." Alma Harris, widow of Sheldon Marsh, now living in Guilford village at an advanced age, is the only surviving member of that class. Their old class-leader having removed, Israel Chamberlayne, then living in Mt. Upton, some six miles distant, was appointed leader. But he was soon removed to a larger field of labor. He was licensed to preach by the Quarterly Conference March 13, 1813, and was afterwards extensively known as Dr. Chamberlayne of the Genesee Conference. He died a few years ago.

Not long after this the preaching was removed to David Clark's, on the premises now owned by the widow of Charles Foot. In the summer the services

were held in the barn of Mr. Clark, who was for several years the leader of the class. About 1803 or '4 an effort was made to introduce preaching into the Ives' settlement. A clergyman, supposed to have been E. White, preached one evening in a school-house near the burying ground, when two of the trustees, named Johnson and Ives, who were Presbyterians, forbid his renewing the appointment. Methodism then had to brave the contemptuous sneers of its opposers and oftentimes the apologies of its advocates. But notwithstanding the inveterate prejudice against it, it worked its way there under the faithful, stirring appeals of Revs. White, Giles and Abner Chase. Soon its influence was felt among the Iveses, Bushes and Trasks, and in process of time they worshipped for years in the school-house from which they had been excluded. There and in adjacent school-houses meetings were held till their removal to Guilford Center. The church was built there in 1839. The church is on the Guilford charge and the pastors have been the same as those named in connection with the Guilford church.

ROCKDALE.

Rockdale is situated on the west bank of the Unadilla and on the line of the New Berlin branch of the Midland Railroad, (which was opened for business in 1871,) about four miles below Mt. Upton.

It contains one church, (Union,) one district school, one hotel, kept by Richard Blore, a saw and grist-mill, one store, a creamery, a carriage shop and blacksmith shop, kept by Hubert M. Gates and Joseph Flint, two shoe shops, kept by Evans H. Beckwith and William E. Elwell, and a population of 80.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in Rockdale was Gaius Boughton, who came from the New England States and opened a small store about 1814 or '15, and traded some two or three years. The building in which he traded has been remodeled, and is now occupied as a dwelling by Hubert M. Gates. The next was William Clark, who came from Wilmington, Vt., in 1804, settled on the farm now occupied by Alson W. Mills, about two miles south-west of Rockdale, and commenced trading in 1827, first in a room in his dwelling-house, (which has been taken down,) which he occupied till his store was built the same year. The store stood just south of the hotel. It was afterwards removed to the site of the present store, and was burned in 1872. He continued trade some five years, carrying on a milling business at the same time.

Amos Matteson was the next merchant. He came from New Berlin about 1839, and traded till his death, in the spring of 1842. He was succeeded that year by Ransom Clark, who traded till 1860, when he sold

to John A. Clark, from Wellsburgh, N. Y., who traded one or two years and sold to a man from Franklin, who removed the goods to that place. Edward P. Arms opened a store about 1863 or '64, and sold in 1866 to Ransom Clark and James F. Graves, who did business till 1872, when they were burned out and did not resume.

Charles V. Morris and Truman Prentice, from Butternuts, rebuilt on the same site and commenced trading in January, 1873. They continued about two and one-half years, and sold to Henry A. Skinner and Daniel S. Calkins, who traded one year, when Skinner bought out Calkins and sold after a year to Squire W. Richards. Richards traded about eighteen months and sold to William J. Sliter, of Sidney Plains, who removed the goods to that place. George W. Gregory, the present merchant, bought the building in the spring of 1879.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster was Isaac Cox, who was appointed about 1829, and held the office till 1832, when Ransom Clark received the appointment. Mr. Clark was succeeded in 1853 by John Wilson, who held it one year, when John A. Clark was appointed and held it about two years. Edward P. Arms was next appointed, and held the office till 1866, when James F. Graves received the appointment. Ransom Clark, the present incumbent, succeeded Graves in 1870.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician in Rockdale was James Secor, a native of the town, who came from Mt. Upton about 1847 and returned there after eight or nine years' practice. Altron B. Maynard came from Connecticut about 1849 and practiced about two years, when he removed to Cortland county. A. B. Weeks came in from Montgomery county in 1861, and after about two years' practice removed to the locality of Fort Plain. A. B. Stanton practiced here about six months in 1871. He removed to Butternuts, where he now resides. There has been no physician here since he left.

MANUFACTURES.—The saw and grist-mill at Rockdale were built originally about 1809, by Samuel Cotton and Joseph T. Gilbert, of Butternuts. They came in possession of William Clark in 1826 and were rebuilt by him in 1829. Mr. Clark operated them till 1837, when they passed into the hands of his son Ransom, who sold the grist-mill within a year to Daniel Cornell, and the saw-mill in 1842, to Hial D. Hovey. The saw-mill afterwards passed successively into the hands of Eber Rogers, Elihu Norton, Zachariah Curtis, Stanton J. and Henry A. Skinner, E. W. Griggs and Dubois M. Brown, the latter of whom is the present proprietor and acquired possession in 1876. The grist-mill passed successively into

the hands of Zachariah Curtis and those who succeeded him as proprietors of the saw-mill.

The *Rockdale Creamery* was built in the spring of 1865, by a company composed of Ransom Clark, George A. Truesdell, Edward Peck and Zachariah Curtis, with a capital of \$2,500. After about a year Clark bought Truesdell's interest and J. D. Curtis bought Peck's. It was operated by the remaining partners five years, when it was leased to A. White & Co. Up to the time that White & Co. leased it it had been run as a cheese factory. They converted it into a creamery. J. H. Powers, the present manager, leased it in the spring of 1879. Zachariah Curtis, and his son J. D., afterwards acquired possession of the factory, and sold it in 1873 to David W. Lewis, the present owner. In 1879 the milk of 415 cows was received.

THE ROCKDALE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY was organized Sept. 19, 1859, at a meeting of the inhabitants of Rockdale and its vicinity, held in the school-house in that village. Geo. A. Truesdell was called to the chair and Ransom Clark chosen secretary. At that meeting it was resolved to incorporate under the above name, and to build a house of worship, and James H. Brown, Allen D. Wild, Zachariah Curtis, Geo. A. Truesdell, Leonard S. Manwaring, Sam'l B. Smith, Richard Blore, Ransom Clark and Elijah Hyer were elected trustees. Geo. A. Truesdell donated the land, about a quarter of an acre, on which the church stands. At a meeting of the trustees held Feb. 18, 1860, Geo. A. Truesdell was chosen president, and Ransom Clark, secretary and treasurer. Richard Blore, James H. Brown and Geo. A. Truesdell were appointed a committee to superintend the building of the house; and Enos Brainard, Josiah Griggs and Zachariah Curtis, to superintend the stone work. \$1,203 were subscribed by 68 individuals toward the building of the church, which was erected in 1860, at a cost of about \$1,200. Ransom Clark has been secretary of the Society since its organization. The church is open to all religious denominations; but Sept. 29, 1866, it was "voted that no shows or political meetings be admitted into [it.]"

The Methodists in this locality have a society, which was re-organized Oct. 29, 1859, and hold meetings regularly. This is a part of the Sidney Plains charge. The present pastor is Rev. C. G. Wood, who commenced his labors with them in the spring of 1879. They number forty to fifty.

The Universalists had an organization a few years after the building of the church, about 1868, and held regular meetings about two years; but owing to the paucity of its members the organization has run down and no denominational meetings are now held by them. They number about a dozen in the village and its vicinity.

EAST GUILFORD.

East Guilford is situated in the south-east corner of the town, at the junction of the New Berlin Branch of the Midland Railroad with the main line of that road, and near the mouth of Guilford Creek, the valley of which, just below the village, spreads out into a beautiful basin of flat lands and affords a very pleasing landscape. The chief industry of the place, aside from its agricultural interests, centers in the quarries of flagging stone located there, which are four in number, though only three are worked, all of which have recently been opened. The fourth, which is abandoned, was opened sixteen to twenty years ago.

It contains one church, (Presbyterian,) a district school, a hotel, (not kept now,) one store, a saw and grist-mill, located on Guilford Creek, which has a fall of about eight feet, and owned by A. J. & A. Preston, a shingle factory, owned by Rufus Newton, who is also proprietor of a planing-mill, turning lathe and cider-mill, a shoe shop, kept by Edgar Gardner, a cooper shop, kept by Harvey Newton, two blacksmith shops, kept by Jack Cable and E. Orlando Olds, a carriage repair shop, kept by D. Olds, and a population of about 75. There are three firms engaged in quarrying flagging and curbing stone, employing in the aggregate about sixteen men, viz: Thurston Tarbell, who commenced in the summer of 1878; Gallagher, Mullen & Co., who commenced in the fall of 1878; and Samuel Hickok, who commenced in the spring of 1879. The quarries of Hickok and Tarbell are on the farm of Joseph A. Beale, and that of Gallagher, Mullen & Co., on the farm of Martin Talcott.

Joseph F. Beale is the merchant at East Guilford. He commenced business in October, 1875; at which time he bought out Jerome Preston. He had previously resided in the village, to which he came from South New Berlin, about thirteen years ago. Mr. Beale is the postmaster at East Guilford, to which office he was appointed July 18, 1873.

ROCKWELL'S MILLS.

Rockwell's Mills is the name of a post-office and station on the New Berlin Branch of the Midland Railroad, about a mile above Mt. Upton, both of which derive their name from the mills of Chester W. Rockwell located there. The history of these mills has been given previous to the time when they came into the possession of Mr. Erastus Rockwell, in 1849. Mr. Rockwell found the property in a neglected condition. He repaired the old machinery, and added new. He also enlarged the building, and made

a success of a business which had hitherto been unprofitable. In 1862 he sold to his brother, Chester W. Rockwell, who continued the business successfully till 1870, when the building was burned. In that year he became associated with David B. Fitch and Erastus Rockwell, under the name of Rockwell, Fitch & Co., and the mills were rebuilt, a portion of the old walls being used in the present structure. Messrs. Fitch and Erastus Rockwell withdrew at the expiration of about two years, and Howard C., son of Chester W. Rockwell, was admitted to partnership. The business has since been conducted under the name of C. W. Rockwell & Co. The woolen-mill is partly of stone and partly of wood. The stone part is 32 by 50 feet, two stories high, and the wooden part 34 by 84 feet, three stories high. It contains three sets of woolen machinery and gives employment to 25 persons. About 40,000 pounds of wool are annually consumed in the manufacture of 30,000 yards of cloth. During the war this was operated as a custom mill, and then and a few years subsequently the magnitude of the business was fully double what it is at present. The firm had on their books the names of over 1,200 customers and the patronage of about forty towns in the counties of Chenango, Otsego, and Delaware. The saw-mill connected with this property is a separate building, 80 by 18 feet, and contains one circular log saw and two shingle and slab saws. The mills are operated by water from the Unadilla, with a fall of 4½ feet, and, so flat is the river, the overflow extends for two miles above the dam. The saw-mill was originally built about the same time as the cotton-mill. It was rebuilt in 1855 by Erastus Rockwell, and in 1875 by the present proprietors. The business employs a capital of about \$50,000. The Messrs. Rockwell also keep a grocery, which was started by them in 1870. This business, though occupying a somewhat retired location, is one of Chenango county's chief manufacturing industries.

The postoffice here was established in February, 1874, and Howard C. Rockwell, who was then appointed postmaster, has since held the office.

Near this locality, between here and Latham's Corners, is a Methodist church, whose history dates back to the inception of Methodism in this part of the country. This was the early center of Methodist influence in Chenango and Otsego counties, and we are advised that the parsonage connected with it was acquired about 1792, (we think this is a few years too early,) and was the first piece of property owned by the Methodists in Chenango or Otsego counties. The earliest meetings were held about or shortly previous to the beginning of the century, by those pioneers of Methodism in this locality, Revs. Ebenezer White and Charles Giles; and as early as June, 1803, there was

an organization of Methodists here known as the *Eastwood Society*, from two brothers, John and Daniel Eastwood, who settled just across the Unadilla, in Otsego county, the former of whom was at times a class-leader and at others a steward, and the latter an early exhorter and for a long time an efficient local preacher. They were the nucleus of Methodism in this locality, and extended their influence over the north-east portion of Guilford, thus laying the foundation for the present Mount Upton charge. Both died in 1837, the former Dec. 27th, aged 76, and the latter, March 5th, aged 85. There was also preaching and a small society in the Boice neighborhood, two miles west of Mount Upton, as early as 1804; and a preaching place in 1815 at Nathaniel Hyer's, a mile below Mount Upton, but it was not continued long.

June 7, 1815, *The Union Society of Eastern* was organized and elected for its first trustees Matthew Calkins and Daniel Burlingame of New Berlin; Paris Winsor, Simon Trask and Nathaniel Hyer of *Eastern*; and George King of Norwich. The following year—May 15th—the *First Methodist Episcopal Society in the town of Eastern* was organized at a meeting held at the house of David Clark in that town. Joel Root, Abial Bush, Abner Wood, Azor Burlisson, David Clark and Sheldon Marsh were elected trustees.

May 10, 1819, the *First Union Society of Guilford* was organized, with John Eastwood, Elisha P. Beckwith, Amasa Colburn, William Gunn, Paris Winsor and Thomas Richmond as trustees.

Under the auspices of this society, in 1819, the meeting-house in this locality was built for a Union church, by which name it is still known; but as the Methodists are the only denomination who have thrived upon this soil, they have gained a possessory claim to it, and it is generally known as a Methodist church. To this the meetings, which had been previously held in school-houses, private dwellings and barns, were transferred, though it remained for a number of years in an unfinished state. It was the frame of a church inclosed, temporarily seated, with a work-bench for a pulpit. There Nov. 13, 1819, the first quarterly meeting held in a church in Chenango county convened.

In 1876, the church was rebuilt, at a cost of some \$5,000, the old frame and the siding which had more recently been put on being retained.

The present membership is about 100. The present pastor is Rev. Thomas P. Halsted, who commenced his labors in the spring of 1879. This church is on the Mt. Upton charge and has been, since the organization of the church at that place.

LATHAM'S CORNERS.

Latham's Corners is a mere hamlet, situated on

the Unadilla, two miles above Mt. Upton, containing a blacksmith shop, kept by Deloss W. Tyler, a carriage shop, kept by Adelbert Howe, and a cheese factory, which was built in the spring of 1878, by George Sage, who now operates it. In 1879 it received the milk of 430 cows.

YALEVILLE.

Yaleville, situated in the south-west part of the town, derives its name from the Yales who settled in that locality, and contains a church, (Baptist,) a creamery, operated by E. S. Bradley, and a blacksmith shop.

The Second Baptist Church and Society of Guilford, which was organized at the school-house in district No. 1, Feb. 25, 1833, at which time Stephen Yale, Zebedee Yale and James Burch were elected trustees, disbanded April 29, 1875, for the purpose of uniting with the Baptist Church of Bainbridge.

VAN BUREN'S CORNERS.

Van Buren's Corners, situated on the line of Norwich, contains three churches, (Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian and Baptist,) but neither store, hotel, shop nor post-office. A post-office was established here during the presidency of Martin Van Buren, in whose honor the corners were named, the condition being that they carry the mail, which was received from Guilford; but becoming tired of the service the office was discontinued.

The Second Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Norwich and Guilford met at the Webb school-house in the town of Norwich, April 23, 1844, and Peleg Arnold and Philo Hoag, members, were chosen to preside. Peleg Arnold, Oliver Jennason, Philo Hoag, Daniel Arnold and Joseph Wood were elected trustees.

The First Congregational Society of Guilford and Norwich was organized at the school-house at "Little Four Corners," April 29, 1843. Abner Gilbert was chosen chairman and Charles Latham secretary of the meeting at which the organization was effected. Dennis Aldrich, Ezra Gibbs and Bennett Baker were elected trustees.

The Summit Creamery, situated one and one-fourth miles north-west of Guilford, is owned by Edward Bradley and H. L. Smith. It was built in the north part of the town several years ago by a stock company, and removed to its present location five or six years ago by Hugh Scott. It received the milk from about 320 cows in 1879.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—The residents of Guilford took early action with reference to filling its quotas under the various calls. At a special meeting held Aug. 25, 1862, it was resolved that the Board of

Town Auditors be *requested* to allow \$100 to each volunteer, not to exceed thirty in number, who is a resident of this town and shall be accepted into the United States service.

At a special meeting held Dec. 29, 1863, it was resolved to pay a town bounty of \$310 to each volunteer and veteran, not to exceed 36, credited on the quota of the town under the call of Oct. 17, 1863; that the Supervisor and Clerk be authorized to raise money therefor on the bonds of the town, payable in three equal annual installments; that Dr. John Clark, Lucius Shelton, and Ransom Clark be a committee to pay said bounty; and to petition the Legislature through D. D. Bullock, member of Assembly from this district, to legalize this action.

At the annual meeting held Feb. 16, 1864, it was resolved to pay \$1,000 to each volunteer necessary to be applied on the quota of the town under the recent call of the President in addition to the United States, State and county bounties. The Supervisor was authorized to issue bonds payable one-half in one year and the remainder in two years.

At a special meeting held April 11, 1864, it was resolved to pay \$400 each to as many men as were required to complete the quota of the town, both to those who had already enlisted and to those who should thereafter do so, and to the person procuring them, \$50 for each non-resident volunteer. One-half the amount required to meet the provisions of this resolution was to be paid Feb. 1, 1868, and the other half Feb. 1, 1869. The Supervisor and Clerk were directed to issue the bonds of the town to raise the amount needed.

At a special meeting held June 30, 1864, it was resolved that in case the President of the United States should make a call for more men to carry on the work of crushing out the rebellion, and not otherwise, the town of Guilford, will pay, not exceeding \$425 for the procuring of each and every man necessary to fill the quota under the anticipated call; the said \$425 to include and cover all expenditures and disbursements as well as the payment of all bounties connected with the procurement of said men, except the payment of town officers; and the bonds of the town were directed to be issued for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the resolution. At a special meeting held July 16, 1864, this resolution was amended so as to provide for the payment to each volunteer credited on the quota of the town, for one year, \$300, for two years, \$400, and for three years, not to exceed \$500, this to include all expenses for procuring said volunteers. The bonds of the town, payable Feb. 1, 1865, were authorized to be issued, and William Cooley was constituted a committee to raise men and money forthwith.

At a special meeting held Aug. 25, 1864, it was resolved that \$1,000 be paid to each person liable to the draft who should furnish an acceptable substitute credited on the quota of the town, for three years, \$800 for two years, and \$600 for one year. The same provision was made for volunteers thereafter enlisting under the action of this meeting and credited on the quota of the town under the call of July 18, 1864. The Board of Town Auditors were directed to issue the bonds of the town, and Lucius Shelton, G. W. Chamberlin, Ransom Clark, Erastus P. Smith, E. M. Whiting and John Evens were appointed a committee to carry out the provisions of the resolution.

At a special meeting held Sept. 10, 1864, H. H. VanCott and George Bradbury were appointed a committee to fill the quota of the town and to pay not to exceed \$1,000 for men, for one, two or three years. Fifty-six votes were cast for and forty against this resolution.

Jan. 3, 1865, it was resolved to pay to each volunteer credited to the town not to exceed \$600 for one year's, \$800 for two years', or \$1,000 for three years' men. William Cooley was empowered to procure the men at the least possible expense.

There is no statistical record of the result of this legislation, at least the record that did exist could not be found.

CHAPTER XXI.

TOWN OF OXFORD.

Oxford was formed from *Jericho* (now Bainbridge) and Union, (Broome county,) January 19, 1793, and originally embraced the town of Guilford, which was taken off April 3, 1813, and a part of Coventry, which was taken off in 1843. It is an interior town, lying a little south of the center of the county; and is bounded on the north by Preston and Norwich, on the east by Guilford, on the south by Bainbridge and Coventry, and on the west by Greene and Smithville. The surface is divided into two unequal parts by the valley of the Chenango, which flows in a south-westerly direction diagonally through the town. The valley, which is of exceeding beauty and fertility, averages about a mile in width, and is bordered by hills from five hundred to eight hundred feet in height. The principal tributaries of the Chenango within the town are Fly Meadow, Mill and Bowman creeks, flowing into it from the west, and Eddy and Padget brooks, from the east, which furnish numerous and excellent mill sites.

The larger and southern part is covered by the rocks of the Catskill group, and northern part, by

those of the Portage and Ithaca groups, which extend on both sides of the Chenango below the village of Oxford. There are three quarries of flagging and building stone in the town; one about three-fourths of a mile north of Oxford village, owned by F. G. Clark, on whose farm it is located; a second, known as the McNeil quarry, about three miles south-east of the village; and a third, known as the Simond's quarry, at South Oxford. The latter is not much worked, though formerly large quantities of excellent stone were obtained from it. The superincumbent mass is too great to admit of its being profitably worked.

The soil in the valleys is a gravelly loam and alluvium; and upon the hills a shaly loam, admirably adapted to dairying, which forms the chief branch of agriculture. There are two creameries in the town, one in the southern, and one in the central portion, both of which were built in the spring of 1879. The former is known as the Hull creamery, and is owned by a stock company, composed of Alanson Hull, General Gifford and others. It is operated by Edward Bradley and R. N. Mills, who put in the fixtures. It received, in the season of 1879, the milk of about 225 cows.

The abandoned Chenango Canal, and the Utica Division of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, extend through the town along the valley of the Chenango. The New York and Oswego Midland Railroad crosses the north-east part of the town, having one station (Oxford) within the town. It crosses Lyon brook, mostly within this town, upon an iron trestle bridge, 800 feet long and 165 feet high. It is a beautiful structure, and was built by Smith, Latrobe & Co., of Baltimore.

The population of the town in 1875 was 2,971; of whom 2,779 were native, 192 foreign, 2,936 white, 35 colored, 1,473 males and 1,498 females. Its area was 32,505 acres, of which 24,152 were improved, 7,657 woodland, and 696 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,381,352; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$163,138; of stock, \$209,628; of tools and implements, \$52,357. The amount of gross sales from farms in 1874 was \$141,952.

There were in 1877 twenty common school districts in the town, each of which had a school-house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts September 30, 1877, was 830. During the year ending September 30, 1878, there were 15 male and 27 female teachers employed, 22 of whom were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 590, of whom three were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 317.509; the number of volumes in district libraries was 1,467, the value of which was \$258; the number

of school-houses was twenty, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing three acres and 103 rods, valued at \$1,040, were valued at \$7,030; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$2,366,261. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age, residing in the districts September 30, 1877, was 325, of whom 271 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876...	\$ 129 07
Amount apportioned to districts	2,436 84
Proceeds of Gospel and School lands.....	9 39
Raised by tax.....	1,022 93
From teachers' board.....	481 00
From other sources.....	2 30
	\$4,081 53
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$3,482 91
Paid for libraries.....	14 27
Paid for school apparatus.....	26 56
Paid for school-houses, sites, out-houses, fences, repairs, furniture, etc.....	111 20
Paid for other incidental expenses	343 18
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877.....	103 41
	\$4,081 53

Oxford contains one of those interesting monumental relics which serve to connect the present with the long ago past; to establish the fact and indicate the character of a people who once occupied this country long anterior to the advent of those whose descendants now possess it; but whether it is the work of the race who still retain a feeble hold on their once vast territorial possessions, or to a people who ante-date these is still a matter of conjecture. The work itself, however, bears evidence of its great antiquity.

In the central part of the village of Oxford, upon the east bank of the Chenango, is a semi-circular eminence of some two and one-half acres, elevated some thirty feet above the adjoining flat lands and river, which was the site of an ancient fort from which it derives the name of Fort Hill. The fort, which was also semi-circular in shape, the river forming the base, was situated in the south-westerly angle of this semi-circular elevation, and inclosed an area of about three-fourths of an acre. Its curved side was marked by a well-defined ditch about four feet in depth, which encircled it, except at the two extremities, where spaces ten feet in width were left as a means of entrance and exit. The line forming the base of the segment is fifty rods in length. Its elevation and position commanded an extensive and beautiful view up and down the river and admirably adapted it for defensive purposes. In 1788 the area was covered with a heavy growth of timber. Its occupants, whoever they were, were acquainted with the ceramic art, for in addition to

human bones, fragments of pottery, rudely ornamented, have been excavated from a depth of four or five feet; but no implements of war or the chase have been found.* When the first white settlers came in a dead pine, which, when cut, exhibited over two hundred concentric circles, stood upon the embankment of the fort, its roots extending under and conforming to the ditch, thus showing that its growth was subsequent to the construction of the fort. At that time the embankment was from seven to ten feet in height. At present but faint traces of it are discernible. The site of the fort is occupied in part by the Baptist church and the residence of Benjamin Cannon. Immediately north is the "Fort Hill building," a brick structure one hundred and ten feet long, fifty feet wide, and three stories high, which is mainly occupied by S. H. Farnham, dealer in fancy goods, etc., and the owner of an extensive and interesting cabinet of curiosities. The fort grounds are further occupied by the fine residences of Messrs. H. L. Miller and G. H. Perkins, the Baptist parsonage and the Presbyterian church.

Tradition connects this fort with the Antoine family,† which is said to be the seventh generation descended from its occupants; and with the exploits of an Indian named "Thick Neck,"‡ who is said to have been the progenitor of the Antoinés.

On Padget's Brook, about four miles below Oxford, there were in 1850, a series of twenty-five separate circular embankments, almost running into each other, and having the appearance of breast-works. They varied from one to two feet in height above the level of the surrounding lands, and supported a growth of aged trees.

Oxford forms the western portion of the township of *Fayette*, named from the distinguished Marquis, whose memory America and Liberty have reason to cherish. It was first visited and explored with reference to a permanent settlement about 1790.

In the fall of this year Elijah Blackman came in from Connecticut and squatted on the little island in the Chenango river, within the limits of Oxford village,

* These have not been wholly wanting, however, in proximate localities, where stone hatchets, chisels and arrow-heads have been found. A few years ago, says Clark, writing in 1850, many Indian graves were broken in upon in Oxford village, while pump logs were being laid. The beds of the graves were lined with cobble stones, resembling in many respects, the pavement used in city streets. There was an upper and under lining of stone; but the former had fallen in upon the latter.

† This family was rendered conspicuous in this locality by the atrocious acts of one of its members, Abram Antoine, who was hung in Morrisville, in 1821, at the advanced age of eighty-six years, for a murder committed in Madison county.

‡ We extract from *Clark's History of Chenango County* the following reference to this tradition of the Oneidas:—

"About a century or more since, a gigantic chief occupied it, who destroyed all the hunters who came into this quarter. They called this Chief THICK NECK. The Oneidas made several attempts to decoy him from his stronghold, but without success. They at length managed to go between him and the fort, when he ran down the river about six miles and secreted himself in the marsh around the pond called *Warra's Pond*. Here he was discovered and killed by the Oneidas, who buried him and scratched the leaves over his grave that no vestige of it should remain. The remnant of his tribe were adopted by the Oneidas."

commonly known as *Cork Island*.* This land had been previously bought by Benjamin Hovey, who purchased a tract of land on the east side of the river, and subsequently the *gore*, that part of the town of Oxford lying west of the Chenango. These purchases included the site of Oxford village, which was named by Hovey after his native town in Massachusetts.

When General Hovey came on a little later to take possession of his land, he gave to Blackman, in consideration of the improvements he had made on this island, a piece of land about a mile and a half up the river, on lot No. 3 of the *gore*, which was supposed to contain one hundred acres, but which, when surveyed, proved to contain one hundred and twenty-eight acres. On this Blackman continued to reside till his death, about 1825. It is now occupied by a grandson of his. Elijah Blackman had two sons, his only children, Elijah and Jabez, the former of whom removed from the town in 1813. Jabez married Hannah Trisket, whose father was an early settler of the town, and lived and died on forty-two acres of the homestead farm given him by his father, who divided the farm previous to his death.† The elder Blackman had an adopted daughter, Polly Knapp, who was a native of Connecticut, and afterwards became the wife of Colonel Samuel Balcom. She was the first white woman in the town of Oxford, or rather female, for she was then only ten years of age, and was brought in upon the shoulders of her foster brothers, who had returned to their native State for supplies, and wearied of a life in the lonely backwoods, devoid of female companionship.

James Phelps came in about the same time as Elijah Blackman and located within the limits of the village. He remained but a short time however, for he was gone in the spring of 1791.

Gen. Benjamin Hovey came in from Oxford, Mass., in the fall of 1790, and built a log house on the site of Fort Hill, to which he removed his family the following year. This house occupied a portion of the site of S. H. Farnham's store. A portion of the stone foundation, loosely laid, was disclosed on removing the steps to the latter. Mr. Hovey had engaged to open for the State a road from the Unadilla to Cayuga Lake, near Ithaca. It was known as the old State road and was finished about 1793. Francis

* This island derives its name from the fact that a duel was fought upon it about 1830, by E. Sherwood and a man named Starkweather in which the seconds loaded the pistols with cork bullets.

† Jabez Blackman, who was born in Connecticut in 1771, died Jan. 17, 1849, aged 78. His wife died Oct. 30, 1839, aged 54. They had five sons, Silas, Levi, Almon, Lawson and Marcus P., all of whom, except Almon, died on the homestead in early life. Silas died June 3, 1827, aged 26. Levi, who died Sept. 30, 1830, aged 27, married Prudence, daughter of Samuel Cole, who died Nov. 2, 1812, aged 25. Almon lived on the homestead till about 1850-'55, when he removed to Preston, where he died Feb. 7, 1871, aged 67. He married Cynthia Webster, who died May 21, 1874, aged 65; and had three sons and a daughter, the latter of whom married — Materson of North Norwich, and died soon after. Henry and Philetus, two of Almon's sons, are living in Preston. Marcus P. died Jan. 27, 1843, aged 22.

Balcom, and Thomas and James McAlpine cut the road from the Unadilla to Oxford. "It was located and constructed," says William H. Hyde, Esq., of Oxford, "to harmonize with the dauntless and energetic character of the age, which was never guilty of circumlocution to avoid a hill, regardless of the old maxim, elevation is exposure."* Hovey was a man of rugged energy, blessed with rare personal qualities, a veritable pioneer; but he became restive under the restraints of civilization, and remained here but a few years.† He was associated with Burr and his *confederes* in a scheme to improve the navigation of the Ohio, by which he was financially ruined.

A letter from Samuel Miles Hopkins, a well-known lawyer of that day, recited the following facts, which will be of interest in this connection:—

"One hundred and ten miles west from Catskill, through a country almost entirely new, brought me to the village of Oxford, and to the house of Benjamin Hovey, the founder of it, and who, eighteen months before, had cut the first tree to clear the ground where the village stood. Here, too, I found Uri Tracy, (of the class in college two years older than myself,) and whom, after forty years, I still count among the most valuable of my friends. Here I took my residence. Hovey was a man of very strong natural sense and vigor of action, but of very little education. He had been unfortunate in Massachusetts. His family had preserved life in the wilderness for some days by eating the grain from the ear in an unripe state. Suddenly he started for New York, laid open plans for the settlement of lands to the proprietors whom he found, built Oxford on his own lands, and became the leading man of a very growing country. I settled at Oxford as a lawyer. My first law draft I made by writing on the head of a barrel, under a roof made of poles only, and in the rain, which I partially kept from spattering my paper, by a broad-brimmed hat. In such a village as this, the first frame building was an Academy, of two stories high, and Mr. Tracy was the teacher. No Yankees without the means of education."‡

Daniel Tucker, who was born in Leicester, Mass., May 15, 1763, removed thence in 1787 to Wattle's Ferry, a little above Sidney Plains, and in the spring of 1791, to a farm of fifty acres one mile above Oxford village, on the west side of the river, which is now owned and occupied by his son, Edward Tucker, and on which he died September 7, 1845. He bought of Benjamin Hovey, in 1793, in which year he married Mary McKenzie, who was born in Kinderhook, Columbia county, Feb. 28, 1773, and died July 19, 1833. Mr. Tucker came from Massachusetts on foot, and when he arrived in Oxford there were only two log houses in the town, one was Elijah Blackman's, on the island, the other, Benjamin Hovey's, on Fort Hill.

* *Historical Reminiscences, Oxford Academy Jubilee.*

† He probably left here about 1805, having, the previous year, tendered his resignation as trustee of Oxford Academy, a position he held ten years.

‡ *Oxford Academy Jubilee, p. 41.*

He worked for Mr. Hovey the first two years after coming here, and drove team between Oxford and Catskill. Sleighs were used and the runners were shod with ironwood. There was no road at that time, and those who accompanied the teams carried axes with them to cut away the trees. He had eleven children, only two of whom are living, both on the homestead farm.*

Settlements were made about this time (1791) by John Bartle, Peter Burgot, Benaiah Loomis, Francis Balcom, Eben Enos, John Church, Charles Hurst, William Wetenhall, Heber and Reuben Williams, John Buckley and Jesse Hamilton.

John W. and Richard Bartle, brothers, from whom most of the Bartles in this country are supposed to have descended, came from Germany previous to the Revolution, and settled on the Livingston Manor, in Columbia county. Richard afterwards removed to the west, where many of his descendants now live. John removed to Oxford, with his six sons and one daughter, and failing by some wrong-doing of others to secure the land promised him, settled on the west side of the river, at the mouth of Bowman's Creek, some four miles below Oxford village, on the place now owned and occupied by his great-grandson, Irwin Bartle, which has ever since been retained in the Bartle family. There he kept the first inn in the town, and there he, his son David, and grandson West Bartle, died. His children were John, Peter, Hendrick, Philip, Andrew, David and Elizabeth. John was a harness-maker. He lived and plied his vocation in various parts of the town, in which he also died. He married a lady named Duffey, by whom he had ten children, and after her death, he married Lydia Tuttle, by whom he also had ten children. Nineteen children attended his funeral. Peter, Hendrick and Philip settled on Panther Hill, which derived its name from the fact that a panther had been killed upon it in the locality of their father's settlement, Peter, where Jacob Buckley now lives; Hendrick, where Cyrus Crandall now lives; and Philip, where Lewis Ketchum lives. Peter married twice. His second wife was Tabitha, daughter of Benaiah Loomis. This marriage, which took place in May, 1795, was the first one contracted in the town. He

* The children were Polly, who was born Dec. 20, 1795, and died March 25, 1854; Daniel, Jr., born April 15, 1796, died in 1797; John, born May 8, 1797, married Lydia Farwell, of Cattaraugus county, having previously removed to Steuben county, where he died in November, 1870; Sally, born May 9, 1800, and died unmarried Feb. 17, 1836; Lucretia, born Aug. 6, 1801, and died unmarried June 10, 1811; Lovina, born Nov. 20, 1802, still living on the homestead farm; Louisa, born Aug. 15, 1805, and died Aug. 22, 1809; Lucina, born March 10, 1807, died Sept. 20, 1808; Alexander, born March 15, 1808, removed to Steuben county, where he married Jane Guemesey, and after her death returned to this county, and died in Bainbridge, April 22, 1872; Jennet, born May 26, 1801, died unmarried Sept. 24, 1836; and Edward, born May 27, 1813, married Mary E. Heminway, and is still living on the homestead farm.

was a surveyor and surveyed all this section of country. He went west soon after the close of the war of 1812, and died in Ohio, March 22, 1831. He was born Sept. 24, 1769. He had four children by his first wife and five by his second. Only two are living: Uriah, in Oxford, and Caroline, widow of Orson Webb, in Wellsboro, Pa. Hendrick married Tabitha White, by whom he had eight children, only two of whom are living, Cornelia, widow of Walter Smith, in Erie county, N. Y., and Sally, wife of Alanson W. Stewart, in Oxford. Both he and his wife died where they settled. Philip afterwards bought the farm now owned in part by Uri Bartle and Henry Lewis. He married Betsey, daughter of Benaiah Loomis, with whom he lived in unbroken harmony nearly seventy years, "leaving the legacy of a spotless example." Their home on Panther Hill was known far and wide as a haven of rest for the poor and needy, and of unbounded hospitality. Both died in the house now owned by Henry Lewis. In their log house on the sand bank, near the Warn burying ground,* was taught the first school in the town. They had no children. Andrew married and settled where Charles Willcox now lives, at South Oxford. He afterwards removed with his family to Junius, N. Y., where he and his wife died. David succeeded to the homestead, where he and his wife died. He married Rhoda West, by whom he had eight children, five of whom are living.† Elizabeth married Henry Gordon, a carpenter and joiner and cabinet maker, who settled on the east side of the river about a mile below Oxford, on the farm now owned by the Lobdell sisters, daughters of the late Abijah Lobdell, where he died June 19, 1820, aged 49. After his death she removed to Oxford village, where she died Aug. 2, 1854, aged 81.‡

Peter Burgot had a large family and removed at an early day to Allegany county. Two of his daughters, Sally, who married Abijah Lobdell, a merchant in Oxford, and Lucretia, who married John Dodge, lived and died in the town.§ He (Burgot) settled on the farm now owned by Eli Corbin.

* This ground was given by Andrew Warn for burial purposes.

† These are Hannah Maria, widow of Benajah Landers, (who died in July, 1879,) living in Oxford; Andrew, in Pennsylvania; Newton, a merchant in Unadilla; Philip, in Union, Broome county; and A. F., in Oxford.

‡ They had a numerous family, of whom Susan, widow of Nehemiah Smith, is living in Oxford; Jay, in Pennsylvania; and Eliza, wife of Captain Squire Morehouse, in Deposit.

§ *French's State Gazetteer* says the first mills in the town were erected by Peter Burgot, one and one-half miles west of Oxford village, in 1792. Uri Bartle, son of Peter Bartle, and grandson of John Bartle, the pioneer, says the grist-mill built by Burgot was in the south part of Preston, on the farm now owned by Deacon Grandison Norton. It was located on a small stream emptying into Mill Brook, usually called Widger Brook, from the Widger family, who settled upon it. It was abandoned by reason of complaints made by the Widger's, because the water set back and overflowed lands, which have since been converted into a fine meadow. Mr. Bartle further says that his father, Peter Bartle, built the first grist-mill in the town of Oxford. It was located on Bowman Creek, about a mile above its mouth, and was built more than eighty years ago. It was about a quarter of a mile below the saw-mill on the same stream, owned by Jacob Buckley, who finally owned it. It was abandoned by him some twenty-five or thirty years ago, in consequence of damages it sustained by the bursting of one of the stones, which tore away one side of the mill. It was never repaired.

French also states that the first death in the town was a child of Peter

Benaiah Loomis removed from Egremont, Mass., his native place, to the locality of Catskill, in 1787, and two or three years later to Oxford. He settled on the west side of the river, near the south line of the town, on the farm now owned and occupied by his grandson, Wheaton Loomis, where he died about 1835-'40. He married Rachel Patterson, of Egremont, Mass., who died about 1815. Her father, who was an Irishman, was a tinsmith, and first brought tin into America. They had nine children.* After the death of his first wife he married the widow Prudy Corbin, by whom he had no children. Numerous grandchildren and an army of great-grandchildren are living, many of them in the county.

Francis Balcom, who was born in Sudbury, Mass., July 19th, 1767, came in from Newfane, Vt., and settled in Oxford village, where A. D. Harrington now lives. He was one of the party who cut the old State road from the Unadilla, at Rockdale, to Oxford. He pursued farming, and received the first deed given to settlers in the town of Oxford. The deed was recorded in Owego. He came here a young, unmarried man, and married Priscilla, daughter of Didymus Kinney, who came in from Columbia county in 1794, and settled in Oxford village. Kinney's sons removed from the town at an early day. Priscilla was born in Dutchess county, January 1, 1776. Francis Balcom and his wife both died in the town; the former Aug. 8, 1850, and the latter Sept. 25, 1866. They had eleven children.†

Henry Balcom, father of Francis Balcom, was born in Sudbury, Mass., Aug. 16, 1740. He removed about

Burgot's: and the first death of an adult was that of Andrew Loomis, in 1793. Edward Tucker, son of Daniel Tucker, a pioneer, says the first death was that of Andrew Cowles, a single man, who was killed while chopping on the hill where the VanWagense cemetery is located, and was buried where he died.

* Their children were Betsey, who married Philip Bartle and lived and died in Oxford; Jane, who died young; Catharine, who married Peter Rorapough and lived and died in Smithville; Ruth, who married Jeduthan Gray, and died in Kentucky, to which State they removed about the close of the war of 1812; Tabitha, who married Peter Bartle, who deserted her, when she married his brother Hendrick, and died in Pennsylvania, where, after the death of her husband, about 1841, she went to live with her daughter; Amy, who married John Stephens and died in Greene; Nancy, who married Chauncey Hill, and lived and died in Smithville; Edward, who married Polly Smith, and was one of the Pioneers of Smithville, where he lived within a short time of his death, June 21, 1869; and Daniel, who married Sally Ten Brock, who lived and died on the homestead farm about 1852.

† These were Henry,** who was born Jan. 18, 1798, married Mary, daughter of Lyman Hunnewell, (who came from Block Island, off the Rhode Island coast, previous to 1800, and settled in Oxford village, where his wife, Darcus, died in 1804, and where he resided till within a short time of his death, which occurred in Milford, Otsego county, in 1832,) who was born Aug. 22, 1804; died Sept. 10, 1866, and her husband, Jan. 26, 1878; Joseph, who married Lucretia, daughter of Moses Warren, (who came in from Canterbury, Conn., soon after 1800, settled three or four miles below Oxford village, and died in the town,) was of a roving disposition, removed from the town about 1833 or '34, and died in Troy; Samuel, who died young and unmarried in Pennsylvania; Loda, who married Benjamin Coxy, of Watertown, N. Y., where she died; Hiram, who died in Oxford, young and unmarried; Fanny, widow of Zebede Larned, of Watertown, N. Y., now living in Geneva, N. Y.; Ann K., wife of Hubbard Randall, of Mt. Vernon, Iowa; Charles Austin, a bachelor, who lived in Bainbridge; Polly, who married Daniel Throop, and died in Nineveh, N. Y., in Oct., 1850; Stephen, who married Margaret Healey of Nineveh, N. Y., in Sept., 1854, and died in Illinois in 1861, of camp fever; and William, a merchant in Oxford, who married R. S. Lewis.

** Henry Balcom, for forty-two years gave to Oxford Academy his ceaseless, tireless energies and the benefit of his wise counsels. Prompt at meetings, shirking no duties laid upon him, assuming fearlessly such responsibilities as were required of him, he was always a useful and desirable trustee. Genial in his nature, of a peaceful, happy disposition, his intercourse with the board and with its members as individuals was uniformly pleasant.—*Academy Records.*

1774 to Newfane, Vt., and thence, two years later than Francis, to Oxford, where he died Oct. 28, 1812. He was a Revolutionary soldier, fought under Stark at Bennington, and served till the close of the war. His wife, Keziah Stow, came with him, and died Sept. 26, 1826, aged 89. Three other children came in with him, Leafa, Samuel and Sally, the former of whom died unmarried about 1851 or '2. Samuel, who was variously known as deacon and colonel, was born in Sudbury, Mass., Dec. 31, 1772, married Polly Knapp, (an adopted daughter of Elijah Blackman's, and the first white female in the town of Oxford,) and settled on or near the place now occupied by Loren Wilcox, on the west side of the river, about two miles above Oxford. He subsequently removed to the village of Oxford and died there Aug. 27, 1847. His wife died Oct. 7, 1852, aged 72. Sally married Samuel Farnham, and died Feb. 16, 1859.* The Balcoms are a worthy and highly respected family.

John Church came from Great Barrington, Mass., and settled on the west side of the river, one mile south of Oxford, on the farm now occupied by Obediah Tower, where he died Oct. 6, 1825. His first wife, whom he married in Massachusetts, was a Hollenbeck, by whom he had seven children. His second wife was Patty Thayer, from Vermont, by whom he had two children.†

William Wettenhall, (now spelled Whittenhall) an Englishman, came in from Albany and settled on the west bank of the river, two miles below Oxford. He built there a frame house, in which he kept tavern several years. The house is still standing, and, though in a dilapidated condition, is occupied as a residence. He was a tailor by trade, and worked at that vocation a part of the time. He removed about 1808 to Smithville and subsequently to McDonough, where he died in his eighty-ninth year. Only one child is living, George, in Steuben county. Nancy, wife of Squire Hamilton, was his youngest daughter. She died in Oxford in 1877, in her ninetieth year.

Heber and Reuben Williams, originally from Rhode

* Henry Balcom's grandchildren who are living, in addition to the children of Francis Balcom, are: Lyman, at Painted Post, N. Y.; Eliza, widow of William Pearsoll, in Owego, N. Y.; Rev. Benjamin, in Corning, N. Y.; Harriet, widow of William Rhodes, in Fond du Lac, Wis.; Uri T., in Chicago, and Rev. George F., in Cawker City, Kas., children of Samuel Balcom; and Frederick W., in Pennsylvania; Samuel H., a merchant in Oxford, and Charles E., in New York, children of Sally, wife of Samuel Farnham. Judge Ransom Balcom, who died in Binghamton, Jan. 6, 1879, was a son of Samuel Balcom.

Five great-grandchildren are living in the town of Oxford, Lucy A., daughter of Henry Balcom, John B., son of Samuel Wheeler, and Ella C., William G. and Ward V., children of William Balcom.

† His children by his first wife were: Fitcha, who married Luman McNeil and lived in Oxford, where she died some three years ago; Sylvester, who married Lucinda Miles, and lived and died in Oxford about 1836; Bradford, who married Anna Barnes, and is living in Illinois; David, who removed to Ohio and died there; William, who died unmarried; Elizabeth and a daughter unnamed who died in childhood. Those by his second wife were: William, who married Laura Barnes and is now living in Oxford village, and is the only member of the family living in the town; and Erastus, who died in 1832, at the age of eighteen.

Island, came in from Columbia, Herkimer county, and settled on the west line of Oxford; Heber on the farm now occupied by Burton Westover, who married his grand-daughter, Amelia Weeks, and Reuben, on the farm now owned by Martin Church. Heber and his wife, Martha, died the same day on the farm upon which they settled, and were buried in the same grave. Reuben removed to Steuben county about 1825, and died there. Heber came in a little earlier than Reuben. Another brother settled in the same locality at an later day, but removed soon after to Steuben county.*

John Buckley settled in the west edge of Oxford, on the farm now occupied by his son, Jacob Buckley, where he died. His children were: a daughter, who married Angus Bartle, and lived in Pennsylvania; Jacob, who married Clarinda Hastings, and is living on the homestead; Hannah, who married Uri Bartle, and is living in Oxford; and Peter, who married Ruth Ann Bartle, and died in Tioga county, Penn.

Jesse Hamilton came from Brookfield, Mass., and settled in Oxford village, but soon after removed to the farm now occupied by William Hoban, about two and a half miles south-west of the village, on which he died December 30, 1814, aged 62, and Sarah, his wife, Oct. 20, 1839, aged 80. None of the family are living. The youngest died in Smithville in 1879.†

Uri Tracy came here from Connecticut as early as 1792, and married here Ruth, daughter of General Benjamin Hovey. He located in Oxford village, and continued to reside there till his death, July 21, 1838, aged 75. His wife survived him but a few years. She died January 31, 1846, aged 71.

The name of Uri Tracy is one around which clusters many of the dearest of Oxford's earlier associations. His public duties were varied and responsible, and were performed with a rare fidelity. He had been a Presbyterian clergyman and a missionary to the Indians. Possessed himself of a liberal culture,‡ he was a prime mover in the establishment of the Oxford Academy, of which he was also the first teacher. He was President of the Board of Trustees of that institution at his death. He was appointed Sheriff in 1798, and held the office till 1801. He was the first to hold this office in Chenango county. He was elected County Clerk in 1801, and was also post-master, keeping both offices for a time in the base-

* Heber's children were: Daniel, who married Lucinda Loomis and is living in Cincinnati; Polly, who married Vinson Loomis and died in Smithville about 1823; Sally, who married Isaac Wright and died in Wisconsin; John, who married and moved to Wisconsin; Malinda, who married Case, and is living in Smithville; Julia, who married Stephen Weeks and died on the homestead farm.

† Several grandchildren are living in the county, among whom are Uri Whittenhall, of Greene; Harriet, widow of Clark Lewis, of McDonough, and Mrs. Benaiah Loomis and Warren Hamilton, of Smithville.

‡ He was a graduate of Yale College.

ment of his frame dwelling. He held the office of Clerk till 1815. He was a Member of Congress from 1805-'7 and 1809-'13. He was appointed First Judge of Chenango county in 1819. He was both teacher and preacher in the early settlement of the country, and was prominently identified with all the town's substantial interests of that day.*

In this year, (1792,) it is claimed the first birth in the town occurred. But authorities do not agree as to who was the first child born. One asserts that Charles A. Hunt, son of Luther Hunt, who died May 16, 1849, aged 56, was the first male child born in the town; while another † asserts that the first was Ellis Loomis, of whom we have not been able to get much definite information.‡

Anson Cary, Jonathan Baldwin and Zopher Betts joined the settlements in 1793, and Theodore Burr, about that time.

Anson Cary, a Revolutionary pensioner, removed from Windham, Conn., to Union, in Broome county, where his first three children were born. In 1793, he removed thence to Oxford village, where his son George A., his fourth child, was born in May of that year. He came up the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers in a canoe, which was paddled by an Indian named Seth, and took up the farms, embracing about one hundred and twenty-five acres now owned by Charles A. Bennett and John Cary, where he resided till his death, May 3, 1842, aged 80. He was the first blacksmith to locate in the new settlement, and worked at his trade a great many years, carrying on his farm at the same time. His shop stood just below the old pear tree in front of Mr. Bennett's residence, on the same side of the road. That old tree was planted by Mr. Cary in 1798. Five others, all of which were brought from Connecticut, were planted at the same time; but the latter were destroyed by the fire which consumed his unfinished residence in 1803, the fire being set by his son Zalmon, who was then three years old. About 1804, he built the house in which Charles A. Bennett now lives. He was a county judge, sheriff and justice for a great many years, and

* His children were: Otis J., who was twice married, and died in the town Aug. 21, 1850, aged 54. His first wife, Jane D., died Nov. 13, 1820, aged 19, and his second, Eliza, Aug. 19, 1828, aged 25. Uri, who married Persis, sister of Perez Packer, a noted physician of Oxford, was a Magistrate for twenty years or more, and died in the town April 6, 1856, aged 56, and his wife, May 3, 1857, aged 54; Charles O. and Samuel Miles, who were lawyers and settled and died in Ohio, where both were prominent men; Mary, who married Peter Dickinson, who was engaged very extensively in lumbering, and removed to Pennsylvania.

† *French's Gazetteer of New York.*

‡ Uri Bartle, to whom reference has previously been made, says Ellis Loomis was an adopted son of Philip Bartle, and probably a son of Andrew Loomis, whose death, French says, was the first in the town. He married Margaret, daughter of Hendrick Bartle, and went West, where both he and his wife died. Daniel Loomis, of Oxford, who defers to Mr. Bartle's opinion, thinks he was a son of Ellis Loomis, a relative of Benaiah Loomis, who came in at a very early day and settled on the west side of the river, about four miles below Oxford.

for a few years was engaged in mercantile business in Oxford. He married Hannah Carew, who died July 9, 1842, aged 78.*

Zopher Betts came from Massachusetts and settled on the south line of the town. The farm on which he located is now occupied by Wheaton Loomis. Only one child is living, Annie, widow of Jeremiah Ten Broeck, now about 86 years old. She resides with her son, Ira Ten Broeck, in the south edge of Oxford.†

Jonathan Baldwin, who was born in Egremont, Mass., Feb. 11, 1765, removed thence in the spring of 1793 to Oxford. He came on foot, with his ax upon his shoulder, by the Catskill turnpike, via Delphi, and took up forty acres on the site of the village, on the west side of the river. Having made a small clearing and put in some wheat, he returned to Massachusetts, and on the 3d of March, 1794, married Parthenia Stanford. He soon after returned to his new-bought lands in Oxford, and built the house now owned and occupied by Frank Clarke, on the south-west corner of State and Lafayette streets, the frame of which is the one then put up. While thus engaged he boarded with Peter Burgot's family. The next fall his wife came in, in company with Solomon Dodge. She brought with her apple, currant and rose seeds, which she planted. Some of the apple trees raised from those seeds are now standing on Charles Eccleston's place.

Mr. Baldwin was a carpenter and, in company with Theodore Burr, the celebrated bridge builder and mill-wright, erected in 1793 or '4, the mill in Oxford village now owned by Nathan Bundy, then owned by Mr. Burr, who settled in the village shortly previous. Messrs. Burr and Baldwin were also connected in the construction of bridges. The former

* They had eight children, Horatio, Minerva, Harriet, George A., Palmer C., Zalmon S., Hannah and Albert G. Horatio was born March 27, 1785, married Betsey Rhodes, and died in Lockport, Feb. 10, 1855. Minerva was born Oct. 15, 1787, married Amos A. Franklin, and died in Wisconsin, May 23, 1859, after about thirty years' residence in Oxford. Harriet was born July 29, 1789, married Bogardus Bennett, and died on the homestead Aug. 9, 1863. George A. was born May 8, 1793, married Sarah Wattles, who died June 18, 1821, aged 21, and after her death Adaline Crandall, who still lives in Oxford. He died in Oxford, April 21, 1869. Palmer C. was born March 11, 1798, married Rowena Osgood, and lived and died in Oxford. He died May 13, 1875, and his wife May 10, 1869. Zalmon S. was born Aug. 31, 1800, married Pamela Randall, and lived in Oxford, where he died Aug. 23, 1854. His widow and their only son, John, now occupy the place where he died. Hannah was born June 17, 1804, and died unmarried Oct. 8, 1855, the day set for her marriage. Albert G. was born July 20, 1807, and married Melissa Matthewson, of Smyrna. He studied medicine in Oxford with Dr. Perez Parker, and after the death of the latter with Dr. William G. Sands. He commenced practice at Black Rock, in Erie county, and after a year, about 1817, returned to McDonough, where he practiced a year, when he removed to Woodhull, Steuben county, and practiced seven years. He then returned to North Norwich and practiced about a year. From there he removed to Smithville, where he practiced three or four years, when he removed to a farm in Oxford, where he still resides.

† His other children were: Erastus, Silas, Warren, Rachel, who married Blodgett Smith, Prudence, who married William Wheeler, Armia, who married Wheaton Race, and Polly, who married Lorin Miller. Numerous grandchildren are living in the county.

patented and built the first arch bridge across the Susquehanna. He lived in Oxford several years, and removed before the war of 1812, with his family to Northumberland, Penn., where he and his wife died. None of their descendants are living here.* The Baldwin's raised a family of eleven children and resided here till their death. Mr. Baldwin died July 2, 1845, aged 80; and his wife, April 21, 1848, aged 76.†

Solomon Dodge, to whom allusion has been previously made, came in originally with Daniel Tucker from Sidney, and settled a half mile above Oxford, where Alvin Morse now lives. He, too, was in Hovey's employ two or three years. He was a single man, and married a sister of Ritchison Burlingame, who was the first surveyor in the town of Oxford. He was surveying here in 1793; and settled on the Cole farm, now owned by Amos Miner and Paul Smith Graves; afterwards for a few years on the Blackman farm. He removed about 1820, to Cattaraugus county. Dodge sold to Daniel Denison about 1820, and removed to Cincinnati, whence he returned after five or six years, and settled some one and one-half miles west of Oxford village, where he died.‡

John McNeil came from Hillsdale, Columbia county, in 1794, with his wife, Mary Wise, and two sons, Ira and Luman, and settled on the east side of the river, a mile and a half below Oxford village, on the farm

* Burr's children were: Henry, who went to Northumberland, Penn., and married, lived and died there; George, who was dissipated and did not marry; Charles; Marilla, who never married; Phila, who married in Pennsylvania; Silas Marsh, who was a merchant in Oxford from about 1816 to 1826, and removed to Duaneburgh, where they lived and died; Sena, who married Simon G. Throop, lived and raised a family here, and afterwards removed to Pennsylvania, where she died two or three years ago; Amanda, who married Charles Catlin in Pennsylvania. All except Sena, removed with their parents to Pennsylvania.

† Baldwin's children were: Mariamme, born Jan. 15, 1795, married Oct. 26, 1817, Peleg B. Folger, a shoemaker from Hudson, who came here about the close of the war of 1812, and boarded with Baldwin, and died Feb. 5, 1857, aged 65, but whose widow still lives in Oxford; James Hovey, born July 2, 1796, married while helping his father to build a bridge at Wilkesbarre, Penn., Elizabeth Shaffer, of Lewisburgh, Penn., lived in Oxford, and died in Pennsylvania, while engaged in building a bridge; Sophia, born June 22, 1800, married Frederick Green, from Dutchess county, and is now living in Michigan; Haplone, born July 2, 1802, and died unmarried at the age of 30; Nancy, born Jan. 13, 1801, and died in infancy; Louisa, born March 24, 1804, still living in Oxford; Thomas, born July 4, 1805, married Rebecca Buckley, both of whom lived and died on the farm now owned by their daughters, Mary Louisa, wife of Charles Bennett, and Adelaide; Charles, born July 23, 1807, and died unmarried Dec. 8, 1849; Betsey M., born March 25, 1809, and living unmarried, on lands bought by her father over eighty years ago; Samuel, born March 2, 1811, married Jane Hagaman, of Greene, removed to Woodhull, Steuben county, and died in Corning; and John, born Nov. 6, 1813, now living with his sisters Louisa and Betsey in Oxford village.

‡ Among Dodge's children were: Marshall, who lived and died in McDonough; Henry, who was a clothier, married a daughter of Elijah Blackman, lived some time in McDonough, and afterwards removed to the locality of Auburn; Russell, who lived first in McDonough, removed to Steuben county, and died in Addison; Ira, who is now living in Pennsylvania; Alfred, who married a daughter of Elder Bemis, removed to Steuben county, where he was engaged in lumbering a number of years, and died there; Israel, who removed to and married in Steuben county, where he now lives; Almira, who married a minister named Burlingame, of Otselec, and is now living in Cincinnati; and another daughter, who married Gideon Loxton, and removed to McDonough, where Solomon's wife died.

now owned by Ward VanDerLyn. He took up a hundred acres, but was chiefly occupied with his trade, that of a blacksmith. He died on the farm on which he settled, July 26, 1832, aged 64; and his wife in the village of Oxford, March 15, 1843, aged 72. Ira married Clarissa Houck, of Lee, Massachusetts, and worked several years with his father at blacksmithing, which he afterwards pursued in the village till his death. Luman married Fitch Church, and carried on blacksmithing in the village several years, when he removed to the farm on which he now lives, on the east side of the river, about two miles below the village. He was eighty-seven years old January 31, 1879. He married at the age of eighteen and lived about sixty-five years with his wife, who died a few years ago.*

Settlements were made at an early day by Asa Sherwood, William Denison, Deacon William Gile, Jonathan and Ozias Bush, Alvin Stevens, Walter Simmons and Rev. John Camp, all of whom, except Sherwood, located in Oxford village.

Asa Sherwood came from Fairfield, Conn., in company with his brothers Isaac, Levi and John, and settled a little east of Oxford village; Isaac, on the farm now occupied by his grandson of the same name; Levi, near the lower cemetery, which was a part of his farm; and John, in the town of Guilford, on the south side of the "Gospel hill" lot, to which Asa soon after removed, the farm on which he settled, and on which he and his wife died, being now occupied by the widow of John Kelly. John died in Oxford with his daughters.†

William Denison occupied a house which stood on the site of St. Paul's church, and which soon after became the home of James Clapp, Esq., after whose

* John McNeil's children who were born here were: Sophia, who married Erastus Smith, of Oxford, a cabinet maker, who died in Buffalo, and his wife, who was for many years deranged, in Oxford, a few years ago; Lewis, who married Clarissa Warn, settled first in what is known as "the desert," in the south part of Oxford, afterwards lived in various places, and died in Delhi; Charlotte, who married David P. Willoughby, also settled at first in "the desert," where they lived for many years, and both of whom are now living at South Oxford; John G., who was a bachelor and a blacksmith and died in the town; Andrew, who married Maria Smith, settled on the homestead farm, which he sold in 1842 when he removed to the John Church farm, on the west side of the river, a mile below Oxford, and afterwards to the locality a half mile above South Oxford, where he died Jan. 23, 1868, aged 62; Charles A., who married Philura Main, a native of North Stonington, Connecticut, and pursued farming till thirty-four years old, when he removed to Oxford village, where he now lives, and followed butchering for fifteen years.

† Asa's children were: Isaac, David, Gorham, William, Asa T., John L., Sarah, who married Laman Ingeroll, and Abigail, who married Hawley Brant, only two of whom are living, John L., near the homestead, and Sarah, with her son, Dr. Randall E. Ingersoll, in Guilford.

Isaac's children were two in number, both of whom preceded him in death, Samuel and Rebecca, who married and lived in Otsego county.

Levi's children were: Levi and Polly, the latter of whom married Levi Nichols, and removed to Pennsylvania, and both of whom are dead.

John's children were: Marquis, who died May 15, 1830, aged 32; Bradley, who died Feb. 7, 1850, aged 48; Morgan; John Hinman, a wealthy speculator in New York; Willis; Sally, who married Alvin Owen, whose father was an early settler on Gospel Hill; Lavinia, who married Silas Clark; Paulina, who married — Russell, of Winstor, now living in Wisconsin; and Lucy, who married Thomas Jefferson Wood, and removed to Wisconsin some twenty-five years ago.

death it was torn down to make room for the church. Deacon Gile's dwelling occupied the site of G. H. Perkins' residence. Epaphras Miller afterwards built on the same spot. Jonathan Bush built the rear part of the house occupied by the heirs of the late Charles A. Hunt. Mr. Bush owned considerable land in the village; and it is said that Washington Square was once a corn-field owned by his son, Ozias Bush. Alvin Stevens lived on the farm now owned by Nathan Pendleton. Walter Simmons occupied a log-house, the first on the right-hand side of the road as you approach the village from the east, and next above the house of Mrs. M. Schaurte, for many years the tavern stand of William Bush. Mr. Camp, a Presbyterian minister, occupied the farm where Mrs. Erastus Gordon now lives.

Erastus Perkins, who was born in Norwich, Conn., Jan. 18, 1778, removed thence in 1799 to Oxford village. After about a year he went to Deposit, where he built the first frame house in that village, and after about a year returned to Oxford. About 1801 or '2 he built the Park House in Oxford, which he kept for several years. That house was kept by some member of the Perkins family, first by his brother Capt. James and son Alvin S., as late as 1850. The building now standing is the one then erected. It has, however, undergone some slight changes and received some additions. Mr. Perkins married in Oxford, Abigail S., daughter of Alvin Stevens, by whom he had six children.* She died Jan. 31, 1815, aged 34. He afterwards married Ursula M., widow of William Allen, of Connecticut, who died Jan. 2, 1821, aged 42, having no issue who reached maturity. He married for his third wife Agnes, daughter of Gerrit H. Van Wageningen, who was born Dec. 12, 1788, and died Feb. 13, 1868. He had three children † by his third wife, who survived him nearly sixteen years. He continued his residence in Oxford till his death, which occurred May 30, 1852. Eight grandchildren are living in Oxford and two in Greene.

Ebenezer Root settled in the town previous to 1800, and Amos Havens soon after. The former came from Great Barrington, Mass., and settled in the east part of the town, five miles south-east of Oxford village, on the farm now occupied by Theodore Ingersoll. He was a miller, and in 1820, he removed to Guilford and took charge of the grist-mill in that village. At an early day he was a drover and cattle dealer. He

* These were Erastus S., who married Eunice Butler; Alvin S., who married Frances, daughter of Jabez Robinson; Leonard S., who married Harriet Bennett; Gurdon, who married Frances A. Squires; Anna Maria, who married Col. Joseph Juliard, of Greene; and Jane E., who married Dr. Austin Rouse. All are dead.

† These are Sarah A., wife of James W. Glover, a lawyer in Oxford; Gerrit H., who married Frances Wilcox, of Honesdale, and is now a merchant in Oxford; and Frances B., who became the third wife of Andrew J. Hull, formerly a lawyer in Allegany county, now living in Oxford village, and died Feb. 13, 1868.

afterwards took charge of a grist-mill near Van Buren Corners, which was built by the Westcotts, to grind grain for their distillery. The mill is still standing, but has not been in operation for a good many years. He continued to operate the mill, which was run on shares, till his death, Feb. 12, 1842, aged 82. He was twice married and had seven children by each wife. His second wife was Cynthia Whipple, who died Feb. 15, 1856, aged 80. Those of his children by his first wife who arrived at maturity, went west, and all, except Eben, who is living in Leavenworth, Kansas, are dead. Four children by his second wife are living in Guilford.*

Amos Havens settled in the east edge of Oxford, on the farm now occupied by Rev. Bishop A. Russell, where he died. His family afterwards removed to Bainbridge. Among his children were: William; Champlain; Ursula, who married Job Ireland; Mary Ann, who married and lived in the West; Calista, who was a deaf mute; and Frederick, who was blind, having destroyed the sight of one eye by doctoring the other, which was accidentally destroyed with a knife.

Nehemiah Smith came from Lyme, Conn., in 1801, and settled on Fort Hill, in Oxford village. He was a carpenter and cabinet-maker, and pursued that vocation here till his death, in December, 1835. His wife, Elizabeth Gee, a native of Lyme, Conn., died in Oxford in 1858.†

Samuel Lewis came in from Voluntown, R. I., in the spring of 1804, with his wife and seven children. They came with covered wagons, starting on the first of March and arriving here on the first of April. He settled on Fly Meadow Creek, on the farm now occupied by his grandson of the same name, where both he and his wife, (Sarah Edwards, of Voluntown, R. I.,) died, the former Feb. 9, 1818, aged 74, and the latter, May 1, 1832, aged 82. The children who accompanied him in his settlement here were Sainuel, Clark, Sally, Hannah, Lucy, Patty and Prudence. Samuel married Ruth Barber of Voluntown, R. I.,

* The children by his second wife were: Jerusha, who married Seth Johnson, and Charlotte, who married Ira Dibble, and after his death, Charles Godfrey,—both of whom are living in Guilford; Polly, who married Willis Gridley, of Caton, Steuben county, where she died; Daniel W., who died in Ohio; Harriet, who married John Young, and is living in Guilford; and Silas and Cyrus, (twins,) the former of whom is living in Guilford, the latter died in Yazoo, Miss.

† Their children were: Erastus, who married Sophia McNeil, of Oxford, settled in Oxford, and afterwards removed to Buffalo, where he died Oct. 26, 1847, aged 56; Charles, who removed to California, and died unmarried; Betsey, who died in Oxford, unmarried, in 1836; James, who went to New Orleans, and died there unmarried; Susan, who died unmarried, in Utica; Abigail, who married William Sherwood, of Oxford, and died in Norwich Aug. 21, 1850, aged 49; Captain Nehemiah, who married Susan Gordon, and died in Oxford June 14, 1873, aged 71; Esther, who married William Tyrrell, and died in Buffalo July 25, 1876; Sally Maria, widow of Asa Sheldon, still living in Oxford; Nancv, who married Stephen Bentley, and died in Ellicottville, N. Y., during the recent war; and Fanny J., who married John M. Crozier, of Buffalo, where she now lives.

and brought with him his wife and two children, (Abram and Daniel,) and settled in the same locality as his father, where the widow of his son Daniel now lives, and died there Sept. 14, 1829, aged 54. His wife died June 1, 1842, aged 65. He had seven children who were born here.*

Clark who was born in Hopkinton, R. I., married Mary Wilcox, a native of Exeter, R. I., and settled in the same locality, on the place now occupied by his son Samuel, where he died, (in Preston,) Oct. 27, 1853, aged 75, and his wife Nov. 21, 1855, aged 70. They brought with them one child, Eunice, who became the wife of Elnathan Terry, of Norwich, where both died, the former May 19, 1873, aged 70, and the latter, (who was born June 19, 1795,) June 25, 1866. They had eleven children subsequent to their settlement here.†

Sally married Stephen Lewis, of McDonough, where she lived till after his death, when she returned to Preston, where she died Dec. 27, 1846, aged 70. She had no children. Hannah was Stephen Lewis' first wife, and died in 1826. Four of her children are living.‡

Lucy, who was born Oct. 28, 1795, married Nathaniel Willcox, in Voluntown, and settled in the same locality as her father, and died there Jan. 22, 1873. Two of her children are living, Rebecca, wife of Dorman Doolittle, in Windsor and Nathaniel in Sherburne. Patty married Latham Beebe, of Preston, and settled in German, where she died. Seneca Beebe, a physician in Cincinnatus, is the only one of her children living. Prudence married Gates Willcox, of Oxford, where they first settled. They afterwards removed to McDonough, and subsequently to Wellsboro, Penn., where both died. None of their children are living.

Important acquisitions were made to the settlements in 1805, '6 and '7, from the character and prominence of the persons who joined them during that period. Prominent among these were Henry Mygatt, John Tracy, Judge Austin Hyde, Dr. Benjamin Butler, Solomon Bundy and Captain Hopkins.

* These were Gardner B., who died March 19, 1858, aged 52; Thomas, now living in Norwich, and the only member of the family left; Lyndol T., who died July 5, 1843, aged 26; Eli, who died Dec. 11, 1843, aged 23; Aaron; Ruth, who married — Wade; and Hannah, who married Chandler Preston. Abram, who came in with him, died March 14, 1844, aged 45, and Joania, his wife, Aug. 20, 1827, aged 29.

† These were: Mary, who was born in the November succeeding their settlement, married Charles Eccleston, and now living in Oxford village; Siej hen and Clark, both living in Oxford; Edward, who died Dec. 2, 1820, aged 3 years; Hannah, who married William K. Burdie, and is living in McDonough village; Ira, a deaf mute, living in Smithville; Samuel and Sarah, twins, the former of whom died Aug. 29, 1816, aged three years, and the latter, Jan. 1, 1814, aged six months; Sarah E., who died March 23, 1826, aged four years; Clarinda, who died Jan. 25, 1827, aged two years; Samuel E., who was a Member of Assembly from this county in 1861, and is now living on the homestead; and Prudence, a deaf mute, who is now matron of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum in New York.

‡ These are Arnold and Ezra, in Pennsylvania; Hannah, wife of Hiram Berry, in Brisbin, in the town of Greene; and Sally, widow of Uriel Stead, in Guilford.

Henry Mygatt, a native of New Milford, Conn., removed thence, about 1806, to Oxford, where he pursued, for a few years, the saddler's trade, which he abandoned to engage in mercantile pursuits. He followed the latter business several years, in company, a part of the time, with his brother William, who came in from New Milford, Conn., in 1818. He married, about 1809, Sally S. Washburn, of Chenango county, who was born March 27, 1791, and died Sept. 26, 1818. She bore him four children.* He afterwards married Mrs. Susan Osmer, of Connecticut, by whom he had three children.† He died in Oxford, May 5, 1835, aged 51. His brother William continued the mercantile business but a few years; but devoted his whole attention to the tanning business, which he established here in 1818, and pursued for a great many years quite extensively, gaining a highly reputable business standing. His tannery stood at the foot of the hill, on the east side of the river, some distance in rear of the house now owned and occupied by his daughter Sarah, the widow of Dr. Alfred Coe, who was, many years ago, a prominent physician in Oswego. It was long since leveled to the ground, and no vestige of it now remains. He died here Feb. 4, 1868, aged 81 years; and Caroline, his wife, May 15, 1866, aged 68 years. They had one son and seven daughters, six of whom lived to maturity, and four of whom are now living.‡

John Tracy, who was born in Norwich, Conn., Oct. 26, 1784, removed thence with his father's family to Columbus, Chenango county, and in 1805 removed to Oxford and became Deputy Clerk for Hon. Uri Tracy, who was then County Clerk. He entered the law office of Stephen O. Runyan, of Oxford, and was admitted to the bar in 1808. He commenced and continued the successful practice of his profession in Oxford village, where, for many years, he was postmaster. He was appointed Examiner and Master in Chancery; Surrogate of Chenango county in 1815 and again in 1821; First Judge of Chenango county in 1823; and a Regent of the University of New York in 1830. In 1831 he received the appointment of Circuit Judge of the Sixth District, but declined the honor on account of ill health. He was a Member of Assembly in

* These were: Henry Rowland, for many years a prominent lawyer in Oxford, born April 10, 1810, and died March 31, 1875; Orlando N., born Aug. 24, 1812, died Aug. 17, 1827; Clarissa A., born Feb. 2, 1815, married John Donnelly, (who lived but a year or two after—died Oct. 30, 1818—) and is now the wife of Frederick A. Sands, of Oxford; and Sarah Eliza, born Jan. 6, 1818, wife of Dr. William G. Sands, with whom she is now living in Oxford.

† They were: Susan Throop, born Sept. 5, 1855, died July 8, 1821; Frances Louisa, born May 10, 1824, died March 1, 1825; and Caroline Louisa, born Dec. 1, 1825, died Jan. 7, 1827.

‡ The four now living are: Elizabeth, wife of Henry L. Miller, of Oxford; Sarah, widow of Dr. Alfred Coe, of Oswego, now living in the old homestead in Oxford; Caroline, wife of R. J. Baldwin, a retired banker and lawyer of Minneapolis, Minn.; and Jane, wife of Dr. George Douglas, of Oxford.

1820, '21, '22 and '26; and in 1832 he was elected Lieutenant-Governor of New York. He was President of the Court for the Correction of Errors, also of the Constitutional Convention of 1846. He was an active, efficient and reliable friend of the Oxford Academy, serving for twenty-two years as a member of its Board of Trustees, and for many years as its presiding officer. He married, in Connecticut, Susan, daughter of Joseph Hyde, of Norwich, in that State, by whom he had three children.* She was born July 3, 1788, and died February 3, 1864, survived only a few months by her husband, who died June 18th of the same year.

Judge Austin Hyde, who was born in Franklin, Conn., Jan. 21, 1789, settled in Oxford at the age of nineteen years, and continued his residence there till his death, Feb. 25, 1850. He read law in the office of Hon. Uri Tracy, and was for some years deputy county clerk. He afterwards engaged in mercantile business with his brother-in-law, Henry Mygatt, continuing from about 1816 to 1829, when on account of ill health, he abandoned that vocation and removed to a farm. He was twice a member of the State Legislature, in 1823 and 1833. He held various important local trusts, among others the offices of supervisor, justice and judge. He was the first collector on the Chenango canal, and was appointed by the Chancellor, receiver to close up the affairs of the Chenango County Mutual Insurance Company. He married in Oct., 1818, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Noadiah and Clarissa (Lynes) Mygatt, of New Milford, Conn., who was born at New Milford, June 2, 1799, and still resides in Oxford. They had four children, all of whom are living.† Four of Mr. Hyde's brothers are living, three in Oneida, where all settled. The oldest is eighty-seven, and the youngest, seventy-five years old. A sister is also living, aged over eighty.

Dr. Benjamin Butler came in from Norwich, Conn., about 1806 or '7 and settled in Oxford village, where he died Jan. 15, 1839, aged 75. He was extensively engaged in sheep raising and buying and selling land. At his death the hills surrounding the village were covered with sheep owned by him, and let out to various parties to keep. He had large landed possessions and a great many men in his employ. He had three daughters who were remarkable in their way: Mary, who married Nicholas Devereaux, a prominent man in Utica, where she now resides, and whose eldest daughter Hannah, is the wife of Hon. Francis Kernan

* They were: Esther Maria, widow of Henry R. Mygatt; S. Eliza, widow of James W. Clarke, the first President of the Bank of Oxford, who died June 10, 1878; and John W. Tracy, who was drowned in the Chenango river. The former two are living in Oxford.

† They are: William Henry, a leading lawyer in Oxford, born Sept. 4, 1826; Caroline Eliza, born March 27, 1821, living unmarried in Oxford; Minerva, born Nov. 1, 1830, married Clark I. Hayes of Unadilla, where she now resides; and Mary Elizabeth, born May 7, 1835, living in Oxford.

of that city; Cornelia, who married William C. Pierpont, of Pierpont Manor; and Elizabeth, a maiden lady living in Utica, who still owns the homestead farm in Oxford. Butler's wife, Hannah, died Aug. 1, 1829.

Solomon Bundy and Captain Hopkins came in from Huntington, Conn., about 1806 or '7, and settled on contiguous farms about two miles south-east of Oxford, Bundy on a farm now occupied by Walter J. Redmond 2d, and Hopkins on the farm adjoining it on the south, which has since been cut up into several farms. Mr. Bundy took up 114 acres, on which he resided till his death, Feb. 24, 1851, aged 76. He married Jane Fraser, who was of Scotch descent, and died Aug. 22, 1846, aged 70. They had nine children, three of whom were born before they moved in.*

Daniel Sill, son of Rev. Elijah Sill, was a settler of a somewhat earlier date. He was born in New Fairfield, Conn., in 1771, married Jan. 25, 1808, Abigail McKnight, and with her removed to Oxford, where she died about 1806, leaving four children, all of whom were born in Oxford.† He married Albasindra Barnes, Feb. 2, 1808, by whom he had two children.‡ He was a farmer and after several removals, died in Ossian, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1826.

Gerrit H. Van Wagenen, born January 21, 1753, was a Revolutionary soldier and went to Canada in Aug., 1775, as Second-Lieutenant in the 8th company of the 1st regiment of New York State troops, under Colonel McDougall. He participated in the storming of Quebec, in the columns of General Montgomery. In May, 1776, he was sent to New York and thence to Philadelphia, in charge of prisoners. Returning to New York and finding that the British were landing on Long Island, he offered his services to General Sullivan, and was sent by him with four other officers to the Jamaica Pass. The entire party were captured.

* They were: Oliver Treat, who studied medicine with Dr. Arthur Packer, and soon after acquiring his profession, moved to Windsor, where he married, and thence to Deposit, where he practiced till his death, Jan. 9, 1874; Rachel, a maiden lady, who resided with her father till his death, and afterwards with her brothers, Edward A., on the homestead farm, and Solomon, in Oxford village, where she died Aug. 15, 1866, aged 61; Jane Maria, who married James Noble, a Baptist clergyman, with whom she removed to Iowa, where she now resides, having raised a large family of children; Nathan, who was a Baptist clergyman, and removed from the town; Amelia, a maiden lady, who died Oct. 29, 1851, aged 40; Philo, who removed to Oswego, engaged in mercantile pursuits, married there Margaret Burt, and after her death Catharine Van Dyke, of Oswego, where both are still living; Edward Augustus, who married Esther Shapley, and is now living in Oxford; Solomon, a lawyer in Oxford, and the present Representative in Congress from the 21st District, who married Roxanna Hitchcock, (born Dec. 28, 1821,) and after her death, July 28th, 1848, Elizabeth A. McGeorge, of Oxford, still living.

‡ Three grandsons are living in the town: Nathan A. and McGeorge, the former the miller and the latter an attorney, in Oxford village, sons of Solomon; and Edward A. Jr., a farmer.

† They were: Asenath, born Dec. 11, 1798, married Samuel Lewis, and died in March, 1850; Addison, born Aug. 2, 1800, married Jennima Cleveland and lived in Kingsville, Ohio; Diana, born Jan. 31, 1803, died Aug. 25, 1804; and Susan, born Dec. 10, 1804, married Ami Cleveland, and died May 15, 1839.

‡ Griswold, born Jan. 10, 1810, died July 27, 1811; Ogden, born Feb. 27, 1812, died Sept. 24, 1817.

He was held as prisoner twenty-two months, when he was exchanged. He then received an appointment in the department of the Commissary of Prisoners, in which office he continued about three years. March 11, 1783, he married Sarah, daughter of Derrick and Rachel (Van Raust) Brinckerhoff, born November 5, 1764, and engaged with his father in the hardware business, which the latter had carried on at No. 5 Beekman slip, since 1760. In 1822 he removed to Oxford, where he established the same business, but continued it only a few years, his chief business being buying and selling land, which he continued till his death, Nov. 20, 1835. His wife died Dec. 9, 1833. Their family was a numerous and prominent one.*

Although the town was formed in 1793, the first meeting for the election of officers was not held till 1794, in consequence of the want of seasonable information on the part of the residents to hold it at the proper time in April. June 17, 1793, William Guthrie, Hezekiah Stowel and Joab Enos, Justices, met at the house of Benjamin Hovey, and appointed Elihu Murray, *Town Clerk*; James Phelps, Ebenezer Enos and John Fitch, *Assessors*; Zachariah Loomis, *Collector*; Peter Burgot and Joshua Mercereau, *Poor Masters*; James Phelps, Asa Holmes and Nathaniel Locke, *Commissioners of Highways*; and Abel Gibson and James Mitchell, *Constables*. At this meeting the roads were formed into nine districts and pathmasters appointed. The first town meeting was held the first Tuesday in April, 1794; and Ephraim Fitch, was then elected *Supervisor*; and F. Murray, *Town Clerk*.† At that meeting it was voted "to give three Pounds Bounty on Each wolf Kitch and Kild in this Town in addition to what Bounty the County Gives."

In 1795, it was "Voted that the Town Chuse their Supervisor and Town Clerk by the Clarks taking Each Man's Name and who he votes for in writing;" "that Benjamin Hovey and James Phelps be Pound Masters

and that their barnyards be the pounds for the ensuing year;" "to give three pounds per pate for wolves this year;" "that hogs be free commoners, yoked and rung." The census of the town, taken in October of this year, reports 150 heads of families; 112 votes for governor; and 142 votes for Representative. In the same connection is the following record: "Sophia Tracy, daughter of James and Ruth Tracy, born April 5, 1795."

In 1796, the following ear marks are recorded: "Green Hall's mark for Cattle is the End of the Right Ear cut of Squair, applyed for this 7th, June 1796;" "Isaac Snell's mark is crop of the rite ear squar and slit on the end of same;" David Shapley's mark was a "Happenny under side of the Rite ear." This year a bounty of five pounds was voted for each "Painter Kiled." The following is recorded this year in reference to the division of school moneys:—

"To the commissioners to superintend the schools in the town of Oxford, county of Tioga. This certifies that in the division of the monies appropriated for the support of schools to the several towns in the county, there is payable to your order as followith, viz., the sum of thirty-five pounds, one shilling and six pence as soon as the same may be received from the Treasurer of the State, and the further sum of twenty-five pounds, eight shillings and one penny by the first day of April next. Done at Union the 14th day of June, 1796. Reuben Kirby, John Welch, Ephraim Fitch, Elijah Buck, Lodowick Light, Supervisors of the county of Tioga."

The School Commissioners in 1797 were Charles Anderson, Uri Tracy, David Bennett, Jr., Joshua Mercereau and Elihu Murray; and in that year Charles Anderson, Benjamin Hovey and Uri Tracy were constituted a committee "to receive subscriptions for making improvements on the public lot in Oxford, called the school lot, provided the amount of one hundred dollars should be subscribed, and not otherwise."

The expenses of the town for 1799, were as follows:—

For defraying county charges	\$193.81
" wolves	30.00
" Collector's and Treasurer's fees	18.00
" schooling	89.43
Total	\$331.24

The following oath is recorded to have been taken by the Commissioners of Excise, May 6, 1800:—

"We Ephraim Fitch, James Phelps and Anson Carey, Commissioners of Excise for the town of Oxford in the county of Chenango, do solemnly swear in the presence of Almighty God, that we will not on any account or pretense whatever grant any license to any person within the said town of Oxford for the purpose of keeping an inn or tavern, but only in such case as appears to us absolutely necessary for the benefit of travelers, and that we will in all things while acting as

* Their children were: Rachel, born Oct. 5, 1783, and married Tyler Maynard in May, 1811, died May 8, 1819; Hubert, born Feb. 3, 1785, and lived and died in Poughkeepsie; Agnes, born Dec. 12, 1788, married Erastus Perkins, of Oxford, died Feb. 13, 1868; Wilhelmina Maria, born March 24, 1793, died unmarried at Oxford, Nov. 2, 1873; Sarah B., born December, 1794, died unmarried, Dec. 23, 1878; Catharine, born Oct. 2, 1796, a maiden lady, living in Oxford, and the only survivor of the family; Richard, born Oct. 8, 1798, died unmarried, at St. Joseph, Mich., Sept. 27, 1837; Gerrit G., born Nov. 6, 1800, married Hannah C. Pierpont, (who died May 16, 1839,) March 17, 1835, and died in New York, leaving one son, Gerrit Hubert, born Feb. 27, 1838, now living in Rye, N. Y.; William, born July 26, 1802, married Ursula A. Glover, of Oxford, Jan. 8, 1840, and died in Oxford, Dec. 6, 1864; John, born July 25, 1804, married Sarah A. Hopkins, daughter of Frederick Hopkins, Nov. 13, 1833, and died in Oxford, July 2, 1845. William left three children: John Richard, born Nov. 9, 1841, married Clara L. Lester, of Binghamton, now engaged in the banking business in Oxford; James Glover, born Dec. 1, 1845, married Mary E. Millard, of Oxford, and is proprietor of the St. James Hotel, Oxford; and Mary Elizabeth, born Feb. 27, 1857, a maiden lady, living in Oxford. John left two children: William Hubert, a druggist in Oxford, who married Hannah L. Selden, of Williamstown, N. Y.; and Susan Elizabeth, born April 9, 1841, the wife of O. H. Curtis, a lawyer in Oxford.

† Peter B. Garnsey was chosen Town Clerk in 1798, David Bennett in 1799, and Samuel Farnham in 1800.

Commissioners of Excise do our duty to the best of our good judgment and abilities without fear, favor or partiality, agreeably to law."

The following list of officers of the town of Oxford for the year 1880-81, was kindly furnished by Charles G. Eccleston:—

Supervisor—George Stratton.
 Town Clerk—Charles G. Eccleston.
 Justices—Samuel M. Robinson, Charles E. Dickinson, Charles W. Brown.
 Assessors—Albert C. Hovey, Charles B. Eaton, Alanson W. Powers.
 Commissioner of Highways—Van Buren Mowry.
 Overseers of the Poor—Job N. Stafford and Jesse H. Gifford.
 Constables—Ira W. June and Augustus June.
 Collector—Bradford G. Greene.
 Inspectors of Election—District No. 1, John R. Glover and Curtis R. Mowry. District No. 2, Sylvanus Moore and Dwight Morley.
 Town Auditors—George L. McNeil, Frederick P. Newkirk and Alpha Morse.
 Sealer of Weights and Measures— — — — —
 Game Constable—Henry S. Fraser.
 Excise Commissioners—Calvin Cole, Henry O. Daniels and William Balcom.

OXFORD VILLAGE.

Oxford is one of the most attractive villages in Chenango county. It is beautifully situated in the valley of the Chenango, in the north part of the town, on the line of the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Railroad, and about a mile west of the station by that name on the New York and Oswego Midland Railroad. It lies upon both sides of the river, and in its general configuration resembles very much the letter H. The principal business street runs at right angles with the river, which is spanned by a plain, inexpensive, but substantial wooden bridge on the line of this street. The streets which form the upper or northern arms of the figures, especially that on the eastern shore, hug the hills, which slope pleasantly upward from the river to the height of some four hundred feet, that upon the east with some degree of abruptness, and inclose a broad interval, which skirts the east margin of the river. The streets are broad, handsomely shaded, lighted with oil lamps, and supplied with ample and substantial flag-stone walks.* They present a generally neat and cleanly appearance. Its churches are some of them exceptionally fine, and many of its private residences, with their well-kept lawns and shrubbery, evince in a marked degree the esthetic culture of its citizens. It is the seat of much wealth, refinement and learning. It has three public squares, the largest of which is a handsome park, ornate with shrubbery and flowers. They are

* J. E. Miller of this village, deals extensively in flagging, building, curbing and other stone, obtained from quarries in the county, and of a very superior quality.

named respectively, LaFayette, Fort Hill and Washington; the first being upon the west side of the river and the latter two upon the east.

The village is supplied with excellent water from numerous copious springs which issue from the adjacent hills. The water is conducted to the village by means of underground pipes, some of iron and some of wood, laid by individual enterprise and associated effort. There is no organized company for the purpose. There are nine chains of pipe from as many different springs on the west side of the river, with about a mile of pipes; and about an equal length of pipes on the east side, with more numerous springs, and also more numerous, but shorter chains of pipe.

It contains six churches, (Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Universalist and Roman Catholic,) the Oxford Academy, two district schools, one newspaper office,* (the *Oxford Times*), three hotels, various stores and mechanic shops, Fort Hill Mills, (flouring, grist, saw, and planing,) a foundry and machine shop, six blacksmith shops, (kept by George Rabie, H. C. Howland, H. O. Daniels, Heminway & McNeil, John B. Wheeler, E. F. Fisk,) two cooper-shops, (James B. Brown, and — Lamb,) two harness shops, (L. A. Knott and W. R. Hunt,) two tailor shops, (J. C. Deverell and, John Kehoe,) and a population of about 1300. It was incorporated April 6, 1808.

The village records prior to 1842 are lost or destroyed; so also are the early town records. Following is a list of the Presidents and Clerks of the village subsequent to that time:—

	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1842.	Elihu Whittenhall.	David Brown.
1843.	Levi Eggleston.	Leander H. Knapp.
1844.	Ethan Clarke.	Joseph G. Thorp.
1845.	Henry R. Mygatt.	John Van Wagenen.
1846.	C. F. T. Locke.	F. A. Sands.
1847-8.	do	James Clapp, Jr.
1849.	William G. Sands.	T. G. Newkirk.
1850.	Ransom Balcom.	Amos A. Hitchcock.
1851.	Austin Rouse.	John V. N. Locke.
1852.	Dwight H. Clarke.	Henry VanDerLyn, Jr.
1853.	F. A. Sands.	C. A. McNeil.
1854.	Dwight H. Clarke.	F. P. Newkirk.
1855.	Frederick A. Sands.	William H. Hamilton.
1856.	James W. Glover.	S. Bundy.
1857-8.	Wm. VanWagenen.	John B. Wheeler.
1859.	Horace Packer.	Charles H. Eccleston.
1860.	William G. Sands.	William A. Martin.
1861.	James W. Clarke.	Benjamin M. Pearne.
1862.	Henry L. Miller.	do
1863.	do	W. W. Ingersoll.
1864-6.	do	B. M. Pearne.
1867.	Calvin Cole.	C. M. Gray.
1868.	do	John Y. Washburn.
1869.	R. T. Davidson.	do
1870.	do	A. D. Gates.
1871.	do	T. L. Moore.
1872.	B. M. Pearne.	do

* See page 108.

	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1873.	B. M. Pearne.	W. H. Van Wagenen.
1874-7.	do	L. A. Knott.
1878-9.	N. A. Bundy.	do

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in Oxford was probably Gen. Benjamin Hovey, who is believed to have opened a store soon after coming here, on the site of the store now occupied by S. H. Farnham. The next, and the first of whom we have any authentic record, was Capt. Samuel Farnham, who was born in New London, Conn., Dec. 16, 1775, and removed thence in 1799 to Oxford village, where, the same year, he opened a drug store, in a story and a half frame building, which stood on the site of Miller, Perkins & Co.'s store, in the Exchange Block, to which it gave place, after having been occupied for various purposes during a period of some thirty years. He continued the business till his death, April 20, 1822, having been associated for two years, from 1807, with Epaphras Miller. Capt. Farnham received his military title from his connection with an artillery company (the first one in the town,) organized and commanded by him. He received his Captain's commission from Morgan Lewis who was elected Governor in 1804.*

William Dennison had a store soon after 1807, but did business only a few years.

Epaphras Miller, who was born in Glastonbury, Conn., in 1778, removed thence in December, 1800, to Oxford, as the agent of General Hovey. About 1807, he formed a copartnership with Samuel Farnham in the drug business, which he continued till 1809, in December of which year he opened a stock of general merchandise. About 1831 he formed a partnership with Thomas G. Newkirk, which continued till about 1836. His son, Henry L. Miller, became interested with him about 1834, continuing till 1841, when he withdrew and formed a partnership with William Mygatt. Epaphras Miller discontinued the business about 1843. July 14, 1810, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. Samuel Baldwin, who was born in West Stockbridge, Mass., in 1787. They died in the house in which they first commenced housekeeping, the former July 5, 1860, and the latter July 14, 1853.†

* In 1800, Capt. Farnham married Sally, daughter of Henry Balcom, who was born May 21, 1780, died Feb. 16, 1859, and by whom he had ten children: George, born May 5, 1800, married Susan, daughter of Thomas Gibson, (who came to from the east Indies about 1811, and died in the town,) and died in New York, Feb. 4, 1859; Epaphras Miller, born Sept. 4, 1801, died Oct. 2, 1805; John P., born Nov. 12, 1801, married Frances Steere, of Norwich and died in Carbondale, Penn., Feb. 22, 1871; Julia Ann, born in 1806, and died in infancy; Alex. H., born Dec. 29, 1807, married — Enos, of Norwich, and died in Honesdale, April 19, 1858; Chas. Edward, July 17, 1810, died Oct. 2, 1811; Samuel H., a merchant in Oxford, born in February, 1811; Frederick W., born May 17, 1815, married — Gunn, now living in Honesdale; Charles, born April 18, 1817, married Charlotte Bishop, and now living in New York; Sarah D., born August 24, 1819, died June 15, 1820.

† Their children were: Henry L., who married Elizabeth Mygatt; Elizabeth, who married John Lathrop; Hannah, who married Benjamin Cannon; and Benjamin S., who died unmarried in 1859. The first three are living in Oxford village, and are among its most prominent, influential and cultured citizens.

William Mygatt and Henry L. Miller did business till 1851. April 1, 1853, Gerrit H. Perkins became the latter's partner; and in the spring of 1868 William M. Miller, son of Henry L. Miller, became a member of the firm. The business has since been conducted under the name of *Miller, Perkins & Co.*

Henry Mygatt came from New Milford, Conn., about 1806, and after carrying on the saddlery business a few years, commenced mercantile business, in which he was joined, in 1818, by his brother William, who, however, continued but a short time.* Henry continued trading several years, associated, from about 1816 to 1829, with Judge Austin Hyde, and finally transferred the business to his son-in-law, John Donnelly, who continued till failing health compelled him in a short time to relinquish it, and died Oct. 30, 1838, aged 31. They occupied the building in which the widow of Madison Brigham now resides. It then adjoined the residence of Dr. William G. Sands, who used it till recently as an office. It was removed to its present location about two years ago.

General Ransom Rathbone was doing business as early as 1819 or '22, where Dwight Clark's residence now stands, and continued till about 1834, when he removed to and founded the village of Rathboneville. From him, also, the town of Rathbone, in Steuben county, derives its name. He established the first store in that town in 1842. He was for a long time a General in the State militia.

Gerrit H. Van Wagenen established the first hardware store in Oxford in 1822, in the south end of the Rogers House, which was built previous to 1796, and was then known as Wells' tavern. He traded but a few years.

