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HISTORY
OF
Montgomery County

EMBRACING

EARLY DISCOVERIES; THE ADVANCE OF CIVILIZATION; THE LABORS
AND TRIUMPHS OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON; THE INCEPTION
AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANUFACTURES; WITH TOWN
AND LOCAL RECORDS; ALSO MILITARY ACHIEVE-
MENTS OF MONTGOMERY PATRIOTS.

REVISED AND EDITED
By WASHINGTON FROTHINGHAM

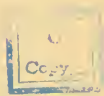
Experience is by industry achieved,
And perfected by the swift course of time.

—SHAKESPEARE.

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PREFACE.

COUNTIES are the chief divisions of all the states in the Union except South Carolina, where they are called "districts," and also Louisiana, where they are called "parishes." In England the same divisions are sometimes called "shires," and hence the term "shire town" is often applied to the seat of the county buildings. It need hardly be questioned whether Montgomery county has not just claim to a printed record of that history of which all its citizens may be proud. It was with the desire of doing this act of justice that the editor assumed the task which he has accomplished laboriously, and he hopes successfully.

The publishers detailed a staff of faithful literateurs to each town and their reports are based on personal inspection, in order to insure accuracy. These reports have been thoroughly revised by the editor, who has made every effort to render this work authority in all matters within its scope, and especially in reference to the manufacturing interest.

While engaged in this task he has become deeply interested in the town histories, which portray the labors of the pioneers, and also in the personal and family sketches which give variety to the work, and he has no doubt that this will prove an attractive as well as a useful volume.

The lover of history will see that the record includes the earliest discoveries and all that subsequent detail of events which gradually led to our present greatness, and the justice done Sir William Johnson in these pages is not the least point in the importance of this work.

While the editor acknowledges the faithful service done by his assistants, he has to a great degree recast their work in order to give the volume a uniformity of style in which their individuality is merged. His object has been to present a simple narrative and let the facts thus recorded speak for themselves.

One of the most thrilling features in the work is its military history, which shows that the patriotism of the revolution was inherited by the heroes of the Union army and reminds us that

Freedom's battles, once begun ;
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, are ever won.

In preparing the individual record it was decided to omit all titles. "Hon." has become so cheap and vulgar that it is almost disrespectful, and in this omission the editor only follows the example of William C. Bryant, who never permitted it to appear in the columns of the *Evening Post*. Other titles share the same fate, because we respect character too highly to add decorations.

Those who know anything of bookmaking will readily see that the cost of such a work must be very great. The publishers have spared no expense, and it may be reasonably claimed that they have fulfilled in the highest degree the duty they assumed. Hence both editor and publisher now unite in the expectation that this history will give full satisfaction to the citizens of Montgomery county and all other careful and intelligent readers.

PERSONAL SKETCH.

GENERAL RICHARD MONTGOMERY was born in the north of Ireland, December 2, 1736, and early displayed a military taste. In his eighteenth year he entered the army and was soon ordered to Canada where the British were operating against the French who were eventually subjugated. Montgomery served there with distinction and was thence ordered to the West Indies where he also won a record for gallantry. He had, however, a desire to become a citizen of New York and this led him hither on the return of peace. He settled at Rhinebeck and won the hand of Miss Jane Livingston, daughter of Judge Robert R. Livingston, and immediately became a leader in patriotic opinion.

He represented Dutchess county in the Provincial Congress and on the opening of the Revolution was made a general and ordered to the campaign against Canada. He bade farewell to his young wife with the words "You shall never blush for your Montgomery" and his brief career indeed is one of which our nation is justly proud.

He made a bold march through Canada conquering Chambly and Montreal, and these successes gave hope of eventual triumph. The illness of Schuyler threw upon him the entire command and he pressed forward with the determination to capture Quebec. Christmas (1775) found him planning an attack by storm, which was carried out the day before New Year. It began at midnight and the party which Montgomery led carried the first barricade. He then pressed forward to the second but was mortally wounded by the discharge of a gun, and two of his aids shared his fate. Aaron Burr, who held a lieutenant's commission, was in the attack and bore off the dying commander and the attack failed. Thus fell in his fortieth year the gallant Montgomery. His sad fate awoke national regret and Congress ordered a monument which was executed in Paris under care of Franklin, our ambassador in that city. When peace was declared the monument was sent to New York and St. Paul's church was designated as a suitable locality. This monument is interesting as the very first erected to a revolutionary hero. The peculiar design will attract the eye of all who have an historic taste. The inscription is as follows :

"This monument is erected by order of Congress, 25th of January, 1776, to transmit to posterity a grateful remembrance of the patriotic conduct, enterprise, and perseverance of Major-General Richard Montgomery, who, after a series of successes amid the most discouraging difficulties, fell in the attack on Quebec, 31st of December, 1775, aged 37 years."

It was not, however, until 1818, nearly forty-three years after his death, that his remains were deposited beneath this monument. In the spring of that year a request on behalf of his widow was made of Sir John Sherbrooke, Governor-General of Canada, to permit his remains to be removed from Quebec, where they had been buried immediately after the storming of the city, and taken to New York. This request was acceded

to, and on the 16th of June, 1818, they were disinterred under the direction of Mr. James Thompson, one of the engineers who assisted in burying the general, and who identified the coffin. On the 9th of July they reached Albany, where they lay in state in the capitol. The next day under military escort they were received on the steamer Richmond and taken to New York.

Mrs. Montgomery survived her husband for nearly fifty years. After his death she built an elegant residence on the Hudson, near Tivoli, which she called Montgomery Hall, and from the piazza of which, more than forty-two years after his death, she saw the steamer which bore his body, glide, with tolling bell and colors at half-mast, slowly past. As she witnessed this mournful pageant how the childless widow, who for so many years had kept his memory green in her heart, must have recalled their last parting, when in the prime of manhood, he tore himself from her arms, and, kissing her, uttered the above quoted farewell, "You shall never blush for your Montgomery." How gallantly he redeemed that pledge history tells. His last words were, "Men of New York, you will not fear to follow where your General leads. March on!"

In 1784, the year after the close of the Revolution, the legislature of this state changed Tryon county to Montgomery in honor of the hero of Quebec, and since then seventeen other counties have been thus named in as many states. None of them have an equally important historic record with our own Montgomery county whose history is given in the following pages.

FEMALE NAMES.

One of the peculiar features which has attracted the editor's attention while reviewing the family histories found in this volume is the fanciful female names which occur. He adds some of them, so that if any of our readers should be required to name a child a choice of unique character could easily be made.

Alzina,	Byancy,	Emiletta,	Luraine,	Mardulla,	Rosella,
Arwillma,	Birdella,	Elda,	Luenma,	Mony,	Rexie,
Atlanta,	Bethiah,	Emanna,	Lavenna,	Maxa,	Roby,
Andalusia,	Belia,	Ervina,	Launette,	Maruva,	Ruie,
Alzetta,	Cimberline,	Elba,	Ladenna,	Metella,	Rosetta,
Alvia,	Caddie,	Forba,	La Pearl,	Myrta,	Selma,
Alpha,	Clemenza,	Florella,	Lifitte,	Mabyn,	Submit,
Avelina,	Celestia,	Francana,	Lula,	Masia,	Sabia,
Althiena,	Calista,	Fidelia,	Lory,	Meeta,	Sena,
Almena,	Catha,	Gerta,	Lenna,	Nina,	Samarie,
Alfraetta,	Carriabel,	Greta,	Lura,	Orva,	Smira,
Arvelma,	Christia,	Georgena,	Luetta,	Oltana,	Suzette,
Abbatonia,	Crete,	Georgia,	Luthera,	Orinda,	Thankful,
Artimetta,	Dena,	Geta,	Lasera,	Orvia,	Toinette,
Andella,	Della,	Harma,	Lodusky,	Orvetta,	Toica,
Alwilda,	Delcia,	Heppie,	Lisa,	Percella,	Tinetta,
Arvilla,	Doretha,	Hearty,	Leona,	Philura,	Ticy,
Azuba,	Delotta,	Hazel,	Lorena,	Philinda,	Virgie,
Annice,	Deeny,	Ione,	Lelah,	Perlina,	Viva,
Aurella,	Dilla,	Idela,	Lenetta,	Puah,	Villa,
Armeina,	Delora,	Ioma,	Lucina,	Prudy,	Valira,
Aptuma,	Demetra,	Ivy,	Loli,	Rulianna,	Violetta,
Anhina,	Delight,	Isora,	Marilla,	Rocklin,	Violetta,
Adell,	Essie,	Jasena,	Mina,	Regnia,	Vanella,
Arvillura,	Elza,	Kizzie,	Milsena,	Roseltha,	Wannetta,
Bertelle,	Elva,	Lylinda,	Milisa,	Rowellen,	Zarnel,
Beta,	Evanna,	Ladora,	Morena,	Rozeda,	Zelphia,
Betelia,	Elthera,	Lovisa,	Marinda,	Romea,	Zaida.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ANTIQUITIES.

In an old historic country there is a natural tendency to honor the past and to preserve its memorials, and this sentiment has had its influence in Montgomery county. The old German families have in most instances preserved the Bibles which their ancestors brought from the fatherland, and in all probability there are more of these antique scriptures in this county than in any other district of equal size in our country.

Many other curiosities of the past are cherished here. Major Van Horne of Fonda has the papers of his great-grandfather, Major Jellis Fonda, who served under Sir William Johnson, including the ledgers and account books which Major Fonda kept while engaged in trade. They are probably the oldest books of the kind in the entire state, and were kept in a very neat and even handsome manner. Mr. E. T. Schenck, another descendant, has Major Fonda's sword.

Alfred De Graff has the Masonic emblem worn by his great-grandfather, Colonel Frederick Vischer, which is one of the oldest memorials of St. Patrick's Lodge. He also has a silver dollar coined more than a century and a half ago, and which has been in the family for five generations.

The Maybee family have some of the furniture used by Sir William at Johnson Hall and Dr. Abbott (now of New York) has other memorials of Sir William which were preserved by Amaziab Rust. Judge Rust was a prominent citizen of Johnson-town, which, of course, is included in old Montgomery, and Mr. A. S. Van Voast of the same place has Sir William's prayer book.

Mrs. Striker of Tribes Hill has a large copper tea kettle which was stolen from Lieutenant-Colonel Adam Fonda (her grandfather) during Sir John Johnson's raid, and also a life-size portrait of one of her ancestors, which is probably the oldest work of art in the Mohawk Valley.

Commodore Starin has quite a museum of historic relics which we have not space to detail. Many of these are from his ancestors, while others have been presented or gathered by his own taste, until ancient books, ancient weapons, utensils and furniture form a large and curious collection.

Mr. Samuel C. Frey, of Palatine Bridge, has a large collection of Indian curiosities, but above all he has the original minutes of the Tryon county committee, which is one of the most remarkable manuscripts in the state and is of inestimable value as a relic of the times that tried men's souls.

Cashier A. G. Richmond of Canajoharie has a large and unusually rich collection of antiquities, gathered in this county and elsewhere, and representing Indian customs and warfare, with other curiosities equally rare.

Professor Cryder of the same place has become deeply interested in the specialty of antique powder horns and has found this pursuit one of great interest. Being an artist he has made drawings of all such implements, and has nearly two hundred thus portrayed. One of these represents the powder horn that Christian Schell used in his famous fight with the Indians.

The Red Men at Fonda have some interesting relics and it may be added that Mr. Alfred W. Shull of Stone Arabia has the bell that formerly belonged to the old church at Caughnawaga. It has been recast (owing to a fracture), but otherwise is identical.

Other interesting memorials might be mentioned did our limited space permit, but we must close adding, however, the interesting fact that the well-known antiquary, Iepthah R. Simms, made a collection of historic curiosities which the state purchased at an expense of \$5,000, and hence a large number of Montgomery county antiquities are now preserved in Albany.

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HISTORY

OF

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CHAPTER I.

The Subject — Origin of Tryon County — Name Changed to Montgomery — Extent and Boundaries — Counties Formed Directly From Montgomery — Districts and Towns Organized — Description of the County — Physical Features and Principal Water Courses — Geological Formation.

ALL hail Montgomery County! Yes, all hail the scene round which cluster such thrilling memories, and happy will the historian be if his researches reflect additional honor upon such a storied territory — one indeed which originally included a third of the entire state. And now, reader, let us look at some of the more prominent historic facts.

In 1772, three years before the outbreak of the Revolution, the legislature of New York divided the original county of Albany, creating two additional counties, one of which was called Tryon, in honor of William Tryon, the British governor of the province. What an immense county it was! embracing all the territory of the state which lay west of the Delaware river and a line extending thence north through Schoharie county, and along the east line of Montgomery, Fulton and Hamilton (as now existing), and thence direct to Canada. Governor Tryon became so offensive to the victorious Americans in the Mohawk valley that, in 1784, the name was changed to Montgomery, in honor

of the patriotic American general who fell in the attempt to capture Quebec. In 1788 the boundaries of the then existing counties of the state were accurately defined, and Montgomery county was made to include all the territory of the state west of Ulster, Albany, Washington and Clinton counties.

The first territorial reduction of old Montgomery was made in 1789 when Ontario was erected, including within its boundaries all that part of the state west of Seneca Lake and amounting in the aggregate to more than two million acres. In 1791 Montgomery was again reduced in area by the creation of Hamilton, Herkimer, Otsego and Tioga counties, leaving only the territory which it now includes with that of Fulton county. Hamilton, however, was restored to the mother county in 1797, but it was again set off in 1816. In 1838 Fulton county was erected and included within its boundaries more than one-half the territory which then remained to Montgomery county. In this manner old Montgomery has been reduced from an original area of about eight million acres (roughly estimated) to its present 289,040 acres, or 436 square miles.

Soon after the creation of Tryon county (March 24, 1772), its inhabited territory was divided into five provisional districts, for the purpose of government, namely: Mohawk, Canajoharie, Palatine, German Flats and Kingsland. The sixth district of the county—old England—including lands west of the Susquehanna river, was formed April 3, 1775. On March 9, 1780, that part of the Mohawk district lying north of the river was set off under the name of Caughnawaga. In 1788 this district was formed into a township and included all of the county lying north of the Mohawk and east of a line extending from the Nose to Canada. Five years later (1793) this town was divided and Amsterdam, Mayfield, Broadalbin and Johnstown were organized from its territory. When this division took place, the old name (Caughnawaga) was limited to that ancient village which forms a part of Fonda.

Canajoharie, both as a district and town, has been preserved in name since its original formation in 1772. In 1788 this district became a town, but its territory has since in part been taken in the creation of other towns—Minden in 1798, and an addition in 1849, and a part of Root in 1823.

Palatine was at first a district called Stone Arabia. This was in 1772, but in 1775 the name was changed to Palatine. It embraced all the territory between the "Little Falls" and the Nose, and extended from the Mohawk to Canada. The towns of Salisbury, Stratford, Oppenheim, and Ephratah have been formed, in whole or in part, from the original Palatine.

Mohawk district originally included all the territory between the eastern boundary of Tryon county and a north and south line crossing the river at Anthony's Nose, and extending north and south between these lines as far as the limits of the county. Caughnawaga, north of the river, was taken from this vast tract in 1788 and subdivided, as has been stated, in 1793. The present town of Mohawk was formed from Johnstown in 1837, while Johnstown itself was originally a part of Caughnawaga, and the latter was a part of the still older district of Mohawk.

Charleston and Florida were both formed from lands of the old Mohawk district by an act passed March 12, 1793.

Glen was formed from Charleston April 10, 1823. Minden was taken from Canajoharie March 22, 1798. Danube (Herkimer county) was taken from Minden in 1817. Root was formed from Canajoharie and Charleston, January 27, 1823, and St. Johnsville from Oppenheim, April 18, 1838, but it is a part of the old Palatine district.

Having thus briefly mentioned the gradual method by which Montgomery county (as at present constituted), and its several towns were brought into existence, we may now appropriately give a general topographical and geographical description.

Montgomery is bounded on the north by Fulton county; east by Schenectady and Saratoga; south by Schenectady, Schoharie and Otsego; and west by Herkimer. It lies on both sides of the Mohawk, centrally distant from Albany about forty miles, and contains 436 square miles. The general range of highlands which forms the connecting link between the northern spurs of the Alleghany mountains on the south, and the Adirondacks on the north, extends through the county in a northeast and southwest direction. The Mohawk cuts through the upland and forms a valley one to two miles in width, and skirted by hills from one hundred to five hundred feet in height. The

valleys of the several tributaries of the Mohawk extend several miles into the highland districts at nearly right angles with the river. The hills bordering upon the latter generally rise in gradual slopes, and from their summits the country spreads out into an undulating upland, with a general inclination toward the river, into which every part of the county is drained. The principal tributaries of the Mohawk are the East Canada, Garoga, Cayadutta Chuctenunda creeks, and Eva's Kill, on the north, and Cowilliga, Schoharie, Auries, Flat, Canajoharie and Otsquaga creeks on the south. The highest point of land in the county is said to be Bean Hill, in Florida, and is estimated at 700 feet above tide. The lowest point is the bed of the Mohawk, on the east line of the county about 260 feet above tide.

Gneiss, the only primary rock in the county, is found in patches, its principal locality being near the Nose, on the river. Resting directly upon this are heavy masses of calciferous sandstone, appearing most frequently on the north side of the Mohawk and trending northward into Fulton county. This rock is occasionally found to contain in its cavities quartz and nodules of anthracite coal, which has led to vain expenditures in mining for coal. Near Spraker's Basin traces of lead have been found. Above the sandstone and next to it are the Black River and Trenton limestone, not important as surface rocks, but furnishing valuable quarries of building stone. The slates and shales of the Hudson river group extend along the south border of the county, and are found in a few places north of the river. Drift and boulders abound in various places. The soil along the river consists of alluvial deposits of deep, rich, vegetable mould, and upon the uplands it is mostly a highly productive, sandy and gravelly loam. The lands of the county generally are well adapted to agricultural pursuits; while dairying and the raising of spring grains and bloom corn have been especially remunerative.

CHAPTER II.

European Discoveries and Explorations — The French in Canada — The Puritans in New England — The Dutch in New York — Advance in Civilization toward the Central Mohawk Valley — Champlain Invades the Territory of the Mohawks — The First Battle — Dutch Troubles with Indians — Grant of the Province of New York — Conquest and Overthrow of the Dutch in the New Netherlands.

JUST four hundred years ago the first Spanish adventurers landed on the shores of the American continent. Sailing under the patronage of Spain, Christopher Columbus, the daring Genoese, in 1492, made his wonderful discoveries. This event has generally been designated as the discovery of America, but it is evident that the first Europeans to visit the western hemisphere were Scandinavians, who colonized Iceland in A. D. 875, Greenland in 983, and about the year 1000 had cruised southward as far as the Massachusetts coast.

During the ages that preceded these events, no grander country in every point of view ever awaited the approach of civilization. With climate and soil diversified between the most remote extremes; with thousands of miles of ocean shore, indented by magnificent harbors to welcome the world's commerce; with many of the largest rivers of the globe draining its territory and forming natural highways for commerce; with a system of lakes so immense in area as to entitle them to the name of inland seas; with mountains, hills and valleys laden with the richest minerals and almost exhaustless fuel; and with scenery unsurpassed for grandeur, it needed only the Caucasian to transform a wilderness inhabited by savages into the free, enlightened republic, which is to-day the wonder and glory of the civilized world.

Following close upon the discoveries of Columbus and other earlier explorers, various foreign powers fitted out fleets and commissioned navigators to establish colonies in the vast but unknown continent. It is not within the scope of the present work to detail the results accomplished by those bold navigators, and yet they naturally led to others of greater importance, eventually rendering the great Mohawk valley the

battlefield of various contending powers, each striving for supremacy and dominion over a territory of which Montgomery county is an important integral part. These events, however, will be but briefly mentioned, and only those will be detailed which had a direct bearing upon our subject.

In 1508, Aubert discovered the St. Lawrence river; and in 1524, Francis I, King of France, sent Jean Verrazzani on a voyage of exploration to the new world. He entered a harbor, supposed to have been that of New York, where he remained fifteen days; and it is believed that his crew were the first Europeans to land on the soil of what is now the state of New York. The Gallic explorer cruised along the coast in his frail vessels to the extent of about 2,100 miles, sailing as far north as Labrador, and giving to the whole region the name of "New France"—a name by which the French possessions in America were ever known during the dominion of that power. In 1534 the same king sent Jacques Cartier to the new country. He made two voyages and ascended the St. Lawrence as far as Montreal. The next year he again visited the same region with a fleet which brought a number of French nobility, all of whom were filled with high hopes, and bearing the blessings of the church. This party was determined upon the colonization of the country, but, after passing a winter at the Isle of Orleans and suffering much from the rigors of the climate, they abandoned their scheme and returned to France. As a beginning of the long list of needless and shameful betrayals, treacheries and other abuses to which the two confiding natives were subjected, Cartier inveigled into his vessel the Indian chief Donnegana, who had been his generous host, and bore him with several others into hopeless captivity and final death.

The failure of this scheme delayed for several years further action in the same direction, but in 1540 Cartier again visited the scene of his explorations, accompanied by Jean Francis de Roberval, the latter holding a king's commission as lieutenant-general over the "new countries of Canda, Hochelaga and Saguenay." This commission, according to Watson, conferred authority over a vast territory with the plenary powers of vice-royalty. The results of this voyage, however, were no more profitable than its predecessor, and the effect was to discourage further attempts in the same direction until about 1598, when New

France, particularly its Canadian portion, was made a place of banishment for French convicts; but even this plan failed, and it remained for private enterprise, stimulated by the hope of gain, to make the first successful effort toward the permanent occupation of the country.

The real discoverer and founder of a permanent colony in New France was Samuel de Champlain, a man born with that uncontrollable instinct of investigation and desire for knowledge of distant regions which has always so strongly characterized all great explorers. His earlier adventures in this country have no connection with this work, and it is therefore sufficient to merely mention that in 1608, having counseled his patrons that the banks of the St. Lawrence was the most favorable site for a new empire, he was sent to the country and founded Quebec. To satisfy his love for exploration, Champlain united with the Canadian Indians and marched into the unknown country which the latter had described to him. The result was the discovery of the lake that bears his name; the invasion of the lands of the Mohawks in the country of the Iroquois; a conflict between the Algonquins (aided by Champlain) and a portion of the Iroquois confederacy, in which the latter were defeated with the loss of two of their chiefs, who fell by the hands of Champlain himself.

Thus was signalized the first hostile meeting between the white man and the Indian. Low as the latter was found in the scale of intelligence and humanity, and terrible as were many of the subsequent deeds of the Iroquois, it cannot be denied that their early treatment could foster in the savage breast no other feeling than that of bitterest hostility. It seems like a pathetic page of romance to read Champlain's statement that "The Iroquois are greatly astonished, seeing two men killed so instantaneously," one of whom was their chief; while the ingenuous acknowledgment of the Frenchman, "I had put four balls into my arquebus," is a vivid testimony of how little mercy the Iroquois nations were thenceforth to expect from their northern enemies and the pale-faced race which was eventually to drive them from their domain. It was an age, however, in which might was appealed to as right more frequently than in later years, and the planting of the lowly banner of the Cross was frequently preceded by bloody conquests. It is in the light of the prevailing custom in the old world in Champlain's time that we must view his ready hostility to the Indian.

Now let us turn briefly to other events which have had an important bearing on the settlement of this part of the country. A few weeks after the battle between Champlain and the Indians, Henry Hudson, a navigator in the service of the Dutch East India Company, anchored his ship (*The Halfmoon*) at the mouth of the river which now bears his name. This took place September 5, 1609. He met the savages and was hospitably received by them; but before his departure he subjected them to an experimental knowledge of the effects of intoxicating liquor—an experience perhaps more baneful in its results than that inflicted by Champlain with his new and murderous weapon.

Hudson ascended the river to a point within less than a hundred miles of that reached by Champlain, then returned to Europe, and, through information he had gained, he soon after established a Dutch colony, for which a charter was granted in 1614, naming the region "New Netherlands." The same year they built a fort on Manhattan Island, and the next year another, called Fort Orange, on the site of Albany. In 1621 the Dutch West India Company was formed and took possession of "New Amsterdam" and the New Netherlands; and in 1626 the territory was made a province or county of Holland. For fifteen years the Dutch settlers remained at peace with the Indians, but the harsh and unwise administration of the provisional governor, William Kieft, provoked the latter to hostilities, which continued with but little interruption during the remainder of the Dutch dominion.

Meanwhile, in 1607, the English had made their first permanent settlement at Jamestown, Va., and in 1620 planted their historic colony at Plymouth Rock. These two colonies became the successful rivals of all others, in that strife which finally left them masters of the country.

On the discoveries and colonizations thus briefly noted, three great European powers based claims to a part of the territory embraced in the state of New York; first, England, by reason of the discovery of John Cabot, who sailed under commission from Henry VII, and on the 24th of June, 1497, reached the sterile coast of Labrador, also that made in the following year by his son, Sebastian, who explored the same coast from New Foundland to Florida, claiming a territory eleven degrees in width and indefinitely extending westward; second, France, which, from the discoveries of Verrazzani, claimed a portion of the At-

lantic coast, and also (under the title of New France), an almost boundless region westward ; third, Holland, which based on Hudson's discoveries a claim to the entire country from Cape Cod to the southern shore of Delaware Bay.

The Dutch, however, became the temporary occupants of the region under consideration ; but their domination was of brief duration. Indian hostilities were provoked through the ill-considered action of Governor Kieft, whose official career continued for about ten years, being superseded by Peter Stuyvesant in May, 1647. Stuyvesant was the last of the Dutch governors, and his firm and equitable policy had the effect of harmonizing the discontent existing among the Indians. On the 12th of March, 1664, however, Charles II, of England, granted by letters patent to his brother, James, the Duke of York, all the country from the river St. Croix to the Kennebec in Maine, together with all the land from the west bank of the Connecticut river to the east side of Delaware Bay. The duke sent an English squadron to secure the gift, and on the 8th of September following, Governor Stuyvesant capitulated, being constrained to that course by the Dutch colonists, who preferred peace with the same privileges and liberties accorded to the English colonists, to a prolonged and perhaps fruitless contest. The English changed the name of New Amsterdam to New York, and thus ended the Dutch dominion in America.

The Dutch, during their period of peace with the Iroquois, had become thrifty and prosperous by trading guns and rum to the Indians for furs, thus supplying them with doubly destructive weapons. The peaceful relations existing between the Dutch and the Indians at the time of the English accession were maintained by the latter, but the strife and jealousy between the English and the French continued, the former steadily gaining ground both through their success in forming and maintaining an alliance with the Iroquois and also through the more permanent character of their settlements. It may be added that the final surrender of the Dutch to the English power did not lead to a withdrawal of the former from the territory. It made no great difference to the settlers from Holland whether they were under their own or English jurisdiction, but had their preferences been consulted they would of course have preferred their mother country. Their settle-

ments extended from New Amsterdam (New York) on the south, to Albany on the north, mainly along the Hudson river, but there are well defined evidences of their early occupation of what is now western Vermont, and also part of Massachusetts; and at the same time they also advanced their outposts along the Mohawk valley toward the region of old Tryon county.

CHAPTER III.

The Indian Occupation — The Iroquois Confederacy — The Five and Six Nations of Indians — Location and Names — Character and Power of the League — Social and Domestic Habits—The Mohawks — Treatment of the Jesuit Missionaries — Discouraging Efforts at Civilization—Names of Missionaries—Alliance with the English—Downfall of the Confederacy.

AFTER the establishment of the Dutch in the New Netherlands the region now embraced within the state of New York was held by three powers — one native and two foreign. The main colonies of the French (one of the powers referred to) were in the Canadas, but through the zeal of the Jesuit missionaries their line of possessions had been extended south and west of the St. Lawrence river, and some attempts at colonization had been made, but as yet with only partial success. In the southern and eastern portion of the province granted to the Duke of York were the English, who with steady yet sure advances were pressing settlement and civilization westward and gradually nearing the French possessions. The French and English were at this time, and also for many years afterwards, conflicting powers, each studying for the mastery on both sides of the Atlantic; and with each succeeding outbreak of war in the mother countries, so there were renewed hostilities between their American colonies. Directly between the possessions of the French and the territory of the English lay the lands of the famous Iroquois confederacy, then more commonly known as the Five Nations. By the French they were called the "Iroquois," but by the Dutch they were known as the "Maquas," while the English called them "Mingoes;" but however variously they may have been desig-

nated, they were a race of savages whose peculiar organization, prowess on the field of battle, loyalty to friends, as well as barbarous revenge upon enemies, together with eloquent speech and stoical endurance of torture, have surprised all who are conversant with their history.

When, during the latter part of the fifteenth and the early part of the sixteenth century, the foreign navigators visited the American continent, they found it in the possession of two formidable races of savages, between whom there was no unity; and yet while open hostility was suppressed, they were nevertheless in a constant state of disquiet, each being jealous of the other and at the same time doubtful of its own strength and fearful of the results of a general war. One of the nations occupied the region of the larger rivers of Pennsylvania, and also that on the south and west. They were known as the Delawares to the Europeans, but styled themselves "Lenni Lenapes," meaning "Original People." The other nation occupied, principally, the territory which afterwards formed the state of New York, and is known in history as the "Iroquois Confederacy," or the Five (and subsequently) the Six Nations.

Their confederacy originally comprised five nations which were located from east to west across the territory which now forms our state, beginning with the Mohawks on the extreme east, the Oneidas next, and the Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas following in the above named order. Each of these nations was divided into five tribes, and all were united in common league. Parkman says: "Both reason and tradition point to the conclusion that the Iroquois originally formed one individual people. Sundered, like countless other tribes, by dissensions, caprice, or the necessities of a hunter's life, they separated into five distinct nations." The central council fire of the confederacy was with the Onondagas, while to the Mohawks, according to Clark, was always accorded "the high consideration of furnishing the war captain (Chief Tckarahogea), which distinguishing title was retained so late as 1814."

The government of this remarkable confederacy was exercised through councils, in which each nation was represented by deputies or sachems. In their peculiar blending of the individual, the tribal and the national interests lay the secret of the immense power which for more than a century resisted the hostile efforts of the French, which

caused them for nearly a century to be alike courted and feared by the contending French and English colonies, and which enabled them to subdue the neighboring Indian tribes, until they became really the dictators of the continent, gaining indeed the title of "The Romans of the New World." Dewitt Clinton speaking on this subject said, "They reduced war to a science, and their movements were directed by system and policy. They never attacked a hostile country till they had sent out spies to explore and designate its vulnerable points, and when they encamped they observed the greatest circumspection to guard against surprise. Whatever superiority of force they might have, they never neglected the use of stratagem, employing all the crafty wiles of the Carthaginians." There is, however, a difference in the opinions of authors as to the true military status of the Iroquois. In the forest they were a terrible foe, while in an open country they could not successfully contend with disciplined soldiery; but they made up for this deficiency, to a large degree, by their self-confidence, vindictiveness and insatiable desire for ascendancy and triumph.

While the Iroquois were undoubtedly superior in mental capacity and more provident than their Canadian enemies, and other tribes, there is little indication that they were ever inclined to improve the condition in which they were found by the Europeans. They were closely attached to their warrior and hunter life, and devoted their energies to the lower, if not the lowest forms of enjoyment and gratification. Their dwellings, even among the more stationary tribes, were rude, their food coarse and poor, and their domestic habits and surroundings unclean and barbarous. Their dress was ordinarily the skins of animals until the advent of the whites, and was primitive in character. Their women were degraded into mere beasts of burden, and while they believed in a Supreme Being, they were powerfully swayed by superstition, by incantations, by "medicine men," dreams and visions, and their feasts were exhibitions of debauchery and gluttony.

Such, according to our sincere belief, are some of the more prominent characteristics of the race encountered by Champlain when he came into the Iroquois country near three centuries ago, and welcomed them with the first volley of bullets, a policy that was pursued by all his civilized successors. It is not denied that the Indians possessed a

few redeeming characteristics, but they were so strongly dominated by their barbarous manner of life and their savage traits, that years of faithful missionary labor by the Jesuits and others were productive of but little real benefit. It may be added that whatever is true of any of the Five Nations, or (as they became in 1712) the Six Nations, is equally true of all others. The Mohawks occupied the region of eastern and northern New York, and it is with them that we have particularly to deal in this narrative. They were, perhaps, as peaceful and domestic as any of the confederacy, yet all the early efforts for their civilization and conversion to Christianity were uncertain and discouraging. No strong, controlling influence for good was ever obtained among them prior to the time of Sir William Johnson, and even then it is doubtful whether they were not moved more by the power of purchase than by love of rectitude.

When Champlain opened the way for French dominion in America the task of planting Christianity among the Indians was assigned to the Jesuits, a name derived from the Society of Jesus founded by Ignatius Loyola in 1539; but while their primary object was to spread the gospel, their secondary and scarcely less important purpose was to extend the French dominion. In 1736 Canada was restored to France, and within three years from that date there were fifteen Jesuits in the province. They rapidly increased and extended their influence to a large number of the Indian nations in the far west, but more particularly to the Mohawks and the Senecas, whose land lay on the west of the "long house" of the Iroquois. As early as 1654, during a temporary peace between the French and the Five Nations, Father Bablon founded a mission and built a chapel in the Mohawk valley, but when war was resumed the Jesuits were forced to flee. Between 1657 and 1769 twenty-four missionaries labored among the Iroquois Indians, but we are directly interested only in those who sought converts among the Mohawks. Isaac Jogues was one of these, whose career in the Indian country forms one of the most thrilling chapters of history. He was held by the Mohawks as a prisoner from August, 1642, to the same month of the next year, and labored as a missionary with the same nation in 1646, in October of which year he was killed. Simon Le Moyne labored with the Mohawks about two months in 1655, and again in 1656, and

also the third time from August, 1657, to May, 1658. Frances Joseph Bressani was imprisoned by the Mohawks about six months in 1644.

Julien Garnier was sent to them in May, 1668, and passed on to the Onondagas and Senecas. Jacques Bruyas came from the Onondagas to the Mohawks in July, 1667. He left for the Oneidas in September and returned in 1672, continuing in service several years. Jacques Fremin came in July, 1667, and remained about a year. Jean Perron was sent in the same year, and he also remained about a year. Francis Boniface labored with the Mohawks from 1668 to 1673, when he was succeeded by Francis Vaillant De Gueslis. These faithful missionaries were followed in later years by such noble workers as Talbot, Henry Barclay, John Ogilvie, ——— Spencer, Timothy Woodbridge, Gideon Hawley, Eleazer Wheelock, Samuel Kirkland, Bishop Hobart, Eleazer Williams, Dan. Barnes (Methodist), and others of less distinction, all of whom labored faithfully, but with varied perseverance for the conversion of the Iroquois. All, however, were forced to admit that their efforts as a whole were unsatisfactory and discouraging. Even subsequent efforts to establish education and Christianity among the Indians, while yielding perhaps sufficient results to justify their prosecution, have constantly met with discouraging obstacles.

The advent of the European nations was the forerunner of the downfall of the Iroquois confederacy, and doubtless will lead to the ultimate extinction of the race. The French invasion of 1693, together with that of three years later, cost the confederacy half its warriors. Their allegiance to the British (with the exception of the Oneidas), in the revolutionary war proved to be a dependence on a falling power, and this in connection with the relentless vengeance of the American colonists broke up the once powerful league, and either scattered its members to a large extent upon the friendly soil of Canada, or left them at the mercy of the state and general government, which consigned them to reservations with very imperfect provisions for their amelioration.

CHAPTER IV.

The French and Indian Wars — Causes Leading to Them — English and French Jealousies — Failure of Lord de Courcelles Expedition against the Mohawks — Corlear Saves the French from Destruction — Iroquois Seek a Peace — French Treachery — The Peace of Breda — War Renewed — Iroquois ask English Protection — Invasion of Canada — Schenectady Destroyed — The Mohawks show Friendship — English Colonies Aroused to Action — Services of John and Peter Schuyler — Frontenac Invades the Mohawk Country — The Castles Captured — Treaty of Ryswick — Peace Again Restored.

FROM the death of Champlain until the end of the French dominion in America, the friendship established by that great explorer between his own people and the northern Indians was unbroken, while at the same time it led to the unyielding hostility of the Iroquois, and especially of the Mohawks, for the latter were the first to suffer a fearful experience of the destructive power of European firearms. If truces and formal treaties were made between these antagonistic elements, they were brief in duration and of little general effect. The Jesuit fathers labored zealously, but they made no permanent progress in winning the affections of any of the Five Nations. Accepting the English view of their influence, they unsettled the savage mind and led to such complications as to require from the provincial authorities of New York, in 1700, an unjustifiable law inflicting the death penalty on every Romish priest that should come voluntarily into the province; but even this severe measure did not entirely terminate their work. After the accession of the English, the peaceful relations held with the Iroquois by the Dutch were continued, but strife and jealousy incessantly embroiled the English and ultimately led to a terrible war, which lasted until 1763 (with brief intervals of peace), and delayed for many years the settlement of the Mohawk valley.

The causes which led to the protracted contentions between the French and the Iroquois Indians are clear and distinct. They began with the unwarranted invasion of Champlain and his allied savages of the Mohawk region, which engendered an hostility that eventually cost

hundreds of lives in battle, together with the ruthless slaughter of an equal or greater number who were innocent of warlike intent. The real struggle of the period, known as the French and Indian war, began soon after the conquest of the New Netherlands by the English, and ended only with the extinction of the French power in Canada, but it is only of the series of the conflicts called in history by that title that the present chapter is designed to treat.

In the hope of avenging past injuries and to put an end to future invasions, the people of New France resolved, in 1665, to send against the Mohawks a force that should not return until their enemies should be swept from the face of the earth, but it was not until the month of January, 1666, that Lord de Courcelles, with a force of less than six hundred men, started on this expedition. It was his purpose to destroy the Mohawk nation, and therefore the route of travel was through the valley of Lake Champlain, but the severity of the winter was so great that the invading force, being reduced to distress, was obliged to abandon the enterprise. The Mohawks and Oneidas, becoming aware of the projected invasion and of the straits in which the invaders were placed, determined upon vengeance, and were only restrained through the potent influence of Arent Van Corlear, one of the settlers at Schenectady, whose urgent intercessions turned the avengers from their purpose and saved the defenceless Frenchmen from destruction.

The magnitude of De Courcelles's expedition, although it resulted in no disaster to the Mohawks, prompted the Iroquois to sue for peace, and a treaty with the French power was concluded in May, June and July, 1666, by the Mohawks, Oneidas and Senecas. During the treaty negotiations, however, the Mohawks committed an outrage on the Fort St. Anne garrison, and this led the governor of Canada (M. de Tracy), to chastise the offending tribe. In the following September he invaded the Mohawk country; the villages and crops were destroyed, and the natives only found refuge in flight. In July, 1667, however, the peace of Breda, between Holland, England and France, was signed, and this defined the boundaries of possessions of each power in America, and for a time maintained a peace with the Iroquois, but it was of short duration, for in 1669 we find the French and Iroquois again at war. In April, 1672, a change in the administration in Canada was made, fol-

lowed by another peace, concluded in 1673, which was maintained for about eleven years, but in 1684 another rupture took place.

At this time M. de la Barre was governor of Canada and New France and Colonel Dongan governor of New York. The former led an ineffectual expedition against the Senecas, but was soon superseded by Marquis de Nonville, the latter bearing special instructions from his sovereign to preserve peace with the Indians. This he found impossible, and he therefore planned a powerful expedition into the Iroquois country in 1687, destroying numerous villages and all the growing crops, while the Indians fled before the approaching enemy and sought protection of the governor of New York. This was promised, with advice that no peace be again concluded with the French. De Nonville, however, called a council of the Iroquois chiefs and sachems with the view of piece, but treachery on the part of the French commander so enraged the whole confederacy that in July, 1689, they made a descent upon Montreal, burned and destroyed property, massacred men, women and children, and returned with twenty-six prisoners, most of whom were burned at the stake.

The French colony was now in a pitiable condition, but an unexpected and welcome change was at hand. The divided counsels of the English colonists, growing out of the revolution in the mother country, by which William, Prince of Orange, was placed on the throne, gave a new aspect to affairs. The Count de Frontenac was again appointed governor of New France (May 21, 1689), and arrived in October. He made an earnest effort to negotiate a peace with the Iroquois, but failing, determined to terrify them into neutrality. For this purpose he fitted out three expeditions, one against New York, one against Connecticut, and the third against other parts of New England.

The first and principal expedition was directed against Schenectady, which was sacked and burned on the night of February 8 and 9, 1690. A band of French and Indians, after a tedious march along the course of West Canada creek and Mohawk, fell upon the doomed and unprotected village. But two houses were spared, also fifty or sixty old men, women and children, and about twenty Mohawks. This was done as it is said, "in order to show them" (the Mohawks) "that it was the English and not they against whom the grudge was entertained." The

French made a rapid but disastrous retreat, suffering from the winter's severity and also from the harassing pursuit of their maddened enemies. This and other assaults at exposed points so disheartened the people at Albany that they resolved to retire to New York; and their course was altered only by a delegation of the Mohawks¹ which reproached them for their torpidity, urging them to a courageous defence of their homes. This heroic conduct of the Mohawks awakens admiration. Notwithstanding French intrigues and Jesuitical influence, combined with the exasperating apathy of the English, who appeared willing to sacrifice their savage, yet in this instance noble allies, they adhered to their early allegiance.

Repeated invasions by the French and Indians at last awakened the English colonists to the conviction that they must more thoroughly unite in their efforts against the enemies. A convention was accordingly held in New York in 1690, constituted of delegates from Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York, at which it was resolved to combine their strength for the subjugation of Canada. The first named province engaged to equip a fleet and attack the French possessions by water, while the other two should combine their forces and assault Montreal and the forts upon the Sorel river. Through lack of efficient organization, and the failure of expected supplies, the expedition was abandoned. During the same year, however, John Schuyler, grandfather of Philip Schuyler of Revolutionary fame, having organized a band of about one hundred and twenty "Christians and Indians," made an incursion into the French possessions and destroyed much property, as well as routing and killing the inhabitants of the villages; and in the summer of 1691, Major Peter Schuyler led an expedition into the same region, among his forces being eighty Mohawk warriors.

The Iroquois continued their incursions against the French and were, perhaps, more dreaded by the latter than were the English. The people of New France were prevented from properly tilling their lands, and when crops were grown they were frequently destroyed by the invaders. The fur trade,² in which the French were actively engaged, was also nearly

¹ Annals of Tryon County, appendix, Note A.

² It is interesting in this connection to note the prices which ruled in the Indian trade at Fort Orange (Albany) and Montreal in 1690:

ruined by the Iroquois, who took possession of the passes between them and their western allies, and cut off the traders.

These forays exasperated Count de Frontenac to such a degree that he determined, if possible, to bring them to a final close. He therefore planned an expedition against the Mohawks to be executed in the mid-winter of 1693, and he made his preparations with the greatest secrecy. Having collected a force of nearly seven hundred French and Indians, he cautiously though rapidly passed Lake Champlain on the ice, descended into the Mohawk country, and surprised and captured three of their castles,¹ meeting with resistance only at the last, and retreated with about three hundred prisoners.

Major Peter Schuyler, ever the firm friend of the Mohawks, hastily gathered a party of Albany militia and Indians, five hundred in number, and started in pursuit with such activity that the fugitives in their haste suffered greatly for food, being compelled, as it is said, "to eat the leather of their shoes." They escaped, however, with a loss of eighty killed and thirty-three wounded. In 1695 another strong force of French and Indians invaded the Onondaga territory, and although by far the most formidable invasion the Iroquois had thus far suffered, it was almost fruitless in other results than the destruction of villages and crops.

The treaty of Ryswick was concluded in September, 1697, but while it established peace between the French and English, it practically left unsettled the status of the Iroquois. The French insisted on the protection of their own Indian allies, but were unwilling to include the Iro-

The Indian pays for	at Fort Orange,	at Montreal
Eight pounds of powder.....	One Beaver	Four Beaver.
A Gun.....	Two "	Three "
40 pounds of lead.....	One "	Four "
Blanket of red cloth.....	One "	Two "
Four shirts.....	One "	Two "
Six pairs of stockings.....	One "	Two "
Six quarts of Rum.....	One "	Six "

It is a rather amusing indication of the prevalent mode of dealing with the foolish natives, that while a gun could be purchased for three beavers, it required six to buy a gallon and a half of rum

¹ The three Mohawk castles, so called, captured by the French, were situated on the south side of the Mohawk river; the lower or eastern being at Icaenderago, afterwards called Fort Hunter, near the junction of the Mohawk and Schoharie rivers, while the central or Canajoharie castle (as then called) stood on the hill at the east end of Fort Plain (called by the Indians Ta-ragh-jo-roes, signifying hill of health), and the third or western castle was in what is now the town of Danube—Schoharie County History, page 26.

quois, and even made preparations to attack them with their whole force. The English, on the other hand, as strenuously claimed the same terms for their allies, and Earl Bellomont informed Count de Frontenac that he would resist any attack on the Iroquois with the entire force of his government. This terminated the threats of the enemy.

Peace being thus established (although the old rivalries continued to smoulder) the English left nothing undone to strengthen and render enduring the friendship between themselves and the Iroquois. Liberal presents were distributed among the chiefs, and five of them were taken by Peter Schuyler to London, that they might become impressed with the greatness and strength of the government to which they were allied. All this, however, did not prevent the Iroquois from making peace with the French in September, 1700, and notwithstanding the additional fact that they had, less than a month previously, ceded to Great Britain their hunting grounds in which they had (to quote the conveyance) "subdued the old inhabitants, a thousand miles west of the Niagara, all around the lakes."

On the accession of Anne to the British throne as successor to King William, in March, 1702, what has been known as Queen Anne's war was soon begun, in which Marlboro won great fame. It continued until the treaty of Utrecht,¹ April 11, 1713, but though felt in the colonies, New York fortunately escaped its bloody consequences.

¹ This treaty "secured the Protestant succession to the British throne; also the separation of the French and Spanish crowns, the destruction of Dunkirk, the enlargement of British colonies in America, and a full satisfaction from France of the claims of the allied kingdoms, Britain, Holland and Germany."

Fortunately the Five Nations had made a treaty of neutrality (Aug. 4, 1701) with the French in Canada, and thus became an impassable barrier against the savages from the St. Lawrence. —Lossing.

CHAPTER V.

Rivalry between the French and English--Relative Justice of their Claims--How defined by Sir William Johnson--Both Nations make treaties with the Iroquois--Provisions of the treaty of Ryswick--French Encroachments beyond the Treaty line--War Declared in 1774--French Outrages in the Mohawk Country--Treaty of peace at Aix-la-Chapelle--The Situation--The Albany Convention--King Hendrick's Speech--Preparation for War--Expeditions of 1755--Services of General Johnson--Shirley's Conduct--Battle at Lake George--Death of Hendrick--Distinction of Sir William Johnson.

IT was during the peace that followed the treaty of Utrecht, that what may be termed the permanent occupation of the upper Mohawk valley was begun by a number of Palatinates, who, in 1711, dissatisfied with their condition on the Hudson, made their way to the Schoharie to occupy lands promised by Queen Anne. To be strictly accurate, however, it should be stated that the Mohawk valley in the neighborhood of Schenectady at least, was settled as early as 1661, under the direction and patronage of Arent Van Corlear, who acquired title from the Mohawks, and whose purchase was confirmed, in 1684, by Governor Dongan. The destruction of this settlement by the French and Canadian Indians on the night of the 8th and 9th of February, 1690, has been described in the preceding chapter, and hence we only make a brief and passing reference while speaking of the rival claims of the English and French to the Mohawk territory. It is evident that the claims of the English were based upon a much broader foundation of justice than those of France, and both should have been, in some degree, subject to the right of the Iroquois as the "original proprietors." These rights were subsequently defined by Sir William Johnson in the following language: "The hereditary domains of the Mohawks extend from near Albany to the Little Falls (Oneida boundary) and all the country from thence eastward, etc., to Rejiohne on Lake Champlain."

While the French were in possession of New France their influence over all the Indians within its limits was paramount, and they even disputed with the English the alliance of the latter with the Iroquois,

but whatever may have been the foundation of French claims to the territory of Canada, or even to a portion of the present territory of New York, they could hardly be recognized as holding any part of the Mohawk region. Even admitting that four of the Iroquois nations, in 1663, concluded a treaty with De Tracy, by which they placed themselves under the protection of the French king, it is evident that the Mohawks were not a party to that treaty, and it is also evident that continued though occasional and always successful hostilities on the part of the French against the Iroquois, followed for years. On the other hand, although England in the cession of New Netherlands, acquired only the territory previously held by the Dutch, yet she secured the firm and lasting allegiance of the Mohawks, a friendship more closely cemented by the influence of Sir William Johnson.

In addition to the foregoing, the original charter of Virginia carried the English possessions to the forty-fifth parallel, and later grants extended her sovereignty to the St. Lawrence river.

The treaty of Ryswick (1697) declared that the belligerents should return to their possessions, as each occupied them at the beginning of the hostilities, and England put forth the unconditional claim that, at the period referred to in the treaty, their Iroquois allies were in the occupation by conquest of Montreal and the shores of the St. Lawrence. The French government at the time seem to have acknowledged that the Iroquois were embraced in the treaty. Thus the two European powers wrangled over the country of the Mohawks, which was but a little time previously the undisputed dominion of the Iroquois. When France disputed the claims of England and appealed to the council at Onondaga, a stern, savage orator exclaimed: "We have ceded our lands to no one; we hold them of heaven alone."¹

Whether so much importance should attach to the treaties in which these untutored savages were pitted against the intelligent Europeans, either French or English, as has often been ascribed to them, is unquestionable; especially when we consider the methods often adopted in later years to induce the Indians to sign away their domain. Be this as it may, it is now generally believed that the intrusion of France upon the possessions of the Mohawks in the valley of Lake Champlain,

¹ Bancroft.

“at the sacrifice of so much blood and treasure, justice and the restraints and faith of the treaties, were subordinate to the lust of power and expediency.”¹

The encroachment by the French upon the territory of the English and their allies (the Iroquois), was one of the chief causes of the French and Indian war. As early as the year 1731, the surveyor-general of the Canadas made a complete survey of the entire Champlain valley, including both the New York and Vermont shores and also Ticonderoga, and not content with this geographical aggression, he extended his work so as to include both sides of the St. Lawrence river nearly to Lake Ontario. The territory thus surveyed was divided into vast tracts, and granted as “seigniories” to various proprietors, either as rewards for service to the French crown, or for other considerations. Acting under the assumed authority of ownership a small number of the grantees attempted to actually occupy their lands, but the Canadian government, observing that war between France and England would soon take place, prepared for such an event by possessing themselves of the strongest points in the Champlain Valley, and erecting suitable fortifications. The acknowledged key to the country was Fort St. Frederick, now Crown Point, which the French occupied in 1731.

Ticonderoga was near and to the southward, and here also a fortress was constructed. In the western part of the province of New York other defences were also established; this being done with the consent of the Senecas, whose confidence the wily Frenchman and their Jesuit associates had fully gained. In the interior of the Mohawk country, however, no preparation for war was made other than accomplished through the influence of Sir William Johnson, whose advent to the Mohawk Valley antedated the beginning of hostilities by only ten years.

In March, 1744, war was declared between Great Britain and France, and the former power at once prosecuted measures for the conquest of the French possessions. The colonies of New York and New England united in an expedition to co-operate with the fleet under Commodore Warren in an attack on the fortress of Louisburg, which capitulated in June, 1745. This was followed by the descent upon Hoosic village whose garrison was forced to surrender, leaving the settlements all the

¹ Watson.

way to Albany open to the enemy. More than twenty other minor expeditions were fitted out by the French from Fort St. Frederick, to fall upon the frontier English settlements and burn, pillage and slaughter. It is little wonder, therefore, that the inhabitants of New York viewed this fortress as a standing and constant menace, and the following statements will give an idea of the character of some of the marauding parties and their bloody success:

"May 24, 1746. A party of eight Abenakis has been fitted out who have been in the direction of Corlear (Schenectady), and have returned with some prisoners and scalps."

"May 28, 1746. A party of Abenakis struck a blow near Albany and Corlear, and returned with some scalps."

"August 10. Chevalier de Repentigny arrived at Quebec and reported that he had made an attack near Corlear and took eleven prisoners and twenty-five scalps."

We forbear further addition to this terrible recital. Who can imagine the horrors of a season filled with such scenes? The colonists seemed almost powerless against the enemy—wily, rapid, blood-thirsty, and with a knowledge of every trail and point of vantage. Colonel Johnson sent out two parties against the French and their allies on the 4th of August, which made an attack on Chambly but after a successful beginning they were drawn into an ambush and most of them killed or captured.

The international contest from 1744 to 1748 had an important object in the possession of the Mississippi valley, which the English claimed as an extension of their coast discoveries and settlements, and the French by the right of occupancy, their forts already extending from Canada to Louisiana, and forming "a bow, of which the English colonies were the string." At the last mentioned date the English colonies contained more than a million inhabitants while the French had only about sixty thousand. The Iroquois would not engage in this strife until 1746, when they were disappointed at its sudden termination, having compromised themselves with their old enemies (the allies of the French), now more numerous and dangerous than formerly. The question of Iroquois supremacy was, therefore, renewed in a more intensified manner.

In April, 1748, was concluded the ineffective, if not actually shameful treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and while it was a virtual renewal of the treaties of Ryswick and Utrecht, it left unsettled the questions above alluded to, with others of equal importance to the colonies, and the fortresses of Louisburg and Crown Point were returned to the French without a protest.

Opposed and embarrassed by political factions, Governor Clinton resigned his office in October, 1753, and was succeeded by Sir Danvers Osborne. The same distractions, aggravated by the loss of his wife, threw the latter into a state of melancholia which ended in suicide. He was succeeded by Lieutenant-Governor James De Lancey, who, in his message to the Assembly in the spring of 1754, called attention to recent French encroachments, and to a request from Virginia for aid to resist them. The Assembly voted one thousand pounds to bear its share in erecting forts along the frontier. The French, by reason of victories in Pennsylvania in 1754, were left in undisputed possession of the entire region west of the Alleghanies. The necessity for united action by the English colonies was now too apparent to be overlooked; but the old sectional differences tended to prevent harmony in sentiment or action.

The Iroquois were also to some extent becoming alienated from the English, whose apathy and failures they did not relish.

Under the advice of the British ministry a convention of delegates from all the colonial assemblies was held at Albany in June, 1754. The object of this meeting was to secure a continued alliance with the Six Nations. Governor De Lancey presided, and opened the proceedings with a speech to the Indian chiefs and sachems who were present. A treaty was renewed, and the Indians left apparently satisfied.

Colonel, afterward Sir William Johnson was present at this convention and made many valuable suggestions to the delegates.

He had by this time become well acquainted with the Indian character; had ingratiated himself in their affections, not only among the Mohawks, but as well among the Iroquois. He was made by the former one of their sachems, having authority in their councils and likewise he was created war-chief, and as such frequently assumed the costume and habits of the Indians.

After the Albany convention had been concluded, but before the treaty was finally settled, King Hendrick,¹ then highest in authority among the Mohawks, addressed the delegates and Indians upon the subject of the meeting. His final speech closed as follows:

"Brethren, we put you in mind, from our former speech, of the defenceless state of your frontiers, particularly of this city and Schenectady, and of the country of the Five Nations. You told us yesterday that you were consulting about securing both. We beg that you will resolve upon something speedily. You are not safe from danger one day. The French have their hatchets in their hands both at Ohio and at two places in New England. We don't know but this very night they may attack us. Since Colonel Johnson has been in this city there has been a French Indian at his house (Fort Johnson), who took measure of the wall around it, and made very narrow observations on everything thereabouts. We think Colonel Johnson in very great danger, because the French will take more than ordinary pains to kill him or take him prisoner, both on account of his great interest among us and because he is one of our sachems. Brethren, there is an affair about which our hearts tremble and our minds are deeply concerned. We refer to the selling of rum in our castles. It destroys many, both of our old and young people. We are in great fear about this rum. It may cause murder on both sides. We, the Mohawks of both castles, request that the people who are settled around about us may not be suffered to sell our people rum. It destroys virtue and the progress of religion among us."²

"It was on this occasion," also remarks a contemporary writer of the period, "that the venerable Hendrick, the great Mohawk chieftain, pronounced one of those thrilling and eloquent speeches that marked the nobler times of the Iroquois. It excited the wonder and admiration of

¹ King Hendrick was born about the year 1680 and generally dwelt at the upper castle of the Mohawk nation, although he resided for a time near the present (1845) residence of Nicholas Yost on the north side of the Mohawk, near the Nose. He stood high in the confidence of Sir William Johnson, with whom he was engaged in many perilous enterprises against the Canadian French; and under whose command he fell in the battle of Lake George, September 8, 1755, covered with glory. He was one of the most active and sagacious sachems of his time.—Schoharie County and Border Wars.

² The governor promised satisfaction to this pathetic appeal, of course; gave the Indians thirty wagon-loads of presents, and the civilized inhabitants went on selling their gallons of rum for beaver skins. And the Indians have often been cursed for their intemperance.

those who listened, and commanded the highest encomiums wherever it was read. In burning words he contrasted the supineness and imbecility of the English with the energies of the French policy. His hoary head and majestic bearing attached dignity and force to his utterances. 'We,' he exclaimed, 'would have gone and taken Crown Point, but you hindered us.' He closed his philippic with this overwhelming rebuke: 'Look at the French, they are men. They are fortifying everywhere. But you, and we are ashamed to say it, you are like women—bare and open without any fortifications.'

Meanwhile, at the suggestion of the Massachusetts delegates to the convention, a plan for the union of the colonies was taken into consideration. The suggestion was favorably received and a committee of one from each colony was appointed to draw plans for the purpose, the fertile mind of Benjamin Franklin having already suggested a plan which was adopted.

It was the forerunner of our federal constitution; but the colonial assemblies rejected it, deeming that it encroached on their liberties, while the home government rejected it, claiming that it granted too much power to the people.

Though England and France were nominally at peace, the frontier was still distressingly harassed by hordes of Indians let loose by the French, and the colonists continued their appeal to the ministry.

While the latter were hesitating, the Duke of Cumberland, then captain-general of the British armies, sent over early in 1755 General Edward Braddock, with a detachment from the army in Ireland.

He soon afterward met the colonial governors at Alexandria and measures were devised for the protection of the colonies.¹

For this purpose four expeditions were planned by General Braddock (1775), the first to effect the reduction of Nova Scotia; the second to recover the Ohio valley; the third to expel the French from Fort Niagara and then form a junction with the Ohio expedition, and the fourth to capture Crown Point. The first of these expeditions was entirely successful; the second, under command of Braddock himself, was

¹ By special request of Braddock, Colonel William Johnson was present at this meeting. He was then appointed superintendant of Indian affairs, "with full power to treat with the confederate nations, and secure them and their allies to the British interest." Braddock also advanced two thousand pounds for the furtherance of the latter object.—Stone's Life of Sir William Johnson.

(chiefly through his folly) disastrous in the extreme. He neglected to send out scouts, as repeatedly counselled by Washington, and when within a few miles of Fort Du Quesne, the army was surprised by the concealed enemy and only saved from destruction by Washington, who, upon the fall of Braddock, assumed command and conducted the retreat. The expedition against Fort Niagara commanded by General Shirley, governor of Massachusetts, was also unsuccessful, and many of his force left him, after hearing of Braddock's defeat.

The army gathered for the capture of Crown Point was assembled at Albany, and its command entrusted to Colonel William Johnson, who, for the purpose of the expedition, had been elevated to the rank of major-general. His force comprised the militia and volunteers from New York and the New England provinces, added to which was a strong body of his faithful Mohawk warriors, headed by their famous chief, King Hendrick. Johnson proceeded northward and occupied positions at Fort Edward and Lake George,¹ expecting reinforcements from the western nations of the Iroquois; but in this he was disappointed. General Shirley,² in marching against Fort Niagara, had spread dissensions among the confederates, telling them that Johnson was his subordinate and subject to his orders; that his office of superintendent of Indian affairs was but nominal, and that the warriors would best serve their own interests by joining his army. These things were related to Johnson by chief Hendrick in explanation of the absence of the promised aid of the western Indians. Their assistance had been assured at a council of the chiefs and sachems held with the Onondagas prior to the organization

¹ The former name of this lake, applied by Champlain, was "Lac St. Sacrament," in honor of the day of his first visit to its shores. General Johnson, on the occasion of camping at the lake with his troops, changed the name to "Lake George," in honor of George III, then the British sovereign.

² The peculiar action of Gov. Shirley on this occasion is best explained by General Johnson in the report sent by him to the Board of Trade, and written from the camp at Lake George. The report is as follows: "Governor Shirley, soon after his arrival at Albany, on his way to Oswego, grew dissatisfied with my proceedings and employed one Lydius, of that place—a man whom he knew, and whom I told him, was extremely obnoxious to me, and the very man whom the Indians had in their public meetings so warmly complained of, to oppose my interest and management with them. Under this man, several others were employed. These persons went to the Indian castles, and by bribes, keeping them constantly feasting and drunk; calumniating my character; depreciating my commission, authority and management: in short, by the most licentious and abandoned proceedings, raised such confusion among the Indians, particularly the two Mohawk castles, that their sachems were under the utmost consternation, etc."



Edward Wemyss

of the expedition. The total Indian force which accompanied this expedition amounted to two hundred and fifty men, all of whom were under the special charge of General Johnson, who was known among them as "Warraghiyaghey." The militia and volunteers were under command of General Lyman, and amounted, when all assembled in the field, to about 4,000 men.

A detail of the events of the battle that followed cannot be considered an essential part of this narrative, although it took place within the Mohawk country. At the beginning of the conflict King Hendrick was slain, and Johnson severly wounded. He retired from the field after having turned the command over to General Lyman. As a matter of fact it should be stated that General Johnson held supreme command during this expedition, while General Lyman was his faithful aid; but the Indians of the army required careful and discreet attention to make their services available, and as Johnson was their friend, he gave them his special attention throughout the engagement, while the immediate command of the troops devolved upon General Lyman and the other officers of rank.

