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Photo by Cooper.

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF GROTON, N. Y.

# "GRIP'S" VALLEY GAZETTE.

VOL. VII. No. 10

ALBANY, N. Y., OCTOBER, 1899.

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HISTORICAL SOUVENIR SERIES No. 6.

## GROTON, N. Y. AND VICINITY

ILLUSTRATED.

GROTON, N. Y., a very pretty village nestling in the Owasco valley, fourteen miles south of Owasco lake, has the general reputation of being a progressive, wide-awake, growing place. The topography of the surrounding country is rugged, though the soil is fertile and productive, many excellent farms, both low and upland pouring their products into the lap of this interesting village. On the east and on the west it is protected by a range of hills, checkered with farms in a high state of cultivation. The dip into the valley from the east is gradual while the elevations on the opposite side are considerably higher and steeper. Most excellent roads radiate north, south east and west from the village, some of them climbing the slopes of the valley in a long, winding course, so that teaming is comparatively light. While dairying largely occupies the attention of the ruralists, crops of all kinds of grain are raised and marketed. Hay is also a considerable product of the agriculturist in this section. This village now affords an excellent creamery, and it is probable that the time will come when some large firm which handles milk to a considerable extent both for the New York market and for condensing purposes will locate a receiving station here.

Owasco Inlet, a small stream, flows north through the village, emptying into Owasco lake. The fall is not sufficient for very much of a water power. The adjacent country is fed by springs, so that the very best water for all purposes is provided with a liberal hand.

There is a fully equipped system for distributing water, built and conducted by the corporation in 1888 at a cost of \$23,000. Since then the enlargement of the system has raised those figures to \$32,000. Eight or ten springs, two or three hundred feet higher than the village, furnish an abundant supply, which in hot weather is sufficiently cool to be palatable without ice. With such a head the water can be thrown entirely by pressure over the church steeples in the village. This water plant is a valuable and paying investment.

A well organized and disciplined fire department with the apparatus belonging to a hook and ladder truck and two fully supplied hose companies form a capable defense against any ordinary fire.

The village is also well lighted by electricity, arc lights being used in the streets and both arc and incandescent in the buildings. This improvement cost about \$12,000 and is also owned by the village.

Groton is a station on the Lehigh Valley railroad, twenty-eight miles south of Auburn and but six miles from the junction of diverging divisions of that road. It is in the northeastern corner of Tompkins county. Ten miles west is Cayuga lake, and Ithaca, the county seat, is about sixteen miles by rail. About the same distance by rail east is

Cortland where the New York and Syracuse trains on the D., L. & W. railroad are accessible. At the railroad junction above referred to trains may be taken for the east and west, enabling passengers bound for any of the large cities of the state to reach their destinations in comparatively easy riding periods.

The manufacturing interests of the village give employment to several hundreds of people and distribute among the townspeople many thousands of dollars. The best bridges now in use are manufactured by the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Co. who also manufacture traction engines, road building and other machinery. The Groton bridge is known all over the world. Nor is Groton second in the production of vehicles of all descriptions of the better grades, manufactured by the Groton Carriage Co.

Then there are other flourishing manufactories in Groton, which turn out furniture, flour, typewriters, copy holders, dress skirts etc.

### HISTORICAL REVIEW OF GROTON.

Groton was erected from the town of Locke and called Division, April 7, 1817. The name was changed to Groton on March 13, 1818. It originally was a part of the town of Milton, which was organized Jan. 27, 1789, being then included in the limits of Montgomery county. The town was afterwards a part of Herkimer county, which was set off from Montgomery in 1791. Next it was a part of the territory set apart and named Onondaga county, 1794, and in 1799 became a part of Cayuga county. On Feb. 20, 1802, when the town of Milton was divided, what is now Groton was included in the town then known as Locke. The most concise and the best written description of the early settlement of Groton is found in a published document, which was composed and delivered as a lecture before the Groton Literary association on April 10, 1868, by Prof. M. M. Baldwin, M. A., who was at that time the principal of the Groton academy. We take the liberty of quoting that part of the document which treats of the first appearance of settlers in the then forest clad, frontier town of Central New York. Prof. Baldwin says:—

"At the close of the last century, settlements were made nearly simultaneously in various portions of the town. But the honor of settling this beautiful valley in the centre of town is not undisputed. Many tongued tradition brings to us, at least two, somewhat different stories. One is that Ephraim Spaulding and Michael Grummon from Battleborough, Vt., came to this place in June, 1795, cleared six acres of ground where the academy now stands and sowed it to winter wheat, and built two log houses, one for Spaulding near where William Hicks now lives and one for Grummon north of the sulphur spring. That



they were here before 1804 is undisputed. The other story is that Maj. Benjamin Hicks who had served with distinction in the revolution, under Col. Willett at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, against the British and Indians, in the many bloody battles fought in that vicinity, and to whom lot No. 75, in the town of Locke, now Groton, had fallen, then living near Canajoharie, N. Y., had in his employ during the summer of 1797 John Perrin, formerly of Berkshire Co., Mass. During said time Hicks made an arrangement with Perrin to move upon said lot, commence clearing it off, cause it to be surveyed and to offer such portions of it to actual settlers as he should be able. In October of that year two teams with lumber wagons loaded with provisions, household furniture and other necessaries were fitted out; Perrin and his wife, with Ebenezer Williams from

whom he found in the vicinity of James Macklathan's.

"When some ten rods south of Benj. Hatch's they found a tree turned up from the roots. Here they halted; and beside this tree they built a sort of shelter from the elements which they occupied for nearly a month, while they constructed a permanent dwelling. On the first or second day in the dusk of the evening they were surprised to hear this question pronounced in a clear and manly voice, 'What are you doing here?' Looking around they beheld a hunter in full dress; and they soon learned that he was John Bowker (father of Clinton Bowker,) one of the first settlers of Lansing, then on his way to visit friends in Dryden. Of course he camped with them.

"Their house was of log and was located in the hollow south of Rolaud White's, and some four



Photo by Cooper.

ELM STREET—LOOKING WEST FROM BARROWS STREET.

Charlemont, Mass., going with the first load and Ezra Carpenter from Savoy, Mass., going with the second.

"On and on they traveled day after day over roads well nigh impassable. During the latter part of their journey, when they had left all beaten paths behind them, Williams acted as guide for the teams, going forward on foot and selecting the track. For the last few miles he was directed by the 'blazed trees' along the lines which had been left by the original surveyor.

"It seems that on the last day of their lonely journey, he had gone far ahead of the teams and had actually arrived at the bounds of 'the promised land.' Here lay lot 75 in all its primeval loveliness but silent and solitary. At one time he saw in the distance beautiful wild deer as they swiftly fled away; and at another, a huge, black bear, which slowly and reluctantly retreated before him. Having hastily observed the 'lay of the land,' he returned to meet his companions,

rods west of the road. It is said that the ground was then so marshy that it took them all day to cross with their teams for the first time the valley from their brush shanty to their log 'palace'. This is claimed to be the first house in this part of the town.

"Then Williams, who was a surveyor, went on foot to Cortland and borrowed a compass and chain of Samuel Crittenden, grandfather of one G. D. Crittenden, and with these they surveyed the lot, and sub-divided it into portions suitable for farms, preparatory to offering them for sale in accordance with Maj. Hicks' plan. Before winter set in Williams and Carpenter returned to Canajoharie and thence to Massachusetts. Now whether Spaulding and Grummon, or John Perrin and wife were the first settlers in this vicinity, let others decide. The latter it seems to me, is much the most probable.

"In 1804, Deacon Benjamin Williams, now 84 years of age, (1868) a brother of Ebenezer Williams,

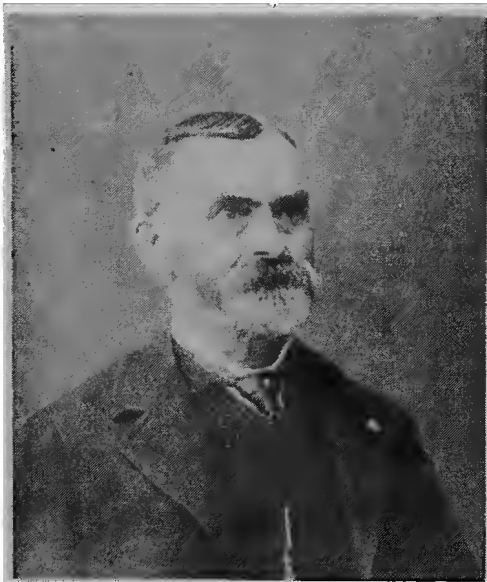


Photo by Cooper.

NELSON R. STREETER.

and also of Mrs. John Perrin. came to Groton to reside. From him I learn that Perrin and wife passed the winter of 1797-'8 alone in the wilderness. The next spring, his father, Lemuel Perrin, and family came and settled on the thirty-nine acres, where B. Hatch's dwelling now is. It cost him three dollars per acre, and he afterwards sold it to Amzi Clark for \$18 per acre.

"Also S. Jenks Carpenter, father of our Ruel B. Carpenter, came from Savoy. He worked for J. Perrin that summer and claimed to help clear off the first piece of land in the vicinity. In 1803 he bought fifty acres where Mr. A. Page resides and paid for it one hundred and fourteen dollars 'in gold'.

"Ephraim Spaulding built a house a little east of William Hicks' which he sold to Ezra Loomis who occupied it in 1804.

"Samuel Ingalls and Silas Stuart came about this time; also Michael Grummon who built a house near F. A. Sherman's.

"On May 7, 1802. Jonas Williams purchased one hundred and six acres for \$320 - 25 and built upon it the first grist mill in Groton. This was one story and a half high, and it had one small run of stone which was used in grinding both wheat and corn. To show the scarcity of musical instruments and the estimation of music among the people of that day, it is related that one of the customers of the mill would sometimes bring along his violin as well as his grist, and that in

return for the entertainment afforded the miller and his customers, his grist went toll-free. Then he built the first saw-mill known to us as 'the old saw mill,' and which has lately been torn down to 'clear the track' for the Southern Central (Lehigh Valley) railroad. He also erected the first framed dwelling in the place where the Union block now stands.

"Before 1804 Ezra Carpenter had married John Perrin's sister and moved upon the farm where Alfred Underwood now lives. Admatha Blodgett from Homer bought the same farm three or four years after.

"Dr. Nathan Branch occupied a house near John Vantine's. Jonathan Bennett lived in a house near Roland White's. Peleg Hathaway lived on the farm now owned by Henry Allen. Abiatha Hathaway dwelt nearly opposite to Virgil Hatch's, and John Perrin had moved and built a house near Aaron Woodbury's residence."

From the same excellent authority we extract the following historical notes:—

Jonathan Bennett was appointed the first Justice of the Peace, 1805 or '06.

Benjamin and William Williams erected the second frame dwelling in the village—in 1807.

The first store was stocked in this building by these same men, the goods being transported from Waterford, ten miles north of Albany, by two horse teams. The journey occupied twelve days. The usual currency which was legal tender at this store was ashes, which these enterprising merchants manufactured into potash which they carried to Waterford and exchanged for stock in trade.

Hon. Samuel Crittenden was elected the first supervisor and Admatha Blodgett the first town clerk from the town of Groton.

This county, named after Gov Tompkins, was formed by an act of the legislature dated April 17, 1817, in which it was created a separate county from the towns of Hector and Ulyssis, taken from Seneca county and the town of Dryden together with parts of the towns of Locke and Milton taken from Cayuga county.

In 1818 the town of Division, Tompkins county, was named Groton on petition of its inhabitants, some of whom had moved from Groton, Mass.,



Photo by Cooper.

NELSON R. STREETER'S RESIDENCE.

and some from Groton, Ct. A few desired that it should be named York.

**Nelson R. Streeter**, well-known to the hardware jobbing trade all over this country and equally as well known as a very large patentee of useful household articles, obtained his start in life in the village of Groton. It was here he first made practical application of his ingenious ideas; it was here he persevered in his early struggles until rewarded by success. At the age of 31 years he arrived in this village, a custom foreman in the shoe business and at once started in for himself in partnership with F. H. Robinson. This was in August, 1869, and the business was opened up in the building now occupied by the skirt factory. Mr. Streeter was at that time in the same business in Borodino, Onondaga county, where Mr. Robinson had written him

formed the firm of N. R. Streeter & Co. for the purpose of pushing his patented articles. The firm, which was composed of N. R. Streeter, D. H. Marsh, Dana Rhodes and H. K. Clark, opened an office over the First National Bank. The capitalization was practically nothing. The headquarters of the firm were always retained in Groton during the life-time of Mr. Marsh because of his connection with the local bank, where it was desired that the banking business of the firm should be done. After a few years Mr. Clark died and his interest went to C. T. Converse. Just after the death of Mr. Clark the office was moved into Dana Rhodes over Rhodes' drug store. After that Dana Rhodes retired from the firm.

From time to time Mr. Streeter invented several new and useful articles which are in daily use all over the world. Among the most prominent and popular are the cold handle flatiron, chain pot



Photo by Cooper.

CORTLAND STREET—LOOKING WEST FROM THE HILL.

that he desired such a connection, as he wanted a practical man to take charge of the manufacturing department of the business. Robinson & Streeter sold to Morris & Young in 1870 and, in 1872, the latter sold to W. M. Peck, who moved the store into the building on Main street now a part of the Atwood Block. The following year or two Mr. Streeter withdrew from all connection with this shoe business for the purpose of pushing his inventions; although during the years of 1875-'6 he re-engaged in the shoe business in co-partnership with L. E. Draper. The firm was known as Draper & Streeter, who bought out S. M. Hall and continued the business during those two years in his old stand in the Bank building on Cortland street, where Cooper's photograph gallery now is. Upon his final retirement from the shoe business Mr. Streeter sold out to Mr. Draper and started in the manufacture of his inventions under contract with Rochester parties, having

cleaners, mouse traps, etc. The folding mirror used in clothing stores to enable one to look at himself over his own shoulder is Mr. Streeter's invention.

It was when the firm of N. R. Streeter & Co. combined with others in their line that they located in Rochester. The genius and industry of Mr. Streeter have been untiring and to-day the company controls over seventy-five patents, largely household articles which were devised and patented during a period of twenty-five years, a majority of them being his own. Mr. Streeter travels almost constantly introducing his own goods. He has been in every state in the union and has made an annual trip to California for the past ten years, he having entire charge of merchandising the goods. The record of his journeyings with the "drumner's grip" will probably aggregate at the least 25,000 miles a year, and his acquaintanceship with the jobbing trade extends



Photo by Cooper. G. M. STODDARD.

into every large city on this continent. A few years ago the firm established a branch office in New York.

This Yankee inventor is an example of what pluck and ingenuity will do, if directed in the right channel. The toils and troubles, triumphs and defeats, tribulations, joys and sorrows of the average inventor make interesting reading. When engaged in the shoe business Mr. Streeter invented an attachment to a last, being assisted by Luther S. Wright, which swallowed up every dollar of a very fair accumulation from his salary, and resulted only in defeat. Thirty years earlier such an invention would have made a fortune. What gave him the start was the cold handle flat iron. Other inventions followed, but there came a period of low tide in the affairs of this inventor when the true friendship and confidence of his dear friend, D. H. Marsh, enabled him to get above water and obtain a firm footing. Then the merits of his inventions began to assert themselves. The public had to have them and dealers must meet the public demand; all of which led to the enormous business his house is now doing. There is special interest in the fact that the tools which Mr. Streeter used when a shoemaker are kept as mementos. They are gilded with gold 22 karats fine and hang in a frame in his parlor. A poem which he composed immortalizes these tools. It is entitled "The old Tools in a Frame."

Mr. Streeter was born in the town of Pitcher, Chenango Co., N. Y., October

7, 1838. He was one of the organizers and is a charter member of Bryant Lodge, No. 198, Knights of Pythias, and is a thirty-second degree mason. By his marriage with Adelia Randolph of Oxford, which occurred in Borodino, Onondaga county, June 20, 1860, there are four children. They are Mrs. Charles P. Mosher of Philadelphia, L. N. Streeter of Kattanning, Pa., Mrs. Frank B. Mathews of Groton and Miss Erana, a recent graduate of the Groton academy, who is about to enter the Ithaca conservatory. Mr. Streeter is an active Republican in politics and has taken a conspicuous place in the affairs of the village, having served as a trustee and on the board of education. The family live in a delightful home in the village, which is situated on Cortland street, and has a very pretty outlook.

**Giles M. Stoddard**, a prominent lawyer of Tompkins county and well-known among the leading members of his party as an active, representative Democrat, is the present postmaster of the village, being near the end of his second term. Both appointments came from President Cleveland, a compliment rarely bestowed by him, who usually considered that the good of the public service and the claims of his party followers were best conserved by passing around the appointments. Mr. Stoddard's first appointment was in February, 1888, about a year before President Cleveland concluded his first term. Upon his second election he permitted the Republican postmaster to serve his full time and then at the earnest solicitation of well known Tompkins county Democrats, appointed Mr. Stoddard, May 29, 1896, for a second term. Mr. Stoddard has been corporation attorney for several years and has done considerable of the important law business in Groton and vicinity, having attended upon a general practice including many prominent civil cases. For many years he did all of the law business for the well known firm of Charles Perrigo & Co. He has taken an active part in many county and state conventions of his party. He was candidate for district attorney in 1884; has twice been the President of the village and a member of the Board of Education for nine years. Mr. Stoddard was born in Groton, Sept. 22, 1854. His grandfather, David Stoddard moved



Photo by Cooper.

G. M. STODDARD'S RESIDENCE.

to Groton from Otselic, Chenango county, where he settled in 1803. His father Iren Stoddard, was born in Groton and both he and his wife are now living on a farm near the village. Mr. Stoddard was educated at the Groton Academy and in 1876 he entered the law office of W. W. Hare where he read law until 1879 when he was admitted to the bar at Ithaca. On Jan. 1, 1881, he went to Colorado on important business for Charles Perrigo & Co., and upon his return to Groton the following September he opened an office, continuing since then in what has proved a lucrative practice. He is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias. On Sept. 6, 1882, he married Miss Maud Loomis and they have one daughter, Miss Leola.

**Groton Lodge, No. 404, Good Templars** was instituted by Mrs. Stone Jan. 19, 1899, with fifteen members, and on Aug. 7, 1899, had forty-five active members. The following are the charter members: Henry Colby, H. McCloud, Eugene Woodruff, Mrs. Eugene Woodruff, Mrs. McCloud, F. B. Carrington, Mrs. F. B. Carrington, Mr. Burr, Chas. H. Tarbell, Mrs. Chas. H. Tarbell, Earl Moe, Miss Ethel Baldwin, Miss Louie Lamont, J. H. Zartman, Miss Jennie Preston, Miss Ina Preston, Fay Howser, Harry Morey, Harry Green, Glen Johnson, Sherman Beach, Horace Main, Eugene H. Baldwin, A. J. Baldwin, Asel Buck, Nellie Keefe, John Keefe, E. Burtenshaw, T. B. Hopkins, John Betts, Miss Nellie Tarbell, Ed. Hopkins, Mrs. Emma Cox, Geo. Underwood, Henry Westfall, Bruce Hyde, Elton Lane, Nellie Coggswell, Alnia Sobers.

The present list of officers are: John Keefe, C. T.; Ethel Baldwin, V. T.; Louisa Shaw, S. J. T.; F. B. Carrington, Sec.; Mrs. C. H. Tarbell, Asst. Sec.; E. H. Baldwin, Fin. Sec.; Rena Morris, Treasurer; Earl Moe, Marshal; Nellie Tarbell, D. Marshal; J. H. Zartman, Chaplain; Louie Lamont, Guard; Harry Green, Sentinel; C. H. Tarbell, Lodge Deputy; C. H. Tarbell, P. C. T.

**The Political Equality Club of Groton**—In a village so prosperous and up to date as Groton there can not be wanting intelligent and progressive women in touch with the advanced movements of the times. So when Miss Harriet May Mills of Syracuse, state organizer of Woman Suffrage clubs, came to Groton in the spring of



Photo by Cooper. POST OFFICE STAFF.  
MISS LOTTIE MONK. MRS. LE BARR.

1898, she found women already interested in her cause and ready to enlist in the work for political equality. On April 19, 1898, a club was formally instituted with the following charter membership: Mrs. Lina Field Avery, Miss Ethel Baldwin, Miss Helen Baldwin, Mrs. Kate M. S. Baldwin, Mrs. William W. Hare, Miss Georgia Hare, Mrs. Mary Mason, Mrs. Welthia M. Marsh, Miss Zell Niver, Mrs. Mary E. Pinckney, Mrs. Mary Smiley Rhodes, Mrs. Anna Rodriguez, Mrs. Nancy H. Smiley, Mrs. Lillian Marsh Tanner, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Townley. The officers chosen to preside over the destinies of the new club were: Mrs. Kate M. S. Baldwin, Pres.; Mrs. Rodriguez and Mrs. Pinckney, V.-Pres.; Miss Ethel Baldwin, Rec. Sec.; Miss Zell Niver, Cor. Sec.; Miss Helen Baldwin, Treas.

It was decided to make the first Tuesday of each month from October to June the time for meeting. A course of study along the line of civil government and constitutional history was pursued as a wise preparation for the use of the ballot. Later in the year the members became interested in local history and excellent papers were given on the early settlement of the county and town and its institutions.

Through public lectures and parlor talks the justice of equal rights has been urged and the growth of the club rapidly promoted, until at the first anniversary the membership had more than doubled.



Photo by Cooper.

VIEW OF THE POST OFFICE.

The Political Equality club of Groton was one of the two clubs instrumental in forming the Tompkins county organization in January, 1899, and its members hold many of the offices. The coming year will be devoted to the study of household economics and sanitary science as especially valuable to the housekeeper, while a careful review of questions of national and local importance at every meeting will keep the members interested and informed in regard to the world outside the home. At the school elections, where alone they possess equal rights with men, the members have taken an active interest, and firmly believing that the best interests of the school demand that women be represented on the Board of Education are persistently working toward accomplishing that end. [—MRS. C. O. RHODES

The Groton Carriage Co. was organized as a stock company in 1876, with a capital of \$20,000 and the carriage manufacturing plant of Ashley Williams was purchased for the purpose of con-

superintendent in February, 1886, and the following January was elected Secretary and General Manager. At the time of the death of Mr. Marsh, Mr Pike was elected president. From the time he took charge of the institution its business has been largely increased, until now the products of the enterprise are shipped all over this country and are exported to a very large extent. There are employed from 125 to 175 hands who are paid weekly. During one year there have been constructed as many as 5,500 jobs. Buildings have been repaired and enlarged, some have been moved out on to adjacent ground so as to give ample room for increasing the capacity of the works, so that now between four and five acres of ground are required to accommodate the plant. All modern appliances have been introduced, including steam heat, electric time indicators and electric light. The power is obtained by the use of steam. The company makes only a high grade of work, including buggies, spring wagons, traps, surreys and cutters. Every portion of the ve-

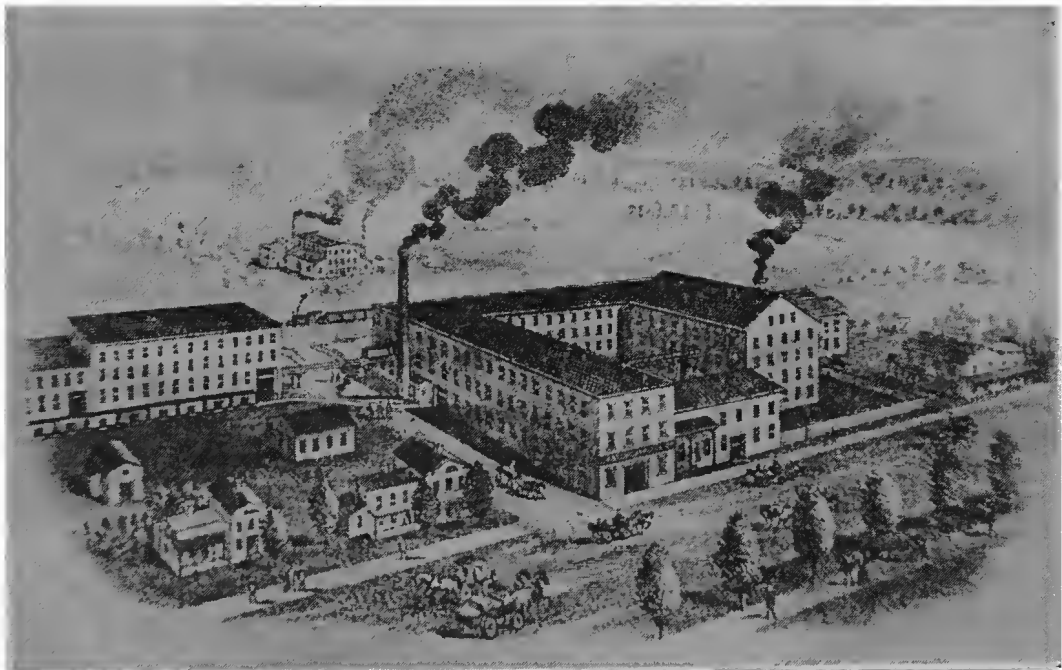


Photo by Cooper.

THE GROTON, N. Y., CARRIAGE WORKS.

tinuing the business, the site upon which it was then and is now located having been occupied by wagon manufacturing concerns since 1836. The first record of the men who conducted the business which is available is in 1855 when William Allen and George Carpenter were engaged in it. The first officers of the new stock company which laid the foundation of the present business were: E. P. Atwood, president; H. K. Clark, secretary; D. H. Marsh, treasurer; and A. J. Williams, general manager. Those who have served as presidents of the company down to the present time are: H. K. Clark, Corydon W. Conger, D. H. Marsh and William L. Pike. Under the conservative direction of affairs by the present officers the company has increased in capacity and built up a reputation which has become widely known throughout the country. They are as follows: President, W. L. Pike; Vice-President, Dana Rhodes; Treasurer, W. M. Marsh; and Secretary, Eugene Marsh. In 1891 the capital was increased to \$100,000. Mr. Pike came into the business as

hicle is constructed in these works and so thorough and well put together and so well finished are the vehicles that the company enjoys a high reputation. Mr. Pike has invented a great many useful attachments which from time to time have been added for the purpose of improving the work. From 1876 to 1885 the work was carried along on the same old lines and the enterprise was gradually losing ground. By modernizing the facilities of the works and improving the products the company is now able to compete with any other similar enterprise in this country.

William L. Pike, the President, is a practical carriage and sleigh builder. Since 1885, when he became a resident of Groton, he has been identified with many of the public improvements in the village. He was the first president of the village after its incorporation and held the office for two years. For several years he was a member of the board of trustees. Since his connection with the carriage company its annual business has increased from \$25,000 to \$175,000. Mr. Pike is a Demo-



crat. He has been a candidate for member of assembly when he overcame a large adverse normal vote. He has also been a candidate for supervisor, but has had very little time to devote to politics. Four years ago last fall he was elected a member of the Water and Light commission and last fall was appointed for a second term, the board having been made appointive. While a member of the board the electric plant for lighting the village was installed. He is now the President of the board. Two terms he served on the board of education. Mr. Pike is the son of a Baptist clergyman, who for sixty years occupied the pulpit in various parishes in this state and New Jersey, who died at the age of 84 years, Aug. 9, 1898, and whose wife died Feb. 1, 1899 when she was 83 years old. Both are buried at Liberty, Sullivan county. Mr. Pike was born in Richmond county, Jan. 9, 1853. At 18 years of age he became a resident of Truxton, Cortland Co., and began work in the manufacture of wagons. Two or three years later he started the business for himself at Tully, Onondaga county. The firm of Pike, Smith & Walsh was formed the following year and carried on a considerable business at Tully for several years. The firm of Pike & Walsh succeeded to the business and in 1882 they entered into a stock company for the manufacture of wagons at Waterloo, N. Y. Three years later Mr. Pike came to Groton as superintendent of the Groton Carriage Co.