Ira Willcox came in from Greene county about 1812, and opened a store near the Park Hotel. In 1814, he built the front part of the store now occupied by S. H. Farnham, and in 1836, the rear part and the upper story, enlarging it from 40 by 24 feet to 110 by 50 feet. He traded till about 1846,† and was succeeded by Nelson C. Chapman and Joseph G. Thorp,‡ the latter of whom had been his partner for several years. About 1856, they sold their stock to Miller & Perkins, who had previously done business in a store which has since been converted into a dwelling, and is now occupied by Dr. D. M. Lee.

John Rathbone, brother of Gen. Ransom Rathbone, came from Oswego soon after the war of 1812, and

* See page 261.

† Ira Willcox died Nov. 29, 1852, aged 61.

‡ Chapman and Thorp who were brothers-in-law, went to Iowa, and engaged in banking in Clinton. They afterwards removed to Northern Minnesota, where they bought a large tract of timber land and were extensively engaged in lumbering. Chapman died in St. Louis about six years ago. Thorp is now traveling in Europe. His daughter, Sarah Chapman, married Ole Bull, the celebrated violinist, in Norway. She was an accomplished musician and an excellent pianist.

opened a store, which he continued some ten years. He removed to a farm in Cortland county, having become dissipated and impoverished.

George Farnham, son of Samuel Farnham, succeeded his father in the mercantile business at the latter's death, and after trading four or five years, sold to his brother John, who traded some five years, sold to Dr. Cleveland, and removed to Pennsylvania. Cleveland traded three or four years and sold to Leonard Perkins, who sold in 1839, to Alpheus D. Brown, and removed to Houston, Texas. Brown traded three or four years.

Erastus Perkins opened a drug store near the Park Hotel in 1822 and carried on the business in company with his son Erastus about ten years. The elder Perkins continued till his death, May 30, 1852. Erastus Smith, a native of Oxford, David Wilson, a native of Keene, New Hampshire, Luman and Ira McNeil, Sylvester Church and — Canfield traded four or five years from about 1823 or '4.

Cyrus A. Bacon, an early settler in the town, and a former merchant in Oxford, and Uri Tracy, son of the early settler by that name, and a native of Oxford, commenced business about 1825 and traded five or six years. Bacon continued till his death, December 8, 1878, having been associated at different times with Ebenezer Sherwood, David T. McGeorge and Thomas B. Harrott.

Ethan Clarke, from Brookfield, Madison county, opened a store about 1822 and traded till his death, February 8, 1857; having been associated the first year or two with Henry Balcom, and the succeeding few years with Ebenezer Sherwood, afterwards, from 1836, with his brother-in-law, Joseph H. Dwight, who was an officer in the war of 1812, and continued till his death, Aug. 6, 1845. In 1854, F. G. and James W. Clarke and Frederick A. Sands became his partners, under the name of Clarkes & Sands. At the expiration of a year Sands withdrew. At the death of the elder Clarke, his son, F. G., acquired his interest. The firm name, which was changed when Sands withdrew to J. W. Clarke & Co., continued till 1858, when John R. Clarke, another brother, became a partner, and the name was changed to Clarke & Co. In 1868, J. W. Clarke sold his interest to his partners, when the name became Clarke Bros., remaining so till 1873, when F. G. Clarke bought his brother's interest and has since conducted a general merchandise business. On the opening of the canal the firm added storage and forwarding to their business and became extensive dealers in produce. These branches were continued till the close of the canal.

C. F. T. Locke opened a grocery and liquor store about 1836 and did business about twenty years.*

*Died May 13, 1857, aged 60.

Rufus Baldwin came from Guilford and opened a store about 1834, continuing in trade until about 1857, when he went to Minneapolis. George McNeil and Cyrus A. Sheldon commenced trading about 1847, and continued till the death of Sheldon, Oct. 8, 1851, when William and Charles Hamilton succeeded them and traded four or five years.

Thomas J. Newkirk, after dissolving with Epaphras Miller, formed a partnership with his brother Warden, and traded a few years under the name of T. G. Newkirk & Co. Thomas G. continued till within a short time of his death, which occurred March 24, 1875, associated a portion of the time with his son F. P., and Ward Van DerLyn, the latter two continuing the business a short time.

William W. Packer, a native of Oxford, carried on the drug business four or five years, till his death, March 21, 1851. Dr. Samuel Ray Clarke, brother of Ethan Clarke, succeeded Packer, and traded till about 1860.* Cyrus Tuttle was doing business as early as 1834, and continued till his death, when he was succeeded by James B. Brown, who is still doing business. Arad Tuttle, brother to Cyrus, traded some six or eight years, about 1848. He went to Buffalo and died there. James H. Fox and Horace Read commenced business in 1854, and continued until 1868, associated a part of the time with William Thompson. Seth H. Fisk traded some twenty years from about 1830. He returned to New Hampshire, from whence he came and died there. E. P. Wilcox, who came from Greene county, and had previously for several years carried on the business of founder and machinist, kept a hardware store from about 1838 to 1853. He died here. William E. Chapman kept a book store some fifteen years, at a comparatively early day.

Following is a list of the Merchants at present doing business in Oxford.

Samuel H. Farnham, son of the pioneer merchant, commenced the jewelry business in 1839 and continued till 1859. In 1870, he resumed business, adding to his former branch groceries and notions, which he still continues.†

Judson B. Galpin, dealer in books and stationery, commenced business in 1845. He came here from Greene, where, for four years, he had been engaged in general merchandising. Mr. Galpin is also publisher of *The Oxford Times*.

Cyrus M. Gray, dealer in clothing, boots, shoes, hats, caps, and gents' furnishing goods, commenced general merchandising in 1850. In 1858 John R. Wheeler became his partner and remained such eight years, when they sold to Edwin M. Tower and Dwight

* Died June 1, 1860, aged 59.

† We acknowledge our indebtedness to Samuel H. Farnham for data relative to the early merchants in Oxford.

Morley, who in the spring of 1873, sold to *Charles O. Wilcox*, a native of Oxford, who associated with himself D. F. Clarke, of Preston, whose interest he bought at the expiration of four years. Mr. Wilcox is doing a general merchandise business. Mr. Gray resumed his present business in the spring of 1876.

Charles Fraser, furniture dealer and undertaker, commenced business in 1851, in company with his brother *William*, who bought Charles' interest after a little less than three years, and still continues the business. Charles then formed a partnership with T. C. Pettis, which lasted about three years, when he sold to Pettis, who soon after sold to David C. Bronson, with whom, in 1862, Charles Fraser formed a partnership which continued till 1865, when William Fraser bought the business. Charles resumed business in 1867, and has since continued it, having been associated with T. C. Pettis from the fall of 1875 till May, 1879.

John Lord, boot and shoe dealer, commenced business about 1854, in company with Edward N. Osborn, with whom he continued six or eight years. He had previously done business one year with Eliakim Northrup, who traded here from about 1838 till his death, Feb. 4, 1852, aged 62. Osborn enlisted in the 114th Regiment, and after the war went to Great Bend, where he carried on business several years. He now resides in Harford, Penn.

William Balcom, grocer and crockery dealer, commenced business in 1857, in company with Joel F. Gleason. They bought out C. F. T. Locke, but Gleason died before they took possession.* In 1858, Balcom was associated with Sanford Mason, whose interest Gurdon Hicks bought in 1859. Balcom bought Hicks' interest after the expiration of about a year.

Coville & Moore, (LeRoy Coville and Sylvanus Moore,) jewelers. This business was established in the fall of 1859, by LeRoy Coville and H. H. Cady, who dissolved in 1867, each continuing separately, the latter two years. In 1869, Sylvanus Moore became associated with Mr. Coville.

W. H. Van Wagenen, druggist, commenced business in 1860, in company with Dr. George Douglas, whose interest he bought at the expiration of eight years.

J. C. Deverell, merchant tailor, commenced business in 1865, and has since continued with the exception of two years (1869 and '70,) spent in New York, Tarrytown and Hornellsville.

William Gillman commenced business in 1866, and sold after about eight years to his sons George and Charles, the latter of whom bought his brother's interest at the expiration of a year, and again admitted his father. The business (groceries,) has since been conducted under the name of *Gillman & Son*.

* Joel F. Gleason died Feb. 4, 1857, aged 50.

Mrs. M. I. Bush, a native of Norwich in this county, and dealer in millinery and fancy goods, commenced business in 1871, having for several years previously resided in the village.

A. S. Lewis, grocer, commenced business in 1872, in company with his brother H. E., whose interest he bought after the expiration of twenty-two months.

Ralph B. Wheeler, from East Haddam, Conn., dealer in groceries, boots and shoes, commenced business in 1873, in company with Frank E. Sperring, whose interest he bought in the spring of 1879. Sperring removed to Kansas City.

F. Elden Billings, dealer in clothing, hats, caps, boots and shoes, commenced business in 1874. He came from Smyrna, his native town.

A. H. Brill, hardware merchant, came from Ontario, and commenced business in January, 1877.

Van Der Lyn & Co., (Ward Van Der Lyn and Frederick H. Burchard,) hardware merchants, commenced business February 22, 1878, at which time they bought the bankrupt stock of W. A. Martin, who had carried on the business some nine years. Van Der Lyn is a native of Oxford, and Burchard, of New York, but came to the town in infancy.

T. G. Gates, grocer and liquor dealer, commenced business Sept. 1, 1878. He had previously carried on the same business in Smithville three years.

Cook, Boulls & Gibbons, (Wm. Cook, Thomas Boulls and Matt. Gibbons,) furniture dealers and undertakers, commenced business in October, 1878, Boulls & Gibbons having previously done business from June, 1877.

N. B. Eccleston & Co., (James B. Brown,) druggists and grocers, commenced business Dec. 19, 1878. Both formally resided in the village.

C. O. King, grocer and confectioner, commenced business April 14, 1879. He is a native of the village.

Mrs. P. A. Flagg, milliner, commenced business in April, 1879, having previously carried on the same business in Binghamton six years.

Clarke & Curtis, (DeFrancis Clarke and Henry A. Curtis,) grocers, commenced business in May, 1879. Both formerly resided in the town.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster in Oxford was Uri Tracy. The office, which was kept in the basement of his residence, was, without doubt, established soon after the settlements were begun. Uri Tracy was succeeded by John Tracy soon after the latter came here, (1805,) and the office was held by him till 1838, when Peleg Glover was appointed. James W. Clarke received the appointment in the spring of 1841, and was succeeded in the spring of 1843 by Cyrus A. Bacon, who held it till the spring of 1849, when Luman McNeil was appointed. Cyrus A.

Bacon* was again appointed in the spring of 1853, and was succeeded May 12, 1861, by James W. Glover, who held the office till March 4, 1878, when Benjamin M. Pearne, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician in Oxford was doubtless Timothy Eliot, though but little is now known of him. He was a son of George and Hannah Eliot, natives of Connecticut, and was born at Killingworth in that State, March 20, 1773. He probably came here very soon after the settlement was begun, for he died here Nov. 2, 1796. He had previously located at Unadilla. Drs. Harrison, Isaac F. Thomas and Throop were among the earliest physicians who located here. Dr. Thomas did not stay long, neither did he leave a good reputation.

George Mowry came in, a young single man, at an early day and practiced till his death. He married here a Miss Manley, by whom he had two sons, both of whom went west. He was a cripple, from spinal disease; but enjoyed a good professional reputation. He was one of the original members of the Chenango County Medical Society, of which he was the first secretary, an office he held for over fifteen consecutive years.

Charles Josslyn came here about 1805, a single man, and after practicing a few years removed to Greene, where further mention is made of him.

Perez Packer, son of Wm. Packer, an early settler in Preston, commenced practice at Latham's Corners, in the town of Guilford, about the opening of the war of 1812, and soon after removed to Oxford, where he became eminent in his profession. He was one of the leading physicians in the county, and as a surgeon there was not probably his superior in the county. He stood very high in his profession. He was born January 31, 1790, and died in Oxford, July 10, 1832.

Austin Rouse, a native of Norwich, son of Judge Casper Rouse, came in soon after Dr. Packer, with whom he practiced for some time. He married here Jane E., daughter of Erastus Perkins, who was born May 2, 1806, and died in Scranton, Penn., with a daughter who was living there, Sept. 28, 1870. Dr. Rouse was a conscientious man and stood high in his profession. He practiced here till his death, August 27, 1866, aged 70.†

Samuel Baldwin, was born at Egremont, Mass., in Nov., 1756. At the age of 17 he was drafted into the militia of his native State, and served in the conti-

* Cyrus A. Bacon, who died in Oxford, May 12, 1870, was for forty years or more a trustee of Oxford Academy, and at the time of his death was the oldest person living who was ever a member of the board.—*Academy Records*.

† Dr. Rouse had three daughters, Maggie, who married Adolphus Bennett, and is living in Philadelphia; Louiss, who married James A. Clarke, son of Dr. Samuel R. Clarke, and is living in Georgia; and Mary, who married Henry Roone, and is living in New York.

mental army at different periods thirteen months. In 1775, he was a minute man, and was called into active service soon after the battle of Lexington, the 19th of April of that year. He joined the Continental troops at Boston, where he remained three months. In Jan., 1776, he was one of the volunteers who marched into Canada, in prosecution of one of the most difficult and perilous enterprises undertaken during the Revolutionary contest. Besides suffering from an attack of the small pox at Montreal, he marched on his way to that place, in one day, sixty miles upon the ice on Lake Champlain. In the spring of 1777, the army under Gen. Gates having been obliged to retreat before the combined British force of the North, Mr. Baldwin returned to Egremont, much reduced and enfeebled by the hardships and privations he had endured. He was again drafted the following September and once more joined the army under Gates. He was present at the battle of Saratoga and witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne, Oct. 18, 1777.

After this Mr. Baldwin devoted himself to study and acquired a substantial education in the ordinary English branches, with a sufficient knowledge of the languages to enable him to commence the study of medicine, the practice of which he commenced in West Stockbridge, at the age of twenty-eight years. In 1800, having been twice a Representative in the Massachusetts Legislature, he removed to Wyoming, Penn., where he resided, with the exception of two years spent in Ohio, until 1819, when he removed to Oxford, where he spent his life with his daughter, the wife of Epaphras Miller. He practiced here a few years, but not, except among his intimate friends, for several years previous to his death, which occurred Sept. 2, 1842. He was a large, powerful man, standing six feet in height, and was a vigorous pedestrian. He had an extensive practice in the Wyoming Valley, and in urgent cases, so well were his great physical powers known, he was often urged by those who solicited his professional services, to go without waiting for his horse. He possessed a rare faculty of threading his way through the almost interminable forests. His mind was singularly inquisitive and discriminating and well furnished with diversified stores of knowledge, which his ready and retentive memory always rendered available.

Samuel Ray Clarke came in from Brookfield about 1822 or '3, and practiced here till his death June 1, 1860, aged 59. His wife, Susan Maxon, survived him but a few months. She died Oct. 29, 1860, aged 52. Dr. Clarke was a man of very fair standing in his profession.

Reuben Bancroft, a cousin of George Bancroft, the historian, came in from Massachusetts soon after 1816, and practiced till his death, Jan. 21, 1847, aged 52.

Dr. York came in from Norwich quite early, but did not depend upon his profession for a living. He was a man of excellent character, but his timidity, resulting from a want of confidence in his abilities, unfitted him for the profession. He consequently practiced but little. He married a daughter of Deacon Punderson, through whom he acquired a good property. He removed to a farm in the town of Preston. He lived several years in retirement in Oxford and died here.

George Riddell, whose parents were early settlers in Preston, came in from New Orleans about 1850, and practiced two or three years. He had a brother who was a professor in a medical college in New Orleans.

The present physicians are, William G. Sands, George Douglas, Solomon F. McFarland, Robert E. Miller, Dwight M. Lee, John W. Thorp and De Witt Gleason.

William G. Sands was born in Bainbridge, N. Y., Nov. 5, 1810. He studied medicine in Oxford with Dr. Perez Packer, and was graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1832. He commenced practice in Oxford immediately after graduating and continued about twenty years. He is now living in retirement in Oxford.

George Douglas was born in Franklin, N. Y., May 7, 1823, and educated at the Delaware Literary Institute and the University of the City of New York. He studied medicine with Dr. Francis Hine, in Franklin, and Dr. Daniel Clark, of Smithville Flats. In 1842 he entered the Geneva Medical College, and in 1844, the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, where he was graduated April 14, 1845. He commenced practice in Smithville Flats, where he remained a year, when, in 1846, he removed to Oxford, where he practiced till 1876, when he went to Brooklyn. He returned to Oxford in June, 1879.

Solomon F. McFarland was born in Oxford, July 12, 1828, and received his education in the Oxford Academy. He commenced the study of medicine in his native place with Dr. George Douglas, and in 1853 entered the University of Michigan, remaining one term of six months. He re-entered that institution in the fall of 1856, and was graduated in the spring of 1857. He commenced practice in Troupsburgh, Steuben county, in the spring of 1854, under a license granted by the Chenango County Medical Society, April 21, 1854, and continued there till he re-entered Michigan University. After graduating, he resumed practice in Oxford, where he has since continued. He was Assistant Surgeon of the 83d N. Y. Vols. in the fall of 1862, but resigned on account of ill health. In the spring of 1863 he was appointed Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment of the 19th District of New York, and performed the arduous duties of that office

fifteen months, when failing health again compelled him to relinquish military service.

Robert E. Miller was born in New Canaan, Conn., Aug. 27, 1837, and was educated in the district schools of Unadilla, (to which town his parents removed during his childhood,) and in the Gilbertville Academy. In 1854 he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, and pursued a two years' course. He commenced the study of medicine in Gilbertville in 1857, with Dr. J. R. White, now of New York, and in 1859 attended a course of lectures in the Albany Medical College. In 1860 he attended a course of lectures at the Homeopathic Medical College in Philadelphia, where he was graduated March 1, 1861. He commenced practice in Oxford in May of that year, and has since continued here.

Dwight M. Lee was born in Georgetown, N. Y., January 25, 1843, and was graduated at Hamilton College in 1863. He attended two courses of lectures in the Medical Department of the University of New York, and in 1864 entered the Albany Medical College, where he was graduated December 27, 1864. He immediately entered the army in the capacity of Assistant Surgeon, as a volunteer, without assignment, and was commissioned April 1, 1865, and assigned to the 22d N. Y. Cavalry. He was promoted a few months later Surgeon by Brevet in the same command. He left the army in the fall of 1865, and commenced the practice of his profession at Smithville Flats, from whence he removed, after about a year, to Oxford, where he has since practiced.

John W. Thorp was born in Booth Bay, Maine, April 30, 1839, and was educated in Bowdoin College, where he was graduated in 1861. He commenced the study of medicine in Oxford, with Dr. Solomon F. McFarland, and a year later entered the Maine Medical School, at Brunswick, where he was graduated in 1868. In 1870 he entered the University of the City of New York, and was graduated there in 1872. He commenced practice, immediately after graduating, in Oxford, where he has since continued. During the interval of six or seven years, from the completion of his classical studies to his entering the Maine Medical School, he was Associate Principal of Oxford Academy.

De Witt A. Gleason was born in Pitcher, N. Y., February 7, 1850, and received his literary education at Oxford Academy. He commenced the study of medicine in Oxford, with Dr. D. M. Lee, attended lectures at the Michigan University in 1870 and '71, and in 1872 was graduated from Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn. He commenced practice at Henderson, N. Y., in May, 1873, and after two years removed thence to Oxford, where he has since practiced.

BENCH AND BAR.—From the fact that Oxford was originally a half shire town of Chenango county, it early attracted to it a brilliant array of legal talent. The first lawyer to locate here was Samuel Miles Hopkins, whom we have quoted in another connection. He was a graduate of Yale College, where he formed the acquaintance of Hon. Uri Tracy, between whom and himself there existed a warm and enduring friendship. He came here in 1792, but no very definite information can be gleaned as to the length of time he practiced here, or other facts regarding him. It is believed, however, that he did not remain here long. He was living in Albany in 1807.

Stephen O. Runyan was here before 1799, and continued as late as 1813, probably till his death, which occurred April 23, 1820, at the age of 48 years. His office stood on Washington Square, at the head of which he resided, and subsequently on the site of the office now occupied by Hon. William H. Hyde and William R. Mygatt. He was remarkably social, and possessed in an eminent degree the faculty of making himself agreeable. He was very popular with the people. His mind was richly stored with anecdotes, which he was fond of relating.

James Clapp, who was a student of Aaron Burr's, and William M. Price, both remarkable men and fine lawyers, came here from New York in September, 1808, and practiced in company a short time. Price, who was of a roving disposition, returned in 1815 to New York, and became a man of some note. Mr. Clapp, who was born in Hartford, Conn., Dec. 5, 1785, continued here till his death, Jan. 8, 1854. His residence stood on the site of the Episcopal church. His wife, Julia H., died Nov. 17, 1832, aged 38. He has three sons and a daughter living.*

John Tracy studied law with Stephen O. Runyan, and after his admission, in 1808, formed a partnership with his preceptor. He was a careful, studious, methodical and sound lawyer. He stood at the head of his profession. His rulings in law were never reversed in the courts of appeals.†

Henry Van Der Lyn, who was born April 21, 1784, came to Oxford from the North River country in June, 1806, and practiced here till his death, Oct. 1, 1865, though but little during the later years of his life. He was eccentric, possessed of good talent and great acquirements. He was the best equity lawyer the village ever had, Henry R. Mygatt, excepted. He

* These are, Benjamin Clapp Butler, whose name was changed by the Legislature from Benjamin Butler Clapp, at the instance of his grandfather, Benjamin Butler, and who is now living in Luzerne, Warren county, N. Y.; James, who is living in Europe; Nicholas, residing in New York; and Julia, widow of Walter L. Newbery, once the wealthiest man in Chicago, who died on the ocean while going to join his wife in Europe, where she now resides. Mary, the eldest daughter, died at home unmarried.

† See Biographical Sketch, end of this chapter.

was known as "the Count." He was a cousin of the celebrated artist named Van Der Lyn.

Judge Samuel McKoon came from Herkimer county about 1825, and taught in the district schools of this and the adjoining towns four or five winters, reading law in the meantime in the village. He was admitted about 1830, and practiced till about 1847 or '8, when he removed to Sullivan county, where he was interested in lands. He was appointed Surrogate of Chenango county Dec. 1, 1837, and held the office till 1843.

Henry R. Mygatt, LL. D., who was born in Oxford, April 10, 1810, of Connecticut parentage, read law with James Clapp, and was admitted in January, 1833. He practiced here till his death, March 31, 1875, but not much during the last year or two of his life. He wore himself out in his profession. He was a close, studious and laborious lawyer, and enjoyed a very extensive practice. He was greatly beloved and respected for his excellence of character. He was highly benevolent, and did more for benevolent objects and in the interest of the village than any other man in it. He was not an aspirant for public office, and invariably declined all nominations therefor. There was a strong disposition to place him on the Supreme Court Bench, but he was inexorable in his determination to refuse public office. His sterling qualities of head and heart abundantly graced the humbler walks of life—his chosen field of philanthropic endeavor. He was a staunch friend to the interests of education, and his sympathies and energies were firmly enlisted in the interests of the Oxford Academy, to which its records bear testimony.* He was a graduate of Union College, in the same class with the notorious Robert Toombs of Georgia.

Ransom Balcom, a native of Oxford, read law in the office of Judge McKoon and Count VanDerLyn, and was admitted about 1841. He practiced here very successfully until about 1846 or '7, when he went to Binghamton and was one of the firm of Hotchkiss, Seymour & Balcom, a prominent law firm, all of whose members are dead. In 1855, he was elected to the Supreme Court for the 6th Judicial District and having been thrice re-elected, held that office till within a short period of his death, when failing health compelled him to relinquish the duties.

Dwight H. Clarke, son of Ethan Clark, for many years a prominent man here, was born in Oxford, March 2, 1819, and was a contemporary and partner

* The records of that institution thus memorize his services in its behalf:—

"Elected [trustee] on the 24th of March, 1835, he soon took a leading part in its management, and during the intervening time, although almost overwhelmed with the cares and duties of his profession, he never gave up his interest in its prosperity.

"He gave to it his money largely, freely, in almost princely benefactions.

"He gave to it his time, his energies, his labor, his wise counsels, and his wide-spread and valuable influence.

"For eight years the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, for a series of years its Vice-President and President, as in all other matters, he was faithful and diligent and present when his duty called."

of Judge Balcom's, having been admitted about the same time. He, too, studied with James Clapp. He was elected County Judge of this county in 1855, and re-elected in 1859, serving till January 1, 1864. He continued to practice here till his death, April 17, 1874. He was brother to James W. Clarke, the first President of the Bank of Oxford. His father was for several years proprietor of the stage house, where the Rogers House now stands, was interested in the stage lines in this valley, an important enterprise of that day, and was extensively engaged in mercantile pursuits.

Simon G. Throop was a contemporary practitioner with Van Der Lyn and Clapp. He was a brilliant, but dissipated man. He did not practice here long, but removed to Pennsylvania, where he died recently at an advanced age. He was a man of good address, and his ready wit made him popular with the masses. William Patterson was admitted here and practiced a few years from 1825.

Other lawyers practiced here for short periods, among whom were Enos Johnson, who died here, and Benjamin Cannon, who studied with Count Van Der Lyn, and after practicing here a short time, returned to Cannonsville, Delaware county, his native place, named from his father, who was an early settler there. He was elected County Clerk of Delaware county in 1852, and served two terms, six years. He returned to Oxford in 1873, and died here in December, 1877.

The attorneys now practicing in Oxford are: Horace Packer, James W. Glover, William H. Hyde, Solomon Bundy, Oscar H. Curtis, Samuel S. Stafford, Charles W. Brown, William R. Mygatt and McGeorge Bundy.

Horace Packer was born June 2, 1812, in Norwich, N. Y., to which town his parents, James and Mary (Billings) Packer, natives of Groton, Conn., removed in 1806, from Guilford, Vt. He was educated in the district schools of his native town and the academic and collegiate departments of Madison University. He commenced the study of law at Norwich, with Samuel B. Garvin, and after one month removed to Oxford, in April, 1839, and entered the office of Hon. Samuel McKoon, with whom he completed his studies. He was admitted in January, 1842, and commenced practice that year in Oxford, where he has since continued. He was Master and Examiner in Chancery some five years, and until that Court was abolished.

Mr. Packer has given much attention to agriculture, and was two years, 1858-'59, President of the Chenango County Agricultural Society. He established at East Smithville, in the spring of 1866, the first Creamery west of Orange county. It was the third in the State, also in the United States. He has since established two others, one at Pharsalia Center, and the other in the town of Coventry.

James W. Glover was born in Oxford, August 28, 1822, and received his education in the Academy in that village. He read law with Henry R. Mygatt, and was admitted in January, 1846. He commenced practice in Greene, and after three months removed to Oxford, where he has since practiced, with the exception of six months spent in Auburn. He was post-master at Oxford for seventeen years from May 12, 1861. He is a son of the late James A. Glover,* of Oxford, and a grandson of Nathan Glover, a pioneer in the town of Plymouth.

William H. Hyde was born in Oxford, Sept. 4, 1826, and received his early education in the Academy of his native village. He entered Yale College in the spring of 1846, and Geneva College the same year, graduating at the latter in 1848. He read law in the office of Henry R. Mygatt, of Oxford, where, after his admission in 1854, he commenced practice, spending the first year or two in the office of his preceptor. He has since practiced his profession, at the head of which he now stands, in his native village, with the exception of one year, (1860,) spent in Wisconsin. He was a Member of Assembly from this county in 1857; Special County Judge of Chenango county from 1864-68; and Supervisor four years, 1870, '1, '2, and '3, serving as chairman of the board the last year.

Solomon Bundy was born in Oxford, May 22, 1823, and spent the early years of his life upon a farm. About 1850 he removed to Oxford village and engaged in mercantile business, which he pursued in company with various individuals at different times. In 1857, he entered the law office of James W. Glover, and on his admission in 1859, formed a law partnership with Horace Packer, under the name of Packer & Bundy, which continued till his election as District Attorney of Chenango county, in November, 1862. In 1876, he was elected to the 45th Congress from the 21st district, as a Republican, serving on the Committees on Militia and Expenditures in the State Department. He was one of the sub-committee of three which investigated the charges against George F. Seward, Minister to China.

Oscar H. Curtis was born in Norwich, N. Y., March 25, 1832, and was educated mainly at Gilbertsville Academy and Union College, from the latter of which he graduated in 1858. He came immediately to Oxford and engaged to teach the languages and higher mathematics in the Academy there. He taught five terms, and during the last term had charge of the school. He commenced to read law in Oxford with Henry R. Mygatt in the spring of 1860, having pre-

* James A. Glover, who died May 23, 1875, "was for a long term of years heartily and zealously attached to the best interests of the Academy, and contributed to sustain and strengthen it by his support and influence, and ever evinced a high regard for its honor and welfare."—*Oxford Academy Records.*

viously studied in the intervals of teaching, and completed his studies with him in the spring of 1862, when he established himself in practice in Oxford. July 29, 1862, having been commissioned by Governor Fenton to raise a company for the 114th Regiment N. Y. Vols., he turned his office into a recruiting station, and had the honor of raising the first company for that regiment, Co. A, which was mustered on the 6th of August following. He was Captain of that company until July, 1863, when he was promoted to Major of the 114th, with rank from Aug. 26, 1863, and served in that capacity till the close of the war, when he resumed the practice of his profession in Oxford, where he has since remained. He was elected Justice in the fall of 1867, and held that office continuously till the summer of 1875, when he resigned. During this time he served four years as Special County Judge of Chenango county, to which office he was elected in 1868. He was Loan Commissioner three years, and in the fall of 1878, was elected Member of Assembly from this county, serving on the Committees on Charitable and Religious Societies and Game Laws, the latter of which were codified. He was also a member of the Committee on Grievances, which did not meet.

Samuel S. Stafford was born in Preston, N. Y., June 8, 1837. He read law with Solomon Bundy and was admitted in May, 1867, when he commenced practice in Oxford, where he has since continued. Previous to commencing the study of law he spent ten terms in the Oxford Academy, closing in June, 1862. He entered the army as First Lieutenant of Co. A, 114th Regiment, and was wounded in the leg in a *reconnaissance* during the siege of Port Hudson, on the 11th of June, 1863, from the effects of which he was discharged July 8, 1863. He was a Member of Assembly from this county in 1865; was School Commissioner of the 2d District of Chenango county in 1867, '8 and '9; was Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue one year; for nine years preceding May, 1879, village Treasurer; and is now serving the seventh year as Loan Commissioner.

Charles W. Brown was born in Stockbridge, N. Y., Nov. 23, 1849. He entered Hobart College in 1867, and in 1872, commenced to read law in the office of Henry R. Mygatt, of Oxford. In 1873, he entered the Albany Law School, from which he was graduated in 1874, in which year he established himself in practice in Oxford, where he has since continued. While in the Albany Law School he was president of a class of one hundred students from all parts of the country. He was elected Justice in 1875, and re-elected in 1879. He was sole collector on the Chenango Canal, south of Utica, in 1876, the last year the canal was open. In 1874, '5, '6 and '8, he

was clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Chenango county.

William R. Mygatt was born in Oxford, April 20, 1851, and received his early education at Oxford Academy. He subsequently spent three years in the Vermont Episcopal Institute at Burlington, and in 1870, entered the Troy Polytechnic Institute, where he took a two years' course in engineering. He commenced the study of law in 1872, at Oxford, with his father, Henry R. Mygatt, and in September, 1875, entered the Albany Law School. He was admitted in May, 1876, and established himself in practice in Oxford immediately after graduating. He is a trustee both of the village and the Academy, and secretary of the Chenango County Bar Association.

McGeorge Bundy was born in Oxford, July 8, 1855, and was graduated from Amherst college in 1876, in which year he commenced to read law in the office of his father, Solomon Bundy, with whom he completed his legal studies. He was admitted in November, 1878, at the general term at Albany, and established himself in practice at Oxford.

BANKS.—*The First National Bank at Oxford*, was established in 1864, with a capital of \$70,000, which was increased May 10, 1864, to \$100,000, and again Feb. 16, 1865, to \$150,000, at which amount it stood till June 2, 1879, when it was reduced to \$100,000, which is the present capital.

The shares were fixed at \$100 each, and were taken by the following named persons, who were the incorporators:—

James W. Clarke,	100 shares,	....	\$10,000 00
Francis G. Clarke,	60 "	....	6,000 00
John R. Clarke,	40 "	....	4,000 00
Samuel W. Kinney,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Peter W. Clark,	100 "	....	10,000 00
Joseph A. Coville,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Frederick A. Sands,	100 "	....	10,000 00
Alanson W. Powers,	10 "	....	1,000 00
William B. Race, jr.,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Wm. Van Wagenen,	70 "	....	7,000 00
Wm. H. Van Wagenen,	50 "	....	5,000 00
R. Yale,	10 "	....	1,000 00
John W. Bartle,	20 "	....	2,000 00
John Tracy,	20 "	....	2,000 00
S. H. Farnham,	5 "	....	500 00
Clark T. Rogers,	5 "	....	500 00
Russell Maxon,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Solomon Bundy,	5 "	....	500 00
James A. Glover,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Nathan Rogers,	5 "	....	500 00
Lester Turner,	10 "	....	1,000 00
David Dickinson,	5 "	....	500 00
John Moore,	10 "	....	1,000 00
Calvin Cole,	5 "	....	500 00
Frederick P. Newkirk,	10 "	....	1,000 00
George Douglas,	10 "	....	1,000 00

The first directors were: James W. Clarke, Frederick A. Sands, Peter W. Clarke, William Van Wag-

enen, William H. Van Wagenen, Francis G. Clarke and John R. Clarke. The first board of officers were elected Feb. 10, 1864. They were James W. Clarke, *President*; Frederick A. Sands, *Cashier*. May 10, 1864, John R. Van Wagenen was elected assistant cashier.

James W. Clarke held the office of president till his death, June 30, 1878. He was succeeded Jan. 23, 1879, by John R. Van Wagenen, who still holds the office.

F. A. Sands was succeeded in the office of cashier March 22, 1865, by Henry L. Miller, who held the office till he was elected vice-president, Oct. 8, 1867, when John R. Van Wagenen was elected cashier, and held the office till he was elected president, when J. Fred Sands succeeded him and still holds the office. Feb. 7, 1879, Peter W. Clarke was elected vice-president in place of Mr. Miller, who declined a reelection.

Cory D. Hayes was appointed assistant cashier Jan. 14, 1873, and resigned March 1, 1878.

The present directors are: Henry L. Miller, Peter W. Clarke, William H. Van Wagenen, Gerrit H. Perkins, Francis G. Clarke, Joseph A. Coville and John R. Van Wagenen.

The bank took up quarters on the second floor of the Clarke Block, while the present location was being prepared for its reception, to which it removed within a few weeks from the organization. The bank opened for business Feb. 13, 1864. No interest is paid on deposits. The dividends have ranged from four to six per cent. semi-annually. This is the first and only bank in the village.

The following is a report of its condition on the 1st of July, 1879:—

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts.....	\$ 211,196.97
Overdrafts.....	8.23
U. S. Bonds of 1881, to secure circulation.....	100,000.00
U. S. Bonds on hand.....	4,950.00
Other Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages..	17,250.00
Due from Approved Reserve Agents.....	19,106.27
“ “ other National Banks.....	246.19
“ “ State Banks and Bankers.....	814.94
Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures.....	5,975.00
Checks and other Cash Items.....	287.01
Bills of other National Banks.....	967.00
Fractional Currency, (including Nickels,).....	7.24
Specie.....	659.00
Legal Tender Notes.....	8,390.00
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer, (five per cent. of circulation)..	4,500.00
Total.....	374,357.85

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in.....	100,000.00
Surplus Fund.....	50,000.00
Profit and Loss.....	21,299.28
National Bank Notes outstanding...	89,980.00
Dividends unpaid.....	6,000.00
Individual Deposits subject to check, Demand Certificates of Deposit,	} 104,843.15
Due to other National Banks.....		1,325.20
Due Treasurer of United States.....	910.22
Total.....	\$374,357.85

MANUFACTURES.—*The Fort Hill Mills* (grist, planing and saw,) were built in 1793 or '4, by Theodore Burr and Jonathan Baldwin, the former of whom owned them. They came into the possession of Messrs. E. M. Tower and N. A. Bundy in 1874, and were operated by them four and one-half years, when Mr. Bundy bought his partner's interest, and has since operated them alone. They contain three run of stones; give employment to three men, and grind about 30,000 bushels of grain per annum. The building is 35 by 90 feet, two and a half stories high. There is an additional building, 33 by 50 feet, used as an office and sales room, which is connected with the mill by a building 20 by 36 feet, used for storage purposes. The motive power is furnished by the Chenango, which has a fall of four feet.

Plaster was formerly ground here extensively, but the opening of the railroads and closing of the canal conspired to make the business unprofitable.

The Foundry and Machine Shop was established about 1831 or '2, by Amos A. Franklin and James A. Glover, who carried on the business a few years, when Levi Chubbuck and Erastus Miller became associated with Mr. Franklin. The business was continued a short time under the name of A. Franklin & Co., when E. P. Willcox became a partner and the firm name was changed to Franklin, Willcox & Co., who operated it three years. Messrs. Franklin & Miller then withdrew and the remaining partners continued under the name of Chubbuck & Miller till 1846, when, the building having been burned in August of that year, they dissolved. The shop was rebuilt in 1847, and Mr. Willcox continued the business till about 1856, when he sold to George Rector and Eli Willcox, who, after two or three months, dissolved, Willcox withdrawing. Mr. Rector sold January 1, 1868, to J. M. Edwards, the present proprietor. The building is constructed of stone; is about 62 by 40 feet, two stories high; and stands upon the same foundation as the one burned, which was only one story high. The wood shop and store room, a story and a half building, is 46 by 26 feet, and was rebuilt at the same time as the foundry. Mr. Edwards does a general

machine and foundry business and employs three hands.

The Union Tooth Company, composed of C. H. Eccleston and his son, C. G. Eccleston, was originally established in Dunkirk, N. Y., in 1860, as the *Lake Erie Tooth Company*, for the manufacture of artificial teeth for dentists' use. April 18, 1871, Dr. Robert B. Sutton purchased the establishment and changed the name to The Union Company, and about July, 1872, removed it to Oxford and formed a copartnership with C. H. & C. G. Eccleston, (the former of whom had carried on the dental business since 1849, and the manufacture of teeth since 1860,) which continued till the death of Sutton, September 22, 1876, when the Ecclestons bought his interest. They do quite a business in this line, and manufactured in 1877 a hundred thousand teeth, which were sold in all parts of the country.

Mr. John E. Miller conducts one of the prominent industries of Oxford, in working the famed building and flagging stones from the quarries of this and neighboring towns. Mr. Miller controls six quarries, and in his busy season employs some seventy-five men. Through his energy and skill the Oxford trimmings ornament nearly every city in the State. He supplied thirty thousand dollars worth of cut stone for the Elmira Reformatory. St. Paul's church in Oxford exhibits a fine specimen of stone from the Oxford quarries.

The Oxford Hoe and Edge Tool Company was organized June 1, 1853, by a stock company composed of Joseph C. Thorp, N. C. Chapman, A. Watson, Thomas J. Wood, Lemuel Bolles and John Stratton, with a capital of \$10,000, which was increased January 1, 1854, to \$20,000. The first President was A. Watson, who held that office till January 1, 1854, when he was succeeded by Hon. John Tracy, who held it till the expiration of the charter, which was granted for ten years, when they sold to John Y. Washburn and William A. Martin, who continued the business till June 1, 1871, when Mr. Washburn bought Mr. Martin's interest, and continued till September, 1871, when the establishment was burned and not rebuilt. The building stood on the west side of the river, on the canal, opposite the "hoe factory tenement houses," in the lower part of the village. It was erected in 1863. They employed on the average about thirty men, and manufactured about \$40,000 worth of goods per annum. They made hoes, forks and butcher knives, principally the former.

HOTELS.—The *St. James* is the principal hotel in the village, and, all things considered, is not surpassed by any in the county. James G. Van Wagenen, the present proprietor, has kept it since April, 1873. The frame of the main part was built by Jonathan Bald-

win, about the time when the question of the location of the county seat was being agitated, and is said to have been built with the expectation that Oxford would be designated as the site for the Court House, for which purpose, it is also claimed, it was built, though there is good reason to question this latter assertion. It was long used as a store, lodge room, tenement house, and for shops, and was converted into a hotel about twenty years ago by Thomas C. Pettis, who built the east wing about 1871, and kept it till he sold it to William Daniels and J. G. Van Wagenen, the latter of whom now keeps it.

The Rogers House, now kept by Samuel L. Hotchkiss, is the oldest hotel in the village. It was built previous to 1796, but has been remodeled very much and several times enlarged. The *Park House* was built about 1801 or '2, by Erastus Perkins, and was kept by him and members of his family as late as 1850. The present proprietor, Van Ness Glazier, took possession April 1, 1879. He had previously kept it two years from 1873, and was subsequently engaged in the same business in Afton, from which village he came to Oxford.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—Oxford has a very efficient fire department, consisting of two fire and two hose companies, under the supervision of A. S. Lewis, Chief Engineer, H. O. Daniels, Assistant Engineer, F. H. Burchard, Treasurer, and S. Moore, Clerk. The equipment consists of two hand engines, two hose-carts, a hook and ladder truck, and a thousand feet of serviceable hose. The department occupy a building on Fort Hill, formerly used as a store, which was purchased by the village for fire purposes in 1867, and furnished by the companies occupying it.

The first fire-engine was introduced into the village some time between 1808, and 1823, as appears from the *Oxford Times* of Sept., 1874. From the same publication (issue of Nov. 4, 1874,) we extract the following in reference to this subject:—

"In our endeavors to find when the first fire-engine was introduced into this village we learned of the following incident: During the summer of 1823, a bridge was being built across the river, where the present structure now stands. Jonathan Baldwin and Thomas Brown were the builders, we believe. One day the engine, a small affair, under the command of Daniel Shumway, was taken down the river to practice, to a spot located on the north side of the present grist-mill, there being no buildings there then. During the operations, Shumway, a noted wag, who held the pipe, threw water on to Brown, who was on one of the abutments of the bridge where he could not escape. This wanton sprinkling aroused the ire of Deacon Baldwin, well known for his quaint expressions and terrible wrath when provoked, who shouldered a broad-ax and confronting the foreman exclaimed 'by — Daniel Shumway, you let a drop of water

fall on the hem of my garments, and every man in the town will have an Engine.' Our historian says Shumway was pretty well frightened, and there was no more 'squirting' that day."

The first authentic record which refers to the existence of a fire company in the village which has come under our observation, bears date of March 9, 1824, when John Tracy, then president of the Board of Village Trustees, appointed Thomas G. Newkirk a fireman. May 23, 1825, a certificate was given by "Fire Co. No. 1," to Thomas G. Newkirk, as a member of that company. The certificate is signed by Daniel Shumway, Foreman, and Austin Hyde, Secretary.*

Niagara Engine Company was organized about 1846, in which year their hand engine was purchased. The engine was stored in Albany while in transit and was made to do duty at a large fire in that city, which broke out while it was there. The Department of Albany acknowledged their indebtedness and recommended the engine. The officers are: Charles M. Dodge, *Foreman*; Z. N. Lamphere, *Assistant Foreman*; S. Moore, *Secretary*; S. S. Stafford, *Treasurer*.

Lady Washington Company was organized about 1859, in which year the engine, a second-hand one, which during the frays between the volunteer fire companies in New York, had been thrown from the dock into the river, was purchased in that city. The first officers elected in the company were, F. P. Newkirk, *Foreman*; D. B. Smith, *Assistant Foreman*; W. H. Van Wagenen, *Secretary*; George Rector, *Treasurer*; C. B. Maynard, *Engine Master*; Henry Houghton, *Steward*. The present officers are: William Cook, *Foreman*; Thomas Robinson, *Assistant Foreman*; W. H. Van Wagenen, *Treasurer*; A. Morse, *Secretary*; George Ingraham, *Steward*.

Sappho Hose Company, was organized as *Lady Washington Hose Company*, a year or two after the *Lady Washington* engine was received. The name was changed Feb. 11, 1873, at which time the company, which had been previously merged in the engine company, became a distinct organization. The officers elected Feb. 11, 1873, were William M. Miller, *President*; George D. Hoyt, *Foreman*; T. B. Galpin, *Assistant Foreman*; C. G. Eccleston, *Secretary*; William Miller, *Treasurer*. The present officers are G. J. Parker, *President*; N. A. Bundy, *Foreman*; C. G. Eccleston, *Assistant Foreman*; T. B. Galpin, *Secretary*; M. D. McNeil, *Treasurer*. This company owns a fine parade carriage, purchased with their own means; and a banner, presented by a lady in Buffalo, who imposed as a condition to its reception that the members refrain from drinking for one year. As the company claim ownership, it is to be presumed that the condition was complied with.

* This certificate is hanging upon the walls of the rooms occupied by the Oxford Fire Department.

Niagara Hose Company, which had formerly been identical with the engine company, was organized as an independent company in April, 1877. The first officers were J. R. Glover, *President*; E. F. Eccleston, *Secretary*; Charles H. Seely, *Treasurer*; Charles Gillman, *Foreman*; George W. Hackett, *Assistant Foreman*. The present officers are: F. H. Burchard, *President*; E. F. Eccleston, *Secretary*; J. R. Glover, *Treasurer*; G. A. Moulton, *Foreman*; E. R. Gifford, *Assistant Foreman*. There is no organized company connected with the hook and ladder truck.

OXFORD ACADEMY.—The history of this remarkable institution dates back almost to the first settlement of the town. Within three years from the time the first falling tree in this wilderness echoed the onward march of civilization it had taken root, and though many difficulties attended its birth and early childhood, through the fostering care of those who founded it, it has survived to a vigorous old age, still being deeply rooted in the affections of the community it has so long blessed. It is a fitting, as it has been an enduring monument to the sagacity and enterprise of its founders, and well illustrates the character of the men who undertook to plant here the seeds of a growing civilization. It is among the earliest,* as it is the most honored of the literary institutions of the State; and we doubt if its history, especially its earlier associations, is paralleled by any similar institution in the State or country. Its longevity is not so remarkable as its survival of the conditions under which it was projected; for it has not encountered the iconoclastic influences and demands of an urban population. Going back in imagination eighty-seven years, "and divesting the landscape of every vestige of civilization, save here and there a small log house or an unfinished frame dwelling, replacing again the forests in their primeval grandeur, except when a small clearing had furnished sufficient room for the absolute necessities of life," we can faintly realize the state of this valley when the Oxford academy was established.

The building first used for the academy was erected in 1791, or the early part of 1792, and a school had been in operation eighteen months before the Academy was chartered. This building was the first frame building in the town. It stood on grounds now occupied by the residences of William H. Van Wagenen and William R. Mygatt, on the west side of Washington Square.

January 12, 1793, the persons named below, who

* Previous to 1794, there were only four academies west of the Hudson. These were *Farmers Hall Academy*, at Goshen, Orange county, incorporated March 26, 1790; *Montgomery Academy*, at Montgomery, Orange county, incorporated Jan. 21, 1791; *Hamilton Onside Academy*, merged into *Hamilton College*, May 26, 1812; and the *Schenectady Academy*, which has lapsed. The *Johnstown Academy* and the *Oxford Academy* were incorporated the same date, Jan. 27, 1794.

had "contributed for the purpose of erecting an Academy in the town of Jericho in the county of Tioga, for the instruction of youth in the learned languages and other branches of useful knowledge," and who had purchased a lot of land and erected a building thereon with the moneys contributed for the use and profit of said Academy, petitioned the Regents, pursuant to an Act of the Legislature passed April 13, 1787, (entitled an act to institute a University in this State, and for other purposes,) for the incorporation of said Academy:—

Avery Powers,*	Asa Lamb,
James Phelps,*	John Holdin,
Gershom Hyde,*	Thomas Lyon, Sr.,
Samuel Coe,*	Thomas Lyon, Jr.,
Benjamin Ray,*	James Mitchel,
Sherman Wattles,*	Oliver Jinks,
Witter Johnson,*	William McCalpin,
John Moore,	Samuel Lyon,
Medad Hunt,	William Linsley,
Nathaniel Wattles,*	Anson Cary,
David White,	Silas Hutchinson,
John McNeil,	William Hanna,
William Gordon,	Hugh Thompson,
Luthur Hunt,	Martin Laraway,
Jesse Locke,	Silas Cole,
Benjamin Hovey,*	Peter Osterhout,
Jonathan Fitch,*	Goodman Noble,
Uri Tracy,*	Henry Osterhoudt,
David Bates,*	James McMaster,
Joab Enos,*	Thomas Thompson,
John Harper,	Matthew Bellamy,
Alexander Harper,	James Gray,
William McFarland,	David Paine,
John McWhorter,	Ephraim Belding,
Solomon Martin,*	Chs. Arnold,
Oliver Trowbridge,	Charles Anderson,*
Stephen Day,	Rickerson Burlingame,
George Hale,	Solomon Dodge,
John V. D. Scott,	Daniel Tucker,
Francis Balcom,	Benjamin Jones,
John Church,	Daniel Hudson,
Nathaniel Bager,	Asa Turner,
Jehiel Wattles,	Beman Brockway,
Ephraim Barrett,	Thomas H. Crosswell,
Daniel Mark,	Noah Everett,
Asahel Jones,	John Fitch,
Ashly Gilbert,	Jacob Riddell,
Samuel Haight,	Thomas Burn,
Uriah Blaw,	Samuel M. Hopkins.

The charter was granted January 27, 1794. The first recorded meeting of the trustees was held the second Tuesday in April, 1794. John McWhorter was chosen Treasurer, and Benjamin Ray, Clerk. At a meeting held the next day it was voted to allow Benj. Hovey £164 13s. 6d., for materials, services, and other expenses attending the building of the

* Those whose names are followed with an * are named in the application for trustees. John Patterson, Dr. John McWhorter and Peter Burgot, whose names do not appear in the list, are also named in the charter as trustees. The facts stated in the petition are certified by Samuel M. Hopkins, and were sworn to before Robert Yates at Albany, Jan. 23, 1794. They were recorded by Robert Harper, May 21, 1794.

school house before referred to; and £155 11s., to Uri Tracy for teaching eighteen and two-thirds months. Benjamin Hovey and David Bates, the latter of Otsego county, each donated an acre of land for the use of the Academy. Among the rules adopted at the meeting last referred to for the government of the school were the following:—

"No scholar shall be admitted into the school until he can spell well, and read the lessons in Mr. Webster's first part and begin to read in Webster's third part.

"There shall be public exhibitions in speaking and writing, etc., twice a year, and those who are adjudged the most meritorious by the trustees of the school present, shall each of the two first have a premium of a book worth a dollar. The two next, of a book worth six shillings, and such other small premiums as the trustees present shall allow, not to exceed five dollars."

It was also voted "that all scholars in the Academy shall be taxed according to the studies they pursue, viz: the Latin scholars, one shilling and sixpence per week. Those who write, nine pence per week, and those who read, only a sixpence per week."

It was also voted at that meeting to employ Uri Tracy as Principal of the Academy for six months, at the rate of £100 per year, and action was taken relative to completing the house, which was then unfinished.

October 18, 1794, a committee consisting of Avery Powers, Solomon Martin and Uri Tracy, delegated to apply to the Regents for money due the Academy, presented for approval a petition showing:—

"That said Academy being established in a place where three years ago there were no inhabitants; the country is yet in an infant state, and consequently the said Academy, though in a very flourishing situation, needs the fostering care of the Regents of the University, the patrons of literature, to assist it in coming forward among other literary institutions in a respectable and useful manner. That we have deserved of that respectability, which anticipated would accrue to the institution by a visit from the committee of the Regents of the University the past season; and also of the appropriation of the money which said Regents were generously pleased to grant for the benefit of said Academy the present year. That said Academy at present consists of nearly forty scholars, and is daily becoming respectable in this western country, and bids fair under the patronage of the Regents of the University to become of very considerable consequence to the promotion of science.

"That we have had no funds but the generous donations of individuals, which were entirely expended in building a house and supporting the school free for two years, we have already incurred a debt, and the usefulness we have anticipated may be obstructed unless the Regency of the University are pleased to remember us favorably at their next meeting and assist us the ensuing year.

"That we are now in debt and deficient as it re-

spects a library, and entirely destitute of any philosophical or mathematical apparatus, we request the visiting committee would proceed to appropriate the money already granted us, or that they would assign it to the trustees of the Academy, to be by them appropriated, and that said visiting committee be pleased to make favorable mention of this institution to the Regents of the University at their next meeting."

Elisha Mosley, the second Principal, commenced his duties in the spring of 1794.

The following report of the Treasurer throws some light upon the condition of the finances at this early period:—

	£.	s.	d.	
1795—To amount of subscription	349	7	0	
To tuition bill for six months in 1794	19	18	0	
To money received of the Regency	120	0	0	
To tuition bill for 1795	41	14	10	
				£510, 19s. 10d.
1794—By paid Benjamin Hovey for procuring materials for building a house and bringing water thereto	164	13	6	
By paid Uri Tracy for 18½ months as Principal	155	11	0	
By overcharge in subscription	3	4	0	
1795—By paid Benjamin Hovey for his expenses in preparing a petition to the Regency, repairing the school-house, procuring a Seal and making provision for the Trustees at their two first meetings	34	17	0	
By paid Uri Tracy for six months as Principal in 1794	50	0	0	
				408, 5 6
Balance due the Trustees				£122, 14s. 4d.

November 19, 1796, measures were taken to dispose of the house and build a "better and more convenient" one; and a committee was appointed to petition the Legislature to set apart to the use of the Academy a part of the lands set apart for the promotion of literature. December 22, 1797, a committee was appointed to procure of Benjamin Hovey a deed for a lot of ground on which to build a new Academy. The old Academy building was sold to Ebenezer Bowen Upham, in December, 1797, for £80, with the reservation of its use one year from that date. The new house seems to have been completed in 1799, in September of which year, Ephraim Fitch, who was appointed a committee to adjust the accounts of the contractors, reported that he had paid to Jonathan Baldwin for labor on the new Academy as per contract, £62, and to Samuel Balcom, for a like purpose, £40 10s.; and for materials, mason work, &c., £86 os. 8d. A committee was appointed the same date, (Sept. 18, 1799,) to take measures to complete the house.* This building stood near and in front of the site of the residence of Dr. William G. Sands. It was burned in the latter part of that year, and on the 18th of January, 1800, a committee was appointed to petition the Legislature to grant a

* William H. Hyde, Esq., in the *Oxford Academy Jubilee*, p. 47, says the new Academy was ready for scholars in 1799; and that in October of that year the Circuit Court and General Inquest was held in it, Justice Kent. presiding.

lottery to rebuild it.* A third building was soon after erected under State patronage.† It stood diagonally opposite the residence of Ward Van Der Lyn.‡

June 5, 1800, the trustees made choice of lot 82, in the town of Scipio, Cayuga county, for the use and benefit of the Academy, agreeable to an act of the Legislature passed April 7, 1800, and Uri Tracy was instructed to notify the Secretary of State of such choice and apply to the Commissioners of the Land Office for a patent therefor. September 30, 1801, the sale of this lot to John Swartout was confirmed. What amount was received for it is not stated, but on receipt of the deed he was required to pay a balance of £186 5s. 4d.

January 21, 1804, James Glover was chosen President of the Board of Trustees. The records do not show that this office was previously held by any one; the meetings of the trustees were apparently presided over by the senior trustee.

The losses sustained by the fire and the arrears in the teacher's salary created a debt which became a lien upon the corporate property. In consequence the institution suffered a period of decline during several years immediately succeeding the erection of the third Academy building; and the school, when there was any, seems to have been conducted by private enterprise during the major portion of this time.§ The records do not show that a trustee meeting was held between April, 1809, and December, 1820.¶

* This committee consisted of Stephen O. Runyan, Peter B. Garney and James Glover.

† June 5, 1800, Stephen Collins was appointed to get the boards belonging to the Academy then at the mills up the river and bring them down to the ashery at the bridge; and Anson Cary, "to stick them up" and take care of them after their arrival.

‡ It originally stood on Washington Square. April 7, 1804, a committee was appointed to lay out the money subscribed to finish the outside of the building. April 1, 1806, Peter Burgot was authorized to give a deed to Josiah Stephens for the lot on which the Academy stood, and to execute a contract with Gurdon Hewitt for moving and finishing the Academy. Nov. 20, 1806, it was voted to postpone the finishing of the upper story and painting of the Academy till June 1st following.

§ Fragmentary records serve somewhat to indicate the status of the school during the earlier part of this period. April 7, 1801, it was voted "that the private school be no longer kept in the Academy." March 31, 1806, Platt Brush was voted attorney of the Board. January 3, 1807, it was voted to hire John Kinney to teach a classical in the Academy one year, at \$2 for each scholar, the scholars being required to furnish their own wood. The number of scholars, if only one teacher was hired, was limited to thirty. June 3, 1807, it was voted to give every possible encouragement to the ladies' school contemplated in the village. July 28, 1807, consent was given to Miss Sarah A. Burton to continue her academic school in the Academy till further notice. April 30, 1808, Rev. Mr. Hyde was granted permission to teach an academic school in the Academy. January 1, 1821, it was voted to convey, by a durable lease to District No. 2, the south-easterly room in the Academy for a common school; and Jan. 27, 1821, the easterly room on the lower floor of the Academy was leased to the trustees of that district, so long as it should stand, to be used for a common school and no other purpose.

¶ At the former meeting it was resolved "that the Board should appoint a committee of three to transact the prudential business, or concerns of said Board during their recess, and particularly to settle with Josiah Stephens." At the final meeting it was voted "that Jonathan Bush be the man to keep the key of the Academy, and that the Board adjourn *sine die*." The trustees present were: Peter Burgot, Uri Tracy, Jonathan Bush, Isaac Sherwood, Nathaniel Locke, Josiah Stephens, Samuel Farnham, Gurdon Hewitt, Samuel Balcom, Isaac F. Thomas and George Mowry, all of whom are dead.

In 1821, the Academy aroused from its lethargy.* A petition to the Regents, presented Jan. 27, 1821, states that, although the inhabitants in this part of the State were in indigent circumstances, through the unexampled exertions of a few individuals and assistance of the Regents, the trustees succeeded for a number of years in supporting a respectable academic school, which was of eminent usefulness to this and the adjoining counties. For a number of years past, however, owing to a series of misfortunes, the trustees have not been able to progress with the institution. One academy being erected and nearly finished accidentally took fire and was destroyed, and although the Regents generously assisted in obtaining for the use of the institution one of the literature lots, yet the small price which it then brought was all expended in another building, and the trustees, when the present building was completed, were left in debt. Several of the most distinguished supporters of the institution failed or have moved away, and the trustees have suffered a part of the house to be occupied for common schools. The house is now repaired by the trustees, they have cancelled all claims against the institution, procured an excellent instructor, and are determined that nothing shall be wanting on their part to make the Oxford Academy useful to the diffusion of literature and an object worthy of the fostering care of the Regents. There was then no other academy within forty miles.

March 3, 1821, a committee was appointed to treat with the officers of the *Oxford Library Corporation* † for its transfer to the trustees of the Academy. In Jan. 1825, the number of volumes reported in the library was seventy-two.

From the report to the Regents of March 5, 1821, it appears that the value of the academy lot and building ‡ was \$1,000; that there was no revenue; that the number of scholars was thirty-four, of whom fifteen studied the Latin and Greek languages, fourteen English Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic, four Reading and Writing, and one Mathematics. § David Prentice, LL. D., was the teacher and received a salary of \$400.

* A meeting of the trustees held Dec. 21, 1820, the first recorded meeting for eleven years, was attended by Ransom Rathbone, John Tracy, Epaphras Miller and Amos A. Franklin; and a week later Daniel Shumway, Ira Wilcox, Simon G. Throop, Hezekiah Morse and Henry Mygatt were added by elections.

† This corporation was organized at a meeting held at Perkins Hotel in Oxford on the evening of the 2d Tuesday in September, 1815, of which U. Tracy was chairman and Daniel Shumway, Ira Wilcox, William B. Lacy, Samuel Farnham, Uri Tracy, Simon G. Throop and Erastus Perkins were its first trustees.

‡ The building is described as being 46 by 28 feet, two stories, and built of wood, with two rooms on the lower floor, one 26 by 19 feet, the other 26 by 20 feet, and a hall five feet wide; while over the whole was a chamber, with a swing partition in the center.

§ Tuition was charged as follows: for the languages, higher mathematics, geography and higher English grammar, \$4.00; elements of English grammar, \$1.00; reading, writing and common arithmetic, \$2.00. The price of board was \$1.00 per week.

In 1821, the Legislature appropriated the avails of the literature lot in the township of *Fayette* as a fund for the support of the Academy.

This appropriation was secured through the efforts of Hon. John Tracy, who was then in the Assembly; and the report to the Regents Feb. 23, 1822, indicates the revenue derived therefrom, together with other sources of revenue, as follows:—

Fayette Literature Lot, 106 acres Sub. No. 1, contracted to George Pearson, due	\$318.00
Fayette Literature Lot, 62 acres Sub. No. 1, contracted to George Pearson, due	224.10
Fayette Literature Lot, 50 acres Sub. No. 2, contracted to Wm. Keith, due	100.00
Fayette Literature Lot, 100 acres Sub. No. 3, contracted to Isaac Dutcher, due	168.58
Fayette Literature Lot, 161 acres Sub. No. 4, contracted to Asa Willey, due	424.00
Fayette Literature Lot, 58 acres sold No. 5, contracted to John Loop, due	131.24
Fayette Literature Lot, 100 acres Sub. No. 5, contracted to Wm. Scoff, due	260.70
Fayette Literature Lot, 50 acres Sub. No. 6, contracted to Wm. Barstow, due	95.49
Cash received under the Act of 1822	1,247.91
Apparatus, one globe, bought in 1821	12.00
Tuition for preceding year about	400.00
In this report the value of the Academy lot and building was fixed at	750.00

The following list of students at this period presents names which are familiar to many who are now living:—

Latin Students:

John W. Allen,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Squire W. Corbin,	commenced Feb. 1, 1821
Stephen Franklin,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Rowland T. Gibson,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
Samuel S. Gibson,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
Richard A. Hosmer,	commenced Sept. 25, 1821
James S. Hunt,	commenced July 24, 1821
Ward Hunt,	commenced July 24, 1821
Charles Josslyn,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
John Kent,	commenced Jan. —, 1822
Daniel Lee,	commenced Dec. 3, 1821
Jno. F. McCalpin,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Daniel A. Marsh,	commenced July 20, 1821
Burrage Miles,	commenced July 1, 1821
Henry R. Mygatt,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
John F. Rathbun,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Wm. R. Rathbun,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Horatio Seymour,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
Geo. R. Shumway,	commenced Jan. —, 1821
Benj. K. Throop,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
Theodore G. Throop,	commenced Feb. 1, 1821
Charlemayne Town,	commenced Jan. 1, 1822
Edward Tourtelott,	commenced Jan. 1, 1821
Charles O. Tracy,	commenced Jan. 1, 1821

Students in Geography, English Grammar and Arithmetic:

Hiram Balcom, Luke Balcom, Chas. Baldwin, Joseph Clark, Calvin Cole, Jno. M. Gurnsey, John Howe, Lucius C. Hyde, William Lawton, Nathaniel Locke, Alvin S. Perkins, Joseph E. Smith, Nehemiah Smith,

Susan M. Avery, Eliza Baldwin, Frances Balcom, Fayette Balcom, Leafa Balcom, Anne V. Brown, Eliza H. Brown, Amanda Gurnsey, Julia Garnsey, Ruth Hovey, Jane Hughson, Lydia Knapp, Rebecca Morgan, Lucy Morse, Sarah Northrup, Lucretia Packer, Anne M. Perkins, Jane E. Perkins, Emily Tracy.

Students in Reading and Writing:

Samuel Baldwin, John W. Gibson, William Kent, John Locke, William McCalpin, Henry L. Miller, Emeline Patterson, Anne A. Willcox.

Students in Mathematics:

Alfred Willoughby.

June 2, 1823, action was taken relative to procuring a bell. David Prentice continued to act as principal till January 1, 1825, and under his supervision the Academy prospered. He was succeeded by William D. Beattie. Daniel Marsh of Schoharie, was employed as teacher in November, 1825, for one year. He was succeeded by Rev. Edward Andrews, who resigned in the spring of 1828. William D. Beattie was again employed to succeed him, the term to commence July 1, 1828.

September 25, 1829, action was taken with reference to the selection of a new site and the erection of a new building. April 20, 1830, the committee appointed to consider the expediency of changing the site, reported it inexpedient. December 2, 1830, it was resolved:—

"WHEREAS, The present building occupied as the Oxford Academy has become old, unfit and inconvenient, and the interests of the institution, as well as the village, will be promoted by the erection of a new building, with suitable rooms for a male and female department;" therefore,

"Resolved, That a subscription paper be now opened, for the purpose of obtaining the funds necessary to enable the trustees to erect said buildings as early in the ensuing season as shall be found practicable, and that as soon as the necessary amount shall be raised, then that immediate measures be taken by this Board to cause therewith a new building to be erected the ensuing season, with proper and convenient rooms, &c., for a male and female department; and that measures be also taken by this Board to employ an accomplished female instructress in the female department by the time the building shall be completed."

December 13, 1830, arrangements were made to purchase of Epaphras Miller a lot 52 feet front and 76 feet deep, upon the south side of, and facing on, Fort Hill Square, for the sum of \$400. This purchase was subsequently consummated. January 14, 1831, it was resolved to build of stone, at a cost not to exceed \$2,100. January 24, 1831, a committee was authorized to contract for the erection of a building 30 by 37 feet, two stories, of wood or stone, as they, in their judgment, thought best, with stone un-

* The first action with reference to the establishment of a female department was taken March 12, 1830, when a committee was appointed to report on the expediency of doing so.

derpinning five feet above the ground, a cupola, Venetian blinds, and out-houses.

September 28, 1831, it was resolved to sell the Academy building to the Methodist Episcopal church of Oxford for \$400. A committee was also appointed to dispose of the bell and purchase another. This sale was effected, and the building was afterwards burned.

November 17, 1831, Miss Emily C. Benedict was employed as instructress for one year; and the Executive Committee were authorized to purchase suitable chemical, astronomical and philosophical apparatus, at a cost not to exceed \$200.

December 30, 1831, the new academy was accepted as finished within the terms of the contract, with some slight exceptions.*

Its original cost was \$1,956.06.†

January 9, 1832, the employment of Merritt G. McKoon ‡ as principal was approved. Miss Benedict resigned January 1, 1833, and Miss Elizabeth Merwin, daughter of Rev. Samuel Merwin, of Wilton, Conn., was engaged as preceptress. Miss Merwin served two terms of fourteen weeks each, and was succeeded by Miss Elizabeth G. Giles, commencing Sept. 8, 1834. Miss Giles' resignation was accepted May 23, 1835, to take effect at the close of the term. Miss Sarah E. Robinson, of Troy, was employed the same date, commencing the first Monday in Sept., 1835. She resigned March 23, 1836, to take effect at the close of the term. June 13, 1836, Miss Katharine Whitney, of Boston, was employed as preceptress.

* The building, which was of wood, is described as being 50 feet front by 37 feet deep, with a basement story of stone and divided as follows: one study and recitation room 18 by 24 feet, well finished; one hall or clothes room about 8 feet square; a wood room 37 by 12 feet; and a room 37 by 16 feet, occupied by the female department for exercise. On the first floor above the basement are five rooms and a hall viz: a hall 6 by 32 feet, containing the stairs to the next story above, also the stairs to the wood room below; a principal study or recitation room 27 by 30 feet; one other recitation room 20 by 12 feet, and another 20 by 16 feet; and a clothes room 10 by 18 feet, from which the stairs descend into the exercise room. The whole of this story, (except the main hall,) with the room in the basement before described, is occupied by the female department. On the next floor are three rooms and a hall: one principal study and recitation room 30 by 37 feet, and two other recitation rooms of the size of those below. The upper, or attic story, is divided into four study rooms and a hall, each study room being about 9 by 16 feet. The two last described stories with the recitation room in the basement, are occupied by the male department.

† In another connection this is stated to be \$2,118.81. Up to Jan. 13, 1835, the cost as first stated had been increased by improvements and additions of furniture by \$551.91. There had also been paid since the erection, for apparatus, \$60.

‡ Merritt Golden McKoon was descended paternally from Martin Luther; the maiden name of his paternal grandmother was Lydia Luther. His mother was a daughter of John Williams, of the fifth generation from Roger Williams, the first settler of Rhode Island. He was born in Herkimer county, N. Y., March 7, 1807, and received an academical education at Madison University. He was graduated from Union College in 1832. He was an assistant teacher in a select school taught by his brother Samuel in Oxford in the summer of 1825, for six months. During portions of the years 1826, '7 and '8, he taught a common school in Oxford, and for a period thereafter a select school. He was principal of Oxford Academy from the spring of 1832 until 1844, and faithful and unremitting labors contributed largely to its prosperity during that period. Subsequently as principal of the Academy at Little Falls, professor in the State Normal School at Albany, and principal of the Delhi Academy he occupied positions of great honor and usefulness. He died November 28, 1854.

In 1833, the basement of the academy was fitted up for a primary school, which was in successful operation Jan. 1, 1834. Feb. 7, 1835, the trustees resolved to establish a department for the education of teachers for common schools, pursuant to an ordinance of the Regents enacted Jan. 20, 1835. In this latter year another bell was procured. August 13, 1836, Henry B. McNeil was appointed librarian and that year books to the value of \$174.27 were added to the library.*

December 25, 1840, Miss Whitney tendered her resignation as preceptress, to take effect at the close of the term. She was succeeded by Miss Jennette M. Hall, who tendered her resignation Oct. 13, 1844, to take effect at the close of the term. Miss Maria Hyde succeeded her, and her resignation was accepted April 25, 1846. Miss Elizabeth B. Hinckley was the next preceptress. She resigned Nov. 15, 1848, was re-engaged the following term, and was finally succeeded by Miss Elizabeth A. Barrett. The next preceptress was Miss Sarah Jane Stocking, whose resignation was accepted May 7, 1853. Dec. 1, 1843, a contract was entered into with John Abbott, A. M., to act as principal, succeeding Mr. McKoon. He had previously for seven years filled the position of assistant. Mr. Abbott tendered his resignation Aug. 28, 1851, to take effect at the close of the following winter term. May 17, 1852, Myron M. Goodenough was engaged for one term. His resignation was received and accepted June 18, 1852. Abel Wood, from the Academy at Gilbertsville was engaged as principal July 8, 1852. He does not seem to have served, however, for August 2, 1852, an arrangement was entered into with Charles E. Vanderburgh to act in that capacity. His resignation was presented Dec. 7, 1852. Abel Wood, A. M., was again engaged Feb. 14, 1853. His resignation was accepted May 31, 1853, to take effect at the close of the term.

The positions of principal and preceptress seem now to have been filled temporarily, the former by Charles E. Vanderburgh, and the latter by Miss Sarah Patterson. William Wright, a graduate of Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, succeeded to the former position, and Miss Jane N. Corey, to the latter. Merritt G. McKoon succeeded Mr. Wright in the principalship, and held the position till his death, Nov. 28, 1854. He was succeeded by Frederick Humphrey, from Norwich Academy, and Samuel McKoon, who jointly assumed to conduct the Academy and pay the contingent expenses, together with their own compensation, from the revenue arising from tuitions and the appropriations made by the Regents for the support of teachers' classes, as their predecessor had done. Mr. Humphrey resigned the principalship July 29, 1856, and was suc-

ceeded by J. C. Van Ben Schoten, who resigned June 26, 1858. Henry Barnes, Jr., next succeeded to the position and held it till his death, Feb. 24, 1859. He was succeeded by D. G. Barber.

Miss Zilpha Redfield, a graduate of Brooklyn Female Seminary, was preceptress at the close of the school year in 1854; and Miss Sarah Stebbins, in March, 1856. Miss Maria M. Austin, held that position March 27, 1858, and was succeeded August 30, 1859, by Miss Mary Thorp, who remained only one term. She was succeeded, but whether immediately the records do not show, by Miss Emily Thorp, whose name first appears in that connection August 25, 1863.

June 3, 1865, D. G. Barber and J. W. Thorpe were allowed to manage the Academy (except the primary department), under the direction of the trustees, and as a full compensation therefor receive the tuitions and the moneys to be received from the Regents, to commence in August following. This arrangement was terminated February 28, 1868, to take effect at the close of the next term. During this period, or a portion of it, Miss L. J. Reddy was preceptress, for she and Mr. Barber presented their resignations January 17, 1868. Miss Reddy's was accepted February 7, 1868, and she was succeeded by Miss Margaret R. Gorton. Miss Margaret S. Thorp was engaged as preceptress, July 27, 1869. Mr. Barber was relieved as principal, January 15, 1870, and was succeeded by — Storrs, who stayed but a short time, for Professor Herbert J. Cook was Principal September 2, 1870. His principalship was terminated April 15, 1871, to take effect at the close of the academic year. It was voted June 22, 1871, to re-engage him. Miss Thorp's resignation was accepted May 3, 1871. Miss M. A. B. Raymond, of Hartford, Conn., was employed as preceptress August 3, 1871.

June 24, 1841, lots numbers 7 and 8, adjoining Fort Hill, and containing about one and one-fourth acres, were bought of Henry R. Mygatt for \$1,000, as a site for a new academy building; but the project was not consummated till 1854. January 25, 1853, John Tracy, Calvin Cole and Joseph G. Thorp were appointed a building committee to superintend its erection. February 15, 1854, the Legislature was memorialized for a loan of \$3,000, with which to finish the new academy building, which had been begun, but the records do not indicate the result of this appeal. May 16, 1854, it was resolved to move the old academy building to an adjacent lot and convert it into a boarding house, in accordance with a proposition of the *Oxford Academy Boarding Association*, who offered to accept the building when so removed and fitted up, in payment of \$1,000 of the stock of the association. The new building, of wood,

* December 11, 1838, the library contained 307 volumes, the original cost of which was \$223.48; the philosophical apparatus then on hand cost \$416.63.

84 by 44 feet, two stories, with stone basement, was completed in 1854, at a cost of \$6,047.53; and the old building removed to the new lot, fitted up and occupied as a "Young Ladies' Boarding Hall," for which purpose it is now used.* The report to the Regents, January 15, 1855, speaks of the new building as being "beautiful in exterior, commodious and well finished," and places the value of the two buildings at \$8,000. The new building is the one at present in use as an academy.

The completion of this elegant edifice and the approach of the sixtieth anniversary were deemed a fitting occasion for a grand jubilee and reunion of teachers and students of the Academy, who were widely scattered, and then, as now, filling high official stations—some in the halls of legislation, others in the learned professions, while many adorned the humbler walks of life. Invitations were accordingly sent to former teachers and *alumni*, and on the 1st and 2d of August, 1854, a large representation gathered to do honor to the occasion. The ceremonies were imposing and impressive, and highly interesting throughout; but we have not the space at our command to give even an epitome of the proceedings.†

February 7, 1868, the committee previously appointed to investigate and report the condition of the Academy, presented a plea for raising the school to a higher grade and making it a greater means of usefulness than it had maintained for some years past, by employing more teachers and better compensating them.

April 27, 1868, the Legislature authorized and directed the trustees of the village of Oxford to levy and collect, on the taxable property of the corporation, \$1,500 for the relief of the Oxford Academy, \$874.81 of which was to be applied to the liquidation of the indebtedness of the Academy, and the balance expended in improving the property. The whole amount so expended in repairs was \$834.75.

June 12, 1871, it was "Resolved, That the presiding officer of this meeting, [J. W. Glover,] with Mr. James W. Clarke, be a committee to inform the Bishop of this Diocese, Rt. Rev. F. D. Huntington, of the present condition of the Academy, and to advise with him as to its future progress." It was also resolved to circulate a subscription for the permanent endowment of the Academy, with directions to endeavor to

* It originally stood on the east side of Fort Hill Square, between the residence of Gerrit Perkins and the Baptist parsonage, adjoining Mr. Perkins' residence on the south. It was removed to the river bank, on the south side of that Square, where it now stands. March 23, 1875, the trustees ratified its purchase of Henry Balcom, by a committee appointed for that purpose, for \$3,000.

† These are fully and faithfully delineated in the *Oxford Academy Jubilee*, which was published at the instance of the Home Committee, composed of Dwight H. Clarke, Rufus J. Baldwin, William H. Hyde, Solomon Bundy, Gerrit H. Perkins, Henry L. Miller and Henry R. Mygatt, who had charge of the details of the celebration.

raise without delay at least \$10,000 for that purpose. At the next meeting, June 19, 1871, the committee reported that the amount had been subscribed, and the further sum of \$1,500 pledged to the same object. The latter date Bishop Huntington was unanimously elected a trustee and President of the Academy, which office he held by successive re-elections till Feb. 3, 1876, when he resigned. Aug. 1, 1871, a negative answer was given to a question propounded by the Bishop, as to "whether the fact of the lady [then] under consideration for the position of preceptress being a Congregationalist would be considered by the trustees as a disqualification?" Aug. 3, 1871, a committee was appointed to decide on suitable church services for opening the school.

March 1, 1872, it was resolved to petition the Legislature to so amend the Statute as to permit an increase to twenty-one of the number of trustees, which had been previously increased from nine to twelve. The request was subsequently made to the Regents, who, it was discovered, had jurisdiction over the matter, and was granted November 12, 1872. Permission to elect a Vice-President was also given, and Dec. 3, 1872, Henry R. Mygatt was elected to that office.

Prof. Herbert J. Cook presented his resignation as Principal, March 21, 1872, to take effect at the close of the academic year. Rev. Charles Woodward, A. M., who had been engaged some weeks previously by a committee appointed for that purpose, was chosen Principal, Aug. 21, 1872, and presented his resignation the same day, by reason of ill health. Charles W. Brown, late a teacher of mathematics in the Academy, was engaged as Principal the balance of the term.

Rev. Frank B. Lewis was engaged as Principal Dec. 8, 1872, to enter upon his duties January 6, 1873; a short interim, while Mr. Lewis could enter upon his duties, being filled by Warren E. Hubbard. Mr. Lewis tendered his resignation March 26, 1879; it was accepted March 28, 1879. He was succeeded by James A. Brown, of Hamilton College, who is the present Principal. Miss M. A. B. Raymond's resignation was received June 30, 1874, to take effect July 1, 1874, the close of the term. She was succeeded by Miss C. H. McNeil, who had previously served some time as assistant, and who was relieved from the duties of preceptress at her own request, on account of ill health, and re-assigned to the position of assistant, to take effect Aug. 31, 1875. She was re-engaged as preceptress Feb. 12, 1876, and was succeeded by Miss Louise Bacon, of Greenfield, Mass., who was engaged June 27, 1876. Mrs. Olive C. Beauchamp succeeded to the position in July, 1877. Her resignation was tendered Feb. 15, 1879, and accepted March 21, 1879, to take effect at the close of the school year.

HISTORY OF CHENANGO COUNTY.

She was succeeded by Miss Estella June, of Oxford. Miss Louisa Humphrey is the teacher of the primary department.

We extract from the report to the Regents to June 22, 1878, the following statistics:—

Schedule of Academic Property:	
Value of grounds.....	\$ 1,500.00
“ of buildings,*.....	11,000.00
“ of library, 1210 volumes,†.....	955.00
“ of philosophical apparatus,‡.....	962.67
Bonds and Mortgages.....	7,250.00
Notes receivable.....	2,150.00
Furniture, not fixtures.....	450.00
Real Estate, other than Academy lot....	150.00
Total.....	24,417.67

Treasurer's notes payable.....	\$900.00	
Balance due Treasurer at date of report.....	5.97	905.97

Total, less debts and incumbrances, \$23,511.70

Revenue for the year ending June 22, 1878:—

From tuition collected or considered-collectable.....	\$1,437.80
From income derived from real and personal property.....	936.15
Apportionment from Literature Fund....	41.18
Total revenue.....	\$2,415.13

Disbursements:

For teachers' salaries.....	\$2,700.00	
For interest accrued during year on debts due from Academy.....	45.11	
For repairs.....	1.72	
For fuel and other incidental expenses.....	312.57	3,059.40

Excess of expenditures over revenue 644.37

The number of scholars taught during the year was 128, of whom 67 were males, and 61 females. The average age was 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. The number of academic students enrolled during part of the year, and who were claimed by the trustees to have pursued for four months or more of said year, classical studies, or the higher branches of English education, or both, after having passed the preliminary academic examination, was nine males and five females. The average age of the males

* The Academy building is rectangular in form, 44 by 84 feet, two stories above the stone basement. The basement contains a school-room used for the primary department, a large play room and two cloak-rooms. The first story contains the principal's office, the general assembly room, library and class-room; the second story, the ladies' school-room, three class rooms, the laboratory, and a cloak room. The building is in a fair state of repair and is kept neat and orderly. The general assembly room was newly furnished two years since with desks and settees of the most improved patterns, and the furniture of the other rooms repaired and painted. There is a generous supply of black-boards in rooms where needed.

† The library at present (August, 1879,) contains 1,210 volumes of carefully selected literature; but of late years but few additions have been made to it. Its original cost was \$1,288.84.

‡ The original cost was \$1,249.59.

was 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ years; females, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$; general average 17. The number of scholars pursuing classical studies during the year was twenty-one, of whom nine were males and twelve females.*

Rates of tuition:—

Common English Studies.....	\$ 7 00
Mathematical and Higher English.....	9 00
Classical, including all the preceding.....	11 00

CHURCHES.—“Our ancestors,” says William H. Hyde, Esq., “seem to have acted upon the sentiment, that ‘the groves were God’s first temples,’ and enjoyed more the advantages of natural religion, than the stated preaching and ordinances of revealed Christianity. They were more distinguished for worldly enterprise than for piety, postponing the interests of organized Christianity even to those of literature and learning.

• • • Our early settlers were strong, earnest men, impelled by common necessity, and subject to feelings of common interest; they loved their neighbors as themselves, labored hard and long, and left the result to Providence. If they had not the advantages, they were without the evils of more advanced society; and ‘a fellow-feeling made them wondrous kind.’ †

The Associated Presbyterian Church is, with one exception, the oldest ecclesiastical organization in the county. It may be called “the mother of churches,” in this village, as, for at least fifteen years, it was the only one here; and when at length others were organized, they drew some of their most valued material from its membership. The history of this church reaches back into the last century. The record of its formation is lost, and the precise date cannot be determined; but when the Associated Presbyterian Society of Oxford was legally organized at a meeting held Sept. 19, 1799, the church was already in existence, and was represented by its officers in that meeting. ‡

The faithful minister and missionary who gathered this little band of Christian disciples in the midst of these forest wilds, was Rev. John Camp. A graduate of Yale College, Mr. Camp, brought to this new com-

* The Board of Trustees is at present composed of James W. Glover, President; William H. Hyde, Vice-President; Charles W. Brown, Secretary; William H. Van Wageningen, Treasurer; John R. Van Wageningen, Gerrit H. Perkins, Ward Van Der Lyn, Horace Packer, D. D. Shepard, Isaac S. Sherwood, F. G. Clarke, L. A. Knott, William R. Mygatt, General John C. Robinson, V. C. Emerson, John R. Clarke, Hon. Horatio Seymour, Spencer F. Allis, Richard M. Clark, M. D., and Rev. Walter Ayrault, D. D.

† Oxford Academy Jubilee.

‡ The meeting at which this organization was effected was held in the Academy in Oxford, and was presided over by Uri Tracy and Solomon Curtis, the latter of whom was the deacon of the church. The trustees then elected were Jonathan Bush, John Nash, Uri Tracy, Solomon Curtis, Edward Robbins, Nathan Carpenter, Ephraim Fitch, Joshua Mersereau and Lyman Ives. The Society was reorganized May 7, 1808, and again Jan. 26, 1818, having “become dissolved in consequence of a non-compliance with the direction of the Statute with regard to the filling of vacancies in the office of trustees.” At each meeting the number of trustees was limited to three, and Uri Tracy, Thomas Butler and Stephen O. Runyan were elected to that office at the former meeting, and Solomon Bundy, William Gile and Amos A. Franklin, at the latter.

munity the intellectual culture and devoted piety which marked the New England ministry of that day. He early identified himself with the educational interests of the place, was a trustee of the Academy, and endeavored to promote in every way, the religious, moral and material interests of the young and thriving village. His ministry continued about three years.

For more than a dozen years the only public religious services in the place were maintained by this people in the village academy; then they met for a time at the private residence of Deacon Amos A. Franklin. When this grew small for their increasing numbers, the good deacon finished off at his own expense, the second story of his cabinet shop, and for a number of years made them welcome to its use. This building, now a private dwelling, still stands on "Merchants' Row," nearly opposite the Presbyterian parsonage. At length, under the impulse of a powerful revival of religion, a house of worship was determined upon. It was begun in 1822, and dedicated to the service of God, July 31, 1823. The building cost about \$4,000, the land, (upon which the church still stands,) being donated by Mr. Ira Willcox. In 1857, after thirty-four years of service, the church was put in thorough repair; the old square pews replaced by modern ones, and the whole recarpeted and upholstered. No great changes were made after that until 1873. In that year the semi-centennial of its erection, it was determined to entirely remodel it and adapt it to the demands of modern taste. This was done at an expense of over \$10,000, and when it was rededicated, May 6, 1874, it was pronounced one of the most tasteful and beautiful village churches in this part of the State.

The present and only parsonage was purchased in 1866, at an expense of \$3,100, and has since been greatly improved.

The present membership of the church, (in 1879,) is 133; the number of Sabbath School scholars, 137. The Church is in a good financial condition, being entirely out of debt, and having an income equal to its expenses. It gave last year, to further the interests of religion, \$1,750, of which sum \$302 were contributed to Christian work outside the village. Though connected with the Presbytery of Otsego, the church is Congregational in its government.

The following is the succession of pastors:—

Revs. John Camp, 1799; Eli Hyde, 1808; Edward Andrews, 1818; Marcus Harrison, 1822; J. D. Wickham, D. D., 1823; Elijah D. Wells, 1825; Charles Gilbert, 1829; James Abell, 1830; George W. Bassett, 1837; Arthur Burtis, D. D., 1839; William M. Richards, 1846; Charles Jerome, 1847; Henry Callahan, 1850; Elliott H. Payson, 1862; Charles F. Janes, 1870; Henry P. Collier, 1873; Henry N. Payne, 1879.

OFFICERS:—Rev. Henry N. Payne, *Pastor*; John W. Thorp, M. D., Geo. H. Turner and Geo. L. Trask, *Deacons*; John W. Thorp, M. D., *Superintendent Sunday School*; McGeorge Bundy, *Assistant Superintendent Sunday School*; J. A. Coville, W. M. Miller and E. L. Corbin, *Trustees*.*

St. Paul's Church of Oxford was organized under the labors of Rev. William B. Lacey, the first rector, May 23, 1814. The meeting at which the organization was effected was held at the house of Abijah Lobdell, Jr., in Oxford, and Frederick Hopkins and John Backus were elected wardens, and Peter Burgot, Ransom Rathbun, Chauncey Morgan, Abijah Lobdell, Jr., Ebenezer Hull, William M. Price, John Spoor and John Church, vestrymen. At this time, Lucinda Backus and Bede Hull were the only communicants.

Meetings were held at first in the Academy; but efforts were early made to procure a suitable place of worship. Henry Van Der Lyn interested himself in the circulation of a subscription for this purpose,† and Feb. 23, 1815, the amount subscribed having reached \$1,995, a committee, consisting of William M. Price, Ransom Rathbun and Frederick Hopkins, was appointed to receive proposals for the erection of a church. March 21, 1815, a contract was entered into with Messrs. Smith & McGeorge, who engaged to build an edifice, 40 by 50 feet, for \$2,200. The site selected was on Fort Hill Square, and was conveyed to the church by the village trustees. The church was completed and consecrated by John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York. This, apparently, was the first church edifice erected in the village. A bell was added in 1818.

In 1855 and '56 the building of the present church edifice engaged the attention of the Society, and \$10,000 were subscribed towards that object. Its construction was commenced in 1856 and finished in 1857. Its cost was \$13,387. It was consecrated Oct. 14, 1857. In this year also (1857) the rectory was built, at a cost of \$2,540. The chapel, which was begun in 1859, was completed and paid for in 1860. In 1861, \$1,505 were paid for the iron fence around the church. In 1863, \$4,000 were subscribed for the purpose of adding a stone porch and bell tower to the church. In 1870 a new organ was purchased at a cost of \$3,200. In 1877 the interior of the church was richly decorated and newly carpeted, and a new bell hung, at a cost of about \$2,000. The church is a fine, substantial stone structure, and with its elaborately, costly and tastily decorated interior,

* This sketch was kindly prepared by the pastor, Rev. Henry N. Payne.

† Jan. 3, 1815, the vestry passed a vote of thanks to Henry Van Der Lyn, for having opened a subscription for the erection of a church edifice, and he was requested to persevere in his laudable undertaking.

and ornate exterior surroundings, is a real gem in an otherwise beautiful village.*

The first Communion was held Dec. 10, 1815, at which time there were seven communicants.

The following have been the successive rectors of this church: Revs. William B. Lacey, 1814-'18; Leverett Bush, 1818-'42; Thomas Towell, 1842-'44; T. R. Chipman, 1844; Dr. Benjamin W. Stone, 1845-'50; S. Anson Coxe, 1850-'53; Mannsell Van Rensselaer, 1853-'54; S. Anson Coxe, 1854-'57; D. H. Macurdy, 1857-'65; Walter Ayrault, 1865-'75; R. M. Duff, 1875-'79.

The table given below shows the number of baptisms, marriages, funerals, confirmations and offerings, and the average number of communicants, scholars and families during each rectorship, as nearly as they can be ascertained from the records and minutes.

The Oxford Baptist Church of Christ was organized in what was then known as the McNeal school house, July 14, 1815. In a neighboring grove, situated on the left bank of the Chenango, a half-hour's walk below the village bridge, the council of recognition met, August 17. Among the sixteen constituent members were Nathaniel Havens, Mrs. Clara Havens, Daniel Tracy, Jr., Mrs. Polly Tracy, John Dodge, Mrs. Betsey Gifford, Mrs. Abigail Hackett, John Hull, Mrs. Hannah Hull, John Perry, Mrs. Mary Perry, Hiel Tracy and Mrs. Susan Tracy. Diligent search after the names of the remaining three has been unavailing.

The organization grew rapidly, gaining within three years a membership of 103. In July, 1819, the question of building a house of worship was agitated. Fourteen years passed before the desire was realized. Meanwhile the congregations worshiped in school-

* In this church are the chandeliers which were sent from England to St. George's church, New York. They were presented to the parish by that church during the rectorship of Rev. Dr. Milner, through the interposition of Gerrit Van Wagenen, a vestryman of St. George's church. They are nearly two hundred years old.

houses and elsewhere; many souls were converted, and about one hundred persons were received into the membership of the church upon the confession of their faith in the Saviour. Elder Jabez S. Swan, subsequently pastor, preached on the occasion of the dedication, January 9, 1834, on "This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven." Gen. 28:17. This text was truly prophetic in import. The Holy Spirit has indeed dwelt among the worshippers in the sanctuary, with regenerating and sanctifying power. The church has since numbered about 600 additions by baptism, an average of more than one per month. Few years have passed unblest in this regard.

The church has served as a feeder of other Baptist churches, recording 609 dismissals by letter against 417 accessions from that source. 126 members have passed from her fellowship to the joys of the Church Triumphant. The average membership reported has been 192. In August, 1879, it was 259.

The Sunday-school has for many years included in its membership the majority of those in attendance at the morning services. Its superintendents have been Randall Maine, Samuel Root, William L. Beardsley, David G. Barber and Cyrus M. Gray. The contributions of the church and school for benevolent objects are estimated to have averaged about \$100 per year for a long series of years. During the year ending September, 1878, they aggregated \$360.53. The women of the church have sustained efficient missionary and other societies, and have always been recognized by their pastors as faithful helpers in the gospel. The young people have contributed much to the strength of the church, and merit grateful mention.

The following list gives the names of the pastors in the order of their service, and the dates at which their several labors terminated, as nearly as can be ascertained. For the record of memorable events in Elder

Rectors.	Years.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Funerals.	Con- firmations.	Commu- nicants.	S. S. Scholars	Families.	Offerings.†
Wm. B. Lacey...	1814-18	46	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leverett Bush...	1818-41*	82	40	57	.....	62	45	40	.....
Thomas Towell..	1842-3	21	4	10	11	88	46	.....	.....
T. R. Chipman...	1844	4	4	6	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dr. Benj. W. Stone	1845-9	40	15	29	28	101	68	77	\$ 672 00
S. Anson Coxe...	1850-2	18	9	17	13	116	.....	56	3,560 00
M. Van Rensselaer	1853-4	28	6	9	7	120	.....	60	1,217 00
S. Anson Coxe...	1855-7	19	5	18	18	116	65	71	1,095 13
D. H. Macurdy...	1858-64	84	16	57	54	126	97	88	1,142 00
Walter Ayrault...	1865-75	161	32	83	120	174§	95||	107	15,522 66‡
R. M. Duff.....	1876-9	83	18	34	58	189	110	131	76,086 69¶
		586	149	320	313	.....	.....	.....	\$115,466 48

* The records from 1826 to 1877 are wanting.
 † The amounts in this column are exclusive of the support of the clergy.
 ‡ During this rectorship \$13,387 were raised for the new church, \$2,540 for the parsonage, and \$5,505 for other improvements.
 § Only four years are reported.

§ The least number was in 1865-115; the greatest number in 1873-202. There was a steady increase between these years.
 ¶ This item includes the rector's salary; and \$11,500 of the offering in 1872 was for the endowment of Oxford Academy as a diocesan school.
 ** Estimated for a part of the year 1879.

Swan's pastorate, the reader is referred to his autobiography, which may be found in many homes in the county. Levi Holcomb, Oct. 31, 1822; Nathaniel Otis, Dec. 18, 1831; Robert Adams, April 20, 1833; Washington Kingsley, Feb. 4, 1837; ——— Bestor, July 29, 1838; Jabez S. Swan, Nov. 20, 1841; Elisha G. Perry, April 25, 1844; George W. Stone, March 31, 1847; William S. Smith, April 1, 1851; Elijah Baldwin, March 19, 1853; Nathaniel Ripley, April 18, 1857; William T. Potter, Jan. 11, 1864; Lysander E. Spafford, March 27, 1870; Allen Reynolds, March 30, 1873; John C. Ward, March 31, 1877; William R. Baldwin, now pastor, Aug. 1879.