General Johnson, however, directed the various maneuvers through which success was finally attained.

The French regulars, commanded by Dieskau, fought with great heroism, but the Canadian Indians were of little assistance, and were dispersed by a few shots. The Senecas, who had been induced to join the French standard, on seeing themselves opposed by their own brethren, the Mohawks, discharged their weapons in the air and abandoned the conflict. Dieskau, the French general, was wounded and disabled, but refused to be carried from the field, and ordered his subordinate, Montrueil, to assume command and make the best retreat possible. The French were put to flight in such confusion that all their baggage and ammunition was left behind for the victors. Their loss amounted to about four hundred and fifty, while that of the English and Mohawks was nearly one hundred less.

The French were partially paralyzed by this defeat, but Gen. Johnson was charged with neglect of a grand opportunity. It was said that he might have taken Fort St. Frederick and Ticonderoga, while, on the other hand, he spent the summer in erecting Fort William Henry, at the

head of Lake George. The Mohawks, fearing an invasion of their villages by the Canada Indians, were permitted to return to their homes. The services of General Johnson on this occasion were rewarded with a baronetcy, his office of superintendent of Indian affairs was confirmed, and he was granted the sum of five thousand pounds. From this event was acquired the title by which he was ever afterwards known—"Sir William Johnson."

CHAPTER VI.

French and English War Continued — Results of the Campaigns in 1756 — French Successes in that and Succeeding Years — The Iroquois Divided — Johnson's Efforts to Unite Them — Webb's Disgraceful Conduct — The Mohawk Valley Invaded — Palatine Village Destroyed — Abercrombie's Neglect and Inefficiency — Campaigns of 1757-58 — English Successes — French Reverses — Johnson's Achievements — Extinction of the French Power in America.

STRANGE as it may appear, after the hostilities described in the preceding chapter, it was not until the following summer that war was formally proclaimed between Great Britain and France.

Three principal campaigns were organized in 1756; one against Fort Niagara with six thousand men, the second against Fort Du Quesne with three thousand men, and the third, by far the largest army yet assembled in the country, a force of ten thousand troops designed for the reduction of Crown Point, the occupation of the Champlain valley, and, if necessary, the invasion of Canada.

General John Winslow was in command of the latter, but was soon joined by General Abercrombie with reinforcements from Lord Loudon, governor of Virginia. Abercrombie at once removed the provincial officers and placed men in their stead men from the regular army, who, though versed in tactics, were wholly destitute of a knowledge of the methods of conducting military operations in such a region. Through the inactivity of the commanding officers nothing was accomplished in the way of taking the French strongholds, while at other points the results were equally unsatisfactory, and the campaigns ended with much greater advantage to the French than to the English.

The campaign of 1757 was arranged by the English in proportions equal to its predecessor, while the French army under Montcalm was by no means inactive. The latter had by this time not only gained the friendship of many of the western Iroquois, but had succeeded in enlisting them under the French standard. The league of the Iroquois was now so weakened as to have lost much of its power of union, and the brethren were no longer averse to warring against each other. In fact, at this time a large number of the Iroquois had become settled in Canada, chiefly on account of French successes in previous years and the constant apathy of the English; and even the strong influence of Sir William was no longer effectual in enlisting them in the cause which he represented. The greater part of the Mohawk nation, however, remained true to Sir William, their adopted chief, and were, with a fragment of other nations, factors in this campaign and that of the following year. Instead of being aggressors, the English officers appeared to prefer a mere defense. Their strong points in this province were at Fort William Henry and Fort Edward; the former garrisoned by Colonel Munro with five hundred men, and supported by seventeen hundred troops in an entrenched camp. General Webb was at Fort Edward, only fifteen miles away, with four thousand effective men. Munro therefore felt strong in his position, but when Montcalm laid siege to the fort and assistance became necessary, and was solicited, the cowardly Webb¹ withheld it, and even suggested that Munro should make terms of surrender with the French. Sir William Johnson with his Mohawk warriors and militia started to relieve the besieged garrison, but the commander in charge ordered his return. The natural and only result was the surrender of Fort William Henry, followed by the indiscriminate slaughter of a number of the prisoners, although, in justice to Montcalm, it must be said he did all in his power to prevent it. Fort William Henry was totally destroyed and its stores and munitions captured; and this with a loss to the French of only fifty-three men.

¹Another evidence of the consummate cowardice of General Webb was made apparent in his conduct at the German Flats, in the Mohawk valley. Two days before the surrender at Oswego Webb had been sent to the relief of that position. On the 20th day of August following, Sir William Johnson with two battalions of militia and three hundred Indians was sent to support Webb. At the Oneida carrying place news was received of the fall of Oswego, whereupon the terrified Webb, "fancying he already beheld his own scalp dangling from the waist of some brawny savage," caused trees to be immediately felled across Wood creek, and fled with his troops to the German Flats.

Webb at once prepared to retreat to the Hudson. Montcalm had intended an invasion of the Hudson river region, and the capture of Albany, but from the fact that his Canadian soldiers were needed at their homes to harvest their fields in order to avert a threatened famine, he retired satisfied with his success and glory. Meanwhile Loudon had had taken a position on Long Island; the English had been driven from the Ohio; Montcalm had restored the St. Lawrence valley to France, and Great Britain and her colonies were not only humiliated but were naturally fearful for the future. During the year 1757, there was made another disastrous invasion of the beautiful Mohawk valley by the French and Indians. At that time there were scattered settlements all through the vicinity of the river, the pioneers being chiefly Germans, or Palatines. They had become thrifty and were possessed of dwellings and fairly well tilled fields. They had been sufficiently apprised of the threatened invasion, and had they heeded the warnings give by the Oneida Indians they might have escaped, at least a part of the vengeance that fell so fearfully upon them. General Abercrombie too, was negligent in giving protection to the settlers and to the friendly Indians, although frequent requests had been made. Before daylight on the morning of November 12, the dwellers at the Palatine village were aroused by the terrific war-whoop, and immediately three hundred Canadians and Indians under Bellettre, attacked each block house. Some show of resistance was made, but without avail. The people of the village asked for quarter, but no mercy was shown. The dwellings were burned and their occupants ruthlessly tomahawked while they vainly endeavored to escape. Forty Germans in all were massacred and one hundred and fifty others carried away captives. In addition to these bloody horrors, the invaders captured large quantities of grain, three thousand cattle and as many sheep. This invasion so alarmed the settlers of the whole region that the inhabitants living elsewhere in the valley sought safety in flight to the settlements at Schenectady and Albany, and the villages of Stone Arabia and Cherry Valley became almost depopulated.

At the time this massacre took place Sir William Johnson was confined to his room by sickness, but through his secretary he at once sent word to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, enquiring of them why they had

not warned the Germans of their danger. The Indians however were not at fault, as their warning had been duly given. Abercrombie was also addressed from the same source, and a correspondence of some warmth was conducted in relation to that officer's neglect of duty. Lord Loudon, who was in Albany about that time, was inclined to place the blame upon the Iroquois in general, and exhibited a strong desire to make war upon them; but fortunately the influence of Sir William Johnson prevailed, thereby averting the misery which would certainly have followed.

Although the campaign of the previous year had been one of disaster to the English, that very fact seemed to infuse a little spirit into the ministry, which found public expression chiefly through that gifted statesman, William Pitt. A million and a half of people inhabited the British colonies, and an army of some 50,000 men was subject to the commands of Abercrombie. Commercial intercourse with the mother country was almost untrammelled, and there seems no sufficient reason why the French power should not have been extinguished by one grand movement. This predominance of the English, however, was considerably impaired by the fact that the French had gained stronger influence over the Indians, and the Canadian population was more concentrated, while above all the French cause was under command of by far the most brilliant and able men. In the language of a contemporary, "Britain had sent to her colonies effete generals, bankrupt nobles and debauched parasites of the court. France selected her functionaries from the wisest, noblest and best of her people, and therefore, her colonial interests were usually directed with sagacity."

English hostilities began in 1758 with brilliant achievements by the rangers under Rogers and Putnam, which did not, however, seriously influence the general campaign. As in the preceding year three formidable expeditions were planned, the varied points being Louisburg, Fort Du Quesne and Ticonderoga. Louisburg was besieged, and after some weeks of vigorous defence, surrendered to the English. The army sent against Fort Du Quesne was commanded by General John Forbes, through whose dilatory movement it came very near failure; but at last the decisive action of Washington restored victory to the English arms, and on the 24th of November the French set fire to the defences and fled down the Ohio river.

The capture of Ticonderoga, however, and the descent upon Montreal was the most important of these campaigns, being indeed the vital point in the war. A force of about 7,000 regulars and 9,000 provincials and a heavy train of artillery was assembled at the head of Lake George by the beginning of July. Unfortunately, however, the command of this fine army was given to General James Abercrombie. Judging well of his incapacity, Pitt sought to avert the probability of failure by the selection of Lord Howe, to whom was given the rank of brigadier-general, and he was made the controlling spirit of the expedition.

Early in the morning of July 5th this splendid army embarked upon Lake George, and two days later made a landing on Lake Champlain at the point that now bears Lord Howe's name. In the first engagement that took place he fell mortally wounded, and his death destroyed all the hope of a successful campaign. On the morning of the 8th Sir William Johnson arrived, accompanied by nearly four hundred Mohawks and other Indian warriors,¹ but at the same time the French army was reinforced by the arrival of De Levis and his 400 veterans. He had designed another invasion of the Mohawk valley, but had been ordered back to join the main body under Montcalm. During the engagement which followed, and in which the British were seriously defeated, Johnson and his Indians were posted on Mount Defiance (then known as Sugar Loaf Hill), and from their position were prevented from taking an active part in the battle. The details of this sanguinary conflict need not here be narrated; they are emblazoned on the pages of many a history. The assault was hopeless from the beginning, and while its bloody scenes were being enacted, under the watchful eye of the brilliant Montcalm, Abercrombie looked after the welfare of his own noble person amid the security of the saw-mills, two miles from the battle

¹ To give to the reader something of an idea of the difficulties that attended the gathering of this body of Indians, attention is directed to the following extracts from a letter addressed by Sir William Johnson to General Abercrombie: "Camp in the woods within ten miles of Fort Edward, July 5, 1758, six in the morning.

"SIR: I arrived here last night with near 200 men of the Five Nations and others. Mr. Crogan and some of the Indian officers are within a day's march of me with about 100 men, as I hear from letters from him." "I set off from my house last Tuesday with as many as I could there get sober to move with me, which were but a few, for liquor was as plenty among them as ditch-water, being brought up from Schenectady by their and other squaws as well as whites, and sold to them at night in spite of all I could do. These have since joined me by small parties. I assure your excellency, no man ever had more trouble than I have had to get them away from the liquor; and if the fate of the whole country depended upon my moving a day sooner, I could not do it without leaving them behind, and disgusting all the nations, etc."

field, and before early dawn of the morning of the 10th, he had placed the length of Lake George between himself and his conquerors. The total loss to the British was more than 2,000 men; of the French, about 500 men. This terrible and probably unnecessary catastrophe was partially offset by the successful siege of Fort Frontenac, which capitulated to Bradstreet on the 26th of August.

While Abercrombie thus dallied in contemptible indecision, Montcalm, reinforced with 3,000 Canadians and 600 Indians, was vigilant and persistent, striking wherever he could detect a vulnerable point. The events thus far recorded seem to indicate an early approaching triumph of the French cause in America, but really a dark reverse was imminent. Canada was suffering the horrors of famine and was almost depopulated of men who had been required to fill the military ranks. Montcalm was persistently appealing to the crown for aid, but the government could only furnish provisions and ammunition. On the other hand the English now appeared to have been stirred to renewed action through the zeal of William Pitt, and the year 1759 opened with far better prospects of success for the British arms. Changes had been made in military affairs; Abercrombie had been superseded by General Amherst, and when the latter appealed to the colonists for militia reinforcements they willingly complied with the request, although they were heavily burdened with debt on account of previous expenditures.

The proposed campaign of the year comprised, in addition to the conquest of Ticonderoga, the capture of Fort Niagara and the siege of Quebec. On the 7th day of July, General Prideaux was joined by Sir William Johnson, between whom there existed warm friendship, quite the reverse of the relations between the latter and Abercrombie. It was agreed by both officers that Oswego and Fort Niagara were important positions, and ought to be taken during the campaign. For this purpose Johnson was to assemble as many as possible of the Iroquois and join the expedition under Prideaux. As early as January 18, Johnson held a conference with Mohawk and Seneca chiefs¹ at

¹ The Senecas were by this time distrustful of the French and wavered between uncertain possibilities. They desired to be with the victors, and the general result of the previous year had not brought to the French arms the success the commanders had promised. Moreover the Indian faith in the French had been considerably shaken by treacheries, and many of the savages were anxious to return to their old allegiance.

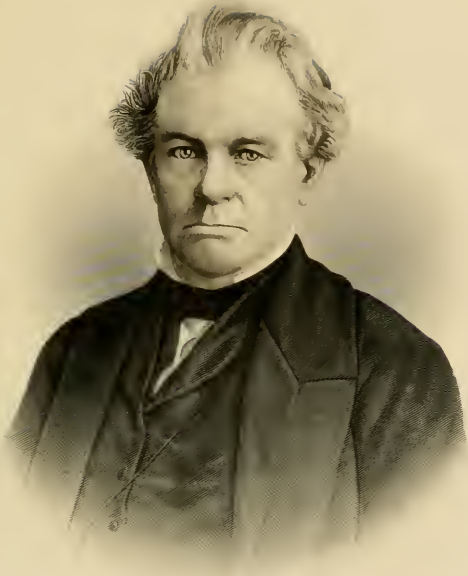
Canajoharie castle, his purpose being to call a general council of as many of the Iroquois as could be induced to attend, and if possible unite them all under his standard. The result was that in April following, another council was held at Canajoharie and assurances given by the savages of their willingness to join Johnson in the expedition. When he arrived at Prideaux's camp, Johnson had in his command no less than 700 dusky warriors, as well as a strong force of provincial troops.

After the surrender of the fort at Niagara, Johnson and his forces remained in the neighborhood, and also at Oswego, until the 14th of October when he departed for Mount Johnson.

In the Champlain regions the English armies were also successful. Montcalm had taken a position at Quebec, to defend the stronghold against the assaults of General Wolfe; and there both of these brave officers found their graves. General Amherst laid siege to Ticonderoga, which was defended by a garrison of 400 men under Boulamarque. The fort was evacuated on July 26, and this was soon followed by the withdrawal of the French from Crown Point.

The domination of France was ended by the fall of Quebec, September 18, 1759, thus leaving the English masters of all Canada, for the surrender of Vaudreuil on the 8th of the next September was an inevitable result.

Although hostilities between the two nations had now ceased, a formal peace was not established until 1763, when, on the 10th of February, the treaty of Paris was signed, by which France ceded to Great Britain all her possessions in Canada. On the 30th of July, 1760, Governor De Lancey, of New York, suddenly died, and the government passed into the hands of Cadwallader Colden, who was commissioned lieutenant governor in August, 1761. In October of that year General Robert Monkton was appointed governor of the province of New York.



John Sanford

CHAPTER VII.

Early Settlement of the Mohawk Valley — Van Corlear's Patent — Settlement at Schenectady — German Palatinates at Schoharie Creek, at Canajoharie and Palatine Village — Their Character and Customs — Located there as a Defense against the French Invasions — The Plan not Fully Successful — Sir William Johnson forms the Germans into Militia Companies — French and Indian Land Grants — Charters of New York and Pennsylvania Compared — The Former a Royal Province — Patents Issued Including Lands in Montgomery County.

AS has been briefly mentioned in one of the preceding chapters, civilized settlement began in the Mohawk valley in 1661, when Arent Van Corlear purchased from the Indian proprietors a large tract of land in the vicinity of Fort Orange, and another covering the present site of Schenectady. In 1684, nearly twenty years after the conquest of the Dutch by the English, the purchases made by Corlear were confirmed by Governor Dongan. During the period of the early wars between the French and Indians, there was but little attempt at settlement in any of the frontiers, such efforts being attended with many hardships and great danger. Even Schenectady, protected as it may have been, was (as has been narrated), surprised and destroyed by the French and Canadian savages in February, 1690. Notwithstanding this fearful tragedy, before the lapse of a little more than a score of years another attempt was made at the colonization of the valley, and this time too in the region farther west, being within the territory afterward formed into Montgomery county.

During the early years of the seventeenth century, Europe was subjected to a series of religious wars, in which the Romanists were opposed to Protestantism, their determination being to crush the latter out of existence. One of the localities seriously affected by this conflict was the Lower Palatinate in Germany; a province peopled by a hardy, though obstinate and ignorant race. To escape persecution this people fled from their native country and found temporary refuge in England. In 1702 Queen Anne succeeded King William, and the way

was soon provided by which the German refugees were given a home in the new world. The first of the Palatinates (as they were called), arrived in New York in 1707, followed in 1710 by a larger number—estimated at three thousand. The projectors of the colonization scheme intended that the Palatinates should settle in the Mohawk valley, but on examination of that region with reference to its adaptability the scheme was found to be impracticable, and the emigrants were located in the Hudson river country. A portion of the original number, however, remained in New York, while many went to Pennsylvania and became permanent residents. There were many causes which wrought dissatisfaction among the Palatinates in the Hudson river district, chief among which was the fact that they were obliged to serve under government agents; who were often both tyrannical and dishonest.

From this and other causes the poor Germans became greatly discontented with their abode, and many determined to seek homes elsewhere, particularly in the region which (as they claimed) Queen Anne had promised them. In fact they were so bent in this purpose that the authorities were obliged to use force to hold them to their contracts. At last the officers in charge became discouraged in their endeavors to improve such refractory settlers, and therefore permitted them to gratify their desires, the government hoping the removal might afford protection against the incursions of the French, and their Indian allies. In 1712, by permission of the Mohawks, a number of these families located on the Schoharie Creek, but later on they had disputes concerning their land titles. In 1723 colonies of Palatinates moved farther up the Mohawk and settled at Canajoharie and Palatine. In 1722 a number of them purchased lands in the vicinity of Fort Hunter, while others settled on West Canada creek. On the 19th of October, 1723, Stone Arabia patent was granted to twenty-seven Palatinate families whose members numbered one hundred and twenty-seven. Their lands included 12,700 acres, which were divided into twenty-seven equal parts, and laid out into lots to assist in this division.

The provincial authorities erred in their estimate of the value of the German settlers as a means of protection against invasion. On the contrary the very character and customs of this people seemed to almost invite a hostile attack, and it was not until several years after the arrival

of Colonel William Johnson that they held any semblance of military organization. They were careless of their own interests and reckless of their safety, either personal or of property. This was clearly shown when in November, 1757, the inhabitants of Palatine village received timely warning of an imminent French and Indian attack, but they disregarded the friendly caution and their hamlet was destroyed and many of its people killed or carried into captivity. Notwithstanding the above mentioned defect, the Palatines were prosperous, and contributed much to the early development and welfare of the Mohawk valley region. They increased rapidly in numbers, each succeeding generation being an improvement; and in the valley to-day are many of the descendants of the original settlers who have reached wealth and distinction. Sir William Johnson afterward organized many of these Palatines into militia companies, nine of them all told, and he called them together whenever there appeared any reason to expect an invasion. In this way the Germans were beneficial in protecting the region, for the mere knowledge of a regiment of armed militia, together with nearly two hundred thoroughly trained Mohawk warriors, and all under command of an officer so skillful as Sir William Johnson, had a subduing effect upon the ardor of the French and their savage Canadian allies.

During the period of French and English rivalry in America, both powers derived a revenue by the sales and also the more extensive "grants" of the lands in their domain. Each, however, required as a condition precedent to the full occupation and enjoyment of the territory, that the Indian title should first be extinguished by purchase or release. The French grants covered such tracts (mainly in the northern portion of New York), as were not included in English land charters, but with the final overthrow of French power in America the greater number of these were annulled, and the lands were afterward sold to British subjects, though a few of the original seigniories were confirmed to their proprietors through royal grace and clemency.

The British power in the colony of New York had no real existence until after the conquest of the Dutch. In fact the grant to the Duke of York was not made until 1664, a year only before the occupation of the New Netherlands. The introduction of this subject naturally leads us to an examination of the peculiar character of the grant of the prov-

ince of New York, and those points in which it differs from almost all others on this continent, although they emanated chiefly from the same source. No better illustration of this difference can be made than by comparing the charters of Pennsylvania and New York.

The former was granted to William Penn in payment of a debt due his father, Admiral William Penn, from the British government. By that charter the fee in the province passed to the grantee, subject only to the Indian title, which Penn was obliged to extinguish at his own cost. This having been done, the patentee was the absolute owner of the lands thus granted; and all emoluments were his own. Of similar character also was the charter by which in 1664 Charles II granted to his brother James, Duke of York and Albany, the vast territory which included all that is now the state of New York. The Duke of York, by that grant (and others of later date), became proprietor of the land, with the same rights and powers, and subject to the same conditions regarding Indian titles, as William Penn; and the patents which were made to various sub-proprietors, either to favorites or for considerations, between 1664 and 1685, by the duke, were made from the same relative position as Penn occupied during his proprietorship.

In 1685, however, the Duke of York himself became king of Great Britain, and as his charter naturally merged in the crown, the government of his possessions changed from a proprietary one to a "royal province." Instead of being governor of the colony, the king held the power only of appointing that functionary, and thus indirectly controlling its affairs, but still receiving specified revenues from its land sales.

Little was done in the way of granting land in the province of New York earlier than the first quarter of the seventeenth century, although under the duke's title some grants were made even before he became king. But after the year 1734, and particularly after the English and French were really contending for supremacy in America, the government disposed of much of the available territory of the province, and it is a noticeable fact that by far the greater part of the early land grants included portions of old Tryon county, though as yet in possession of the Mohawks. An explanation is found in the fact that this region was under the special control of Sir William Johnson. His influence among

the Mohawk Indians is surprising to all who do not consider the relations that existed between himself and the red men, and the great value of the presents he made them. We know, indeed, that during the last score of years of Sir William's life, the Mohawks were to a large degree dependent upon his bounty for their support, and under such circumstances we are not surprised to learn that for a merely nominal consideration he could induce them to part with such of their domain as he or his favorites desired to possess. It has been asserted that the baronet secured the Indian title to the immense tract known as the royal grant from King Hendrick as the result of a dream, but while many doubt this story, its narration suggests the extraordinary influence of Sir William over the Mohawk nation. According to the records, the royal grant embraced ninety-three thousand acres of land lying between East and West Canada creeks, and north of the Mohawk river, and was patented to Sir William Johnson by letters issued April 16, 1765. King Hendrick was killed in September, 1755, ten years previously; and yet it may be true that the old chief released the Indian title long before his death, and the purchase thus made was confirmed by the king ten years afterward.

The titles of many of the old land grants are still preserved and are occasionally referred to in modern conveyances. The reader will of course understand that all these grants were made prior to the revolution, but though issued during the British dominion, many were afterward confirmed by the state authorities, while the other portion was confiscated and sold as the property of enemies. These persons were called tories, and though they did not in all cases bear arms against American independence, their conduct was sufficiently inimical to justify confiscation. The most important instance of this kind was found in Johnson Hall and the surrounding estate. It was sold by the state authorities, and was finally purchased by the ancestor of the present Wells family, in whose possession it still remains.

Beginning soon after 1700, and thence throughout the years down to the outbreak of the revolutionary war, there was granted to various individuals and companies an aggregate of more than a thousand square miles of land in what afterward became Montgomery county; and while these many patents had a bearing on the early history of this region,

further reference to them at this time is not necessary, as they are made a part of the history of the towns in which they were respectively situated.

CHAPTER VIII.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, BARONET.

A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE LIFE OF THE FOUNDER OF JOHNSTOWN.

HAVING made frequent reference to that remarkable man known first as William Johnson, land agent; then as Colonel Johnson; later as General Johnson, and finally as Sir William, we now propose a brief review of the leading events of his life, though we shall hardly expect to do justice to the most eminent character in the civil and military record of the province of New York, being limited to a mere outline of his illustrious career.

William Johnson, the son of Christopher and Anne (Warren) Johnson, was born in county Down, Ireland, in the year 1715. His uncle, Sir Peter Warren, had married an American woman, and became possessed of an extensive tract of land in the Mohawk valley. It contained 14,000 acres (originally granted in 1735 to Charles Williams) and located between the Mohawk and Schoharie rivers, in what is now the town of Florida. In 1738 William Johnson came hither to serve as superintendent of this estate, whose development was of great importance to its proprietor, since the purchase was a speculation from which he had great hope of financial profit. With this view young Johnson, under the direction of his uncle, cleared part of the land, putting it under cultivation, and also surveyed the entire tract, dividing it in a manner that would attract settlers of limited means. An important feature in this work was the erection of a mill. He also established himself in trade, a store being necessary to public convenience, and thus extended every inducement that could assist the new settlement. Later on, in view of the hostility between the British and French, and as well be-

tween the Iroquois Indians and their savage enemies in Canada, he erected a fortress which was called "Fort Johnson," on whose site Fort Hunter was afterward built. This was his home for several years, and from this point all his business operations were extended; but while doing full justice to his patron he omitted no opportunity to advance his personal interests, and early won that reputation for fair dealing which was always so prominent a feature in his character.

Such a life could not but render the young land agent familiar with the Indians. He adapted himself to their habits and language, and gained their confidence and enduring friendship. His intercourse with the Mohawks rendered him popular with the entire Six Nations, who thenceforth regarded him as their friend and protector. As a result he had no difficulty in acquiring Indian titles to such land as he desired, and he was also serviceable to his friends in procuring similar favors. To such a degree was this acquisition extended that at the time of his death he was the owner of various tracts in the country of the Mohawks, and also in other western nations of the confederacy, to the enormous extent of more than 173,000 acres.

The young land agent, like most adventurers, was unmarried, but he soon employed a housekeeper, a comely German girl, named Catherine Wisenberg, whom he afterwards married¹. She became the mother of three children, one son (John) and two daughters, one of whom became the wife of his nephew, Col. Guy Johnson, and the other the wife of Colonel Daniel Claus. After the death of his wife (the precise date of which is unknown) Johnson, who had then become colonel, took as housekeeper Molly Brant, sister of Joseph Brant, the famous Mohawk chief. She bore him eight children, each of whom was abundantly provided for in the baronet's will; but as his entire estate was afterwards confiscated and sold, none of his heirs ever possessed their inheritance.

It was not until George Clinton² became governor of the province of New York that this "Mr. Johnson" became at all prominent in public

¹ This marriage ceremony was performed by Mr. Barkley, the Episcopal minister residing at Fort Hunter, where he officiated in the stone church built by direction of Queen Anne for the Mohawk Indians. (Yates)

² This George Clinton is not to be confounded with our patriotic governor of the same name.

affairs. He had been previously occupied with the details of business, but with Governor Clinton he appears to have formed an intimate friendship. About this time (1742) he moved from the Warren tract to the north side of the Mohawk river, locating at a place named by him "Mount Johnson," where he erected a substantial stone mansion, now owned and occupied by Ethan Akin. In 1745 Johnson was appointed one of the justices of the peace of Albany county, an appointment which was the recognition of services among the Indians, holding the latter firm in their allegiance, and thus counteracting their preference of the French standard, a natural result of the Jesuit influence.

So highly appreciated, indeed, were these services that in 1746 he was appointed superintendent of Indian affairs in the entire province, a duty which extended through a vast territory. He was, however, so well known to all the Iroquois that he had their confidence and was really the object of their admiration, a natural result of his uniform honesty as well as decision of character. Such indeed was his popularity that the Mohawks adopted him into their nation, making him a chief with the title of Warre-haha¹. Four years later (1750) opposition was created against Colonel Johnson. He was falsely accused of using his influence for selfish ends, and while this charge was never sustained it so embarrassed him that he resigned the superintendency of Indian affairs; nor would he again accept the office when subsequently requested to resume its duties, until he yielded to Braddock's solicitation.

The title of "Colonel Johnson" first appeared in 1746 in correspondence which he held with Governor Clinton, and soon afterwards he was ordered to organize the militia for frontier defence. In obedience to this commission he formed the Germans and other settlers into militia companies; and thus the former land agent, now known as "Colonel Johnson," having this force under his command, together with his Indian allies, established a formidable barrier against the so dreaded French invasions.

In 1750 Colonel Johnson received a still higher honor, being appointed a member of the governor's council, a body whose decisions controlled the highest public interests. His opinions in its deliberations

¹ Johnson's Indian name is differently given in a preceding chapter.



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had a peculiar value because of his familiarity with Indian affairs, and here he proved eminently useful. As an acknowledgment of his services, and also as a compensation for advances and expenditures made for the public benefit among the Indians, Colonel Johnson was voted by the council a belt of land two miles in width surrounding Onondaga lake, and including, of course, the site of Syracuse, whose salt springs had even then attracted attention.

We now reach that interval of almost peaceful nature which preceded the last struggle between the French and the British, and Colonel Johnson improved this opportunity to advance the welfare of his estates, which were rapidly increasing in extent as well as in value; but he also found time to elevate the condition of those around him, and especially to promote the civilization and education of his Indian dependencies. He became a patron of the mission schools and placed Joseph Brant, then one of the most promising Mohawk youths, at the Indian school in Lebanon. His prominence in public affairs, however, continued, for he, like all other of prophetic ken, foresaw the approaching crisis.

Jealousy is the inevitable penalty of public service, and the commissioners of Indian affairs were envious of his influence among the Iroquois. The Indians, too, became discontented and inclined to rebel against the power that restrained them; they called loudly for the reinstatement of their old superintendent, and on this point King Hendrick and his brother, Abraham, were clamorous. In obedience to this request, Johnson submitted a report to the governor on the government of the Six Nations, with suggestions for observance. He also placed the militia of the province in condition for active service.

In 1755 the final conflict for supremacy in America was begun between England and France, and immediately we find Colonel Johnson foremost in every military expedition. How signally he distinguished himself when disaster came to the British arms in every other quarter, is brilliantly recorded on the page of history. On the earnest invitation of General Braddock, he attended the military conference at Alexandria, where he received command both of the provincial militia and the warriors of the Six Nations in the expedition against Crown Point, his rank being major-general. Braddock also induced Johnson to serve

as superintendent of Indian affairs, giving him sole power and commissioning him to treat with the confederate nations in order to unite them in support of British interests. This investment of authority was followed by a grand council at Mount Johnson, and the long sought alliance was accomplished ; but when General Johnson marched for Lake George the jealousy of Governor Shirley prompted him to use every means to discredit Johnson, and even to attempt to win from him the friendship of the Mohawks in order to rally them under his own standard.

Having previously described the expedition against Crown Point, it is sufficient here to state that it was only through the timely arrival and persistent efforts of General Johnson that victory was secured. Early in the battle which decided the fate of war, he was wounded¹ and was obliged to retire from the field, but while succeeded by General Lyman, he still in part directed the action, and yet, notwithstanding its grand success, he incurred censure for neglecting to attack the French fort at Crown Point, which some thought might have been captured easily, as the enemy was too severely beaten to make a successful defense. Instead of doing this Johnson erected Fort William Henry at the head of Lake George, but whatever may have been the truth of the above mentioned censure, it is evident that the public was in approval of Johnson's conduct, and congratulations were freely bestowed both by the province and the crown. The former tendered him an ovation and public reception in New York city, while the latter made him a baronet, and he was thenceforth known as "Sir William."

Parliament also voted him thanks for his victory, and a more substantial reward was added in the handsome gift of five thousand pounds. These gratuities were followed by a commission as "Colonial Agent, and sole Superintendent of all the affairs of the Six Nations and other Northern Indians "

The last mentioned appointment was the source of much gratification to all the Indians and especially to the Mohawks. About this time, 1756, the Pennsylvania Indians became hostile to the colonists, and the superintendent was called upon to prevent violence. Several conferences were held, and though serious trouble was threatened, it was averted by this timely intervention.

¹ General Johnson was wounded in the hip, from which he was ever afterward a constant sufferer, and no doubt the injuries received in this campaign did much to shorten his life.

Sir William now suffered much from his wound, and this increased the burden of public affairs, but when he was called upon to support Webb at German Flats he responded promptly and witnessed the distress of that cowardly officer on learning of the fall of Oswego. The next year he joined the army under Abercombie, having in his own command the organized militia of the Mohawk valley, and also his faithful Indian allies, but the inefficiency of the commander-in-chief prevented his engaging the enemy—a service which he had earnestly requested. Disaster at this time attended public affairs, and in addition to those which befell the army in the Champlain valley, came the destruction of Palatine village, occurring at a time when Sir William was confined to his bed by sickness. As soon, however, as returning health permitted he reorganized his militia for active service and marched to the scene of conflict.

An army was sent against Fort Niagara in 1759, under the command of Prideaux, but as he was slain at an early time in the siege, Sir William succeeded him, and having defeated the attempt to relieve the beleaguered garrison, he eventually secured a signal victory. This campaign being ended he returned to Fort Johnson, and it may be added that the victories which marked this year really brought the French dominion in Canada to a close, though three years elapsed before the terms of peace were specified by treaty. This pacific interval enabled Sir William to attend to his personal affairs, which had suffered much for want of care. As has been mentioned, he had acquired large landed estates, having purchased from the original patentees many desirable tracts, among which was included what afterward became the township of Johnstown. Impressed with its eligibility he founded a settlement on this spot, though a year or more elapsed before marked progress was made in colonization. This work was also retarded by the campaign of 1760, when he with his Mohawk warriors were summoned to the aid of General Amherst in his movement against the now weakened French positions in the Champlain valley. Serious Indian troubles also occurred the next year in the northwest, and his presence as superintendent was required to pacify the savages and secure an amicable settlement of difficulties. This duty required a journey to far distant Detroit, which Sir William, notwithstanding his infirmities, undertook and ac-

complished, being accompanied by his son John and his nephew Guy Johnson. On the return journey the baronet was again prostrated by illness and was obliged to remain several days at Niagara before he could resume his homeward route.

Peace being now proclaimed, and the Indian troubles practically settled, Sir William once more devoted himself to his personal interests. In 1762 he induced one hundred families to settle in his new village of Johnstown, and as an additional bounty, he gave the Lutherans and Presbyterians each fifty acres of land as a glebe for pastoral support. Previously to this he had erected a summer residence on the northwestern border of the great plain, in the present town of Broadalbin, to which he gave the dignified name of Castle Cumberland. He also built a lodge on the south bank of the Sacandaga, in what is now the town of Northampton, where he was accustomed to resort during the fishing season, and the spot even to the present retains its early name, the "Fish House." Agriculture and stock raising also shared his attention, and to improve the breed of domestic animals he brought blooded sheep and horses into his settlement.

Public affairs, however, soon again required his attention, this being occasioned by a disaffection among the Indians in Pennsylvania, and grievances inflicted on the Mohawks who justly complained that their lands had been withheld or invaded by the settlers. Such complaints were familiar to Sir William, who again brought the troubles to a satisfactory close, and the Indians again learned that they had no wiser and firmer friend than the baronet. The treaty at Easton was made and confirmed, and Sir William returned to Mount Johnson, where soon afterward (1762) his daughter Nancy was married to Col. Daniel Claus. The remainder of the year was occupied by the baronet in preparing his timber and other material to be used in the construction of Johnson Hall, an elegant baronial mansion, completed in 1763, and thenceforth his dwelling until the close of his life. This building still stands within the limits of the village of Johnstown. It may, however, be added incidentally that the settlers brought to this spot were chiefly Germans, while nearly four miles north he settled a colony of Scotch Highlanders, who were also his dependents and faithful followers. They occupied the region until the Revolutionary war, and then by reason of their

allegiance to Sir John Johnson many of them fled with their protector and found refuge in Canada.

But even within the quiet and retirement of Johnson Hall, surrounded by faithful friends and devoted servants, Sir William Johnson found no permanent peace from the cares of public life and service, for no sooner had he arranged for his own comfort than there came mutterings of another outbreak, followed soon afterward by open warfare against the rapidly advancing settlements of the English and American pioneers. Pontiac's war threatened not only the safety of the frontiers, but as well the interior settlements whose destruction was planned. The wrath of many western Indian tribes had become aroused, and their emissaries visited the Six Nations, hoping that they also would be persuaded to take up the hatchet. The situation at once became alarming, and prompt and decisive action was required. Public peril thus called the baronet from his comfortable home. His energies were directed to the confederate nations, and as the result of his negotiations all the tribes promised friendship, with the exception of the Senecas, who, after much persuasion, agreed to neutrality. By this treaty, which was a renewed proof of the wonderful influence of the baronet, the frontier and also the colonies of New York and New England were well protected, in as much as between them and the exasperated savages lay the country of the Iroquois—a secure barrier which no foe dare pass. Other measures for defence were also prosecuted, for Sir William did not depend upon the red man's promise unsupported by his own efforts. The militia were stationed at convenient points, ready for action if required. Pontiac's Indians required vigilant watching, since they bore a special hatred against Sir William, chiefly because of his influence over the Iroquois, and hence they determined upon his destruction. The baronet, however, became aware of their murderous purpose and therefore armed his tenantry and surrounded Johnson Hall with a strong stockade. His greatest safety, however, lay in the protection freely offered by his faithful Mohawk warriors, and fortunately, during Pontiac's war, the New York settlements were unmolested.

For two years next preceding the close of the year 1765, there was continual commotion among the Indians of the western frontier, and the baronet found his whole energies required in either fitting out expedi-

tions to repel invasions and punish outrages, or in negotiating peace treaties. In 1764 he held a grand council at Niagara, whose most important result was the Senecas ceding to the British government a tract four miles wide on each side of the Niagara river, and extending from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie. They additionally granted to the baronet all the islands in the same river, which he, in turn, ceded to the crown. At the same time Sir William was greatly disturbed by events other than those relating to Indian affairs. The patentees who had purchased lands of the crown on the promise to satisfy the Indian titles had been guilty of many unjust dealings, and had succeeded in trapping the untutored natives into land conveyances without adequate compensation. The owners sought to occupy and settle under their patents, and their fraud thus became known to the Mohawks, who, finding themselves defrauded, became deeply indignant. A similar animosity spread throughout the Six Nations, and renewed disaster was threatened.

The chief cause of this wide spread discontent was created by the granting of the patent of Kayaderoseras, an act permitted by the crown and sanctioned by the provincial government. Its proprietors represented to the Indians that the land sought to be obtained by them would include in extent only enough to make a small farm, and they released their title for nominal consideration; in fact the patent included the great amount of about 700,000 acres, and the fraud was not discovered until the deed of cession had been made. Parts of Montgomery and Fulton counties were included by the patent, as will be seen by reference to the previous chapter. Through the efforts of Sir William the Mohawks were restored to a part of their lands, and so far as possible he rectified the great wrong which they had suffered; but in this attempt he was opposed by powerful political influences exerted by the proprietors, and no small amount of both time and effort was required to accomplish the much desired result.

The adverse influences which constantly beset the baronet in the province operated in other modes of injury. He had earnestly espoused the cause of the Indians, being indeed their official protector, therefore reports of his impending removal were circulated. The unscrupulous proprietors justly considered him an obstacle in the way of their nefarious designs. That hoped for removal, however, was never accom-

plished; on the contrary Sir William's influence increased, and he was soon gratified by the news that his son John, who was then in England, had been knighted by the king. This was conclusive proof of the royal confidence in the baronet's ability and integrity. During the same year (1766) Sir William built a grist-mill for the benefit of his tenants, gave personal attention to the erection of an Episcopal Church at Schenectady, fitted up at his own expense a Masonic lodge room at Johnson Hall, and built commodious stone dwellings for his sons-in-law, Guy Johnson and Daniel Claus, to each of which he added the gift of a square mile of land. The mansion and estate of Guy Johnson is now included in the suburbs of Amsterdam, and has long been known as "Guy Park"; that of Colonel Claus was located about midway from Mount Johnson to the Park. Sir John Johnson first lived at the Hall with his father, but having married Miss Mary Watts, of New York city, on June 29, 1773, they began housekeeping at Mount Johnson.

The restoration of peace again enabled the baronet to give attention to his much neglected business affairs. He devoted himself to the development of the estate at the Hall, and also to the improvement of his tenantry, while the educational and spiritual welfare of his Mohawk dependents had a full share in his efforts. Many indeed of these once savage warriors had become thrifty and successful farmers, and Sir William gave them every possible encouragement. He also built a church at Canajoharie for their use and supplied their school with a teacher. It was at this time of usefulness that the king, in recognition of his eminent service, granted to him the immense tract called the "Royal Grant," lying between East and West Canada creeks. Its extent was 69,000 acres, and it included the site of Little Falls and part of the village of Herkimer.

In 1771 Johnstown had become a thriving and prosperous business centre, and all through the Mohawk valley settlements were increasing with marked improvement in agriculture. Johnstown soon required new streets, for during the year 1770 eighty families had come there to live. Lumber for building was supplied from the baronet's mill, and other necessities were furnished through his bounty. In March, 1771, he built St. John's Church, commonly called the "Stone Church," and in the same month advertised in the New York papers for a teacher for the free school which he had established.

Notwithstanding, however, the apparent peace and prosperity that prevailed on every hand, the baronet was seriously troubled both in body and mind. He was afflicted by a serious malady and every remedy failed to restore health. In addition to personal ailment was that dark cloud which he saw gathering in the political horizon. He well knew its cause, and evidently forecast the inevitable result. The mother country had burdened the colonies with oppressive measures which taxed both their means and patience beyond endurance. Long years of experience in public life had made Sir William conversant with the needs as well as the capacity of the country, and also with the temperament of the people. He beheld the public grievances, yet was powerless to remove the burden. A servant of the crown, as well as its beneficiary, he was a sad and silent observer of all that occurred, and his unerring judgment told him at once that a rupture with Great Britain was inevitable. He did not, however, live to participate in the conflict that followed these premonitory signs and which ended in national independence and the creation of the Republic of the United States.

Previous to this important event, Sir William became an active factor in the organization of two new counties, being in this movement the counselor of Governor Tryon, then chief executive of the province. The plan and petition for dividing Albany county was first suggested in 1769, but the bill for that purpose was opposed and defeated. In 1772 another petition was sent to the legislature by Sir William, and after a brief delay he was gratified to learn that the bill had become a law. This subject will be more fully discussed in one of the later chapters of this work, and yet a brief allusion to it at the present time is appropriate.

The original county of Albany was created in 1683, and was confirmed in 1691, but its jurisdiction then included the entire province of New York, together with that disputed territory then called the "New Hampshire Grants," but now part of Vermont. The bill which was passed in 1772 divided Albany county and created three counties—Albany, Tryon and Charlotte. Tryon included all that part of the province west of the Delaware river and a line extending thence north through what is now Schoharie county, and along the east line of Mont-



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gomery, Fulton and Hamilton counties, and continuing in a straight line to Canada. Charlotte county included the New Hampshire grants north of the north lines of the towns of Arlington and Sunderland in Vermont, and a continuation of that line west to the Tryon county line. The remainder of New York, with part of Vermont, constituted Albany county.

Sir William lived to see this organization completed. In fact he was not only one of its originators but designed its temporary offices, nominated those who were elected by the people and controlled its affairs during his lifetime. Johnstown was designated the county seat. The court-house and jail were built the same year, the first term of court being held in September. The baronet also, at the suggestion of the governor, divided the new county into provincial districts, or townships they would now be called.

During 1772, Governor Tryon, accompanied by his wife, visited Sir William's palatial home, the ostensible object being to hold a council with the Mohawks, but in reality it was to learn what might be the most desirable lands in that region, for the worthy governor had a desire to speculate. During his stay, however, he reviewed the various regiments of troops under Sir William's command—three in number, one being composed of residents of Johnstown and its vicinity. In recognition of Sir William's services in organizing so effective a body of militia, Governor Tryon soon honored him with a commission as major-general of the northern department, a position he held during the remainder of his life.

From this time until 1774 we have a quiet interval, but in the last mentioned year Indian troubles again demanded the attention of the superintendent, arising from a revolt in Pennsylvania, which seriously threatened the peace of the Six Nations. Johnson, although unfit for duty by reason of illness, consented to hold a council at the hall. Six hundred of the confederates were present, and the baronet addressed the chiefs and sachems for two hours, all the time being exposed to the burning heat of a July sun. The exertion required by such an effort produced a fit, from which he died the next day, July 11, 1774. "His funeral," says a reliable authority, "was the most solemn demonstration the colonies up to that time had ever witnessed. The clergyman

in attendance was the Rev. Mr. Stewart, missionary at Fort Hunter, and the funeral procession numbered over 2,000, including colonial dignitaries and Indians, who were bereaved of a lifelong friend. He was buried in a vault erected beneath the floor of St. John's church for the family, but he was the only one of the number who ever occupied it."

Sir William, six months before his death, prepared a will disposing of his property and estate, by which he made abundant provisions for the children born to him by Catherine Wisenberg and Molly Brant, and also to other beneficiaries, but his principal devisee was his son, Sir John, who inherited the estate at Johnstown with other vast tracts of land, and to whom also descended the influence and power exercised by the baronet over the Six Nations. One especial injunction in Sir William's will clearly indicates the true character of the testator; it really revealed his heart: "I do earnestly recommend to my son to show lenity to such of the tenants as are poor, and an upright conduct with all mankind, which will on reflection afford more satisfaction to a noble and generous mind than the greatest opulence." But the will of the baronet, although elaborately prepared, and legally signed and witnessed, was never executed.

Had Sir William lived it is confidently believed he would have espoused the cause of the colonies against the mother country, in which event one of the most magnificent estates in the country would have been confirmed to him, but his successors, and particularly his son Sir John, allied themselves to the British, and as a result the estate was confiscated and sold for the public benefit.

While Sir John Johnson succeeded to the baronial estate of his father, and also, as far as possible, to his influence among the Indians, the office of superintendent of Indian affairs was committed to Colonel Guy Johnson, assisted by Colonel Daniel Claus, the latter having been deputy superintendent to Sir William in Canada.

CHAPTER IX.

Situation in Tryon County from the Close of the French War to the Revolution — British Oppression Causes Discontent — The Stamp Act — Duties Levied on other Commodities — The Boston Tea Party — First Congress at Philadelphia — New York Opposes the Action of Congress — Districts of Tryon County — Guy Johnson Disperses the Meeting at Caughnawaga — Attack upon Jacob Sammons — Action of Loyalists — Guy Park Fortified — General Meeting of the Tryon County Committee — Its Object — Guy Johnson Departs for Canada — Conduct of Sir John — He Fortifies the Hall and Arms the Highlanders — His Arrest, Parole and Flight to Canada — The Estate Confiscated — Character and Duties of the Committees of Safety.

THE years immediately preceding the revolution were filled with important events connected with the history of Tryon county; and in no part of which was there a greater diversity of sentiment than in that which afterward became Montgomery county.

The political situation in Tryon county during the revolution and indeed for some years previous, was at once novel and interesting, since it included influences politically antagonistic, while socially there was no animosity among the pioneers, and good will and friendship prevailed on every hand. The settlements founded by the direct influence of Sir William Johnson in the Mohawk valley were entirely under his control during his life, and their militia was subject to his command. His death, however, and the succession of his son (so far as it was possible for the latter to succeed him), caused a marked change in political events; one indeed which created not only a division of sentiment, but in many instances the rupture of friendship. Had Sir William lived a few years longer his love of America might have led him to espouse her cause, and many think his policy indicated such a purpose; but Sir John, and his brothers in-law, Guy Johnson and Daniel Claus, were creatures of the king, having no sentiment in common with the people, being evidently imbued with aristocratic notions.

Continuing this inquiry into the condition of public matters, we are led to examine the prevailing causes of the above mentioned division, both in sentiment and action, and it also occasions a review of those

events which precipitated the war. A careful examination of the Mohawk valley at the time referred to leads to the conviction that the patriots were strongly in the majority. The taxation to which the colonies were subjected by the mother country really began almost as far back as the overthrow of the Dutch power in America, for it seems to have been the king's determination to make them self supporting, which was more than their own share toward national greatness. The burden of debt was then very heavy on Great Britain, but it was chiefly created by the wars in which she engaged on her own side of the Atlantic. That portion, however, incurred by the wars on this continent she proposed to be paid by the colonies, notwithstanding the great increase of her domain through these wars. The time, however, arrived when tame submission to such measures could no longer be endured. The colonists themselves were heavily burdened with the expenses of the late French war, which resulted so favorably to England, yet almost before the smoke of the battles had cleared away the ministry began devising plans to tax them without asking their consent. In 1764 a proposition was submitted to the House of Commons for raising revenue in the colonies by the sale of stamps, and a bill to that effect was passed in March, 1765. It was bitterly denounced in the colonies, especially in New York, and the "Sons of Liberty" were organized in opposition to the obnoxious law. This organization was closely watched by Sir William, who, as he could not but be conscious of the rectitude of their motives, made no public opposition.

So great, indeed, was the popular indignation that parliament finally repealed the act, but this was done more to satisfy English tradesmen than to relieve a distressed people; and in its place were enacted other oppressive laws, one of which required the provinces to pay for supporting the British soldiery in New York city. The colonial assembly refused to comply with the demand, and parliament in retaliation annulled its legislative powers.

In 1767 a bill was passed by parliament imposing a duty on tea, glass, lead, paper and painter's colors imported by the colonies. This renewed the opposition, and in the following year the Massachusetts assembly addressed a circular letter to the sister colonies soliciting their assistance in defending the common liberties. More retaliation followed,

for the ministry was so wrathful that a letter was sent to each of the colonial governors forbidding their assemblies to correspond with Massachusetts. This mandate, however, was ignored, and the New York assembly accompanied its disobedience with declarations of inherent rights, together with denunciations of parliament, and the people sustained their representatives and returned most of them to the new assembly of 1769.

In 1770 Lord Dunmore succeeded Colden as governor, and brought with him royal approval of the act authorizing the issue of the colonial bills of credit. The duties had meanwhile been removed from all articles except tea, and colonial affairs for a time moved more smoothly, but in July 18, 1771, William Tryon became governor, and soon afterward the old difficulties were again renewed. The East India Company, conscious of the injustice in placing a duty on tea, tried to have the latter removed, but in vain, for the ministry still adhered to its boasted right to tax the colonies. This was soon followed by the destruction of the tea shipped to Boston, an event which has ever been known as the "Boston Tea Party." The ministry, whose rage was still more excited by the bold defiance, again retaliated by closing the port of Boston against all commerce—an outrage which awoke national indignation. Public meetings were held for the consideration of the common grievances, and among the plans suggested for mutual protection was the assembling of a Colonial Congress.

The "Continental Congress" (as it has ever been termed) was held at Philadelphia in September, 1774, and having adopted a declaration of rights, it added a petition to the king and an appeal to the people of Great Britain and Canada. The New York assembly was the only one that did not sanction these proceedings; instead of which it addressed a remonstrance to parliament, which was treated with disdain.¹

Let us now return to the county of Tryon and mark how these measures affected the people, and how the latter co-operated for the common weal. The reader must remember that Tryon county was then

¹On the 12th of January, 1775, at a cabinet council, it was declared that there was nothing in the proceedings of Congress that afforded any basis for an honorable reconciliation. It was therefore resolved to break off all commerce with the Americans; to protect the loyalists in the colonies, and to declare all others to be traitors and rebels.—Lossing.

a new creation named in honor of the governor, but young as it was it displayed a full degree of power. The enormous extent of the county led to its division into five districts—the first, beginning at the east, was the Mohawk district, embracing Fort Hunter, Caughnawaga, Johnstown and Kingsboro; next was Canajoharie district, embracing the present town of that name, with all the country south, including Cherry Valley and Harpersfield; third was Palatine district, north of the river, and including the settlement known by the same name, together with Stone Arabia and its immediate precinct; fourth was German Flats and Kingsland, and other western settlements.

Many of the people were zealous and earnest in the patriotic cause and were open in their approval of the proceedings of the Continental Congress, but on the other hand, their district contained Sir John Johnson, who, having succeeded to his father's military title (though never to his popularity and influence), warmly supported the British interests. In carrying out this policy Sir John was seconded by Guy Johnson and Daniel Claus, whose efforts were directed to the complete alienation of the Indians from the whig colonists, and also to bring into submission all of the settlers that might yield to their influence. This attempt, however, did not succeed to any considerable extent, though the immediate dependents and tenants on the Johnson estate were kept in subjection. The Mohawks of course were friendly to the crown, for they loved the father too well to oppose his son. Prominent among them were the notorious leaders, John and Walter Butler, and also the chief, Joseph Brant, all of whom became infamous from their bloody deeds during the revolution, and yet their pillage and slaughter was generally described to the instigations of the Johnsons.

Sir John and his fellow loyalists did not limit their schemes to Tryon county; they sent emissaries to the Six Nations and all other Indians within their reach, the object being to induce them to take up the hatchet against the Americans. In this effort they were too successful, for all except the Oneidas and a few other friendly Indians joined the British. The tory sentiment, however, which was so general in the Mohawk district, did not prevail throughout the country and this was especially true of the Germans in the Palatine district, whose patriotic zeal corresponded with the worth of the cause, and whose example had

an inspiring influence throughout the entire region. They were proof against the machinations of the Johnsons and the still more seductive influence of British gold.

One of the first mass-meetings of the Whigs in Tryon county was held at Caughnawaga soon after the opening of congress, its purpose being to express public approval of the policy pursued by the colonies, and to adopt such measures as might be required by the common weal. On this occasion the animosity of Sir John and his associates was fully manifested, for no sooner had the proceedings begun, than he appeared on the ground with Guy Johnson, Colonel Claus, Butler and a crew of retainers, armed with swords and firearms. Guy Johnson acted as speaker for the tories. Mounting a high stoop, he addressed the throng (which included about 300 patriots), setting forth the power of the crown and the weakness of the colonies. In the course of his speech he so incensed Jacob Sammons, son of the pioneer Sampson Sammons, that the latter retorted with the epithets of "liar and villain." Enraged at this response the tory colonel leaped down and struck the offender a blow which felled him to the ground. Recovering consciousness, young Sammons found one of Johnson's servants sitting astride his body, but the latter was quickly thrown off and the quarrel renewed. Jacob received further injuries, pistols were pointed to his breast, he was again knocked down, and finally was compelled to retire and depart for his father's house, the place being long known as Sammonsville.

The foregoing incident correctly illustrates the feelings of Sir John Johnson towards those who differed with his opinions and interests, but while his retainers in the Mohawk district numbered more than a thousand (including settlers and Indians) his influence never extended beyond them nor were his views respected in those parts of the country that were less subjected to his power.

The proceedings of the Continental Congress (held in Philadelphia in the spring of 1775) naturally surprised and even alarmed this boastful tory, and he determined to counteract their influence so far as possible, and at the same time to convince the crown of his unshaken allegiance. Accordingly, at a court held in Johnstown in the spring "a declaration was drawn up and circulated by the loyalists of Tryon

county, in which they avowed their opposition to the measures adopted by congress." Some debate and warm discussion followed this refractory measure, but the document was signed by most of the grand jury and nearly all the magistrates; a very natural thing indeed, for the county was fully controlled by the Johnson interest.

The influence of the Johnsons as has been mentioned was chiefly limited to the Mohawk district, and no sooner had their conduct become known throughout the country than meetings were held in other localities, notable in the Palatine and Canajoharie districts, upon which occasions the recent outrages were condemned, and the people were urged to firmness in the cause of liberty. The most alarming feature in the public situation was the fortification of Guy Park, whose proprietor had placed swivel guns on each side, and had furnished arms to the tenants and also to the neighboring Indians. More than this, he had stopped and searched two New Englanders, being suspicious that they were emissaries from Massachusetts to the Six Nations whose purpose was to make them allies to the American cause.

At this time the Johnson party was alarmed by the suspicion that a body of New Englanders was coming to effect their arrest, but however well founded their suspicions may have been, there was no such intention at that time on the part of the colonial authorities, and Guy Johnson's defense may have been due to the fear that he might be attacked by the indignant people of the valley, on account of his enmity to liberty. It should be said, however, in justice to Johnson, that he avowed that he was not so much in fear of the settlers in the valley as of assault from the New Englanders. This may be seen by an extract from one of his letters: "You have been misinformed as to the origin of the reports which obliged me to fortify my house, and stand on my defense. I had it from undoubted authority from Albany, and since confirmed by letters from one of the committee at Philadelphia, that a large body of men were coming to make me prisoner."

On June 2, 1775, there was held a general meeting of the committees of safety for several districts of Tryon county, at which was present for the first time the Mohawk committee, they having heretofore been restrained from taking part in the proceedings through fear of the Johnsons. The representatives present on this occasion were as follows:



James Shanahan

From the Palatine district, Isaac Paris, Christopher P. Yates, John Frey, Andrew Fink, Andrew Reeber, Peter Wagner, Daniel McDougall, Jacob Klock, George Ecker, jr., Harmanus Van Slyck, Christopher W. Fox, Anthony Van Veghten; Canajoharie district, Nicholas Herkimer, Ebenezer Cox, William Seeber, John Moore, Samuel Campbell, Samuel Clyde, Thomas Henry, John Pickert; Kingsland and German Flats district, Edward Wall, William Petry, John Petry, Augustin Hess, Frederick Owendorf, George Wentz, Michael Ittig, Frederick Fox, George Herkimer, Duncan McDougal, Frederick Helmer, John Franck; Mohawk district, John Marlatt, John Bliven, Abraham Van Horne, Adam Fonda, Frederick Visscher, Sampson Sammons, William Schuyler, Volkert Vedder, James McMaster, Daniel Lane.

The principal object of this gathering was to cement more strongly the friendship of the settlers, and to discuss the best means to be adopted for the general welfare. At the same time a committee was chosen to prepare and send to Col. Guy Johnson a letter, setting forth the sentiment of the people as declared by the representatives, and requesting that he, as superintendent of Indian affairs, should use his best efforts to dissuade the Indians from taking up arms against the settlers, rumors then being in circulation that Johnson's retainers had been instigating them to attack. In reply to this letter Colonel Johnson most emphatically denied the charge, and expressed a desire to promote peace between the Indians and the inhabitants. He also called a second council of the Indians in the western part of the county, and, under pretense of there meeting them, moved his family from the Park to Crosby Manor, a little above German Flats. After remaining for a time in the upper part of the valley, he and his followers moved westward as far as Ontario, thence to Oswego, and eventually to Montreal, where he remained during the war, still acting as agent and superintendent, and whence using British gold as a stimulating influence, he sent out parties of Indians to fall upon the settlements in their usual bloody and merciless manner. The people of the valley, being aware of his departure, were both surprised and alarmed by the movement, but were powerless to prevent it, for they were comparatively unorganized and were destitute of either arms or ammunition.

In the party which accompanied Guy Johnson were John and Walter Butler and Joseph Brant, but the larger part of the loyalists remained

behind, placing themselves under the protection of Sir John, whose house and property now became their principal place of rendezvous. Between this party and the committees of safety there occurred incessant contentions. Among the loyalists was Alexander White, sheriff of Tryon county, who had made himself peculiarly obnoxious to the committees, and who was bitterly hated because of his prominence in the assault upon Jacob Sammons and in breaking up the meeting at Caughnawaga. The committee refused to recognize the authority of White as sheriff, and procured the election of John Frey in his stead. White left the country and went to Canada, but returning the next summer he was arrested, though afterward released on parole.

Between Col. Guy Johnson and Sir John, after the former had reached Canada, there was a continual correspondence, their letters being carried secretly by the Indians. Sir John was no less inimical than his brother-in-law, but to draw out clearly his sentiments and test his loyalty, the general committee addressed him a letter, requesting to know whether he would allow the inhabitants of "Johnstown and Kingsboro to form themselves into companies, according to the regulations of the Continental Congress, for the defense of our country's cause; and whether your honor would be ready to give personal assistance to the same purpose; also whether you pretend a prerogative to our county court-house and jail, and would hinder or interrupt the committee making use of the same to our want and service in the common cause."

To this letter Sir John replied: "That as to embodying his tenants, he never did or should forbid them; but they (the committee) might save themselves further trouble, as he knew his tenants would never consent." Concerning his own intentions, he said, that "sooner than lift his hand against the king, or sign any association articles, he would suffer his head to be cut off."

From the tenor of this reply there could be no mistaking the sentiments of the baronet. He claimed the ownership of the court-house and the jail until he should be reimbursed the sum of \$700, but said that he would not deny the use of the latter for the purpose for which it was intended. In regard to Sir John's asserted ownership of the county buildings it may be stated that the committee of congress had information that Sir William Johnson had conveyed the same to two persons

in trust for the county. The committee advised, however, that in view of the bad consequences that might follow if the buildings were attempted to be used for the confinement of the tories, the local committee should engage some other building for their purposes. Accordingly a private house was secured in which several tories were confined, while others were sent to Albany and Hartford.

During the winter of 1775-6, the people of the county were alarmed by the news that Sir John was making preparations to fortify Johnson Hall, and to arm his tenantry and concentrate his entire force in the vicinity; also that he was to garrison his forts with 300 well-armed Indians. There was much truth in this rumor, as the baronet did construct two forts, both of stone, for the defence of the Hall. One of these is still standing, while the other has been removed, as it impaired the beauty and convenience of the mansion, which still stands as securely and substantially as when built in 1763. A more complete description of the Hall and its surroundings will be found in the History of Fulton County.

The conduct of Sir John in prosecuting warlike measures, together with his often repeated treasonable utterances, at last attracted the attention of the provincial authorities, and they decided to bring them to a close. For this purpose, in January, 1776, General Schuyler, accompanied by General Ten Broek and Col. Varick, marched a military force into Tryon county, and at the same time General Herkimer called out the militia, and a combined demonstration was made, their rendezvous being Major Fonda's, where Fonda now stands. Negotiations were held with Sir John and continued two or three days, and the result was that he disarmed his tenants and surrendered himself a prisoner. He was taken to Fishkill, but soon after released on parole. This pledge of honor however, he violated, for in the following May he and his tenants left the Hall, proceeded stealthily by way of Sacandaga and took up his abode in Montreal, whither Col. Guy Johnson had preceded him. During the war that followed, Sir John commanded a troop of his faithful servants and tenants, which were known as "Johnson's Greens."