**Educational and Social**—The cleanliness of the streets, the number of fine residences, the large lots, making beautiful lawns possible, the bustling activity of the place, and the manifest spirit of improvement, cannot but favorably impress a stranger as he steps into the village of Groton. Its care of its church properties shows a commendable spirit and activity on the side of the religious life of the community. The social life of the village is not the least of its many attractions. The value of good institutions of learning is also very evident in Groton. The old Academy was a powerful factor in the educational life of the community. That which has developed into the present valuable High School is an inestimable source of blessing to the youth, the influences of which linger with one as the years go by.



Photo by Cooper. W. L. PIKE

These things, and many other matters which might be mentioned, produce a favorable impression upon one who spends some time in Groton.—  
REV. J. H. ZARTMAN.

**The Village Incorporated**—On June 11, 1860, the village was incorporated under a general law with a population of 596. The state census of 1897 gives it a population of 1342. The first election was held August 4, 1860, when Robert C. Reynolds, F. H. Robertson, William Williams, William Woodbury, and Daniel S. Delano were chosen trustees. In 1890 this village was reincorporated under a general act passed in 1870, making the office of President elective. The election held in March of that year, resulted in electing William L. Pike, president.

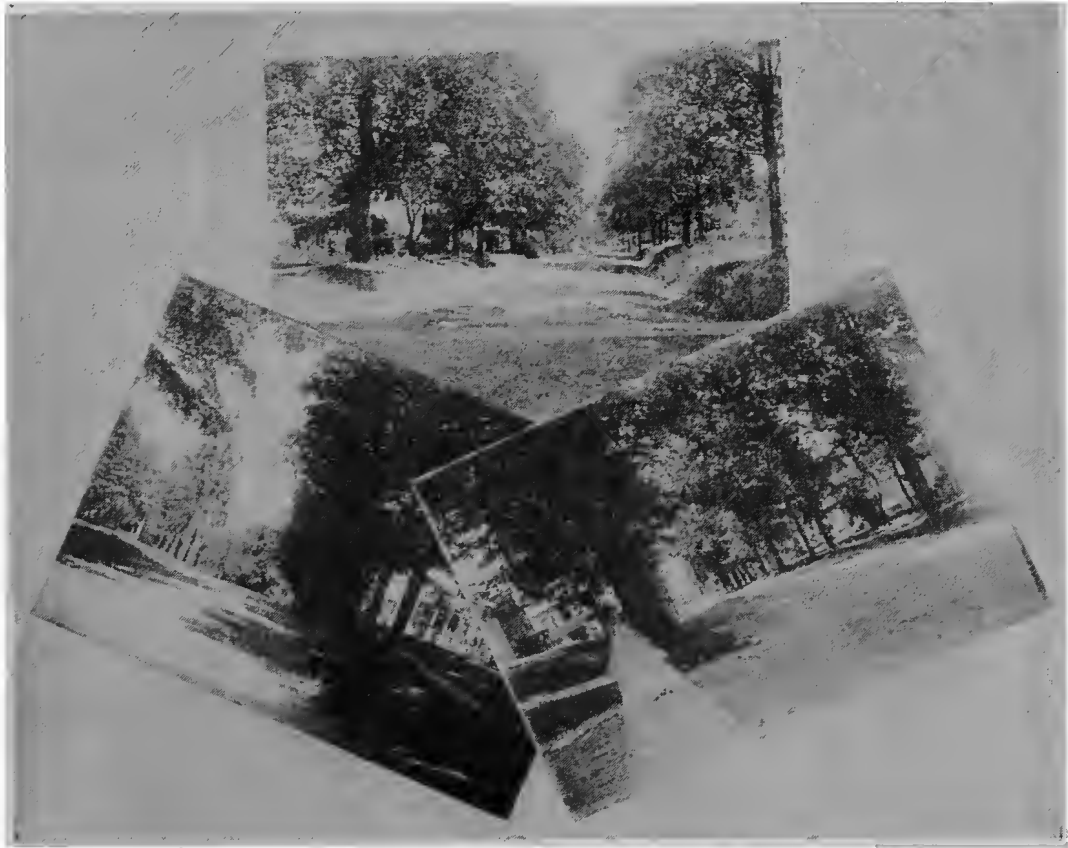


Photo by Cooper.

W. L. PIKE'S RESIDENCE.

**The Woman's Christian Temperance Union** was organized Nov. 6, 1887, by Mrs. Phila Thomas of Syracuse, N. Y., with a membership of sixty-four regular and thirty-six honorary members. The officers were Mrs. Miles Morton, President; Mrs. J. G. Wilmot, Vice Pres.; Mrs. D. B. Backus, Cor. Sec.; Mrs. N. R. Streeter, Treasurer. Mrs. Streeter resigned later and was succeeded by Mrs. W. A. Marsh. It was soon decided that headquarters were necessary and the building known as the "Old Journal Building" was secured. In this a free reading room was furnished and opened to the public, Jan. 13, 1888. As opportunities for work increased, more room was needed and the brick building at the corner of Mill and Cortland streets was rented. Here, in addition to the reading room, gospel temperance meetings

one of the features of their work and a weekly prayer and praise service was planned and successfully carried out. The honorary members did a grand work visiting the shops and railroad station, hunting up the "strangers within the gates," helping them to find pleasant homes, inviting them to the reading room and the temperance meetings, Sunday schools and Christian Endeavor Societies, and in every possible way hedging them about with pure and helpful influences. Their efforts were known and appreciated beyond their village home as was shown by letters received by the President of the older Union, from mothers and friends of absent boys, saying, "My boy is coming to your town to stay for a time. Will you try to find him and get him into the society of your young people? I shall feel safe about him there."



Photos by Cooper.

CHURCH—LOOKING NORTH.

GROUP OF STREETS.

PARK—LOOKING EAST.

WILLIAMS—LOOKING SOUTH.

were held every Sunday afternoon. A Loyal Temperance Legion of forty members was organized with Miss Hattie Corning as Superintendent, and later a Young Woman's Branch of the Society with twenty regular and about the same number of honorary members. The office of president was filled by Miss Rose Hopkins, and afterwards by Miss Julia Backus and Miss Sara Hetherton. Mr. Eugene Starkey and Miss Donna Robbins took entire charge of the music for the Sunday meetings and by their conscientious faithfulness won the regard of all the workers.

The young people as a whole brought to the work a vast amount of zeal, courage and enthusiasm, and were able to do much that the older Union could not do. Social gatherings were made

The brick building was sold in the fall. So on April 1, 1889, the Union again changed its home, this time to the building on Cortland St., formerly used by S. Hall as a shoe store. The same line of work was kept up until 1891, when illness of some of the workers made it seem best to close the reading room and for a time give up some of the work. At a meeting held in Sept., '91, Mrs. Byron Johnson was elected President; Mrs. L. A. Hinman, Vice Pres.; Mrs. E. A. Baldwin, Sec.; Mrs. D. C. Adamy, Treas. Not having headquarters meetings were held at the homes of the members alternately and Gospel Temperance meetings in the churches. As the object of the Union is to do the greatest good to the greatest number, and to enter every door possible, mothers' meetings, parlor

meetings, press work, flower mission work, and franchise were added to the year's program.

On Sept. 1 '97, Mrs. Rose Van Buskirk was elected President; Mrs. E. Smiley, Vice Pres; Mrs. Nora Hopkins, Sec.; Mrs. M. P. Gale, Treas. The same line of work was carried out as in the previous years and in '98 Mrs. N. A. Harrington was elected President; Mrs. E. Smiley, Vice Pres.; Mrs. D. O. Clough, Sec.; Mrs. M. P. Gale, Treasurer. At the present time the Union has thirty-two regular and eighteen honorary members with headquarters at Baldwin's Hall, where they hold their regular meetings and teach the children of the Loyal Temperance Legion. Much charitable work has been done during these years and many sad hearts comforted and pointed to the better life. The Master's blessing has been upon the work, particularly the Gospel Temperance meetings, where life-long slaves of the liquor habit have been enabled to break the chains that bound them and through the power of Christ and His love, live pure, clean lives. The Groton Union, with all White Ribboners the world over, are moving forward with consecrated effort, earnestly praying and expecting that the world will be taken for purity and temperance some glad day.

**The Excelsior Skirt and Manufacturing Company**, which is managed by T. H. Lytle, was started by H. P. Colby in April, 1897, although the practical part of the work was in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Lytle, who on Jan. 1, 1899, bought out Mr. Colby, thereafter conducting entirely the business themselves. The production of this enterprise consists of underskirts of high grade in English satteen, Italian and Taffeta silks, etc. Novelties in ladies' wear are also produced and designed by this firm who ship the products to all sections of the country. The business, which was a small beginning, secured a substantial business footing only after Mr. and Mrs. Lytle had succeeded the original proprietor. Both of the present proprietors had had considerable experience in the manufacture of ladies'



Photo by Cooper T. H. LYTLE

wear and knew just how to cater to the demands of the public. After taking possession, the new proprietors started the trade directly with consumers, selling their goods from house to house. As their work became known to the public it created a demand and then very quickly built up a large business with jobbers. Mr. Lytle, who has spent eight years in manufacturing ladies' wear, was for six years with the McGraw Corset company. He was born in Pott's Grove, Union county, Pennsylvania, March 15, 1866, and about eight years ago came to Homer, N. Y., and two years later removed to McGrawville, from which place he and his wife came to Groton to open up the business, the promoter having no practical experience. Mr. Lytle is a member of the National Protective Legion. On April 29, 1896, he was married to Minnie See of West Salamanca, Cattaraugus Co.

**Ancient Order of Hibernians**, Division No. 2, was instituted in Groton with thirty members in September, 1896, Dr. Edward Meeney of Ithaca, the county president, and the county board being present. Rooms were rented in the Union block, but afterwards the quarters were changed to the present location in Main street, where the rooms are nicely furnished. The following year the Division gave a very successful concert and ball. The officers are: President, M. P. Sullivan; Vice President, Morris Harrington; Recording Secretary, Jerry Shea; Financial Secretary, Michael McGovern; Treasurer, John D. Carey; Representatives on County Board, M. P. Sullivan, J. D. Carey, Michael Harrington.



Photo by Cooper. T. H. LYTLE'S SKIRT FACTORY.

The Congregational Church of New England was a result of that sturdy independence of thought and feeling which led the Puritans not only to leave their home in the Mother country, but, also, and most wonderful, to put one side as effete and worthless the rubbish of ecclesiasticism which had grown up about the church of England. Their revolt carried them a long way, even back to the days of Christ and his disciples and the church which grew up in the wilderness of the new country was modeled and governed as closely as possible upon the one outlined in the New Testament records of the early Christian church. The movement westward began early

with seats around the four sides, so that at least half of the congregation were sitting with their backs to the minister. The people used to go to church on horseback, the woman riding on the pillion behind her husband, and in ox-carts. Mrs. Sarah Burtch used to tell a story of a loose coupling pin which fell out and let the cart fall over backward, precipitating her and her escort, the grandfather of Mr. B. F. Hatch, into the mud and slush of a country road in spring time. An important factor in the service was the leader of the singing who stood up in front of the high pulpit and 'lined off' the hymns. This prominent personage was also accustomed to enforce order and assist in the disciplining of unruly mem-



Photos by Cooper.

THE CHURCHES.

BAPTIST.

CONGREGATIONAL.

ST. ANTHONY'S, CATH.  
METHODIST.

and the old state road from Albany to Buffalo—the Salt road—as it was called—saw many a traveler from Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut looking for a home in the western country. Some of them settled, satisfied to go no farther, on the farm lands along the way, and it was not long before the country was quite well occupied by its pioneers. The little church came to Groton in eighteen hundred and five, almost as soon as the first settler, and was built of logs. It was located on the corner south of the present residence of Mr. Fred Stickles, and was the first Congregational church in this part of the country. The rude little structure would be a treasure to the relic hunter of to-day. The pews were square,

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bers. We do not know the nature of the doctrines taught and believed in the little old log church, but if the memories of those still living are to be trusted, undoubtedly they were a true expression of the stern hard lives of the members who reflected in their religion, the uncompromising struggle for an existence which they were experiencing in every day life. By and by, in 1818, the little church was torn down and a new frame structure appeared in its place with many modern improvements, one of which was a melodeon, an innovation admitted very doubtfully and with many compunctions as to its propriety and good effect upon the people. The East Congregational church, as it was called, was a strong or-

ganization and prospered for many years, but Groton village, located in the "Hollow" two miles west of the church, began to grow and gave indications of its future prosperity and bustling activity. The village people began to dread the long ride up the hill to church and to desire a place of worship more centrally located, and which should be more convenient to many of them. There was stout resistance on the part of the East Hill people. They felt that the formation of a new church of a similar denomination would sound the death knell of their own but the necessity seemed urgent, and they simply had to give way to the larger numbers calling in another direction. The old church suffered greatly by the loss of so many of its members. It, at length, ceased to be used in its original capacity, and was finally purchased by Dr. John Goodyear in 1864, moved to the village on Main street and is at present owned by Mr. E. R. Nye and used as an Assembly Room for the society of Odd Fellows. So it happened that in February, 1849, members of different churches convened at the house of the Rev. H. A. Sackett to take into consideration the propriety of organizing a church in Groton village. After discussion it was resolved that a church should be organized on Friday, March 2d, 1849; that it should be Congregational in its government with a committee or rotary eldership for the transaction of business, whose proceedings should be subject to the review of the church. The council called for the purpose of considering and advising in regard to the matter, being favorable, the church was organized with the following members: R. H. Osborn, Charlotte Osborn, Sylvanus DeLano, Jane DeLano, Betsy M. Pratt, Sarah B. Jeffers, Stephen H. Shaw, Eleanor Shaw, Mary Thomas, Louisa Reynolds, Sarah T. Allen, Dianth E. Sackett, Amelia Osborn, Esther P. Goodyear and Mary Wilson. It was decided to ask the Rev. H. A. Sackett to act as pastor for the first year and the trustees of the society promised to make every effort to raise the sum of four hundred dollars for his support during that time. The first deacons were Stephen T. Barrows and R. H. Osborn, and Sylvanus DeLano was made clerk. The early meetings were held in the Groton Academy, but steps were at once taken to build a church. A site was selected and William Allen, J. S. Reynolds, R. C. Reynolds and Lyman Allen were appointed a building committee. Early in 1850 it was decided to make application to be received under the care of the Ithaca Presbytery. The meeting house was completed at a cost of \$3,000.00 and was dedicated January the twenty-ninth, 1851. Later there was a sale of the slips or pews which resulted in raising the sum of \$1,954.50, and eventually the entire debt was raised in a similar fashion. After the Rev. H. A. Sackett left, the pulpit was supplied for some time by different ministers, until early in 1853 an earnest call was given to the Rev. Augustus Pomeroy, a most fortunate choice for the weak struggling church. Mr. Pomeroy was an organizer. A man of great power, spiritually strong, and though severely orthodox, yet of such sympathetic nature that all were attracted to him, even those who differed from him most widely in religious views. Mr. Pomeroy was gifted oratorically and it is said of him that whereas he prepared a sermon and used notes, yet often some trifling incident would turn him away from the labor of hours; he would choose an entirely different text and speak as the spirit moved him. His memory must ever live in the church for which he did so much and also in the community, for his friends were not confined to the members of his own church and society. At this time beside the weekly prayer meeting, a monthly meeting was held and largely attended by the church members. There was, too, a standing committee whose duty it was to visit each year every

family and member of the church, to inquire as to their spiritual welfare, and to see that delinquents were properly disciplined, a duty which seems to have been attended to with great zeal, at least, if not with all the discretion which might be desired. The church at this time gave largely to Missions, both Home and Foreign, the collections of the first Sabbath of each month being devoted to this purpose. March 26th, 1864, Mr. Pomeroy resigned, and in September of the same year Rev. S. J. Lune commenced his labors. July 6th, 1867, with the consent and desire of all the members except those of two families, it was decided that whereas: the Congregational form of church government is more in accordance with the sentiment of a large majority of the church and society, resolved that we hereby terminate our connection with the Ithaca Presbytery. The church called the Reverend T. C. Taylor in 1867 and he was formally installed September 15th, 1869. He was succeeded by the Reverend Samuel Johnson, who preached until 1873, when Geo. A. Pelton was called to the pastorate. Mr. Pelton remained for five years and during his stay a parsonage was built at a cost of \$5,000. The old Calvinistic creed was revised and modified and a new manual embodying a gentler and more humane conception of the christian life was prepared for the use of the church. Mr. Pelton was succeeded by the Reverend William A. Smith, who commenced his long pastorate of twenty-two years May 19th, 1877. During this time the church has been very prosperous. The old meeting house has been replaced by a new brick edifice at a cost of \$12,000, which was dedicated by the Reverend Lyman Abbott in 1883. Death has been busy during these later years and the church has lost many loyal and untiring workers, but so long as the pain and travail of the world remains there will be a mission for the church of Christ, and all who believe in this will strive faithfully to do His work in any and all places. Mr. Smith resigned May 1st, 1899, and in June the Reverend David H. Craver of Albany accepted a very earnest call from the church to act as its pastor. The present trustees are Mr. C. W. Conger, President, Mr. L. J. Townley, clerk, Mr. B. R. Williams, Mr. Seth C. Gooding, Mr. Daniel Bradley, Mr. F. J. Tanner and Mr. Marcus Sears. Those acting as deacons are Mr. L. J. Townley, Mr. Albert Chapman, Mr. M. Sears and Mr. F. J. Tanner. The standing committee consists of six members: Mr. Seth C. Gooding, Mr. D. L. Bradley, Mr. Andrew Campbell, Mr. M. Sears, Mr. Edwin E. Barney and Mr. Hart Blanchard. The church clerk is Mrs. D. L. Bradley and the membership as given in the Record Book of Jan. 9th, 1896, is one hundred and forty-six. [MRS. L. M. TANNER.]

**Rev. David H. Carver** was born in Albany, and educated in the High school of Hartford, Conn., Union College of Schenectady and Auburn Theological Seminary of Auburn. From the first of these he graduated in 1890, after which he spent two years in business in Albany, entering college in the fall of 1892 and graduating in 1896. He went direct to seminary, graduating in May, 1899, when he came to Groton to become pastor of the Congregational church.

**Y. P. S. C. E.**—About February 8, 1887, after a series of special meetings, during which a large number of the young people of the church were converted, in order that they might at once be brought into active service, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was formed, with a large membership. The records of the society for the first three years are not available, therefore the exact membership or the officers during those years cannot be given. So far as can be



Photo by Cooper. H. G. MOE.

ascertained, the presidents of the society have been Irving C. Fuller, Clarence H. Thompson, Miss Emily Hopkins, Mrs. D. A. Backus, L. J. Townley, Mrs. J. A. Blair, Miss Le Moine Candee and Miss Rose Hubbard; they have been assisted by the following as Vice-Presidents: Miss Lottie Gooding, Mrs. H. G. Dimon, H. G. Dimon, E. E. Barney, Miss Inez Mason, Wm. C. Moe, Miss Mabel Marsh, Arthur H. Stone, Mrs. Carrie Main, Mrs. A. D. Campbell and Miss Elizabeth Shank. Up to 1897, the combined office of Secretary and Treasurer was held by Miss Minnie Jencks, Miss Julia Backus, Miss Marion Smith, Miss Bertha Twiss, Miss Martha Buck and Miss Mabel McNeil. After that year the Secretaries were Miss Mabel McNeil, Miss Pearl Conger and Miss Amanda Tylor, while the Treasurers have been Lewis D. Townley, Mabel McNeil, Earl

Kostenbader and Miss Pearl Conger. The office of Corresponding Secretary has been held by Miss Martha Buck and Miss McNeil. Misses Marion and Sylvia Smith have faithfully served as pianists. Since the organization of the Junior society in 1892, the following have been chosen from the membership to serve as Superintendents and assistants; Miss Julia Backus, Mrs. W. B. Gale, Miss Alice Lay, Miss Daisy Beach, Miss Mabel Marsh, Arthur Stone, Miss Rose Hubbard, Miss Le Moine Candee, Miss Gertrude Hayden, Miss Emma Hopkins and Miss Mabel McNeil. The number of young people who have been members of

the society is very large, the membership at one time being about seventy-five. Only five of the original members of the society retain their membership, and three of the number have been called up higher. Owing to the removals from town and other causes, the membership now numbers only about thirty and has the following officers: President, Miss Rose Hubbard; Vice President, Miss Emily Hopkins; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Mabel McNeil; Recording Secretary, Miss Amanda Tylor; Treasurer, Floyd Wilmot.—[MISS JULIA BACKUS.

**The Junior Society** of Christian Endeavor was organized Sept. 17, 1892. The new society was gladly welcomed by the boys and girls, and they proceeded at once to do good work. The records of the society having been lost, the officers for the past years cannot be given. About seventy-five boys and girls have appeared on the roll of the society during the seven years of its existence; from among these, eight are known to have become members of some church, while others are doing active work in the Young People's Societies to which they belong, and one, Miss Maud McLachlan, is superintendent of a Junior society in her home church at Dryden, N. Y., while others who have gone from the knowledge of the society, could doubtless add to this record. Two of the early members, Miss Mamie Hall and Wm. Twiss, now answer to roll-call in Heaven. The present membership numbers 26, and the society is officered as follows:—President, Raymond Morey; Vice-President, May Mackey; Secretary, Pearl Hilts; Treasurer, Enoch Morgan; Pianist, Hazel Allen; while the several committees are in charge of the following chairmen: Walter Hibbard, Bertha Morgan, May Mackey and Pearl Hilts. The society is planning for a reception in honor of its seventh anniversary, at which it is hoped to have a roll call of all who have been members of the society.—[MISS JULIA BACKUS.

**The First National Bank** of Groton, N. Y., was organized (mainly through the efforts of Dexter H. Marsh) March 3rd 1865, with the following board of directors:—Charles Perrigo, Dexter H. Marsh, Chapin P. Atwood, Arad S. Beach, Artemus Backus, John G. Stevens, Henry Allen, John



Photo by Cooper.

H. G. MOE'S RESIDENCE.



W. Halladay, John Green, Clinton Bowker, Lyman Perrigo, Sidney Hopkins and Samuel C. Reynolds. Charles Perrigo was elected President; Sidney Hopkins, Vice President; D. H. Marsh, Cashier. It was the intention at first to organize the bank with \$50,000 capital, but the Comptroller refused to grant a charter unless \$100,000 was subscribed, therefore that amount was raised at once. The bank has been successful from the start, the stockholders having received in dividends over \$300,000. The last report to the government shows that the surplus and undivided profits of the bank were nearly \$65,000, deposits \$310,000 and loans \$330,000. In 1890 Charles Perrigo was succeeded as president by D. H. Marsh. After his death in 1895, his wife, Mrs. W. M. Marsh, was elected president and still holds that position. The present vice-president, Chapin P. Atwood, was elected in 1872. H. G. Moe was elected cashier in 1890, having served first as bookkeeper and then as assistant cashier since 1867. These officers, with the following named gentlemen, comprise the present board of directors:—Jay Conger, Frank J. Tanner, Dr. Miles D. Goodyear, and Arad S. Beach. The large amount of business transacted and the steady increase of deposits bespeak the confidence of the community.

**M. W. Cooper**, to whom great credit is due for the many pretty pictures which he has taken for This Souvenir, has had considerable experience. His gallery is fitted up very fine indeed, better in fact than is usually the case in a town of this size. He was born at Fond du Lac, Wis., Jan. 19, 1857, and was educated at the Union Seminary, Red Creek, N. Y., and at the public schools, Auburn, N. Y. In 1877 he began practical work as a photographer with Tuttle in Moravia, and in 1878 entered into partnership with



M. W. COOPER, SOUVENIR ARTIST.

G. W. Moore at Ira Station, Cayuga county, the firm conducting a portable gallery for over a year, when Cooper bought Moore's interest and managed the business alone for the ensuing year. In 1880-'1 he was with the Union View Co., of Rochester, leaving that firm in the fall of the latter year to run a view wagon. In 1882 he and Brigdon started a gallery in Moravia, and during the fall of the same year Cooper sold out to Brigdon and went into the portrait house of S. C. Tallman & Co. at Auburn. He was with the Peabody Portrait house, Auburn, N. Y., and Sprague & Hathaway of Boston two years. In 1888 he bought out Green at Groton and has been here ever since. On Nov. 24, 1884, he married Miss Minnie B. Doris of Auburn, and they have four children, Fred, Carl, Willie and Clifford. Mr. Cooper, the official photographer of the George Junior Republic since its beginning, has furnished hundreds of photographs of its citizens for publishers of illustrated magazines all over the United States and London.

**Owasco Valley Club**—This club which has its home in Union block on Cortland St. was organized April 10, 1897, with upwards of seventy charter members. The following were elected as a Board of Managers: Benn Conger, H. G. Moe, W. E. Gobel, E. A. Landon, Dana Rhodes, E. E. Dye, J. B. Losey, E. P. Watrous and B. R. Williams. The officers are, Benn Conger, President; W. B. Gale, Vice-Pres.; B. R. Williams, Secretary; and H. G. Moe, Treasurer.

The club has seven rooms in its suite and is provided with billard tables, card tables and all modern games and conveniences. No liquor is allowed in the rooms under any circumstances, and no bet or wager of any kind is allowed on any game played in the rooms. Since its organization the club has developed some very fine whist players who are yet too modest to have their names published in connection therewith. The club is very hospitable to strangers and is very much pleased to extend the courtesies of the rooms to all gentlemen visiting the town. A large and well selected assortment of magazines and daily papers are always to be found upon the tables.



Photo by Cooper.  
THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.



Photos by Cooper.  
JOHN M. BLANCHARD.

H. J. BLANCHARD.

**John M. Blanchard** was one of the early residents of Groton who took an active part in its agricultural history, and who, after achieving a well earned success in his chosen field, passed away leaving substantial fruits of an active, upright and industrious life. Mr. Blanchard was a native of this county, born in Dryden, Feb. 14, 1832. His father was William Blanchard and mother Marillia Taylor Blanchard. His grandfather was Nathaniel Blanchard, a Massachusetts soldier who fought under Washington at the siege of Boston. His great grandfather was Nathaniel P. Blanchard who came to this country from England and settled near Boston, Mass. While Mr. Blanchard was an infant his parents removed from Dryden to Owego, N. Y. When he was about six years of age they emigrated to Michigan leaving John M. and his younger brother, Hartson T., with the grandparents in Dryden and taking Justus S., the oldest son, with them. After a short residence in Michigan the mother died of typhoid fever and the father soon followed. The subject of this sketch then went to live with an uncle at Meadeville, Pa., remaining with him about four years. About this time

the uncle sold his property at Meadeville and came to visit friends in Lansing and the western part of this town, bringing John M. with him. He then determined to emigrate to Illinois and drove away deserting the boy, leaving him crying bitterly in the middle of the road. Mr. Blanchard made his way to a nearby farm house where the kind hearted owner, Captain John Guthrie kept him over night and next day he hired out to a farmer to work for board and clothes and to be allowed to attend district school in winter. For about seven years Mr. Blanchard worked as a farm hand. He then apprenticed himself for three years to Adin Morton of this place to learn carriage ironing. After working at this trade about six years and finding it was injuring his health, he determined to go to California and seek health and fortune in the gold fields. He went by water via Panama, and had several stirring adventures while crossing the isthmus. While on the Pacific the steamer took fire several times and twice they thought she would burn to the water's edge. But he landed safely at San Francisco and at once made his way to the mines where he was ill for several weeks but gradually gained strength and taking up a claim went to work. Here he was successful and had banked a goodly sum when the bank failed and all he had was swept away. Again taking courage he started anew and by dint of hard work and rigid economy gained another financial start and came home. He next visited Illinois thinking to settle there, but contracting malarial fever came home where he was subjected to a long and severe illness and his savings again were gone. In May, 1856, Mr. Blanchard was married to Elois A. Owen, daughter of Daniel Owen, who recently died at the advanced age of ninety-six. Mr. Blanchard and wife took up the occupation of farming which they followed very successfully many years. He bought and sold farm property quite extensively having owned eleven different farms. In 1883 Mr. Blanchard sold his farm near McLean and retired from this pursuit. In 1884 he purchased twenty acres of land on Cortland street in this village and erected the present commodious and substantial residence which was his home until his death which occurred March 22, 1898. He is survived by his wife, and two sons Hartson John and Frank. His remains were interred in the family lot in Groton Rural Cemetery. He was considerable of a traveler having been in nearly every part of North America. His success in life was that of a self made man.