The following named have served as deacons: Hiel Tracy, John McNeal, John Perry, Randall Maine, Ira Noble, Jeremiah York, Benjamin Randall, William L. Jacobs, Samuel Root, Obadiah Tower, David G. Barber, Whitman R. Mowry. The four last named were serving at this writing, August, 1879.

Among those licensed to preach the gospel are the Rev. Messrs. George Balcom, now of Kansas; E. T. Jacobs, of Afton, N. Y.; and George W. Stone. The two last were also ordained here, Mr. Stone while he was serving as pastor.

The house of worship has recently been somewhat enlarged and thoroughly remodeled. When complete, among other noticeable improvements, there will be a stately tower, surmounted by a neat spire; commodious basement rooms fitted up with modern appliances; and an audience room provided with a horseshoe gallery, frescoed, reseeded and refurnished, with a seating capacity of upwards of 450. An open baptistry of the most approved pattern will appear at the rear of the platform. The contemplated outlay is \$5,200.

With a parsonage, barn and ample grounds, for the use of her ministers; first-class sheds for the accommodation of the many of the congregation living on their distant farms; and a house of worship unsurpassed for convenience by any in the county, the church will possess the material requisites for the achievement of a future worthy of her past. For these gifts from His hand, she is grateful to her Lord. For a continued supply of spiritual facilities, she waits on Him in worship and work.*

The First Methodist Episcopal Church. It cannot be determined when this church was organized, but it is believed that its history dates back to about 1815. The corporate existence of the *Methodist Episcopal Church of the Village of Oxford* dates from September 24, 1831, at which date "the male persons of full age belonging to the Methodist Episcopal church in the village of Oxford met at the Academy in said

village, where they steadily attended for divine worship, . . . for the purpose of electing nine discreet persons of the said church as trustees, to take the charge of the estate and property of the said church and to transact all affairs relative to the temporalities thereof." James Atwell, who was then pastor of the church, and William E. Chapman were chosen to preside, and Bliss Willoughby, Nathaniel Willcox, Caleb Sebury, Everitt Judson, Gardner B. Lewis, Elias Widger, William E. Chapman, George H. King and Daniel Dudley, members of said church, were elected trustees.

The earliest meetings are supposed to have been held about 1815, and organization effected about 1817, in Mr. VanWagenen's barn, on Albany street. The old barn is still standing. Bliss Willoughby, Nathaniel Willcox, Eliakim Northrup and James Fenner were among the first members.

Up to the time of its corporate existence the Society seems to have worshiped in the barn in which the organization was effected. About that time they purchased the old Academy building, in which they worshiped till 1841, when their present church edifice was erected, at a cost of about \$3,000. It was quite extensively repaired seven or eight years since.

There is no record of the earlier preachers. From an early day the church was connected with the Norwich circuit, but the church there was not organized until 1814. Previous to 1828, Revs. Densmore and Benjamin Shipman preached here, but how long cannot be ascertained. The following is the succession of pastors from 1828: Revs. Henry Peck, 1828; Mr. Mansfield, 1829; John Snyder, 1830; James Atwell, 1831; William Bowdish and Mr. Stowell, 1832; Henry Halstead, who was the first stationed preacher, 1833-34; John Bailey, now a minister in the Protestant Episcopal church, 1835; Lyman Sperry, who was some years since placed on the superannuated list and is now living in Unadilla, N. Y., 1836-7; George Harmon, an eccentric, yet powerful man, 1838-9; J. C. Ransom, a great revivalist in his day, now superannuated and living in Oxford, 1840; W. H. Pearne, D. D., under whose administration the present church was built, 1841-2; Lyman Sperry, 1843-4; William Bixby, 1845; L. L. Knox, 1846; William Wyatt, a remarkable man and able preacher, 1847-8; Bottwick Hawley, D. D., 1849; Zedekiah Paddock, D. D., died recently in Binghamton, N. Y., 1850; Selah Stocking, 1851-2; A. S. Graves, 1852-3; J. S. Wright, 1854; Hiram Gee, 1855-6; L. H. Stanley, 1857; A. T. Mattison, 1858-60; William R. Cobb, 1860-2; Dwight Williams, 1862-4; Wm. C. Brown, 1864-6; Wm. G. Queal, 1866-8; T. P. Halstead, (son of Rev. Henry Halstead, who was pastor here in

* This sketch was kindly prepared by the pastor, Rev. W. R. Baldwin.

1833-4, 1868-71; S. F. Brown, 1871-3; H. V. Talbot, 1873-5; J. K. Peck, A. B., 1875-7; S. C. Fulton, Ph. B., 1877-9.

The present number of members is 113; the attendance at Sabbath School, 89. With scarcely an exception since its organization this church has been favored with pastors of ability and culture. Some of them have ranked among the strongest men of the denomination.

The First Universalist Society in the Town of Oxford, at Oxford village, was organized at the school-house in that village July 8, 1833, at a meeting over which Anson Cary and Luke Metcalf presided, and of which D. Denison was clerk. Nine trustees were elected, viz: Luke Metcalf, Philip Bartle, Daniel Denison, Anson Cary, Oliver Richmond, Ira Dodge, Jabez Robinson, Thomas Brown and Henry Balcom. Charles Perkins was elected clerk of the Society, and Calvin Cole, collector.

Their church edifice was built in 1836, at a cost of about \$3,000. The site was bought by Henry Balcom and Ira Dodge, about 1835 or '6, of Ethan Clarke, for the purpose of erecting a church thereon, to be conveyed to the Society at a future time, and was deeded to the Society Nov. 26, 1839, for \$300. In 1871, the church was repaired, repainted and lowered about twenty inches, at an expense of about \$1,000.

Previous to the erection of the church, meetings were held in the school-house by Rev. Nelson Doolittle, who came here occasionally as an itinerant and created a sentiment in favor of building a house of worship. Rev. Mr. Skeels also held meetings occasionally. The first pastor was John T. Goodrich,* who commenced his labors in 1836 and remained till October, 1849. He was succeeded by A. W. Bruce, who remained about two years. Rev. Charles E. Hughes next served them about five years. Rev. J. G. Bartholomew was engaged to preach half the time January 18, 1856, and served them about two and a half years. A Mr. Bennett, who was a student in the St. Lawrence University, at Canton, N. Y., preached for them for a year after Mr. Bartholomew left. Daniel Ballou preached here and at East Smithville while attending the St. Lawrence University. After his graduation his services were engaged, and Jan. 7, 1861, a convention was called to ordain him. A committee from this church was appointed to confer with a similar committee from the church at East Smithville for this purpose. He closed his labors April 1, 1863. John W. LaMoine served them two years, about 1872 and '73, since which time they have had no pastor. Occasional meetings have been held, about three months

* Mr. Goodrich is supposed to have been burned to death in the great Chicago fire, as he registered at the Metropolitan Hotel on the night of the fire and was not seen afterwards.

in 1876, by Daniel Ballou, then and now residing in Utica.

There are less than a dozen members, and the Society embraces only about ten families.

The present trustees are Samuel E. Lewis, David H. Bixby, Irving Taintor, Amos Miner, James M. Edwards and Charles A. Bennett.

SOCIETIES.—*Oxford Lodge, No. 175, F. & A. M.*, was organized March 10, 1815, as *Oxford Lodge, No. 235*. The officers at that time were: William M. Price, *W. P. M.*; Ransom Rathbun, *S. W.*; David Shumway, *J. W.*; Levi Sherwood, *Treasurer*; Thos. W. Watkins, *Secretary*; Ira Burlingame, *S. D.*; Philo Judson, *J. D.*; Ishmael Nichols and Isaac Sherwood, *Stewards*; Gurdon Williams, *Tiler*. This lodge was probably disbanded in 1831, as the last communication recorded bears date of May 26, 1831, though no reference is made to the surrender of the charter.

It was re-organized July 22, 1850, as *Chenango Valley Lodge, No. 175*, at a meeting of the following named Master Masons, at the room of Cyrus Tuttle: Joseph Walker, William G. Sands, Elijah B. McCall, Cyrus Tuttle, Jeremiah York, Merrit S. Pierpont, Derrick Race, and John Backus. At that meeting they petitioned for a charter under the above name. The first officers under this organization were: Joseph Walker, *M.*; William G. Sands, *S. W.*; Elijah B. McCall, *J. W.*; Cyrus Tuttle, *Treasurer*; John Backus, *Secretary*; Jeremiah York, *S. D.*; Derrick Race, *J. D.*; and Merrit S. Pierpont, *Tiler*.

They were again re-organized as *Oxford Lodge, No. 175*. The charter under this organization was granted in June, 1862. The first officers were: L. P. Wagner, *W. M.*; J. R. Clark, *S. W.*; D. E. Comstock, *J. W.*; William B. Race, *Treasurer*; William A. Martin, *Secretary*; A. B. Olds, *S. D.*; A. D. Root, *J. D.*; F. P. Newkirk and H. Houghton, *M. of C.*; Charles Fraser, *Tiler*.

The present officers are: Benjamin M. Pearne, *W. M.*; J. A. Coville, *S. W.*; A. D. Harrington, *J. W.*; G. H. Perkins, *Treasurer*; J. J. Hull, *Secretary*; L. R. Coville, *S. D.*; H. O. Daniels, *J. D.*; C. M. Dodge and T. L. Moore, *M. of C.*; E. Cooley, *Tiler*.

The lodge numbers about 100; and meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month in Lewis' Hall.

The Past Masters since the last organization are: L. P. Wagner, J. R. Clark, F. P. Newkirk, A. B. Olds, J. B. Brown, L. R. Coville, L. A. Knott and C. M. Dodge.

Oxford Chapter No. 254, was organized under a dispensation in June, 1870, and a charter was granted at the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of New York the following January. The charter members were: John R. Clarke, Horace Packer, D. B. Smith,

F. P. Newkirk, James A. Preston, Elihu Cooley, G. H. Perkins, E. J. Berry, Derrick Race, G. H. Rogers, Norman Ford, Clark T. Rogers, J. F. Leitch, Peter W. Clarke, Dwight H. Clarke, John C. Maxson, S. F. McFarland, Samuel E. Lewis, Benajah Landers, and Andrew B. Olds.

The present officers are: J. B. Brown, High Priest; B. M. Lee, King; B. M. Pearne, Scribe; G. H. Perkins, Treasurer; J. J. Hull, Secretary; J. A. Coville, Captain of the Host; L. R. Coville, Principal Sojourner; C. M. Dodge, R. A. C.; E. C. Beardsley, D. Race, William Cook, Masters of Veils; E. Cooley, Tiler.

The present number of members is 31; the whole number who have belonged, 47. The lodge meets the first Monday in each month.

Past High Priests—F. P. Newkirk, S. F. McFarland and L. A. Knott.

Oxford Lodge, No. 254, I. O. of O. F., was organized as Chenango Lodge, No. 114, April 16, 1844, on petition of B. Fish, Daniel Dudley, William W. Packer, James Tyrrel, Moses J. Ferry and William Ralph, and dedicated the same day. The first officers were William Packer, N. G.; Daniel Dudley, V. G.; James Tyrrel, Secretary; Luman B. Fish, Treasurer.

The lodge surrendered its charter March 23, 1857. It was re-instituted November 9, 1870, as *Oxford Lodge, No. 254*, and re-chartered August 24, 1871. The first officers under this organization were: James W. Glover, N. G.; John Shattuck, V. G.; Edward Bradley, Recording Secretary; F. A. Webb, Permanent Secretary; A. W. Bartle, Treasurer; who were installed by District Deputy Grand Master H. C. Willcox, of Smyrna.

The present officers are: A. S. Lewis, N. G.; Fred. A. Burchard, V. G.; T. B. Galpin, Recording Secretary; Charles O. Willcox, Permanent Secretary; F. E. Billings, Treasurer; George Bradley, Warden; James O. Dodge, Conductor; A. Morse, I. G.; J. J. Brown, R. S. N. G.; J. G. VanWagenen, L. S. N. G.; H. J. Galpin, R. S. V. G.; A. D. Harrington, L. S. V. G.; William R. Mygatt, R. S. S.; James T. Hill, L. S. S.; C. R. Miner, P. G.

The present number of members is 33. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, and meets Thursday evenings in Harrington's Opera House.

SOUTH OXFORD.

South Oxford, in the south-west part of the town, was formerly the seat of a post-office and a manufactory of hoes, forks and edge tools of considerable importance. The post-office was removed to Coventry Station, a mile below, after the completion of the

Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Railroad. The station agent is postmaster. He succeeded his father in the former position, and probably as postmaster also. There is a small grocery kept by Henry Willcox, and a cooper shop, kept by Charles Holmes.

CHESHIREVILLE.

Cheshireville is a hamlet near the south line, and derives its name from the fact that most of the early settlers in that locality came from Cheshire, Connecticut.

MANUFACTURES.—On the west side of the river, about two miles below Oxford, is a saw and grist-mill owned by Edwin Towers. It was built some forty years ago by Stephen and Clark Lewis, the former of whom operated it till the fall of 1878, he having bought his brother's interest some twenty years ago. A saw-mill was built on the same site by John Stratton about fifty years ago.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—The earliest recorded action taken by this town with reference to filling its quotas during the recent war was on the 3d of January, 1864. But this was long after that earlier action which best illustrates the spontaneity of its patriotism, and which transpired before the efforts were systematized and legalized by legislative action, but of which no record is preserved. This is in a measure indicated in the general history of the county.

January 3, 1864, the town voted a bounty of \$323 to all volunteers applied on its quota of forty-six under the last call of the President, and Henry L. Miller, A. Watson and William Van Wagenen were appointed a finance committee to provide the means for paying the bounties, and to carry into effect the object of the resolution. At a meeting of the Town Board, January 6, 1864, at the request of the finance committee, William H. Hyde was appointed treasurer of that committee, and H. H. Cooke, Henry R. Mygatt, James W. Glover and Dwight H. Clark were appointed a committee to draft and present to the Legislature a proper bill to give effect to the action of January 3d.

At a special town meeting, held March 28, 1864, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Town Auditors, of the town of Oxford, be, and they hereby are authorized to pay such sum, not exceeding \$400, as may be necessary to each and every person who shall volunteer to enter the military service of the United States and be credited to said town on its quota, under the last call of the President of the said United States for 200,000 men, to a number sufficient to fill the deficiency of the quota of said town under said call, and that for that purpose said Board of Town Auditors be hereby empowered to borrow money on the

credit of said town of Oxford, and to issue the bonds of said town therefor in such sums, payable upon such times and upon such conditions as they may deem best, or to provide for the payment of said money as aforesaid in such manner as the statute may provide and direct."

The Board of Town Auditors, at a meeting held March 31, 1864, fixed the amount at 400; and at a meeting April 2, 1864, they ratified and confirmed the action of the committee appointed for the purpose in negotiating with W. W. Ingersoll to fill the quota, and agreed to pay to every volunteer mustered into the service and applied on the quota of the town, to the number of ten, \$375; and for the purpose of raising the necessary sum for this object, and the expenses incidental thereto it was resolved to raise \$3,800 on the bonds of the town, bearing seven per cent. annual interest and payable January 1, 1866. John R. Wheeler, H. H. Cooke and John Lord were appointed a committee to carry the resolution into effect.

At a special town meeting held June 21, 1864, the following resolution was passed by a large majority:—

"WHEREAS, It is evident there is soon to be a call from the President of the United States for men to reinforce our armies in the field, therefore,

"Resolved, That the Board of Town Auditors of the town of Oxford be, and they are hereby authorized to pay as bounty such sum as may be necessary, not to exceed the sum of \$400, for each man mustered into the service of the United States for the term of three years and credited to the town of Oxford, and to apply on the quota of said town, under any call hereafter to be made by the President for men."

At a special meeting held August 22, 1864, this resolution was so amended as to provide for the payment to one year's men a sum not exceeding \$600; to two years' men, \$800; and to three years' men, \$1,000. A similar resolution to the last was passed at a special meeting held December 30, 1864, with reference to the town's quota under the then recent call for 300,000 men, and its provisions were made also to apply to substitutes. At a meeting of the Board of Town Auditors the same date it was resolved to pay a bounty of \$600 for one year's men, \$700 for two years' men, and \$800 for three years' men, and to the persons furnishing substitutes applied on the quota of the town, under said call, a town bond for a like amount.

From the record it appears that Oxford contributed in *personal* towards crushing out the Rebellion:—

White volunteers who entered the military service,	154
Colored " " " " " "	20
" substitutes " " " " " "	1
White " " " " " "	26
" " " " " naval " "	19
" volunteers " " " " " "	5

Total number of enlisted men credited to Oxford, 225

Of this number one was a Lieut.-Colonel, three were captains, four were second lieutenants, eleven were sergeants, nine were corporals, one was a musician, and one was a farrier. They were assigned to the following organizations, as nearly as can be ascertained from the records: 1 in the 12th, 2 in the 17th, 1 in the 44th, 1 in the 50th, 2 in the 62d, 1 in the 83d, 28 in the 89th, 4 in the 90th, 28 in the 114th, 1 in the 140th, 1 in the 144th, and 1 in the 152d infantry regiments; 1 in the 8th, 42 in the 10th, 10 in the 11th, and 2 each in the 20th and 22d cavalry regiments; 15 in the 5th and 2 in the 9th heavy artillery; 4 in the 8th independent battery; 1 in the 50th N. Y. engineers; 2 in the mounted rifles; 1 in the V. R. C.; 1 in the 117th Penn. colored regiment; 1 in the 2d Maine; 1 in Hancock's veteran corps; 1 in the 8th Connecticut; 1 in the 12th Tenn. cavalry; 1 in the 14th R. I. heavy artillery; 1 in the 16th U. S. regulars; 1 in the 11th, 1 in the 2d, and 4 in the 106th U. S. colored infantry; 1 in the 5th U. S. colored engineers; and 8 in the 9th U. S. colored heavy artillery.

The number who enlisted for one year was.....	13
" " " " " two years was.....	3
" " " " " three years was.....	202
" " " " " four years was.....	1
" " " " " not designated was.....	6

The nativity of all except thirty-six is indicated. Sixty were natives of Oxford, thirty-eight of other towns in the county, sixty-seven of other parts of the United States, ten of Canada, six of Ireland, five of Germany, two of England, and one of New Brunswick.

The occupation of all except twenty-three is indicated. Eighty-nine were farmers; forty-four, laborers; nine, mechanics; six each, blacksmiths, students and carpenters; five, clerks; four, painters; three each, butchers, shoemakers and teachers; two each, millers, masons, cabinet makers, waiters and barbers; and the stone-cutters, physicians, tailors, bartenders, news-dealers, clothiers, harness makers, jewelers, photographers, printers, saloon keepers, gilders, soldiers and sailors, had each one representative.



John Tracy

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN TRACY.

The early history of Chenango county would not be complete without a sketch of the life and services of John Tracy. Among its early settlers, whose lives and characters illustrated the qualities which adorn alike public and private station, and secured for it respect and honor, not only at home, but in the councils of the State as well, none is more worthy of honorable mention.

Mr. Tracy was born in Norwich, Conn., October 26, 1783. Near the beginning of the present century he removed to Columbus, in this county, making the journey on horseback, a mode of travel made necessary at that early day by the unsettled state of the country and the lack of public conveyance. He brought with him but a small share of worldly wealth, but the sturdy common sense, integrity of purpose, and steadiness to duty, which marked his after life, served him in stead much better. In 1805 he came to Oxford, where, as Deputy Clerk under Uri Tracy, his kinsman, who was then the Clerk of the county, he also pursued the study of law with Stephen O. Runyan, Esq. After his admission as an attorney in the Supreme Court, in 1808, he commenced and successfully practiced his profession at Oxford. Such, however, was the confidence which his ability, sound judgment and integrity won for him among those who knew him, that he soon became the recipient of official trusts in his own county, and surrendered the pursuit of an increasing and lucrative practice, for the public service. He was married August 30, 1813, at Franklin, Conn., to Susan Hyde, who proved herself the worthy partner of his virtues and his honors, and died but a short time before him.

There came to him first the important office, under the old practice, of Examiner and Master in Chancery. This was followed in 1815 by his appointment as Surrogate of his county, which he held four years. He was elected in 1820, and returned in 1821, '22 and '26, to the House of Assembly, having as colleagues in the former years, William Mason and Edward G. Per Lee, and in the latter, Tilly Lynde and Robert Monell. In 1821 he again received the appointment of Surrogate, and in 1823 that of First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and held these offices until 1833, when he resigned them. The Legislature, in 1830, made him a Regent of the University, and in 1831, upon nomination of the Governor, the Senate appointed him Circuit Judge of the Sixth District, in the place of Samuel Nelson, but he declined the appointment. In 1832 he was elected Lieutenant-Governor with William L. Marcy, Governor; and with him was re-elected in 1834 and '36, and was the presiding officer of the Senate, whose roll included among others the names of Henry A. Foster, Nathaniel P. Tallmadge, William H. Seward, Samuel Young, Daniel S. Dickinson, Gulian C. Verplanck and Edward P. Livingston. As Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate, he also presided in the Court for the

Correction of Errors; and in each place alike, showed that urbanity, patience and impartiality which command the highest respect and honor. In 1846 he was elected from Chenango county, with the lamented Colonel Elisha B. Smith as his colleague, a delegate to the Convention for revising the Constitution, and was chosen to preside over that distinguished body, which had on its roll the names of Ira Harris, Ambrose L. Jordan, Samuel Nelson, Michael Hoffman, Charles O'Connor and Samuel J. Tilden.

During the term of his active participation in public affairs, Mr. Tracy was a Democrat of the school of Wright, Flagg, Young, Hoffman and Marcy, all of whom were contemporaries and personal friends. After the Convention of 1846, he withdrew from political life.

His constant occupation with public concerns did not prevent an earnest and active interest in all matters which affected the welfare of the village and community in which he lived. The Oxford Academy, of whose Board of Trustees he was for years the President, was always near his heart, and he ever gave to it the benefits of his wise counsels and active support. The striking features of the life and character of John Tracy, was its consistency and symmetry.

The principles which controlled his political career did not contradict, but were in harmony with, his private life. He knew no standard of moral action which prescribed one rule of conduct for the man, and quite another for the politician, which is summed up in the baneful maxim that "All is fair in politics." He had that incorruptible honesty which an old writer has fitly called the sister of justice. If he had ambition, it was not of the sort that seeks preferment by detraction and ignoring the rights of others, for there mingled with it a courtesy and kindness which scorned to seek his own advancement at the cost of his self-respect and sense of justice. Hence, he wore his honors unobtrusively, as the spring its flowers, the forest its foliage, as trusts which honored him only in their faithful discharge.

"His life was gentle and the elements
So mixed in him, that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world, This was a man!"

One who well knew him has left on record the following tribute, and all who knew him will recognize the faithfulness of the portraiture:—

"Throughout his career of official position and preferment, Governor Tracy never held a station, from the lowest to the highest, upon which he did not, by his virtues and ability, confer honor, rather than having honor conferred upon him. His life, public and private, was absolutely without spot or blemish. To intellectual grasp and vigor he added an amiability of character, and an unswerving integrity of purpose, that lifted him above the sphere of ordinary men. His mind was always clear and firm, precise and comprehensive, and whether as Judge or Legislator, President of the Senate in its palmiest days, or presiding over the deliberations of a Convention to remodel the fundamental law of the State, it enabled him to discharge his high and responsible duties with distinguished credit and success. As a public man, he was unselfishly devoted to the public interest, ever keeping it in view above all the allurements of private gain."

Mr. Tracy died at Oxford, June 18, 1864, at the ripe age of four score years. There survives him two children, Esther Maria Mygatt, now the widow of the late Henry R. Mygatt, Esq., and Susan Eliza Clarke, the widow of the late James W. Clarke; and grandchildren, John Tracy Mygatt, Esq., of New York, William R. Mygatt, Esq., a lawyer in practice at Oxford, and Mai Mygatt.

To the State he has bequeathed the example of many years of public service, which he exalted by his fidelity, integrity and ability; and to the community where he died, the priceless heritage of a career ennobled by the constant and steadfast practice of virtue and of truth.

HENRY R. MYGATT.

The steady and persistent devotion of the best efforts and energies of any man, during nearly a half century, to the attainment of excellence in any high and honorable calling, unswayed by everything which stands in the way of his purpose, is, of itself, a sure passport to public respect and admiration. But when, in addition to this, he makes his own success and gains the means of constant and continued benefactions to others, and scatters the pathway of his life with deeds of kind and thoughtful generosity, the record of his life is a public heritage, his name a legacy to those who shall follow him.

The career of Henry R. Mygatt furnishes a worthy example of this kind. He was born in the village of Oxford, in the county of Chenango on the 10th day of April, 1810. His father, Henry Mygatt, came from New Milford, Conn., and was well and favorably known as a prominent merchant at Oxford, in the years that followed its settlement. His mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Stephens Washburn, died while the subject of this sketch was quite young. Mr. Mygatt was prepared for college at Oxford Academy, when it was in the charge of David Prentice, a successful and popular teacher of youth, and in after years more widely known for his scholarly attainments as a professor in one of the colleges of this State. Of those who were schoolmates of Mr. Mygatt at the Academy were Horatio Seymour, Ward Hunt, John W. Allen, Henry W. Rogers, Joseph G. Masten, John Clapp, and others who like them have left their impress upon their age, and some of whom have given their names to history. Mr. Mygatt entered Hamilton College in 1826, remained there two years, when he went to Union and was graduated in 1830, in a class including the names of Henry S. Randall, Benjamin F. Rexford, George D. Beers, and Robert C. Livingston. It was during his stay at Union, and about the year 1880, that he made a note in his memoranda of current events, of the ceremony of removing the first shovel of earth for the Albany & Schenectady railroad, one of the first ever built on this Continent.

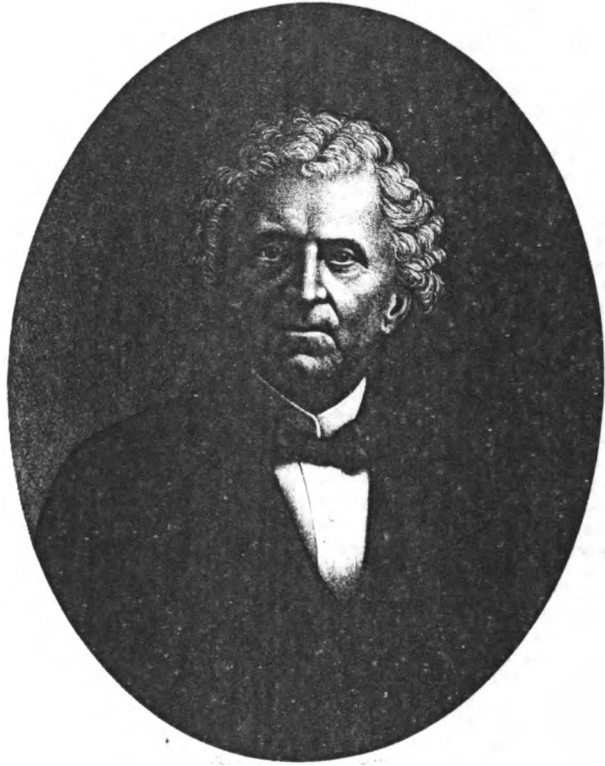
After graduation, Mr. Mygatt began the study of law in the office of James C. Clapp, in Oxford, whose name for years was a synonym for strength, integrity and ability in his profession. In that office, thorough scholarship, exhaustive research, exact knowledge and a high sense of professional honor were inculcated by precept and practice, as the essentials for merited

success at the bar. Mr. Clapp also had a broad culture and general knowledge of men and books, combined with rare felicity of expression and charm of conversation, which inspired his students with the ambition to attain to something higher than the mere routine and technicalities of their profession, and least of all to content themselves with the arts and devices of the pettifogger. It is a circumstance of marked significance in weighing the legal merits and acquirements of Mr. Mygatt, that his tutor ever held for him the highest esteem and confidence, and that too during many years in which they were often brought together in intimate social and professional relations, and associated in cases of great importance requiring close investigation and deep research. He was admitted an Attorney and Counsellor in the Supreme Court at Albany, in 1833, and returned to his native village, where he entered upon and continued the practice of the law during more than forty years, and until weakness and exhaustion compelled him to withdraw from the active duties of a professional career of distinguished usefulness and honor. That career began when James Clapp and Henry Van Der Lyn were in the full tide of success, in his native village, and found him at its close almost alone of the men who had entered the lists with him, at the Chenango county bar, but receiving still the same consideration and respect from the younger members of the profession at the close of his career, which was awarded him by his elders in the early years of his practice.

He was married Dec. 2, 1835, to Esther Maria, daughter of John Tracy, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of the State. She, with two sons, John T. Mygatt of New York, William R. Mygatt, a lawyer at Oxford, and one daughter Mai Mygatt, survives him. It is not the purpose of this sketch to recount the professional triumphs of its subject, but two only may be fitly cited as showing his exact and close study of adjudicated cases bearing upon a particular principle, and his persistence even under defeat until he had reached the court of final resort, so long as he could see that he was right with the authorities. The one, proving his indomitable perseverance and tenacity for the right, was the case of the Chenango Bridge Company against the Binghamton Bridge Company, in which upon appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States after defeat in the trial and General Terms of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals of this State, he obtained in that highest tribunal of the nation a reversal of the decision of all the State courts, and maintained the inviolability of a legislative franchise as a contract. The other was an action in equity, which resulted in a decree in his favor declaring a will which was a cloud upon title, void for incapacity of the testator, and that too, after it had been proved and of record for more than a quarter of a century.

But we prefer to leave the question of his acquirements and merits as a lawyer to the spoken or written authority of those who were associated or opposed to him at the bar, to the public press of the State, and to the judges of our highest courts, before whom he appeared at trial or for argument. One writes, who was a schoolmate, of the same profession and a lifelong friend, "His success was due to honest, hard





Henry R. Mygatt

work, to an energy that never tired, a tenacity of purpose which never yielded except to the mandate of a court of last resort, combined with integrity never even tainted with suspicion."

One of his profession and a neighbor, said of him at a meeting of the Bar in his native county called to tell their regret for his loss and express their sense of his noble career:—

"I entered Mr. Mygatt's office as a student-at-law in October, 1841, and remaining in his office from that time until April, 1846, I became very conversant with the habits and characteristics of the man, and I assure you that no man, probably, ever labored harder, more hours, more unceasingly to make himself perfect in his profession, and to make himself what subsequent events proved him to be, one of the ablest lawyers in the State of New York. The extent and variety of his work has been simply enormous, and it shows what a man may attain by perseverance, labor, by devotion to his object, and a love of the profession, which he regarded as the highest that man can pursue, save one."

Said another, a Judge of the Supreme Court, before whom he often appeared during many years: "His virtues, his integrity, his goodness, his usefulness, his benevolence and example as a citizen as well as a lawyer, will long be remembered, and should be emulated by all lawyers who desire the esteem and welfare of the people among whom they live."

One, his junior in the profession, a townsman, spoke thus kindly of him:—

"Our loved and honored friend was rich in nature's best endowments, but it seems to me he was richer far in acquired forces, which come of ripe scholarship, a life of patient labor, well directed efforts, and the constant adherence to right, and the practice of everything becoming an honest man, the noblest work of God."

And again a former judge, and who knew him well, spoke these words of tender regret:—

"I feel that the profession has lost one of its brightest ornaments, and the community one of the noblest of men. Never, in my experience, have I known a lawyer who was as devoted to the interests of his client, or who would make so many sacrifices that justice might be done to his client, as Mr. Mygatt."

A Judge of the Supreme Court for many years, and afterwards of the Commission of Appeals, who presided at the meeting of the Bar in Chenango county, called after his death, said of Mr. Mygatt: "I cannot permit myself to remain entirely silent and be simply a listener to these proceedings. I have known Mr. Mygatt for more than thirty years. When he first appeared before me as a member of the Bar, there was one thing that I particularly noticed, and which proved true of him at all times, that the case upon his part was exhausted both upon the argument and authority. And very often this fact forced upon the Court a more careful examination of the other side of the case, and the result was that the cases in which he appeared as counsel were sometimes more carefully considered, fearing that injustice might be done his opponent."

The Broome County Bar Association adopted and published a minute, stating their estimate of his career as a lawyer in these words:—

"Resolved, That in our deceased brother, there existed that admirable union of great knowledge, untiring perseverance, fidelity, integrity and devotion to truth and honor, combined with great urbanity, which form a character worthy of imitation, and a model which all entering upon the study and practice of the profession may adopt for their own and the public good."

The press in his own county, and in other counties and cities of the State as well, added its tribute to his worth. It is, however, needless to further extend the testimonials of Mr. Mygatt's standing in his chosen profession. He took pleasure in the research which it required, and thought it as Edmund Burke well said, "one of the first and noblest of human sciences; a science which does more to quicken and invigorate the understanding than all the other kinds of learning put together."

But in the larger sphere of equity jurisdiction he found greater pleasure and won deserved success. Whatever the result of the litigation might be, his client never doubted that he had devoted to him his best services, and his antagonist, whether in defeat or victory, retired from the contest with a higher sense of his courtesy, his fairness and his honor. In ready perception of analogies and exact application and knowledge of adjudicated cases bearing upon a particular point, or establishing a given principle, he had no superior.

It is enough that commencing and continuing in a quiet and then secluded village, with no advantages gained from that fame which political honors and official position confer, he won, as a private citizen only, by honest, hard work, persevering study, deep research and skillful and honorable practice, a pre-eminent place in his profession not only in his own county, but in the State at large. Success and honor thus won are not accidents, they come of an abiding purpose, and therefore is it that they are the more valuable as examples for those who are struggling for excellence, not only in the professions, but in any worthy business or calling. And such an example is most valuable in these latter days, when the temptation to tread forbidden paths and to use, to say the least, doubtful expedients in the headlong scramble for riches and honors, has left so many human wrecks along the pathway of the generation. Instances there are of transcendent talents and large endowments, which have given their possessors too often a short-lived fame, only to be buried in disgrace, or clouded with dishonor.

But the fact remains that the firm purpose, quiet perseverance and faithful pursuit of any worthy calling will in the end bring the only enduring reward, the only abiding honor. And it is this, which gives value to the example of Henry R. Mygatt. His pathway to success is clear and open as the day, the honors and rewards which he reached were honestly won and justly merited; they admit of no doubtful interpretation nor require any secret explanation.

The possibility, nor only so, the certainty of attaining to excellence in any honorable calling or profession is open to all upon the same conditions. There are not a few in the county where he lived, within whom are enfolded, as the oak in the acorn, the undeveloped germs of the same success upon like con-

ditions. As certain as the sun and the rain will from the acorn bring to its majestic proportions the oak, so certain will the firm purpose, the steady and persistent march in the way of a high and noble intent, lead to the goal of excellence at last. If this sketch shall find lodgment in the breast of any, struggling upward and onward in the way of a high and noble purpose, and his heart shall take new courage and his sinews gather fresh strength for the life-battle, it will not prove to be without a benefit. But it is often charged to biography that it is partial, and can see only virtues in its subject. Admitted that the subject of this sketch had infirmities and weaknesses common to human nature, the example does not fail, for he kept onward and reached his reward despite them all. It is with his completed life and its results as a whole, that we have to do, and that life was a success.

One, a neighbor, well said of him: "It may not, cannot be presumption for me to say that if we copy the example of our departed friend and brother, we shall not go far astray; if we follow in his footsteps we shall not widely err." It was less than two years before his death that Mr. Mygatt fully yielded to the weakness and disease which finally ended his life. Those even who knew him best, can only faintly realize the struggle only less than that with the last enemy, which enforced retirement from his life-work so well and justly done, must have cost him.

His last presence in court in his own county was well told in the words which follow, at a meeting of the Bar, by his junior who had often striven and been joined with him in important trials: "We were in court at one of our regular sessions about two years ago. Our departed friend had been sick, but with improved health and strength, he came in as of old. A cause in which he felt a deep interest came on for trial. It had been tried once and was returned for a re-trial. The trial was hardly commenced, when at some remark of his adversary, he raised an objection with evident feeling, and for a moment discussed the point thus raised. It was more than his weakened strength could bear, and no one saw this fact more clearly than himself. He asked a friend to take his place at the trial, and that proceeded as if nothing had occurred; but he, leisurely picking up his papers and putting on his wraps, with one glove on, and his hat and remaining glove in his hand, went to and shook hands with each member of the Bar present; in like manner he greeted the sheriff, the clerk, the crier and the judge; saying to each as he held the proffered hand, 'good-by, sir, good-by,' and calmly and quietly walked out. He said not a word that it was his last there, that is, not in words; but the manner told us that he was going forth never to come in again, and that he was as conscious of this fact as any of us.

"That good-by, sir, and that clasp of the hand, we shall never lose from memory. There was no expression of sorrow, no expression of regret, no repining. He went forth as one who through two score of years of labor there had filled his mission to the full."

Mr. Mygatt always preserved a lively interest in matters of public concern, and kept up with political affairs in the State and nation.

But he never entered the arena of politics, much

less was he a political place-seeker. There seemed inherent in his very nature, a distaste reaching almost an abhorrence of the practices of politicians, and of the ways of politics. And yet he was ready to aid those whom he thought worthy and who desired promotion. There were times when friends who knew his eminent qualifications, and especially for judicial station, urged him to yield to their wishes, and a seat upon the bench of our highest Court required only his consent. But he always valued the rewards, honors and usefulness to be derived from steady adherence to his profession above all that political office and public place could bestow. But we have no right to leave the character and career of Henry R. Mygatt to be measured only by his merits, great as they were, in his chosen profession. Stretching above and beyond the round of his daily toil, is the better and nobler life of the man, which included and supplemented all his professional labors and successes. Indeed the life of the lawyer, and the broader and higher mission of his manhood, seemed to act and re-act on each other. His enthusiasm seemed to get new strength, and his energies to quicken for his work, that he might the better serve the nobler impulses and fulfill the higher behests of the man and of the citizen. To those who day by day witnessed his constant and exhausting labors, the surprise was not so great that he accomplished so much, but rather that the slight form and delicate organism could sustain the steady and continued strain to which they were subjected. He seemed to measure time not so much by the common standards, as by heart-throbs, not so much by minutes as by pulsations, and his life became to those who could read it best, poetry put into action, to teach them

"Life's more than breath, and the quick round of blood;
It is a great spirit and a busy heart."

The friends of his youth from afar, his brethren of the same calling, and Judges crowned with years and with wisdom, who came to his burial, had a better purpose than honor for the mere lawyer. Rather were they impelled by that higher tribute which their better nature accorded to that respect for authority, that courtesy for all, that helpfulness for the weak and the struggling, that hand outstretched to the poor and oppressed, that heart open to melting charity, that completed mission of manhood so well and faithfully fulfilled.

Promptness in meeting appointments, and system in his business, entered largely into the success of Henry R. Mygatt. His failure to meet an engagement was the result of inevitable necessity, and such was the care bestowed in the preparation of his cases, that he avoided those surprises which so often embarrass and delay, if they do not prevent, success. And the same system and promptness which made his professional career a success, were conspicuous in the bestowal of his benefactions. For a series of years before his death his gifts and charities were constant and unremitted, and represented a large part of his income. The village in which he lived felt the wholesome and strengthening influence of his munificence, in whatever concerned its true welfare and progress. For forty years, during most of which he was a Trustee, and during many its President, his gifts to Oxford Academy were constant and munificent. Nor

only so, during a part of those years he put at its disposal a fund to supply free tuition to poor and worthy students, struggling more vainly for their daily bread than for the bread of knowledge, the objects of his bounty being unknown to him.

There are those yet alive who will associate the name of Henry R. Mygatt with the Jubilee of Oxford Academy, in August, 1854. It was an event which gathered back, after sixty years from its foundation, the representatives from 1794 of the classes that in succession had gone out from that institution; and to Mr. Mygatt's efforts and liberality the happy result was greatly due. The words of graceful and cordial welcome with which, as President of the Board of Trustees, he greeted that remarkable assemblage, is a part of the published record of that anniversary. Of those whose addresses gave an unwonted fascination to the banquet spread on that occasion, Henry W. Rogers alone remains.

Among the rest, who with Mr. Mygatt are lost to mortal sight, were Merritt G. McKoon who through long years of service saw more students go out from its halls, than any other of its principals, Charles Mason the pure and learned jurist, Judge Henry Stephens who first knew Oxford in 1802, and was of the class of 1807 in the Academy, Edward Tompkins the silver tongued, who lent to the occasion the charm of his fertile fancy and the sparkle of his wit, Edward Andrews, a former teacher, rich with the husbandry of souls, the earnest and able preacher of the Gospel of his Master, Daniel H. March, a former teacher, then the accomplished and upright lawyer, and who after twenty-seven years had come back to meet his school-mates of the class of 1821, and Daniel S. Dickinson, even then known to the nation, in the full strength of his noble manhood.

But great as were Mr. Mygatt's benefactions for the benefit and advancement of the village and community where he lived, they were not limited by them. He was not forgetful of educational and religious establishments in his own State and in remote sections of the country, and the Missionary of the Cross, battling in new and distant territories with vice and irreligion, felt his burden grow lighter, and his heart stronger, for his bounty. A young and lion-hearted Missionary Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, wrote to him not long before his death, from across the Continent, these words of grateful benediction, "You have been too kind, and loving, and steadfast and unselfishly helpful a friend to me, for me to forget you. My heart has higher aims for that I have known you. My hopes are to know you better and to be with you more in the great hereafter." And then supplementing all these larger benefactions, he scattered along the pathway of his daily life bright deeds, tender courtesies and thoughtful charities.

"That best portion of a good man's life
His little, nameless, unremembered acts
Of kindness and of love."

Mr. Mygatt was attached to the faith and worship of the Protestant Episcopal church, but he took a kindly interest in all that concerned the progress of true Christianity under whatever name, and his principles and practice were free alike from irreligion and intolerance. He died on the 31st of March, 1875. Some have not forgotten that morning of the early

spring, when it was first told that he was dead. It was a morning glad with bird-songs and radiant with sunlight, fit counterpart of the active, bright life just then closed. That life went out only a stone's throw from where it was taken up, the circle of its orbit seemed not so very wide, it included no foreign travel nor spanned remote continents, yet it stretched away into a horizon reflecting back the serene light of kind and generous deeds. That other day came when judges and lawyers and friends of his youth from afar, tenderly bore his pall to the church, where the beautiful Episcopal burial service was said over his remains. His well-known wish that no other words should be spoken, was reluctantly but religiously kept. But the organ would somehow repeat his name, and the stones that stood up in buttress and column and tower over his sleeping clay, found voices to tell of his benefactions. And then the long procession went with his ashes by homes each with its badge of sorrow, to the little City of the Dead, upon the hill-side. There, at the open grave, while tears gathered in regretful eyes and the blending voices of school and church bells, from the village, told of their common sorrow, it seemed passing strange that so many will leave their names only to be cut in pale, cold marble, when they might write them on the tablets of living, loving, human hearts.

CHAPTER XXII.

TOWN OF SMITHVILLE.

SMITHVILLE was formed from Greene April 1, 1808. It lies upon the west border of the county, south of the center, and is bounded on the north by German and McDonough, on the east by Oxford, on the south by Oxford and Greene, and on the west by Broome county. It is wholly within the Chenango Triangle, and derives its name from Elisha Smith, the first agent for that tract under the Hornby Estate.

The surface is broken and hilly, being formed into high ridges by the deep and generally narrow valleys of the numerous streams which cross it from north to south, and are tributary to the Chenango. The principal streams are Genegantslet* and Ludlow creeks, the former and larger flowing through the town a little west of the center, and the latter along the east border. Other and smaller streams are Red † and Strong ‡ brooks and Five Stream Creek,§ all of which empty into the Genegantslet, the former a little above Smith-

* "Genegantslet," says the late Erastus Agard, "is an Indian word signifying the Three Deer-Lick river." "It is variously claimed by others," says Dr. Purple, "to signify 'Pleasant Stream' and 'Big-Neck.'"

† Red Brook rises in a beaver meadow in the southwest corner of German, and derives its name from the color of its water, supposed by some to be due to iron ore, but probably to hemlock.

‡ Strong Brook rises in "Sham Pond" in German, and derives its name from a family named Strong, who lived upon it at an early day.

§ Five Stream Creek is named from the five streams which unite near its source in German.

ville Flats, and the others at intervals respectively of about a mile and two and one-half miles above it.

The town is underlaid by the rocks of the Chemung and Catskill groups. The upper layer of the latter, the grindstone grit, furnishes some of the best stone in the county for building and other purposes. It is yellowish in color, easily wrought and hardens by exposure; it is used for grind-stones and for building purposes.

Two miles north-east of Smithville Flats, on the creek road, on the farm of James Harrison, is a quarry which is reputed to be the best of its kind in the State. Excellent flagging, and good building stone, in all desirable forms, is obtained there. "The stone exposed appears to have separated from the mass of which the hill-side is composed, in high longitudinal dykes parallel with the hill, between which are seams of a few inches in width filled with angular debris. Transverse seams divide these dykes into cubes 12 to 30 feet in length. The strata are $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 16 inches in thickness, perfectly smooth, with square angles and sides. One or two only of the lowest layers are ripple-marked; the ripples examined *in situ* have a direction south-west and north-east."* The stone quarried is uniform in thickness, and all that can be desired as to color and surface. Massive blocks and slabs are taken out, some of them measuring 10 by 20 feet, and weighing nearly half a ton. Stone is being shipped in large quantities by rail to various parts of the State, by Mr. John E. Miller, of Oxford, who operates this in connection with several others in different parts of the county. Stone for the State Reformatory at Elmira was obtained from this quarry.

Two other flag-stone quarries are opened in the town, one known as the Buckley quarry, on the old Stephen Hasting's farm, and owned by William Buckley; and the other, not yet much worked, on the farm of Perry Loomis, at East Smithville. Good building, as well as flagging stone is obtained from both.

The soil is a gravelly and clayey loam in the valleys and a clayey and slaty loam upon the hills. In some places it is deep, while in others the hardpan lies near the surface. It is well adapted to grazing. The inhabitants are strictly an agricultural people, dairying being the principal branch of agriculture.

The town was thoroughly timbered with pine and hemlock in groves, interspersed all through the town with sugar maple, beech, elm, birch, basswood, poplar, iron wood and oak, and hickory, which was scarce, and chestnut upon some of the ridges. In 1824 there were no less than ten saw-mills and two asheries in the town. Game was plentiful when the first settlers came in, but fled as the country filled up.

The population of the town in 1875 was 1,518; of

* *Binghamton Leader*, 1874.

whom 1,402 were natives, 116 foreign, (all white,) 767 males and 751 females. Its area was 30,644 acres; of which 21,965 were improved, 8,404 woodland, and 275 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,090,517; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$155,395; of stock, \$186,541; and of tools and implements, \$64,910. The amount of gross sales from farms in 1874 was \$132,414.

There are thirteen common school districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the county. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 476. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were eleven male and twenty female teachers employed, fourteen of whom were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 374, of whom three were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 192.182; the number of volumes in district libraries was 336, the value of which was \$124; the number of school-houses was thirteen, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing three acres and one rod, valued at \$965, were valued at \$6,865; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$642,305. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 164, of whom 159 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876..	\$	13	47
Amount apportioned to districts.		1,473	09
Raised by tax.....		1,203	73
From teachers' board.....		633	50
From other sources.....		9	04
			<hr/>
			\$3,332 83

Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$2,611	04
Paid for school-houses, sites, out-houses, fences, repairs, furniture, &c.....	514	63
Paid for other incidental expenses	187	96
Forfeited in hands of Supervisor		08
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877.....		19 12
		<hr/>
		\$3,332 83

SETTLEMENTS.—The first settlement in the town, if such it can be called, was made in the valley of the Genegantslet, on the site of Smithville Flats, in 1797, by Robert Lytle, an Irishman, who was a single man, and erected a shanty, a mere hunting cabin, which stood some forty rods north-east of the lower hotel in that village. He made no clearing, nor other improvements, and in February, 1798; sold to Joseph Agard, who came in that year from Litchfield, Conn., where he was born August 17, 1746, in company with Major Epaphras Sheldon, from the same place, the latter of whom had previously prospected the locality

and induced Agard to accompany him in its settlement. Major Sheldon had formerly been a man of property, and Agard had worked for him as a day laborer in Connecticut. They were the first permanent settlers in the town. Both brought in their families, which then consisted of five sons and one daughter each, and varied but little in their relative ages, and both occupied at first the rude cabin vacated by Lytle. But being too numerous for one small cabin, Agard erected in the fall "a pen of logs," "to which the family repaired and excavated the snow and camped down in this inclosure to guard them against the wolves, with only the heavens for a covering. They split boards out of trees, and soon improved their habitation." "These families contended against poverty and hardships in a severe winter, with snow nearly seven feet deep, without neighbors till the spring birds struck up their melody." * Agard soon after built a frame house, which stood in front of Robert Hetrick's residence in the village, where he died Aug. 25, 1836. Tabitha, his wife, was born Nov. 20, 1750, and died Sept. 9, 1818, aged 68. That frame house was the first one built in the town. It is still standing, but has been moved. It is the first house east of the lower hotel, and is now occupied as a dwelling by Eugene Chase. Agard was a soldier in the Revolution, and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne. He was descended from Welch ancestors; his wife was of English descent. His children were: Joseph, born in Litchfield, Conn., May 11, 1776, and died of yellow fever in New York, Sept. 11, 1798; Tabitha, called Roxa, born in Litchfield, May 17, 1779, and died Oct. 4, 1814; John, born in Arlington, Vt., Aug. 21, 1781, and died in Michigan, Oct. 26, 1835; Elijah, born in Arlington, Vt., Nov. 10, 1782, and died at Sacket's Harbor, Aug. 22, 1814, while a soldier in the war of 1812; George, born in Tomhannock, March 2, 1785, and died at Springville, N. Y., May 14, 1854; and Erastus, born in Litchfield, Conn., February 11, 1787, and died at Smithville Flats, Oct. 1, 1863. Two grand-daughters are living in Smithville Flats, Mariamne, wife of Hon. Judson L. Grant, and De Francee, a maiden lady, who is living with her sister, Mrs. Grant.

The first marriage in the town was contracted in 1801 by Enos B. Bragg and Tabitha (Roxa) Agard, daughter of Joseph Agard.

Epaphras Sheldon afterwards settled on the farm of the Jesse Read estate, about one-half mile north of Smithville Flats. He returned with his family a few years after to Connecticut.

In 1799, Edward Loomis settled in the east part of the town, at East Smithville, where he was the first settler. He was born in Egremont, Massachusetts,

* From MSS. writings of the late Erastus Agard, of Smithville Flats.

Feb. 2, 1777, and removed about 1790, with his father from Catskill to Oxford, where the latter settled. He took up 50 acres on lot 25, in Smithville, for which he paid by cutting, the following year, a road from Oxford to Smithville Flats. This was the first road in the town. In the winter he brought in his family, consisting of his wife, Polly, daughter of Blodgett Smith, a native of Massachusetts, and one child, Vinson, born in Oxford, October 4, 1799, and occupied a log house erected by him the previous fall. It stood on the farm now occupied by Perry Loomis, on Burlingame creek, about 100 rods below the junction of Ludlow and Bowman creeks, which unite and form it. He continued to reside on that farm till within two or three years of his death, when he went to live with his son Daniel in Oxford village, where he died June 21, 1869, at the advanced age of 92 years. His wife died on the farm in Smithville June 10, 1850.

Vinson Loomis, son of Edward, married Polly, daughter of Heber Williams, and lived and died near the center of the town, on the farm now occupied by David Purdy. He died November 27, 1864; and his wife on his father's farm in East Smithville about 1825. He afterwards married Cynthia Moore, who died in 1840.

The children of Edward Loomis born after he removed to Smithville were: Jane, who was born May 2, 1801, and was the first child born in the town, who married Thurston Willcox of Smithville, where she lived and died July 7, 1861, leaving eight children, (Edward, Mary Jane, who married Ransom Yale, Ruth, who married Chauncey Adams, Thurston, Patience, wife of Henry Church, Charles, Harriet, wife of Avery D. Landers, and Almira, widow of William Stratton and wife of Eugene Butler;) Eleanor, who married Joseph Corbin and died August 20, 1876, in Harford, Cortland county, where most of her family are now living, none in this town; Lucinda, who married Daniel Williams, and died in Cincinnatus, Cortland county February 24, 1867; Lovina; who married Charles Stratton and died in Willett, Cortland county, January 3, 1870, leaving five children, one of whom, Louisa, wife of Joseph Warren Hamilton, is living in Smithville, and another, Charles, in Oxford; Abigail, who married Joel Webb and is now living in Oxford, where three of her children reside, George, Alvin and Charlotte, wife of Charles A. McFarland, and four in Greenc, Benaiah, Edward, Whitman and Marion, wife of Clark McNeil; Daniel, who married Mary Cline, and after her death May 30, 1853, Diantha, widow of William Wood, with whom he is now living in Oxford, and has one child living in Smithville, Betsey M., wife of Samuel Cline; Hannah, who married Simon G. Willcox, and died in Cortland November 6, 1866; Lois, who married Jonathan Bennett, and died in

Cortland county January 15, 1865; Rachel, who married Charles Williams and is living in Michigan; Be-naiah, who married Sally Hamilton and is now living in Smithville, having five children living in the county, Edward, Alexander and Minnie in Smithville, Sarah, wife of Arvine Lewis, in Oxford, and Emma, wife of Adelbert Flagg in Greene; and Betsey, who married George M. Starkey, and is living in Broome county.

Timothy Scoville came in from the New England States in 1799 and settled at Smithville Flats. He was a millwright and built in 1805, on the outlet of Long Pond, about fifty rods north-west of the village, the first saw-mill in the town. The mill did not stand many years, but went to decay. He removed to Ohio at an early day. Joseph Robbins settled in the same locality the same year, and died there April 2, 1827, aged 71. During this year also (1799) Simeon Neal, Robert Williams, Asa Straight, Daniel Phillips, John Youngs and Capt. John Palmer came in. Phillips settled a little west of Smithville Flats and died there, he and his wife, a great many years ago. None of his children are living. The last, Dorcas, who married Daniel Wall, died here August 13, 1876, aged 77, and her husband, September 21, 1875, at the same age. Youngs was from Vermont. He purchased 100 acres of land and paid therefor \$5 per acre. He settled about a mile south-west of the Flats, on the farm now owned and occupied by Ephraim Loomis, and died there May 7, 1837, aged 59, and Jane, his wife, Jan. 26, 1862, aged 69. His children were Stephen and Laura, widow of Amos Boardman, now living in Triangle, by his first wife, and Sylvanus and Sylvia, twins, the latter of whom married Isaac Fuller, Polly, wife of Charles Sweetland, living in Triangle, Joseph, who was killed by the fall of a tree June 18, 1842, aged 21, John, who died in Greene about a year ago, and James and Jane, twins, both living in Greene, by his second wife.

We extract from Hamilton Child's *Gazetteer of Chenango County*, published in 1869, the following facts relative to Mr. Youngs' settlement, furnished by Mr. Harry Young, of Triangle, Broome county, as being applicable in great measure to the settlements in general:—

"At the time of his settlement here there was one family about one-half mile and another about a mile distant; these were the only ones within five miles.* His first work, like that of all other pioneers in this country, was to clear the land; this he did to some extent and soon raised corn, potatoes and a little rye. He purchased two cows soon after, and yet with this additional aid his little store of provisions would sometimes run short, compelling him to resort to the forest for additions to his store. Deer were very abundant and furnished the settlers with plenty of venison, and

* This statement is made on the above authority, though there is reason to doubt its correctness.

the streams abounded in fish. The tallow of the deer furnished candles, and when that gave out the 'fat pine' was brought into requisition. They pounded their corn for bread, or hulled it, to sustain life, until a mill was erected at Oxford, twelve miles distant. Going to mill was a tedious journey, for they had no wagons nor roads suitable for them. The grist was placed upon the horse's back, and the animal led over the hills, the journey sometimes occupying three or four days. The children at home were sometimes put upon so short an allowance as to cry for food. The wolves were always within hearing of the traveler and rendered night hideous by their howls. A few Indians still lingered in this region, and were accustomed to camp along the streams, hunt, fish, make baskets, brooms, &c. They were generally quiet and peaceable, but the whites would sometimes abuse them after they became more numerous. On one occasion they laid a plot to frighten the red men from their camping ground. To do this the settlers assembled, and at night crept cautiously as near the Indian camping ground as they deemed prudent, and at a signal, discharged their guns into the air, as they did not wish to hurt the Indians. The latter replied to the shot by firing among the trees behind which their foes were concealed, but no injury was done. The next morning the Indians departed, some went down the river and others went north, where they could hunt in peace."

Captain John Palmer kept both the first inn and store at Smithville Flats in 1806. He also erected the first distillery, and died in Chenango Forks, Aug. 20, 1847, aged 63.

George Shaddock probably came in about this time. He settled about one and one-half miles north of East Smithville, on the farm now owned by Lorin Holdridge, where he died. His children who lived to maturity were Alvah and Editha, the latter of whom married Lewis Crandall, and both of whom are dead. It has been stated that the first death in the town was that of a son of Shaddock's, in 1799. While it is true that Shaddock lost a son at an early day, it is highly probable that it was not earlier than 1804 or 1805, as Vinson Loomis, who was born in 1799, could remember the funeral. There remains the possibility of Mr. Loomis' confounding that event with some other similar one.

Settlements were made as early as 1801 by William Knickerbocker, William Kirkland, Isaac Perry, Ichabod Merriam and Phineas Pond; and as early as 1805, by Isaac Sellick, Peter Rorapough, Darius Tousley, Isaac Grant, John Perkins, Samuel Miller, James Stevens, J. J. Reed, George Manly, Daniel Corbin, Isaac Snediker, John Corbin and Frederick Cline. Isaac Perry died here March 18, 1810. Peter Rorapough came in from Massachusetts and settled at East Smithville, on a farm adjoining Edward Loomis' on the north, and now occupied by his son Uriah, where he died about 1851-3. He married Catharine, sister of Edward Loomis, by whom he had twelve children:

Hannah, who married Jason Smith and died in Smithville about fifteen years ago; Betsey, who married Jacob Carr and died in Cayuga county; Benjamin, who married Palma, daughter of Nathaniel Blakeslee, and is now living in Erie county, Penn.; Andrew, who married Angeline Webb, of Smithville, where he died; Rachel, who married James Carr, and died in Cayuga county; Jeduthan, who married and died in Cortland county; Clarissa, who married Davidson Landers and is living in Smithville; Polly, who married Luke Haight and is living in Chautauqua county; Uriah, who married Betsey Nash, and after her death, Julia Ann Bolles, and is living on the homestead in Smithville; Angelia, who married Augustus Vickery and is living in Smithville; Tabitha, who married Orrin Tillotson, and after his death, Simon G. Willcox, with whom she is living in Susquehanna county, Penn.; and Julia Ann, who married Jared Knickerbocker and is living in Chautauqua county. Frederick Cline was likewise from Massachusetts. He settled in the north-east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Albert Tillotson, where he died. His children were Anna, who married Daniel Tyler and died in Smithville, and another daughter who married Jeremiah Mead, by his first wife, who died in Massachusetts. He married in Massachusetts for his second wife, Lovina Wooden, by whom he had eight children: John, who married Polly Bennett and died in Cattaraugus county; Elisha, who married Betsey Bennett and died in Cattaraugus county; Sally, who married Thomas Tyler and died in Otsego county; Seymour, who married Lovina Bennett, sister to Polly and Betsey, and died in Michigan; Mary Ann, who married Daniel Loomis and died in Smithville in 1853; Lucy Ann, who married Isaac Hamilton, and after his death, Vinson Loomis, and is living in Susquehanna county, Penn.; Lovina, who married Alanson Tillotson and is living in McDonough; and Betsey, who married Charles Cole and died in Greene.

The first school was kept by Samuel Askeels in 1802.

Captain Jonathan Phelps came in from Connecticut about 1805 or '6, and settled on the old Gutchess farm one-half mile north of Smithville Flats, now occupied by Mrs. Hannah Grant. Rodney and Becket, his sons, came in with him and settled, Rodney one mile north of Smithville Flats, where William Kinnier now lives, and Becket in the same locality, but removed a little later a half mile further north, on the farm belonging to the Jonas White estate. The Captain removed to Chautauqua county about fifty years ago and died there. Rodney lived in the town till within a short time of his death, on a farm adjoining the one on which he first settled, to which he removed a few years before he died. He died while on

a visit to his sons, Smith and Sherman, in Illinois. Becket removed to Genesee county some 45 years ago. None of the Captain's children, but two grandchildren, are living here, Ethelinda, widow of Jefferson Read, and Diantha, wife of Amos Hotchkiss. Thomas Shattuck came in with his family in company with the Phelps from Connecticut, and settled on the farm adjoining that of Rodney Phelps. It now forms a part of William Kinnier's farm. He lived there a good many years and then removed to Smithville Flats, and subsequently to his son Calvin's in Greene, where he died May 22, 1834, aged 82. Olive, his wife, died July 23, 1819, aged 52. He had two sons, Calvin, who died in Greene, on the same place as his father, and Lyman, who moved west. One daughter by his second wife, Mary, widow of Henry Hoyt, is living in Greene. John Carpenter came in from Rhode Island about 1806, and settled a little east of the ridge road, about three miles above Smithville Flats, on the farm now occupied by Chas. Matthews and brothers, where he and his wife Sarah died, the former May 29, 1828, aged 77, and the latter Oct. 12, 1838, aged 84. Samuel, his son, came in with him and settled in Greene, on the creek road, about a mile above Genegantslet, on the farm known as the Forbes place. Samuel has one daughter living in Greene, Lydia, widow of Elhanan W. King, who died August 20, 1850, aged 55. She is living with her daughter, Urania Atwater. Mariamne, wife of Judson L. Grant of Smithville Flats, is a granddaughter of his.

Settlements were made in 1807 by Edward Purple and Jared Grant, and about that year by Nicholas Powell.

Edward Purple was born in Middlesex county, Conn., in August, 1769, and removed thence in 1798 to Burlington, Otsego county. In 1805 he removed to New Hartford, Oneida county, and thence in 1807 to the central part of the town of Smithville, where he took up 50 acres. In 1814 he removed to the village of Greene, and engaged in wagon making. He returned to Smithville in 1828, and died there July 1, 1834, aged 65. Three of his children are living: Thomas S., in Windsor, Broome county, Dr. William D., formerly a physician, now a merchant in Greene, and Lydia, widow of Lyman Ackley, in Dubuque, Iowa.

Jared Grant was born in Litchfield, Conn., Oct. 19, 1779, and removed to Smithville in 1807. He settled about one-half mile east of Smithville Flats, on the farm now belonging to the David Grant estate. After a few years he sold his place and went to Ohio prospecting, but soon returned and bought the Harrison farm, where Hugh F. Crozier now lives, and where, in 1818, he built the first two-story house in

the town. He subsequently removed to the farm now occupied by George Foulston, about three miles north of the village, on the ridge road, where he died Dec. 10, 1849, aged 70. Jan. 27, 1807, just before coming to Smithville, he married Betsey Judson, daughter of Lewis Judson, of Litchfield, Conn., where she was born Sept. 20, 1780. She died Oct. 1, 1870, aged 88. Their children were Lavinia, who married John Forbes, and is now living in Rochester; Cornelia A., who married Drury Morse, and died in Jan., 1878; Mary E., who married Edson Gould, and died Nov. 3, 1855; Judson L., who was born in Smithville, where he now resides, July 11, 1815, and represented this county in the Assembly in 1859; Rebecca S., who died unmarried Oct. 22, 1850; and Harriet C., who is living, unmarried, with her sister in Rochester. Nicholas Powell settled in Smithville Flats, where, in 1809, he built the first grist-mill in the town, on the site of the present grist-mill in that village, which he run till about 1820. About the same time he built also in the village a saw-mill on the site of the mills of Uri Rorapaugh, a grandson of Peter Rorapaugh, an early settler at East Smithville. Powell removed from the town soon after discontinuing the mills. He died about 1832, aged 58.

David Grant, brother of Jared, came in from the same place the following year (1808,) and settled north of him, on the farm now owned by his grandchildren, where he died July 25, 1849, aged 71. His children who are living are: Flora, wife of Horace S. Read, in Oxford; Albert, in Fredonia, Chautauqua county; Oliver, in the north part of Smithville, on the Andrew Bailey place; and Hiram in Norwich. John Grant, brother of David and Jared, came in about a year after David, and settled on the John Harrison place, about one-fourth mile south-east of Smithville Flats, on what was called the plank road. He removed to Fredonia about 1830. One son, Lewis, a merchant, and a daughter, Julia Ann, wife of ——— Crissey, are living there. John, another son, is a merchant in Jamestown. David, Caleb and Jesse Leach, brothers, and nephews of Joseph Agard's wife, came in with their families from Litchfield, Conn., about 1808. David settled on the site of the house now occupied by the widow of Joseph McCrary, next north of the Baptist church in Smithville Flats, and subsequently became a Baptist minister; Caleb, where Dr. Luther J. Purdy now lives; and Jesse, about a mile north-east of the village. All three lived here till they became old men. David died at Whitney's Point; Caleb, in Milwaukee; and Jesse, in Smithville, Oct. 19, 1837, aged 53. Zeruah, wife of Jesse, died August 23, 1871, aged 80. Two sons of Jesse's, Lorin and Frederick, are living in the town. Other settlements were made as early as 1808, by Jerediah

Brown, Elisha Harris, Woodruff Harris, Bela and Sylvester Cowles, Whiting Edgerton, John Starkey and Levi Benedict. Whiting Edgerton died March 24, 1865, aged 80; and Jane, his wife, Aug. 14, 1874, aged 83. Bela Cowles spent a long life in this town and Greene. "He was emphatically a pioneer in this wilderness, and did his whole duty in making the same blossom with the fragrance of civilization."

Peter Smith, a Hollander, came in as early as 1810 or 1812, with a large family, and settled on the same farm as Thomas Phelps. After a few years he removed to the ridge in the north part of the town, on the farm now known as the Smith farm, which was taken up by his son Henry. Peter, another son, settled on the Casey farm, a little east of the ridge road. The elder Peter died here about forty years ago, and his family removed about that time to Steuben county. His other children were George, who never married, but took up a farm joining the Henry Smith farm, and now occupied by Moses Bronson; Sarah, who married Conrad Burget; and Christina, who married Roman Loomis. None of his family are living. Thorit Smith, a grandson, is living on the Henry Smith farm. Two other grandchildren, Joseph and John, are living in Cincinnati.

Other early settlers were: Stephen Olmstead, Silas Read, Jason Smith, Reuben Crandall, Stephen Hastings, Richard Holdridge, Leonard Webb, ——— Norris, and ——— Phelps.

Stephen Olmstead settled in the central part of the town. He raised a large family. Silas Read settled on the Genegantslet, two miles above Smithville Flats, on the farm now occupied by James and Arthur Harrison, where he died, Feb. 8, 1850, aged 79, and Lucy, his wife, May 25, 1853, aged 78. Colonel Silas M., his son, settled on an adjoining farm on the north, the one now occupied by William Harrison. He afterwards sold and went to Elmira, where he died, Oct. 28, 1858. Virgil Read, a grain dealer in Elmira, and Horace S. Read, a resident of Oxford, are sons of his. None of the elder Silas' children are living. The last, Harriet, wife of Dr. Chappell, died in Rochester in 1876. Sophia and Polly died in Smithville. Hiram settled one-fourth mile north of Colonel Silas, his brother, on the farm now occupied by William Johnson. He afterwards removed to Greene and died there. One child only, Bruce, is living in Greene. Merrick settled opposite to his father, where James Harrison now lives. He afterwards removed to the Flats and engaged in mercantile business, in which his father and brother Horace S., were also previously engaged, and subsequently to the Elder Leach farm. He died in California, Oct. 31, 1860, while engaged in transacting business for his son.

Jason Smith came in from Massachusetts and set-

tled about a mile west of East Smithville, where Henry Flagg now lives. His marriage with Hannah Rorapough, in 1807, has been generally supposed to have been the first in the town; but there is no doubt whatever that the supposition is incorrect. He died in Smithville some twenty years ago, and his wife some fifteen years ago. His children were: Blodgett, who married west; Lumina, who married Dyer Perkins, and removed to Michigan; Stephen, who married and moved west; Andrew, who married Betsey Ann, daughter of Joseph Corbin, and is living in Cortland county; Chauncey, who moved west; Jane, who died in Smithville; and Dow, who removed to Ontario county, where he was living a few years ago.

Reuben Crandall settled on Bowman brook, a little north of East Smithville, on the farm now occupied by Albert and Nathan Willcox, where he died. He had two sons, Lewis and Cyrus. The former married Editha Shaddock, and the latter, Sylpha Wilmoth. Both died on the homestead.

Stephen Hastings was from the New England States and settled in the south-east part of the town on the farm, a large portion of which is occupied by Erastus Hill. He removed to Tioga county and died near Owego. His children were: Hiram, William, Abigail, who married James Potter, and Clarinda, who married Jacob Buckley, of Oxford. Richard Holdridge, also from the New England States, settled in the north-east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Lorin Holdridge, and died there. His children were: Ira; Richard, who married Polly Webb; Daniel, who married a Miss Teachout; Peter, who married Delilah Cutler; and a daughter who married Jesse Matteson.

Leonard Webb was from Massachusetts, and settled in the north-east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Warren Hamilton, where he died. His children were: Sally, who married — Wheeler; Polly, who married Richard Holdridge; Merritt, who married an adopted daughter of — Baldwin; Angeline, who married Andrew Rorapough, both of whom died in Smithville; Charles, who removed from the town before marrying; Sylvester, who married Polly Norris, and died in McDonough; Julia Ann, who married Henry Flagg, and died in Smithville. Norris came from the New England States and settled in the east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by his grandson, William Norris, and died there. His children were: Lawrence, Daniel, Henry, Samuel, Peter, Isaac, William, Silas, Charity, who married George Whittenhall, and two other daughters who married respectively Reuben and Smith Simmons. Two are living, Isaac in Smithville, and Silas in Oxford. Phelps settled a little west of East Smithville, where Edward Loomis now lives. His wife died

upon the farm on which they settled. His children are: Samantha, who married John Skillin; Samuel; and Edward, who married a Bronson, all of whom are living, Samantha in Greene and Edward in Oxford.

TOWN OFFICERS.—At the annual town meeting held at the school house near Capt. Jonathan Phelps', Tuesday, March 7, 1809, the following named officers were chosen:—

Supervisor—Dr. Isaac Grant.

Clerk—Jacob Carter.

Assessors—Constant Chapman, E. Eggleston and Bela Cowles.

Commissioners of Highways—Elisha Harris, Edward Loomis and Jonathan Phelps.

Overseers of the Poor—Silas Read and Reuben Crandall.

Collector—John Agard.

Constables—Edward Purple, John Agard and Frederick Cline.

Fence Viewers—William Kirtland, Reuben Crandall and Thomas Shaddock.

Pound Keepers—Edward Loomis, Robert Hotchkiss and Thomas Shaddock.

The following list of the officers of the town of Smithville, for the year 1880-'81, was kindly furnished us by Robert Boyd:—

Supervisor—George D. Cowles.

Town Clerk—Robert Boyd.

Justices—George R. Jacobson, Robert A. Dunning, A. M. Walworth, Dudley Breed.

Assessors—Samuel Cline, Smith Hotchkiss, Addison Hotchkiss.

Commissioner of Highways—Giles H. Hubbard.

Overseers of the Poor—O. P. Rose, John T. Knickerbocker.

Constables—Horace L. Payne, Floyd Reed, Thomas Knickerbocker, Charles Race.

Collector—Joseph A. Harrison.

Inspectors of Election—District No. 1: Joseph Randall, Charles Dibble, Leland M. Cowles; District No. 2: Henry Chase, Alvirus Fry, A. H. Nichols.

Town Auditors—Jesse Read, Luther Davis, Ephraim Loomis.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Judson L. Grant.

Game Constable—Joseph Potter.

Excise Commissioners—James B. Wells, Ely Partidge, Frederick A. Skillman.

SMITHVILLE FLATS.

Smithville Flats is situated near the south line of the town, on the flats which border the Genegantslet and extend from some distance below the village to about three miles above it, for two miles of equal width with those at the village, and in some places considerably wider. They were early known as the "Big Flats," and from them the village derives its distinctive name. The creek is small at this point, affording a limited water power. It is dammed in two places in the village, at the upper and lower end, each dam affording a fall of three or four feet.

The surrounding hills, deeply indented by the valley of the Genegantslet, with the intervening spacious plains, combine in a highly picturesque degree some of the elements of quiet and rugged beauty. The road from Smithville Flats to Greene affords a most delightful view of that valley a short distance below the former village. A more charming landscape than is there presented, it would be difficult to imagine.

The village contains four churches, (Baptist, Universalist, Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian,) but only three houses of worship, a Union Free School, two hotels, (*the Central Valley House* kept by Joseph Sanford and the *Smithville House* kept by Alonzo Adams, the former of which was built in 1871, by Charles D. Payne, and the latter about fifty years ago, by Erastus Agard,) a flouring-mill, built by David Grant about forty years ago, and of which Thomas Tanner is proprietor, a grist, saw and planing-mill combined, owned by Uriah Rorapaugh, by whom it was built in 1875, a steam saw-mill, built in the summer of 1878, by Frederick A. Skillman, the present proprietor, two wagon shops, kept by Joseph Limburger and Henry Chase, a cabinet shop, kept by Ephraim Loomis, three blacksmith shops, kept by Michael Flanagan, Eugene Chase and Erastus Baker, a harness and shoe shop, kept by Arthur M. Harrison, two cooper shops, kept by Samuel Boyd and Robert Boyd, two shoe shops, kept by Horace Payne and Horace D. Read, the Harrison cheese factory, built in 1874 by a stock company, which receives 1,200 pounds of milk per day and makes 756 pounds of cheese and 90 pounds of butter per week, eight stores, and a population of 400.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at Smithville Flats was John Palmer, who opened a store there in 1806, but how long he kept it we could not definitely ascertain. He also kept the first inn and a distillery. The former probably stood on the site of the Central Valley House. Joseph Agard was probably the second merchant. He commenced business about the close of the war of 1812 and continued till January, 1843, when he sold to his son George, who continued about two years and closed out.

Eli Tarbell came in from Chester, Vt., in 1816, and settled below the village, on the east side of the creek, where he was engaged in farming for several years. In the spring of 1825 he removed to the village and commenced keeping hotel in a building which occupied the site of the Central Valley House and was then an old building. In 1825 he built for a hotel the place now occupied as a dwelling by his widow, wife of Loren Hotchkiss, which he kept 13 or 14 years. At the same time he fitted up the north part for a store, and rented it to Isaac Comstock, who occupied it about a year, when he filled the store himself and did busi-

ness till within a year or two of his death, which occurred Oct. 4, 1845. "He was a man of enterprise and energy, and became extensively engaged in the manufacture of lumber, and for many years was the most prominent man in his vicinity." His son, John Seymour, who had done business with his father three or four years, succeeded him and continued till about 1855, when he removed to Montrose, Pa., where he has since kept a hotel. In the meantime Eli built and moved into the store until recently occupied by the late George Kinnier. Isaac Comstock continued business some four or five years, when he removed from the place. He ran a still quite extensively the last year of his stay.

Nathaniel Howe commenced mercantile business about 1828, and after about two years became associated with his father-in-law, Silas Read, whose daughter Sophia he married. They continued together till about 1836, when they closed out the business. Silas Read, a son of Howe's partner, commenced business about 1831, and continued till about 1842, when his son Horace S. succeeded him and carried it on five or six years. Merrick Read succeeded to Howe's business about 1836 and continued it some five years.

Others of less prominence may have done business here for short periods, other than those at present doing business and those who have been associated with them.

The following are the merchants at present doing business here:—

Richard Harrison came in from New York city about 1842 and commenced mercantile business, which he continued till 1865, when his son, *A. M. Harrison*, succeeded him, and is still dealing in saddlery hardware, boots, shoes and trunks.

Jerome B. Lewis came in from Madison, his native county, in 1848, and commenced the hardware business, which he has since continued. He was associated as partner with his brother Alonzo the first ten years.

S. L. Rhodes, general merchant, who came in from Guilford three or four years previously, commenced business in 1855, in company with Lambert Terrell, with whom he did business a little over seven years. Mr. Terrell died Sept. 20, 1862, aged 59; and Janet, his wife, July 2, 1875, aged 57.

Erastus Tremain is a native of Greene and a grandson of Daniel Tremain, an early settler in that town. He removed to Smithville Flats in the spring of 1864, and commenced the grocery business, which he has since continued, with the exception of two years.

Edward Harrison, general merchant, commenced business in 1869 in company with his brother, A. N. Harrison, under the name of A. N. & E. Harrison. After about five years he bought his brother's interest.

Dr. Luther James Purdy, druggist, commenced business April 1, 1874, in company with J. D. Skillman, whose interest he bought October 10th of that year.

H. D. Read, a native of Smithville, dealer in boots, shoes and confectionery, commenced business in December, 1875.

J. D. Livermore & Co., (Jerome D. and Cyrus K. Livermore,) general merchants and druggists, came in from Chenango Forks, and commenced business in April, 1879.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster at Smithville Flats was Erastus Agard, who held the office a great many years, till 1837, when R. N. Messenger was appointed and held it during Van Buren's administration. John S. Tarbell was appointed in 1841 and held it till about 1849, when it passed into the hands of Horace S. Read, who held it about four years. Benjamin Brown next held it till 1861, when Jerome B. Lewis, the present incumbent, was appointed.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at Smithville Flats is believed to have been Dr. Locy, who came in about 1822, settled where Frederick Leach now lives, and practiced till about 1831. Daniel Clark came in from Genegantslet about 1827 and remained till about 1865. He went to Cortland and is now living with his son James in Philadelphia. Dr. Alling came in about 1859 and entered a military hospital about the opening of the war. He was taken sick with a fever and returned home deranged and died about 1864.

Dwight M. Lee, who served about a year in the army as surgeon, came after his discharge, in the fall of 1865, and practiced here about a year, when he removed to Oxford, where he has since practiced.

George O. Williams, who was graduated from the Albany Medical College in December, 1866, commenced practice here in the spring of 1867 and remained six years, when, in the spring of 1873, he removed to Greene, where he is now practicing.

The present physicians are Luther James Purdy and Arthur L. Lowe.

Luther James Purdy was born in German, April 4, 1848, and studied medicine in McDonough with Dr. E. L. Ensign, and in Cincinnati with Dr. R. Barnes. He entered the Albany Medical School in 1869, and was graduated in 1871. He commenced practice in McDonough, January 1, 1871, and after two years removed to Smithville Flats, where he has since practiced.

Arthur L. Lowe was born in West Almond, N. Y., Sept. 15, 1853. He entered the University of Wooster, at Cleveland, Oct. 7, 1874, and remained there two years. November 5, 1876, he entered the University

of Buffalo, N. Y., and was graduated Feb. 22, 1877. He commenced practice at Smithville Flats.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer was R. N. Messenger, who came here from Oneida, commenced practice about 1834 and continued till about 1841, when he removed to Milwaukee, and died there. No other has settled here permanently since. Robert Dunning, who lives in the north part of the town, practices here occasionally.

SCHOOLS.—*The Smithville Union School and Academy* was organized Dec. 16, 1878, under the direction of Prof. E. W. Rogers, by the consolidation of the two districts, Nos. 1 and 13. It is managed by a Board of Education, consisting of H. G. Crozier, President; U. Rorapaugh, Secretary; Edward Harrison, Treasurer; Nelson McFarland, D. Kinnier and F. F. Peck. There has not been any change in the Board since the organization, except that F. F. Peck takes the place of Jesse Read, who resigned soon after the organization.

The school building, which was formerly occupied by district No. 13, was erected in 1864. It is a substantial frame wooden structure, two stories high, 26 by 50 feet, with front and entry wing two stories high, 16 by 20 feet. The entire upper story of the main part is occupied by the academic department. The room is 15 feet high, has windows on three sides, and is well lighted with chandeliers. A fine black-board extends entirely around it, and it is supplied with good cases for the library, which is well selected, and the apparatus, which is new and very complete. It is furnished with Chase's peerless furniture and recitation seats, and supplied with cloak rooms in the upper story of the wing. It is without exception the finest school-room in the county. The first floor of the main building is divided into two rooms, each 25 by 26 feet, and 11 feet high, which are occupied by the primary and grammar departments. The first floor of the entrance has a hall-way and cloak rooms. The lower rooms are seated with the old style of furniture, but a tax has been voted by the district for the purpose of remodeling and refurnishing them.

The building site consists of an acre of ground, which is ornamented with a fine locust grove, consisting of 32 trees in the 31st year of their growth. The grounds, buildings and fixtures are valued at \$4,000. The library consists of 178 volumes, valued at \$386.25; the apparatus is valued at \$362.90. They are said to be the best school library and apparatus in the county.

The faculty consists of Prof. E. W. Rogers, Principal; Rev. H. W. Congdon, A. M., Ancient Languages; A. L. Lowe, M. D., Physiology and Hygiene; Mrs. T. M. Cowan, Grammar Department; Miss G. A. Porter, Primary Department; Mrs. E. W. Rogers,

Drawing and Painting; Miss Minnie McCray, Vocal and Instrumental Music.

The school year consists of 42 weeks, divided into three terms of 14 weeks each.

Genegantslet Fire Co., No. 1, of the Town of Smithville, was organized July 9, 1864, and the following named persons were members Sept. 16, 1864: H. G. Crozier, F. D. Bunnell, O. F. Cowles, James Ramsey, H. D. Read, A. Bailey, J. B. Lewis, O. Whitmarsh, C. Post, J. Ferguson, John C. Henry, G. Henry, T. Payne, H. L. Payne, C. Tyler, J. Kinnier, D. Taylor, James Kinnee, E. Loomis, E. Harrison, T. Walters, William Cayton and M. Fitch.

Charles R. Brown is Foreman; Wm. Rogers, Secretary; Edward Harrison, Treasurer; A. M. Harrison, 1st Assistant Foreman; S. Boyd, 2d Assistant Foreman.

The equipment consists of a hand engine and about 250 feet of hose.

Genegantslet Hose Co., No. 1, was organized July 9, 1864. A. C. Leach is Foreman. The company is not as yet provided with a hose cart, but arrangements have been made to procure one.

CHURCHES.—*The First Baptist Church of Smithville* was organized Feb. 23, 1813, at the house of S. Huntley, and was composed of members of the Second Baptist church in Greené, who felt aggrieved because their pastor, Elder Jeduthan Gray, and other members, had joined the previous year, a body of Free and Accepted Masons, and worked with them in their lodges, which they believed to be contrary to the church policy. They were the majority of that church. As appears from the records the following named persons were the original members: David Leach, Silas Read, Merrick Read, Joseph Robbins, Jared Grant, Jesse Leach, Andrew Hibbard, Asahel Loomis, Erastus Agard, John Grant, George Agard, Richard Sawtle, Samuel Carpenter, Ezra Whitmarsh, John Forbes, Stephen Goetcheus, Stephen Youngs, Lyman Shattuck, Nathaniel Lucas, David Grant, Silas Read, Jr., and John Nichols, Jr.

The church was incorporated Dec. 27, 1814, as *The First Baptist Church and Society of Smithville*, and the first trustees were Jonathan Fitts, David Leach, George Agard, Erastus Agard and Pardon C. Blivin. It was re-incorporated Jan. 2, 1819, and the number of trustees increased to nine.

The trustees met at the school-house near Silas Read's, and voted that the society should extend from the north to the south lines of the town, and from the west line to the east line of Phineas Pond's land, directly north and south to the town lines. May 9, 1825, these local bounds were annulled.

January 21, 1819, the plan for a house was received,

prepared by Nicholas Powell, Silas Read and Joseph L. Robbins, a committee previously appointed for that purpose, and it was voted to sell the pews to build the house and divide the sums to be paid therefor into four equal installments, to be paid semi-annually, the first and third in cash, and the second and fourth in grain or neat cattle. At a meeting held the first Monday in March, 1819, it was voted to relinquish this plan and adopt some other. A site on the lands of Joseph Agard on the corner near Andrew Arnold's was selected, and it was voted to build the house by subscription, the first payment on which was to be made in materials, the second in cash when the house was raised, and the other half, at the inclosure of the building, in grain or neat stock. Feb. 9, 1824, it was voted to circulate a subscription to raise "property" sufficient to complete the meeting-house. March 14, 1825, is the first recorded meeting of the society in the meeting-house, meetings having previously been held in the school-house. This church was burned in 1826. The present one was built and furnished in 1832, by Erastus Agard, who donated it to the society.

March 26, 1825, the Universalists were prohibited from longer holding meetings in the house of this society, "with or without their minister"; and owners of dogs were prohibited from admitting those animals to the meetings, under a penalty of \$1 for each offense. April 23, 1825, permission was given the Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Methodists to occupy the church when not in use by this society, but was denied the Universalists, except by "consent of all the trustees." The trustees who enunciated this edict were Silas Read, Samuel Carpenter, David Grant, David Leach, John Forbes and John Grant. June 14, 1825, it was

Resolved, That we offer some of the leading characters of the Universalists by John Forbes and John Grant to have the matter of their intruding on the rights of the Baptist church and society by opening their meeting-house to the judges of this county."

July 6, 1825, James Clapp, of Oxford, was appointed attorney for the society. At the latter date the obverse side of a dime bearing date of 1821 was chosen as the seal for the church and society. Oct. 25, 1828, it was "voted to sell the meeting-house lot, i. e. one acre lying in front of the burying ground, with a reserve of a road to the burying ground of one rod wide on the north side, to John Forbes and Silas Read, and they to pay Clapp in full the demands he has against the Baptist church and society of Smithville, which amounts to about \$40." What the result of this litigation was, other than the disposition of the above named property to defray its expense, the records do not show.

February 21, 1837, they resolved to become in-

corporated under the name of the "First Baptist Church and Society of the town of Smithville."

September 1, 1842, it is recorded that the Church at Smithville Flats united with this Church. This isolated record does not give much information, and we have been unable to obtain any which will throw any additional light on the action taken.

The records do not show the succession of pastors up to 1843, and only imperfectly so after that. It is believed however that Elder David Leach, who was ordained by this Church, was the first settled pastor. Elder B. F. Remington was the pastor May 20, 1843, and previously. He closed his labors in the early part of June of that year. Elder Ezra Dean, then stationed at North Norwich, officiated a few Sundays and received a call July 8th following, which he declined. August 14, 1843, a call was extended to Elder John W. VanHorn, who officiated the two preceding Sundays, and accepted. The relation was dissolved Jan. 13, 1844, when he and his wife were granted letters. Elder Hart's name appears as pastor September 14, 1844. He served in that capacity till November of that year. June 21, 1845, Elder Stephen Sargent united with the Church, the names of Elders Morey and Bennett appearing in the records previous to that time. He was presented for examination and ordination by this Church October 23, 1845, but the council convened for the purpose declined to ordain him in consequence of reports unfavorable to him before he left the Congregational Church. He was consequently dismissed November 1, 1845.

Elder E. Bailey began his labors with this Church April 5, 1846, and received and accepted a call extended him April 12th of that year. He was succeeded August 1, 1846, by Elder D. Phillips, who closed his labors October 14, 1846. November 14, 1846, the Church, at the request of G. W. Herrick, granted him liberty "to improve his gifts." He preached for them at times till April 10, 1847, when he withdrew his request for a license to preach.

Elder Reuben Warriner commenced his labors April 25, 1847, and received and accepted a call to the pastorate May 8, 1847. He served them till March, 1848, on the 18th of which month it was decided to accede to the request of the Second Smithville Church to unite with it in extending a call to Elder D. Cutler, who seems to have closed his labors with them some time in May, 1849. A call was extended to Zenas A. Bryant, his labors to commence May 6, 1850, the interval of a year seeming to have been spent without a settled pastor, the pulpit having been filled at times by Elders O. Bennett, Simpson and J. W. Van Horn. The records do not show when Mr. Bryant closed his labors, but as Elder Jones officiated as moderator August 23, 1851, it is probable that they

ceased about that time. The records do not show that the pulpit was supplied from this period till June 3, 1853, when a call was extended to Elder Spaulding, who continued his labors as late as February 14, 1855, and was succeeded as early as May 3, 1855, by Elder Cady, but whether the latter was a settled pastor or only a temporary supply does not appear, as his name occurs in the records in that instance only. Elder A. B. Jones appears to have been the next pastor. The names of Elders Wm. Spaulding and Ranstead appear previously however, though apparently only as supplies. Elder Jones commenced his labors as early as October 2, 1858, and he and his wife Lucy were admitted on letters May 6, 1859. Letters of dismission were granted them November 1, 1863. Elder James Van Patten officiated from October, 1863, to May 7, 1864, at which time it was voted to purchase a parsonage and pay therefor \$500.

February 4, 1865, a call was extended to Elder A. Parker, who was released from his engagement November 4, 1864; at least the trustees were then instructed to release him. Elder S. G. Keim began his labors March 17, 1871, up to which time there does not appear to have been a settled pastor. Elder Keim continued his labors till his death, August 12, 1872, aged 51. He was succeeded apparently by Elder J. D. Webster, May 5, 1877. He continued his pastoral labors till December 8, 1877. Carl A. Bliesman, a student from Madison University, officiated as pastor from June, 1878, to January, 1879, since which time they have been without a pastor.

The Second Baptist Church of Smithville to which reference has been made, was organized about 1828, and their church edifice was built about three miles above Smithville Flats, on the creek road, about 1836.* It was known as the "North Church." It was disbanded about 1848, and most of its members united with the church in McDonough. Their meeting-house is now used as a school-house. That church was an offshoot or rather a split from the First Church of Smithville, a preference in pastors having led to a division in the latter body.

First Universalist Society of Smithville Flats. The first recorded meeting of this Society was held at the house of Eli Tarbell March 5, 1842, though an organization of persons of this religious persuasion appears to have existed as early as 1825.† At that meeting Walter Fitch was chosen moderator, and Milo Coles, Secretary. The following named

* It was incorporated as *The Second Baptist Church and Society of Smithville*, "at their meeting house," March 21, 1836, and Uri Filley, Eben Brown and Jesse C. Skillman were elected trustees.

† The society was incorporated as *The First Universalist Society of the Towns of Smithville and Greene*, at a meeting held in the village of Greene, February 1, 1834. Abraham Tillotson, Warren Gray, Nathan Smith, Miles Wilcox, Moses B. Adams, Townsend Bagley, Eli Tarbell and Jared Page were elected trustees.

persons were chosen trustees: Russell B. Beedle, Richard Haselton (who died April 23, 1864, aged 60,) and Gideon Sibley. Their house of worship was erected this year, (1842.) The first minister of this denomination was Salmon Adams, who came from Upper Lisle about 1821 or '2, on invitation of some of the Universalists in this village, and in 1823, took up his residence here. He preached here half the time and the other half at Afton the first year and Bainbridge the second. George Messenger and Nelson Doolittle succeeded Mr. Adams, and preached alternately, each once a month, about a year. Neither were settled here. Both were single men. Messenger lived near Peterboro in Madison county. Charles Brown of Upper Lisle was the next pastor. He preached half the time for one year. He was succeeded by William M. DeLong, who preached stately half the time for two or three years. He lived in Binghamton. L. S. Clark, who resided at Upper Lisle, preached stately half the time for one year. Robert Queal next preached stately for two years, dividing his time between this church and the one at Upper Lisle, where he resided. Rev. Mr. Perry preached occasionally till 1854, when J. G. Bartholomew came and preached half the time for one year, dividing his time with the church at Upper Lisle. Bartholomew was ordained in this church. They did not have stated preaching from the time Mr. Bartholomew left till 1867, when Albert G. Clark came and ministered to them one year. He resided at DeRuyter, where he died soon after, after a brief illness. He was the only regular preacher whose ministrations the church have enjoyed. Only occasional services have since been held. Their house of worship is rented to the Methodist Society, who have not yet secured one of their own. The present trustees are Amos Hotchkiss, Charles P. Tarbell and Loren Hotchkiss. The number of members does not exceed a dozen.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Smithville Flats was organized Jan. 11, 1874, by Hiram Payne, and W. H. Garitt, the first pastor, was sent on the charge the following spring. The original members were Fred A. Skillman, Eglantine Skillman, Charles R. Potter, Emily Potter, Uri Hazzard, Philena Hazzard, George Brown, Lydia Brown, Jedediah Kendall, Alzina Kendall, Russell G. Card, Jane Card, Eliza Hendrickson, Kitter A. Elwood, Sarah Barnes, Albert Barnes, Alice Card, Elizabeth Cowan, Helen Rich, Lillie Cowan. The church is on the Greene charge and has been since it was organized.

Mr. Garitt's pastorate continued three years, though no services were held the third year, owing to a dislike the congregation had for him. E. P. Eldridge became the pastor in April, 1877, and remained one year.

The present pastor, H. N. Van Dusen, entered upon his labors in the spring of 1878.

The membership is about 30; the average attendance at Sabbath School, 35.

During the first three years the Society met in the Baptist Church; since then they have met in that of the Universalists.

EAST SMITHVILLE.

East Smithville is situated near the east line of the town, north of the center, below and near the junction of Ludlow and Bowman creeks, which furnish a moderate water-power at this point. It contains two churches (Universalist and Methodist Episcopal,* though the Methodists have no organization and have not held meetings for several years,) a district school, one saw-mill, a grist and planing-mill, a creamery, a blacksmith shop, kept by Michael Dunn, a shoe shop, kept by Frank L. Sprague, a carding-mill, owned by Asa J. Stott, and a population of 64. There is no post-office here, and never has been.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at East Smithville was Wm. Knowlton, who opened a store about 1829 in the building now occupied as a dwelling by Isaac Noyes, and traded some two or three years. Jonathan Bennett and Asa Willcox opened a store in the same building about 1849 and traded some two years. There has not been a store kept here since. Bennett formerly resided in this town. Willcox was a native of McDonough, to which town he returned. Knowlton returned to his farm one-half mile west of the village, the one now occupied by Chauncey S. Brown, where previously for several years and subsequently for a short time, he also kept store, and where he was variously occupied as drover, tavern-keeper and shoemaker.

PHYSICIANS.—The only physician who has located at East Smithville was Edward York, who practiced about a year, some forty-five years ago.