The flight of the last of the Johnson family removed from Tryon county the most dangerous element against which the struggling colon-

ists had to contend. Thenceforth, so far as local government was concerned, there was no dispute in old Tryon, for the whole people were united in the common cause; and if toryism occasionally manifested itself it was quickly subdued and even followed by arrest. Sir John's servant concealed much of his plate and treasure, but afterward recovered it. The vast Johnson estates, however, were confiscated and sold, and the county thus relieved of the possibility of a "manorial tenure."

Before concluding the present chapter it may be well to explain the necessity of appointing committees, and also the method by which they were formed, and the powers and duties entrusted to them.

Governor Tryon, in whose honor the county was named, was not at all in sympathy with the feelings and actions of the American colonies, and this is the reason why the New England colonies were so much more incensed at the conduct of the Johnsons than the New York authorities. In fact, between the executive of this province and the Johnsons there was the greatest harmony of thought and sentiment; both were the creations and the creatures of the king, and their policy was in subservience to the royal command.

It could not indeed be otherwise than that Tryon should remain faithful to his sovereign, for his office was the direct gift of the crown, and all that the Johnsons possessed came from the same source.

This allegiance to the king on the part of the governor and nearly all others in high office and influence in this province operated materially against the patriots, and forced them into such a position that they were compelled to act through a specially created and self constituted body called the General Committee of Safety, which in turn reported to and received instructions from the Continental Congress. In each of the counties of this province, the chief body was the Council of Safety, while in the several districts (towns or township as now known) were more local organizations, each called the Committee of Safety. The principal duty of the latter was to learn the condition of the district; to ascertain who were friendly to the crown and to watch their movements; also to learn whether the tory element was making any preparations for either aggressive or defensive operations, and the nature of such proceedings. In short the district committee was supposed to

know whatever was taking place in its territory and to report the facts to the Council of Safety. Each of the districts had one of these committees. It was the meeting held at Caughnawaga under the direction of the Mohawk district committee which was attacked and dispersed by the forces of Guy Johnson, of which mention has already been made in this chapter.

CHAPTER X.

Beginning of the Revolution — The British Influence — The Iroquois — Oneidas Remain Neutral — Organization of Militia in Tryon County — St. Leger Invades the Mohawk Valley — The Battle of Oriskany and Fort Schuyler — The British Defeated — The First Pension — Indian Depredations in 1778 — Campaigns of Sullivan and Clinton in 1779 — Sir John Johnson Invades the Valley in 1780 — Visits Johnstown and Secures his Plate — Details of his Raid.

THE flight of the last of the Johnsons from Tryon county restored partial tranquillity among its inhabitants, for while a few Tories still remained they were awed into silence by the determined action of the committees of safety. To such a class their property was a far greater sacrifice than the surrender of their principles.

In 1776 the war had become national instead of colonial and on the 4th day of July independence was formally declared. The long period of seven years of hardship, suffering and conflict which had begun in the battle of Lexington in April, 1775, was closely followed by the daring exploits of Allen and Arnold, both at Ticonderoga and on Lake Champlain, but it was some time before old Tryon county was made the scene of war. All through the Mohawk valley the greatest fear of the people arose from the probability of an Indian invasion, instigated by the Johnsons, and hence all possible preparations were proposed both to prevent a surprise and resist an attack.

The policy of the Americans had been to secure simply the neutrality of the Indians, but their success was limited to the Oneidas, while the British made undisguised efforts to unite them in close alliance with the royal cause. One of their officers exclaimed: "We must let loose the

savages upon the frontier of these scoundrels to inspire terror and make them submit." In the spring of 1777 Governor Tryon wrote to Germain that he was perfectly agreed as to the employment of Indians in the war. Brant, the great Mohawk chief who had been taken to England (1775-76), was shown marked favor by the government and was empowered to lead all who would follow him against the colonists. Lord Chatham, however, hurled his bitterest invective against this inhumanity, and when, in 1777, it was advocated in parliament, in such words as these: "It is perfectly justifiable to use all the means that God and nature have put in our hands," he indignantly exclaimed: "I know not what idea that lord may entertain of God and nature, but I know that such abominable principles are equally abhorrent to religion and humanity." Chatham's appeal however was in vain, and the secretary of war (Germain) gave special instructions to employ Indians in fighting republicans. A council had already been held in Montreal by the chiefs and warriors of the Iroquois, the Johnsons, Butlers and Brant taking part. Here the savages swore fealty to the king, this being the first act in the long catalogue of slaughter and devastation that followed.

For the emergency of war, during the early part of the summer of 1776, a company of rangers was formed among the people living in the Mohawk valley, and the command was given to Captain Robert McKean; but as this force was sent to another field it became necessary to organize another company, which was stationed in the valley under Captain Winn. In August Captain Getman's company of rangers was formed, and officered as follows: Captain, Christian Getman; lieutenants, Jacob Sammons and James Billington; corporals, William Kind, John Hulsor, Leonhart Kratzer; sergeants, Nehemiah Williams, Richard Coppernoll.

The Tryon county committee had charge of the organization of its militia, which was divided into four battalions and placed under command of General Nicholas Herkimer. The officers of the battalion were as follows: Canajoharie district, first battalion—Colonel, Nicholas Herkimer; lieutenant-colonel, Ebenezer Cox; major, Robert Wells; adjutant, Samuel Clyde. Palatine district, second battalion—Colonel, Jacob Klock; lieutenant colonel, Peter Wagner; major, Harmanus Van Slyck; adjutant, Anthony Van Vechten. Mohawk district, third

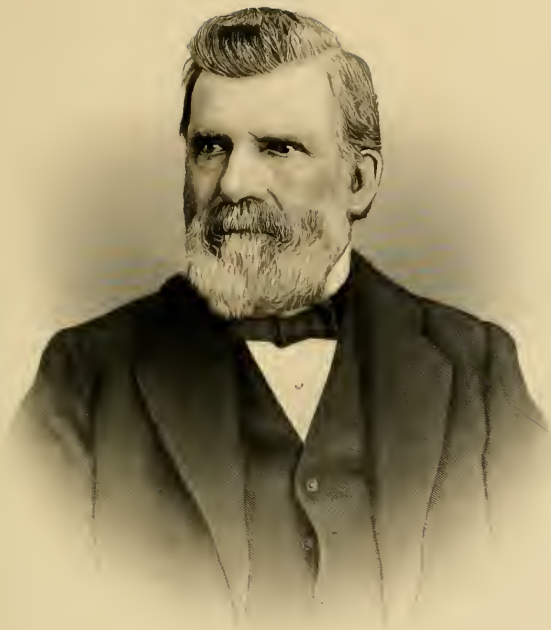
battalion — Colonel, Frederick Visscher; lieutenant-colonel, Adam Fonda; major, John Bliven; adjutant, Robert Yates. Kingsland and German Flats district, fourth battalion—Colonel, Hanyoost Herkimer; lieutenant-colonel, Peter Bellinger; major, Hanyoost Shoemaker; adjutant, John Demooth.

The organization of this military force was effected none too soon, and they were early called into service. Brant had appeared on the upper waters of the Susquehanna, and General Schuyler dispatched General Herkimer to communicate with him in order to learn his intentions, and if possible secure his promise of neutrality. In July Herkimer with 380 of his militia began his march, but the conference yielded no substantial result and as the season advanced the inhabitants of the Mohawk valley were thrown into a state of wild excitement by the news that a strong British force of regulars, Tories and Indians was assembled at Oswego with purpose to attack Fort Schuyler, after whose capture they were to march through the valley and co-operate with General Burgoyne and his army, which was then overpowering everything in the Champlain valley. Unfortunately, however, the people of Tryon county were so disconcerted by this alarm that no united action was taken. Preparation for defence was neglected, and even General Herkimer and the committee of safety did not escape the censure of the higher military authorities.

The British force at Oswego comprised 400 regulars, 600 Tories and 700 Indians, all commanded by General St. Leger with Sir John Johnson and Joseph Brant as allies, while the Americans under Herkimer numbered about 800. The latter were assembled at German Flats. Fort Schuyler, the object of British attack, was garrisoned by 750 men under Colonel Gansevoort, well supplied with ammunition except cartridges for the artillery. The advance guard of the British reached the outskirts of the fort on August 2, and made immediate preparation for an attack. On the 4th General Herkimer advanced from German Flats and on the 5th encamped near Oriskany. From this point he sent Adam Helmer and two others to inform Colonel Gansevoort of his approach, it being understood that the arrival of these messengers was to be announced by the firing of three cannon in quick succession. In the meantime St. Leger was apprised of the advance of Herkimer's militia,

and on the morning of the 6th he dispatched Brant with a large body of Indians, also Major Watts with a detachment of Johnson's Greens and Butler's rangers, to intercept them and thus prevent the relief of the garrison. General Herkimer waited long and patiently for the expected signal, but unfortunately his subordinates interpreted his delay as evidence of cowardice, and even openly charged it upon him, until goaded on by this foul accusation he ordered his impatient men to advance. The enemy, practicing their favorite mode of warfare, lured the patriot force into ambush and opened a murderous fire, but Herkimer's men, though shockingly surprised, went into action with all the nerve that could have been expected of the Tryon county soldiery, and such bravery against fearful odds was seldom witnessed on any battlefield during the Revolution. The militia, indeed, were now for the first time brought face to face with their worst hated enemies (Johnson and the Tories), and they knew that they must conquer or shamefully perish, leaving their families the victims of outrage and death. The battle of Oriskany finally ended in the dearly bought defeat of the British, while at Fort Schuyler St. Leger's force fared no better, but the details of this action, however interesting, are not necessary to this work (as it was fought beyond the present limits of the county of which we write) and are therefore omitted. It may be added, however, that General Herkimer was seriously wounded and yet bravely refused to leave the field. He supported himself against a tree, seated on his saddle and directed the action of his men until victory was secured. He was then carried to his dwelling where he died ten days afterward, death being the result of an unskillful amputation.

The most important result of the victory at Oriskany was the fact that it prevented a union of St. Leger with Burgoyne. The British plan was that their three armies should fight their way to Albany, Burgoyne taking the Champlain route in expectation that Lord Howe would come from New York (by the Hudson river) and thus co-operate. St. Leger, on the other hand, was to devastate the Mohawk valley and then join his commander in the same manner. It was a grand military scheme, but like many others proved a failure, the first decisive blow being the defeat at Oriskany, thus saving Fort Schuyler. Next in importance was General Stark's great victory over Colonel Baum and his



John M. Farlan

Hessians at Bennington, on the 16th day of August. Each of these victories led to the final triumph, and the last scene in the bloody episode was Burgoyne's surrender to General Gates, at Stillwater on the 17th of the next October.

The patriot force in the battle of Oriskany, as has been stated, was from Tryon county, but unfortunately, no perfect roster of their names is in existence. They came from the various districts of the county, and the slaughter filled old Tryon with such grief that history was neglected in the general horror. A partial record, however, was preserved of the gallant band that fought in that fearful conflict, and we now add a copy in hope that some citizens of Montgomery may here discover an ancestor or kinsman. They were patriotic heroes of the highest rank and their names should be perpetuated in history, and this leads us again to express our regret at the loss of the roster. The following list, which is the best that can be given, contains the names of a large number of the force, also the place of residence, and also gives the killed, the wounded and those taken prisoners. The residences are given in many instances in towns erected since that day, but now used for convenience.

The killed were as follows: Brig.-Gen. Nicholas Herkimer, Danube; Col. Ebenezer Cox, Minden; Frederick Ayer, Schuylcr; Nicholas Bell, Fall Hill; Joseph Bell, Fall Hill; Jacob Bowman, Canajoharie; Maj. John Bliven, Florida; Samuel Billington, Palatine; Lieut.-Col. Samuel Campbell, Cherry Valley; Robert Crouse, Minden; Andrew Cunningham, Amsterdam; Lieut. Robert Campbell, Cherry Valley; Capt. Henry Dievendorf, Minden; Capt. Andrew Dillenbeck, Palatine; Capt. John J. Davis, Mohawk; Martines Davis, Mohawk; Benjamin Davis, Mohawk; Capt. Thomas Davy, Springfield; John Dygert, Palatine; Maj. John Eisenlord, Palatine; Jacob Failing, Canajoharie; Lieut. Petrus Grant, Amsterdam; Nicholas Gray, Palatine; Capt. Frederick Helmer, German Flats; Lieut. Abel Hunt, Florida; Conrad Hawn, Herkimer; ——— Hiller, Fairfield; Jacob Klepsaddle, German Flats; Jacob Moyer, Fairfield; Jacob Markell, Springfield; William Merckley, Palatine; Isaac Paris, Palatine; Peter Paris (son of Isaac), Palatine; Lieut. Dederick Petry, German Flats; ——— Pettingill, Mohawk; Martines Putnam, Johnstown; Cornelius Phillips, Florida; John Petry, Herkimer; Lieut. Hanjost Petry, Herkimer; George Rays-

nor, Minden; Christian Sharrar, Herkimer; ——— Sharrar, Snyder's Bush; Maj. William Seeber, Minden; Capt. Jacob Seeber, Minden; Adolph Seeber, Minden; Henry Spencer, Joseph Snell, Jacob Snell, Frederick Snell, Sufferenus Snell, of Snell's Bush; John Snell, John Snell, jr., Jacob Snell, of Stone Arabia; Maj. Harmanus Van Slyke, Palatine; Peter Westerman, Minden; John Wohlever, Lawrence Wrenkle, Fort Herkimer.

Wounded: Capt. John Bigbread, Palatine; John Cook, Palatine; Peter Conover, Maj. John P. Frey, Palatine; Capt. Christopher W. Fox, Conrad Folts, Herkimer; Henry Failing, Canajoharie; Capt. Jacob Gardner, Fultonville; Samuel Gardner, Fultonville; Philip Nellis, Palatine; Adam Price, Canajoharie; Joseph Petry, Herkimer; Capt. Nicholas Rechter, Ephratah; Jacob Radnour, Minden; William Shafer, Col. Frederick Visscher, Mohawk; ——— Van Antwerp, supposed Glen; George Wagner; George Walter, Palatine; Henry Zimmerman, St. Johnsville.

Taken prisoners: Lieut.-Col. Frederick Bellinger, German Flats; Maj. Blauvelt, Mohawk; Peter Ehle, Francis Lighthall, Ephratah; Garrit Walrath, Minden; Lieut. Henry Walrath, Herkimer; Henry Walrath, Herkimer; Surgeon Moses Younglove, Stone Arabia; Jacob Youker, Oppenheim.

In the battle: Abram Arndt, Minden; Jacob Alter, Minden; Col. Peter Bellinger, German Flats; Capt. George H. Bell, Fall Hill; Melchert Bauder, Palatine; John R. Boyer, Snyder's Bush; Adam Bellinger, John Bellinger, ——— Billington, Palatine; Peter Bargy, Frankfort; Adj. Samuel Clyde, Cherry Valley; Capt. Abram Copeman, Canajoharie; Isaac Conover, Glen; Jacob, John and Adam Casler, Minden; Richard Coppernoll, Minden; William Cox, Minden; George Crouse, Minden; Jacob Clemens, Schuyler; Jacob Collier, Florida; John Dievendorf, Minden; Peter Dygert, Palatine; Hans Peter Dunckel, Han Garrit Dunckel, Han Nicholas Dunckel, Minden; John Dockstader, German Flats; Capt. William Dygert, German Flats; Marx Demuth, Deerfield; Capt. Immanuel De Graff, Amsterdam; Peter S. and George Dygert, German Flats; Peter Dorn, Johnstown; Jacob Empie, Palatine; William Ehle, Palatine; John Eysler, Snyder's Bush; Capt. Christopher P. Fox, Peter Fox, Charles Fox, William Fox,

and Christopher Fox, Palatine ; Henry N. Failing, Canajoharie ; Valentine Fralick, Palatine ; Lieut.-Col. Adam Fonda, Fonda ; Peter Geortner, Minden ; Lieut. Samuel Gray, Herkimer ; Captain Graves, Captain Lawrence Gros, Minden ; Cyrus Gray, Florida ; John Adam Helmer, German Flats ; Lieut. John Joseph House, Minden ; Christian Huffnail, John Huyck, Palatine ; Marcus Hand, Florida ; William Hall, Glen ; Maj. Enos Klepsaddle, German Flats ; Conrad and Peter Kilts, Palatine ; Andrew, Jacob and Solomon Keller, Palatine ; Col. Jacob Klock, Palatine ; Lieut. Peter Loucks, Palatine ; George Lintner, Minden ; ——— Lighthall, Palatine ; Solomon Longshore, Canajoharie ; Henry Louns, Canajoharie ; Colonel Louis, a St. Regis Indian with the Oneidas. He held a lieutenant's commission, and was usually called "Colonel" ; Adam Miller, Glen ; Jelles, John P. and Henry Miller, Minden ; David Murray, Florida ; Lieut. David McMaster, Florida ; Jacob Myers, German Flats ; Joseph Myers, Herkimer ; Conrad Moyers, Danube ; ——— Moyers, ——— Moyers (brothers) ; Christian and John D. Nellis, Palatine ; Peter Nestell, Palatine ; John and Garret Newkirk, Florida ; Dr. William Petry, German Flats ; John Marks Petry, German Flats ; Ensign Richard Putnam, Johnstown ; Nicholas Pickard, Canajoharie ; Lieut. Abram D. Quackenbush, Glen ; John Rother, Minden ; Johannes Roof, Fort Stanwix ; John Roof, Marx Rasbach, Kingsland ; ——— Ritter, Fairfield ; Ensign John Jost Scholl, Ephratah ; Peter Sitts, Palatine ; Henrick Staring, Schuyler ; Thomas Shoemaker, Herkimer ; Rudolph Siebert, George Shults, Stone Arabia ; Henry Shaull, Herkimer ; ———Shimmel, Herkimer ; Henry Sanders, Minden ; Sufferenus, James and John Seeber, Christian Schell, Schell's Bush ; George Smith, Palatine ; ——— Smith, father of Nicholas ; Lieut. Jeremiah Swarts, Mohawk ; John G. Sillenbeck, John Shults, Palatine ; Peter Sommers, Philip G. P. Stowits, Root ; Peter and George Snell, Stone Arabia ; Adam Thumb, St. Johnsville ; Henry Thompson, Glen ; Conrad Timmerman, St. Johnsville ; Nicholas Van Slyke, a fifer, Palatine ; Cornelius and Henry Van Horne, Florida ; ——— Van Slyke, Canajoharie ; Lieut.-Col. Peter Wagner, Palatine ; Lieut. Peter Wagner, John Wagner, sons of Col. Jacob Wagner, Minden ; John Wagner, Canajoharie ; Richard, Peter and Abram Wohlever, Jacob Weaver, German Flats ; Peter James Weaver, German

Flats ; Michael Widrick, Schuyler ; Jacob Walrath, Palatine ; Robert Yates, Root ; Nicholas Yerdon, Minden.

Of the representatives of the Snell family who took part in the battle of Oriskany, Jephtha R. Simms, in his *Schoharie and Border Wars*, says : " It has been said for many years that nine Snells went into the battle and that seven of that number remained there."

Henry Staring was the ancestor of Commodore John H. Starin, whose magnificent summer residence and grand estate adorns the beautiful elevation just outside the limits of Fultonville. Lieut.-Col. Adam Fonda was the ancestor of Henry A. Fonda, of Milton, Pa.

By reference to the above roll it will be seen that Isaac Paris, of Palatine, and his son were killed in the battle. On the 14th day of February, 1793, Catharine Paris, widow of Isaac, was voted a pension by a special act of the state legislature. It is believed to have been the first pension ever granted, either by state or federal authority. Catharine Paris passed her last days in Johnstown, being cherished by her son, Daniel Paris, a prominent lawyer, who was at one time a member of the state senate. He married Catharine Irving, sister of the author, and among his descendants is Mrs. S. V. R. Cruger, of New York. Mrs. Paris was buried in the old Johnstown cemetery, where her grave is still to be seen.

The pension act just mentioned is an interesting feature in Tryon county history, and may therefore be included in our record as follows : " Whereas it has been represented to the legislature that Isaac Paris, one of the militia of this state, was slain at the battle of Oriskany, by the enemy of the United States ; and that Catharine Paris, the widow of the said Isaac, hath not intermarried with any other person since the decease of her said husband, and is now in indigent circumstances ; In consideration thereof, be it enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, that the Treasurer of this State shall, on or before the first day of May next, pay to the said Catharine Paris, or her order, the sum of thirty pounds ; and on the first Tuesday in May, in every year afterward during her widowhood, the like sum of thirty pounds."

During the year 1778, although there were no historic battles in the Mohawk valley, the whole region was constantly alarmed by Indian

depredations. These petty invasions led Congress to hold a general conference with the Six Nations at Johnstown, for the purpose of bringing them to neutrality, and thus prevent further devastation. For this purpose a council was called at Johnstown between the 15th and 20th of February, but the Indians were so slow in attendance that it was not until March 9 that the proceedings began. General Schuyler and Volkert Douw, associated with James Duane (as special commissioner) conducted the council. The entire Six Nations, except the Senecas, were represented by chiefs and sachems, the Indian attendance being in all seven hundred. The commissioners opened the council, and one of the chiefs of each nation replied. The Oneidas and Tuscaroras expressed friendship, but while some others assumed a similar position their words were deceitful, and, in fact, during the course of the council there was concealed within convenient distance a number of British spies. The results of the council quieted for a time the public fears, but it was thought wise to adopt the suggestion of General La Fayette (who also was present), and build forts at various places along the frontier.

The Indians at this time were smarting under the chastisement they received at Oriskany and Fort Schuyler, hence cautious leaders of the Americans were not willing to trust them implicitly, notwithstanding their promises. It was well known that the Johnsons were desirous, and even determined to reoccupy the Mohawk valley and their deserted estates, and were only awaiting a favorable opportunity for an invasion. In the south part of Tryon county Brant was perpetrating his cruel and cowardly outrages, robbing, burning and slaughtering in the smaller frontier settlements. A much bolder movement, which occurred about the same time, was the reappearance of a body of tories, estimated at one hundred, who came into the Mohawk valley, took their movable property and families and escaped without molestation. They left Fort Hunter, proceeded to Fonda and thence journeyed northward to the Fish House. There they took eleven prisoners, among whom were Solomon Woodworth, Godfrey Shew and his three sons. They burned the buildings, among them the lodge built by Sir William Johnson in 1760, and then took boats and rowed down the Sacandaga and up the Hudson, thence crossed to Lake George and returned to Canada by the Champlain valley.

On the 2d of July of the same year, a strong party of Indians made a descent upon the settlement at Cobleskill, and two days later occurred the terrible massacre at Wyoming. In the same month also the settlement at Andrustown, six miles from German Flats, was plundered by Brant and his savage warriors. During the same fall, General Haldimand, governor-general of Canada, at the suggestion of Sir John Johnson, sent a party of forty or fifty men to Johnstown to recover certain valuable papers which were concealed near the former residence. In this party was one Helmer, who was injured and obliged for a time to remain in his father's house. He was discovered and arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to death at Johnstown. The others of the party, although they committed no depredations (at least there are none on record), escaped in safety to Canada, having come and returned by the short but unfrequented route of the Sacandaga, Lake George and Champlain Valley. Another fearful outrage occurred in November of the same year, when Brant and Butler, with 200 Tories and 500 Indians, fell upon the little settlement at Cherry Valley and ruthlessly slaughtered its inhabitants and plundered their dwellings.

The Indian depredations of 1778 were really the most important features in warfare during that year, but it was also noted for the alliance with France, which gave renewed confidence to the colonies and really insured the final victory. In November a large British force advanced from Canada to Ticonderoga and completed the devastation that had been begun on both sides of the lake; a foray, which, if justified by the laws of war, wrought but little benefit to the British, while it caused much unnecessary suffering.

The early part of 1779 brought to the inhabitants of Tryon county a repetition of the events of the preceding year. The Mohawk valley once more became the scene of scalping and plundering, and among the settlements first to suffer from Indian savages and cruelty were Stone Arabia and a small hamlet south of the Mohawk. In both instances men were either killed or carried into captivity. At the same time a band of Senecas made an attack upon Schoharie, with the scalping knife and torch, and compelled the settlers to flee for their lives. The Palatine committee of safety at last was compelled to ask protection from General Clinton, and the latter responded with a detachment of

troops which swept the savages from the valley and inflicted severe punishment wherever they were found. The Onondagas were among those upon whom Clinton's force had visited summary justice, and in revenge, they attacked Cobleskill, killed a number of its people and plundered the settlement. In the meantime Brant extended his predatory warfare into the Hudson river country, and massacred, plundered and burned wherever an opportunity offered.

These atrocities at last became so numerous that the authorities were thoroughly aroused and determined to draw upon the troops in service for a general expedition against the Indians. The plan of the campaign called for two forces, one under General Sullivan to march through the Susquehanna and Chemung valleys; and thence down Seneca Lake to destroy the Seneca villages, while the other force, under General Clinton, was to sweep through the Mohawk Valley and thence westward and punish all the hostile tribes. Both of these movements were entirely successful, and the result was that the Indians, especially the fierce Senecas, were driven to the protection of the British post at Fort Niagara. Their villages and growing crops were destroyed, and thereafter they were obliged to rely on the generosity of the British for their support.

We now approach that most horrible episode in Tryon county history known as "Sir John Johnson's raid." In the spring of 1780 (May 21) Sir John came from Canada by Lake Champlain to Crown Point, at the head of a force of five hundred British troops, a detachment of his own Royal Greens, and about 200 Indians and Tories. From Crown Point he made his way through the forest to the Sacandaga river, and at midnight entered the north part of Johnstown so stealthily as to take the slumbering inhabitants unawares. He divided his force into two bodies in order that they might cover more territory, and then he enacted a series of atrocities from whose record history almost recoils. Families were aroused from slumber by the terrific war whoop, and men, women and children were brutally slaughtered, their dwellings burned and their property destroyed. Even the lapse of a century has hardly abated the horror which accompanied the memories of Sir John's infernal purpose and the Mohawk valley was fearfully ravaged by his barbarous horde. An important object in the cowardly invasion was the recovery of some

valuable plate which had been buried at the time of Sir John's flight in 1776. Since that time it had been faithfully guarded by one of his former slaves, who, with the aid of the soldiers, disinterred the silver and laid it at his master's feet, and it was divided among forty soldiers for transportation to Montreal. Such we say was the leading object in Sir John's invasion, but only a man of his malignity could have added the horrors which he wrought merely to gratify brutal revenge.

Having secured the plate they passed on through the village unobserved by the garrison that occupied the stockade around the jail and resumed their hellish task. The first family to feel their malice was that of Sampson Sammons, who with his three sons, Jacob, Frederick and Thomas, were made prisoners. No doubt they were worth more alive than dead. The dwelling was plundered, after which the invaders joined the eastern division at the north of the Cayadutta.

The other force, led, as it was believed, by two notorious tory brothers named Brown, passed at once through Johnstown to the vicinity of Tribes Hill, and thence all through the river country, both east and west of Caughnawaga, they wreaked vengeance on the unprotected inhabitants. Ludowick Putnam and his son were first butchered, their property stolen or destroyed, but the females of the family escaped. Amasa Stevens, son-in-law of Putnam, was also killed, but his wife also escaped. Garrett Putnam was an intended victim, but had recently moved away after renting his house to two tories. The house of Henry Hanson was likewise plundered and its owner murdered. In fact the property of every patriot in the locality was robbed or destroyed, and only that belonging to the tories was spared. The church and parsonage at Caughnawaga were also unmolested, being prominent features in the estate of Sir William Johnson. At the latter place Douw Fonda was killed and scalped; and it was said that he was one of the nine aged men, four of whom were more than eighty years old, who were slain during Sir John's raid. His descendants are still prominent citizens of the valley and tradition preserves the spot where he was so cruelly massacred.

Returning from the Mohawk valley the raiders again visited the Sammons place and took away seven horses. The Hall was also revisited, Sir John remaining there several hours and regaining possession of



Gardner Blood

about twenty of his former slaves who had remained behind at the time of his flight, and who now accompanied him to Canada. Among these was the trusted and faithful William, who had concealed the plate. He had previously been in the service of Jacob Sammons (who had rented the estate and Hall from the commissioners) but he would never disclose the place of concealment.

At the time of this bloody invasion Governor Clinton was at Kingston. He hastened to Albany, collected such militia as were in his command and marched to Lake George to intercept Sir John. Colonel Van Schaick also, with 700 men (part being of the Mohawk valley militia) followed the invaders by the way of Johnstown to cut off their retreat by the Oswego route. The governor descended Lake George to Ticonderoga, where he was joined by a body of militia, but all these efforts to cut off Sir John's retreat were ineffectual and the monster escaped with his horde, taking their boats, probably at Crown Point, whence they proceeded down the lake to St. John. Their captives (including the brothers Jacob and Frederick Sammons) were thence transferred to the fort at Chambly.

CHAPTER XI.

Additional Depredations in the Mohawk Valley — Sir John Johnson again Invades the Region — The Battle at Stone Arabia—Van Rensselaer's Cowardly Conduct—Condition of the Inhabitants after the Raid — Governor Clinton sends Colonel Willett to Protect the Valley — Invasion by Brant and Butler — Defeat of the latter by Willett's Troops — Battle at Johnstown — The Enemy Routed — Death of Walter Butler — End of Hostilities in the Mohawk Valley.

THE devastation and bloodshed that had thus far marked the track of war throughout the states was now approaching an end, but in the autumn of 1780, and simultaneous with the movement of Sir John Johnson in the Mohawk country, the enemy actively engaged against the settlements north of Albany, and also upon the upper Connecticut river. In order to create a diversion in favor of Sir John, Major Carleton came up the lake with a large fleet, and more than 1,000 men.

This invasion was secretly conducted and reached Fort Anne and Fort George undiscovered, both posts being captured, with 120 prisoners. Stories of cruelty were told about Carleton's troops, but were positively denied by that officer. It is certain, however, that destruction and outrage followed the invaders as far as the country offered anything that could gratify this purpose, except on the eastern shores of the lake. There the inhabitants were fortunately exempted from attack through the remarkable statesmanship of Generals Ethan and Ira Allen and Governor Chittenden. More than that, by their efforts there was kept inactive in Canada a British army of nearly 10,000 effective men. The inter-communications which occurred were called the Haldiman correspondence, or negotiations with Canada, and although conducted in entire good faith on the part of the astute Vermonters, the latter were nevertheless charged by the authorities of New York with treasonable intent; but without regard to public opinion on that point, the patriotism of the men connected with it can never be doubted nor the value of their services be diminished.

Returning to the history of old Tryon, it may be said that while other portions of the country were now comparatively free from the horrors of war, the Mohawk valley was destined to be the scene of British outrages for many months to come. In the latter part of 1780 Sir John Johnson made a second invasion of the valley, with the evident determination to destroy every vestige of property, and even the lives of the inhabitants. After his first raid Governor Clinton ordered Colonel Ganesvoort to Fort Plain with the militia of the county in order to protect the locality, and also guard the supplies in store at Fort Schuyler. At the same time Brant, with his blood-thirsty savages, was hovering in the region, ready to fall upon any unprotected settlement and thus increase that long record of murder which bore testimony in the highest of tribunals against him and his instigators. Being informed by the Tories of the valley that a patriot force was about to defend Fort Plain, Brant made a sudden descent upon Canajoharie and the fort itself, burning buildings and destroying property without the restraint of mercy, and Ganesvoort was so sluggish in his movements that no hand was raised to defend either life or property from the Indian invader.

Soon after this Sir John Johnson again repeated his vengeance upon the already distressed people of the country. In his command were the now notorious Greens, the German Yagers, Butler's two hundred rangers, a company of British regulars and a body of Indians under Brant and the still more dreaded Seneca chief, Cornplanter. During the early part of this foray Sir John was nowhere opposed by any considerable force, and was thus at full liberty to pillage, burn and destroy everything except the property of the tories. This naturally led to retaliation, and after he had passed up the Mohawk the ruined patriots revenged themselves by destroying in turn the buildings and harvested crops of the British sympathizers. On the 18th of October Sir John camped at the "Nose," but the next morning sent a detachment against Stone Arabia (then called Fort Paris), following soon afterward with his main force. General Van Rensselaer was sent to oppose the invaders, having in his command the Albany militia, and reached Caughnawaga on the 18th. Learning that Fort Plain was to be attacked, Colonel Brown was sent to engage the enemy in front, while Van Rensselaer himself was to make a diversion and attack them from another quarter; but whether from cowardice or sympathy for the British, he changed his course and left Brown without support; the result was the defeat and death of the gallant colonel, while the enemy were still further allowed to ravage the country. Van Rensselaer displayed even greater cowardice, for later on, having been reinforced by Captain McKean's company and about eighty Oneida braves, so that his troops outnumbered the enemy, he again refrained from attack. At last he was openly charged with toryism by an Oneida chief, which, with the importunities of his subordinate officers, forced him to prepare for battle, and after a severe engagement the British were routed, but the cowardly American commander refused to follow up his victory, notwithstanding the entreaties of his men. He fell back and encamped, while some of the volunteers and Oneidas pursued the British and captured a cannon and a number of prisoners, but by the next morning the enemy had retreated beyond successful pursuit.

The outrages committed by the British and their savage allies in the Mohawk valley during the several years ending with the close of 1780, had left the inhabitants in a most deplorable condition. Their houses

and other buildings were now burned to the ground, their crops had been completely destroyed, and they were obliged to look for shelter and support to the people more fortunate than themselves, who occupied the larger and more protected settlements in the eastern part of the valley. On the 20th of December, 1780, the supervisors of Tryon county reported to the legislature the condition in which their people were left at that time, and from this sad report it appeared that seven hundred buildings had been burned; six hundred and thirteen persons had gone over to the enemy; three hundred and forty-four families had abandoned their homes and property; one hundred and seventy-seven lives had been lost; one hundred and twenty-one persons had been carried into captivity, while one thousand farms in the country were without care or cultivation.

Such a lamentable state of affairs could not but move the authorities to some action in behalf of the distressed people, but even then Brant was skulking in the vicinity, only awaiting an opportunity to attack some defenceless settlement, and the only remedy lay in levying a sufficient armed force to guarantee safety to the people so that they might return to their homes. The militia was greatly reduced in numbers and efficiency, and the partial destruction of Fort Schuyler by fire and flood left the whole valley open to the enemy. In this extremity Governor Clinton determined to detach a part of his own army for the defence of the western frontier, and accordingly Colonel Willett was sent with a body of troops to protect the region from an invasion. Willett collected together about one hundred militia men, added to these his state troops, and stationed his force at Fort Plain, but was soon called into action, being on July 9 summoned to repel an invasion at Currytown, about three miles from Sprakers. The marauders were Tories and Indians led by one Doxtader, who attacked the settlement, destroyed much property, and made off with nine prisoners. Willett at once marched to the scene of danger, but unlike his timid predecessor, deployed his men so as to draw the British into an ambuscade, and as a result the latter were terribly beaten and routed. In this sharp fight the efforts of Colonel Willett were materially aided by the zeal and bravery of Lieut. Jacob Sammons and Captain McKean.

The vigilance of Willett and his men put a check upon the ravages of the Tories and the Indians, but did not entirely end them, as marauding

parties still continued petty depredations. The tories were, as Willett found, more dreaded than the Indians, for they moved so covertly and with such well laid plans and united action as to render them dangerous in the extreme. During the latter part of October, a party of these tories, together with a few Indians under Ross and Butler, again entered the valley and ravaged the country from Currytown to Warrensbush and Fort Hunter. They then changed their course towards Johnstown, having increased their force to about one thousand, composed of British regulars as well as tories and Indians. Willett pursued with only about four hundred and sixteen men, but he determined to give them a battle regardless of the disparity of numbers. To do this successfully, the intrepid commander divided his force into two parts, and with his main body under his own command he attacked the enemy in front, while about sixty men under Colonel Rowley (a Massachusetts officer) made a detour in order to attack them in the rear. On the level land opposite Johnson Hall, where the orchard now stands, the contending forces first met. Willett's men fought with determination, but being overpowered by the superior number of the enemy, he was compelled to fall back to the village. This was a dangerous movement but he was saved from what might have been a rout by Rowley's little troop which fell unexpectedly upon the British rear with such valor as to create a diversion. The British were obliged to turn and act on the defensive, upon which Willett rallied his men and renewed the battle. Although assailed both in front and rear the invaders kept up their fight until night, when weary and suffering severely in losses, they wavered and broke into precipitate flight to the woods. This was the last battle fought in Tryon county, and really was the last in the entire record of the Revolution, and in this final conflict the faithful Tryon county militia had the satisfaction of inflicting satisfactory chastisement on their tory enemies. In the battle of Johnstown the loss in killed was about forty on each side, but the Americans made prisoners of fifty of the enemy and those who escaped did not halt until they had put a long distance between themselves and their conquerers.

Early on the morning of the 26th (the day following the Johnstown battle) Colonel Willett started in pursuit of the foe. He marched as rapidly as possible to Stone Arabia, and believing the fugitives had

gone toward Oneida lake, sent thither a detachment to destroy their boats, while he halted expecting a possible attack, but as it did not take place he resumed his march. But his men instead of taking the lake route turned northward to Canada Creek, where Willett overtook them. He fell on their rear and punished them severely, taking many prisoners and killing others. Butler crossed the creek and made an attempt to rally his men, but in doing so was discovered by an Oneida chief, who shot him. The fall of their leader so dismayed the British and Indians that they fled in confusion and sought shelter wherever it offered. The Oneidas now crossed the creek and dispatched the famous Butler as he lay prostrate on the ground. Colonel Willett having now delivered the valley from terror returned in triumph to Fort Dayton, having lost only one of his men since the Johnstown battle.

Although the close of the year 1781, found the heavy operations of war practically at an end, the peace of the people living in the Mohawk valley was not fully assured. An occasional band of marauding Indians would unexpectedly appear, commit some outrage and then quickly depart to safe refuge. One of these invasions took place during the summer of 1782, when a body of seven savages appeared near Johnstown and killed Henry Stoner, a noted settler, and also made prisoners of his nephew, Michael Reid, and a man named Palmatier. The Indians also burned the Stoner buildings. This act of outrage was afterward fearfully avenged by the noted Nicholas Stoner, son of the murdered pioner. Andrew Bowman, a tory living near Johnstown, bore a part in the above mentioned outrage for which he was afterward made to suffer a suitable punishment from the indignant patriots of the town.

CHAPTER XII.

Condition of the Mohawk Valley at the close of the Revolution — Mohawk Indians Forfeit their Lands to the State — Return of the Tories — Their Treatment by the Mohawk Committee — Settlement of the Region by New Englanders — Tryon County Changed to Montgomery — First County Officers — County Buildings — Counties Formed from Montgomery.

THE close of the revolutionary war and the return of peace marked a new era in the history of the Mohawk valley. Returning to their deserted lands and property, the patriot settlers found little else than ruin and desolation; their buildings had been burned and the harvested and growing crops almost wholly destroyed. Their cattle, too, had been driven off by the recent invaders, and they were obliged to begin life anew. They had, however, this consolation that they no longer feared the wily Indian, nor the malignant tory, for the fortunes of war had driven them from the country.

The Mohawk Indians by their alliance to the British, shared the ill-fate of a fallen power, and forfeited whatever claim that they may have had to the lands which they formerly occupied, and while, as a rule, the Six Nations were kindly treated by both the general and state governments, the hostility of the Mohawks had been such as to cancel their claims to the territory of the valley. There is not, indeed, any reliable proof that this tribe ever made a demand for their lands, and the shattered remnant of a once powerful nation accepted the offer made by Great Britain of a home in Canada. With the tories who had cast in their lot with the British, the case appears to have been quite different, for almost immediately after the restoration of peace they returned to their former homes and proclaimed ownership, insisting on legal title. Fortunately, however, and justly also, they were not successful for the property of the defeated foe by the rules of war became forfeited to the conquerors.

We cannot but notice that the effrontery of the tory in peace was only equalled by his barbarity in war, and hence, as has been stated,

after the struggle was ended he loudly asserted his rights to his former estate. So annoying, indeed, did this false but persistent assertion of right become that the people of the Mohawk district were under the necessity of taking public action in the matter, and therefore held a meeting on May 9, 1793, on which occasion they expressed themselves in this manner: "Resolved, unanimously, that all those who have gone off to the enemy or have been banished by any law of this state, or those who we shall find tarried as spies or tools of the enemy, and encouraged or harbored those who went away, shall not live in this district or any pretense whatever; and as for those who have washed their faces from Indian paint and their hands from the innocent blood of our dear ones, and have returned, either openly or covertly, we hereby warn them to leave this district before the 20th of June next, or they may expect to feel the first resentment of an injured and determined people.

"We likewise unanimously desire our brethren in the other districts in this county to join with us to instruct our representatives not to consent to the repealing of any law made for the safety of the state against treason, or confiscation of traitors' estates or to passing any new acts for the return or restitution of tories. By order of the meeting. Josiah Throop, chairman."

In and about the county seat of Tryon county was perhaps a greater number of tories than in any other locality in the entire region. Johnstown was founded, and virtually owned by Sir William Johnson and through his efforts the local population was mainly acquired. Upon his death, the property and estate descended to his son (Sir John), whose conduct during the war was of so base a character as to justify a far more detestable expression than merely "tory." He was a blood-thirsty and a relentless enemy, combining the worst elements of toryism with the inhuman methods of war only resorted to by savages. He never came back to Johnstown to claim his vast and valuable estate, which was confiscated and sold by the state. Sir John himself remained in Canada and received from the crown an appointment as superintendent and inspector of Indian affairs in British North America. He died in Montreal January 4, 1830.

Among Sir John's dependents were the tenants settled on his lands in and about Johnstown, and the Scotch Highlanders who dwelt upon



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the Kingsboro tract (then a part of the Mohawk district), also a part of Caughnawaga. The tenantry and Scotchmen were provided with fire-arms by the proprietor, and of course departed with him to Canada, thenceforth forming a part of the "Royal Greens" regiment. Whatever claim to the lands of the Mohawk region they may have acquired was likewise forfeited, and they never returned.

Of the German settlers in the valley, however, it must in justice be said that they were generally loyal to the colonies, and although a few—and only a few—may have been misled by the influence of the arbitrary baronet and his associates, this was the exception, not the rule.

During the course of the war, this portion of the state became known to a class of people who had no former means of judging of its beauty and fertility. The continual passage of New England troops through the valley of the Mohawk made them acquainted with its desirability as a place of abode, and, when peace was restored, they were not slow to avail themselves of the opportunity of possessing the lands. They came and made miscellaneous settlements as the tracts were offered for sale, and thus the territory came under the control of Yankees, determined, energetic and upright men with wives and mothers of corresponding character, and it was to this class of people that Montgomery and Fulton counties chiefly owed much of their later development and improvement.

There was one name, however, in this beautiful region that was the occasion of much annoyance to the progressive inhabitants, being indeed in the highest degree offensive, and that was the name by which this county was then called. Governor William Tryon first became executive of the province of New York by appointment, July 9, 1771, and was reappointed June 28, 1775, and it was in his honor that the newly formed county received its name. Tryon's toryism was as pronounced and offensive as that of any British subject in the land. His official power was wholly devoted to the crown, and he was even implicated in a plot to seize General Washington and deliver him to the British. It was not, therefore, in the least surprising⁸ that the settlers of the Mohawk valley should object to so odious a name.

Tryon county was created from the original county of Albany by act of the Provincial Assembly, March 12, 1772, and Johnstown was desig-

nated as its capital. The officers were as follows: Guy Johnson, first judge; John Butler and Peter Conyne, judges; Sir John Johnson, Daniel Claus, Jelles Fonda and John Wells, assistant judges. The first county court was organized September 8, 1772. The court-house and jail of Tryon county were erected in 1772 by Sir William Johnson, and on his own land. Both of these buildings are still in use, and having been occasionally repaired, are still in good condition and may last another century. The former, which fully retains its original appearance, stands on the northwest corner of William and Main streets. The jail, a spacious stone edifice, stands in the southeast corner of the village on the highest part of South Perry street.

At the outbreak of the war these buildings were claimed by Sir John Johnson as a part of his estate; and he therefore refused the county Committee of Safety permission to use them for the confinement of those who were considered inimical to the American cause. This claim, however, was denied by the provisional congress, which held that Sir William Johnson had, some time before his death, conveyed them "to two gentlemen, in trust" for the use of the county. The committee did not at that time press its demand, but after the departure of Sir John and his retainers, the local authorities seized all the property and used it according to their needs. The jail was fortified and thus became a place of defence in addition to the purpose for which it was originally intended.

On the 2d of April, 1784, the legislature passed an act changing the name from Tryon to Montgomery county, adopting the latter in honor of Gen. Richard Montgomery, who was killed at the storming of Quebec, December 31, 1776. The statement has been made in one of our earlier chapters (and its accuracy has never been doubted) that Tryon county comprised all that part of the province of New York west of the Delaware river, and also west of a line extending north through Schoharie (as well as all along the east lines of the present counties of Montgomery, Fulton, and Hamilton, and continuing in a straight line to Canada. On the 7th of March, 1788, the legislature passed an act by which the boundary lines of the several counties of the state were described more accurately and in detail; and this act declared Montgomery county to contain all that part of the state west of the counties

of Ulster, Albany, Washington and Clinton, as they were then constituted. On the other hand, the "Civil List of the State of New York," published in 1866, says: "Tryon county was erected in 1772, and comprised the country west of a north and south line extending from St. Regis to the west bounds of the township of Schenectady; thence running irregularly southwest to the head of the Mohawk branch of the Delaware, and along the same to the southeast bounds of the present county of Broome; thence in a northwesterly direction to Fort Bull, on Wood creek, near the present city of Rome; all west of the last mentioned line being Indian territory." This statement, if correct, limits Tryon county to a comparatively small area; but the question, which statement is correct, is not one for the writer to decide. The weight of authority, however, strongly inclines us to the conviction that Tryon (succeeded by Montgomery) included all that part of the state west of the east line above mentioned; while all authorities substantially agree upon its east boundary.

It is interesting in the present connection to note the several counties of the state which have been in whole or in part formed from the territory originally of old Tryon or Montgomery county; the list, with date of erection, being as follows: Ontario, January 27, 1789; Herkimer, February 16, 1791; Otsego, February 16, 1791; Tioga, February 16, 1791; Onondaga, March 5, 1794; Schoharie (one-half), April 6, 1795; Steuben, March 18, 1796; Delaware (part only), March 1, 1797; Chenango, March 15, 1798; Oneida, March 15, 1798; Cayuga, March 8, 1799; St. Lawrence (part only), March 3, 1802; Genesee, March 30, 1802; Seneca, March 24, 1804; Jefferson, March 28, 1805; Lewis, March 28, 1805; Madison, March 21, 1806; Broome, March 28, 1806; Alleghany, April 7, 1806; Cattaraugus, March 11, 1808; Chautauqua, March 11, 1808; Niagara, March 11, 1808; Cortland, April 8, 1808; Oswego, March 1, 1816; Hamilton, April 12, 1816; Tompkins, April 7, 1817; Livingston, February 23, 1821; Monroe, February 23, 1821; Erie, April 2, 1821; Yates, February 5, 1823; Wayne, April 11, 1823; Orleans, November 12, 1824; Chemung, March 29, 1836; Fulton, April 18, 1838; Wyoming, May 14, 1841; Schuyler, April 17, 1854.

CHAPTER XIII.

Situation in the Mohawk Valley Prior to the War — Its Peace and Prosperity — Events Preceding the War — Causes Leading to it — British Aggressions — American Retaliations — Declaration of War — Militia Called into Service — Regiments Formed in the Valley — Their Services — The Return of Peace.

FOR more than a quarter of a century following the close of the revolution, nothing occurred to interrupt or retard the progress of settlement and development in the Mohawk valley. During this period indeed the latter was favored in an unusual degree. The New England pioneers were a hardy and patriotic class, and under their energetic efforts lands were cleared and the forests gave place to farms of rare fertility, thus developing the agricultural resources, at least to an extent which supplied domestic requirements.

While speaking of the New Englanders, however, we are not to be misunderstood as giving this class undue prominence. They bore their share in general improvement, but only extended the settlement of the original pioneers. The sturdy Dutch and equally sturdy Germans were here long in advance of the Yankees, but they found homes near the Mohawk, while in the territory now included in Montgomery county the New England colonies made their successful efforts. Here, too, however, soon appeared the German element, the descendants of the Palatines, and others of the same nation imbued with the same spirit of enterprise and progress. During the period referred to, this region acquired its greatest comparative growth in population, and with this came power to sustain the nation during peril. Hence when the first murmurings of another war with Great Britain were heard, this part of the state were well prepared to endure its hardships and its taxation and the part that it bore in the great conflict must be made the subject of special mention. In one respect at least the people of this locality were favored during the course of the war of 1812-15. It was that they had not to defend their home against hostile Indians, and in the war-like preparations which were made in Montgomery county no force was re-

quired to protect the rapidly increasing settlement. Let us now, however, briefly refer to the causes which led to the war, after which we shall mention the service which the soldiers of this county endured.

During the five years immediately preceding the war of 1812, the whole country was in a state of nominal peace, but still there was gathering in the political horizon a dark cloud which increased until it boded another foreign war. During the revolution, America contended for independence and won that precious boon; in 1812 she fought to maintain that independence on which British aggression had insolently trespassed.

The United States had always honorably observed the provisions of the treaty made with Great Britain at the close of the Revolution. There had been maintained, too, a strict neutrality during the progress of the Napoleonic war when, perhaps, every consideration of gratitude should have induced an alliance against the mother country. For several years the aggressive acts of the British had been a subject of anxiety and regret to all Americans and indeed had created bitter indignation. The embargo laid by congress upon our shipping (as a means of safety) was found so injurious to commercial interests that it was repealed, and the non-intercourse act was passed in its stead. In April, 1809, the British ambassador in Washington opened negotiations for the adjustment of existing difficulties, and consented to a withdrawal of the obnoxious British "orders in council," so far as they affected the United States, on condition that the non-intercourse act be repealed; this was agreed upon and the president issued a proclamation announcing that on the 10th of June, trade with Great Britain might be resumed. The British government, however, refused to ratify the proceedings and the minister was recalled, whereupon the president revoked his proclamation, and the non-intercourse act went into operation. The most odious of all British aggressions was the claim made of "right to search," in pursuance of which British cruisers stopped American vessels on the ocean and seized such of their crews as they suspected to be subjects of the king, forcing them into their own service. This claim led to outrages to which no American could submit, and the only choice left to the nation was war or disgraceful humiliation.

On the 12th of June, 1812, President Madison sent a confidential message to congress, in which he recapitulated the long list of British

aggressions and declared it the duty of congress to consider whether the American people should longer passively submit; but at the same time he cautioned the house to avoid entanglements with other powers that then were hostile to Britain.

The result of the message and the deliberation of congress was a formal declaration of war on the 19th of June, 1812, but the measure was not unanimously sustained or even approved in all parts of the Middle and New England States. The opponents held that the country was not prepared for war and asked for further negotiations. They also met the denunciations of the ruling party against the British with bitter attacks upon Napoleon, and accused Madison with favoring this bloody tyrant. The war party was led by Henry Clay and the opposition by John Randolph, both men of ability and, in fact, the two giants of congress.

A detail of the events of the war is not needed in these pages. The results of the struggle against renewed oppression are written in the conflicts of Lake Erie, the repulse of the invaders on the Delaware, the painful and humiliating scenes of the Chesapeake, the invasion of New York and the attempt to control the Hudson river and Lake Champlain. The story is further told in the brilliant victory at Plattsburg, the capture of Niagara and Oswego, the battles at Black Rock, Lundy's Lane, Sacketts Harbor, closing with the glorious defence of New Orleans. Above all, however, were the masterly exploits of our navy whose victories over the British cruisers gave the enemy the most serious view of American prowess. Peace, however, came at last and the treaty was ratified February 15, 1815.

The outbreak of the war of 1812 awoke a tremendous impulse throughout this region of the country, for many of the settlers had seen service in the Revolution, and their sons were now enrolled in the militia. The same martial spirit which came with the pioneers was manifested in later years on the old fashioned "general training" when the farmer, the mechanic and the professional man hied to the annual "muster" for a season of jollification as well as for military discipline.

In February, 1812, in view of approaching war, congress passed a law to organize an army of twenty-five thousand men, and shortly afterwards Daniel D. Tompkins, governor of the state, addressed the legis-

lature advising full preparation for the contest. In April following, 100,000 of the nation's enrolled militia were called upon to organize for service, the quota of New York being 13,500 men, which were organized in two divisions and eight brigades. The fourth brigade comprised the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th regiments, the members of which were from the Mohawk valley. This brigade was under command of General Richard Dodge, then a resident of Johnstown.

The services of the militia from this locality were important in character, though not specially severe. One of the brigades was stationed at Sacketts Harbor where its duty was to guard the supplies stored there, and as well defend that post. General Dodge made this his headquarters September 21, 1812. The post was afterwards, May 24, 1813, attacked by the British, but they were repulsed. Nevertheless, in the fear that the supplies might fall into the hands of the enemy, they were destroyed before the repulse was effected. The thirteenth regiment was in the battle at Queenstown Heights, but the principal service performed by it was guarding the frontier, and not only against the possibilities of invasion, but as well to prevent smuggling, which so often impaired our national revenue.

CHAPTER XIV.

County Organizations — Tryon and Montgomery Counties Briefly Reviewed — The County Seat Moved to Fonda — Dissatisfaction in the Northern Towns — Fulton County Created — Montgomery County Civil List.

AS has been stated in our preceding chapters, Tryon county was created from the original county of Albany in 1772, and the seat of justice was immediately located at Johnstown. The public buildings, as has been previously mentioned, were erected by Sir William Johnson, the founder of the village that still bears his name, and in fact the founder of Tryon county. After his death and during the early years of the revolution, Sir John Johnson, as has also been mentioned, claimed ownership, as heir of his father, and denied the use of the court-house

and jail for the confinement of tories, this use being demanded by the patriotic committees. The government, on the other hand, claimed that Sir William had conveyed the property to two persons in trust for the people of Tryon county. This question, however, was finally settled by the flight of Sir John, and his entire estate was then confiscated and sold, the county buildings being thenceforth public property. Tryon county, as has been mentioned, received its name in honor of William Tryon, the governor of the province and a base tool in the royal service. He was wholly devoted to the British interests, and did everything in his power to defeat the cause of liberty. Hence it was only natural that his name should be offensive to the victorious Americans, and when, in 1784, the affairs of the state of New York were rearranged, no voice was raised against the proposal to change Tryon to Montgomery, thus substituting in place of a detested tory the name of a patriotic martyr.

Montgomery county included the territory of Fulton county from 1784 to 1838, a period of fifty-four years. During that time the population of its towns increased in a manifold degree, and in no region was that increase more rapid than in the Mohawk valley. Amsterdam, Fultonville, Canajoharie, Fort Plain and other former hamlets had, by 1836, become villages of importance, and their inhabitants (particularly the legal profession) were desirous for a change of the county seat from old historic Johnstown to some place more convenient of access.

The arguments for the change, indeed, were well founded, Johnstown being several miles distant from the Mohawk river and separated by a hilly and ill-kept road, whose only public conveyance was the stage. Hence, when a strong petition of the river residents was presented to the legislature at the session of 1836, that body could not justly refuse the prayer, and Fonda was designated the county seat, the name being derived from that old and historic family whose descendants still dwell in the same vicinity.

The conditions of the removal were that a subscription of \$4,500 should be raised, and that a free gift of not less than three acres be made to the county upon which to erect the buildings. The court-house is of brick, and cost \$30,500, which amount, however, included the cost of the first jail.



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The removal of the public buildings from Johnstown to Fonda, while it wrought a great benefit to the majority, naturally created deep indignation in the northern towns, whose inhabitants resisted it in the most intense manner, and only submitted with the hope of relief in the formation of a new county. The removal indeed led them to petition for a division of old Montgomery, and a new county became a necessity to the northern inhabitants. The legislature, in harmony with this movement, passed an act on April 18, 1838, creating Fulton county, Johnstown being naturally designated as the capital, and the old public buildings were again brought into service.

Montgomery county jail originally stood south of the court-house on the same lot, but in 1881 it was destroyed by fire. The new jail (and sheriff's residence) was built immediately, and cost the county \$40,000. In this connection it may be well to insert the following inscription in the marble tablet over the main entrance to the court-house: "This building was erected in the year 1836 by Lawrence Marcellus, carpenter, and Henry Holmes, mason, under the charge of Aaron C. Wheelock, Henry Adams and Howland Fish, commissioners charged with the erection."

We now add the Montgomery county civil list: Presidential electors, Volkert Veeder, 1792; Charles Newkirk, 1796; Matthias B. Hildreth, 1804; Henry Yates, jr., 1808; Henry Frey Yates, 1812; Aaron Haring, 1816; Seth Wetmore, 1820;¹ Alexander Coffin, 1824; Rufus Crane, 1828; John S. Veeder, 1832; Frederick Sammons, 1836; Henry P. Voorhees, 1840; Stephen Sanford, 1872.

Representatives in Congress.—Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1789-91; James Gordon, 1791-93; Silas Talbot, 1793-95; William Cooper, 1795-97; James Cochran, 1797-99; Jonas Platt, 1799-1801; Benjamin Walker, 1801-03; Thomas Sammons, 1803-05, 1805-07, 1809-11, 1811-13; Peter Swart, 1807-09; Jacob Markell, 1813-15; Daniel Cady, 1815-17; John Herkimer, 1817-19; John Fay, 1819-21; Alfred Conkling, 1821-23; John W. Cady, 1823-25; Henry Markell, 1825-27; 1827-29; Benedict Arnold, 1829-31; Nathan Soule, 1831-33; Charles McVean, 1833-35; Matthias J. Bovee, 1835-37; John Edwards, 1837-39; Peter J. Wagner, 1839-41; John Sanford, 1841-

¹ Did not attend; William I. Dodge appointed to fill vacancy.

43; Charles Benton, 1843-45-47; George Petrie, 1847-49; Henry P. Alexander, 1849-51; Alexander H. Bull, 1851-53; Peter Rowe, 1853-55; Thomas R. Horton, 1855-57; Clarke B. Cochran, 1857-59-61; Chauncey Vibbard, 1861-63; James M. Marvin, 1863-65-67-69; Stephen Sanford, 1869-71; John M. Carroll, 1871-73; Henry W. Harthorn, 1873-75-77; John H. Starin, 1877-79-81; George West, 1881-83, Edward Wemple, 1883-85; George West, 1885-87; John Sanford, 1887-89-91.

Justices of the Supreme Court.—Frothingham Fish, 1883; Martin L. Stover, 1891.

Delegates to Constitutional Convention of 1788.—John Frey, William Harper, Henry Staring, Volkert Veeder, John Winn, Christopher P. Yates. Convention of 1801.—Nathaniel Campbell, Jonathan Hallett, John Herkimer, Thomas Sammons, Peter Waggoner, jr., Caleb Woodworth. Convention of 1821.—William I. Dodge, Howland Fish, Jacob Hess, Philip Rhineland, jr., Alexander Sheldon. Convention of 1846.—John Bowdish, John Nellis. Convention of 1867.—Alonzo C. Paige (at large), Hezekiah Baker, Judson S. Landon, Albert Pond, and Horace E. Smith, representing the fifteenth district.

State Comptroller.—Edward Wemple, 1888-90; 1890-92.

State Senators.—Previous to the constitutional convention of 1821, Montgomery county formed a part of the western district, which sent in 1777 six representatives to the state senatorial body; they were Isaac Paris, Abraham Yates, jr., Dirck W. Ten Broek, Anthony Van Schaick, Jelles Fonda, and Rinier Mynderse. Jelles Fonda was in the same body in 1779-80-81-88-89-90-91; Abraham Yates, jr., in 1778-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90; Jacob G. Klock in 1778-79-80-81-82-83-84-85. The senators representing the county since the convention of 1821 have been as follows: Archibald McIntyre, 1823-26; Duncan McMartin, 1827-30; William I. Dodge, 1831-34; Jacob Willes, 1835; David Spraker, 1836-39; Bethuel Peck, 1840-42; Thomas B. Mitchell, 1843-46; Thomas Burtch, 1848-49; George H. Fox, 1850-51; (Fox resigned April 17, John Sanford elected to vacancy); Simeon Snow, 1852-53; George Yost, 1854-55; Frederick P. Bellinger, 1856-57; George G. Scott, 1858-59; Isaiah Blood, 1860-61; John Willard,¹ 1862-63; William Clark, 1863; James M. Cook,

¹ Died in office.

1864-65 ; Adam W. Kline, 1866-67 ; Charles Sanford, 1868-69 ; Isaiah Blood, 1870-71 ; Webster Wagner,¹ 1872-81 ; Alexander B. Baucus, 1882-83 ; James Arkell, 1884-85 ; John Foley, 1886-87 ; Charles Donaldson, 1888-89, 1890-91.