Fairview Poultry Farm is the name by which the Blanchard place is known, as the oldest



Photo by Cooper.

H. J. BLANCHARD'S RESIDENCE.

son, Hartson J., has conducted a large and very successful poultry business there for some time. Single Comb White Leghorns are the only kind kept and they have been very carefully selected and bred for superior laying qualities, large size and vigor, as well as standard points. Large numbers of eggs for hatching and stock for breeding purposes are shipped to all parts of the country. But the principal business is the production of fancy market eggs which are sold in New York city, shipped twice and three times each week and guaranteed new-laid. Hundreds of chickens are hatched and raised each year by the use of incubators and brooders. Hartson J. Blanchard was married April 25, 1894, to Ella N., only daughter of David H. Coggsall of West Groton. They have one child, John David.

**Benjamin F. Carpenter**, the dentist on Main street occupies very pleasant parlors, neatly and tastefully arranged and provided with the best appliances in general use by modern dentists. Although a comparatively new comer, having located in Groton in May 1898, he has already built up a large practice which is growing considerably every year. Dr. Carpenter was born in Westport, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1876, educated in the Westport Union school, where he was graduated in 1894 with honors being selected as the valedictorian of his class, and where he spent a year in taking a post graduate course. Having decided upon entering the profession of dentistry he entered the University of Maryland where he was graduated 1898, coming directly to Groton and beginning practice in this village. On April 12, 1899, he was married to Mendana F. Hold, of Keene, N. Y. He is a member of the Knights of



Photo by Cooper. B. F. CARPENTER.

Pythias, the Owasco Valley Club and the Historical Society of Groton.

**The Municipal Building**, to be located on Cortland st., will be 50x95 feet in area and 58 feet in height. The roofing and siding are to be steel. The village has appropriated thirteen thousand

dollars for the purchase of a lot and erecting a building. On the first floor, left of the entrance are to be the rooms for the Pioneer and Conger Hose companies with drying room in the rear. The Citizens H. & L. Co.'s rooms will be at the right of the entrance, with company parlors in the rear. Back of the fire department are the village council rooms connecting with a large assembly room by double doors and in the rear are rooms for the janitor, kitchen and store rooms. The Hose companies parlors are to be in the front, second floor, and in the rear is to be a large hall with gallery and stage, and a seating capacity of 850. The building will have electric light, steam heat, closets and other modern conveniences. The contractors are: Masonry, Robert Logan, Waterloo; carpentry, D. L. Bradley, Groton; metal work, Thomas D. Callahan, Syracuse; plumbing and steam heating, Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Co., Groton.



Photo by the owner  
FLOCK SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORN CHICKS, FAIRVIEW FARM, H. J. BLANCHARD, PROP'R.



Photos by Cooper. VILLAGE COUNCIL.  
 L. J. TOWNLEY, Clerk. F. A. BEGENT, President.  
 A. J. BOWER, Trustees, W. E. GOBEL

**Electric Lighting System.**—Groton is credited with being one of the best lighted small villages in the country. The lighting system, like the water system, is the property of the village. The plant is centrally located upon grounds which are the property of the village. In its building, steam power and electrical machinery, it combines the best. It cost the village about twelve thousand dollars. Thirty-six arc lamps light the streets. Like the water works, the citizens feel a large degree of pride in the excellence and good work of the system



Photo by Cooper.  
 THE ELECTRIC LIGHT POWER BUILDING.

**Impressions**—Groton is a prosperous energetic village in which laziness is conspicuous by its absence and thrift by its presence—omnipresence one might almost say; for there are few who shirk in Groton. Some well founded manufacturing concerns furnish employment to many men and are the backbone of the village's business prosperity. People in all parts of the country know what it is to ride over Groton bridges and many have driven over them in Groton carriages. The Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Company, in addition to building bridges, manufactures stone crushers and traction engines, and is the chief manufacturing enterprise of the village. The Groton Carriage Company is a long established firm and puts a thoroughly made product on the foreign and home markets. The Crandall Typewriter is made in Groton and is a favorite typewriter among professional men. The village is well supplied with retail stores and these seem well supplied with goods and customers. A carefully constructed cold storage plant receives produce from the farms about Groton, while its ice freezing apparatus furnishes artificial ice to those who desire. A milk station receives and ships milk to Philadelphia.

Land in the Owasco Valley is fertile and the town of Groton possesses many well worked farms outside the village. While one is impressed with the business thrift of this place the people are by no means neglectful of other things. There are several literary, social and fraternal societies in town, and the gentler arts of literature and music receive proportionate attention. Well kept lawns, many bounded by newly laid cement walks, and homes of tasteful architecture attest appreciation of the beautiful. The social life of Groton is abundant and its cordial hospitality makes this especially pleasant to a newcomer.

The educational facilities are a feature of the town. A commodious brick building, pleasantly located, is occupied by a Grammar School and a High School. The former does away with the many poorly equipped district schools sometimes found in villages, and furnishes instead, a school well equipped with apparatus and officered by a competent corps of instructors. The High School has a carefully chosen faculty, and its grade meets the requirements of the New York

State Regents' system. It prepares directly for college, to which it annually sends a goodly proportion of the graduating class.

The town is proud of a particularly beautiful cemetery located on a hill overlooking the village and with lawns and roadways kept in order by careful attention. A gravity water system brings into the houses clear, cold spring water of no ordinary purity. The reservoir is high above the village and furnishes a heavy pressure for protection against fire. Two efficient hose companies and one hook and ladder company have an honored record of services rendered in the past. An electric lighting plant, owned and operated by the village, lights its streets and houses. There are four churches, Roman Catholic, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal and Congregational. A blessing in the town's religious life is the fact that the place is not over-churched. There is plenty of

work for all the churches to do, and the utmost of good fellowship is manifest between them.—[REV. DAVID H. CRAVER.]

**The Water works.**—Eleven years ago, the present season, the water works system was put in. It is supplied by gravity from springs situated three and a half miles north-east of the village. The village owns forty acres within which the springs are situated. Besides these springs now in use, the right to others is held, affording an ample supply for the future. A half mile below the springs is a settling basin and from this the water goes to the main reservoir on the hill overlooking the village. A very strong pressure is obtained and its availability for mechanical and fire purposes is most excellent. The cost of the entire system, including several extensions, is thirty-two thousand dollars.

**The Columbian Club**—This organization was formed February 27, 1892, in response to the spirit of intellectual awakening which was noticeable all through the land by the founding of Women's Clubs, having various objects in view. It was federated with the State Clubs in November, 1894. The limit of membership being at first twelve, was soon extended to fifteen and later to twenty members. Early in its history a Constitution and By-Laws was adopted, a recent revision of which provides for an associate membership and a "waiting list." The Club's aims are literary and social. The first two years were devoted largely to current matters. In 1894 the study of history was chosen as the chief literary work, the year opening with the "Dawn of History" and continuing in a review of Egypt, Chaldea, Assyria and Babylonia. During this year the Club became associated with the "Society to Encourage Studies at Home," a correspondence society having headquarters in Boston, continuing its connection through '95-'96, which year was devoted to a still further survey of The Ancient World.



Photos by Cooper. WATER AND LIGHT BOARD.  
D. L. BRADLEY. W. L. PIKE, Pres. DANA RHODES.

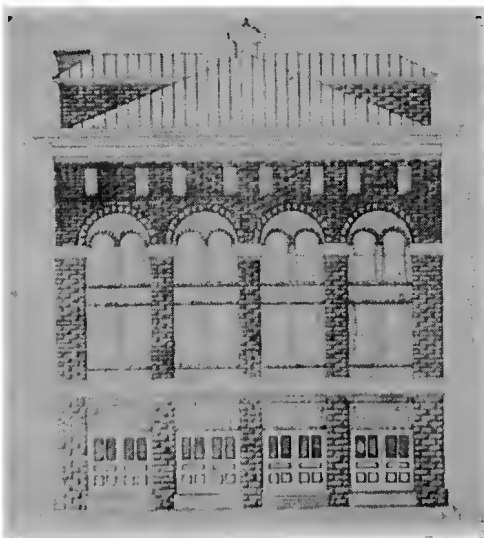
Greece, Rome, Spain and Italy have since been studied, and the outline for the year 1899-1900 embodies the history of France from its Monarchical founding to the present day. Satisfactory studies in history have been made possible by the use of the "Traveling Libraries" which the state provides.

The social features of the Club are its annual receptions, Feb. 27, and its open meetings to which invitations are extended to the gentlemen. These events are usually suggestive of the year's work.

It is worthy of mention that each and every member realizes her obligation to the organization and conscientiously and faithfully performs the duties assigned her. The various officers of the Club are duly installed at the annual meeting in June. The presidents of the Club, from its founding to the present time were: Mrs. A. M. Baldwin, Mrs. C. O. Rhodes, Mrs. J. B. Losey, Mrs. F. J. Tanner, Mrs. E. A. Landon, Mrs. E. M. Avery, Mrs. C. F. Cox, Mrs. W. M. Marsh, Mrs. K. M. S. Baldwin.

**The Flowing Wells.**—There are a number of fine flowing wells in the village. Some have a depth of over a hundred feet and from them gush clear, cold, sparkling water, impregnated with medicinal qualities which add to their value and health giving properties. Though the water system furnishes water of excellent quality, yet many secure that from the wells for table use.

**Town Sunday School Association.**—An organization of much interest in the town is that of the Town Sunday School Association. The meetings are held semi-annually. In the summer they are held with the country schools and in the winter, with those in the village. The meetings are largely attended and are a source of much interest. They infuse new life and spirit into the work of the schools. The officers are: Pres., L. J. Townley; Vice Pres., Nelson Stevens; Sec'y, Emma Bliss; Treas. D. W. Pierce.



Copied by Cooper.  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING. Front Elevation.



Photo by Cooper. MRS. W. M. MARSH.

### OFFICIAL AND BUSINESS RECORD, '99 OFFICIAL.

**County**—Bradford Almy, County Judge and Surrogate; Eugene Terry, Surrogate's Clerk; J. L. Baker, Special County Judge; Leroy H. Van Kirk, County Clerk; Anna Ball, Deputy Clerk; Charles H. Blood, District Attorney; Samuel J. McKinney, Sheriff; Grant Curry, Under Sheriff, Ithaca; Charles Ingersoll, County Treasurer; Ransom Johnson, Coroner; J. W. Brown, Coroner; John Flickinger, Coroner; Newton D. Chapman, Coroner; James S. Lyke, Supt. of Poor; George W. Babcock, Loan Commissioner; James Dick, Loan Commissioner; Minor McDaniels, School Commissioner; Grant H. Halsey, School Commissioner; Theron Johnson, Member of Assembly, Dryden, N. Y.; George W. Ray, Representative in Congress, (26th District) Norwich, N. Y.; Charles T. Willis, State Senator (40th District) Tyrone, N. Y.

**Town**—Supervisor, A. M. Francis; Clerk, Marshal A. Downing; Justices of the Peace, Herman S. Hopkins, Newton Baldwin, James Montfort, Nelson Stevens; Assessors, Marcus Sears, W. H. Bulkley, Milo E. Gillen; Collector, Edwin Fish; Highway Commissioner, Ward D. White; Overseer of the Poor, Wm. H. Burnham; Constables, Timothy Heffron, Chas. Hyde, Marshal Woodbury, Myron Robbins, Marion McElheny.

**Village**—President, Frank A. Begent; Trustees, W. E. Gobel, Albert Bower; Treasurer, Chas. O. Rhodes; Collector, Jay G. Beach; Clerk, L. J. Townley.

**Water and Light Commissioners**—W. L. Pike, President, Dana Rhodes, D. L. Bradley; Power House Engineer, Morris Yates; Street Commissioner, Thomas Moran; Collector of Light and Water Rates, C. O. Rhodes.

**Board of Education**—President, Benn Conger; Vice President, G. M. Stoddard; Secretary, H. G. Dimon; Treasurer, H. S. Hopkins; Trustees, H. G. Moe, E. M. Avery, L. J. Townley.

### PROFESSIONAL AND MERCANTILE.

**Attorneys and Counsellors**—W. W. Hare, Main St.; G. M. Stoddard, Main St.; Dana Rhodes, Church St.

**Barbers**—Frank Lane, Main St.; Goodrich, (S. W.) & Son (George) Main St.

**Barber and Billiards**—William Graveley, Cayuga St.; Frank Gould, assistant.

**Billiards**—E. R. Nye, Main St.; The Atwood, F. L. & L. W. Kendell, Props.

**Bank**—FIRST NATIONAL—President, W. M. Marsh; Vice President, Chapin P. Atwood; Cashier, H. G. Moe; Bookkeeper, W. B. Gale.

**Clothing**—F. R. Atwood, Main St.

**Confectioner and Baker**—S. J. Pugli, Main St.

**Confectionary and News**—Wm. M. Avery, Main St.

**Dentist**—B. F. Carpenter, Main st.; A. W. Smith, Cortland st.

**Dry Goods and Groceries**—A. J. Baldwin, Cortland st., Anna Ashley, clerk.

**Druggist and Stationer**—Newton A. Collings, Main st., Clarence Tucker, clerk; Charles O. Rhodes, Main st. H. J. Bradt, clerk.

**Express Co.**—UNITED STATES—C. Hurlburt, agent

**Flour, Feed, Coal, Hay**—Gooding (S. C.) & Halladay (Grant) Spring st.

**Fire Insurance**—William Williams & Co., Main st.

**Furniture and Undertaking**—J. I. Booth & Son (Alvin), Main st.

**General Merchandise**—D. M. Atwood & Co., Cortland st., Harry Leach, clerk.

**Grocers**—F. C. Atwood, Main st., David Woods, clerk.

**General Store**—C. W. CONGER & Co.—C. W. Conger, Frank Conger, M. J. Conger, Jay Conger



Photo by Cooper.

MRS. W. M. MARSH'S RESIDENCE.



and Benn Conger, prop's; Mary J. McGrail, book-keeper and cashier, H. A. Brooks, men's furnishings and shoe dept., M. C. Swartwout, dry goods dept., J. A. Karlin, merchant tailor, Peter McGrail, Wm. Woodruff, Sarah McGrail, V. E. Lincoln, Edwin Hicks, George Judson, Lee Lincoln, Albert Hall, James Curtis, J. A. Albert, employes.

**Groceries and Harness.**—Pickens (George) & Bower (Albert), Main st., Victor Grant, clerk.

**Hardware, Plumbing, Steam and Electric Fitting.** Buck, (B. L.) & Gobel, (W. E.), Cortland st., J. F. McClintock, F. W. Hopkins, J. J. Keef, employes; N. Harris & Son (Frank), Main st., Wm Hauser, George B. Close, employes.

**Hotels.**—The Atwood F. W. & L. F. Kendell, proprietors, Main st., Miss Ada Birchard, Harry B. Hyde, assistants; Groton House, Mrs. B Kniffin, Prop., Main st., clerk

W. H. Hartnett, Ida Cheseaman, Jay R. Chese- man, assistants, James Kenion, bus driver; Central Hotel, Mrs. Wm. Wilcox, prop.

**Jewelers.**—A. E. Trea, Main st.; E. R. Haydn.

**Laundry.**—Thomas Murray, Cayuga st.; Robt. Boile, Mrs. Helen Hall, Irean Hall, employes.

**Livery and Trucking.**—Hill (R. H.) & Hol- den (N.), Cayuga st.

**Livery.**—E. N. Halla- day, Main-st., John Col- lings, hostler.

**Lumber and Coal.**—Begent (F. A.) & Wilcox (N. G.), Mill st., Will Kimbell, Vernon Ludlow, employes.

**Meat Market.**—Peo- ples, C. A. Harris, pro- prietor, Cortland st., A. J. Owen, asst.; Central, C. A. Darling, prop., Main st., A. J. Hill, O. G. Darling, assistants.

**Merchant Tailor.**—D. Bowman, Cortland st.

**Milk.**—Philadelphia Milk Supply Co., A. W. Wood, manager.

**Milliners**—Mrs. A. T. Hoyt, Main st.; Mrs. Adrian Valentine, Main st.; Donley Sisters, Main street.

**Newspaper.**—GROTON AND LANSING JOUR- NAL.—L. J. Townley & Son (G. M.) proprietors; published every Wednesday, Main st., L. J. Town- ley, editor, G. M. Townley superintendent mech- anical department; Walter Sykes, Mabel Hin- man, Julia Backus, Mabel McNeil, employes.

**Roads and Bridges.**—Mrs. C. W. Conger, editor; published monthly, Main st.

**Photographer.**—M. W. Cooper, Cortland st.

**Physicians.**—A. M. Baldwin, Church st.; M. D. Goodyear, Main st.; G. E. Albon, Main st.; G. M. Gilchrist, Main st.

**Restaurant and Pool.**—J. D. Carey, Cortland st.

**Railroad.**—Lehigh Valley, Fred Hurlbut, agent; Mrs. Era V. Allen, operator; Harry Hurl- but, baggage man.

**Shoe Dealers**—Andrews (E. R.) & Hamilton (H. M.) Cortland st., Fred Bartlett, shoe repairer.

**Truckman.**—C. W. Hall, Main st.

**Vetsrinary.**—James W Rowker, Barrow st.

**Groton Bridge & Manufacturing Co.,**— Pres., Frank Conger; Vice-Pres., C. W. Conger; Secy., B. R. Williams; Treas., C. Fitch Cox; Engineer, E. A. Landon; Asst. Engineer, H. G. Dimon, Supt., E. P. Watrous. EMPLOYES: F. McAllister, J. McDermott, F. Wilkins, B. Wood, Earl Slack, O. C. Hicks, W. Quinn, F. Appgar, F. Sturdevant, R. Bruce, A. Walpole, Jas. Barry, A. Hamill, C. F. Bassette, P. Carey, C. Cheseaman, C. Connor, W. Breen, George Funnell, M. Hamill J. Heffron, W. Huck- vale, O. McElheny, E. Towner, O. A. Pierce, A. Wil- kins, T. Holcomb, T. B. Hopkins, Bert Terry, C. Spoor, J. Wicks, H. Morey, Jas. Howard, T. Fitzger- ald, J. Murphy, F. A. Brogden, R. A. VanKirk, Ray Labar, E. E. Baker, Geo. D. Geer, W. F. Jones, F. Wilmot, S. Smith, Lee Jones, E. S. Butteushaw, E. A. Breese, W. Bailey, A. D. Cheseaman, Earl Moe, H. Main, J. Morgan, J. L. Van Benschoten, W. Young,



Photos by Cooper.

REV. D. H. CRAVER, Cong.

REV. J. H. ZARTMAN, M. E.

THE CLERGY.

REV. C. E. BURR, Bap.

REV. JOHN McMAHON, Cath.

F. Williams, C. Hemings, Peter Riley, E. S. Austin, J. Mount, Jas. Keefe, A. Beers, C. H. Thompson, E. L. Clark, A. Frantz, E. A. Brown, E. Field, C. W. Gage, F. Strong, C. E. Tarbell, E. R. Tucker, E. R. Woodruff, R. C. Horton, M. B. Trumble, D. J. Wat- rous, J. McDargh, F. L. Towner, C. Weiler, H. G. Dimon, E. P. Watrous, M. A. Downing, E. M. Avery, A. D. Anthony, W. G. Anthony, Geo. Gifford, A. D. Campbell, C. C. Jacobs, H. Lester, A. Van Horn, M. Terry, J. P. Weiler, Jas. Granville, J. F. Snyder, J. C. Howser, A. Weiler, E. E. Dye, C. Lamont, F. Wolfe, F. A. Townley, G. L. Patten, W. Monk, A. Huckvale, A. B. Hopkins, H. Huckvale, F. H. Mackey, L. Barhite, J. A. Burchard, J. A. Cleveland, L. Champlin, H. B. Curtice, J. D. Brown, F. Evans, W. G. Evans, H. F. Stroupe, J. Foley, C. Hamill, P. Hamill, O. G. Hemingway, F. Hopkins, E. W. Kennedy, H. E. Anthony, J. Mathers, E. A. Morey, R. Stearns, W. O'Neil, J. Richford, C. Graham, E. Bogart, W. Sherman, E. E. Sherwood, A. Hicks, B. Walpole, Jas. Walpole, M. Ward, R. C.



Photos by Cooper.  
F. A. BEGENT,

N. G. WILCOX.

Nelson, T. Dempsey, F. Berean, W. Sturdevant, C. Allen, Wm. Main, J. M. Heffron, F. Gobel, W. Hunt, H. Avery, M. C. Cranson, D. C. Adamy, C. H. Hibbard, F. Lester, D. Osgood, R. B. Shaw, C. Wicks, G. J. Wilmot, W. E. Wood, A. Hathaway, L. Cheeseman, C. L. Conger, J. Brennan, P. Lynch, J. Corcoran, Geo. Curtis, D. Y. Dimon, W. J. Sage.

**Groton Carriage Co.**—Pres., W. L. Pike; Vice-Pres., Dana Rhoades; Treas., W. M. Marsh; Sec., E. A. Marsh. EMPLOYEES: G. Hinman; S. P. Moe, E. P. Henderson, C. O. Drake, M. P. Gale, M. L. Jones, Eugene Starkey, Gilbert Reaves, Charles Starkey, Will Ferguson, Martin Davern, Fred Patterson, Alonzo Sears, Wm. H. Spaulding, Fred Dalsen, Peter Hartsuf, R. A. La Fever, James Leonard, Clinton Sholes, Thomas J. Dunn, C. L. Ludlow, Patrick Hammil, James Dougherty, Charley Benson, C. B. Trumble, Frank McDermot, Mark Morrow, Eugene Nye, Harry Treible, Alvin Hatch, Wm. H. Morrow, Wm. J. Robbins, E. N. Woodard, M. B. Backus, John L. Betts, C. L. Spaulding, James Lynaugh, Robert Hover, B. M. Lawrence, Will Wells, Orla Cross, Fred Spencer, W. E. Pierce, Henry Benson, Earl Hulburt, D. A. Lane, M. A. Avery, B. E. Van Buskirk, A. S. Tanner, Norman Miller, John Hulburt, Frank Ferguson, W. S. Crain, Charles Bowman, Charles W. Lord, Carl Backus, Fred B. Carrington, L. P. Walsh, S. G. Lombard, John C. Gifford, Maurice Harrington, Frank McKean, Thomas

Parton, Charles Smith, B. S. Whitman, Bert Strong, Milton Shaw, Leroy Eldrige, Duane Hover, W. McKean, James McDermot, Eugene Richards, Harry Fuller, A. J. McMahan, B. H. Sykes, Fred Corning, C. H. Newton, Wm. B. Pierce, L. D. Howser, C. H. Metcalf, E. F. Lefler, Mead Givens, P. B. Call, Perry Kelsey, Ed. Collins, A. T. Hoyt.

**Artesian Wells.**—Watrous (E. P.) & Morey (E.), Park st.

**Blacksmith.**—Patrick Murray, Cayuga st.; Peter LeBar, Main st., and Floyd Johnson and A. W. Hudson, assistants; E. E. Swartout, Spring st.

**Cigars.**—H. G. Moe, Main st.

**C. W. Conger & Co.'s Cold Storage.**—Benn. Townley, foreman, Arthur Townley, Ashley Cooper, Earl Kostenbader, John Dunn.

**Groton Roller Flour Mills.**—J. G. Beach, Prop., Charles Metcalf, miller, Bert Gibbs and S. Beach.

**Ironing Board Manufacturing.**—Luther S. Wright, Prop., Mrs. Fanny Williams, assistant.

**Skirts.**—Excelsior Skirt Mfg. Co., Cortland st., T. H. Lyttle and Mrs. H. Lyttle, proprietors; Miss Maud Ludlow, Mrs. Ida Rockwell, Mrs. Florence Lampman, Mrs. Margaret Richford, employes.

**Poulterers.**—W. L. Pike, Elm st., H. J. Blanchard, Cortland st.; C. H. Wyckoff, Elm st.

**Woodworking Establishment.**—D. L. Bradley, Prop.

**Begent & Wilcox**, who are large dealers in Lehigh Valley coal, lumber, shingles and building materials, have been in the business together since 1893 at which time Mr. Crittenden who was a partner with Mr. Begent in the same business for three years was succeeded by Mr. Wilcox. The business was originally conducted by Duncan McLaughlin who sold out to Begent & Crittenden. The office, lumber yards, coal trestles and mill and store house are located on Mill street at the crossing of that thoroughfare with the Lehigh valley railroad, giving the firm ample track facilities into their premises. The buildings include a large structure 40 x 80 feet which is equipped with a thirty-horse power boiler and engine and machinery for dressing, sawing and matching lumber, so that material for building may be made up ready to be put together. It contains also a large store room for lumber. The firm handles plaster and cement as well as coal and lumber. Both members of the firm are enterprising and are interested in promoting public improvements. Mr. F. J. Begent, who is the president of the village, was born in Trenton, Oneida Co., May 17, 1857. He attended



Photo by Cooper.

BEGENT & WILCOX'S COAL AND LUMBER YARD.

school at Holland Patent where he afterwards taught winters and engaged in making butter and cheese the rest of the year. In 1878 he came to Groton and for thirteen years conducted cheese and butter making in the Lafayette factory. Nine years ago he formed a co-partnership with Mr. Crittenden and they bought the coal business now conducted by Begeut & Wilcox. In 1881 he married Helen M. Crittenden. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. In 1876-'7 he was supervisor from Groton being on the important committee of equalization. N. G. Wilcox who came into the firm five years ago, was born in Harford, Cortland county, Aug. 21, 1867. He attended school at Great Bend and in 1884 entered the store of Holden & Bushnell at Harford where he was a clerk for two years. He was with Hills, McLean & Williams, the large dry goods house in Binghamton three years when he returned to Harford and bought out Holden & Bushnell, continuing the business in partnership with John C. Jones for nine months and afterwards alone for four years, when he came to Groton and entered into partnership with Mr. Begeut. On June 4, 1890 he married Jessie Bruik of Richfield. He is a firm Republican hav-



Photos by Cooper

N. G. WILCOX. RESIDENCE.

F. A. BEGEUT'S RESIDENCE.

ing served as postmaster of Harford during President Harrison's administration. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternity.

**A. E. Trea**, the Main street jeweler, commenced business in 1896 and has built up a profitable and extensive trade. He carries a line of

watches, diamonds, jewelry of all kinds, bric-a-brac, musical instruments and silverware. An optical room is connected with the store.