MANUFACTURES.—The saw-mill at East Smithville, owned by Nathan Willcox, was built about twenty-five years ago by Harrington Willcox, brother of Gates Willcox, of McDonough and father of the present proprietor, who acquired possession on the death of his father in June, 1877.

The grist and planing-mill, containing one run of stones, is owned by John A. Flagg. The first grist-mill on this site was built soon after the close of the war of 1812, by Harry B. Smith, who operated it several years. It was burned about fifty years ago.

* *The First M. E. Society in Smithville* was organized April 6, 1840, at the "Cole School-House," where the society had previously held meetings. Cyrus Hayes and Jeremiah Potter presided, and Joseph J. Reed, Miles Hubbard, Alanson Mallory, Jeremiah Potter and Cyrus Hayes were elected trustees.

A second one was built on the same site immediately after, and was converted some forty-three years ago into a hoe factory, by Erastus Bolles and his sons Lemuel and Erastus, who erected the present building some three years after, and for some ten years did quite an extensive business, employing six or seven hands. Lemuel then removed to Oxford and established a hoe factory there, continuing about ten years. He afterwards carried on the business at South Oxford four or five years and removed thence to Binghamton, where, in company with several others, he still continues it, under the name of L. Bolles & Co.

The creamery at East Smithville is owned by Horace Packer, of Oxford. It was built in June, 1864, by the East Smithville Cheese Factory Company, which was organized April 12, 1864, and filed articles of incorporation June 15, 1864. The company was composed of Cyrus Crandall, Lewis Ketcham, Benaiah Loomis, George Ketcham, Joseph W. Hamilton, William P. Butler, Uriah Rorapugh, Warren Loomis, Samuel Cline, Sylvanus Church, Erastus Hill, Joel Webb and Isaac Whiting. The capital was \$3,500. The first trustees were Daniel Loomis, Lewis Ketcham; Joel Webb, President; and Cyrus Crandall, Secretary. The company operated it as a cheese factory till Feb. 21, 1866, when it came into the possession of the present proprietor, who converted it into a creamery and has since conducted it as such. The milk from about 200 cows is received and both cheese and butter are made. It is and has been from the beginning known as the Deer Spring Butter and Cheese Factory. This is the first creamery established west of Orange county and the third one established in the United States. The first was established in Orange county by a stock company, of whom General Slaughter was the prime mover, about 1864 or '5.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—At a special town meeting held in Smithville, Jan. 1, 1864, it was resolved to pledge the faith of the town to pay to each person who had or should thereafter volunteer and be applied on its quota under the call for 300,000 men to be drafted in January, 1864, a town bounty of \$310, and Jesse Read, Ransom Yale and James Ferguson were appointed a finance committee to aid, advise and direct the Supervisor and Clerk in and about the preparation of bonds, which were to be sold at public or private sale, at not less than their par value, and made in amounts of not less than \$100, nor more than \$300. The bonds were made payable, \$3,000 in one year from date of issue, \$3,000 in two years, and the remainder in three years, together with the interest annually due and unpaid on the interest coupons. The clerk was directed to transmit without unnecessary delay to the Members of Assembly from this county, and to the Senator

from this Senate district, copies of these resolutions, and request them to procure as soon as might be the passage of a law in accordance therewith. Feb. 16, 1864, the finance committee were authorized to obtain the number of volunteers required and to pay not to exceed \$500 to each. Under the call for 200,000 men the town board was authorized March 30, 1864, to pay not to exceed \$400 per man, and to issue the bonds of the town payable, with interest, Feb. 1, 1865.

At a special town meeting, held August 8, 1864, the Board of Town Auditors was authorized and directed to raise upon the credit of the town, in the manner prescribed by law, a sum of money necessary to procure the number of volunteers to fill the quota under the call for 500,000 men, which sum was not to exceed \$500 each for one year's, nor \$600 for two or three years' men, as bounty and expenses for procuring them, the money to be raised on bonds made payable Feb. 1, 1865. This action was rescinded Aug. 24, 1864, and it was then resolved to pay not to exceed \$500 to one year's men as bounty and expenses, and to pay to each person who had theretofore or should thereafter furnish a substitute credited to the town on said call not to exceed \$500 each. The Board was authorized to use the money obtained on the volunteer subscriptions of the young men for the purpose of procuring the money and paying other necessary expenses, and to issue bonds to the necessary amount, payable Feb. 1, 1865. Sept. 14, 1864, the Board was authorized and directed to raise upon the credit of the town a sum of money in addition to that voted Aug. 24, 1864, not to exceed \$350 each, for the purpose of procuring volunteers and substitutes before the draft to apply on the quota under the call for 500,000 men, and to issue the bonds of the town in the necessary amount, made payable Feb. 1, 1868, '69 and '70, in three equal installments, with interest annually.

January 5, 1865, the Board was directed to raise on bonds made payable Feb. 1, 1865, a sum necessary to pay to each volunteer and person furnishing a substitute, credited on the quota of the town, not to exceed \$1,000, provided that no person furnishing a substitute should receive more than was actually expended therefor.

The number of men who were credited on the quotas of this town during that war is 154, of whom 77 were from Smithville. They were distributed through various branches of the service as follows: 9th, 11th, 22d, 37th, 79th and 185th infantry regiments, each 1; 12th infantry, 5; 27th infantry, 4; 43d, 89th and 157th infantry, each 3; 114th infantry, 30; 144th infantry, 2; 8th cavalry, 27; 10th cavalry, 11; 3d Tenn. cavalry, 2; 4th Tenn. cavalry, 1; 12th Tenn. cavalry, 8; 2d mounted rifles, 1; 1st Tenn.

light artillery, 6; 2d, 5th, 9th and 13th heavy artillery respectively 3, 2, 6 and 1; 8th independent battery, 4; unknown, 25.

The soldiers from this town received in bounties, as appears from the records, \$33,387 from the town, and \$9,400 from the county. It is probable, however, that this is not the whole amount paid.

CHAPTER XXIII.

TOWN OF NORWICH.

NORWICH* was formed from *Jericho* (Bainbridge,) and Union (Broome county,) both then in Tioga county, Jan. 19, 1793, and then embraced the towns of Pharsalia, Plymouth, Preston,† which were taken off April 2, 1806, New Berlin and a part of Columbus, which were taken off April 3, 1807, and North Norwich, which was taken off April 7, 1849.‡ A part of Preston was annexed in 1808, and a part of the same town taken off in 1820. It is the central town upon the east border of the county, and is bounded on the north by North Norwich and New Berlin, on the east by New Berlin and Otsego county, on the south by Guilford and Oxford, and on the west by Preston. The surface consists of two high rolling ridges, separated by the valley of the Chenango. The highest summits are about five hundred feet above the valleys. The principal streams are the Chenango and Unadilla rivers. The former flows through the western part of the town, which it enters about two miles east of the west line, and leaves in the southwest corner; the latter forms the eastern boundary. The Chenango receives Canasawacta Creek and Mineral Spring Brook from the west, and Thompson, Ransford and Johnson creeks from the east.

It is underlaid by the rocks of the Portage and Catskill groups, and good building and flagging stone is obtained in various parts of the town. Among these localities may be mentioned the little brook in the north part of Norwich village; the farm of Norman Cox, at Wood's Corners, from which stone for the

* The name was suggested by James Glover, the first settler in the town of Preston, and, we presume, in the original town of Norwich. It was borrowed from Norwich in Connecticut, from whence many of the early settlers came; and the latter from Norwich in England, an important seat for the manufacture of woolen stuffs, famous for its cathedral and numerous churches, and noted as the birthplace of Dr. Samuel Clarke, a distinguished divine, and the learned editor of Homer. We observed a lack of uniformity in the pronunciation of the name, even among old and intelligent settlers, some adhering to the usage of English prosodists, (Nor'rij), others to that of the United States, (Nor'rich or Nor'wich.) As determined by Clark's *History of Chenango County* it is pronounced *Nor'idge*.

† Preston then embraced the town of McDonough.

‡ The act defines the original boundary as "all that part of the town of Jericho lying east of the Chenango River, bounded northerly by the north bounds of said (Tioga) county, easterly on the Unadilla River, southerly on the north bounds of a tract of land called Fayette, and the south bounds of townships number thirteen and fourteen, being two of the Twenty Townships, and westerly on the west bounds of the Twenty Townships."

locks on the canal was quarried; on the west hill, on the Benjamin Aldrich farm, afterwards owned by Charles and William Brooks, who opened the quarry, and took out a good many flagging stone, most of that used for walks in Norwich village. The former, which is on the farm of Isaac Pendleton, furnished stone for the abutments of the bridges. Considerable stone has been taken from the west bank of the Canasawacta, near the red mill in Norwich village. It is a good looking, blueish stone, but slacks when in contact with water, and for that reason has been abandoned. A reddish and excellent building stone has been obtained from a quarry opened in the Cook settlement.

The sulphur spring on the old Smiley farm, now owned by William Breed, was discovered as early as 1800, from a deer lick in the same locality. The water was strongly impregnated with sulphur and was used with efficacy for the cure of cutaneous diseases. Two springs, one discharging pure, and the other sulphur water, issued from the earth within a foot of each other. Cyrus Wheeler, who saw in it the elements of a popular watering place, and designed making it such, made an effort some thirty years ago to improve it by putting in a curb; but the removal of a stone, which seemed to separate the two springs, caused them to unite, and subsequent efforts to separate them have been unavailing.

The soil upon the uplands is a shaly and gravelly loam, and in the valleys a gravelly loam and alluvium.

In 1875 the town had a population of 5,921; of whom 5,290 were native, 631 foreign, 5,777 white, 144 colored, 2,859 males, 3,062 females, and 185 aliens. The number of males of voting age was 1,703, of whom 56 were aliens. The number unable to read and write was 49. Its area was 26,379 acres; of which 21,441 were improved; 4,595 woodland; and 343 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,539,629; of farm buildings other than dwellings \$173,315; of stock \$206,986; of tools and implements \$48,052. The gross amount of sales from farms in 1874 was \$163,283.

The Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley, and the New York, Ontario and Western railroads, (the latter better known as the *Midland*,*) cross the western part of the town, the former along the valley of the Chenango, which the latter leaves near the center (north and south) of the town. The New Berlin Branch of the latter road extends along the eastern border of the town, in the valley of the Unadilla, and the abandoned Auburn Branch from Norwich up the valley of the Canasawacta.

* In 1868 the town bonded in the sum of \$371,600 and the village in the sum of \$75,000, in aid of this railroad. Only a little less than \$40,000 of this sum have been provided for thus far. The second installment of 5 per cent. is due the present fall (1879). In addition to this, the citizens of Norwich contributed \$77,000 to the capital stock of the road.

There are sixteen common and one Union Free School districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. During the year ending September 30, 1877,* there were thirty-one licensed teachers at one time during twenty-eight weeks or more. The number of children of school age residing in the districts at that date was 1,574. During that year there were ten male and forty female teachers employed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 1,222, of whom six were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 738.008; the number of volumes in district libraries was 2,137, the value of which was \$1,584; the number of school-houses was twenty-one, all of which were frame, which, with the sites, embracing 5 acres, 3½ rods, valued at \$8,230, were valued at \$14,700; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$4,431,266. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age, residing in the districts at that date was 625, of whom 515 attended district school fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and Disbursements for School Purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$70.06
“ apportioned to district.....	4,212.10
Proceeds of Gospel and School lands.....	162.86
Raised by tax.....	7,689.94
From teachers' board.....	486.00
“ other sources.....	610.68
Total Receipts.....	\$13,231.64
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$10,761.94
“ libraries.....	2.57
“ school apparatus.....	3.00
“ houses, sites, fences, outhouses, repairs, furniture, &c.....	660.72
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	1,740.80
Forfeited in hands of Supervisor.....	7.72
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	54.89
Total Payments.....	\$13,231.64

Norwich presents some relics of interest which refer to the former occupants of this country. The locality known as the *Castle*, situated on a bluff on the east bank of the Chenango, near Polkville, partially on the farm of Homer Johnson and partially on that of Thomas Hall, and about twenty rods in rear of Johnson's house, presented some vestiges of a fortification in 1817, but is probably of more modern date than the one at Oxford.† The Indians had made a clearing there of some ten acres, and were numerous up

* This is the date of the latest report of A. Y. Freeman, School Commissioner of the 1st District of Chenango county, to be found in the Clerk's office. It is probably mis-dated, and refers to the year 1878. This remark applies to all the towns in that district, viz.: Columbus, Lincklaen, New Berlin, North Norwich, Norwich, Otselic, Pharsalia, Pitcher, Plymouth, Sherburne and Smyrna.

† DeWitt Clinton.

and down the valley when the first settlers came in and for some years subsequent to that time. “Here they held councils,” says Clark, “and appointed courts for the trial of delinquents. Here, too, they received their chief, and here too they entertained their guests from the neighboring tribes.”* The Randall farm about a mile below the creek bridge in Norwich, and a little south of the confluence of Canasawacta Creek and Chenango River, was also a favorite Indian resort, and was partially cleared by the aborigines.

Of another locality Mr. Clark thus speaks:—

“Very near the residence of Mr. Abel Chandler, in Norwich, there is a large mound having many appearances in common with the mounds found in Illinois and the Mississippi, and which are known to have been places of deposit for the dead. This mound is situated on the alluvial soil of the valley and is detached from the high grounds near by. If it had a rock basis it would be rational to conclude some stream had caused its disruption from the high land standing in proximity to it. But it is equally steep, or very nearly so, on each side and corresponds in length and breadth with the tumuli on the Mississippi and other western rivers. We know of no Indian burying place nearer than Oxford. Bones have been found when excavating about the fort in that village. But at Norwich, where the Indians were in greater numbers, and at an early day, no burial place has been discovered, so far as the writer can ascertain. The Castle had a village around it, as some of the first inhabitants report. Forty or fifty years ago the outlines of an Indian huddle or hamlet were plain to be seen.”†

The first settlement in the present town of Norwich was made in 1788, the year in which the Indian title to this section was extinguished by Avery Power, who came before the title was extinguished and squatted

* *History of Chenango County.* The same author, writing in 1850, says, referring to the Hall farm, “there are yet standing a few apples, planted by the natives, and which are about the last trace of the former habitation of the aborigines in Norwich.”

† In 1791 or '2 an Oneida Indian named David was tried in the house of John Harris, for the murder of another Indian, whom he supposed stabbed his squaw. This was probably the first trial in Chenango county, which came under the cognizance of the Europeans. David's wife had had an altercation with another Indian, who, in the night, stabbed her in the abdomen, inflicting a wound from which she recovered. Her screams aroused her husband, who was told by the one who committed the deed that another Indian lying near by had done it. David seized his tomahawk and drove it into the skull of the sleeping victim, and the real culprit escaped to the canon of the Tuscaroras. David was tried by two Oneida chiefs, who brought with them a person to execute the sentence of the court if he should be found guilty. He was acquitted, however; but, fearing the vengeance of the friends of the murdered Indian, he dare not return to the Oneidas. He lived several years in a wigwam near the brewery on North Broad street in Norwich village, where he was engaged in hunting and making brooms and baskets. *Statement of Dr. Harvey Harris, of Norwich.*

Mr. Clark also relates a tragical scene which occurred at the Castle below Norwich. A young Oneida of rank and wealth became enamored of a beautiful squaw of the same tribe whose affections were already engaged, and gained the consent of her parents, who were accustomed to decide such matters, to make her his bride. He carried her to his wigwam, but she escaped and fled with her lover. The husband pursued, and while they were buried in profound sleep, took the life of his rival and inflicted dreadful wounds upon his wife, from which, however, she finally recovered. He was tried at the Castle and acquitted.

‡ *History of Chenango County, Clark.*

on lands for which he afterwards paid, at the rate of three shillings per acre, by services rendered the government surveyors, who laid out this tract in 1789 and '90. The farm he took up was early known as the Indian fields; for, with the exception of some fifteen or twenty acres lying upon the side hill, it had been cleared and cultivated by the Indians, and apple trees in bearing, planted by the latter, were then growing upon it. Latterly it is better known as the Randall farm, from its subsequent occupant. It contained the whole of lot 39 (250 acres,) and an additional thirty-six acres. It is located a mile south of Norwich village, lying on both sides of the river, but mostly upon the west side, lot 39 cornering near the residence of Homer Johnson. His log cabin stood a little east of the canal, near the barn on the Jeduthan Newton place, formerly owned by John Randall. Mr. Power was possessed of a hardy, bold and venturesome spirit, which made him restive under the restraints imposed by civilization. He was a sort of compromise between the savage Indian and civilized white man. He soon pined for the wild associations which the locality of his settlement was rapidly losing, and in 1800 he sold to John Randall, and removed to the Western States, receiving for his farm and improvements \$4,100. His removal was doubtless hastened by the misfortune which overtook him; for he lost in as many weeks three daughters after a brief illness, all of whom were buried on the Burlingame farm on the east side of the river, the yard being still preserved. These deaths are supposed to have been the first in the town. His daughter, Lucy Power, was the first child born in the town.* His was the first dwelling house and, says Clark, the first tavern,† in Norwich.

David Fairchild is supposed to have been the next settler in the town. He located near the south line of the town, near what was once known as Gates' tavern. He soon after removed to the central part of the town of Preston, where he was killed about 1805, in a log trap, set for bears. He was a noted hunter and trapper.

The third settler is supposed to have been Silas Cole, who came with his wife from Connecticut, on horseback, both riding one horse. He took up all that part of the village of Norwich lying east of South

* There is some question as to who was the first male child born in the town. French's *Gazetteer of the State of New York* states that it was Marcus Cole; while Dr. Harvey Harris, of Norwich, who was born here August 3, 1795, and claims to be the fourth child born in the town, says that Horace, eldest child of Hascall Ransford, was the first. Marcus Cole, he believes, was born in 1794, and Horace Ransford in 1793; but the records of the Ransford family show that the latter was born July 23, 1794.

† Mr. Clark says, "Power's habitation was opened as a kind of inn for the entertainment of whites and savages, but chiefly for the accommodation of the latter." The Ransford family claim that Hascall Ransford kept the first inn. French's *Gazetteer of New York* says Benjamin Edmunds kept the first inn. Unquestionably, however, Mr. Ransford's inn was much larger and much more worthy of the name than any that preceded it.

Main street, between the points where East street intersects and the Canasawacta crosses South Main street. It afterwards formed the farms of Elder Jedediah Randall and Judge Steere, on the former of which he settled. Mr. Cole built the house afterwards owned by Judge York for a tavern; and when the first militia muster was advertised to take place in Norwich he made extensive and expensive preparations to entertain the expected multitude, which was even greater than was anticipated, but, owing to the numerous hucksters, who supplied the wants of the large crowd, the tavern keepers failed to receive their expected patronage. Mr. Cole thus became involved and was obliged to sell his fine farm, which he did, and removed with his family of three children, Marcus, Lucius and Minerva, about 1806, to Sugar Creek, Ohio, where he died.

Capt. John Harris and William Smiley came in company from Voluntown, Conn., in 1789. Harris took up land that year and returned in the fall for his family. Smiley brought his family with him, and settled on the west side of the river, two miles below Norwich, on the farm afterward occupied successively by Stephen Collins, Elias Breed, who held it a great many years, and John Fryer. He built that year on the site of the residence recently occupied by John Fryer, a log house, which Dr. Harris says was the second dwelling house in the town. This is the farm on which the sulphur spring before referred to was located. Smiley sold about 1796-8, to Stephen Collins, and went west with his family. Collins came in at that time from Connecticut, and about 1806, built the present house on that farm. He kept tavern there, and also the toll-gate on the turnpike from Utica to Binghamton, which was built about 1800. About 1810, he sold to Elias Breed and removed from the town with his family. Breed came from Stonington, Conn., and continued to reside on the farm till his death, Dec. 6, 1849, aged 67. His wife, Elizabeth R., also died there, Oct. 22, 1868, aged 84. They were succeeded on the farm by their children William and Jane, wife of John Fryer, the latter now living in Norwich village and the former on the homestead. William married a daughter of James Packer, in the south-west part of Norwich, and is also still living.*

Captain John Harris was born on Nantucket Island, Mass., about 1753. He followed the sea and run a packet between New York and Liverpool till the opening of the Revolutionary war, when he re-

* Charles, who is demented, and is living in the village; Elias S., who married Sarah, daughter, of Roswell Enos, and died in the town, of cancer in the neck, Feb., 1, 1842, aged 38; Noyes P., who married a Vanamburgh and was accidentally killed Dec. 12, 1835; and Samuel, who married Julia Bennett, from the locality of Oswego, and is living in St. Paul, were children of Elias Breed's.

moved to Voluntown (now Sterling,) Conn., where, in 1776, just one month before the Declaration of Independence, he married Tamer, daughter of William Ransford, a native of Voluntown, Conn., where they resided till 1790. Captain Harris, as before stated, came to Norwich in 1789, and took up 256 acres, extending from Broad street to the river, and from the south bounds of the American Hotel property to the north line of the Terwilliger place, in the north part of the village. Having arranged with Avery Power and William Smiley to build him a log cabin he returned in the fall for his family, which he brought in the following January, with two yoke of oxen, attached to a long sled, on which were packed goods and family supplies. His family rode in a sleigh, drawn by a span of horses. They stopped one night at the house of John Eastwood, a noted Methodist, who had then made a settlement on the Unadilla in Guilford.

The journey from the Unadilla to Norwich occupied two days. His family then consisted of his wife and six children, Blin, Abby, John, Squire, Tamer and William.

The house, which he expected to find ready for occupancy, was not begun. He quartered his family with that of William Smiley until he rolled up his log-house, which, with the aid of his brothers-in-law, Hascall and William Ransford, who accompanied him in the settlement, in 1790, occupied only four days. Smiley's house contained only one room, and in this he, his wife and two or three children, Harris, with his family and two brothers-in-law, lived in the most democratic manner, making their beds upon the floor. Harris' house was something of an improvement on this, as it had two rooms. It stood just north of the brook which crosses the main street near the brick brewery, between that and the orchard on the Rexford place; but no trace of it remains. The orchard referred to was set out by Harris between 1790 and 1797. This house was replaced in 1808 by a frame structure, which was removed in the spring of 1836, to the corner above the residence of Dr. Harvey Harris, for which it made way, and in 1850, it was again removed to the canal, where it still stands, being still occupied as a residence.

Harris was principally engaged here in surveying. He surveyed and divided the 10th township (North Norwich,) which had been bought by some eight or nine individuals.* He laid out immediately after coming in, the road which now forms Broad street in the village of Norwich and then extends north from the Canasawacta two and a half miles in a straight line and from thence north to Sherburne and south to Oxford. This was the first road in the old town of

* Among these were Jonah Pier, — Dan, Jacob Grow, Thompson Mead, Abram and Edward PerLee, and Isaac Bockee, from Nine Partners, Dutchess county.

Norwich, and in the north part of the county, probably the only one then in the county, except the old military, or Chenango, road in the south part of the county, and possibly the Unadilla river road. Harris and his wife both died on the homestead, the former of dropsy, in 1797, and the latter, February 18, 1835, aged 76. Subsequent to Harris' death, she married Samuel Hull, from Stillwater, Saratoga county, who also died here, Dec. 13, 1830, aged 88. Harris had two children after he came here Harvey and Annie.*

Hascall and William Ransford, before referred to, were brothers and natives of Voluntown, Connecticut, from whence they removed to this county. They came on foot. Hascall was born February 10, 1766, and came at the age of twenty-four years. He took up 150 acres of land, to which he subsequently added, a mile north of the village. The farm, the larger part of it, is now occupied by J. Dakin Reed. R. A. Young, occupies that part of the farm which lies east of the river. A portion of the west side is occupied by his daughter Fanny, wife of Anthony Lamb. It is still known as the Ransford farm, having remained in that family till within some twelve or fifteen years. He worked two summers and spent his winters in Ballston. The second winter he brought in his parents, William and Abigail, the former of whom was born in Old Plymouth, Massachusetts, July 3, 1728, and the latter in Hillingsby, Connecticut, Feb. 25, 1726. His father died July 2, 1814, aged 85, and his mother, May 6, 1811, at the same age. At this time (1792) his worldly possessions consisted of a span of horses, a sleigh and forty dollars in money. With the latter he bought a yoke of oxen. He sold one horse and the other went to make the first payment on his land. July 12, 1792, he married Fanny, daughter of Matthew Graves, who was born in Conway,

* Of Harris' children: Blin married Charlotte Bennett, from Connecticut, and settled on the north part of the homestead farm, where Andrew Pellet now lives, where he and his wife died, the former, Nov. 8, 1844, aged 65, and the latter, July 30, 1850, aged 61. They left two children, Blin, who married Polly Ross, and practiced medicine in Norwich from about 1849 till his death, Jan. 31, 1864, aged 55, leaving five children, and Angelina, who married B. Frank Browning. Abby married Henry Finch and removed to Oswego, where both died, having ten children, only three of whom are living. Dolly, who married a Methodist minister, Eunice, who married a lake captain and removed to California, and Julia, who married — Hutchinson, of Oswego. John, who married Maria, daughter of Thomas Prentiss, of Plymouth, and died in March, 1877, aged 91. He was twice married. His second wife, Polly, daughter of Solomon Wait, of Preston, is still living in New Berlin; only one of his six children is living, Rebecca, widow of Edward, son of Ansel Berry. Squire was a bachelor and lived with his brother John, died in New Berlin Dec. 25, 1875, aged nearly 91. Tamer married Pardon Barnes, and after his death, in Norwich, where they settled, Calvin Richardson, with whom she removed to Kingston, Penn., where she was taken sick, returned to Norwich and died. William died when about ten years old. Harvey, who was born in Norwich, where he still resides, August 3, 1795, and practiced medicine in his native village from 1818 till about 1870 (see "Physicians in Norwich,") married, in 1821, Philada, daughter of Truman Enos, they had six children: Abbie, Truman, Hannah Augusta, Harvey, George, William. Annie married Archibald Clark and settled and died in Norwich village, where the widow of Benjamin Gardner now lives. They left four children, three of whom are now living—Julia, Andrew and Charles.

Massachusetts, December 21, 1775.* He had previously made a small clearing on his land and built a log shanty in which he soon after commenced keeping tavern. This, his family claim, was the first tavern in the town. This house stood on the east side of the road, about twenty-five rods south of the residence of the widow Lamb, about the locality of the gate across the road leading to the bridge which crosses the canal in that vicinity. About 1799, he built a frame house, which stood on the hill opposite the log house, on the west side of the road. This was torn down some twenty or more years ago, by George Mulligan, who used the frame in the construction of his present residence in the north part of the village. That was the second frame house in town.† Haskell died on the farm on which he first settled June 30, 1839, aged 73, and his wife, on the portion then occupied by his son William, December 20, 1859, aged 85. He represented Chenango county in the Assembly in 1814. Numerous descendants are living in the locality of his settlement.‡

William Ransford settled on 190 acres on the east side of the river, at Wood's Corners. The farm has since been divided between two grand-daughters: Hen-

* This was the first marriage contracted in the town. The ceremony was performed by Job Enos, who was made a Justice for that occasion, as there was no clergyman or other person authorized to solemnize marriages nearer than Tioga Point, to which place Mr. Ransford at first proposed to go. Mr. Enos was ignorant of the ceremony, and was aided in its performance by John Harris, who stood at his back and prompted him. Mr. Enos came in that year (1792) from Windsor, Conn., and was then living on the east side of the river, on the Charles Burlingame farm. He removed two or three years after to Oxford, where he was afterward elected County Judge, which office he held when the county was organized. He continued to reside there till his death. Among his children were Henry, Eben, who died June 27, 1808, aged 41; Jerusha, who married Joshua Burlingame, tather of Charles Burlingame, the surveyor, and died Jan. 20, 1815, aged 58, and her husband, Dec. 22, 1852, aged 84, and Polly, who married Levi Sherwood, all of whom are dead.

† It is generally supposed that this was the first frame house in the town; but the first was built by Matthew Graves, in 1798, the year in which Smith's saw-mill was built. It stood on the west side of South Broad street, about midway between the canal and creek. It was removed some twenty years ago to its present location, near the creek. It is the last house but one on the west side of that street, from the village toward the creek.

‡ Hascall Ransford's children were: Horace, Abigail, Hannah, Hascall, Matthew Graves, Horace (the second by this name), William, Fanny, Louisa Frances, Charles and Hiram.

Horace was born July 23, 1794, and died Sept. 4, 1795. Abigail, born Jan. 22, 1797, married Dr. Elisha Wales, of Norwich, and died June 21, 1814. Hannah, born Oct. 17, 1799, after the death of her sister Abigail, married Dr. Elisha Wales, who died in Norwich, Oct. 19, 1819, and 27. She died Oct. 6, 1874, aged 76. Hascall was born May 12, 1800, married Eliza, daughter of General Thompson Mead, and settled in the north edge of Norwich village, where he died. His wife died in Norwich village. Matthew Graves was born June 8, 1802, and married Sophia, daughter of John T. Wasson. She died Dec. 6, 1872. Matthew, who still resides in Norwich village, claims to be the first child born in a frame house in Norwich. Horace was born June 18, 1804, and died April 21, 1816. William was born July 5, 1806, and married Laura, daughter of John Pellet. He settled on the homestead and lived there till within some fifteen years, when he sold the farm and removed to Wood's Corners, where both he and his wife reside. Fanny was born March 12, 1800, and married Anthony Lamb. They settled on a part of the homestead farm, where she still resides. Louisa Frances was born June 14, 1811, and died Aug. 31, 1811. Charles was born Jan. 18, 1815, married Esther, daughter of Roger Bissell, and settled on some sixty acres in the village. He afterwards bought a farm two and a half miles above the village; but subsequently removed to the village, where both now reside. Hiram was born April 1, 1817, and died Dec. 27, 1828.

rietta, wife of William K. Loomis, a wheelwright in Norwich, and Jennette, wife of M. J. Reese, who is now living on the homestead. He married Hannah, daughter of Josiah Brown and both died on the farm upon which they settled. He died Oct. 26, 1826, aged 27. They had five children, three sons and two daughters.*

Jacob and Joseph Skinner, brothers, came in from Hebron, Conn., in 1790. We are not advised where Jacob first settled, but after the death of Timothy Johnson, about 1794, he occupied the farm taken up by the latter about 1795. Johnson came from Stirling, Conn., and settled on the flats between the road and the river, on the west side about half a mile north of the village of Norwich. Johnson was the first adult person who died in the town. His wife died in Connecticut. He had two sons, Heman and Jared, the former of whom married, settled and died in Plymouth, the latter settled and died in North Norwich. Skinner occupied that place only a few years. He soon after removed from the stone mill, to the crest of the west hill, where he built a log house and afterwards a frame structure, in which both he and his wife died, the former June 3, 1847, aged 80, and the latter, (Phebe,) Feb. 1, 1842, aged 72. They left two sons and a daughter. John, who married a daughter of Job Stafford,† and settled and died in the north-east quarter of Norwich; Reuben, who removed when young and single to Chautauqua county; and Hannah, who married a Breed and settled first on the homestead and subsequently in Guilford.

Joseph Skinner settled on the east side of the river, about a mile above Norwich village, on the farm now occupied by Clarissa, widow of Joseph Skinner, Jr. He was a young, single man, and came on foot and alone, with fifty cents in his pocket, carrying on his back a bundle, done up in a handkerchief, and containing his possessions. He bought sixty acres of land, and built a log cabin on the river bank. Being out of provisions, he borrowed some corn of a neighbor, who preceded him in the settlement, took it to Oxford and had it ground. On returning he borrowed of the same kindly neighbor a spider, in which to

* These were William, who married Emily Phelps, and lived and died on the homestead farm; Josiah, who was a bachelor, and also died on the homestead farm; Lucy, who married Wm. G. Miller, a wheelwright of New Hartford, settled in Norwich village, where he died Aug. 12, 1843, aged 45, and after his death removed to Plymouth, where she died Aug. 20, 1862, aged 59; Abby, who married Horace Hamilton, and settled near Mead's Pond in North Norwich, where both died; James, who married Betsey Hammond, and settled, lived and died on the homestead farm (Sept. 3, 1874, aged 69), where his widow now lives with her daughter, Mrs. M. J. Reese. The homestead was divided between James' daughters.

† Job Stafford came from Connecticut about 1794 or '5, and settled in the east part of Preston, where both he and his wife died. Another daughter, Amy, married Whitman Wilcox, who came from Connecticut about 1794, and settled on the east side of the river, about two miles south of Norwich, where both died.

bake his bread, which, he said afterwards, was the sweetest he ever tasted. The following year (1791) he married Lois Train, daughter of Oliver Train, who came in about this time with the family of Martin Taylor, from Whately, Mass. Her father never came to this country. He soon after removed to the village. Skinner and his wife died on the farm which he first took up, the former April 16, 1854, aged 86; the latter, Nov. 2, 1839, aged 71.*

Nicholas Pickett and Major Thomas Brooks were settlers of about this period, 1790-91. Pickett located on the east side of the river, on what was afterwards known as the Pendleton farm. He sold out after a few years and removed west. Major Brooks settled on the west green in Norwich village, on which he built a log shanty. He removed at an early day to the south-east corner of Plymouth, to the farm now occupied by Ambrose Bryant. He was killed by the fall of a tree, August 30, 1822, at the age of 61 years. Lucy, his wife, died on that farm Dec. 31, 1827, aged 71. Major Brooks was a Massachusetts man. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and also participated in Shay's rebellion, a fact which he always admitted and justified. His children mostly scattered and removed from the town.†

Settlements were made about 1791 or '2, by Matthew Graves, Martin Taylor, and Colonel William Monroe.

Matthew Graves came in from Hatfield, Massachusetts, and settled in the south part of Norwich village, on the John Randall, Jr., farm, where he lived till about 1813, when, being advanced in years, he

* Their children were: Isaac, who married Polly Hascall, settled first in the locality of King's Settlement in North Norwich, subsequently lived in various places, and finally removed to Ohio, where he died July 4, 1877; Justin, who died at the age of three years; Otis, who married a Miss Randall, settled first in Norwich, and afterwards removed to Sherman, Chautauqua county, where he died; Charles, who married Nancy Main, settled on a part of the homestead farm, afterwards removed to Plymouth, where he died; Aretas, who married Henrietta Day and settled in Sherman, Chautauqua county, where he died; Daniel, who married Ruamia A., daughter of Henry Pike, of North Norwich, settled near the river bridge at Wood's Corners, where he kept tavern a good many years, and after the death of his wife, Oct. 9, 1844, aged 33, married her sister, Lovisa A., and removed to North Norwich, where she died December 27, 1868, aged 46. He married for his third wife, Mary Ann, widow of William Dodge, and afterwards removed to Kings Settlement, where he died Feb. 11, 1871, aged 65; William, who married Mary Ann, daughter of Dennis Ballou, settled in Plymouth, where he practiced medicine till within a few years of his death at Portland, Chautauqua county; and Joseph, who married Clarissa, daughter of Nehemiah Brown, of Cortland, and settled, lived and died on the homestead, Oct. 8, 1879, aged 64. Not one of the eight children are living, and but few of the descendants are living here. They are mostly in the West. The grandchildren who are living in the county are: Isaac W., son of Joseph, Jr., in Norwich; Leonard, in Kings Settlement, Lovisa, in Norwich, and Mary, wife of Wm. Chaffe, in Plymouth, children of Daniel; Clara, wife of Cornelius Precott, and William, both in Plymouth, children of Dr. William.

† They were Thomas, a bachelor, who removed to and died in the Southern States; Clitus, married, lived and died in the locality of Ithaca; Thesius, who married and lived and died on the homestead farm; Clara, a maiden lady, who died on the homestead; Casius, who married a daughter of Amos Mead, (nicknamed "Horseneck Mead," from the name of the place from whence he came in New England, to distinguish him from Amos Mead, who came from Dutchess county and settled in North Norwich,) and settled on the north part of the homestead farm, and afterwards removed to Michigan.

went to live with Dr. Jonathan Johnson, his son-in-law, on the opposite side of the road, where Dr. Wm. H. Stuart now lives. The house in which he lived on the first farm, a small frame structure, is still standing on the Conkey farm, having been removed to the locality of the canal, and is still occupied as a tenement house. He died at the residence of his son-in-law, Hascall Ransford, August 17, 1824, aged 86. His wife (Hannah Morton) died on the old homestead March 28, 1813, aged 69. Their children were all born in Massachusetts. The eldest daughter married and remained there.*

Martin Taylor was from Massachusetts, and was implicated in the Shay rebellion. On the night of the day that the rebellion was quashed he mounted his horse and rode to Utica and thus escaped by proving an *alibi*. He returned to Massachusetts, and in 1791, squatted on the west side of the river, opposite the covered bridge which crosses the river at Norwich, where Joseph Skinner now lives. About 1804-'6, he removed to Wood's Corners, and from thence, during the war of 1812, to Chautauqua county. His sons Jared and Erastus, his only children, were engaged in the battle of Queenstown, in which Jared was shot through the leg. He afterwards joined the family in Chautauqua county.

Col. William Monroe enlisted as a drummer boy in the war of the Revolution, at the age of fourteen years, and served through that war. He came here from Windsor, Conn., and squatted on the east green in the village of Norwich. He built a log-house near the corner of Main and Broad streets, intending to take up land.

When the Twenty Townships were offered for sale by the State, certain of the settlers in this locality employed Capt. John Harris to attend the sale and purchase the lands in which they were interested; but Leonard M. Cutting, of New York, by bidding a penny an acre more than Mr. Harris was authorized to bid, secured the lands in the 15th township, and designed making them lease lands. The determined opposition of the settlers, however, defeated his plan, and saved Chenango county from those bitter feuds and clandestine violence which, for many years previous to 1846, agitated some of the eastern counties in this State. Avery Power was the only one who had a title

* His children were: Charles, Israel, Fanny, Hannah and Dexter. Charles married and settled on one hundred acres below the homestead farm. He and his wife died there. Israel married a Wells, from Massachusetts, and settled on the farm next north of his father's. His house stood on the site of J. H. Latham's residence. He removed to the north-east quarter of this town; afterwards, about 1812, with his family to Virgil; and subsequently went to live with his son, Ovid, in Chautauqua county, where he died. Fanny married Hascall Ransford. Hannah married Dr. Jonathan Johnson, who settled opposite her father's, where Dr. William H. Stuart now lives, and practiced medicine here till near his death (See "Physicians in Norwich.") Dexter married a Kendall, and settled in the village, where he carried on a distillery for some time. He removed to Chicago about 1820. Both he and his wife died in the West.

to his lands. The other settlers expected to purchase directly of the State, but Cutting forestalled them.

In 1793, Mr. Cutting, whom Dr. Harris describes as a man small in stature, but big in feeling, visited the town and endeavored to induce those who had settled here, to the number of some twenty-five or thirty, to accept leases. He visited the homes of the different settlers, among them that of Monroe, who was away from home. From there he went to John Shattuck's,* to which place Monroe followed him, on being informed by his wife of Cutting's visit. There Monroe, who was a large, powerful man, weighing about two hundred pounds, got into an altercation with Cutting, during which the latter called Monroe a liar. Near the door stood a swill barrel, made from a hollow button-wood tree, and provided with a bass-wood bottom. Monroe seized Cutting and doused him into this, remarking as he did so, "You young strippling! Call a Revolutionary soldier a liar, will you!" and emphasized his remarks with a repetition of the act, sousing poor Cutting, with his ruffled collar and cuffs, up to the neck in the barrel. Cutting, thoroughly discomfited, returned to New York as soon as his clothes were suitably washed and dried, and soon after sold the township to Dr. John Stites, of Elizabeth, N. J., and Anthony Lamb, of New York, the latter of whom sold the last of his lands on the east hill some ten years ago. Messrs. Stites and Lamb obviated the objectionable feature with regard to rents, but advanced the price of lands to twenty shillings per acre. This was a grievous disappointment to the occupants of the lands, who expected to purchase them for three shillings per acre. Many on learning that efforts were being made to make them lease lands became discouraged and threatened to leave the lands and abandon their improvements; but Dr. Stites came on and pacified them by making the above offer on long time. All the first settlers were poor, and many required a long time to lift the burden of indebtedness. Capt. John Harris, so Dr. Harris informs us, was the only one of the first settlers who paid anything down on their purchases.

In the meantime, Colonel Monroe, fearing a suit for trespass, removed to and bought the south-east corner lot in the town of Plymouth, where he built a log house and lived, he and his wife, till their death. The place on which he settled is now owned by Benjamin Frink, son of Benadam Frink, to whom it was sold by Orsamus,† son of Colonel Monroe, a good many years ago. Colonel Monroe was twice married.

* This we get from Dr. Harvey Harris, who is unquestionably the best living authority regarding the earlier history of the town. The Shattuck family fix the date of Shattuck's settlement as 1797.

† The same authority gives this name as Virgil in another connection. Which is correct, or whether it is a double name and both are correct, we are unable to state.

His second wife was the widow of Benjamin Prentice, who also died on the homestead. He had two sons by his first wife, and one son and three daughters by his second.*

John Wait came in about 1792 or 1793 and settled about a half mile north-west of Norwich village, on some one hundred acres which now forms a part of Dakin J. Reed's farm. He died Sept. 28, 1801, aged 57, and Mary, his wife, the latter in Preston, June 18, 1842, aged 94. His children were: William who married Nancy, daughter of Josiah Brown; Judy, who married a carpenter and settled in Preston, where both died; Electa, who married and soon after moved west; Chester, who removed when young to Michigan; and Polly, who became John Harris' second wife, and is now living in New Berlin.

Josiah Brown, Manasseh and James French, James Gilmore and John McNitt joined the settlements about 1793 or 1794.

Josiah Brown came from Massachusetts, and settled at Wood's Corners,† on the east side of the river, about a mile and a half above Norwich, on the farm afterwards occupied for many years by James Thompson. There Brown and his wife died.‡

There was another Josiah Brown, who settled a little later, about 1794 or 1795, on the farm next below the cemetery in Norwich village, where his grandson, Hezekiah Brown, now lives.§

Manasseh French, a Baptist minister, and the first clergyman in Norwich, settled about a half mile below the Norwich village cemetery. He was a plain, unaffected preacher, and removed soon after to Cayuga county, and became the pioneer preacher in the town

* The children by his first wife were William and Barney. William married a daughter of Zebulon Monroe and settled on a part of the homestead farm. He afterward removed to Preston, where he and his wife died. Barney married and settled in Preston, where both he and his wife died. His children by his second wife were: Orsamus or Virgil, (?) who settled on the homestead, which he sold to Benadam Frink; Sally, who married Dudley Williams, of Plymouth, where she died, and he still lives; Emily, who married Dwight Dimmock and settled in Michigan; and Harriet, who married Lewis Brown, of New Berlin, where both are still living.

† These corners derive their name from Kimball Wood, who kept tavern there some twenty or thirty years, and whose father, Thomas Wood, settled in the town in 1797.

‡ Their children were: Joseph, who married Clara Heddy, settled in Hamilton, afterward removed to Norwich village, where he died; Edward, who is living at North Norwich; Hannah, who married William Ransford; and Nancy, who married Wm. Wait, a carpenter, who settled at Wood's Corners, where both died, and where their daughter, the widow of Kimball Wood, now lives. Wait died Aug. 9, 1825, aged 44, and his wife, Dec. 11, 1857, aged 78.

§ Their children were: Hezekiah, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Silas Cole, and settled on the homestead, which he occupied till his death, Oct. 24, 1847, aged 69, when he was succeeded by his son, who now owns it, and where the former's wife died Feb. 22, 1866, aged 83; Richard, who died at Plattsburgh during the war of 1812, in which he served as a physician; Joseph, who married Martha Fitch, settled just south of the canal, on a part of the homestead farm, where his wife died Dec. 21, 1850, aged 71, and he at North Norwich, Jan. 30, 1871, aged 87; William, who married Mary W. Johnson, of Kings Settlement, settled on the homestead with his brother Joseph, where his wife died March 6, 1827, aged 31, afterwards married Julia, daughter of General Thompson Mead, of North Norwich, where they now live; and Charles, who married a daughter of Asa Pellet.

of Sennett in that county. He was one of the constituent members of the Sennett Baptist church, which was organized September 12, 1799, and was its first pastor, serving in that capacity till 1808. He settled on fifty acres of land in the town of Sennett.

James French, a brother of Manasseh's, settled about the same time in the north-east quarter of Norwich, on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Eben French. He and his wife died there. His son James, who married a daughter of Lemuel Wells, succeeded him on the farm, where his wife died, and lived there till some four years ago, when, having married for his second wife Polly, daughter of Willard Smith, an early settler in Norwich, he removed with her to the village of Norwich, where he died in the spring of 1878, and his second wife the following spring. Another of French's sons was living till recently in North Norwich.

James Gilmore settled about two and a half miles from Norwich village, on the farm now occupied by John Shattuck, where he died Feb. 18, 1821, aged 77, also his wife and sister Esther, a maiden lady, the latter of whom lived to exceed a hundred years. His daughter, Submit, married Col. Stephen L. Avery, who settled on the Gilmore farm, and after her death, March 30, 1847, aged 61, removed to Norwich village, and subsequently, after seven or eight years, to the locality of Earlville or Hamilton. Colonel Avery came in about 1816 from Stonington, Conn., with his brother, Roswell R. Avery and another brother, who was a bachelor. Roswell was a wagon-maker and settled first on the south-east corner of the east green, and afterwards where his daughter, the widow of Porter Clark, now lives, east of the canal on East Main street. Mary Ann and Cornelia, also daughters of Roswell, are living with the widow Clark. Roswell died March 1, 1871, aged 79, and Mary, his wife, Sept. 28, 1843, aged 43.

John McNitt, of Irish descent and a Revolutionary soldier, settled nearly a half mile south of Polkville, on the farm now owned by ——— Turner, son of Deacon Turner, of Norwich, where he and his wife died. He came with his wife and two sons, James and John, the latter of whom removed to Rock River, Ill. James married Ruth Johnson and settled on the hill a mile and a half south-east of Polkville, where he died Nov. 22, 1862, aged 77, and his wife, July 4, 1871, aged 78.

Settlements were made by Hezekiah Pellet and Elisha Smith about 1794; by Alexander McCullough, E. Green and Jedediah Sprague, about 1796; by John and Daniel Shattuck, Stephen Steere, Thomas Wood and Amos Bowen, in 1797; by Joshua Burlingame previous to that year; and by Uriah Avery and the Aldriches, Stephen Henry and the Phillipces about 1798.

Hezekiah Pellet came from Canterbury, Conn., his native place, and settled on the east side of the river, where he took up a large tract of land, which, at his death, embraced two valuable farms. The homestead farm is now owned by Matthew Ransford, and on that Hezekiah died March 20, 1816, aged 58. His wife (Mary,) after his death, lived with her son John, who succeeded his father on the homestead, which he retained for a number of years. He finally sold to Matthew Ransford and removed to the village, where his mother died April 17, 1845, aged 84. After Mr. Pellet's death his oldest son, Archibald, came into possession of the other half of the farm, which is now occupied by Peleg Pendleton and his half-brother, the former of whom is a grandson of Hezekiah Pellet's.*

Deacon Elisha Smith came from Hatfield, Mass.,† and succeeded Col. William Monroe on the Guernsey farm, occupying at first the log house built by Col. Monroe on the west green in Norwich village. He built, in 1798, the mills on the west bank of the Canasawacta, in the locality of the present stone mill, known as the Guernsey mill.‡ The saw-mill was built first, and the lumber for it was obtained from New Berlin. He soon after, about 1799, built the house now occupied by William B. Guernsey, which stood originally on the site of the liberty-pole. About 1804, Deacon Smith sold out to Peter B. Garnsey and removed to the north-east quarter of Norwich, to live with his son William, where he and his wife died. Smith came in with his wife, Abigail Church, and five children, Reuben C., William C., Lois, Martha and Jotham.§

* His children were: Archibald, who married Lavina Gibson, from the western part of the State, to which locality he removed a few years ago, and died while on a visit to his only son John, in the West. John married Anoor, daughter of Chauncey Garlick, an early settler in Norwich, who died April 7, 1841, aged 41; he subsequently married the widow Perce Wagner, and died in the village, where she still resides. Nancy married William R., son of Samuel Hammond, and died April 13, 1823, aged 30, and her husband, Dec. 2, 1820, aged 37. Another daughter married Roger Bissell, who settled about two miles above Norwich, near Mead's Pond, on the farm now owned by Charles Hall. Betsey married William Pendleton, who settled on the homestead of his father, who was an early settler in the town. Esther married Joseph Henry Moore, (a grandson of John Moore, who was shot dead in his garden in the infamous massacre of Glencoe, Ireland, his native place,) who was born Aug. 15, 1800, settled about 1820 at Norwich; she died in 1869, and he in Feb. 1860, aged 58; they had eleven children, eight of whom lived to maturity. Three daughters are now living in Norwich village: Sarah, wife of Benjamin Frink; Esther, wife of Christopher Frink, brother of Benjamin; and Josephine Henrietta, wife of Hon. John F. Hubbard, Jr. Editha married Elias P. Pellet, eldest son of Asa Pellet, who was for a number of years publisher of the *Chenango Telegraph*, and died July 24, 1838, aged 31.

† Another authority says he came from Connecticut.

‡ Clark's *History of Chenango County* says this grist-mill was the first constructed in the present limits of Chenango county. This is far from being true, as there were several which ante-dated it, two by at least nine years.

§ Reuben married the widow Mary Wheeler and settled in the north-east quarter of this town. He removed about 1819, to Bristol, Ontario county, where he and his wife died. William married Dorothy, daughter of John Shattuck, and lived and died in the northeast quarter of this town, where he raised a large family, only three of whom are living in the town: Erasmus, Asa and Louisa, the latter of whom is the wife of T. J. Haskell, a dentist in Norwich. Lois married Elijah, brother of Colonel William Monroe, who removed about 1818 to Phelps, where both died. Martha married David Shattuck, March 28, 1799. (See account of John Shattuck.) Jotham was a bachelor and lived with his father and brother William, with the latter of whom he died.

Alexander McCullough was a Revolutionary soldier and came from the New England States. He settled in the south-west part of the town, on the farm now owned by Daniel M. Holines, where he and his wife died. He had three sons, Alexander, who married in Preston and moved west; John, who married Rebecca, daughter of Casper M. Rouse, and removed to Chautauqua county; and William, who went west and married there.

Judge Stephen Steere came from Chepachet, R. I., and in company with Capt. Edward Greene and Jedediah Sprague, from the same State, purchased the south-east quarter of Norwich, on which they settled, Steere, about a quarter of a mile above the White Store, where William T. Morse now lives, near the railroad bridge which crosses the small brook above White Store, Greene about a mile below White Store where his great-grandson, Adolphus Greene, now lives; and Sprague, about a mile north of White Store, where Douglas Burlingame now lives. They were the first settlers in the locality of White Store. Greene and Sprague continued to reside where they settled till their death. Capt. Greene died April 22, 1824, aged 67, and Prudence, his wife, Dec. 9, 1814, aged 59, leaving seven children, all of whom are dead.*

Sprague had three sons, all of whom are gone.† Judge Steere soon after removed to Norwich village and located on fifty-six acres of the Silas Cole farm and seventy acres bought of John Harris. His first house stood between the residences of John Conkey and the daughters of Abiel Cook, on East Main street, and about two years after, he removed just north of the south canal bridge where, says Dr. Harris, he attempted to erect a frame house, before the mills at Norwich were built. The frame was hewed pine, and the clapboards were rived and planed. This, says the Doctor, though a shanty, was the first frame structure in the town. Soon after the mills were in operation he built anew, about two rods south of the residence of the widow Fitch.‡ There he and his wife (Rizpah) died, the former in 1816, and the latter in 1810. Steere had been a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Providence, R. I. Here he was engaged in land speculations. Steere brought in his wife and family with an ox team. The journey occupied three weeks. His son Smith says they were obliged

* These were Arthur, who settled on the homestead farm, and afterwards removed to Pennsylvania; Edward, James, Jesse, Hannah, who married Joseph Wood; Eley, who married William Arnold; and Abigail, who married Arthur Burlingame, and died July 13, 1866, aged 84, and her husband, June 30, 1833, aged 57.

† Arthur, Charles and Obediah, the latter of whom died in Pennsylvania. The former two settled here, and Charles died here February 4, 1828, aged 35, but Arthur afterwards went West.

‡ Dr. Harris fixes as the date of Steere's settlement about 1791 or '2. Data in possession of the family, though they do not definitely determine it, refer it to the year 1797. The above incident serves to strengthen Dr. Harris' supposition.

to cut a road from Butternuts to the Unadilla. Steere had ten children.*

John and Daniel Shattuck, brothers, came from Farmingham, Mass., and settled in Norwich village. John married June 29, 1775, Ruth Phelps, of Phillips-ton, who died of consumption in Conway, April 26, 1788, aged 30. He married for his second wife, about 1788, the widow Cranston, who died in Phelps, N. Y. He did not take up land in the village; but about 1800, or soon after, in conjunction with his son David, took up a hundred acres on the west side of the river, about two and a half miles below the village, where his great-grandson, John Samuel Shattuck now lives. In the winter of 1804, he removed to Phelps, with his wife and son Daniel, and died there. David, after his father's death, also removed to Phelps and took with him the rest of the family.†

* Judge Steere's children were: William, Richard, Mark, Stephen, Timothy, James, Simon, Thomas, Rizpah and Smith. Dr. Harris adds the name of Asahel, whom Smith Steere did not name, and omits that of William, who, together with Richard, remained in Rhode Island. Mark married in Rhode Island, and did not come to Norwich till after 1812. He kept for several years the Eagle Hotel in Norwich, which was built about 1799 or 1800, by his brothers, Stephen and Asahel, who came in with their father. Stephen was a bachelor, and bought about fifty acres in the locality of the Midland depot, which, at his death, he deeded to Smith Steere, son of his brother Smith, with the latter of whom he lived. He died Dec. 24, 1865, aged 90. Timothy married Cyrenia, sister of Willard Smith, the latter of whom came from Rhode Island about 1795 or '6, and settled a little north of the village. He (Smith) kept a butcher shop in a barn near where the jail stands, and afterwards removed to a farm near Polkville, where he died in the spring of 1859, aged about 95. Timothy Steere settled on his father's homestead, and afterwards removed to South New Berlin, and died there, he and his wife, on the place now owned and occupied by his sons, Stephen and Timothy. Jane married Dr. Daniel Bellows, and settled on the Unadilla river below Holmesville, where he practiced his profession till about 1855, when he removed to Norwich, and practiced there till his death, March 6, 1866, aged 70. After his death his wife went to live with her friends in Greene. She died May 18, 1874, aged 81. Simon was a cripple. He studied medicine with Dr. Jonathan Johnson and removed to Ohio, where he died. Thomas went to Ohio with Simon, but returned, married Polly, daughter of Jesse Brown, and studied medicine with Dr. Henry Mitchell. He kept a drug store in Norwich three or four years, from about 1812, and removed to Michigan, where he died. Rizpah married James Birdsall, who was for many years a lawyer in Norwich, commencing practice here soon after 1800 and continuing till about 1839, when he removed to Fenton, Michigan, where both he and his wife died. He was a Representative in Congress from this State from 1815 to 1817, and represented this county in the Assembly in 1817. Smith married Phebe McLean, widow of Charles Wm. Randall, and lived in Norwich with his brother Stephen till the death of the latter, and since then with his son, Smith Steere. His wife died in 1869. Smith Steere, Jr.: Betsey and Julia, daughters of Mark; and Frances, wife of Thomas Crandall, daughter of Timothy, are the only grandchildren living in the village. Four are living on the Unadilla in New Berlin, Stephen, Asahel, Timothy and Elizabeth, all children of Timothy.

† His children by his first wife were: David, Dorothy, Ephraim, Jonathan, and a child born March 11, 1788, and died March 14, 1788; and by his second wife, Daniel, and two which died unnamed, one June 12, 1789, the other Feb. 26, 1754. David was born April 22, 1776, married Martha, daughter of Elisha Smith, and died in Phelps, Jan. 10, 1811, leaving two children: Leroy, who was born in Norwich, March 9, 1800, and still lives there; and John, who was born March 18, 1810, and died Dec. 13, 1877, in Norwich. Dorothy was born Oct. 19, 1779, and married William C., son of Elisha Smith. They settled, lived and died in the northeast quarter of this town. They raised a large family, only four of whom are living, three in Norwich—Erasmus, Asa and Louisa, wife of T. J. Haskell, a dentist in Norwich. The fourth is living in New York. Ephraim was born Oct. 11, 1782, and married Sarah Hill, who was then keeping house for her brothers, who came here from Massachusetts about 1804 or '5, settled in the east part of the town, and removed to Salina about 1810 or '11. Ephraim settled in North Norwich, from whence he removed about 1826 to Fulton, where he died. Jonathan, was born July 14, 1785. He did not marry. He was killed by a saw-log in April, 1809.

Daniel Shattuck came with his family, consisting of his wife, Elizabeth Washburn, and three children, a son and two daughters. He was a carpenter and mill-wright and carried on his trade in the village till about 1803, when he removed to Phelps, where his wife died. He died of the cholera in Canada West, where he went to build a mill. His children were Reuben, who was born Nov. 22, 1778, married in 1800, Bethaniah Josslyn, and removed to Otsego county, where he died, leaving no children; Olive, who married Hatfield Cooper, of Humphrey, Cattaugaus county, where they settled; and Lydia, who married Samuel Cooper, who died at sea. She afterwards married David Wheeler, who settled in Ontario county, where she died in 1848.

Thomas Wood was a native of Sapatic, R. I., from whence he removed to Thompson, Conn., where he married Mercy, daughter of Samuel Kimball, with whom he removed in the spring of 1797 to Norwich. He settled about four miles east of Norwich, where he took up 250 acres, the farm now owned by Buel Barnes, son of Asa Barnes, who owned the farm a good many years. In 1805, Wood sold to Esek Smith, who came in at that time from Rhode Island, with his son William and the latter's family, consisting of his wife and four or five children. The elder Smith lost his wife in Rhode Island. The Smiths removed some ten years after to Pennsylvania. Mr. Wood, after selling his farm in Norwich, removed to North Norwich, to the farm on which his son Marmaduke now lives. He took up 122½ acres on lot 79, on which he resided till his death, April 3, 1813, aged 45. His wife, Mercy, also died on the place August 16, 1845, aged 71. They had seven children, two of whom were born before they came here.*

Amos Bowen came from Gloucester, R. I., in 1797, and settled a mile and a half south-west of White Store, on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Francis Bowen, where he died Jan. 31, 1866. He was born Feb. 6, 1774. He married in Connecticut, Rebecca, daughter of Gilbert Salisbury, who was born March 24, 1776. He came here immediately after marrying. His wife also died on the homestead,

* These were: Kimball, Phebe, Marmaduke, Porter, Thomas, Alvira and Adeline Orinda, the latter of whom died unmarried Sept. 7, 1838, aged 26. Kimball married Laura Wait, daughter of Wm. Wait, of Norwich, and settled near Plasterville, near the homestead in North Norwich, where his widow still lives. He kept tavern there, and from him the locality is known as Wood's Corners. Phebe married Joseph Chapel, a cabinet-maker, who settled in Norwich, and died Nov. 8, 1861, aged 64. She died in Norwich, Feb. 15, 1871, aged 77. Marmaduke was born in Norwich in 1798. He married Jerusha, daughter of Chesebro Randall, with whom he has since lived on the homestead in North Norwich, during a period of seventy-four years. Porter, who was born Sept. 29, 1801, married Sabra, daughter of Pardon Brown, and settled in Norwich village, and died Dec. 10, 1859. Thomas removed in 1826, at the age of twenty-one, to Michigan, where he married, lived and died, in 1865. Alvira went to the locality of Grand Rapids, Mich., and died there soon after marrying.

March 20, 1858. They had five children, all of whom were born here.*

Gilbert Salisbury, Bowen's wife's father, came here from Killingly, Conn., about 1802 or 1803, and settled about one and one-half miles west of White Store, where William Hull now lives, on the farm owned by George Phetteplace, where he died March 5, 1824, aged 85, and Rebecca, his wife, June 13, 1809, aged 57. They left several children, but none of them are living. One grandchild, Uri Mallory, is living in Norwich.

Joshua Burlingame settled on the farm now owned and occupied by his son Charles, and died there Dec. 22, 1852, aged 84.

Uriah Avery came from New York, and settled on a part of the John Randall farm, where his granddaughter, a maiden lady named Cary, now lives, on the west side of South Broad street, about twenty rods south of the canal bridge, where he died August 25, 1843, aged 83, and his wife, Sibyl, August 14, 1838, aged 80. He was a saddler and harness-maker, the first in the settlements, and carried on that business till his death, or so long as he was able to work. His daughter Eliza married a son of Judge Cary, of Oxford, and lived and died in the same house. Cary died in Oxford, previous to his wife, while on a visit to his father's. His son William was clerk for one of the Lyttles, merchants in New York.

The locality known as the Rhode Island settlement in the north-west part of the town was settled about 1798, by the Aldrich, Henry and Phillips families, who came from Rhode Island. A Mohegan Indian who had been friendly toward the white people came with them, and continued to reside there till his death. There were five families of Aldriches, one of Henrys, and three of Phillipses.

Benjamin Aldrich settled on the farm now occupied by his two grandsons, sons of Samuel, where he and his wife died. He had three sons, Nathan, George and Samuel, the former of whom was married when they moved in. He settled on the farm next adjoining his father's on the north, and afterwards removed to Greene, where both he and his wife died. A son and two daughters are now living in Greene. Sarah, another daughter, married Evans, and settled and still lives in the locality of her father's first settle-

* Amos Bowen's children were: Rensselaer, Ollis, Roxana, George W., and Almira. Rensselaer married Asenath, daughter of Olney Winsor, and settled on a farm adjoining his father's on the north, where his son-in-law, Joseph G. Curtis, now lives. He removed to White Store, where he now lives, in 1869. His wife died June 2, 1874, aged 74. Ollis married Roxana, daughter of Paris Winsor, and settled on a farm adjoining his father's on the south, in the town of Guilford. He afterwards removed to Rockwell's Mills, where he died in February, 1879. Roxana married Harvey Brant and settled near Guilford village, in which both now live. George W. married Clarissa, daughter of Calvin Chamberlin, and settled on the homestead, which he sold some eight or nine years ago to his son, Francis. He then removed to Rockwell's Mills, where he now lives. His wife died in March, 1879. Almira died at the age of about nine years.

ment. Her husband died there. George married and removed to Chautauqua county. Samuel married Sarah Keith and settled on the homestead, where his wife died. He afterwards married Eliza Childs and removed to Norwich village, where he died. His widow still lives there.

Gardner and Noah Aldrich, brothers, and Benjamin Aldrich, were all three cousins of the Benjamin Aldrich just named, and were all married when they came in. Gardner settled on a farm still occupied by a member of his family, and afterwards removed to Plymouth. Noah settled on a farm adjoining his brother's, and removed about the same time to Plymouth, where both died. Benjamin settled on the hill about a mile west of Norwich village, where he and his wife died. He had three daughters, each of whom married a Crandall, Joseph, William and Latham, and all of whom are living, two in Norwich and one in Plymouth.

Stephen Henry settled on a farm adjoining that of Nathan Aldrich on the north. It is now occupied by Benjamin Frink. He afterwards removed to Norwich village, where he and his wife died. He had one son and two daughters. Stephen, the son, settled and died in the King Settlement in North Norwich. One daughter married Deacon Levi Brooks, and settled in Plymouth, where they died. The other married a shoemaker named Warner, now living in Norwich village. She died in Pharsalia, or the west part of Plymouth, where they were then living, some ten years ago.

Rufus, Nathan and Owen Phillips were brothers. The latter two removed soon after to Plymouth. Rufus, who was married before he came, settled among the Aldriches. He afterwards removed to Norwich village and lived in the second house north of the Catholic Church, where he and his wife died. They had three daughters. One married a man named Hinman and moved north; another married Charles Parker, a wagon-maker in Norwich village, where both died; and the third, Eliza, who was a maiden lady, lived and died on the homestead.

Settlements were made by John Randall and Hezekiah Brown in 1800; by Nathan Pendleton, the Gibsons and Casper M. Rouse, about 1800; and by Jacob Reynolds previous to that year.

John Randall was born in Stonington, Conn., March 24, 1754. He married in his native place Nov. 7, 1775, Mary, daughter of John and Mary (Prentice) Swan, who was born in Stonington, Conn., Nov. 29, 1757. In 1797, he removed thence with his family consisting of his wife and nine children to Pharsalia, and from thence in 1800, to Norwich, where he purchased of Avery Power 286 acres of land located south of the village, for which he paid

\$4,100. The farm, which embraces some of the most valuable and productive lands in this section, is still known as the Randall farm, and is owned in part by his descendants. He was one of the constituent members of the First Baptist Church of Norwich, of which his brother, Rev. Jedediah Randall, was the first pastor. His wife died March 29, 1813, aged 55. May 3, 1816, he married, at Stonington, Conn., Hannah Mary, widow of his brother, Roswell Randall, and daughter of Rev. Nathaniel and Hannah (Stoddard) Avery, who was born in Stonington, Conn., in 1764, and died in Norwich, Oct. 9, 1838, aged 71, preceded by her husband, who died Oct. 7, 1818, aged 64. He had thirteen children, the first ten of whom were born in Stonington, Conn., the eleventh at Pharsalia, and the last two in Norwich. They were John, Denison, Charles, Paul, Perez, Samuel, Elias, Martha, Roswell, Esther, Lucy, Hannah and Jedediah Wheeler.

John was born March 1, 1776, and married at Stonington, Conn., Nov. 25, 1806, Hannah, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Hale) Snow, who was born at Brookfield, Conn., Feb. 18, 1786, and died March 12, 1855, at Norwich, where all their nine children were born, and where John died Sept. 9, 1854.

Colonel Denison was born Oct. 25, 1777, and married at Stonington, Conn., in 1801, Betsey Stewart, who was born at Stonington, Conn., in 1780, and died in Clarkson, N. Y., May 21, 1861. Denison succeeded to the occupancy of the house and farm in Pharsalia owned by his father prior to his removal to Norwich, and resided there till his death Oct. 18, 1824. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1812. He had ten children, all of whom were born in Pharsalia.

Capt. Charles was born Jan. 25, 1780, and married at Stonington, Conn., Jan. 29, 1804, Keturah, daughter of Captain Nathan and Amelia (Babcock) Pendleton, who was born at Stonington, Conn., Dec. 5, 1782, and died at Norwich, April 28, 1811. November 7, 1811, he married at Norwich, Mary, sister of his first wife, who was born at Stonington, Conn., Dec. 16, 1786, and died at Norwich, Dec. 26, 1817. Sept. 3, 1818, he married at Norwich, Abigail, daughter of George and Edith King, who was born at Cambridge, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1789, and died at Norwich, Aug. 26, 1844. Dec. 8, 1846, he married at Earlville, Mrs. Dolly Pardee, daughter of Nathan and Dolly Geer, who was born in Chesterfield, Mass., Jan. 1, 1792. He had twelve children, all of whom were born in Norwich. Captain Charles followed his father and the other members of the family to Pharsalia in May, 1798, then in his nineteenth year, with three yoke of oxen, crossing the Hudson at Catskill. He was three weeks on the road. In 1800 he accompanied his father to Norwich. In 1812, he went

with the regiment of Col. Thompson Mead, as Lieutenant, to the Niagara frontier. He was converted, with thirty-two others, Jan. 17, 1817, baptized and united with the Baptist church in Norwich, of which he was chosen deacon Jan. 2, 1819, a position he acceptably filled nearly fifty years. After spending a few years in Norwich village, engaged, in company with Truman Enos, in the manufacture of leather, he retired to a farm on the east side of the river, opposite to that of his father on the west, which he cultivated till a few years preceding his death, when he removed to the village and died there April 1, 1872.

Paul was born April 12, 1782, and married in Norwich in 1807, Charlotte Collins, who was born at Stonington, Conn., June 19, 1785, and died at Falmouth, Ky., May 13, 1814. June 4, 1816, he married at Falmouth, Ky., Elizabeth Swing, who was born in New Jersey, Jan. 1, 1793. They had nine children; the first two were born in Norwich, the next five at Falmouth, Ky., and the younger two at Rushville, Ind., where he died.

Perez was born April 6, 1784, and married at Norwich in 1808, Betsey, daughter of Benjamin and Eunice (Parker) Edmunds, who was born at Woodstock, Conn., in 1787, and died at Norwich, Sept. 9, 1813. In 1816, he married Ruby, daughter of William and Welcome Johnson, who was born at Canterbury, Conn., Dec. 25, 1796, and died at Norwich, May 12, 1865. He had thirteen children, all of whom were born in Norwich. Perez represented this county in the Assembly in 1818. He was appointed County Clerk of Chenango county March 6, 1819, and, with the exception of the years 1820, and 1831, '32 and '33, continued to discharge the duties of that office satisfactorily till his death, March 29, 1838.

Samuel was born May 10, 1786, and married at Norwich, in 1813, Sally Whaples, who died at Henderson, Ill., in January, 1850. He died at Providence, Ill., Feb. 24, 1851. They had five children, all of whom were born in Norwich.

Elias was born August 3, 1788, and died in Norwich, Feb. 17, 1803.

Martha (Patty) was born August 27, 1790, and married at Norwich, Dec. 8, 1811, James W., son of James and Huldah Gazley, who was born in New York City, July 23, 1784, and died at Cincinnati, Ohio, June 8, 1874. She died in Cincinnati, Dec. 24, 1817.

Roswell was born Oct. 10, 1793, and was married at Pharsalia, Nov. 20, 1826, to Lydia Brown, who was born at Stonington, Conn., January 16, 1803, and died at Pharsalia, March 14, 1831. Roswell died Sept. 5, 1839.

Esther was born January 14, 1796, and was married at Norwich, July 17, 1817, to Charles, son of

Collins and Mary (Randall) York, who was born in Stonington, Conn., July 22, 1793, and died in Norwich, April 10, 1873, where Esther also died Nov. 21, 1873.

Lucy was born July 30, 1798, and died at Pharsalia, May 9, 1799.

Hannah was born March 24, 1802, and died at Norwich, January 12, 1827.

Jedediah Wheeler was born May 17, 1804, and married at Rushville, Ind., in 1828, Lucinda, daughter of John and Elizabeth Perkins, who was born in Rushville in 1808, and died in Orange, Ill., November 13, 1865. He died at Knøxville, Ill., February 1, 1861.

Hezekiah Brown, a native of Rhode Island, came in 1800, from Sterling, Conn., where he married Elizabeth Cole, a native of the latter place, bringing his wife and one child, Harry, who died soon after coming here. He settled on the farm next south of the cemetery, which is now owned by his youngest child, Elisha, where he died Oct. 24, 1847, aged 69, and his wife, Feb. 22, 1866, aged 83. He was a Justice of the Peace.*

Nathan Pendleton came in from Stonington, Conn., his native place, soon after 1800, and settled on the east side of the river, about three miles below Norwich village, on the farm now owned by the widow of Peleg Pendleton, who died there in July, 1866. His land lay on both sides of the river. He brought in his wife, Amelia Babcock, a native of Stonington, Connecticut, and seven children, three girls and four boys, leaving five in Connecticut. Two of the latter, Isaac and Keturah, both of whom married in Connecticut, came in afterwards, Isaac, in 1811, and Keturah, some years previously with her husband, Charles Randall, son of John Randall, to whom reference has been previously made. Nathan and his wife died on that place; so also did two sons, Peleg and Simon,

* Their children were: Harry, Henry V., Betsey, Mary Ann, Jesse C., Emeline, Lucy R., Hezekiah, Susan B. and Elisha. Henry V. married Elizabeth, daughter of Elias Breed, and resided in Norwich till within two or three years of his death, when he removed to Illinois, where he died June 10, 1862, aged 51. Betsey married H. B. Kenyon, a Baptist minister, and died in Ira, Cayuga county, leaving twelve children, who are scattered over the country. Mary Ann married Lynde G. Wells and settled in Pharsalia. They subsequently removed to Pitcher, where she died Oct. 6, 1879. She had eight children, four of whom are living. Jesse C. married Rebecca Byington and settled on a part of the homestead farm; afterwards went West. Emeline married Jonathan Slater and settled in North Norwich, where they are now living. They have two children, both of whom are living: Edwin R., in Ulster county, and Mary B., wife of James Yarns, in North Norwich. Lucy R. married Bela Hibbard and settled in Pittsford, Monroe county, where they lived till his death, after which she removed to Rochester, where she now resides. Hezekiah married in Pittsford, N. Y., and removed to Illinois. His wife died while on a visit in Pittsford. He afterwards married Mary Woodruff, of Pittsford, with whom he is now living in Michigan, to which State he removed a few years since. Susan B. married Thomas H. Prentice and settled on the Canasawacts in Norwich village, where they now reside. They have two children, both of whom are living: Ralph H., in Illinois, and Adella E., wife of Sydney D. Hayward, in Norwich village. Elisha married Nancy Teeple, of Schoharie county, with whom he is now living on the homestead farm, on which they settled. They have no children.

and one daughter, Amelia, his eldest child, who was a maiden lady, and died at the age of eighty-seven. Nathan Pendleton survived his first wife, and after her death married Rhoda Gavitt, who also died on the homestead. Not one of the family is left, neither of those who settled here, nor of those who remained in the east. The last one, William Pendleton, died in Norwich, July 17, 1878, aged 83. Two of his daughters became the wives of Charles Randall, Keturah and Mary.*

Chauncey Gibson, who was originally from Connecticut, came from Duaneburgh with the family of his father, John Gibson, and settled on the east side of the river, near Wood's Corners, on the farm now owned by Matthew Ransford, where his father and mother died. Chauncey removed some twenty years since to South New Berlin, where he and his wife died.†

William Gibson, brother to Chauncey, came in about the same time from Ballston, Saratoga county, where, being a wheelwright, he was engaged in the manufacture of spinning wheels, an article which was in large demand at that day. He settled on a farm adjoining Chauncey's, and carried on the wheelwright business till his death, when his brother Chauncey, who was also a wheelwright, succeeded him, and continued it till his removal to New Berlin. William's wife was a sister to Hascall and William Ransford. She died at her brother Hascall's, with whom she went to live when her husband was taken sick.‡

Casper M. Rouse came from the New England States and settled on the site of Norwich village cemetery, where he lived a number of years. He removed to Sugar creek about 1820. He was State Senator

* His other children were: Sally, who married John Langworthy and lived in Connecticut, till some twenty-five years ago, when they removed to Alfred, N. Y., where they died; Charlotte, who married Christopher Brown, and settled in Connecticut, where both died; Nathan, who married Phebe Cole, and also lived and died in Stonington, Conn.; Isaac, who married Bridget, daughter of Peleg Stanton, of North Stonington, Conn., and in 1811, removed to Oxford, and settled on a farm in the north edge of that town, which is now owned by his son, Stanton Pendleton, of Norwich, where she died in 1832, and he some ten years later; Simon, who was a bachelor; Catharine, who married, lived and died in Oxford; William, who married Betsey Pellet, and after her death, Rhoda Wade, (the latter of whom is living with her daughter Ellen, wife of Isaac Wilber, in Norwich); Peleg, who married Lucy Babcock, from Mystic, Conn., and settled, lived and died on the homestead farm in Norwich, where his widow now resides. Fourteen grandchildren are living in the county. Robert A. Stanton, a lawyer in Norwich, married Elizabeth, only daughter, and only surviving child of Nathan and Phebe Pendleton.

† His children were: Stanford, who married a daughter of Thomas Hall and settled at South New Berlin, where for some thirty years he practiced medicine; Harriet, who married Ira Lincoln, and settled in Norwich village, where her husband carried on the painting business till her death, when he removed to Ohio, where he still lives; Schuyler, who was a Universalist minister, and located and died in the Western Reserve; and Polly, who married Henry Bennett, a lawyer in New Berlin, where he died and she still lives. Mr. Bennett was a Representative in Congress from this State from 1849 to 1859 continuously.

‡ Their children were: Alex., who married, and settled near Hascall Ransford's, from whence, after five or six years, he removed to Genesee county; Betsey, who married Samuel Humphrey of Duaneburgh, where they settled and died; Katy, who married in Genesee county; William who died a bachelor, in Norwich; Hannah, who married Lester Clark and settled in Adrian, Mich., where she died and he still lives.

while residing in this county from 1812 to 1815; he also held the offices of Side Judge and Justice. He was the Senator for whose alleged bribery State Treasurer David Thomas was tried in Norwich in 1812.* His children were Dr. Austin, Erasmus, John and Rebecca, who married John McCullough, the latter three of whom went west with their father. Austin married Jane E. Perkins, daughter of Erastus Perkins, an early tavern keeper in Oxford. He studied medicine with Dr. Henry Mitchell in Norwich and commenced practice in Oxford in 1820, continuing there till his death August 27, 1866, aged 70. His wife who was born May 2, 1806, also died in Oxford, September 28, 1875.

Jacob Reynolds, brother to Sullivan Reynolds, who was interested in the mill property at Rockwell's Mills at an early day, came from the east the latter part of the last century, and settled about a hundred rods south of White Store, where Egbert Myres now lives, where he died April 1, 1837, aged 79. His first and second wives died on the same place, Sarah, November 15, 1807, aged 51. His third wife, Amy, died in the house now occupied by Rensselaer Bowen, at White Store, January 29, 1846, aged 73. He left two children by his third wife, Jacob and Alma, the latter of whom married Edward Wood, both of whom are living in Onondaga county.

Families named Shippey, Peters, Monroe, Ballou, Cook and Petteplace from Rhode Island, settled in the south part of the town, near the line of Guilford about 1800.

Thomas Shippey, settled one and one-half miles south-west of White Store, where David Fields now lives, and died there March 12, 1823, aged 75, and Hannah, his wife, Dec. 6, 1838, aged 86.†

Wilmarth Peters settled about three miles south-west of White Store, and died there Feb. 3, 1864, aged 79. He was twice married and both wives died on the same place, the first, Rhoda, April 12, 1807, aged 32, and the second, Polly, March 21, 1854, aged 73.‡

David Monroe settled and died on the farm on which his son John afterwards lived and died. The elder Monroe died May 20, 1809, aged 70, and Mary his wife, Sept. 11, 1833, aged 86. His son John married Phebe Colegrove, and died July 19, 1865, aged 91. His wife died March 8, 1862, aged 86. Celaney Winsor, daughter of Olney Winsor, and widow of John Monroe, grandson of David Monroe, is living

* See page 113.

† Among Shippey's children were, Eliakim, who died Oct. 15, 1834, aged 52, and Lydia, his wife, July 23, 1866, aged 80; Ezekial, Philemon, who died Dec. 3, 1842, aged 53, and Sally, his wife, Sept. 9, 1847, aged 41; a daughter who married Emer Aldrich; Paul, who died April 20, 1813, aged 27, and Duty, who died April 25, 1822, aged 28.

‡ He had four children: Hannah, who married Philip Petteplace, deceased, and is now living in the south edge of Norwich; Lydia, wife of Peter Gibson, living a little below Mt. Upton. One son, Ira, died in Norwich; the other went to Pennsylvania.

a little below Polkville, with her son Wellington, where her husband died in March, 1879. Sylvanus Ballou settled one and one-half miles west of White Store, where David B. Phetteplace now lives. He afterwards removed to Smithville, where he died Dec. 1, 1857, aged 90, but was brought to White Store for interment. Mercy, his wife, died in Norwich, July 3, 1822, aged 59. Rev. Daniel Ballou, a Universalist minister now residing in Utica is a son of his. He had two other sons, one of whom, Amasa, went west, after the death of his wife, Cyrene, Oct. 31, 1842, at the age of 32 years. Gideon Cook settled two miles west of White Store, where ——— Eggleston now lives, and died there Sept. 6, 1813, aged 67. Jane, his wife, died Jan. 10, 1816, at the same age.* Elijah Cook, brother to Gideon, settled three-fourths of a mile west of White Store, where Eddy Cook, a great-grandson of Gideon's, now lives, and died there. He had a large family of girls, who married and moved away. One, Orpha, who married Joseph May, returned after her father's death, and died here Jan. 25, 1866, aged 80, and her husband March 17, 1862, aged 82. Another daughter, Amanda, married Otis Winsor.

David, Philip, Thomas and Samuel Phetteplace were brothers. David settled three miles south-west of White Store, where his son Jonathan now lives. There he and his wife died. He had two wives. His first was Zeruah, daughter of George Bowen, whom he married in Rhode Island; the second was Betsey Tucker. Both died here. Jonathan, Noyes and David B., children by his first wife, are living in Norwich. The children by his second wife are all gone. Philip settled on a farm adjoining David's on the south. Both he and his wife died there. None of their children are left. Thomas settled about three miles north-west of White Store, where Philander Green now lives. He afterwards removed to Cortland county and died there Oct. 21, 1858, aged 80. Lillies, his wife, died April 2, 1861, aged 80. David, Philip and Thomas married sisters. Philip's wife was named Judith. Thomas had a large family, only one of whom is living in this locality, Emeline, widow of Jesse Matteson, in Norwich village. Samuel settled just above Holmesville, where Charles Britt now lives. One child is living in Norwich, Lydia, widow of Harry Burlingham, who died Nov. 23, 1854, aged 52.

Peter B. Garnsey,† a native of New Lebanon, Columbia county, studied law in the office of Chancellor Walworth, and was admitted as an attorney

* George, Sylvanus, Daniel, John, Richard and Elijah were sons of his. He had daughters, one of whom married Joshua Winsor. George died April 13, 1859, aged 82, and Selanah, his wife, March 28, 1848, aged 69. Sylvanus died Sept. 1, 1868, aged 81, and Mary, his wife, April 29, 1860, aged 70. Daniel married Wate Sheldon. He died April 29, 1868, aged 78, and his wife, April 13, 1832, aged 36. Richard died Dec. 20, 1852, aged 71, and Sarah, his wife, August 17, 1853, aged 67. Elijah died Feb. 16, 1815, aged 31.

† This was the original orthography. At present the family spell the name Guernsey.

Nov. 5, 1795, and as a counselor, Feb. 7, 1800. The former certificate is signed by Chief Justice Yates, and the latter, by John Lansing, Jr. He married at New Lebanon, Dec. 25, 1797, Mary Speirs, daughter of Dr. Speirs, a prominent merchant of New Lebanon, and removed immediately after to Oxford village and engaged in the practice of his profession.* He removed thence soon after 1800 to Norwich village and purchased of Elisha Smith the old Col. Monroe place with the mill and other property added by Deacon Smith. This purchase included all that part of the village lying west of Broad street, north of Benjamin Chapman's store and south of Henry street, extending across the Canasawacta, nearly to the crest of the west hill. Here he engaged, in addition to his legal practice, in the milling business. He was also interested with Thomas Milner in wool carding and cloth dressing at Wood's Corners, one and one-half miles above Norwich village. Mr. Milner subsequently kept store for a number of years on the corner now occupied by Comstock's clothing store.†

It would appear from information received from Mr. William B. Guernsey that when Mr. Garnsey bought the place the grist-mill built by Deacon Smith was not standing. The saw-mill built by the latter stood a good many years. Mr. Garnsey built near it a grist-mill, which stood until the present mill on the east side of the creek was built, in 1836, when it was converted into a saw-mill and used as such for several years. Mr. Garnsey, in 1832, sold the mill property, together with all his other property, except the homestead, to his son William G. Guernsey, and retired from active business. He died in the house now oc-

* His children were: Peter B., Jr., Polly, William G., and Lavinia. Peter B. was born Jan. 3, 1799. He married Mary Bellamy of Catskill and settled in Norwich village, occupying the house now occupied by John Crawley, the jeweler, which then stood on the site of the Congregational Church. He died there April 15, 1829, owning at his death the carding machine in Norwich village, which was built by his father. He had only two children, Augustus, who died in childhood, and William B., who married Jane M., daughter of David Maydole, with whom he is now living in the old Peter B. Garnsey homestead. Polly was born April 30, 1801, and married Dr. James Thompson. They settled in Sharon, N. Y., and in 1835 returned to Norwich, where both died. She had seven children all of whom lived to maturity: James G., who married a daughter of Dr. David Y. Foote, settled in Norwich village, where both still live, and was a State Senator from the 13d District in 1874 and '75; Mary, who married Wilnot Scott, and removed to Galena, Ill., where she died; Lavinia, who married Judge Frank Beebe, of Minneapolis, where she died, leaving two daughters: Ellen Harriet, who married Judge John Waldron, a miller and land holder in Iowa; Cynthia who married Abel Comstock, a resident of Smyrna, where she died; Ella, who married Caleb Thompson, a cousin, and a resident of Dubuque; and Sarah, who married Rev. I. H. Ridick, a Methodist minister, of Au Sable, Mich., where they now reside. William G. was born Jan. 6, 1809. He was a bachelor and was engaged in farming and milling. He died in Norwich village. Lavinia was born July 17, 1811, and died unmarried in the home of her father.

James G. Thompson, son of Dr. James and Polly Thompson, was Treasurer of Chenango county from 1854 to 1857, and Clerk, from 1857 to 1872. William B. Guernsey, son of Peter B. Guernsey, Jr., was a captain in the 89th N. Y. Regt. and lieutenant-colonel and subsequently colonel in the 126th U. S. colored troops.

† Thomas Milner died Nov. 26, 1843, aged 65, and Elizabeth, his wife, August 13, 1825, aged 42.

cupied by William B. Guernsey, near the court house. It originally stood on Broad street, where the liberty pole now stands, and was removed by him to its present location in 1807, to make room for the court house and jail. Having promised a site for the county buildings if they were established in Norwich, a determination which he was instrumental in securing, he donated the ground on which the court house and jail now stand, and the west park which fronts them. This house, whose external appearance indicates a modern structure, is one of the oldest of Norwich's ancient landmarks, having been built about, perhaps a little earlier than 1800. The house is substantially as it then stood, the frame and rooms being precisely the same. It has been modernized by new casings, outside coverings, &c.

Peter B. Garnsey was one of Norwich's prominent and substantial citizens, and contributed in no small measure to the prominence it now enjoys in the county. Mr. Clark says of him:—

"Perhaps no citizen was so closely identified in his lifetime with the early growth and prosperity of the village of Norwich as Peter B. Guernsey. Himself and his heirs after him have been extensive land owners in the heart of the village. Mr. Guernsey was a lawyer by profession, but early relinquished his calling for active business pursuits. The characteristics of Mr. Guernsey's mind were strong, natural sense and untiring perseverance under difficulties that never intermitted. He was one of the many early settlers who literally died in the harness." *

Settlements were made at an early day by Samuel Hammond, Rev. Jedediah Randall, John Welch, Lemuel Southwick, Lobden Jaynes, Jonathan Colegrove, Jonathan Thornton, Capt. James Thompson, Capt. Anan Winsor, Benjamin Sheldon, Maj. Samuel May, and Gideon Mann.

Samuel Hammond settled in the north part of the village of Norwich, and lived in the house now occupied by Thomas Lillis, which then stood on the site of Mr. Cornell's residence. He was engaged in farming, and resided there till his death, which occurred Dec. 2, 1821, at the age of 63 years. His wife, Polly, also died there, five days later, (Dec. 7, 1821,) aged 62. † Rev. Jedediah Randall was born in Stonington, Conn., March 20, 1758. He was the first pastor of the Baptist church in Norwich, and in the two-fold capacity of preacher and farmer, was a valued and highly esteemed citizen. His farm, in the south part of the village, is now mostly cut up into village lots.

* History of Chenango County.

† He had one child, William R., who married Nancy, daughter of Hezekiah Pellet, and lived on the homestead, where he died Dec. 2, 1820, aged 37, and his wife, April 11, 1833, aged 30. William R. left four children, all of whom are living in Norwich, three of them in the village, viz.: Samuel R., a bachelor, now living with B. B. Andrews; Lovina, wife of B. B. Andrews, a banker, merchant and tanner in Norwich village; Mary, widow of E. W. Houck; and Betsey A., widow of James Ransford, now living just outside the village, across the Chenango.

He died here Feb. 22, 1844, aged 86; and Martha, his wife, Oct. 29, 1848, aged 88. John Welch was a blacksmith, and settled in the west part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Hiram Hale and Cyrus Brown, where he and his wife died. Nathaniel Welch, who removed west at an early day, was a son of his. Lemuel Southwick settled on the hill, about a half mile east of Polkville, on the place now occupied by Mr. Grant. He removed from the town with his family at an early day. Lobden Jaynes was a mason. He settled first in the Rhode Island settlement in the north-west part of Norwich, and after a few years removed to the town of Plymouth. He was the chimney builder of this section of country. Jonathan Colegrove settled about four miles north-west of White Store. He early removed to Pennsylvania and died there October 8, 1812, aged 76, but his remains are interred at White Store. He was an early teacher in this locality, and is recollected to be an austere one, though a man of good ability. Jonathan Thornton settled in the same locality as Colegrove. He was a stone mason and worked at his trade in connection with farming. He died March 9, 1847, aged 82; and Freeloove, his wife, November 10, 1851, aged 88.

Captain James Thompson settled about four miles west of White Store, and afterwards removed to Polkville, where he died March 10, 1873, aged 90. Nabby, his wife, died where he first settled, July 16, 1851, aged 63. He was twice married. None of his children are left here. Smith, his son, went west; and Polly, his daughter, married Daniel Hunt, and both lived and died in this locality. Captain Anan Winsor, who was distantly related to Colonel Stephen Winsor, settled two and one-half miles west of White Store, where George Medbury now lives. He died there Dec. 30, 1820, aged 71; and Amey, his wife, August 28, 1834, aged 82. Washington, a Baptist minister, Adin and Angel, were sons of his, but all removed from the town. Benjamin Sheldon settled about three miles south-west of White Store, where Delancy Phetteplace now lives, and died there July 18, 1816, aged 65. Sarah, his wife, also died there Feb. 15, 1835, aged 85. Benjamin and Luke Sheldon were sons of his. The former lived and died on the homestead, August 25, 1824, aged 37. The latter settled and died in Guilford, near VanBuren's Corners, Sept. 7, 1851, aged 72. His wife, Mercy, died July 27, 1836, aged 59. Major Samuel May settled two miles south-west of White Store, near where George Phetteplace now lives. He died there May 3, 1810, aged 71. Joseph May, who married Orpha, daughter of Elijah Cook, Daniel, whose widow is living in Guilford, and Asa, who went to Ohio at an early day, were sons of his. Joseph and Daniel settled

and died in this locality; the former, March 17, 1862, aged 82, and his wife, Jan. 25, 1866, aged 80. Gideon Mann settled on the farm on which Benjamin Sheldon, Sr., afterwards settled, but removed at an early day. Caleb and Olney were sons of his. Caleb settled a mile and a half above White Store, and died there August 19, 1828, aged 46.

George Knapp joined the settlements in 1804. He came from Rhode Island, and settled on the south line of the town, on the farm on which his daughter Mary, the widow of John Shattuck, now lives, and died there some thirty years ago. He married in Rhode Island a Miss Rathbun, and came with his wife and two children, Anna and George, the former of whom married Charles Hatch and removed to Cataugus county, where she now resides. Her husband died there. George married Betsey, daughter of Captain Lyon (who settled at an early day on Lyon Brook, which derives its name from him,) and settled and died in Guilford. His widow is still living on the homestead. Mary Shattuck is the only one of the children living in this locality.

Asa Pellet came from Canterbury, Conn., in 1805, and settled in Norwich village, on the place now occupied by John Haynes, and owned by Mrs. S. H. Barnes. His occupation was that of a farmer. He purchased of Judge Stephen Steere about two hundred acres of land, the farm originally settled by John Shattuck, on which he resided till his death, which occurred July 2, 1838, aged 71. He imported soon after his settlement the first merino sheep brought into Chenango county, and was extensively engaged in raising wool. He married in Canterbury, Abigail Porter, who died in Plymouth, Feb. 7, 1864, aged 82, while visiting her son Asa, who resided in that town. They had nine children, two of whom were born in Canterbury.*

* They were: Elias P., William Burnham, Harry, Harriet, Asa, Abigail, Nelson, Julia and Justine. Elias P. married, Feb. 7, 1830, his cousin Edith Ann, daughter of Hezekiah Pellet. Elias settled on that portion of the homestead farm which is now occupied by the widow of John, son of Hezekiah Pellet, and there he died, Jan. 8, 1849, aged 16, and his wife, July 24, 1838, aged 31. They left only one child, Elias Porter, who married Petrona P. Salcedo, a Spanish lady, and is now U. S. Consul to Barranquilla, U. S. of Colombia. The only other child was DeWitt, who died at the age of four years. Wm. Burnham was a bachelor and lived in Norwich village. He was officially connected for some fifty years with the Bank of Chenango, as clerk, teller and cashier, retaining this connection till his death, Jan. 10, 1873, aged 68. Harry married Lucinda Sexton, daughter of George Sexton, of Norwich, and settled at White Store, where he was engaged in farming. He subsequently removed to Norwich village, where his widow still lives, and died there March 12, 1865, aged 55. Harriet married Samuel Howe Barnes and settled on the homestead farm, where she still lives. He died Nov. 14, 1860, aged 52. They had six children. Asa married Olive Mandeville, of Ohio, and settled in Plymouth, where they now reside. They have two children. Abigail married Charles E. Brown, son of Joseph Brown, of Norwich, where they now live. They have no children. Nelson married Melvinia Bowen, daughter of Ira Bowen, of Homer, and settled in Norwich. He died Oct. 16, 1853, aged 15. His widow and two daughters, Florine M. and Grace B., wife of John B. Hall, of Guilford, are now residing in Norwich village. Julia married Charles Wagner Webster, and settled in Fort Plain, where they died; she, thirteen years ago, and he, October 5, 1879, aged 62. They had six children, four of whom are living, all in Fort Plain. Justine married Charles Winter Dendorff and settled in Norwich. They have one daughter.

Lemuel Wells came from Massachusetts about this year (1805,) and settled in the north-east quarter of Norwich, and died there, he and his wife. They had seven children, all sons.* Palmer Edmonds came from Rhode Island about 1805 or 1806, and worked on shares for seven or eight years a part of the William Ransford farm. He afterwards bought a farm in the north-east quarter of this town, and died there, he and his wife. Truman Enos came to Norwich in 1806, and established a tannery which he carried on about forty years. He died in Norwich village, May 11, 1869, aged 91 years. He had three wives, Lendy Trall, who died April 29, 1815, aged 35; Betsey Campbell, who died July 2, 1817, aged 26; and Abby Parmelee, who died Jan. 14, 1862, aged 69.