Members of Assembly²—Samuel Clyde, Zephaniah Batcheller, Michael Edic, Jacob Snell, 1777 ; George H. Bell, Samuel Clyde, Michael Edic, Jacob Snell, Peter Wagoner, jr., 1778 ; G. H. Bell, Abraham Copeland, Peter S. Dygert, Frederick Fox, Jacob Gardner, Peter Wagoner, jr., 1779 ; Z. Batcheller, A. Copeman, P. S. Dygert, F. Fox, J. Gardineer, P. Wagoner, 1780 ; J. Gardineer, Abraham Garrison, William Harper, P. Wagoner, jr., Z. Batcheller, 1781 ; Z. Batcheller, Frederick Fisher, John Frey, Andrew Frick, jr., A. Garrison, William Harper, 1782 ; Z. Batcheller, F. Fisher, John Frey, Andrew Frick, jr., 1783 ; A. Copeman, F. Fox, William Harper, James Livingston, Volkert Veeder, Chris. P. Yates, Isaac Paris, 1784 ; Fox, Harper, Livingston, Paris, Veeder, Yates, 1785 ; Abraham Arndt, John Frey, William Harper, James Livingston, V. Veeder, Abraham Van Horne, 1786 ; James Cannon, J. Frey, William Harper, J. Livingston, 1787 ; Arndt, Frey, Harper, John Livingston, Paris, Henry Staring, Veeder, John Winn, C. P. Yates, 1788 ; Arndt, Frey, Harper, Livingston, David McMasters, Staring, Veeder, Winn, Yates, 1789 ; Arndt, Livingston, McMasters, Veeder, 1790 ; Arndt, Frey, Livingston, John P. Vischer (Fisher), 1791 ; Jacob Eacker, Douw Fonda, Frey, McMasters, Silas Talbot, Simeon Veeder, 1792 ; Eacker, McMasters, Talbot, Veeder, 1793 ; Eacker, Frederick Getman, John McArthur, McMasters, Veeder, 1794 ; Fonda, Getman, McMasters, Veeder, 1795 ; David Cady, Eacker, Getman, John C. Van Epps, Peter Veeder, Simeon Veeder, 1796 ; Eacker, Getman, Van Epps, Peter and Simon Veeder, 1797 ; Getman, James Hildreth, Robert McFarlan, Archibald McIntyre, Henry Pawling, Stephen Reynolds, Jacob Snell, Phillip Van Alstyne, Simeon Veeder, Peter Voorhees, 1798 ; Cornelius Humphrey, McIntyre, Snell, Veeder, Frederick Sammons, John Herkimer, 1799 ; Humphrey, McIntyre, Snell, Veeder, Yates, Alex. Sheldon, 1800 ; McIntyre, Sammons, Snell, Charles Ward, Yates, Sheldon, 1801 ; Sheldon, Daniel Walker,

¹ Died January 13, 1882.

² Date of election given. Session begins January 1st thereafter.

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Ward, Henry Kennedy, John Roof, 1802; Sheldon, Herkimer, David I. Ziely, Kennedy, McIntyre, 1803; John Seeber, Sheldon, Zieley, McIntyre, Jonathan Hallet, 1804; Joseph Wagoner, Sheldon, Herkimer, McIntyre, Samuel Jackson, 1805; Sheldon, James Lancing, Harmanus Vedder, Lawrence Gross, William Van O'Linda, 1806; Sheldon, Gross, Henry Fonda, Peter C. Fox, Vedder, 1807; John Fay, Daniel Cady, John Green, Richard Van Horne, David I. Zieley, 1888; Cady, Van Horne, Green, James Allen, Zieley, 1809; Nathan Christie, Van Horne, William Woodward, Nathan Kimball, Edmond G. Rawson, 1810; Cady, Jacob Eacker, Daniel Hurlbut, James McIntyre, Christie, 1811; Josiah Bartlett, Cady, John Fay, Hurlbut, Arch. McIntyre, Daniel McVean, Alexander Sheldon, Richard Van Horne, 1812; Bartlett, Cady, McVean, Van Horne, 1813; Solomon Dievendorff, John Eisenlord, Samuel A. Gilbert, Alexander St. John, John Shuler, Sylvanus Wilcox, Andrew Zabriskie, Alvah Southwick, 1814; Dievendorff, Eisenlord, St. John, Shuler, Southwick, 1815; Henry Gross, Henry Fonda, Samuel Jackson, Benedict Arnold, Isaac Sears, 1816; Barent K. Vrooman, S. Jackson, Ezekiel Belding, Henry Lyker, Jacob Shaw, 1817; Jacob Hess, Aaron Haring, Duncan McMartin, jr., Robert Hall, Samuel Jackson, 1818; Lawrence Gross, Henry J. Dievendorff, Jacob Hess, Henry Fonda, John L. Francisco, 1819; Howland Fish, Gross, Henry Failing, jr., David W. Candee, Arch. McIntyre, 1820; John W. Cady, James McIntyre, Joshua Webster, Henry Valentine, Nicholas Gross, 1821; George D. Ferguson, Christian Klock, Alvin Harris, Joseph Spier, 1822; Henry Cunningham, Francis H. Van Buren, Peter Smith, Peter C. Fox, 1823; Smith, Cunningham, Alexander St. John, Samuel Jackson, 1824; Abraham A. Vanhorne, Augustus Dievendorff, John French, Alexander Sheldon, 1825; Lawrence Gross, Nathaniel Westcott, Howland Fish, 1826; David F. Sacia, Nathaniel Westcott, John Veeder, 1827; Phineas Randall, Joseph Spinnard, Peter Young, 1828; Henry J. Dievendorff, Daniel Stewart, Thomas R. Benedict, 1829; William Robb, Platt Potter, Josiah C. Brown, 1830; Peter Wood, Silas Phillips, Jacob Van Arnam, 1831; Douw A. Fonda, William Carlisle, Cornelius Mabee, 1832; David Morrell, Charles S. Grinnell, Asel Hough, 1833; Henry Adams, Ashbel Loomis, Collins Odell, 1834; Joseph Blair, Henry V. Berry, Joseph Johnson, 1835; Joseph Blair, Jacob Hess,

Richard Peek, 1836; Marcellus Weston, Abraham V. Putnam, Jeremiah Nellis, 1837; Isaac Jackson, Isaac Frost, 1838; Peter Wood, John S. Veeder, 1839; Reuben Howe, Daniel F. Nellis, 1840; Lawrence Marcellus, James Dievendorff, 1841; John Bowdish, John I. Zoller, 1842; Clark B. Cochrane, Morgan L. Harris, 1843; Peter H. Fonda, John L. Bevins, 1844; Theodoric R. Liddle, Benjamin Baird, 1845; Gamaliel Bowdish, Andrew S. Grey, 1846; Asa Bowman, William A. Haslett, 1847; Frothingham Fish, Lewis Arville, 1848; Samuel H. Green, Charles Hubbs, 1849; Solomon Heath, Conrad P. Snell, 1850; John I. Davis, William Clarke, 1851; William McClellan, Abraham N. Van Alstyne, 1852; Aaron W. Hull, Hezekiah Baker, 1853-54; John Van Derveer, Joseph Spraker, 1855; Mathew O. Davis, Hezekiah Baker, 1856; Hezekiah Baker, 1857; Jeremiah Snell, 1858; Jay D. Bowman, 1859; Frothingham Fish, 1860; Nicholas Newkirk, 1861; Freeman P. Moulton, 1862; John Kellogg, 1863; Simeon Sammons, 1864; Isaac S. Frost, 1865; Abraham Hoffman, 1866; Angell Matthewson, 1867; Darius B. Berry, 1868; James Shanahan, 1869; Webster Wagner, 1870; William J. Van Dusen, 1871-72; Martin L. Storer, 1873; Martin Schenck, 1874; George M. Voorhees, 1875; Edward Wemple, 1876-77; John Warner, 1878-79; Cornelius Van Buren, 1880-81; James R. Snell, 1882; Martin Walrath, jr., 1883; Thomas Liddle, 1884-85; Robert Wemple, 1886-87; W. Barlow Dunlap, 1888-90; John K. Stewart, 1889; George L. Grove, 1891.

County Judges.—Guy Johnson, 1772; Jacob Klock, 1778; Jelles Fonda, 1784; Frederick Fisher, 1787; Abraham Arndt, 1801; Simeon Vedder, 1802; John McCarthy, 1809; Alexander Sheldon, 1815; Aaron Haring, 1819; Abraham Morrill, 1833; Phineas Randall, 1841; John Darrow, 1846; Samuel Belding, jr., 1847; Richard H. Cushney, 1859; George Yost, 1863; James H. Cook, 1867; Solomon P. Heath, 1871; Zerah S. Westbrook, 1877-83; Henry V. Borst, (by appointment) John D. Wendell, 1889.

Surrogates.—Christopher P. Yates, 1778; Isaac Paris, 1787; Josiah Crane, 1790; Charles Walton, 1800; James Lansing, 1801; Tobias A. Stoutenburgh, 1821; Richard H. Cushney, 1838; Giles F. Van Vechten, 1843. Since 1846 the county judge has performed the duties of surrogate.

District Attorneys.¹—Daniel Cady, appointed February 28, 1813; Samuel S. Lush, April 6, 1813; Richard M. Livingston, February 16, 1815; Alfred Conkling, 1818; William I. Dodge, 1821; Charles McVean, 1836; Garret L. Roof, 1841; Howland Fish, 1843; Henry Adams, 1846; John A. Mitchell, 1847; Stephen Sammons, 1850; Peter G. Webster, 1853; Abraham Hees, 1856; James H. Cook, 1859; Henry Sacia, 1862; Daniel S. Morrell, 1865; Hezekiah Baker, 1868; John D. Wendell, 1871; Henry Dunkel, 1874; Robert B. Fish, 1880; Henry V. Borts, 1883; Charles S. Nesbitt, 1885–89.

Sheriffs.—Alexander White, 1772; John Frey, 1775; Anthony Van Veghten, 1777; Abraham Van Horne, 1781; Samuel Clyde, 1785; John Winn, 1789; John Little, 1793; Josiah Crane, 1795; James Hildreth, 1798; Benjamin Van Vleck, 1799; James Hildreth, 1801; James McIntyre, 1806; Jacob Snell, 1810; John Eisenlord, 1811; Jacob Snell, 1813; John Eisenlord, 1815; John Holland, 1817; Seth Wetmore, 1821; Charles Easton, 1825; John French, 1828; Isaac Jackson, 1831; Malachi Kittle, 1834; William T. Sammons, 1837; Thomas Burns, 1840; Lyndes Jones, 1843; Edwin W. Irvin, 1846; Barney Becker, 1849; Livingston Spraker, 1852; Abraham Hoffman, 1855; Lorenzo B. Clarke, 1868; Alexander Snell, 1861; James W. Kline, 1864; David B. Hegeman, 1867; Alfred J. Wagner, 1870; James W. Kline, 1873; Stephen Fonda, 1876; William J. Scharff, 1879; Isaac A. Rosa, 1882; Jacob Snell, 1885; John D. Schuyler, 1888; Thomas Liddle, 1891.

County Clerks.—Christopher P. Yates, 1777; Daniel Paris, 1800; Henry Frey Yates, 1802; John McCarthy, 1815; Peter H. Bostwick, 1821; Henry Frey Yates, 1822; George D. Ferguson, 1825; Alexander J. Comrie, 1828; George B. Ferguson, 1831; Alexander J. Comrie, 1837; Henry Cook, 1840; Chester S. Brumley, 1843; John W. Van Deveer, 1859; Darius V. Berry, 1855; James I. Brookman, 1864; Abner H. Burtch, 1870; William N. Johnston, 1876; Alonzo E. Hall, 1882; George L. Davis, 1888; R. Simon Blood, 1891.

County Treasurers.²—John M. Caldwell, 1848; Daniel Conyne, 1851;

¹ Previous to the act of 1818 the office was called assistant attorney-general. Montgomery county was part of the 5th district.

² Previous to the constitution of 1846, county treasurers were appointed by the board of supervisors.



W. M. Johnson.

Douw A. Fonda, 1857; Adam W. Kline, 1860; John C. Smith, 1863; James Frost, 1869; Alonzo A. De Forest, 1872; Norman S. Brumley, 1875; James K. Edward, 1878; John Finehout, 1887; Daniel I. Devoe, 1890.

School Commissioners.—Originally this office was county superintendent of common schools, under an act passed April 17, 1843, but was abolished in 1847. During the life of the office, Walter Hough, Freeman P. Moulton and Walter Cross were superintendents. School commissioners were appointed prior to 1857, and elected afterward. They have been as follows: A. W. Cox, Walter Cross, John L. Brookman, Morris Klock, Thomas S. Ireland, Abram B. Miller, Charles Buckingham, George F. Cox, Seeley Conover, Alonzo Gewey, Henry K. Salisbury, John H. Wienmann.

CHAPTER XV.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DURING THE REBELLION.

AT half past four o'clock on the morning of April 12, 1861, a shot was fired from a Confederate battery in Charleston harbor, and struck Fort Sumter, which was held by a Federal garrison. Three days after this outburst of treason President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling upon the Union states to send to the national capital seventy-five thousand militia for its defence. On the 16th the State Military Board of New York held a meeting, and Governor Morgan at once sent a message to the secretary of war assuring him that the quota required of this state would be immediately mustered into service. The governor also at once issued orders, acting in concert with the military board, and called upon the militia for seventeen regiments of 780 men each. The result was that in a very few days the state of New York sent 13,906 effective men to Washington; and it is an historical fact that the opportune arrival of these troops saved the government buildings from attack and possible destruction.

Under the several calls, general, special and by draft, both in army and navy, the state of New York furnished an aggregate of 502,765 men, and of these Montgomery county provided its full quota. It is to be regretted, however, that the precise number cannot be given, as the state authorities were so remiss that no roster has ever been published or even compiled.

The outbreak of the war found the political situation in Montgomery to be much the same as in other counties of similar condition, and while at times there were murmurings and dissatisfaction, they were not of such a character as to cause general alarm.

During the course of the war, Montgomery county furnished men for twenty different regiments, although in several of them the representation was quite small. The first of these of which any mention is made, was the Thirty-second Volunteer Infantry, to Companies B and D to which the towns of Canajoharie and Amsterdam, respectively, contributed. The principal regiments containing any considerable number of local recruits, however, were the One Hundred and Fifteenth and the One Hundred and Fifty-third, although in this connection should be mentioned the Forty-third and the First and Thirteenth regiments of artillery. As each of these is detailed at some length in this chapter, it is not necessary at present to make any further reference.

THE THIRTY-SECOND REGIMENT.

The Thirty-second was recruited under one of the first calls for troops, and was accepted by the state on May 22, 1861. It was organized in New York city, and on May 31st it was mustered into service for two years. On the expiration of this term the three years' men were transferred to the One Hundred and Twenty-first regiment. Company B was recruited at Canajoharie, and Company D at Amsterdam; but, unfortunately, there does not appear to be any roll of names, for which reason we are unable to furnish them to the reader. The Thirty-second marched June 29, 1861, and served for several weeks at Washington and Alexandria, but was afterwards attached to the Army of the Potomac, and shared its reverses and victories until the term of enlistment ended. The regiment was mustered out of service June 9, 1863.

Battles of the Thirty-second.—Fairfax Court House, July 17, 1861; Blackburn's Ford, July 20, 1861; Bull Run, July 21, 1861; Munson's Hill, August 25 and September 28, 1861; Anandale, December 2, 1861; West Point, Va., May 7, 1862; Seven Days' battles, June 25—July 2, 1862; Gaines' Mill, June 27, 1862; Garnett's and Golding's farms, June 28, 1862; Glendale, June 30, 1862; Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862; Crampton Pass, September 14, 1862; Antietam, September, 17, 1862; Fredericksburg, December 11—15, 1862; Franklin's Crossing, April 29 and May 2, 1863; Marye's Heights and Salem Church, May 3-4, 1863.

THE FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

This regiment, which was known as the "Albany and Yates Rifles," and also as the "Vinton Rifles," received its designation September 18, 1861. It was recruited during the late summer and early fall of that year, the town of Canajoharie furnishing the greater part of Company E. The Forty-third was organized and mustered into service at Albany in September, 1861, for three years. On the 21st of the month last mentioned the regiment marched and served at and near Washington until the 15th of the following October, when it became a part of Hancock's brigade, Smith's division, Army of the Potomac. In May, 1862, it was attached to the first brigade in the second division of the sixth corps, and later on formed a part of the famous "Light Brigade," during the Chancellorsville campaign. We next find this regiment in the third brigade, second division, sixth corps, with which it continued until June 27, 1865, under command of Col. Charles A. Millikin, when at Washington, it was honorably discharged and mustered out of service. It may be stated in connection with the history of the Forty-third, that on July 18, 1862, it was consolidated into five companies—A, B, C, D and E—but in October following five new companies joined the regiment, thus completing its organization. Then on September 22, 1864, by reason of the expiration of terms of enlistment, it became necessary to renew the consolidation, and it was again formed into five companies.

The Forty-third was one of the hardest fighting regiments in the Army of the Potomac, and during its service bore an honorable part in

a number of the most severe and sanguinary actions of the war. The story of its vicissitudes and triumphs, however, is best told by referring to the battles in which it participated, which were as follows: Vienna and Flint Hill, February 22, 1862; Siege of Yorktown, April 5 and May 4, 1862; Lee's Mills, April 16, and 28, 1862; Williamsburg, May 5, 1862; Seven days' battle, June 25, to July 2, 1862; Garnett's Farm, June 27, 1862; Garnett's and Golding's Farms, June 28, 1862; Savage Station, June 29, 1862; White Oak Swamp Bridge, June 30, 1862; Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862; Sugar Loaf Mountain, September 10-11, 1862; Crampton Pass, September 14, 1862; Anietam, September 17, 1862; Fredericksburg, December 11-15, 1862; Marye's Heights and Saleni church, May 3-4, 1863; Deep Run Crossing, June 5, 1863; Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863; Fairfield, Pa., July 5, 1863; Antietam and Marsh Run, July 7, 1863; near Lietersburg, July 10, 1863; Funkstown, July 11-13, 1863; Williamsport, July 14, 1863; Auburn, October 13, 1863; Rappahannock Station, November 7, 1863; Mine Run Campaign, November 26 and December 2, 1863; Wilderness, May 5-7, 1864; Spottsylvania Court House, May 8-21, 1864; Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864; Landron's Farm, May 10, 1864; the Salient, May 12, 1864; North Anna, May 22-26, 1864; Tolopotomy, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, June 1-12, 1864; before Petersburg, June 18, July 9 and December, 1864, and April 2, 1865; Assault of Petersburg, June 18-19, 1864; Weldon railroad, June 21-23, 1864; Fort Stevens, July 12-13, 1864; Charlestown, August 21, 1864; Opequan Creek, September 13, 1864; Opequan, September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, September 22, 1864; Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864; Petersburg Works, March 22, 1865; Appomattox campaign, March 28 and April 9, 1865; Fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865; Sailor's Creek, April 6, 1865; Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865.

Officers of Company E.—Captain, Jacob Wilson; first lieutenant, Hiram A. Winslow; sergeants, Thomas Avery, Frank Shurburt, J. W. Hagadorn, Jackson Davis; corporals, John W. Dain, William F. Ward, Cornelius Van Alstyne, Christopher Richards, Martin O'Brien; musicians, Charles Marcy, Wm. Flint; privates, George M. Algier, Samuel Allen, Isaac Bauder, James Barry, John Conrad, James Cary, James Connor, James Dwyer, Wm. Drake, Charles Drake, George Eicher,

John Farrell, John Fralick, James Farlan, Henry Fero, Lewis Hartley, Henry Henneman, Jerome Hill, Richard Hardin, Richard Handy, Wm. Hillebrandt, J. Hammersmith, John Jolly, Frank Jolly, George Jackson, John Karg, John Kiernan, Thomas Lynch, Peter Lynch, Charles Luckin, John McBahan, Theodore Martin, Charles Miller, Peter McNinny, John McCabe, Daniel McMann, William Meagher, John Murphy, Ellis Moyer, Orvillar Mann, John Neil, Harrison Plank, Peter H. Reynolds, David Race, Jonas Race, Henry Showdy, Charles Shultz, Thomas Smith, Charles Smith, Stephen Socks, Albert Taylor, M. Van Brocklin, A. A. Van Valkenburg, Frederick Willick, Abel Weaver, James Young.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

This regiment contained more Montgomery county recruits than any to which the county contributed, and was raised at a time when the government was in great need of volunteers, during the trying summer of 1862. Companies A, B, D, G, H, I and K contained men from this county, forming indeed almost half of the entire regiment, but the full enlistment is credited to Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga and Montgomery counties. The One Hundred and Fifteenth regiment was completed and organized about the middle of August, 1862, and mustered into service at Fonda, the place of rendezvous, on the 26th, by Captain Edgerton, of the regular army. The field and staff officers chosen upon the organization of the regiment were as follows: Simeon Sammons, of Mohawk, colonel; George S. Bacheller, of Saratoga, lieutenant-colonel; Patrick H. Cowan, of Saratoga, major; Thomas R. Horton, of Fultonville, adjutant; Martin McMartin, of Johnstown, quartermaster; Richard H. Sutton, of Saratoga, surgeon; Wm. H. Ingersoll, assistant surgeon, Sylvester W. Clemens, chaplain.

On the 29th of August, 1862, the regiment broke camp at Fonda and proceeded under orders to Charlestown, Va., where its first service was to guard the Shenandoah railroad, but soon afterwards it marched to Harper's Ferry and camped on Bolivar Heights. On the 13th of September it went into its first battle at Maryland Heights, and two days later witnessed General Miles's cowardly surrender at Bolivar Heights. The One Hundred and Fifteenth was next ordered to Ann-

apolis, but almost immediately was sent to Chicago on guard and provost duty, where it remained until the 20th of November and then returned to Washington. Instead, however, of encamping for the winter at the national capital, as was expected, the men were kept under constant motion, and suddenly, in January, 1863, the command was transferred to the department of the south with headquarters at Hilton Head, where it arrived on January 26. Here the regiment was divided into detachments and kept on guard duty until the latter part of May, and then reunited. While 1863 was uneventful so far as the One Hundred and Fifteenth was concerned, the succeeding year brought the regiment intense excitement, for it was ordered into perilous service and bore part in some of the most sanguinary battles of the war. Beginning with the engagement at Jacksonville, Fla., on February 7, and ending with Fort Fisher on December 25, the One Hundred and Fifteenth fought in twenty-two battles, but no where were its losses so severe as at Olustee on the 20th of February, where it lost more than one-half of its members engaged. Even a casual glance at the roll of Montgomery county companies will show how terribly the One Hundred and Fifteenth Regiment suffered in this battle. Although neither of the opposing armies could claim a victory, the One Hundred and Fifteenth won marked distinction, and was publicly complimented by General Seymour, who named it the "Iron-hearted Regiment," in honor of its bravery in that bloody action. After remaining some time in the south the One Hundred and Fifteenth, on April 18, was ordered to Gloucester Point, Va., and was there incorporated into the Tenth Corps, under command of General Butler. The official record shows what a prominent part it bore while it was attached to Butler's command. That its service must have been severe is evident from the fact that in the latter part of August its effective strength was reduced to less than 120 men. On the 15th of January, 1865, the One Hundred and Fifteenth took part in the second battle at Fort Fisher, followed by three other engagements in February, after which its service consisted mainly of guard duty. On the 17th of June it was mustered out, and on the 18th left Raleigh for Albany, where the men were paid off and finally discharged. The One Hundred and Fifteenth regiment left its old barracks at Fonda in the fall of 1862 with a full complement of

1,040 officers and men; in June, 1865, at the final muster-out its numerical strength was less than 200 of its original members.

Official battles of the One Hundred and Fifteenth: Maryland Heights, September 13, 1862; Bolivar Heights, September 15, 1862; West Point, Va., January 8, 1863; Jacksonville, Fla., February 7, 1864; Camp Finnegan, Fla., February 8, 1864; Baldwin, Fla., February 9, 1864; Sanderson, Fla., February 11, 1864; Callahan Station, Fla., February 14, 1864; Olustee, Fla., February 20, 1864; Palatka, Fla., March 10, 1864; Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 5, 1864; Chesterfield Heights, Va., May 7, 1864; Old Church, Va., May 9, 1864; Weir Bottom Church, Va., May 12, 1864; Drury's Bluff, May 14, 1864; Proctor's Creek and Port Walthall, May 16, 1864; Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864; Chickahominy, June, 1864; Petersburg, June 23, 1864; Burnside Mine, July 30, 1864; Deep Bottom, August 16-18, 1864; Fort Gilmer, September 29, 1864; Darbytown, October 27, 1864; Fort Fisher, December 25, 1864; Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865; Fort Anderson, February 19, 1865; Sugar Loaf, February 20, 1865; Wilmington, February 22, 1865.

Officers of Co. A.—Captain, Garrett Van Deveer, Fonda, mortally wounded at Olustee, died February 24, 1864; first lieutenant, Willet Ferguson, Fonda, promoted to captain, February 24, 1864; second lieutenant, John W. Davis, Fonda, promoted to first lieutenant, severely wounded at Olustee. Sergeants, C. N. Ballou, Fonda, promoted to second lieutenant, to captain in 1864; Stephen Morris, jr., Glen, mortally wounded at Olustee; C. C. Cole, Glen, wounded at Drury's Bluff; James W. Van Arnum, Fonda, promoted to second lieutenant, June, 1865; Charles Gross, Glen, died at Washington. Corporals, Thomas Smeaton, Root; John A. Hubbard, Fonda, lost leg at Harper's Ferry; Simeon J. Aumack, Glen, killed at Deep Bottom; Nicholas Shultz, Palatine; Silas W. Horning, Glen, lost arm at Deep Bottom; Stephen B. Nellis, Palatine; Rodolphus H. Tipple, Glen. Musicians, Joseph Allen, Alvergone Ackert, Fonda, killed at Fort Fisher. Wagoner, George H. Bellows, Glen, mortally wounded at Olustee.

Privates, Glen.—Joseph Bese, John D. Bond (died of disease, May 20, 1865), Charles Clapson (mortally wounded by accident at Hilton Head), Ezra Coleman (died at Fort Monroe), Elisha Carson (died in

Andersonville, February 20, 1864), Alfred J. Castler (promoted to corporal, wounded at Olustee), Joseph Carpenter, Charles Dinegar (killed at Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865), Oswald Glen, William Hilton (promoted to sergeant), John Holsner (died in Virginia), George Hart (wounded at Olustee, died in Andersonville), John Keyderling, H. A. Keyderling, A. W. Kirkham (wounded and prisoner at Olustee), Henry Keyderling, Alexander Lanegar, Jacob M. Lanegar, Solomon Lanegar, Peter Lanegar (killed at Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865), A. H. M. Lanegar, John A. Lanegar, Ira A. Lanegar, Mortimer D. Lowell, Edward McCann, Bernard McGuire, Thomas R. Nealey, Samuel D. Osterhout (died at Hilton Head, May 6, 1863), Daniel Peeler (died in Andersonville), Joshua W. Ripley, George L. Rice, Levi Smith, W. N. Sandt (died in hospital), John Sherlock (prisoner at Deep Bottom), John J. Van Brocklin (died of wounds at Harper's Ferry, September 15, 1862), William Van Alstyne (wounded at Olustee), Charles Weeper (wounded at Olustee, died in rebel prison, August, 1864), William Weeper.

Fonda.—George W. Blowers, Michael Byers (killed at Chesterfield Heights, May 7, 1864), John Brower, Reuben Blowers, Daniel Burk, James P. Caldwell, William Crowden, John Dutcher, James M. Dean, (died at Hilton Head), George Enney, Thomas J. Henry, Henry Heaser, (killed at Petersburg, June 30, 1864), John Horning, John Hogan (killed at Petersburg, July 13, 1864), Hiram Lusk (died in hospital February, 1864), Whiting A. Lee, William Reynolds, Niles Reynolds, George Smith, William Strait, Frederick Seller, Nathan Terrell, Martin Timmins (wounded at Deep Bottom, died September 14, 1864.)

Canajoharie.—Nelson Ambridge, Charles De Van (killed at Deep Bottom August 16, 1864), Charles Ergabroadt, Daniel T. Goodbread, James Gardner (wounded at Olustee and died March 19, 1864), William Gardner, Patrick Jay, Samuel H. Lusk, John Lewis, John Lasher, Menzo Lasher, Lewis Martin, jr., ——— McDowell (killed at Olustee), John H. Peeler (wounded at Drury's Bluff), Jacob Sabinhart, Leander Snell, Conradt Smith (wounded and missing at Fort Fisher), Joseph Shannon, John Van Dusen, Lafayette Waterman (died in rebel prison November 11, 1864), all of Palatine. Oliver Lighthall (wounded at Chester Heights), Michael McMahon, Henry O'Neil, of Root. John Gow (died at Beaufort), Daniel T. Steele, of Mohawk. John Petit.

Privates, residence unknown.—G. H. Bellows (died at Hilton Head), Robert Baker (died at Salisbury), Rosdell Corlew (died in North Carolina), F. Cromwell (died at Olustee), John Faus (died at Andersonville), John Kaiser (killed in Virginia), Wm. A. Pratt (died in Virginia), John Robinson (died at Andersonville), John Snyder (died at Hilton Head).

Officers of Company B—Captain, John P. Kneeskern, Minden; first lieutenant, H. X. Dievendorff, Canajoharie, resigned; second lieutenant, John Van de Saude, Fort Plain, wounded at Deep Bottom, died at Fortress Monroe, October 3, 1864. Sergeants, Wm. J. Lasher, St. Johnsville; Isaac E. Smith, St. Johnsville, promoted second lieutenant and to first lieutenant, Company C, and to captain; Daniel K. Peacock, Fonda; Jacob H. Snyder, Fonda; Joseph L. Mosher, Canajoharie. Corporals, August Collier, St. Johnsville, promoted second lieutenant November, 1864, to first lieutenant June, 1865; Job J. Harlow, Minden; Edward C. Buddle, Canajoharie; Countryman Jadau, St. Johnsville, (killed at Fort Fisher); John Reardon, St. Johnsville, promoted second lieutenant June, 1865; Washington Vosburgh, Canajoharie; Charles Tucker, Fonda; John F. Moyer, Fonda. Musicians, Darwin R. Hicks, St. Johnsville; Marcus Powell, St. Johnsville. Wagoner, Alonzo Van Evera, Fonda.

Privates.—Canajoharie, Wilbur Alpaugh, Wm. L. Alger, Henry T. Becker, Wm. H. Burden, James S. Brown, John Becker (wounded and prisoner), Seeley Conover, Livingston Derrick, Wm. E. Flint (killed at Olustee, February 20, 1864), Wm. H. Flint, Lewis H. Goodrich, Henry Goodrich (killed at Cold Harbor June 3, 1864), George Hoyt, George J. Hickey, Wm. W. Lake, Lucus Mount (wounded, prisoner and died), Anthony Otto, Charles Schuyler, Lucius A. Smith, (wounded and prisoner at Olustee, died at Andersonville September, 1864), George S. Smith.

St. Johnsville.—Jacob B. Brown (killed near Petersburg June 24, 1864), Robert E. Burk, Orrin H. Brown, George W. Burk, James Bellis, John Burns, David L. Collins, Leonard J. Crouse, John Denmark (died at Hilton Head May, 1863), Abram Failing, jr., John W. Higgins, William Hompkey, David Handy, William S. Hess, Peter V. Lampman, William H. Lampman, Lewis Magadien, John H. Miller, Norman Miller, Peter Nellis, John C. Nellis, Abner Snell, Orville Snell, E. W.

Southerland. Dan. K. Schram, James Sneck, Daniel Starin, Alonzo Smith (killed at Olustee February 20, 1864), D. C. Tompkins, James H. Veeder, Nicholas Winne, Reuben Walrath (wounded at Darbytown road October 27, 1864).

Minden.—Norman Cook, Aaron Garlock, James Green, Daniel Gilday (killed at Olustee), Abram Hanson, Samuel L. Hungerford, John A. Keeler, Charles C. Lappee, John P. Lintner (wounded at Petersburg, died September 1864), William J. Miller, Patrick McMahon, Morgan W. Moyer, Thomas McGreevy, John W. Moak, George Miller, Frank Niederlander (killed at Olustee), Nicholas Rupert (killed at Deep Bottom August 16, 1864), John Smith, Charles Tring, Fisher F. Van Epps, Frank Washburn, Daniel J. Whiting.

Fonda.—Henry Albright, David Bowes (died of typhoid fever August 14, 1864), Henry Byer, Robert Gray, Robert Kitts, Michael Maloney, Richard Maxfield (wounded and prisoner at Olustee, died November, 1864).

Amsterdam.—William Welch, John J. Williams, George Weaver.

Florida.—James J. West.

Residence Unknown.—B. Moyer (died at Savannah), R. Maxfield (died near home).

Officers of Company D.—Captain, Sidney D. Lingenfelter, Amsterdam; first lieutenant, Thomas Wayne, Florida, discharged for disability February 22, 1865; second lieutenant, Hugh S. Sanford, Amsterdam, promoted captain. Sergeants, Nicholas De Graff, Amsterdam, promoted second lieutenant June, 1863, first lieutenant February, 1865; William W. McKay, Amsterdam; Charles Kline, Amsterdam, promoted second lieutenant November, 1864, first lieutenant May, 1865; John C. Brand, Charleston; Elbert Slingerland, Amsterdam. Corporals, William H. Baker, Florida; Frank Moon, Amsterdam; William McColton, Amsterdam, wounded at Olustee; Levi Lingenfelter, Amsterdam, killed at Olustee February 20, 1864; Henry Hilton, Charleston; Edward S. Montayne, Charleston; Daniel Grant, Amsterdam, wounded at Olustee; Schuyler Gordon, Charleston. Musicians, Chauncy Snyder, Amsterdam; Francis Snyder, Amsterdam. Wagoner, Clark Vedder, Amsterdam.

Privates from Amsterdam.—Willard E. Bemis, William Boyd, Abraham Brower, Myron L. Bemis (wounded at Fort Gilmer, died October

11, 1864), Andrew Clark (died at Beaufort June 28, 1863), Williamson Cunning, Andrew M. Claffin, Sylvester N. Dodd (killed on railroad at Chicago), Peter A. Folmsby (killed at Olustee), Daniel Goodemote, John Gillims (wounded at Olustee), William E. Glover (wounded at Olustee, killed at Petersburg), Thomas Heavy (died in New York hospital August 4, 1865), Abner Hall, John Hansaw, Henry C. Hart, John B. Harrower, Isaac Harrower (died August 7, 1864), Fred. Hutchkins, Albert Inman, George Kline, Thomas Lepper, Oscar Lockwood, James Little, William Little, Samuel Marshall, Aaron McIntosh, James McCollum (died at Deep Bottom), James McKercher, James McNully (wounded at Olustee), Walter McCowlett, Daniel Mosher, William H. Nutt, Henry Rust, William Robinson, Chauncey Snyder, jr. (died of fever November 15, 1862), Alfred Saltsman (died November 15, 1862), Michael E. Soules, Alfred C. Shepard, Charles E. Thayer, John Turner (wounded at Olustee, died September 15, 1864), Cornelius Tyneson, Elbert Tyneson, John H. Wendell, John W. Wilmot.

Florida—Leonard Burns, David R. Brower, George Cassiday (died at Beaufort), James English, John French (died May 12, 1864), James Fredendall, George Fredendall, Philip McCarthy, John S. McMasters (died at Fort Monroe), Lewis Rosa, John H. Simpson (died at Andersonville), Alex. B. Shute, Daniel Tullock (wounded at Olustee), Kelley S. Tullock, James A. Tripp, William Thayer (died in rebel prison September 21, 1864), James W. Templer.

Charleston.—Jacob Albright, Harvey Bunzey, Winslow Burton (died October 24, 1864), Roderick F. Barlow (killed at Olustee), James Bretton, William E. Colgrove (died in rebel prison December 3, 1863), Philip V. Colgrove, Frank M. Conover (killed at Deep Bottom), Alfred G. Eaton, Nathan F. Folmsby, Miner B. Humphrey, Charles E. Kellogg (died of fever December 16, 1862), William H. H. Martin, John A. Ostrander, Samuel T. Rider, Asa B. Rider (died of fever November 23, 1862).

Mohawk.—Frank Crow (died in rebel prison October 21, 1864), Charles Dunbar, Robert Welch (wounded at Olustee).

Residence Unknown.—J. N. Countryman (wounded at Olustee), W. Clark (wounded at Olustee), Nicholas H. Eaton (wounded at Olustee), Charles Friny (died at Beaufort), J. Johns (wounded at Olustee), Will-

iam H. Kellogg (wounded at Olustee), Henry Newman (wounded at Olustee), B. Owens (wounded at Olustee), Charles Ormand (wounded at Olustee), Edward Smith (killed at Olustee), Henry Wood (wounded at Olustee).

Company G.—Amsterdam, privates, Michael Maloney (wounded at Olustee), R. S. Quillett, William Van Slyke, William H. Wiley (wounded, died in rebel prison.)

Company H.—Privates, Minden, Lyman Brown, Michael Dean, Patrick Egan, Michael Flanigan, John Hart, Dennis Ray, Jacob Smith.

Amsterdam—Jacob Ouderkirk, George Thorne, J. J. Vosburgh, Francis Williamson.

Florida—William H. Kellogg.

Fonda—James Richards.

Company I.—Captain, Ezra E. Walrath, Syracuse; first lieutenant, David M. Kittle, Canajoharie, promoted captain May, 1864; sergeants, Jeremiah Bovee, Canajoharie; George O. Smith, Canajoharie, promoted second lieutenant, January 27, 1864; James M. Young, Fonda, died at home; George Maxon, Canajoharie; corporal, Frederick C. Winsman, Canajoharie, died at Chicago.

Privates from Canajoharie.—Henry Billington (wounded at Deep Bottom), Henry W. Babcock, B. C. Cristansen (died in New Jersey), Martin Carver, R. Crandall (died in Andersonville), Livingston Devrick, Morgan M. Flint (killed at Drury's Bluff), Simeon Faulkner, James Gardner, Alex. Kershuckey (died in New York city), John Kelley, Nickolas B. Lewis, Sylvanus Moyer (killed at Chesterfield Heights), John McLoy, Patrick North, Martin Price, Augustus Price, George Rolf, Charles W. Sharff (wounded at Olustee), Thomas J. Stephens, Lucas Van Evera (died at Norfolk, Va., July, 1864), Theodore Whitford.

Palatine—Chauncey Goodbread, Frederick W. Keaner, Daniel Peeler (died in rebel prison, June 22, 1864), Jeremiah Rightmyer, Peter N. Rightmyer, Noah Suits.

Glen—William Disbrow (died at Portsmouth, Va.), Michael Miller, (died at Beaufort), Barney McGuire (died at Annapolis.)

Fonda—John W. Crosby, R. B. Kelly, Aaron B. Snell, Abijah Smith, Horatio Smith (died at Chicago.)

St. Johnsville—Ezra Coleman (died of wounds at Fortress Monroe, November 11, 1864), Clark Southwick (died in hospital at Beaufort of wound January 26, 1864), James E. Walrath.

Amsterdam—A. G. Snyder (died at Petersburg), Francis Wilmerson. Minden—Patrick Harvey, Thomas Clark.

Mohawk—John Pettit.

Root—Frank E. Rich.

Residence unknown—Benjamin Truman, P. Sullivan (killed at Petersburg.)

Officers Company K.—Captain, William Smith, Amsterdam, wounded at Maryland Heights. Hospital steward, J. Countryman, St. Johnsville, killed at Fort Fisher.

Privates.—Mohawk—Millig Bump, William L. Frederick, George S. Jones.

Palatine—Abram Backmyer (died at Fortress Monroe), Edward Bradt, James De Graff, Nathan Layton, Abram Rockmyer.

Glen—Francis Kersh (died at Hilton Head, June 21, 1863), Michael Miller (died at Beaufort, January 15, 1864.)

Amsterdam—John D. More, William S. Young (wounded at Olustee), Joseph Younger.

Residence unknown—J. M. Amsted (died at Deep Bottom), William Bailey (wounded at Olustee), A. Hardell (died at Raleigh, N. C.), James Hunter (wounded at Olustee), Charles W. Johnson (wounded at Olustee), Joseph Wistar (died at Staten Island.)

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

This regiment was raised in the northern counties of the state, seven of its companies being from Montgomery and Fulton counties, and three from Essex, Warren and Clinton. The Montgomery county men were chiefly in Companies B, C and E, while a smaller number was in F and G. Company B drew almost its entire strength from the towns of Mohawk and Palatine; C was made principally with recruits from Florida and Glen; E was the Minden and St. Johnsville company, its captain and first lieutenant, however, being Fonda men. The chief officers and a few men of Company F were from Fonda and other Mont-

gomery county towns, but its greater strength came from Fulton county. The local contribution to Company G was small, consisting mainly of officers.

The One Hundred and Fifty-third, like its companion regiment, the One Hundred and Fifteenth, was organized and mustered into service at Fonda, but this did not take place until October 14, 1862. Immediately after its organization it was ordered to Alexandria, but soon did provost service at Washington, which continued for more than a year. In February, 1864, it was transferred to Louisiana, and attached to the Nineteenth corps, being assigned to the First brigade, First division, commanded by General Franklin. The corps sailed from New Orleans on the 3d of July, under sealed orders; but its destination proved to be the Chesapeake. The One Hundred and Fifty-third, together with four companies belonging to other regiments, being the advance of the corps, were, on their arrival at Fortress Monroe, instantly ordered without disembarking, to the defense of Washington, then menaced by General Early's invasion. The troops were hurried through the city amid deep public excitement and general alarm, to a position at Fort Stevens, where they went into immediate action. After the repulse of the enemy the regiment joined in the pursuit across the Potomac, penetrating into the Shenandoah valley, but was suddenly recalled to the vicinity of the capital to oppose another threatened hostile advance.

The One Hundred and Fifty-third soon afterward engaged in the battle of Winchester, in which the Montgomery county companies again did good service. It also participated in the engagement at Fisher's Hill and in pursuit of the defeated confederates. The Nineteenth corps, to which the One Hundred and Fifty-third still belonged, was also engaged in the battle of Cedar Creek, and suffered heavy losses incident to the surprise and early catastrophes of that bloody field. The regiment also formed a part of the picket line which surrounded Washington after the assassination of President Lincoln, and performed guard duty at the military court which tried the assassins. In June, 1865, it was ordered to Savannah, where it did provost duty until its discharge from service, October 2, 1865.

Official list of battles of the 153d.—Red River campaign, La., March 10 and May 22, 1864; Pleasant Hill, April 9, 1864; Mansura, May

16, 1864; Washington, D. C., July 12, 13, 1864; Opequan, September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, September 22, 1864; near Strasburg, October 14, 1864; Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864.

Field and Staff Officers.—Colonels, Duncan McMartin, resigned April 25, 1862; Edwin P. Davis, mustered out with regiment.

Lieutenant Colonels—Thomas A. Armstrong, resigned February 18, 1863; William H. Printup, resigned November 17, 1863; Alexander Strain, discharged January 4, 1865; George H. McLaughlin, mustered out with regiment.

Majors.—Edwin P. Davis, promoted colonel March 26, 1863; Alexander Strain, promoted lieutenant-colonel December 1, 1863; Stephen Sammons, resigned August 27, 1864; Jacob C. Klock, not mustered; George H. McLaughlin, promoted lieutenant-colonel January 26, 1865; Charles V. Putnam, died September 9, 1865; Abram V. Davis, not mustered.

Adjutants—Stephen Sammons, promoted major December 2, 1863; Abram V. Davis, mustered out October 2, 1865; Frederick A. Harmon, not mustered

Quartermasters—Daniel C. Livingston, resigned August 22, 1863; John D. Blanchard, mustered out October 2, 1865.

Surgeons—Horatio S. Hendee, resigned February 18, 1864; Norman L. Snow, mustered out October 2, 1865.

Assistant Surgeons.—James L. Alexander, resigned August 9, 1863; Frederick D. Vanderhoof, failed to muster; Norman L. Snow, promoted surgeon April 14, 1864; James Sweeney, mustered out October 2, 1865.

Chaplain.—J. Henry Enders, mustered out October 2, 1865.

Officers Company B.—Captain, Robert R. Meredith, Mohawk; first lieutenant, John A. Wandelaer, Palatine; second lieutenant, Mason H. Stewart, Mohawk; sergeants, Richard Loucks, Palatine; Herman A. Foster, Palatine; Martin Cooley, Mohawk; Edward Doherty, Mohawk; Charles S. Woodward, Mohawk; corporals, Oscar Lasher, Palatine; Hamilton D. Seaman, Mohawk; David H. Quackenbush, Palatine; Ezra Van Slyck, Palatine; Abram Van Husen, Mohawk; Andrew Cluplif, Palatine; James Fancher, Mohawk; Henry P. Searles, Mohawk; musician, John W. Bauder, Mohawk.

Privates, Mohawk.—James Ash, John H. Austin, John Barringer, Reqa Carajja, Nicholas Coons, Charles Cromwell, John H. Doxtader, Thomas Donnelly, Amaziah Eacker, Smith Galloway, Edward Gates, E. Adam Glenar, Gabriel Henry, Richard Hart, David Haverly, Herman Hime, John Hoffman, James Hopkins, Andrew Lantman, Cornelius P. Lansing, Henry L. Leitt, Byron Lefler, Wm. R. McGee, Martin Nealon, Georam Piatti, Michael Regali, Joseph Reistle, Peter Reijja, Anthony Sheridan, Samuel Tomlinson, James H. Van Dusen, James S. Veeder, John D. Vrooman, Joseph Van Ness, James Welch, John White, George Wilder, David Wilder, Garrett Youngjohn.

Palatine.—Jerome B. Austin, Phineas Brigham, Shadrack Brower, John Coppernoll, John Colson, Wm. Cuplif, David Dornberg, John Eacker, Isaac Graff, Lewis Grape, Conrad Hinkle, Maus Haverly, Frederick Linde, Frederick Luck, Joseph Peiler, Henry Smith, Lewis Thompson, John P. Volmer, Hiram Vandewarker, Jacob Van Allen, Bower Van Wie, Wm. S. Waffle, George Wakeman, Simeon Waterman, Abraham Wich, James J. Williams.

Root—Peter Barringer, Harmon Haverly.

Florida—Simeon Phillips.

Amsterdam—Henry Young.

Officers Company C.—Captain, Wm. H. Printup; first lieutenant, Peter E. Houck; second lieutenant, Charles F. Putnam; sergeants, James B. Neill, Glen, promoted to captain; Wm. J. Munsell, Florida; Cornelius T. Burns, Glen; John Conway, Root; Martin Wood, Glen; corporals, Wm. H. Wiers, Glen; Hiram B. Kent, Florida; Patrick H. Minch, Glen; John W. Scoop, Florida; Jay L. Huganin, Glen; Lorenzo Lisdell, Florida; Milan Pierce, Glen; George G. Grimshaw, Florida; musicians, Alfred S. Davis, Glen; James Davis, Glen; wagoner, Daniel J. McLaughlin, Mohawk.

Privates, Glen.—Ezra T. Austin, Charles F. Bowman, Christopher B. Clute, Alex. Cornell, Jacob P. Cogshall, John B. Cogshall, Peter Carson, Wm. Foody, Wade Getman, John Hunt, Amst Hugo, Henry Hawkins, Arthur O. Jones, Peter Leighton, P. P. Lynch, Patrick McGarvin, John McGuire, John Murray, Samuel M. Murdock, Timothy Morris, George Miller, Andrew Newkirk, James Newkirk, John S. Putnam, Valentine Polhammer, Wm. Quinn, W. E. Quackenbush (trans-

ferred to navy), Jacob Stewart, Henry J. Soules, John Sharon, Abraham B. Swart, John H. Stillwell, Carroll Smith, Lewis D. Van Alstyne, Peter Vischer, Martin Wagner, Christian Wessels, Lewis Wessels.

Florida—James L. Callen, John Cronan, Walter Cleaver, John Carr, Abram Dinehart, James Davis, John C. Davis, Daniel Fisher, John Graff, John Guile, Andrew J. Hare, David Haganin, John Hills, George Kyle, Benjamin F. Lisdell, Lorenzo Lisdell, Abram F. Lewis, Wm. Lawyer, John M. Mitchell, Wm. A. Miller, Melvin Peck, James W. Peck, Benjamin Pangburn, John H. Reese, Daniel P. Reese, Cornelius H. Van Sickler, James H. Wilson.

Root—John Carson, Wm. Hazard, Michael Hynds, Peter J. Kellar, Martin Minch, George Minch, Myndert Quackenbush, Frederick Quackenbush, Webber W. Rowe, Daniel Smith, Moses J. Tompkins, John J. Vanderveer.

Charleston—Samuel Brum, Charles H. Hammon, Wm. H. Starin, Solomon H. Sharp.

Residence unknown—John Chambers, S. M. Carle, Delos Clark, A. P. Duell, James Fancher, F. Holden, E. Holden, A. F. Johnson, Walter Lasher, R. A. McClain, A. H. Mott, J. C. Quackenbush, Jacob Smith, C. P. Van Antwerp, W. H. Wires.

Officers Company E.—Captain, Jacob C. Klock, Fonda; first lieutenant, Harvey C. Ward, Fonda; second lieutenant, Ansel W. Porter, Fonda; sergeants, George H. Hagadorn, Minden; John H. Howard, Minden; Henry A. Nellis, Minden; James C. Bullock, Minden; Benoni R. Dolan, Minden; corporals, Adam Getman, James Walrath, Andrew Gordon, George Swarts, Arnold V. Lasher, David Rose, Martin V. B. Ashley, Jacob Casler, all of Minden; musician, George Morey, St. Johnsville.

Privates from Minden—George Armstrong, Martin Bopple, Joseph Bopple, Henry Bigelow, Charles Brammer, Byron Cole, Alonzo Coppersnoll, Joseph Dunn, John H. Empie, Earle Farrell, James Graham, Paul Gaul, Jacob Geesler, Wm. B. Holkirk, Charles B. Hubbell, Christian Hutritz, Wm. Knowles, Henry C. Keesler, Peter Kirsch, Adam Keesler, Enoch H. Lashley, James Lynch, John P. Miller, George Magadue, Charles Martin, Mulford March, Leonard Miller, Wm. H. North, Marvin Planck, John Phenas, Wm. Sheffield, Fred Sanger,

Charles P. Saulisbury, Charles Slae, Stephen Stehle, Ferdinand Smith, Henry H. Sanders, James Smith, Thomas W. Tweedle, Charles Wendt, Frederick Walster, Levi Winne, Albert Waufle, Christian Walster, John C. Waterman, Edward Wagener, Conrad C. Winne, John H. Gordon, Lyman Zimmerman.

St. Johnsville—Joseph Cook, John Dysling, jr., Nicholas Ecker, John C. Grabenstine, John E. Hellegass, Patrick H. Howard, John Klinkhart, Wm. Miller, John Moore, Sylvester Ritter, Jacob H. Walrath, Marvin F. Wilsey.

Root—John Donnelly, Warren Headley, Enoch Perrine, Wesley Spore, Henry Smith, Levi Sillenback, Christian Swartz, Matthew Smith, David Smith.

Canajoharie—Charles Sharp.

Officers Company F.—Captain, Isaac S Van Woerts, Fonda; first lieutenant, Frank W. C. Fox, Fonda; second lieutenant, John H. Lassel, Fonda; sergeants, John G. Porter, Canajoharie; Elnathan McPhee, Canajoharie; corporals, Robert R. Abling, Joseph Stone, Canajoharie; musicians, Andrew F. Johnson, Mohawk; Wm. H. Roberts, Canjoharie.

Privates, Canajoharie.—Harrison Abeling, John Abeling, Henry Bohne, Robert Boyd, Richard Bierman, William Dingman, John Fitz Simmons, Augustus Hilkey, Anton Keeler, Frederick Lutter, Henry Muerz, John Stehle, Harvey Shoudy, George W. Turner, John Ward.

Root.—George W. Bundy (died in Virginia), Thomas Casey, John Lee.

Florida.—Andrew Ryne.

Officers of Company G.—Captain, George H. McLaughlin, Fonda; first lieutenant, Edward Parkinson, Fonda; second lieutenant, George W. Hazard, Fonda; musician, Joseph L. Ritchie, Root.

Privates.—Peter McRea, Fonda; James McNiel, Canajoharie; Stephen Wiley, Root; Lyons Wakeman, Root.

FIRST REGIMENT LIGHT ARTILLERY.

The Montgomery county contribution to the First regiment of Artillery was embraced in Company K, otherwise known as the "Fort Plain Battery," which, as its name indicates, was chiefly recruited at Fort

Plain, but some of its men were from the towns of Stockbridge, Jasper, Elmira and Canandaigua. Battery K was mustered into service for three years at Albany on November 20, 1861. On the 15th of December its surplus men were transferred to other batteries of the regiment.

The Fort Plain Battery served at Washington and in the same military district until May 27, 1862, and then (at Harper's Ferry), joined the Second brigade, Sigel's division, being a branch of the great Army of the Potomac, where it remained until June 26, 1862. It was with the Twelfth corps from that time until May 12, 1863, and was then transferred to the Reserve artillery, and remained in that connection until March, 1864. The additional service of the battery was with the Twenty-second corps in the defense of Washington. On the 20th day of June, 1865, at Elmira, being then commanded by Captain Stocking, Battery K was honorably discharged and mustered out.

The service of the First was light artillery and by batteries in the Army of the Potomac, also in the Army of Virginia, of the Cumberland, and of Georgia, and was of such a detached character that the official record of battles of the local battery cannot be separated from those of other batteries of the regiment, for which reason we are unable to furnish them to our readers.

Officers of Battery K.—Captain, Lorenzo Crouse; first lieutenant, S. Walter Stocking; second lieutenant, Angell Matthewson; first sergeant, George W. Fox; quartermaster sergeant, William J. Canfield; sergeants, Mosher Marion, Charles Keller; corporals, Phelps Conover, Aden G. Voorhees, Gottleib Ludwig, William E. Smith, Horatio Fox, Henry Tabor; bugler, George W. Beardsley; artificer, Clark Burtiss; wagoner, Martin Sitts.

Privates.—Peter Bennett, Jesse Bennett, Elisha D. Bennett, George H. Billington, Peter Baziell, Albert Burtiss, Hiram Brown, William Brownrigg, George W. Christman, Myron Carter, James Coine, Ambrose Dyslin, Azariah Dyslin, William H. Drum, John H. Dievendorff, John B. Ellsworth, George Edick, Edward Enghamer, Henry Fricke, George W. Fort, Solomon Goodbread, Loren A. Green, Rufus Gallup, John Henniger, James Hanley, Jeremiah Holmes, Francis H. Johnson, Delos M. Johnson, Lyman P. Kneiskern, Jacob Kaufman, Francis Kelsey,

John Kelly, John Litner, Philo Monk, John Mattice, William H. Nestell, Azariah Nellis, William Nestell, Robert Parr, Russell W. Rogers, William J. Reynolds, Josiah Rockafellow, John Stevens, George Smith, Richard Shannon, John Trickey, George Walrath, Alexander Waterman, Matthew White.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT HEAVY ARTILLERY.

The Montgomery county enlistment in this regiment was quite small, its total being only thirty-four men, who were scattered through Companies E, F, and G. On May 11, 1863, the War Department authorized Col. William A. Howard to organize the regiment in New York. The men who had already been recruited by Maj. H. B. Williams for the Eleventh New York Volunteer artillery, but not assigned to companies, were transferred to this command, which was strengthened by also receiving the men enlisted for the proposed Twenty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, and for the Thirty-sixth Independent Battery of New York Heavy Artillery. The new levies were mustered into service for three years, but the regiment also contained some one year enlistments. The command in fact included men from all parts of the state. The regiment was mustered in by companies as soon as recruited during the latter part of 1863 and the early part of 1864, and its service in the field was of such a detached character that no regular narrative of its history can be given, except that found in its list of engagements. When the short term men were mustered out the remainder were consolidated, so that some of the companies lost their identity.

Official record of the battles of the Thirteenth.—Operations against Petersburg and Richmond, May 5 and 31, 1864; before Petersburg, June 15, 1864, and April 2, 1865; assault on Petersburg, June 15 and 17, 1864; Swift Creek, October 7, 1864; Day's Point, November 14 and 19, 1864; Fort Fisher, December 25, 1864 and January 15, 1865; fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865.

Roll of Montgomery County.—*Company E*.—Christopher L. Conrad, F. Hout, J. Lousborge, of Amsterdam; H. Cole, J. H. Ellis, D. H. Nothaway, of Florida; H. C. Topping, B. W. Watson, of Palatine.

Company F.—Nicholas Bernard, J. Coniton, of Amsterdam; P. H. Becker, B. W. Gilbourne, W. H. Russell, of Root; G. Buchanan, T.

Sterling, George Stewart, F. Styles, of Florida; J. Brady, S. Blyth, C. Forbes, of Palatine: W. B. Bowdish, James J. Bassett, M. C. Barlow, W. H. Colgrove, Delos B. Denise, J. E. Hemstreet, P. McGuire, David Pier, A. M. Scott, A. W. Vanderwarker, of Charleston; Z. Smith, of Glen; S. Orton, of St. Johnsville.

Company G.—J. E. Wiggins, of Amsterdam.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT, HEAVY ARTILLERY.

In this regiment were three men in Company C from Amsterdam, viz.: H. C. Ferguson, W. Hayes and W. Keep. In Company M was F. Hausman, of Amsterdam. The Montgomery county enlistment was so small that we are hardly required to give any history of the regiment, and therefore only mention the names of the men as above found.

SIXTEENTH REGIMENT, HEAVY ARTILLERY.

On the 19th of June, 1863, Col. Joseph J. Morrison was authorized by the war department to recruit an artillery regiment, which, when organized in the city of New York, was given the above designation. Companies F and H, to which the towns of Canajoharie, Minden and St. Johnsville contributed about thirty-five men, were mustered into service at Elmira. The Sixteenth left the state by detachments, the local companies in January, 1864. The regiment served as heavy artillery and infantry at Fortress Monroe, Yorktown and Gloucester Point, but was divided and sent on detached service during the greater part of 1864 and 1865. Company F, in which were several recruits from Canajoharie and St. Johnsville, was one of six companies that volunteered to General Butler to build the Dutch Gap canal, which work was begun August 9, 1864. The local troops, however, were withdrawn from this work after ten days. In July, 1865, the Sixteenth was united and commanded by Colonel Morrison. It was honorably discharged and mustered out of service August 31, 1865, at Washington.

Company F.—From Canajoharie—Abraham J. Allen, Julius Barlow, John D. Barlow, Samuel F. Bennett, Erastus W. Bowman, Cornelius E. Campbell, Charles H. Fuller, Thomas Nolan, Peter H. Riderick.

St. Johnsville.—Allen T. Dyslin, Daniel W. Hibbard, Daniel Hess, Lorenzo B. Hall, Samuel Knickerbocker, James L. Rodgers, William H. Smith, Clark E. Southerland, John W. Sheffer.

Company H.—From Canajoharie—George W. Hall, John Moyer, Jacob Real, Michael B. Ryan, Andrew Seevy, Michael Seevy.

Minden.—Dennis P. Canan, Charles C. Hagadorn, William Hagadorn, Henry H. Keller, Peter F. Lyke.

St. Johnsville.—John B. Churchill, John Fullen, John A. Kelley, De Witt Klock, Stephen Lousby.

IN OTHER COMMANDS.

It cannot be safely asserted that the foregoing rolls include the names of all the Montgomery county volunteers in service during the war of 1861–65. There were many men who left the county and enlisted in companies formed in other parts of the state, and were not, therefore, credited to their own town. The names of some of these have been obtained, but they are classified under the heading adopted above.

Independent Artillery, Battery Two.—From Amsterdam—J. Bleeck, J. A. Dawson, J. Davis, R. Dixon, G. Finn, George R. Lewis.

Battery Twenty-four.—J. Bartley, H. Plain, J. Billingham.

Second Veteran Cavalry, Company B.—H. Broadstreet, W. McCowart, C. Marsh, W. C. Putnam, D. Sykes, F. H. Styles, all of Amsterdam.

Twentieth Cavalry.—P. Winn, Minden, Company M; J. Shiel, Palatine, Company A; J. Benning, Root, Company B; C. Neall, Palatine, Company B; J. Constaut, Root, Company D; S. McNeil, Root, Company D.

One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Regiment.—L. P. Ballard, A. J. Messenger, W. Storms, of Florida, all in Company B.

One Hundred and Twenty-first Regiment.—E. Burlingame, St. Johnsville, Company C.

Seventy-sixth Regiment.—John Dunn, John Maicos, both of Canajoharie, in Company K.

Miscellaneous.—N. Wormouth, Fort Plain, Company E, Sixth cavalry; W. Stanton, Fultonville, Company L, Fifteenth cavalry; G. J. Van Schaick, Amsterdam, Company E, First Mounted Rifles.

CHAPTER XVI.

Internal Improvements — Early Navigation of the Mohawk — The Inland Lock and Navigation Company — The Erie Canal — Railroad Building — The Montgomery County Agricultural Society.

FOR nearly two centuries, says a contemporary writer, the Mohawk river above Schenectady has been navigable for small craft; first by the Indians with canoes, followed by the merchants of the east and the traders of the frontier in the transportation of wares into the Genesee country. The navigation of the river, however, was impeded by the falls (Little Falls so-called), to overcome which both goods and boats were required to be carried a distance of about one mile. By the establishment also of a carrying place, superseded by a canal, between the Mohawk and Wood creek, and by utilizing the waters of Oneida lake, the pioneer bateaux carried merchandise from Albany to Oswego. For many years this was the chief means of travel from the east to the west, families, household goods and supplies being carried by water, while horses and cattle were driven along the state road passing through the Mohawk valley. The first transportation boats were called bateaux, having a carrying capacity of from one to three tons, and were superseded by the Durham boats, capable of carrying ten or fifteen tons.

In 1782 the Inland Lock and Navigation Company was incorporated, the design being to remove river obstructions and build locks at Little Falls, at German Flats and also at Rome. To this was to be added a canal between the Mohawk and Wood creek, thus furnishing an unimpeded water route between the east and west part of the state. General Philip Schuyler was the principal promoter of this enterprise and associated with him were several Mohawk and Hudson valley capitalists. During the operations of the company, the old bateaux were replaced by the more modern Durham boats, but however beneficial this method of transportation may have been, it was soon superseded by a still more important enterprise, and one which has continued in uninterrupted use to the present time—the Erie canal. It is uncertain

who originated the idea of constructing this grand water communication through the state, as all previous efforts had been directed to the maintenance of the method attempted by the navigation company.