**Around the Globe—**  
Chicago to Portland, Ore., 2,374 miles—3 days, 8 hours time; Portland, Ore., to Bering Strait, 2,864 m.—5d, 10 h; Bering Strait to Irkutsk, 3,200 m—6 d, 16 h; Irkutsk to St. Petersburg, 3,670 m—7d, 15 h; St. Petersburg to Berlin, 983 m—1 d, 6 h; Berlin to Paris, 667 m—17 h; Paris to London, 258 m—8 h; London to Liverpool, 202 m—4 h; London to Southampton, 79 m—2 h; Liverpool to New York, 3,068 m—5 d, 8 h; Southampton to New York, 3,098 m 5d, 16 h; New York to Chicago, 912 m—1 d.



Photo by Cooper.

A. E. TREA'S JEWELRY STORE.



Photo by Cooper. HERMAN. S. HOPKINS.

**Herman S. Hopkins**, the son of Sidney and Caroline Hopkins, was born in the town of Groton, N. Y., and has been a resident of Groton village since February, 1857, his great grandfather, Isaac Hopkins, and his grandfather, Isaac Hopkins, being among the first settlers of the town of Groton, having moved to the east part of the town in 1800 from Washington county, N. Y. Herman S. Hopkins received his education at the Groton Academy and the State Normal school at Cortland, N. Y., graduating from the latter in the class of 1872; and after graduating taught school for a short time and then read law in the office of W. W. Hare in Groton, and was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor at law in the courts of this state at Binghamton, N. Y., in May, 1877. He has been admitted to practice in the United States District Court and the United States Circuit Court. After his admission to the bar in 1877 he opened a law office in Groton village, where he has since practiced his profession. He has served as Justice of the Peace of the town of Groton since November, 1886; he served as Village Clerk three terms, as Village Trustee two terms and is Treasurer of Groton High school; also a Trustee and Treasurer of the Groton Rural cemetery association. He is a member of Groton lodge, No. 496, F. & A. M., and also a member of St. John the Baptist chapter, No. 30 of R. A. M.

**Groton Mechanics Indemnity Association**—In the fertile brain of some employee of the Groton Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company

originated the idea of an Indemnity or insurance against sickness, accident and death for the men engaged in the shops and yards of the company. It took form in the appointment of a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws for the government of the proposed organization. The labors of this committee resulted in a series of articles and by-laws which were reported to a meeting called for the purpose, discussed section by section, amended in some particulars and adopted. An election for officers was held in April, 1891, and a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer chosen with eight managers or directors who with the officers composed a Board for the management of the affairs of the association. Three members of the Board were named an application committee whose duties were to decide upon receipt or rejection of candidates for membership. Three also were chosen from it as a visiting and auditing committee to decide upon the justness of claims and draw orders upon the Treasurer for payment of them. To become a member a formal application, blanks for which are furnished, certifying age and physical soundness must be signed by the applicant and accompanied by a fee of one dollar, handed to the chairman of the application committee. If favorable report is made it is retained, if adverse it is returned to applicant. None are received over 60 years of age. It would conduce more to the interest of the association if the age limit was 40 years. The person so accepted is given a copy of the constitution and by-laws certificate of membership signed by the secretary and a card with the months of the year on end margins and opposite the letters R and S—R for regular assessments and S for special ones—with name of member certifying over signature of the Treasurer that he has paid all assessments which are cancelled by his punch like perforation at the top of the card. This is the holder's receipt for dues, as the letter is punched against the month for which dues are paid. The visiting committee visit the reported sick, disabled or dead, receive from claimant of benefit a doctor's certificate of time of medical attendance during disability, adjust the claim and draw an order on the Treasurer for the amount. Each succeeding month after the initiatory one the membership is retained by the payment of fifty cents to the Treasurer upon the first Saturday of each month—an allowance of three days of grace being given the following



Photo by Cooper.

HERMAN. S. HOPKINS' RESIDENCE.

week in which to complete payment. This provision covers the weekly pay day in each manufacturing establishment of the village. Failure to pay promptly within the days specified is visited by a fine of twenty-five cents and suspension from membership and benefits till fine and dues are paid. A restoration to standing can be obtained within a month if delinquent is free from injury and in usual health. The amount a member can draw in any one year for sickness or disability arising from accident is sixty dollars, or one dollar per day for not less than six successive working days nor for more than 60, unless in case of death, when \$60 are allowed the widow or estate of deceased as a funeral benefit. The opening of books for enrollment resulted in obtaining fifty-seven the first month and forty-one more before the close of the year. No officer receives any remuneration for services rendered except the Secretary and Treasurer—both offices

87 members and receipts of \$400, with expenditures \$217.40, the members have increased at close of 1898 to 141; receipts, \$884.10; expenditures \$893.75; and a surplus of \$588.61 in certificates of deposit drawing 4 per cent. During the existence of the association it has paid its members for sick, accident and death benefits over \$5,000. Though its officers have changed from year to year, that the burdens might be more evenly distributed, it has retained its Secretary and Treasurer since the removal from town of its first one, W. H. Conklin. The officers for the present year, 1899, are: President, A. J. Bower; Vice-President, Arthur Walpole; Secretary and Treasurer, Ashbel Landon; with Board of managers or directors: W. G. Evans, H. B. Curtice, N. A. Collings, Chas. Hyde, Fred Corning, J. B. Losey, M. A. Downing, and Jas. Mathers. Of these, M. A. Downing, Chas. Hyde and Jas. Mathers are on the visiting or auditing com-



Photo by Cooper.

C. O. RHODES' DRUG STORE.

being combined in one individual—who keeps an individual monthly account with each member, a book of receipts and expenditures of the association, collects all dues and pays out all moneys on official orders, and receives a per cent. on amount collected. The first year it was fixed at one per cent., afterwards four per cent., and now ten per cent., each rate after the first having been fixed by amendments to the constitution at annual meetings in December. The constitution when adopted limited membership to employes of Bridge Co., and the surplus fund to \$250 after which dues should be remitted until drafts brought amount below that sum. But at an annual meeting it amended that provision and extended privileges of membership to all eligible persons in town and village. But once in the history of the association has a special assessment been ordered to replenish the treasury and that more than any one cause evidenced the wisdom of removing the \$250 surplus limit. From a membership in good standing at close of 1891 of

mittee and H. B. Curtice, W. G. Evans and Fred Corning on the application committee. The success thus far of the association has been due not wholly to the wisdom and sagacity of its officers, though the selection of these has been eminently fortunate, but to the personal interest, integrity and honor of its members. Being a home institution of the shops and village the large majority of its members have taken pride to have it recorded how little, not how much they could deplete the treasury. It is and has been the boast of the Board of officers that every legitimate claim has been promptly adjudicated and paid. Thus far its management and results have deserved and received the support and countenance of the best citizens of the shops and village.

Charles O. Rhodes succeeded his father, Dana Rhodes, in the drug business on May 1, 1888, at which time the latter retired from the business which he founded in 1869. At that time he



Photo by Cooper. A. W. SMITH.

started it where Fred Atwood's store is. In 1870 he constructed the building where the business has since been successfully conducted. It comprises drugs, stationery, the latest books and literary productions and full lines of the several class of goods sold by booksellers, stationers and druggists. Mr. Rhodes was born in North Lansing Sept. 7, 1860, and attended district school until his father came to Groton. He graduated from the Groton academy in 1879, assisting in the store for a time and taking a pharmaceutical course in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. On Jan. 1, 1887, he went into partnership with his father and on May 1, 1888, he bought him out. In 1887 he married Miss Mary Smiley. Since 1887 he has served as village treasurer. He is a charter member of the Hook & Ladder company and a member of the K. of P.

**Dr. A. W. Smith,** the dentist in the Union block, came to Groton in 1885, having built up a large dental practice in the adjacent towns, and acquired an extended acquaintanceship by pursuing a traveling practice for over a year. His parlors are convenient and fitted with all apparatus for modern dental surgery. Dr. Smith was born in Groton, Jan. 27, 1845. Freeman R. Smith, his father, was a native of the town of Lansing, where he pursued the avocation of farmer. At the age of 21 years Dr. Smith entered the office of F. S. Howe, formerly of Ithaca, now at Dryden, to study the profession which he followed for two years, and then went to Ludlowville where he

practiced seventeen years. He is up-to-date in dentistry work, especially crown bridge work in which he took a post graduate course with F. M. Willis. In 1880 he married Ella Stewart of Ledyard, Cayuga Co., N. Y. He is a member of the K of P.

**Knights of Pythias**—Bryant Lodge, No. 198, K. of P. was instituted July 28th, 1883, and has had a very prosperous existence. The present officers are: E. E. Barney, C. C.; F. H. Hurlbut, V. C.; Dana Rhodes, Prelate; E. F. Lefler, M. at A.; E. A. Landon, M. of F.; W. F. Underwood, M. of E; E. Starkey, K. of R. S; A. D. Campbell, M. of W.; B. S. Whitman, I. G.; B. M. Strong, O. G.; Trustees: C. A. Harris, G. M. Stoddard, F. J. Tanner; Finance Committee: J. B. Losey, E. A. Landon, J. G. Beach; Representative to Grand Lodge, J. B. Losey; Alternate, J. G. Beach. Regular conventions are held the first and third Wednesday of each month. Past Chancellors: Dana Rhodes, N. R. Streeter, E. Field, A. D. Campbell, H. G. Dimon, H. G. Moe, J. G. Beach, Wm. H. Burnham, E. A. Landon, C. O. Rhodes, J. B. Losey, B. F. Baker, M. A. Downing. Members: F. C. Atwood, Adelbert Andrus, J. G. Beach, R. K. Bourne, W. H. Burnham, J. I. Booth, B. F. Baker, E. E. Barney, R. C. Bebe, J. A. Blaire, E. D. Buck, H. A. Brooks, A. D. Campbell, H. G. Dimon, M. A. Downing, C. A. Darling, L. J. Townley, H. B. Townsend, W. H. Woodruff, B. F. Carpenter, Frank Harris, E. Field, Fred Ferguson, Ed. Foreman, F. H. Hurlbut, A. B. Hopkins, E. F. Hopkins, G. S. Hilts, J. W. Jones, J. Keefe, E. A. Landon, V. C. Lowe, J. B. Losey, E. F. Lefler, E. M. Loomis, H. G. Moe, F. B. Mathews, Charles Miles, W. F. Underwood, N. G. Wilcox, D. E. Croft, F. Mackay, E. R. Nye, C. A. Newton, Burdett Newton, F. Perkins, Dana Rhodes, C. O. Rhodes, N. R. Streeter, G. M. Stoddard, H. B. Stevens, L. S. Streeter, M. F. Stevens, M. Stevens, E. Starkey, F. B. Sawyer, A. W. Smith, F. J. Tanner, R. Van Kirk, B. M. Strong, C. A. Harris.—[J. B. LOSEY, D. G. C., 37th District.



Photo by Cooper.

MRS. NANCY SMILEY'S RESIDENCE.





Photo by Cooper. E. N. HALLADAY.

**Everett Nelson Halladay**, the leading and largest liveryman in Groton, bought the best located stables, on Main street, of C. W. Hall in March, 1899. He is widely known among traveling men, who altogether patronize him and whom they always find gives them a quick journey wherever their destination may be. Mr. Halladay was born in the town of Groton March 14, 1864, and followed farming until 21 years of age when he became shipping clerk in the Shaker community at Mt. Lebanon, Columbia county. Having an interest in the Halladay homestead of 125 acres, the title to which has passed through five generations of the family, Mr. Halladay is interested in fancy live stock. For years his father was a large dealer in produce, buying butter, eggs, etc., and shipping them to distant markets. Mr. Halladay married Annie Rathbun of Auburn six years ago.

**Improvement**—No sooner has one stepped from the depot platform in this village than he begins to feel that here something is done, and the longer he remains the more he feels that something is being done all the time. As he passes from the ceaseless activities of the bridge and carriage shops he discovers that the merchants, each sending forth their clerks and wagons upon the streets, are a very busy and obliging class of people. He finds here a splendid school building and a school thoroughly graded, and as successful and competent a corps of teachers as can be found in any similar school.

He next turns his attention to the dwellings, lawns and streets, and thinks that he has not seen them so well kept in many a larger village. He discovers that the church edifices are fine and substantial buildings occupying commanding locations, and they are supported by a loving and loyal people. After all, his best impression comes as he begins to study the people. "Improvement" is the watchword he catches, almost everyone seeking to better his condition materially, socially and intellectually. Literary culture has a large place in the minds of the inhabitants of Groton. He learns that thoughtfulness, generosity, hospitality and a determination that "the New Comer shall have a good time" characterize the people here.—[REV. C. E. BURR.

**Distinguished Men** were natives of Groton. There went out from here in 1863 as Major of the 137th N. Y. Volunteers, WESTEL WILLOUGHBY, who afterward became a federal district judge in Virginia, residing in Alexandria. SYLVESTER PENNOYER, who was born just north of the village, went west in 1854, where he became engaged in a number of enterprises and afterwards distinguished himself as governor of Oregon. He studied law in the Albany law school and was admitted to practice in this state. He is a bright man. NORMAN GIBBS went away when a young man, I think in 1863, perhaps '64, and became prominent in business and politics in southwestern Missouri. PROFESSOR S. B. HOWE, who was born just east of the village and was educated here and at Union college, left here about 1864 and went to Ithaca as principal of the public schools. He went from there to Schenectady where he has since been superintendent of the schools.—[CAPT. W. E. MOUNT.

**Distances from Groton**—Cascade, 14 miles; Cortland, 10; Dryden, 10; East Lansing, 7; Etna, 9; Freeville, 7; Genoa, 12; Harford, 16; Homer, 12; Ithaca, 16; King's Ferry, 16; Lake Ridge, 18; Locke, 7; Ludlowville, 11; McLean, 6; Moravia, 10; North Lansing, 8; Peruville, 3; Poplar Ridge, 21; South Cortland, 9; Virgil, 12; West Groton, 5.

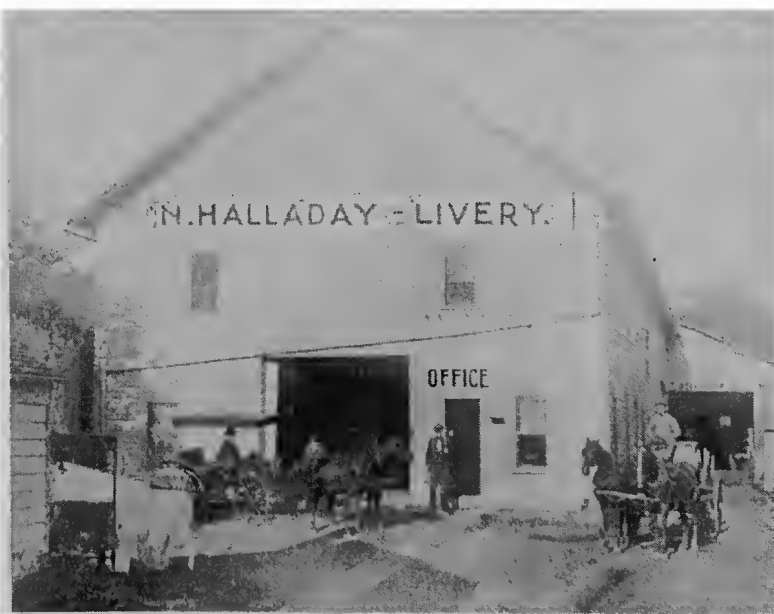


Photo by Cooper.

E. N. HALLADAY'S LIVERY.

## "GRIP'S" VALLEY GAZETTE.

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"Grip" is under obligations, generally, to the people of Groton for the assistance that has been rendered in compiling and circulating "GRIP'S" HISTORICAL SOUVENIR OF GROTON. The almost unanimous effort made by the residents of this village to make this work such as will most favorably impress those who are fortunate enough to secure a copy, is deserving of praise.

Groton is an enterprising, progressive village, as shown by the general response that has been made to the publisher of this Souvenir. A new era of growth and commercial expansion has dawned upon this flourishing, wide-a-wake community. Contemporaneous with the publication of this Souvenir the portals are thrown open to two or three new industries which promise to give employment to many people.

An Historical Souvenir is one of the best means for setting forth to the world the advantages offered by a place for residence and business enterprise. The growth of a town increases property valuations, enlarges the field of trade and improves a community morally and intellectually. It means more customers for the store keepers, more clients for the lawyers, larger practice for the physicians and more employment and better wages for the mechanics and laborers.

The Views in this souvenir were made by M. W. Cooper, who is a painstaking, accomplished and first class photographer. The character of a souvenir depends largely on the photographer and Mr. Cooper has done remarkably well in the class of work he has turned out for this publication. His skill was justly recognized by the promoters of the George Jr. Republic, who made him their official photographer when it was established and who have since retained him in that capacity.

### Methodist Episcopal Church History—

The society of the "First Methodist Episcopal Church" of Groton was organized July 18, 1836, pursuant to a call made by members and friends of this denomination who desired a church home in this place. The call was made fifteen days before the date fixed for the meeting, according to the law of the state of New York. This meeting was held in a school house and was in charge of Rev. L. K. Redington and Justice P. Pennoyer. At this meeting the first trustees were elected, being Justice P. Pennoyer, Joseph Pennoyer, Josiah I. Ingraham, Augustus C. Marsh, Hiram Young, David Tarbell and Simon Loomis. On Jan. 5, 1842, the society was reorganized. It was decided at a meeting held Jan. 10, the same year, to build a house for the use of the society and on Dec. 20, 1842, the First Methodist Episcopal church of Groton was dedicated. The building was forty by fifty-four feet, with eighteen foot posts. The building committee consisted of Joseph Pennoyer, Levi Wright and A. C. Marsh. The custom of selling the seats or slips as it was then called, was followed for a time and then discontinued. In the year 1853 the society purchased the house and lot on Main street now owned by S. W. Goodrich. It was used for a parsonage until 1889 when it was sold to the present owner. A very interesting fact remains to be told in regard to this building. Organs were at one time manufactured in it, and a letter from one of the firm of Mason & Hamlin says: "The first Mason & Hamlin organs were made in your village." So it does not seem very presumptuous to conclude that this house was the birthplace of these justly celebrated instruments. The upper front room is of a peculiar construction—it was used for a testing room. The church as it now stands is the result of a thorough remodeling in the year 1877. The bell was given by the Sunday school the same year. A new parsonage was built on the church lot in 1889. The inside of the church was again repaired in 1899, a new heater being put in, ceiling overhead instead of fresco, a change in the pulpit, a new carpet and electric lighting. The former pastors were: W. N. Pearne, O. L. Torry, —Burr, —Sessions, D. Dutcher, Wm. York, R. C. Fox, W. A. Ely, Wm. Henry, J. Easter, H. T. Giles, M. J. Wells, R. H. Clark, G. B. Richardson, D. Kepple, M. Coyle, M. S. Rees, H. S. Potter, J. W. Terry, E. A. Baldwin, E. S. Annable. The present pastor is Rev. J. H. Zartman. The Board of Trustees are: E. S. Burtenshaw, J. Richford, E. M. Avery, A. Anthony, A. J. Baldwin, E. P. Watrous, E. J. Tichenor, D. Adamy, E. Hopkins.—[MR. AND MRS. E. M. AVERY.

Joseph Henry Zartman, the present pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, was born in Schauyes, or South Waterloo, town of Fayette, Seneca county, N. Y., October 19, 1849. He is of German ancestry. His father came to "York state" from Sunbury, Pa., and his mother from Bethlehem, Pa., about 1835. Seneca county contained

many Pennsylvania Dutch, as they were called, whose language was a mixture of the German and the English. The father's health failing at his trade as a shoemaker, he moved to a farm about one and one-half miles south of Waterloo, when the subject of this sketch was about four years old. His early life was thus spent as one of the tillers of the soil, and his interest in agricultural pursuits still continues. His educational career was commenced in the district school at South Waterloo, locally speaking. It was continued at the Union school across the Seneca river in Waterloo. One year was spent at Cazenovia seminary, furnishing a college preparatory course, he graduating therefrom in 1873. He entered Syracuse University in the fall of 1873, taught in the Union school in Waterloo during the college year of 1874-5, and was graduated from the University, as an A. B., in 1878. In the fall of that year he entered Drew Theological Seminary at Madison, N. J., and received his degree of B. D. in 1880. The degree of A. M. was conferred, *in cursu*, by the University in 1881. He preached now and then as a local preacher, having been licensed to preach in 1875. From May until Oct. 1880, he supplied the Methodist Episcopal Church at Stockbridge, N. Y. He was then admitted on trial into the Central New York Conference and was received into full connection in Oct. of 1882. He was ordained a deacon by Bishop Foss, October 10, 1880, and an elder by Bishop Harris, Oct. 12 1884. His appointments have been as follows: East Homer and Truxton; Sterling; Lodi; Owasco; McGrawville and Blodgett's Mills; Jamesville and De-

Witt; Solvay; Groton. On December 6, 1881, Mr. Zartman was married to Miss Fanny Lois Dexter of Stockbridge, Madison county, N. Y. Four children have come to their home, three of whom are living. The first born died when a lad almost twelve years of age.

The Sunday School of the Methodist Church was organized at an early date. The history of the school has been one of growth and prosperity; increasing blessings have been ours and to-day we have an active school and a library which contains new and interesting books. The Sunday School has, in many ways, been a source of inspiration and encouragement to the church. The missionary spirit is being gradually developed so that the Sunday School, in addition to its own support, is giving annually to the various mission boards of the church. There are 150 scholars and 15 teachers. The officers are: Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Baldwin; Secretary, Miss Margaret Richford; Treasurer, Miss Grace Woodruff; Librarian, Mr. D. Watrous; Organist, Mrs. Frank Townley.

The Epworth League of the Methodist Church is older as an organization than the general Epworth League. The society was known as the "Young People's Society of the Methodist church." It adopted a constitution and was governed by a full set of by-laws. The society never disbanded,

but when the Epworth League was organized at Cleveland, Ohio, in May, 1889, for the whole Methodist connection, the "Young People's Society" adopted the general constitution, connected itself with the new society and was organized as Chapter No. 2036. Miss Carrie M. Field was the first president of the Epworth League. Rev. S. H. Potter was then pastor of the church. From that time until the present the society has been at work for the cause of Christ and righteousness. The church has come to recognize it as a most helpful body, standing by all good efforts. It holds a prayer-meeting regularly every Sunday evening, a business meeting once a month, besides the department meetings. There is a membership of 90 be-



Photo by Cooper.

F. J. TANNER'S RESIDENCE.

sides the Junior League, an active little society which numbers 38. The officers are: President, Mr. E. F. Hopkins; 1st Vice-President, Miss E. Sherman; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. L. F. Avery; 3rd Vice-President, Mr. T. H. Lytle; 4th Vice-President, Miss Jennie Kyes; Secretary, Miss Ethel Baldwin; Treasurer, Mr. Glen Johnson; Superintendent of Junior League, Miss S. Sears.

**Milestones.**—The first town meeting in Groton was held in 1818, just outside of the present corporation limits, at the home of Isaac Love, now owned and occupied by Harvey Morton. Samuel Crittenden was elected supervisor and Adamathea Blodgett was elected town clerk. The town was then known as the town of Division which was a year afterward changed to Groton. Dr. John Goodyear came to Groton in the forepart of 1843. There was then an epidemic of erysipelas and he came as a young man to nurse, locating here afterward. He practiced medicine forty-five years. He was public spirited and did a good deal for the town. The building now occupied by N. A. Collings and E. R. Nye he built, and it was called Goodyear's hall until purchased by Mr. Nye. Dr. Goodyear purchased the building and after tearing it down removed the material which he used in constructing the new block.



Photo by Cooper.

H. G. MOE,  
E. P. WATROUS,

G. M. STODDARD,

E. P. WATROUS,

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

H. G. DIMON,

E. M. AVERY,

BENN CONGER.

L. J. TOWNLEY,

BENN CONGER.

### THE SCHOOL.

The people of Groton take just pride in their public school not only because of its present condition but on account of the history connected with it, covering a period of nearly a century. As early as 1805 a low log school house, 30x25 feet, was erected on Main street, near where the carriage shop now stands, and was burned in the winter of 1813-14. Another was erected in the southern part of the village but soon proved too small. A two-story building was then constructed where the typewriter factory now stands and was superceded by a large wooden structure in 1858. Among the very earliest teachers were Abiatha Hathaway, Benjamin Williams and Zenas Riggs. In 1834 a successful attempt was made to establish a town library and the influence of this enterprise was very great upon the future educational history of the village.

Those who took shares in the institution deserve to be classed among the "builders of Groton":—Dr. E. W. Crain, James Pelingraham, R. B. Carpenter, A. C. Marsh, R. C. Reynolds, John W. Halladay, Uri Finney, J. P. Pennoyer, Talbert Powers, F. W. Powers, Benjamin Williams, Sylvanus Larned, S. S. Williams, Joshua Warfield, Chauncey Trumbull. This library undoubtedly proved an incentive to higher study than could be pursued in the common school. A High school was accordingly opened through the efforts of interested citizens in an upper room of the village school building, rented for the purpose. Samuel D. Carr of Dryden an undergraduate of Union college, was secured as principal. The facts bearing on the case seem to indicate that Mr. Carr was very successful in inspiring a thirst for higher study and no doubt to him belongs much of the credit for the academy enterprise which grew out of this first attempt at high school work. In the history of modern education the early part of the present century is sometimes called the "era of the academy." Throughout the eastern states academies were

being incorporated and endowed; the Ithaca academy was inaugurated in 1823; the Homer Academy in 1819. The people of Groton naturally did not lag in such an enterprise. The needs of the young of the vicinity must be met. The Ithaca school had received aid from the state by the sale of lot No. 24 of Ulysses, but no such en-

couragement was left for the residents of Groton. The citizens, out of the poverty of the new community, raised the funds to found an institution of learning widely known throughout the state for over thirty years. On May, 9, 1837, the Groton academy was incorporated by special act of the legislature. A contract for its endowment was signed January 12, 1838, but abandoned. Another was drawn up, dated May 8, 1838, "for the purpose of raising funds to erect an academy building and purchase a suitable library and apparatus for the use of Groton academy. To this contract there were forty-nine subscribers, giving amounts ranging from \$150 to \$50. It was stipulated in that contract that the subscriptions should be secured by bond or mortgage for double their respective amounts for the purpose of creating a permanent fund. Less than half a dozen of these amounts remained unpaid. Only one signer was obliged to



Arranged by Emily E. Benton

GROUP OF BRIGHT SCHOLARS.