James Packer, a native of Groton, Conn., came in from Guilford, Vt., in 1806, and settled about three miles south-west of Norwich, on the farm now occupied by his grandson of the same name. He took up a hundred and fifty acres on lot 52, on which he resided forty-five years, and raised a family of twelve children. In 1851 he removed to Norwich village, and died there Dec. 7, 1867, aged 83. He married Mary Billings, a native of Groton, Conn., who died on the homestead farm June 16, 1826, aged 40. He afterwards married Eunice Lewis, of Norwich, by whom he had one child. She died in Norwich, June 29, 1868, aged 89.†

The south-east part of the town was settled by families from Rhode Island, among them the Cooks, Winsors, Thompsons, Ainsworths and Jennisons, who came about 1816 or '18, except the Cooks, who came about 1799, and the Winsors, about 1800. Numerous descendants of these families are now living in that locality. John, Richard, Daniel and Laban Cook were brothers, and all came in with families and settled on adjoining farms. John had two sons, both of whom are living on the homestead. Richard and Laban had no children. Daniel had two or three

* They were: Rufus, a bachelor, who lives with his brother, Gordon Wells, on Silver street in Norwich, the latter of whom married Mary Tanner, and has no children; Wright, who married a daughter of James French, and is now living on the homestead; Lemuel, who is living opposite the homestead; Reuben, who married a daughter of Palmer Edmonds and settled about a mile south of his father, in the Snow district, where he still lives; Solomon, who married in Guilford and settled in that locality; and another, the youngest, who removed from the town at an early day.

† His children were: James, Jr., who died young, Feb. 23, 1820; Charles, who married Sarah Lewis, and lived and died in Corning, April 2, 1877; Amos B., who married Sarah Moore and lived and died on the homestead farm, March 17, 1858; Horace, who married Mary Adelia Tisdale, (who died May 25, 1847, aged 23) and is now practicing law in Oxford; Ruamy A., who married Matthew O. Wells, and died on the homestead soon after her marriage, April 10, 1833; Nelson, who married Mary McDougall, and is practicing medicine in Wellsburgh, Penn.; Mary P., who married Wm. D. Gilbert, and lived and died at Corning, Aug. 18, 1848; Marcia Caroline and Martha Emeline, twins, the former of whom married William R. Breed, of Norwich, where she now resides, and the latter, Ezra B. Barnett, and lived and died at Norwich, July 21, 1853; Elizabeth B., who married Elias P. Pellet, of Norwich, and after his death, Nathan Pendleton, of Oxford; James Henry, who died in youth; and Sarah L. W., second wife of Daniel M. Holmes, of Norwich, where both are now living.

daughters. Olney, Joshua, Ziba and Washington Winsor were brothers, and each had families when they came in. The locality is known as the Cook settlement.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The records of the town prior to 1803 are missing; a fact which is to be regretted, as this period of ten years from the organization of the town covers the most interesting, as well as the most inaccessible portion of its history. The first town meeting was held at the house of Capt. John Harris,* and the subsequent one at that of Hascall Ransford; but who were elected to office we have been unable to determine.

The town meeting in 1803 was held at the house of Hascall Ransford the first Tuesday in March, and the following named officers were elected:—Casper M. Rouse, Supervisor; Hascall Ransford, Clerk; Barnabas Brown, John Randall, Sanford Morgan, Simon Trask and Thompson Mead, Assessors; William Munro, Collector; John Randall and Amos Mead, Overseers of the Poor; James McCullough, Stephen Collins and Joseph Medbury, Commissioners of Highways; Samuel White, Stephen B. Wever, William Palmer, John Randall, Jr., Judah Bennett, Amos Mead, Ezra Hoag, Thomas Brown, Jr., and James Simond, Constables; Joshua Phillips, Phineas Fanning, Silas Cole, Silas Burlingame and Thompson Mead, Fence Viewers; Jonah Curtis, William Palmer, John Randall, Silas Burlingame, James H. Smith, Pound Masters.

The following have been the Supervisors and Clerks of the town of Norwich from 1803 to 1880:—

Years.	Supervisors.	Clerks.
1803-'4.	Casper M. Rouse.	Hascall Ransford.
1805.	Wm. Munro.	do.
1806.	Casper M. Rouse.	do.
1807.	Nathaniel Medbury.	do.
1808.	Joseph Brook.	do.
1809-'13.	Hascall Ransford.	Perez Randall.
1814-'15.	do.	John Randall, Jr.
1816-'17.	Perez Randall.	do.
1818-'19.	Hascall Ransford.	David Buttolph.
1820.	Edmond G. Per Lee.	Peter B. Guernsey, Jr.
1821.	James Thompson.	do.
1822.	Jonathan Thompson.	do.
1823.	John F. Hubbard.	Squire Smith, Jr.
1824.	Samuel Pike.	do.
1825.	Charles York.	do.
1826-'8.	do.	Cyrus Wheeler.
1829-'31.	Cyrus Wheeler.	Levi Ray, Jr.
1832.	Henry Mitchell.	do.
1833-'4.	Charles York.	Ralph Johnson.
1835-'6.	do.	Burr B. Andrews.
1837.	Smith M. Purdy.	do.
1838.	Harvey Harris.	do.
1839-'41.	Burr B. Andrews.	Daniel M. Randall.

* Mr. Harris' house, though not a public house, was a good deal resorted to for public transactions, probably because of the extensive acquaintance which he formed in the pursuit of his occupation of surveying, and his personal qualities which conspired to give him prominence.

Years.	Supervisors.	Clerks.
1842-'3.	Burr B. Andrews.	Nelson B. Hale.
1844.	Ralph Johnson.	Levi Ray, Jr.
1845.	Aaron B. Gates.	Horatio N. Walter.
1846-'7.	Obadiah G. Randall.	do.
1848-'9.	Ambrose Smith.	Charles E. Brown.
1850.	do.	Thos. H. Lewis.
1851.	Charles York.	do.
1852.	Harvey Hubbard.	James H. Sinclair.
1853-'4.	Daniel M. Randall.	do.
1855.	James M. Smith.	Nathan P. Wheeler.
1856.	Samuel R. Per Lee.	Chas. F. Hinkley.
1857.	Nathan P. Wheeler.	Nelson H. Button.
1858.	Philander B. Prindle.	James H. Sinclair.
1859.	Horatio N. Walter.	do.
1860.	Ansel Berry.	do.
1861-'3.	Daniel M. Holmes.	Jno. W. Weller.
1864.	do.	Geo. W. Marr.
1865-'6.	Daniel M. Holmes.	Dennis Conway.
1867.	Nathan P. Wheeler.	George F. Stevens.
1868.	do.	C. L. Ferry.
1869.	Silas Brooks.	H. M. Ashcraft.
1870-'2.	do.	Charles B. Nash.
1871.	Nelson O. Wood.	do.
1873.	James G. Thompson.	do.
1874.	Henry M. Ashcraft.	Marion Henry.
1875.	Henry P. Marvin.	Charles H. Watts.
1876.	Henry M. Ashcraft.	do.
1877.	Fred Mitchell.	do.
1878.	Sylvanus Shumway.	T. Spencer Baker.
1879.	Jeremiah Medbury.	George W. Nagle.
1880.	Andrew J. Phelps.	Charles H. Watts.

The following list of the officers of the Town of Norwich for the year 1880-81, was kindly furnished by Charles H. Watts:—

- Supervisor—Andrew J. Phelps.
- Town Clerk—Charles H. Watts.
- Justices—Isaac W. Baker, Hendrick C. Bosworth, William H. Gunn, Nathan Field.
- Assessors—Henry P. Marion, Stiles B. Grant, Charles Ransford.
- Commissioner of Highways—Harry F. Hickok.
- Overseer of the Poor—Thomas W. Hall.
- Constables—Charles E. Hubbard, Thomas H. Lewis, William Graham, Albert H. Mead, Hiram White.
- Collector—Henry L. York.
- Inspectors of Election—District No. 1: George A. Thomas, Isaac S. Newton, Asher C. Scott. District No. 2: Hendrick C. Bosworth, Henry D. Spaulding, Thomas H. Lewis.
- Town Auditors*—Thomas Macksey, Kinyon Terry.
- Game Constable—Richard Newton.†
- Excise Commissioners—John D. Marion, Henry L. Marsh, Samuel Cole.

NORWICH VILLAGE.

Norwich, the county seat, is delightfully situated on the west bank of the Chenango, in the angle formed by that river and its confluent, the Canasawacta. It is surrounded by a moderately rich agricultural

* James J. Westcott failed to qualify.
† Mr. Newton is the first colored person elected to a town office in Chenango county.

district, whose produce finds here a ready market. It is a remarkably cleanly, neat and well-built town, with many fine residences and substantial business blocks. Its streets are broad, regularly laid out, handsomely shaded and lighted with gas; and its walks well paved with native stone. It is on the line of the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley, and New York, Ontario and Western (Midland) railroads, and the abandoned Chenango Canal, and is the eastern terminus of the Auburn Branch of the latter railroad.

It contains, in addition to the county buildings, seven churches,* some of them very fine structures, a Union School, with academic department, five hotels,† two newspaper offices,‡ two banks, the extensive hammer factory of David Maydole & Co., a piano manufactory, an extensive cooperage, a planing-mill, grist-mill, two tanneries, a brewery, a foundry and machine shop, sash, door and blind factory, a rope walk, a furnace, several carriage manufactories, and various other minor manufacturing establishments. It has a population of about 5,000.

It has two fine parks, centrally located, deficient, however, in ornamentation, which are separated only by Broad street, and are designated *east* and *west* parks. With a moderate outlay they might be made to enhance vastly the beauty of the village and the comfort and pleasure of its citizens. The east park was a gift from Stephen Steere, and the west one, from Peter B. Garnsey.

The following description of Norwich, which we extract from Spafford's *Gazetteer of the State of New York*, published in 1824, read in the light of subsequent events, will be of interest, and serve as a pleasing comparison with its present condition:—

"The . . . village . . . is finely seated in a spacious and fertile vale, on the point of land formed by the Canasawacta Creek and the Chenango. The buildings stand on two handsome streets, intersecting each other at right angles, and consist of 100 dwellings, 7 stores, 4 inns, 2 churches, a court house, jail and Clerk's office, with a brick banking house. There are also a very respectable female seminary of education, some common school houses, and about 500 inhabitants, principally of Yankee origin, and sober, persevering and industrious. The site of this Borough is much admired by travelers, surrounded by fields and farms in high cultivation, and being well supplied with pure and wholesome water, and having a charming and salubrious atmosphere, it is one of the healthiest and pleasantest towns of the west for a summer resort. There is a mineral spring of some note, about two miles from the borough, said to be a sovereign remedy for most cutaneous diseases.

* Episcopal, Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, Free-Will Baptist, African Methodist.

† The Eagle (McLea & Spaulding), Spaulding House, (Henry G. Spaulding), American (M. A. Robinson), Palmer House (Murray Bros.), Adams House (V. L. Adams).

‡ The *Chenango Telegraph*, (B. Gage Berry & Co.) (see page 110.) The *Chenango Union*, (G. H. Manning), (see page 107.)

By-and-by, when experience and chastisement restore the sober senses of the community, people will wonder at the infatuation that ever located a bank at Norwich, as well as at very many other such country villages. But the evil, to cure itself, must operate gradually, and in its own way. I hope the farmers will have sense enough to keep their lands free from incumbrances, held by such 'monied institutions.' They are a heavy curse on the industry of a farming country, and every body will by-and-by adopt this opinion."

The village was incorporated April 17, 1816. The Records previous to 1844 are lost. We give below the names of village Presidents and Clerks from 1844 to 1879:—

	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1844.	Abner W. Warner.	William N. Mason.
1845.	Abel Comstock.*	do.
1846.	Levi Ray, Jr.	do.
1847.†		do.
1848.	Alfred Purdy.	J. DeWitt Rexford.
1849.	Joseph Chapel.	Henry M. Hyde.
1850-1.	H. N. Walter.	Benjamin E. Randall.
1852.	Daniel Holmes.	do.‡
1853.	do.	Nelson W. Hatch.§
1854.	Abner W. Warner.	John D. Lawyer.
1855.	John Wait.	Franklin Beebe.
1856.	do.	Henry L. York.
1857.	Ansel Berry.	Charles C. Gager.
1858.	Henry Hubbard.	Samuel S. Breed.
1859.	Daniel M. Randall.	do.
1860.	Lewis Kingsley.	Russel A. Young.||
1861.	Ezra B. Barnett.	do.
1862.	Benjamin Gardiner.¶	Billings Wheeler.
1863.	Matthew Ransford.	do.
1864.	William H. Sternberg.	Orson Pope.
1865.	H. C. Wilcox.	Curtis Crane.
1866.	David Maydole.	A. T. PerLee.
1867.	do.	Henry P. Marvin.
1868.	do.	James E. Case.
1869.	George M. Page.	John M. Gartsee.
1870.	B. Gage Berry.	George W. Marvin.
1871.	Nathan P. Wheeler.	Albert F. Gladding.
1872.	Edwin Smith.	David H. Knapp.
1873.	Samuel R. PerLee.	William B. Leach.
1874.	N. O. Wood.	D. H. Knapp.
1875.	Silas Brooks.	Lyman P. Rogers.
1876.	Dr. W. H. Stuart.	Benjamin Frink.
1877-8.	William Breese.	A. E. Rathbun.**
1879.	do.	Charles Shumway.

The village officers elected March, 1880, were:—

Trustees—William Breese, Deloss Fowlston, James J. Westcott.

* Levi Ray, Jr., was made President May 9, 1845, in place of Comstock, resigned.

† The records do not show who was elected President in 1847. ‡ Sept. 13, 1852, Wm. N. Mason was appointed Clerk in place of Benj. E. Randall, who had removed from the county.

§ Nash resigned May 25, 1853, and John F. Dean was appointed Clerk the same date. June 6, 1851, Eli H. Wilcox was appointed Clerk in place of Dean, who did not qualify.

¶ April 14, 1862, "Omor" J. Wood was appointed Clerk in place of Young, who had removed from the corporation.

** Dec. 9, 1862, Harvey Thompson was elected President in place of Benjamin Gardner, who died Dec. 4, 1862.

*** March 3, 1879, Charles Shumway was appointed Clerk to fill the vacancy occasioned by the illness of A. Eugene Rathbun, who died March 19, 1879.

Collector—George A. Jacobs.
 President—William Breese.
 Street Commissioner—Deloss Fowlston.
 Health Officer—James J. Westcott.
 Clerk—Charles Shumway.

March 11, 1879, the former board of trustees elected Joseph Wood, Fire Marshal; Albert C. Latham, Treasurer; Charles H. Dimmick, Engineer of Fire Steamer, and Thomas H. Lewis, Hiram White, Charles E. Peacock, Dwight Cook, Charles E. Hubbard, J. D. McFarland, William Graham, and Charles H. Brooks were appointed Policemen.

October 25, 1877, the village was divided into four wards, as follows: All that portion of the village lying east of the centre of Broad Street, and south of the centre of East Main Street, was designated the First Ward; all lying east of the centre of Broad Street, and north of the center of East Main Street, the Second Ward; all west of the centre of Broad Street, and north of the centre of West Main Street, the Third Ward; all west of the centre of Broad Street, and south of the centre of West Main Street, the Fourth Ward.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant in Norwich was Dr. Joseph Brooks, an educated physician, but not a medical practitioner. He opened a store about 1798—1800, in a building which stood on the site of the residence of Hon. B. Gage Berry, on the south corner of North Broad and Pleasant streets. He occupied the house both as a residence and store, using the front room for the latter purpose. He traded two or three years, and then commenced keeping tavern in a building which stood a little north of the American Hotel, which he continued till his death, which resulted from consumption March 10, 1813, at the age of 41 years. Lot Clark married his widow.

Two Englishmen, — Sharp and Thomas Milner, commenced trading soon after Brooks discontinued, in a building which stood about fifteen rods north of the residence of the widow Lamb, a half mile north of the village. They continued till 1810, and afterwards started a woolen factory and distillery at Wood's Corners, on the west side of the river, which they continued several years. Milner afterwards commenced trading again and continued till his death, Nov. 26, 1843. Sharpe removed to Otsego county.

Joseph S. Fenton, who was a member and leader of the Congregational church of Norwich, commenced trading here about 1810, and continued as late as 1823 or 1824. Asa Norton and Perez Randall also commenced trading about 1810. Norton was from Butternuts. He traded till about 1816 or 1817, when he went west. Randall was a son of John Randall, and was associated one year, 1814, with John Harris, brother of Dr. Harvey Harris. Cyrus Wheeler, Por-

ter Wood (the latter of whom traded till his death, Dec. 10, 1859, and was for some years in company with Thomas Milner,) David E. S. Bedford and Charles York, who was in company a year or two with Cyrus Wheeler, were early, prominent merchants.

Benjamin Chapman, who was born in Connecticut in 1791, came from Durham, Greene county, in 1810, and settled in Norwich village, where he has since resided. He was employed first as a clerk for Zeno Allen, who came from Durham that year, and opened a store in a building which stood nearly opposite the American Hotel, which was removed to East Main street before the canal was built, and converted into a residence, for which purpose it is now used. Allen did business here only two or three years, when he removed to Sacket's Harbor and died there. Mr. Chapman clerked for him during his stay, and then for Ira Willcox, of Oxford, who was engaged in trade there, and opened a branch store here, which he continued two or three years. In 1815, Mr. Chapman commenced business for himself in the building, which has since been enlarged, which is now occupied by his son, William H. Chapman, and nephew, William Porter Chapman, who succeeded him in the business, and are now doing business under the name of W. H. Chapman & Co. Benjamin Chapman retired from active mercantile business about 1853. His son, William H., then changed the stock to drugs, but two years later, in 1855, changed back again to dry-goods. William Porter Chapman, who had clerked for William H. Chapman since the spring of 1856, became his partner in 1865.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office at Norwich was established in the latter part of the last century. Hascall Ransford was the first postmaster, and kept the office in his log cabin, which answered the double purpose of residence and tavern. The mail was carried on horseback from Cooperstown once a week. John Stearns was the first mail carrier. After a few years the mail was brought from Utica, still on horseback, and the office was removed to the village. About 1808 the mail was brought by stage from Utica, twice a week. The present postmaster is James K. Spaulding.*

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician both in the village and town of Norwich was Jonathan Johnson, who was born in Canterbury, Conn., Jan. 13, 1770, studied medicine in Pomfret in his native State, and came to Norwich from Ballston, Saratoga county, on horseback, about 1794. He boarded with Matthew Graves, and on the 28th of December, 1797, married his

* We have been unable to obtain a satisfactory list of the postmasters of Norwich; there is no record of them, and the statement of individuals most likely to know them are so indefinite and contradictory as to be worthless.

daughter Hannah. He located in the south part of the village, opposite John Randall, on a part of the Silas Cole farm, and soon after his marriage built the house now occupied by Dr. W. H. Stuart, where he spent the greater part of his life, and died Sept. 27, 1837, aged 67. His wife died April 17, 1874, aged about 96.*

Dr. Johnson practiced here till his death, or until ill health incapacitated him shortly previous to that. His first surgical operation, if not the only one he ever performed, occurred about 1798, when, by the aid of a Dr. Upham, from Pennsylvania, who was passing through this valley on his way to the north, he amputated the leg of Levi Skinner, at Wood's Corners. Skinner's leg was crushed a little below the thigh by a falling tree. The operation was performed with a razor for an amputating knife and a forked wire for a *tenaculum*. The operation, notwithstanding the rude implements used, proved successful. There was then no surgeon nearer than Cherry Valley, where Dr. Asa White was then located. Dr. Johnson made no pretensions to being a surgeon. Dr. Henry Mitchell, who came here, in 1806, from Coventry, to which town he had removed a year or two previously from Connecticut, and who was the second physician to locate here, did not commence the practice of surgery till 1818. After that he performed nearly all the capital operations in surgery in the county for several years, and some in the adjoining counties.

Henry Mitchell, who, as we have seen, came to Norwich in 1806, arriving here on the day of the great eclipse, came originally from Woodbury, Conn., where he was born in 1784. He was graduated from Yale College in 1803, in the same class with John C. Calhoun, and had just completed his medical studies when he came here. He continued to practice here till his death, Jan. 12, 1856, at the age of 72, though he did not practice much during the last few years of his life. His duties as a physician during the early years of his practice were extremely arduous. His ride was large, extending into adjoining counties, and he visited his patients on horseback, threading the dense forests by means of blazed trees. He was for many years the leading surgeon in the county, and made hernia a specialty, becoming eminently proficient in its treatment. He was highly educated and moved in the best professional circles. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1828, and was a member of Congress from 1833 to 1835. He mar-

* Their children were: Homer, John, Erasmus Darwin, Jedediah and Emily. Homer was born Oct. 31, 1800, and married Roxana, daughter of Daniel Skinner. He settled on the farm on which he now resides, on the east side of the river, a little below Polkville. His wife died there May 9, 1862, aged 56. John was born August 8, 1806, and died Oct. 2, 1824. Erasmus Darwin was born May 30, 1808, and died unmarried July 9, 1862. Jedediah was born Nov. 14, 1810, and died April 18, 1811. Emily was born Dec. 18, 1816, and is living with her brother Homer. Homer had ten children, five sons and five daughters.

ried here Rowena, daughter of Nathan Wales of Plymouth, who died June 3, 1835, aged 42, having borne him seven children.*

Harvey Harris, son of John Harris, a pioneer settler in Norwich, was born in Norwich, August 3, 1795, and commenced the study of medicine in 1814, with Dr. Henry Mitchell. He attended lectures at the New York Medical College in 1816 and was licensed by the State Commissioners in 1817. He commenced practice in New Berlin in March of that year and remained there one year, when he removed to Norwich, where he practiced till within about ten years, and where he still resides. Ill health compelled him to withdraw from practice and advancing years prevented his resuming it. In 1832, in the absence of Dr. Mitchell, he performed his first capital operation in surgery, that of trephining, on ——— Soules, of the town of Plymouth. The operation was successful.

Dr. Jones came here about 1830 and practiced about a year; but failing to secure a remunerative practice he removed to Texas, of which State he afterwards became Governor. Patrick Hard, a nephew of Henry Mitchell's wife, studied with Dr. Mitchell and practiced in company with him one year, about 1831 or '32, when he went to Oswego. William Baxter practiced here about two years while Mitchell was in Congress—1833-'35.

Andrew Baker was born in Berkshire county, Mass., August 28, 1805, and removed about 1830 to Allegany county, and thence to Howard, Steuben county, where he engaged in shoemaking and studied medicine with Dr. A. B. Case. He subsequently attended Geneva Medical College, where he was graduated in 1836, in which year he commenced to practice medicine in Bath. In 1842 he removed thence to Norwich, where he practiced till his death, Dec. 14, 1863.

Daniel Bellows removed from Rhode Island to South New Berlin in 1821, and practiced there till

* These were, Charles Henry, Julia Maria, Harriet B., John, Mary A., Jane and Catharine, the latter of whom died April 18, 1832, at the age of six years. Charles Henry married Mariett Rider. He studied medicine with his father and practiced the first two years in Oswego, and subsequently for four or five years, till his death July 27, 1811, aged 23, in Norwich. Julia Maria married Judge Samuel B. Garvin, whose parents were residents of Butternuts. Harriet B., married Col. John Wait who settled in Norwich, where he practiced law some twenty years, and till his death, Nov. 2, 1868, aged 58. His wife died in Norwich, May 28, 1817, aged 21. John married Caroline Foote, daughter of John Foote, of Hamilton, and settled in Norwich, where he and his wife still live. Mary A. married Col. Samuel R. Per Lee, who settled in Norwich, where he was engaged in mercantile business some ten years. He afterwards engaged in the forwarding business, which he continued till the close of the canal, having during this time spent three years in the army, first as Adjutant and Quartermaster, afterwards as Lieut.-Colonel and after the death of Col. Smith, as Colonel of the 114th Regt. He was seriously wounded in the neck in the battle of Opequan, with a minnie ball, and in the side with a fragment of a shell. After leaving the service he was brevetted Brigadier-General, for "gallant and meritorious service during the war." He is now engaged in the produce business in Norwich. His wife died in Norwich. Jane married Thomas Milner, for several years a merchant in Norwich, who after her death married Lottie Talcott.

1846, when he removed to Norwich, where he practiced till within a year or two of his death, when he became incapacitated by apoplexy, which terminated fatally March 6, 1866, at the age of 70. Nancy, his wife, died May 18, 1874, aged 81. His son, Horatio Knight Bellows, who was born in New Berlin, Nov. 5, 1823, received an academic education in the academies at Hamilton and Gilbertsville, and pursued his medical studies with and under the direction of his father, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of New York in 1847, in which year he commenced practice in Norwich. He has enjoyed an extensive practice. In January, 1879, debilitated by the severe mental and physical labor connected with his profession, he was attacked with cerebral *anæmia* which has finally resulted in probable cerebral softening, from which he now suffers.

Blin Harris, son of Blin Harris, and grandson of the pioneer, John Harris, studied medicine with his uncle, Dr. Harvey Harris, and went west, practicing three or four years in Erie, Penn. He then returned to Norwich, about 1849, and practiced till his death, Jan. 31, 1864, aged 55. He married Polly Ross, by whom he had five children, all of whom are living, four in this county, Mary, Angeline, Blin and Charlotte, the latter in New Berlin, and the former three in Norwich.

George W. Palmer came from Madison county about 1850, having then just graduated in Homeopathy. After one or two years' practice he returned to Madison county, near Hamilton, where he has since practiced. He was the first Homeopathist to locate in Norwich after Dr. Bruchhausen. Dr. Hiram Hurlbut, a botanic physician, came from Fabius, N. Y., July 13, 1845, and practiced till his death, Nov. 16, 1877. Charles Church, formerly of Norwich, attended lectures in Philadelphia and New York, and graduated at the latter place in 1871. He commenced practice in Norwich immediately after graduating and remained three years, when he removed to Passaic, N. J. R. B. Prindle came from Coventry some six years and has since practiced here, though he now devotes his time mainly to other business. Guy Westcott, an electrician, and a native of Norwich, practiced here some two years about four years ago. There have been other physicians who staid for short periods, but did not become prominent in the medical practice of the village.

The physicians now practicing here, in addition to those named, are, Caspar Bruchhausen, Charles M. Purdy, James J. Westcott, Harris H. Beecher, Geo. W. Avery, Stephen M. Hand, William H. Stuart, Daniel J. Mosher, Edwin C. Andrews, James H. Westcott, Leroy J. Brooks, Samuel J. Fulton, Wm. H. Randall, and Emma Louise Randall.

Caspar Bruchhausen was born in Frankfort on the Main, Prussia, Aug. 25, 1806, and was educated in Frankfort College. He immigrated to Philadelphia, where, in 1839, he commenced the study of homeopathy with Dr. Charles Frederick Hoffendahl, a graduate of the University of Berlin, who removed in 1840 to Albany, where Dr. Bruchhausen continued his studies with him. He afterwards pursued his studies with Dr. George W. Cook, of Hudson, and subsequently went to New York and placed himself under the instruction of Drs. Frederick Gray and A. Gerald Hull, who were then the principal practitioners of the homeopathic school in New York city. The latter was then editor of *The Homeopathic Examiner*, published in that city. August 12, 1842, Mr. Bruchhausen removed to Greene, and from thence after about nine months to Oxford, where he remained five years, from 1843 to 1848. The latter year he removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced.*

Charles M. Purdy was born in Norwich, Aug. 16, 1826, and was educated in the academies of that village and Oxford. He commenced the study of medicine in 1846, with Dr. Andrew Baker, of Norwich, and attended lectures in the Albany Medical College that and the succeeding year. He was licensed by the State Medical Society in June, 1847, and commenced practice that year in DeRuyter. He removed thence after six months to Norwich, where he has since practiced, the first year in company with his preceptor, Dr. Andrew Baker.

James J. Westcott was born in Eaton, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1826, and was educated in the common schools of his native town. He commenced the study of medicine in 1852, with his father-in-law, Dr. Hiram Hurlbut, of Norwich, and in 1855, entered the Syracuse Medical College, where he was graduated in 1857. He commenced practice that year in company with his preceptor, Dr. Hurlbut, with whom he continued two years, and has since practiced here.

Harris H. Beecher was born in Coventry, where his father, Parson Beecher, settled in 1806. Having been incapacitated for manual labor from an injury producing painful and protracted lameness, at the age of sixteen years he was sent to Oxford Academy, where he remained four years, teaching at intervals to defray a part of the expense necessarily incurred. Being somewhat advanced in a college course, which he could not pursue for lack of funds, he turned his attention to medicine as the business of his life. His medical studies were pursued in Coventry under the instruction of different practitioners, and subsequently in Binghamton in the office of Dr., now Prof. Davis, of Chicago, teaching in the meantime not having

* For additional facts connected with Dr. Bruchhausen's advent to Chenango county, see page 102.

been wholly relinquished. In the latter part of 1847 he was graduated in medicine at Castleton, Vt., and in the spring of 1848, located at North Norwich, where he practiced till December, 1861, when he removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced, with the exception of some three years spent in the army, which he entered in 1862, as Assistant Surgeon of the 114th Regiment, at the organization of that regiment, serving in that capacity till the close of the war and the disbandment of the regiment. For nearly nine months he was on duty by order of Gen. Banks at the United States Marine Hospital at New Orleans, and also for several months in charge of a post-hospital at Berwick City, La., containing a large number of wounded from the battle-field of Bisland. Before leaving the Marine Hospital for the famous Red River campaign, he was presented by the soldiers of that hospital with an elegant gold-headed cane and other valuable tokens of their appreciation and regard. In the Shenandoah Valley, during the closing year of the war, he was the most of the time the only medical officer with his regiment in the field.

While yet young Dr. Beecher exhibited quite a literary taste, and early commenced writing on miscellaneous subjects for the newspaper press, which, in the midst of other duties, he has continued more or less constantly to the present time. His "Army Correspondence," published mainly in the papers of his district, was eagerly sought for and read with interest. After the war, desiring that the noble deeds of his brave comrades should live in history, as well as in the hearts of a grateful people and surviving friends, he published, in 1866, a "Record of the 114th Regiment, N. Y. S. V.," embracing nearly six hundred pages, dedicated to his lamented Colonel, Elisha B. Smith, and all his fallen comrades, and graphically delineating, as the title page indicates, "*Where it went, What it saw, and What it did.*" He has also spent much time and made considerable progress in gathering facts and data for a Memorial Record, portions of which have been published, of all the deceased soldiers in the late war from Chenango county. He has on various occasions given carefully prepared addresses, embracing medical, agricultural, scientific and political subjects. He takes a deep interest in educational matters, having held the position of School Superintendent, long serving as a trustee of Norwich Academy, and President of the Board.

As a physician he stands high. He passed a highly satisfactory examination before the Medical Board, and was recommended by the Surgeon-General of the State. He is a bachelor. He represented Chenango county in the Assembly in 1874, serving on the Committees on Public Health, Public Education and Joint Library.

George W. Avery was born in Sherburne, March 9,

1827, and received an academic education in his native town. He commenced the study of medicine in 1847, with Drs. Devillo White and E. S. Lyman, of Sherburne, and Profs. Alden Mach and James H. Armsby, at Albany. He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in January, 1850, and immediately thereafter commenced practice in Rochester, where he continued till May, 1861, when he entered the army as Surgeon of the 13th N. Y. Vols., and remained with that organization till it was mustered out two years after. He was afterwards for one year Surgeon of the 11th Heavy Artillery. After leaving the service he resumed practice in Norwich, where he has since continued. In April, 1865, he received a commission as U. S. Examining Surgeon for pensions, which he still holds. He was elected Coroner of Chenango county in 1870, serving three years, and again in 1877, still holding that office. He was for thirteen consecutive years Treasurer of the Chenango County Medical Society, an office he now holds, and was only relieved from its duties to assume those of President of the Society for one year.

Stephen M. Hand was born in New Lebanon, N. Y., March 8, 1830, and was educated in the common schools of his native town and in Massachusetts, where and in Columbia county, his father was an itinerant farmer, working farms on shares. He removed to Broome county with his parents in 1844, and there attended the Academy at Binghamton. He commenced the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. S. D. Hand, of that city, remaining with him one year. He then entered the office of H. H. Child & Son, the former of whom was President of the Berkshire Medical College, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He pursued his studies there two years and in the meantime attended lectures in that college, where he was graduated November 22, 1853. He commenced practice in Windsor, Broome county, in 1855, and remained there nine years, with the exception of one year spent in the Union army as Surgeon. In March, 1864, he removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced.

William H. Stuart was born in German, November 4, 1839, and was educated at the Academy at Cincinnatus. He commenced the study of medicine in 1858, with Dr. A. D. Reed, of Cincinnatus; attended medical lectures at the University of Vermont, at Burlington; and was graduated from the Albany Medical College December 24, 1861. He commenced practice at Smyrna, in January, 1862, and some six months later received an appointment as Assistant Surgeon in the 27th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, and in 1863, at the expiration of the term of service of that regiment; he received a like appointment in the 143d Regiment, though he did duty with it only ten days. He was assigned to duty in the Hospital of

the 1st Division, 20th Army Corps, where he remained till the disbandment of the regiment at the close of the war. After leaving the army, in 1865, he located at Earlville, where he practiced six years, and then removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced.

Daniel J. Mosher was born in Laurens, N. Y., September 8, 1839, and was educated at the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and at Detroit Medical College, and was graduated from the latter in June, 1869. He had previously studied medicine with Dr. H. K. Bellows, of Norwich. He entered upon the practice of his profession in Norwich, in 1869, and has since continued here. Dr. Mosher was a medical cadet in the army about six months in 1863, and about four and a half years in the navy, from 1863 to 1867.

Edwin C. Andrews was born in Sherburne, Feb. 2, 1834, and educated at the Academy at Homer. He commenced the study of medicine in 1863, with G. W. Davis, of Seneca Falls, and was graduated at the Philadelphia Medical College in the spring of 1870. He commenced practice at Seneca Falls in 1866, previous to graduating, and continued there till March, 1870, when he went to New York City, and from there he removed the following June to Norwich, where he has since practiced.

James H. Westcott was born in Norwich, June 27, 1850, and educated at the Academy in his native village. He commenced his medical studies with his father, James J. Westcott, of Norwich, about 1868, and in the fall of 1871 he entered the Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery, where he was graduated the following year. He commenced practice in Norwich in 1872, in company with his father, continuing with him till after the spring of 1876, when he went to Binghamton and studied with his uncle, Dr. John E. Hurlbut, an oculist and aurist in that city. He returned to Norwich in September of the same year.

Leroy J. Brooks was born in Norwich, August 2, 1849, and received his literary education at the Academy in Norwich and the High School in Rochester. In the spring of 1868 he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Horatio K. Bellows, of Norwich, with whom he remained one year. He completed his studies in Bellevue Medical College Hospital in New York, where he was graduated in March, 1872. After spending a year in practice in that hospital he removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced.

Samuel J. Fulton was born in Sherburne, July 20, 1825, and was educated at Michigan University. He commenced the study of medicine in Pontiac, Mich., in 1845, with Dr. Amos Walker. He entered the University of Michigan in 1842, but was compelled to relinquish his studies by reason of inflammation of the eyes, which disabled him from reading for three

years. In 1848 he entered the Western Homeopathic College,* at Cleveland, now the Homeopathic Hospital College and was graduated from there in March, 1850. In the winter of 1850 and '51 he was demonstrator of anatomy in that institution. After practicing in various places in the Western States he removed to Binghamton and engaged in other business, expecting to discontinue the practice of medicine; but by solicitation he removed thence to Norwich in August, 1876, and took the place of Charles A. Church, who had removed to Passaic, N. J.

William H. Randall was born in Williamsport, Pa., Dec. 18, 1855, and received his early education in the Academy at that place. He commenced the study of medicine at Williamsport, in 1875, with Dr. Thomas Lyon, and in the fall of 1876, he entered Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, where he was graduated in the spring of 1878, March 15th. He commenced practice at Trout Run, Pa., and after six months received an appointment on the clinical staff of Jefferson Medical College Hospital, where he remained till March, 1879, when he removed to Norwich.

Emma Louise Randall, who is a great-grand-daughter of John Randall, who settled in Norwich in 1800, was born in Norwich, November 13, 1849, and was educated at Norwich Academy and Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, where she took a special course. She commenced the study of medicine in the fall of 1874, with Dr. H. K. Bellows, of Norwich, and soon after entered the Woman's Medical College of the New York Infirmary, founded in 1869, by Emily and Elizabeth Blackwell, who were the first lady physicians in this country. There she took a four years' course and was graduated May 22, 1878. After practicing a year in the hospital and dispensary connected with that College, as assistant physician, she returned to Norwich, where she is now practicing. She is the first lady physician in Chenango county.

LAWYERS.†—The first lawyer who located at Norwich was James Birdsall, who came from Dutchess county soon after 1800, and was admitted to practice October 15, 1806. He practiced here several years and married here Rizpah, daughter of Judge Stephen Steere, with whom he removed about 1839 to Fenton, Mich., where both died. He was an active and leading politician in this county, and was a Representative in Congress from the 15th District from 1815 to 1817, and a Member of Assembly from this county in 1827. He was one of the first directors of the Bank of Chenango, and was elected its attorney Oct.

*This was the second Homeopathic Institute in the country, the first, and then the only other, being at Philadelphia.

†We are sensible that the list of early attorneys in Norwich is incomplete, a fact which we must attribute to the inability or indifference of those whom we consulted.

6, 1818. On the creation of the office of Vice-President of that institution, Sept. 16, 1823, he was elected to fill it; and March 15, 1825, he was elected Cashier, holding that position till 1833.

David Buttolph and Peter B. Garnsey were also lawyers here about this period. Buttolph, who was licensed June 15, 1808, came from Dutchess county soon after Birdsall, with whom he formed a law partnership which continued five or six years. About 1838, Buttolph retired to a small farm of some fourteen acres, on the Canasawacta, about one and one-half miles above Norwich, where he resided till his death, which occurred some ten years ago, in Charleston, S. C., while on a visit to his son David, who was a Presbyterian minister in that city. He was an active politician and a prominent attorney at an early day. He married Urania Lyman, of Durham, Conn., who died from bleeding at the lungs April 3, 1827, aged 35. He afterwards married Esther, widow of Deacon Joseph Kelso,* who died May 19, 1859, aged 76. He had one other child, Jane, who was an invalid, and died August 19, 1875, aged 48. Garnsey was admitted November 5, 1795, and had practiced previous to coming here, in Oxford. Soon after coming to Norwich he was mainly engaged in manufacturing enterprises.†

James W. Gazlee, who was licensed June 16, 1809, came here from the East about that time, but removed after a year or two to New Orleans. He was a man of good ability, and married here Patty, daughter of Capt. John Randall.

Nathan Chamberlin was admitted October 13, 1813, about which time he came here from the east part of the State. He married here a daughter of Judge Robert Monell, of Greene, and after practicing five or six years removed to New York, where he died. Lot Clark was admitted to practice June 11, 1816, and was one of the leading Republican politicians here about 1820. He practiced here till about 1830, when he removed to Lockport. He was the father of Hiram C. Clark, author of the *History of Chenango County*, of 1850, who also practiced here a little between 1850 and '60, and died a few years ago in New York. Smith M. Purdy, son of Abner Purdy, an early settler in North Norwich, studied law with James Birdsall, of Norwich, and was licensed February 10, 1819. He practiced the first year in Sherburne, and from thence removed to Norwich, where he practiced till his appointment as First Judge of Chenango County, January 11, 1833. He was elected County Judge in June, 1847, the first person elected to that office in Chenango county under the Constitution of 1846, which made it elective. He was

a Representative in Congress from the 22d District from 1843 to 1845; and was one of the most prominent lawyers of his day in Central New York. He died March 28, 1870, aged 73. He married Prudence, daughter of Newman Gates, of Norwich, who still survives him, and is living in Norwich with her son, Dr. Charles M. Purdy. Abial Cook was a prominent cotemporary of Purdy's, and was admitted on the eighth of January of the same year.

Charles A. Thorp came from Gilbertsville in 1820, on the twelfth of October of which year he was admitted. He practiced one year in New Berlin, and from thence removed to Norwich and formed a law partnership with David Buttolph, which continued several years. He was a smart, active lawyer, and removed about 1865 to the Mississippi, below Galena, Ill., where he now resides. John Clapp, who was admitted Oct. 10, 1822, was associated in practice with Lot Clark. In their office Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson commenced to read law in 1826. Benjamin F. Rexford, whose parents had settled at an early day in Sherburne, removed thence in 1833 to Norwich, having then just completed his studies and been admitted on the 12th of June of that year. He was a prominent lawyer and stood at the head of his profession in the county. He practiced here till his death in the fall of 1872. Samuel Bostwick Garvin, whose father was an Episcopal clergyman and a fine linguist, finished his law studies with John Clapp, of Norwich, where he practiced a short time. From here he removed to Sherburne, and from there to Utica, where he enjoyed a lucrative practice. Sherwood S. Merritt was born Sept. 4, 1817, and was admitted about 1841. He was a close student and industrious lawyer, and practiced in company with Judge Purdy, and afterwards with Henry M. Hyde. He died March 16, 1869. Harvey Hubbard was born March 29, 1821, and admitted about 1822. He was afterwards in partnership with Robert O. Reynolds, who was admitted Oct. 17, 1835. He was a fine scholar and writer, and his tastes led him to prefer literature to the legal profession. He became the editor of the *Chenango Union*, and published some works of prose and poetry. He died Sept. 14, 1862. Kimball H. Dimmick was admitted about 1843 or 1844, and practiced quite extensively in the bankruptcy courts. He was appointed Brigadier-General of militia about 1848 or 1849, and raised a company for the Mexican war. He went to California and afterwards became a Judge at San Jose in that State.

Philander B. Prindle, who was admitted Feb. 13, 1835, was a man of large acquirements, an accomplished gentleman, and a safe adviser. To him all referred for facts in the politics and history of this State. He was Clerk of the Assembly in 1840, '41,

* Died April 19, 1826, aged 44.

† For further information regarding Mr. Garnsey see page 319.

'47, '48 and '49, and has been pronounced the best the State ever had. He died in February, 1868.

Henry M. Hyde was admitted about 1842 or '43, and practiced in company with George M. Smith, who was admitted June 11, 1834. He was a man of brilliant talents, a fine speaker and successful advocate. His health failing he removed to New York, or Brooklyn, and after some years died there.

B. Gage Berry was born in Norwich, Oct. 10, 1830, his father, Ansel Berry,* having removed to this town from Dansville in 1826. He was educated at Norwich Academy and Cazenovia Seminary, and in 1852 commenced the study of law with Benjamin F. Rexford, of Norwich, with whom he remained two years, and with whom he practiced one year after his admission, in 1854. Failing health induced him to go to Sing Sing, where he received an appointment as clerk in the prison at that place. After the expiration of a year, he returned to Norwich and formed a law partnership with John Wait (who was admitted Feb. 10, 1836,) which continued under the name of Wait & Berry till 1861, when Mr. Berry acquired a half interest in the *Chenango Telegraph*. In 1864 he acquired the remaining interest, and has since been its publisher, having been associated since Jan. 1, 1876, with John R. Blair, of Cambridge, N. Y. He was for four years Secretary of the New York and Oswego Midland Railroad; and for six years Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Chenango county. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Senatorial District Committee in 1862; and was Deputy Provost Marshal in 1863-'64. He has often represented his party in State conventions; was a member of the Republican State Committee in 1862; and alternate delegate to the National Republican convention at Philadelphia which nominated Grant for the Presidency in 1872. He represented Chenango county in the Assembly in 1878.

Samuel S. Randall was educated in Oxford Academy in 1823, and Hamilton College in 1824-5. From 1825 to 1830 he pursued the study of law in the office of Clapp & Clark in Norwich, and was admitted

* Ansel Berry was born in Norwich, Conn., Nov. 28, 1805. His parents died while he was in his infancy, and he went to live with his oldest sister Mrs. Nathaniel Ufford, whose family soon removed to the Black River country, thence to Onondaga county, and finally to Tompkins county. In 1826, he married Miss Lorinda Gage, and immediately removed to Norwich, where he resided till his death, July 10, 1870. Giving up the farm, he entered the establishment of David Griffing and learned the hat trade. After finishing his apprenticeship, being without means, he sought a co-partnership with Thomas Merrill, who was then engaged in the hat business at Sherburne Four Corners, and with whom, in 1830, he opened a hat store in Norwich village, continuing after the retirement of Mr. Merrill till 1854, when, other business growing upon his hands, he sold out his store. In 1856 he was elected to the Assembly from this county. He was also several times elected to the office of coroner, supervisor and village trustee. After the death of his wife, July 27, 1855, at the age of 33, he married her sister Hannah, who still survives him on the old homestead in Norwich. He had two children, both by his first wife, Edwin R. and B. Gage, the former of whom was born May 22, 1828, and died Dec. 10, 1870.

Feb. 9, 1831. After practicing several years in Pitcher, New Berlin and Norwich, in 1836-37 he was appointed deputy journalizing clerk of the Assembly. In May, 1837, he was appointed to a clerkship in the office of the State Superintendent of Common Schools, continuing in it as General Deputy Superintendent, till the fall of 1846, when he resigned on account of ill health. He returned again in the spring of 1849, after a brief absence in Virginia. In 1851 he was appointed to a clerkship in the War Department at Washington, which he exchanged in 1853, for that of City Superintendent of Public Schools in Brooklyn. In June, 1854, he was elected Superintendent of Public Schools in New York City, and held the office by successive biennial elections till June, 1870, when he resigned. In November, 1873, he was appointed Inspector of Common Schools for the Eighth School District, composed of the 22d and 24th wards, and the appointment was renewed in November, 1876.

The attorneys now practicing in Norwich village are, William N. Mason, Horace G. Prindle, Hamilton Phelps, Isaac S. Newton, Elizur H. Prindle, Deloss M. Powers, David L. Follett, David H. Knapp, Geo. W. Marvin, Calvin L. Tefft, Henry M. Tefft, George M. Tillson, Robert A. Stanton, George W. Ray, Albert F. Gladding, Charles Shumway, Edward B. Thomas, Elmore Sharpe, John W. Church, Willie B. Leach, William F. Jenks, Euclid B. Rogers, Frank B. Mitchell, Charles H. Stanton, Clarence G. Cook, George Abraham Thomas, Isaac F. Tiffany and James E. Nickerson.

William N. Mason was born in Preston, Feb. 13, 1820, and was educated at Oxford Academy. He commenced the study of law in 1838 with Messrs. Cook & Wait, of Norwich, and afterwards pursued his studies with John Wait, their successor. He was admitted in October, 1841, and entered upon the practice of his profession in Norwich that year, having since continued it here. He has been longer in practice in the village than any other attorney located here. He has held various minor offices, among them that of Justice for some twenty years, having been first elected to that office in 1850. Before the adoption of the Constitution of 1846, he was Supreme Court Commissioner and Master in Chancery. He has also held the office of United States Commissioner. He was elected Special Judge of Chenango county immediately after the law was made to apply to this county, (act of July 11, 1851,) and held that office till 1860.*

Horace Gerald Prindle was born in Newtown, Conn., Jan. 6, 1828, and was educated in the common schools of Unadilla, (to which town his parents re-

* The Civil List says he was elected in 1855.

moved in 1836,) and the Academy at Gilbertsville. He commenced the study of law in 1844, with Henry Bennett, of New Berlin, with whom he remained four years and four months. He subsequently pursued his legal studies in the office of Benjamin F. Rexford, of Norwich, where he has practiced since his admission in 1848. He was elected County Judge in 1863, and held the office continuously fourteen years. He was superintendent of Common Schools in Norwich in 1851-2, and Justice from 1852 to 1856.

Hamilton Phelps was born in New Berlin, Oct. 12, 1823, and was educated in the New Berlin and Norwich Academy. He commenced the study of law in 1844, with Charles A. Thorp, of Norwich, where he commenced practice immediately after his admission in 1848 or '9, and has since continued. He was elected Special County Judge in 1860.*

Isaac S. Newton was born in Sherburne, May 18, 1825, and received his early education at the district schools and the academy of that town. He was graduated from Yale in 1848, and that year commenced the study of law with Rexford & Newton, of Norwich, the latter of whom was his brother. He afterwards pursued his legal studies in New York city, with Nathaniel B. Blunt, and for six months in Illinois and Wisconsin. He was admitted in December, 1850, having commenced practice in Sherburne in April, of that year. In February, 1853, he removed to Norwich, where he has since practiced. He was District Attorney from 1854 to 1860.

Elizur H. Prindle was born in Newtown, Conn., May 6, 1829, and was educated at Homer Academy. He pursued his legal studies with his cousin, H. G. Prindle, of Norwich, and was admitted in January, 1854. He commenced practice in Norwich, where he has since continued. He was elected District Attorney in 1859, and held that office till his election to the Assembly in 1863. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1866-7; and was a Representative in Congress from the 19th District in 1871-3.

Deloss M. Powers was born in Norwich, Nov. 10, 1831, and educated in the Academy of his native village. He entered the Albany Law School in 1856, and was graduated there the following year. He commenced practice in 1858, in Norwich, where he has since continued. He was elected Justice to fill a vacancy in 1859, serving the unexpired term of nine months. He was for four years Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

David L. Follett was born in Sherburne, (where his grand-parents were pioneer settlers,) July 17, 1836, and educated at Cazenovia. In 1856 he commenced the study of law, pursuing his studies with Messrs. Rexford & Kingsley, of Norwich. He was admitted

in January, 1858, and in May following entered upon the practice of his profession in Norwich, where he has since continued it. Having been appointed Assessor of Internal Revenue for the 19th District of New York, he held that office until it was abolished by Congress. In 1874 he was elected Judge of the Supreme Court for the Sixth District, an office he still holds.*

David H. Knapp was born in Guilford, June 27, 1836, and was educated in the academies of Norwich and Binghamton. He commenced his legal studies in the spring of 1857, with Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich, and pursued them with him till his admission in May, 1859. He practiced the first year in Chicago and returned from thence to Norwich, where he has since practiced, having been associated from 1870 to 1874 with E. H. Prindle, and for the last two years with George W. Ray, who was also a member of the firm of Prindle, Knapp & Ray. He was Justice from 1862 to 1870; and was elected District Attorney in 1874, serving one term of three years.

George W. Marvin was born in Dryden, Tompkins county, September 22, 1829, and was educated at the Academy in Jamestown, N. Y. He commenced the study of law in 1846, with his brother, Judge R. C. Marvin of Jamestown, and after studying a year or two engaged in teaching, continuing that vocation several years. He resumed his legal studies with Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich, and was admitted in May, 1861. He then commenced and has since continued practice in Norwich.

Calvin L. Tefft was born in Edmeston, N. Y., March 1, 1852, and was educated at Winfield Academy and Cooperstown Seminary, principally the latter. He commenced the study of law about 1859, having pursued his studies for eight seasons during the intervals of teaching in Otsego county. In 1860 he entered the office of Judge Burke, of Elyria, Ohio, where he remained during the summer of that year. In 1861 he entered the office of Wait & Berry, of Norwich, continuing his studies with them till his admission in November, 1861. He commenced practice in 1862, in Norwich, where he has since continued. He was Loan Commissioner in 1864 and '5; and was District Attorney in 1866, '7, '8, and again in 1872, '3 and '4.

Henry M. Tefft was born in Edmeston, N. Y., November 30, 1839, and was educated in the academic department of Madison University and the academies at Homer and Norwich. He pursued his legal studies with David L. Follett, of Norwich, commencing in 1862, and was admitted in 1865. He commenced practice immediately after his admission, in Norwich, where he has since continued.

* His associates in this office are: Douglass Boardman, of Ithaca, William Murray, Jr., of Delhi, and Clara E. Martin, of Binghamton.

* Civil List. Mr. Phelps says he was elected in 1855.

George M. Tillson was born in Richfield, N. Y., May 7, 1841, and was educated at Cazenovia Seminary. He commenced the study of law in December, 1861, with Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich. In 1862 he entered the army as Captain of Co. K, of the 161st, N. Y. Vols., serving two years. On returning from the army he resumed his studies with Mr. Newton. He was admitted in May, 1866, and that year commenced practice in Norwich, where he has since continued, having been associated with his preceptor from 1868 to 1873. He was for four years, 1869-73, postmaster of Norwich.

Robert A. Stanton was born in Norwich, April 29, 1838, and was educated in the academies of Norwich and Oxford. He commenced the study of law in 1859, with Horace Packer, of Oxford, and afterwards pursued them with Judge Dwight H. Clarke, of that village. In May, 1861, he entered the army and served till July, 1864.* On returning from the army he resumed his legal studies with Rexford & Kingsley, of Norwich, and was admitted in November, 1865. He commenced practice January 1, 1866, in Norwich, where he has since continued. He was elected Justice in 1865, and resigned after executing the duties of that office two years. He was elected District Attorney in 1868 and served one term.

George W. Ray was born in Otselic, Feb. 3, 1844, and was educated at Norwich Academy. He commenced to read law with E. H. Prindle, of Norwich, in March, 1866, and was admitted in November, 1867, in which year he commenced practice in Norwich, where he has since continued.

Albert F. Gladding was born in Pharsalia, Dec. 9, 1842, and was educated in the district schools of his native town and Norwich Academy. He commenced to read law, August 22, 1866, with David L. Follett, of Norwich, and was admitted in May, 1869, in which year he commenced practice in Norwich, continuing in the office of his preceptor as assistant till 1874. He was a Justice one term from Jan. 1, 1872, and in 1873, was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, which office he still holds.

Charles Shumway was born in Guilford, June 10, 1847, and educated at the Academies of Norwich and Cortland, principally the former. He read law with Messrs. Merritt & Prindle, of Norwich, commencing in 1868, and after the death of S. S. Merritt, (March 16, 1869,) continued with his partner, E. H. Prindle. He was admitted in December, 1871, and

* He enlisted as Lieutenant of Co. C, in Sickles' Excelsior Brigade of U. S. Vols., which was mustered as the 72d N. Y., though it was composed of men from various States who enlisted with the expectation that the organization would be on the same footing as regulars. By this change he became a private. He was promoted to Quarter-Master-Sergeant in the 74th N. Y. Vols., to which he was afterwards assigned, in 1861; and successively to 2d Lieut., (in April, 1862), 1st Lieut., (Dec. 19, 1862,) and Captain, (March 9, 1863,) in the same regiment.

commenced practice in Norwich, where he has since continued.

Edward B. Thomas was born in Cortlandville, N. Y., Aug. 4, 1848, and educated at Cortland Academy and Yale College, graduating at the latter in 1870. During the winter of 1864-'65, he read law in the office of Ballard & Warren, of Cortland, and in the summer of 1868, with Judge Hiram Crandall. After leaving college he resumed the study of law with Judge William H. Shankland, of Cortland, and was admitted Nov. 16, 1870. He commenced in Cortland, where he remained till April 2, 1871, when he removed to and has since practiced in Norwich.

Elmore Sharpe was born in Smithville, July 21, 1844, and educated at Oxford Academy and Collegiate Institute, where he was graduated in the fall of 1866. In 1867 he commenced the study of law, devoting to it such time as could be spared from the active duties of farm life. March 26, 1871, he entered the office of Hon. Benjamin F. Rexford, of Norwich, and was admitted Nov. 15th of that year. He practiced in the office of his preceptor till the death of the latter in the fall of 1872. His principal business is that of a claim agent.

John William Church was born in Norwich, April 15, 1846, and was educated at Norwich Academy and Hamilton College, graduating in the Law Department of the latter institution in 1872. He had previously, in 1868, read law in the office of Robert A. Stanton, in Norwich, and after graduating, established himself in practice in that village. He was Deputy U. S. Marshal from 1867 to 1870; and was elected District Attorney in 1877.*

Willie B. Leach was born in North Norwich, May 11, 1851, and was educated at Norwich Academy and Cornell University from which he was graduated in 1871, in November of which year he entered the law office of Hon. E. H. Prindle, of Norwich. He was admitted in November, 1876, and commenced practice that year in Norwich.

William F. Jenks was born in Burlington, N. Y., Aug. 29, 1831, and was educated in the common schools of his native town. He commenced the study of law in the spring of 1851, with Gorham & Foster, of Burlington, and completed his studies with Cutler Field, of Cooperstown. He was admitted in August, 1853, and in the fall of that year commenced practice at Friend-

* His grandfather, Capt. John Church, who was a Revolutionary soldier, came from Newfane, Vt., about 1810, and settled in the west part of the town of Pharsalia. Being advanced in years he removed after a short time to Norwich, where he died July 13, 1824, aged 68. His wife also died there. They had two children, William H. and Hezekiah, the latter of whom removed to Addison, N. Y., and died there unmarried. William H. married Harriet D., daughter of Timothy Bosworth, and settled in Pharsalia. He afterwards removed to Norwich village, where he and his wife died, leaving five children, four of whom are living, two in this county, Caroline, wife of Albert F. Gladding, a lawyer in Norwich, and John M. Clark, the subject of the above sketch.

ship, N. Y., continuing there till the following year, when he removed to New Berlin, and from thence in January, 1875, to Norwich, where he has since practiced. He was Supervisor of his native town one year; and in 1877, was elected County Judge and Surrogate of Chenango county, which office he still holds.

Euclid B. Rogers was born in Norwich, March 1, 1852, and educated at Norwich Academy and Madison University. He read law with Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich, commencing in 1871, and afterwards with Chapman & Martin, of Binghamton. He was admitted in 1876, and commenced practice in Norwich.

Frank B. Mitchell was born in Norwich, Sept. 19, 1852, and educated at Williston Seminary, at East Hampton, Mass., and Yale College. He entered the latter institution in 1871, and was graduated in 1875. In 1875 he entered the Columbia Law School of New York and was graduated there in 1877, in the spring of which year he was admitted. He commenced practice that year in St. Louis, and after a year and a half removed thence to Norwich.

Charles H. Stanton was born in Trenton, N. Y.; entered Hamilton College in 1868, and was graduated there in 1872. He took a partial law course there, and in 1874, he entered the law office of Robert A. Stanton, of Norwich. He was admitted as attorney in January, 1878, and as counselor, in September, 1879.

Clarence G. Cook was born in Hartwick, N. Y., Feb. 19, 1853. He was educated mostly at a select school in Hartwick, and subsequently spent one year in Hartwick Seminary. Entering the law office of Luther I. Burditt, of Cooperstown, May 1, 1875, he pursued his studies there a year, and subsequently a year with James H. Keyes, of Oneonta, completing them with Isaac S. Newton, of Norwich. He was admitted as an attorney in May, 1878, and as a counselor, in September, 1879. He was elected Justice in the spring of 1879.*

George Abraham Thomas was born in Norwich, Sept. 10, 1847, and was educated at Norwich Academy and Madison University. He commenced the study of law in 1872 with H. G. Prindle, of Norwich, and was admitted as an attorney in May, 1878, and as a counselor, in 1879.

Isaac F. Tiffany was born in Knoxville, Penn., Nov. 5, 1857, and educated at Hornellsville Academy. He commenced the study of law Aug. 31, 1876, with E. H. Prindle, of Norwich, having for the two preceding years been clerk for E. P. Pellet, then and now United States Consul to Barranquilla, United States of Colombia. He completed his studies with Mr. Prindle and was admitted Sept. 5, 1879.

* He removed in the early part of October, 1879, to Richmondville, N. Y.

BANKS.—*The Bank of Chenango* was incorporated under the Safety Fund act, April 21, 1818. The petitioners for a charter were Ebenezer Wakeley, Joseph S. Fenton, John Randall, Jr., Uri Tracy and others. The charter extended to Jan. 1, 1834, and permitted a capital not to exceed \$200,000, in shares of \$50 each; but prohibited the dealing or trading, directly or indirectly, in buying or selling any stock created under any act of the United States, or of this State, or in any goods, wares or merchandise whatsoever, except such as came into the possession of the bank as security for debts. The charter designated Thompson Mead, Charles Knapp, Robert Monell, Samuel Ladd and Samuel Campbell as commissioners, whose duty it was to open books to receive subscriptions to the capital stock of said bank in some proper place in the village of Norwich on the first Monday in June following, to give four weeks' notice of the time and place of opening the books in all the newspapers in the county, to keep the books open one week, (Sunday excepted,) from ten to three o'clock each day, to receive subscriptions from all persons inclined to subscribe, and to demand and receive from each subscriber at the time of subscribing, one dollar on each share subscribed. If the number of shares subscribed exceeded four thousand, they were required, in their discretion, to make an equitable apportionment thereof among the "respectable" subscribers, having reference to the amount subscribed by each. The commissioners were constituted inspectors of the first election of directors, and were required to give at least thirty days' notice of the time and place of holding such election, and to deliver over to the directors then elected, the subscription books and the deposit money on the stock subscribed. If four thousand shares were not subscribed within the time designated, the books were to be kept open under the discretion of the commissioners until the whole number was subscribed. The total amount of debts at any time and in any manner due the bank over and above the specie then actually deposited therein should not exceed three times the sum of the capital subscribed and actually paid in over and above the specie then deposited therein, and in case of any excess, the directors under whose administration it occurred, except those who dissented therefrom, or who were not present when it occurred, in their individual and private capacity, as well as the estate of the corporation, were liable therefor. In case of their failure to pay specie on demand on any of their bills, notes or other evidences of debts, the bank was required to wholly discontinue business by way of discount and close banking operations until they could resume the payment of specie; and they were required to pay fourteen per cent. interest per annum

on all such sums as were demanded and not paid until payment in specie was made or tendered. They were not allowed to demand more than six per cent. per annum on any loan or discount. Two per cent. interest was to be paid on deposits remaining one month; three per cent. on sums remaining two months; four per cent. on sums remaining three months; and five per cent. on sums remaining more than three months.

The subscribers to stock were:—

	No. of Shares.		No. of Shares.
Benjamin Jones,*	2	Consider Comes,	5
Lot Clark,	200	Benjamin Birdsall,	150
Dan Munroe,	20	Isaac Greene,	50
Silas Read,	50	Benjamin Medbury,	50
Timothy Steere,	30	David G. Bright,	100
James Birdsall,	200	Truman Enos,	30
Nathan Chamberlin,	100	Jonathan Johnson,	200
John Noyes, Jr.,	20	H. D. Dillaye,	10
Chy. Morgan,	2	Joseph Prentis,	10
Stephen Steere,	50	Charles Walsworth,	5
Horace Dowd,	30	Robert Monell,	100
Judah Bement,	20	Thompson Mead,	200
Thomas Milner,	40	Joseph Dimmick,	10
Charles Holcomb,	4	Matthew Dimmick,	10
Daniel Root,	20	H. Mitchell,	30
Nathaniel Locke,	1	Colby Knapp,	15
Noah Ely,	100	Joel Crane,	2
Levi Farr,	20	John Sayre,	2
Cyrus Strong,	240	Frederick Sexton,	10
Samuel Pike,	20	Abiel Cady,	5
John Noyes,	80	Charles Knap,	200
Mark Steere,	100	Charles Medbury,	12
Eleazer Browning,	25	Elisha Morgan,	25
Labina C. Andrus,	5	Tilly Lynde,	50
John F. Hubbard,	5	Samuel Ladd,	25
Cyrus Cass,	5	J. S. Fenton,	100
Joseph S. Fenton,	200	Maurice Birdsall,	20
Lorin S. Fenton,	50	Waters Clark,	88
Henry Mitchell,	20	Joseph Kelso,	5
Israel Baldwin,	50	Dexter Smith,	20
Charles Josslyn,	50	Jabez Birdsley,	28
Thomas Lee,	25	Sylvester Walker,	10
Peter B. Garrisey,	100	Samuel Campbell,	10
Seth Sexton,	20	Elias Babcock,	50
David Buttolph,	50	Lot Clark,	100
John Randall, Jr.,	10	Mark Steere,	60
Chauncey S. Garlick,	2	Thompson Mead,	100
Perez Hughes,	5	Jonathan Johnson,	100
Germon Rundell,	2	John Noyes,	80

The election for the choice of directors was held at the house of Mark Steere, in the village of Norwich, July 7, 1818, and the following named persons were chosen: Charles Knap, Tilly Lynde, Elias Babcock, Jonathan Johnson, Thompson Mead, John Noyes, Henry Mitchell, Cyrus Strong, Robert Monell, Joseph S. Fenton, James Birdsall, David G. Bright and Mark Steere. At a meeting of the directors held at the same place and on the same day, Charles Knap was

* Dec. 22, 1818, these two shares were forfeited and authorized to be transferred to James Birdsall.

elected President; Matthew Talcott, Cashier,† and James Birdsall, John Noyes and Thompson Mead were appointed a Committee to procure a banking house. It was resolved to call in \$5.25 on each share of stock, to be paid on or before the 7th day of September following, and Henry Mitchell and J. S. Fenton were designated to receive the money thus paid in. September 7, 1818, by-laws and ordinances were adopted, and on that day the bank opened for business. The rate of discount was fixed at 6 per cent. on sixty days paper and seven per cent. on paper remaining more than sixty days. It was decided that one negative vote would exclude a note from being discounted, and that no director should be obliged to assign a reason for a negative vote. At this time also it was decided to call in an additional \$1.50 on each share of stock, to be paid on or before the 1st of December following.‡ October 6, 1818, James Birdsall was elected attorney. December 22, 1818, Giles Chittenden was appointed teller.§ February 9, 1819, Joshua Pratt, Jr., Henry Mitchell and D. G. Bright were appointed a committee to make contracts for building a banking house and authorized to draw on the cashier not to exceed \$4,000 to meet their contracts. July 5, 1819, the cashier was instructed to stop the payment of specie.|| March 20, 1821, a dividend of 4½ per cent. was declared. This is the first dividend recorded.¶ September 16, 1823, the office of Vice-President was created and James Birdsall was appointed to fill it.**

April 20, 1830, the capital was reduced from \$200,000 to \$120,000; and in 1856, when the third charter

* Charles Knap was succeeded in this office Dec. 1, 1828, by Thomas Miller, who resigned March 15, 1830, when Ira Willcox was elected. Mr. Willcox held the office by annual re-election, till his death, Nov. 29, 1852. Walter M. Conkey was chosen to succeed him Dec. 16, 1852, and held the office till his death, Dec. 29, 1872. George Rider was elected Jan. 12, 1871, and is the present incumbent of the office. Walter M. Conkey was born in Martinburgh, N. Y., Jan. 23, 1806, and was appointed teller of this bank in 1826, elected cashier in 1831, and president in 1852, serving it continuously in these several capacities, a period of forty-six years.

† J. S. Fenton was chosen cashier June 16, 1824, and resigned March 15, 1835, when James Birdsall was elected. Walter M. Conkey was elected Feb. 26, 1833; Wm. B. Pellet Dec. 16, 1852, holding the office till his death, Jan. 10, 1871. He was succeeded in the office by Martin McLean, the present incumbent, who was appointed assistant cashier, July 1, 1871.

‡ Additional calls for stock were made as follows: Dec. 22, 1818, \$1.50 to be paid the first Tuesday in March, \$1.50 the first Tuesday in June, and \$1.75 the first Tuesday in September following: Feb. 9, 1819, \$1.50 to be paid the first Tuesday in October, and \$1.75 the first Monday in December following: Jan. 4, 1825, two calls of 12 1-2 per cent. each, the first payable March 15th, and the second, May 16th following.

§ Walter M. Conkey was appointed teller in 1826, and John R. Conkey, Dec. 16, 1852. John E. Babcock was teller, June 12, 1866.

|| May 1, 1838, it was resolved to resume specie payments from this date.

¶ An average semi-annual dividend of about 5 per cent. was paid till 1873, with an extra dividend of 20 per cent., Jan. 1, 1850. No dividends have been paid since 1873, about which time, the capital having become impaired, the bank commenced to close the business.

** Smith M. Purdy was elected Vice-President March 15, 1830; Samuel Kent, Feb. 24, 1835; and Benjamin F. Rexford, Dec. 11, 1855. Mr. Rexford held the office till his death, in the fall of 1872. He was succeeded by David Maydole, June 10, 1873; Benadram Frink, May 9, 1874; David L. Fullett, June 8, 1875; and Joseph Wood, the present incumbent, June 13, 1876.

was granted,* it was increased to \$150,000. The bank is now winding up its business preparatory to surrendering its charter. The present officers are: George Rider, President; Joseph Wood, Vice-President; and Martin McLean, Cashier.

The National Bank of Norwich was organized under the general banking laws of the State, as *The Bank of Norwich*, July 15, 1856, at which time it commenced business. Its capital was \$125,000, divided into one hundred and twenty-five shares of \$100 each. There were thirty-nine stockholders. The first directors were James H. Smith, Jonathan Wells, Theodore Miller, Nelson B. Hale, Burr B. Andrews, Ansel Berry, Harvey Thompson, Charles Lewis, William Packer, Charles H. Wheeler and Warren Newton. Twenty-four of the original stockholders, including seven of the above named directors are dead.

June 28, 1865, it was changed from a State to a National Bank, and has since done business under its national charter.

The Bank has an unimpaired surplus of \$50,000. It has never passed a dividend. For several years it paid a semi-annual dividend of eight per cent. free of all taxes; latterly it has paid a semi-annual dividend of five per cent.

James H. Smith was the first President of the Bank and held that office till his death, May 15, 1872. He was succeeded that year by Nelson B. Hale, who also held it till his death, January 16, 1877, Jonathan Wells was the first Vice-President, and held that office till his death November 20, 1871. T. DeWitt Miller has been Vice-President since January, 1873. Warren Newton has been the cashier and business manager since the organization of the Bank.

The present directors are Warren Newton, T. DeWitt Miller, Charles Lewis, Harvey Thompson, Burr B. Andrews, Horatio H. Bellows, John Mitchell, David Maydole, B. Gage Berry, Elisha Brown and Isaac S. Newton. The officers are, Burr B. Andrews, President; T. DeWitt Miller, Vice-President; Warren Newton, Cashier.

MANUFACTURES.—Norwich is the seat of important manufacturing enterprises, though these have greatly diminished both in number and magnitude within the last few years. At the head of these stands the Hammer Factory of David Maydole & Co. This business was established in 1840, by David Maydole and Levi Ray, Jr., who commenced that year the manufacture of edge tools. Mr. Maydole, who is a native of Sharon, Schoharie county, had previously carried on the manufacture of edge tools in Eaton, where he was burned out in 1838. Messrs. Maydole & Ray continued the business together till 1847, having during the last two

* The charter was extended in April, 1829, at which time it became a State bank.

years made the common plain hammer, but not as a specialty. In 1847, Mr. Maydole commenced the manufacture of the adze-eye hammer, which is now the special feature of his business, on his own account and in his present location, employing at first three men besides himself. In October, 1848, his establishment was burned; but he immediately rebuilt on a larger scale, and with such expedition that the new works were ready for operation by the 1st of January following. A portion of that building is still standing and forms the east half of the present one, having, however, received an additional story in 1868, together with the fifty feet addition to the west end erected in 1856. Some twelve additions have been made to the buildings at different times as the demands of the business required them. The buildings are all constructed of wood, except the engine house, which is built of brick and is fire-proof. The front building is thirty by one hundred feet, three stories high, and is used for general machine finishing work. The forge shop is forty by one hundred and thirty feet, two stories high; and the engine room twenty-four by forty-four feet.

From 1847 to 1861, Mr. Maydole carried on the business alone, with the exception of three years, from 1851 to 1854, when N. B. Hale was his partner. In 1861, his son-in-law, Charles H. Merritt, became his associate, and the firm name became and has since remained D. Maydole & Co. In the summer of 1877, Cyrus B. Martin, another son-in-law, became and still continues to be a member of the firm. They employ a capital of about \$150,000.

Up to 1875 the labor in these shops was performed by hand, necessitating the employment of one hundred and twenty men. In that year machinery was introduced, which enables forty-eight men, the present number employed, to do a third more work than was formerly performed by the larger number. The principal saving is made in the forge. The various dies used are the invention of Mr. Maydole, and are patented in his name. The celebrated adze-eye hammer, though not patented, is also his invention. Some sixty-five different sorts and sizes of hammers are made in this establishment.

Previous to 1864 the machinery was propelled by water-power. In that year steam-power was introduced, and a first-class Corliss engine of sixty horse-power now furnishes the motive power.

Every part of the business is performed within the establishment, thus enabling the firm to control not only the quality of the labor but also the quality of the material which enters into the construction of these goods. In this respect they differ from most manufacturing establishments in this country, where the parts which enter into the construction of an article

are so often made specialties. Mr. Maydole's aim has been to make a good article—as good as first-class material and skilled labor can produce—and all the appointments of the establishment have been directed to this end. He has thus established a reputation for the excellence of his goods which is world-wide. His hammers are generally acknowledged to be the best in the market. This is by far the largest hammer manufactory in the country.*

J. P. & S. C. Sawyer carry on an extensive cooperage business on the west side of the canal, in the south-west part of the village, in the old piano shops. The business was started by Asher C. Scott about twenty-seven years ago, in a small building which stood on the site of the old cooper shops, a little above the present ones, on the same side of the canal, next east of Per Lec's flour and salt warehouse. Scott did business some five or six years and sold to Silas Brooks, who built the shops just located. In 1870 he sold to John P. Sawyer, who, in 1872, associated with himself as partner his brother, Samuel C. Sawyer, with whom he has since carried on the business under the above name. They removed to their present location in January, 1879, having bought the shops of Messrs. Hayes & Rider, in June, 1878. They employ from twenty to twenty-five hands, and do a general cooperage business. The capital invested is about \$20,000. The motive power is furnished by a fifty horse-power engine.

The Norwich Sash and Blind Factory, located on the east bank of the canal, and north side of East Main street, was established in 1853, by Morse & Kershaw, who continued the business ten years, when they sold to Sternberg, Hall & Co., who continued it a like period, till 1873, when Harry C. Hall withdrew, and Warren Wright, S. R. Foote, John Reddington and Orville L. Fields became interested in it. They failed in 1876, and the assignee sold the property to S. H. Hall, who carried on the business about a year, and sold to George S. Merritt & Co., who sold in 1878, to Brown Bros. & Co.,† the present proprietors.

They use a capital of about \$15,000; employ some eighteen hands, and manufacture principally sash, doors, blinds and lumber. They also manufacture sectional maps, of the copyright of which they are the proprietors. They have made and sold about 25,000 of these maps within a year, the sales being limited to three States. They have doubled their general business during the last year.

* Mr. Maydole's father was born in East Albany, and was of German descent. He served an apprenticeship at the shoe-making business. His mother was of Holland descent, a daughter of Adam Van Valkenburgh, and was born in Schoharie county. She was an extraordinary woman, of great energy, method and precision, and left the impress of her character on that of her sons, six in number, all of whom displayed the hardy energy, perseverance, method, firmness and decision which are characteristic of Mr. Maydole.

† M. D. & G. D. Brown and W. L. Scott.

The Norwich foundry and machine shop was established about 1836, by a stock company, under the name of S. W. Chubbuck & Co., and composed of Samuel W. Chubbuck, a machinist, who had charge of the business, David Griffing, Judah Bement, Hiram Weller and Hiram H. Haynes. The first shop was erected at that time, in about the locality of the present one, on the west bank of the canal, and near the bridge which crosses it on East Main street. January 1, 1838, Hiram Weller and Hiram H. Haynes, who had a hardware and tin store in the village, bought the other shares and united their hardware and tin business with this. On the 24th of May following, Ralph Johnson* bought a third interest and the name became Weller, Haynes & Co. After about two years, Mr. Johnson retired from the firm. Charles W. Babcock soon after became a member, and the name was changed to Weller, Haynes & Babcock. Mr. Babcock also retired after about two years.

February 5, 1848, Weller & Haynes dissolved partnership, the latter taking the hardware and tin business to the old Guernsey Block on South Main street, and the former continuing the foundry and machine shop. March 6th following, Mr. Weller admitted his son, H. C. Weller, to partnership, and the name became and remained H. Weller & Son till the death of the elder Weller, Oct. 28, 1851. May 6, 1853, the younger Weller sold a half interest to Horace Thompson, and the firm became Weller & Thompson. In 1857 or '58, Mr. Thompson sold back his interest to Mr. Weller, who, on the 10th of May, 1859, sold the property to Mr. Thompson and his brother, Dyer M. Thompson. The business was continued under the name of H. Thompson & Co. till the death of Horace, Dec. 13, 1876. D. M. Thompson took charge of the business as surviving partner, and bought his brother's

* Deacon Ralph Johnson, an early and prominent resident of Norwich, was born in Canterbury, Conn., April 23, 1804, and removed in 1810, with his father, William Johnson, to Norwich, where, at the age of thirteen years, he engaged to work for Col. John Randall for \$3.00 per month. Dec. 31, 1817, he entered the office of Hon. John F. Hubbard, Sr., then publisher of the *Norwich Journal*, where he spent seven years as an apprentice. From thence he went to Oxford, entering the office of Charles Hunt, publisher of the *Oxford Gazette*, remaining there about a year. In 1824 he entered the *Argus* office in Albany, and there and in Catskill he spent four years in his vocation of printer. In 1828 he returned to Norwich and formed a partnership with his former employer, Hon. John F. Hubbard, in the publication of the *Norwich Journal*, and sustained that relation some ten years, when he wholly relinquished the printing business.

April 23, 1829, he married Mary, daughter of Deacon Charles Randall. It is a singular co-incidence that their births and marriage occurred the same day, though she was the younger by two years. After leaving the foundry he was engaged for a short period with James Kershaw in the dry goods trade. In later years he was engaged at different times with his son C. R. Johnson, D. M. Homes and A. C. Latham in the hardware business, retiring about 1871 or '72 to private life. Nov. 30, 1833, he and his wife were baptized by Rev. Jabez Swan and united with the Baptist Church of Norwich, in which he was for many years a deacon, holding that office till his death, Oct. 22, 1877, aged 73. His wife died Jan. 15, 1875, aged 68. His two children, Charles R. Johnson, of Norwich, and Mary, wife of William A. Bigelow, of New York, survive him.

interest July 13, 1877, since which time he has carried on the business alone.

For a number of years after its establishment the business consisted principally in the manufacture of cook stoves and a general job work in the machine shop. After 1859 it changed to the building of steam engines, circular saw-mills and turbine water-wheels and repairs to all kinds of machinery. In 1876 iron bridge building was added, and the first bridge was finished in May of that year. This has since been a prominent branch of the business. In December, 1877, the bridge over Rexford Falls, in Sherburne, was erected by this establishment. During the summer of 1879, five similar structures have been put up by it. There are now employed in and about the establishment from ten to fifteen men.

The Guernsey Stone Mills, located on Canasawacta Creek in the west end of the village, were built in 1836, by Col. William G. Guernsey, who operated them till within seven or eight years, when they came into possession of his nephew, William B. Guernsey, who still owns them. They were leased by P. E. Davis, the present proprietor, in 1877. They contain four run of stone, which are propelled by water from the Canasawacta, with a fall of nine feet, and do a grist and merchant business.

The tannery, located on the west side of the canal, at the terminus of Mechanic street, is owned by Judge H. G. Prindle, and operated by Thomas Borland, who has leased it since January, 1876. It contains twenty-three vats, gives employment to six men, and tans about one hundred and forty sides per week. The capacity of the tannery is two hundred sides of rough leather, or eight hundred calf skins per week. The active capital employed is \$10,000. The property is worth about an equal amount.

The first tannery on this site was built in 1843, by Nathaniel Hughson and D. M. Randall, who carried on the business ten years and sold to James Isbell, who did business some five years, when the property passed into the hands of Ira Dibble, who continued the business till his death, about 1870. The property then passed into the hands of Judge Prindle.

A saw-mill was built in connection with the tannery in 1853, by Hughson & Randall, and was burned together with the tannery soon after. Isbell immediately rebuilt both saw-mill and tannery, the former of which and a part of the latter, were burned shortly before Dibble's death, and rebuilt soon after by his executor.

The first tannery in the town was built on the site of the stone grist-mill, on the Canasawacta, on West Main street, by Truman Enos, in 1806, and was operated by him till about 1830, when he built the tannery now standing just north of the old red grist-mill, which was built by Thomas Lewis at the same

time. Soon after 1843, Mr. Enos associated with himself Ephraim Moak, who is now carrying on the tanning business in Sherburne. The business was conducted under the name of Enos & Moak but a few years, when the property passed into the hands of the latter, who was succeeded in the proprietorship by John Eddy, who was formerly a tanner on Great Brook, in the south-east corner of this town, and by Simon Buell, the present owner, and a brother-in-law of Eddy's. The tannery was rented the present year (1879) by Mr. Lull, who is doing business in a small way on light work.

The tannery located on the east side of the Chango, in the locality of the covered bridge across that stream on East Main street, was built about 1863, by David Griffing, who operated it till the spring of 1872, when it came into the possession of the present proprietor, Burr B. Andrews. It contains sixteen vats, gives employment to three men, and tanned in 1878, twelve hundred hides and four thousand calfskins.

John P. Bosworth, proprietor of the cordage factory in Norwich, is a native of Pharsalia, and came to Norwich in November, 1862, from Otselic, where he commenced the manufacture of ropes in 1848. In the summer of 1867, he built his present rope walk, and has since carried on that business here. He had previously manufactured to some extent in the open air. He employs from three to six persons in the manufacture of silk, linen and cotton chalk and fish lines and bow strings, mostly light goods. His business now amounts to from \$8,000 to \$10,000 per annum, having increased from \$2,000, the amount the first year.*

The Riverside Brewery of Norwich, located on the east side of the river, was established in 1871, by A. C. Scott & Son, (Thomas,) who carried on the business till January, 1879, when it passed into the hands of M. A. Scott, the present proprietor. The building was erected in 1871, by A. C. Scott & Son. Four persons are employed, and from 1,000 to 2,000 barrels of ale and lager are made per annum.

The manufacture of pianos was once one of Norwich's principal industries. The business was established in December, 1838, by Edward T. Hayes, whose grandfather, James Hayes, from Towner's Station, Putnam county, was a pioneer settler in Guilford, in which town Mr. Hayes was born in 1812. Mr. Hayes commenced in company with his brother James, who, after about two years went to New Jersey. About 1842 George H. Lattin became his partner and continued such till his death, which occurred

* Mr. Bosworth manufactured to order the rope with which Felix McCann was hung June 6, 1879. It was composed of 414 strands of shoe thread, each of which would sustain, by actual test, a weight of eleven pounds. The rope was capable of sustaining a weight of more than two tons.

about 1863, at Summerville, Tenn., to which State he removed about 1859. Calvin M. Lewis subsequently became a partner and continued such till his death, Sept. 10, 1865. During this time — Babcock and John Slater were interested in the business, the former for a short time only. In June, 1854, George Rider became a partner, and from that time till Lattin's death the business was conducted under the name of Hayes, Lattin & Co. Sept. 5, 1854, Mr. Slater sold his interest to the remaining partners. On the death of Lattin the name was changed to E. T. Hayes & Co., and after Lewis' death, to Hayes & Rider, remaining so till Dec. 1, 1870, when Orson Pope, Alvin G. Sergeant and George W. Latimer were admitted as partners, and the name was changed to Hayes, Rider & Co. March 26, 1878, Messrs. Hayes & Rider bought out the other partners, and the name again became and has since remained Hayes & Rider.

Mr. Hayes, who during all this time has been the mechanical member of the firm, acquired a knowledge of the construction of musical instruments with Utley & Smith, of Guilford, and subsequently with Pease & Utley, of Cooperstown, with each of whom he remained about four years. The first year Mr. Hayes made four pianos. The business increased slowly till within a short time of the war, when about one hundred were made per annum. During the war it increased rapidly and for some two years six pianos were made per week, giving employment to some forty persons, most of whom were skilled workmen, and required a capital of about \$75,000.

The business was commenced in the storehouse now occupied by Smith & Mitchell as a flour and feed store, on the canal. About 1850, the shops in the south-west part of the village, now occupied by the Messrs. Sawyer as cooper shops, were built to accommodate the increased demand for their goods. These soon proved inadequate, and in 1855 the large brick building on the corner of East Main street and the East Park, which was erected about 1853 for a store, by Benjamin Slater, and occupied by him as such for a short time, was additionally fitted up and occupied as ware, finishing and varnishing rooms, the other building still being used for the rougher portions of the work. Until about 1870, all parts of the pianos were made here. From that time the *actions*, which were then made by specialists, and, therefore, cheaper, were bought in New York; and when carved legs became fashionable, they too were bought there.

In 1878, when Messrs. Pope, Sergeant and Latimer withdrew from the firm, the business had declined, and its discontinuance was then begun. At present some four or five men only are occasionally employed to finish and work up the stock on hand.

The decline in the business is attributed to unscrupulous competition, and the general financial stringency which has practically removed from the market for many this class of luxuries. This firm have aimed at excellence in the manufacture of their goods, and have produced a good article, with which they were unable to compete in prices with inferior ones sold for less money to persons who, in the nature of things, are incompetent to judge of the comparative merits of different makes.

The Norwich Blast Furnace was another of Norwich's important enterprises. It was built in 1856, on the old Samuel Hammond farm by Andrew, Rider & Co.,* who carried on the business in company till 1863, when the property was sold to Burr B. Andrews and J. & N. C. Scoville, who are the present proprietors. Mr. Andrews is a native of Stamford, Delaware county, and removed thence to Norwich in 1829. The Scovilles are from Buffalo, formerly from Connecticut. The furnace has not been in operation since 1873. When in operation it gave employment to eighteen men specifically, and directly and indirectly to about a hundred, in cutting and hauling wood, drawing coal, &c. It was burned April 21, 1869, and rebuilt the same year.

The Norwich Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Company was organized in 1873. It was a stock company, with a capital of \$30,000, all of which was paid in. Business was commenced that year in the Hayes & Rider piano factory, and was continued till 1876, under the management of E. H. Williams the first and last years, and that of N. P. Wheeler, the intermediate year—1875. Some fifty persons were employed, about half of whom were girls. The business was unprofitable and was discontinued for that reason. The stockholders have received sixty-four per cent. of their shares of stock, and have on hand the machinery, which cost about \$5,000.

George Wheeler, proprietor of the planing-mill and manufacturer of flower-stands and step-ladders, has been engaged in the business three years, the first year in company with James K. Benway and George A. Harris. Mr. Wheeler bought the property of Mrs. Jane M. Guernsey. The building was originally erected by the Lewis Brothers, who were millwrights, and sold it to William Guernsey, who converted it into a grist-mill and run it as such till about 1856, when he converted it into a planing-mill. It was and is still known as Guernsey's red mill. Lead pipe was made in the basement of the building at an early day, by—Comstock and William Randall. Mr. Wheeler makes about two hundred dozen flower-stands and step-ladders per annum. The motive power is furnished by the Canasawacta, on the east bank of

* B. B. Andrews, George L. Rider, Hascall Ransford and Ralph Johnson.

which it is situated. There is a fall in the creek of nine feet.

The planing-mill built by Sylvanus Shumway and Joseph Winsor about 1873, was continued in operation by them until March, 1879. A year or two after starting they associated with themselves Clark Shumway and Joshua Winsor. The property is now in the hands of an assignee—Deloss Fowlston.

Three firms are engaged in the manufacture of cigars, employing in the aggregate some thirty persons, and manufacturing about 125,000 cigars per month. These are John C. Taylor, who commenced business in 1869, employs fifteen hands, having been associated one year, about 1870, with Lewis A. Rhodes, and about six months in 1871 with David Pierce; Follet & Schorm, who commenced business in May, 1873, continued till 1878, when Mr. Schorm sold his interest to his partner and bought it again in January, 1879, employing some ten persons; and Willcox & Macksey, who commenced business in 1876, and employ some four hands.

The manufacture of carriages has been an important industry in Norwich. Its commencement dates from about 1840, about which time Roswell Avery and Charles Parker were doing business in a small way. Avery was located near the Bank of Chenango, and subsequently on the site of the piano factory; and Parker just east of that factory. The latter, in 1844, went to work for Major Coddington B. Brown, who commenced the manufacture of carriages that year in what is known as the old Brown shop, on the corner of Brown and Peacock streets, which was erected by him. Mr. Brown continued the business till 1860. In 1849-'50, Calvin G. Lee, who has worked here at the carriage business since 1844, was Major Brown's partner.

Horace Lettington commenced the carriage business in 1842 and continued it till 1853 or '4, when he took in as partner John Wait. In December, 1856, E. D. Baker bought Lettington's interest, and in the fall of 1859, Wait's also. In 1870, his brothers Isaac W. and Garwood became his partners, and the business was conducted under the name of E. D. Baker & Co., till the spring of 1876, when they sold to Freeman & Eastman, who did business in company three years. Eugene Eastman then bought the interest of his partner, George W. Freeman, and still continues the business. He employs some seven men, but the business has been largely increased with the same number of men by the introduction of machinery. He now makes about twenty carriages and wagons of all kinds per annum. E. D. Baker employed at one time some twelve to fifteen men in the manufacture of carriages. Freeman & Eastman succeeded E. D. Baker & Co., in the occupancy of the old stone shop,

next east of Mr. Eastman's present location, and now occupied as a blacksmith shop by D. Marion. That building was erected by Levi Ray and in it the hammer factory was first started. They removed to Mr. Eastman's present location in 1876. These buildings were erected by E. D. Baker in 1871, and enlarged by him in 1872.

A. W. Warner and Henry Snow, both of whom are dead, were engaged in the carriage business in 1842. Mr. Snow retired in 1843 and Mr. Warner continued till 1852 or '53, when he sold to Joel J. Bixby, and commenced the manufacture of spokes, which he continued some ten years. The Warner & Snow shops stood opposite the Utica, Chenango and Susquehanna Valley Railroad depot, its site being now occupied by the tracks of that road. Mr. Bixby continued the business some ten years, when A. W. Warner, who continued to hold the real estate, resumed business in company with his son Charles, continuing till about 1870, when he exchanged the property for a farm with Henry F. Bissell, who sold it to the railroad company.

THE NORWICH GAS LIGHT COMPANY.—The measures preliminary to the organization of this company are foreshadowed in the records of the Board of Trustees of Norwich village. June 9, 1860, that Board enacted the following:—

Resolved, That Nathan Randall, of Syracuse, and his associates and their assigns, if they shall have within one year from the first of July, 1860, organized themselves into a corporation under the laws of this State, to be called the Norwich Gas Company, are hereby authorized to use any of the public streets, lanes, alleys or squares belonging to the village of Norwich, for the purpose of laying down pipes or conductors of such size and materials as are most suitable for the proper conveyance of gas from the works where the gas is made in said village or vicinity to the dwellings of any and every kind in said village of Norwich at any time during the next twenty-five years after the organization of said company, and said corporation shall also be authorized at any time within the period aforesaid to use said streets, lanes, alleys and squares in repairing said pipes or conductors, in taking them up or putting down new ones, or to do any other act in the prosecution of said gas works or in the manufacture of gas, that may be necessary in the prosecution of said business, and in supplying the village and its inhabitants with gas. But said corporation shall in all cases be required to restore the streets, lanes, alleys and squares to their proper usefulness within a reasonable time, at their own expense, after using them for the purpose aforesaid.

Resolved, That said corporation when organized as aforesaid shall not charge, and this permission is granted to them on the condition that they shall not charge for their gas to exceed \$4 for 1,000 feet for resin gas, so called, made in the usual manner of making coal and resin gas, and the personal property of said corporation be exempt from taxation for the term of three

years from the organization of said company or corporation.

"Resolved, That this grant shall be null and void unless the corporation is duly organized and the work of construction commenced by the 1st of July, 1861."

Nothing was done under the provisions of this act by the persons indicated therein, and July 8, 1861, similar privileges were granted to Messrs. McDougall & Avery, of Oswego, and their associates and assigns, the conditions being that they should furnish coal gas of the best quality at not to exceed \$4 per one thousand feet, and that they should duly organize and commence the work of construction by Oct. 1, 1861, and have the works ready for use by April 1, 1862. The grant was to be exclusive so long as the conditions specified were complied with. Messrs. McDougall & Avery erected the works in the fall of 1861.* Their capital stock was \$12,000. In 1865, George Rider bought out McDougall, the rights and privileges granted McDougall & Avery July 8, 1861, having been extended to Avery & Rider, Dec. 15, 1864, subject to the same restrictions, except that they were permitted to charge not to exceed \$5 for one thousand cubic feet of the best quality of coal gas, for one year, from Jan. 1, 1865.† The business was conducted by Avery & Rider till Jan. 1, 1868, when Edward T. Hayes bought out Mr. Avery, and the business has since been conducted under the name of Hayes & Rider.

Coal gas has been used from the first. Originally four inch mains were laid. These proving inadequate to the service, in 1870, the company commenced to lay six inch mains extending parallel with the others, which are also still used. Twenty-two gas lamps are set in the village, four of which are owned by private individuals.‡ The price charged for gas is \$3 per one thousand feet.

THE NORWICH WATER WORKS COMPANY was incorporated by act of the Legislature April 21, 1871. The Act authorized the trustees of the village of Norwich "to take and lease land and water for the purpose of said company," and fixed the capital stock at \$20,000, divided into two hundred shares of \$100 each.

At a meeting of the directors held at the office of David Maydole & Co., in Norwich, Friday, Aug. 22, 1873,§ attended by Charles H. Merritt, Warren Newton, John Mitchell, Theodore D. Miller, Theodore

* At a special meeting of the tax-payers in the village of Norwich May 12, 1864, \$220 were appropriated for lighting the village lamps and supplying them with gas from May 1, 1864 to May 1, 1865. This is the first appropriation for gas recorded.

† Dec. 15, 1865, this exception relative to charging \$5 per 1,000 feet, was extended to Jan. 1, 1867.

‡ The present number of public street lamps in the village is 18 gas lamps, 30 gasoline lamps and 4 kerosene lamps.

§ This is the first meeting recorded.

Hill and Walter A. Cook, and of which Warren Newton and Charles H. Merritt were appointed chairmen, and J. F. Hubbard, secretary, it was resolved to open a book of subscriptions to the capital stock Aug. 28, 1873, at the office of D. Maydole & Co., and to keep it open ten days.