It may be said, however, that in 1800 Gouverneur Morris suggested the idea of a direct canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson, his plan being to tap the lake and thence have a continuous slope to the high lands bordering on the Hudson, with a series of locks thence to the river. He unfolded his plan to the surveyor-general (Simeon De Witt), but the latter considered it impracticable. Soon afterward De Witt in a conversation with James Geddes (then a land surveyor of Onondaga county), mentioned the Morris plan as one of the new schemes which had been advanced. Mr. Geddes, however, looked at the matter in a different light and after reflection concluded that with some modifications, it was by far the best plan that had been suggested. He consulted Jesse Hawley, and the latter published a series of articles signed "Hercules," which were the first ever printed in favor of the Erie Canal. In 1808 Joshua Forman, member of assembly, introduced a resolution for the survey of a canal route, to the end that congress might be induced to grant money for the construction of a canal; and the legislature at the same time appropriated \$600 for surveys, which service was entrusted to Mr. Geddes, who was directed to level down from Oneida lake to the mouth of Salmon creek, to ascertain whether a canal could be opened from Oswego falls to lake Ontario, and also to survey the best route for a canal around Niagara falls. He was also directed to survey a route eastward from lake Ontario to Genesee river and thence to the waters following east to Seneca lake. Mr. Geddes' report showed the practicability of the last named route, and the project at once excited general attention, and secured the influence of De Witt Clinton (then senator), and of many other prominent men. In 1810 commissioners, with Clinton at their head, were appointed to explore a canal route through the centre of the state, and on April 8, 1811, an act was passed to provide for the improvement of internal navigation, to aid which application was made to the general government, but without success. The report of the commissioners stated the importance of the measure with such eloquence that a law was passed the next year continuing the commission and also authorizing it to borrow money and take cessions

of land, but the war temporarily caused a suspension of active work until 1816, when another act authorized a more definite survey. The canal was begun at Rome July 4, 1817, and on October 22, 1819, the first boat passed from that village to Utica. The entire work was finished October 26, 1825, at a total cost of \$7,143,789.86. As first constructed the canal was 363 miles long, twenty-eight feet wide at the bottom and forty feet at the top, and four feet deep. Its enlargement was ordered May 11, 1835.

As the first boat, with Governor Clinton on board, entered the canal at Buffalo on October 26, 1825, a line of cannon, previously arranged a few miles apart, fired signals to Albany and down the Hudson to Sandy Hook, whence they were returned in the same manner. The commissioners under whom the Erie canal was constructed were Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Joseph Ellicott, Samuel Young, and Myron Holley, William C. Bouck being added to this number in 1821. The chief engineers were James Geddes and Benjamin Wright, neither of whom had ever before seen a canal, or even had the means of acquiring any other knowledge of engineering except that obtained from surveying land. The precision with which their surveys were executed, under such circumstances, has been regarded as truly wonderful. The canal was great for its day, but progress demanded a still greater advance, which was soon developed by the use of the iron horse.

The Mohawk and Hudson railroad, connecting Albany and Schenectady, led to the Utica and Schenectady railroad, organized April 29, 1833, with a capital of \$2,000,000, its object being to build and operate a line of railroad between the two last mentioned cities. The incorporation of the Utica and Schenectady company was the first step toward the construction of a railroad through Montgomery county, and hence was an event of unusual importance in local history. The first board of directors, among whom were names familiar in Montgomery county, was as follows: Erastus Corning, John Townsend, Lewis Benedict, James Porter, Alonzo C. Paige, Tobias A. Stoutenburgh, Nathaniel S. Benton, Nicholas Devereaux, Henry Seymour, Alfred Munson, James Hooker, John Mason and Churchill C. Cambreling. The work of constructing the road was begun soon after the organization and completed, and it was opened for transportation on August 1, 1836.

In 1853 there were in operation several railroads owned by various stock companies, forming a continuous line of travel from New York to Buffalo through the Hudson and Mohawk river valleys and the Genesee country. In the year 1853, by virtue of an act of the legislature, these companies were consolidated under the name of the New York Central Railroad Company, which became owners and lessees of the entire line. The latter, by various changes, modifications and processes of law, is now known as the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company. The advantages derived by the people of this country from the construction and operation of this road are so well understood that comment is unnecessary. The same company is also the lessee of the West Shore road, built during 1882 and 1883, and then known as the New York, West Shore and Buffalo railroad. It was intended to compete with the Central-Hudson, and was operated in this manner for several years, but was finally absorbed by the latter.

The early success of the Utica and Schenectady railroad led the people of Johnstown and Gloversville to also organize a similar enterprise, it being highly important for these places to have rapid and easy access to the Mohawk valley road. To this end the Johnstown Railroad Company was incorporated, May 13, 1836, with a capital of \$75,000, but it proved unsuccessful and many a year elapsed before the scheme was in operation. It was not, indeed, until 1870 that a railroad connected Gloversville and the Mohawk valley.

The Fonda, Johnstown and Gloversville Railroad Company, to which reference is now made, was organized June 16, 1867, and after overcoming many obstacles succeeded in completing their track at the lapse of three years. It connects with the Central-Hudson at Fonda, the same depot being used by both companies. It may here be added that the Gloversville and Northville Railroad Company (whose line is a continuation of the F., J. and G. road) was organized in 1872, and completed road in 1875.

In the present connection we may properly recall some of the railroads which have been laid out through Montgomery county, but which never got beyond the mere project. One was the Fish House and Amsterdam Railroad Company, organized April 26, 1832, the object being to build a track between the two places above mentioned; its

capital was \$250,000, but after the plan had been drawn no work was ever done.

Another was the Catskill and Canajoharie Railroad Company which was organized April 19, 1830, with a capital of \$600,000, the object being to build a track from Catskill to Canajoharie. It was built from Catskill to Cooksburg at a cost of \$400,000, but in 1842 it was abandoned and the road bed was sold.

The Mohawk Valley Railroad Company was organized January 11, 1851, having a capital of \$2,000,000. It proposed to build a road between Utica and Schenectady, but nothing was done beyond making surveys.

To return to agriculture, it may be said that the earliest efforts of nearly all of the pioneers of the Mohawk valley were directed to agricultural pursuits, for like all first settlers, they were poor in purse and dependent almost wholly upon the products of the soil. As farmers, their ideas were primitive, and the suggestion of improvement, either in implements or in the grade of stock, found little encouragement. They were, however, a sturdy, industrious people, living entirely within their means and controlled by their inherited customs. Hence they were not easily led by the notions of new comers, however beneficial the latter really may have been. Even Sir William found much difficulty in superseding old customs, and on one occasion, in 1765, expressed himself thus in a letter to the English Society for the Promotion of Arts: "The state of agriculture in the country is very low, and in short likely to remain so, to the great detriment of the province, which otherwise might draw many resources from so extensive and valuable a country; but the turn of the old settlers here is not much calculated for improvement; content with the mere necessaries of life, they don't choose to purchase its superfluities at the expense of labor, neither will they hazard the smallest matter for the most reasonable prospect of gain, and this principle will probably subsist as long as that of their equality, which is at present at such a pitch that the conduct of one neighbor can but little influence that of another."

It may be said, however, that whatever doubt the baronet may have entertained concerning improvement among the original settlers, a substantial progress was made in agriculture by their thrifty descendants

and by the enterprising New Englanders who occupied the region soon after the revolution. During the closing years of the last century, the state made some provision for improvement in agriculture, but it yielded no profitable results until 1801, when the territory of the state was divided into agricultural districts (each county comprising one) and a secretary appointed for each, whose duty was to inquire into the condition of the farmers and report to the central head of the society. Premiums were awarded for superiority in certain products, but the crops were apparently of secondary importance. In 1819, however, an appropriation was made by the state, for distribution among the counties, to promote both agriculture and domestic manufactures, but how the funds were divided and what awards were made cannot be ascertained. In the same year also, an agricultural society was formed at Johnstown of which Henry F. Cox was president, and James McIntyre secretary. The first annual fair was held October 12, and each year afterward until the division of the county, when the society became a Fulton county institution, while that formed a few years later at Fonda was virtually a new organization.

In 1841 the state appropriated \$40,000, part of which was used to reorganize the state agricultural society, and the other part for division among the societies for the promotion of agricultural pursuits. Under the provisions of the act of 1841, the Montgomery County Agricultural Society was organized, but this did not take place until September 20, 1844. At a meeting then held at the court-house in Fonda the first officers and directors were elected as follows: President, Tunis I. Vanderveer; vice-president, Joshua Reed, Peter H. Fonda; secretary, John Frey; treasurer, John Nellis; directors, Benedict Arnold, Amsterdam; Robert Baird, Charlestown; Jeremiah W. Gardner, Canajoharie; Lawrence Servoss, Florida; Richard Hudson, Glen; Barney Becker, Minden; Lyndes Jones, Mohawk; Wm. Snell, Palatine; George Spraker, Root; John Y. Edwards, St. Johnsville. The first fair was held on the court-house grounds on the 11th and 12th of November, 1844, and for the next three years at the same place. The fifth and twelfth fairs were held at Canajoharie; the tenth at Fort Plain; the eleventh at St. Johnsville. In 1856 Fonda was designated as a permanent location for the annual meetings, and in 1863 part of the old Van Horne estate was



W. A. D. M. H. G.

purchased, upon which was erected suitable buildings, while a half mile racing and exhibiting track was added to complete the grounds. Since then the fairs have been considered successful, the attendance being usually large and the receipts sufficient not only to enable the society to meet all obligations but to enlarge its grounds and erect thereon more spacious exhibiting halls. Present officers: Stephen Sanford, president; T. B. Vanderveer, Wm. Clark, vice-presidents; Wm. Wiles, treasurer; George L. Davis, secretary; L. A. Starin, J. B. Snow, G. M. Vorhees, executive committee; directors, John T. De Graff, Stephen Collins, John V. Sweet, Amsterdam; A. C. Phillips, 1st Ward; Edward McDonald, 2d Ward; Dr. Wm. H. Robb, 3d Ward; David Mathias, 4th Ward; George Vanderveer, 5th Ward of Amsterdam city; A. B. Miller, Ephraim Lipe, Lewis Bierbauer, Canajoharie; P. A. Dingman, M. S. Holmes, J. N. Morford, Charleston; James Herrick, Hiram Schuyler, Frank McClumpha, Florida; Ira Vanderveer, John Edwards, J. H. Faulkner, Glen; F. L. Bauder, Abram Dievendorf, David G. Hackney, Minden; George Ingersoll, John W. Wilson, Robert L. Bearcroft, Mohawk; John P. Snell, John W. Nellis, Jacob Saltsman, Palatine; Jacob Dievendorf, George Dillenbeck, Charles Dievendorf, Root; Peter F. Nellis, Abram I. Klock, Alfred Niles, St. Johnsville.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE LEGAL PROFESSION IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

THE sentiment is commonly expressed that the judicial system of the state of New York is largely copied from the common law of England. This is true in many respects, and such resemblances are frequent, but a close study of the history of the laws and judicial practice of this state will reveal the fact that they are in many respects an original growth. This is strikingly manifested in the simple matter of entitling a criminal process. In this state it is the people versus the criminal; in England it is rex versus the criminal. In the one the requirement is an independent judiciary responsible to the people only; in the other it is a court subservient to a king.

This great idea of the sovereignty of the people, even over our laws, has had a slow, conservative, yet progressive and systematic unfolding of the germ into organism. In the early history of the state the governor was in effect the maker, interpreter, as well as executor of the laws. He was the chief judge of the court of final resort, while his councillors were generally his subservient followers. The execution of English and colonial statutes rested with him, as did also the exercise of royal authority in the province; and it was not until the adoption of the first constitution in 1777, that he ceased to contend for these prerogatives and to act as though the only functions of the court and councillors were to do his bidding as servants, while the legislature should adopt only such laws as the executive should suggest and approve. By the first constitution the governor was entirely stripped of the judicial power which he possessed under the colonial rule, and this power was vested in the lieutenant-governor and the senate, also in the chancellor and justices of the Supreme Court; the former to be elected by the people, and the latter to be appointed by the council. Under this constitution there was the first radical separation of the judicial and legislative powers and the advancement of the judiciary to a position of a co ordinate department of the government, and subject only to the limitation consequent upon the appointment of its members by the council. This restriction, however, was soon felt to be incompatible, though it was not until the adoption of the constitution of 1846 that the last connection between the purely political and judicial parts of state government was abolished, and with it disappeared the last remaining relic of the colonial period. From this time the judiciary became more directly representative of the people. The development of the idea of the responsibility of the courts to the people, from the time when all its members were at the beck of an irresponsible master, to the time when all judges (even of the court of last resort), are voted for directly by the people, has been indeed remarkable.

Let us now look briefly at the present arrangement and powers of the courts of the state, and then at the elements from which they have grown. The whole scheme is involved in the idea of first a trial before a magistrate and jury—arbiters, respectively, of law and fact—and then a review by a higher tribunal of the facts and law, and ultimately of the

law, by a court of last resort. To accomplish the purposes of this scheme there has been devised and established, first, the present Court of Appeals, the ultimate tribunal of the state, perfected in its present form by the convention of 1867 and '68, and ratified by a vote of the people in 1869; and taking the place of the old court for the trial of impeachments and correction of errors. The Court of Appeals as first organized under the constitution of 1846, was composed of eight judges, four of whom were elected by the people and the remainder chosen from the justices of the Supreme Court having the shortest time to serve. As reorganized in 1869 and now existing, the court consists of a chief judge and six associate judges, who hold office for the term of fourteen years.

This court is continually in session at the capital in Albany, except as it takes a recess on its own motion. It has full power to correct or reverse the decisions of all inferior courts when brought before it for review. Five judges constitute a quorum, and four must concur to render judgment. If four do not agree the case must be reargued; but no more than two rehearings can be had, and if then four judges do not concur, the judgment of the court below stands affirmed. The legislature has provided how and when proceedings and decisions of inferior tribunals may be reviewed, and may in its discretion alter or amend the same. Upon the reorganization of the court in 1869, its work was far in arrears, and the law commonly known as the "judiciary act" provided for a commission of appeals to aid the Court of Appeals; and still more recently there has been organized a second division to assist in the distribution of the business of the general court caused by an overcrowded calendar.

Second to the Court of Appeals in rank and jurisdiction stands the Supreme Court, which is made up of many and widely different elements. It was originally created by act of the colonial legislature, May 6, 1691, and finally by order of the governor and council May 15, 1699, and was empowered to try all issues to the same extent as the English courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas and Exchequer, except in the exercise of equity powers. It had jurisdiction in actions involving one hundred dollars and over, and to revise and correct the decisions of inferior courts. An appeal lay from it to the governor and council. The

judges, of whom at first there were five, made an annual circuit of the county, under a commission issued by the governor, and giving them *nisi prius*, oyer and terminer, and jail delivery powers. Under the first constitution the court was reorganized, the judges being then named by the council of appointment, and all proceedings were directed to be entitled in the name of the people.

By the constitution of 1821, many and important changes were made in the character and methods of the court. The judges were reduced to three, and appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, to hold office during good behavior, or until sixty years of age. They were removable by the legislature on the vote of two-thirds of the assembly and a majority of the senate. Four times a year the full court sat in review of their decisions upon questions of law. By the constitution of 1846 the Supreme Court was abolished, and a new court of the same name and having general jurisdiction in law and equity was established in its place. This court was divided into General Term, Circuits, Special Terms and Oyer and Terminer. Its members were composed of thirty-three justices to be elected by the people, and to reside five in the first and four in each of the seven other judicial districts into which the state was divided. By the judiciary act of 1847, general terms were to be held at least once in each year in counties having more than 40,000 inhabitants, and in other counties once in two years; and at least two special terms and two circuits were to be held yearly in each county except Hamilton. By this act the court was authorized to name the times and places of holding its terms, and those of the Oyer and Terminer, the latter being a part of the Circuit Court, and held by the justice, the county judge and two justices of sessions. Since 1882 the Oyer and Terminer consists of a single justice of the Supreme Court.

The Court of Chancery of the State of New York was an heirloom of the colonial period, and it had its origin in the Court of Assizes, the latter being invested with equity powers under the duke's laws. The court was established in 1683, and the governor (or such person as he should appoint), assisted by the council, was designated as its chancellor. In 1698 the court went out of existence by limitation; was revived by ordinance in 1701; suspended in 1703 and re-estab-

lished the next year. At first the Court of Chancery was unpopular in the province, the assembly and the colonists opposing it with the argument that the crown had no authority to establish an equity court in the colony.

Under the constitution of 1777 the court was recognized, but its chancellor was prohibited from holding any other office except delegate to congress upon special occasions. Upon the reorganization of the court in 1778, masters and examiners in chancery were provided to be appointed by the council of appointment; while registers and clerks were appointed by the chancellor, and the latter licensed all solicitors and counselors of the court. Under the constitution of 1821 the chancellor was appointed by the governor and held office during good behavior or until sixty years of age. Appeals lay from the Chancery Court to the Court for the Correction of Errors.

Under the second constitution equity powers were vested in the circuit judges, and their decisions were reviewable on appeal to the chancellor. This equity character, however, was soon taken from the circuit judges, and the duties devolved upon the chancellor, while the judges referred to acted as vice-chancellors in their respective circuits. The constitution of 1846 abolished the Court of Chancery, and its powers and duties were vested in the Supreme Court,

By an act of the legislature passed in 1848 and entitled the "Code of Procedure," all distinctions between actions at law and suits in equity were abolished, so far as the manner of commencing and conducting the same was concerned, and one uniform method of practice in all actions was provided. Under this act appeals lay to the general term of the Supreme Court from judgments rendered in justice's, mayor's or recorder's and county courts, and from all orders and decisions of a justice at special term or circuit, and from judgments rendered at any trial term of the Supreme Court.

The judiciary article of the constitution of 1846 was amended in 1869, the legislature being authorized to provide (not more often than once in five years) for the organization of general terms consisting of a presiding justice and not more than three associates, but by Chapter 408 of the laws of 1770, the then organization of the general terms was abrogated, and the state was divided into four departments, and provision

made for holding general terms in each. By the same act the governor was directed to designate from the justices of the Supreme Court, a presiding justice and two associates to constitute a general term in each department. Under the authority of the constitutional amendment adopted in 1882, the legislature, in 1883, divided the state into five judicial departments, and provided for the election of twelve additional justices to hold office from the first Monday in June, 1884.

In June, 1877, the legislature enacted the code of civil procedure to take the place of the code of 1848. By this many minor changes in the practice of the court were made, among them a provision that every two years the justices of the general terms and the chief judges of the superior city courts should meet and revise and establish general rules of practice for all the courts of record in the state, except the Court of Appeals.

These are, in brief, the changes through which the Supreme Court has passed in its growth from the prerogative of an irresponsible governor to one of the most independent and enlightened instrumentalities for the protection and attainment of the rights of citizens of which any nation, ancient or modern, can boast. So well is this fact understood by the people that by far the greater amount of business which might be done in inferior courts at less expense, is actually taken to this court for settlement.

Next in inferiority to the Supreme Court is the County Court, held in and for each county in the state at such times and places as its judges may direct. This court had its origin in the English Court of Sessions, and like it had at first only criminal jurisdiction. By an act passed in 1683 a Court of Sessions, having power to try both civil and criminal causes by jury, was directed to be held by three justices of the peace in each of the counties of the province twice a year, with an additional term in Albany and two in New York. By the act of 1691, and the decree of 1669, all civil jurisdiction was taken from this court and conferred on the Common Pleas. By the sweeping changes made by the constitution of 1846, provision was made for a County Court in each county of the state, except New York, to be held by an officer to be designated "the County Judge," and to have such jurisdiction as the legislature might prescribe.



D. T. Coz

Under the authority of this constitution county courts have, from time to time, been given jurisdiction in various classes of actions, and have also been invested with certain equity powers in the foreclosure of mortgages and the sale of infants' real estate, and also to partition lands and to admeasure dower and care for the persons and estates of lunatics and habitual drunkards. The judiciary act of 1869 continued the existing jurisdiction in all actions in which the defendant lived within the county and the damages claimed did not exceed one thousand dollars.

Like the Supreme Court, the County Court now has its civil and criminal sides. In criminal matters the county judge is assisted by two justices of sessions, elected by the people from among the justices of the peace in the county. It is in the criminal branch of this court, known as the "Sessions," that the minor criminal offenses are now disposed of. All indictments, except for murder or some very serious felony, are sent to it for trial from the Oyer and Terminer. By the codes of 1848 and 1877 the methods and procedure and practice are made to conform as nearly as possible to the practice of the Supreme Court. This was done with the evident design of attracting litigation into these minor courts, and thus relieving the Supreme Court. In this purpose, however, there has been an evident failure, as litigants much prefer the broader powers of the Supreme Court. By the judiciary act the term of office of county judges was extended from four to six years. Under the code the judges can perform some of the duties of a justice of the Supreme Court at chambers. The County Court has appellate jurisdiction over actions arising in Justice's Courts and Courts of Special Sessions. Appeals lay from the County Court direct to the General Term.

Surrogate's Courts, one of which exists in each county of the state, are now courts of record, having a seal, and their especial jurisdiction is the settlement and care of estates, both of infants and also of the dead. The derivation of the powers and practice of these courts is from the Ecclesiastical Court of England, also through a part of the Colonial Council which existed during the rule of the Dutch, and exercised its authority in accordance with the Dutch Roman law, the custom of Amsterdam and the law of Aasdon, the Court of Burgomasters and Schep-

ens, the Court of Orphan Masters, the Mayor's Court, the Prerogative Court and the Court of Probates.

The settlement of estates and the guardianship of orphans, which was at first vested in the director general and Council of New Netherland, was transferred to the burgomasters in 1653, and soon after to the orphans' masters. Under the colony the Prerogative Court controlled all matters in relation to the probate of wills and settlement of estates. This power continued until 1692, when, by act of legislation, all probates and granting of letters of administration were to be under the hand of the governor or his delegates, and two freeholders were appointed in each town to take charge of the estates of persons dying intestate. Under the duke's laws this duty had been performed by the constables, overseers, and justices of each town. In 1778 the governor was divested of all this power, except the appointment of surrogate, and it was conferred upon the judges of the Court of Probates.

Under the first constitution surrogates were appointed by the Council of Appointment, but under the second constitution by the governor with the approval of the senate. The constitution of 1846 abolished the office of surrogate in all counties having less than forty thousand population, and conferred its powers and duties upon the county judge. By the Code of Civil Procedure surrogates were invested with all the necessary powers to carry out the equitable and incidental requirements of their office. In its present form, with weekly sessions, this court affords a cheap and expeditious medium for the care and settlement of estates and the guardianship of infants.

The only remaining courts which are common to the whole state are the Special Sessions, held by a justice of the peace for the trial of minor criminal offenses, and also Justice's Courts with a limited civil jurisdiction. Previous to the constitution of 1821 (modified in 1826), justices of the peace were appointed, but since that time they have been elected. The office and its duties are descended from the English office of the same name, but are much less important, and under the laws of this state it is purely the creature of the statute.

This brief survey of the courts of New York, which omits only those that are local in character, gives the reader some idea of the machinery provided for the use of the members of the Bench and Bar at the time

of the creation of Tryon county in 1772, and Montgomery county in 1784.

The organization of the courts in old Tryon county was an event of great importance in local history. The creation of the county itself was, as has been mentioned, due to the influence of Sir William Johnson, and he likewise named the officers first appointed to administer its affairs. The first members of the court were as follows: Guy Johnson, judge; John Butler and Peter Conyne, judges; Sir John Johnson, Daniel Claus, John Wells and Jelles Fonda, assistant judges; John Collins, Joseph Chew, Adam Loucks, John Frey Young and Peter Ten Broeck, justices.

On the formation of Tryon county Johnstown was naturally designated its seat of justice, and during the same year (1772) the court-house and jail were erected. The removal of the county seat from Johnstown, in 1836, became a public necessity, and a general demand led to the selection of Fonda as the new capital of Montgomery.

Fonda Court-House.—This building, which will soon be abandoned because of the noise occasioned by the cars, has some very interesting associations. It was erected in 1836, and a tablet in the wall mentions Howland Fish, Aaron C. Whitlock and Henry Adams as commissioners who superintended the work. The entire expense of the court-house and jail was \$15,000, which then was a large sum. This court-house has witnessed some very important trials, among which was the Putman ejectment case in which both Nicholas Hill and John Van Buren displayed their forensic abilities. One of the most interesting scenes however, was a trial in which a man, who, though not a professional lawyer, plead his own case in the most masterly manner, and to heighten the importance of the occasion it may be added that the person referred to was the novelist, J. Fenimore Cooper. He had prosecuted a Coopers-town editor for libel, and the venue had been changed to Montgomery county because of the bitter prejudice against the author at home. Cooper presented a grand appearance as he stood before the court, six feet high and finely proportioned, with a massive head and a cultivated face, and his address to the jury showed that he had fine power of oratory. The defence was conducted by Joshua Spencer of Utica, who was very eloquent, but the unfortunate editor had no chance of escape under

the unjust interpretation of the law which then prevailed. Cooper was triumphant, but his victory cost him more in loss of popularity than the amount of his petty verdict.

The court house, as has been said, will be abandoned, but may be turned to other uses and is too fine a building to be destroyed. It is really the best specimen of Ionic architecture in the state, next to the custom-house in New York.

Previous to the removal from Johnstown to Fonda the greater part of the lawyers of Montgomery county were residents of the first mentioned place. Hence we shall now briefly refer to some of those whose professional and public life rendered them prominent.

Recollections of the Old Bar.—The bar of Montgomery county has ever been noted for its strength. On the bench, as well as pleading in the courts have been men of the highest professional character and of great moral worth. Among the leading legal minds of this state Montgomery county has furnished a liberal proportion, many of whom have attained distinction and some eminence. They were indeed characterized by strict integrity as well as rare ability—qualities which have given them a high standard, not only in our courts, but also in the legislative halls both of the state and the nation.

Foremost among the leading lawyers of the county, and one of the most noted in the state during the early years of the present century was Daniel Cady, a native of Columbia county, born in April, 1773. He read law with John Wentworth, at Albany and was admitted to the state courts in 1795, after which he found Johnstown a suitable field for his profession, and became at once the acknowledged leader of the bar, a position he justly maintained throughout the long period of his practice. In 1808 he was elected to the assembly and re-elected in 1809—11—12—13. In 1814 he was elected to congress, and in 1847 and 1849 to the Supreme Court. The rival candidate for judicial honors was Judge Fine, a lawyer of ability and popularity, but Judge Cady's great strength gave but little chance to any opposition. Judge Cady had two sons who died early in life, and six daughters, all of whom were characterized by more than usual intellectual endowment, and one of whom—Elizabeth Cady Stanton—has reached prominence in discussing some of the leading questions of the day. When first elected to the bench



Wm. W. Wood

Judge Cady had passed his seventieth year, but at his second election he was seventy-seven. He resigned his office in 1855 and died five years later, on October 30, 1859.

Henry Cunningham was one of the most brilliant young advocates at the bar of the county, but his life was too short for the full developments of his mental resources. His greatest prominence was attained during his term in the assembly (session of 1824), in his bold and masterly defence of De Witt Clinton, who was removed by a political cabal from the board of canal commissioners.

Benjamin Chamberlain was prominent among the Johnstown lawyers for many years. He erected in 1816 the finest brick house in the county, which is still standing, and though no longer used as a dwelling still retains its ancient dignity. Donald McIntyre who became the first judge of Fulton county, was a student in Mr. Chamberlain's office. Later on Mr. McIntyre moved to Ann Arbor, but afterward returned to Johnstown and engaged in banking. His last days, however, were passed in Ann Arbor.

William I. Dodge, who was for many years noted both in the legal and political world, was a native of Johnstown. He was member of the state convention in 1821, and was also elected to the state senate. Later on he removed to Syracuse, where he died.

Charles McVean, who was born and bred in Johnstown, studied law with William I. Dodge, and succeeded him in the district attorneyship. He was elected to congress in 1832, serving during the session of 1833-35. He removed to New York, where he became surrogate, but he died before the expiration of his office.

Edward Bayard, a member of the historic family of that name, married a daughter of Daniel Cady, and became a member of the Montgomery county bar. Later on, however, he exchanged law for medicine and having removed to New York attained high rank in his profession. He died September 28, 1869.

Daniel Paris and Mathias B Hildreth were prominent Montgomery county lawyers during the early part of the present century. The former was son of Isaac Paris who was slain at Oriskany. He served a term in the state senate and wielded great influence while member of the council of appointments. Later on he removed to Troy but he died

in New York. Mathias B. Hildreth became attorney-general, and his business led him to the state capital, but he died in Johnstown, and his grave may be seen in the old cemetery.

Aaron Haring came from New Jersey and was for many years a prominent member of the bar, being at one time chief judge of the Common Pleas. His office stood for half a century on the court-house lot and as he reached an advanced age, he is remembered by many of the older citizens.

Abraham Morrell was also a noted lawyer and he held the office of judge of the Common Pleas for many years. He was a zealous politician, and was the first to raise a hickory pole in Johnstown, which took place on Jackson's second presidential canvass in 1832.

Peter Brooks came from Herkimer and was brother-in-law of Captain George I. Eacker who killed Philip Hamilton in a duel. Mr. Brooks passed a large part of his life in Johnstown, where he built an elegant house.

James L. Veeder was born at Fonda, where his parents lived for many years and reared a large and respectable family. He was educated at Union college, and after graduating pursued legal study with Austin Yates. He was admitted and began the practice of his profession at Fonda, but removed to Johnstown where his prospects were highly favorable. His career, however, was brought to an untimely close by typhoid fever.

Hezkiah Baker was an old attorney at St. Johnsville and in 1853-54 and again in 1857 was in the assembly, being then a leader of the Whig party. He was a self made man, a good lawyer and fearlessly honest in the performance of duty. In 1868 he was elected district attorney. He died in St. Johnsville quite recently.

John Darrow, of Fort Plain, was one of the leading lawyers of the county during his time and was appointed judge of the Common Pleas February 15, 1846. He died many years ago.

Peter J. Wagner was born in Palatine in 1795, and was the son of Joseph Wagner who settled in Minden in 1805. He became one of the leading lawyers of the county and represented this district in congress in the sessions of 1839-41. He died at Fort Plain at an advanced age.



A. W. Borst.

Henry Adams was originally a merchant, but preferred the law in which he won an enviable position. He practiced for many years at Fort Plain and then moved to New Jersey, where he died.

Peter J. Webster, of Fort Plain, more commonly known as Colonel Webster, a militia title, was the son of Dr. Joshua Webster, and a native of Minden. He was a bright lawyer and was elected district attorney in 1853. He is remembered as a kind-hearted man as well as a popular advocate.

James Genter, also of Fort Plain, is remembered as a careful, plodding attorney of early days, when the profession was more laborious than profitable.

George Yost was a native of Johnstown. He studied law with Daniel Cady who made him a business partner. Eventually Mr. Yost removed to Fort Plain where he attained wealth and professional distinction and was elected county judge. He died in 1888.

Lorenzo Crouse was the law partner of Peter J. Wagner. He was in practice in 1850, but afterwards left the county and became prominent in politics in the west, being in 1892 the Republican candidate for governor of Nebraska.

David Eacker was a prominent lawyer and public man in Canajoharie many years ago, being a strong Whig and of much influence in his party. He was commonly called "Judge" Eacker, probably as associate judge in the Common Pleas. He had two sons, Josiah and Charles, both lawyers, the former removing to Wisconsin and the latter to New York.

Thomas B. Mitchell, of Canajoharie, was a lawyer of ability. He gained much popularity in the county, and was four times elected senator, 1843-44-45-46. Later on he removed to Schenectady, continuing practice there, and it is said that whenever he was engaged in the trial of a cause the college students always came to the court-house to observe his peculiar manner.

John Cummings was practicing law at Canajoharie when the county seat was removed to Fonda, and was among the older lawyers of the county at that time.

In recalling the names of former legal practitioners of Canajoharie we should also mention James H. Cook and George Smith, the former of

whom was elected county judge in 1867. Mr. Smith removed to Amsterdam, where he died several years ago.

Phineas Randall, who lived and practiced law at Ames, six miles south of Canajoharie, was one of the old lawyers of the county, and judge of the Common Pleas in 1841, his predecessor being Abraham Morrell, and his successor John Darrow. He was the father of Alexander W. Randall, at one time governor of Wisconsin, also postmaster-general under President Lincoln. Also he was the father of Edwin M. Randall, who was justice of the Supreme Court of Florida during the reconstruction period.

Among the old legal practitioners at Palatine Bridge we can recall the names Henry Loucks and John Frey, both able lawyers, who did good service in their day.

Isaac Tiffany was one of the old bar, and a resident of Fultonville. He studied law with Aaron Burr, and had many reminiscences of that famous character.

Cornelius Putnam was a lawyer of Glen village, and had a large local influence.

Giles F. Van Vechten also practiced in the same town, and was the last of the appointed surrogates of the county, his appointment dating April 1, 1843. In 1845 he was elected county clerk; later on he removed to New York, where he died in 1889.

Howland Fish was a native of Dutchess county, and descended from a family prominent in the revolution. He was educated at Yale and then studied law at Hudson. Later on he became law partner with Aaron Haring at Johnstown, where he was also appointed postmaster. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1821, and represented the county several times in the legislature. He was also one of the commissioners appointed to erect the court-house and jail after their removal from Johnstown. The largest part of his life was spent in Fultonville, where he was for many years the leading counsellor.

Frothingham Fish, son of the above, pursued the same profession in which he attained great eminence. He has always been a Montgomery county man, and occupies the house and office erected by his father. The best proof of his abilities is found in the fact that he was elected justice of the Supreme Court and was an honor to the bench. Judge

Fish also twice represented the county in the legislature. He has passed his entire professional life in Fultonville, where he has acquired wealth and public respect.

Robert Bronk Fish, son of the above, was educated at Union college and studied law with his father. He has held the office of district attorney and is still engaged in the practice of his profession.

Leonard F. Fish, who is the youngest of the judge's sons, is also engaged in law practice and occupies the same office, which has thus served three generations of the same profession.

Daniel G. Lobdell, a native of Johnstown, studied law with William I. Dodge and later on became a partner with Alonzo Adams, of Fort Plain, where he died in 1875.

Nicholas Hill was born at the old Hill farm (as it is still called) near Minaville. He read law with Phineas Randall and was noted for application. His ambition, indeed, rendered legal service his pastime as well as study. Later on he studied with the once famous Judge Cowen, whose office he left to begin practice, first at Amsterdam, and afterwards at Albany. His progress at the bar was rapid and yet not more so than had been predicted by those who had marked his early promise. He reached the highest position in his profession, being at last the most powerful practitioner before the Court of Appeals. In the language of Charles O'Connor he "held the first place in the bar of the state." He died May 5, 1859, in his fifty-fourth year, and was buried in the Albany cemetery.

Marcus T. Reynolds was also a noted member of the Montgomery county bar. He reached distinction while practicing in Amsterdam and afterward removed to Albany, where he held pre-eminence until removed by death.

Deodatus Wright was also a distinguished member of the Montgomery county bar. He lived in Amsterdam, but afterward followed the above mentioned example and removed to Albany where he was made judge of the Supreme Court. Platt Potter, who also began his profession in this county, removed to Schenectady where he, too, reached a position on the Supreme Court bench. Alfred Conkling, who lived at Canajoharie, was also a noted member of the Montgomery county bar. He was elected to congress, and later on was appointed judge of the United States Court. He was the father of Roscoe Conkling.

Garrett L. Roof was also a prominent member of the Montgomery county bar, being at one time district attorney. He eventually exchanged the legal for the clerical profession, in which he labored for many years with much success. He died at West Troy where he passed his last years in retirement.

David Sacia was also numbered among the old members of the Montgomery county bar, and was a man of highly respectable ability.

Samuel Belding, jr., was one of the earliest lawyers of Amsterdam, and was the first county judge under the constitution of 1846. He was partner with Clark B. Cochrane, and brother-in-law to Nicholas Hill.

Solomon P. Heath was another prominent lawyer of the same place, and was elected member of the assembly in 1850, and also county judge in 1871.

Richard H. Cushney was born in the town of Johnstown (now Mohawk) in 1809, and was educated in the common schools, and the Cambridge and Johnstown Academies, after which he studied law with William I. Dodge, and was admitted to the bar in 1831. During his legal studies Mr. Cushney was deputy in the office of county clerk (George D. Ferguson) and remained in this service until 1837, when he removed to Fonda, holding the same office in the new county seat.

Judge Cushney began law practice in 1831, and continues in professional service, being the oldest lawyer in Montgomery county, and one of the oldest in the Mohawk valley. He has been a Democrat since attaining his majority, and held a number of public offices. He was appointed surrogate July 17, 1838, holding until April 1, 1843, and in November, 1859, he was elected county judge, and served with acknowledged ability. He also assisted in founding the Mohawk River Bank, and has always been its legal adviser, and for a long time has held the office of vice-president.

The Present Bar.—In both personal character and professional ability the bench and bar of Montgomery county always held distinction, and did our space permit the subject would be entitled to more extended notice. Under such a limitation, however, our record will only include personal mention of the members of the present bar of the county; in which determination we are supported by the profession in general, and its younger representatives in particular, who have yet to make their

life records, and who feel that extended mention belongs more appropriately to the close of labor than to its beginning.

In Montgomery county there is a great variety of business interests, and hence there is a fair prospect of success on the part of any energetic lawyer; and while the legal business of a county ordinarily centers at its county seat, in this county the seat of justice happens to be located in a comparatively small village, which offers but little inducement to a lawyer. Amsterdam, Canajoharie and Fort Plain are the leading places in the county, and as a result the greatest number of practicing attorneys are there, and yet Fonda, Fultonville and St. Johnsville have their fair proportion of lawyers.

Lawyers of Amsterdam—Howard Putman, John F. Collins, W. B. Dunlap, George S. Dievendorff, A. B. Flansburg, W. Davidson Jones, John G. Maxwell, E. J. Maxwell, Charles S. Nesbitt, Richard Peck, L. H. Reynolds, Robert J. Sanson, Martin L. Stover, Lawrence A. Serviss, Walter L. Van Denbergh, L. S. Westbrook, Henry V. Borst, E. J. Perkins, John K. Warnick, George B. White, E. P. White, C. P. Winegar, Hicks B. Waldron, Harry Sherburn, Henry V. Burke, Archie R. Conover, J. Howard Hanson, Homer J. Sullivan, John W. Eighmy, Thomas F. C. Clary.

Canajoharie—J. F. Hazleton, Harvey Dunkel, Brownell C. Fox, Hiram L. Huston, Newton J. Herrick, D. S. Morrell, B. F. Spraker, David Spraker, Frazer Spraker, W. H. Van Steenbergh, John C. Wheeler, Charles W. Wheeler, William A. Williams.

Fort Plain—James E. Dewey, H. M. Eldredge, Irving Moyer, Aionzo Lewis, George E. Phillips, Dewitt C. Shults, E. S. Van Deusen, L. M. Weller, J. L. Moore, John D. Wendell, John S. Yost.

Fonda—Richard H. Cushney, Henry B. Cushney, J. S. Sitterly, Daniel Yost, S. W. Putman.

Fultonville—G. M. Albot, Frothingham Fish, R. Bronk Fish, Leonard F. Fish, Thomas R. Horton.

St. Johnsville.—Frank B. Towman.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

THE medical profession of Montgomery county has preserved but little of its history, and while there are a few meagre records by which we may learn the proceedings and membership of the medical societies that have been formed (one of them dating back to the early years of this century), there are no data upon which can be based a history of the development of the profession. The great advance in all branches of art and science during the last century has indeed been marvelous, but in none has there been greater progress than in medicine and in surgery.

This science which now does so much to ameliorate suffering, began with Hippocrates nearly twenty-three hundred years ago, and he first treated of medicine with the simplest remedies, relying chiefly on the healing powers of nature. He wrote extensively, and some of his works have been a foundation for the succeeding literature of the profession. The greatest advance in medical science, however, has been made during the last one hundred years, and chiefly during the last half century. Physiologists no longer believe (as did the practitioners of the sixteenth century), that the planets have a direct and controlling action on the body, or that the sun operates on the heart and the moon upon the brain; nor do they now believe that the vital spirits are prepared in the brain by distillation. On the contrary, modern physiology teaches that the phenomena of the living body are the results of physical and chemical changes; the temperature of the blood is now ascertained by the thermometer, and the different fluids and gases of the body are analyzed by the chemist, giving to each its own properties and functions.

Botanists are now acquainted with 150,000 plants, of which a large proportion are constantly being added to the already appalling list of new remedies. Many of the latter possess little if any virtue, yet by liberal advertising they hold a place in nearly every drug store. The



Joseph N. White M.D.

ancients were not so well supplied with drugs, and hence they resorted to other methods. For instance, it is said that the Babylonians exposed their sick to the view of passers-by in order to learn of them whether they had been afflicted with a like distemper, and by what remedies they had been cured. It was also a custom of those days for all persons who had been sick to put up (on their recovery) a tablet in the temple of Esculapius, whereon they gave an account of the remedies by which they had been restored. Prior to Hippocrates all medicines were administered by priests and were associated with numerous superstitions, such as charms, amulets and incantations; sympathetic ointments were applied to the weapon with which a wound had been made; human or horse flesh was used for the cure of epilepsy, and convulsions were treated with human brains. It may be added that the credulous superstition of early ages has not been fully eradicated, even by the advanced education of the present day. One of the latest appeals to the credulity of the masses is the so-called "Christian Science," and also "Faith Cure," but so long as filth brings fever, prayer will be of no avail, and those who advocate such a method of cure are either self-deceived or are basely deceiving others.

It is not our purpose, however, to treat of ancient or even modern medical history, and though a review of the progress in this science from the time of the Egyptian medical deities, or the Greek or Roman medical mythology, would be very interesting as well as instructive, it is not pertinent to the medical history of Montgomery county, and our introductory observations indeed are merely to suggest to the reader the difference between the ancient and modern means of healing.

The settlement of the region now included in Montgomery county began soon after the year 1700, but progressed slowly during the first half century. The country was then an almost unbroken wilderness, except as occasional improvements had been made by the Germans in the Mohawk valley. At that time, and indeed at any time for a century afterward, the facilities for obtaining a medical education were very limited. The state of New York, unlike New England and Pennsylvania, had done very little to encourage science, and there were no schools of medicine worthy of the name nearer than Boston or Philadelphia. Few young men could then afford to go so far to qualify themselves for

a profession which offered but little pecuniary inducement, hence the prevailing custom was for the medical aspirant to enter the office of some neighboring physician and read for two or three years, at the same time accompanying his tutor in his professional visits and learn his methods of practice. At the end of the term the young doctor would seek some promising vacancy and begin practice.

The legislation which then regulated the admission and practice of physicians was so defective as to be really worthless. In 1806, however, an act was passed repealing all former laws in reference to the profession and at the same time authorizing a general State Medical Society and also county societies.

The Montgomery County Medical society.—In 1806 the legislature of New York passed an act for the incorporation of medical societies in each county of the state, in pursuance of which the Montgomery County Medical Society was organized on the first Tuesday in July of the same year. The meeting was held at the court house in Johnstown, at which time there were present Alexander Sheldon, Oliver Lathrop, Stephen Reynolds, Wm. H. Devoe, Wm. Reid, Benjamin Tucker, Horace Barnum and Abraham Sternbergh. The officers then chosen were Alexander Sheldon, president; Wm. Reid, vice-president; Stephen Reynolds, secretary; Oliver Lathrop, treasurer; Alexander Sheldon, Stephen Reynolds, and Benjamin Tucker were appointed a committee to prepare by-laws for the government of the society, and their report was made on October 15 following.

The first page of the records of the society contains a roll of its members under the caption of "Catalogue of Members of the Montgomery Medical Society," but as no date is given it is difficult to decide whether the names thus recorded were those of original members. They were as follows: Alexander Sheldon, Stephen Reynolds, Edmund G. Rawson, Elijah Cheadle, Daniel Curk, Wm. A. Reid, Oliver Lathrop, Jonathan Eights, Joshua Webster, Benjamin Tucker, Wm. H. Devoe, Abraham Sternbergh, Horace Barnum, Jonas Farr, Thomas Conklin, Christian Stisser, Simeon Massey, Daniel Ayers, Benjamin Lyon, John Esmond, Ichabod Thompson, Richard Davis, jr., Thomas C. Kenton, Orvis Johnson, Asa Rice, Frederick Garrett, John Atwater, Josiah T. Betts, Samuel Voorhees, Wm. Brown, John Holmes, Daniel C. Johnson, Elijah

Hanchett, John Delamater, Samuel Maxwell, James W. Miller, Lebeus Doty, Moses Johnson. In explanation of this "catalogue" we may state that it is quite doubtful if all the physicians thus named were in the county in 1806; not that the county (which included Fulton) was not sufficiently large for such a number, but it is thought that some names may have been added at a later date. This list, however, will recall nearly all the early physicians of the county, some of whom are still remembered by the old residents.

In 1838 the division of the county required a reorganization of the society, the first officers elected after that event being Daniel Ayers, president; Zadoc Barney, vice-president; Abraham T. E. Hilton, secretary; Morgan Snyder, treasurer. In 1840 the members of the society were as follows: Daniel Ayers, John Atwater, Zadoc Barney, Thompson Burton, Henry H. Belding, James Dievendorf, Richard Davis, Lebeus Doty, ——— Graves, Abraham T. E. Hilton, Erastus Holmes, David E. Houghtaling, Wm. H. Johnson, Simeon Marcy, Ezra A. Mulford, John D. Mathews, Uriah Potter, Abraham Puling, John W. Riggs, Wm. Smith, Simeon Snow, Morgan Snyder, Jacob G. Snell, Joseph D. Stewart, Samuel Voorhees, Joshua Webster, Joseph White, Aaron W. Hall, John L. St. John, Abraham J. Arndt, George Beakley, John W. Sterling, Abel Lyons, Leonard Proctor, Charles Dievendorf, Alex. Ayers, Gilbert H. Brownell, Jeremiah Snell, Davis L. Carroll, W. E. Riess, I. I. Buckbee, W. H. Biggam, Jacob H. Dockstader, Henry H. Biggam.

Present Members.—Douglas Ayers, E. F. Bronk, C. W. De Baun, W. H. De Lamater, J. R. Fairbanks, S. H. French, Ezra Graves, T. Hyland, R. G. Johnson, C. M. Klock, H. M. Leach, S. D. Lewis, D. M. McMartin, W. J. Peddie, H. W. Post, W. R. Pierce, W. H. Robb, E. E. Rulison, F. E. Simons, A. V. H. Smythe, Charles Stover, P. L. Suits, D. M. Taylor, C. F. Timmerman, C. C. Vedder, S. A. Wessels, H. L. Furbeck, G. G. Lewis, Augusta A. Steadman, E. T. Rulison, John W. Kniskern.

Presidents of the Society.—Alexander Sheldon, 1806; Wm. H. Reid 1807; Jonathan Eights, 1808; Stephen Reynolds, 1809–11; Joshua Webster, 1812; Alex. Sheldon, 1813; Daniel Curk, 1814; Elijah Cheadle, 1815; Edmund G. Rawson, 1816; Alex. Sheldon, 1817;

Stephen Reynolds, 1818; Samuel Maxwell, 1819; Daniel Ayers, 1820; Joshua Webster, 1821-2; Lemuel C. Paine, 1823; James W. Miller, 1824; John Atwater, 1825-6; Oran Johnson, 1827; Lebbeus Doty, 1828; Abraham Puling, 1829; Wm. Carlisle, 1830; Wm. Chalmers, 1831; Lemuel C. Paine, 1832-3; Daniel Ayers, 1834; Wm. G. Comstock, 1835; Morgan Snyder, 1836; James W. Miller, 1837; Daniel Ayers, 1838; Simeon Snow, 1839; Joseph White, 1840; John D. Mathews, 1841; James Dievendorf, 1842; Uriah Potter, 1843; Joseph White, 1844; J. D. Mathews, 1845; Davis L. Carroll, 1846; Henry H. Belding, 1847; Simeon Snow, 1848; Jacob Myers, 1849; Thompson Burton, 1850; Jacob G. Snell, 1851; E. B. Etherge, 1852; Uriah Potter, 1853-4; D. L. Carroll, 1855; Alex. Ayers, 1856; no record 1857; John Parr, 1858; no record 1859; J. Burdick, 1860; no record 1861; Norman L. Snow, 1862; no record 1863; I. I. Buckbee, 1864; J. H. Stafford, 1865; Darwin Potter, 1866; D. Ayers, 1867; Jeremiah Snell, 1868; Wm. Robb, 1869; J. Snell, 1870; Frank G. Buckbee, 1871; J. G. Snell, 1872; W. H. Biggani, 1873; Morgan Snyder, 1874; W. N. Curtis, 1875; Alex. Ayers, 1876; Dr. Scoon, 1877; C. A. Dievendorf, 1878; D. M. Taylor, 1879; C. C. Vedder, 1880; Morgan Snyder, 1881; S. H. French, 1882; James A. Smeallie, 1883; Wm. H. Biggam, jr., 1884; Alonzo Putman, 1885; Timmerman Wessels, 1886; D. M. McMartin, 1887; C. M. Klock, 1888; E. T. Rulison, 1889; Charles Stover, 1890; H. M. Leach, 1891.

Present Officers.—H. M. Leach, president; S. D. Lewis, vice-president; C. W. De Baun, secretary and treasurer.

Under an act of the legislature passed in 1880, each physician in the county (and in each county in the state) was required to register in the office of the county clerk his name, place of birth, residence, date of diploma, and the institution from which he was graduated, and the authority by which he claimed the right to practice medicine in the county. In compliance with the requirements of the act there has been a very general registration by the physicians of this county, and in order to bring to the attention of the reader the names of as many as possible of the past and present practitioners, we extract from the records the names, with other data referred to, of those legally qualified to practice medicine in Montgomery county since the above law was passed:



Israel S. Buckner

Horatio Gilbert, Canajoharie; born in Ephratah; diploma December 24, 1867, from Albany Medical College.

J. J. Miller, Charleston; born in Lansing, Tompkins county; diploma December 26, 1871, from Albany Medical College.

Charles I. Conover, Charleston Four Corners; born in Glen; diploma February 3, 1878, from Albany Medical College.

Peter L. Suits, Tribes Hill; born in Palatine; diploma February 4, 1879, from Albany Medical College.

J. A. Smeallie, Canajoharie; born in Princetown, Schenectady county; diploma February 14, 1879, from Albany Medical College.

William W. D. Parsons, Fultonville; born in Newark, N. J.; diploma March 22, 1852, from New York Medical College.

Frank G. Buckbee, Fonda; born in Saratoga county; diploma December 26, 1871, from Albany Medical College.

Horace M. Leach, Glen; born Morristown, St. Lawrence county; diploma February 28, 1876, from the Hospital College of Medicine, Louisville, Ky.

William H. Biggam, Charleston; born in Charleston; diploma February 25, 1841, from Albany Medical College.

Elbert T. Rulison, Amsterdam; born in Parish, Oswego county; diploma December 23, 1875, from Albany Medical College.

Silas A. Wessels, Canajoharie; born in Cherry Valley; diploma March, 1878, from University of Michigan.

Dallas M. Taylor, Canajoharie; born in Springfield, Otsego county; diploma June 25, 1874, from Long Island College Hospital.

Erastus Holmes, Tribes Hill; born in Kingston, Mass.; diploma January 21, 1837, from Fairfield College, New York.

Oscar Joab Stafford, Canajoharie; born in Canajoharie; diploma February 26, 1878, from the University of Buffalo.

Jerome Shibley, Charleston; born in Charleston; diploma November 26, 1846, from the Castleton Medical College, Vt.

John Parr, Buel; born in Ireland; diploma March 1, 1859, from the medical department of the University of New York city.

William E. Keegan, Amsterdam; born in Albany; diploma March 3, 1880, from the Albany Medical College.

Charles Morris Klock, St. Johnsville; born in St. Johnsville; diploma February 15, 1876, from the University of the City of New York.

Alexander Ayres, Fort Plain; born in Oppenheim; diploma June 9, 1846, from Castleton Medical College, Vt.

Israel I. Buckbee, born in Clinton, Dutchess county; diploma February 7, 1841, from Albany Medical College.

John Sloat Beakley, born in Palatine Bridge; diploma March 1, 1868, from the New York Homeopathic Medical College.

Ambrose J. Eisenlord, Fort Plain; born in Minden; diploma July 10, 1871, from the University of the City of New York.

Frank Edgar Simons, Canajoharie; born in Phoenix, Oswego county; diploma January 29, 1879, from Albany Medical College.

Francis Oliver Cornell, Port Jackson; born in Glenville, Schenectady county; diploma March 3, 1880, from Albany Medical College.

Christian C. Vedder, St. Johnsville; born in St. Johnsville; diploma January 20, 1874, from Albany Medical College.

Salphronius H. French, Amsterdam; born in Lisle, Broome county; diploma December 11, 1859, from Albany Medical College.

Sylvester D. Lewis, Amsterdam; born in Ontario county; diploma December 24, 1866, from Albany Medical College.

James Kilbour Young, Rural Grove; born in Berne, Albany county; diploma December 22, 1874, from Albany Medical College.

William H. Robb, Amsterdam; born in Florida; diploma December, 1865, from Albany Medical College.

Joseph N. White, Amsterdam; born in Deerfield, Oneida county; diploma March 1, 1854, from Ohio Medical College.

John V. Riggs, Amsterdam; born in Schenectady; licensed September 21, 1880, by the Homeopathic Medical Society of Montgomery county.

Oscar Arthur Ellithorp, Palatine Bridge; born in Palatine; diploma March 1, 1880, from Albany Medical College.

Darwin Potter, Fort Plain; born in Minden; diploma January 24, 1860, from Geneva Medical College.

George P. Mallette, Sprout Brook; born in Canajoharie; diploma August 11, 1874, from the Eclectic Medical Society of Twenty-third Senate District of New York.

Morgan Snyder, Fort Plain; born in Marbletown, Ulster county; diploma April 3, 1833, from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.



Wm H Robb M.D

Douglas Ayres, Fort Plain; born in East Creek; diploma January 7, 1865, from Albany Medical College.

Philip D. Palmer, Charleston; born in Charleston; diploma November 23, 1857, from Castleton Medical College, Vt.

Thomas J. Pettit, Fort Plain; born in town of Saratoga; diploma March, 1867, from New York Homeopathic College.

William Zoller, Fort Plain; born in Ogdensburg; diploma March 11, 1873, by the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia.

James R. Fairbanks, Amsterdam; born in Pittsfield, Mass.; diploma October 16, 1866, from Berkshire Medical College.

Louis Von St. George, Canajoharie; born in Weilburg, Germany; diploma granted 1851 by the University of Geissen.

Charles Stover, Amsterdam; born in Cobleskill; diploma March 15, 1880, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Arthur V. H. Smith, Minaville; born in Swansea, Wales; diploma December 28, 1875, Albany Medical College.

Thompson Burton, Fultonville; born in Charleston; diploma June 17, 1835, Castleton Medical College, Vt.

Dan Small, St. Johnsville; born in Mohawk, Herkimer county; diploma March, 1860, from Albany Medical College.

James D. Snyder, Sharon; born in Sharon, Schoharie county; licensed August 10, 1874, by Eclectic Medical Society, Twenty-third Senatorial District of New York.

Alonzo Putman, Amsterdam; born in Glen; diploma September, 1851, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.

Joseph Burbeck, Canajoharie; born in Campton, N. H.; diploma January, 1828, from College of Medicine and Surgery, Fairfield, N. Y.

Daniel H. Patchen, Canajoharie; born in Westfield, Chautauqua county; diploma February, 1879, from Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, Ill.

Ezra Graves, Amsterdam; born in Russia, Herkimer county; diploma February, 1865, from Buffalo Medical College.

Daniel M. McMartin, Amsterdam; born in Amsterdam; diploma March 1, 1877, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.

Horace S. Streeter, Palatine; born in Canajoharie; diploma 1861, Winchester Medical College, state of Virginia, and certificate from

Medical Examining Board, United States Army, dated August 20, 1864.

Almer A. Lyker, Rural Grove; born in Root; diploma February 3, 1878, Albany Medical College.

Charles Nellis, Palatine; born in Palatine; diploma March 10, 1881, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

Peter O. Eisenlord, Palatine; born in Palatine; diploma July, 1847, from the Medical University of the City of New York.

William H. Biggam, Charleston; born in Charleston; diploma May 13, 1881, from College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.

Newton F. Sweatman, Fultonville; born in Sharon; diploma December, 21, 1872, Albany Medical College.

George H. Ingraham, Amsterdam; born in New York city; diploma January 27, 1874, from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, O.

Franklin D. Clum, Amsterdam; born in Saugerties, N. Y.; diploma February 1875, from Yale College.

Eleazer E. Rulison, Amsterdam; born in Parish, Oswego county; diploma March 3, 1881, Albany Medical College.

Leonard A. Frazier, Amsterdam; born in Slingerland; diploma March 3, 1881, Albany Medical College.

John Vedder Riggs, Amsterdam; born in Schenectady; diploma February 22, 1881, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Buffalo.

Willard Gillett, St. Johnsville; born in Cherry Valley; diploma March, 1882, Albany Medical College.

William James Peddie, Fultonville; born in Broadalbin; diploma March 1, 1882, Albany Medical College.

Willard Hillegas, Hageman's Mills; born in St. Johnsville; diploma March 3, 1881, Albany Medical College.

Melancton Somers, Flat Creek; born in Seward, Schoharie county; diploma March 8, 1882, from United States Medical College.

Andrew P. Smith, Auries; born in Starksville, Herkimer county; licensed November 15, 1853, from Herkimer County Medical Society.

John Lewis Christian Rinke, Hageman's Mills; born in Vonaka, Germany; diploma from the Charity Hospital in Berlin, Prussia.

P. H. Dygert, Fort Plain; born in Morristown, N. Y.; diploma April, 1870, from the University of Philadelphia.

J. M. Winslow, Amsterdam ; born in Bennington, Vt. ; diploma February, 1873, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city.

R. G. Johnson, Amsterdam ; born in Minaville ; diploma April 13, 1883, University of Pennsylvania.

A. D. Hill, Akin ; born in Randolph, N. Y. ; diploma February, 1879, from Albany Medical College.

William G. Smeallie, Canajoharie ; born in Charlton, Saratoga county ; diploma September, 1883, University of Denver and Seminary of Colorado.

Jay D. Van Wirt, Canajoharie ; born in Ancram, Columbia county ; diploma March, 1873, from Albany Medical College.

William Howland, Maple Valley ; born in Pawling, Dutchess county ; licensed October 8, 1874, by the Eclectic Medical Society of the Twenty-third District.

Frank V. Brownell, Fort Plain ; born in Schenectady ; diploma March, 1882, Albany Medical College.

E. A. Akin, Buffalo ; born in Gallipolis, O. ; diploma March 2, 1869, from Miami Medical College.

Fred E. Easton, Fort Plain ; born in Ciderville ; diploma May 21, 1884, from Long Island College Hospital.

Charles F. Timmerman, Amsterdam ; born in Fonda ; diploma March, 1884, from Albany Medical College.

David Nelson Taylor, Amsterdam ; born in Albany ; diploma May 21, 1884, from Long Island College Hospital.

Franklin B. Smith ; born in Hillsdale, Mich. ; diploma February, 1879, from Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago.

J. Leslie Smith, Fort Plain ; born in Canajoharie ; diploma March 9, 1883, Albany Medical College.

James Alfred Barringer ; born in Schodack, Rennselaer county ; diploma February 25, 1873, from the University of Buffalo.

Edmund F. Bronk, Amsterdam ; born in New Baltimore, Greene county ; diploma March 3, 1884, Albany Medical College.

A. V. Klock, St. Johnsville, ; born in Glen ; diploma March 3, 1886, Albany Medical College.

William M. White, Amsterdam ; born in Amsterdam ; diploma March 3, 1886, Albany Medical College.

Edward M. Child, Fort Plain; born in Woodstock, Conn.; diploma March 10, 1877, University of the City of New York.

A. P. Casler, St. Johnsville; born in Minden; diploma March 3, 1880, Albany Medical College.

Cornelius Wells De Baun, Fonda; born in Niskayuna; diploma March 16, 1887, Albany Medical College.

J. Francis Moorehead; born in New York city; diploma March, 1883, University of the City of New York.

John P. Henry; born in Ireland; diploma March 6, 1886, University of the City of New York.

Henry C. Young; born in Sing Sing; diploma March 16, 1887, Albany Medical College.

Austin S. Moak; born in Sharon; diploma June 9, 1876, Bellevue College Hospital, New York city.

R. M. Andrews, Fort Hunter; born in Guilderland; diploma 1888, Albany Medical College.

O. F. McAvenue, Amsterdam; born in Little Falls; diploma March 16, 1887, Albany Medical College.

W. H. Lemrou, Amsterdam; born in Albany; diploma March 3, 1886, Albany Medical College.

I. Davis Ozmun, Canajoharie; born in South Lansing, N. Y.; diploma June, 1888, Syracuse Medical College.

John Charles Jackson, Fort Plain; born in Marcellus; diploma 1888, from New York Homœopathic Medical College.

Adelbert W. Witter, Fort Hunter; born in Albany county; diploma March 15, 1888, Albany Medical College.

Alonzo Barton Foster, Fonda; born in Waterford, Ontario; diploma April 12, 1888, New York Homœopathic College and Hospital, and April 12, 1887, from Trinity University, Toronto, Canada.

G. L. Myer, Stone Arabia; diploma June 20, 1877, University of Michican.

Alonzo Galloway, born in New York city; diploma March 20, 1881, from Buffalo Medical College.

A. Marshall Burt, Nelliston; born Beacon Hill, Saratoga county; diploma March 21, 1889, Albany Medical College.

H. E. Shumway, St. Johnsville; born in Copenhagen, N. Y.; diploma March 12, 1889, University City of New York.

Benjamin F. French; born in Troy, O. ; diploma September 23, 1889, Hahnemann College, Philadelphia.

A. Walter Tryon, born in Durham, Greene county ; diploma, 1862, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

I. N. Willard, born in Fairfield, N. Y. ; diploma November 18, 1875, Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

B Rush Jackson, Amsterdam ; born in Berwick, Pa. ; diploma, October, 15, 1884, from Philadelphia Electro Therapeuticis.