HIRAM STREETER MOSHER, CHARLES HIRAM MOE,  
FRANCES BIGELOW, MARY CRUSA TANNER.

make his mark but his subscription of \$50 was paid. The academy was built on the site of the present high school building during the year 1838 and first occupied in December of that year. The first board of trustees were Sylvanus Larned, president; Augustus C. Marsh, secretary; R. C. Reynolds, treasurer; Dr. E. W. Crain, Sylvanus DeLano, Benjamin B. Dexter, Justus P. Pennoyer, William Woodbury, Abner Atwood. Chauncey Trumbull, Dr. Clark Chapman, Johnathan Conger, trustees. The signers of the contract for the endowment of the institution were as follows: S. DeLano, Abner Atwood, Pliny Sikes, Benjamin B. Dexter, Benjamin Williams, R. C. Reynolds, J. P. Pennoyer, Wm. Woodbury, Chauncey Trumbull, Alvira Rogers, Solomon Trumbull, Jenks Carpenter, Uri Finney, E. H. Crain, W. W. Williams, Stephen F. Barrows, M. Wenner, P. M. Blodgett, E. Elbridge, C. Backus, Alexander Welch, J. Pellingraham, B. A. Allen, James Hicks, (his mark), A. and Wm. Mortin, Joseph Berry, Cyrus Crain, Franklin Willoughby, E. B. Williams, George Bassett, Warren Brayton, Joseph Parker, Stephen Hopkins, Stephen Norris, Lyman Halladay, Benoni Brown, John S. Stevens, Johnathan Conger; Nathan Bensen, J. S. Backus, Hiram Young, Joshua Pelton, Clark Chapman, Timothy Eastman, Jeremiah Dimon, Squire Stone, Samuel Willson. Stephen W. Clark, A. B., a graduate of Amherst college and afterward author of the well known Clark's grammar, was the first principal of the academy, holding the position from 1837 to 1841. A program of the "spring exhibition," held April 18, 1838, indicating that regular academy exercises were held during the winter of 1837-38, contains thirty numbers, consisting of songs orations, colloquies, declamations an "oratorio salutatoria" and a valedictory poem. The Academy was admitted by the Regents, Jan. 29, 1839, and at once attained marked success. A catalogue of the school issued in 1839 shows a

total of 206 pupils, 117 in the "male department" and 89 in the "female department." Among the distant localities represented are Springfield, Pa.; Cornwall, Ct.; Egremont, Mass.; Kidron, Ark.; La Salle City, Ill.; Bloomington, Ill.; and Newark, Brockport, Trumansburg, Ovid, Cortlandville, etc., of our own state. The catalogue announces courses of study in Mathematics, Latin, Greek, French, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, "Geography of the Heavens," Geology, Mineralogy, Chonology, Anatomy, Rhetoric, Logic, Philosophy of Moral Feelings, History and Grammar. Much more of Latin and of Moral Science were taught than at present in the high schools. The Groton academy had a long and successful career. A catalogue



Photo by Cooper. THE FACULTY.  
 LE MOINE H. CANDEE, Preceptress. ROSE A. HUBBARD, Sr. Primary.  
 EMILY E. BENTON, Jr. Primary. ADA PRITCHARD, Jr. Intermed.  
 ALICE MORTON, Sr. Intermed., M. ESTELLE PUNNETT, Grammar,  
 CATHIE A. EASTMAN, Music and German, C. S. WILLIAMS, Principal.

published in November, 1854, contains the names of 180 pupils almost all of whom came from Groton and immediate vicinity. The principals of this institution, many of whom afterward attained still greater prominence as educators, were: Stephen W. Clark, A. B. (Amherst), Carlton Parker, Samuel D. Carr, A. M., (Union), James E. Dexter, Mrs. D. E. Sackett, Rev. R. H. Close, A. B., (Yale), Samuel G. Williams, A. B. (Hamilton), R. O. Graves, A. B., (Middlebury), Samuel G. Williams, A. M., (Hamilton), Joseph E. Scott, A. B., (Hamilton), M. M. Baldwin, A. M., (Hobart).

During the period of prosperity at the academy,

the district school was still maintained for elementary instruction and no doubt found the presence of the institution of higher grade a stimulus to study and good instruction. If the early part of the century is rightly termed the "era of the academy," the latter part may be fitly called the "era of the Union free school." The old academies with their tuition fees could scarcely withstand the competition of the free schools which, about the middle of the century, began to give secondary instruction. The people awoke to realize that it was as proper to tax for high schools as for elementary. It was in accord with the tendency of the times and current educational thought that the Groton Academy was merged into the academic department of the Groton Union school in 1872. The legacy left



Photo by Cooper.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

by the old academy is something more than an interesting history, a list of illustrious alumni. Its blessings of enlightenment and culture have largely made the village what it is; the traditions, the ideas, and experiences of those times are having their effect upon the school of the present. Groton high school of to-day is better by reason of the existence for thirty-five years of the Groton academy. At a meeting of the electors of school district No. 8, of the town of Groton, Nov. 12, 1872, a union free school district was established under chapter 555, laws of 1864, with only one dissenting vote. An academic department was also established and steps were taken by which the Groton academy was purchased of Prof. M. M. Baldwin, the old building, standing where the type-writer factory now stands, sold; and school commenced in the academy building December 9, 1872. On March 4, 1882, the "academy" was totally destroyed by fire and a new brick building was soon erected at a cost of \$8,000. This was soon outgrown and in 1893 it was enlarged and improved at an additional expense of \$9,000. The following persons have acted as principals of the Groton Union school:

B. L. Robinson, Miss Flora Green, A. Norton Fitch, Ph. B., (Cornell), Alvah M. Baldwin, Ph. B., (Cornell), Vernon L. Davey, A. M., (Cornell), Roland S. Keyser, A. M., (Syracuse), F. P. Waters, A. B., (Hamilton), Archibald C. McLachlan, A. B., (Hamilton), C. A. Bliesmer, A. H. Sage, B. S., (Cornell), W. E. Lockner, Ph. B., (Rochester), O. W. Wood, Ph. B., (Syracuse), G. H. Boskeville, A. B., (Syracuse), Calvin F. Place, Charles S. Williams, A. B., (Cornell).

The present building contains two stories and is built of brick. The basement is dry and healthful, containing ample space for fuel, furnaces, ventilating apparatus and a vacant room suitable for school purposes. The first floor with its ample halls furnishes four rooms for the primary and intermediate departments. On the second floor is located the grammar department, a large high school room, which may also be used for assembly purposes, the training class apartment, a nicely furnished office, a spacious library, a combined physical and chemical laboratory and two commodious recitation rooms. The rooms are all properly lighted and well furnished, having the most approved system of heating and ventilation and all modern furniture and apparatus needed for successful teaching. Everything is arranged for the comfort, convenience and health of both pupils and teachers. A large and carefully selected reference library, under the charge of the principal, supplements the public library which is located in the school building and open to all pupils. The building is beautifully located on an eminence near the centre of the town, yet apart from the noise and distractions of the street. It is surrounded by a large campus well covered with maple in their prime. The scenery on all sides is notable for its beauty and picturesqueness. The course of study are progressive and abreast of the

times. There are nine grades leading up to the high school, but considerable academic work is accomplished during the last two years. Special features of the grade work are vocal music and literature. The teachers in all the departments use the most approved methods of instruction. On December 7, 1897, the University of the State of New York classified the academic department of the Groton Union school as a high school. The term "high school" is often used to designate the entire school, but not properly so. In the academic department three courses of instruction are offered, each requiring four years for its completion, and all leading to more advanced work in either college or university. Graduates of this school go to college or university or into business courses and find themselves well prepared to meet the battles of life. The high school pupils sustain two literary societies, a choral club which meets every Tuesday after school for chorus practice, and an athletic association sustaining a football team, a base ball team and a track team. A teacher's training class is regularly organized each year for instruction in the science and art of teaching. The attendance of the Groton Union school during the past year has amounted to over 300, while nearly



Photo by Cooper.

GEORGE W. DAVEY'S RESIDENCE.

one-third of them were pursuing academic studies. A class of ten was graduated from the school June 21, 1899, and were presented with a diploma by the Board of Education in addition to the diploma granted by the University of the State of New York. All indications point to a bright future for the Groton Union school.

The names of the present Board of Education and Faculty are as follows:

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**—Benn Conger, President; H. G. Dimon, Secretary; H. G. Moe, E. M. Avery, E. P. Watrous, G. M. Stoddard, L. J. Townley.

**FACULTY**—Charles S. Williams, A. B., (Cornell) (Brockport Normal), Principal; LeMoine H. Candee, (Oneonta Normal), Preceptress; Rose A. Hubbard, (Cortland Normal), Teacher's Training Class; Cathie A. Eastman, (Brockport Normal), Superintendent of Music and Assistant in High school; M. Estelle Punnett, (Brockport Normal), Grammar Department; Alice Morton, (Vassar), Senior Intermediate; Ada M. Pritchard, (Cortland Normal), Junior Intermediate; Ethel Baldwin, (Groton High School), Senior Primary; Emily E. Benton, (Cortland Normal), Junior Primary.—[CHARLES S. WILLIAMS, A. B.]



**Groton Rural Cemetery.**—Groton has a very fine cemetery. The association was organized in July, 1858 by a party of gentlemen who contributed for that purpose. The site is a very pretty one, including rolling land overlooking the village. The first purchase was about nine and one-half acres. Last spring fifteen acres more were purchased. The association has \$4 300 on hand, a fund which is invested for the care of the cemetery. The first trustees were Samuel J. Williams, Sidney Gooding, E. Jason Watrous, George W. Davey, Charles Williams, H. K. Clark, Samson S. Williams, John W. Halladay, Lyman Perrigo, Dr. E. C. Moe, Martin S. DeLano and Westel Willoughby. The present officers who are members of the board of trustees, are: President, Seth C. Gooding; Vice President, D. L. Bradley; Secretary and Treasurer, H. S. Hopkins; Superintendent, B. F. Hatch. The rest of the trustees are N. R. Streeter, Hosea Curtis, Frank Metzgar, George Pickens, Peter Morton, Chapin Atwood and V. B. Coggsball. Much of the beauty of the cemetery is due to the foresight of G. W. Davey who was one of the first trustees and for many years President of the Cemetery Association which was organized in 1858. He was also Superintendent for many years. During the first year the association employed a landscape gardener but after that Mr. Davey went on and improved the walks and drives, set out the shrubbery and trees and graded the grounds. Of late Mr. Davey has given much of his time to Sunday School work, a subject which he has given very much attention from his youth. Being President of the Tompkins County Sunday School Association for several years he visited Sunday Schools in every town, organizing them into Town Associations thereby increasing their efficiency. He is frequently invited to visit schools in other counties which he does exhibiting and explaining a collection of curios, from the Holy Land, mentioned in the Bible.

**Groton Lodge No. 372 I. O. O. F.,** was instituted May 4, 1892, by A. M. Parrott, D. D. G. M., assisted by Ithaca Lodge, N. Y., with the following charter members: Fred W. Mosher, Jas. McDargh, P. G., Harry Exton, Geo. W. Monk, E. B. Heffron. Forty-six members were admitted on the night of the institution and the following list comprised officers for first term:

P. G., C. W. Conger; N. G., F. W. Mosher; V. G., E. B. Heffron; Secy., H. G. Dimon; Treas., E. P. Watrous; W., Geo. B. Close; C., Harry Exton; I. G., W. G. Evans; O. G., J. F. Snyder; R. S. N. G., W. H. Conklin; L. S. N. G., Geo. W. Monk; R. S. V. G., John B. Baker; L. S. V. G., Myron Terry; R. S. S., H. R. Cronk; L. S. S., E. N. Loomis; Chaplain, E. S. Burtenshaw. Trustees: C. W. Conger, E. S. Burtenshaw, J. H. Twiss.

Meetings of the order were held every Monday evening at Grand Army Hall during '92, and in Jan. '93 the lodge moved into their present pleasant and commodious quarters which occupy the entire second floor of Nye's block, a structure 50 x 60 ft. The rooms are very conveniently arranged and consist of lower and upper halls, kitchen, ante-room, dining room, paraphernalia room, and lodge room. The rooms are lighted with electricity and the kitchen and dining rooms are furnished with a complete outfit of dishes and tableware suitable for any institution of its kind. During the career of the lodge five members have been called from its ranks. Four of them lie at rest in Groton Rural cemetery, Walter Huntley, Edgar Hommel, Fred Borden and Hector S. Elliott. The fifth, Frank A. Gilkey, was laid to rest at North Lansing. Among the remaining members are some of the leading professional and business men of the place also some of the finest mechanics from our shops. This lodge has one of the finest degree teams in this part of

of the state and its reputation is such that frequently it is called upon to go to other towns to confer the degrees and on several occasions members of other lodges come to get instructions in team and degree work. The present membership is 90, of whom 15 are Past Grands. The present officers are:

P. G., Newton T. Dick; N. G., E. N. Woodward; V. G., J. A. Cleveland; R. S., E. R. Haydn; F. S., F. F. Wolfe; Treas., E. R. Nye; W., O. A. Pierce; C., L. D. Howser; I. G., E. A. Breese; O. G., R. M. Vankirk; R. S. N. G., J. A. Burchard; L. S. N. G., Jas. Mathers; R. S. S., Frank W. Evans; L. S. S., J. S. Hazen; Chaplain, E. S. Burtenshaw; Reg. Rep., Geo. B. Close; Proxy, E. S. Burtenshaw; Trustees, N. A. Collings, W. F. Underwood, W. G. Evans.—P. G., E. B. HAYDN.

**Columbian Encampment No. 4, I. O. O. F.,** was instituted April 13, 1893, by D. D. G. P., Levi A. Barnard; assisted by P. C. P's., P. A. Campbell; C. P., C. Dickerson; P. C. P., Jas. Deck, H. Townley, and T. H. Van Inwagen; A. Ewing, C. Cristance, L. Compton. S. A. Riggs of Iroquois encampment No 16 of Ithaca, N. Y., with the following charter members:

A. M. Baldwin, H. G. Dimon, Geo. B. Close, F. W. Crittenden, W. G. Evans, F. F. Wolfe, N. A. Collings, F. W. Mosher, Geo. Gifford, Chas. P. Dick, E. N. Loomis.

The following officers were regularly installed:

C. P., W. G. Evans; H. P., Geo. B. Close; S. W., Chas. P. Dick; J. W., E. N. Loomis; Secretary, F. W. Crittenden; Treasurer, F. W. Mosher; 1st W., N. A. Collings; 2nd W., E. S. Burtenshaw; 3d W., F. F. Wolfe; 4th W., Geo. Gifford; Guide, A. M. Baldwin; O. S., Lester Holcomb; I. S., W. F. Underwood; 1st G. of T., E. P. Watrous; 2nd G. of T., H. G. Dimon

The meetings of Columbian Encampment No. 4, are held at the rooms of Groton Lodge, No. 372 I. O. O. F., every second and Fourth Wednesday of each month. The encampment is well supplied with all regalia and paraphernalia necessary to work degrees and it has one of the best working teams in the state. The present membership is 60, of whom eleven are P. C. P's., and three P. H. P's. and consist of some of the best mechanics and foremost business and professional men of Groton, Moravia, Locke, Dryden, McLean, Freeville and other places. Only one of our members has been called to his last resting place. Patriarch Frank A. Gilkey lies at North Lansing. The present officers are:

P. C. P., U. G. Rockwell; C. P., O. A. Pierce; H. P., F. F. Wolfe; S. W., J. D. Hubbell; J. W., H. S. Smith; R. S., W. G. Evans; F. S., E. R. Haydn; Treas., N. A. Collings; I. S., W. F. Underwood; O. S., Geo. B. Close; Guide, Grant Halladay; 1st W., Fay Skillings; 2d W., John Shaver; 3d W., John W. West; 4th W., E. M. Babcock; 1st G. of T., E. S. Burtenshaw; 2nd G. of T., Geo. Gifford; Reg. Rep., Geo. B. Close; Proxy, E. R. Haydn. Trustees: Geo. B. Close, J. C. Howser, W. F. Underwood.—[D. D. G. P., E. R. HAYDN.

**The Groton Historical Club** was organized January 20th, 1899, with twenty-three charter members and with the following officers: President, Mrs. R. K. Bourne; Vice-President, Don N. Thompson; Secretary, Miss Mabel McNiel; Treasurer, Miss Gertrude Haydn; Librarian, Mrs. L. J. Townley. Before the close of the term Mr. Thompson resigned and Chas. S. Williams was elected vice-president for the remainder of the term. The club is registered in the Home Education department of the university of the state of New York, as Study Club, No. 300, Grade E—Its object is the study of History. The year's work is divided into two terms of twenty weeks each. The first work undertaken by this club was the study of North American History. Last term's work covered the period from the formation of this continent to the discoveries by Columbus. The second



Photo by Cooper. NEWTON A. COLLINGS.

term's work will include the several discoveries and the colonial settlements. The meetings are held every alternate Friday evening and consist of papers on the several subjects assigned, followed by discussions, current topics, and a musical program. The club has found the meetings to be very helpful and instructive during its brief existence and the members are looking for a still more helpful term, as the subjects are more interesting than those of last year. The present officers are: President, Miss Mary Williams; Vice-President, Mr. Benj. F. Carpenter; Treasurer, Miss Gertrude Haydn; Secretary, Miss Mabel McNeil; Librarian, Mrs. L. J. Townley. The membership is limited by the constitution to thirty-two, and only two vacancies, and those caused by removals, are to be filled at the opening of the second term's work.—[MISS MABEL MCNEIL.

**Newton A. Collings**, has been in business in Groton since March 8, 1884, when he bought out the drug and stationary store of A. E. Powers, the same business he has since successfully conducted. He has taken a prominent part in Republican politics in Tompkins county, having been active in the campaigns in the town and village of Groton and having taken part in many of the county conventions. He was largely effective in working up the sentiment which led to the nomination of Benn Conger, his townsman, for member of assembly at the Ithaca convention, September 16, 1899. For two years he was president of the village in which position, it was generally acknowledged, he strove to secure economy and a wise and con-

servative administration of the affairs of the village. Abram Collings his father came to this country from England in 1859 and settled on Pompey Hill. He afterwards lived at Virgil and Dryden and it was at the latter place he died, Aug. 27, 1896, in his 77th year. Mr. Newton Collings was born at Pompey Hill, April 1, 1862 and was educated at the public schools. On Feb. 11, 1879 he entered the drug store of J. J. Goodyear at Dryden. He was successively connected with the following firms, the dates given being the respective dates in which he entered into the business: W. B. Johnson, Groton, Feb. 1, 1880; Sloane & Whittemore, Binghamton, Aug. 21, 1881; E. Hanowell & Son, Whitestone, L. I., March 8, 1882; Johnson & Barney, Cortland, Sept. 13, 1882. He is an Odd Fellow, a charter member of Columbian encampment No. 4, and a member of the Pioneer Hose company. On May 8, 1888 he married Miss Ola Hatmaker of Newfield, N. Y.

**Builders of Groton.**—**ABNER ATWOOD** was for years a shoemaker and farmer, having come to Groton when he was 21 years old—in 1805. In 1835 and for several years afterward he was engaged in the harness trade. He died when 71 years old, having accumulated a handsome competence. **ROBERT CRANDALL REYNOLDS** was in trade here fifty years—from 1816 to 1866, first going into business with Jeremiah Stevens on Cortland street, where they traded goods for ashes and sent the potash to the seaboard; also running a distillery. For twenty-five years he conducted the Groton Hotel which property he bought and enlarged. He was the leader of the Democratic party in this vicinity. **NELSON TRUMBULL** was actively engaged as merchant and agriculturalist from 1840 to 1874. He and R. C. Reynolds built the Union Block and he and Orrin Clark were owners of Groton Academy and appurtenances. He contributed liberally to the Baptist church and society. He was born in Groton, Sept. 26, 1818, and during the civil war paid over \$400 yearly tax. **SIDNEY HOPKINS** was born in the town of Groton, N. Y., in 1823, and was a resident and prominent citizen of the village from 1857 until his death in 1887. He was a Republican in politics and a Justice of the Peace in the village for a number of years. He



Photos by Cooper. N. A. COLLINGS' DRUG STORE AND RESIDENCE.

was also a Trustee of the Village, Trustee of Groton Academy, Member of the Board of Education of Groton High school, Trustee of the Baptist Church and a Trustee of Groton Rural Cemetery Association. From 1872 to 1880 he was United States Inspector of Customs at New York City. **FREDERICK A. AVERY** died in his 71st year. His greatest business activity in Groton, where he was born, always lived and died, began at the outbreak of the war when he formed a co-partnership with **William Perrigo**, in 1861, in the manufacture of threshers and separators. His birth was on January 7, 1826, and his death on June 15, 1896. **DEXTER H. MARSH** was born and reared and he died in Groton. He was an incorporator of the First National bank, holding the position of cashier for twenty-five years, and at the time of his death, Nov. 28, 1895, being its president, the office now occupied by his widow, Mrs. W. M. Marsh. Through him the Crandall Type-writer works was brought to Groton from Syracuse. He was an organizer and for several years the president of the Groton Carriage works and up to the time of the sale of the Southern Central railroad was a director in that company. **CHARLES PERRIGO** and his brother, **Lyman**, engaged in manufacturing agricultural machinery at Elm and Main streets in 1840. The former was an incorporator, and president until 1890, of the First National bank; also an incorporator and the first president of the Groton Iron Bridge Co., selling out his interest about ten years later. **LYMAN PERRIGO** came to Groton and started in business with his brother Charles in 1840, manufacturing agricultural machinery, the firm being C. & L. Perrigo. He was an inventor of the spoke planer and a first-class machinist. He was an organizer of the bank and a stockholder in the Southern Central railroad. **WILLIAM PERRIGO** came to Groton about 1859, and became a partner with S. Spencer, in the manufacture of threshing machines. He bought Mr. Spencer out and, about 1863, formed a partnership with Mr.

Frederick Avery. This firm, with Chas. Perrigo & Co., formed the "Groton Manufacturing Co." **M. M. BALDWIN, A. M., L. L. B.**, purchased the Groton Academy in 1861. For eleven years he was its owner and principal and to him is very largely due the wide and high reputation it obtained. He is a ready writer on educational, political and historical topics and a large contributor to periodicals. **WILLIAM HENRY FITCH** was first the treasurer of the Groton Carriage Works and on March 1, 1889, was elected its president, which place he occupied several years. From 1876 to 1879 he was in mercantile life in Groton.

**The Firm of C. W. Conger & Co.**, is one of the largest mercantile houses on the Lehigh Valley railroad between the Pennsylvania line and Anburn. The business, started in a single store, was increased from time to time, in the face of strong rivalry and by following closely the most prudent business methods, until it became necessary to secure enlarged quarters; and now it occupies three connected stores, each 22 x 80 feet, together with a basement and an upper floor. Early in the history of the business which was established by Mr. C. W. Conger and his eldest son Frank, now the President of the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Co., the plan of cash



Photos and Copies by Cooper.  
**SIDNEY HOPKINS.**  
**NELSON TRUMBULL.**  
**D. H. MARSH.**

**BUILDERS OF GROTON.**  
**R. C. REYNOLDS.**  
**ABNER ATWOOD.**  
**WILLIAM PERRIGO.**  
**CHARLES PERRIGO.**

**M. M. BALDWIN.**  
**F. A. AVERY.**  
**W. H. FITCH.**

dealings with the houses from whom they obtained their goods was strictly followed by the firm. The lines they carried at that time were limited to the most staple in general use. Buying on a cash basis they were able to sell at prices which very quickly made it a popular store at which to trade. As fast as the sons became of age they were taken into co-partnership with their father, each taking charge of a particular branch of the business. In 1879 two brick stores were constructed adjacent to the original building, one by the firm, which was made the dry goods department, and the other by Mr. Fitch

who opened a hardware store. This was subsequently purchased by C. W. Conger & Co., in order to accommodate a line of boots and shoes, merchant tailoring, carpets, upholstering goods and gentlemen's furnishings. It was deemed advisable to carry goods to the homes of people living in the adjacent country, and deliver and take orders at the doors of their customers as is done in town. Consequently three-horse wagons built to carry merchandise, were placed on the road and they have proved a very popular innovation on the slower methods of trading with people living at a distance, saving them as they do the trouble of coming to town for the purpose of shopping. There are three of those wagons kept moving by this firm over a radius

articles in either of those lines to accommodate the wagon customer. As a member of the firm said to the writer, "the firm goes out to see its out-of-town customers every week." It is an interesting fact that many of its customers have never seen Groton. Each wagon has a set of books and a regular route. On Saturday the wagons are all at home to receive a fresh load for the ensuing week. But the trips are kept up the year round, winter and summer. In every respect it is a large department store, with a manager for each branch and a corps of travelling salesmen. Mr. Jay Conger is the financial manager and the buyer in the grocery department. Mr. Benn Conger does the buying outside of the grocery department and con-



Photos by Cooper.

JAY CONGER, The Financial Manager.

BENN CONGER, Rep. Candidate, Member of Assembly, 1900,

FRANK CONGER, Manager of the Groton Bridge Co.,

C. W. CONGER, Founder of the Business.

of from twenty to thirty miles from the village of Groton, and as a practical business proposition this plan has proven a remarkable success. Farmers and dairymen, as well as small country merchants, find them a wonderful convenience, especially the farmers during their busy season. A driver and a salesman accompany each wagon which makes a trip of four or five days each week, the salesmen alternating between periods on the road and in the store. All lines of merchandise except hardware and drugs are carried in stock and the firm supplies all demands for

trols all of the business outside of the finances. Mr. H. A. Brooks is the manager of the boot and shoe and the men's furnishing department, including the merchant tailoring, upholstery and carpet branch on the second floor and Mr. M. C. Swartout, has charge of the dry goods department in the middle store. One of the most valuable and by no means the least important part of the business, the cashier and book-keeper's desk, is in charge of Miss Mary McGrail who has been with the house for ten years.

The members of the firm are together inter-

ested in other enterprises in Groton, the Bridge Works, the Carriage works, the bank and the Crandall Typewriter works. Although they own the controlling interest in the Bridge works, as a firm they are in no way connected with its management, the store and the works being entirely separate. Mr. Frank Conger controls the latter entirely. It occupies his whole time and consequently he takes no active part in the management of the store. Mr. C. W. Conger has his time thoroughly occupied with the affairs of the Several Counties Insurance Co of which he is the president; so it is to be observed that the responsibilities of the very large business conducted through the home and the traveling stores rest entirely on Messrs. Jay and Benn.

**Corydon W. Conger**, second son of Jonathan and Thankful Guthrie Conger, was the founder of the largest mercantile business in Groton, the

hundred acres given to Mrs. Conger by her father, Captain John Guthrie, which is now the Conger homestead, owned and occupied by Alson John Conger, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Conger. Here C. W.'s youth was spent, working on the farm summers, and attending an excellent district school winters. His father carried on a very successful weaving business, having built a commodious shop, and stocked it with jacquard looms for the production of carpets, carpet cover-lids, shawls and the like. He associated his oldest son, Simeon, with him in this work, while C. W., assisted by his mother's advice, took charge of the farm. He had the customary two winters in the then celebrated Groton academy, and felt so well prepared for the battle of life, that in 1848 he married Mary, oldest daughter of Deacon Benoni Brown and began to make a home for himself. In 1850 he bought of Josiah Ingraham, the farm



Photo by Cooper.

C. W. CONGER & CO'S STORE.

firm of C. W. Conger & Co., which he built up from the foundation, establishing a lucrative trade during a crisis when many well-known firms in this section were driven out of business. He was largely identified with the establishment of the Groton Carriage works of which he was the second president and in which position he served three years; of the Groton Bridge works and of the Crandall Typewriter company. For the past eleven years he has been continuously the president of the Several Counties Co-operative Fire Insurance Company, of which he was one of the organizers. His entire attention is devoted to the affairs of that association, and although now 73 years old he gives personal attention to the direction of its largely increasing business. The responsibilities are neither light or unimportant, since the business extends through ten counties, has a membership of 11,000 and carries a protected insurance of sixteen millions. Mr. Conger was born on what was then called Cascadilla street, Ithaca, on May 19, 1826. His parents moved to Benson street, Groton, in 1828, occupying the

north of the village now owned and occupied by Baldwin Clark, but sold it in 1856 and in 1858 bought the farm now owned and occupied by William Baldwin. In 1867 he took the contract to make the roadbed of the Southern Central railroad through the town of Groton, and after that was completed he assisted to lay the iron upon the line of the road. In the meantime his oldest son, Frank, had taken four years training in the best commercial establishments in town, and in 1869, when he was twenty years of age, his mother helped him to buy the new brick store then owned by L. and J. Thomas, together with their stock in trade. Having finished his work on the railroad C. W. soon after gave his assistance there, and in 1871 the firm name was changed to C. W. Conger & Co. As the younger sons, Jay and Benn, came of age, they were taken into the firm, and, marrying, brought their wives home to the commodious living rooms over the store, all taking part in the labor of carrying on the trade, which met with great success. In 1887, finding that Jay and Benn were abundantly capable to carry on the commer-



Photo by Cooper.