The subscribers to the capital stock, all of them residents of Norwich, were:—

David Maydole.....	50 shares.....	\$5,000
John Mitchell.....	58 ".....	5,800
J. F. Hubbard, Jr.....	25 ".....	2,500
Warren Newton.....	25 ".....	2,500
T. D. Miller.....	13 ".....	1,300
H. K. Bellows.....	12 ".....	1,200
C. H. Merritt.....	15 ".....	1,500
Theodore Hill.....	2 ".....	200

At a meeting of the directors, Tuesday, Sept. 9, 1873, at which time the stock had been subscribed, it was resolved to hold an election for five directors, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1873. Warren Newton, T. D. Miller, Theodore Hill and J. F. Hubbard, Jr., were appointed inspectors of election. The election was held at the time designated, and David Maydole, John Mitchell, Theodore D. Miller, Warren Newton and Charles H. Merritt were chosen trustees, each receiving 188 votes, the whole number cast. At a meeting of the directors held the same day, John F. Hubbard, Jr., was chosen President; Warren Newton, Treasurer; and Theodore Hill, Secretary. Feb. 2, 1874, John Mitchell, George Rider and T. D. Miller were constituted a committee to confer with Erasmus Smith and others to ascertain the prices of land for reservoir, right to draw water, and the right of way to lay water mains to the village. It was designed to obtain water from Hopkins Brook, two miles east of the village, which has an unfailing supply of pure water and at that point an elevation of two hundred feet; but difficulty was experienced in securing at a reasonable price the necessary land in the locality indicated and the project was delayed until the increasing stringency resulting from the financial panic of 1873, had the effect to induce a more conservative feeling and consequent relaxed energy on the part of the projectors of the scheme, which still remains unsummated.

HOTELS.—The first hotel on the site of the Eagle Hotel was built about 1799 or 1800, by Stephen and Asahel Steere, and was first kept by a man named Doty. It was afterwards kept by Mark Steere and subsequently for a great many years by Henry De-Forest, who was the proprietor up to the time it was burned on the morning of July 4, 1849, and for some time after it was rebuilt, until 1862, since which time there have been several different proprietors. The building burned in 1849 was known as the Eagle Tavern.

The present hotel was built in 1850, by the Eagle Hotel Company, which was formed Oct. 4, 1849, with a capital of \$11,000, divided into 110 equal shares, for the purpose of purchasing at the price of \$4,000, "the premises lately occupied by the Eagle Tavern in the village of Norwich," and erecting thereon a suitable building for a hotel and two stores, and renting and disposing of the same for the benefit of the company.* It was agreed in the articles of association that as soon as one hundred shares of stock had been subscribed by responsible persons a conveyance of the premises should be secured in the names of Henry De Forest, Theodore Miller, Ansel Berry, Augustus Stanford and Warren Newton as trustees, who were to hold the same in trust for the use and benefit of the company. The trustees were to issue certificates for stock paid in, make all necessary contracts and arrangements for building, insuring and renting the building and premises, to have the entire control and management of the premises, and to do all acts necessary to be done to further the interests of the company.†

October 5, 1849, the trustees made a contract with Smith Lane and George L. Rider to dig the cellar, build the walls, &c., for \$575. Nov. 14, 1849, Henry De Forest was chosen President‡; Warren Newton, Secretary§; and William B. Pellet, Treasurer. || March 29, 1850, a contract was made with Daniel Wheeler and Morris Allpaugh to build the hotel two stories high.¶ The stock was paid in three assessments, twenty per cent. being called for Nov. 14, 1849; forty per cent. March 29, 1850; and forty per cent. August 30, 1850. March 11, 1850, the trustees were authorized to contract a debt of \$1,000 on the credit of the company for the purpose of furnishing the hotel, the same to be paid out of the first rents of the hotel thereafter received. April 16, 1853, the first dividend, of 3½ per cent., was declared. Nov. 1, 1862, the company sold the hotel premises to Orra M. Hughson, who had previously acquired a major

* The building was to be 90 feet front and 45 feet wide, with a wing 66 feet long and 32 feet wide, the whole to be three stories high, and to have a colonnade in front.

† The subscribers to stock were Henry De Forest, 45 shares; A. Berry, Porter Wood, Theodore Miller and A. Stanford, each 5 shares; D. E. Lawrence, and Daniel F. Bisell, each 3 shares; T. Milner, Walter M. Conkey, David Pellet, William B. Pellet, John Wait, John E. Babcock, John Gile and William Tiffany, each 2 shares; Smith & Co. Hughston & Randall, Ralph Johnson, Nelson Pellet, J. De Witt Kexford, Warren Newton, John Mitchell, D. L. Sherwood, David Oviatt, David Maydole, Daniel Wait, Hiram Weller, Elijah Lewis, Samuel H. Barnes, A. Thomas, Hascall Ransford, each 1 share.

‡ John Wait was chosen President in October, 1861.

§ John Wait was chosen Secretary Oct. 4, 1852; and Philander B. Prindle, Oct. 5, 1857.

|| John E. Babcock was chosen Treasurer ———, 1850, in place of Mr. Pellet, who resigned. John Wait succeeded to the office March 22, 1852; and Henry De Forest, who had been annually re-elected President, Oct. 5, 1857.

¶ It was built three stories high.

portion of the stock.* The consideration was \$11,000, and the agreement of sale was signed by John Wait, David Pellet, John Gile, O. M. Hughson and D. L. Follett, as trustees of the company. Mr. Hughson made sundry improvements, and in 1864 added the fourth story and enlarged the building to its present size. In 1870, he sold the hotel and furniture for \$50,000, to Andrew J. Beebe and Jeremiah Medbury, who kept in company till June 5, 1876, when Mr. Beebe, the present owner, bought Medbury's interest and kept it till Sept. 1, 1879, when Martin McLean and James K. Spaulding, the present proprietors took a five years' lease of it.

The Spaulding House was built about 1826 or '28, by Corrington Lamb, for a residence. It was converted into a hotel about 1830, and kept as such for a few years and then sold to Harmon Hickok, who sold it in January, 1867, to Ira Spaulding, father of the present proprietor, Henry Spaulding, who succeeded his father at his death in May, 1878. Several additions have been made to it and it has been both raised and lengthened. Ira Spaulding had previously kept the Palmer House thirteen years.

The American Hotel was built about 1830, by Smith Miller, who kept it till his death. John Noyes, who married his widow, succeeded him and kept it till about 1850. Mr. Noyes raised it, put on a new roof, put up the pillars in front, and built a rear addition. It is now kept by M. A. Robinson, who took possession May 20, 1879. He bought of Charles M. Blivin, who kept it about nine and one-half years.

The Palmer House was built about 1830, by Nelson Carpenter and Dr. Jonathan Johnson, the former of whom kept it two or three years. It is now kept by Thomas and A. D. Murray, who leased the property April 1, 1879.

The Adams House was built by Henry Hansen, about 1870, and kept by him a short time. It came into possession of the present proprietor, Vincent L. Adams, in February, 1877, at which time he bought of Charles W. Olendorf and Mason Westcott.

NORWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT.—We are unable to state at what period the first organized efforts were made to protect the property of the village from the ravages of fire, as the village records prior to 1844 are missing. The first allusion to this subject in the minutes subsequent to that year appears under date of May 4, 1846, when it was resolved to raise \$800 for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine. May 6, 1850,

* Oct. 1, 1859, the number of stockholders was eleven, viz.: Henry De Forest, who held 61 shares; Theodore Miller and John Wait, each 10 shares; Ansel Berry, 5 shares; John Gile, 3 shares; William Tiffany, Warren Newton, David Pellet, Thomas Milner and John E. Babcock, each 2 shares; and Philander B. Prindle, 1 share. August 1, 1862, Gen. Henry De Forest conveyed to Orra M. Hughson for the consideration of \$3,985, 60 shares of stock; and August 20, 1866, William Tiffany, for the sum of \$90, sold to Hughson all his interest in the hotel property.

\$2,500 were voted for the purchase of fire engines and implements for extinguishing fires, and for necessary land to build engine houses thereon. July 15, 1852, \$750 were voted for one fire engine and necessary apparatus; \$225 for 300 feet of hose; \$55 for a hose cart; and \$100 for five wells and fixtures therefor. May 2, 1853, the trustees were authorized to raise by tax \$250 for the purchase of necessary ground for one engine house;* \$500 for the erection of a suitable engine house for one fire engine; \$150 for 250 feet of extra hose and apparatus; and \$500 for the construction of a reservoir and procuring the necessary fixtures therefor. April 24, 1854, the trustees pursuant to an Act of the Legislature passed April 28, 1847, appointed a fire company, under the name of "Deluge Fire Engine Co. No. 1."† In May, 1854, \$160 were voted to procure 200 feet of additional hose; \$30 for two fire hooks and fixtures; and \$200 for making one reservoir. May 5, 1856, \$150 were voted for implements for a hook and ladder company,‡ and the trustees were requested to appropriate \$60 of the amount in their hands to the "purchase of the reservoir," ex-

* April 11, 1850, the trustees were directed to purchase of Orra M. Hughson a lot on Locke street, for the purpose of erecting an engine-house thereon, the expense incurred thereby not to exceed \$1,000.

† The following were then constituted members of that company: Elmore D. Squires (died April 1, 1858,) John Gaylord (resigned July 7, 1856,) George W. Denalow, B. Gage Berry, James H. Sinclair (resigned Sept. 7, 1856,) Eli H. Wilcox, Asher C. Scott, Horace Lettington (resigned July 7, 1856,) Benj. F. Greenman (resigned May 2, 1856,) Smith Steere, Jr., Benjamin Frink (resigned June 3, 1854,) David N. Barber, John M. Mabie (resigned May 5, 1856,) Charles S. LaHatt, Calvin M. Lewis (resigned June 1, 1856,) Horatio Babcock (resigned Jan. 10, 1857,) Samuel R. PerLee, Clark J. Smith, Hiram C. Weller, James G. Thompson, Cephas S. Lacey, Thomas H. Lewis, John Fryer, Daniel M. Holmes, Nathan P. Wheeler, Edward Childs (resigned June 19, 1856,) Nathan B. Watkins, Albert Cary (resigned Sept. 7, 1856,) Horace Thompson, James O. Surges, Washington Stillwell (resigned Aug. 1, 1854,) Eugene Hart, Samuel S. Breed, John C. Fitch, all of whom joined Dec. 8, 1852; Wm. T. Gregg (resigned Jan. 10, 1857,) Charles B. Brooks, James Bowen, Jr., who joined Jan. 4, 1853; Benjamin Gardiner, who joined March 8, 1853; Hosea W. Avery (resigned May 2, 1854,) Wm. G. Short (expelled May 2, 1854,) Dwight Byington, who joined May 3, 1853; Moses Streeter, Samuel V. Lyon (resigned Sept. 7, 1856,) who joined July 5, 1853; Calvin Day, Jr., joined Sept. 6, 1853; Hiram D. Walsworth, joined Jan. 3, 1854; Samuel H. Barnes, A. Joel Barber, joined March 23, 1854. This company was disbanded Sept. 23, 1873, and reorganized as "Deluge Engine Company No. 1," Sept. 25, 1873. It was again disbanded April 23, 1875, and November 1st, 1875, the trustees accepted the proposition of fifty-nine individuals, who pledged themselves to work Deluge fire engine at fires under the direction of the chief engineer, or other competent authority, provided they be not compelled to attend the meetings of such or any other company except on the occasion of a fire or an alarm of fire, nor be liable to duty on parade or any public display, nor compelled to provide or wear a uniform.

‡ April 6, 1859, the members of the hose department of this company were constituted an independent organization, so far as to be governed by any by-laws they might adopt, elect their own officers, and have their own separate treasury; subject, however, at all times concerning matters of duty to the orders of the foreman of the engine company. This was rescinded April 29, 1859.

§ April 12, 1858, \$200 were voted for a like purpose, the apparatus to consist of one hook and ladder truck, one 40 foot ladder, one 30 foot ladder, one 25 foot ladder, one 18 foot ladder, two 14 foot ladders, with proper stays; and hooks, axes, bars, reels and equipage of trucks. April 28, 1858, it was resolved to organize a hook and ladder company, and certain persons named were constituted "Rescue Hook and Ladder Co." Hiram C. Weller, trustee, J. H. Sinclair, chief engineer, and one member of the hook and ladder company (not named) were appointed a committee to procure the necessary apparatus for the company. April 11, 1859, \$325 were voted to pay the balance due on the hook and ladder truck and accompanying apparatus.

cavated on the lands of George L. Rider during the winter of 1855-'6. May 16, 1857, the office of Chief Engineer of the Fire Department was created and James H. Sinclair was elected to fill it.

At a special corporation meeting held in the rooms of the Deluge Fire Engine Company January 20, 1872, and largely attended, a sum not to exceed \$5,000, was voted for the purchase of a steam fire engine. B. Gage Berry, J. F. Hill, T. D. Miller and Henry M. Knapp were appointed a committee to act in conjunction with the trustees in making such purchase. May 15, 1872, it was decided to buy of the Clapp & Jones Manufacturing Co., of Hudson, and a contract was entered into for an engine, hose cart and 500 feet of hose, for \$4,250. April 14, 1873, the trustees were authorized to construct a suitable fire alarm for the village at an expense not to exceed \$100.

The following is the organization of the department in 1879:—

Chief Engineer—George W. Ray.*

Assistant Engineer—W. B. Andrews.

Secretary and Treasurer—Norman Carr.

Steamer Co. No. 1.—Foreman, Geo. P. Bliven; Assistant Foreman, Charles Denslow; Secretary, Walter H. Marquis; Engineer, Charles H. Dimmick; total number of officers and men, 34.

Alert Hose Co. No. 1.—Foreman, A. W. Niblock; Assistant Foreman, Albert Stratton; President, William D. Allen; Vice-President, A. N. Nash; Secretary, George D. W. Mandeville; total number of officers and men, 31.

Rough and Ready Hose Co. No. 2.—Foreman, James Coleman; Assistant Foreman, R. Mack; President, J. Potter; Vice-President, C. Angell; Secretary, J. E. Macksey; total number of officers and men, 22.

Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1.—Foreman, H. C. Molson; First Assistant Foreman, G. F. Breed; Second Assistant Foreman, Charles Robbins; President, L. F. Rogers; Vice-President, Albert Garrison; Recording Secretary, Richard Newton; Financial Secretary, William Randall; Treasurer, William Johnson; total number of officers and men, 35.

The equipment of the Department consists of one steamer and attachments; a Button hand engine and attachments; four hose carts and 3,000 feet of hose, about 2,000 feet of which is rubber; a hook and ladder truck, with six ladders, two fire extinguishers, thirty-nine buckets, eleven hooks, together with ropes, picks, axes, stoves, pictures and chairs necessary for its use, all in good condition.

The water for fire purposes is supplied by reservoirs in various parts of the village, and to some extent by the canal, which has been dammed for the purpose. The tendency, however, is to construct additional reservoirs, so that the canal need not be relied upon.

* First elected Dec. 27, 1877, re-elected Dec. 27, 1878.

† This company, or one bearing the same name minus the number, was originally organized April 28, 1858; disbanded March 26, 1877; and re-organized Jan. 2, 1879.

NORWICH ACADEMY was incorporated by the Regents of the University, February 14, 1843.* The Academy was built by subscription. Between two of the subscribers there was great strife as to which should give the most. David Griffing gave \$400 and George L. Rider \$401. William G. Guernsey gave a deed of the land, December 15, 1842, the consideration being \$1,000. The Academy building was completed early in November, 1842. George L. Rider built the basement by contract; and Abram Thomas and Albert S. Tanner the superstructure. School was opened in it within a week or two of its completion.† Benjamin F. Taylor, poet, prose writer, lecturer and journalist, and who has been styled "the most brilliant word-painter in America," was the first Principal, and was then but twenty-one years of age. Harriet Dillaye, now of Philadelphia, was Preceptress. William Robinson and Miss Susan Austin (now Mrs. Harvey Hubbard,) were assistants. The successive Principals, after Mr. Taylor, were: Jarvis C. Howard, J. G. K. Truair, now one of the publishers of the *Syracuse Daily Journal*, Daniel B. Hagar, Rev. Rollo E. Page, William K. Paddock, Prof. Humphrey, Charles Hopkins, during whose Principalship a four-page paper was published, D. G. Barber, now of Oxford, John Dunlap, Rev. M. L. Ward, now president of a western college, and J. G. Williams.‡

Among the Preceptresses, in addition to Miss Dillaye, were: Miss Olive P. Rider, Mrs. Truair, Miss Eaton, Miss Bennett, Miss Buck, Miss Cazier, Miss Cushman, Miss Reed, Miss Gordon, Miss Pardee, Mrs. M. L. Ward, Miss Bump, Mrs. Hyde, Miss Jaynes, Miss Proctor, Miss Parmelee, Miss Forbes and Mrs. Snow.§

The report to the Regents in 1871 shows that 221 scholars attended the school during that year; that 73—27 males and 46 females—pursued classical or higher English studies, or both, for four months or more of that year; that the value of academy lot and buildings was \$8,400, of library, \$1,000, and of apparatus, \$798; that the value of other academic property was \$130; the total value, \$10,328; and the debts due by the academy, \$500.

* *The Norwich Union Seminary* was incorporated by the Legislature, March 16, 1837, but no school was ever organized under the act.

† "The first person who went through the Academy," says Mr. John H. Hicks, "was John Sessaions, son of the Presbyterian minister. He fell through. He started in the third story, and finished his course in the cellar."
• • • He afterwards went through in the regular way."

‡ At this period, in November, 1873, the Academy was merged in the Union Free School, and its history from that date is identical with that of the latter institution.

§ The above meagre sketch of this Academy is taken from Mr. John H. Hicks' History of Norwich Academy prepared at the re-union of March 19, 1879, and published in *The Chenango Union* of March 20, 1879. Mr. Hicks evidently labored under the same disadvantage as ourselves, in being unable to find the Academy records. A diligent search failed to reveal them.

THE NORWICH ACADEMY AND UNION FREE SCHOOL.—August 29, 1873, a meeting was held at the court house for the purpose of taking action upon the question of consolidating the four school districts, Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 8, in the village of Norwich, and the establishment of a Free Union School therein. Hon. John F. Hubbard, Jr., was called to the chair, and Isaac S. Newton and David H. Knapp were chosen secretaries. Prof. Hoose, of the Cortland Normal School, was present and advocated the change. The roll of tax-payers was called and more than the requisite one-third found to be present, and on presenting the resolution favoring the establishment of a Union School, there was but one dissenting voice. Isaac S. Newton, David L. Follett, H. H. Beecher, Orville Field and Charles H. Merritt were appointed a committee to report at an adjourned meeting nominees for a Board of Education. Sept. 1, 1873, John F. Hubbard, Jr., R. A. Stanton, D. M. Holmes, Michael Conway, John Mitchell, Warren L. Scott and O. M. Hughson were reported as such Board, and were organized as such Nov. 5, 1873. John F. Hubbard, Jr., was elected President,* and R. A. Stanton, Clerk. At the latter date Messrs. Holmes, Scott and Hughson were appointed a committee to confer with the trustees of Norwich Academy with reference to the transfer of the academy to this Board. Nov. 10, 1873, William S. Hewitt was appointed Treasurer.† A committee of the trustees of the Academy, consisting of B. G. Berry, Dr. H. H. Beecher and C. L. King, informed the Board that the trustees of the Academy would transfer to it the property of the Academy, on condition that the Board assume the obligations of the Academy, estimated at \$3,200, to which the Board assented.

November 17, 1873, it was decided that the schools to be organized by this Board be called collectively "The Norwich Academy and Union Free School," and divided into four departments, to be known as the academic, senior, junior and primary. Messrs. Ward, Record, Holmes, Hubbard, Hughson and Stanton were appointed a committee to grade the scholars.

December 32, 1873, increased school accommodation being needed, Messrs. Holmes, Hughson and Mitchell were appointed a committee to fit up the third story of the academy for that purpose.

January 31, 1874, James McCaw was appointed collector, an office to which he has been annually re-elected.

* April 1, 1874, Mr. Hubbard resigned as President and member of the Board. Sept. 18, 1874, H. N. Walter was appointed to fill the vacancy. Nov. 4, 1875, John Mitchell was elected President, and was re-elected Oct. 17, 1876, Oct. 16, 1877, and Oct. 15, 1878.

† Mr. Hewitt was annually re-elected and held the office till his death. He was succeeded by Albert C. Latham, who was appointed June 26, 1878, and still holds the office.

May 19, 1874, it was resolved to employ a general superintendent, an assistant superintendent, a preceptress of the academy, four female assistants, four female teachers of the junior department, and three female teachers of the primary department. The records do not show definitely just what the management had hitherto been.

April 24, 1877, Prof. H. L. Ward and Mrs. Ward presented their resignations as superintendent and preceptress, offices which they had respectively held from the organization of the Free Union School. They were succeeded in those offices by Prof. S. H. Albro and wife, who are the present incumbents.

The rates of tuition per term to non-resident pupils, as adopted June 23, 1879, are:—

Primary Departments.....	\$3 00
Junior ".....	4 00
Senior ".....	4 50
Higher English.....	5 50
" Mathematics and Sciences.....	6 50
Ancient and Modern Languages.....	8 00
Drawing—Private Lessons.....	3 00

From the report to the regents for the academic year ending June 20, 1879, we glean the following particulars:—

SCHEDULE OF ACADEMIC PROPERTY.

Value of academy grounds.....	\$3,000 00
" " buildings,*.....	4,000 00
" " library,†.....	1,292 14
" " philosophical apparatus,‡.....	600 00
" " tuition bills uncollected.....	50 25
" " furniture not fixtures.....	500 00
Cash in hands of treasurer at date of report,	333 42

Debts and incumbrances, June 20, 1879..	\$9,775 81
Academic property, less indebtedness.....	79 61
	\$9,696 20

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 20, 1879.

Received from tuition collected or considered collectable.....	\$351 25
Received for apportionment from literature fund.....	301 26
Received from local taxes.....	275 00

	\$927 51
Paid for salaries of teachers....	\$2,000 00
" " repairs of buildings or other academic property..	3 58
Paid for fuel and other incidental expenses.....	60 00
" " janitor.....	50 00
	\$2,113 58
Excess of expenditures over revenue.....	\$1,186 07

*The academy building, which is a wooden structure, in good repair, contains three study rooms, each capable of seating 100 pupils, with recitation rooms adjoining each, together with a library room and the office of the principal. The furniture is from the shops of the Sterling Manufacturing Co. and is nearly new.

†The library contains 1,255 volumes, the original cost of which was \$1,338.03. It is in good condition and proper cases are provided for its preservation.

‡The philosophical apparatus originally cost \$1,182.67, and is in good condition.

Two male and one female teachers are employed in the academic department of the Union School, viz: S. H. Albro, A. M., who was educated at Brown University, has spent thirteen years in teaching, is principal, and receives a salary of \$1,500; R. C. Albro, who was educated at East Greenwich Seminary, has taught ten years, is preceptress, and receives a salary of \$700; and H. Blodgett, A. B., who was educated at Yale College, has taught two years, is teacher of classics, and receives a salary of \$800.

The whole number of scholars taught during the year ending June 20, 1879 (in the academy,) was 109, of whom 45 were males and 64 females, and whose average age was 16.4 years. The number and average age of academic students at that date, or enrolled during part of that year, who were claimed by the trustees to have pursued for four months or more, classical studies, or the higher branches of English education, or both, after having passed the preliminary academic examination was: males 24, females 31, total 55; average age of both males and females, 17 years. The number of scholars pursuing classical studies during the year was 50, of whom 24 were males and 26 females. The number preparing for college was 10.

Rates of Tuition—Common English Studies, per year, \$18.00; Mathematics and Higher English, \$24; Classical, including the preceding, \$27.

The academic year consists of three terms, of thirteen, fourteen and thirteen weeks respectively.

Present officers—John Mitchell, President; W. F. Jenks, Secretary; A. C. Latham, Treasurer; John Mitchell, W. F. Jenks, J. F. Hubbard, M. Conway, N. D. Wheeler, J. G. Thompson and D. M. Holmes, Trustees.

Standing Committees—On Preliminary Academic Examinations, George A. Thomas, Lucy Jennison, Agnes McCaw; On Visitation of Academy, John Mitchell, J. G. Thompson, J. F. Hubbard, D. M. Holmes; On Advanced Regents' Examinations, Charles H. Stanton, John H. Hicks, A. B. Packer.

CHURCHES.—The first religious services in the town of Norwich are conceded to have been held by Manasseh French, a Baptist minister, who located here as early as 1793 or '4, but remained only a few years. The next minister who came into the village was Elder Elisha Ransom, also a Baptist, who remained only a few months and afterwards settled in Plymouth, where he died August 17, 1818, at the age of 72 years. About 1798, Rev. John Camp came to Oxford and soon after gathered together the Associated Presbyterian Church of that village, to which he ministered about three years. He was for several years employed by the people of that village and Norwich, without regard to denomination, and preached alternately in the two villages. His labors ended about

1806, and for several years thereafter only occasional services were held in the village by some missionary or Methodist preacher who chanced this way. Very few of the settlers were religious people, and as there was no Church organization, those who had been professors meeting with no sympathy, soon relapsed into worldliness.*

In the fall of 1812, Rev. Jonathan Haskell, a Baptist, from Oneida county, who had been in the place a few times previously, visited the village and stopped at the house of Mr. Enos, who engaged the ball-room of the tavern, the "old yellow house" kept by Benjamin Edmonds, now the residence of Dr. Charles M. Purdy, No. 138 Broad street. Mr. Haskell preached there the following Sunday to a good congregation; and after the services a consultation was held which resulted in his being hired for a year, on a salary of "\$300 in money and produce." Mr. Enos carried the subscription paper up and down the valley and raised the amount, contributions being made alike by professors and non-professors. The labors of Mr. Haskell soon developed an organized effort on the part of the people for the support of the gospel. On the 26th of June, 1813, a meeting was held in the Court House in Norwich, and *The First Congregational Baptist Society of Norwich* was organized.†

* Revs. David Harrower and Joel T. Benedict, who visited this locality as missionaries in the employ of the Missionary Society of Connecticut, the former in 1812, and the latter in 1814, bear testimony to the irreligion which prevailed among the settlers in this town. Mr. Harrower wrote to the Society under date of Nov. 27, 1812, as follows: "Rode to Norwich village, about ten miles (from Oxford.) The village is very beautifully situated, and with the vicinity might form a large congregation. By information, religion is here in a very low state." Two days after he wrote: "The assembly here was small, though the place is populous. Finding the restoration scheme prevailed in this place, I preached twice on the eternity of future punishment. The inattention of the people so discouraged me that no evening appointment was made. In this I now think that I was too faithless." Dec. 8, 1813, he writes more hopefully: "The day was stormy, and therefore I only rode eight miles to the village of Norwich. In the evening I preached. The assembly was small, but they gave excellent attention. There are some hopeful converts in this place since I visited them before. There is a praying female society recently formed here, and I cannot but hope that the Lord will visit this people." Mr. Benedict writes under date of April 6, 1814: "In company with Mr. Harrower, rode eight miles to Norwich. On the earnest request of some of the inhabitants we tarried, and I preached in the evening to a large and solemn assembly. The epidemic [spotted fever] is prevailing here to a great degree, and is very mortal. We visited several families; conversed with the heads of families who had recently obtained a hope of reconciliation to God. They appear to be truly humbled, and received instruction with great delight. Gave some pamphlets to individuals. A Mr. Fenton gave to the Society \$1.00." Later in the same year Mr. Benedict wrote: "In the shire-town of the county of Chenango, called Norwich, for years past the greatest stupidity, and an almost total indifference to divine things prevailed, and the Sabbath was wholly neglected. During the last winter and spring the Lord remarkably owned the labors of missionaries in that place. I organized a church there in June, consisting of twenty members, and on the Sabbath the audience was large: nearly four hundred persons attended. It is impossible to describe the alteration that has taken place there within a short time for the better."—*Hotckin's History of Western New York, and History of the First Congregational Church of Norwich.*

† Jonathan Haskell and Stephen Seiere were the presiding officers of this meeting; and John Randall, Samuel Hammond, Casper M. Rouse, Hascall Kansford, Asa Norton and Truman Enos were chosen trustees of the society. This action was acknowledged before Asa Norton, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Chenango county, July 5, 1813, and recorded July 8, 1813.

*The Baptist Church and Society of Norwich**—

August 13, 1814, a few who entertained Baptist sentiments assembled at the house of Elder Jedediah Randall for the purpose of forming a church of that denomination. Elder Randall was chosen moderator and Reuben Nichols clerk, Elder Randall, Jonathan Haskell, John Randall and Beriah Lewis were appointed a committee to draw up articles of faith and covenant which were presented and adopted at the next meeting, August 18th following, by Beriah Lewis, John Randall, Jedediah Randall, Jonathan Haskell, Elias Breed, Thomas Prentice, Reuben Nichols, Lois Lewis, Lois W. Lewis, Mary Norton, Anna Nichols, Huldah Welch, Anna York, Elizabeth R. Breed,† and P. Brushel. Feb. 11, 1815, they voted to invite the churches in North Norwich, German, Preston, Pharsalia and Brookfield to sit in council March 1st, for the purpose of receiving them into church fellowship. The council convened March 1, 1815, at the house of Elder Randall, and was composed of the following delegates: Elder Jonathan Ferris, Deacon James Purdy, James Anderson, Jacob Grow and Deacon Isaac Ferris, from North Norwich; Nathan Noyes, Hugh Smith, Isaac Willcox, Dudley Williams, Gershom Noyes and Richard Smith, from Preston, Lodowick Weaver and Benjamin Lamphier from Pharsalia; Elder John Lawton, Edward Southworth and Ebenezer Wakeley from German; and Daniel Maine, Thomas Dye and Luther Hinkley from Brookfield. Elders Elisha Ransom and Jonathan Haskell being present were invited to sit with the council, of which Jonathan Ferris was chosen moderator and Nathan Noyes, clerk. After examination of the articles of faith and covenant they were admitted to fellowship.

The church worshiped in the dwelling of Eld. Randall and in the hall of the house now occupied by Dr. C. M. Purdy, which was then a tavern, till 1817, when they built a house of worship on the east side of the public common in Norwich village, where they worshiped till August, 1845, when the building was consumed by fire. Their present church edifice was then nearly completed, and was dedicated November 1st, of that year.‡

* The Society connected with this church was organized at the court house, August 12, 1814, as *The Baptist Church and Society of the Village of Norwich*. Jedediah Brown and Elias Breed were the presiding officers, and Hascall Kansford, Thompson Mead, Charles Mead, Hezekiah Brown, Thomas Prentice, Elias Breed, Isaac Slater, Lot Clark and Asa Norton were elected trustees.

† Elizabeth R. Breed, the last of the constituent members of this church, died Oct. 22, 1868, aged 84. Her funeral was attended from her former residence by Rev. John D. Pope, who had just settled as pastor. She survived her husband, Elias Breed, also one of the constituent members, several years. He died Dec. 6, 1849, aged 67.

‡ After worshiping in the house on the common more than a quarter of a century, the church, feeling the need of a new one, and also that a new location was desirable, purchased of Thomas Milner, for \$1,500, the site on which the present stone edifice was erected, at a cost of about \$9,000, which was then considered a large sum. John Duncan preached the dedicatory sermon. After worshiping in this latter building twenty-three years, it was repaired and improved at an expense, including the organ, of \$11,000, and Nov. 1, 1868, it was re-dedicated, J. D. Pope, the newly-settled pastor, preaching the dedicatory sermon. On the settlement of the present pastor, at his suggestion, nearly \$1,000 were expended in improving and making more attractive the rooms in which Sunday-school and prayer meetings are held.



The first pastor was Elder Jedediah Randall, who served them till 1822, when Elder Silas Spaulding was called to the pastorate, and served them till 1829. During Elder Randall's pastorate, he received an injury by which his left arm became paralyzed, so that he was unable to administer the ordinance of baptism, and was, therefore, under the necessity of calling upon his neighboring brethren to officiate.

Elder Spaulding was succeeded in the pastorate by Jabez S. Swan, to whom a call was extended Feb. 23, 1829. The compensation offered him was \$250 per year and his firewood. He accepted the call May 9, 1830, and continued his labors till October, 1837, when, at his earnest request, his resignation was accepted. His salary in the meantime had been increased to \$600 per annum. Elder Swan was succeeded in the order named by Alonzo Wheelock, Leland Howard, Charles T. Johnson, John Duncan, who served them from 1845 to 1847, Marsena Stone, from 1847 to 1853, Lyman Wright, A. N. Benedict, R. A. Patterson,* J. D. Pope, and Lucius M. S. Haynes, the latter of whom is the present pastor, having entered upon his pastoral labors in September, 1873.

The church has thus been served by thirteen pastors, four of whom are dead.†

January 2, 1819, Charles Randall and Ira Noble were elected deacons. This is the first record of the election of any one to that office. Deacon Noble soon after left, and Thomas Prentice succeeded him in that office. Both Randall and Prentice served till old age and infirmities compelled them to relinquish the labor to others.‡

Miss Martha Randall was the first person baptized in this church. The ceremony took place in 1815.§ Charles Randall was the second male person baptized, January 17, 1817. He afterwards became a deacon. The first male person baptized was Amos Brush, January 10, 1817. He is still living, aged 81 years. Mrs. Elijah Lewis, now living at the age of 82 years, was baptized Oct. 7, 1816. This is the earliest baptism of any member now living.

The earliest recorded case of discipline bears date of July 11, 1819. James Lane was called to account

* R. A. Patterson, who was ordained by the church March 10, 1859, is the only pastor it has called to ordination.

† Jedediah Randall, who died Feb. 22, 1844, aged 86; Charles T. Johnson, who died March 7, 1849, aged 31; Leland Howard, who died May 6, 1870, aged 77; and Alonzo Wheelock, who died Feb. 7, 1873, aged 69.

‡ Deacon Randall died April 1, 1872, aged 92; Deacon Prentice, Nov. 22, 1865, aged 79; and Deacon Noble, July 16, 1847, aged 66.

The others who have served the church as deacons are: Samuel Pike, who died Jan. 28, 1837, aged 52; Orris Hamilton, who died March 17, 1865, aged 60; Anson Mead, who died Feb. 25, 1870, aged 65; Charles York, who died April 10, 1873, aged 79; D. M. Randall, Ralph Johnson, who died Oct. 22, 1877, aged 73; Hiram Hale, Thomas H. Prentice, J. S. Shattuck, Loring D. Bacon, John R. Hamilton, Warren Wright, Hamilton Phelps, D. M. Holmes, A. C. Latham, H. N. Marenus.

§ She died Sept. 19, 1862, aged 92.

for playing ball, "to the grief of the church." He acknowledged the offense, said he would do so no more, and the church voted satisfaction.

Ten young brethren have entered the ministry, viz.: Ralph M. Prentice, Roswell R. Prentice, Harvey E. Knapp, Seth D. Bowker, Lyman Fisher, Stephen Keyes, Jr., Oliver Fletcher, J. C. Seeley, James H. Sage and Charles H. Johnson. Three of these fell in the prime of life, in the midst of their usefulness, Ralph M. Prentice, Harvey E. Knapp and Stephen Keyes, Jr. Knapp married Eunice R. Keyes, both of whom went as missionaries to Aracan, Oct. 4, 1849. But their stay in their chosen field of labor was brief. He died November 9, 1853, aged 33, and his wife, May 24, 1851, aged 26.

Following is a statement of the membership from the organization of the church:—

Number of constituent members.....	15
" joined by baptism.....	1,323
" " letter.....	596
" " experience.....	36
Number joined since the organization.....	1,970
Number dismissed by letter.....	760
" died.....	316
" disfellowshipped.....	135
" dropped.....	2
	—1,213

Number restored..... 757
26

Present number of members*..... 731

The First Congregational Church of Norwich.—About 1812, ministers of the Congregational church in the employ of the Missionary Society of Connecticut, began to visit this place and hold meetings. Prominent among these were Revs. David Harrower and Joel T. Benedict, under whose faithful labors and the zeal of the little band of believers, the *First Congregational Church of Norwich* was organized on the 19th day of June, 1814, by Joel T. Benedict, with twenty-one members,† six of whom were baptized. The meeting was held in the court house, and Revs. John B. Hoyt and Elisha Ransom assisted in the ex-

* These data are obtained from a history of the church prepared and printed in 1874, supplemented by a statement of the changes since that year, furnished by the Church Clerk. It is proper to state that the church reported to the Association in 1879 a membership of only 597. Whether this discrepancy is due to an error in the statement of 1874, or to the incompleteness of the records, we are unable to state; probably, however, to the latter.

† Tracy Ensworth, Sr., and Elizabeth, his wife, John Ambler and Ruth, his wife, Joseph Kelso and Esther, his wife, Elijah Chamberlin, Levi Ray, Sr., and Tryphena, his wife, Joseph S. Fenton and Sarah T. Brush, his wife, Truman Enos and Lendy Thrall, his wife, Prudence, wife of Josiah Dickinson, Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Snow, Bridget, wife of Ephraim Wells, Hannah Snow, wife of John Randall, Adocia, wife of Judge Elisha B. Smith, Mrs. Phebe Brewer, Betsey Miller and Polly Brisbee, afterwards the wife of Friend Thrall, and Frederick Hopkins, Sr.—seven males and fourteen females. The greater part lived in the village, but some on Great Brook, in New Berlin, and some in Preston. They are all dead. Father Enos—the first and the last—died May 11, 1869, aged 91. His wife lived less than a year after. She died April 29, 1815, aged 35.

ercises, the latter conducting the examination of candidates, which was very thorough.*

On the organization of the Church, Elijah Chamberlin and Tracy Ensworth, Sr., were chosen its first deacons.

For three or four years the Church had no settled pastor. The Sunday services in the absence of a missionary, consisted of a sermon—often one of Payson's—read by Mr. Fenton or David Buttolph, and were generally held in the two-story academy, which was torn down to make room for the stone house, No. 286 Broad street, corner of Mitchell, now the residence of John Mitchell. "Sometimes," says Mr. Johnson, "it was locked against them by a 'little pesky teacher,' thought to have been Noah Hubbard, who loved to annoy them for their strong doctrines about the future state."† The weekly prayer meetings were held in the large kitchens of Mr. Enos and Mr. Fenton. For much of this time the Church was supplied with preaching by the Missionary Society of Connecticut, which, with other local societies, became in 1826 the American Home Mission Society. At such times the services were generally held in the Court House. Among these supplies were: Revs. Asa Messer, who stayed about nine months; Wm. M. Adams, who was the first regularly hired minister of this Church, but was only a licentiate at the time; Benjamin Bell, Norris Bull, who came probably some time in 1819; and



(Wood Church—Dedicated July 14, 1819; Burned February 2, 1858.)

Ezekiel J. Chapman, brother of Benjamin Chapman, of this village.

In the summer of 1816 measures were taken to secure the erection of a Church edifice. Messrs. Enos and Fenton were appointed a committee to raise the necessary means, and during the summer and fall, "scoured the whole township, taking money or produce of any kind—anything that a man could give." Joel Atkins was engaged to draw the plans and superintend the work, which was performed by William Wait and Josiah Dickinson.*

April 22, 1817, Peter B. Garnsey and Polly, his wife, in consideration of \$260, deeded to the trustees

the land on which the church was built, and which is covered by the eastern third of the present brick church. The frame was raised in July of that year, and notice having been sent, a large number congregated from all quarters to assist, and enjoy the sport which always followed—a wrestling match. The church was completed in 1819 and dedicated July 14th of that year.† The services were imposing for the time, and the attendance from the surrounding country was very large.

* The following advertisement appeared in the first number of the *Norwich Journal* published Thursday, Nov. 21, 1816, and was kept until Jan. 20, 1817:—

"NOTICE.—The subscriber will receive, in the village of Norwich, any time between this and the first of February next, lumber of the following description, on subscription for the Presbyterian meeting house, to wit: clear stuff boards, of one inch, and one inch and a quarter thick, and the first rate shingles; well seasoned boards at twelve dollars per thousand, green at ten dollars per thousand—for shingles, one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand. All those who can deliver the lumber immediately are requested to do so.

"Norwich, Nov. 21, 1816.

WILLIAM WAIT."

February 5, 1817, the same paper contained the following:—

"NOTICE.—Is hereby given to each of the subscribers to the *Congregational* meeting house in this village, as contracted to pay in lumber, that the following prices will be allowed for that which shall be delivered by the first of March, viz: for

" Clear stuff seasoned, pine boards,	\$12 per m.
" " " clapboards,	10 "
" Common boards,	5 "
" First rate shingles,	1.75 "

"Norwich, Feb. 5, 1817.

"J. S. FENTON,
In behalf of the Trustees."

† On the day of the dedication there remained a debt of \$600. Mr. Enos and Mr. Fenton had each given \$500, and, in Mr. Enos' own words, "everybody had given all they could afford, and we among the rest, but we agreed to divide the amount between us, and the building was dedicated free of debt."

The building was a plain wooden structure, and stood with the gable-end to the street. It had a substantial stone foundation rising to about six or seven feet above the ground. The back and sides were clapboarded; the front was ceiled and relieved by four pilasters extending from the foundation to the cor-

* The society connected with this church was organized at a meeting held in the court house July 15, 1816, as *The First Congregational Society of Norwich*. Truman Enos and Joseph Kelso were presiding officers, and they, together with Joseph S. Fenton, Elijah Chamberlin, Ephraim Wells and James Pearsall were elected trustees.

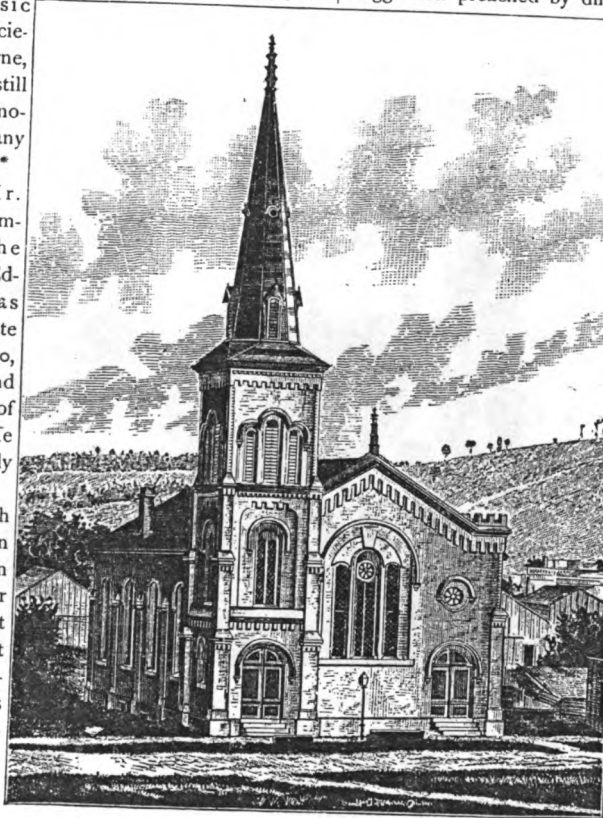
A society had been previously formed under the labors of Rev. John Camp, but it is not known that there was any church in connection with it. This was *The First Associated Presbyterian Society and Congregation in the Town of Norwich*, organized at the house of Deacon Elisha Smith, Oct. 30, 1800. Mr. Smith was grandfather of the Smiths in "The Quarter," and had been deacon of a church in Connecticut. His house stood on the south-east corner of the present West Park. Stephen Collins was chosen moderator of the meeting and Silas Cole, clerk. The trustees elected were: Stephen Collins, John Welch, Benjamin Edmunds, Nathan Parker, Phineas Wells and William Smith.

† *History of the First Congregational Church of Norwich*, by C. R. Johnson, the Church Clerk from which this sketch is prepared, and to which we commend the reader who desires details which the scope of this work does not contemplate.

Several ministers were present and took part in the exercises; among them were Rev. John Truair, then pastor of the church in Sherburne, who preached the dedicatory sermon; Rev. John Smith, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Cooperstown; Rev. Luther Clark, probably a missionary, who supplied the church for a while after the dedication; Rev. Edward Andrews, afterwards pastor of the church; and Rev. John B. Hoyt, then stated supply at Greene. The music was furnished by Societies from Sherburne, which then and still enjoys an enviable notoriety for its many excellent musicians.*

Succeeding Mr. Clark's brief stay immediately after the dedication, Rev. Edward Andrews was called to the pastorate in April or May, 1820, and was ordained and installed on the 28th of June following. He was the first regularly settled pastor.

Originally the church united with the Union Association,† but when is not known. After the dissolution of that body, Feb. 20, 1822, it united with the Presbytery of Otsego, but this date is equally uncertain. The Presbytery of Chenango was formed May 29, 1826, and at its first meeting held



(Brick Church—Dedicated June 16, 1862.)

nice. The roof was shingled and the steeple arose from the ridge over the front. Entrance to the building was had by a wide flight of steps to large double doors in front, which opened into a vestibule, and this in turn opened at the right and left into the audience room. On each side of this room, east and west, was a row of pews next the wall, with aisles between them and the two rows of body pews in the center. The pews were of the old-fashioned "box" style, with doors, and showed little more than the heads of the persons sitting in them. The pulpit was at the north end of the room, between the entrances. A gallery extended around the three other sides, and was seated like the floor below, except that the back row of seats was raised. A room for Sunday school and prayer meetings was afterwards made as a basement, the floor being carried about three or four feet below ground. This room occupied about two-thirds of the basement, on the south side. The rest was used as a cellar and wood room, a few feet being partitioned off from the west side for an entry-way to the seasion-room. Entrance to this was had by a door cut through the foundation wall at the front of the building, near the north-west corner. All the woodwork of the building was painted white, except the molding on the tops of the seats, which was stained to imitate rosewood. At the time it was erected it was undoubtedly, says Mr. Johnson, the finest building anywhere in the vicinity.

* This choir was a very large one and occupied the gallery at the south end of the church. "Its performances," says John F. Hubbard, Sr., in the

in Oxford, June 29, 1826, this church, through its representative, Jeduthan Hitchcock, applied to be, and was received to membership on the union or accommodation plan.‡

October 25, 1826, Mr. Andrews requested the Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relation with this church, to take effect November 30th. The request was granted, and Sunday, December 3, Rev. Ambrose Eggleston preached by direction of the Presbytery,

and declared the pulpit vacant. The Presbytery also appointed Rev. Asa Donaldson to supply the pulpit during December and January, following. About the middle of January, 1827, Rev. Peter Lockwood came as a candidate, and began to preach on the usual three months' trial. He remained till about the middle of May, accepted a call, and was to have been installed in July following, but while he had returned to Stamford, Conn., for his family and goods, a factional feeling which had sprung up in the church before Mr. Andrews left developed such an opposition to his settlement that he refused to remain. These factions remained in the church for nearly four years, and prevented

Norwich Journal, of which he was then editor, "is said to have equalled the concerts of New York." It was led by Mr. Hastings, "that excellent teacher of sacred music," who, it was said by one who witnessed the services, "had very white hair, and skipped about from one end to the other of his charge with great agility." He was an Albino, and later in life became the noted Dr. Thomas Hastings, the composer of much of the sacred music now used in the Christian churches throughout the world, and the author of many of our best hymns. He died in New York city, May 15, 1872, aged 87.

† The Union Association was formed by division of "The Onondaga Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches," in Sept., 1808, and held its first meeting at Madison, June 13, 1809. The latter association was formed in 1800, and was the first body of the kind on the New England plan in Western New York.

‡ This plan of Union between Presbyterian and Congregational churches was devised in 1795 by John B. Smith and Eliphalet Nott, the first and second presidents of Union College. After revision, it was adopted by the General Association of Connecticut and the General Assembly of New York, in 1801. On this plan, with more or less modification, all the Congregational churches in Western New York, in time, united with Presbyterians. The plan on which this church joined the Presbytery of Chenango was that the decisions of the Presbytery were binding on the church, which was entitled to representatives with all the privileges of ruling elders. The church was to manage its own internal concerns, but was required to keep records and submit them annually to the Presbytery for inspection and revision. In trying cases from the church, the Presbytery was bound by the rules of the church.



the settlement of a pastor. They were finally united under Mr. Bogue. Rev. Lyman S. Rexford next occupied the pulpit, probably late in 1827, or early in 1828, but he was not installed, and when his labors ceased is not known. In the report to the Presbytery, Sept. 10, 1828, the pulpit was reported vacant.

September 8, 1829, the church obtained permission from the Chenango Presbytery to extend a call to Rev. Horace P. Bogue, a member of the Otsego Presbytery, and pastor of the church at Butternuts. He came to Norwich in the latter part of December, received a call on the 2d of February following, and was installed on the 24th of that month. He continued to hold the relation of pastor to this people till April 28, 1833. He was succeeded June 9, 1833, by Rev. Seth Williston, who served them till Sept. 10, 1834, as stated supply. Succeeding his removal the church underwent extensive repairs, which were completed in 1835.

October 12, 1834, Rev. John Sessions entered upon his labors with this church, and was installed pastor Feb. 18, 1835. Mr. Sessions was a rigid Presbyterian; and at his installation, the

Presbytery, by request of the church, constituted a session, and the church became fully Presbyterian. This action resulted in serious trouble and caused wounds which were never entirely healed.* The church grew, however, during this pastorate, in spite of this unfavorable state of feeling. Mr. Sessions closed his labors May 1, 1842. He was succeeded about Sept. 1st, 1842, by Aaron R. Livermore, a licentiate of Hampden Association, Mass., who served the church as stated supply till about the 1st of April, 1842, when ill health compelled him to leave. From Jan. 14, 1844, to Feb. 9, 1844, Rev. Seth Williston again supplied the pulpit, and the next Sunday, Feb. 11, Rev. Wm. M. Richards began to serve the church as stated supply. He was a Congregationalist, and strongly anti-slavery, "which made it impossible at that time for the church to be

* The most prominent of these disaffected ones was Truman Enos, who was a strong Congregationalist. He withdrew and joined the First Church at Sherburne, and nearly every Sunday drove to that village to attend service. He remained a member there until 1859, when he returned to this church.

united on him." He closed his labors May 9, 1845. A call was then extended to Rev. Charles P. Jennings, but the church not being "homogeneous in doctrine," he refused to accept it, yet came as stated supply in July, 1845, and remained till January 1, 1847, when sickness compelled him to give it up.

About the first of June, 1847, Rev. Daniel Clark, Jr., came to the village as agent of The American Education Society. At a meeting of this church and Society, June 15, 1847, he was unanimously elected pastor. The call was accepted and he was installed on the 6th of July following. Aug. 19, 1851, he



(Brick Church—As Enlarged, 1874.)

requested the Presbytery to dissolve his pastoral relation; naming as reasons therefor, first, "the want of a comfortable and permanent residence for his family;" and second, "the insufficiency of his salary to meet his necessary expenses." The request was granted and the relation dissolved Sept. 1, 1851. In October following Rev. Samuel W. Bush began his ministrations as stated supply, and closed his labors in May, 1855.

In the winter of 1852, the Society bought of Ralph Johnson the house No. 295

Broad street, which, since April 1, 1852, it has occupied as a parsonage.

January 6, 1856, Rev. Hiram Doane began his ministrations and was installed July 15th of that year.

January 30, 1857, the Standing Committee of the church having resigned, the church passed the following, signed by Elijah Chamberlin and twenty-five other male and female members:—

"Resolved, That this First Congregational Church in Norwich hereafter administer its government and discipline after the Congregational form, as generally understood, believing this to be the course most evidently indicated in the teachings of our Savior on this subject."

On Sunday morning, Feb. 2, 1858, the church was consumed by fire. From this time till about the middle of November of that year services were held in the Academy hall. At that time a room owned by Ransom Close, and built by him for a furniture ware-

room,* at No. 168 Broad street, was leased, and there the Society worshiped till November, 1861, on the 3d of which month Concert Hall, over the piano factory, was rented for one year.

During the year 1858, the church began to sever its connection with the Presbytery, and to resume the Congregational form of government. This action caused even more serious consequences than that of 1835. Several of the most prominent members were excommunicated; others withdrew, and with them, employing Rev. Hiram Dyer, long a pastor at Preston, held regular religious services in the Academy hall, beginning about the middle of July, 1859.

July 12, 1858, that part of the Society by whom Mr. Doane was employed voted to build a new church. A subscription paper had been drawn May 5, 1858, and at the time of this meeting the necessary amount had been pledged. Plans presented by Thomas Cheeseman, an English architect of Utica, were adopted, and he was employed to superintend the work. But delays were occasioned by unforeseen circumstances. The heirs of Peter B. Garnsey, claiming that the old church occupied more land than was conveyed by the deed of 1817, sought to prevent the trustees from occupying any of the disputed land. There was also some trouble about the subscription, and Jan. 17, 1860, a new one was drawn and circulated until March 17, when it was presented to the trustees, who thereupon engaged Mr. Cheeseman to draw new plans.

Mr. Doane closed his labors with this church in October, 1860, and for the next nine months the pulpit was not regularly supplied. Services were held in the hall before mentioned, and pastors from neighboring churches occasionally preached. February 3, 1861, Samuel Scoville, a student in Union Theological Seminary, in New York city, preached morning and evening by invitation of one of the members, and returned to New York the same week. June 10, 1861, the trustees voted to hire Mr. Scoville three months. He accepted, and began his labors on the 23d of June, preaching in the ware-room hall. Sept. 18, 1861, he was called to the pastorate. He accepted, and entered upon his duties as pastor, without installation, on the 3d of November following. His pastorate was by far the longest and happiest the church has enjoyed. It was terminated Oct. 6, 1879.

In the meantime, the church, by resolutions passed Feb. 19, 1861, had severed its connection with the Chenango Presbytery, and become fully Congregational and entirely independent. The arrangements for building the new church had so far progressed that on the 4th of June, 1861, the contract was let to Abner Wood, William H. Sternberg and Henry Alfrey, for \$9,127.50. Work was begun Monday, June 17,

* This room was afterwards known for several years as "Coffin Hall"

1861, and Aug. 3d, at 2 P. M., the corner-stone was laid, with impressive ceremonies.

By cold weather the church was inclosed, and during the winter was plastered and frescoed. It was finished early in June, 1862, and dedicated on the 16th of that month, with ceremonies of a solemn and highly interesting character. Rev. Samuel Scoville, the pastor, preached the dedicatory sermon.*

The church being finished, Mr. Scoville set about the very delicate task of reconciling and bringing together the two factions, and in a short time harmony was again restored. A resolution rescinding the vote of suspension, in the case of those then living in the village, was passed without dissent, July 4, 1853, and in case of all the others then alive, May 9, 1867. Under the influences thus happily inaugurated, the membership and congregation largely increased, and the demand for increased accommodations began to be felt. As a temporary expedient the small brick building which stood west of the church, formerly the County Clerk's office, and later used as an engine house, was rented and used for prayer meetings and the infant class of the Sunday-School, for most of the time till 1867; after which the audience room was used for all the meetings and services of the church. By 1871, the necessity for enlargement became pressing and various plans were devised to effect it, but none seemed acceptable until in 1873, William M. Woollett, an architect in Albany, by request of the trustees, drew a plan which seemed to contain the fewest objectionable features, and was accepted and Mr. Woollett employed. Additional ground to the west of the former lot was purchased at a cost of \$5,000, and during the winter and spring following materials were bought. Isaac S. Newton was appointed a building committee; and March 29, 1873, the trustees advertised for proposals for building the church enlargement. On Monday, June 3, 1873, ground was broken for the cellar, Mr. Scoville shoveling the first wagon-load of dirt. Late in the fall the walls were finished, but it was late in December before the roof was on and the building inclosed.

The addition was nearly twice the size of the former church, and was built to that on the west side. While its construction was in progress, services were held uninterruptedly in the old portion till September 27, 1874, when they were transferred to the west division

* A debt of \$1,000 remaining on the house, it was assumed by Benjamin Chapman, and paid by the church in 1868.

The building was of brick with stone trimmings and slate roof. It was 79 feet long by 46 wide, with a spire at the north-east corner. It was entered by two double doors on the east and west sides of the front, opening into small vestibules. The only room was the audience room, which was 50 feet 7 inches north and south, by 42 feet east and west and 29 feet high, without gallery. The wood work was of chestnut, oiled. A recess between the vestibules was used for the choir and organ, and a similar one at the south end for the pulpit. There were 80 pews, capable of seating 400 persons. A wide aisle ran through the center of the room, and narrower ones at each side next the wall.

of the new part, which had been fitted up for the purpose. The building was finished and dedicated December 31, 1874, Rev. J. C. Holbrook, D. D., of Syracuse, preaching the dedicatory sermon. The services and ceremonies connected with the dedication commenced Sunday, December 27, 1874, and continued through that week and the following Sunday.

The whole church had been built at a cost of about \$50,000, about \$35,000 of which had been paid. Sunday morning, June 6, 1875, Mr. Scoville preached his fourteenth anniversary sermon, and at its close called for subscriptions and pledges from those present for the purpose of paying the debt. A subscription was drawn, payable in four yearly payments, and at the close of the service \$9,600 had been pledged. Before July 1st, the whole debt was provided for.*

Following is a statement of the membership from 1814 to 1879:—

Number joined by Letter.....	213	
“ “ Profession.....	479	
	—	692
“ Dismissed to other Churches..	217	
“ Died.....	107	
“ Excommunicated.....	5	
“ Dropped.....	30	
“ Absent.....	60	
	—	419
“ Of members in 1879.....		273

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Norwich.

—As early as 1822, Rev. Reuben Reynolds, a Methodist minister, familiarly known as “Father Reynolds,” held prayer meetings in his house on West Main street in Norwich village, near where the Congregational church now stands. Soon after this Mr. Reynolds moved into the “old Holcomb house,” now No. 1 Pleasant street, which was moved back to make room for the present residence of B. Gage Berry, on the south-west corner of Broad and Pleasant streets. Connected with it was a marble shop, which, one Saturday afternoon in 1824, was cleaned for the services to be held in it the following day. At that meeting Father Reynolds organized the first class, of which he was chosen leader. It consisted of twelve members, only three of whom are known to be living.† During the day a young man named Daniel Torrey was reclaimed, and afterwards became a successful minister. Father Reynolds was minister, as well as class leader, the first the Church had.

* The whole building is 124 feet 6 inches by 74 feet. The audience room is 84 feet by 59 feet 7 inches, and about 30 feet high. Connected with it on the west by sliding doors, is the lecture room, which is 44 feet 3 inches, by 36 feet 2 inches. South of this lecture room is the primary Sunday school room, the partition between them being composed almost entirely of doors and sliding windows, so that the two can be used together. Over these are the young men’s room, 23 feet 9 inches by 14 feet 4 inches; the parlor, 44 feet 8 inches by 35 feet 10 inches, both having a cloak room attached, and kitchen, 15 feet by 15 feet with cook stove, sink, pump, &c.

† These are Mrs. Jane M. Winton and Mrs. Hannah Randall, both residing in Norwich, and Mrs. Mary A. Myatt, residing in Pennsylvania.

At a meeting of the male members of this Church, “legally convened at their meeting room in the village of Norwich,” January 2, 1827, Rev. Benjamin Shipman was elected chairman, and Rev. Reuben Reynolds, secretary, and at an adjourned meeting held January 13, 1827, *the First Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Norwich* was organized, and George H. King, Caleb Seabury, Miriam Saunders, Reuben Reynolds, William D. Burdick, Nathan S. Stanton, and Thomas Neverson were elected trustees*.

Almost immediately an effort was made to build a house of worship, but this hope was not realized until seven years later—in 1834, under the ministry of Rev. Lyman Beach—when their first church was built at a cost of about \$2,000. It stood just north of the present church and was torn down in 1874. The building of the present church was begun in 1873 during the pastorate of Rev. Henry Wheeler. It was finished and dedicated January 14, 1875, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Bishop Jesse T. Peck. It is a remarkably fine brick structure, capable of seating eleven hundred people. It cost \$50,000 including the site, which cost \$7,600. Previous to the erection of their first church, the Society worshiped in the second story of the old Academy building, which stood very near the site of John Mitchell’s residence and was torn down.

The present pastor is Rev. J. O. Woodruff, who commenced his labors in April, 1879. The present number of members is four hundred; the attendance at Sunday school about two hundred and twenty.

Emanuel Church of Norwich (Episcopal) was organized Sept. 17, 1832, under the labors of Rev. Liberty Alonzo Barrows, who was the first rector. The meeting at which this organization was effected was held at the court house, where persons of this persuasion had worshipped for a year or two previously. Liberty A. Barrows was chosen to preside, and he and David E. S. Bedford and Squire Smith were nominated to certify the proceedings of the meeting. David E. S. Bedford and Smith M. Purdy were elected church wardens, and Jason Gleason, Thomas Milner, David Griffing, Philander B. Prindle, John Clapp, Henry De Forest, Walter M. Conkey and Squire Smith, vestrymen.†

Mr. Burrows’ rectorship continued till 1836, when he was succeeded by Rev. John A. Brayton, who was

* This society was reorganized Jan. 27, 1834, the year in which their first church was built. The same name was adopted, and Ansel Berry, David Blindbury, Daniel Cook, Hiram Atherton, and Nathan D. Stanton were elected trustees. Alvin Torrey and Nathan D. Stanton were chosen to preside at this meeting.

† This church was re-incorporated March 22, 1847, but for what reason is not indicated. Rev. Samuel Goodale, who was then the rector, presided at the meeting. Henry De Forest and David Griffing were elected church wardens, and George L. Rider, Smith M. Purdy, Henry K. Murray, John C. Gorton, John E. Babcock, William B. Pellet, James M. D. Carr and Philander B. Prindle, vestrymen.

here during the year 1837. Mr. Barrows' again became the rector, continuing four years, till 1841. He was succeeded by Rev. D. M. Fackler in 1842, at which time the congregation numbered twenty-six families, and the church twenty-four communicants. Mr. Fackler officiated three years, and was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Ransom, who remained till August, 1846. Rev. Samuel Goodale became the rector July 1, 1846, and continued his ministrations till 1849. There seems to have been an interim of two years between the close of Mr. Goodale's services and the commencement of those of his successor, Rev. Joshua L. Harrison, who became the rector in 1851. At this time there were forty-two families and twenty-five communicants. Mr. Harrison continued his services during that and the following year, and was succeeded in 1853 by Rev. Stephen Douglass. Rev. N. Watson Monroe officiated six months in 1854. Rev. James Abercrombie commenced a three years' rectorship July 1, 1855. He reported thirty-eight communicants and forty families. During his rectorship the church was improved by a recess chancel, and in 1857, the rectory was purchased at a cost of \$1,000. In 1859, Rev. James W. Capen, now rector of Grace church, Whitney's Point, succeeded him, continuing till Feb. 1, 1860. In 1859 he reported fifty families and fifty-two communicants. Feb. 28, 1860, Rev. William T. Early entered upon a rectorship of eight months, when Edward C. Lewis was called. He reported in 1861, fifty-five families and seventy communicants. He remained ten years, closing his labors Nov. 18, 1870, and has since died. In 1870 he reported one hundred and twenty-nine communicants and ninety-two families. Daniel E. Loveridge, now rector of the church at Unadilla, entered upon the duties of rector Oct. 7, 1871, and continued them till Feb. 1, 1879. Under these two rectorships, the church increased in strength and numbers, having at one time as high as one hundred and ninety communicants, which number, in consequence of deaths and removals, is diminished to one hundred and twenty-nine, the present number. The present number of families is one hundred and thirty-three, embracing three hundred and twenty-nine individuals. Rev. E. Bayard Smith, the present rector, commenced his labors Feb. 9, 1879.

The Society continued to worship in the court house until 1834, in which year their church edifice, which now stands unoccupied next west of the Palmer House, was built. It was consecrated by Bishop Benjamin T. Onderdonk, June 4, 1836. Their present church, which is a neat, substantial stone structure, was finished in 1875. In the report of 1879, the church, including the lot, which cost \$4,000, is valued at \$25,000; the organ at \$3,000; the old church at \$2,000.

The present wardens are John Fryer and Hon. Russell A. Young; and vestrymen, John Crawley, George Rider, William N. Mason, William C. Main, Daniel E. Comstock, Peter W. Clarke, A. J. Beebe and Hon. John F. Hubbard.

St. Patrick's Church (Catholic,) of Norwich, was organized about 1854 or '5, by Father C. C. Brady, the first pastor. Occasional meetings were held at private houses from about 1846 or '7, among others by Fathers James Hourigan, of Binghamton, where he has since been located, and McCabe and Callan, the latter of whom was stationed at Oxford. Father Hourigan was the pioneer of Catholicism in Norwich. With the advent of Father Brady regular meetings were commenced, and were held in the old candle factory on Lock street, near the hammer factory. There they worshiped till 1859, in which year their present church edifice was erected, at a cost of about \$2,200, exclusive of the lot, which cost \$350, and was paid for by C. B. Smith, now of Binghamton, and Cornelius and Michael Conway, of Norwich. Father Brady also officiated at Oxford, Smithville, Sherburne, Hamilton, Cortland and Marathon. The church was first occupied on Christmas, 1859.

The prominent members when regular meetings were begun were: Clark B. Smith, Michael and Cornelius Conway, Michael Burns, Thomas Ryan, William Rath, Michael Welch, James McGinnis, John Normilo, Dennis Hickey, James Mulligan, Michael Kane, Martin O'Donnell, James Maxsey, Michael Foy, Edward Malloy, Michael Griffin, Patrick Farley, John Curley, James Ferry, Patrick Sullivan, Matthew Murphy, Michael Scanlan, Patrick Casey, Patrick Hassett, Dennis Griffin, and Dennis Conway, most of whom had families and many of whom are still living here.

Father Brady was succeeded in the pastorate by Fathers McDermot, McNulty, D. O'Connor, and James P. Harrigan, the latter of whom, the present pastor, entered upon his labors in April, 1875. During the pastorate of Father O'Connor, an addition was made to the rear end of the church, extending beyond the main body on both sides. There is a large congregation connected with the church, numbering about six hundred.

In 1870, a lot was purchased and a parsonage erected thereon at a cost of about \$5,000. In 1871, seven acres were purchased for a cemetery at a cost of \$2,000 on which only about \$50 have been paid.

The present trustees are Patrick Byrnes, Thomas Maxsey, and James P. Harrigan.

The Free Will Baptist Church of Norwich was organized June 4, 1867, by a council convened at the house of J. S. Osmond, of which Rev. L. D. Turner was moderator, and Rev. D. J. Whiting, under whose

labors the little band was gathered, was clerk. The constituent members were Elisha Crandall, Amy Crandall, Joseph Crandall, Prudence Crandall, Anna Sayles, Anna Rathbun and John Collins, who joined by letter, and Joseph S. Osmond and Nehemiah Weed, who joined by experience. E. Crandall and J. S. Osmond were chosen deacons.* The first covenant meeting was held Saturday, June 29, 1867, at which time Elvira L. Osmond, Esther M. Button and Emeline Matthewson joined, the former two by letter and the latter by experience.

The first business meeting was held June 24, 1867, at the house of J. S. Osmond, for the purpose of electing a board of trustees. Joseph Crandall was chairman, and D. J. Whiting, clerk. Elisha Crandall, Joseph Crandall and Jesse Matthewson were elected trustees, and D. J. Whiting was associated with them as chairman of a building committee.

August 24, 1867, Cyrus Blackman was elected clerk and has since filled that office.

The first baptism recorded took place Jan. 18, 1868, Jane Tilyou and Betsey Griffing were the candidates for baptism.

The arrangements for building the church had so far progressed that April 2, 1868, the corner stone was laid with impressive ceremonies. It was finished and dedicated Feb. 22, 1869.† Rev. G. H. Ball preached the dedicatory sermon. The lot cost \$1,000 and the building \$4,000. The entire amount was provided for at the time of the dedication; but some of the subscriptions proved worthless and left the church \$1,000 in debt. It is now free from debt, however; the last portion of indebtedness, \$400, was assumed by the Centennial Association, which convened at this church Sept. 23, 1879.

The first pastor was Rev. D. J. Whiting, whose labors as such commenced with the organization of the church. He was succeeded in the pastorate April 1, 1870, by Rev. A. M. Totman, and in April, 1873, by Rev. W. H. Waldron. Rev. J. M. Langworthy supplied the pulpit for one year from April, 1876. Rev. W. R. Stone became the pastor in April, 1877, and remained two years. Rev. C. E. Brockway, the present pastor, entered upon his labors April 10, 1879.

Since the organization 36 have joined the church by letter, 55 by baptism, and 15 by experience. The present number of members is 106; the number of Sunday school scholars, 75. The Superintendent of the Sunday school is Henry Hewitt.

* Jason E. King was elected deacon August 17, 1872; and was succeeded on his removal to Otselic in 1875, by L. D. Burdick.

† On this day Jesse Matthewson, who was one of the building committee, died very suddenly of heart disease; so says the church clerk. But Jesse Matthewson died Feb. 22, 1870, at the age of 54 years. Whether this discrepancy arises from an error in the recorded date of the dedication or in his recollection of the fact of death we are unable to state.

The present trustees are Eugene Paul, R. B. Cross and Elisha Crandall.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church of Norwich was organized in 1870, by Rev. Edward Mills, who served the church six months as pastor. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Benjamin F. Porter, who remained one year, Thomas E. Franklin, who staid about two years, William Winder, who served them about six months, James H. McCoy, who staid three years, Caleb Woodyard, who remained only three months, and A. James Tappin, who remained about seven months and was the last pastor of that organization. Under his ministry the church, which had numbered some forty to fifty members, lost interest and gradually died out. The church edifice, which was built in 1871, at a cost of \$3,500 was sold on foreclosure of mortgage, and rented to the *Union Church of Norwich*, which is also composed of Africans, and was organized Sept 5, 1878, by Rev. L. F. Rogers, who acted as moderator of the meeting, and composed of persons who were dissatisfied with the government of the other church. Union Church occupied the building till October, 1879, the pulpit having been supplied by superannuated ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It has a membership of twenty-five.

SOCIETIES.—*Canasawacta Lodge No. 205, I. O. of O. F.*, was instituted as *Canasawacta Lodge, No. 236, I. O. of O. F.*, June 10, 1846. After a few years the number was changed to 405. It worked under that name and number till January 24, 1855, when the "old mammoth store" building in which its meetings were held was destroyed by fire and its records and property consumed, so that there is no means of knowing who were the first officers. It reorganized under the above name and number October 17, 1868. The officers then elected were: Henry C. Wilcox, *N. G.*; Lewis A. Rhodes, *V. G.*; E. G. Ford, *S.*; N. B. Watkins, *T.*; Charles H. King, *C.*; S. V. Lyon, *I. G.*; Calvin C. Brooks, *O. G.*; William G. Mandeville, *R. S. N. G.*; William C. Bliven, *R. S. V. G.*; John R. Stearns, *L. S. V. G.*; George H. Bliven, *R. S. S.*

The following named persons have passed the chairs and are known as Past Grands. Some have left the town and others are dead,* but the majority are still members of the lodge: Henry C. Wilcox, Lewis A. Rhodes, Hamilton DeLong, *A. D. Nash*, John W. Wait, Silas Brooks, H. C. Bosworth, W. R. Lerversee, Henry J. Winsor, Charles C. Gager, *William C. Thurston*, Alexander Totman, James W. Thompson, Adin D. Eldridge, Charles Shumway, William Breese, Isaac W. Skinner, Darwin Totman, James N. Sibley,

* Those whose names appear in *italics* are dead.

Charles A. Houghton, A. M. Gilbert, *William C. Bliven*, Roswell Curtis, *Edward Childs*, King Hovey, Nelson L. Ireland, William G. Mandeville, George M. Page, George Rider, George Race, James H. Sinclair, Asher C. Scott, Nathan B. Watkins, James G. Thompson, *Marvin Wicks*, Charles W. Scott.

The present officers are: B. Gage Berry, *N. G.*; Charles H. Watts, *V. G.*; Henry J. Winsor, *R. S.*; Warren Thurston, *T.*; James W. Thompson, *P. S.*; Edwin S. Post, *W.*; Charles H. Lottridge, *C.*; James T. Hutchins, *I. G.*; James K. Spaulding, *O. G.*; H. C. Bosworth, *R. S. N. G.*; Augustus E. Race, *L. S. N. G.*; Charles A. Houghton, *R. S. V. G.*; Charles H. Post, *L. S. V. G.*; Darwin Totman, *R. S. S.*; James N. Sibley, *L. S. S.*; Leroy C. Hayes, *Chaplain*; A. M. Gilbert, *P. G.*; William Breese; Isaac W. Skinner, B. Gage Berry, *Trustees*.

The lodge numbers eighty members and is in a flourishing condition financially and otherwise.

Norwich Lodge, No. 302, F. and A. M., was instituted June 12, 1853. The records of the lodge are burned, but from the charter we learn the names of the first three officers, viz: O. G. Rundell, *W. M.*; John F. Hubbard, *S. W.*; George L. Rider, *J. W.*

The living Past Masters are: William A. Smith, Andrew J. Avery, Nathan P. Wheeler, H. D. Mallory, William H. Sternberg, Albert Beals, Charles A. Church, Henry C. Wilcox, Hawley H. Bishop, James K. Benway, Henry M. Knapp.

The present officers are: David H. Knapp, *W. M.*; George W. Ray, *S. W.*; George W. Nagle, *J. W.*; Asher B. Young, *S. D.*; Charles E. Denslow, *J. D.*; Henry M. Ashcraft, *Treasurer*; Isaac W. Baker, *Secretary*; H. D. Mallory, *Chaplain*; Hendrick Crane, *Tiler*.

The lodge numbers 165, and meets in Masonic Hall, in the Hill Block, on the corner of Broad and West Main Streets, the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

Harmony Chapter, No. 151, was instituted Feb. 8, 1855. The charter officers were: William G. Sands, *M. E. H. P.*; Obadiah G. Randall, *E. K.*; George L. Rider, *E. S.*

The living Past High Priests are: William G. Sands, Albert Beals, James G. Thompson, B. Gage Berry, Ambrose Spencer, Henry M. Knapp, Isaac W. Baker, George W. Avery.

The present officers are: Joseph Winsor, *M. E. H. P.*; William Brown, *E. K.*; William Breese, *E. S.*; George Wheeler, *C. of H.*; William Main, *R. A. C.*; C. L. Ferry, *Treasurer*; H. D. Mallory, *Chaplain*; H. Crain, *Tiler*.

The chapter numbers 105, and meets in the same

place as the lodge the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

§ *Norwich Council of Royal and Select Masters No. 67*, was instituted Sept 9, 1874. The first officers were: Albert Beals, *T. Ill. M.*; Isaac W. Baker, *D. M.*; B. Gage Berry, *P. C. of W.*; N. E. Beals, *Treasurer*; C. L. Ferry, *Rec.*; Henry C. Hall, *C. of G.*; D. Shattuck, *C. C.*; H. Crane, *S.*

The present officers are: I. W. Bake, *T. Ill. M.*; B. Gage Berry, *D. M.*; David Shattuck, *P. C. of W.*; Joseph Winsor, *C. of G.*; Henry M. Knapp, *C. C.*; Whitman Stratton, *Treasurer*; C. L. Ferry, *Rec.*; H. Crane, *S.* Albert Beals is the only Past T. Ill. M. The present number of members is thirty-five. The council meets in the same place as the lodge and chapter the first Thursday in each month.

Norwich Commandery, No. 46, K. T. was instituted Oct. 6, 1869. The first officers were: Sir Edwin J. Loomis, *E. Com.*; Sir John W. Crawley, *G.*; Sir Ambrose Spencer, *C. G.*

The present officers are: Sir David Shattuck, *E. Com.*; Sir Henry M. Ashcraft, *G.*; Sir George W. Ray, *C. G.*; Sir H. D. Mallory, *Prelate*; Sir George Rider, *S. W.*; Sir Martin McLean, *J. W.*; Sir D. E. Comstock, *Treasurer*; Sir Isaac W. Baker, *Rec.*; Sir Andrew Dassance, *Std. B.*; Sir Walter Potts, *S. B.*; Sir B. Gage Berry, *W.*; Sirs D. R. McDonald, Whitman Clarke, C. R. Frank, *1st, 2d and 3d Guards*; Sir H. Crane, *Capt. Guard*.

The Past Commanders are: Edwin J. Loomis, George Rider, Martin McLean and B. Gage Berry.

The commandery numbers 171, and meets in the same place as the lodge, the first and third Fridays of each month.

Chenango Valley Lodge, No. 110 I. O. G. T. was organized Oct. 6, 1866. The first officers were: ———, *W. C. T.*; Mrs. Charles J. Briggs, *W. V. T.*; W. S. Hewitt, *W. Secretary*; Charles J. Briggs, *W. Chaplain*; Nathaniel Chamberlin, *W. A. S.*; H. F. Williams, *W. F. S.*; Charles S. Carpenter, *W. T.*; James E. Case, *W. M.*; James N. Sibley, *W. D. M.*; H. R. Prentice, *W. O. G.*; John W. Wait, *P. W. C. T.*

The present officers are: I. C. Jewett, *W. C. T.*; Hattie Reynolds, *W. V. T.*; B. Brennan, *W. C.*; Alonzo Adams, *W. S.*; George Sailesbery, *W. A. S.*; Ella Reynolds, *W. F. S.*; Mary A. Henry, *W. T.*; William Morey, *W. M.*; Mrs. William Morey, *W. I. G.*; James Scott, *W. O. G.*; Mrs. B. F. New, *W. R. H. S.*; Effie Burdick, *W. L. H. S.*; N. L. Ireland, *P. W. C. T.*

The lodge numbers thirty-nine, and meets every Saturday evening in the Latham Block.

POLKVILLE.

POLKVILLE, situated about a mile and a half south-east of Norwich, derives its name from the numerous Polk men in its vicinity during the Polk campaign. It contains a district school, one hotel, a small grist-mill, a saw-mill, a blacksmith shop, kept by Charles Main, two wagon shops, kept by Eli Goodrich and Jonathan Warner, the latter being connected with the grist-mill, and a population of sixty-nine within a distance of a mile up Johnson Creek, which propels the mills, and has two falls of eighteen feet each. The hotel is kept by George Burdick. It was built by Philip K. Warner, some twenty-five years ago, and kept by him for a number of years. The grist-mill is owned by Jonathan Warner, by whom it was built. The saw-mill is owned by VanDerlyn Winsor, and stands on the site of one built at a very early day.

On this stream, about three-fourths of a mile above Polkville, is a saw-mill owned by Harris and Hermon Lewis, by whom it was built about 1870. It occupies the site of one built about 1822, by Lorenzo Lewis, father of the present proprietors, for a man named Ryerson, who owned a tract of several hundred acres in that locality. The first mill contained a muley saw. The Lewis Brothers, when they built, put in a circular saw.

WHITE STORE.

White Store is situated on the Unadilla, in the east part of the town, and is a station on the New Berlin Branch of the Midland Railroad, with a population of sixty-three. It contains a Union Church, built in 1820, by members of the Baptist, Methodist and Universalist denominations, a district school, a grist-mill, two groceries, kept by J. T. Curtis and Caleb Barr, the latter of whom is the postmaster, having been appointed to the office April 19, 1874. Mr. Barr was preceded in the office by William T. Morse, who held it about two years. David Shippey previously held it a great many years. The postoffice at this place was established at an early day.

The *White Store Mill*, owned by David Milks, was built in 1847, by George and Henry Curtis, who operated it till March, 1871, when George Curtis and his sons Joseph and Charles, who had shortly previously acquired Henry's interest, sold it to the present proprietor. It contains three run of stones and is operated by the Unadilla, which has a fall of about six feet.

White Store was at a comparatively early day a seat of some commercial importance. The first merchants at this point were probably Joseph Morse and James Averill, the latter from Cooperstown, who opened a store in the building now owned by Caleb B. Barr, and occupied as a residence by Dennis Reddington—

in what is popularly known as the "White Store," from the fact of its having been the first building painted white in this locality.* That portion of the name, however, which refers to its color is at present a sad misnomer; for the building exhibits both the ravages of time and the neglect of man. This building was erected in 1807; but whether there was any store here previous to that time cannot be definitely ascertained. Mr. Rensselaer Bowen, who was born here in 1801, and whose father settled here in 1797, has a vague impression that Obadiah Reynolds kept store before Morse & Averill, on the opposite side of the road. Messrs. Morse & Averill traded here a good many years. Mr. Morse removed to New Berlin, where one or two of his sons are now living.

Martin Miner was keeping store in the same building as early as 1818, and was also the school teacher of that day. He traded here some five or six years and went south. Henry Chapin, from New Berlin, and John Holmes, kept store there in company, succeeding Miner, and continued till about 1830. William West next traded there some five or six years. He sold to David Westcott and went to Smyrna. Mr. Westcott came in some years previously from Connecticut, and after trading some six or seven years, removed to Mt. Upton, afterwards to Norwich, and subsequently to Utica, where he now resides. George Winsor bought out Westcott, but traded only a short time. There have been no other merchants of prominence located here.

The Norwich Creamery, situated about a mile above Norwich village, was built in 1871 by Norman Cox, and was converted into a barn in 1873 by George H. Fausett, the present proprietor, who, in 1878, reconverted it into a creamery. In 1879 it received the milk from about 175 cows, and made 240 pounds of cheese and 60 pounds of butter per day. About three miles south of Norwich village is a creamery, which is owned by John Randall and was built by him in the summer of 1878. It was not in operation in 1879.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—There is no record of the action taken by this town with regard to filling its quotas earlier than the latter part of 1863, and the records of its action subsequent to that date do not show the amount of bounty paid. It is known however, that its action was prompt and generous, its contributions in men during the entire period of the war exceeding seven per cent. of its population.

November 9, 1863, the town issued bonds to the amount of \$2,500, payable, \$475 in 1864, \$554 in

* We were told, and we believe it is quite generally supposed to be the fact in that locality, that this was the first building between Norwich and Utica; but if we are correctly advised as to the date of its erection, (and Mr. Rensselaer Bowen, from whom we obtained the information, is a good authority,) there were hundreds of buildings between these two places at the time it was erected.

1865, \$526 in 1866, \$498 in 1867, \$570 in 1868, and \$535 in 1869, and levied a tax for \$408.61, to liquidate its indebtedness to the Bank of Norwich, amounting to \$2,908.61, money borrowed to pay to soldiers under and by virtue of an Act passed February 21, 1863, by the Legislature, entitled an Act to authorize the levying of a tax upon the taxable property of the different counties and towns in the State, to repay monies borrowed for or expended in the payment of bounties to volunteers.

At a special town meeting held at the court house January 2, 1864, it was resolved to pay a bounty of \$323 to each volunteer credited on the quota of the town under the last call; and David Griffing, Warren Newton and John Mitchell were appointed a committee to carry out the provisions of the resolution, to issue bonds in the necessary amount, payable one-fourth each first day of February, commencing in 1865. They were instructed to issue to those entitled to the town bounty who so desired, in lieu of money, bonds to the amount of at least \$300. The chairman, John P. Smith, and secretary, B. Gage Berry, were appointed a committee to bring this action to the attention of the Legislature at its next session, and to take the necessary steps to secure the passage of a law legalizing it. Feb. 16, 1864, it was resolved at a regular town meeting to pay \$323 each to N. W. Winters and Truman Blindberry, volunteers, as town bounties, they having been enlisted in excess of the quota of the town under the call of Oct. 17, 1863.

At a special town meeting held Aug. 12, 1864, it was resolved to pay to each volunteer credited on the quota under the call of July 18, 1864, for 500,000 men, not to exceed \$1,000 for three years' men, \$750 for two years', and \$500 for one year's. Daniel M. Holmes, Delos M. Powers, Walter A. Cook, Roswell Curtis, Nehemiah Leach and Rawson Close were appointed a committee to secure the requisite number of volunteers to fill the quota of the town and take all measures necessary in their judgment and discretion to fill said quota at the least possible expense, and with three years' men if practicable. It was also resolved to pay to each person liable to the draft in the town and thereafter furnishing a substitute, in bonds of the town or in money at the discretion of the committee, the amount actually paid by him for such substitute applied on the town's quota, but not in any case to exceed \$600 for three years', \$400 for two years', \$300 for one year's; and to pay to each person who had heretofore furnished a substitute applied on the quota of the town under that call, the amount actually paid to such substitute, but not in any case to exceed \$600 for three years' men, \$400 for two years', and \$200 for one year's. It was further resolved that the Board of Town Auditors issue bonds for the money pro-

cured in pursuance of these resolutions, and in such sums and payable at such times, (not to exceed five years from Feb. 1, 1865,) as to them seemed most advantageous to the interest of the town; and that the necessary expenses incurred by the committee named in these resolutions in the discharge of their duties and a reasonable compensation for their services, be paid them.

It is creditable to the town that at this meeting it put itself on record in denunciation of the revolting practice which then prevailed of taking advantage of the necessities of the government and individuals to make merchandise of men. So far as the records show it is the only town in the county which took this commendable action. This, however, is doubtless due to the fact that here this disgusting species of brokerage developed and exhibited its most offensive features. At the instance of Rev. W. H. Olin the town adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

"WHEREAS, It is alleged that parties of this and other towns have from motives of the most mercenary and reprehensible character embarked in the dishonorable business commonly known as substitute brokerage, the apparent object of which brokerage is the robbery and swindling alike of the tax payers, the soldiers and the government; and

"WHEREAS, It is the dictate of the simplest self-respect, and of the most ordinary circumstances of honor as well as due to the reciprocal good faith which should exist between the government, the soldiers and the people, that such corrupt and disgraceful practices should be discontinued, and those who engage in them rebuked, therefore, as the sentiment of the electors of the town of Norwich in special town meeting assembled, be it

"Resolved, That the business of substitute brokerage as alleged to be conducted by certain persons here and elsewhere is one calculated to corrupt private and public morals, is injurious to the military service by introducing into it a lawless, abandoned and desperate element and one which will receive the sternest condemnation of every honest man."

It was further resolved to aid the efforts of Captain Gordon to thwart the "corrupt designs of these scoundrels," and prevent this species of robbery, and to this end the committee were instructed to negotiate directly with the recruit, without the intervention of substitute brokers, and to pay the full amount of bounty to him.

March 5, 1864, D. M. Holmes, Supervisor, G. W. Marr, Clerk, and W. N. Mason, P. L. Wescott and D. H. Knapp, Jr., Justices, a Board of Relief in the town of Norwich, having power to grant relief to the indigent families of volunteers of that town, by virtue of an Act passed May 17, 1863, authorized the Overseer of the Poor to appropriate \$195 for the relief and support of certain such families; and further sums for like purposes as follows: June 15, 1864, \$260,

Feb. 20, 1864, \$20, and Oct. 31, 1864, \$425. Another committee subsequently granted \$305.59.

At a special town meeting held Dec. 31, 1864, it was resolved to raise \$55,000 for the purpose of paying bounties and the incidental expenses connected with the raising of men required to fill the quota of the town under the call of December 19, 1864, for 300,000 volunteers for two and three years. D. M. Holmes, Delos M. Powers, Roswell Curtis, Walter A. Cook, Nehemiah Leach and Rawson Close were appointed a committee to procure volunteers to fill the quota at the least possible expense, and to take all measures that were in their judgment necessary. It was also resolved that any person in the town liable to the draft then pending who should thereafter furnish a substitute credited on the quota of the town under that call, should be paid in bonds of the town seventy-five per cent. of the amount actually paid by such person for such substitute, provided the amount paid by the committee did not exceed \$400 for one year's, \$550 for two years', and \$700 for three years' men. The provisions of this resolution were applied to any person in the town who had already furnished a substitute applied on its quota. The proper officers were directed to issue bonds payable in sums and at such times, not to exceed two years from Feb. 1, 1865, as to them seemed for the best interest of the town. The expenses and a reasonable compensation of the committee were to be paid by the town.

The town of Norwich furnished towards the Union armies during the Rebellion 297 soldiers and 3 seamen, making the entire number of men furnished according to the record to be 300. Of this number only 34 were natives of the town; 4 held the rank of Colonel, 1 that of Lieut.-Colonel, 2 that of Surgeon, 9 that of Captain, 7 that of Lieutenant, and 7 that of Sergeant; 237 enlisted for three years, 3 for two years, 5 for one year, 2 for four years, 1 for fifteen months, and 1 for nineteen months. The record does not show the term of enlistment with regard to the remaining 51. They were distributed as far as the records indicate in the following branches of the service: 2 in the 8th, 15 in the 17th, 2 in the 20th, 1 each in the 26th, 85th and 40th, 11 in the 44th, 1 each in the 46th, 61st and 74th, 5 in the 76th, 1 in the 79th, 9 in the 89th, 1 each in the 90th and 97th, 7 in the 101st, 45 in the 114th, 1 each in the 121st, 126th and 131st, 2 in the 161st, 2 in the colored, and 1 each in the 3d Connecticut, 36th Ohio and 132d Pennsylvania infantry regiments; 1 in the 1st, 28 in the 8th, 1 each in the 10th and 11th, 13 in the 20th, and 19 in the 22d cavalry regiments; 9 in the 3d, 2 in the 4th, 23 in the 5th, 4 in the 7th, and 1 each in the 8th and 16th artillery regiments; and 1 in the 1st engineers. They were distributed among the various

professions as follows: 74 were farmers, 42 laborers, 10 clerks, 8 each blacksmiths and painters, 7 carpenters, 6 each shoemakers, barbers and students, 5 each mechanics, coopers and printers, 4 boatmen, 3 each tanners, cigar makers, "gentlemen," butchers and tinners, 2 each cabinet makers, telegraph operators, platers and carriage trimmers, and 1 each masons, gas fitters, varnishers, teamsters, bakers, harness makers, chain makers, tailors, saloon keepers, surgeons, merchants, piano-makers, cooks, grocers, saddlers, jewelers, peddlers, speculators, clothiers, teachers, sailors, waiters, book-keepers and music teachers.

CHAPTER XXIV.

TOWN OF PRESTON.

PRESTON was formed from Norwich April 2, 1806. McDonough was taken off April 17, 1816, and a part of Norwich in 1808. A part of the latter town was re-annexed in 1820. As at present constituted, it forms the major portion of No. 14 of the Twenty Townships. It is the center town of the county, and is bounded on the north by Plymouth, on the east by Norwich, on the south by Oxford, and on the west by McDonough. The surface is a high, rolling upland, broken into two distinct ridges, extending north and south. The hills rise to the height of 200 to 800 feet above the valley of the Chenango at Norwich. The principal streams are Turner Brook, Fly Meadow Creek, and Mill Brook, all flowing south to the Chenango, respectively through the eastern, central and western parts of the town.

It is mostly underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill Group, which affords the best stone for building and other purposes obtained in the county. Numerous quarries have been opened in this rock within the town; one on the farm of Richard Winsor, about a mile east of Preston Corners, which has been worked more or less for several years; on the farms of Leander Law and Sylvester Crumb, on Rogers street, two miles south-west of Preston Corners, though not much worked now; on the farm of Jesse Keech, in the south-east part of the town, from which grindstones have been wrought; and on the Everet Judson farm, on the east side of the creek, near the line of Oxford, from which some very fine flagging stone is obtained. The rock crops out upon the surface in various places, especially in the west part of the town, making it difficult of cultivation. The soil is generally a gravelly and slaty loam, well adapted to grazing and dairying. A reddish clay predominates in the south-west part.

Dairying forms the chief branch of agriculture, the dairies being mostly private ones. There are three factories in the town, one at Preston Corners, which was built about 1876, by W. F. Scott, by whom it was operated till 1879, when he rented it to C. W. and A. Phelps, brothers, who now carry on a creamery business, and received in 1879 the milk of 200 cows; one one and one-half miles below Preston Center, owned by Samuel E. Lewis; and a third in the south part of the town, near the line of Oxford, owned by Loren Willcox and Clarence Miner.

In 1875 the population of the town was 892; of whom 826 were native, 66 foreign, 888 white, and 4 colored. Its area was 20,601 acres; of which 16,737 were improved; 3,805, woodland; and 59, otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$795,110; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$110,435; of stock, \$146,420; and of tools and implements, \$46,355. The amount of gross sales from farms in 1874, was \$101,600.

There are eight common school districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 223. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were seven male and ten female teachers employed, eight of whom were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 194, of whom seven were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 103.749; the number of volumes in district libraries was 460, the value of which was \$71; the number of school-houses was eight, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing 2 acres and 47 rods, valued at \$325, were valued at \$2,815; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$490,030. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 85, of whom 84 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$ 20.65
Amount apportioned to districts.....	803.83
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands....	27.45
Raised by tax.....	240.74
From teachers' board.....	377.00
Total.....	\$1,469.67
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$1,345.95
Paid for school apparatus.....	7.55
Paid for school-houses, sites, fences, out-houses, repairs, furniture, &c.....	3.70
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	104.55
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	7.92
Total.....	\$1,469.67

SETTLEMENTS.—The first settlement was made in 1787, by James Glover, who came from Norwich, Conn., his native place, and settled on lot 75, on the farm now owned and occupied by Samuel E. Lewis, on Fly Meadow Creek, about three miles south of Preston Corners. He removed soon after 1800 to Montezuma, where he died. He built in 1789 the first grist-mill in the town, which is said also to have been the first in the county. It stood on the east bank of Fly Meadow Creek, about a quarter of a mile west of his residence. It, or one on its site, stood as late as about 1849. He opened in his house in 1788–9, the first store in the town, and probably, the first in the county, which he kept till his removal to Montezuma. The residence of Samuel E. Lewis was built by him as early as 1794, in which year his daughter, Mary Ann, was born there.* This was the first frame house in the town. Thus it is seen that many of the earlier events connected with the history of both the town and the county are associated with his settlement here.

James Glover was born Dec. 26, 1768, and married Alphena Hovey, who was born Jan. 22, 1778, sister of Gen. Benjamin Hovey, an early settler in Oxford. He had nine children, most of whom were born after his removal to Montezuma, viz: Mary Ann, born Nov. 23, 1796, who married William Johnson, (a Scotch Presbyterian clergyman, who lived a great many years, and died in Owasco, where from 1838 to 1863 or '4 he was pastor of the True Reformed Dutch Church of Owasco,) and died only a few years ago; Ursula M., born April 6, 1799, who married Henry Tiff, and lived in various places, for some time in Albany, where he was connected with one of the State departments, but chiefly in Auburn, where both died; Justus S., born Feb. 21, 1802, who married a lady named Cornell, of Penn Yan, where he lived and died, but is survived by his wife, who is now living in East Saginaw, Mich.; Eliza, born May 6, 1804; James B., born Sept. 14, 1807, who married and died in New Jersey; Harriet S., born Aug. 14, 1813, who was married late in life to Charles H. Merriman, (who was for twenty-six years cashier of The National Bank of Auburn, and afterwards for one year its President,) and is now living in Auburn; Joseph O., born April 13, 1810, who is practicing law in Chicago, and has been for some years United States District Attorney for that district; Catharine A., born Dec. 28, 1816, who married DeWitt C. Gage, a lawyer, with whom she is living in East Saginaw, Mich.; Wm. Johnson, born May 2, 1820, who removed to Illinois, married and died there soon after; and a daughter

* *French's Gazetteer* states that Fanny Billings, who was born July 16, 1796, was the first child born in the town. It is probable that the birth referred to was the first, certainly prior to the one here referred to.

who married George Rathbun, a lawyer of some prominence in Auburn, where both died.