Charles Williams Nichols, Amsterdam ; born in Fairfield, N. Y. ; diploma March 21, 1889, Albany Medical College.

Henry W. Post, Fultonville ; born in Brattleboro, Vt. ; diploma June 5, 1886, from University of Vermont.

William H. De Lamater, Minaville ; born in Mariaville ; diploma March 3, 1886, Albany Medical College.

Henry L. Furbeck, St. Johnsville ; born in Fonda ; diploma March 4, 1881, Albany Medical College.

Louis Akin, Akin ; born in Brooklyn ; diploma June 11, 1890, College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York.

Clark E. Congdon, Fort Plain ; born in Venice, N. Y. ; diploma March, 1890, Long Island College Hospital.

John Logan, born in Ireland ; diploma March 14, 1883, from Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

Horace M. Hicks, Amsterdam ; born in Delta, N. Y. ; diploma February, 1886, Chicago Homœopathic Medical College.

William R. Pierce, Amsterdam ; born in Amsterdam ; diploma May 5, 1884, from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Abram Baker Simmons, Amsterdam ; born in Cohoes ; diploma April 1, 1891, Albany Medical College.

Hamilton A. White, Fort Plain ; born in Richmondville ; diploma March 3, 1891, Albany Medical College.

George G. Lewis, Amsterdam ; born in Avoca, N. Y. ; diploma March, 1890, Albany Medical College.

John H. Shaper, Canajoharie ; born in Canajoharie ; diploma June 25, 1891, from University of Michigan.

Ward Beecher Saltsman, Fort Plain ; born in Palatine ; diploma April 1, 1891, Albany Medical College.

John Charles O'Brien, Amsterdam ; born in Bellows Falls, Vt. ; diploma July 13, 1887, from the University of Vermont.

Walter Adams Dunckel, Fort Plain ; born in Fort Plain ; diploma June 11, 1890, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

Augusta Alice Steadman, Amsterdam ; born in Nova Scotia ; diploma May 31, 1831, from Woman's Medical College of New York Infirmary.

John W. Kniskern, Amsterdam ; born in Carlisle, N. Y. ; diploma March 31, 1890, Albany Medical College.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE TOWN OF AMSTERDAM.

IN 1772, soon after the creation of Tryon county, its vast and partially settled territory was divided into five provisional districts, the most easterly of which, called Mohawk, included the lands now in this town. In 1788 this district was divided and that portion north of the river was organized into a town and named Caughnawaga, after the ancient Indian village now within the limits of Fonda. Still another division was made in 1793 (March 12), by which old Caughnawaga yielded its territory to the formation of five new towns, Amsterdam, Johnstown, Mayfield, and Broadalbin, each of which was soon afterward fully organized, and then by an act passed April 8, 1838, Perth was created out of Amsterdam, leaving to the latter only 19,698 acres, whereas it previously contained more than 30,000 acres and was the largest town in Montgomery county.

Amsterdam is on the east border of the county, being bounded on the east by Saratoga county, by the Mohawk on the south, Perth on the north, and Mohawk on the west. Its lands are included within the fraudulently obtained Indian purchase that embraced 700,000 acres between the Hudson and Mohawk rivers, and to which was given the name Kayaderoseras. This purchase from the Mohawks was made

for a trifling consideration in 1703, and was afterward the occasion of a bitter controversy, which was only settled when Sir William Johnson, in 1768, interfered in behalf of the defrauded Indians whose lands were in part restored. The Kayaderoseras patent, granted November 2, 1708, to Naning Hermanse, and twelve associates, by Queen Anne, was much less in extent than the original patent of the same name, but like it, covered lands in Amsterdam and Perth. The name is said to have been derived from the stream afterward called Johnson's creek, it having its course near Mount Johnson, but originally it was the Kayaderoseras creek.

Among the other patents now in the town we may mention that made to Henry Hoofe and called the Hoofe patent, dated December 12, 1727, and including 539 acres bordering on the Mohawk. In April 22, 1703, however, Geralders Camfort obtained a patent for the "Camfort tract," (twenty acres) in what is now Amsterdam, and this was probably the first patent in the county. The Chatsandackte patent was granted to Ebenezer Wilson and John Abeel (the latter the father of "Cornplanter") on February 22, 1706, but it is quite certain that neither of these proprietors settled on the land at that time, for in 1716, Philip Groat purchased from the Mohawks "all the land between the creeks, being the site now occupied by Cranesville."

The principal street of the town is Chuctenunda, an Indian name signifying "twin sisters," having reference to this creek and that almost directly opposite, both being nearly of the same size and having the same name. Eva's Kill, or as more properly pronounced "E-vaws-Kil," derives its name from the sad death of Mrs. Eva Van Alstine, wife of pioneer Jacob Van Alstine, who lived in that vicinity. The unfortunate woman was opening a swing gate when she was surprised, slain, and scalped by a party of Indians who were lurking in the vicinity. Her child was spared but was taken by the savages to Canada and there held for several years. This tragic event took place early in the French war and the stream was thenceforth called Eva's Kill, east of which lay the Wilson and Abeel tract.

The earliest settlers were Germans, the first of whom appears to have been Philip Groat and family. In 1716 he purchased a tract near Cranesville, but he was unfortunately drowned while moving there on

the ice during the following winter. His widow, however, and three sons, Simon, Jacob, and Lewis, with their servants, made the settlement and this was the first permanent improvement in the town. In 1730 the brothers built a grist-mill, which was the first on the north side of the river, and these enterprising millers furnished flour from their primitive mill to the settlers in the entire region, even to the distance of fifty miles. The first bolting cloth was put in the mill in 1772, by James Burns. Lewis Groat was made a prisoner by the Indians in 1775, and taken to Canada where he was held for years.

In 1742 William Johnson, then a land agent and merchant, doing business at Fort Hunter, purchased a tract on the north side of the river, both east and west of the Kayaderosseras, with the intention (as asserted by himself) "of securing a water-power on which he proposed to erect a saw-mill that would be certain to yield a profit of fully forty pounds per annum." This purchase amounted to several hundred acres, and the saw-mill was at once erected, followed in 1744 by a grist-mill, and about the same time by the substantial stone mansion to which was given the name Mount Johnson, but now known as Fort Johnson. The ambitious young merchant also established a store near his new house, and continued his former business with these later additions. This store, which was also of stone, was demolished after the revolution, and a wooden structure (also intended for trade) was built on the east side of the creek. In 1763, the former land agent, merchant and superintendent of Indian affairs, having accumulated a fortune, and still better, a position of eminent distinction in public life, removed from the Fort to Johnson Hall, an elegant mansion built by him at Johnstown. Thenceforth and until Sir William's death, his son, Sir John, occupied Fort Johnson, which he inherited by the baronet's will. When Sir William died, in 1774, his son left the Fort and took up his abode at the Hall. Why Johnson called his first residence Mount Johnson has been a subject of considerable speculation, for it was erected on the low lands bordering the river, while the hills were some distance to the north. Ten years after its erection, when the life of the superintendent of Indian affairs was threatened by hostile savages, he fortified the mansion, from which it naturally took the name of Fort Johnson. This was an important station during the wars with the French and Canada Indians,

and at the Fort were held frequent councils with the chiefs of the Six Nations. Here also were planned important expeditions, which being successfully executed contributed to the early fame of the distinguished owner. The Fort Johnson estate is now owned by Ethan Akin.

In 1766 Sir William erected two commodious stone dwellings for his sons-in-law, Colonel Guy Johnson and Colonel Daniel Claus, both within the limits of this town. The first, known as Guy Park, is within the city limits of Amsterdam, and a comparatively recent owner added two large wings to the original building. It should be mentioned, however, that the first building erected on this site was a wooden structure, which was burned by lightning and then replaced by the present mansion. At the outbreak of the revolution Guy Park was fortified by its owner, who also drew about him a considerable force of Tories and Indians, but in 1775, headed by Colonel Guy, they all departed for Canada and never again returned except as midnight assassins seeking to wreak vengeance on the defenceless settlements.

The residence of Colonel Claus was situated near Fort Johnson, but unlike the other mansions it had no historic name. Each of these places was occupied during the revolution, after the flight of their owners by patriotic families; Fort Johnson by Albert Veeder, Guy Park by Henry Kennedy, and the Claus residence by Colonel John Harper. It was destroyed by accidental fire during the war. It may be well to add that each of these gifts by the baronet to his children was accompanied by a square mile of land, but this as well as his entire estate was confiscated and sold.

Although the region included within Amsterdam was usually well protected, pioneer settlement seems to have progressed very slow; but this may have been due in part to the land troubles which then excited so much dispute. Among the small number of names which may be mentioned, Peter Van Wormer is prominent as the first settler in the valley, locating on lot three of the Kayaderosseras track. Cornelius Dodds, a survivor of the revolution, settled here in 1793. George Shuler was also a pioneer, coming here during or even before the war. Victor Putnam came earlier than the revolution, and is remembered as having been appointed to watch for a hostile invasion of the region and to warn the Fort Hunter people of the approach of the enemy. James

Allen settled here in 1792, and Isaac and Samuel Jones in 1794. In this year and very soon afterward a number of families located in the eastern part of the town, among who can be recalled the names of Ellis, Robinson, Glass, Olmsted, Allen, John Jones, Joseph Baldwin, Samuel B. Jones, and others whose names are lost, all of whom were worthy and industrious pioneers who laid the foundation for the later prosperity of the town. In the same connection we may mention the name of Joseph Hagaman, whose settlement at the place now called Hagaman's Mills, was made in 1777. He was the pioneer of the north part of the town, and his farm included 400 acres. The village, which is now of much importance, was named in honor of its founder.

The pioneer of the prosperous city of Amsterdam was Albert Veeder, who came during the revolutionary war and built a saw-mill and grist-mill, and the place soon became known as Veeder's Mills, and later (with an increased population) as Veedersburg. Other early settlers in this locality were Nicholas Wilcox, E. E. De Graff, and William Kline, who, with others of later settlement, laid the foundation of the subsequent village and city. Veedersburg was dropped in 1804 and the place was called Amsterdam; but this change was not accomplished without effort, for the original name had warm advocates in the town meeting where the question was decided. The vote indeed resulted in a tie, and then the chairman (James Allen) cast the decisive ballot in favor of Amsterdam.

In 1794 the town contained 236 freeholders, but at that time, as has been mentioned, it included Perth. From the first assessment roll we copy the names of some of the largest tax payers, from which we may also infer that they were also the most influential men: Albert H. Veeder, Jeremiah Schuyler (probably means Shuler), Daniel Miles, William Kline, Nicholas Bradt, Christopher Peek, Cyrus Ladd, Jeremiah De Graff, Ahasuerus Marcellus, Frederick De Graff, Henry and Lewis Thomas, John L. Groat, Peter Van Wormer, Myndert Wemple, Henry Pauling, John Wiser, James Hagaman, Edward White, Ezra Thayer, John Baker, James Ailen (on the record spelled Allin), Philip Lansing.

Amsterdam, as has been stated, was formed into a town March 12, 1793, but it was not until the first Tuesday in February, 1794, that a town meeting was held, the house of Isaac Veeder having been desig-

nated for that purpose. The officers then elected were as follows: Supervisor, Daniel Miles; town clerk, John P. Allen; assessors, James Allen, Joseph Hagaman, Emanuel De Graff; overseers of the poor, James Allen, Emanuel De Graff; commissioners of highways, James Allen, Henry Kennedy, Emanuel De Graff; constables, Nicholas Hagaman, Adam Nave; fence viewers, Albert H. Veeder, Myndert Wemple, James Allen; pound master, John Groat; overseers of highways, William Smith, Ezra Stevens, Nathaniel Smith, Henry Deal, Ira Benedict, Henry Thomas, Philetus Glass, Nicholas Hagaman, Thomas Starkweather, John Ladd, Zachariah Baker, Jonathan Sheldon, Myndert A. Wemple, Jacob Burton.

Succession of Supervisors.—Daniel Miles, 1794-95; Henry Pawling, 1796-98; James Allen, 1799-1808; John H. Lansing, 1809; Thomas Tullock, 1810-11; John P. Allen, 1812; Benedict Arnold, 1813-16; William Robb, 1817-19; Samuel Lefferts, 1820-21; William Reid, 1822-24; William Robb, 1825-26; Thomas Allen, 1827-28; Emanuel E. De Graff, 1829; Mathias J. Bovee, 1830-34; Benedict Arnold, 1835-36; John Sanford, 1837; John Freemyer, 1838; John Sanford, 1839-40; Israel Jackson, 1841-43; Jeremiah Groat, 1844; Samuel Belding, jr., 1845-47; George Warnick, 1848-49; John Stewart, 1850-51; Abram Young, 1852; Isaac Jackson, 1853; George S. Rowell, 1854; John McDonnell, 1855-58; Adam W. Kline, 1859-60; John McDonnell, 1861-63; Abram V. Morris, 1864; Isaac Jackson, 1865; David B. Hagaman, 1866-67; Alexander Scott, 1868-74; John K. Potter, 1875-76; John Carmichael, 1877-79; John T. De Graff, 1880-81; Horace B. Shepard, 1882-83; John Hand, 1884; Edward H. Finlayson, 1885; John T. De Graff, April 28, 1885 and 1886; Stephen Collins, 1887; John S. Sweet, 1888; William H. Pepper, 1889-90; William Clark, 1891-92.

Town Clerks.—John P. Allen, 1794-97; Henry Pawling, 1798; William Davis, 1799-1804; John P. Davis, 1805; Harmanus A. Veeder, 1806; John P. Davis, 1807-08; David W. Candee, 1809-11; James Downs, 1812-13; Luther Stiles, 1814; James Downs, 1815-16; Thomas Allen, 1817-26; Marquis Barnes, 1827; Luther Stiles, 1828-29; Thomas Allen, 1830-33; James H. Young, 1834; Charles Stiles, 1835-37; James B. Rice, 1838; James H. Young, 1839; Albert Borse,

1840-42; Thomas S. Fancher, 1843-44; Thomas Stewart, 1845-46; Daniel Miller, 1847-48; Thomas Davidson, 1849; Lawrence Shuler, 1850; John McDonnell, 1851-52; Frederick T. B. Sammons, 1853; David Sanford, 1854; Freeman Paige, 1855-62; Richard N. Veeder, 1863; Frederick S. McKinstry, 1864; Henry S. Persse, 1865; George S. Young, 1866; David Chalmers, 1867-68; George O. Warring, 1869; Philo Powell, 1870; Philip Pruyn, 1871-72; T. H. Benton Crane, 1873-75; John Cavanaugh, 1876; Henry Elislicher, 1877; B. W. Sammons, 1878; Edward H. Finlayson, 1879-80; Charles S. Nesbit, 1881; George Spalt, 1882; Harvey Chalmers, 1883; Nelson E. Van Deveer, 1884; I. B. Robertson, 1885; Francis L. Hagaman, April, 1885-1886; Joseph L. Wilson, 1887; Edward C. Fowler, 1888-89; Francis L. Hagaman, 1890; Robert B. Davis, 1891-92.

Present Town Officers. — Supervisor, William Clark; town clerk, Robert B. Davis; justices of the peace, Thomas Ireland, C. Truax, Benjamin Herrick, Robert Stairs; collector Levi Keller; auditor, Stephen T. Wilde; assessors, John M. Merrihew, Thomas Romeyn, Henry C. Miller; commissioners of highways, Obadiah Wilde, Welsh Reynolds, Nicholas Bradt; commissioners of excise, Garrett De Graff, Arthur L. Lawton, A. Dixon; overseers of the poor, John M. Phillips. Supervisor De Graff elected in April, on reorganization, after the city charter was granted.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

Cranesville, situated on the north bank of the Mohawk about three miles east of Amsterdam city, is one of the oldest settlements in the town, for here in 1716 Philip Groat purchased a tract from the Indians, for the purpose of making a settlement, but as has been stated he lost his life accidentally and the settlement was made by his family. In 1730 the Groat brothers, sons of Philip, built a grist-mill and made flour and meal for the settlers in the region at that time, but during the French wars this then remote locality was subject to hostile invasion and hence its settlement was attended with many dangers. In 1755 Lewis Groat was taken prisoner by the Indians, and was not liberated until he had suffered four years' captivity. The vicinity of *Cranesville* also was the home of the first church ever organized in the town, but

the more exact locality is that known as Manny's Corners, about two miles north of the village.

The Reformed Dutch church was organized in 1792, its consistory at that time being composed of Michael Spore, Tunis Stuart, Jeremiah De Graff and Ahasuerus Marcellus, but through lack of perfect organization the society soon afterward became extinct, and not until 1795 was an effort made for its reorganization. The Dutch Reformed church of Amsterdam was formed the same year out of the remnant of the still older society. Jeremiah Voorhees and Cornelius Van Vranklin were elected its elders, but the society was so weak that no pastor could be sustained and hence only occasional services were held. No regular house of worship was built earlier than 1800, all previous meetings being held in dwellings and in groves. In that year the first meeting-house at Manny's Corners was built, but the location caused dissatisfaction among the members living at Veedersburg, and they withdrew and formed the Dutch Reformed church of Veedersburg. In 1812 the societies again united and formed the Presbyterian church of Amsterdam, severing their former ecclesiastical relation and becoming Presbyterian. On March 3, 1832, one hundred and four members withdrew from the Manny's Corners church and organized the Presbyterian church of Amsterdam. This withdrawal greatly reduced the mother church, but it struggled hard to maintain an existence, and the next year Charles Jenks became its pastor. In 1835 the church edifice at Hagaman's Mills was built in connection with the old society, and thenceforth for fourteen years services were held alternately in the two houses, which were called the north and south churches. In 1850, however, another separation took place by which sixty-eight members of the old society joined with the new. However, the south church at Manny's Corners for many years afterward maintained a gradually declining existence, but it was finally extinguished by the destruction of the old edifice about eight years ago.

The Reformed Church of Cranesville was organized June 24, 1871, having an original membership of eleven. Its first elders were H. P. P. Chute and H. J. Swart, with George A. Brewster and George Combs deacons. The church edifice was erected in 1870 and 1871, and cost about \$4,000. The present members number about forty.

However prominent Cranesville may have been during the early history of the town, it has hardly kept even pace with other hamlets of the town, and its business interests at the present time are therefore very limited. The postmaster is Cornelius Feltis, who also is proprietor of a large general store. The Riverside House is the only hotel of the village, and is conducted by Philip De Forest. Squire Truax is the justice of the peace, and Jerome Smith constable.

Hagaman's Mills.—This pretty village, situated in the northeast part of the town, on the Chuctenunda, was named in honor of its founder, Joseph Hagaman, who settled here in 1777, and soon afterward erected a saw-mill and also a grist-mill. It is said that at the "raising" of the mill the question of naming the town was discussed, and the assembled inhabitants agreed upon Amsterdam. We have no record to show precisely when this "raising" took place, but it was probably about the time of the division of old Caughnawaga (1793). Like many of the villages in this region, Hagaman's Mills made its most interesting history during its earlier days, and yet the later population has been highly successful, for the place now has two extensive industries (the Anchor Knitting Mills and the Star Hosiery Mills), which give steady employment to a large number of employees. It also has two church societies, a good school and the usual shops and stores of a well regulated country village.

The Reformed church of Hagaman's Mills was organized January 21, 1850, by sixty-eight former members of the old society at Manny's Corners, and was originally known as the "Presbyterian Church," but remained independent of both Presbytery and General Assembly. In October, 1855, however, the name was changed to Protestant Dutch Church, and in 1867 to Reformed Church. Charles Milne was its first pastor, and among the other early pastors were Revs. Kellogg, Amos W. Seely, J. L. Pierce, E. Slingerland and A. J. Hagaman, the last named being pastor many years. The church edifice was erected in 1835 and was used in connection with the society at Manny's Corners, and was for fifteen years known as the North church.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Hagaman's Mills was organized later on, but it has shown remarkable growth during the period of its existence, having now 102 members and twenty-six probationers, with



F. W. Johnson

Henry D. Paulding

a parsonage costing about \$3,000. The present pastor is Rev. R. E. Jenkins.

The Anchor Knitting Mills were built in 1879-80, and are among the best of their kind in the country, both in construction and equipment. These mills are owned and operated by William M. Pawling, who employs 100 operators. The product is scarlet knit underwear, of which 120 dozen are made daily.

The Star Hosiery Mills are owned by Henry H. Pawling, manufacturer of scarlet and fancy underwear. They have eight sets of cards, 1000 spindles, and eighty-one cylinders.

The other business interests of the village are represented by Israel P. Berm, general merchant and postmaster; Aaron P., Frank L. and John M. Hagaman, general dealers; Jeremiah Manchester, wagon-maker; Phillips & Pierson, blacksmiths and liverymen; Joseph L. Wilson, merchant; N. A. Caldwell and Henry C. Young, physicians, besides minor enterprises equally worthy of mention, did our space permit.

Rockton.—Although this is one of the youngest hamlets of the township, it is nevertheless highly important in a business point of view. The inexhaustible water power afforded by the Chuctenunda, together with its proximity to the city, have contributed largely to its growth, although forty years ago it only contained one or two saw-mills. Originally it was called Rock City, and the change to Rockton is quite recent. John Maxwell was the first important manufacturer. He formed a partnership with Adam W. Kline in 1857, converted the old saw-mill into a hosiery factory, thus founding an industry which has attracted many others and made Rockton a very active village.

The firm of Maxwell & Kline began manufacturing hosiery in a small way, but in a year or two they doubled the capacity of their mill. In 1860 their buildings were burned, after which Mr. Maxwell bought out his partner and at once built a more substantial factory, which was used until 1872 when that, too, was burned down. It was rebuilt, however, during the same year.

Although Rockton is within one and one-half miles of Amsterdam city it nevertheless has a Methodist church with ninety members and a congregation of about three hundred. The property is estimated to be worth about \$4,000. Rev. T. C. Harwood is the present pastor.

The village is included in Union Free School District No. 9 of the town of Amsterdam, the limits of which extend into the city. This school is one of the best of its kind in the county, and four teachers are employed. The last principal was Adam Yordon.

In a preceding paragraph mention has been made of some of the early industries, and hence we may now properly refer to those now in operation, and which have contributed so greatly to the building up and prosperity of this busy place, but it should be added that a number of Rockton's prominent manufacturers reside in the city.

The Mohawk Mills, operated by the firm of Howgate, McCleary & Company, is one of the most important enterprises of the region, and manufactures exclusively fine Smyrna rugs, carpets and mats. The firm employs about eighty skilled workmen, and their total output amounts to about 1,000 rugs per week. The individual members of the firm are John A. Howgate, William McCleary, Samuel Wallin and David J. Crouse.

The Park Knitting Mills (L. L. Dean & Co, proprietors) were put in operation in 1886, and furnish work for about 100 employees. Their produce is scarlet underwear, of which from 90 to 125 dozen are made per day. The members of the firm are Luther L. Dean, Isaac E. Lyon, and James T. Clark.

The Progress Hosiery Mills (C. E. Warner & Co., proprietors) manufacture cotten and woolen underwear, and form another of the prominent industries of Rockton. These mills are equipped with four sets of cards, 1080 spindles, 17 knitting and 35 sewing machines, to operate which are required 100 employees. The members of the firm are Charles E. and William Warner.

The Red Star Knitting Mills (Austin, Stairs & Blauvett, proprietors) manufacture woolen knit goods and operate six sets of cards, sixteen knitting and thirty sewing machines. The members of the firm are Charles D. Austin, John W. and Robert Stairs, and Edward G. Blauvett.

The Probity Mill (Benn & Becker, proprietors) manufactures woolen and balbriggan underwear and hosiery, operating four sets of cards, 1056 spindles, 29 knitting and 56 sewing machines. The members of the firm are William J. Benn and Charles J. Becker.



L. L. Dean.

Frank H. Levey's box factory is an industry worthy of mention, as the greater part of the paper packing boxes used by the manufacturers are made by him. The village also has its merchants, among whom we can name Charles A. Buchanan, druggist; William Finehout, Thomas Owens, John A. Rowledge and Charles J. Tighe, grocers. In addition we may also mention the extensive stone quarries and lime kilns of D. C. Hewitt, which are not only a prominent local industry but among the older business interests of the village.

Harrogers is the name of a small place on the Chuctenunda, a short distance above Rockton, whose chief importance is due to the Rural Hosiery Mills, owned and operated by Louis E. Harrower. These mills are prominent among the great industries of that locality, their equipment comprising 12 sets of cards, 2600 spindles, 51 knitting and 50 sewing machines. Their produce is knit shirts and drawers. Edward and Maurice Fitzgerald carry on a general store at the same place.

Akin, formerly known as Mount Johnson and now as Fort Johnson, is one of the most historic localities in the Mohawk valley, for here William Johnson, then land agent and merchant, established his home and business in 1744, building a mill in the same year. He called the place Mount Johnson, and ten years later when it had been fortified, it took the name of Fort Johnson, by which it was afterward known until a very recent date, when a railway station was established there. This station was called Akin and is thus known on the time table, but the post-office is still Fort Johnson.

The only prominent industry at Akin is the knitting mill of A. V. Morris & Sons, in which are employed 150 persons. This factory was established in 1887, from which year dates the real importance of the place. It also has a Methodist church, which, however, is of recent organization, and has a membership of 100 persons, under the pastoral care of Rev. M. J. Osteyee, who also supplies the Methodist pulpits of Tribes Hill and West Amsterdam. The latter is one of the older church organizations of the town, having been formed about 1810. The meeting-house was erected in 1860, and was located on Fort Johnson creek, about four miles northeast of Amsterdam city. Akin is noted for its hay trade, in addition to which is James F. Marshall's store, and Hurst & Sons quarries are not far distant.

THE CITY OF AMSTERDAM.

To trace the rise and growth of a prosperous city is a pleasant and yet a frequently difficult task, since it requires an unbroken series of records from the inception of the village to the incorporation of a city. Hence in attempting the history of Amsterdam the writer would mention in justice to himself, the embarrassment occasioned by the fact that by the loss of many of the older records, which has compelled him often to depend upon tradition.

The fact, however, is clear that contemporary with the revolution, Albert Veeder settled on a tract at the mouth of the Chuctenunda, where even at that early day he built a saw-mill and grist-mill, both rude structures, yet sufficient to supply the wants of the settlers. The erection of the mills in time induced other pioneers to settle in the same locality, but not until about the beginning of the present century did it assume the dignity of even a village. The place was known as Veeder's Mills, but at what time this was superseded by Veedersburg is now uncertain. In 1804, however, the hamlet had acquired a considerable population, with an almost equal proportion of Dutch and Yankees, and the question naturally arose regarding the permanent name. At the town meeting in that year the assembled voters determined to decide the question by ballot, and as it resulted in a tie, Supervisor James Allen, being the presiding officer, cast the decisive vote in favor of "Amsterdam."

The village then had not more than one hundred inhabitants, and even in 1813 it was only reported to have about one hundred and fifty. The public buildings at the latter date were the school-house and Presbyterian church, added to which were the mill, a number of small shops two or three stores and about twenty-five dwellings. From this time, however, the growth in population and industries must have been more rapid, for in 1830 the village was incorporated by the legislature, but it was not until 1831 that the people availed themselves of this privilege.

The act authorizing the election of five trustees and gave to the former hamlet the name of "Village of Amsterdam," creating it a



William Breedon

body politic and corporate, though with the limited powers usual to such villages. Ten years later another act provided for the election of a clerk, treasurer, collector, pound-master, and other officers necessary to its government, and also constituted the village a separate road district.

A farther advance was obtained by an act passed April 17, 1854, which granted Amsterdam a charter, with increased powers, and the village was described at that time as containing one square mile of land, divided into two wards, all the territory east of Bridge and Market streets and the Union road forming the First ward, while all west of that boundary constituted the Second ward. Under this act, also, the electors of the village were authorized to elect a president, three trustees for each ward, three assessors, a collector and treasurer, and the trustees were also empowered to appoint a police justice, one or more street commissioners (not exceeding, however, one for each district), one or more police constables, a clerk, pound-master, cemetery keeper, and one fire warden for each ward. Provision was also made for the election of a chief and two assistant engineers by the members of the fire department. We may also properly mention here, as incidental to the history of the city, that on April 25, 1864, the legislature authorized the trustees to purchase and thereafter maintain as free the bridge owned by the Amsterdam Bridge Company, which crossed the river between the village and Port Jackson. This purchase was made for \$23,000, and one third of the cost was borne by the town of Florida.

A still greater step toward complete municipal organization was granted by the act of April 13, 1865, which provided for the election of a president, three trustees for each ward, three assessors, one police justice, one or more police constables, a collector, one chief engineer and two assistants, a treasurer, a clerk, one or more street commissioners, a pound-master, a cemetery keeper, one fire warden for each ward, and a corporation attorney, all to be chosen as required by the act of 1854. A supplemental act passed June 12, 1875, created a treasurer for the fire department, by which he was to be elected.

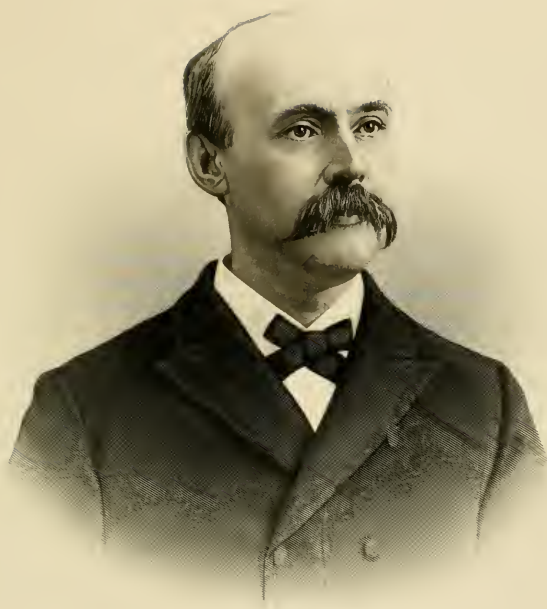
On April 16, 1885, the legislature passed an act granting a charter to the "City of Amsterdam," dividing it into four wards; and authorizing

the election of a mayor, recorder, overseer of the poor, treasurer, two justices of the peace, three assessors, three commissioners of excise and four constables, all to be chosen at a general election; also one supervisor, two aldermen and inspectors of election, to be elected in each ward; also a city clerk, superintendent of streets, fire warden, pound-master, sealer of weights and measures, one chief of police, and six policemen, to be appointed by the mayor and common council. In 1888, another legislative act extended and defined the boundaries of the city, the village of Port Jackson being included within its corporate limits, and designated the Fifth ward. By the same act permission was granted to increase the number of policemen from six to eight.

Mayors of Amsterdam—John Carmichael, 1885; Harlan P. Kline, 1886; Thomas Liddle, 1887-88; John Dwyer, 1889; Hicks B. Waldron, 1890; William Breedon, 1891-92.

Supervisors.—1885, John J. Hand, 1st ward; Edward H. Finlayson, 2d ward; Julius Wasserman, 3d ward; Jeremiah Bulger, 4th ward. 1886, Howard Putman, 1st ward; William De Hart, 2d ward; James W. Kline, 3d ward; Ira W. Hewitt, 4th ward. 1887, Howard Putman, 1st ward; Joseph Chadwick, 2d ward; James W. Kline, 3d ward; Ira W. Hewitt, 4th ward. 1888, D. W. Ecker, 1st ward; E. H. Finlayson, 2d ward; James Kline 3d ward; John Kelley, 4th ward; Galvin Whitcomb, 5th ward. 1889, John D. Goodwin, 1st ward; H. O. Wilkie, 2d ward; John Monaghan, 3d ward; John Kelley, 4th ward; Thomas Perkins, 5th ward. 1890, John D. Goodwin, 1st ward; James Doak, 2d ward; John Monaghan, 3d ward; John Kelley, 4th ward; Thomas Perkins, 5th ward. 1891, Seely Conover, 1st ward; James Doak, 2d ward; Peter A. Sullivan 3d ward; Patrick Doorey, 4th ward; Edward J. Perkins, 5th ward. 1892, Seeley Conover, 1st ward; James Doak, 2d ward; Peter Sullivan, 3d ward; Patrick Doorey, 4th ward; Edward J. Perkins, 5th ward.

Such is the history of Amsterdam as given by the public records, but there are other elements equally important and far more interesting, which are only found in the beneficent influences of the public and private institutions and also those commercial and manufacturing enterprises whose development has given Amsterdam its high rank among the cities of America.



John G. Seuss,

Educational Institutions.—Many of the facts related in this sketch are due to an article prepared by Professor J. G. Serviss, and read by him at the fourth annual meeting of the Board of Trade. We learn that the first school in this vicinity was taught in 1802 by William Reid, a Scotchman, and also that it was located "on the rocks," where Rockton now stands, but all vestige of the school-house has long since disappeared. Another authority, however, says that the first school was started prior to even 1800, and was taught by Daniel Shepard, and that in later years an addition was built to the school-house, then under tuition of Mr. Sill. The building was burned in 1856, and immediately a brick school was erected on its site, which in 1876 was enlarged to double its original size. It was known as the "old red school house" of District No. 8, and was maintained for more than half a century, until destroyed in the above mentioned manner. In conformity with the act of 1853, the village was made a union district the next year and the school was likewise made free.

About 1829 Mrs. Fisher, a clergyman's widow, taught a school of young ladies, occupying a building on the site of the more recent residence of James A. Miller, while nearly at the same time Mr. Thompson opened a boy's school in the old Stiles house on Church street hill, near the spring factory. In 1832 Horace E. Sprague erected a three story building on High street which was known as the Amsterdam Academy, but was afterward removed to the corner of Main and Chuctenunda streets, and still later (1865) to its present site.

The Amsterdam Female Academy was incorporated by the legislature March 29, 1839, and also by the Regents of the University, February 16, 1841. For the erection of a suitable building the Globe hotel property was purchased, and in connection with the academy a young ladies' boarding house was established. On April 27, 1865, the name of this institution was changed to "Amsterdam Academy," and soon afterward the property was sold and a far more extensive academy was erected on the hill, having in connection a boarding department for young ladies, while the school received both male and female pupils. The first board of trustees under the amended charter was composed of Stephen Sanford, president; S. Pulver Heath, secretary; D. W. Shuler, treasurer, and Samuel Belding, Adam W. Kline, Abram V. Morris, S.

McElwaine, John Kellogg, John McDonnell, Leonard V. Gardiner, and Chandler Bartlett. The first principal was C. C. Wetsell, succeeded by W. B. Sims, W. W. Thompson, George H. Taylor, George H. Ottoway, Charles V. T. Smith, and Charles C. Wetsell, the last named being the present principal. The succession of principals of the old academy was as follows: Dr. Sterling, Gilbert Morgan, David H. Crittenden, M. T. Calvert, William Howell, O. E. Hovey, and William Aumack.

We may properly state, however, that the Amsterdam Academy is in no manner connected with the public schools of the city, but has been from its inception supported by tuition fees, its object being to furnish a higher and more finished education. Its affairs are managed by a board of trustees, whose members at present are as follows: Stephen Sanford, president; Gardiner Blood, secretary; Martin L. Stover, treasurer, and Davis W. Shuler, John Kellogg, James H. Bronson, L. Y. Gardiner, William J. Kline, Adam W. Kline, Frank Morris and David D. Cassidy.

The city of Amsterdam comprises three principal school districts, while portions of others include the suburbs. Each of these principal districts has its board of education and two of them have superintendents. An effort, however, has recently been made to consolidate the public schools, reducing the boards of education to one body, but thus far the attempt has not been successful.

Union Free School District No. 11 has a population of 2,661 children of school age, with four schools, one of which is the old stone house on Division street. The principal building is at 48 Spring street. The average attendance at the several schools in the district during the last year was 1,151, and the expense of tuition for the same period was \$9,611, the number of teachers in the district being twenty-two. This district is under the superintendence of Prof. John G. Serviss. The officers and members of the board of education are as follows: Dr. Charles H. Tilton, president; Hicks B. Waldron, secretary; A. A. De Forest, treasurer; James T. Sugden, Harvey Chalmers, John A. Spore, Charles G. Bellman, W. Barlow Dunlap, Richard Peck, William J. Benn.

Union Free School District No. 8 includes the territory of the eastern part of the city, except such part as may be in the suburbs. The school population is 2,390, while the attendance is only 709, a discrep-

ancy accounted for by the fact that the district includes St. Mary's Parochial School, with 650 pupils. This district, like No. 11, has a board of education, also a superintendent (John W. Kimball), whose office is in the school building on East Main street. Twelve teachers are employed at an annual expense of \$6,800. The officers and members of the board of education are S. Messenger, president; D. S. Dunlap, secretary, and Delos Lewis, James Voorhees, George V. Stover, H. L. Shuttleworth, J. Wasserman, George McCullough, and George McClumpha.

Union Free District No. 13 includes that part of the city which was taken from Florida. In fact the district extends beyond the city limits on the south side, while parts of Florida districts, in the same manner, extend into the city. The school population in No. 13 is 392, and the attendance 247. The district has a board of education but no superintendent, the members of the former being as follows: Dr. E. E. Rulison, president; George W. Putnam, secretary; C. Van Buren, George R. Harmon, William Visscher, Joseph Perkins, William J. Munsell, Benjamin Baird and John Haggarty.

Of the town districts which include portions of the city we may mention Nos. 2 and 3 of Florida, the former having a large school, and while by far the greater number of its scholars live in the city, yet they are compelled to go outside to attend school sessions. District No. 9 of Amsterdam also includes part of the city. This is the Rockton school north of the city, and has four teachers. The last principal was Adam Yordon. District No. 10, northwest of Amsterdam, also includes a small part of the city.

St. Mary's Catholic Institute was established April 20, 1881, and although a sectarian institution, yet it is under the supervision of the State Regents. The original building occupied by this school was enlarged during the summer of 1884, and reopened on October 22 following. The school is taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and has senior, intermediate, junior and primary departments.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union Industrial School was organized in the winter of 1888, with Mrs. J. V. Marcellus superintendent; Mrs. H. P. Kline and Miss Nesbet, directresses; Mrs. E. P. White, secretary; and Mrs. Dr. Tilton, treasurer. In the same connection,

also, we may properly mention the School of Music established by Prof. A. B. Haberer in 1885, and the Amsterdam Business College, founded in 1888 by Howard Keller.

Amsterdam Water Supply.—In 1820 the legislature incorporated the Amsterdam Aqueduct Company, of which Marcus T. Reynolds, Benedict Arnold and Welcome U. Chase were the principal factors, and whose design was to furnish a supply of pure and wholesome water to the families living on the west side of the Chuctenunda. Also at a later day another effort was made to establish a water supply system on the east side of the creek, and while both enterprises were rewarded with moderate success, the population increased so rapidly that the supply soon fell far short of the demand. This system, however, together with numerous wells throughout the village, was the only water for domestic purposes used in Amsterdam prior to 1881.

In the year last mentioned the legislature passed an act creating the "Water Commissioners of Amsterdam," appointing to this office Stephen Sanford, John Kellogg, Davis W. Shuler, Henry Greene, Gardiner Blood, John McClumpha, jr., Walter R. McCowatt, Augustus Clarke and John McFarlan to serve, three of them for three years, three for four years and three for five years, as they should determine by ballot or otherwise. On the 13th of May, the commissioners organized by the election of Stephen Sanford, president; John McClumpha, secretary; and Davis W. Shuler.

For the purpose of procuring an abundant supply of water, a reservoir was constructed on the hill north of the village, and was fed by the Rogers and McQueen creeks. The dam is 410 feet long and 50 feet high, and stands on a foundation of solid rock. The reservoir covers eighteen acres and has a capacity of more than 80,000,000 gallons. From the reservoir the water is conducted by pipes extending throughout the city. The fire department has the use of 195 hydrants, located at convenient points on the streets. The main pipes extend through twenty miles of street, and the total cost of the water works was about \$300,000. The elevation of the reservoir above Main street is nearly 300 feet, and the pressure on the mains is regulated by valves. The members of the board of water commissioners are as follows: James R. Snell, president; John I. Christman, secretary; William J. Taylor, treasurer; Dr. William

H. Robb, John Kellogg, Middleton Warnick, Thomas F. Kennedy, Robert Blood, Miles Cooline. A. H. De Graff, superintendent.

The Sewerage System.—As incidental to the excellent system of water works owned by the city, we may now briefly mention its equally admirable system of sewerage, and although both have cost the city several hundred thousand dollars, each has been of such benefit as to make it impossible to estimate their real value. The city is now provided with about twenty miles of sewers, constructed under the direction of sewer commissioners. An act of the legislature passed June 2, 1886, appointed John K. Stewart, Luther L. Dean, Hicks B. Waldron, Miles Kavanaugh, Alexander Mark, James T. Sugden, William J. Benn, James H. Winnie, and the mayor *ex-officio*, sewer commissioners, and provided for the continuance of the board by the common council. The present board of sewer commissioners comprises the following members: William Breedon, mayor, president *ex-officio*; James T. Sugden, Dennis Madden, Howard Putman, secretary, John Kelly, Bernard P. Mac-hold, John G. Serviss, Isaac Alder, Cornelius Van Buren, treasurer.

The Fire Department.—On the 20th of April, 1830, the legislature passed an act authorizing the incorporation of the village of Amsterdam, and also making provision for the organization of a fire department by the board of trustees. The loss of the early village records prevents us from giving either the first steps toward organizing this department, or the names of the first officers and members. Some of our readers however may recall the "Tub," a primitive machine for throwing water, which was the private property of James Holliday. In the early history of Amsterdam the only effective organization for extinguishing fire was the "bucket brigade," and not until 1839 was the village provided with a fire engine. Perhaps some of the older residents will remember that once famous machine, and it may be that some of the old Mohawk Engine Company are yet living. At a later date the trustees purchased another engine and organized the Cascade Engine Company, for which a house was built on Market street in 1855.

In June, 1870, the village purchased the steam engine "J. D. Serviss," at a cost of \$3,000, and caused a company to be organized, having sixty members at first, which was soon afterward increased to one hundred. In 1871 a second steamer, the "E. D. Bronson," was pur-

chased at a cost of \$3,400, and a second company was formed. Each company was supplied with two sets of hose and also with other necessary apparatus to complete the equipment of the department. In 1875 the first hook and ladder apparatus was bought and a company organized for its use.

The present fire department of the city consists of two steamers, one "truck" company, and six regular hose companies, named and located as follows: Eckford Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, located at 24 Livingston street; J. D. Serviss Steamer No. 1, at 14 Chuctenunda street; E. D. Bronson Steamer and Hose Company No. 2, at 51 Market street; Union Hose Company No. 3, at 23 Reid street; W. T. Bennett Hose Company No. 4, at 40 Guy street; Emerald Hose Company No. 5, at 224 East Main street; Filkins Hose Company No. 6, at 13 Grant street; J. J. Gray Hose Company No. 7, at Centre street. The officers of the fire department are as follows: George T. Wallin, president; William H. Son, treasurer; Isaac Rhodes, secretary; Henry E. Waterstreet, chief engineer; George Francisco, Charles Enser, assistant engineers; Henry E. Waterstreet, fire warden.

The Board of Trade.—The object of this organization is best stated by quoting from its constitution: "It shall have for its object the promotion of trade; the giving the proper direction and impetus to all commercial movements; the encouraging of intercourse between business men; the improvement of facilities for transportation; the diffusion of information concerning the trade, manufactures and other interests of Amsterdam." That the board of trade has fully carried out and accomplished the duty undertaken by its projectors eight years ago is proven in many ways, and in none more conclusively than in the establishment of the numerous industries of the last five or six years, and in the various local improvements during the same period.

The board of trade was organized November 26, 1884, in pursuance of a former meeting of interested citizens, prominent among whom we may mention W. Max Reid, James H. Bronson, George H. Munson, Gardiner Blood, John K. Warnick and J. Melvin Thomas, to whom was assigned the duty of preparing a constitution and by-laws for the proposed body. The report of this committee was adopted and the organization was perfected at the time mentioned, and the following officers

were then elected: W. Max Reid, president; James A. Miller, 1st vice-president; Gardiner Blood, 2d vice-president; John McFarlan, 3d vice-president; J. Melvin Thomas, secretary; A. A. De Forest, treasurer; John K. Warnick, John K. Stewart, Daniel Carmichael, George H. Munson, John McClumpha, Martin L. Stover, L. L. Dean, Dr. William H. Robb and L. H. Young, directors. The board had forty-six charter members. The number of present members is 110. The present officers are W. Max Reid, president; James A. Miller 1st vice-president; Gardiner Blood, 2d vice-president; George R. Hannon, 3d vice-president; James Howard Hanson, secretary; A. A. De Forest, treasurer; Stephen Sanford, Martin L. Stover, Thomas B. Vanderveer, Julius Wasserman, Luther L. Dean, James T. Sugden, John Kellogg, Henry Herrick and Charles C. Yund, directors.

Banks of Amsterdam.—The old "Farmer's Bank," which was the first financial institution, was incorporated in 1839, with a capital of \$100,000. Cornelius Miller was president, and D. P. Corey, cashier. After occupying rooms in various parts of the village it found a permanent location in 1852 in the building erected for it by Marquis Barnes, but in 1875 it erected a building for its own use at the corner of Main and Railroad streets. In 1859 its capital was increased to \$200,000, and in 1865 it availed itself of the national banking act and became the Farmers' National Bank. The officers are: John Kellogg, president; James Voorhees, vice-president; William J. Taylor, cashier; J. E. Williams, assistant cashier, and the board of directors is as follows: John Kellogg, John Warren, J. L. Banta, A. V. Morris, James Voorhees, William J. Taylor, John K. Stewart, Henry Herrick, John K. Warnick, Hiram Hubbs, Hiram Schuyler and George R. Hannon.

The Bank of Amsterdam was incorporated and organized in 1860, with Cornelius Miller, president; Jay Cady, vice-president; and Charles De Wolfe, cashier. In 1865 it was reorganized under the national banking act, and became the First National Bank of Amsterdam. Its original place of business was in the south Arch block, Main street, but in 1868 it erected and occupied the building at the corner of Main and Chuctenunda streets. This bank now has a capital stock of \$125,000; undivided profits, \$26,000. The officers are as follows: James A. Miller, president; David Cady, vice-president; T. H. Benton Crane,

cashier ; and John G. Serviss, James A. Miller, James C. Miller, George Clark, John K. Warnick, Oscar F. Nelson, John H. Voorhees, James T. Frasier, David Cady, T. H. B. Crane, Luther H. Young, Z. S. Westbrook and James B. Bailey, directors.

In 1864 the banking house of Morris, Phillips & Company was established and began business in the village. In 1869 A. V. Morris succeeded the former firm and has ever since conducted a large and successful banking business.

The Manufacturer's Bank was incorporated under the state law in May, 1873, and erected a building at the corner of Main and Church streets. Its principal officers were Adam W. Kline, president, and Charles De Wolfe, cashier. On the 25th of March, 1875, the institution reorganized and became known as the Manufacturer's National Bank, with A. W. Kline, president, and H. P. Kline, cashier. In the latter part of 1883, however, it failed, and Martin L. Stover was appointed receiver to settle its business affairs.

The Merchant's National Bank was incorporated under the national banking act of 1883, with a capital of \$100,000, but after several years of fairly successful business it went into liquidation, while a number of its prominent officers and directors purchased the Cassidy stock in the Farmer's Bank and united with that institution.

The Amsterdam Savings Bank was incorporated and opened for business in February, 1886, at No. 25 Market street. Its deposits now amount to more than \$300,000. The present officers are as follows: S. H. French, president ; Luther L. Dean, and George I. Herrick, vice-presidents ; George A. Thatcher, treasurer ; W. B. Dunlap, attorney ; S. H. French, Luther L. Dean, William H. Stebbins, Raymond Christman, John Kavanaugh, Bernard Machold, George I. Herrick, Thomas Morphy, Seely Conover, William A. Donnan, Theo. B. Vanderveer, David S. Dunlap, Wilber E. Tefft, Thomas Mansfield, W. B. Dunlap, George R. Hannon, and George Spatt, trustees.

The Amsterdam City National Bank was incorporated in 1889, with a capital of \$200,000, and although the youngest of the banking institutions, is nevertheless one of the strongest in the city. Its officers are Stephen Sanford, president ; Davis W. Shuler and Alonzo A. De Forest, vice-presidents ; M. Van Buren, cashier ; M. L. Stover, Stephen

Sanford, Louis E. Harrower, Davis M. Shuler, Willis Wendell, Alonzo A. De Forest, Lawren Kellogg, John D. Blood, M. Van Buren, Francis Morris, Cornelius Van Buren, Luther L. Dean and George McClumpha, directors. Its banking house is on Market street.

Public Institutions—The Young Men's Christian Association was organized June 11, 1858, James H. Bronson being its first president, and although this has been one of the permanent institutions of the village and city, it did not become permanently located until the old M. E. church building on Market street was purchased and fitted up for the use of the association. The present members number about 170, the officers being as follows: Charles N. Gilbert, president; Edward A. Quire, vice president; Nathan W. Donnan, recording secretary; Dr. S. H. French, treasurer. The trustees are James A. Miller, president; John G. Serviss, secretary; Luther L. Dean, treasurer, and George I. Herrick, W. Max Reid and T. B. Vanderveer.

The Amsterdam City Hospital was incorporated November 24, 1888, through the efforts of the Amsterdam Medical Society. The organization was completed March 25, 1889, and the hospital building at No. 201 Division street (purchased from David Cady for \$5,000) was made ready to receive patients on September 17, following. The first officers of the association were T. B. Vanderveer, president; Cornelius Van Buren and David Cady, vice-presidents; Thomas F. Kennedy, treasurer, and W. Max Reid, secretary. The present officers are as follows: Cornelius Van Buren, president; David Cady and John K. Stewart, vice-presidents; Thomas F. Kennedy, treasurer; W. Max Reid, secretary. The matron of the hospital is Mrs. Marian Lingenfelter.

The City Hospital Aid Society is an organization which has been chiefly instrumental in promoting the success of the hospital and placing it upon a permanent basis. The officers of the Aid Society are Mrs. H. E. Greene, president; Mrs. Nias Hewitt, Mrs. Le Grand Strong, Mrs. Louis Peck, Mrs. D. W. Shuler, vice-presidents; Mrs. H. C. Storie, recording secretary; Mrs. W. E. Tefft, corresponding secretary, Mrs. T. G. Hyland, treasurer.

In mentioning the institutions of the city we may in this connection refer to the Children's Home, located at No. 81 Spring street, the management of which is vested in a president, vice-presidents and several

committees. The president is Mrs. William K. Greene, and the vice-presidents are chosen from the several Protestant churches of the city. Although a comparatively recent organization, the Home has proved itself a great blessing to the neglected youth of the city.

The Amsterdam Medical Society, embracing in its membership nearly all of the regular physicians of the city, was organized November 22, 1884, with the following officers: S. H. French, president; Charles Stover, vice-president; Thomas G. Hyland, secretary; D. M. McMartin, treasurer; and these officers with Dr. William H. Robb, formed the executive committee. The present officers are William H. Robb, president; Charles F. Zimmerman, secretary and treasurer. S. H. French with the above mentioned officers constitute the executive committee.

The Amsterdam Library Association was organized during the latter part of 1891; the first library in the village, however, existed as early as 1820, and we learn that William Reid was for many years its active manager and also librarian, but there is no record of its later years. The new library is supported by gifts and membership fees, and contains about 1,500 volumes of well selected literature. The officers of the association are William H. Robb, president; S. H. French, vice-president; Mrs. M. H. Trapnell, secretary; David Cady, treasurer.

The Chuctenunda Gas Light Company was organized in 1860, but its early years were marked by many difficulties, chiefly occasioned by the rock through which its pipes were laid. In 1866 the works were destroyed by fire, but were immediately rebuilt. In 1876, however, an increasing demand for gas required enlarged works, which were erected near the central depot. The officers of the company are Stephen Sanford, president; Davis W. Shuler, secretary; James H. Ward, superintendent; John Kellogg, David Cady, John K. Stewart, James A. Miller, directors.

The Edison Electric Light and Power Company, the Amsterdam Arc Light Company, and the Amsterdam Street Railroad Company are practically one corporation. In 1873 the Street Railway Company was formed, and laid and operated nearly two miles of horse railroad through Main, Market and Division streets. In June, 1890, the Amsterdam Street Railroad Company succeeded the former and equipped the road with electric cars, and now operate six motor and six "trail"



C. Van Buren

cars over three miles of track, using the Edison system for the power. The company has a capital of \$250,000, and its officers are as follows: J. H. McClement, president; Frank J. Sprague, vice-president; Thomas D. Mosscrop, secretary and treasurer; James R. Snell, general manager.

Cemeteries.—The first burial ground in Amsterdam was situated on Bridge street between Main street and the river. The building of the railroad, however, and the erection of business blocks and dwelling houses have obliterated all traces of its former existence. The second burying-ground was located on the hill, on Market and Prospect streets, but was soon filled, thus rendering a third cemetery necessary. A cemetery association was organized in 1857, and in the next year purchased a tract of fourteen acres of land on the north side of the village at the corner of Church and Cornell streets. Here Greenhill cemetery was laid out, the ground being beautifully ornamented with forest trees and evergreens, while gracefully winding drives and walks make every part accessible. The officers of the association are: Stephen Sanford, president; John Kellogg, vice-president; George H. McClumpha, secretary; A. A. De Forest, treasurer; superintendent Richard W. Sutton.

The other cemeteries of the city are St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, belonging respectively to the parishes of the same name.

The Amsterdam Press.—In December, 1831, the *Mohawk Herald* made its first appearance under the editorial management of Darius Wells. Two years later, however, the paper was sold to Philip Reynolds and by him moved to Johnstown and changed to the *Johnstown Herald*. When Reynolds moved to Fonda the paper was published at that place.

The *Mohawk Gazette* was founded in 1833 by Josiah Noonan, and is still a live publication of Amsterdam, notwithstanding its frequent changes in ownership and an occasional change in title. After having been published for one year by Mr. Noonan, the firm of Wing & Davis next assumed its management, and its name was changed to *The Intelligencer*. In 1836 this firm was succeeded by S. D. Marsh, who conducted the paper until 1854, and then sold it to Xenophon Haywood, who changed the name to the *Amsterdam Recorder*. From 1868 to

1882 Andrew Neff owned and published the *Recorder*, which was then edited by Charles P. Winegar, but in the last mentioned year he formed a partnership with Edward H. Finlayson, a practical journalist, and the new firm made it a daily paper. W. P. Belden became owner of the Neff interest in 1883, but in 1889 he sold out to Mr. Finlayson. Martin Lynck became a part owner of the *Recorder* in 1891, and during the proprietorship of Finlayson & Lynck the political tone of the paper has materially changed, being now an advocate of Democracy, whereas it was formerly strongly Republican. Later on Mr. Finlayson disposed of his interest and found a wider field for his ability in New York.

The third newspaper was called the *Dispatch*, the first number appearing during 1860, under the management of Winegar & Van Allen. It was at first printed daily, but at the end of about six months it became a weekly, but the venture proved unprofitable and in 1864 the *Dispatch* was discontinued.

The *Amsterdam Democrat*, a weekly paper, was established in 1868 by George O. Smith and Walter B. Matthewson, but after three months Mr. Smith sold out to Angell Matthewson. In 1871 John F. Ashe purchased the later Matthewson interest, and in August, 1873, the entire plant passed into the hands of William J. Kline. Previous to this time it was published as a Democratic paper, but Mr. Kline at once made it independent, and later on turned it into an ardent advocate of Republican principles. On the 20th of August, 1879, in connection with the weekly, Mr. Kline founded the *Daily Democrat*, and has since then continued both papers with marked success. The management is conducted by William J. Kline, editor and proprietor; John E. Willoughby, journalist; Seward Kline, business manager.

The *Amsterdam Sentinel* was founded in 1879 as a weekly Democratic paper, by Martin Lynck and Thomas McNally, but after a few months Mr. Lynck sold his interest to Edward H. Finlayson, and the firm changed to Finlayson & McNally. In 1881 the paper was purchased by Z. S. Westbrook, George H. Loadwick, Thomas F. Kennedy and W. N. Johnson, who continued the publication until October, 1884. Mr. Loadwick then became its editor and publisher, and also during the same year established the *Daily Sentinel*, an evening paper. On May 26, 1888, however, the daily became a morning paper, the only

morning issue now published between Albany and Utica, and is highly successful.

In addition to the regular daily and weekly papers Amsterdam possesses, we may briefly mention the other periodicals now having an office in the city. The *Patent Herald* was started in 1878 by editor J. O. Lingenfelter, and is issued monthly. The *Institute Journal*, also a monthly paper, was founded in 1884, and is published by St. Mary's Catholic Institute. *Our Young Men* is published monthly by the Young Men's Christian Association. The *Church Herald* is likewise published monthly by the Methodist Episcopal societies.

CHURCH HISTORY.

The Second Presbyterian Church.—In the year 1800 a number of the members of the old Dutch church of Amsterdam, becoming dissatisfied with the action of the society in erecting a church in the remote part of the town then known as "Manny's Corners," severed their connection with the mother society and in the same year organized the Dutch Reformed church of Veedersburg, and erected an edifice at the corner of Main and Market streets. At this time Rev. Conrad Ten Eyck was pastor of the old church and likewise rendered temporary pastoral service to the new organization, but was finally compelled to resign both charges on account of that weakened condition due to their separation. The Veedersburg church remained for eleven years without a pastor, but in 1812 it changed its ecclesiastical connection and became Presbyterian, an action previously taken by the mother society, and resulting in a reunion and reorganization as one body under the name of Presbyterian Church of Amsterdam.

On March 3, 1832, 104 members of the above mentioned church having previously obtained the sanction of the Presbytery, took letters of dismissal, and having organized the Presbyterian church of Amsterdam village, began immediately the erection of a suitable edifice at the corner of Church and Grove streets. It was finished and dedicated in August of the same year and was used until 1869, the last service being held May 9, when the old building was demolished and was replaced by a larger and more elegant structure. The new building is of brick with limestone trimmings, its plan being the Romanesque style of

architecture. It cost about \$40,000, and has sittings for 1,000, persons. Annexed to the edifice is a chapel which seats 250, and even more on extraordinary occasions. In February, 1871, by direction of the Presbytery, and upon application, this church was designated the Second Presbyterian Church of Amsterdam, the old church at Manny's Corners being at the same time designated as the "First" church. The pastors of the church have been Reverends Conrad Ten Eyck; Ebenezer H. Stillman, 1813-15; Halsey A. Wood, 1816-25; James Wood, 1826-33; Hugh M. Koontz, 1834-36; Montgomery S. Goodale, 1836-70; Henry S. Teller, 1870-80-81; Charles H. Baldwin, installed March 8, 1881, and is the present pastor.

The officers of the church are James H. Bronson, James A. Miller, David Cady, T. Romeyn Bunn, Henry Herrick, Gardiner Blood and John G. Van Derveer, elders; and Thomas S. Stanley, Joshua Sharp-ley, Nicholas J. De Graff, deacons.

Immanuel Presbyterian Church of Amsterdam was organized February 8, 1887, being the outgrowth of a mission Sunday-school organized the year previous. The insurance money paid to the Albany Presbytery after the burning of the old church at Manny's Corners was appropriated to the Immanuel society, and was used for building the present church on West Spring street, the total cost of which was about \$18,000. The first temporary minister of the society was Rev. Herbert C. Hinds, followed by Charles S. Dudley. The first pastor was Rev. Lester J. Sawyer, who was installed March 1, 1889, and still retains that office. Its membership is 110, and the Sunday-school has 200 scholars. The officers of the society are: elders, Thomas Morphy, John G. Serviss, Oliver S. Kline and William M. White; and deacons, D. B. Shelp, Elias H. Devenburg and David W. Ecker.

St. Ann's Church (Protestant Episcopal).—This church is descended from the historic Queen Anne's Chapel, built within the enclosure of Fort Hunter 1711, and demolished in the construction of the Erie canal. St. Anne's parish at Port Jackson was organized December 22, 1835, the church being erected in 1836, and consecrated in the following year. The growth of the parish, however, was much retarded by the unfavorable location. Amsterdam was rapidly increasing while in Port Jackson the growth was very slow. Hence the parishioners north



John Kellogg

of the river were at much inconvenience to cross the bridge to attend service. For this reason the church was sold in 1849, during the rectorship of A. N. Littlejohn, and the proceeds (\$2,400) were applied to the purchase of a new site on Division street. On this lot a church was erected, and consecrated June 15, 1851, by Bishop De Lancey, of the diocese of western New York, but the rectory was not purchased until many years later. The succession of rectors of St. Anne's parish since its establishment in this city has been Reverends William H. Frapnell, January 27, 1854, to April 24, 1857; J. A. Robinson, August 26, 1858, to 1864; Porter Thomas, 1864 to 1860; Thomas G. Clemson, November 14, 1869, to December 10, 1870; Howard T. Widemer, April, 1871, to January 1, 1875; J. C. Hewitt, 1875, rector about fourteen months; William N. Irish, July 1, 1876, to April, 1884. In August, 1884, Rev. David Sprague entered upon his duties as rector and St. Anne's church now has 330 members. The Sunday-school has 210 scholars. The present church officers are as follows: Wardens,—W. Max Reid and John J. Hand; vestrymen, Cyrus B. Chase, Thomas Mansfield, Charles S. Nesbet, William Ryland, Le Grand S. Strong, Hicks B. Waldron and John K. Warnick.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Amsterdam has its origin in the formation of a class in 1827, the organization of the society following soon afterward. About the year 1832 the society purchased the old Dutch Reformed Church of Veedersburg, and removed it to the corner of Main and Wall streets, where it stood until 1845, when it was again removed to Market street, where it still stands and is now the property of the Y. M. C. A. After the last removal, however, of the old pioneer church it was enlarged and remodeled; and in 1860 it was again enlarged. The present large and commodious Methodist church was begun in July, 1881, and finished and dedicated in October, 1883. Rev. W. H. Hughes was pastor at the time of dedication, and was succeeded by M. D. Jump, who labored three years. Rev. W. M. Brundage became pastor in April, 1889, and still continues in charge, his present membership being 1,200, while the Sunday-school has 700 scholars, the latter being under the superintendence of W. J. Benn.