C. W. CONGER'S RESIDENCE.

cial business of the firm, C. W. consented to have Frank engage in the organization of what is now known as the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing company. Mr. C. W. Conger is now a hale, hearty man of seventy-three, and bids as fair to round out his century of life, as did his mother who died not long ago in her ninety-fourth year with her mind and memory as strong and alert as ever. During the time of his residence in Groton he has taken an active part in public affairs. As an earnest Republican he has rendered material assistance in promoting the welfare of the party. In 1890 and '91 he represented the town in the board of supervisors, but his business interests have not permitted him to accept any other public office. He has been interested in building up the educational and church life of the village and is an attendant and conspicuous supporter of the Congregational society. Since 1850 he has been an Odd Fellow.

**Mr. Frank Conger,** the business and financial head of the Bridge works, is probably one of the best and most thorough business men in Groton. As a buyer for a small country store, for the development of which he was largely responsible, or as the head man of the very large manufacturing business which he has erected on the foundation of a small manufacturing plant and which with its many branches and its hundreds of traveling salesmen all over the country is to-day a bridge plant without any superior rival, with a business extending over the entire world—as one, who has secured such business successes, he has shown remarkable adaptation, foresight and business acumen. It was about

twelve years ago, perhaps less than that time, when he stepped into the Bridge enterprise as vice-president and as the representative of the Conger interests. At the death of the president, W. H. Fitch, he was elected to fill that position which has given him full control of the whole business. He was born in 1849 and educated in the Groton academy. For two years prior to the establishment of the firm of C. W. Conger & Co., he was clerk with Reynolds & Clark. Upon going into business with his father he was delegated as the buyer for the house. This required frequent trips to New York, but in all cases

the trips paid the house exceedingly well as Frank, being on the spot took advantage of opportunities which are never possible to see through the post office or by telegraph; and, buying for cash, was able to place the business on a remunerative and rapid selling basis. He is an active member of the Masons and the Odd Fellows, and is interested in aiding worthy objects, being especially fond of children and ever alert to an opportunity which may offer for assisting a child. In a severe railroad wreck a few years ago he nearly sacrificed his life. A pretty two year old child to which he was giving some attention, lost its parents in the crash that came upon them all so suddenly. Oressa, who is now the only, and the legally bound daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conger, is the name of that charming girl. Mr. Frank Conger married Jennie E., the daughter of D. K. Conant, March 29, 1872.



Photo by Cooper.

BENN CONGER'S RESIDENCE.

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**Mr. Jay Conger**, the financial manager of the mercantile business, also represents Congers' interests in the First National Bank of the village of which he is one of the directors. He was born in 1854 and educated in the Groton Academy. For a time he was employed as clerk and he also obtained a valuable knowledge of finances and book-keeping by acting as book-keeper in the bank, a position he filled for about six months. He is quite popular with those who know him and enjoys a very wide acquaintanceship; he is much interested in the local affairs of the village as well as its social circles. He married Florence, the daughter of Jerome Hathaway, Dec., 1878. They have two children, Pearl and Jay, jr.

**Mr. Benn Conger**, the general manager of the store, is particularly active in politics, to which he has given considerable time and means. It seems to have been his fortune to have been drawn into that channel. The family are all earnest and active Republicans, who very largely assist in keeping the politics of the town and county in the hands of the Republicans; so it appears that, acting upon the principle which has aided them in the success they have achieved in business, i. e., delegating one member to represent their interests, they seem in this matter to be content to leave active politics in the hands of the youngest son, whose popularity has made him conspicuous in that field of operations. At the Republican county convention held at Ithaca, Saturday, September 16, 1899, he was chosen on the second ballot without any opposition to speak of as candidate for Member of Assembly for 1900. He is president of the school board, which position he has held five years and of which he has been an active member for eight years. Acting on the building committee he was instrumental in the construction of an addition which has given ample facilities for school attendance. He has been a member of the Republican county committee and has taken part in county conventions, having been honored by being chosen as presiding officer on occasions. In the building up of the fire department, where he has served as chief and in which he is at present the foreman of one of the companies, he has been especially interested. He has been the president of the Owasco Club since its organization and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He married Florence C., the daughter of Jerome Buck of Lansing in June, 1880, and they have two children, Lawrence and Dorothy.

**The Groton Cold Storage Plant**, established and owned by C. W. Conger & Co., is one of the most important industries of the village. Groton has the reputation of being the banner town of the banner county of this state, which is said to lead all other states of the Union in the production and marketing of eggs, which are handled exclusively in this business. Buyers traveling all over the country ship the eggs directly here, where they are packed in cold storage or re-packed for fresh shipment, to be served in the leading markets. Many of the largest hotels in the country are furnished with eggs by this firm, notably the Waldorf, Astoria of New York. The capacity of the storage facilities is 350,000 dozen and during a single year there have been handled as many as 500,000 dozen, the business having grown during the five years in which it has been conducted to an annual aggregate of from \$75,000 to \$85,000. The plant contains a six-ton refrigerating machine and apparatus for manufacturing ice. Part of the time twenty men are employed here. Mr. Benn Townley is superintendent and manager at the house, while Mr. Benn Conger has personal charge of this business. A special system is employed for handling eggs which obtains the best results and expedites the business.

**Groton Lodge, No. 496, F. & A. M.**, was organized, a dispensation granted, and the first regular communication held April 4, 1860, at Masonic Hall, (which was in the upper room of a building owned by Uri Finney and situated on Mill street in Groton village, on land now owned and occupied by Will Gravely), with the following charter members: Officers, Dexter Allen as W. M., Albert Omand as S. W., Orrin Clark as J. W., Isaac Sobers as Tyler; and members: Sylvanus Learned, Nathan Benson and Lewis Covert. On May 23, 1860 Hiland K. Clark, Norman Gibbs and J. N. Lester were made Master Masons; then followed at short intervals in the order named: John S. Clark, W. W. Gale, DeWitt C. Brown, Jerome Woodbury, Nelson Halladay, Eleazer Kimble, G. D. Crittenden, E. R. Weaver, J. C. Hatch, Burdette Newton, Jas. E. Seamon, A. Z. Malthy, Dexter H. Marsh, Lorenzo Pennoyer, Wm. N. Burr, Harrison Riggs, D. W. Hall, Wilson Halladay, C. W. Barney, Geo. H. Bristol, N. C. Stout Orson Brokaw, W. E. Mount, John B. Dunham, E. Miles Howe, Westel Willoughby, E. A. Marsh, H. G. Hallet, Lyman C. Dye, Ambrose Thompson, Capt. Joe Shaw, S. P. Learn, S. N. Jones, D. V. Linderman, Moses Strouse, Carpenter Conklin, N. H. Hyde, Tyler Carmer, O. P. Hyde, Wm. M. Ellis, Doctor Tarbell, J. P. Watson, D. W. Avery, Walter Duryea, Oliver Avery, jr., H. A. Snow, Chas. Francis, Myron F. Thomas, J. P. Smith, Carlos Baldwin, J. D. Benedict, A. M. Francis, Nathan Woodmancy, H. Albright, E. T. Leonard, Joseph L. Bower, Jas. M. Montfort, Joseph Fisher, Eben Lobdell, Jas. Davis, Henry Vansickle, C. Hurlbut, D. C. Chadwick, Abram Tarbell, James Bowker, B. R. Carpenter, Edwin Fish, S. DelCarolls, D. W. Rowley, A. S. Beach, C. H. Marsh, S. G. Wilmot, J. W. Fisher, Norton Browkaw, Edgar Powers, Lemi Howe, Newton Baldwin, Amos Avery, Elisha Field, Dana Rhodes, M. D. Lobdell, W. W. Hare, W. H. Burnham, N. Underwood, E. M. Allen, A. D. Schenck, Chas. Bartlett, E. Wyckoff, Wm. M. Jackson, John A. Thomas, S. W. Southworth, Henry Allen, R. C. Hall, F. J. Beardsley, Geo. F. Patterson, D. E. Allen, J. H. Rhodes, L. A. Barber, Harrison Webster, W. M. Monroe and N. R. Streeter, the last named having been made Master Mason, February 26, 1870. These 107 additions cover a period of ten years. Of that number 41 enlisted in the army and served their country faithfully during the dark days of 61-65. Of the first 75 members on the roster, but 21 are living the others having been summoned into the presence of the Grand Master above. Of the present members living, Capt. G. D. Crittenden enjoys the distinction of being the first one to have his name appear on the roster of the lodge, while E. A. Marsh has the distinction of having the longest continuous membership. There have been 207 initiations into the mysteries of Masonry since the organization of the lodge. Eleven since the beginning of this year. The following brethren have been elected in the order named and served as W. M. of the lodge: Dexter Allen, Norman Gibbs, S. C. Reynolds, D. H. Marsh, D. V. Linderman, S. P. Learn, D. V. Linderman, Dana Rhodes, Amos Avery, Elisha Field, D. V. Linderman, Dana Rhodes, B. R. Carpenter, M. L. Jones, Amos Avery, M. L. Jones, V. B. Coggsall, M. L. Jones, Dana Rhodes, Elisha Field, V. B. Coggsall, Dana Rhodes, V. B. Coggsall, M. L. Jones. Its present officers are: M. L. Jones, W. M.; W. D. Baldwin, S. W.; F. A. Begent, J. W.; H. A. Brooks, Treasurer; E. Field, Secretary; W. B. Gale, S. D.; A. W. Wood, J. D.; H. B. Curtice, S. M. C.; Frank Stoddard, J. M. C.; W. O. Lay, Tyler. Its present membership is 71. The regular communications are the first and third Friday evenings in each month. All Masons in good and regular standing are cordially welcomed.

The Groton Bridge & Mfg. Co., the largest manufacturing interest in Groton was established in 1847, and the works have been in continuous operation since that date. The establishment has grown from a single blacksmith shop and a few frame buildings used for the construction of machinery and general repair work to a complete plant embracing scores of buildings fitted with new and approved special machinery and with an annual capacity of 10,000 tons of finished bridge material per year in addition to a heavy output of machinery.

The Company has well established Branch Offices in New York City, Fitchburg, Mass., Nashville Tenn., Fort Worth Texas, Charles Town, W. Va., Owosso, Mich., and San Francisco, Cal., from which Offices contracts are taken and mailed to the works for execution. In this way contracts have been filled for Cuba and the Hawaiian Islands.

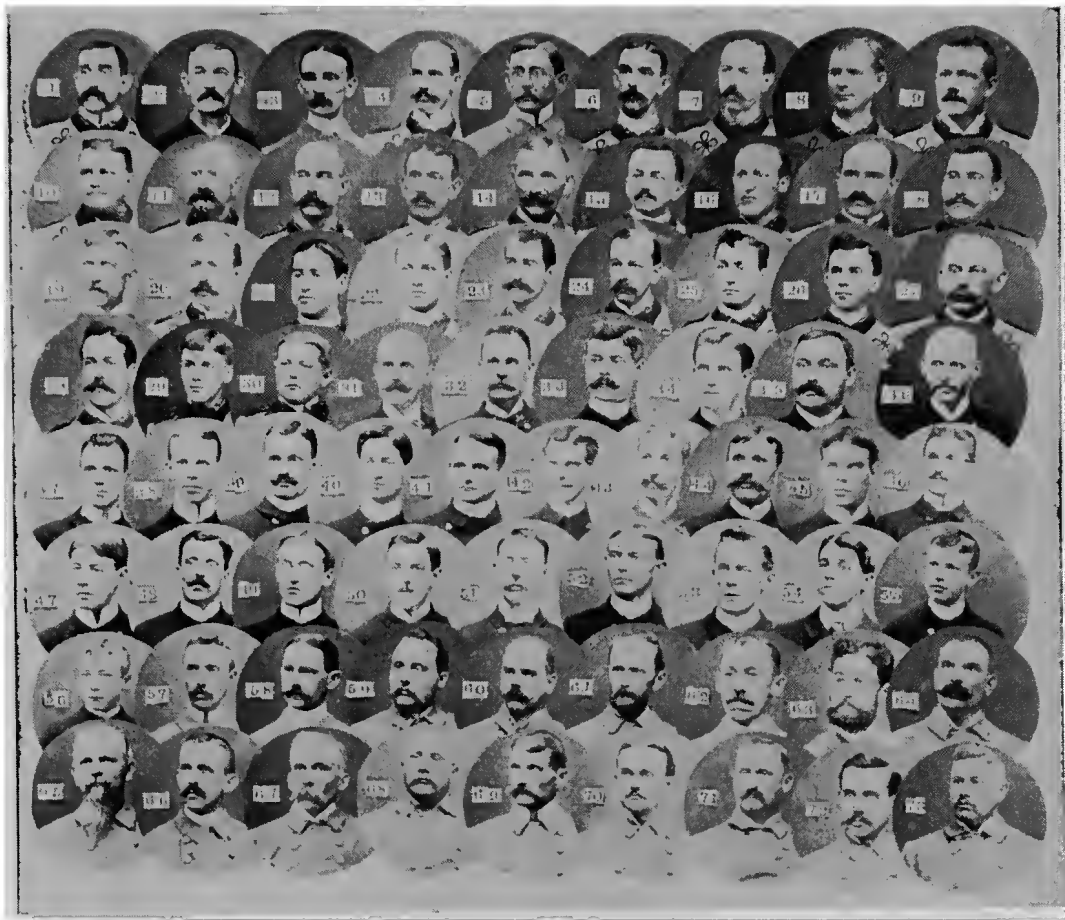
The firm builds both railway and highway bridges of all description and furnishes and erects structural work and ornamental castings for buildings, factories, etc.

The output of Traction Engines and Grain Separators has steadily increased during recent few years. During the past season appreciating the necessity of good roads the Company has established a special department looking toward the furnishing of machinery for this class of work. Rock Crushers, road rollers, steel sluice pipes, drag scrapers from this branch are always in great demand.

The Officers of the Company are at present, Frank Conger, President; C. W. Conger, Vice-President; B. R. Williams, Secretary; C. Fitch Cox, Treasurer; E. A. Landon, Engineer and H. G. Dimon, Consulting Engineer.



WORKS OF THE GROTON BRIDGE AND MANUFACTURING CO.



Photos by Cooper.

**THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

[Key to the Firemen.]

- 1. CHIEF ENGINEER—Wm. Kimball.
- 2. 1ST ASSISTANT ENGINEER—George Mathers.
- 3. 2ND ASSISTANT ENGINEER—E. E. Barney.
- 4. SECRETARY—Peter McGrail.
- 5. TREASURER—E. A. Landon.

**PIONEER HOSE COMPANY, NO. 1.**

- 6. FOREMAN—E. N. Woodard.
- 7. 1ST ASSISTANT FOREMAN—Fred Corning.
- 8. 2ND ASSISTANT FOREMAN—M. Harrington.
- 9. SECRETARY—N. G. Wilcox.
- 10. TREASURER—N. A. Collings.
- 11. PRESIDENT—A. B. Hopkins.

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| * Peter McGrail     | 20. W. Marrow       |
| 12. James McGrail   | 21. Vernon Houser   |
| * W. Kimball        | 22. M. Givens       |
| 13. Fred Hopkins    | 23. L. Towner       |
| 14. C. W. Hall      | 24. Wm. Wells       |
| 15. W. B. Gale      | 25. Allie Hatch     |
| 16. E. F. Lefler    | 26. James McDermott |
| 17. W. Graveley     | 27. J. W. Jones     |
| 18. Michael Hammill | 28. Will Houser     |
| 19. Samuel Pennoyer | 29. C. Kimball      |
|                     | 30. Merl Nye.       |

**C. W. CONGER HOSE CO., NO. 2.**

- 31. FOREMAN—Benn Conger.
- 32. 1ST ASSISTANT FOREMAN—James Mathers.
- 33. 2ND ASSISTANT FOREMAN—John Karlan.

- 34. SECRETARY—M. C. Swartwout.
- 35. TREASURER—Chas. Hammill.
- 36. Jay Conger
- 37. Alonzo Sears
- \* Geo. Mathers
- 38. Geo. Judson
- 39. Wm. Huckvale
- 40. Perry Kelsey
- 41. Albert Hall
- 42. Oscar Hicks
- 43. Egbert Towner
- 44. E. Shaw
- 45. Fred Wood
- 46. Harry Sandwick
- 47. Harry Hurlbut
- 48. Ralph Davis
- 49. Sherman Beach
- 50. E. Collins
- 51. John Gifford
- 52. Earl Moe
- 53. O. McElheny
- 54. Chas. LaMonte
- 55. Lawrence Conger
- 56. Walter Hibbard

**CITIZEN HOOK & LADDER CO., NO. 3.**

- 57. FOREMAN—C. L. Conger.
- 58. 1ST ASSISTANT FOREMAN—J. B. Losey.
- \* 2ND ASSISTANT FOREMAN—E. A. Landon.
- 59. SECRETARY—C. H. Thompson.
- 60. TREASURER—E. R. Haydn.
- 61. E. Field
- 62. F. C. Atwood
- 63. C. O. Rhodes
- 64. G. M. Stoddard
- 65. Chas. Griffin
- 66. H. G. Dimon
- 67. D. L. Bradley
- 68. E. S. Burtenshaw
- 69. J. S. Hazen
- \*\* C. A. Darling
- 70. D. Y. Dimon
- \* E. E. Barney
- \*\* H. B. Townsend
- 71. J. G. Beach
- 72. C. A. Newton
- 73. C. A. Harris

\* Numbered among the officers. \*\* Not among the portraits.

**The Crandall Machine Co.**—The accompanying illustration shows the plant and product of The Crandall Typewriter Company, one of our leading industries. This Company was organized in 1881 and previous to its removal from Syracuse to Groton in 1887, had manufactured several thousand machines and placed them upon the American market. With its advent here, dawned an era of unprecedented prosperity for Groton. Its plant has run continuously since 1887 and its product is favorably known both at home and abroad. The Crandall Typewriter is the best type-sleeve machine upon the market. Its leading features are: Interchangeable type; permanent alignment;

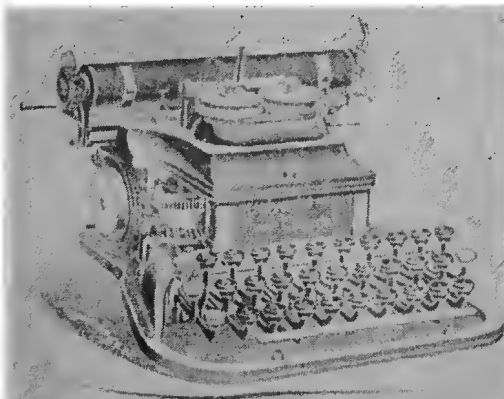


Photo by Cooper.

THE CRANDALL TYPEWRITER MANUFACTORY.

writing always in sight; and simplicity of construction and operation. In foreign countries the "Interchangeable Type" is greatly appreciated, as different languages may be written on the same machine by simply changing the type-sleeve. The typewriter is a technical product necessitating the employment of skilled labor in all departments, and The Crandall Company, possessing as it does a modern factory complete in every detail for the economical development of fine mechanical products, has reached a high degree of proficiency in the art of typewriter construction. In addition to their wide experience as typewriter manufacturers (The Crandall Typewriter Company having built the three styles of writing machines now upon the market), this Company take contracts on special tool and product con-

struction and are especially fitted to give every satisfaction along this line.

**The "Thimble Club"** was organized January 18, 1897, at the home of Mrs. Eugene Andrews. The following were present at the first meeting: Mrs. E. R. Andrews, Mrs. M. D. Goodyear, Mrs. W. Gobel, Mrs. Bion Whitman, Mrs. Lavern Buck, Mrs. J. B. Losey, Mrs. F. J. Tanner, Mrs. E. E. Dye, Mrs. N. A. Collings, Mrs. F. A. Townley, Mrs. Fred Mosher, Mrs. Auturo Rodriguez, Mrs. B. Conger, Mrs. W. Williams, Mrs. E. E. Barney, Mrs. Frank Conger, Mrs. H. G. Dimon, Mrs. Jay Conger, Mrs. C. O. Rhodes, Mrs. Frank Atwood. Mrs. Rodriguez was elected president for one year. It was not thought necessary to have any other officers as it was to be simply a social society where we could exchange ideas in fancy work. Our meetings are held every Wednesday afternoon with the different members, the one entertaining serving light refreshments during the afternoon. Once a month we hold an evening meeting, inviting the gentlemen of the club and others. The evening is pleasantly spent with games, music and refreshments. At our first annual meeting, which was held with Mrs. Whitman, January 20, 1898, Mrs. Goodyear was elected president for the following

year. We were given a very great surprise in the way of invitations from the "gentlemen of the Thimble Club" to attend a "masquerade ball" to be given by them on our first anniversary. It was, to say the least, a decided success. Two of our members have moved from town and three have found it necessary to resign. Those who have been voted in are: Mrs. W. M. Marsh, Mrs. W. Avery, Mrs. Clara Cox, Mrs. Verge Lowe, Mrs. Henry Hamilton. Our second annual meeting was held with Mrs. Tanner, January 28, 1899. Mrs. Andrews was made president for the following year. It was found necessary that we have a vice-president. Mrs. Frank Conger was elected to that office. Our Club is now in its third year and we all say "Long live the Thimble Club of Groton." —[MRS. F. J. TOWNLEY.

**Jay G. Beach**, the proprietor of the Groton Roller Mills, became a partner in the business with Frederick A. Sherman in 1878, and bought his interest three years later, since which time Mr. Beach has made many improvements, putting in all of the latest and most improved machinery, including a 25-horse power engine and a 35-horse power boiler. The building has been raised in height ten feet from cornice to cornice and eight feet across the ridge of the roof. It is equipped with the plan sifter bolting system put in four years ago and has a capacity of fifty barrels of flour every twenty-four hours. Mr. Beach was born in Dryden, June 10, 1852, and at 17 years entered the insurance office of Beach & Marsh in Groton, five years later forming the co-partnership with Mr. Sherman, whose daughter, Persis P., he married June 3, 1875. There are four children, Arad Sherman, Daisy S., Lillie P. and Mary L. Beach. He is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias and is a member of other fraternal organizations. Not being a practical miller and having been tied down to the business some years Mr. Beach is thinking of retiring, if he hears of an opportunity to dispose of the business to a first class practical miller. Five grades of flour are ground and the appliances for feed grinding are equal to the largest milling enterprises.

#### Early Business Houses.

**H. Winslow Buck** writes to the Souvenir that the first hotel he can remember, and he has lived in Groton Village 59 years, was at the corner of Main and South streets, now the residence of Elisha Fields. The old barn of G. Tyler's, at South and Main streets, was the first store. John Winslow once ran a pottery and brick yard on South street. The earliest business men he recollects were Franklin Willoughby, a builder, Zimmery Marsh and Orrin Clark, who conducted a store at Main and Cortland streets, Sylvanus DeLano, a grocer at Cortland and Cayuga streets, Leir Finney, a tanner, Benjamin Dexter, who ran a "clothing mill," and Benjamin Ellis, who conducted a flouring mill.

**First Baptist Church** of Groton, by action of a council, was organized August 27, 1806. The first trustees were chosen February 10, 1818, viz: Eliphalet Clark, Alanson Thomas, Chester Chapin, Josiah Walker, Robert Morton and Ebenezer Williams; Levi Call and Benjamin Bosworth were appointed returning officers. Early founders of the church and society who were prominent were the Williams's, Mortons, Thomas's, Atwoods, Clarks,

Gales, Andrews's, Pierces, Armstrongs, Jones's, Carpenters, and others worthy of mention. The first church edifice was built in 1819 on the lot donated and given by Luther Trumble, Jr., in the south part of the village. An addition of a porch and a steeple was made in 1834. This edifice was sold in 1843 and a new one, 45x60, erected on the present church lot, which was destroyed by fire in 1870, when promptitude and marked unanimity by the church and society erected the present edifice at a cost of about \$20,000. The church appointments, with the parsonage, are modern and inviting. The baptistry is supplied with city water and electric lightings are abundant, all being well cared for by the efficient board of trustees, viz: H. G. Moe, president; Walter P. Gale, secretary; D. Brunsmade, treasurer; Dana Rhodes, F. C. Atwood, Charles Bowman, John Betts, Wm. Williams and N. Trumble, the latter having been a



Photos by Cooper  
OLD MILL, 1878.

J. G. BEACH'S ROLLER FLOUR MILL.

JAY G. BEACH, Prop.

member of the board over half a century, and church clerk 34 years, as the presentation of a nice bible by the church attests. Its first Sunday school in town was superintended by Chauncey Trumble and Benjamin B. Dexter, as now by Wm. Williams and H. G. Moe. Bequests have been made to the church by Mrs. Sarma Perrigo, Amanda Metzgar, Deacon W. W. White, Mrs. Martha White, and Mrs. Ellen Peck. The church is well officered with Rev. C. E. Burr, pastor. Deacons: E. J. Watrous, Lyman Metzgar, H. G. Moe, John Betts, and Charles O. Rhodes, church clerk. Dissensions in the church have been happily avoided under the faithful supervisions of twenty-five pastors, among whom may be named: Rev. Benjamin Andrews, Dr. J. S. Backus, D. B. Purinton, Dr. A. P. Mason, Lewis Rausted, George H. Brigham, L. W. Olney, Thomas Allen, S. F. Mathews, D. R. Watson, D.



Photo by Cooper. DANA RHODES.

E. Croft; all beloved as spiritual advisors and held in memory by a cabinet photo of each nicely framed which graces the church parlors. The well conducted Sunday school, Y. P. S. of C. E. and Baraca class are efficient adjuncts to the church. Praise for faithful services in the choir, is due to Dana Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Moe, C. O. Rhodes and others more recently co-operating.—[NELSON TRUMBLE.

**Rev. Charles E. Burr**, pastor of the First Baptist church, came to Groton in December, 1898. He was born at Brookfield, N. Y., in October, 1860. Soon thereafter his parents moved to the town of Burlington, Otsego county, and later into Chenango county. Mr. Burr graduated from the Norwich High school in 1884. The following year he took some further studies at Cook Academy and entered the University of Rochester the fall of '85, graduating in 1890, having been out a year on account of sickness. The next fall he entered the Theological Seminary at Rochester. While there he became pastor of the Baptist church at Livonia Station, thirty miles south of Rochester, where he labored for more than seven years, always receiving increasing inducements to remain.

**Dana Rhodes**, one of the widest known Republican workers in the county and for several years active in town and county political affairs, has been identified with the business interests of Groton since 1869, when he came here from the Rhodes homestead and entered the drug business, which he bought of Mr. Allen and which was then located in a building standing on the site of the pres-

ent Atwood block. This was in March. During the following summer he constructed the building now occupied by his son, C. O. Rhodes, druggist, and in which the father continued the business from May 1, 1870, until his retirement to practice law in 1886. In 1870 he was elected magistrate in which position he served continuously for twelve years. Upon his retirement from that office in 1882, he was admitted to the bar at Ithaca and has since acted as attorney for the Groton Carriage works, also doing considerable law business for the First National Bank. He was one of the original incorporators and the director of the Groton Carriage Company. Two years later he was elected secretary of the company and afterwards succeeded Deacon White as Vice-President, an office which he still occupies. He has represented the town of Groton in the Board of Supervisors two years and has been on the Board of Education ten years. He is now a member of the Water Board. For thirty-three years he has been an active member of the Masonic lodge of Groton and is one of the charter members of the K. of P., having served as the first chancellor commander of the Groton lodge. Mr. Rhodes is at present one of three appraisers appointed by the Board of Supervisors' committee to determine valuations of real estate in the town of Groton, relative to the appeal of the town of Lansing from the action of the equalization board of the county; and is also an appraiser of values in the town of Lansing. He was born in the town of Lansing, January 18, 1839, on the farm where his father, Henry Rhodes, was born, which was purchased by his grandfather, George Rhodes, in 1797 and cleared up. The old farm is still in the family, being owned by Dana Rhodes's sisters, Mrs. John H. Conklin, who occupies it, and Mrs. Ellen Gibson of Wilkesbarre. Mr. Rhodes was one of twelve children: George A. Rhodes, (deceased), Stephen O. Rhodes of Reading, Pa., Mary C. Lobdell of Dryden, John Rhodes, (deceased), Jacob F. Rhodes, Dana Rhodes, Mrs. Gibson, Marietta, (deceased), Mrs. Frank R. Bowker of Flushing, L. I., J. Henry Rhodes of Little Falls, Minn., Mrs. Conklin, Alice (deceased). Mr. Dana Rhodes and Miss Sarah Jacobs of Lansing, were married May 30, 1858. They have three children, Charles O. Rhodes of Groton, Mrs. F. A. Mangang of Ithaca and W. G. Rhodes of Saginaw, Mich.