None of the descendants have lived in the county since his removal to Montezuma.

David Fairchild came in 1795 and settled at Preston Corners, where William Lewis now lives. He had three children, John, Amos, and a daughter who married Nathan Squires. Fairchild and his sons were noted hunters and trappers. They removed to Plymouth and afterwards to the Holland Purchase. His daughter and her husband also moved west, first to Canandaigua, where they were living in 1813. The following year (1796) Randall Billings and Silas Champlain from Connecticut settled: Billings at Preston Center, on the south-east corner, on the farm now owned by George Coville, where he and his wife Lucy died, the latter, April 23, 1830, aged 73; and Champlain on the creek, one and one-half miles south-west of Preston Corners, where Porter Slater now lives. Billings had several children, among them William, Henry, Asa, Lucy, Fanny, Nancy and Polly, all of whom are dead. Chamberlain afterwards removed to Pharsalia. He had no children of his own living. His nephews, John, Charles and Lodowick Crandall came in a little later from Connecticut, with their mother, a widow, who, in 1798, contracted the first marriage in the town with Capt. Lyon, from whom Lyon Brook, near Norwich, derives its name. John and Charles lived to be of age, but Lodowick went to work on the river above Norwich shortly before he attained his majority and died of fever. His brother John caught the fever from him and also died. Charles married a Waite and removed to Phelps and died there.

David Eccleston came in from Stonington, Conn., in the spring of 1797, and settled on 100 acres two miles south of Preston Corners, at Preston Center, which is very near the geographical center of the county. He died there in 1845, while sitting in his chair, at the age of 88 years. His wife died in Norwich a few years after at the age of 90. He came with his wife, Catharine Fanning, of Stonington, Conn., and six children, David, Washington, Frederick, Hannah, Charles, and one other daughter. David married Polly B., daughter of Dow Burdick, and settled opposite his father, where he resided till well advanced in years, when he removed to Norwich, where he died Aug. 30, 1872, aged 87. His wife died in Preston May 20, 1847, aged 57. He afterwards married Sally B. ———, who died in Norwich May 4, 1876, aged 71. Those of his children who are living are Polly, wife of Whitman Kinyon, in Brooklyn; Esther, widow of Orville Fitch, and Ursula, widow of Erastus R. Johnson, and wife of ——— Simmons, in Burlington, N. Y.; Aurelia, wife of Stephen Lewis, in Oxford;

Leroy, in Afton; Sarah, wife of ——— Evans, in Plymouth; Daniel, in Smithville; and Ansel, in Norwich. Washington married Lydia Peabody, of Norwich, and settled opposite his brother David and afterwards in Norwich, where he lived a good many years. He is now living in Willett. A daughter, Eliza, a maiden lady, is living in Norwich. Frederick married and settled near East McDonough, where he and his wife died, the latter in 1879, aged about 90. Several children are living, Hosea, Ann, wife of Charles Watts, Ledyard, Uriel and Minerva, all in Norwich. Hannah married Joseph Marsh and both she and her husband lived and died in Norwich, the former some fifteen years ago and the latter Aug. 3, 1859, aged 85. Her children subsequently removed from the county. Charles married Mary Lewis and settled on what is known as the Ashcraft farm, a half mile south of the homestead. He afterwards removed to Oxford village and died there Dec. 26, 1873, aged 78. His widow is still living in Oxford, aged 75. Three children are living, Charles H. and Noyes B. in Oxford, the former a dentist and the latter a druggist, and Harriet C., wife of Leroy Eccleston, her cousin, in Afton.

Settlements were made in 1799 by Jonas Marsh and Colonel Gurdon and Dudley Hewitt. Marsh came from Massachusetts, and located at Preston Center on the north-west corner, where Dudley Brown now lives, and opened there in 1800 the first inn in the town. He afterwards removed to Pharsalia and died there May 21, 1847, aged 76. His children were Nancy, who married Erastus Brown of Pharsalia, where they settled and lived a good many years and finally went west; Sibley, who lived in Pharsalia and died in the insane department of the county house in Preston, August 14, 1848, aged 49; Shepard, Stephen, Tyler, and Sally, who married Henry Brown, brother of Erastus, all of whom went to Pennsylvania; Ursula, who died in Pharsalia of scarlet fever, unmarried; and Sophia, who married ——— Secord and died in Pharsalia. Sally, Ursula, Sibley and Shepard were teachers. The Hewitts were brothers and came from the New England States. Gurdon settled where the County house now stands. He afterwards removed to Oxford and bought a tavern stand on Fort Hill, and subsequently to Owego, where he died. His son Gurdon was prominently connected with a bank in Owego. His daughter Charlotte married a lawyer in Oxford and afterwards removed from there. Dudley settled a mile east of the center, on the farm afterwards owned by Ephraim Wells, but which has since been cut up. He married after coming here a woman in Connecticut, and subsequently removed to Steuben county.

Capt. Stephen Brown and Simon Turner settled in the town about 1800. Brown came from Rowe,

Massachusetts, and located about a mile west of the Center, on the farm one-half of which is now owned by Dr. Thomas Dwight of Preston, and the other half by Wells Crumb, where he died March 5, 1841, aged 76, and Sarah, his wife, March 22, 1846, aged 80. His children were Consider, who married and lived on the homestead, where he died September 13, 1864, aged 68, and Candace, his wife, Dec. 20, 1873, aged 71; Walter, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Smith, and lived on the homestead till within about a year of his death which occurred in Oxford, June 13, 1866, aged 68, (his wife died in Binghamton about two years ago;) Olive, who married Moses Stewart of Plymouth, and settled and died in that town; Charlotte, who married Dexter Brown of Massachusetts, where she lived and died; Louisa, who married Joel F. Gleason of Oxford, where both died, the former March 19, 1857, aged 49, and the latter, February 4, 1857, aged 50; Sarah, who married Lyman Smith of Preston, where she lived and died April 12, 1850, aged 49, and her husband November 5, 1847, aged 55; and a daughter. William, living in Norwich, and James and Smith, in Preston, sons of Walter Brown, and Lorana, wife of Oliver Miner and Alameda, wife of Adelbert Clarke, daughters of Joel F. Gleason, are grand-children of Stephen Brown's, and the only ones living in the county. Simon Turner was born in Stonington, Conn., in 1788, and removed with his parents at the age of ten years to Burlington, Otsego county, and from thence after about a year to Norwich, where he also resided about a year, when he removed to Preston, and lived for seventy-eight years on the same farm. He died July 8, 1879, by drowning in about four inches of water in the brook near his residence, to which it is supposed he went for the purpose of washing himself, and being very lame stumbled and fell, striking his head upon the stones, the fall rendering him unconscious. His wife preceded him in death several years. He left four children, among them Captain Daniel W. Turner of the 114th N. Y. Vols., now residing in Steamboat Rock, Ill.

John Wait settled at Preston Corners as early as 1801, Sept. 28 of which year he died there, aged 57. Mary, his wife, survived him many years. She died June 18, 1842, aged 94. His son Solomon died Sept. 25, 1846, aged 78, and Lucy, his wife, March 9, 1834, aged 64.

Wm. Clark, a Revolutionary soldier, removed from Hampton, Conn., to Burlington, Otsego county, in 1795, and thence in 1802 to Preston. He settled on 25 acres, a little north of the county house, now owned by Wm. Hall, the keeper of the Insane Asylum, which he traded after a few years for a farm of 100 acres a half mile west of Preston Corners, which is now owned by Wm. B. Nicholson, where he and

his wife died. He died Oct. 4, 1840, aged 87; and his wife, Eunice F. Preston, to whom he was married in Conn., Oct. 31, 1856, aged 98. Two children came in with them, Eunice and Alfred, the latter of whom, born in Conn., June 13, 1789, is still living in Preston Corners, though he is quite deaf. He married Susy, daughter of Sylvester Miner, who died about 1863. They had nine children, six of whom grew to maturity: Albert G., a Universalist minister, who settled at De Ruyter, where he died in November, 1873; Laura Ann, widow of Ralph Crumb, now living at Preston Corners; Electa Louisa, widow of Wesley Powers; Lydia N., wife of Prentice Evans; and Eunice F., wife of J. J. Noyes, all living in Preston, and Wm. W., who married Martha McKibbin, and is living in Norwich. Eunice, sister of Alfred, married Wm. Nicholson, a native of Stonington, Conn., and both lived and died in Preston. Eunice died April 28, 1839, aged 58, and her husband in the fall of 1878. Their children were Amos, now living in Preston, who married Pamela Fisher, who died in the spring of 1872; Wm. C., who married Christina Stockwell, and is also living in Preston; Lucy, who married Jesse Muncey, both of whom died in Truxton; Lois, who married Horace Wells, and is living in De Ruyter, and Calvin, who married Catharine Steere, and is living in Penn.

Wm. Walsworth also came in 1802. He settled on the road directly north from the Center, and died there Aug. 15, 1825, aged 70, and his wife, Esther, May 24, 1838, aged 83. Their children were Perez, who was demented, Nathan, William, Charles, Abel and Daniel, all of whom are dead. Eli Widger came in with a large family from New London, Conn., about 1802 or '3, and settled in the west part of the town, on the farm now owned by the heirs of his son William who died in the spring of 1879, and died there. His wife went to live with her daughter, in Potter county, Penn., and died there. He was a man of excellent repute, though he was credited with having led the British troops who burned New London during the war of the Revolution. His children were Jonathan, Elias, Fanny, who married a man named Hines, but did not live with him, and afterwards committed suicide, George, who suicided by cutting his throat, in 1850, William, who lived and died recently on the homestead, Eli, Henry, who was crazy and was burned to death, Polly, who married and removed to Potter county, Penn., Lucy, who married Ichabod Rogers and removed to Ohio, and Benjamin; none of whom are living, unless it be Benjamin.

Judge John Noyes, a native of Stonington, Conn., came from Guilford, Vt., in February, 1803, with his family, consisting of his wife, Priscilla Packer, a native of Vermont, and three children, Lydia, John and

Daniel, the latter of whom was a year old the preceding December. He bought on the site of the County House an improved farm of 170 acres, of Gurdon Hewitt. He resided there till the opening of the war of 1812, when he entered the army as adjutant in Col. Thompson Mead's regiment. After the close of the war he removed his family to Norwich, where he resided till his death, Sept. 4, 1830, aged 61. His wife died Oct. 15, 1849, aged 78. While living in Preston he was engaged in farming; in Norwich he engaged in mercantile business, in which, after some two years, he was succeeded by his son John, who continued the business several years. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1810, and again in 1814; and the Middle District in the State Senate from 1817 till 1820. He was appointed Judge of the Chenango Court of Common Pleas by the Council of Appointment, and held the office of Judge till his death. He had four children after he came here, Priscilla, Betsey, Thomas J. and William P. Lydia, his daughter, married Dr. Wm. Mason, of Preston, and died there, leaving two children, Wm. N. Mason, a lawyer in Norwich, and Harriet, wife of Dr. William Pancost, of Camden, N. J. John married Clarissa, widow of Smith Miller, both of whom died in Norwich, the former July 9, 1852, aged 54, and the latter April 29, 1864, aged 69. He represented the 18th District in the State Senate in 1850 and '51. Daniel married Applia, daughter of Abner Dickinson, of Preston, where he engaged in mercantile business in 1837, continuing four years, a part of the time in company with his brother, Thomas J., being then and ever since then a live-stock dealer. He removed to Norwich in 1856, and still resides there, having been engaged in the mercantile business there two years while residing in Preston. His wife died Nov. 13, 1864. He afterwards married Sarah Ann, widow of Harmon Hickok, who is also living in Norwich. He had five children, all by his first wife, only one of whom is living, Ashbel A., in Hardin county, Iowa. He (Daniel) represented this county in the Assembly in 1844. Priscilla, who was born Sept. 16, 1806, married Delancey Wait and settled in Preston. They afterwards removed to Norwich, where both died, the former, Nov. 5, 1868, and the latter (born Dec. 7, 1799,) Feb. 7, 1867. They had no children. Thomas J. married Ellen, daughter of Nelson B. Hale, of Norwich, and settled and still lives, he and his wife, in that village, where for three or four years he was engaged in mercantile business, in company with his brother, William P. He was afterwards Superintendent on the Chenango canal, and is now Court Crier. He has three children living, James B., a physician in New Berlin, and Clarissa and Ellen, both living in Norwich. William P. married Helen, daughter of Hubbard B. Avery, and settled in Preston, afterwards

removing to Norwich and subsequently to Iowa, where he died, and his wife still lives. He had three children, two of whom are living, Mary and Everett, both in Iowa.

Gashan Noyes, a Revolutionary soldier, and cousin to Judge John Noyes, came in two or three years later from Stonington, Conn., and settled two miles southwest of Preston Corners, on the place now owned by Thomas Holmes. He came in the summer season and brought his family, consisting of his wife and three children, Gashan, Henry and Mercy with an ox sled, wood-shod, drawn by a yoke of three-year old steers. He continued to reside there some fifty years, and removed after eighty years old with his children to Wisconsin, and died there. His children born here were Fanny, Polly, Isaac, Samuel and Percy.

William Packer came from Guilford, Vt., in 1804, and took up about 300 acres one and one-half miles southeast of Preston Corners. The farm on which he settled is now owned and occupied by his grandsons Austin J. and Perez Packer. He resided there till within four or five years of his death, when he removed to the place on which his grandsons above named now reside, and died there Oct. 5, 1852, aged 88. He married in Vermont, Sept. 18, 1785, Persis Bigelow, of Guilford, Vt., who died on the old place Sept. 9, 1836, aged 71. He was born Dec. 22, 1763, and his wife, Oct. 25, 1764. They had eight children, William, Perez, Jotham, Elisha, Charles E., Persis, Lucinda and Lucretia. William was born July 10, 1787, married Abigail Mason, and settled just below the county-house, on the place now owned by Stephen Franklin. He afterwards removed to the Corners and kept tavern there a good many years. He died in the town Dec. 16, 1874, and his wife March 24, 1869, aged 79. Perez was born Jan. 31, 1790, and married Nancy Davis, of Oxford. He was a physician, and commenced practice at Latham's Corners, in the town of Guilford, about the opening of the war of 1812. He soon after removed to Oxford, where he became noted in his profession, and died there July 10, 1832, aged 42, and his wife Feb. 16, 1843, aged 47. Jotham was born July 14, 1792. He married Almira, sister of Abigail Mason, Jan. 14, 1819, and settled in Norwich village. The next year he bought 30 acres of the homestead farm in Preston. He afterwards removed to the farm on which his sons Austin J. and Perez now live, and died there June 23, 1876, and his wife Jan. 4, 1863, aged 70. Elisha was born March 31, 1796. He married Lucy, sister of Abigail and Almira Mason, and lived on various places in the town. Both he and his wife died at Preston Corners, the former Oct. 20, 1849, and the latter Aug. 23, 1873, aged 77. Charles E. was born March 4, 1799. He married and settled and died in

Palmyra Feb. 2, 1826. Persis was born Feb. 22, 1802, and married Uri Tracy, of Oxford, where she lived and died May 3, 1857, and her husband April 6, 1856, aged 56. Lucinda was born Aug. 10, 1805, and married Squire Smith of Norwich, where she lived and died March 31, 1844. Lucretia was born Dec. 13, 1808, and died unmarried in Preston, Sept. 19, 1835.

Elder Davis Rogers and his son-in-law, Joseph Truman, came in from Waterford, Conn., about 1804, and settled on the road known as Rogers' street, in the west part of the town, the Elder a half mile south of the meeting house on that road, on the place now owned in part by Nathan Rogers, and Truman at what was known as Truman Corners, on the southwest corner, in which locality he was the first settler. They came across the country via Albany with teams, with their families, and both died upon the place on which they respectively settled, the former April 4, 1833, aged 78. The Elder's first wife, Hannah, died there Jan. 4, 1821, aged 70, and his second wife, Avis Burdick, in Pharsalia, Jan. 11, 1835, aged 56. Elder Rogers brought in eight children, four of whom were married when they came,—Davis, Silas, Amos, Adon, who lived and died on the homestead unmarried, June 9, 1851, aged 66, Nathan, Asenath, who married Joseph Truman and came in with him, Lydia and Patty. Davis married Polly, daughter of Jonathan Truman, of Long Island, and settled on the place now occupied by John C. Maxson, his son-in-law, near which place he died Oct. 9, 1845, aged 68. His wife died Sept. 8, 1845, aged 63. He had one child when he came, Jennette, who married Paul Maxson. His other children were Mary Ann, who married William Clark, of Preston, where she lived and died, and Harriet Alzina, who married Zebulon Rogers, who was drowned while crossing the ferry at New London. She afterwards married John C. Maxson, of Preston, where she is now living. Silas came with his wife, Sally, and one son, (Silas, who married Maria Yeomans, and after her death, Sept. 14, 1842, Polly Beardsley, with whom he is now living on Rogers street.) He settled where Emmet Leander Hammond now lives, and died there Feb. 21, 1870, aged 88, and his wife Oct. 1, 1877, aged 92. His other children were William, who married Lydia, daughter of James Pickett, of McDonough, and settled where his son Ellery now lives, and lived there till four years ago, when he removed to the town of Greene, where he now resides; Jemima, who married Jonathan D. Rogers, of Preston, where she lived and died, June 13, 1842, aged 69; Adon, who married Juliette Rogers and is now living in McDonough; Sarah, who married Daniel Yeomans, and is now living in Preston; Lydia, who married Stephen E. Brown,

both of whom lived and died in Preston, the former Aug. 30, 1872, aged 52, and the latter, March 23, 1847, aged 26; Ezekiel C., who married Roxana Stanley and lived and died in German; Lucina, who died unmarried Feb. 12, 1870, aged 44; and James, who is living unmarried in Preston. Amos came with his wife, Mary Chapin, and two children, (Elpha, who married Daniel Lewis, and John, who married Ann Finch, both of whom are living,) and settled where Ezekiel Rogers now lives. His other children were Hannah, who is living unmarried in Preston; Davis, who married Roby, widow of Jesse Rogers, and is now living in Illinois; Polly, who married Henry Langworthy, and lived and died in Brookfield; Juliette, who married Adon Rogers, and is living in McDonough; Tryphena, who married Henry Hull, and is living in Oxford; Abigail, who married Horace Champlin, and is living in Farina, Ill.; Amos, who married Jane Rogers, also living in Illinois; and Phebe, who married German Soper, and lives in Minnesota. Nathan married Phebe, daughter of Rogers Davis, of Brookfield, and settled on the homestead farm. He afterwards removed to Connecticut, and died there. They had no children. Lydia married Orange Holcomb, of Plymouth, where she lived and died. Her children were John, who removed to Ohio and married there, Orange, Betsey and Maria, the latter of whom married John Truman. Patty married Alvah Doud, and settled first in Preston; afterwards removed to Ohio, and subsequently, after the death of her husband; to Illinois, where she died.

Joseph Truman's children were Polly, who married Thomas Griffin, and lived and died in Oxford; Cynthia, who married John Truman, and lived and died in Wisconsin; Clarissa, who married Clark Truman, and lived and died in Otselic; Sophia, who married Henry Crumb, and lived and died in Georgetown; John, who married and lived in Otselic; Nathan, who married a Burdick and is living in Alfred, Allegany county; Henry, who married a Salisbury and lived and died in Wisconsin; William, who married a Babcock, and is a physician in Alfred, Allegany county; and Asenath, who married Orlando Holcomb, both of whom lived and died in De Ruyter.

Ethan Rogers, a half-brother of Elder Davis Rogers, came from Waterford, Conn., his native place, in 1806, and settled a mile below the meeting-house, on Rogers street, where his son Nathan now lives. This is said to be the only place in the west part of the town now owned by the descendants of those who first settled them. He brought his wife, Sally, daughter of Jonathan and Annie Truman, and five children. His children were Ethan, who married Fanny Davis, and

is living in Preston, aged 83; Clark Truman, who married Nancy Williams of Oneida county, and after her death, Laura, widow of George Benjamin, and is living in Sangerfield, Oneida county, aged 81; Susan, who married Elder Ephraim Curtis, and lived and died in Truxton; Jesse, who married Roby Willmarth, sister of Galon Willmarth, and lived and died in Preston, March 21, 1832, aged 28; Sarah Ann, who married Hial Williams and is living in Brookfield; Jonathan D., who married Jemima Rogers, and after her death, which resulted from a cancer, July 29, 1859, Rachel A. Mapes, with whom he is living in Preston; Ezra Harris, who died at the age of about 17; Nathan, who married Harriet Clark, and is living on the homestead; Betsey, who married Thomas Holmes, both of whom are living in Brookfield; and Jennette, who married Clark T. Rogers, both of whom are living in Preston. Both Ethan and his wife died on the farm on which they settled, the former April 25, 1841, aged 73, and the latter Oct. 21, 1860, aged 83.

The Rogerses and Trumans, who intermarried a great deal, were Seventh Day Baptists, and all settled on the road known as Rogers street. In 1816 a church of that denomination was organized from members of these families, and a meeting-house, which is now in use, was built some 44 years ago.

William Kelsey, brother of Dr. Alex. Kelsey, came in from New Boston, N. H., in 1805, and settled a mile west of Preston Corners, on a farm adjoining his brother's, which is now occupied in part by Augustus Slater and his son Edwin Kelsey, the latter of whom owns the homestead plot. He married Mary Tewksbury, of Vermont, in the winter of 1804, and moved in with his wife the following spring. He afterwards removed a mile further west to the farm now owned by James D. Franklin, where he died March 16, 1851, aged 76, and his wife Oct. 29, 1869, aged 85. His children were Caroline, Mary Ann, widow of Nelson M. Slater, (who died Aug. 23, 1872,) and is living at Preston Corners with her youngest son, Augustus W.; Daniel D., living in Pharsalia; Emeline, who married Henry Ferry and lived and died in Norwich in 1876; Delia E. and Julia, unmarried, and Edwin, living together at Preston Corners; Jane R., wife of Charles Wallsworth, living in Norwich, and Hannah N., wife of Jeduthan Newton, also of Norwich.

Other early settlers were: Rev. Hazard Burdick, who settled near the line of Plymouth, afterwards removed to the Rhode Island settlement and died there Jan. 25, 1841, aged 82, and Esther, his wife, Aug. 28, 1847, aged 95; (Their children were Hazard, who died Nov. 31, 1873, aged 89, Samuel, John, and three daughters, one of whom married David Eccleston, son of the original settler of that name;) Abraham Avery,

who settled on the Norwich road, two and one-half miles east of Preston Corners, on the farm now owned by the heirs of Augustus Ross, and after the death of his wife, Mercy, removed to the town of Hamilton, where he died; Micah Gross, who settled on the road from Preston to Norwich, and afterwards removed to the locality of North Norwich; Phineas Wells, who settled a mile and a half east of Preston Corners, where Patrick and John Redden now live, and died there Feb. 8, 1831, aged 59, also Electa, his first wife, Oct. 18, 1806, aged 33, and Abigail, his second wife, Aug. 31, 1829, aged 61; Lucius Graves, who married Submit, sister of Daniel Scott, (who settled in the south edge of Plymouth,) and settled in the north part of the town, where Noah Wightman now lives, and died there Feb. 24, 1842, aged 66, and his wife August 17, 1851, aged 77; Capt. John Harvey, a Revolutionary soldier, who settled about a mile and a half south-west of Preston Corners, afterwards removed to the Corners and died there May 9, 1848, aged 86; Major James McCall, who settled in the south part of the town, a mile below the Center, on the place now owned by John Miner, and died Jan. 25, 1867, aged 80, and his wife Hannah, Oct. 11, 1855, aged 72; Wade and Clark Hough, brothers, who came from the New England States, and settled, the former three-fourths of a mile below Preston Center, where Edward Coville now lives and died there August 14, 1865, aged 77, and his wife, Mary, June 5, 1868, aged 79, and the latter on the farm next south, where James Thompson now lives, and died there Dec. 5, 1854, aged 62, and Servivah E., his wife, March 6, 1867, aged 70; Gurdon Whiteley, who was born in Lebanon, Ct., in 1790, was a bachelor, and made his home with Clark Hough, where he died Dec. 24, 1864; Ephraim Wells, who settled about a mile east of the Center, where Michael Scanlon now lives, and died there; Angell Stead, who settled on the same locality as Wells, his farm being also occupied by Michael Scanlon, where he died June 27, 1833, aged 54, and Ruth, his wife, April 19, 1842, aged 67; Capt. Joseph Slater, who settled on the farm next east of Stead's, which is now occupied by Edward Clark, and died there; Major Gideon Wetmore, who settled half a mile below the Center, on the place now occupied by Charles Breed, and after the death of his wife, Sarah Scott, March 18, 1856, aged 84, removed to Norwich, where he died Dec. 21, 1861, aged 92; Asa Fanning, a Revolutionary soldier, and a brother-in-law of David Eccleston's, came in from the New England States, and settled about a mile south-east of Preston Corners, where Patrick Casey now lives, and died there; Cyrryl Carpenter came in from the New England States and settled on the farm opposite Major Wetmore's, which is now owned by

Charles Breed, where he died June, 1, 1832, aged 73, and Lydia, his wife, May 12, 1837, aged 72; Joshua Aldrich, who settled in the north-east part of the town and removed when well advanced in years to North Norwich, where he died Oct. 17, 1849, aged 90, and Ruth, his wife, Jan. 11, 1851, aged 95; George Crary, the death of whose infant child is said to have been the first in the town; and William McAlpine, who was the first teacher in the town.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of William Palmer, April 14, 1807, and the following named officers were elected: John Noyes, Supervisor; Thomas Richmond, Clerk; Randall Billings, Joshua A. Burk and Simon Willcox, Assessors; Frederick Bacon, Collector; Dudley Hewitt and Sylvanus Moore, Overseers of the Poor; Abijah Barrow, Benjamin Ketchum and Samuel Nichols, Commissioners of Highways; Elisha Spafford, Frederick Barrow, Hugh Smith, Jr., James Sloan and Thomas Randall, Constables; William Smiley, Jr., Jesse T. Leach and Jonas Marsh, Fence Viewers; David Eccleston, Jonas Marsh, Simon Willcox and Ebenezer Willcox, Pound Keepers.

The following list of the officers of the town of Preston, for the year 1880-81, was kindly furnished by George A. Smith:—

Supervisor—Rowland B. Bliven.
 Town Clerk—George A. Smith.
 Justices—William Ross, Edward S. Clark, William Smith.
 Assessors—William A. Brown, Michael O. Day, Sylvester Crumb.
 Commissioner of Highways—William H. Packer.
 Overseer of the Poor—Rufus Graves.
 Constables—Loren H. Janes, Franklin P. Maxon, Charles Roe.
 Collector—Franklin P. Maxon.
 Inspectors of Election—Loren H. Janes, Henry B. Seely, George H. Nicholson.
 Town Auditors—William B. Lewis, Dudley Brown.
 Sealer of Weights and Measures—Charles W. Powers.
 Excise Commissioner—Prentice Evans.

PRESTON VILLAGE.

Preston is situated north of the center of the town, on the stage line from Norwich to Cortland, and is distant from the former village about five miles. It receives a mail each alternate day from the east and west. As viewed from the range of hills in the west part of the town, it, with the hills, upon the side of which it is situated, presents a pleasing appearance. It contains three churches, (Baptist, M. E. and Universalist,) one district school, one hotel, which was built in 1836 by Colonel Daniel Noyes, who kept it for a while, and has been kept the last seven years by

James Jackson Noyes, a blacksmith shop, kept by George Smith, a shoe shop, kept by Loren Janes, a cheese factory, and a population of 63. The place is locally known as Preston Corners.

MERCHANTS.—Ebenezer Hall, of Massachusetts, sent his son and a man named Pelton to open a store here, about 1830. They did business here but a few years. They are believed to have been the first merchants at the Corners. They traded in the building next south of the hotel, which is now occupied by George Smith, the blacksmith. Peter Ely afterwards kept a small grocery for a short time. Daniel Noyes, son of Judge John Noyes, traded here four years, from 1837. There has been no store of any consequence here since. A few goods are kept in the bar-room of the hotel by the proprietor, Mr. Noyes. The post-office is also kept there. Charles W. Powers, the present Postmaster, was appointed in 1873.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician who practiced in this locality was Dr. Alexander Kelsey, who came from New Boston, N. H., his native place, about 1805, and settled about a mile west of Preston Corners, on the farm which is owned in part by Edwin Kelsey and in part by Charles W. Powers. He practiced here till about 1813, when he removed to Monroe county, where he was killed by the fall of a tree while riding out to visit a patient. He was probably the first physician in the town.

The first physician to locate at the Corners was Dr. William Mason, from whom they were once known as Mason's Corners. He came from Windham county, Conn., about 1809. He had studied medicine in Connecticut, but this was his first field of practice. He continued practice here till 1853, when failing health compelled him to relinquish it, and he removed that year to Norwich village to live with his son, William N., where he died Jan. 13, 1860, aged 73. His wife died in Preston in 1853, and that bereavement was the immediate cause of his removal to Norwich. They had three children, William N., a lawyer, who married Sarah M., daughter of George A. Cary, son of Anson Cary, one of the first settlers in Oxford, with whom he is now living in Norwich; Harriet B., who married Dr. D. P. Pancost, of Camden, N. J., where they settled and are still living; and Lydia Amelia, who died at the age of 14 years. Dr. Mason represented this county in the Assembly in 1820-22. Dr. Mason came in with his father, General James Mason, who brought in a large family and settled just east of Preston Corners, where he died Sept. 10, 1820, aged 61. His wife, Abigail, died in the house which forms a part of the residence of Edwin Kelsey May 8, 1836, aged 74. Julia, widow of Deacon Phineas Atwater, of Guilford, now living at Preston

Corners is the only member of the General's family living. Dr. Mason occupied the house in which Dr. Thomas Dwight now resides.

Dr. Thomas Dwight was born in Cincinnati, Sept. 1, 1817. He studied medicine with Dr. William Mason at Preston Corners, and was graduated from Geneva Medical College in February, 1847. He commenced practice at Preston Corners in 1845, and has since practiced there.

DeWitt C. Crumb, a native of Preston, son of Ralph Crumb, studied medicine with Dr. Thomas Dwight, and practiced here from 1871 to 1873, the first year in company with Dr. Dwight. He removed to Otselic, where he is now practicing.

CHURCHES.—The first Church in the town was of the Baptist denomination. It was organized in 1806, by Elder Haskall, the first preacher.* We find a record of a religious society in this town, which was organized June 20, 1801, as "The Second Society in the town of Norwich, known by the name of Cheley," at a meeting "of the inhabitants on the square No. 14," (the present town of Preston,) Silas Champlin and Gurdon Hewitt were chosen returning officers, and Silas Champlin, Nathan Squire, Frederick Bacon, Israel Clark, Randall Billings and Thomas Richmond were elected trustees. The record does not indicate the denomination. The next of which we have any information was the Seventh Day Baptist Church on Rogers street, which was organized in 1816. This latter was incorporated Feb. 9, 1835, as *The First Seventh Day Baptist Society of Preston*, at a meeting held at the house of William Clark in Preston. John J. Maxson was chairman of the meeting and Elder Burdick Wescote, clerk. Nathan Rogers, William Clark and Nicholas Rogers were elected trustees. The church belonging to this society was built about that year.

The First Congregational Union Society of Preston, was organized March 27, 1822, by a committee of the Union Association consisting of Revs. Charles Thorp and Asa Donaldson and Mr. Asa Bradley, and was incorporated at Crandall's Inn in Preston, April 17, 1822. Randall Billings and Samuel Seymour were chosen presiding officers of the meeting held for the purpose, and Ephraim Wells, Abner Dickinson, Calvin Comstock, William Packer, Jr., Eiel Williams and Samuel Seymour were elected trustees. This Society, which had become dissolved by reason of negligence to elect its officers, was re-incorporated March 31, 1836, as *The First Congregational Society of the Town of Preston*, the word *Union* being omitted. James McCall, Abner Dickinson, Ebenezer W. Coville, Elisha Packer, George Wells and Lester Turner were elected trustees at that time. A church was built at

the Center in 1835, and the society prospered for several years, as late as 1848.

The Baptist Society of Preston was organized at a meeting held in the school-house near Daniel Noyes, Jr.'s., in Preston, Monday, Nov. 13, 1837. Jabez S. Swan and Samuel Noyes were chosen to preside at that meeting, and Joseph Slater, John Hall, Allen Park, Galon Willmarth, Samuel Noyes and Elias Breed were elected trustees. *The Preston Baptist Church*, at Preston Corners, the outgrowth of this society, was organized May 2, 1838, at the meeting house, where religious services had previously been held a short time by Elder Jabez S. Swan, who was chosen moderator of the meeting, and was the first pastor. The original members were Gershom Noyes, Joshua Swan, Jr., Ezra Bradley, William B. Lewis, Samuel Noyes, Harry Noyes, Isaac Noyes, Aaron Strong, James August Surine, Ebenezer Hall, John Hall, William Hull, Elder Jabez S. Swan, who settled in the town about 1837, Polly Noyes, Lydia Nichols, Sally Bradley, Lydia Slater, Rachel Lewis, Electa Noyes, Hannah Noyes, Orinda H. Ray, Caroline Ray, Mary Ray, Lydia Eccleston, Adaliza Fletcher, Maria M. Fletcher, Phebe Hall, Adaliza Hall, Mary Hall, Persis Noyes, and Lydia Houghtaling.

Articles of faith and covenant were adopted May 2, 1838, and they were admitted to Church fellowship, by a council convened for the purpose at Preston, Nov. 27, 1838. They were received into the Chango Baptist Association Sept. 6, 1839.

Elder Swan closed his labors April 1, 1839, having served them half the time from Dec. 1, 1838. He was succeeded by Levi Peck, who was invited in April to stay two weeks with a view to settlement as pastor, and received a call May 12, 1839. He closed his labors in the spring of 1840. He is now living in Delaware county, aged 88. Elder Peck was followed in March, 1840, by Elder Caleb Bush, who received a call March 31, 1840, and closed his labors in the spring of 1842. Sept. 3, 1842, Henry H. Rogers was voted a license to preach, and it is presumed that he, though he was never ordained, filled the interval from the time Mr. Bush left till the next regular pastor began his labors, which seems to have been Rev. Mr. Downer whose name first appears in the records March 2, 1844. Mr. Downer served them about two years. He was succeeded in May, 1844, by Nelson Crandall. The Church having in 1847 just finished paying for their house seem to have labored under peculiarly stringent pecuniary embarrassments about this time, for Jan. 8, 1848, they voted to dismiss Mr. Crandall, because of their inability to support his "large family." He preached his farewell sermon April 2, 1848.

Reuben L. Warriner commenced his labors with the church April 30, 1848, and was called to the

* French's Gazetteer.

pastorate May 6, 1848, serving them six years. During his pastorate, in 1850, the church was reduced in size from 40 by 60 feet to 34 by 46 feet, lowered eight feet, and proportionately reduced in height, at a cost of about \$800. Elder Warriner was a carpenter and worked upon the church while it was being rebuilt.

Elder Warriner was succeeded in the pastorate by O. Bennett and he by M. M. Everts, the latter of whom remained two years. He came Jan. 15, 1856, in company with Elder Yale, and under their joint labors a revival was inaugurated which resulted in ten conversions. Elder Everts commenced his labors as pastor April 7, 1856. About the close of his pastorate the Church numbered 67. April 1, 1858, O. Bennett again began preaching and continued about two years. He was succeeded April 8, 1860, by W. F. Benedict, a student from Madison University, who preached his farewell sermon March 24, 1861.

April 14, 1861, Henry Garlick commenced a three years' pastorate which was early signalized by a marked activity in both the spiritual and temporal concerns of the Church. April 21, 1861, the Sabbath School was organized, with Elder Garlick as general superintendent, Deacon William B. Lewis as assistant, and Rudolphus Wallsworth as librarian. The report to the Association that year shows the number of scholars to have been 78 and teachers 12. In 1861 a parsonage was purchased at a cost of \$1,100.

After Elder Garlick left, the pulpit was supplied for about two years, principally by J. S. McKeen and W. C. Gunn, students from Madison University, the former of whom served them about a year. In 1866, the interior of the church was remodeled. Marcus Bennett became the pastor in the spring of 1867 and remained one year. He was succeeded by his brother, J. L. Bennett, who was dismissed April 23, 1871. He was followed by James Heath, who closed his labors in December, 1872. L. F. Moore, the next pastor, commenced his labors in January, 1873, and remained a year and a half. He was succeeded by T. J. Whittaker, who commenced his labors Oct. 4, 1874, and continued them two and a half years. After Elder Whittaker left, the pulpit was supplied for a few weeks by Rev. A. B. Jones, and from that time till April, 1878, when Rev. A. P. Merrill, the present pastor, commenced his labors, by various students from Madison University.

In 1875, the church was painted inside, the seats turned, and the pulpit removed from the south to the north end.

The present membership (July, 1879,) is 53.

The First Universalist Society of the Town of Preston was organized at a meeting held in the school-house at Preston Corners, Dec. 18, 1843. Solomon Wait was appointed Moderator and George A. Throop,

Clerk, Augustus Ross, Joel F. Gleason and Lyman Smith were elected Trustees. The nucleus of the church was gathered the preceding winter, under the ministrations of Rev. John T. Goodrich, who was then pastor of the church in Oxford, and who continued to officiate here for several years, during the period of his pastorate at Oxford. Mr. Goodrich is supposed to have been burned in the Chicago fire, as he was there the night previous to its occurrence and has not been seen since.

Prominent among the original members were Augustus Ross and his wife Lois, Joel Gleason and his wife Louisa, Lyman Smith and his wife Sally, Solomon Wait and his wife Sally, Polly, daughter of Augustus Ross, (now living,) Alfred Clark, (now living in Preston,) and his wife Susy and daughter Electa, now the widow of Wesley Powers, and living in Preston, George Throop, Lydia, daughter, and Lester, son of Lyman Smith, the latter now living in Oxford, and Elizabeth Johnson.

The building of the church was begun in 1848, and finished in 1849. It was dedicated in June of the latter year.

The church has not had a resident pastor, and meetings are held only occasionally. The Universalists were far more numerous thirty years ago than now.*

The Preston Methodist Episcopal Church was organized as the Preston charge May 1, 1860, with William W. Andrews preacher in charge. The first stewards were King Evans, Lucius Aldrich, Calvin J. Wright, George Evans, and Horace Corbin; the first leaders, William Woodard, Peleg Ashcraft, King Evans and David Baldwin.

Rev. Mr. Andrews removed May 1, 1862. The interval from that time to 1865 is supposed to have been filled by Rev. Mr. Brown. The pastors subsequent to that time were: A. M. Colegrove, 1865-67; McKendree Shaw, Feb. 2, 1867, and during that year; C. D. Shepherd, 1868; A. W. Barrows, 1869; Abijah Brown, 1870-72; J. Hurlburt, 1873-75; C. C. Williams, 1876; George Parsons 1877-78; and J. B. Santee, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in April, 1879.

Their church edifice was built in 1867, at a cost of about \$2,500. Services previous to that time were held in the Universalist church. June 21, 1871, the circulation of a subscription for the purpose of building a parsonage and barn was commenced, and \$1,342.85 was subscribed by 31 individuals. The parsonage was built in 1871.

The present membership is 59; the attendance at Sabbath-school, 125.

The county-house is located in this town on a

* Hatchin's History of Western New York, p. 294.

slightly eminence about a half mile south of Preston Corners. A description of it is given in connection with the county buildings, in the general history of the county.

On Fly Meadow Creek, three-fourths of a mile west of Preston Corners, is a saw-mill, which was built in the fall of 1833, by Aaron Lewis. It was afterwards sold to John Slater, who commenced the manufacture of cheese boxes and wagon hubs about 1844, and sold the property in May, 1847, to Wesley Powers, who increased the facilities for manufacturing in 1850, by the addition of a new shop, which was enlarged in 1858, by an addition for a planing machine. Mr. Powers continued the business till his death, Aug. 10, 1870, when it came into the possession of his son, Charles W. Powers, the present proprietor, who, in June, 1871, substituted a circular saw for the muley saw formerly used, at an expense of about \$1,500. June 21, 1876, the mill was burned, involving a loss of about \$3,000 on the mill, shop and their contents, and \$1,000 on lumber stored on the premises, on which there was no insurance. That fall the foundation for the present mill was built, and the following April the frame was put up and inclosed, the whole involving an expense of about \$1,000. The cheese-box factory has not been rebuilt. The business is now limited to the manufacture of lumber. The mill contains one of R. Hoe & Co.'s patent chisel tooth saws.

On Judson Creek, in the south part of Preston, is a saw-mill owned by Z. L. Drake, who came in possession in the spring of 1878, at which time he bought of Samuel E. Lewis. The mill was built by John Bliven about ten years ago, on the site of one built about fifty years ago by Abel Smith. It contains one circular saw.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—At a special town meeting, held Sept. 10, 1862, a bounty of \$100 was voted to volunteers who enlisted and were accepted from Aug. 20, 1862, to the expiration of the time in which the quota under the call for 600,000 men was required to be filled, to the number required to fill the quota of the town under that call. Henry P. Marion, William Packer and John C. Maxson were appointed a committee to pay said bounty.

January 6, 1864, a bounty of \$323, in addition to the \$300 voted by the Board of Supervisors, was voted to each volunteer accepted under the last call for 200,000 men. It was resolved to pay one-fifth of the principal sum required to meet this provision and the interest at 7 per cent. annually till the whole was paid. Jeduthan Newton, Jr., Samuel E. Lewis and Russell Maxson were appointed a committee to issue the bonds of the town, raise the money thereon and pay the bounties. The representatives from this dis-

trict in Senate and Assembly were requested to use their influence to secure the repeal of all laws in conflict with this action.

At a special meeting held April 29, 1864, a bounty of not to exceed \$400 was voted to each volunteer to the number necessary to fill the quota under the call of March 15, 1864, for 200,000 men.

At a special meeting held Aug. 4, 1864, a bounty not to exceed \$1,000 for three years' men, \$666.66 for two years' men, and \$333.33 for one year's men, was voted to each volunteer applied on the quota of the town under the call of July 18, 1864, for 500,000 men; and John C. Maxson, Rufus Graves and Joseph A. Coville were appointed to carry the resolution into effect, to issue bonds payable Feb. 1, 1865, for so much as could then be raised, the remainder to be paid Feb. 1, 1866, and were instructed to secure the requisite number of men for as much less as they could. This resolution was amended Sept. 6, 1864, by a vote of 70 to 28, so as to authorize the committee to pay an additional bounty of \$666.67 to recruits for one year. A proposition to increase the bounty to three years' men by \$200 was rejected by a vote of 17 to 86.

At a special meeting held Jan. 3, 1865, it was resolved to raise \$12,000, or so much thereof as should be necessary, to pay bounties to volunteers and persons furnishing substitutes under the call of Dec. 19, 1864, for 300,000 men. Clark T. Rogers and John C. Maxson were appointed to procure the men and pay, in their discretion, for one, two or three years' men such amount as they deemed best, not to exceed in the aggregate \$12,000; and they were authorized to pay to each person furnishing a substitute credited to the town on that call for three years \$800.

Following is a statement of bonds and other forms of indebtedness issued by the town in aid of the suppression of the Rebellion:—

Notes given in 1863 by Volunteer Committee to raise money to pay bounties,	\$ 1,400.00
Bonds issued March 12, 1864,	4,300.00
“ “ August 13, 1864,	15,000.00
“ “ May, 13, 1864,	3,000.00
“ “ Sept. 26, 1864,	1,558.00
“ “ Jan. 13, 1865,	10,000.00

Deduct amount of bonds canceled at the house of Van Ness Glazier, Feb. 14, 1865, for which the Committee had no use, \$1,800.00

Deduct Pro-	{ principal, 6,912.50	
ceeds from sale	{ interest, 255.38	7,167.88
of State Bonds,		8,967.88

Bonded indebtedness incurred by the town in aid of the war, \$26,290.12

The last of the war loan bonds were paid Feb. 1, 1870, principal and interest, and all the bonds except Nos. 1 to 8, both inclusive, for \$100 each, which were missing, were burned Feb. 20, 1871.

Statement of expenses incurred in aid of the war:—

Paid bounties to 14 volunteers to Nov. 6, 1863, \$100 each,.....	\$1,400.00
Expenses,.....	129.73
Paid bounties to 12 volunteers to March 17, 1864, \$323 each,...	3,876.00
Paid for printing bonds.....	\$11.00
“ “ Internal Revenue Stamps,	4.30
“ “ interest on money to De- lancey Wait,.....	2.23
Paid for interest on money to Rus- sel Maxson,.....	.87
	18.40
Paid bounties to 8 volunteers to May 7, 1864, \$375 each,.....	3,000.00
Paid for drafts on New York,....	72.50
Paid for stamp on joint note,....	5.00
	77.50
Paid bounty to one man enlisted in Virginia,.....	600.00
Paid Sweet & Wheeler on con- tract,.....	12,030.00
Paid J. A. Coville,.....	30.00
Paid expenses to Washington and other places to procure recruits,	310.44
Paid Austin J. Packer,.....	318.99
“ Perez Packer,.....	318.99
“ William Packer,.....	425.32
“ to 9 persons furnishing substi- tutes under call of Dec. 19, 1864, \$800 each,.....	7,200.00
Paid to one person furnishing sub- stitute under call of July 18, 1864,.....	800.00
Amount on deposit in Washington to pay for one man when enlist- ed and mustered,.....	350.00
Total,.....	\$30,885.37

The number who enlisted and were credited to this town, as appears from the records, was 86 soldiers and 13 seamen, of whom 17 were residents of Preston and 8 of other towns in this county; one bore the rank of captain and three were sergeants; 58 enlisted for three years, and one each for one and two years— with regard to the remainder the term of service is not indicated; two were students, thirty-eight farmers, two shoe-makers, two soldiers, and the professions of carpenters, boatmen, clerks and laborers each furnished one representative. So far as is indicated they were distributed among the various branches of the service as follows: Infantry regiments, 21 in the 114th, 5 in the 44th, 2 in the 89th, 8 in the 149th, 3 in the 161st, and 1 each in the 54th, 43d, 121st, 75th and 101st; cavalry regiments, 8 in the 10th, 10 in the

* Contract with Sweet & Wheeler for 16 men for \$15,600, eight for one year at the rate of \$950, and eight for three years, at the rate of \$1,000.

8th, 5 in the 22d and 1 in the 5th; artillery regiments, 2 in the 2d, 1 in the 16th; and 1 in the 8th New York Battery.

CHAPTER XXV.

TOWN OF McDONOUGH.

MC DONOUGH, the 13th of the *Twenty Townships* was formed from Preston April 17, 1816, and derives its name from Commodore Macdonough of the United States Navy, but retains a slight orthographical change. It is an interior town, lying south-west of the center of the county, and in the south-west corner of the *Twenty Townships*. It is bounded on the north by Pharsalia, on the east by Preston, on the west by German, and on the south by Smithville. The surface is hilly and in some places broken by deep ravines and sharp ridges extending north and south. It is well drained by numerous streams, the principal of which are Genegantslet creek, flowing south through the west part, and Ludlow and Bowman creeks in the south and east, all of which are confluents of the Chenango. Genegantslet Lake in the west part is a fine sheet of water, covering about 150 acres. It is about a mile long and half a mile wide. It is fairly well stocked with fish, principally pickerel, perch and bass. Salmon trout were introduced four years ago. Ludlow Pond in the south part occupies a deep indentation and is surrounded by primitive forests. It covers about 50 acres. Genegantslet creek furnishes some valuable mill sites, and the other streams less valuable ones.

It is mostly underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill Group, in which quarries have been opened on the Genegantslet; one south of the grist-mill in McDonough village, on the place of Monroe Fernald, which was opened 1878, and from which some excellent flagging stone is obtained; another is located about a mile below the village, on the farm of William L. Browne, and has been worked more or less for a great many years, but not much latterly. Stone well adapted to flagging, curbing and, though more rarely, building purposes has been obtained from it. The stone is of good quality and easily wrought.

The soil is mostly a slaty loam, of good quality, though better suited to the purposes of the dairy than to tillage; and notwithstanding the unevenness and great prevalence of surface rock, rendering much of it unfit for the plow, there is but little land that cannot be profitably turned into pasture. Dairying is the chief, almost exclusive branch of agriculture. The

dairies are mostly private. There are three creameries in the town: the Darling creamery at East McDonough, which is owned by Milton Darling, by whom it was built in the spring of 1878, and received in 1879 the milk of about 350 cows; another three miles north-west of East McDonough, built some twelve years ago and now owned by Asa Daniels, which made in 1879 about 100 pounds of butter per day; and a third in the south part of the town, about two miles from McDonough village, which was built in the spring of 1879 by the Wightman Bros.

In 1875 the population of the town was 1,271; of whom 1,236 were native, 35 foreign, and all white. Its area was 24,299 acres; of which 17,885 were improved; 6,119 woodland; and 295 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$809,520; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$116,945; of stock, 142,678; and of tools and implements, \$40,754. The amount of gross sales from farms was \$94,736.

There are nine common school districts in the town, each of which has a school-house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 424. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were six male and fourteen female teachers employed, ten of whom were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 369, of whom eleven were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 196.592; the number of volumes in district libraries was 570, valued at \$140; the number of school-houses was nine, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing 1 acre and 111 rods, valued at \$435, were valued at \$2,960; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$470,719. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 133, of whom 132 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and Disbursements for School Purposes:

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$	12.02
“ apportioned to districts	1,188.25	
Proceeds of Gospel and School Lands.....	99.62	
Raised by tax.....	258.99	
From teachers' board.....	337.00	
“ other sources.....	3.75	
Total.....	\$1,899.63	
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$1,703.12	
“ school apparatus.....	1.22	
“ “ houses, sites, fences, out- buildings, repairs, furniture, &c.....	91.88	
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	83.80	
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877...	19.61	
Total.....	\$1,899.63	

SETTLEMENTS.—The settlement of this town was begun in 1795, in which year several had located here, among whom were Sylvanus Moore, James Talmadge, Nathaniel Locke, Captain Joshua A. Burke, Loring and Emory Willard, and Henry W. Ludlow.

From a written account of his father's settlement here, prepared in 1879, by William S. Moore, in his 79th year, who is perhaps the best living authority with regard to the early settlement of this town, and to which we have been kindly permitted to refer, it appears that Sylvanus Moore made the first settlement. Sylvanus Moore emigrated from Simsbury, Conn., in 1795, with the intention of locating at Oxford, where there was then but one frame house, that of Benjamin Hovey's, but the prevalence of fever and ague along the river bottoms induced him to change his purpose. In Oxford he met Henry W. Ludlow, from New York, who had come on for the purpose of promoting the settlement of a large tract of land owned by his father in this town. From overtures made by Mr. Ludlow, among them a promise to speedily erect a saw-mill on the tract, Mr. Moore concluded to look at the land. He penetrated five miles into the wilderness, following a line of marked trees, before he found a desirable location. He contracted for one hundred acres, to which he soon after added another one hundred, in the south-east part of the town, the farm which is now occupied in part by Perry Tillotson, on which he continued to reside till his death, at the age of 81 years, and is buried in the cemetery on the farm. He was then a young, single man, without a dollar to apply on the purchase price of his farm. His entire wealth consisted of his clothes, an ax and a few shillings in money. With the latter he procured a few days' rations in Oxford, and started in early spring with a stout heart, a strong purpose and resolute will to wrestle with the harsh conditions which surrounded his future home. His land was densely covered with beech, maple, black cherry, basswood and ash, which was the prevailing timber in this section. His first work, as in all the new settlements in this country, was to roll up a log cabin and clear a spot for his first crops. This accomplished, he returned late in the fall to Oxford and taught school during the winter. The money thus earned was applied to the building of a house on his lands, and while this was in progress, in December, 1797, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Solomon Curtis an early settler one and one-half miles east of Oxford, on the farm now occupied by Andrew Morey. Their wedding tour consisted of the journey to their wilderness home. By what mode of conveyance the journey was made we are not advised. This was the first marriage contracted in the town.

Mr. Moore soon succeeded to the agency of Mr.

Thomas Ludlow's lands in this town, the son of that gentleman having become, by dissipated habits, incapacitated for that trust. After the completion of the State road to Ithaca he opened a public house to accommodate the tide of emigrants which passed over it in search of homes in the Genesee country. The increasing travel and new accessions to the settlements soon necessitated an addition to his house. This was the first public house in the town, and was opened in 1799. Mr. Moore continued to dispense these hospitalities for many years.

Having paid for his farm, and raised sons large enough to undertake its management, he relinquished the farm to them and bought the Ludlow mill property together with one hundred acres of land, and devoted himself to its management. He soon rebuilt the mill and purchased an additional three hundred and eighty acres of land, mostly covered with pine timber, so that he was able to supply the demand for lumber. This saw-mill was built by Henry W. Ludlow in 1798, on the outlet of Ludlow Pond, named from the builder of the mill. It was the first mill in the town and tended largely to promote the settlements in this locality. Mr. Moore still continued to invest in lands until he had acquired 1,100 acres free from debt.

He was early commissioned captain of a military company, then an office of no little distinction, and held his commission until he became the oldest member of his regiment. He represented the town as Supervisor some eight or ten years, and was magistrate for a number of years.

The great abundance of game and fish in the forests and streams vastly mitigated the privations to which the early settlers were exposed; indeed without them the settlement and subjugation of this wilderness would have been well nigh impossible with the class of people who generally braved the trials and dangers incident thereto, as most of them were utterly destitute of means and depended largely upon these as a means of subsistence, especially during the earlier years of their settlement. Most of the early settlers therefore became more or less expert as marksmen. The gun was as indispensable as the implements of husbandry, not only as an aid in furnishing the means of subsistence, but also as a means of protection against the beasts of prey which infested the forests and were a constant source of alarm for many years.

On one occasion Mr. Moore was reminded during the early part of his settlement that the meat tub was getting low; so at the close of his day's labor he repaired to the woods with his gun and soon had the good fortune to start a deer, which he speedily shot. He was quickly on the spot and to his surprise he found that though he had seen but one, he had shot two, which lay within a rod of each other. His at-

tention was attracted by a rustling in the bushes near by and he discovered a third deer, which was rising to its feet. He instantly grasped it and with a tremendous effort succeeded in holding it till he cut its throat. Thus he had the satisfaction of carrying home three full grown deer, which was sufficient to replenish his meat tub and supply his neighbors besides.

Mr. Moore's wife was truly a help-mate. She was a woman of great energy and perseverance, as well as amiability, and greatly assisted by her industry in paying off the indebtedness on the homestead; for in addition to her domestic duties, including the manufacture of cloth from flax, a very essential crop, from which the clothing for the family was made, she also found time to assist her husband in various ways with his work of clearing up the land, and to weave for her neighbors who did not have looms. One season, while she had the care of five children, she carded, spun and wove two hundred pounds of wool for Mr. Ludlow, thus helping to make the last payment on their farm. Mrs. Moore was very skillful and successful in the treatment of disease and during the early years of settlement her aid was frequently called into requisition in critical and dangerous cases, so that for many years, when professional aid was not easily obtained, she supplied quite satisfactorily that deficiency. Her oldest daughter has in her possession an old account book of her mother's which contains a record of one hundred and forty-four births which she attended professionally, and this number does not include the many for which payment was made at the time and of which no record was kept. She died in 1822, at the age of 44 years.

After the death of his first wife Mr. Moore married Miss Polly Coville, who is still living in Oxford, with her son, Thomas, aged 89 years. He had six children by his first wife, Eliza T., William S., Nathaniel Locke, Joshua Burke, Lysander and Cynthia H.; and three by his second, Mary, Thomas and George. Eliza T., who was born March 20, 1799, was the first white child born in the town of McDonough. She is still living in the town. She married Daniel Smith, who died where she now lives, Sept. 25, 1877. William S., married Mercy Hayes and settled in Guilford, where he still lives. Nathaniel Locke married Polly Palmer of Rochester, where he was then teaching school. He settled and still lives in McDonough, where his wife died Sept. 15, 1877. Joshua Burke died young and unmarried. Lysander married Esther Willcox, with whom he is now living in McDonough, where they first settled and have lived 51 years. Cynthia married Vinson Loomis and settled in Smithville, where both died. She died Aug. 8, 1839. Mary married Edward Curtis and is living in Washington,

D. C. Thomas married Maria Randall, and after her death, Elizabeth Dushong. He is now living in Oxford. George married Lorette Widger and is living in the Western States.

Jonah Moore, brother of Sylvanus, came in some three or four years later and settled on the farm adjoining his brother's on the east, where Peter Sharpe now lives. He was drowned in the Chenango at Oxford some sixty-five years ago, under circumstances which induced the belief that he was murdered. He married, shortly before coming here, Marcia Pierce, by whom he had ten children: Lyman, who died in Oxford, unmarried, when a young man; Chester, who married Patty Cleveland and lived and died in the town in 1876; Phebe, who died young and unmarried; Stoughton, who married Maria Sherburne, of Sherburne, and lived and died in St. Catharine's, Canada; Sylvanus, who went South and married there; Barney, who married and removed to the west part of the State and died there; James, who married, lived and died in the West; Henry, who died unmarried at an advanced age; Zalmon, who married Hannah Willcox and lived and died in the West; and Marcia, who died in the West, unmarried.

James Talmadge, Nathaniel Locke and Captain Joshua A. Burke settled in the same locality and within a mile of Sylvanus Moore, the former on the place now owned by H. O. Curtis, of Oxford, in the east part of the town. His death was the first in the town. Locke afterwards removed to Oxford and died there. Burke settled in the locality of Ludlow Pond, where C. Eccleston now lives. He taught the first school in the town, and afterwards removed to New Hampshire.

Loring and Emory Willard were young, single men, and brothers. They removed about 1801 to Cayuga, on the east shore of Cayuga Lake, where they married, raised up families, and were active participants in the events connected with the early settlement of the town of Aurelius, and where descendants of theirs still live. Loring died there in 1845.

Henry Ludlow settled at the head of Ludlow Pond, but there is nothing left to mark the locality of his settlement. He built on the outlet of that Pond, and on the site of the one now owned by Stephen L. Eccleston, the first saw-mill, and the first mill of any kind in the town, as before noted. He also kept in his house the first store in the town. He opened it in 1802, but kept it only a short time. It is presumed that he kept the goods mostly for the accommodation of those in his employ and the new settlers then coming in. He held the agency for the sale of the lands of his father, Thomas Ludlow, till dissipation unfitted him for that office. He died on the limits of Norwich, Sept. 7, 1814, aged 40.

Ephraim Fish and Nehemiah Dunbar came in soon after Moore, and settled on adjoining farms on the old State road, about three miles east of McDonough village, Fish on the farm now occupied by Ira Hiller, and Dunbar where Charles Dunning now lives. Reuben and Benjamin Fish were sons of Ephraim, and Ephraim Fish now living in McDonough is a grandson; but none of his children are living. Dunbar died where he settled and left a somewhat numerous family. His children were: Polly, who was born in Greenfield, N. Y., June 16, 1796, married Walter Oyshterbanks and settled in the town, and after the death of her husband, June 12, 1862, went West and died in Ann Arbor, April 15, 1872; Sally, who married Friend Hayes and is living in Guilford, having again married since the death of her first husband; Hannah, who married and settled in Oxford and died there; Willard, who married "Hopy," daughter of Daniel Matteson, and lived and died in the town; Cynthia, who married Henry Hamilton, settled on the old homestead, and afterwards removed to Cortland county, where she now resides; and Samantha, who married Prince Hiller, settled in McDonough, and is now living in Smithville.

Benjamin Ketchum and his brother-in-law, Benjamin Kenyon came in about 1796, and settled on adjoining farms about four miles south-east of McDonough village, Ketchum on the farm now owned by Amelia Dailey and occupied by Charles Curtis, and Kenyon on the farm now occupied by the Wightman brothers. Ketchum afterwards removed to Smithville, and after four or five years to the springs in the south edge of McDonough and died there. His wife was probably the first white female who died in the town.* Ketchum's children were: John, who removed to Ohio when a young man; Isaac, who married a Hotchkiss and settled in Smithville, afterwards removed to Binghamton, but died in Smithville while on a visit Dec. 17, 1873, aged 77; and Sally, who married Hiram Read and settled on a part of the Ketchum farm in Smithville. They afterwards removed to the town of Greene, where both died only a few years ago. Benjamin Kenyon died near where he settled, near the springs in McDonough. His children were: John, who removed to Onondaga county on becoming of age, and is now living in Niagara county; Polly, who married Amos Burdick and removed to Illinois, and subsequently to Michigan, where she died; Hannah, who went to Onondaga county, and married there; Israel, who married Sally Philley and settled in McDonough, where both now live; Singleton, who married Susan Hiller, and set-

* French says her death was the first in the town; but Lysander Moore, son of Sylvanus, says that is not the fact—that James Talmadge was the first person who died in the town.

ted and is now living in McDonough; and Lydia, who married a man named Allen, and lived and died in Cortland county.

William Mead, who soon after removed from the town, and Joseph and Ransom Cook, brothers, came in about 1798, the latter from Simsbury, Conn. Joseph Cook settled a half mile west of Sylvanus Moore, and Ransom on the farm adjoining his on the north, where he and his wife died. Their brother John came in soon after, and he and Joseph removed to the town of Franklin in Delaware county. Their father, Ebenezer Cook, came in some twenty years after, and settled a little north of Sylvanus Moore's, on land which now forms a part of Eli Corbin's farm. His wife died in the town, but he returned to Connecticut before her death and died there. He was poor and lived mostly with his children. None of Ransom's children are left here. They removed to Ohio, some before and some after his death. Two or three of the family are now living there.

Other settlers of about this period were Edward Colburn, John Anderson, Daniel Wainwright and M. Turner. Wainwright settled, but remained only a short time, about a mile east of McDonough village, on the farm afterwards occupied by William Norton, who came in from Vermont about 1803 or '4. One son, William, is now living in German, aged about eighty.

The first settler on the site of McDonough village was a man named Dibble, who came in about 1805. He was an auger maker and followed that vocation to some extent after settling here. He lived a good many years in the town, but removed previous to his death.

Adam Oyshterbanks,* who was born in Fairfield, Conn., March 28, 1769, came in from the east about 1808 and settled on the chestnut ridge, about two miles east of McDonough village, on the farm afterwards occupied by Adam Stanley, an early blacksmith at McDonough village, and at present by Leander Beebe. He afterwards removed to the locality of Milo Webb's mill, a little east of the village, and died there, August 2, 1826. His children were Abby, who married Roswell Button, lived at first with her father, afterwards removed to Pharsalia, and subsequently to Pennsylvania, where she now resides; Laura, who married Albert Allen and settled first in McDonough, but is now living in Michigan; Betsey, who married Nathan Daniels, settled in McDonough, and afterwards removed to Wayne county; Aaron, who married a Sibley and settled in Wayne county, now living in Michigan; and Walter, who was born in New Baltimore, N. Y., August 18, 1792, married Polly Dun-

*This name is spelled as above in old records and upon the monument which marks his grave; but the descendants now omit the prefix *Oyshter*, which Walter O. Banks of German, a grandson says is simply a nick name appended to Banks, which is the correct name, and uses the initial letter of *Oyshter* as a middle initial.

bar, and settled and died in German, June 12, 1862. Numerous descendants of this family are scattered over the country; but only three are living in this State, Harmon O. Banks in Greene, Loren O. Banks in Wayne county, and Walter O. Banks in German, all sons of Walter and grandsons of Adam.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Sylvanus Moore, March 4, 1817. James Sowles was chosen moderator and Amos Randall to preside. The following named officers were then elected: James Sowles, Supervisor; Gates Willcox, Clerk; Richard Baldwin, Henry Williams and Alexander Daniels, Assessors; Daniel Baldwin and William Beardsley, Poormasters; John Willcox, Isaac J. Stratton and Darius Babcock, Commissioners of Highways; John Gale, Ransford B. Comstock and Sylvanus Moore, Commissioners of Schools; Ira Hayes, Hubbard Beckwith and Gershom Noyes, Constables; Richard Baldwin, Town Agent; Nehemiah Randall, Josiah Randall and Daniel Raymond, Fence Viewers; Daniel Matthewson, Darius Babcock and Nehemiah Dunbar, Pound Keepers, and it was voted that their respective barnyards be a common pound; and Nehemiah Randall, Amos Randall, Gershom Noyes, Jr., Amos Carruth, James Sowles and Sylvanus Moore, Inspectors of Common Schools.

The following list of the Officers of the Town of McDonough, for the year 1880-'81, was kindly furnished by Edward A. Gault:—

Supervisor—Frank T. Corbin.

Town Clerk—Edward A. Gault.

Justices—V. C. Emerson, Stephen Lewis, P. W. Twitchell and G. I. R. Lewis; Seymour Martin after Jan. 1, 1881.

Assessors—Emerson A. Gale, Merville E. Harrington, Don D. Corbin.

Commissioner of Highways—Seth Willcox.

Overseers of the Poor—Israel Kinyon, D. O. Gale.

Constables—Ansel E. Beckwith, Frank S. Martin,

Jackson McMinn, Jeremiah Calbert, George W. Roe.

Collector—Nathaniel C. Thornton.

Inspectors of Election—Alvin W. Barrows, Albert B. Merriam, Henry Dolan.

Town Auditors—Henry M. Lamb, William J. Dailey and Lewis P. Blair.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Levi Sanford.

Game Constable—Benjamin L. Thompson.

Excise Commissioners—George W. Crandall, Wm. M. Barnes, William Hayden.

At the annual election held April 29, 1817, and the two succeeding days, the following votes were cast:—

For DeWitt Clinton, for Governor.....	28
“ John Taylor, for Lieut.-Governor.....	27
“ John Lounsberry, for Senator.....	26
“ Jabez D. Hammond, for Senator.....	26
“ Tilly Lynde, for Assemblyman.....	25
“ Perez Randall, for Assemblyman.....	25
“ Simon G. Throop, for Assemblyman.....	25

Names of persons liable to serve as jurors in McDonough, July 1, 1817:—

Levi Carruth, William Beardsley, James Bixby, Daniel Baldwin, Nehemiah Dunbar, Benjamin Kinyon, Daniel Matthewson, Amos Randall, James Sowles, John Willcox, Stephen Curtis, Jesse Beardsley, Hubbard Beckwith, Isaac Baldwin, Alexander Daniels, Diodate Morgan, Jabez Perkins, Ichabod Randall, Gates Willcox, Henry Williams, Elias Button, Darius Babcock, Richard Baldwin, Elijah Baldwin, Benjamin Enos, Sylvanus Moore, Alpheus Raymond, Isaac J. Stratton, Reuben Willcox.

MCDONOUGH VILLAGE.

McDonough is situated in the west part of the town on Genegantslet Creek, from which it extends nearly a mile west, and is distant about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Oxford. It contains two churches, (Baptist and Methodist Episcopal,) a district school, one hotel, which was built about 1844, by John F. Hill, has since received several additions, and is now kept by William L. Brown, five stores, two tanneries, two saw-mills, one grist-mill, a woolen-mill, four blacksmith shops, (kept by William R. Runyan, William Arnold, Levi Sanford and Bruce Sanford,) two wagon shops, (kept by Henry M. Lamb and Milton A. Pike,) two cooper shops, (kept by Thomas Dunning and Nathaniel Thornton,) a harness shop kept by Lafayette Bennett, (this business was carried on by William Smith from about 1840 till his death, March 14, 1878. He was succeeded by his son Charles E., who continued it one year. Bennett came in 1878,) and a population of about 300.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchant at McDonough, was John Fisk Hill, a native of Athol, Mass., who came to Oxford about 1818 and did business there with Epaphras Miller two years. He then removed to McDonough and commenced mercantile business in the old red store which occupied the site of the store now occupied by Joseph G. Brown, in company with Epaphras Miller of Oxford, whose interest he bought after about two years. In 1834 his brother Jacob P. Hill, who had clerked for him three years, became his partner; and in 1837 the latter bought John F.'s interest and associated with himself Martin Daniels, whose interest he bought after three years. Jacob P. Hill has since carried on business alone. The building in which John F. Hill commenced business has been twice moved and is now occupied as a dwelling by Nathaniel Thorington. He built the store now occupied by Mr. Brown about the time he dissolved partnership with Mr. Miller.

John Hill, father of John F. and Jacob P. Hill, came in from Richmond, N. H., in 1817, arriving at Preston in February of that year. The following March he removed to Chestnut ridge, two miles north-

east of McDonough village, where J. C. Simpson now lives. He died there Oct. 13, 1852, aged 80. His wife, Susanna, died in the house of her son, Jacob P., in apparent good health, while engaged in ordinary conversation, Dec. 24, 1846, aged 71. His children were, besides John F. and Jacob P., Susan, who married Ira Cole, and is living in the West, aged near 90; Chester, who died Dec. 1, 1873, aged 71, and Emeline B., his wife, Jan. 8, 1852, aged 45; Sophia, who married Samuel Bacheller, and died Oct. 24, 1855, aged 50, and her husband Feb. 24, 1844, aged 46; Edwin, now living in Norwich; and Theodore, the only one of the children born in McDonough, also living in Norwich.

The next merchant to John F. Hill was Ransom Rathbone, who lived and was engaged in mercantile business in Oxford, and owned in McDonough a paper mill, which was built by John Nevins, in 1828, and burned about 1836-'40; about 1833 Mr. Rathbone sent here his son Henry W., who carried on the mercantile business till his father's removal to Elmira, about 1839-'40. Mr. Rathbone built the store now occupied by V. C. Emerson.

Immediately after Rathbone discontinued, a "community store" was started by an association of farmers, under the firm name of Drew, Lull, Birdleough & Co., which was managed by Horatio Mack, assisted by Alex. Hamilton, and continued two or three years. About this period, from 1840-'2, Nelson Coville, a native of the town, was also engaged in trade here. His father, Micah Coville, who died here July 16, 1869, aged 87, built the first frame house in McDonough village, in 1818; and Leroy, son of Micah Coville, who was born in 1818, is said to have been the first white child born in the village. Nelson died Nov. 19, 1858, aged 47. The house, to which additions have subsequently been made, is still standing, and is now occupied as a residence by Charles K. Greene.

Theodore Hill, brother of John F. and Jacob P. Hill, was engaged in trade here from about 1841 to 1862, and was associated from about 1842-'7 with Martin Daniels. Samuel R. Blivin opened a shoe store about 1863, and sold about 1866 to Randall Perry, who sold to Stephen Lewis after about a year. Lewis, after a year or two, took in a partner and added groceries to the business, which he continued till 1875, when he sold to Seymour Martin, who added dry goods and clothing, and in February, 1876, sold to Eneas L. Ensign and James V. Galpin, who added drugs, and in September, 1877, sold to *Galpin & Dailley*. In August, 1877, Ensign and Galpin sold their stock of boots, shoes and ready-made clothing to *Lewis E. Burdick*, who is a son of William R. Burdick, of McDonough village, and who is still engaged

in the business, having added hides and leather thereto.

John Ostrander came in from Tully in the winter of 1869 and opened a hardware store and tin shop, and Oct. 1, 1871, sold to *Joseph G. Brown*, a native of Smithville, who still carries on the business.

Varanes C. Emerson, general merchant, commenced business here June 14, 1858, in company with Eleazer Isbell, whose interest he bought in December, 1865, since which time he has carried on the business alone. Mr. Emerson is a son of Moses S. Emerson, a native of Candia, N. H., who removed thence to McDonough in 1818. He was a carpenter and joiner and mill-wright, and followed that vocation in connection with the management of a small farm of thirty acres, in the village of McDonough, till 1846. He died of apoplexy Sept. 25, 1856, aged 51, while on a visit to his native place, but his remains were brought here for interment. Eliza, his wife, died March 22, 1874, aged 65. He had four children besides Varanes C. Maria T., who died in infancy, Elizabeth S., widow of David R. Randall, living in Wilkesbarre, Penn., Lucinda F., who married Jonathan C. Jones, of German, where she lived and died in May, 1878, and Herbert, who is now living on the homestead.

POSTMASTERS.—The post-office at McDonough was established about 1825, and John F. Hill, who was instrumental in securing its establishment was the first postmaster and held the office till 1837, when his brother, Jacob P., succeeded him, and held it till the return and re-appointment of John F., who had spent some five years in Catskill and Norwich. The latter then held it till his death, Nov. 1, 1846, when his brother Theodore was appointed and held the office till 1861. He was succeeded by his brother, Jacob P. Hill, who has since held the office, with the exception of 16 months under Andrew Johnson's administration, when Varanes C. Emerson held it. Mr. Hill was re-appointed within fourteen days after Ulysses S. Grant was inaugurated President. It is a noteworthy fact that, with the exception of these sixteen months, the office has been in the hands of the Hill family since its establishment.

When the office was first established the mail was carried on horseback, in saddle-bags, from Oxford, once a week, every Saturday, on the route from Oxford to Cincinnatus. In 1848, on the completion of the New York & Erie railroad to Binghamton, they commenced, and still continue, to receive a daily mail from Greene.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at McDonough was probably Russel W. Morley, who was licensed in New Hampshire and came from Athol, Mass., about 1818. He located on two acres, a mile east of Mc-

Donough village, which are now owned by Ross Blivin. He afterwards removed to the village and built the house where Mason Whipple now lives. He practiced here more or less till his death, April 29, 1859, aged 74, or until incapacitated by age. Silas G. Chappelle was practicing here as early as 1827, Oct. 9th of which year he joined the County Medical Society. He practiced a few years and removed to Penfield, Monroe county. Elam Bartlett and William D. Purple, the latter now of Greene, practiced here a short time between 1830 and 1840. Milton Mason, of Preston, commenced practice here about 1840 and continued till his death, Oct. 20, 1843.

Ephraim K. Frost, who was a physician, surveyor and farmer, came from New Hampshire about 1835, and followed all those vocations till 1854, when he removed to Delaware county, Iowa, and died there a few years ago. It is recollected that he had an inordinate appetite for petty town offices.

Seneca Beebe came from Lincolnaen in 1843 and practiced till 1858, when he removed to Norwich and practiced there, in Hamilton, Cincinnatus, and Oxford successively, in each place about a year. From Oxford he removed to Cincinnatus, and thence about two years ago to Marathon, where he now resides.

Eneas L. Ensign, son of Solomon and Irene Ensign, and the seventh of eight children, was born in Pitcher, Sept. 8, 1830. His earlier life was spent on the farm and at school, surrounded by the best of home influences. At the age of seventeen he began teaching, and from that time till he was twenty-one divided his time between teaching and attending school. At the age of twenty-one he commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Horace Halbut, of Pitcher, and the following year placed himself under the tutorship of his brother, Dr. Samuel Ensign, of Freetown, Cortland county, with whom he completed his studies in 1856, in the spring of which year he was graduated at the Albany Medical College, where he attended two courses of lectures. April 1, 1857, he bought Seneca Beebe's practice in McDonough, where he has since been in active practice.

Luther James Purdy commenced practice here Jan. 1, 1871, and after two years removed to Smithville Flats, where he has since practiced. Further mention is made of him in connection with the history of Smithville.

Lucian P. Ensign, nephew of Dr. Eneas L. Ensign, came in 1873 and practiced till 1877, when he removed to Nebraska.

Louis P. Blair, the only other physician now practicing here, was born in Castle Creek, N. Y., July 8, 1854, and received his literary education at Binghamton Academy. He commenced the study of medicine in the Buffalo Medical College in 1874, and in

1876 entered the Kentucky School of Medicine, where he was graduated June 28, 1877. He commenced the practice of his profession here in April, 1878.

LAWYERS.—Henry Welch, a native of this county, came here from Smithville in 1862, and practiced law one year. He removed to Norwich and subsequently entered the army, and is now practicing in Jefferson county. He is the only lawyer who has practiced at McDonough.

MANUFACTURES.—There are but few if any villages of its size in the county whose manufacturing interests have been as extensive and valuable as those of McDonough, though it has lost much of its former prestige.

The two tanneries are owned respectively by Mrs. Jeremiah Wormuth and William R. Burdick. The former was built, the main part of it, in 1832, by Nathaniel Ensworth, who carried on the tanning business one year, and sold to George and Charles Sherwood, who continued it three or four years. There have been a good many changes in proprietorship. About 1820, Joshua Fish built a small tannery, which forms a part of the present building. Fish was succeeded in the business by Ensworth in 1829. The other tannery was built in 1841 by the present proprietor, who formerly tanned 600 to 800 hides per year, though very little is now being done.

The saw-mills are owned respectively by Milo Webb and William R. Mygatt, the latter of Oxford. The former, located on the Genegantslet, was built by William Bartle, in 1833, on the site of one built by Adam Oyshterbanks about sixty years ago. It contains two saws, one upright and one circular. The fall in the creek at this point is about ten feet. The other saw-mill is situated on the outlet of Genegantslet Lake, which has a fall of about twelve feet. It was built about twenty years ago by Elihu Isbell, and contains one circular saw.

The grist-mill is a stone structure, situated on the outlet of Genegantslet Lake, below the saw-mill on that stream, and was built 61 or 62 years ago by Gates Wilcox, on the site of a woolen-mill erected by him some years previously.* It is now owned by Charles Greene. It contains three run of stones, which are propelled by a large overshot wheel, with a fall of about 26 feet.

The woolen factory is owned by Mrs. Seneca Beebe. It was built in 1841 by Martin Dodge, on the site of one built about sixty years ago by Harry and Martin Dodge, brothers, who operated it some fifteen years. It is located on the outlet, below the

grist-mill, and has a fall of twelve or fourteen feet. It is a small affair and is not doing much now.

Perhaps the most important of McDonough's manufacturing industries was the foundry and machine shop established in 1846 by Gilbert Sanford, who carried on the manufacture of edge tools, mill irons, and forks, axes and knives, employing four to eight men. It was located on the outlet just below the woolen-mill, and was carried away by the breaking of the reservoir dam in 1868. A machine shop was established on the outlet, between the woolen-mill and the grist-mill about 1824, by Jonathan Proctor, who carried on the manufacture of edge tools some ten years. Gilbert Sanford occupied that building about four years before he erected (in 1846,) the one carried away in 1868. It went to decay and no trace of it is left.

CHURCHES.—*McDonough M. E. Church.*—The first class was formed in 1815, under the labors of Revs. Geo. Harmon and Chas. Giles, and was composed of six members, viz: Walter Oyshterbanks and his wife Polly, Jacob Nash and his wife Lovisa, William Allen and his wife Susan. Walter Oyshterbanks was chosen the first class-leader, and was succeeded in that office in 1847, by Curtis Smith. Soon after the formation of the class, its numbers were augmented by Mary Nash, daughter of Jacob Nash, Arthisia Hazen and Mrs. Leonard, the latter of whom came on horseback, by marked trees, to the log house of Walter Oyshterbanks, the place of public worship.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of McDonough and vicinity held pursuant to previous notice in the school-house in McDonough village, Sept. 29, 1832, of which Rev. James Atwell and Walter Oyshterbanks were chairmen, and William D. Purple, secretary, the *society of the Methodist Episcopal church of the village of McDonough* was organized, and Isaac J. Stratton, Joseph J. Reed, Thomas Skillman, Walter Oyshterbanks and Elijah Gates were elected trustees. This action was preparatory to the erection of their present church edifice. The work of obtaining subscriptions therefor was first commenced in Oct., 1832, and \$1,159.50 was raised. Among the heaviest subscribers were Walter Oyshterbanks, Isaac J. Stratton, Martin Dodge, John F. Hill, and Richard Ray, who subscribed respectively sums varying from \$50 to \$150.

John F. Hill, William H. Bartle and Richard Sawtelle were constituted a building committee. The site for the church was deeded to the society by John F. Hill, as a part (\$50,) of his subscription of \$150. A receipt signed by Walter Oyshterbanks as Recording Steward, May 15, 1835, shows that Isaac J. Stratton had paid in all to that date \$333, and two years' labor. The same record has also a statement from

* Statement of William R. Burdick of McDonough. One authority consulted says it occupies the site of a grist-mill—the first in the town—built by Gates Wilcox in 1808.

Isaac J. Stratton, acting trustee, that Walter Oyshterbanks had paid \$83, and had faithfully attended and assisted in planning for the building of the church to its completion. The list of subscriptions shows that the entire community were very much interested in the building of the church, undertaken as the enterprise was when the financial ability of the whole community was somewhat limited. The mason work was done by Walter Oyshterbanks, Micah Coville and Samuel Bacheller; the carpenter work, under the supervision of Moses S. Emerson; and the joiner work under the supervision of Lester Tinker. The building of the church was begun in 1832. It was finished in 1833, and dedicated Aug. 14, 1834. In 1849-50 it was thoroughly painted inside and out, and a partition made between the entrance and audience room. In 1869 the church was thoroughly renovated and repaired at a cost of about \$1,500.

During the summer and fall of 1870 the church at Smithville Center, (a part of this charge,) was repaired and beautified at a cost of about \$700, and was reopened for worship Sept. 29, 1870. Cyrus Hayes was a prominent member of that church. He was its leader for thirty years and held every office in its gift with great acceptance. His death, which occurred Aug. 8, 1870, at the age of 66, was a severe blow to the little band at whose head he had been so long.

The present (August, 1879,) membership of the church in McDonough is 95, and of the church in Smithville, 57.

Curtis Smith continued to serve as class-leader till March 30, 1869, when he was succeeded by Francis T. Hall.

Following is the succession of pastors from the time the church was legally organized: James Atwell and Nelson Round, 1832-33; William N. Pearne and P. R. Kinne, 1833-4; William N. Pearne and William Wyatt, 1834-5; T. D. Mire and F. H. Stanton, 1835-6; Rosman Ingals and L. H. Stanley, 1836-7; C. L. North and Charles Burlingame, 1837-8; C. L. North, A. Brown and E. Colson, 1838-9; A. G. Burlingame and P. S. Wordin, 1839-40; Charles Burlingame and Levi Pitts, 1840-1, in which year McDonough was constituted a station; Elijah P. Beecher, 1841-3; James Atwell, 1843-4; Benjamin Ellis, 1844-6; George Evans, 1846-7; (at the Conference of 1847, McDonough and Smithville Center were constituted a circuit;) Elijah P. Beebe and George Evans, 1847-8; Elijah P. Beebe and C. Burton, 3 months, 1848-9; Edward W. Breckinridge and I. Moon, 6 months, 1849-50; Wm. N. Pearne, 1851-3; D. Thurston, 1853-5; R. O. Beebe, 1855-6; Robert Townsend, 1856-7; Alonzo Benjamin, 1857-8; W. W. Andrews, 1858-9; W. W. Andrews and Enos Puffer, 1859-60; O. Ellerson and Enos Puffer,

1860-1; O. Ellerson, 1861-2; T. Willis, 1862-4; W. R. Cochran, 1864-6; A. C. Smith, 1866-8; W. R. VanSchoick, 1868-71; E. W. Caswell, 1871-2; J. B. Chynoweth, 1872-5; William Burnside, 1875-8; and Isaac P. Towner, the present pastor, who commenced his labors in April, 1878.*

The First Regular Baptist Society of McDonough was organized at a meeting "held at the stated place of public worship of said society," Oct. 21, 1837. Pardon C. Blivin and Oliver H. Reed were chosen superintendents of election, and Samuel R. Blivin, Russell W. ———, † and Isaac R. Blivin were elected trustees.

The present house of worship occupied by this society was built in 1841. Their first church is now occupied as a dwelling by Levi Sanford. ‡

EAST McDONOUGH.

East McDonough, situated near the center of the east border of the town, contains one church, (Union) a district school, which is kept in the basement of the church, a small grocery, kept by Jeremiah Calvert, a cheese factory and a population of 43.

Deacon Elijah Thompson kept store here for several years some twenty-five years ago, in the building now occupied as a dwelling by John Franklin. He was succeeded by his son Giles, who traded three or four years in the building in which the widow of Edson Gale now lives, which then stood on the opposite side of the road from the old tavern stand, just west of the house now occupied by the widow of Rev. Cyrus Steere. The building was originally a barn or shop and has been moved four times. Ephraim Sprague, who came from the east, opened a store in the same building about 1865 and traded till his death two or three years after. He kept a general stock of goods and is the only one who has kept any considerable store here. Philo Fosgate commenced trading soon after Sprague's death, in the same building, which he removed to the corner opposite the old tavern stand. He sold after two or three years to his brother-in-law, Elijah W. Thompson, who continued the business till his death, Sept. 21, 1873. Jeremiah Calvert, Jr., came here from McDonough village in March, 1875, and has kept a small grocery since.

The post-office at East McDonough was established about thirty years ago, and Horace Corbin was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Stephen Randall, who held it from 1853 to 1857, when John Giles Thompson was appointed and held the office till Dec. 31, 1861, when Stephen Randall was again appointed

* *French's Gazetteer* says "the first religious association (M. E.) was formed in 1798." We have no data by which to verify this statement.

† This name is omitted in the record of incorporation.

‡ Promised data with regard to this church have not been furnished; hence we are unable to give any additional information respecting it.

and has held the office continuously since. An office was previously established a mile below East McDonough and Benjamin Randall was the postmaster there.

On a small stream emptying into Ludlow Pond outlet, about three miles south-east of McDonough village, is a saw-mill owned by E. J. Spaulding and built some 30 to 40 years ago. On Bowman creek, in the south-east part of the town, is a saw-mill which is owned by Nathaniel Locke Moore. It was built forty years ago or more.

There is a society of Free-Will Baptists in the locality of East McDonough, whose history dates back to an early period; but unfortunately promised data regarding it has for some reason been withheld. The first house of worship erected by this Society is supposed to have been the first church in the town. It stood in the north-east part of the town, a mile west of Steere's Pond (a sheet of water covering some 50 acres in the west edge of Preston,) and about a mile north of the present church, which was built in 1831. Elder Cyrus Steere was the first pastor.

The First Presbyterian Church of McDonough was organized July 28, 1814, by Rev. John Truair of Sherburne, with fourteen members, who were mostly from Massachusetts, and adopted the Congregational form of government. In February, 1817, it united with the Union Association and continued that connection till the dissolution of that body in February, 1822. The Church adopted the Presbyterian form of government in October, 1826, and united with the Presbytery of Chenango at the time of the first meeting of that body after its organization, June 29, 1826. April 9, 1827, "the Presbyterian congregation of McDonough met at the school-house in district No. 7, for the purpose of organizing an incorporated religious society." Jonas Herrick was chosen moderator and Samuel W. Knight secretary of the meeting, and Jonathan Proctor, Eliakim L. Corbin, Levi Carruth, Samuel W. Knight and Frederick G. —, were elected trustees.

Rev. Nahum Gould was the first minister after its union with the Presbytery of Chenango. He officiated as stated supply half the time for three and one-half years, from 1827-'31. Rev. John Ivison officiated half time for two and a half years from 1832-'35; Rev. Hiram Dyer, one-fourth time for two and one-third years, from 1836-'38; and Rev. Charles Bowles, one-third time, for two and one-half years, from 1838-'41. The number of members in 1846 was 37. The largest number reported at any time previous to that time was 46. The church has several times received aid from the American Home Missionary Society. They built a house of worship 48 by 38 feet, with

steeple and gallery, in 1838, but it was not completed in 1848.*

WAR OF THE REBELLION—The part taken by this town in aid of the war is one to which its inhabitants may point with just pride. The town furnished six men in excess of its various quotas. All the special meetings called to consider the question of paying bounties and to devise means for filling the quotas were held in the room of Varanes C. Emerson's store, which is hallowed by many of the gravest associations of that historic period.

At a special meeting held Sept. 20, 1862, it was resolved to pay a bounty of \$50 to each volunteer applied on the quota of the town under the call for 600,000 men after July 2, 1862. Eleazer Isbell, Eli L. Corbin, Joseph L. Beebe, Jacob P. Hill and Asa M. Daniels were appointed a committee to raise the money and pay said bounties. Sept. 26, 1862, the committee borrowed \$2,000 of the Bank of Norwich and gave their note therefor, payable in eighteen months. They paid to each of 27 individuals \$50, and to each of 13 individuals, \$48, making a total of \$1,974.

At a special meeting held Jan. 16, 1864, a bounty of \$323 was voted to each volunteer applied on the quota of the town under the recent call, and Varanes C. Emerson, Stephen Lewis 2d, and Charles T. Ackley were empowered to raise the money, pay the bounties and issue the bonds of the town for the amount necessary, payable Feb. 1, 1875.

At a special meeting held April 6, 1864, the Board of Town Auditors were authorized to pay to each volunteer applied on the quota under the call for 200,000 men, to the number required to fill the quota, a bounty not to exceed \$400, and to raise the money on the bonds of the town payable Feb. 1, 1865.

At a special meeting held June 21, 1864, the Board were authorized to pay a bounty not to exceed \$500, to each volunteer, or the person procuring him, to the number necessary to fill the quota under a call which was then anticipated, and to raise the money on bonds payable Jan. 1, 1866. August 6, 1864, it was resolved to modify this resolution so as to authorize the Board to raise on bonds payable Jan. 1, 1867, such sum as was necessary to pay each volunteer or person procuring him, credited on this quota, not to exceed \$1,000 for three years' men, \$700 for two years' men, and \$400 for one year's men; also to pay to each person furnishing a substitute credited on this quota, \$600 for three years', \$400 for two years', and \$200 for one year's men. Sept. 6, 1864, the resolutions of this latter date were so amended as to authorize

* *Holckhin's History of Western New York*, from which, and the *Record of Religious Incorporations in Chenango county*, the facts here stated are obtained.

the Board to pay \$1,000 each to the number necessary to make up the deficiency on the quota.

At a special meeting held Jan. 2, 1865, the Board were authorized to raise on bonds payable Jan. 10, 1866, and pay to each volunteer credited on the quota of the town under the call for 300,000 men, for one, two or three years, a sum not to exceed \$1,000; and to each person furnishing a substitute applied on that quota, \$800 for three years, \$600 for two years' and \$400 for one year's men, provided that no such person should receive more than the actual amount paid by him for such substitute. It was also resolved to pay \$600 to any person residing in the town and liable to the draft, who, during the year 1865, should procure a substitute credited to the town to apply on its quota under any anticipated call, or so much of that sum as was actually paid by the person procuring such substitute.

Statement of bonds issued by the town of McDonough in aid of the war:—

Feb. 1, 1864,	payable Feb. 1, 1865	.....	\$ 6,137.00
April 6,	"	"	..... 2,000.00
July 1,	"	Jan. 1, 1865 and '66	14,275.00
Aug. 6,	"	"	1, 1867 9,520.00
Jan. 10, 1865,	"	"	10, 1866 12,000.00
Feb. 7,	"	"	1, 1867 1,800.00

Total \$45,732.00

The number of men enlisted for and in the interest of this town was 87, of whom 14 enlisted in McDonough and 67 in other towns in the county, and 16 were substitutes. Only one man was drafted in the town, and he was killed; and there was only one who received neither town nor county bounty. Of the number, not less than 51 were farmers; 9 were sailors; and the rest represented some thirteen different vocations. The number who enlisted for three years was 72, for two years, 1, and for one year, 13. They were distributed among the various branches of the service as follows: Infantry regiments—114th, 12; 90th, 7; 161st and 144th, each, 2; 27th, 76th, and 188th, each, 1; and 185th, 3. Cavalry organizations—10th, 12th, 8th and 22d, each, 5. Artillery organizations—16th, 7. Navy, 5. Unassigned, 17; and unknown, 8.

STATEMENT OF BOUNTIES RECEIVED.

25	received a bounty of	.....	\$ 50.00
18	"	"	..... 323.00
1	"	"	..... 400.00
16	"	"	..... 800.00
4	"	"	..... 850.00
6	"	"	..... 900.00
1	"	"	..... 925.00
8	"	"	..... 950.00
5	"	"	..... 1,000.00
1	received no bounty.		

CHAPTER XXVI.

TOWN OF GERMAN.

GERMAN was formed from DeRuyter March 21, 1806, and derives its name from General Obadiah German, an early and prominent settler in the town of North Norwich, who is variously stated by different authors to have been "the original owner of the township," and "a former inhabitant." The records show that the tract of land embraced in the town of German was patented to John W. Watkins June 14, 1793. It is the southern portion of the *Gore*, and was originally named *Brakel Township*. Otselic was taken off March 28, 1817; Lincklaen, April 12, 1823; and the southern part of Pitcher, Feb. 13, 1827. It is the central town on the west border of the county. Its surface is hilly and abundantly watered by numerous small brooks, affluents of the Genegantslet, those in the north and east uniting to form Five-Stream Creek, all of them flowing in a southerly direction.

It is underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill, and Portage and Ithaca groups, those of the former covering the eastern, and those of the latter the western and major portion of the town. A quarry has been opened in the former, a little east of Five Corners, in the north-east part of the town, on the farm of Leander Tice, from which excellent stone for underpinning has been taken in considerable quantities; and in the latter, about three-fourths of a mile south-east of German, on the farm of Calvin Hathaway, from which considerable quantities of flagging and building stone have been obtained, though it has not been worked for several years. The soil in the village is a rich alluvion, while that on the hills is a sandy and gravelly loam, moist, and well adapted to grass culture. Dairying is the chief industry. There are two creameries in the town, one at Five Corners, owned by Mr. Hefty, by whom it was built in 1877; and one about four miles east of German, which was built in 1878, and is now owned and operated by the Messrs. Wightman Brothers. In the former butter alone is made; but in the latter, both butter and cheese.

In 1875 the population of the town was 665; of whom 645 were native, 20 foreign, 664 white and 1 colored. Its area was 17,086 acres; of which 11,633 were improved; 4,873 woodland, and 580 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$497,900; of farm buildings, other than dwellings, \$68,650; of stock, \$88,133; of tools and implements, \$13,870.

There are eight common school districts in the town, each of which has a school house within the town. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 229. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were five male and

eleven female teachers employed, eight of whom were licensed; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 201, of whom five were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 102.431; the number of volumes in district libraries was 525, valued at \$75; the number of school houses was eight, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing 2 acres and 28 rods, valued at \$270, were valued at \$2,920; the assessed value of taxable property in the districts was \$365,874. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 93, of whom 90 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year.