East Main Street Methodist Episcopal Church is conducted under the auspices of the official board of the First Church, by which it was estab-

lished a few years ago. The church was built during the fall and winter of 1891-92, and dedicated in the following April. Rev. J. G. Patten, the assistant pastor of the mother church devotes much of his time to this society, whose congregation is of an encouraging character, while the Sunday-school has about 175 scholars. Mr. Patten, who is superintendent, came to the city in 1891, prior to which time the meetings were conducted by the young men of the First church.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church Society was organized in 1886, and has had three pastors, Rev. Gotleib Bubak, William Schluter, and Carl Stecker. The church on Division street was built in 1886, at a cost of about \$1,500. The society numbers about 110 members, and is now under the pastoral care of Mr. Stecker. The officers are Charles Ossenfort, Henry Brinkman, August Goder, Henry Schwenker, John Schwenker, William Krouer, Henry Needennire and Ferdinand Naraski.

The First Baptist Church of Amsterdam was organized in 1800, and was connected with the Shaftsbury Association until 1808. The society appears to have then become extinct, as no reports were made until 1825, when it was reorganized with sixteen members and joined the Saratoga Association. Four years later a brick church was erected on Main street, but eventually was used as a dwelling. In 1842 the edifice on Market street was built, and has been in constant use by the society until the present year (1892), during which the elegant brick church on Division street was completed. The old church was dedicated November 17, 1842, the number of members at that time being 109; the present number is 566.

The first pastor was Rev. John Holmes who came in 1805 and died in 1808. The first pastor after the reorganization was Rev. David Corwin, who came in 1829 and left in 1832, after which time the succession of pastors was Reverends Absalom B. Earl, 1833-35; J. J. Whitman, 1836-37; Solomon Gale, junior, 1838-39; Edwin Westcott, 1840; J. W. Gibbs, 1841-42; W. H. Hutchinson, 1844-46; J. M. Harris, 1847-52; W. Kingsley, 1853; J. E. Kinney, 1854-55; R. Winegar, 1857-61; W. Groom, jr., 1862-63; W. F. Fagan, 1864-65; L. W. Olney, 1866-67; John E. Cheeshire, 1868-70; William M. Lawrence, 1871-72; L. W. Olney, 1873; E. F. Crane, 1874-75; J. E. Emory, 1876-79;

C. B. Perkins, 1880-88; Frank P. Stoddard, January 1, 1889, who is still in service.

Calvary Baptist Church of Amsterdam was organized in 1889, when 137 former members of the First church took letters of dismissal and many of them united to the new society, which thus far has held its meetings in a hall on Market street. The first pastor was Rev. William Wyeth, followed by Rev. Dewitt T. Van Doren, who resigned July, 1892.

St. Mary's Church (Roman Catholic). The earliest services of the Roman Catholic church in this vicinity were held in 1837, when Father Beauchamp visited the three villages and occupied the old Universalist church standing at the corner of Main and Market street. It was not, however, until 1844 that any church organization took place, when a building on the south side of the river was used for service. In 1849 Father Cull purchased the edifice formerly occupied by the society of St. Anne's church, in Port Jackson, which was used by his parishioners for several years, until the erection of the new edifice on the north side of the river. The latter, however, was replaced in 1869 by the more modern and comfortable church on Main street. Immediately after the erection of the walls of this edifice, the west side fell to the ground, severely injuring two workmen, and again in 1876 a severe gale blew down the church spire, which struck the roof of the priest's house and seriously injured the building. So far as we are able to ascertain, the succession of priests of St. Mary's church and parish have been as follows: Reverends McClusky, Cull, McCallion, Sheehan, McCue, O'Sullivan, Furlong, J. P. Fitzgerald, Carroll, E. P. Clark, Philip Keveney, W. B. Hannett and John Patrick McIncrow, the latter being appointed to this parish September 20, 1878. The present priest's residence and the convent building were erected in 1887, under the direction of Father McIncrow.

St. Joseph's German Roman Catholic Church was organized October 10, 1884, having about eighty families in its parish. Rev. Edward Hipelius was the first priest, and was followed by Andrew Stefferle. Rev. Andrew Duplang, the present pastor, was appointed October 22, 1888. The church was built in 1884, the total value of parish property being about \$25,000. The present number of families in the parish is

125. Connected with the church is St. Joseph's school, organized in 1891, and now having in regular attendance 130 scholars.

The Reformed Church of Port Jackson (now Amsterdam) was organized in 1849 or 1850, and the church was erected in the year last mentioned, at a cost of \$4,000 or \$5,000. In 1886 the building was thoroughly repaired and enlarged, requiring an outlay of about \$9,000. The society owns free of debt the church, parsonage and two carriage sheds, the whole being worth about \$18,000. The pastors have been Reverends Garret L. Roof, 1850-55; Cornelius Gates, 1856-57; A. J. Sawyer, 1858; Isaac G. Duryea, 1859-62; Henry M. Voorhees, 1863-65; A. M. Quick, 1865-69; H. Pettengill, 1870-73; John Minor, 1873-80. The present pastor, Rev. J. R. Kyle, was installed in December, 1880.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church was organized in 1869, having fifteen original members, and in the same year a frame meeting-house on Grove street was erected. The society was formed chiefly through the efforts of Charles Klugel and Charles Spalt. The first pastor was I. Krechting, who remained until 1879, being succeeded by G. L. Rietz, who died in 1887. During his pastorate a lot on Spring street was purchased and a handsome brick edifice was completed during the labors of Rev. Otto C. Konrad, who has been the minister of the church since 1887. The property of this society is estimated at about \$50,000. The regular members number 1,000 persons, and the Sunday-school has 500 scholars.

The German Evangelical Association held meetings in Amsterdam in 1883, the missionary being G. M. Schlegenhaufl, and the society organization was completed and the church built in 1884. The building is of brick and is located on Elizabeth street. The number of members is 130; the Sunday-school has about 70 scholars. The ministers and pastors have been Reverends G. N. Schlegenhaufl, F. Lohmeyer, Jacob Burghardt, and F. E. Herer, the last mentioned pastor having been installed in April, 1892.

Trinity Reformed Church was organized in February, 1892, and holds its meetings in Academy Hall. The pastor is Rev. James A. Beattie. The officers of the society are Harvey Bossler, J. M. Smeallie, and M. W. Donnan; deacons, E. O. Bartlett and W. H. Carver. The society has about twenty members.



Horace Inman.

Congregational Temple of Israel society was organized May 18, 1874 under the pastoral charge of Joseph Gregger, who continued in that relation thirteen years when he was succeeded by I. E. Vogenheim, who remained two years. The present rabbi, Henry Kline, came to the society in May, 1891. No synagoguc has ever been provided for the society, its meetings being held in the Behr block.

Manufactures of Amsterdam.—Even before the revolution Albert Veeder built a saw and grist-mill on the Chuctenunda, and founded the little village of Veedersburg on the site of the prosperous city of Amsterdam. Almost three-quarters of a century, however, elapsed before this locality acquired prominence as a manufacturing centre, while its greatest advance has been made during the last twenty-five years. In 1804 Veedersburg was changed to Amsterdam, but it remained for a still later generation to develop the resources of the Chuctenunda and utilize its waters for manufacturing purposes.

Between the years 1830 and 1840 there was built and put in operation a number of mills, which, with the cutting down of the northern forests, exhausted the water power, making it necessary to resort to artificial means for restoration. It was not, however, until 1848 that any movement took place, when the mill owners, prominent among whom were John Sanford, John M. Harvey and John M. Clark, constructed a dam across the stream, at a point above the Forest paper-mill and reserved the surplus water for future use. In 1855 it became necessary to increase the supply, and consequently a reservoir was constructed in Galway, covering 450 acres, which was enlarged in 1865 to cover 550 acres. In 1875 the banks of the reservoir were raised, increasing the area of stored water to 1,000 acres. At this time also a board of trustees was formed for the purpose of maintaining the supply, Stephen Sanford being made president, and John Kellogg treasurer. The incorporators were Stephen Sandford, William K. Grecne, Hoel S. McElwaine, Adam W. Kline, Davis Shuler, John Kellogg and John C. Miller; capital stock, not less than \$10,000 nor more than \$50,000.

The establishment of this supply has been of immense advantage to the manufacturing interests of Amsterdam, as it has attracted many of the large factories that have been built at various places on the Chuctenunda, which, with others in the locality, have made this place one

of the most noted manufacturing centres in interior New York. To some of these, past and present, it is our purpose now to make brief reference.

In 1842 William K. Greene withdrew from the firm of Wait, Greene & Company of Hagaman's Mills and came to Amsterdam, where he started a carpet factory in a small building where now stands the Green Knitting Company's works. A few years afterward John Sanford acquired an interest in the business, which was then removed to the old Harris mill, further up the stream. At length however, Mr. Green retired from the firm, which thereafter became known as J. Sanford & Son. In 1853 the senior member retired and Stephen Sanford became its sole proprietor. Later on the firm became S. Sanford & Sons (its present style), and this house has built up the most extensive carpet manufacturing industry in the country, giving employment to nearly 2,000 operatives. The members are Stephen, John and William C. Sanford the first being the father and the other his sons. The success of William K. Green and the Sanfords naturally led others to engage in the same manufacture. The most prominent of the later factories is that now owned and operated by Shuttleworth Brothers, the partners being John, James and Walter, whose extensive factory is at the foot of Lifferts street, near the railroad. Here also hundreds of employees are constantly engaged, constituting one of the most important industries of the city. In the same connection we may briefly mention the commonly called "Rug Mill" of Howgate, McCleary & Company, at Rockton, and although not strictly an industry of this city is nevertheless so connected as to be worthy of mention in this place.

In 1856 William K. Green and John McDonnell began the manufacture of knit goods in the small building where now stands the extensive mills of the Green Knitting Company. In 1868 Mr. McDonnell withdrew, the business being thenceforth conducted by Mr. Green, who increased it by building a much larger mill on the old site. In 1870 the proprietor died, and was succeeded by his sons, E. P. and Henry E. Green, and also John K. Warnick, under the name of W. K. Green's Sons & Company. Upon the death of E. H. Green (1876) the firm became W. K. Green's Son & Company. In 1881 Henry E. Green died, and in 1882 the Green Knitting Company, manufacturers of knit underwear,

was formed, and now operates the large factory at No. 63 to 85 Market street, furnishing employment to 450 workers in the various departments.

The Pioneer Knitting Mills, a large three story brick building at 29 and 31 East Main street, is the outgrowth of a business established by Adam W. Kline and John Maxwell, in 1856. The former, it is said, was the first to engage in the manufacture of knit goods in Amsterdam. His first place of business was at Rockton, but being burned out he came to the village, and in company of his son built a mill on the east side of the Chuctenunda. In 1866, however, the building was destroyed by fire, and the firm erected on the same site a grist-mill, which they operated for a time, but preferring their other business, converted it into the Pioneer Hosiery Mills, later known as the Pioneer Knitting Mills, owned and operated by Harlan P. Kline and Charles Hubbs, the former the son of its founder. The mills are now operated by J. N. Van Antwerp. John Maxwell, above referred to, invented the machinery used by the firm of Maxwell & Kline, and patented it in 1853, and afterward secured other valuable patents on knitting machinery. He also became proprietor of the Amity Knitting Mills.

The McFarlan Mills are the outgrowth of the still older Amsterdam Hosiery Mills, established on Chuctenunda Hill by John McFarlan in 1861, and is therefore one of the oldest industries of the city. The present firm comprises John McFarlan and John H. Giles, the style being McFarlan & Company. They are general manufacturers of knit underwear, and employ in their large four story brick building about 125 operatives.

The Chuctenunda Mills were established in 1864 by James H. Schuyler and Gardiner Blood in a building on Market street. It was erected in 1879 and is four stories high, and affords employment to nearly 200 persons. In 1879 Mr. Schuyler died, and in 1889 John K. Stewart became partner with Mr. Blood under the firm of Blood & Stewart. They manufacture knit shirts, drawers and jackets.

The Clinton Hosiery Mills, located at No. 14 Livingston street, of which O. F. Nelson and J. C. Miller under the firm of Nelson & Miller were for some time proprietors, was founded by Mr. Nelson in 1864.

The products are knit underwear goods. Mr. Miller became partner with Mr. Nelson in 1882, but in 1890 A. V. Morris & Sons succeeded the old firm, and now operate the mills.

The Riverside Mills, of which the firm of Warner, De Forest & Company are proprietors, comprise three large buildings, two of which are in the rear of No. 18 Market street, while the third, known as mill No. 3, is near the railroad. The joint output of these mills is said to equal that of any knit goods firm in the state. This large industry had its origin in the enterprise founded by the firm in 1871 in the old "Furnace" building near the railroad. The first of the three buildings now in use, known as Mill No. 1, was erected in 1875, and in it are employed 140 persons; the second, known as Mill No. 2, standing near No. 1, was built in 1880, and the third in 1883. In Mill No. 2 are employed 150, and in No. 3, 125 persons. The present members of the firm are John Warner, Alonzo A. De Forest, James T. Sugden and James Faulds.

In 1873 the the firm of Phillips, Denton & Loudon began the manufacture of knit goods in the large three-story brick building now occupied by the firm of Thomas & Pettengill. The first change in the partnership was made soon after the business was started, Phillips, Gardiner & Co. being the successors, but in 1877 Gardiner & Thomas succeeded the last mentioned firm. In 1885 W. T. Pettengill formed a partnership with Mr. Thomas and they became sole proprietors. The manufactures of this house are boys' knit underwear, in which more than 100 persons are employed. Under the ownership of Gardiner & Thomas the factory was known as the Mohawk Valley Hosiery Mill, located on Main street (now 130 West Main), near the river.

The Metropolitan Hosiery Mills.—The firm of W. R. McCowatt & Co., manufacturers of scarlet knit underwear, is the outgrowth of the older firm of McCowatt & Nelson, formed in 1878. In 1884 Mr. Nelson was succeeded by L. L. Dean, and the firm was changed to McCowatt & Dean. A year later Thomas Liddle and George B. Stover purchased the Dean interest, Mr. Liddle, however, retiring soon afterwards. Mr. McCowatt died in 1883, but his name is still retained at the head of the firm. Those at present in the firm are the heirs of the McCowatt estate, Gardiner Blood and George B. Stover. Their mills

are located at Nos. 29, 31, 33 and 35 Chuctenunda street, where are employed 100 operatives.

The Clermont Hosiery Mill, Edward McDonnell, manager, was established by its present owner in 1881. It is located on Chuctenunda Hill. Mr. McDonnell is also the manager of the former Globe Hosiery Mills located on the hill, and formerly operated by Clark & Kline, but now reorganized under the name of United Knitting Company.

A. V. Morris & Son, the individual members of which firm are Abram V., Francis and John Morris, began the manufacture of knit underwear in 1881, at No. 7 Chuctenunda street, where they now employ about 150 operatives. In 1887 the firm started another mill at Fort Johnson, where are employed an equal number of hands. Also in 1890 they succeeded the firm of Nelson & Miller, who were formerly proprietors of the Clinton Hosiery Mills.

The Royal Knitting Mills, at the corner of Hamilton and Corey streets, were established in 1886, by W. P. Snyder and Eli Van Brocklin, under the firm name of Snyder & Van Brocklin, manufacturers of fancy knit underwear. Mr. Van Brocklin afterward removed to Northville, and the firm changed to Snyder & Hull, and is now Snyder, Hull & Smith.

The firm of Gardiner & Warring, manufacturers of knit goods at No. 5 Yeoman street, was established in 1886, and in the same year erected the large mill building it now occupies, and known as the West End Knitting Mill. The members of the firm are James B. Gardiner and Charles H. Warring.

The Amsterdam Knitting Company is one of the more recent of these manufactories, having been in operation only a few years. The buildings are on West Main street, where mitten backs are chiefly made. The proprietors are Carl Teyst and Adelbert Pangburn.

The Atlas Knitting Company, successor to Thomas & Pettingill, was formed in 1890 and manufactures knitted shirts and drawers. The proprietors are John H. Giles, Henry Herrick, Frederick Green and John K. Warnick.

The Eagle Knitting Mills have been in operation about four years, under the ownership of Charles C. and Theodore J. Yund and Thomas F. Kennedy, the firm being Yunds & Kennedy. The mills are at the foot of Eagle street.

The Spartan Mills, John and William A. Liddle, proprietors, were put in operation in 1891, and manufacture knitted shirts and drawers, employing 125 persons.

McElwain & Salisbury are also among the more recently formed knitting firms of the city, and their works are at No. 1 Livingston street.

The firm of J. J. Rowe & Son (John J. and Charles Rowe), is among the younger knit goods manufacturers. Their product, however, differs from that of the majority of the knitting mills of the locality, being fine Egyptian and silk goods. Their factory is situated on Center street, and is known as the West Shore Knitting Mill.

The Amsterdam Silk Mill, under the proprietorship of Louis Lichtenheim, is another of the recent industries of the city worthy of mention. The mill is located on Elk street, where are manufactured mitts, gloves and Jersey cloths.

The manufacture of knitted goods of all descriptions indeed is the leading industry of the city, and employs more capital and labor than any other line of manufacture. It has also been the direct means of drawing hither other factories whose product is largely dependent upon the hosiery and knitting mills. We refer to the constantly increasing output of the paper box factories, of which there are three, and the extensive similar works at Rockton and vicinity. Of those in the city, we mention first that of the Inman Manufacturing Company, located at Nos. 51 and 53 Spring street, established in 1879, of which Horace Inman is the proprietor. Another large industry of the same character is the Manufacturers' Paper Box Company, at No. 23 Livingston street, of which John H. Giles is secretary. The firm of Overton & Van Wyck, the members of which are Robert H. Overton and James P. Van Wyck, have also a large box factory at 149 Florida avenue.

At this time also we might properly refer to the manufacture of wall paper, as once among the prominent interests of the locality. In 1866 William Stewart and Daniel Carmichael began the manufacture of straw wrapping paper, but after two years they changed their machinery to enable them to make brown hanging paper. In 1874 this manufacture was discontinued, and thereafter the product of the mill was white hanging, or wall paper. The factory is located on Forest avenue. In 1885 Mr. Carmichael purchased his partner's interest in the business, and

conducted the mills until about three years ago. On account of misfortune the works were closed for a time, but are now again in operation by creditors of the former proprietor.

The manufacture of linseed oil has been one of the prominent industries of Amsterdam for many years; in fact, it is the pioneer among the multitude that has been from time to time established. The business of the present firm of Kellogg & Miller had its inception in the little factory started in the village by Supplina Kellogg in 1824, nearly seventy years ago. He could only make five or six barrels a day, while the present factory makes six thousand gallons in the same time. The extensive works of the present firm includes sixteen large buildings, and they employ one hundred men.

In 1849 Mr. Kellogg, the founder of this enterprise, died and was succeeded in the business by his sons, John and Loren Kellogg. Five years later the last named son died, and James A. Miller took his place in the firm. In 1872 George Kellogg, son of John, became a partner in the firm, and in 1879 Loren, another son, also became interested in the business. The works of the firm are located on Church street opposite Cornell street.

The same year (1852) there was started in Amsterdam a factory for the manufacture of burial caskets, by L. C. Shuler. At a later day the works were enlarged to meet the demands of their products, and the result was the establishment of one of the large industries of the city. The firm of I. C. Shuler was known in local business circles for many years. The Shuler Manufacturing Company, organized in 1888, was the outgrowth of the business established by Isaac C. Shuler. The company manufactures portable earthen sepulcher vaults. Its capital stock is \$50,000.

The firm of Davis W. Shuler & Son are manufacturers of carriage, wagon and truck springs, having extensive buildings on Church street. This business was originally established in 1856 by Shuler, Delamater & Viele, but after a few years the senior member of the present firm became its sole proprietor. In 1880, however, William S. Shuler was made a partner with his father, the firm being Davis W. Shuler & Son. They employ in the several departments of their factory 150 men.

The manufacture of brooms and brushes has for many years occupied a prominent position among the industries of Amsterdam and its local-

ity. Among the early factories of note were those of J. D. Blood & Son, G. W. Bronson and Henry Herrick & Co. The first mentioned firm is still in business, being at present J. D. Blood & Co., the members of which are John D., James and Frank A. Blood, whose factories are located at 25-29 Walnut and 15-19 Washington streets. The later members designated the concern conducted by Henry Herrick and Avery Howard as Henry Herrick & Co. The G. W. Bronson steam broom factory was located on Cedar street.

The firm of Lewis Peek & Co., the members of which are Lewis Peek and Edward J. Hand, was organized in 1885, and in the same year built the factory on Pine street, but the original members of this firm were Mr. Peek and W. C. Noonan.

The first foundry in Amsterdam was established in 1837, by Bell Marcellus, and was purchased in 1842 by H. S. McElwain, the latter continuing the business for many years. The works on Livingston street are now operated by the firm of W. & H. C. McElwain. The other representatives for the iron foundry and machine shop industry in this city at the present time are the Inman Manufacturing Company on Spring street; the Perkins Foundry Company on Bridge street; Smeallie Brothers on Livingston street, and E. Tiffany & Son on Spring street.

Incidental to, but in no manner connected with the iron industries of the city, are the wood workers, which in all their varied branches form an important element of local manufacture. It is difficult, however, to classify them or to ascertain their origin or extent, and we must therefore be content in naming those now in operation. Francis Gilliland's Sons is a leading firm engaged in the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, having also a planing mill at 39 Bridge street. Henry C. Grime has a similar factory on Erie street (5th Ward), as also has the firm of Servoss & De Graff at 288 Florida avenue. L. & G. S. Banta on West Main street, and Charles H. Deal at 52 Divison street carry on shoddy mills.

Societies and Orders—Artisan Lodge No. 84 F. & A. M. was organized in pursuance of a charter granted by the Grand Lodge in 1824, and held its first meeting in the shop of W. N. Chase on the river bank near the foot of Pearl street. The lodge, however, soon afterwards became extinct, and was not revived until 1854, when its original number



Engraving

A. Bronson

was likewise restored. It holds semi-monthly meetings in Masonic Hall, Sanford Homestead Building. The present officers are as follows : Davis S. Dunlap, W. M. ; Thomas Mansfield, S. W. ; Wilbur E. Jenkins, K. W. ; Stephen Messenger, treasurer ; Almartin T. Young, jr., secretary ; Julius W. Kimball, S. D. ; Martin J. Serviss, J. D. ; E. Watson Gardiner, S. M. C. ; Oscar K. Potter, J. M. C. ; Robert N. Clark, chaplain, F. V. Miller, tyler.

Amsterdam Charter No. 81, R. A. M. was chartered March 26, 1866, with nineteen original members, only five of whom are now living. John D. Serviss was the first high priest. The Royal Arch Masons of the city now number 75, and meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in Masonic Hall. The present officers of the Chapter are as follows: George R. Hannon, M. E. H. P. ; W. Max Reid, E. K. ; Herbert Shnttleworth, E. S. ; J. M. Michaelson, G. H. ; Joseph Perkins, P. S. ; M. W. Reid, R. A. C. ; Charles D. Austin, M. 3d V. ; James Nichol, M. 2d V. ; Edward McDonnell, M. 3d V. ; C. Van Buren treasurer ; A. T. Young, jr., secretary ; John K. Warnick, W. R. Vanderveer, A. V. M. Smith, trustees.

Mirsola Grotto, No. 5, M. O. V. P. E. R. of Amsterdam was organized April 1, 1892, having twenty-four charter members. The present officers are Edward J. Perkins, Monarch ; M. J. Serviss, chief justice ; James Nichols, master of ceremonies ; Robert N. Clark, secretary ; George B. Stover, Edward L. Smith, William Kaufman, trustees ; George R. Hannon, orator ; George E. Stevens, alchemist ; Charles A. Lutton, marshal ; Seward Kline, captain of guard ; Fred V. Miller, tyler.

Amsterdam Lodge, No. 184, I. O. O. F. was instituted January 29, 1845, and in 1859 surrendered the charter, but the lodge was revived July 22, 1866, and is now a large organization, having about two hundred and fifty members. The officers are as follows: Frank Thayer, N. G. ; J. F. D. Vedder, V. G. ; James Deal, secretary ; Philip Tompkins, treasurer ; Henry Becker, John Crouse, J. N. Smith, trustees.

Guttenburg Lodge (German), No. 220, I. O. O. F. was instituted in November, 1859, and now has about 90 members. The officers are as follows: Louis Dummer, sen., N. G. ; Frederick Rogge, V. G. ; Louis Dummer, jr., rec. secretary ; Fred Doer, treasurer ; O. Rust, cor. secretary.

Montgomery Lodge, No. 47, I. O. O. F., was instituted January 7, 1887, and has a present membership of about 145. The officers are as follows: Herman Travernick, N. G.; Luman Folinsbee, V. G.; Jacob Brazie, secretary; Charles H. Fifield, treasurer.

Oak Leaf Rebekah Lodge, No. 123, I. O. O. F., was instituted November 22, 1890, and now has a membership of forty-five. The officers are Clara M. Duell, N. G.; Minnie Brazie, V. G.; Edward Murray, rec. secretary; Lydia Fox, financial secretary; Mrs. William Hovey, treasurer; Annie Johnson, Warden; Jacob Brazie, chaplain.

Amsterdam Canton, No. 20, Patriarchs Militant, was mustered into service May 14, 1886, and has a uniformed membership of 36, and an honorary membership of 10. The present officers are as follows: B. F. Olivar, D. D. G. M.; Jacob Brazie, chaplain; Edward J. Murray, lieutenant; David E. Morse, ensign; Walter V. Barber, clerk; Henry Becker, treasurer.

Star Encampment, No. 33, was instituted in November, 1869, and now has about 92 members.

E. S. Young Post, No. 33, G. A. R., was organized April 10, 1875, with 20 charter members. The present officers are as follows: Benjamin Thrackrah, commander; Thomas H. O'Neil, sen. vice-commander; John H. Deal, jun., vice-commander; Charles N. Wells, adjutant; Michael Fitzjames, quartermaster; J. L. Peck, O. of D.; George Brown, O. of G.; William Ryland, chaplain.

Post A. H. Terry, No. 300, G. A. R., was chartered in November, 1890, having 21 original members. The present membership is 54. The officers are as follows: John S. Maxwell, commander; William S. Wood, sen., vice-commander; Henry Deal, jun., vice-commander; Abraham Cass, adjutant; Fred W. Rawdon, quartermaster; George W. Dunham, chaplain; Richard J. Powers, surgeon; Alonzo P. Slocum, officer of the day; Jesse Barnet, officer of the guard.

In addition to the orders and societies, that have been mentioned in this chapter we may appropriately refer briefly to some of the many others of the same class which have been organized in the city. We may further add that Amsterdam has a greater variety and number of social, charitable, and beneficiary societies than many cities even of greater population, so many, indeed, that we can hardly do more than

make a brief allusion to them. We feel constrained, however, to mention the names of some of these societies to show that the compiler desired to assist in any benefit that may be thus derived.

Mohawk Valley Lodge, No. 208, A. O. U. W. ; J. Wicks, P. M. W. ; Kenyetto Tribe, No. 110, I. O. of R. M., A. R. Gardiner, sachem ; Mohawk Assembly, No. 243, R. S. of G. F., W. H. Smith, R. ; Amsterdam Lodge, No. 291, I. O. F. S. of I., Isaac Mark, president.

Knights of Pythias are numerous in this city, their organizations being Chuctenunda Lodge, No. 100 ; Woodbine Lodge, No. 250 ; Berlina Lodge, No. 298, and Austin Division, No. 14, Uniform Rank.

Thersia Council, No. 86, Order of Chosen Friends ; Lodge No. 101, Order of Elks ; Amsterdam Council, No. 1259, Royal Arcanum ; Clan McAlpine No. 60, Scotch Society Order ; The Sons of St. George, The Order of Iron Hall, and the Order of American Mechanics, are also among the society organizations of the city.

The temperance societies are Kimball Lodge, No. 990 ; Star Lodge, No. 860 ; Tent of Rechabites ; St. Mary's Temperance Guild ; Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and Amsterdam Commandery, No. 107, P. F. Y. B. O.

The military organizations are the Forty-sixth Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y., organized July 15, 1877 ; Post Young, No. 33, G. A. R. ; Post A. H. Terry, No. 300, G. A. R. ; Camp A. H. De Graff, No. 18, S. of V. ; Camp W. E. Cross, No. 154, S. of V., and Terry Post, Woman's Relief Corps, G. A. R.

The German literary and musical societies are the Amsterdam Liederkrantz, and Turnverin Fortschritt.

The Roman Catholic religious societies are the Holy Angels' Sodality, St. Aloysius' Sodality, and the Young Ladies' Sodality, each connected with St. Mary's church ; the Altar Society, St. Joseph Benevolent Society, St. Paul's Sodality, St. Stanislaus' Society, and the Young Ladies' Sodality, each connected with St. Joseph's church.

CHAPTER XX.

THE TOWN OF MINDEN.

THIS is the southwest corner town of the county, and lies on the south bank of the Mohawk. Its boundaries are formed by the Mohawk on the north, Canajoharie on the east, Schoharie county on the south and Herkimer on the west. The surface of Minden consists chiefly of an undulating upland with steep declivities bordering upon the streams. Otsquaga creek, which rises in the southwest part of the town, flows in a northeasterly direction, receiving the waters of Otsquene creek (its principal tributary), a mile north of the centre of the town, and emptying into the Mohawk at Fort Plain. Otsquaga is derived from the Mohawk word "Oxsquago," signifying "under the bridge." The other streams of the town are of minor importance and generally flow in an east or northerly direction, also emptying into the Otsquaga. The soil throughout the greater portion of the town is a fine quality of gravelly and clayey loam, and is well adapted to grazing. In dairy products Minden has always been in advance of many of the neighboring towns, and the cultivation of hops has also been an important feature in agricultural pursuits.

Much interest is added to the history of Minden by the fact that it contains the remains of one of those ancient fortifications which are not uncommon in central and western New York, but are rare in the eastern part of the state. They indicate that the country was inhabited long prior to the advent of the Indians, and with the exception of similar remains recently discovered in Ephratah, they are the farthest east thus far discovered even by the geologist. They are situated four miles south of Fort Plain, on a promontory in the Otsquaga valley one hundred feet above the stream, the declivities being almost precipitous. Across this promontory at its narrowest part, is a curved line of breastworks two hundred and forty feet in length, inclosing an area of about seven acres. A gigantic pine, six feet in diameter, stands upon one end of



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the embankment, giving additional proof that the work must have been of great antiquity.¹

Evidence of Indian occupancy, such as arrowheads and domestic implements, are found in almost every part of the town, which is not surprising when one remembers that many of the most atrocious barbarities were committed in this vicinity both during the French war and the revolution. Minden was formed from Canajoharie, March 2, 1798, and at that time included part of Danube (Herkimer county), which was taken off in 1817. The present town, which contains 27,054 acres, including sections of many early patents: Bleecker patent, 675 acres, granted to Rutger and Nicholas Bleecker, August 14, 1730; Bleecker patent, 4,300 acres, granted to Rutger and Nicholas Bleecker, J. Delancey and J. Haskall, September 22, 1729; Glen patent, 6,000 acres, granted to Jacob Glen and others, August 21, 1753; Gunterman tract, 905 acres, granted to Coonradt Gunterman, October 15, 1753; Herkimer patent, 2,324 acres, granted to J. J. and H. Herkimer, April 13, 1752; Lansing patent, 6,000 acres, granted to Jacob Lansing and others, June 23, 1753; Livingston patent, 20,000 acres, granted to Philip Livingston and nineteen others, February 10, 1762; Otsquaga patent, 4,300 acres, granted to Rutger Bleecker and others, September 22, 1729; Otsquaga patent, 1,637 acres, granted to Weiser, Lawyer and Wagener, July 8, 1725; Van Horne patent, 8,000 acres, granted to Abraham Van Horne and three others, November 13, 1731; and the Windecker's patent, 2,000 acres, granted to Hartman Windecker, November 12, 1731.

Minden, like Canajoharie, was settled by Germans, the earliest coming from Schoharie. A majority of these located in a district still called "Dutchtown," the name being derived from the first inhabitants. Some of these hardy pioneers also settled across the river in Palatine, and on both sides their numbers were gradually increased by immigration, until nearly the entire territory bordering on the Mohawk (afterwards termed the "Canajoharie district"), was peopled by German immigrants. This district extended along the river for some twenty miles, including in its western part the former home of General Herkimer. Among these early settlers were the Devendorffs,

¹ Smithsonian Contributions, Vol. II, Art. 6.

Wagners, Moyers, Bellingers, Sprakers, Kellers, and others whose names are still found in the same locality.

Henry Hayse, a German, taught the first school in Minden, the lessons being in the language of the fatherland. Isaac Paris built the first grist-mill prior to the revolution, and William Seeber kept the first store, probably about 1750. As this was more than a quarter of a century after the first white settlement, it will be seen how well qualified those sturdy Germans must have been to procure subsistence in such a wilderness region. A large stone dwelling was erected in Minden in 1738, for the sons of Governor Clark, but it was soon abandoned, having obtained the unfortunate reputation of being haunted, and very early in the present century was given away on condition that it should be demolished.

John Abeel, an Indian trader, settled in the town in 1748. In his previous intercourse with the Indians he had married the daughter of a Seneca chief, the ceremony being after the Indian fashion. A child of this marriage was the famous chief, Cornplanter. Abeel afterward married a white woman, and at the beginning of the revolution was living on his farm. During the invasion of October, 1780, he was taken prisoner by a band of Indians, and, while momentarily expecting death, Cornplanter addressed him as father, thus securing his safety. He was given the liberty of choosing either to accompany the Indians under the protection of his son or to return to his white family. Much credit is due him for choosing the latter, and after hostilities had ceased, Cornplanter visited him, and was received with much hospitality. Cornplanter is described as being of magnificent proportions and manly bearing. He died at his residence in Pennsylvania, March 7, 1836. Stone (in his life of Brant) says that Cornplanter was more than one hundred years old at the time of his death, but Mr. Webster, of Fort Plain (a descendant of John Abeel), has made the statement that the latter did not make his appearance in the Indian country until 1748, and that Cornplanter was born about 1750. If this statement is correct, the chief's age would have been about thirty when he accompanied the expedition that captured his father, and only sixty-four when he died.

The early settlers of Minden suffered many heart-rending cruelties from the savages during the French and Indian war, and some of these

barbarities are almost too horrible for belief. Near the beginning of the French war (probably not far from the year 1755), John Markell, who had married Anna Timmerman, daughter of a pioneer settler at St. Johnsville, located in the western part of Minden. In 1757, only two years afterward, this unfortunate man, together with his wife and child, became the victims of one of those inhuman murders which so often stained the frontier record. Canadian Indians in small parties had often raided the Mohawk country during the war, and on this occasion they attacked the Markells. John and his wife left their house, she carrying in her arms an infant child. After having proceeded a short distance a band of hostile warriors suddenly appeared only a few rods distant and making directly towards them. Markell saw at a glance the danger threatening both himself and family, and knowing that escape was impossible, he exclaimed, "Anna, unsere zeit ist aus" (Anna, our time is up). His words proved sadly true, for in a moment a bullet passed through his body and penetrated his wife. To him the shot proved fatal and both fell to the ground, but Mrs. Markell, though not killed, had the presence of mind to feign death. In an other moment the band of warriors had surrounded them; Markell was quickly tomahawked and scalped and the Indians were preparing to repeat this barbarity upon the prostrate woman, when one of the party spoke a few words in the Indian tongue, construed by Mrs. Markell to mean, "Better knock her on the head." "No," came a reply from another, "squaw's dead now." Then without further controversy the scalping knife was quickly drawn around the unfortunate woman's head, and the Indian, seizing the scalp between his teeth, quickly tore it off. Another one of the bloodthirsty savages snatched the infant from the ground where it lay crying, and with one swing dashed its brains against a tree. Having thus finished their butchery, the savages proceeded on their journey, leaving all of their victims for dead. It does not seem within the scope of human power to enact the role of death so perfectly as this remarkable woman did even through such a soul-trying ordeal. As soon as the murderers were out of sight, Mrs. Markell made her way to a place of safety and was fortunately soon in the hands of friends. She fully recovered, and within a year or two married Christian Getman, of Ephratah, and lived to relate this wonderful escape to

several succeeding generations. Her death occurred in April, 1821, at which time she was supposed to be eighty-five years of age, fixing her birth about the year 1736. According to these dates she would have been twenty-one years old at the time of her terrible experience with the savages. Among her six children, born after her marriage to Christian Getman, was Peter, the oldest son, who was a pensioner of the revolution.

In common with other towns in the Mohawk valley, the settlements in Minden were ravaged by Brant and Johnson in 1870. At the time of Brant's incursion the men were mostly absent, and the women were shut up in the forts for safety. There were several of these forts located near Fort Plain. The fort which gives the place its name was erected on the summit of a hill half a mile northwest of the village. It was probably built under the direction of Colonel Willett and was considered one of the strongest fortifications in the valley. It has been erroneously stated that this fort was built during the French war, by a French engineer. Colonel Willett, however, was its commander several years and undoubtedly directed its construction. At the time of its erection, Lawrence Gross was a boy living near by. He states that the fort received its name "because, from the eminence upon which it stood, there was such a plain or prospective view." Mr. Gross also said that the workmen who had its erection in charge were permitted to name the fort. It was elevated more than fifty feet above the Mohawk and its palisade enclosed about one-third of an acre, with an entrance upon the southeasterly side. In the diagonally opposite corners of this enclosure were erected two small block-houses each containing cannon and projecting far enough to command two sides of the fort. Within a distance of two or three rods, on the side of the hill was a living spring which was a great boon to the garrison. It is not known who was first in command, but Colonel Willett was certainly there during the summer of 1780 and 1781, and then occupied the most eastern of three or four little huts built on the side of the hill below the pickets, and within a short distance of the spring. Their erection was required by the limited amount of room within the palisades, which was far too small to accommodate the tenements which sheltered the families that sought protection.

When the depredations and outrages committed by the Indians and Tories, under the command of Brant, Butler and Johnson, had become so frequent and horrible, it became necessary to increase the accommodations of Fort Plain and also to strengthen its fortifications. It was at this time that the octagonal block-house was erected there, having three stories, each projecting over the one below. In the lower story was a cannon, which was fired to notify the people when danger was at hand. Loopholes dotted its several sides and were used for musketry firing. This block-house, which stood on a knoll some twenty rods southwest of the palisaded enclosure, is believed to be the first of its kind on the early frontier. One writer has confounded this fort with another called "Fort Plank," assuming that they were one and the same. This, however, was not the case, for the latter was a distinct fortification, situated nearly four miles southwest of Fort Plain.

Captain Robert McKean, a partisan officer of acknowledged merit from the Cherry Valley settlement, and who received a fatal wound in the New Dorlach or Sharon battle (in 1780), was brought to Fort Plain on a litter at his own request, but he died in a day or two and was buried near the fort. It has been stated that Captain McKean died and was buried in Freysbush, but the late Lawrence Gross, whose father was also a captain in the Sharon battle, said that he was present at the interment of Captain McKean's remains, and that they were disinterred and buried with military honors, on the brow of the hill, in front of the block-house. This took place directly after the completion of the latter, which is supposed to have been in the spring of 1781. Since the middle of the century a farm road has been made along the crest of the hill, beginning near the site of this historic fort, and the knoll upon which it stood has been considerably leveled by the plow.

Fort Plank, which was another historic place of defence, occupied, as has been stated, a commanding position on elevated ground four miles southwest of Fort Plain and was originally the residence of a respectable German family whose name it bore. A number of the descendants of the Plank family are residents of the Mohawk valley at the present day. The fort comprised a block-house and also a palisade, which surrounded a dwelling known for many years after as the Chauncey House place, and in later years owned by Reuben Failing, and occupied by his son

Joseph. The fortification of the place is said to have been made in 1777, one year after the erection of Forts Plain, Herkimer and Dayton, and it is very probable that a number of soldiers were constantly stationed there during the war. Many families in the adjoining country were compelled to flee to the fort for safety, the signal of danger being the firing of the cannon. An interesting story is told by Jephtha R. Simms, of the pluck of a man who had been captured by the Indians and yet finally escaped and reached Fort Plain in safety. He was taken prisoner in the neighborhood of the fort in 1781, and when night came his savage captors, seven in number, halted in a deserted log tenement. After cooking and eating a scanty supper the Indians ranged themselves on the floor of the cabin and talked of their recent raid, complaining that but little plunder had been secured and but one prisoner. Thus filled with dissatisfaction at their exploits, they resolved to hold a powwow on the following morning, kill and scalp the prisoner and return to the Mohawk where they expected richer booty. All this must have been indeed harrowing to the prisoner, who understood perfectly every word the Indians had uttered.

At length the Indians laid down upon the floor, not, however, until they had securely bound and fastened their captive with cords and also placed him between two of their number. The savages soon appeared to be fast asleep, although the despairing white man, prone upon the ground, in the dimly lighted room, had no means of knowing whether or not some one was serving as sentinel. For him sleep was out of the question and his mind was filled with fevered visions of the approaching torture he was doomed soon to receive. In moving one of his hands about upon the floor, in the midst of his unhappy thoughts, it accidentally touched a piece of broken window glass.

In a moment the way of escape presented itself to his mind. There was no time to meditate upon the risk of being discovered; death in any case seemed to stare him in the face. Firmly grasping the piece of glass he began rapidly drawing its sharp edges across the rope that bound his breast and thighs. Twice he faltered, not knowing whether the keen eye of the foe might not then be fixed upon him. Twice he resumed his efforts to sever the bonds that kept him captive and at last the remaining strand parted and he sat upright and gazed about him.

Not a sound or movement could he hear or see, except the heavy breathing of his sleeping enemies.

He then approached the door and cautiously stepped outside. Being aware of the fact that the Indians had left a watch dog near the entrance, he made a dash and ran across the clear field to the woods some twenty rods distant, not, however, without making his presence known to the dog, which followed close, barking loudly. As the poor fugitive neared the forest the Indians, who had by this time began the pursuit, fired at him. Just then his foot caught in a root and he fell, thereby thus escaping the volley which at that very moment passed over his head. Crawling rapidly into the woods he discovered a hollow log in which he secreted himself, and finally escaped and reached Fort Plain in safety.

Fort Clyde was another palisaded enclosure, which occupied high ground on the farm of Henry H. Nellis, about two miles southeast of the village of Fort Plain. It was probably built in 1777 and received its name from Colonel Clyde, a brave and judicious officer, who came from Cherry Valley and rendered valuable services throughout the war. It is highly probable that General Washington, when on his journey from New York to the frontier posts in 1782, stopped for a short time at Fort Clyde. He went from Fort Plain to Cherry Valley, thus passing this fort on the way. As a reward for valuable services, Colonel Clyde was afterwards appointed sheriff of Montgomery county by Governor Clinton, who acted upon the suggestion of General Washington, that the colonel should be remembered for his valiant services.

Among the other palisaded enclosures, which served as places of safety for defenceless families at that time of peril, was Fort Willett, situated a little more than four miles from Fort Plain, on land owned during later years by William Zimmerman. It was probably completed during the fall of 1780, under the direction of Colonel Willett, who, when the work was finished, rode out with a squad of men to take an inspection of it. Expressing himself as much pleased with the fortification (which comprised a number of huts and two block houses surrounded by a palisade), he said: "You have a nice little fort here; what do you call it?" He was told that as yet it had received no name, and it was suggested that the colonel should select one. "Well" replied

he, "this is one of the nicest little forts on the frontier, and you may call it after me if you please." This suggestion at once met the approval of the local inhabitants who greeted the name of Fort Willett with a cheer.

Situated between Fort Herkimer and Fort Plain, and some seven or eight miles from the latter, was the house of Johannes Windecker, a German and strong friend of the colonists. Early in the war his house was palisaded and called Fort Windecker. Inside the enclosure was also erected a small block-house which was supplied with a signal gun, and in this convenient military post many families sought refuge when the torch and firebrand of the dreaded Brant and Johnson scoured the Schoharie and Mohawk valleys. Thus, during the latter part of the revolution, Minden contained five strongholds of defence, in which were sheltered many of the ancestors of those families which are now so prominent in the same vicinity.

Without entering into the details of border warfare, it seems appropriate to mention the names of a few of the old Minden patriots who were conspicuous for their services in the patriotic cause. Among these were several members of the Bellinger family (Frederick, Christian, Jacob and Peter), the last three captured by the Indians, Jacob and Peter being tomahawked and scalped, while Christian was placed in bondage as a slave and held three years. Castina Bellinger was taken to Canada by Indians when three years old and lived there until grown into womanhood, marrying and raising a family. John Brookman, was carried to Canada by the Indians and while there was compelled to run the gauntlet, while John Dievendorff, escaping after two years captivity, returned home in safety. Henry Dievendorff was shot at Oriskany by an Indian, but was immediately avenged by William Cox, who killed the Indian with a bullet. Jacob Dievendorff did excellent service and was made captain, holding the rank until the close of the war. We also add the names of a few Minden men who passed through some thrilling experiences during the revolution. Among these were George Davis, John Dillenbeck, John Peter Duncker and George, his brother, Major John Eisenlord, Cornelius Flint, Peter Flagg, Henry J. Failing, John Gremps, and his brother Peter, Christian Hufnail, Peter H. House, Samuel Howe, Rudolph Keller, Peter and John Lambert, Adam and John

Lipe, George Lambert, Moses Lowell, Francis Lighthall, Isaac Miller, John Miller, Jacob Matthews, Jacob and Henry Moyer; Nicholas Pace, John Roof, Henry and Peter Sitts, Barbara Schenck, and Mrs. Dr. Frame; Peter Snell, Henry Sanders, Peter and John Snyder, Henry Seeber, Henry Timmerman, Giles Van Vost, Nicholas Van Slyke, Jacob Wagner, Joseph H. Wiles, Henry Waffle, Jacob Walrath, George Youker, Adam, John and Nancy Yorden, Christian Young and Henry Galler.

During these war times the inhabitants could neither establish mills, schools or churches, as all such buildings invited the incursions of the enemy. Hence it is remarkable then that the early settlers engaged in traffic, even to a limited extent. It is found, however, that during the brief peace that intervened between the French war and the revolution, some shrewd traders engaged in bartering with the Indians for furs and skins, and also for ginseng, and not a few of these early traders settled in Minden.

William Seeber, a German, kept the first store of which there is any definite knowledge, in the town. It was located near the Sand Hill church on the place occupied in latter years by Adam Lipe, and was opened about 1750. Seeber was a major of militia and, together with his son Rudolph and Captain Jacob W., fought in the battle of Oriskany, all of them receiving fatal wounds.

After the revolution Isaac Paris was the first merchant in the town. He began trading in 1786 in a large house erected by himself, in which he lived and did business. It was located in Fort Plain, being afterward known as the "Bleecker House," and was built of heavy timber. Paris was engaged in trade on the Mohawk, transporting his wares on boats, and was known as a very fair and honest dealer. In the *Gazetteer* of 1824, Spafford, speaking of the town of Paris, Oneida county, refers to the generous Paris in the following words: "This town was named in honor of a Mr. Paris, at the request of the inhabitants. In 1789, 'the year of scarcity,' which some of us well remember, when the settlements in this quarter were in a feeble, infant state, Isaac Paris, then a merchant in Fort Plain, on the Mohawk, supplied the inhabitants with Virginia corn on a liberal credit, and took in payment, ginseng, and anything he could get, supplying our necessities in

kindest manner, for which in gratitude, when the town was erected, we requested to have it named Paris." Spafford adds, "Traits of this character I love to record."

Conrad Gansevoort, who came to Minden from Schenectady about 1790, was the next merchant in the town. His place of business was a combination store and dwelling which he erected at the foot of Sand Hill, on the farm more recently owned by Seeber Lipe. Gansevoort remained in Minden for nearly twenty years, and then retiring with a competency, returned to his former home in Schenectady. Contemporary with Gansevoort were the three Oothout brothers, Garrett, Jonas and Volkert, who came also from Schenectady and located about a mile and a quarter west of the village of Fort Plain. There on the south side of the river road, they erected a large two story building used jointly as a store and dwelling. One corner of the old structure, which was some thirty feet in length, was undermined by the construction of the canal. Garrett, the oldest of the three brothers, although blind, was remarkably shrewd and could instantly tell the value of a coin by the touch. The firm did a large business for those days, wholesaling some goods to less extensive merchants, and sending large quantities of wheat down the river in boats to Albany. Jonas lived in the store building. He married Maria Fox, and had two daughters, Lydia and Maria. The former married Peter J. Wagner, and is remembered as a most estimable character. Another brother of the Oothouts, Abraham by name, was not engaged in the mercantile trade, but settled near them on a farm.

Robert McFarlan, who came to Minden from Paulet (Vermont), began business a few rods from the Sand Hill Reformed Dutch church, on the opposite side of the road, about 1798. He was a remarkably able business man, and was generally liked and esteemed. He married the daughter of Major House, an influential resident, and this alliance undoubtedly added greatly to his business. His genial ways and gentlemanly bearing gained him an entrance into the society of the period, and he also held the rank of colonel of militia. His name is commemorated on a slab in the old burying-ground of the Sand Hill church, which bears these words: "In memory of Robert McFarlan, Esq., who departed this life July 14, 1813, in the forty-ninth year of his age."

Henry M. Bleecker, a young Albanian, who had served as clerk for Conrad Gansevoort, succeeded to the business about 1808. He died young and David Lipe and Rufus Firman then carried on the Gansevoort store. They are supposed to have been the last merchants to occupy it. Among other merchants who were engaged in trade early in the present century may be mentioned. John Lipe, Abraham Dievendorff, Henry, his brother; John Dygert and John Roth.

To the churches of Minden are unquestionably due much of the social development, and the lessons of the early preachers have influenced the character of later generations. Hence the writer may properly here review the early Minden churches, giving as accurately as possible their location and date.

The earliest church within the present limits of the town, was erected in 1750 and known as the Reformed Dutch church of Canajoharie. It stood on Sand Hill, a short distance above the Abeel place on the Dutchtown road, and was burned during the invasion of Brant in 1780. The first preacher was Rev. Abraham Rosencrantz, who remained eight years, and conducted services entirely in German. Dominie Gros, who was in charge of the congregation at the time the church was destroyed, afterward preached in a barn on the William Lipe farm. This old barn was torn down to give place to a new one in 1859. At the close of the war a much better church was erected on the same site, being also constructed of wood, and services were continued there until about 1816. This church is described as being "graced with a steeple without a bell," and having galleries upon three sides. It was built by Peter March for the sum of one thousand pounds. The death of General Washington was observed in this church in the latter part of December, 1799, with solemn and impressive ceremonies. Among the ministers at this ancient church succeeding Pastor Rosencrantz were Rev. Ludwig Luppe, Rev. Mr. Kennige, Rev. J. F. Preffle, and from 1788 to 1796 Rev. A. Christian Diedrich Peck. In 1796 came the Rev. Daniel Gros, who previous to that time had been a professor of moral philosophy in Columbia College. From 1800 to 1803 this church, together with those at Canajoharie, Stone Arabia and Sharon, were supplied by the Rev. Isaac Labaugh. He was succeeded by Rev. J. I. Wack, a man of surpassing personal appearance, and who had filled the

position of army chaplain during the war of 1812. He remained until 1816, and was "probably the last minister of the old Sand Hill church." In 1834 the society built a church in the village of Fort Plain.

Two churches came into existence in the lower part of the town very early in the present century, their origin being due chiefly to the preaching of John Christopher Wieting, a native of Germany. While attending the university at the age of eighteen, he was pressed into the British service, and afterward made a prisoner at Saratoga. Resolving to become an American citizen, he settled at Greenbush, and later on moved to Minden, where he at once began preaching the doctrine of Martin Luther. As a result of his labors a church was established at "Squawke" (a contraction of Otsquaga), a small hamlet near the source of the creek bearing that name. Within seven or eight miles was another church located at Geissenberg, and dedicated about the year 1706, Rev. Philip Krutz conducting the services. Both churches were under the spiritual guidance of Pastor Wieting until the time of his death, which occurred February 17, 1817, when he was about fifty-eight years of age. With the cessation of the earnest work of Mr. Wieting, the churches became inactive and eventually fell into disuse, and all traces of both structures have long since passed away.

At Fordsbush, in the southwest corner of the town, a Universalist church was organized in 1838 and the house of worship erected soon after was rebuilt and enlarged in 1874, the re-dedicatory services taking place in December of that year. Among the pastors of this church will be remembered John D. Hicks, D. C. Tomlinson, T. L. Harris, Adolphus Skinner, J. H. Harter, A. B. Grosh, O. K. Crosby, G. W. Skinner, T. L. Hathaway, Daniel Ballou, C. C. Richardson, H. H. Baker, W. G. Anderson, A. C. Barry, Q. L. Shinn, O. Cone, R. L. Lansing, E. E. Peck, J. W. Lamoine, James Ballou, and a number of others. The Lutheran church at Fordsbush has also had an active membership. "Mount Hope" Cemetery, at the same place is a picturesque burying-ground and ably managed by an association organized in May, 1862. It contains very many handsome monuments.

At Freysbush, a small village situated on historic ground in the eastern part of the town, and two miles south of Fort Plain, are also two churches, Lutheran and Methodist. The former was organized at the



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house of John Dunkel, June 28, 1834, the nine persons which formed the society at that time taking the name of "The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Freysbush." The first elders were Daniel Ottman, Andrew Roof, and William Reagles. In 1835 the church became connected with the Hartwick Synod, having fifty-five members at the time. In 1837 the church became a member of the Franckean Synod, which was formed that year, and in 1841 a house of worship was erected at a cost of about \$1,000. It has subsequently been enlarged and remodeled, and in 1868 a parsonage was added at a cost of \$2,500. During the first twenty years' existence of the Sunday-school, which was organized in 1841, William Reagles was superintendent.

Methodist services were held at Freysbush as early as 1812, and since 1847 the church has been a separate charge. Prior to the last mentioned date it formed at different times a part of the Otsego, Litchfield, Sharon, and Canajoharie circuits. During the first seventeen years of the society's history, it belonged to the Genesee Conference. In 1829 it entered the Oneida Conference, remaining there for forty years. It became a member of the Central New York Conference in 1869, and from 1873 until 1877 it belonged to the Northern New York Conference. It then became a member of the Troy Conference, to which it still belongs. Rev. George Gary, who among others has filled this pastorate, will be remembered by a few of the older residents as a noble character and a good preacher, one whose memory is held in high esteem. The original house of worship used by this society was the first Methodist church built in the town of Minden.

Passing from the religious history of the rural districts to that of Fort Plain, it now seems suitable to give a view of the organization of the town.

Beginning with the formation of Minden, which took place March 2, 1798, we find that all records pertaining to election of town officers, laying out roads, building bridges and schools, points of deep interest in the early history of a community, have been lost. We are thus prevented from chronicling the useful men who did important service in those early times. The records, however, from 1810 to 1846 and also from 1860 to the present time are complete, which enables us to give a

later list of the supervisors, which is as follows: Richard Van Horne, 1810-15; Felix Green, 1816-17; Isaac Ellwood, 1817-19; Robert Hall, 1820; Isaac Ellwood, 1821; George D. Ferguson, 1822-23; Henry D. Van Camp, 1824-25; Isaac Ellwood, 1826-27; Nathan Soule, 1828-29; Henry Adams, 1830-31; Peter H. Keller, 1832; Daniel C. Ellis, 1833; William Abeel, 1834-35; William A. Haslett, 1836-37; John D. Zolier, 1838-40; James Diefendorf, 1841; John D. Zoller, 1842; John H. Moyer, 1843; William Clark, 1844-46; Simeon Tingué, 1860; Addis Dievendorff, 1861-62; Henry Adams, 1863; James H. Congdon, 1864; Alfred J. Wagner, 1865-68; Jacob Zoller, 1869-72; Solomon Zoller, 1873-74; Peter D. Moyer, 1875-76; John D. Brookman, 1877; Alonzo E. Hall, 1878-80; Michael R. Kelhi, 1881-84; Jacob J. Dievendorff, 1885-87; Adam L. Failing, 1888-89; Henry Wagner, jr., 1890; R. Simon Bulger, 1891-92.

Town clerks during corresponding periods have been as follows: Charles Pomeroy, 1810-13; James Joyce, 1814-15; Isaac Ellwood, 1816-17; George D. Ferguson, 1817; Peter Moyer, 1818-19; Adam Walradt, 1820-22; William H. Burwell, 1823; Peter H. Keller, 1824-26; Abraham Dievendorff, 1827; John Diefendorf, 1828; John Zoller, 1829-31; John H. Moyer, 1832; John Diefendorf, 1833; John D. Zoller, 1834-35; George D. Countryman, 1836-37; Moses Smith, 1838; James Genter, 1839-40; Solomon Smith, 1841-42; Clark L. Charlesworth, 1843; Joel Lipe, 1844-45; Gilbert Warner, 1846; Robert Patten, 1860; Dewitt C. Schults, 1861-62; Rufus Lipe, 1863; Walter Keller, 1864; George S. Dievendorff, 1865; John E. Reid, 1866-67; B. Steuben Hotaling, 1868; Menzo C. Reid, 1869; John P. Grant, 1870-72; Alonzo E. Hall, 1873-74; Albert Diefendorf, 1875; Charles S. Tanner, 1876-77; Charles Beck, 1878; William Yerdon, 1879; Henry G. Martin, 1880-81; William H. Selwood, 1821; Charles E. Ehle, 1883; William H. Selwood, 1884; Charles E. Ehle, 1885; Charles E. Wick, 1886-87; George W. Packard, 1888; William F. Geesler, 1889; Clarence J. Norton, 1890-91; F. A. Martin, 1892.

The present officers of the town are as follows: Supervisor, R. Simon Bulger; town clerk, F. A. Martin; justices of the peace, Harvey Fikes, Daniel N. Place, Irving Moyer, Julius Pickard; assessors, Jacob Zimmerman, Henry Glosser, William Dillenback; auditors, Harvey Wick,

Robert Smith; commissioner of highways, Isaac Zoller; overseer of the poor, George L. Thurwood; collector, Charles Walrath; excise commissioners, Edward Brookman, Rufus Failing, John P. Casler.

The present equalized valuation of real estate of Minden is \$2,549,865; personal estate, \$421,750; on which the total state and county tax for 1881 was \$13,369.40. The town is divided into eighteen school districts, in which were taught 971 school children in 1891, out of a total of 1,206 living in the town. The total number of weeks kept was 639, and the average daily attendance during the year was 605. Twenty-five teachers were employed, the total amount of their salaries aggregating \$8,812.32. The school property in the town, exclusive of libraries, is valued at \$26,555. In the libraries are 971 volumes the total value of which is \$590.

VILLAGE OF FORT PLAIN.

Deep historic interest attaches to the village of Fort Plain, both from the fact of its having received the name of that celebrated military post (built in 1776) within half a mile of which the present village is located, and also owing to the thrilling scenes which it witnessed. Much interest is also centered in the noted officers and heroes of the revolution, who were stationed in that palisaded enclosure. Mention has been made in preceding pages of a large stone house built within the town of Minden during the last century for the sons of Governor Clark. This dwelling was the first one erected upon the site of the village, and at the time it was built (1738) the surrounding forests shrouded the country for miles around in almost impenetrable gloom. Few white men indeed had then traversed the spot now occupied by the busy scenes of Fort Plain. It was in that year that William Johnson, then an obscure young man penetrated the wilderness to take charge of his uncle's lands at Fort Hunter. At such a time George Clark, governor of the colony of New York from 1736 to 1743, hoping to remove his sons from the temptations of the city, built this stately but solitary mansion. It is described as being a two story edifice with a hall passing through the center, on either side of which was a large square room. A broad stairway with white oak banisters and easy steps led to the second story. The stone used in the construction of the house, which had a

frontage of nearly forty feet, and four chimneys of the same material, was taken from the bed of the neighboring creek. The governor established a landing on the river's bank, and it is supposed that frequent trips were made by himself and family, on which occasions visits were made to the distinguished families living along the river, such as the Herkimers, Foxes and Freys. It is also said that Governor Clark brought to his wilderness home a number of goats, and being allowed their liberty they strayed away and after diligent search were found upon an eminence several miles from Fort Plain, which ever after has been known as Geissenberg or goat hill. The Clarks, however, became discontented with their Mohawk home, and after a few years the entire family returned to New York. In 1807 Dr. Joshua Webster and Jonathan Stickney built a tannery on the opposite side of the creek, and used the stone of the old Clark house in its construction. Upon the foundation of the once haunted house Colonel Robert Crouse built the dwelling more recently owned by A. J. Wagner.

Isaac Paris, jr., to whom reference has been made, bought the Clark farm (in 1787) and erected there a dwelling and store. He was the first to engage in mercantile trade in the village, and during the few years that he devoted to the business he became widely known for his integrity and humanity. He died in 1790 at the age of twenty-nine. On the 1st day of October, 1880, after ninety years, his remains were removed from Fort Plain to the town of Paris, Oneida county, where they were reinterred with appropriate honors under the auspices of the Oneida Historical Society. Addresses were delivered on this occasion by C. W. Hutchinson, Lorenzo Rouse, Professor North and others, this tribute being due to his kindness in supplying the settlers with food as has been previously mentioned. In addition to his great generosity and noble character, Paris was of fine personal appearance and the great esteem in which he was held led to his election for several terms to the legislature. The Clark farm passed from Paris into the hands of George Crouse, jr., who paid for it in wheat at eighteen cents per skipple (three pecks), he having been advised to make this purchase by Colonel Willett, who was at that time a member of his household.