Photo by Cooper.

DANA RHODES' RESIDENCE





Photos by Cooper. ETHEL BALDWIN, Telephone Operator.  
A. J. BALDWIN. MRS. A. J. BALDWIN.

**A. J. Baldwin**, who conducts the large double stores on Cortland street at the head of Main street, has been in business in Groton for eight years. He started here in the building now occupied overhead by Cooper's photograph gallery and two years later he purchased the large three story and basement building, now known as the Baldwin building, which he now occupies and in which he put a large stock of goods, such as are usually carried in a general store. The last store, which is 24x60 feet, comprises a stock of groceries, including staple and fancy goods, teas, coffees, spices, sugars, wall paper, dry goods, lamps, etc., in fact a very large and well assorted stock. The adjoining store, the two opening together so as to form a double store, is 26x40 feet. This comprises ladies' goods and novelties, silks and satins, brilliantines, organdies, muslins, henriettas and in fact the several lines of dress goods from which to make a varied assortment. This is one of the largest stores in town. There is also included gentlemen's wearing apparel, of which an extensive line is carried in stock. Mr. Albert J. Baldwin was born in Bridgewater, Pa., Nov. 6, 1843, and educated in the public schools. Employed on his father's farm until 19 years of age, he then enlisted in the 141st Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company F., which command was mustered into service at Harrisburg, Pa., August 25, 1862, and served with great distinction through the stirring campaigns and at the final scene of the war drama, the surrender of Lee at Appomattox Court House, after which it was mustered out at Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Baldwin continued through all of the campaigns with his regiment, except during a very brief period when he was disabled by a wound received at Chancellorville, May 3, 1863. The wound was slight, however, and as soon as he could get back to the front, Mr. Baldwin rejoined the regiment, losing only a couple of days. The engagements in which he served form an interesting and unusual record, so much so that they are worthy of mention. viz: Fredericksburg, December 13, '63; Chancellorville, May 3, '63; Gettysburg, July 2, '63; Auburn Run, October 13, '63; Kelly's Ford, November 7, '63; Locust Grove, November 27, '63; Mine Run, November 28, '63; Wilderness, May 5 and 6, '64; Laurel Hill,

May 10, '64; Spottsylvania, May 12, '64; North Anna, May 26, '64; Tolopotomy Creek, May 31, '64; Cold Harbor, June 3, '64; Front of Petersburg, June 16, 18 and 22, '64; Strawberry Plains, July 28, '64; Deep Bottom, August 15 and 16, '64; Poplar Grove Spring, October 2, '64; Boydton Plank Road, October 27, '64; Hatchers' Run, February 5, '65; Capture of Petersburg, April 2, '65; Capture of Lee's army at Appomattox Court House, April 9, '65. The return home was via Richmond, Washington and Harrisburg, reaching New Milford June 5, 1865, where he remained three years, during which time, March, 1867, he married Ellen Tuttle, who died twenty years later and was buried in Bridgewater, Pa. There are two children by that marriage, Eugene and Ethel, both of whom are living in Groton. In 1868 he went to Scranton where he worked at the carpenter's trade for two years, thence returning to New Milford and living there two years. After a further residence in Bridgewater and New Milford until 1890, he came to Cortland. On January 1, 1891, he came to Groton and went into business. In 1889 he married Emma Ashton in Groton. Mr. Baldwin is a member of the L. Dwight Allen Post, G. A. R., No. 260, the Independent Order of Good Templars and the Groton Grange. He is also an active member of the M. E. church, having acted as superintendent of the Sunday school four years. He is quarter-master of the Grand Army Post.

**Groton Tent**, No. 296, Knights of the Macca-bees of the World, was organized April 20, 1894, by Deputy Great Commander, Sir Knight Harry Mountain of Jamestown, New York. The tent was organized with sixteen charter members. The first officers elected: P. C., A. M. Baldwin; C., J. Avery Spaulding; L. C., Floren B. Phinney; R. K., E. S. Burtenshaw; F. K., W. S. Korts; Sergeant, John Weiler; M. A., W. D. Chase; Physician, A. M. Baldwin; Chaplain, James E. Richford; Sentinel, S. M. Lockward; Picket, Louie Maxon; 1st M. of G., William Kent; 2nd M. of G., F. Frank Snyder. The tent has had a slow

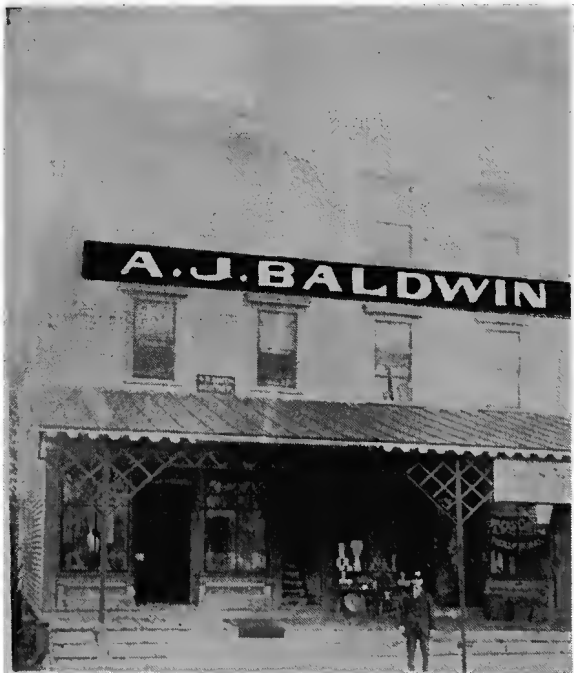


Photo by Cooper. A. J. BALDWIN'S STORE.

growth in Groton, only reaching thirty-one members. There has been more than two hundred dollars paid out to the members from the sick and accident fund. Payments of claims have been met promptly to the satisfaction of all claimants. There has been no death of the members of this tent since its organization. This order was founded in 1881 by Major N. S. Baynton in the city of Port Huron, Michigan. Articles of incorporation of the Great Camp were filed by Major N. S. Baynton at Lansing, Michigan, June 11, 1881, which date has been ever since observed as the anniversary day of the order's practical

ative people in the country. Its rank and file are made up of the best blood and sinew of the nation. It teaches fraternity, the love of God, of home, of country and mankind. It exemplifies the lessons of friendship, of charity and of loyalty in all the relations of life. It has arisen like a mighty monument to point the way to better living, purer life, broader brotherhood and more perfect friendship. It is one of the great armies in the nation's advancing factors of co-operation. It finds friends among the great middle classes that are looking for more social and fraternal bonds and who desire to protect the orphan and provide



Photo by Cooper.  
DRY GOODS DEPARTMENT.

D. M. ATWOOD & CO'S STORE.  
DISPLAY WINDOWS.

GROCERY AND NOTION DEPARTMENT.

existence. Major Baynton became Great Record Keeper. He started with a list of seven hundred members. His business took him all over Michigan and he talked and wrote Maccabeeism. He advanced money and received no salary. The seeds were sown and every one now knows what have been the results. The success of the Great Camps was followed in 1882 by the organization of the Supreme Tent which now numbers 175,000. There are over 100,000 ladies of the Maccabees and the statistics of the order show a total membership of 375,000. It includes in its ranks some of the most progressive, intelligent and represent-

for the widow.—[E. S. BURTENSHAW, R. K.

**Pickens & Bower** conduct a general grocery and harness store on Main street, opposite the Atwood hotel. The firm was organized January 1, 1896, and consists of George Pickens and A. J. Bower. Mr. Pickens came to Groton when 19 years of age. He was born in Scipio, Cayuga county, June 9, 1827, and upon coming to Groton worked for Frank Pratt, upstairs in the old building next to the Gro on house. Just before the railroad was built he went to Moravia, travelling by stage. Upon returning here he went into the har-



Photos by Cooper.  
MRS. D. M. ATWOOD.

MILo ATWOOD.

ness business and ten years later formed a co-partnership with Mr. Griffin, adding the grocery to the harness business. One year after, Verge Lowe became his partner and the firm continued four years. In 1872 he married Alvira Jones and in 1880, sometime after her death, he married her sister, Polly Jones. Mr. A. J. Bowers is quite active in the public affairs of the village. Last spring (1899) he was elected a member of the Board of Trustees. For fourteen years he was engaged in the occupation of a carriage trimmer, coming to Groton in 1876 to take a position in the carriage works; later, for about two years, he followed the trade in Cortland. During 1890-5 he engaged in farming. Mr. Bowers was born in the town of Lansing, February 5, 1858. In 1878 he married Florence Underwood. He is the president of the Mechanics Indemnity Association.

**D. M. Atwood & Co.**, a firm which was established in 1895, has demonstrated that a bargain store is a popular institution in Groton. The success Mr. and Mrs. Milo Atwood, the two members of the firm have achieved during the four years they have conducted the business attests the popularity of their business methods as well as the substantial business qualifications which they possess. The store was opened in 1894 by G. D. Barber and Milo Atwood. The following year Mr. Barber decided to remove to the west and he is now located in California where he is doing well. About a year after his withdrawal from the business Mrs. Dora M. Atwood became her husband's business partner, and although she had for some time engaged in the dress making business, and still continues it, she became at once a most active and valuable partner in her new field of usefulness. She has charge of the accounts and does all the buying. In justice to herself it is fair to conclude that there is no better judge of what the women want at a bargain store than a clear headed woman possessing a natural tact for engaging in trade. When she entered the firm the business was conducted in a single store 20 x 60, but very soon after an adjoining store was secured and the two were opened together making as large a place of business as is customarily occupied by the so

called bargain stores. An addition to the store was also constructed 40 x 60 feet. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have reason to congratulate themselves on the fact that they have shown how to cater to the public want which is proven by the further fact that they have regularly turned the stock four times a year. It comprises all kinds of wares commonly sold for domestic purposes. Mr. Atwood was born in Locke where he always lived until seven years ago when he and Miss Dora M. Close of Locke were married, and soon after came to Groton. Mrs. Atwood took a course of instruction in dressmaking in Moravia nine years ago and she pursued that business in Kings Ferry until her marriage with Mr. Atwood.

**St. Anthony's Parish**—The parish known as St. Anthony's of Groton, N. Y., was formerly attended by priests who came from Ithaca to say Mass and administer the sacraments. Rev. James Toohey celebrated the first Mass in the house of John Carey. Thus he continued and cared for the spiritual wants of these people through the sixties, till 1870 when Rev. Father Gilbert succeeded in this good work. Finally, about the year 1872, he purchased for \$400 an acre of land on South Main-st. in the village of Groton, which is the site of the present St. Anthony's church and parsonage. The building of the church was begun in 1873 and was finished in 1874, Rev. P. F. Lynch of Ithaca being then the attending priest. Rev. C. H. Horan was the first resident pastor to St. Anthony's church coming here Aug. 1, 1875, by the appointment of Bishop McQuaid of Rochester. Rev. C. H. Horan was succeeded by Rev. John Kenney, Nov. 1 of the same year, and Father Kenney was succeeded by Rev. Frederick Rauber, Jan. 1, 1876. Father Rauber continued in charge of the Mission until July 16, of the same year when he was succeeded by Rev. P. M. McManus, who occupied the position as pastor of the combined missions of Groton and McLean until the time of his death which occurred Jan. 13, 1891, a space of about 14 years. During his pastorate a parsonage and barn were built and a cemetery for the Groton parish was purchased,



Photo by Cooper. PICKENS & BOWERS, STORE.



Photo by Cooper. B. R. WILLIAMS.

four and three-fourths acres, at an expense of \$562. In addition to these improvements, much of the church debt was paid, although as at present, he did not receive his full salary from both missions. After the death of Father McManus the missions of Groton and McLean were temporarily attached to Moravia Mission and attended by Rev. T. F. Hickey until March 31, '95. At this time he was succeeded by Rev. J. J. McGrath who had charge of these missions with the Moravia Mission until June 20, of the same year, 1895, when the present pastor, Rev. John McMahon, was appointed to the missions of Groton and McLean by Rt. Rev. B. T. McQuaid, Bishop of Rochester, and continues the charge of these Missions at the present. He was born in the town of Marathon, Cortland Co., 40 years ago. His early life was spent upon his father's farm near the town of Homer.

His education was received one year in Cortland Normal school and nearly two years in Cincinnati High school, in 1880 and 1881, finishing in '82 in Homer academy. He entered the college of St. Bonaventures, Allegheny, in Sept. 1883, studied classics, navigation and surveying during two and one-half years. Then changed to St. Andrews' seminary, Rochester, for one and one-half years, graduating from there in June, 1886. Entered St. Joseph's Theological seminary Sept. of the same year, continued there until Dec. 17, 1892, on which day he was ordained to the holy priesthood by Rt. Rev. Bishop McNearney, late of Albany. After ordination he remained at the Cathedral until March 7, '93,

when he was sent to Auburn as assistant at the Holy Family church, also clerk of St. Joseph's cemetery and tending the Catholics of the Auburn State prison until June 20, 1895, at which time he was assigned to the present mission of Groton and McLean.

**B. R. Williams**, secretary for the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Company, has for many years been identified with the Ithaca and Groton fire departments and is well known among the volunteer firemen throughout the state. In 1876 and '77 he was the president of the New York State Volunteer Firemen's Association and during his term presided at the convention at Lockport. His personal attendance at these several conventions, which continued down to 1887, the year one was held in Cortland, distinguished him among the many members of that association, especially because of his activity in the proceedings and incidentally because of his large stature. In the latter respect he found his match in Chief Winne of Fort Plain. Prof. S. G. Williams of Ithaca, who at the age of seventy years retired from a professorship in Cornell because he believed he had been in the harness long enough, is a brother of B. R. Williams, and was the principal of the Groton Academy when the latter came here from Plainfield, N. Y.,—his birth place—in his eighteenth year to take a course in the academy. He was born March 14, 1836. He attended and taught school until 1856, when he entered the machine shop of the Groton Separator Company, then conducted by Spencer & Perrigo, where he remained until he went to Ithaca in 1862. Purchasing an interest in the Tompkins County Democrat he followed the profession of editor for twelve years. As a practical book-keeper he is not surpassed and he obtained his education by pursuing his own methods of learning. For two years he was book-keeper for the Reynolds & Lang Iron works and in 1882 became deputy county clerk, holding that position until he resigned in order to remove to Groton and enter the position of book-keeper in the bridge works. In 1875, '6 and '7 he was chief of police at Ithaca, during which time nothing of importance happened, and in 1868 and '9 and '71 and '2 he was chief of the fire department of that city; he also served one term as United States loan commissioner. In 1864 he enlisted for service in defence



Photo by Cooper.

B. R. WILLIAMS' RESIDENCE.

of the union—he was a war democrat—in the old fiftieth regiment raised in Tompkins county and was a member of the companies which were merged with the 58th of Livingston county and which saw service only on guard duty at the prison at Elmira. Mr. Williams is still greatly interested in the volunteer firemen, being a member of the local department of which he was chief one year. He was a member of the Groton school board for three years, a charter member of the Owasco Valley Club of which he is the secretary and for six years a trustee of the Congregational church, still occupying that position. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and has been since its organization in 1878. On December 27, 1859, he married Rosa K. Noble and they have no children except two adopted daughters, the Misses Susie and Anna. Speaking of politics, Mr. Williams was a democrat up to the time of the McKinley campaign when he took a square position on the sound money platform and supported the republican ticket.

**Woodbury Post, G. A. R.,** the first G. A. R. Post of Groton was organized in May 1869, and B. R. Carpenter elected as its first commander. He was followed by Amos Avery, D. O. Clough and C. H. Spaulding under whose administration the Post expired. It was named Woodbury Post and stood in the numerical order of the Department posts of the State as No. 41.

**L. Dwight Allen, Post, No. 260, G. A. R.,** was organized at Groton Hotel, March 29, 1882. George C. Stoyal Post, No. 155, G. A. R., of Moravia met in special encampment for the purpose of mustering recruits to form the nucleus of a new Post. Those presenting themselves on this occasion for muster were: W. E. Mount, D. Bowman, D. O. Clough, Carlos Baldwin, N. B. Stevens, Geo. Hamilton, Amos Avery, C. E. Dewey, M. McElhenny, C. H. Tarbell, W. O. Tiffeny, C. Z. Griffin, Benjamin Teator, B. F. Hatch, L. Stoddard, N. G. Tracey, W. J. Hicks, A. S. Tanner, J. B. Lucas and Newton Baldwin. But five of these are at present members of this Post. Some have removed, but far the greater number have died. After formal muster the following officers were chosen: Com., Amos Avery; S. V. C., Carlos Baldwin; I. V. C., N. B. Stevens; Adjt., C. E. Dewey; 2d M., C. Z. Griffin; Chaplain, A. S. Tanner; O. D., D. O. Clough; O. G., M. McElhenny; Q. M. Sergt., W. O. Tiffeny; Sergt. Maj., Chas. H. Tarbell. The name for the Post was presented by D. O. Clough seconded by A. S. Tanner and adopted by a unanimous vote. L. DWIGHT ALLEN, after whom the Post was named, was born in Groton in 1848. He enlisted at the age of 15, as private in the 9th N. Y. Heavy Artillery and was mustered into the U. S. service at Elmira, N. Y. Soon after going to the front he was stricken with fever and sent to the hospital at Ft. Henry. There his father visited him with his discharge, and endeavored to persuade him to return home with him. To this he refused to listen. Speedily recovering his health, he joined his regiment and fell at the front of his company, in the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864. His last words were, "Come on boys, we have got them." AMOS AVERY, commanding officer of the Post, in 1882, '83 and '85, was born in Groton, August 18, 1834. On September 16, 1861, he enlisted in Co. C. 79th N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. G. D. Crittenden. Early in the winter of '61 he had typhoid pneumonia and April 12, of '62 was discharged. Recovering his health in the summer of '62 he enlisted again as private in Co. F. 109, Regt. N. Y. Volunteers under Capt. W. E. Mount, the regiment being commanded by Col. B. F. Tracey, afterwards Secretary of the Navy, and was mustered into U. S. service at Binghamton,

N. Y., August 27, 1862. He was in the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor and the numerous ones around Petersburg in one of which he lost a finger June 17, 1864. He was honorably discharged as a sergeant at the close of the war, May 18, 1865. His promotion occurred November 27, 1863. D. O. CLOUGH, commander in 1884 and 1887, was born at Fabius, Onondago Co., N. Y., September 2, 1828. He enlisted as first volunteer from Groton, at Cortland, Cortland Co., N. Y., as a private, in April 1861 in a company being raised by Martin C. Clark. When the company was organized he was elected as one of the corporals. The company joined the 23d Regt. N. Y. volunteers, as Co. H. and was mustered into U. S. service, May 16, 1861, for two years, at Elmira, N. Y., H. C. Hoffman, Colonel commanding. With the army of the Potomac he and his regiment were in the battles of Rappahannock, Sulphur Springs, Mine Run, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain and Gainesville. The regiment also was in the battles of Antietam and Fredricksburg, but Clough was in the hospital at the time. He was promoted to Sergeant January 1, 1862, and discharged by reason of expiration of term of service, at Elmira, May 16, 1863. W. E. MOUNT commander in 1886, was born September 15, 1834, in the town of Dryden, Tompkins Co., N. Y. He volunteered in August '62, was active in raising a company and was mustered in as Capt. of Co. F., 109 N. Y. Volunteers, commanded by Col. B. F. Tracey, August 27, 1862, at Binghamton, N. Y. He served with honor with his regiment in various places in Maryland and Virginia during the years of '62 and '63. During April 1864, the 109th was attached to Hartranft's brigade, Wilcox's division, 9th Army corps. On May 5th, the regiment crossed the Rapidan and reached the wilderness just at night. It was engaged the next day and subsequently at and around Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor and before Petersburg. In September 1864, on account of sickness he was placed on detached duty serving as a member of a general court martial at Rock Island, Ill., until March 1865. He rejoined his regiment in April, and was mustered out with it the following June. GEO. B. CLOSE, commander for 1888, '89 and '92, was born at Covert, Seneca Co., N. Y., September 26, 1844. He was mustered into U. S. service as a private of Co. G., 126, N. Y. Volunteers at Geneva, N. Y., July 21, 1862. His regiment was ordered to Harper's Ferry, Va., in August '62 and under Gen. Miles surrendered to Stonewall Jackson, Sept 13 of that year, being paroled and sent to Camp Douglass, Chicago. When exchanged it was ordered to Caldwell, Va., and joined the Army of the Potomac, June 23, 1863, then on its way to Gettysburg. After participating in this "high water mark" battle of the war, it was ordered in February, 1864, to report to the 2nd Corps, with 600 men and go on detached duty as provost guard, upon which service it remained till the close of the war. It was mustered out at Elmira, N. Y., June 19, 1865. JOHN S. LOVE, commander of the Post in 1890, '96 and '97, was born in Locke, Cayuga Co., N. Y. He enlisted as 1st Sergeant in Co. H. 32d Iowa Volunteer Infantry, August 14, 1862, at Dubuque, Ia. Its first post was at New Madrid, Missouri, then Fort Pillow Tenn., Columbus, Ky., and Island No. 10, doing garrison duty and drilling for the severe service to come. In the winter of '63 and '64, it was ordered into the field, marching with Sherman to Meridian, Miss., and back. In April, '64, it followed the fortunes of Banks on the Red River expedition. Next it is found at Memphis, Tenn. It was in the fight with Forest at Tupelo, Miss., whence it was moved to St Louis to take part in the movement against Price. Then the regiment was with Thomas and in the severe fighting around Nashville, Tenn.,



Photos by Cooper  
MR. AND MRS. J. I. BOOTH.

against stubborn Hood. The next move was to New Orleans and thence to the rear of Mobile, Ala, taking part in the charge and capture of Fort Blakely near Mobile. A period of garrison duty followed at Montgomery in '65 and the return home and muster out August 24, 1865, at Dubuque. W. H. WOOD, Post commander for 1891, was born at Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., January 26, 1843. He enlisted August 20, 1862, at the age of 19 as private in company H., 137 N. Y. Volunteers, under Capt. R. F. Roberts and was mustered into U. S. service September 25, '62 at Binghamton, N. Y. His regiment was ordered to Washington, D. C., September 27, of same year. January '63 Wood was sent to a hospital in Baltimore where he remained six weeks, then rejoined his regiment. On October 28, when at the Wanhatchie Valley fight, he was wounded by a bullet passing through his face, cutting his tongue, which sent him again to hospital for repairs. March 4, 1864, he returned to his Regiment though the wound was unhealed and April 4, of same year was promoted to corporal in recognition of his bravery and grit. Afterward he took part in the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and all the engagements in which it participated until the close of the war, being discharged June 9, 1865. ALBERT S. TANNER, presiding officer of the Post for 1893, was born at Dix, Chemung Co., N. Y., (now Schuyler) December 13, 1839, and enlisted at Elmira, N. Y., March 3, 1862, in Company H. 27th N. Y. Vols., and was forwarded to his regiment in Virginia, April 21, when he was mustered into United States service for two years "unless sooner discharged." He was in the battles of West Point, Mechanicsville, Gains Mills, (in which he was slightly wounded in the leg by a piece of shell), Gouldsboro Farm, Charles City, Cross Roads, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, Crampton Pass, Antietam, Fredericksburg (where he was again wounded in the arm), and Fredericksburg Heights. When the 27th was discharged he came back with it to Elmira. As his two years term had not expired he was transferred to the 121st regiment to serve with it the remainder of his time. With it he was in the battle of Rappahannoc Station and was discharged at Welfords Ford, Va., April 21, 1864.

ASHBEL LANDON, commander for 1894 and 1895, was born in Salisbury, Litchfield county, Conn., Sept. 2, 1827. On August 7, 1861, he enlisted as private in Co. G., 7 Ct. V. for three years. His regiment rendezvoused at New Haven, Ct.; and was ordered to the front Sept. 20, camping on Meridian Hill, whence it was ordered to a camp near Annapolis, Md., preparatory to taking part with the expeditionary corps sent to make a lodgment on the coast of South Carolina. Nineteen days of shipboard life brought it in front of Port Royal entrance fortified on either side by forts commanding the channel. The vessels conveying the transports loaded with troops soon silenced the forts and the regiment with others landed just at dusk on Hilton Head Island Nov. 7, 1861, wading to their necks to reach the beach. Its first night's rest on southern soil was in wet clothes on the damp sand of the evacuated fort amid the debris and shattered dead, the effect of the bombardment. The common duties of garrison life with picket, guard mounting and drill (we were mostly raw to military life) occupied us through the winter. In February '62 Tybee Islands, was occupied and approaches against Fort Pulaski, on an island adjoining Tybee at the mouth of Savannah river, were commenced. The subject of this sketch entered with zest and energy into all the preliminaries of road making, planting batteries and mounting cannon preparatory to bombardment of the fort. When all was ready, details for working the guns were made and assignments designated. He served on most advanced 13-inch mortar battery opposite the fort during the bombardment. Fatigue induced by volunteer service in details, the excitement of his first battle, with the malarial influence of the marshes, all combined took the ambitious soldier into the capitulated fort on a stretcher delirious with fever. A long stay in hospital, both at Pulaski and Beaufort, followed and when the fever was subdued, diarrhoea succeeded and became chronic depriving him of further active duty. The convalescing period was filled by various details as clerk to superintendent of contrabands, teacher and commissary sergeant to issue rations to the contrabands, and lastly, till the end of the term of service, as clerk to commissary of



Photos by Cooper.  
MR. AND MRS. A. BOOTH.



muster in the field. He was mustered out before Petersburg, Va., with his regiment Sept. 12, 1864. THOMAS B. HOPKINS, commander for 1898 and '99, was born in Lapeer, Cortland Co., N. Y., in 1848. Between 16 and 17 years of age he enlisted and was mustered into the U. S. service Sept. 6, 1864, as a private of Company M., 15th N. Y. Vol. engineers. The regiment was ordered from Syracuse where it was mustered to Elmira, thence to Baltimore, Md., then to City Point, Petersburg (arriving in time to see the last of the numerous charges upon that noted stronghold) Burkesville, Roanoke River and back over the same ground

undertakers and licensed embalmers. It is the only house engaged in these lines in the village. The business was established somewhere along in the fifties by Horace Williams. It was conducted on Williams street at the time Mr. J. I. Booth entered into a co-partnership with Mr. Williams. This was in 1865. All manufacturing of this sort was then done entirely by hand. Mr. Williams retired in 1868, being succeeded by Mr. Smith Booth and the firm of Booth Bros. did business under that name until 1880. The following year Mr. Alvin Booth became a partner with his father under the present firm name. Upon Mr. Williams'



Photos by Cooper. J. I. BOOTH & SONS' FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING ROOMS.  
ALVIN BOOTH'S RESIDENCE. J. I. BOOTH'S RESIDENCE.

nearly to Syracuse where it was discharged Jan. 16, 1865.—[ASHBEL LONDON.