Receipts and Disbursements for School Purposes:

Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876,.....	\$	90
“ apportioned to districts.....		794.13
Raised by tax,.....		108.64
From teachers' board,.....		455.50
“ other sources,.....		1.98
Total,.....	\$1,361.15	
Paid for teachers' wages,.....	\$1,229.21	
“ “ libraries,.....	1.37	
“ “ school houses, sites, fences, out- houses, repairs, furniture, &c.,.....	36.35	
Paid for other incidental expenses,.....	50.03	
Amount remaining on hand, Oct. 1, 1877,...	44.19	
Total,.....	\$1,361.15	

SETTLEMENTS.—There is a conflict of authority with reference to the first settlement in this town. *French's Gasetteer* states that the first settlement was made in 1795 by Benjamin Cleveland; while Elias Livermore is positive that Cleveland did not come to this county until after his grandfather, Abraham Livermore, came, in 1796. We have no means of determining which statement is correct.*

Abraham Livermore was a native of Pelham, Mass., and a Revolutionary soldier, who lost his property by the depreciation of the Continental currency. In 1795 he left his native place and emigrated to the western wilderness, with his family consisting of his wife, Hepsey and nine children, viz: Abraham, Jr., Rebecca, Daniel, Polly, Abel, Cyrus, Hepsey, Sally and Martin. He halted for a few months at Paris, in Oneida county, where he left his family, while, in the spring of 1796, with an ax upon his shoulder, he made his way through the forest by means of marked trees to the locality of German village, on the site of which he took up 156 acres, embracing both the north-east and south-east corners, extending east about thirty rods and about half a mile south. He made a small clearing and rolled up a log cabin, which stood a little west of the residence of H.

*Abraham Livermore's tombstone, erected many years ago, bears this inscription: "He was the first settler in the town of German in 1796."

L. Bentley, and while thus engaged lodged under the friendly shelter of a large wild cherry tree, against which he put up some brush to protect him from the weather. This was his only shelter until his log cabin was erected. In the fall he returned to Paris and brought in his family with an ox sled, hiring some one to bring them. In that rude habitation he opened a tavern, the first in the town, which he also kept for several years in the more commodious house erected a few years after on the site of H. L. Bentley's residence, which was also the first frame house in the town. He also built, previous to 1807, the first frame barn in the town. It still stands opposite the residence of Mr. Bentley. The locality of his settlement is still known as Livermore's Corners, though the name of the post-office is German. He died there March 11, 1826, aged 77. After his death his wife went to live with a daughter in Paris, where she died, aged over ninety years.

Of his children, Abraham returned to Pelham about 1812, and married Hepsey Comstock, of that place. He did not come back here till some 15 or 20 years after. He then settled on fifty acres joining his father's on the south and died there Dec. 2, 1846, aged 70. His wife, after his death, went to live with her daughter in Dubuque, Iowa, where she died. He had six children, three of whom are living, Abigail, wife of Abner Benton, and Betsey Maria, wife of Alanson Benton, brother of Abner, in Iowa, and Benjamin, who married Mary Root, of Cincinnati, where they now live.

Rebecca married and removed to Indiana, where she died. Daniel married Desire, daughter of Michael Mead (who settled in German about 1800,) and settled on fifty acres joining his father's farm on the east, which now forms a part of Henry Smith's farm. He afterwards removed with his family to Ohio and subsequently to Iowa, where he died. He was a carpenter and joiner and mill-wright, and built a good many mills in this locality, including the original one on the site of Walter O. Banks' mill, which he operated for several years. It was a saw-mill, was built about 1825, and was the first mill in the town. There has never been a grist-mill in the town. He had six children, all of whom went west.

Polly married Hezekiah Cressy, and settled in Aurelius, Cayuga county, where she died. Abel married Deborah Salisbury and settled on fifty acres where William Burnap now lives, where he died Sept. 15, 1849, aged 65. After his death, his wife went to live in Earlville, where she died March 24, 1858, aged 67. They had thirteen children, six of whom are living: Elias, who married Eunice Leach, and lived in German till 1878, when he removed to Willet, where he now resides; Cyrus, who removed to Ohio and

married there; Polly, who married Nelson Crandall and is living in Ohio; Maryette, who married Waldo Pickett, and is living in Ohio; Farmer, who married Sarah Pickett, sister of Waldo, and is living in Wisconsin; and Samuel, who married in Massachusetts, and is now living there.

Cyrus married Arabella Rockwell, and settled on fifty acres north of his brother Daniel, which now forms a part of Henry Smith's farm. He removed to Ohio with his family and died there, he and his wife. Hepsey married Jonathan Head, of Paris, Oneida county, where she lived and died. This marriage was the first one contracted in the town. Sally married a man named Rowe, of Madison county, and died soon after. Martin never married. He removed some twenty years ago to Iowa, where he now lives, aged about 86 or 87.

Benjamin Cleveland came in from Oneida county in 1797, and squatted on a piece of land next north of Abel Livermore's. He staid only a few years, and removed from the county. His daughter Polly was the first child born in the town, but not as early as 1796, as is stated in *French's Gazetteer*, and *Child's Gazetteer of Chenango County*. We quote from the latter the following incident connected with Cleveland's settlement here:—

"These two families, so remote from any other settlement, suffered great privations and hardships during the first few years of their settlement here. In June, 1796, Mr. Cleveland's family were entirely destitute of provisions, and to procure a supply for their pressing necessities, he started for *Fort Stanwix*, (now Rome,) intending to return in three or four days. He was detained longer than he expected, and on the fourth day of his absence, Mrs. Cleveland and the children, who had eaten nothing for three days except a few roots found in the woods, started for their nearest neighbors in Cincinnatus, on the Otselic, four and a half miles distant. When about a mile from home they were frightened by the appearance of a bear in their path and thought it prudent to return. The next morning the mother was too weak to walk and the two older children again set out for Mr. Raymond's on the Otselic. Mrs. Raymond was almost as destitute as those who sought her aid, but made a pudding of *bran*, the only article of food in the house, and bestowed this and a bottle of milk upon her starving neighbors, which sustained them until relief came. At another time, when the family was reduced to the greatest extremity, two un milked cows came to their house at night and went away in the morning, furnishing the family with a supply of milk for several days. It was never known where the cows came from or whither they went. Other families suffered in a similar manner, but by patient endurance they lived to enjoy the comforts and many of the luxuries of life."

Very few settlements were made in the present town of German for several years after these two families came in, although all around it the settlements

were quite numerous previous to 1800. Why its settlement was thus tardy can only be conjectured as being due in some measure at least to its remoteness from the center of interest (Cazenovia) which largely induced the settlements in the *Gore*.

Michael Mead is believed to have been the next to settle in the town. He came in about 1800 and located on fifty acres next east of Abraham Livermore's. He did not live here many years, but removed to the locality of Cayuga Lake. John Baldwin settled early in the north part of the town and died there. Capt. Lawrence came in about 1812 and settled a mile and a half south of German, on the place now owned by Mr. Torrey. He removed from the town after some ten years.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Benjamin Fairchild, in the present town of Pitcher, March 3, 1807, and the officers then elected were: Ebenezer Wakeley, Supervisor; Samuel Finch, Clerk; Daniel Root, Nathan Perry and John Sloan, Assessors; Stephen Baldwin, Edward Southworth and John I. Dorn, Commissioners of Highways; Benjamin Fairchild and Walter Blunt, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph Sterling, Collector; Abel Fairchild and Joseph Sterling, Constables; Nathaniel Gray, Jr., Abel Pryer, Thomas S. Vining, Jonathan Chandler, Samuel Eldredge, Levi Preston, Samuel Croft, Silas Wheeler, Joseph Usher, Simeon Finch, Ebenezer Hill, Joshua Butts, Joseph Bennett, George Aylsworth, Abel Livermore, William Crandall, John Baldwin, Asa Kinyon and Dewey Main, Overseers of Highways; Curtis Beech, Nathaniel Gray and Ebenezer Wakeley, Pound Masters and Fence Viewers; and Elijah Fenton, Sealer of Weights and Measures.

The following list of the officers of the town of German for the year 1880-81, was kindly furnished by H. L. Bentley:—

Supervisor—Luke C. Jones.
 Town Clerk—H. L. Bentley.
 Justices—H. L. Bentley, Oliver Griswold, Charles Lewis.
 Assessors—D. E. Birdleough, George Thomas, Benjamin Bolt.
 Commissioner of Highways—John Germer.
 Overseer of the Poor—Adam Tice.
 Constables—R. C. Tice, James Keough, M. W. Totman, S. A. Warren.
 Collector—R. C. Tice.
 Inspectors of Election—J. M. Vosbergh, James West, H. D. Kenyon.
 Town Auditors—William Burnap, Uriah Loomis, R. R. Kenyon.
 Excise Commissioners—William Mullen, Adelbert Dwight, H. C. Lewis.

Following is a list of the Supervisors from the organization of the town, as far as they can be ascertained from the records: Ebenezer Wakeley, 1807-16,

1818, 1822-6; Samuel Finch, 1817, 1820-1; Daniel Root, 1819; Jarvis Brown, 1827-8; Adam Storing, 1829-37, 1839-40, 1843, 1857-8; Samuel Drew, 1838; Francis M. Skillman, 1841-2; Truman Ford, 1844-5; Collins G. Briggs, 1846-7; Clark Lewis 2d, 1848-9; Edwin C. Nash, 1850-1; Jonathan Carr, 1852; Henry Sexton, 1853-4; Harmon O. Banks, 1855-6; George H. Livermore, 1859-60; Jacob Birdleough, 1861-2; Ira Lewis, 1863-4; David L. Philly, 1865-6; Harvey Goetcheus, 1867; A. E. Perry, 1869, 1871; and Alexander Lewis, 1872-3. There is no record of an election in 1868 or '70, and none subsequent to 1873. The present Supervisor is Luke C. Jones, 1879-80.

GERMAN VILLAGE.

German is situated near the center of the west border of the town, and contains one church (Free-Will Baptist), a district school, one hotel (built in 1868 by Robert Rogers, who kept it six years, and was succeeded by the present proprietor, Martin V. Totman, in 1874), one blacksmith shop, owned by H. S. Nichols and kept by James Livermore, a wagon shop, kept by Delos Kenyon, a marble shop, of which H. L. Bentley is proprietor, one store, and a population of fifty.

MERCHANTS.—The first merchants at German were Platt Smith and Charles Livermore, the former of whom afterwards married his partner's sister Caroline. They opened a store about 1834, on the site of the present one, in a building they had previously occupied for three or four years as a grocery. They traded but a few years. Smith removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he married his partner's sister, and became an eminent lawyer, and is now living. They were succeeded by Nelson Drew, who came from Otsego county, and traded several years in the same building. He removed to Cincinnatus and thence to California. He has since died. Frank Barnes, a native of the county, who had previously clerked for J. P. Hill of McDonough, opened a store in the same building about 1847 or '8, and traded till about 1851, when he removed to Cincinnatus.

Ezra Fuller, who came from Fort Edward, Washington county, in 1850, and Alexander Ferris, who came from Broome county, opened a store in 1866, in a building erected for the purpose in 1864, by Mr. Fuller, on the site of the old one, which was removed and is now occupied as a residence by James Livermore. They traded a few years under the name of Fuller & Ferris, when Fuller bought the interest of his partner, who soon after removed to Fenton, where he now resides. Fuller after about three years sold to William Bailey, a resident of Cincinnatus, who

traded two years, when the business reverted back to Fuller, who, after trading two years, sold to Chas. D. Bowen, from Cortland county, who continued two years and sold to L. D. Turner, by whom the business was continued some eighteen months till Jan. 1, 1877, when Ezra Fuller and Harvey S. Nichols bought him out and traded together till the store was burned March 1, 1879. The present store was built the same spring by Mr. Nichols, who opened it for business July 1, 1879, and still continues. Mr. Nichols came here from Cincinnatus, his native place. Mr. Fuller continues to reside in German.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster in German was Abel Livermore, who was appointed about 1821, and kept the office in his tavern, which occupied the site of William Burnap's place, till 1839, when his son Elias was appointed. He was superseded in 1840, by Nelson Drew, who held the office till about 1845 or '6, when he was succeeded by Mr. Burnap, who has since held the office with the exception of about six months, when Abraham Livermore held it.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician in German was probably William W. Page, who was licensed in Oneida county, and located in the Stanley settlement, about two and a half miles north-east of German. He practiced a few years from about 1823, Oct. 14th of which year he joined the County Medical Society. He had left previous to 1827. Russel W. Morley, who had previously practiced in McDonough, practiced in the east part of the town a few years from about 1835. He returned to McDonough and resumed practice there. He died April 29, 1859, aged 74.

The marble works at German were established in 1861, by Enos Fuller, who became associated with his brother Ezra after about two years. They carried on the business together, with the exception of one year, when L. D. Turner was associated with Enos, till 1874, when Ezra bought his brother's interest and carried on the business, in company with H. L. Bentley from 1874 till July, 1877, when he sold to Mr. Bentley, the present proprietor. A marble shop in a village of this size is most unusual.

On Five Stream creek in the east part of the town is a saw-mill which was built about 1825, by Daniel Livermore, who operated it five or six years. It then passed into the hands of Harmon O. Banks, a brother of the present proprietor, who succeeded him in the ownership about 1849. The pond, which covers four or five acres, receives the five streams which are the headwaters of the creek of that name. The fall is nine feet. The mill contains two circular saws.

About a mile south-east of German is a small saw-mill, owned by George Eggleston, by whom it was built about twelve years ago, on the site of one built

a great many years ago. It contains one upright sash saw.

CHURCHES.—*The Free-Will Baptist Church of German*, (the only church in the town,) was organized about 1855, by Elders Ethan R. Clark and N. D. Wilkins, the latter of whom became the first pastor, and continued his labors with the Church eight years. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Elder John W. Barr, who remained four years, when L. D. Turner assumed the pastoral care. He served the Church for three years, and was succeeded in turn by Asa Abbott and W. R. Stone, each of whom served two years. Elder Schoonover next served them a year and was followed by Elder Loomis, who served them a like period. Oliver L. Cooper next succeeded to the pastorate and still continues his labors with them. It was organized as the *German Hill Church*, with about thirty members. The present membership is about forty and the attendance at Sabbath School 25 to 30.

The building of the church was begun in 1857, and was finished the next year, at a cost of about \$1,200. It is in good repair. Previous to its erection, services were held in the village school-house.

A church of the same denomination was organized at German Hollow, as the *German Church*, about 1844, by Elder Cyrus Steere, who was the pastor for a number of years from its organization. Ethan R. Clark and N. D. Wilkins preached alternately one or two years. L. D. Howe and Cyrus Steere were afterwards pastors for short periods. After the organization of the church at German, this was denominated the German Hollow Church, to distinguish it from the other. The church was disbanded about 1863. They never had a church edifice, but worshiped in the school-house.

A Methodist class was formed at German village shortly before the organization of the present church, and disbanded about 1850. They never perfected a church organization, but held meetings in the village school-house.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—The record of the legislative action taken by this town with reference to its participation in this memorable event is evidently incomplete. The residents of the town do not seem to have entered with very hearty unanimity into the adoption of measures for prosecuting the war. At a special meeting held Sept. 15, 1862, at the house of J. R. Coats, 48 votes were cast for and 39 against a proposition to pay a bounty to volunteers mustered after August 15, 1862, to the number required to fill the quota of the town. The next recorded action was taken at a special meeting held Jan. 4, 1864, when 32 votes were for and only 1 against paying to volunteers a town bounty of \$310. At a

special meeting held Jan. 16, 1864, it was decided by a vote of 42 to 6 to pay to volunteers a town bounty of \$323. At a special meeting held August 8, 1864, certain resolutions, which are neither given nor their nature intimated, were adopted by a vote of 47 to 8.

The town of German furnished in aid of the suppression of the Rebellion 53 soldiers and 1 seaman, of whom only 7 appear to have been enlisted in the town; 27 were enlisted in other towns in the county; 51 enlisted for three years, 1 each for one and four years, and in one instance the term of service is not indicated. They were distributed, as nearly as can be ascertained, among the following branches of the service: infantry regiments, 10 in the 114th, 7 in the 106th, 2 in the 89th, and 1 each in the 40th, 161st, 17th, 43d, and 35th; cavalry regiments, 8 in the 10th, 5 each in the 8th, and 22d, and 1 each in the 3d and 24th; artillery organizations, 3 in the 1st, and 1 in the 4th H. A., 1 in the 11th Mich. Battery, and 1 in the 2d Battery V. B. C.; and 2 in the 50th Engineers. Of the number 39 were farmers, 5 laborers, 2 mechanics, and 1 each a musician, miller, carpenter, blacksmith, peddler and boatman.

STATEMENT OF BOUNTIES RECEIVED.

9	received a town bounty of	\$	9 00
1	" " "		11 00
8	" " "		50 00
5	" " "		323 00
5	" " "		400 00
9	" " "		709 33
2	" " "		725 00
1	" " "		925 00
4	" " "		1,000 00
19	" a county "		50 00
5	" " "		300 00
Two received no bounty, either town or county.			

CHAPTER XXVII.

TOWN OF NEW BERLIN.

NEW BERLIN was formed from Norwich, April 3, 1807.* A part of the town was annexed to Sherburne in 1853. It lies upon the east border of the county, north of the center, and is bounded on the north by Columbus and Sherburne, on the east by Otsego county, on the south by Norwich, and on the west by Norwich and North Norwich. The surface is a rolling and hilly upland, the ridges extending north and south. The Unadilla river forms its east bound-

* The name of the town was changed to *Lancaster* May 9, 1821; the original name was restored March 22, 1822. It was originally named in honor of Silas Burlingame.

ary; and Great Brook, its principal tributary, flows south through the center, dividing the town into two nearly equal portions. These are the only streams of any considerable importance. Matthewson Pond,* situated near the center of the west border, is about a mile in length and three-fourths of a mile in breadth, in its widest part, and about forty feet deep. It is principally fed by hidden springs. The natural outlet was changed many years ago by Noah Matthewson, who settled in the locality at an early day and from whom the pond derives its name. Mr. Matthewson cut a ditch through a stone embankment in the northeast part and utilized the water to propel a saw-mill, which is now owned by Clinton Guile. The scenery in this vicinity is very fine, and from the proximity of the pond to Norwich and New Berlin, it is frequently resorted to by picnic and pleasure parties from these villages for recreation during the summer months. A hotel—the Chenango House—has been erected on the pond and has been kept since the spring of 1873 by Richard M. Sholes. The pond furnishes good fishing and the surrounding woods good hunting; and the hotel accommodations have been supplemented by fine sail and row boats, a bowling alley, croquet grounds, dancing hall and bath houses.

The town is underlaid by the rocks of the Catskill, Portage, Hamilton and, though less distinctly, the Genesee groups. The Catskill group covers the western portion; the others the eastern, the Hamilton being confined to a narrow strip along the Unadilla. It furnishes good expositions of all these rocks. The soil is a sandy loam, sometimes intermixed with clay.

The industries of the town are chiefly agricultural, and the leading branch of Agriculture is dairying; indeed, the town, like the county generally, is utilized to its utmost capacity in the productions of the dairy. There are six creameries in the town, which receive in the aggregate the milk from about 1,850 cows.†

The New Berlin Branch of the "Midland" Railroad extends along the east border of the town to New Berlin village, its northern terminus.

* Also known as Chenango Lake, a more modern name.

† These are the Amherstville creamery, located in the south-west part of the town, owned by George and Andrew Sage, and built in 1867, by a stock company, from whose hands it passed to those of the present proprietors, in 1868; the Davis creamery, located on the river one and one-half miles below New Berlin Center, owned by Hobart and Seymour Davis, whose father, Harry Davis, built it about ten years ago; the A. J. Sage creamery, located on the river three miles below New Berlin, and built in 1865, by the present proprietor, A. J. Sage; the New Berlin creamery, located on the river a mile north of New Berlin, owned by George and Andrew Sage, and built by Hiram Brown about twelve years ago; the Great Brook creamery, located three miles west of New Berlin, owned by A. J. Sage, and built some fifteen years ago by a stock company, of whom it was bought in 1871, by George and A. J. Sage; and the Ainsworth creamery, located six miles west of New Berlin, near the line of Norwich, built in the spring of 1876, and owned by Alva Ainsworth.

The Amherstville creamery receives milk from about 600 cows.			
" Davis	"	"	" 250 "
" A. J. Sage	"	"	" 250 "
" New Berlin	"	"	" 400 "
" Great Brook	"	"	" 200 "
" Ainsworth	"	"	" 150 "

In 1875 the population of the town was 2,303; of whom 2,235 were native, 68 foreign; 2,301 white, 2 colored, 1,122 males, 1,181 females, and 6 aliens. The number of males of voting age was 704, of whom 669 were natives. The number of land owners was 428; and of persons twenty-one years old and upwards who were unable to read and write, 8. Its area was 27,776 acres; of which 20,543 acres were improved, 6,615, woodland, and 608 otherwise unimproved. The cash value of farms was \$1,053,640; of farm buildings other than dwellings, \$150,525; of stock, \$182,403; of tools and implements, \$46,610. The amount of gross sales from farms in 1874 was \$141,529.

There are eighteen common and one Union school districts in the town, each of which has a school house in the county. The number of children of school age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877,* was 689. During that year there were fourteen male and twenty-five female teachers employed, twenty of whom were licensed and teaching at the same time for twenty-eight weeks or more; the number of children residing in the districts who attended school was 513, of whom eighteen were under five or over twenty-one years of age; the average daily attendance during the year was 262.757; the number of volumes in district libraries was 1,516, the value of which was \$622; the number or school-houses was nineteen, all frame, which, with the sites, embracing four acres and ninety-three rods, valued at \$2,030, were valued at \$8,025; the assessed value of taxable property in the district was \$1,382,950. The number of children between eight and fourteen years of age residing in the districts Sept. 30, 1877, was 326, of whom 266 attended district school during fourteen weeks of that year, and 23 were instructed at home for a like period.

Receipts and disbursements for school purposes:—	
Amount on hand Oct. 1, 1876.....	\$ 20.24
" apportioned to districts.....	1,996.57
Proceeds of Gospel and school lands.....	190.25
Raised by tax.....	2,143.56
From teachers' board.....	209.00
" other sources.....	400.85

Total.....	\$4,960.47
Paid for teachers' wages.....	\$3,259.27
" libraries.....	7.39
" school apparatus.....	3.06
" school-houses, sites, out-houses, fences, repairs, furniture, etc.....	1,248.75
Paid for other incidental expenses.....	348.15
Amount remaining on hand Oct. 1, 1877..	93.86

Total.....\$4,960.48

This, the 16th Township, as well as the 17th, as we have previously seen, were purchased by John Taylor,

* See foot note on page 307.

of Albany, in the interest of himself and associates, John I. Morgan, William Simmons and William Boyd, of New York city.

The first settlement in New Berlin was made in 1790, by Daniel Scribner, who came with his family from Ballston, Saratoga county, intending at first to settle in Morris, Otsego county, but learning of Indian improvements on the Unadilla that could be purchased, he left his family at the head of Otsego Lake, and set out for that place, traveling through the woods until he arrived at a small clearing on the west bank of the Unadilla, opposite the Indian Fields in Pittsfield, where he found apple trees growing from seeds planted by the Indians, and there he located. Having decided upon his location he returned for his family, which he brought by canoe down the Susquehanna and up the Unadilla to the locality selected for his future home. He built a large and commodious log house on a piece of high ground a short distance from the river, commanding a fine view of the valley. There he opened the first inn in the town. There, too, occasionally, the town meetings of Norwich, which then embraced this town, were held. He was an industrious, prudent farmer, and with the help of his two sons, Samuel and Gamaliel, who were nearly grown up, he soon cleared up his farm.

During the first year of his residence in this place he was obliged to go to Chenango Forks for grain for subsistence. This journey he performed in a canoe, down the Unadilla and Susquehanna to Binghanton, thence up the Chenango to the Forks. Having purchased his grain he returned by the same route, extending his journey up the Susquehanna to Wattles Ferry, where was the most accessible grist-mill. The journey occupied eighteen days and the distance traveled was nearly two hundred miles. So great was the labor of carrying grists to mill that the primitive method of reducing the grain by the mortar and pestle was resorted to. A little later when the number of settlers had increased, in order to lessen the burden, their grists were united and brought to Scribner's, whence they were conveyed in a canoe constructed from an immense pine tree, to Tubb's mill at Toddsville, near Cooperstown. Two men, though sometimes only one, took charge of the cargo. The journey there and back occupied a week, and sometimes more.

Samuel Anderson and Silas Burlingame were among the first settlers on lots 76 and 77, on which New Berlin village is located. Anderson came from Massachusetts the latter part of the last century and erected his dwelling on the north bank of the creek which runs through New Berlin village, between the creek and S. L. Morgan's store.

Silas Burlingame came from Providence, R. I., and

settled on lot 76, south-east of the bank. He had several children, some of whom settled near him. Josiah, his eldest son, built his house near where the old factory store now stands, the latter being now occupied as a dwelling. His barn yet remains as one of the old landmarks of former times. The premises are now owned by Deloss Medbury. Josiah taught the first school in New Berlin. The first frame school-house stood near the iron bridge across the Unadilla in the village of New Berlin. Another son, Daniel, was a distinguished pioneer preacher of the Methodist church. His house stood on the east street near the iron bridge. Joel, son of Daniel, and father of Hon. Anson Burlingame, was born in that house. He was a man of strong mind, great energy and considerable acquirements. He removed in 1824 to a farm in Seneca county, Ohio, where he lived for ten years, and in 1833, again removed to Detroit, and from thence two years later to a farm at Branch, in Michigan. He was a delegate from Oregon to the Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for President.

Anson Burlingame, the distinguished diplomatist, was born in Ambler Settlement in this town, Nov. 14, 1820, and was three years old when his father removed to Ohio.

Levi Blakeslee, Charles Knap, Joseph Moss and Jeremy Goodrich were the chief promoters of New Berlin's prosperity. In 1800 Blakeslee purchased a building lot of Silas Burlingame, on the corner where Fuller, Ball & Co.'s store now stands. He built a small, one-story dwelling house and store under one roof. This was the first store in the town. From him the place was for some time known as Blakeslee's Corners. He was associated in the mercantile business at different times with Harry W. Green and Ebenezer Bivins, the latter his son-in-law. After discontinuing mercantile business he kept tavern several years in the building near the depot, owned by Lorenzo Jaquith. Mr. Blakeslee built a paper-mill on the site next above the furniture establishment of G. W. Bentley & Son, and till recently occupied by the mill of Daniel Harrington. The paper-mill was burned a few years ago, rebuilt, and again burned in November, 1877, but not rebuilt. In those days paper was made by hand, with the help of very little machinery. It was pressed by a screw press turned with a lever, and dried in the sun or air, in an open room on *tenter bars*. The process was slow and required the labor of many persons. He also owned the grist-mill built by Daniel Vail, which stood on the site of the furniture factory, and was burned in October, 1878. He gave much aid to public improvements.

Charles Knap came to New Berlin in the spring of 1801 and commenced the business of tanning. The same spring he married Betsey, daughter of Thomas

Loomis, a soldier of the Revolution. He afterwards built a mill to manufacture oil from flax seed, a woolen factory, and the store owned by J. S. Bradley. Gen. H. DeForest was his partner in the mercantile business and the manufacture of woolen cloth. Mr. Knap was once the President of the Bank of Chenango, at Norwich, and his son Tracy was the President of the First National Bank of New Berlin at its organization. Only one child, Charles, now living in Philadelphia, is left. The elder Knap died Oct. 21, 1852, aged 78, and his wife, Oct. 7, 1849, aged 66.

Joseph Moss was born Sept. 8, 1775, and was one of the early settlers of the town. In 1812, when the Farmers' and Mechanics' Manufacturing Company was chartered, he became its agent. Under his supervision the dam across the Unadilla in New Berlin village was built, and a canal was constructed from it to the place of business, a small wooden building which stood on the site of the new grist-mill, where the manufacture of cotton cloth was begun. The yarn was spun by water-power machinery, but wove into cloth by hand, as water-power looms were not then in use. Weavers from near and distant neighborhoods were employed to weave the yarn into cloth, and performed the labor at their homes. The business increased to such an extent that in 1827 a large stone factory was erected and water-power looms introduced to accommodate it. That building was destroyed by fire the same season, and rebuilt in 1828, and the business was continued under the agency of Mr. Moss till 1849, when the business agency terminated. Mr. Moss died Oct. 29, 1859. Horace Moss, son of Joseph, who during his father's agency in the cotton mill was engaged there as clerk, is the only child remaining here.

Jeremy Goodrich came from Connecticut in the latter part of the last century. He married Lydia, daughter of the widow Abigail Downing, who then lived in a log house on the Captain Samuel White farm, now occupied by the widow of his son Samuel White, nearly opposite to where the old brewery stood. Goodrich commenced the manufacture of potash and pearlash from black salts. In the early settlement of the town the business of clearing the lands and boiling black salts was an important one, for that was the only product the settlers relied on to obtain money to pay for their farms. No other product could be sold for money in those primitive days. His ashery was on the north side of the village creek, near the North street bridge. Mr. Goodrich became the owner by purchase from Samuel Anderson, of the land where the ashery stood, on both sides of the creek down to the Unadilla. In 1798, he built on the south side of the creek a small structure which was the first frame house in the town. There for a term, from about

1802, he sold merchandise, and in the progress of business, about 1814 or '15, he erected a large wooden building fronting the east and north streets. The eastern part was made into a dwelling for the family, and the other part into a large store, in which he carried on mercantile business for many years in connection with his potash and pearlash business. He also kept tavern in that building for a while. The building was recently torn down by Mr. Jacobs, who bought the property. In addition to his other multifarious business, he was postmaster for some years. He died Jan. 9, 1830, aged 61, leaving a valuable property. His wife died April 6, 1833, aged 52; and her mother in 1841, aged 93, retaining the full vigor of her mental faculties to the last.

Captain Samuel White, a native of one of the eastern States, settled about 1793, on the farm now occupied by the widow and daughter of his son Samuel, in the north edge of New Berlin village, and the north part of lot 76. The farm has since been cut up into smaller ones and village lots. His first house was a log structure. He afterwards built a small frame house with a quaint scalloped piazza in the front. Captain White, after he had cleared his farm, engaged extensively in apple culture. He transplanted from a distant nursery a thousand young apple trees, mostly grafted, and covered the whole hillside of his farm with the orchard which, in after years, furnished the inhabitants far and near choice and valuable fruit. Being on elevated ground, the orchard, when in blossom, presented a gorgeous and beautiful appearance amid the surrounding forest scenery. He died June 4, 1814, aged 49, and Isabella, his wife, March 15, 1844, aged 75. He left sons and daughters to inherit the fruits of his labors, all of whom are gone, except David H., who still lives in the village.

Artemas Herrick with some kinsmen and families settled on lot 74, while the town was a wilderness, except here and there a small bit of clearing and a log house. He was an enterprising, energetic pioneer. He built a dam across the Unadilla adjoining his farm, and erected a grist-mill and saw-mill. With the exception of Job Vail's mill, which dates from nearly the same time (1795 or '6,) these were the first mills on the Unadilla. They proved a great convenience to the settlers. The Herrick farm, the Herrick mills, and Herrick Brook, were familiar names to the early settlers, but do not dwell in the memory of the present generation. After the farm was sold to pay debts incurred by Herrick in building the mills and making other improvements, and he had gone to other lands, the stream was called the Aunt Pat Brook, the pet name of a celebrated ancient landlady, whose husband kept a tavern a few rods over the line in an-

other town, which name it retains to the present day, although the landlord the landlady and the tavern itself have long ago ceased to exist, and the mills, passing to other hands, are now known as the red mills, and owned by Mr. Low, who changed the grist-mill into a cheese-box factory, which now stands unused, a wreck of its former usefulness.

Gideon Peck, Herrick's father-in-law, was well advanced in years when he left his native home in Connecticut to settle in the new country log cabin. The ten acre lot which Mr. Peck owned was bought of Artemas Herrick, and is now owned by Mr. Porter. His log house stood on the hill to the west side of the road, and the frame dwelling in which he and his aged wife afterwards lived stood at the foot of the hill on the east side of the road. Both buildings have long since been torn down.

Sabin Warner, another settler on lot 74, was a thrifty farmer. His wife is yet living on the farm with one of her sons, who now manages it.

Richard Stoneman was the only early settler on Herrick's lot (74). He was from London, England, or its neighborhood, and arrived at New Berlin about the beginning of the present century. He purchased a few acres of Herrick in the north-west corner of that lot.

John and Stephen G. Simmons, brothers, were natives of New York city. Their father, who was wealthy, was the owner of several lots in New Berlin and Columbus. John Simmons, in the beginning of the first settlement of this town, located on one of his father's lots, No. 75, adjoining the Anderson lot on the north, and his brother, Stephen G., about the same time, on another of their father's lots, No. 78, adjoining the Burlingame lot on the south. John Simmons, after making some improvements sold his farm to Thomas Steere, a Rhode Island farmer, who emigrated from that State with his brother-in-law, Major Chas. Harris, who bought the north part of that lot, and Steere the south part, except a piece on the east end adjoining the river, which Simmons had previously sold to Levi Blakeslee, and a piece on the west end which he had sold to Jeremy Goodrich. Steere and Harris were practical farmers and brought the Simmons' farm to a good state of cultivation. Mr. Harris died May 24, 1828.

Thomas Steere left his farm to his children on his decease, and after passing through the hands of seven owners, it is now owned by Warren Reynolds, a son-in-law of Welcome Arnold's, who has lately erected a large, commodious and splendid dwelling on the ground.

About 1797, Thomas Brown came with his family and effects from Rhode Island, the land of his nativity, to New Berlin. One or two years previous James

and Barnabas, his sons, had been sent to explore the new country and prepare a dwelling place for the family. They came with an ox team, bringing some necessary articles for the occasion, and fixed the future home of the family on a lot situated on Great Brook.

Thomas Brown died about 1814. His son James inherited the homestead and at his death it descended to his heirs. It is now owned by the heirs of Jason Matthewson.

Barnabas Brown married Nancy, daughter of Nathaniel Medbury and settled on the lot next to Samuel Anderson's on the west, about a half mile west of New Berlin, on the farm now occupied by Thomas Low. He commenced house-keeping in a new log house erected for that purpose near where the old orchard stands, on the north side of the road running east and west through the farm. That orchard was among his first works after he commenced clearing up his farm. After a few years he built a more commodious house, where yet may be seen the old red-painted, one story, steeple-roof building which was the residence of Judge Barnabas Brown, amidst his happy family of sons and daughters, through a long and useful life spent in private and public employment. He was commissioned Justice of the town of New Berlin by the Council of Appointment and served in that capacity several years. He was Supervisor for several years in succession, in which office he has been reputed even to the present day the best Supervisor the town ever had. He was Judge in the Common Pleas Court in the Clintonian times of State politics. He died Dec. 6, 1855, at the ripe age of 93 years, 11 months and 3 days. His wife died March 6, 1846, aged 69. Lewis Brown, son of Barnabas, is residing in New Berlin village; and Peleg, another son, is a resident of Alabama.

The Arnolds and Medburys came from Rhode Island. Nathaniel Medbury was the leading one. He purchased the wild lot adjoining on the south the farm of Thomas Brown, on Great Brook, and with the help of his son Hezekiah, a stalwart young man, soon transformed the wild woods into well-cultivated fields. He represented this county in the Assembly in 1812-'13, but was stricken down before the close of his term by a virulent epidemic which entered the Hall of Legislature. His son Hezekiah remained on the farm many years after his father's death. He finally sold the homestead and removed to the town of Bainbridge, where he died Feb. 22, 1859, aged 79. Benjamin Medbury, a relative of Hon. Nathaniel Medbury's, and co-immigrant with him settled on the next lot south of the latter. Joseph Medbury, a brother of Benjamin's, settled on a lot a short distance north of the James Brown premises, where he remained till his

death. Stephen Medbury, another brother of Benjamin's, settled on the hill west of New Berlin village. He was a good enterprising farmer and turned his wild lot into an excellent farm. He also carried on the trade of cooper. He died May 2, 1856, aged 85, and Tabitha, his wife, April 25, 1852, aged 75.

Jabez Arnold came from Gloucester, R. I., his native place, in 1802, and settled about one and one-fourth miles west of New Berlin, on the farm now occupied by his grandson Eddy Arnold, where he resided till his death. He had a large family of sons and daughters, who occupied distinguished places among New Berlin's inhabitants. Five sons and two daughters accompanied him in the settlement.* One son, Welcome, remained behind, and followed the family in 1805, Othniel, the eldest son, came in 1799, in company with Thomas Richmond, a carpenter and joiner, of whom he was learning the trade, and with whom he staid until his father came in. William, the youngest, was born here, and died at the age of about nineteen. The Medburys, Browns and Arnolds were intimately connected by intermarriage and were a numerous class among the settlers.

William and Andrew Knight, brothers, came from Gloucester, R. I., about 1799. The former sold his farm to Jabez Arnold in 1802, and returned with his family to Rhode Island. Andrew settled in the south part of New Berlin village, where Sanford Kingsbury now lives, and some five or six years after removed with his family to Pittsfield, Otsego county. Harriet, wife of Alfred Thompson, living in New Berlin village, is a daughter of Andrew's.

Capt. Barnet and Caleb Hill, brothers, and Michael Phillips, were the first settlers on the land lying between the Silas Burlingame lot, 77, now a part of the village site, and the Jabez Arnold lot. Caleb Hill died June 26, 1814, aged 59. The Barnet Hill farm is now in the hands of his grandson, a son of Nehemiah, residing at New Berlin village. Two other sons of Barnet's, one named Barnet, are living in Pittsfield, below the Indian Fields. Capt. Barnet Hill died Nov. 24, 1832, aged 71. The Michael Phillips farm is now owned by Darius Atherton.

Reeve and John Dilley, brothers, settled on a wild lot next west of one of the Simmons' lots, west of Great Brook. Asa Williams settled on a wild lot some little distance from the Dilley's, towards Norwich. Nehemiah Leach came from Connecticut about 1804, and settled on a side-hill lot beyond Asa Williams, near the west line of the town, which was afterwards known as Leach Hill. The farm is now occupied by Josiah Rowley. About this time he married Anne Aylesworth, of Edmeston, Otsego county. He lived there till within a few years of his death,

* Benjamin, Thomas, Lucy, Lucretia, Samuel, Eddy and Jabez.

when he removed to an adjacent farm in the town of North Norwich, where he died in 1847. He had a numerous family, six of whom are still living in the county, viz.:—Athelinda, widow of Harvey Sherman, and Emeline, wife of Harvey Crosby, in New Berlin; Eliza Ann, who is living in Pitcher; Lavinia, widow of Brown Tiffany, living in Norwich; Nehemiah, the keeper of the Chenango county poor-house; and Juliana, wife of Alvin Cook, now living in Lincklaen.

William and John Mayhew, brothers, settled on a lot near one of the Simmons' lots, on Great Brook. Isaac Sherman settled on the brook emptying into Great Brook, west of the Mayhews, and built on his farm a saw-mill. It was among the first erected in the town and furnished much valuable pine lumber. It is still in operation and it, as well as the farm, are still in possession of his descendants. Isaac and Abner Burlingame, brothers, settled on Great Brook, on the lot next north of the Simmons' lots.

Noah Matthewson, a strong, robust Rhode Islander, came about 1800 and settled first on the Unadilla. He afterwards removed to and built his log cabin on the high land near the pond which bears his name. He soon after built a more commodious one-story frame dwelling, which still stands, and was one of the first frame buildings erected in the town. His son, Noah, resides on a farm near the pond. Waterman Matthewson is also a son of his. Stephen Skinner, at an early day, settled on the same highland ridge some miles north of Matthewson's farm, and near the north line of the town. The place is known as Skinner Hill. Stephen and Nathaniel Kinney were among the first settlers in the neighborhood of Mr. Skinner. William Robinson was one of the first settlers in the same neighborhood. Thomas Sarle, a native of Rhode Island, settled on a river lot a short distance below Scribner tavern. Asa Angell settled on the lot below the Sarle farm. He came from Rhode Island, moving his young family on an ox sled. The journey occupied four weeks. Mr. Angell was an exemplary man. William, Pliny and Joseph Phelps, brothers, settled on the river on adjoining farms, a little below the Dr. Foote farm. William, as he advanced in years, occasionally went forth to preach the gospel, which he conceived to be his duty.

Job Vail, who is reputed to have been tinctured with tory sentiments during the Revolution, was a pioneer in the valley of the Unadilla. He took up a lot near the Asa Angell farm. After he had provided a shelter for his family he next built a grist-mill and saw-mill, two conveniences greatly needed and appreciated in the new settlement.*

* These mills, located at New Berlin Center, were, says French's *Gazetteer of the State of New York*, the first in the town, and built in 1795 or '6; but that work says the saw-mill was built by Job Vail, and the grist-mill, by Daniel Vail, on lot 74. Mr. John Hyde, our informant, ascribes the origin of both to Job Vail, and says they "were the first mills in the town, with the exception of Herrick's mills, which were built about the same time."

Nathan Taylor owned the lot on which the village of South New Berlin is located. He was an honest and industrious farmer and took an active part in the management of town business. He held town office from time to time, was a Justice under the Council of Appointment, and for some time a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

John Ambler was an early settler on Great Brook, at what is known as Ambler Settlement, a name the locality derives from him.

Charles Rich was an early settler on an adjoining farm.

Jonathan Matthewson settled near Ambler Settlement and was actively and extensively engaged in business.

Peleg Field came from Scituate, R. I., in 1796, and the following year opened a shop and worked at his trade of blacksmith. He was the first blacksmith in the town, and was for many years the only man in the county who had a trip-hammer or who could fix mill irons. He was born Jan. 30, 1776, and died Jan. 10, 1857. Captain Lemuel Munroe was also a blacksmith. He came about the beginning of the present century and opened a shop on the south side of East street in New Berlin village. His home stood on the place now owned by the widow of Benajah Chapin. At his death, May 28, 1818, aged 58, he left the homestead property to his son, Lines W. Munroe. Jacob Brewer, another blacksmith, settled on the opposite side of the street. The shop he occupied is still standing, though but a wreck of its former usefulness. John Pike, also a blacksmith, purchased the old shop and carried on the blacksmith business several years. He married Parmelia, sister of General Welch, who died April 25, 1830, aged 37. After her death he married the widow Harris. He died May 31, 1860, aged 68.

Lewis Winslow, who built, owned and occupied the house where his daughter, the widow of William Mann, now lives, was a carpenter, and worked at his trade till the time of his death. A man named Tammany, who was a tailor, had a shop and worked at his trade where the widow of Albert Spencer now lives. He was the first person to engage in that business in New Berlin.

Gen. Augustus C. Welch was prominent among the early settlers. He was engaged in the manufacture of nails in a shop which stood on the north bank of the creek which runs through New Berlin village, between the creek and Morgan's store. He shaped and headed the nails by hand. When machinery was introduced in the manufacture of nails Mr. Welch abandoned the nail business and engaged in mercantile business and inn keeping. He purchased the tavern-stand on the corner now occupied by Mr. Gaskin,

which was then a small building, having been enlarged by subsequent owners. He built a store west of the tavern and during the most active portion of his life continued these two branches of business. He purchased the lot and built the house now occupied by J. T. White, where he lived the rest of his life. That part of the building now occupied by the bank he used a while for a store. He then bought the corner formerly owned by L. Blakeslee, tore down the old Blakeslee store, and built that now occupied by Fuller, Ball & Co., where he traded until his last sickness, the better part of the time in company with John T. White, who had formerly been his clerk, and is now cashier of the New Berlin Bank. He held various town offices; was Member of Assembly from this county in 1827; and in 1828 was elected Sheriff of the county. In the military service he passed through the different grades from a private soldier to the rank of Brigadier-General. He died Jan. 23, 1853, aged 66; and Sally, his wife, Feb. 27, 1841, aged 48.

Charles Medbury, a cooper by trade, was an enterprising man and took an active part in the early settlement of New Berlin. His dwelling, an old-fashioned two-story building stood on the south side of East street in New Berlin village. He worked at his trade for several years. His shop stood on the same premises. He also kept tavern a part of the time. He afterwards engaged in mercantile business, in which he was interested a part of the time with Ebenezer Bivins, an educated apothecary, with whom he continued till the latter's marriage and business association with his father-in-law, L. Blakeslee. He died May 23, 1859; and Lucretia, his wife, Jan. 16, 1870. They had a large family of children.

The first settler on the site of Holmesville was Jedediah Holmes, who came from the New England States about 1804, with his family, consisting of his wife, Hannah Brown, and eight children. He located just above the grist-mill in that place. His log house stood some five rods north of the mill. The place derives its name from his son, Abraham, who was extensively engaged in business enterprises here. In 1832 he removed to Ohio, and he and his wife died there.

Uzziel Roe settled early in the west part of the town and died in North Norwich, Aug. 24, 1860, aged 84. Sarah, his first wife, died Feb. 8, 1848, aged 70; and Patience, his second wife, Feb. 6, 1857, aged 87.

Lawson Judson came from Connecticut about 1814 and settled in New Berlin village. He bought a lot on South street and built thereon a one-story house and shop, which he afterwards raised to the dignity of a two-story dwelling. Russel Cheney, who became

the owner of Judson's place, and whose widow still owns it, married Phila, daughter of Charles Harris, and during her life worked at the shoemaker's trade. Some time after her death, (Sept. 5, 1860, aged 59,) he sold the place formerly occupied, purchased the Judson premises, and married Miss Pratt. He died Feb. 27, 1871, aged 73. David Atherton, who was a saddler, came from Connecticut and built a one-story dwelling on the premises now occupied by Amenzo Cady's shop and the Medbury store in New Berlin village. He afterwards sold to Isaac VanDyke and removed to the adjoining town of Columbus. His wife died here Dec. 2, 1809, aged 27.

Calvin Thompson, a carpenter and joiner, was one of the early settlers in New Berlin village. He was much esteemed for his industrious and quiet habits. His son, Alfred Thompson, occupies the homestead, which is situated on the west side of the road a little below the Baptist church.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The first town meeting was held at the house of Jeremy Goodrich March 1, 1808. Charles Knap was chosen moderator, and the following named officers were elected: Barnabas Brown, Supervisor; Levi Blakeslee, Clerk; Matthew Calkings, Asa Williams, and Thomas Brown, Jr., Assessors; Matthew Calkings and Charles Knap, Poor Masters; Gideon Wetmore, Collector; Nathan Taylor, Joseph Medbury, Anthony Roberts, Commissioners of Highways; Nathan Taylor and Gideon Wetmore, Constables; Job Vail, Thomas Sarles, Jas. Simonds, Wm. Whitman, Humphrey Tiffany, Miles Curtis, Samuel "Gernouney" and Jos. Wilcox, Fence Viewers; Daniel Sage, Peleg Fields and Waterman Fields, Pound Masters; Asa Perry, Sealer of Weights and Measures.

At an election held April 26, '7 and '8, 1808, the following votes were cast:—

For Francis A. Bloodgood, for Senator.....	97
“ Walter Martin, “ “	96
“ Sylvanus Smally, “ “	96
“ Luther Rich, “ “	89
“ Silas Halsey, “ “	95
“ Henry McNeil, “ “	36
“ Francis Henry, “ “	40
“ Samuel S. Foreman, “ “	26
“ Wilhelmus Myndert, “ “	36
“ Roswell Hopkins, “ “	25
“ Othaniel Arnold, “ “	1
“ Uri Tracy, for Congressman	123
“ Isaac Foote, “ “	25
“ Ebenezer Foote, “ “	2
“ Ebenezer Wakeley, Assemblyman	125
“ Samuel Campbell, “ “	106
“ Obadiah German, “ “	101
“ Isaac Rosa, “ “	40
“ Nathaniel Waldron, “ “	38
“ Tracy Robinson, “ “	17
“ Jeremy Goodrich, “ “	1
“ Joseph Medbury, “ “	1

May 3, 1808, Barnabas Brown, Matthew Calkings and Nathaniel Medbury, Commissioners of Excise, granted to the following applicants, who were "of good moral character" and had "accommodations according to law," as follows: to Levi Blakeslee, Jeremy Goodrich, Pliny Phelps, Joseph Medbury and Daniel Scribner, tavern licenses; and Levi Blakeslee, Jeremy Goodrich, Noah Matthewson, Abraham Holmes & Co., and Heman Dewey & Co., permits to retail spirituous liquors in quantities less than five gallons.

For the following list of the officers of the town of New Berlin for the year 1880-81, we are indebted to Austin White:—

- Supervisor—Hobart Babcock.
- Town Clerk—Austin White.
- Justices—Charles J. Pratt, Herbert Robinson, Truman I. Matterson, J. S. Bradley.
- Assessors—Darius T. Atherton, R. J. Butts, Thomas Dye.
- Commissioner of Highways—W. H. Robinson.
- Overseer of the Poor—H. L. Haight.
- Constables—A. M. Coats, Alanson Hecox, Lewis Lamphire.
- Collector—Samuel K. Pike.
- Inspectors of Election, District No. 1, John A. Dilley, A. A. Handy, Edwin Wilber. District No. 2, Burdett Simons, Daniel S. Hoadly, George E. Hawley.
- Town Auditors—E. R. Fuller, C. L. Reed, L. B. Powers.
- Sealer of Weights and Measures—C. G. Smith.
- Game Constable—John Connery.
- Excise Commissioners—Henry D. Cole, David Pendleton, Edward Wightman.

The following have been the Supervisors and Clerks of New Berlin from the organization of the town to the present time:—

YEARS.	SUPERVISORS.	CLERKS.
1808-9.	Barnabas Brown.	Levi Blakeslee.
1810-12.	“	Jeremy Goodrich.
1813.	“	Arnold Downing.
1814-17.	“	Noah Ely.
1818-19.	“	Augustus C. Welch.
1820.	Charles Medbury.	Noah Ely.
1821.	“	John Hyde.
1822.	“	Royal Ross.
1823.	“	Ebenezer Bivins.
1824-5.	Augustus C. Welch.	“
1826.	“	John Hyde.
1827.	Charles Medbury.	Marshall Downing.
1828.	Charles Rich.	Caleb S. Butts.
1829.	Nathan Beardslee.	“
1830.	“	Silas A. Conkey.
1831.*	“	Lawzon Judson.
1832.	Augustus C. Welch.	Jesse Beardslee.
1833.	“	David Jackson.
1834.	Jesse Beardslee.	“
1835.	William Shaw.	William S. Bennett.
1836-7.	Thomas Brown.	Oliver C. Goodsell.
1838.	Enos T. Halbert.	Edward C. Williams.
1839.	Augustus C. Welch.	Hiram Ostrander.

* Thomas Brown was elected Supervisor, Oct. 29, 1831, to fill vacancy occasioned by the death of Nathan Beardslee, Oct. 16, 1831.

YEARS.	SUPERVISORS.	CLERKS.
1840.	Enos T. Halbert.	Willard Conkey.
1841-2.	Samuel Medbury.	Joseph B. Smith.
1843-4.	Chester Babcock.	"
1845.	Joseph B. Smith.	William T. Brown.
1846.*	Henry Bennett.	"
1847.	"	Royal D. Cone.
1848-9.	Thompson White.	"
1850.	J. S. Matterson.	John T. White.
1851.	Albert L. Pritchard.	"
1852.	Alvah Babcock.	"
1853.	Elisha A. Simons.	William H. Clarke.
1854.	Joseph Arnold.	Hobart Babcock.
1855.	A. J. Carpenter.	Nelson Demming.
1856.	Daniel Harrington.	Joseph K. Fox.
1857.	Elisha A. Simons.	Eleazer R. Fuller.
1858.	Daniel Harrington.	"
1859.	Nelson Crandall.	"
1860.	Samuel Medbury.	Solomon L. Morgan.
1861.	Elisha A. Simons.	"
1862.	Eleazer R. Fuller.	Charles B. Williams.
1863.	Andrew J. Sage.	Ira K. Ball.
1864, 6.	Daniel Harrington.	Sidney A. Finch.
1865.	"	Elias M. Jenkins.
1867.	William Lewis	Jesse S. Bradley.
1868.	H. H. Harrington.	Joseph K. Fox.
1869.	Alvin C. Hazard.	Henry M. Aylesworth.
1870.	Warren Reynolds.	Truman I. Matterson.
1871.	Chan. H. Babcock.	Joseph K. Fox.
1872-3.	Oscar F. Matterson.	"
1874-5.	"	George C. Dimock.
1876.	"	Adelbert A. Handy.
1877.	Elisha A. Simons.	George C. Dimock.
1878.	T. I. Matterson.	Austin White.
1879.	Hobart Babcock.	"

NEW BERLIN VILLAGE.

NEW BERLIN is pleasantly situated on the Unadilla, in the north-east part of the town, and is the northern terminus of the New Berlin Branch of the Midland Railroad. It is connected by daily stage with Sherburne, which is eleven miles distant. It contains four churches,† an academy, two district schools, one newspaper office,‡ a national bank, five general stores, two drug stores, four groceries, two hardware stores, two clothing, five millinery and two furniture establishments, a tannery, two grist-mills, a steam saw-mill, a foundry, three hotels,§ four blacksmith shops,|| three carriage shops,¶ a shingle-mill, three harness shops,**

* Royal D. Cone was appointed Clerk Dec. 24, 1846, to fill vacancy occasioned by the absence of William T. Brown.
 † Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist Episcopal.
 ‡ The *New Berlin Gazette*, J. K. Fox, Publisher. See page 108.
 § The Gaskin House, John S. Gaskin, proprietor; the Central Hotel, kept by G. G. Beers; and the Roberts House, kept by James Roberts. The accommodations of the Gaskin House are equal to those of any hotel in the county. This hotel was built in 1833 by John Williams, of South New Berlin, who bought the old hotel on this site in 1827, and kept the hotel till 1860, since which time it has been kept by John S. Gaskin, who bought it April 1, 1878.
 ¶ These are kept by Albert A. Smith, Amenzo Cady, John N. Davine, and Charles G. Smith.
 ¶ These are kept by Ackerman & Co., George Matteson and Abran Osterhout.
 ** These are kept by C. A. Sergeant, Adicus Ellis, and Charles Pratt.

two jewelers,* a flour and feed store, and a population of about 1,000. The village was incorporated April 17, 1816.

Following is a list of the Presidents and Clerks of the village since 1850†:—

YEARS.	PRESIDENTS.	CLERKS.
1850.‡		Oliver Goodsell.
1851.	A. C. Welch.	John T. White.
1852.	Daniel Haight.	S. W. Willard.
1853.	John Hyde.	H. O. Southworth.
1854.	Shadrach Steel.	S. W. Willard.
1855.	John Hyde.	Daniel Harrington.
1856.	Dyer Loomis.	"
1857-8.	O. M. Shippey,	O. F. Matterson.
1859.	John T. White.	"
1860.	Asa Pope.	"
1861.	Hiram D. Jacobs.	"
1863.‡	O. M. Shippey.	William H. Brownell.
1864.	Asa Pope.	H. H. Harrington.
1865.	Orange Shippey.	"
1866.	E. R. Fuller.	"
1867.	Uriel Thurber.	"
1868.	O. M. Shippey.	"
1869-70.	Daniel Harrington.	A. R. Bates.
1871.	William F. Jenks.	Ira K. Ball.
1872.	S. L. Morgan.	G. H. Littlewood.
1873.	R. B. Dimock.	"
1874.	"	William F. Jenks.
1875.	"	Joseph Arnold.
1876.	"	Ira K. Ball.
1877.	J. M. Angell.	"
1878-9.	Melville Alcott.	"

The following named village officers were elected March 4, 1879:—

- Trustees—Charles V. Hall, John Simonton, Sidney A. Finch.
 - Assessors—David H. White, Ira K. Ball.
 - Police Justice—C. A. Church.
 - Treasurer—John T. White.
 - Police Constable—Almon Babcock.
- At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, March 8, 1879, M. Alcott was chosen President, and Ira K. Ball, Clerk. March 11, 1879, Almon Babcock was appointed Collector; George P. Shippey, J. S. Bradley, and A. Handy, Fire Wardens, and Burt Gaskin, Pound Master.

MERCHANTS.—The prominent early merchants in New Berlin were Levi Blakeslee and Jeremy Goodrich. The former commenced trading in 1800, and the latter about 1802. Both have been fully noticed in connection with the early settlers.

Lawrence McIntyre, an Irishman, traded a few years in the building now occupied by George Sage, the frame part of which he built about 1805 or '6. The building has since been remodeled and repaired.

About 1815, Charles Knap, who came from Con-

* A. C. Shepard and H. S. Whitman. Shepard came from Coventry in 1877.
 † The village records prior to 1850 are missing.
 ‡ The records do not show who was President in 1850; neither do they show who held the office either of President or Clerk in 1861.

necticut in 1801, and was engaged in the tanning business in New Berlin, built the brick store now occupied by Jesse S. Bradley, and commenced mercantile business in company with Henry DeForest, who came from Connecticut to Edmeston, in Otsego county, and from thence about 1815 to New Berlin. After they dissolved partnership, DeForest built the store now occupied by S. L. Morgan, where he traded in company with Silas A. Conkey.

Wm. Turpin Brown, son of Barnabas Brown, a pioneer settler in this town, traded here some five or six years immediately preceding his death, which occurred March 9, 1856.

Coleman & Joyce opened the first drug store in the early part of the present century, in the small gamble-roof building on the north side of East street, now occupied as a dwelling by the widow Rhodes. They traded here several years, but had removed previous to 1816. Asahel Hatch came from Hamilton about 1814 and after Dr. Coleman's removal engaged in the drug business, to which both he and Coleman had been specially educated. Hatch occupied the store built by Isaac Van Dyke on South street, known as the Medbury store. He left New Berlin about 1818. Ebenezer Bivins succeeded Hatch in the drug business in the same store. He married here the eldest daughter of Levi Blakeslee.

The following are now engaged in mercantile business in New Berlin: Morgan, Finch & Phelps, dealers in general merchandise. The business represented by this firm was commenced in 1857 by Solomon L. Morgan.

George Sage is carrying on a general merchandise business which was established in the fall of 1860, by W. A. Lull and William A. Medbury, the former from Morris and the latter a native of New Berlin. They continued in company till August 7, 1868, when Medbury sold to C. L. Robinson and E. A. Sage, and the name became Robinson, Lull & Sage. April 7, 1873, Robinson withdrew and George and Andrew J. Sage became partners, under the name of Lull, Sage & Co. In 1875, Andrew J. Sage, retired, and the remaining partners continued the business till the fall of 1878, when they sold to George Sage, the present proprietor.

Fuller, Ball & Co., general merchants, are the successors to a business established in 1863, by E. R. Fuller, a native of Cooperstown, who removed to New Berlin with his parents in 1836, at the age of two years. In 1865, Henry M. Cushing became his partner, and the business was conducted under the name of Fuller & Cushing till 1868, when Cushing retired and I. K. Ball and J. M. Angell became his associates. The business has since been conducted under the name of Fuller, Ball & Co., though Mr. Angell retired in 1878.

James McFarland, clothier, commenced business in 1864. He had worked the three preceding years for Morgan & Hawkins of New Berlin.

Jesse S. Bradley, hardware merchant, commenced business in 1865, in which year he bought of Henry Tew, who came from Morris and traded five years.

Charles H. Pope, dealer in boots, shoes, groceries and ready made clothing, commenced business in 1866, in which year he bought out I. T. Butterfield, for whom he had clerked seven years.

Dimock & Matterson, (George C. C. Dimock and Truman I. Matterson,) general merchants, have done business in company since 1867.

Church, Morgan & Co., (C. A. Church, S. L. Morgan and C. L. Robinson,) dealers in flour, feed, coal, lime, plaster and grain, commenced business in 1870. The only change which has taken place in the firm occurred in 1876, when C. L. Robinson took the place of George and Eugene A. Sage and W. A. Lull, who were members of the original firm.

Hazard & Dykes, (Dr. A. C. Hazard and James L. Dykes,) druggists, commenced business Jan. 10, 1871. They bought, at his death, the stock of E. E. Blossom, who came from Norwich in the fall of 1868.

Henry J. Halstead, hardware dealer, commenced business here in 1871, in company with B. J. Haight under the name of B. J. Haight & Co. In March, 1879, he bought Mr. Haight's interest. Mr. Halstead is a native of Otsego county and came here from Oxford.

L. Spafard & Co., (Lewis Spafard and A. D. Sprague,) general merchants, commenced business in 1875.

Adelbert A. Handy, grocer and baker, commenced business in October, 1874, at which time he bought out Adelbert Snow, who did business here about a year and a half. Mr. Handy is a native of New Berlin.

G. W. Bentley & Son, (Edward C.,) furniture dealers and undertakers, came in 1876 from Brookfield, where the Elder Bentley established the business in 1853, continuing there the manufacturing interest, in company with his son Edward C. from 1872, until Feb. 10, 1879, when the establishment at Brookfield was burned. After the fire at Brookfield, the manufacturing department, which gives employment to eight persons, was transferred to New Berlin, where the sales department had been since 1876. A building, thirty by fifty feet, three stories high, was erected for its accommodation on Mill Creek, in New Berlin village, which affords a fall at this point of about thirty feet. The building was begun May 1, 1879, and was ready for occupancy July 1st, following. They manufactured all kinds of furniture and burial

caskets. Their ware-house is in the building formerly occupied by E. A. Bell as a dry goods store, which they remodeled and repaired in November, 1879.

Sidney E. Olin, grocer, is a native of New Berlin, and commenced business in 1876. Tracey H. Morse, merchant tailor, came here from Unadilla in 1877. Horace J. Wood, druggist and grocer, commenced business in April, 1879. He came from Greene, where he had carried on the drug business ten years, and bought out the grocery stock of J. C. Oatley, to which he added drugs. He is a native of Utica. M. S. Willard & Co., (Mrs. G. W. Archambault,) bakers and confectioners commenced business August 14, 1879.

POSTMASTERS.—The first postmaster in New Berlin was Jeremy Goodrich, who has been succeeded in that office by Noah Ely, Samuel Medbury, William D. Knap, John T. White, George W. Williams, Edward C. Williams, George W. Sumner, Jesse Bradley, Arthur Bates, Joseph Arnold, Thomas A. Avery, Stiles Gray and Thompson White, the latter of whom was appointed September 13, 1871, and is the present postmaster.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician at New Berlin was Ebenezer Ross, who came here from Connecticut about 1804-'05 and opened an office in a small building, afterwards occupied in part as a law office by John Hyde. It stood near the residence of Henry Tew, which was built by Dr. Ross about 1815 or '16. He practiced till his death Feb. 4, 1826, aged 46.

Royal Ross, nephew of Dr. Ebenezer Ross, who had lived and studied with his uncle, came from Connecticut, and attended Fairfield Medical College in company with Nathan Beardslee, and with him removed to Sherburne and commenced the practice of medicine. He was licensed by the Chenango County Medical Society Nov. 10, 1821.

Russell B. Burch, from Hartwick, Otsego county, commenced practice here as early as 1830, and continued till within a short time of his death, from consumption, June 21, 1861, aged 54. Dr. P. H. Hard, who studied medicine with Dr. Mitchell, of Norwich, and was licensed by the Chenango Medical Society in March, 1825, practiced here a year or two before 1840, and removed to Oswego. D. Herman Grey came here from the Eastern States about 1834, and removed in 1841 to Wisconsin. Caleb G. Hall was practicing here in 1840, and removed in the fall of that year to Cooperstown. James Harrington, who was licensed by the Chenango County Medical Society in the fall of 1830, and was practicing with Dr. Hall, removed the same year to Pennsylvania. A. T. Lyon was practicing here in 1850. Frank B. Abbott was practicing here in 1861, and G. A. Jones in 1868.

They remained only two or three years. Abbott removed to Vallonia Springs, Broome county, and Jones to Albany.

The present physicians are Dyer Loomis, Alvin C. Hazard, James B. Noyes, Hobert S. Dye and Floyd D. Brooks.

Dyer Loomis was born in Ashfield, Mass., Feb. 5, 1801, and was educated in Sanderson's Academy in Ashfield. He pursued his medical studies with Dr. Barney Colwell, of St. Johnsville, N. Y., and subsequently with Dr. Daniel Ayers, of East Canada Creek, N. Y. He was licensed by the Montgomery County Medical Society in June, 1826, and was graduated at Fairfield Medical College Jan. 31, 1827. He commenced practice in Palatine and remained there five years. He removed thence to Butternuts, and after five years' practice there attended another course of lectures at Fairfield Medical College. After completing the course, in 1840, he removed to New Berlin, where he has practiced till within the last two years, when he retired from active practice. He still resides in New Berlin. He is the third son of Rev. Josiah Loomis.

Alvin C. Hazard was born in Great Bend, Penn., June 21, 1838, and was educated in the Academy in his native place. He commenced the study of medicine in 1860 with Dr. E. A. Wilmot, of Great Bend. In 1863, he entered the United States Railroad Medical Department, connected with the army, as assistant surgeon, serving in that capacity two years, and one year in charge of the United States Military Railroad Hospital at Alexandria, Va. He left the military service in January, 1866, and located at South New Berlin, where he practiced his profession for five years, removing in 1871 to the village of New Berlin, where he has since practiced. He was licensed by the Chenango County Medical Society in May, 1866. He was Supervisor of New Berlin in 1869, and was elected Sheriff of Chenango county in November, 1879, on the Republican ticket.

LAWYERS.—The first lawyer to locate at New Berlin was Abijah Bennett, who came with his parents from Connecticut the latter part of the last century and settled in Pittsfield, N. Y. About 1804 or '5 he removed to New Berlin and opened an office and practiced here till the war of 1812, when he entered the United States regular army, in which he held a lieutenant's commission, and died here July 18, 1813, aged 32.

Noah Ely, who was born in Berkshire county, Mass., in 1786, came from thence to New Berlin about 1814 or '15, and practiced till old age compelled him to desist. He died here in January, 1871.

Henry Bennett was born in New Lisbon, Otsego county, Sept. 29, 1808. He studied law and was

admitted to the bar in 1832. He located about this time in New Berlin and continued to practice here till his death. He was elected to Congress in 1848, and served in that capacity ten successive years, from 1849 to 1859. He lacked only one vote of being nominated for the sixth time to that office. In the 34th Congress, 1855-57, he was Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, and reported a number of important bills for the benefit of the Western States. He was a member of the same committee in the 35th Congress.

John P. Usher came from Brookfield, N. Y., about 1831 or '2, and read law with Hon. Henry Bennett and subsequently with John Hyde, both of New Berlin. He was admitted about 1837, and practiced in company with his preceptor, Mr. Hyde, two years, when he removed to Indiana.

Alonzo Johnson came from Milford, Otsego county, between 1830 and 1840. After practicing a year or two he removed to Greene.

Henry O. Southworth came from Bridgewater, Oneida county, about 1841 or '2, and completed his legal studies with Noah Ely. He practiced here a few years and removed to Rome.

Samuel S. Randall, a native of Norwich, son of Perez Randall, practiced law here a few years previous to 1840, and married here.

Nathan Beardslee, a native of Pittsfield, Otsego county, came here about 1825 or '6, from Sherburne, where he lived a year or two. He practiced here till his death, Oct. 16, 1831, aged 35.

George W. Sumner, a native of Guilford, in this county, came to New Berlin as a student and read law with Henry Bennett. He served as Justice of New Berlin two successive terms; and represented this county in the Assembly in 1864 and '5. He was drowned in Crooked Lake, Aug. 10, 1865, while visiting an associate Member of Assembly. He was born Dec. 27, 1821.

The present lawyers in New Berlin are John Hyde, Oscar F. Matterson and Henry H. Harrington.

John Hyde was born in Franklin, Conn., June 24, 1791, and removed with his parents in 1802 to Columbus, then Brookfield. He commenced his law studies in 1811 with Stephen O. Runyan, of Oxford, and completed them with John Tracy. He was admitted in 1816 and commenced the practice of his profession that year in New Berlin, where he has since continued. Mr. Hyde is the author of some admirably written sketches on the early history of New Berlin and Columbus, which he has kindly placed at our disposal, and as he is an authority on these subjects we have made liberal extracts from them. In his old age he enjoys in an eminent degree the respect and confidence of his fellow townsmen, who

have honored him at different times with various town offices.

Oscar F. Matterson was born in Burlington, Otsego county, Aug. 29, 1832, and was educated in the common and select schools of his native town. He commenced the study of law in 1852, with George S. Gorham, of Burlington, and was admitted in 1854. He commenced practice in December, 1855, in New Berlin, where he has since continued in company with W. F. Jenks.

Henry H. Harrington was born in Garretttsville, Otsego county, Oct. 17, 1838, and was educated in the academies of Cooperstown, Fort Plain and New Berlin, to which latter town his parents removed in 1854. He commenced the study of law in 1859, with James E. Dewey, of Cherry Valley, with whom he remained till his admission in 1861. He was supervisor of New Berlin in 1868.

BANKS.—*The First National Bank of New Berlin* was organized June 24, 1863, under the act of Feb. 25, 1863, with a capital of \$60,000, in shares of \$100 each, and was privileged to increase the capital to \$150,000.* The charter continues its corporate existence for nineteen years, unless sooner dissolved by a majority of the stockholders. The organization certificate bears date of Oct. 21, 1863.

At a meeting of the stockholders, held at the hotel of N. Deming Nov. 2, 1863, Tracy S. Knap, Solomon L. Morgan, Cyril Beardslee, Joshua Lamb, John T. White, Henry Tew, Charles Medbury, Charles W. Fox and Eri Deming were elected directors, each receiving the entire number of votes cast—320. At a meeting of the directors held at the house of Nelson Deming Nov. 2, 1863, Tracy S. Knap was elected President; Solomon L. Morgan, Vice-President. John T. White was appointed Cashier. The bank was authorized to commence business by Hugh McCulloch, Comptroller of the Currency, Dec. 11, 1863, and opened its doors for business Jan. 2, 1864. Application for permission to begin business was made Dec. 7, 1863, at which time \$57,500 had been paid in as permanent capital. Jan. 12, 1869, Jonas H. Brooks was appointed Teller.

Jan. 14, 1873, Solomon L. Morgan was elected President in place of Tracy S. Knap, and Charles Medbury, Vice-President, in place of Solomon L. Morgan; both have since held their respective offices. Jan. 13, 1874, F. T. Arnold was appointed Teller in place of Jonas H. Brooks, resigned, and still holds that office. John T. White has been Cashier since the organization of the bank.

* April 11, 1865, the Board of Directors resolved to increase the capital \$15,000, but rescinded that resolution Sept. 7, 1865. July 26, 1871, the bank was authorized to increase its capital \$40,000, and Aug. 10, 1871, it resolved to so increase it. The present capital is \$100,000.

The trustees elected Jan. 14, 1879, were: S. L. Morgan, Charles Medbury, T. G. Lamb, Cyril Beardslee, O. F. Matterson, Harvey Howard, E. D. Hayward, Charles B. Williams and John T. White.

The first dividend, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., was declared in May, 1864. Up to May 11, 1869, a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent. was paid. Nov. 12, 1869, a 5 per cent. dividend was paid, and it was continued at that rate till Oct. 14, 1873. From April 14, 1874, to Oct. 8, 1878, 4 per cent. was paid; and April 8, 1879, and Oct. 14, 1879, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Following is a report of the condition of the bank Oct. 2, 1879:—

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts,.....	\$ 67,121.32
Overdrafts,.....	213.02
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation,.....	100,000.00
U. S. Bonds on hand,.....	34,100.00
Other Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages,....	11,900.00
Due from approved Reserve Agents,....	48,381.04
Due from other National Banks,.....	930.28
Due from State Banks and Bankers,....	10.50
Furniture and Fixtures,.....	500.00
Current expenses and taxes paid,.....	2,133.67
Premiums paid,.....	2,417.93
Checks and other cash items,.....	540.53
Bills of other Banks,.....	1,475.00
Fractional currency, (including nickels,.)	89.61
Specie, (including gold Treasury certificates,.)	5,546.70
Legal Tender Notes,.....	2,115.00
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer, 5 per cent. of circulation,.....	4,500.00
Total,.....	\$281,974.60

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in,.....	\$100,000.00
Surplus Fund,.....	12,000.00
Other undivided profits,.....	6,288.21
National Bank Notes outstanding,.....	90,000.00
Dividends unpaid,.....	38.50
Individual Deposits,.....	67,155.41
Demand Certificates of Deposit,.....	6,211.80
Cashier's checks outstanding,.....	42.00
Due to other National Banks,.....	238.68
Total,.....	\$281,974.60

MANUFACTURES.—As early as the beginning of the present century workers in wood and iron and in other manufacturing trades, commenced building workshops on either bank of the village creek, from near its source to the Unadilla, its recipient. The stream runs in a nearly east course through the center of the village. In its upper course it flows through a rugged glen, and, though small in volume, it furnishes some valuable mill sites. On the head waters of the stream, near the west line of the village, Thomas Medbury, a gunsmith, built a shop and manufactured rifles and smooth-bore shot-guns. His dwelling is now owned

and occupied by John Low. Barnabas Brown, Jr., bought the house and shop of Mr. Medbury, and turned the latter into a clothing and cloth-dressing establishment, and with Buel Sherman, whose wife was his sister, carried on that business several years. The building and its apparatus have long since disappeared.

Next down the creek was Knap & DeForest's woolen factory, which has been noticed in connection with the early settlements. James Denison bought the buildings and mill privilege and manufactured ropes from flax. While Mr. Knap owned the establishment, Asahel Edson carried on the business of wool-carding in it. Mr. Denison sold the premises to Thomas Chappell, who changed the building into a dwelling and built a brewery near by, where he made strong beer. He also had a cider-mill on the premises for grinding apples by water power. On the death of Mr. Chappell, Feb. 5, 1867, the property ceased to be used for manufacturing purposes. Knap's oil-mill stood on the creek near the present foundry; and down the creek below its junction with the north branch, in the paper-mill pond, are yet to be seen the remains of an old saw-mill, whose water-preserved timbers antedate this generation's memory as to the time this mill was built or by whom owned.

Up the north branch of the creek there stood another saw-mill, also a carding machine and cloth-dressing establishment. An accidental fire destroyed all the buildings with much of their contents. No mills were afterwards erected.

The ancient grist-mill owned by Blakeslee & Mallet, and more recently by Mr. Nichols, who also attached thereto a cider-mill and cooper shop, stands next below the Blakeslee paper-mill, to which reference has been previously made. Below the grist-mill, at the foot of the hill, on the south bank of the creek, where now stands the house built by Chauncy Babcock, was a distillery. Next in order were Knap's tannery, and Field's trip-hammer works, the former on the south and the latter on the north bank of the creek. Both drew water from the same mill pond. Goodrich's tannery, near the junction of the creek with the river, terminated the long row of ancient workshops.

Aruna Welch, a house painter, was an early settler in New Berlin village, and occupied as a paint shop, the building in which Augustus C. Welch made nails. About 1820 he removed to Ohio. The shop was afterwards occupied by a gunsmith named Jackson, who acquired the *sobriquet* of "Stub and Twist Jackson," because he manufactured what he termed stub and twist rifle barrels from old nail heads and points procured from blacksmith shops.

Vine Welch was one of the first settlers in New Berlin village, and was engaged in the manufacture of

spinning wheels. He died at an early day and was survived some years by his wife, who died April 6, 1830.

Moak & Pratt's tannery was built about 1840, by Tracy S. Knap, on the site of one built about 1813, by Charles Knap, and burned about 1840. Mr. Knap and his son carried on the business till about 1860, and sold to O. B. Matteson and C. A. Church. Matteson bought Church's interest in 1869, and in 1870 sold to Ephraim and F. A. Moak and C. J. Pratt. In 1874, F. A. Moak withdrew from the firm, in which there has since been no change. The tannery contains forty liquor vats, and employs four men and a capital of about \$10,000. They tanned in 1878 about 4,000 sides, which is about two-fifths of the capacity of the tannery.

James and Thomas Gibson are proprietors of a grist-mill and saw-mill, located on the Unadilla, but operated by steam. The saw-mill, which contains one circular saw, was built in 1872; and the grist-mill, containing one feed run, in 1876, both by the Messrs. Gibson.

The Eagle Mills, flouring and grist, were built in 1878, by S. C. Tinkham, the present proprietor. The building, which is of wood, is 46 by 75 feet, with two stories and basement. It has one run of stones. The motive power is furnished by water from the Unadilla, which is conducted to the mill by a race about a quarter of a mile long. It occupies the site of the Ross cotton factory, which was destroyed by fire.

The foundry and machine shop of which Henry L. Haight is proprietor, was established some sixty years ago, by Thomas and Miles Rice, brothers, who carried on the business several years, till 1839, when they sold to B. J. Haight, father of the present proprietor, who succeeded his father in 1873. Plows are the principal article of manufacture. The establishment is located on the creek, about a quarter of a mile above the village. The creek has a fall at this point of twenty-two feet.

Cushman, Sexton & Co., (A. S. Cushman, Samuel Sexton and A. Wilcox,) are engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of furniture. The business was established in 1870, in the building now occupied by L. Spafard & Co. as a store, and removed thence in 1876 to the present building, which was erected the latter year by this firm for its accommodation. The works are operated by steam and give employment generally to two persons. Orville Spicer put a shingle-mill into the same building in the early part of 1879, and is now making about 4,000 shingles per day. He employs one man besides himself.

NEW BERLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT—July 27, 1867, the village trustees were authorized to expend not to

exceed \$2,000 in the purchase of a fire engine and apparatus. The engine, "Excelsior No. 2, of Utica," was bought for \$1,000, and a hose cart, for \$175. A house and lot for an engine house was purchased of Edward Wales, in 1867, for \$375. The engine was received in the fall of 1867. Sept. 28, 1867, "Excelsior Fire Engine Co." was constituted with all the rights and privileges conferred by the law of April 28, 1847.*

April 26, 1868, \$800 were voted for the purpose of building a new engine house. June 11, 1870, Henry Tew was appointed Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, and was re-appointed to that office the three succeeding years. E. R. Fuller was appointed Chief, May 28, 1874. He is the present incumbent of that office. March 11, 1873, the office of Assistant Engineer was created and J. McGuire appointed to fill it. Sept. 1, 1874, permission was given for the formation of an independent hose company; and July 1, 1876, consent was granted Crystal Hose Co. to become incorporated as an independent hose company.

Everything connected with the Fire Department was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1877-'8. In May, 1878, a portable force pump, with hose attached, was purchased, and now forms a part of the equipment of the Department. An engine, hose-cart and hose were purchased the same month at a cost of \$1,000. June 5, 1878, the contract for building a new engine house, of wood, was awarded to D. D. Pendleton, to be completed in ninety days from June 7th, for \$795. Sept. 14, 1878, the engine house was accepted by the village trustees as being completed.

Considerable strife existed for the possession of the force pump. The village records of June 7, 1878, say "there are now three proposed companies in the field," contending for it; and the record ludicrously adds, "The Board moved to lay them all on the table for the present."

EXCELSIOR FIRE CO. No. 1 was organized Jan. 6, 1872. The first officers were: A. C. Hazard, Foreman; E. R. Fuller, Assistant Foreman; A. M. Chase, Secretary; T. I. Matterson, Treasurer; J. M. Brooks, Janitor. The present officers are: T. I. Matterson, Foreman; F. D. Brooks, Secretary; S. Sexton, Treasurer; N. Prentice, Janitor. The number of members is twenty-three.

ARGONAUT FIRE CO. No. 2 was organized June 17, 1878. The first officers were: H. S. Dye, President; E. C. Bentley, Foreman; W. F. Knap, Assistant Foreman; J. S. Matthewson, Treasurer; L. A. White, Secretary. The present officers are: Dr. J. B. Noyes, Foreman; H. S. Wightman, Assistant Foreman; L. A. White, Secretary; E. C. Bentley, Treasurer.

* This company was disbanded Jan. 6, 1872, and a new one organized.

NEW BERLIN ACADEMY* was incorporated by the Regents Feb. 13, 1844, and opened in the spring of that year under the principalship of Alonzo Phelps. The whole number of pupils during the first year was 133.

From the Report of the Regents for the year ending August 31, 1879, we glean the following particulars regarding this Academy. The school building is of wood, 60 by 140 feet, two and a half stories high. The first story contains two large study rooms, a hall and recitation room; the second story, a large study room, chapel, hall and library room. The rooms are well seated and contain ample blackboards and furniture, in good order and suitable for school work.

The resources of the Academy consist of a lot valued at \$1,200; school building, valued at \$3,200; library, containing 365 volumes, valued at \$415.02; and philosophical apparatus, valued at \$298.61; total value, \$5,113.73.

The teachers are Gilbert Jeffrey and Mrs. Henry Bennett, both of whom were educated in New Berlin.

The whole number of scholars taught during the year ending August 31, 1879, was 85; of whom 50 were males and 35 females. Their average age was 15 1-10 years. The number of academic students Aug. 31, 1879, or enrolled during any part of the year ending on that day, and who are claimed by the trustees to have pursued for four months or more of that year, classical studies or the higher branches of English education, or both, after having passed the preliminary academic examination, was 6 males and 6 females. The average age of the males was 18 3-10 years, and of the females, 16 9-10 years. The number of scholars pursuing classical studies during the year was 12, of whom 8 were males and 4 females.

Rates of tuition: Common English studies, \$13.50; Mathematical and Higher English, \$16.50; Classical, including the preceding, \$22.50.

The present trustees are S. L. Morgan, John T. White, E. R. Fuller, A. J. Sage, H. H. Harrington, D. Harrington, J. S. Bradley and Chauncey Todd.

CHURCHES.—*St. Andrew's Church*, New Berlin, was organized April 14, 1814, by Rev. Daniel Nash, who had held occasional services in the village previous to that time. A meeting of the constituent members was held at that date, at the house of Asa Perry, in New Berlin. Rev. Daniel Nash presided and Augustus C. Welch was chosen clerk. At that meeting a vestry was elected and the above name adopted. Mr. Nash officiated as rector, and services were held in a church edifice erected by the united efforts of persons of different denominations, but which was amicably yielded to the use of this church, such being the desire of a majority of the contributors.

* Promised data relative to the early history of this institution have not been furnished us.

The church was consecrated by Bishop John Henry Hobart, Sept. 6, 1816.

The seats were first rented in October, 1816. They were rented by auction sale above the appraised value, and were let from January, 1817, to January, 1818. The highest sum appraised to any pew appears to have been \$25; the lowest, \$3. A. C. Welch was the auctioneer.

In November, 1816, a committee was appointed to purchase a suitable lot in the village for a parsonage, as Rev. William B. Lacy, who had been engaged as rector one-fourth his time, apparently as early as 1815, at a salary of \$175, intended to reside here. In 1817, Mr. Lacy resigned his charge, and in August of that year the vestry requested Asahel Davis to assume it, giving three-fourths of his time to this parish, and agreed to pay him \$375 for such service. His services were discontinued on or before Nov. 18th, and the vestry, on the 5th of that month, appointed a committee to arrange with Rev. D. Nash to assume the charge of the parish the next year. Mr. Nash resigned in March, 1820, and Rev. Mr. Wheeler was invited to visit the parish with a view to the rectorship; but he did not assume the charge till the close of the year. His services continued till 1825. After he left there seems to have been an interim of three years, in which there was no settled rector. Rev. E. Andrews commenced his labors Aug. 17, 1828, at a salary of \$400 and house-rent. He gave one-fourth of his time to the adjoining parish of Sherburne, with the understanding, nevertheless, that whatever remuneration he received there, should be deducted from the amount paid at New Berlin.

In 1852, Rev. Mr. Hughes was the rector. He remained such however for only a short period; for Oct. 19, 1834, a committee was appointed to wait on Rev. E. Andrews, then rector, and request him to continue his services another year. He remained till 1836, on the 4th of November of which year a call was given to Rev. Charles Jones, who entered upon the duties of rector on the 11th of that month. He resigned the charge at the end of the year, much to the regret of the vestry. He was succeeded by Rev. R. Wheeler, who gave up the charge in February, 1841, when the parish placed themselves under the Bishop's directions. Rev. Andrew Hull took charge of the parish that year.

At a meeting of the vestry in April, 1843, it was unanimously voted that the seats of the church should thenceforth be free and open to all attendants upon the church without charge. From that time the church has been essentially free, the clergymen being supported by subscription.*

* Dec. 1, 1856, the system of subscriptions for rector's salary and church expenses was superseded by the free offertory system.

In November, 1846, a meeting was held to take action upon the subject of a new church, and a committee was appointed to circulate subscriptions. A stone building to cost about \$5,000, was decided on. The plans were procured from R. Upjohn, a New York architect, and the work begun. The cornerstone was laid in the summer of 1847, and the building was completed in the fall of 1848, the entire cost, exclusive of furniture, being about \$8,000.

In May, 1849, Mr. Hull resigned the rectorship, to which, in the summer of that year, the vestry called Rev. Richard Whittingham, who entered upon his duties in November, 1849.

Jan. 12, 1863, Rev. Mr. Whittingham tendered his resignation, which was accepted February 23. A call extended to Rev. George W. Dunbar, of Olean, Sept. 3, 1863, was accepted, and he entered upon his labors August 26. With his rectorship the pledged offertory was substituted for the free offertory system. The parochial school was discontinued on the removal of Mr. Whittingham. Dec. 1, 1866, Mr. Dunbar tendered his resignation, which was accepted Jan. 4, 1867. His connection with the parish ceased March 1, 1867.

July 3, 1867, a call was given Rev. J. B. Robinson, of Clinton, N. Y., and accepted, the interval having been filled by J. T. White as lay reader.

Mr. Robinson tendered his resignation May 31, 1878. It was accepted the same day, to take effect June 9th. July 2, 1878, a call was given Rev. Charles A. Poole, the present rector.

The following officers were elected April 15, 1879: Horace O. Moss and Jesse Beardslee, Wardens; D. Loomis, J. T. White, W. A. Lull, John Austin, W. Reynolds, J. Gaskill, Edward Todd and F. T. Arnold, Vestrymen.

The present number of communicants is 162; the offerings for missionary and charitable purposes, during the year ending Oct. 5, 1879, amounted to \$453.33.

The Baptist Church of New Berlin was organized August 6, 1831, at the white school house in the village of New Berlin.* Rev. Nathaniel Otis, of Oxford, was moderator, and Rev. David Cutler, clerk of the council which convened at that time to reorganize it as a church. Rev. Jabez H. Swan, of Norwich, preached the sermon. The number of constituent members was twenty-three. The church edifice was erected in 1840, at a cost of about \$3,000, and dedicated in October of that year.

* The society connected with this church was organized "at the usual place of worship in the village of New Berlin," May 27, 1837. J. Randall and R. Herrington, members of the church, were chosen to preside at the meeting, and they, together with Alonzo Hubbel, Azel Peck and Sabin Warner were elected trustees. It was reorganized as *The Baptist Church and Society of the Village of New Berlin*, July 22, 1839. Edwin T. Jacobs, an elder, and Everett Colburn, a member of the church, were chosen to preside at the meeting held for that purpose, and Daniel G. Cook, David B. Cole, Stephen P. Cady, Russel B. Burch and Augustus Sheldon were elected trustees.

Following are the names of the pastors in the order of their settlement:—

Rev. David Cutler,	from Aug.,	1831 to	—	1837.
" E. T. Jacobs,	" Sept.,	1838 to	July,	1841.
" H. A. Smith,	" Feb.,	1842 to	June,	1845.
" Geo. F. Post,	" July,	1846 to	May,	1852.
" S. S. Hayward,	" "	1852 to	April,	1854.
" E. T. Jacobs,	" Oct.,	1855 to	"	1857.
" Jesse Evans,	" April,	1859 to	March,	1861.
" D. L. Lockwood,	" "	1861 to	April,	1863.
" J. H. Chamberlin,	" "	1863 to	"	1867.
" G. E. Flint,	" "	1867 to	Jan.,	1870.
" J. L. Ray,	" "	1870 to	Sept.,	1873.
" H. A. Smith,	" Oct.,	1873 to	April,	1875.
" B. F. Williams,	" July,	1875 to	"	1877.
" C. A. Stone,	" "	1877,	present	pastor.

The present number of members is 140; the attendance at Sabbath School, 106.

The church has given two of its members to the ministry, viz.: Rev. Edward Royce, who was ordained by this church Sept. 19, 1843; and Rev. Hiram Fisher, who was ordained by this church Feb. 27, 1855.

The church joined the Otsego Association immediately after its organization, but after two years withdrew and united with other churches in forming the Chenango Association in 1833.

The First M. E. Church in New Berlin. It is not known when this church was organized, as no record is preserved. Its legal existence dates from Dec. 17, 1832, at which time a meeting was held in the house of Abel Judson, in New Berlin village of which Rev. Lyman Beach was chairman and Abel Judson, secretary. Benjamin Jacobs, Abel Judson, Elisha Babcock, John C. Bates and Thomas Sayrles were then elected trustees; and the name of *The First Society of the M. E. Church in the town of New Berlin* was adopted.

The church was originally a part of the old New Berlin circuit, which comprised New Berlin, South New Berlin and King's Settlement. About 1846 New Berlin was cut off and made a station, with Rev. Mr. Anderson as pastor; but finding themselves unable to support a minister, Columbus and South Edmeston were added.

The church edifice, which was originally built in 1841, was re-built in 1875, at a cost of about \$1,200. It was re-dedicated March 10, 1876. The parsonage was built in 1871, under the pastorate of Rev. R. W. Van Schoick. In 1875 the church at Columbus, which is on this charge, was repaired at a cost of about \$1,700.

Rev. Mr. Shepard was the pastor in 1869; Rev. W. B. Thomas, in 1870; Rev. R. W. Van Schoick, in 1871; Rev. J. A. Wood 2d, in 1872; Rev. William Burnside, in 1873; Rev. L. A. Wild, in 1874-'5; Rev. N. J. Hawley, in 1876-'7; and Rev. J. C. Shelland, the present pastor, in 1878-'9. The present number of members is about 200.

The Presbyterian Church of New Berlin.—March 12, 1838, a meeting was held in the school-house in the south part of the village of New Berlin, and Zalmon Hubbell having been called to the chair and Hial Fitch appointed secretary, Lee DeForest, Zalmon Hubbell, Hial Fitch, Marcus S. Willard, William Smith and Chauncy Calkins were elected trustees, and the name of *The Congregational Society of New Berlin* adopted. At the same meeting Nelson Brown was chosen clerk of the Society, and Zalmon Hubbell, Lee De Forest and Hial Fitch were chosen a building committee. A lot was purchased in the upper part of the village, where the houses of Mr. E. Wallace and Miss Medbury now stand. The erection of the church was entrusted to Messrs. Hills and Thurber, and in the fall of 1838, the building was enclosed and the basement completed. In the latter services were held till the latter part of the next summer.

August 11, 1839, the *Congregational Church of New Berlin* was formed by the Rev. S. P. Storrs, of Columbus. Thirty-one persons, who presented letters from various Congregational and Presbyterian churches, united in its organization. Of this number Joel L. Fuller, C. G. Smith and Mrs. Mary Ross are the only ones who remain with it.

Sept. 11, 1839, Rev. Julius S. Pattengill was invited to become the pastor. He was then a young man and commenced his labors immediately. He was ordained as an evangelist by the Otsego Presbytery in February, 1840, regularly called by this church in June of that year, and installed as pastor on the 12th of August following. He closed his labors in February, 1848. During his stay, in February, 1840, the church was dedicated. Up to October, 1841, the church had struggled with a debt of \$400, which was canceled at that time by voluntary subscription.

The second pastor was Rev. Samuel Wright, who began his labors in the fall of 1848. His pastorate was a short but acceptable one, for on the 20th of March, 1851, he requested a dissolution of the pastoral relation. For a little over a year after Mr. Wright left, Rev. Mr. Gamage, LL. D., supplied the pulpit, and during his ministry there were several additions. He was succeeded by Rev. A. Van Houten, who commenced his labors here Aug. 15, 1852, and remained till Oct. 25, 1853.

About this time land was bought of Charles Knap by Lee De Forest and William Smith and given by them to the Society, to be used for church purposes, on condition that if the society should ever disband the proceeds of the sale should be divided between the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions.

On Sunday, April 8, 1855, the first service was held in the church after its removal, Rev. Alford White at that time beginning his labors with this people. The

church was re-dedicated on the 30th of May following. Mr. White remained till April, 1856, and was succeeded by Rev. H. P. Herrick. The next pastor was Rev. John McLeish, who commenced his labors in October, 1858. He left in the spring of 1861. Rev. J. L. Jones, who for a short time had been supplying the church at Columbus, became the pastor in July, 1861, and preached his last sermon here April 29, 1866. The Sabbath after Mr. Jones preached his farewell sermon, Rev. Thomas Thompson, a young man from Madison University, commenced to preach here and remained a year. From May to August, 1867, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Myron Adams, a student of Auburn Theological Seminary. Oct. 6, 1867, Rev. C. M. Whittlesey, from the Seminary at Auburn, began his labors as pastor, and in April, 1868, was ordained by the Chenango Presbytery. He remained till June 6, 1868.

Mr. Whittlesey's successor was Rev. E. P. Adams, who commenced his labors Nov. 21, 1869, and continued them for two years. The succeeding few months the church was without preaching. Rev. A. C. Swain, of Madison University, supplied the pulpit for three months from March, 1872. In the fall of 1872, Rev. Horatio Pattengill, brother of the first pastor, took the pastoral charge. In the spring of 1873 he was instrumental in inducing the church to change its form of government from Congregational to Presbyterian. In accordance with this vote, April 12, 1873, it was resolved to elect three elders, and Joel L. Fuller, Uziel Thurber and Eleazer R. Fuller were elected to that office, to which they were ordained on the 20th of April. They still serve the church in that capacity. Mr. Pattengill labored here till April 1, 1876. He received, before leaving, the honorary degree of D. D., conferred on him by Alfred University. He was succeeded here by Frank W. Townsend, the present pastor, who commenced his labors July 16, 1876, and was installed pastor Sept. 26, 1876.

In 1877, a new pipe organ was put into the church at a cost of about \$1,000. The present membership 113; the attendance at Sabbath School, 100.

SOCIETIES.—*Phoebus Lodge No. 82, F. & A. M.*, was re-chartered June 5, 1841. Charter officers were: Rouse Clark, *Master*; Abraham Baker, *S. W.*; Samuel Angell, *J. W.* The present officers are: Granville G. Beers, *W. M.*; Truman I. Matterson, *S. W.*; Charles P. Cushman, *J. W.*; William J. Mann, *Treasurer*; John McGuire, *Secretary*; E. C. Bentley, *S. D.*; Adelbert Snow, *J. D.*; John T. Chapin, *S. M. of C.*; Henry H. McGuire, *J. M. of C.*; Chauncey Todd, *Tiler*; A. J. Manchester, *Chaplain*; M. Alcott, *Marshal*; Willie G. Peck, *Organist*.

89067471284



b89067471284a

NON - CIRCULATING



89067471284



B89067471284A