**J. I. Booth & Son** conduct one of the oldest established business houses in the village. It is doubtful if there is any man engaged in business in Groton who has been in trade here as long as the senior member of this firm. They have a large furniture and house-fitting manufactory, equipped with modern machinery which is operated by steam power, including saws, planers and wood working machines, and they deal very extensively in furniture of all patterns; also caskets, being

retirement Mr. J. I. Booth built the structure on Main street in which the firm has since done business. It is a three-story building having an area of four floors, including the basement, each with a space of 24x48 feet. Three floors are devoted to the display of wares. In the basement is located considerable of the machinery. There is an annex to the building which has a ware room space equivalent to two floors with a shop for repairing and wood-working. It also includes the casket department. The firm employs all the latest paraphernalia of undertakers, including a handsome hearse



Photo by Cooper. FRANK ATWOOD.

and black team. Mr. J. I. Booth is very active in public affairs and has materially aided in promoting the growth of the village, having built three very pretty residences and a store. He was born in Schuyler county, near Odessa, Nov. 9, 1838, and at sixteen years of age started out to learn the carpenter's trade which he followed in Burdett for three years, coming to Groton in 1860. For five years he had charge of the wood-working department in the Separator works and one year he started out on what was a bit of interesting experience. In company with the late D. H. Marsh he engaged in the manufacture of bricks and now when he recalls that futile attempt at brick making it causes him to smile. Both he and Mr. Marsh served together as trustees of the Congregational church and together they planned many improvements which ended in engineering the erection of a \$14,000 edifice. For twenty-six years he has served as trustee and clerk of that society, taking very much interest in its welfare and ready at all times to put his shoulder to the wheel. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Royal Templars. On October 16, 1860, he married Sarah Hard of Virgil, who has proven a most helpful companion in the journey of life and who supports her husband with loyalty in all his undertakings. Their children are Henrietta (Mrs. D. L. Morey) of Syracuse, Alvin of the firm of Booth & Son, Emmet, who is a partner in the Owego Bridge works, and Bertha Belle, whose husband, G. B. Williams, is the vice-president of the Syracuse Dry Goods Company, formerly D. McCarthy & Company. Alvin Booth, whose personal attention to the

mechanical details of the business warrants first-class work, was born in Groton, March 24, 1863. He was educated in the Groton academy and in September, 1886, married Fanny May, the daughter of Charles Perrigo. Mr. Booth is an inventor and mechanical genius whose originality of conception and skilled hand in fashioning mechanical productions are admitted to be capable of designing and constructing the most difficult problems. His roller paper cutter is a notably clever device which he conceived and manufactured. He is a member of the Congregational church and the Masonic fraternity. Fancy poultry has taken up some of his time and he has met with success in raising White Wyandottes and Houdans.

The Atwoods are a family dating back in Groton to the beginning of the century when Abner Atwood settled down upon a small place in the village (see 'Builders of Groton'). Chapin C. Atwood, his son, now a hale and hearty man in his 81st year, possessing exceptional physical and mental powers for one of his age, is the vice-president of the First National Bank, which position he has held for years and of which institution he was one of the incorporators. So active is he that he gathers the fruit on his place, even climbing into the trees to get it. He was born in Groton, September 7, 1818, and his wife, who is equally possessed of vigor and who has passed her 81st birthday, was born in Freetown, Cortland County, April 26, 1818. They were married in that village Aug. 18, 1842. There were five children born to them, Mary Adelaide, born April 18, 1844, Adelle and Estelle, both born June 10, 1854, and Fred C. and Frank. Adelle died in February, 1856, and Estelle in March of the same year.

Frank Atwood and his brother Fred went into business for themselves about the same time, 1878, the former opening a clothing business in the single store which was then all that there was of what now constitutes three stores in the Atwood block, and the latter going into the clothing business in Cortland in a building standing on the site of the present opera house in that village. In both places the business was conducted by the two brothers for about two years when each assumed sole proprietorship of the business in the respective villages. Mr. Frank Atwood was very much engaged in procuring for the village an electric light plant,



Photo by Cooper.

F. C. ATWOOD'S RESIDENCE.

and being one of the commissioners he spent much of his time in pushing that project. Realizing the extreme need of a first-class hotel in Groton he made several efforts to bring about a deal for transferring the old Groton House to the ownership of parties who would renovate and improve it. Not succeeding in that purpose he decided to construct an hotel, and in 1892 he built 'The Atwood' on property adjoining the store, he and his family vacating the story-and-a-half dwelling which stood on that site and which they had occupied since his marriage. They got out in August and the hotel, being leased five years, was opened in October of that year, very quick work. At the expiration of the lease Mr. Atwood refurnished the hotel with the best and most desirable furnishings, also putting in large and most complete china closets and linen lockers. Indeed, the furnishings of the hotel were considered by many to be extravagant. Certainly they are unusually extensive and fine for an hotel to be conducted in a place smaller

himself. Two years later it was closed to enable Fred to devote all of his time manufacturing shirts which enterprise continued in Cortland about a year, when he returned to Groton and opened a grocery in the store built by his brother adjacent to the latter's clothing store—the same in which the business is still conducted. The two brothers continued their respective businesses entirely independent of each other until illness compelled Fred Atwood to assume control of Frank's business. Since then he has had his hands full in managing the separate interests. He was born in Groton June 29, 1858, and with the exception of the five years he was in Cortland, has made the village of his nativity his home. Considerably interested in matters concerning the advancement and growth of Groton he has endeavored to shape affairs in which he had a hand, always to that end. A member of the hook and ladder company he is a friend of modern methods for protection against fire; he is also a member of the K. of P.

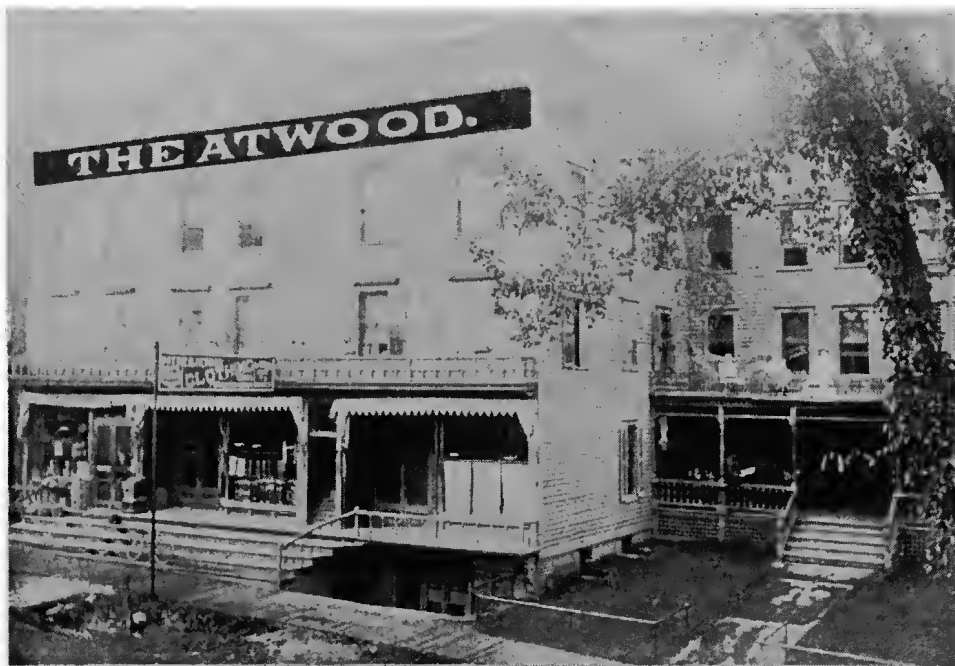


Photo by Cooper.

THE ATWOOD HOTEL AND STORES.

than a good sized city. He entered upon the management of the house in October, 1897, and, by reason of the breaking down of his health so that he was compelled to absolutely retire from business, he gave it up in June 1898. In the meantime he had extended the Atwood block proper by building two additional stores and fitting up the two upper stories into convenient and very pleasant flats. Two of these stores are now occupied for a grocery and clothing trade conducted by Mr. Fred Atwood and the other is attached to the Atwood hotel. Mr. Frank Atwood was born September 18, 1844, and was married to Miss Minnie A. Van Marter at Aurora, N. Y., September 25, 1878. They have two children, Jessie B., born Oct. 26, 1879, and Millard V., born Aug. 6, 1886.

Fred C. Atwood, as in the case of his brother, was educated in Groton. For a time, after leaving school, he was employed as a clerk and also had some experience in the bank. His first business experience for himself was in Cortland, where, as has been stated he assumed personal charge of the clothing business started by his brother and

On September 18, 1883, Fred Atwood and Miss Nellie L. Merrick were married at Blodgett's Mills, N. Y. By that union there are two children, I. Mabel, born September 8, 1884, and Earl M., born September 22, 1886.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first record of any organized fire company for the village of Groton, was in December, 1864, organized by the authority of the Board of Trustees of which Harlow Scofield was clerk, when the following persons were accepted as firemen and installed as Engine Co. No. 1: D. W. Hall, D. H. Marsh, H. K. Clark, A. D. Adams, L. H. Thomas, Albert Morton, Ezra Halsey, Jerome Hathaway, Myron Allen, Orlin Wright, Newel Hatch, H. B. Clark, A. Piersons, Sidney Hopkins, Volney Hopkins, M. A. Avery, Delos Tanner, Norton Brokaw, B. F. Field, G. D. Crittenden, Henry Thomas, D. V. Linderman, H. Scofield, J. Miller, L. McGee, E. Kimball, Allen Hakes, D. L. Grover, W. H. Shaw, Samuel Spencer, James Shaw, C. H. Dutcher, A. H. Conklin, D.



Photos by Cooper.  
L. J. TOWNLEY.

G. M. TOWNLEY.

C. Chadwick, Robert Green, George Allen, S. C. Reynolds, M. H. Foley, H. D. Spencer, C. W. Conger, S. G. Conger, Henry Craine, R. W. Jacobs, H. Bowker, E. Patterson.

A short time before the above date a special election was held and an appropriation of \$1,500 was voted with which a Hand Engine was purchased and Messrs. Bowker & Crittenden, carriage makers, were given an order to make a hose cart, not to cost above \$150. On March 20, 1865, the following persons were accepted as firemen and were known as the Pioneer Hose Co., No. 1: Sheridan Hall, Miles Palmer, Charles Allen, Adelbert Glover, Leroy Rogers, Ira Hyde, George Patterson, Byron Sykes, Seaman Covert, Allen Hicks, M. D. Goodyear, A. J. Sykes, Clarence Bowker, Benjamin Jacobs, H. S. Hopkins, E. M. Avery, D. E. Dye, Leonard Ashley, Sylvanus Ashley, R. B. Shaw, Harry Palmer. On the arrival of the engine and hose cart they were stored for several years in D. W. Hall's barn on Williams street. The organization of the department continued, as above described, for several years, the first named company being known as Seneca Chief Engine Co., No. 2. Their uniforms consisted of firemen's helmet hat, black belt and red shirts.

On the completion of the water works in November 1888, the engine company was disbanded, the engine sold to parties in Brookton, N. Y., and a hose company organized which was known as the C. W. Conger Hose Co., No. 2. In 1890 the Citizen Hook & Ladder Co., was organized. These three companies now comprise the Groton

fire department. Each company, when the ranks are full, will have thirty members. They are well equipped with first-class modern fire apparatus, well uniformed, and have on many occasions demonstrated their ability to fight fires successfully. Each of the companies have held fairs from time to time, which have been very generously patronized, realizing large benefits and receipts with which uniforms and apparatus have been purchased.

The Conger Hose Co., are the proud owners of a very fine parade carriage which cost them the sum of \$500.

All records of the names of the chief engineers of the department of former years seem to have been lost. But the following is a partial list of the members of the department who have held the office of chief engineer: First, A. S. Tanner; second, B. R. Williams; third, Benn Conger; fourth, James McGrail; fifth, E. Field; sixth, U. G. Rockwell; seventh, Will Kimball.

The Groton and Lansing Journal, whose value as a family weekly newspaper is recognized throughout the county, occupies a high position among the most ably edited and conservatively conducted newspapers published in the interior of the state. Mr. L. J. Townley, who took the property in 1883, has always aimed to delineate the best features of business and social life and to heat ahead in the track of progress for the villages and towns which the paper so faithfully represents. In the reflection of the news of the day, this journal has taken an admirable and conscientious stand; ever loyal to the community it represents and strictly representative in its several departments of the best and highest plane of civilization. Its local columns sound the key note for local improvements first, last and all of the time. In its editorial discussions of passing events and momentous topics the Journal is fearless and reliable; always true to its convictions and never faltering in the line of duty laid down by its publishers. There is nothing stinted in the scope of journalistic undertakings which are embraced within its field of operations. It is a clean, newsy and well informed journal of civilization in the truest and best sense. When L. J. Townley became the proprietor of this publication



Photo by Cooper.

L. J. TOWNLEY'S RESIDENCE.

there was ample room for improvement. Four years earlier he had assumed charge of the Lansing department and built that up. So that now having taken entire charge of the paper, he started out on a broader basis, in the direction he had taken from the beginning. It was acknowledged by the community in which the paper now so largely circulates that in order to raise it up to the standard demanded by its constituents he had a task of no small and insignificant character. Without pausing to count the cost Mr. Townley forged ahead and in time his efforts were rewarded by seeing the circulation mount higher and higher. Many mechanical improvements were introduced, as well, and very soon it became evident that the towns of Groton and Lansing were to enjoy the advantage of regular publications which should be a credit to the most progressive community. Typographically the neatness and artistic character of its make-up commends the paper to the best instructed and most exacting men familiar with the work of a printer and reflects credit not alone on the publishers, but on the skilled and accurate foreman and type setters. The publishers of the Journal are L. J. Townley, and his son, G. M. Town-

ley, the former having charge of the editorial columns and the latter, the mechanical departments. The son was taken into the business as partner Jan. 1, 1896. Mr. Lewis J. Townley the senior member of the firm has shown that spirit of public advancement which has drawn him into an active, personal participation of the affairs of the town at large. He has served as a village trustee and for six years he has been a member of the Board of Education the position he still occupies in which he has ever shown a constantcy to the best interests of public education. In politics he is truly loyal to the Republican party devoting much of his time to the advancement of party interests and the success of the party tickets. He was active in getting the people aroused to the advantage of a general improvement of the streets, a measure which he persistently advocated in the columns of his paper with such untiring zeal that the results became all that could be desired. In pushing forward the needs of an ample, modern water supply he was equally as zealous and in getting for the village an electric light plant he worked persistently and courageously. At the present time he is the clerk of the village and has been for two terms. He was born in the town of Lansing, Aug. 11, 1845, the son of John A. and Mary A. Townley. Until March 1884 when he moved into the village of Groton, he resided first at Ludlowville and afterwards at North Lansing. Born and raised on a farm his early schooling was had in districts schools, but at a later period he attended the Ithaca academy. On Sept. 18, 1867 he married Mary R. Dodd of Ithaca and they have three children. Mr. Townley is foremost and energetic in advancing the interests of the Congregational church of which he is an active and

zealous member. In the recent efforts made to secure a public building which will be an ornament and a matter of pride to the citizens of Groton. Mr. Townley was prominent and effective. Mr. G. M. Townley, the junior publisher of the Journal, who was educated in the public school of North Lansing and at the Groton High school, takes an interest in public affairs. He was born at North Lansing July 28, 1869, and came to Groton with his parents in 1884. On entering the office of the Journal to learn the trade of the printer he very soon became of such assistance that he was taken into co-partnership with his father. His zeal and diligence in the trade resulted in a proficiency and skill which have given him the reputation of being a first-class printer and pressman, so that the work turned out of the job department under his personal supervision is far superior to the average job work produced by printing offices in villages the size of Groton.

**Andrews & Hamilton** are engaged in the shoe business, on the premises which for years were occupied by R. C. and S. C. Reynolds, two men whose business careers were closely allied to



Photo by Cooper. MRS. S. C. REYNOLDS' AND E. R. ANDREWS' RESIDENCE

the early enterprises in the village and both of whom were prominent in public affairs. In 1861 at the outbreak of the war, the Messrs. Reynolds, uncle and nephew, put up the building for a large double store to accommodate the general mercantile business which they, as partners, were conducting. The enlistments then going on were responded to so generally here that the work of construction was interrupted three or four times, the builders being left without help. For six years R. C. and S. C. Reynolds were together in business, the former retiring in 1867 and the latter in 1881. During the period following R. C. Reynolds' retirement, his nephew had three different partners, Hiland Clark, who was a prominent republican and who at one time was member of assembly, John Thomas and A. Adams. S. C. Reynolds, who was interested in the organization of the bank and who was quite an active, energetic man and leading democrat, died in February 1897, leaving a wife and two daughters. One of the latter, Louise, married E. R. Andrews, the senior member of the firm of Andrews & Hamilton, Oc-





MR. AND MRS. DAVID H. COGGS HALL.

tober 26, 1887, and Agnes, the younger, married H. M. Hamilton, his partner, November 11, 1896. E. R. Andrews represents Merrill & Soule, a large food specialty house of Syracuse and has been with them seven years. He was born in Cortland, July 13, 1863, for two years was a clerk for Bartholomew & Fulkerson at Dryden, and in 1882 came to Groton to form a connection with C. W. Conger & Co. In July, 1887, he went on the road. H. M. Hamilton was born in Springfield, Mass., June 5, 1870, and for seventeen years was a resident of Ilion, N. Y. He was afterward, for eight years, employed in the Crandall type-writer works and for two years, in the Dougherty type-writer factory. The firm was formed in April, 1898, for an exclusive boot and shoe business. One of the old Reynolds' stores was fitted up and stocked with modern lines of goods, including the Douglass and Sorosis lines, and it is now being conducted as the only exclusive boot and shoe business in town.

**David H. Coggs Hall** was born Dec. 1, 1847, in this township. His father, David H. Coggs Hall, was born in Charlton, Saratoga Co., N. Y. His grandfather, David Hoyt Coggs Hall was born in Connecticut and settled in the western part of this town in 1820 on the farm now occupied by John Smith. This farm has ever since been owned and occupied by some member of this family. His mother was Lois Greene, daughter of Wm. Green of Genoa, N. Y. Mr. Coggs Hall was one of a family of four children, Calphurnia, VanBuren,

David H. and W. Lamar. Mr. Coggs Hall's early years were spent in the routine of farm life, where he early formed the habits of industry and self-reliance. On February 24, 1869 Mr Coggs Hall was married to Clarinda F., daughter of John Smith, Sr., of this town. Mr. Smith was born in Lansing, Tompkins Co., N. Y., Jan. 11, 1805. He early learned the trade of blacksmith but later became a farmer. In June 1830 he was married to Dorothy Shoemaker, of Lansing, N. Y. They had a family of eleven children, Henry, Freeman, Elizabeth, John, Jane, Joseph, Catharine, Clarinda, Irena, LeRoy and Ada, all of whom are living except Freeman, Joseph and Elizabeth. This was a typical pioneer family. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Coggs Hall, Louie LeRoy, Mrs. H. J. Blanchard and Claude, the latter dying at four months of age. In 1861 Mr. Coggs Hall became interested in the industry of bee keeping. His grandfather, Wm. Greene gave him a swarm of bees and he began a series of experiments in their management. Knowledge of the habits of bees was at that time very limited, but by close study and application he has mastered the art, and is now one of the most successful and extensive aparians in the state. He was the first producer and shipper of extracted honey in this section of country. Mr. Coggs Hall now manages six hundred colonies of bees and his shipments are many tons of honey annually. In 1893 he built the large and handsome residence in which he now lives, and his other buildings are commodious and substantial.

**Groton Grange**—About the year 1895, the question arose before the people of Groton shall we have a grange, or not. Quite a number were in favor while a good many were opposed. On March 23, 1896, a meeting was held at the office of W. W. Hare, for the purpose of organizing a grange in this village. It was organized by County Deputy Pierson with fourteen charter members. The following officers were duly elected: V. B. Coggs Hall, master; J. W. Jones overseer; W. W. Hare, lecturer; G. M. Stoddard, treasurer; Mrs. Edward Merchant, secretary; John McKellar, chaplain; Frank Hyde, steward; Edward Merchant, assistant-steward; Charles Sobers, gate-keeper; Mrs. Frank Hyde, lady assistant-steward;



Photo by Blanchard. DAVID H. COGGS HALL'S HOUSE.



Mrs. J. McKellar, Pomona; Mrs. Arthur Townley, flora; Mrs. Charles Sobers, ceres. It has increased in numbers, so it is now one of the foremost granges in this section of the country. Officers for 1899: J. C. Bothwell, master; N. Dick, overseer; Fay Stoddard, lecturer; W. D. White, treasurer; Ida Allen, secretary; John McKellar, chaplain; James Gaston, steward; N. Van Marles, assistant-steward; George Barrow gate-keeper; Sadie White, lady assistant-steward; Cora Hart, pomona; Grace McKellar, flora; Alice Stevens, ceres.—[IDA M. ALLEN.

### REMINISCENCES OF GROTON.

[BY CAPT. W. E. MOUNT.]

The year 1853 was marked by what then seemed to be a great event in the history of the little village of Groton, namely the building of a new hotel. Early in the year Harrison Bowker bought of Daniel Nye the old hotel and decided to construct a new building, that should be the most considerable structure in the village and in fact in the township. After much consultation the plans were made and the contract let to Oliver Avery, senior, and Frederick A. Avery. Work was begun on the tenth of April, and with the exception of one week was continued until nearly the first of January, 1854, before it was completed. In those days all the work was hand work. Such a thing as a boring machine was unknown. There were then no planing mills in Groton and nine-tenths of all the lumber used in the building was hand-dressed, and the hand-saw did all the slitting. The heavy timbers were hewed and corded between the east end of the hotel, as it now stands, and the corner of Church street. Nothing but the toughest beech and maple were deemed good enough for the frame. The raising day was a great event in Groton. A small army of men gathered about the heavy bents, disdaining the aid of derricks or shear poles, and set them on end by main strength. Elder W. G. Dye, was conspicuous among that sturdy band for the resolution and courage with which he followed each bent with his pike pole. He was then pastor of the Baptist church. Frederick A. Avery displayed great skill in managing so many men, and had the satisfaction of seeing the frame up without accident. He was an expert at climbing and in this he was assisted by Horace Morton Miles Morton, and a number of others including Benjamin Wanzer, an old sailor. The late Judge Westel Willoughby worked, during his college vacation, on this hotel. He dressed and put on all the siding on the east end. The lettering, "Groton Hotel," still to be seen on the frieze on the north and west, was done by a man by the name of Spicer, then at work for G. W. Carpenter in his carriage shop.

While there had been some building done in the village prior to 1853, that year seemed to be the beginning of a new era. In 1852 the house of H. G. Moe was built by Mr. Rollin Day and was deemed then the finest home in the place. A year or two before three of what were then known as village gothics were built, namely, the house occupied by Mrs. Dr. Mason, the home of the late Charles Perrigo and the one on the corner of Main and Mechanic streets.

Then the mercantile business of the village was conducted by Marsh and DeLano on the site of the First National bank, by Stiles Berry in a building standing on the ground occupied by the west half of the Union block and by Reynolds and Clark in the old Reynolds store, on ground now occupied by the east half of the block. There was then no drug store proper in Groton. Dr. Obed Andrews had a small variety store near where Avery's news room now is and kept a few drugs. He also had a small hand press and

did some printing in the way of auction bills, etc. Subsequently H. K. Clark built the store now occupied by Buck & Goble, in 1856. W. N. Hall did something in repairing watches in a shop on the site of L. J. Townley's residence. Day and Dykeman had a tin shop in a building that stood on the ground occupied by Graveley's barber shop. There was a saw mill where Begent and Wilcox's storehouse stands and a shop with a turning lathe just beside, to the east. It was in this shop that the work on the hotel was begun. In the building now occupied by Carey's saloon, Sylvanus DeLano did a grocery trade including some books and stationary.

This seemed to be the place where certain men gathered to discuss the various questions of the day. Such men as Justice P. Pennoyer, the Rev'd David Holmes and others. It was here that the writer heard Ex-Governor Pennoyer of Oregon announce his intention of going to that far away country to grow up with it. It was in 1853 that Professor S. G. Williams came to Groton to take charge of the Groton Academy. He was then a young man, just from college, and his first year's work gave promise of his future success. He remained here seven years, going thence to Ithaca.

The schools of Groton then consisted of the Academy and the district school, No. 8, located nearly where the office of the Crandall typewriter now stands. In 1853 the old building had become quite dilapidated, and a special meeting of the district was called through the influence of Charles and Lyman Perrigo and other citizens, to consider the question of building a new school house, but nothing came of it, and it was not until 1858 that a vote was secured for that purpose. In that year the contract for a new building was let to the Hon. William Woodbury, the work being done under the supervision of Abram Tator of Peruville. That building is now the office of the Crandall Type-writer Company. The old two-story building that was the former school house, after several removals, at last found a resting place on South Main street, and was years after thoroughly repaired by W. W. Hare, Esq., and is now the pleasant home of Mr. Francis Bowen.

Close beside the old school house clustered the graves of the village cemetery. This came probably because the first Baptist church stood at one time on the vacant lot just south of the Crandall typewriter shop. After the new church was built in 1843, on Cortland street, the old church building was removed and the site taken for an addition to the cemetery, and the old ground just back of the school house became the potters' field. In the summer of 1853 the Rev. Augustine Pomeroy was installed pastor of the Congregational church of Groton. The pastor of the Baptist church was the Rev. W. G. Dye, and of the Methodist church, during the first of the year, the Rev. L. G. Weaver, and during the latter part, the Rev. W. N. Pearn.

Groton had its years of excitement and interest. The people discussed with an honestly divided sentiment the merits of the fugitive slave law, and the question of slavery generally. In 1856 the new store house, then belonging to C. and L. Perrigo, and now to the Groton Bridge Co., was known as Fremont Hall, and was the headquarters for political discussion and it rang with the cheers of many an enthusiastic meeting.

The years went swiftly by and the spring of 1861 came. The people waited in silence for the news from the national capitol. There was then no telegraph office nearer than Cortland, and the slow stage coach from that place, brought the news but once a day. First came the news of the fall of Sumter, then came the call for troops, and about the last of April there was a call for a meeting of citizens of the town to be held in the even-

ing at the academy hall. Quite a concourse of people gathered in front of the DeLano grocery and headed by fife and drum marched to the place of meeting. F. W. DeLano acted as fifer, Frederick A. Avery beat the tenor drum and Amos Avery the bass drum. The meeting was called to order by T. C. Jay and Daniel W. Woodbury, Esq., was named as chairman. The meeting was addressed by the Hon. Milo Goodrich and Dr. James Montgomery of Dryden. There was considerable enthusiasm and the addresses were both able and impressive. After the addresses a subscription was circulated pledging the signers to a pro-rata assessment on the amount of their subscription, for the benefit of the families of volunteers, the whole amount of such assessments not to exceed the amount of the subscriptions. The subscription was headed by Charles Perrigo with \$3,000, followed by Lyman Perrigo for a

like amount. Numerous other subscriptions were taken for lesser amounts during the evening. The subscription was circulated through the town generally by W. D. Mount, then supervisor of the town, and a large amount was subscribed. The meeting adjourned amid the roar of cannon and cheers for the flag. Thus ended the first war meeting in Groton. During the next four years others were held but while patriotic, they were marked by more of the spirit of self-sacrifice born of the experience of those days that tried men's souls. From that day forward there were tears and sorrow in many households.

#### A CORRECTION.

Rev. D. H. Craver, the pastor of the Congregational church will please accept our apology for misspelling his name on page 13. In a work containing so many names it is almost impossible to avoid errors.

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