Just north of the Crouse place lived Peter Young. The exact location of his residence in 1788 was where the late H. E. Williams after-

ward built his beautiful mansion. Next north of Crouse lived Johannes Lipe. During the revolution he owned the land on which the defences of Fort Plain were erected. The property afterward came into the possession of his son David, and more recently into that of David's son, Seeber Lipe. With the consent of the latter, small marble monuments were, in August, 1882, placed upon the site of the historic structures. One stone designates the site of the original fort erected in 1776, and the other the block-house, built in 1781. The monuments were placed in position by Seeber Lipe, Homer N. Lockwood, Harvey Wick, and Jephtha R. Simms. Present at the time was the late Peter J. Wagner, then in his eighty-eighth year, and who remembered having seen the block-house when a boy.

John Abeel, an Indian trader, and who had spent some time among the Senecas, settled, as has been mentioned, within a short distance of Fort Plain about 1757. He secured several hundred acres of land of one of the grantees of the Bleecker patent, and having erected a stone dwelling upon a knoll directly above the flats, he married, on September 22, 1759, Mary Knouts, a member of one of the prominent German families. His house, together with the early church which stood near it and also the house of William Seeber, was burned in August, 1780, while he himself was an Indian captive. It was at this time that he was recognized by his son, Cornplanter, and liberated. After the war closed Abeel erected another house on the same site.

Cornplanter visited Fort Plain in his native dress about the year 1810, bringing with him several Indians of dignified rank. They were cordially welcomed by the chief's relatives, going first to the house of Joseph Wagner, father of Peter J. Wagner, who was a grandson on the mother's side of John Abeel. The party also visited the house of Nicholas Dygert, whose wife was a sister of Mrs. Wagner, and was richly entertained; and then at the home of Jacob Abeel, living with his widowed mother on the old homestead, the Indians were treated with hospitality. The visit lasted several days and the guests were the central attraction of village society, for Cornplanter was a man of noble bearing, and was decorated with all the native display of costume appropriate to his rank. His father had, at that time, been dead more than a dozen years.

Isaac Soule kept a small tavern in the village in 1804. At that time there were very few buildings of any kind in the place, and in the following year (1805) Joseph Wagner opened a public house which was kept as a hotel until 1850, and was then converted into a private residence. Later on it became the property of Andrew Dunn. The old tavern of Isaac Soule was reopened as a store by John C. Lipe about 1808; it also contained at that time a tailor shop.

Among the very early professional men may be mentioned Dr. Joshua Webster, who came from Scarborough, Me., about 1797, when still a young man. He married Catharine, a daughter of Joseph Wagner, whose father, Peter Wagner, was a lieutenant-colonel during the revolution. Dr. Webster became a resident of Fort Plain in its very early infancy, and passed a long and useful life, filling many important positions in public and society. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1849, at the age of seventy-eight years, he was president of the Fort Plain bank.

Peter J. Wagner, son of Joseph Wagner, was the first settled lawyer in the village. He was a man of marked ability; always prominent in affairs of public interest and anxious for the welfare of his townsmen. He represented Montgomery county in congress in 1839 and 1841, and lived to an advanced age, witnessing the transformation of Fort Plain from a hamlet of less than a dozen houses, to the flourishing village of recent years.

Fort Plain received its first pronounced impetus during the five or six years following the completion of the Erie canal. In 1824 Henry P. Voorhees erected a store on the bank of the creek, in the rear of Lipe's crockery store. In 1826 John D. Diefendorf built one on the berme bank of the canal, and during the same year John Warner built and opened a store where John A. Walrath has more recently conducted business. The justly celebrated historian, Simms, who made the village his home during a great portion of his life, aptly describes the celebration in Fort Plain, upon the completion of "Clinton's Ditch," as the canal was frequently called, and mentions among those who were gathered at the sumptuous dinner in the Wagner House, "several Foxes Grosses, Wagners, Hackneys, Marvin, Ferguson, Adams, Cole, Belding, Mabee, Diefendorfs, Crouses, Lipes, Dygerts, Ellis, Nellises, Abeels,

Seebers, Ver Planks, Washburns, Moyers, Caslers, Clums, Failings, Roof, Furman, Langdon, Warner, Cunning, and others." This list will give the modern reader an idea of many of the family names of Fort Plain in 1825.

What a change, however, in the past three score years! How few of those then living would recognize Fort Plain could they behold its dwellings and places of business of to-day. Possibly no better idea can be conveyed of the gradual but sure growth of the place, than by giving its population at a few stated intervals since its incorporation, April 25, 1832. At that time there were probably not more than 400 inhabitants; in 1860 this number had increased to 1,592, and at present a moderate estimate places the population at 3,000.

For many years, and in fact until the completion of the Albany and Binghamton railroad, Fort Plain was the outlet of trade for a large region of country lying to the south, and this contributed in no small degree to the prosperity of the place. The project of a railroad from Richfield Springs to Fort Plain has been agitated more or less during the past few years, and there are strong evidences at present that it will soon be in operation.

Substantial manufacturing interests always tend toward the prosperity of a community. In this line Fort Plain has been quite favored, offering pleasant and comfortable homes to the working classes, and unsurpassed shipping facilities for the manufacturers, of whom we shall have more to say later on in this work.

The first two years' record of corporate existence of Fort Plain is missing. The trustees, in 1834, were Henry Adams, Daniel Cooler, Daniel F. Curtis, Adam A. Nestle and William A. Haslett. Andrew Zimmerman was clerk, and Chester L. Simms treasurer. Among those who served as trustees from 1840 down until the middle of the century and later, will be remembered Simeon Tingue, Solomon Norton, Nathan Davis, William E. Bleecker, Jacob B. Flint, John H. Moyer, Barney Becker, Gilbert Warner, James Alpin, Daniel Gros, John Darrow, William C. Noxon, John L. Switz, Josiah Plank, William Crouse, Nicholas A. Van Alstine and Solomon Smith. The present officers are: President, John A. Roof; trustees, Thomas Williams, David Ostrom, H. S. Wemple and Ferd. Smith; treasurer, Edwin C. Norton; clerk, James A. Wendell; collector, John Carl.

The present efficient water works were built in 1885.

Fort Plain Church History.—A review of the old Sand Hill church has been presented to the reader on preceding pages, and we now proceed to the Methodist Society. It was first organized as a class June 24, 1832, at which time Rev. Jonas Diefendorf and Rev. Eleazur Whipple, two preachers belonging to the Canajoharie circuit, and Rev. George Harmon (presiding elder), gathered thirteen members together, among whom were Solomon Countryman, the leader, and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wendell, and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Davis. Three years later, September, 1835, the class had increased to thirty members, and Peter A. Brumfield was leader. The society received the services of several preachers on the Canajoharie circuit, being at one time a part of that charge, and at another that of Palatine Bridge. In 1844 it became a separate charge, with a resident pastor. Among the pastors who officiated during the society's early history will be remembered such well known preachers of that day as James Kelsey, Abraham Diefendorf, James P. Backus, Isaac Grant, Edwin Dennison and John Padham. During the interval between 1839 and 1852 Cyrus Meeker, Clark Fuller, Thomas Armitage, Hiram Chase and others officiated. In 1852 the charge was transferred from the Troy to the Oneida Conference, but again returned to the former in 1860. Among the pastors who came subsequent to 1852 may be mentioned Robert Fox, J. T. Wright, Selah Stocking, Homer Eaton, Bostwick Hawley, T. Dwight Walker, William Ryan, I. C. Fenton, and others. The present pastor is Rev. E. H. Brown, having been appointed to the charge in April, 1892. Services were at first held occasionally in the Sand Hill church, and later on in dwellings and also in a brick building at the corner of Canal and Main streets. The district school-house was afterward occupied by the society prior to 1842. The first regular house of worship was dedicated February 20, 1845, and was enlarged and rededicated in 1854. The present beautiful structure was built in 1880.

Universalist Church.—A number of persons professing this doctrine first organized themselves into a religious body in Fort Plain April 6, 1833, under the name of the Universalist Society of Minden. The trustees elected were Jacob Hand, Daniel Gros, John Lighthall, Henry Cook and Henry S. Moyer. Solomon Sanders was clerk and Jacob Hand treasurer. Steps were at once taken toward build-

ing a house of worship, which was finished and dedicated December 25th of the same year. It has since then been twice remodeled, once in 1855 and again in 1874, on December 30th of which year re-dedication services were held. Among the early pastors of the society may be mentioned Job Potter, Jesse Bushnell, L. C. Browne, J. D. Hicks, H. B. Soule, A. C. Barry, H. L. Hayward, G. W. Gage, A. B. Grosh, C. E. Hews, H. H. Baker, Adolphus Skinner, B. L. Bennett, E. W. Fuller, and a few others. The present pastor is Rev. E. A. Perry.

The Reformed Church of Fort Plain.—This society originally worshiped in the old church on Sand Hill, as stated elsewhere. In 1834, the village having attained considerable size, it was deemed advisable to remove the place of worship thither, and accordingly a church was erected within its limits. Just as the building was finished it unfortunately took fire from a defective stove-pipe and was destroyed. Another house of worship was built of brick in its stead the following year, and in 1871 this was enlarged and remodeled at a cost of \$13,000. Among the pastors who have officiated since the congregation has been located at Fort Plain, may be mentioned N. Bogardus, Arthur Burtis, John Page Pepper, S. Van Vechten, C. G. McLean, M. L. Schenck, J. G. Hall, G. D. Consaul, W. Whittaker, Alexander B. Briggs, Samuel J. Rogers, and others. The present pastor is Rev. E. A. McCullum. The present brick church, which was built in 1887, is an ornament to the village.

Lutheran Church.—The Lutherans of Fort Plain, first held meetings in 1842 at private houses. On these occasions the Rev. G. Saul, a visiting clergyman, officiated. The society first erected a church in 1853, at which time Rev. Mr. Roll was pastor. Since then their pulpit has been filled by a number of able clergymen, among whom is the present pastor, Theodore Krug. The church now occupied was built in 1874.

The Baptist Society.—Organized the present year (1892), is holding services in the Shinaman block, pending the erection of a house of worship. Their pastor is W. E. Darrow, a graduate of Hamilton College.

The Protestant Episcopal church is located on Prospect Hill, and has about seventy communicants. The pastor is Rev. Clarence E. Ball, of Canajoharie.

St. James Roman Catholic church is under the spiritual guidance of Rev. J. Bloomer, of Canajoharie.

The Clinton Liberal and Military Institute, first known as the Fort Plain Seminary and Collegiate Institute, was erected by a stock company, with a capital of \$32,000, in 1853, and is one of the best educational institutions in the state. It was chartered by the Regents of the University October 20th of the same year, the late Peter J. Wagner being the first president of the board of trustees. Rev. Alonzo Flack was the lessee of the institution, and Principal Rev. Joseph E. King and Preceptress Miss Angelina Ensign, with thirteen additional teachers, formed its first corps of education. The first scholastic year of the school began auspiciously November 7, 1853, with 515 students. The vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor King was filled November 9, 1854, by Rev. James E. Latimer. Among the prominent principals and instructors of this institution of learning will be remembered such well known educators as W. H. Bannister, Charles W. Bennett, Benjamin I. Diefendorf and Rev. Abraham Mattice. The present principal is Charles V. Parsell, and there are now about 155 students. The institute is conducted by the Universalists. Excellent judgment was exhibited in selecting an elevated site for the building, affording pure air and good drainage, two features of vital importance in educational structures.

The Press.—Fort Plain is honored by its record in journalism, for though it was marked by difficulties, its tone has always been elevated. In 1827 S. N. S. Grant started the *Fort Plain Watch Tower*, and continued it until 1829, when it came into the hands of John Calhoun, and in 1830 editor Platt took it and changed the name to the *Fort Plain Sentinel*, but it soon proved a failure.

The *Fort Plain Gazette*, first issued in 1834 by Henry L. Gross, was continued by him until 1836. The *Fort Plain Journal* first saw the light in 1836 under the direction of E. W. Gill, who, with his successors, among whom were William L. Fish, Levi S. Backus (a deaf mute), and Wendell & Sansell, published the paper until 1855, when it was changed to the *Mohawk Valley Register*. During the last named year Sansell sold his interest to D. S. Kellogg, and he in 1856 sold to C. W. Webster. Webster & Wendell were the publishers until May 12, 1859,

when Mr. Wendell retired and was succeeded by a series of owners during the ensuing five or six years. Angell Matthewson secured an interest in the paper in 1860, and the firm of Webster & Matthewson issued it until July, 1865, when the former retired, leaving the enterprise in a flourishing condition. Mr. Matthewson sold the plant in 1868 to Elliott & Bowen, and the former parted with his interest in 1872 to Charles Bowen. The paper was purchased in March, 1876, by Horace L. Greene, who conducted it until his death, in October, 1891. The paper is now owned by his heirs, and is managed by his son, Nelson B. Greene.

The *Fort Plain Free Press*, a weekly Republican journal, was first issued April 8, 1884, by A. L. and H. C. Diefendorf. The present publisher is Harvey C. Diefendorf. The paper is issued every Tuesday.

The *Fort Plain Standard*, Democratic in politics, was started in February, 1876, by W. A. and Fred Haessel. The present publisher is George O'Connor, jr.

The *Tocsin* was a paper of short life, and was published by H. Link.

The *Lutheran Herald*, a semi-monthly, was published in 1839, by W. L. Fish, being edited by Rev. J. D. Lawyer.

Banks.—The Fort Plain Bank, organized December 25, 1838, with a capital of \$100,000, was the first institution of its kind in the village. The first directors were Joshua Webster, J. Reid, Robert Hall, Nicholas Moyer, P. J. Wagner, William A. Haslett, John D. Diefendorff, Daniel Moyer, J. D. Zoller, Jacob Abeel, J. H. Moyer, Adam A. Nestle, H. Adams, J. Cady and Jacob Sanders. In February, 1839, Joshua Webster was elected president, and Peter F. Bellinger, cashier, the former holding his position until his death. J. H. Moyer succeeded him, and in January, 1854, when the capital was increased to \$150,000, William A. Haslett was elected president. Among the cashiers were J. C. Dann, I. C. Babcock and J. S. Shearer, the latter holding that office when, in May, 1864, the institution was reorganized as the National Fort Plain Bank, with a capital of \$200,000. Beginning business in September of that year, Mr. Haslett was president at the time, and J. D. Dievendorff, vice-president. The former died in October, 1874, and was succeeded by E. A. Wood. In 1883 the charter of the bank expired, and the Fort Plain National Bank was then organized, with a

capital of \$200,000, and a surplus of \$200,000. The present officers are, Edwin W. Wood, president; Andrew Dunn, vice-president; Frederick S. Haslett, cashier; Irving Knowlton, assistant cashier.

The Farmers' and Mechanic's Bank of Fort Plain was organized in 1887, and has a capital of \$50,000, and a surplus of \$50,000. The institution is at present remodeling and enlarging the old Lipe house on Canal street, and will soon have the handsomest and most commodious banking quarters in the village. The present officers are: John A. Zoller, president; Lester Getman, vice-president; Stafford Moser, cashier.

Masonic.—Fort Plain Lodge No. 433, F. and A. M., was organized August 20, 1857, and received its charter June 17, 1858, working under dispensation in the mean time. The first officers were Peter Snyder, W. M.; George Yost, S. W.; David Hackney, J. W.; F. Dievendorf, secretary; A. Dievendorf, treasurer; C. L. Sims, deacon; L. Hester, J. D., and J. Smith, tyler. The lodge at present contains 209 master masons. The present officers are: H. Seymour Wemple, W. M.; Joseph Duncan, S. W.; Joseph B. Tiffany, J. W.; John A. Roof, treasurer; Emill Rebell, secretary; Worthington S. Farley, jr., S. D.; John H. Parke, J. D.; Rev. E. A. Perry, chaplain; John M. Yorden, S. M. C.; William A. Tadlock, J. M. C.; Henry Crane, tyler, and David G. Hackney, marshal.

Among Fort Plain manufacturing and industrial interests may be mentioned the following:

The Fort Plain Spring and Axle Company, operated by Wood, Smith & Company, who are the largest manufacturers of both springs and axles in the world, employing upwards of 200 men.

The Fort Plain Hosiery Mills, operated by Dunn, Smith & Company, employing 200 or more men.

The Zoller Lumber Company, manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds, which are shipped largely to all parts of the United States, employing fifty to seventy-five men.

The Fort Plain Furniture Company, of which J. K. Edwards is president, and Adam Hicks, manager, manufacturers of furniture, finding a market in all parts of the United States.

B. H. and E. E. Elwood, manufacturers of silk dress goods, employing 125 or more men.

Duffy Brothers, managers of a new silk warp mill, now in process of erection, which will employ fifty to seventy-five men.

The Orange County Milk Association, manufacturers of condensed milk, which is shipped in cans to all climates.

The tannery of John Winning, on North Canal street, employing fifteen men or more, and a number of other establishments of varied character.

CHAPTER XXI.

THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE.

THIS town lies on the south bank of the Mohawk. Its eastern boundary is formed by the town of Root; its southern by Schoharie county, and its western by Minden. The surface consists of the intervalle of Canajoharie or Bowman's creek, and undulating uplands 200 to 600 feet above the valley of the Mohawk. The above mentioned creek, which flows from the southwestern part of the town almost directly east until it reaches the little hamlet of Waterville, whence it takes a northerly turn and flows in a ziz-zag course to its mouth at the village of Canajoharie, is the principal waterway of the town. The soil is a gravelly loam, derived from the disintegration of the underlying slate, in some places intermixed with clay. It easily yields to cultivation and repays the labor of the agriculturist. Canajoharie, indeed, has been noted since its earliest settlement for its rich and valuable farms.

On the 24th of March, 1772, Tryon county was divided into five districts designated by the following names: Mohawk, Stone Arabia, Canajoharie, Kingsland and German Flats. In that division the boundaries of the third, or Canajoharie district were made to include all the territory south of the Mohawk extending as far as the bounds of the county, and from a line running north and south, crossing the river at Anthony's Nose, and extending west to Little Falls.

On March 7, 1788, the original Canajoharie district was formed into a town bearing the same name. Cherry Valley was formed from it in

1791; Minden in 1798; a part of Root in 1823, and another addition to Minden in 1849. This reduced the town to its present area, 23,892½ acres.

The principle grants of land in this town were the Canajoharie tract of 12,450 acres, granted to Lewis Morris and five others, June 20, 1723; the Bradt patent of 3,200 acres, granted to Arent Bradt and Philip Livingston, February 13, 1733; Bagley's patent, of 4,000 acres, granted to Timothy Bagley and C. Williams, June 17, 1737; also a number of others, among which were two Colden patents, and the Cosby, Dick, Lyne and Morris patents, of 2,000 acres each.

Long before any white settler had camped on the shores of the Mohawk, the aboriginal name, Canajoharie, was applied by the Indians to the country lying south of that historic river, and also to the smaller stream that empties into the Mohawk at the present village of Canajoharie. The English interpretation of the word is "the pot that washes itself," and its significance is due to a strange work of nature to be seen in the bed of the creek about three quarters of a mile from its mouth, where falling water and pebbles, in ages gone by, have rounded out a hole in the solid slate rock twenty feet in diameter. The exact depth of the hole is unknown, but it generally contains ten feet of water, below which small stones and other debris are found. Nearly a quarter of a mile above this phenomenal well is a beautiful cascade. The conclusion arrived at by those who have studied this matter is that at one time this cascade was directly over the hole, and that the action of water during the centuries that have since elapsed has worn the face of the falls back to their present distance. Thus through this interesting natural curiosity we obtain the Indian word "Canajoharie," which has been appropriately given to the creek as well as the falls, and also to the town and attractive village.

The names of the first settlers have not been preserved, which unfortunately gives too much room for conjecture. It is very probable that many came from Schoharie and located in this part of the town contemporarily with the pioneers of Minden. A portion of the rich lands was under cultivation by the Indians at the time the whites first came up the river, especially the islands a mile and a half above and below the mouth of the creek, on which corn, beans, squashes and tobacco

were growing. The early traders who came into the valley to exchange merchandise for furs, found large numbers of apple trees on the hillsides above and below Canajoharie creek, but the trees appeared to have been set out irregularly and without that order found in modern orchards.

Among the fortified dwellings that were utilized as places of defence during the revolution and designated as forts, was the old Van Alstyne house, which stands on the east side of the creek and was once defended by a palisade. It was known as "Fort Rensselaer," but there is nothing to indicate that General Van Rensselaer ever stopped there. The old house later on came into the possession of John H. Moyer, and is mentioned at length by the historian Simms.

Fort Ehle, a mile or more south of Canajoharie, was the palisaded dwelling of John Ehle. Within a short distance of this military post a detachment of the enemy under Brant, in 1780 or '81, surprised and killed Adam Eights, and captured Nathan Foster and Conrad Fritcher, the last mentioned two being taken to Canada. A mile west of Fort Rensselaer was the stone dwelling of Henry N. Failing, erected by his father, Nicholas. It was strongly built and the windows and doors were fortified with bullet proof oak plank, and along its southerly side facing the hill, a staging was erected to which access was gained from second story windows. This staging, with an oak floor, was enclosed with plank to the height of a man's breast, thus affording protection to those who were stationed behind it. It was called Fort Failing, and never being invaded or molested by the enemy it remained intact until 1833, when it accidentally caught fire and was totally burned. The house was occupied after the war by Rev. John Daniel Gros, a pioneer clergyman, who subsequently exchanged it to Colonel Henry Frey for property in Freysbush, where the former built a commodious brick mansion, in which he lived for a number of years and died there in 1812. Colonel Frey moved into the Failing place, adjacent to which he owned a farm of 200 acres, his entire possessions south and west of the site of Canajoharie village being 3,200 acres. Freysbush, which until 1849 belonged to the town of Canajoharie, was named after him. His tory sympathies have been alluded to in connection with the history of Palatine, in which town the first of the family located. Colonel Frey died in the old Failing house at an advanced age.

An early settler of Canajoharie was Johannes Roof, who located on the site of the village in 1777 or '78. Prior to that time, however, he lived at Fort Stanwix (now Rome), his residence at the latter place having begun in 1760, but the increasing danger of invasion led him to come farther east. He purchased a farm in Canajoharie upon which Henry Schremling, one of the pioneers of the town, had erected a stone dwelling. It stood directly back of the old Eldredge or Lovett house and was demolished in 1840.

During the revolution Goshen (or Gose) Van Alstine lived near the village of Canajoharie and at his house, on June 11, 1775, the ninth meeting of the county committee of safety was held. It consisted of twenty-seven delegates; ten from Palatine; seven from Mohawk; five from Canajoharie and five from Kingsland and German Flats. It was at that meeting that Christopher P. Yates and John Marlatt, the former of whom was chairman of the committee, were chosen as delegates to represent Tryon county in the provincial congress. The fourteenth meeting of the committee was also held at Van Alstine's house and a very important meeting it proved. Nicholas Herkimer, afterwards general, was chairman, and Mr. Eisenlord, clerk. The dangerous condition of the exposed inhabitants at Fort Stanwix and other settlements in the valley was discussed, and resolutions adopted that the state of affairs should be communicated to Schenectady, with the suggestion that 100 men be sent from that city to their aid. Thus were the ominous clouds of battle rising over the beautiful valley which is now so peaceful and prosperous. It is not, however, our intention to here review the struggles of the revolution, a special chapter having been devoted to that subject in the early part of the work.

Gose Van Alstine is distinguished as having erected the first grist-mill on Canajoharie creek. It was a wooden building and stood on the east bank a short distance below the falls, and was probably built about 1760. It subsequently came into the possession of Van Alstine's sons, Captain Martin G., and Philip. The old mill was burned about the year 1814 or '15.

In 1817 George Goertner and Henry Lieber, his son-in-law, having purchased the old water privilege and mill site, erected a stone mill fifteen or twenty rods below the site of the Van Alstine mill, and at the

same time built a substantial stone dam across the creek. Adjacent to this they subsequently erected a saw-mill, a distillery, a fulling-mill and a carding machine, and for a number of years a large business was transacted, as they had the patronage of Palatine, Root and Charleston. Upon the death of Mr. Lieber, about 1838, he having previously bought his partner's interest, the mills became the property of Uriah Wood, during whose possession they were destroyed by fire and were never rebuilt.

The second grist-mill on the Canajoharie was built about 1770 by Colonel Henry Frey, who also constructed an adjacent stone dwelling. It was about a mile from the mouth of the stream and probably forty rods from the Van Alstine mill, the miller in charge being an Irishman. This mill, together with 750 acres of excellent land, came into the possession of Henry Frey Cox, by deed of gift from his grandfather, dated May 4, 1812. Upon this land was a heavy growth of timber, which John A. Ehle, who built a store-house, saw-mill and dry dock below Canajoharie village upon the completion of the canal, cut, sawed up, and shipped to tide water, on boats of his own construction. Ehle employed a large number of men for several years. The old stone house belonging to the grist-mill property was occupied for a time by Dr. Sherman, while John Lieber conducted the grist-mill and adjoining distillery. After passing through the hands of several owners the property was purchased in 1828 by Harvey St. John, who, with his partner, Nicholas C. Van Alstine, bought the majority of wheat raised in the surrounding towns and milled flour for the New York market. The firm went into liquidation, however, and after a number of adventurers had speculated with the mills, in vain attempts to establish paying business, the property was burned to the ground January 8, 1849. Eight days later the miller's house was also destroyed in a similar manner.

The names of the earliest merchants in Canajoharie, like those of its earliest settlers, are unknown. William Beekman is believed to have been the first merchant in town after the close of the war. He was born on the ocean when his father's family was emigrating from Holland to the vicinity of Albany. He established himself in business near the Martin Van Alstine ferry, about one mile east of Canajoharie village,

and for a time was associated with George Best. He began trade there about 1788, and married Joanna, the daughter of Nicholas Lowe, of Warren, then called "Little Lakes." Upon the organization of Schoharie county in 1795, Mr. Beekman went to Sharon, where he continued the mercantile business. He received the appointment of first judge of the Court of Common Pleas, creditably fulfilling its duties during a period of forty years. Judge Beekman died November 26th, 1845, aged seventy-eight years.

About 1790 the Kane brothers, John, Elisha, Charles, Elias, Oliver, James and Archibald, came to Canajoharie and established themselves in trade, opening their first store in the old Van Alstine stone dwelling which was then probably forty years old. John, James and Archibald were the only ones known in the business, and they soon erected a stone dwelling with an arched roof a short distance from Van Alstine's ferry. There they continued in business until 1805 or 1806, annually increasing their trade, which grew to large proportions and included the shipping of their goods to and from Schenectady by boats. To facilitate this commerce the Kanes cut a canal across the flats from their place to the river. In connection with this remarkable family of brothers we are obliged to recall a duel in which one of them bore a part.

Soon after the departure of William Beekman, Barent Roseboom & Brothers (John and Abram) occupied a store on the east side of the creek in Canajoharie, the location being a short distance from the stone dwelling erected by the late Thomas B. Mitchell. Later on Philip Van Alstine became the sole partner of Barent Roseboom and the business was transferred to the old Beekman place near the ferry. They were thus brought into close competition with the Kane Brothers, but were often seen at the latter's dwelling. At that time card playing and whisky drinking were favorite amusements among the inhabitants, and in one of these games where the stakes ran high, Henry F. Cox became indebted to Archibald Kane for \$100, and the latter became indebted to Roseboom for the same amount. Kane proposed to Roseboom that he should look to Cox for his pay, which he promptly refused to do. A challenge grew out of the quarrel that followed, and resulted in a duel with pistols, which took place on the morning of April 18, 1801. Upon the signal being given to fire, Rose-

boom did so, and at that instant Kane's arm dropped helpless to his side, having received a bad flesh wound. As he had previously lost his left hand, the shot practically disabled him and the combatants were separated and reconciled. The affair created a sensation on both sides of the river and was for a long time the absorbing topic of conversation.

The Kane brothers subsequently became widely separated, John going to New York; Elias to Albany, whither he was followed by James, Elisha to Philadelphia, Oliver to Rhode Island, Charles to Glens Falls, and Archibald to Hayti. James, the book-keeper of the firm, who was highly respected in Albany, died there about 1847, an octogenarian.

Before taking up the manifold interests and industries of Canajoharie village as a separate part of this chapter, it seems appropriate to here mention the several minor villages and settlements in the town, which contribute in no small measure to its importance.

Buel, a small village situated in the southern part of the town, was first settled by John Bowman, who went thither about 1760 and purchased a large tract of land about the head waters of the stream which for nearly forty years was known as "Bowman's Creek." In fact the settlement now called "Buel," and a great share of the southern portion of the town was known as "Bowman's Creek." Among the other early settlers there were Benjamin Button, a blacksmith; Peter Walrath, Benoni Bullock (a close communion Baptist preacher), Michael Hickey, Frederick Weller, Adolph Walrath, Richard Horning, Cornelius Flint, James Smith, Noah Dodge (justice of the peace), James Adsit, Daniel McDonald, Asa Kimball, Adam Brown, Peter Brown (a merchant), Dr. Conklin, William Bartlett and John Secber, the latter one of the first inn keepers. The post-office at Buel was established about 1830, but the name of the first postmaster is not remembered. The present incumbent is Charles R. Lane. In 1823 the Central Asylum for the instruction of the deaf and dumb was established near Buel, its course of instruction being modeled after that at Hartford, Conn.; but in 1836 it was united with a similar institution previously established in New York. Prof. O. W. Morris was its last principal. The settlement was named in honor of Jesse Buel, of Albany, at one time prominent in state agricultural circles.

Ames, a small village located in the same valley, two miles or more east of Buel, was named in honor of Fisher Ames. The claim is made that a man named Taylor settled within half a mile of the present village at a very early day, and that he was the first settler within the limits of the present town of Canajoharie. It is asserted that he cleared thirty-five acres of land, planted apple trees and built a small dwelling house of logs, but was compelled to relinquish his holdings when other settlers began to come in for want of a title to the land. He will be more readily remembered by some of the older residents from the fact of his having a partially demented son, named Harry Taylor, who wandered about the community bareheaded, carrying a bundle attached to which were two or three hats.

In 1794 a Free Will Baptist church was organized at a point several miles west of Ames, and in 1796 this society was moved to the latter place, where some of its members resided, including the pastor, Elder George Elliott. The original members of this early religious organization were Rufus Morris, William Hubbs, Jesse Benjamin, Philip Bonsteci, Ray Gules, Nathan Richmond, Peter Frederick, Samuel Baley, Stephen Smith, Ephraim Elmer, Jonathan Elliott, Rufus Elliott, Jonah Phelps, Henry Rowland, Thomas Tallman, Benjamin Treadway, Jonathan Parks, and a large number of others, including fifty-four females. The first church was erected about a mile east of the village, being replaced in 1832 by another which was located at Ames. The society was then reorganized as the "Ames Free Baptist church," with Jeremiah R. Slark, John Bennett, Luther Taylor, Simon D. Kittle, Willard R. Wheeler and Lawrence Beach as trustees. Among the ministers of this church who succeeded Mr. Elliott will be remembered Thomas Tallman, David R. McElfresh, O. F. Moulton, Phips W. Lake, G. P. Ramsey, William H. Waldrose, J. M. Crandall, A. S. Mathews and a number of others, including the present pastor.

Russel & Mills began business at Ames about the year 1800 and were the first merchants in the place. Among other early settlers there the names of a few of the more prominent ones will be recognized. Thus we recall Dr. Simeon Marcy and his brother-in-law, Joseph Jessup; Rufus and Charles Morris, Judge Phineas Randall, father of Alexander Randall, at one time governor of Wisconsin; Ira Beach, an inn-keeper;

Frederick Mills, William and Squire Hills, brothers; Abial Bingham, Seth Wetmore, who was elected sheriff in 1821, the first to fill that office in Montgomery county after the revision of the constitution; Abram, Isaac and Jacob Hodge, three brothers; Gen. John Keyes, father of Zach. Keyes, for many years an inn-keeper at Sharon; Ebenezer Hibbard; John Russel, George Mills, who operated a large tannery; Charles Powell, Reuben Hodge and a number of others including a family of whites. The early settlers in and around Ames differed from the pioneers locating on the river, in as much as they came mostly from New England, while the latter were of German extraction. Among the first industries of this part of the town were a grist-mill, a saw-mill and a wheelright's shop, all of which were set in operation about 1797. Still later a pottery and nail factory were built and conducted for a few years. The present postmaster at Ames is Milton Countryman. Among his predecessors in office the names of Edward Clark, De Witt Wells, William H. Hodge, Loring H. Tiffany and W. R. Wheeler may be mentioned.

Mapletown is a small village in the southeastern part of the town, distant from Canajoharie village about four miles. The name of this place was suggested from the large number of sugar maples which were found there and allowed to remain by the early settlers. Jacob Ehle, and Jacob Knox, his brother-in-law, located at this place as early as 1791, the former building his house on the old Indian trail from Canajoharie to New Dorlach. They paid \$2.62½ per acre for their land. Mr. Knox was supervisor of his town for a number of years, and also a justice of the peace, being well liked generally and averse to receiving remuneration for his public duties. His eldest son, the late General John Jay Knox, of Augusta, Oneida county, was prominently known throughout the state. Other early settlers at Mapletown were John St. John, Philander Barnes, Wessel Cornue, John Sweatman (a tanner and shoemaker), John Perrigs and Elisha Payton. Very early in the present century a reformed church was built there, Dominic Toll being among its first pastors.

Marshville, situated on Canajoharie creek, near the center of the town, is a hamlet. One of the Seeber family built a large saw mill at this place at an early date, the property subsequently coming into the pos-

session of Stephen and Henry Garlock, who operated the mill for a number of years. Among the early residents of the place was Joe Carley, an expert blacksmith, who gained some little celebrity after the war of 1812, by issuing shimplasters under the name of the "Muttonville Bank," signed by "Joe Carley, president," and "payable in good merchantable mutton." The present postmaster at Marshville is C. Van Alstine.

Sprout Brook, is a small hamlet and post-office in the southwestern part of the town. The history of its settlement is contemporary with that of Buel and the Bowman's creek district. The present postmaster is H. A. Van Dusen.

Population.—The population of Canajoharie (town and village) during the following named years will be of interest. In 1825 the town contained 3,664 inhabitants; 1830, 4,348; 1835, 4,671; 1840, 5,146; 1845, 4,988; 1850, 4,097; 1855, 4,022; 1860, 4,134; 1865, 4,248; 1870, 4,256; 1875, 4,241; 1880, 4,294; 1890, 4,267.

Schools.—The first school within the limits of the present town stood on Seeber's lane, on the north line of the Goertner farm, one mile and a half southwest of Canajoharie village. When the common school system was adopted this old house was known as district "No. 1 in and for the town of Canajoharie." The town is now divided into fourteen school districts, in which there is a population of 1,149 children of school age. Of these 831 are attending school, the daily average being 517. Twenty-three teachers are employed, their aggregate salaries for 1891 amounting to \$8,418.27. The school libraries contain 1,879 volumes, the total value of which is \$1,138. The sites and school-houses are valued at \$18,310. The total equalized valuation of real and personal estate in the town for the year 1891 was \$2,203,139.

Civil Organization.—The town records were destroyed by fire in 1849, which makes it impossible to give a correct list of the officers during the preceding half century. The supervisors of the town from 1850 to the present time have been as follows:

Abraham Van Alstine, 1850-52; Barney J. Martin, 1853; Nicholas Slingerland, 1854-55; Chester S. Brunley, 1856; George Goertner, 1857; William J. Van Dusen, 1858-59; Edmund Buel, 1860; Andrew Gilchrist, 1861; Edmund Buel, 1862-63; Lewis Clark, 1864;



H. S. Hayden

William J. Van Dusen, 1865-68; James Halligan, 1869-70; Horatio Nellis, 1871; Charles G. Barnes, 1872; James Halligan, 1873; John Finehout, 1874-77; Charles T. Stafford, 1878-79; Charles G. Barnes, 1880; Stafford Mosher, 1881-82; William Wiles, 1883-87; Vorhees Bush, 1888-90; James W. Dygert, 1891-92.

The town clerks during a corresponding period have been :

Constant Brown, 1850; Cornelius A. Smith, 1851-52; Silas V. Wemple, 1853; James P. Easton, 1854; Daniel Morrell, 1855; Horace Barnes, 1856; Lewis Clark, 1857-58; Silas V. Wemple, 1859; Lewis Clark, 1860; George A. Doubleday, 1861; Robert H. Shaver, 1862-63; Charles W. Mosher, 1864; James Halligan, 1865; John Finehout, 1866-67; Charles G. Shrader, 1868; Joseph Roser, 1869-71; John L. Reed, 1872; Christopher Sticht, 1873; George F. Hiller, 1874-75; Orlando Steingraves, 1876-77; Thomas Lynch, 1878-79; Lewis S. Davis, 1880; James W. Dygert, 1881-82; George L. Winne, 1883-84; Voorhees Bush, 1885-86; James W. Dygert, 1887-88; J. C. Melick, 1889-90; Henry Klinkhart, 1891-92.

The principal town officers for the present year are: Supervisor, James W. Dygert; town clerk, Henry Klinkhart; justices of the peace, Charles W. Wheeler, David Spraker, A. B. Dewey, Charles H. Hibbard; collector, Menzo H. Wessell; overseer of the poor, Augustus Stumpf-fel; assessors, Henry T. Sammons, Augustus Jones, Howard Vosburgh.

CANAJOHARIE VILLAGE.

Unfortunately the task of collecting data and material for a detailed history of the village from its earliest settlement, down to the middle of the present century, was neglected until much of the necessary information had forever passed away, together with the lives of the participants in those primitive scenes.

The old stone Van Alstine house, occupied for many years by Philip Van Alstine, and which was probably erected about the middle of the last century, was undoubtedly the first substantial dwelling built on the site of the village, although fifty years prior to that time a settlement had been made near Palatine Bridge on the opposite side of the river. The available mill sites between the falls and the mouth of the creek

attracted the attention of Goshen Van Alstine and Colonel Henry Frey at an early date, and both erected grist and saw-mills, a history of which will be found in the previous pages of this work. These mills naturally attracted settlers to the locality, and the families employed in clearing off the timbered lands in the vicinity, as naturally located in or near the village.

As early as 1778 John Roof came from Fort Stanwix, where his father had previously settled, and opened an inn at Canajoharie. Whether a public house had been conducted there prior to that time is not definitely known. Roof's father, Johannes, purchased the old stone Schremling house that stood against the hill upon the southern end of the flats, and there they kept tavern for many years. The stages generally stopped there over night as did also the passengers. It was in this early tavern that a mysterious burglary was committed in 1797, the perpetrators of which were never discovered. It appears that an iron chest in which a large sum of money had been deposited, was chained to the bedstead occupied by the elder Roof and his wife. Rebecca Bowman, a member of the family, and Nancy Spraker, a young girl, also occupied the room on the night of the burglary, and although the chest was of extraordinary weight, and was placed under the bed, the thieves succeeded in carrying it away without awakening any one. A small tin trunk in which valuable papers had been placed, and which had also been among the contents of the iron chest, was found soon after the robbery in one of the abutments of the bridge which crossed the creek.

Among the notable guests at the Roof tavern in 1779 was General James Clinton, who was stationed there with a body of Sullivan's troops, some of the officers of which were no doubt entertained by Roof and Philip Van Alstine. During their stay they opened a road from Canajoharie through the town of Springfield to the head of Otsego Lake, upon which they launched their fleet of bateaux. General Washington is also said to have stopped at Roof's house when in this locality. A more modern hotel was afterward erected in front of the old Roof tavern, and was known for a time as the "stage house." It was kept in 1826 by Reuben Peake and a few years later by Elisha Kane Roof. George B. Murray took possession of it in 1833, being succeeded by

Morgan L. Harris, who conducted the house for ten years or more. Upon the site of these old taverns, Webster Wagner, who achieved fame and wealth as the inventor of the sleeping and palace car, erected the beautiful Hotel Wagner in 1888.

Reference has already been made to the mercantile transactions of Barent Roseboom & Brothers, who established a store in the village at an early day. The next prominent tradesman was Henry Nazro, who opened a store about 1805, but removed to Troy within a few years thereafter. He was succeeded by Abram Wemple, a business man of extraordinary ability and of fine personal appearance. His father was at first associated with him, their place of business being "the old yellow building" previously occupied by the Rosebooms. Wemple subsequently built a store on the opposite side of the creek and moved his stock into it, whereupon Joseph Failing opened a store in the building he had vacated, and also conducted a tavern there. His brother Warner was afterward interested with him in trade, but soon sold out to John Usher. The firm of Failing & Usher suffered a heavy loss in 1817, when their store caught fire and burned to the ground. The senior partner was at that time indebted to Warner Failing and exhibited great integrity by assigning to him all his property, including a silver watch.

Abram Wemple, above mentioned, commanded a company of cavalry, and was known as a handsome and gallant officer. His death occurred about 1815, after which his store was occupied by several business men, including Richard Bortle, more commonly known as "Dick Bortle," who kept a saloon there in 1826. This eccentric character of early days will be remembered by some of the older residents.

Among other early merchants mention should be made of James B. Alton, who came to Canajoharie from Ames soon after the death of Wemple and continued in business there until 1825, at which time he failed. Herman I. Ehle opened a store there in 1821, erecting a building for the purpose three years later on the bank of the canal. Henry Lieber also carried on a large business in Canajoharie in 1822 and 1823 in connection with his mills previously mentioned. Among the canal boats which he built to transport his products, was one named "*Prince Orange*," launched in 1826. It was the first of the class called lake boats, and was built near the site of Lieber's brewery. A furnace for

plow and other castings was removed to Canajoharie from Palatine Bridge about this time, the proprietors being Gibson, Johnson & Ehle. The well remembered historian, Simms, who lived so long at Fort Plain, was employed for a year or two as clerk for Mr. Ehle, afterwards becoming his partner in the dry goods business. Another one of Ehle's early partners was John Taylor, who moved to the village in 1827.

The chief athletic sport during the latter part of the first quarter of the century in the Mohawk valley was foot racing. As the canal neared completion these were of frequent occurrence at Canajoharie, but probably the most prominent one was the contest which took place between Joseph White, of Cherry Valley, and David Spraker, of Palatine. This race came off in August, 1824, and was contested for a stake of \$1,000. The distance, ten rods, was marked off on Montgomery street by David F. Sacia, who was one of the judges and started the runners. Spraker won the race by three feet, and thus carried off the prize. This race was a general topic of conversation for half a century afterward, and is still remembered by old residents.

The name of David F. Sacia, who was one of the early lawyers of the village, and also one of its first postmasters, brings to mind the names of several others who have held the same office. Among the number were David Spraker, Abram N. Van Alstine, and John C. Smith. Roger Dougherty, and Alfred Conkling (father of Roscoe Conkling) were the first to represent the legal profession in the village, being followed a little later by Nicholas Van Alstine. Later still were David Eacker (afterward first judge of the County Court of Common Pleas), and Charles McVean, one of the first congressmen from Montgomery county, and afterwards surrogate of New York county,

Dr. Jonathan Eights was probably the first regular physician in the village, but removed to Albany prior to 1820. The medical fraternity was then represented by John Atwater and Lebbeus Doty. Dr. Walter L. Bean located in Canajoharie as early as 1825.

Canajoharie Water Supply.—A water supply was first introduced into the village in 1852 by the Canajoharie Water Works Co., the plans for the works being made by William A. Perkins, engineer. The supply was taken from springs by gravity, to which was added later on, rams for fire emergency. In 1876 this system was extended by Chas.

W. Knight, taking the supply from larger springs. The company was managed by six directors, as follows: David Spraker, president; Lorenzo B. Clark, secretary and treasurer; Thos. B. Mitchell, Horace Barnes, Joseph White, and Chester S. Brunley. The superintendent was John D. Buddle. In 1881 the Cold Spring Water Company, a competing corporation, put in new works, after plans by Stephen E. Babcock, engineer. This company was managed by five trustees, among whom were James Arkell, Benjamin Smith, Adam Smith and Louis Bierbauer.

In 1888 the property and franchise of the first company were sold by foreclosure to Randolph Spraker and William Hatter, who with others, in December, 1889, organized the Canajoharie Consolidated Water Company, receiving the franchises and property of both the other companies. The catch basin is located three-fourths of a mile from the village; the pond one-half mile and the reservoir one-quarter mile. The officers of the company are James Arkell, president; William Hatter, vice-president; Randolph Spraker, treasurer, secretary, superintendent and collector.

The village was incorporated April 30th, 1829, since which time its growth has been very gradual, but including among its permanent residents, men of substantial wealth and also intellectual, social and political prominence. The present population is fairly estimated at 2,200. The village has suffered severe loss by fire upon three occasions, 1840, 1849, and 1877, the flames destroying in each instance a large number of the business blocks. Thus we find the handsome Mohawk Hotel on the sight of the old Kirby House, the latter destroyed by the fire of 1877. The magnificent Hotel Wagner was built by the late Webster Wagner in 1878, and is an ornament to the village and an evidence of the public spirit of its builder.

The old stone school, known as District No. 8, which was built in 1850 by P. Wetmore, under the direction of trustees C. G. Barnes, C. H. Brown, and J. J. H. Snell, has served its purpose well for two score years and more. Before the end of another year, however, an elegant stone school, now in process of erection at the corner of Cliff and Otsego streets, will be finished and occupied. It is being built by contractor Kirby, and being large and commodious, is a fine example of modern school architecture.

The incomplete file of records makes it impossible to give a correct list of past village officers. The present incumbents are, F. E. Simons, president; Charles H. Shaper, Adam Roser, Charles E. Schultze, and Albert F. Hatter, trustees.

The first church in Canajoharie was erected in 1818 by the combined efforts of a number of religious people of different denominations, the first regular preacher being Rev. George B. Miller of the Lutheran denomination. In 1825 the Erie canal was constructed so near this church as to leave barely room for the tow path, and when through canal boats began running the following summer blasts of their bugles greatly interfered with the services in the little church, and the annoyance was only abated by an appeal to the legislature. Rev. Mr. Miller afterwards became principal of Hartwick Seminary, a position he retained for many years.

The Reformed Church was organized on the 13th of January, 1827, by Rev. Douw Van O'Linda, Gerrit A. Lansing, Jacob Hees, John Cooper, John M. Wemple, Jacob Gray, and Henry Loucks, who met at the house of Mr. Lansing "for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of organizing a Protestant Dutch church in this place." Meetings were held in the union church and the society remained under the pastoral care of Rev. Van O'Linda for a year or two, receiving Rev. Ransford Wells as a settled minister in 1830. The latter was succeeded by Rev. Richard D. Van Kleek, who resigned in the fall of 1835.

Among those who have filled this pastorate since that time may be mentioned Samuel Robertson, E. P. Dunning, a congregational clergyman from New Haven; James McFarlane, John De Witt, Nathan F. Chapman, E. S. Hammond, Alonzo Welton, Benjamin F. Romaine, B. Van Zandt and others. The present pastor is Rev. Mark A. Denman. Before this society had built a church in Canajoharie, its Sunday-school was consolidated with that of the Methodists across the river, and thus it continued until 1842, when the stone church now occupied by the Methodist Episcopal society was erected, its dedication taking place in March of that year. The present stone edifice of the Reformed society is of more recent date, and constitutes one of the architectural beauties of the village.

St. Mark's English Lutheran Church was organized in 1839 by Rev. William N. Scholl. During the same year, or the one following, they

purchased the Union church building near the canal, Rev. Mr. Lintner, of Schoharie, delivering the dedicatory sermon in February, 1841. The present vine-covered stone church was erected at a cost of \$15,000, including the chapel, and dedicated August 10, 1870, the sermon on this occasion being again preached by Rev. Lintner. The names of Mr. Scholl, F. W. Brauns, Reuben Dederick, Rev. Hersh, Rev. Luckenback, and L. D. Wells will be remembered by some of the older members as having faithfully filled the pastorate of this church. The present pastor is Rev. William M. Baum, jr.

St. John's German Evangelical Lutheran Church perfected its organization in 1835, with Rev. John Eisenlord as pastor, and including as members C. Scharff, C. Sauerland, Henry Otto, F. Jones, Henry Lieber and F. Miller. The society held meetings for some time in the Academy building, finally erecting a house of worship in 1848. The present stone church was built in 1871, its consecration taking place in March, 1872. The present pastor is Rev. J. A. W. Kirsch.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Protestant Episcopal.—The first society of this denomination in Canajoharie was organized under the direction of Rev. I. Leander Townsend, rector at Cherry Valley, early in 1852. John E. Young and Amos A. Bradley were the first wardens, George Yost, David W. Erwin, Sumner S. Ely, Samuel G. Wilkins, Abraham Seeber, John I. Brandon, Chester S. Brumley and Joseph White, the first vestrymen. The request for an Episcopal organization at Canajoharie was signed by the above named persons, together with William McMiller, Andrew Gilchrist, Daniel S. Read, Morgan L. Harris, Delevan Corey, Truman M. Richards, Peter D. Betticher, John I. Roof, Daniel G. Lobdell, George Smith, Ralph R. Lathrop and Charles Miller. The parish first received the name of St. Polycarp, which was later changed to "The Good Shepherd." The present handsome stone edifice was erected in 1873 at an expense of about \$9,000, which was wholly contributed by Mrs. Marietta White. The church was consecrated and taken under the spiritual jurisdiction of the diocese of Albany in 1881. There are at present about forty communicants. Among those who have officiated at this church the names of Revs. Joseph W. McIlwain, Mr. Dowdney, Mr. Howard, Mr. Widdemer, Mr. Poole, Mr. Lusk, Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Marvin and Mr. Van Dyne may be mentioned. The

present rector is Rev. Clarence E. Ball, who succeeded Rev. Marvin, now rector of St. John's church at Johnstown. Mr. Ball also officiates at Fort Plain.

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—This society was first organized on the opposite side of the river in Palatine, where they erected a meeting-house as early as 1828. The stone church now occupied by them in Canajoharie was built in 1841, and its dedication took place in March, 1842. In 1863 it was rebuilt and enlarged, rededication services being held February 18, 1864. The society has always been remarkably successful in its undertakings, and has a membership of 270 at the present time. The church has an active Sunday-school, with thirty-five teachers and officers, and 230 scholars. The present pastor is Rev. T. A. Griffin, who succeeded Rev. J. L. Atwell in April, 1892. B. Frank Diefendorf is superintendent of Sunday-school.

St. Peter and Paul's Roman Catholic church was built in 1862, Rev. Daly, of Utica, officiating at the dedication, which took place in April, 1863. The edifice cost \$5,000. The pastors have included Revs. Clark, Brennan, Harrigan and Zucker. The present pastor is Rev. J. Bloomer, who also officiates at Fort Plain.

Masonic.—Hamilton Lodge, No. 79, F. and A. M., received its charter in 1806, being at that time No. 10 in the list of state lodges. The first master was Dr. Joshua Webster. The present officers are: Jeremiah Vosburgh, W. M.; John S. Hatter, S. W.; Frank E. Simons, J. W.; Voorhees Bush, treasurer; C. Sticht, secretary; John W. Nellis, S. D.; Zach C. Neahr, J. D.; Frank Rice, S. M. C.; Henry A. Shaper, J. M. C.; Hiram L. Huston, Lewis S. Davis and David J. Craig, trustees.

Hiram Union Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., is also located at Canajoharie. The present officers of the Chapter are Albert M. Klock, M. E. H. P.; John A. Roof, E. K.; Alvin Kneeskern, E. S.; Voorhees Bush, treasurer; C. Sticht, secretary; K. A. Ellithorp, C. H.; F. E. Simons, P. S.; J. S. Hatter, R. A. C.; Lewis S. Davis, M. 3d V.; David I. Craig, M. 2d V.; David E. Dunn, M. 1st V. K. A. Ellithorp, Peter Sloan, and Charles Wheeler, trustees.

Journalistic History.—The first newspaper published in the village was the *Telegraph*, which appeared in 1825 and '26, edited and published by Henry Hooghkirk. In 1827 Samuel Caldwell issued the *Canajo-*

harie Sentinel. In the same year and 1828 appeared the *Canajoharie Republican*, issued at first by Henry Bloomer, and later by John McVean and D. F. Sacia. The *Montgomery Argus*, started by Henry Bloomer in 1831, was continued by him for about two years, and then by S. M. S. Grant until 1836, when it was discontinued. The *Canajoharie Investigator* was published by Andrew H. Calhoun from 1833 until 1836. W. H. Riggs first published the *Mohawk Valley Gazette*, in 1847, continuing the paper for two years, and W. S. Hawley published the *Montgomery Union* from 1850 to 1853.

The *Radii* was begun in 1837 by Levi S. Backus (a deaf mute); in 1840 the office was burned and the paper removed to Fort Plain. In 1854 it was removed to Madison county, but later returned to Fort Plain. For several years an appropriation of \$200 per year was made by the state for sending the paper to deaf mutes. About 1858 it was removed to Canajoharie and published as the *Canajoharie Radii*. James Arkell purchased the paper in 1863, on the 30th of April of which year it was enlarged and assumed the name of the *Canajoharie Radii and Taxpayer's Journal*. L. F. Allen secured an interest in the paper at that time and the firm of Arkell & Allen continued to publish it until January 1, 1866, when Angell Matthewson purchased Arkell's interest. On the 1st of May, 1868, Mr. Allen bought Matthewson's interest and this was sold to Alvin J. Plank in November of the same year. The firm of L. F. Allen & Co. continued until August 1, 1887, when the Plank interest was sold to John F. Hazelton. The Radii Publishing Co. was thus formed and conducted the publication until August 1, 1889, since which time L. F. Allen has been sole proprietor. The *Radii* is an independent weekly journal.

The *Canajoharie Courier*, independent in politics, is published weekly. It was started by Willet F. Cook and Charles Bowen on the 9th of August, 1879. Bowen's share in the paper was purchased by Cook in January, 1880, and the latter then conducted it alone until March 11, 1889, when he became associated with William B. Forman. The paper is now published by Cook & Forman.

The *Hay Trade Journal*, published weekly, was established in July, 1892. It is edited by Willis Bullock.

Banks.—The National Spraker Bank—This institution, which was established as the Spraker Bank in 1853, is the oldest one of its kind in

the village. It was reorganized and incorporated under the national banking act of 1865. James Spraker was the first president, and held the office until his death. Frasier Spraker, who is now president, was elected August 16, 1880. B. Fred Spraker is vice-president and William Wiles, cashier. The capital is \$100,000.

The Canajoharie National Bank was first organized as a State bank in 1855, and as a national bank ten years later. The capital at that time was \$100,000, since which it has been increased to \$125,000. A. N. Van Alstine was the first president, and P. Moyer the first cashier. The present officers are: President, C. G. Barnes; cashier, A. C. Richmond; assistant cashier, N. S. Brumley. The bank has a surplus of about \$40,000.

Among the industrial and manufacturing interests of the village the paper and cotton sack manufactory of Arkell & Smith is the most extensive. This industry was established in 1859 since which time its capacity has been constantly increased. The factory furnishes employment to about 150 employees and the output averages 25,000,000 sacks per annum.

The Mohawk Valley Silk Fabric Company, whose factory is located on Canajoharie Creek, directly opposite Arkell & Smith's, was incorporated in 1890. The company manufacture silk fabric for mitts and gloves and employ about fifty workers. The officers are E. S. Smith, president; A. C. Richmond, treasurer, and H. L. Huston, secretary.

The Pettit Manufacturing Company, incorporated in December, 1889, with the following officers: Charles G. Pettit, president; William N. Smith, vice-president, and Edward A. Walker, secretary and treasurer, manufacture fine confectionery for wholesale trade, and furnish employment to a large number of workers.

The Sweet Refrigerator Company was incorporated in 1889. The officers are James P. Van Evera, president; A. C. Richmond, treasurer; Charles Shaper, James Arkell, B. Frank Diefendorf, L. S. Davis, and William H. Bain, directors. Employment is given to twelve or fifteen workers and the product consists of refrigerators, snow shovels, step ladders, and bar fixtures.

The Imperial Packing Company is engaged in curing and packing the celebrated "beech nut" hams and bacon, their plant constituting one of the important industries of the village.

CHAPTER XXII.

TOWN OF MOHAWK.

THIS town was formed from Johnstown April 4, 1837, and is, therefore, the youngest town in the county. Its territory was originally included in the provisional district of Mohawk, one of the first sub divisions of Tryon county. In 1788 the Mohawk district was divided and the portion of it lying north of the river was formed into a town named Caughnawaga, out of which, in 1793, Mayfield, Broadalbin and Johnstown were set off as separate towns. The reader will thus see that the creation of Mohawk renewed a historic name from old Tryon county.

Mohawk is on the northern boundary, Johnstown being directly north, while Amsterdam is on the east; Glen and a part of Root, on the south (the river intervening), and Palatine forms the western boundary. The Mohawk is the chief water course, having as principal tributaries the Cayadutta and Danoscara (or Dadanaskarie) creeks. In the valley the land is level and very fertile, but in the northern portion of the town the surface is much broken by hills, some of which reach a height of four hundred feet above the river. Mayfield mountain trends across the western border and forms, at the river, that bold projection of rock called "The Nose," which is so picturesque a feature in the landscape.

Mohawk has an area of 19,519 acres and contains in whole or in part several of the important land patents granted during the early part of the eighteenth century, among which may be mentioned the historic Stone Arabia patent, comprising an aggregate of 12,700 acres, a small part of which extended into the western portion of this town. Next east was the Alexander tract of 8,000 acres, lying almost wholly within the town, granted May 6, 1825. The Collins tract of 2,000 acres lay east of Alexander's and was granted to John, Margaret and Edward Collins, under the name of Caughnawaga patent November 4, 1714, Hanson's patent, including 2,000 acres, bounded Collins on the west,

and was granted to Hendrick and Hans Hanson, July 17, 1713. The Kayaderos-eras patent extended into the eastern part of Mohawk. It originally included more than 700,000 acres, but was obtained through fraud practiced upon the Indians. Much trouble and litigation grew out of an attempt by the patentees to occupy their claimed lands, and it was only through the influence of Sir William Johnson that the Indians were not cheated out of the whole tract. The patent was granted November 2, 1708. A small portion of Butler's patent is located in the north part of Mohawk. It was granted, December 31, 1735, to Walter Butler and three others, and included a total of 4,000 acres. The Sacandaga patent also extended south and includes a small part of the northern portion of the town. It was granted to Lendert Gansevoort and others, and embraced 28,000 acres.

The town of Mohawk is unusually interesting in its history, for during the revolution, and even the preceding year, its territory witnessed some of the most stirring events of that remarkable period. The town includes the site of one of the principal villages of the Mohawks, which, indeed, was their chief centre for many years. This was especially true of the period we call Sir William's time, and also after his death, when his son, Sir John Johnson, and his nephew Guy Johnson, succeeded him in authority, if not in influence. This village was called Caughnawaga, meaning "Stone in the water," or "at the rapids." When it was founded is not known, but it is supposed to have been many years previous to the advent of the whites, and has been known by various names as "Ganawadas," "Cahanisga," and "Gandaouga," the first two supposed to be Indian and the latter a mixture of Indian and French. To the Dutch settlers it was said to have been known first as "Kaghnawage," and afterward as "Caughnawaga," a name now, however, limited to the eastern and more ancient part of the village of Fonda.

The earliest whites that visited the Indians at Caughnawaga are believed to have been the Jesuits, whose mission, as it was said, was to advance the power of France as well as the Roman church. Isaac Jogues was held as a prisoner by the Mohawks from August, 1642, to the same month of the next year, and then being released he labored as missionary in 1646, but was killed by them in October of that year. Fathers Fremine and De Lamberville afterward dwelt at Caughnawaga

and did missionary work, but their labors, as were those of all other Jesuit priests, were unsatisfactory and discouraging. This subject, however, is so fully treated in one of the early chapters of this work that further reference to it seems unnecessary.

Caughnawaga, although one of the smallest of the Iroquois villages, was always of considerable importance, and was, indeed, a distinguished place among the Indians as well as the Jesuits. Here the first formal council was held in 1659. Ten years later, during one of the numerous Indian wars of the century, it was attacked by an opposing force (said to be the Mohicans), but the invaders were repulsed. In 1693, however, Count de Frontenac invaded the Iroquois country and destroyed many Indian villages, including Caughnawaga, and although the place was afterward rebuilt and gained considerable prominence as an Indian town, its greatest notoriety was acquired later on through its white, rather than its Indian, inhabitants. The first permanent white settlers in what is now Mohawk were the Dutch, who, indeed, were the pioneers of the lower part of the valley. One of the first families to locate here was Douw Fonda, who moved from Schenectady in 1751.

At the beginning of the revolution he lived on the flats, a few rods from the road now leading across the river, and in addition to farming kept an inn. On May 22, 1780, he was killed by the Indians during that raid which rendered Sir John Johnson infamous. The unfortunate old man had greatly befriended the Mohawks in former years, but even this was of no avail at that time of butchery. The details of the tragedy are thus stated by the historian Simms: When the alarm first reached the family, Penelope Grant, a Scotch girl living with him, to whom the old gentleman was much attached, urged him to accompany her to the hill whither the Romeyn family were fleeing; but the old patriot, seizing his gun, exclaimed: "Penelope, do you stay here with me, I will fight for you to the last drop of blood." Finding persuasion of no avail, she left him to his fate, which was indeed a lamentable one; for soon the enemy arrived, and he was led out by a Mohawk Indian, known as One-armed Peter, toward the bank of the river, where he was tomahawked and scalped. As he was led from the house he was observed by John Hanson, a prisoner, to have a book and cane in his hand. His murderer had often partaken of his hospitality, having

lived for many years in his neighborhood. When afterward charged with this horrid crime, he replied that, "as it was the intention of the enemy to kill him, he might as well get the bounty for his scalp as any one else." With the plunder stolen from the Fonda residence were four male slaves and one female, all of whom were taken to Canada. John, Jelles and Adam Fonda were sons of Douw, and were all staunch Whigs. Jelles became one of the most prominent men of the locality, and is said to have been the first merchant west of Schenectady. His trade was with both the Indians and the white settlers in the valley as far distant as Forts Schuyler and Stanwix, and even Oswego, Niagara and Schlosser. His traffic was chiefly in blankets, ammunition and supplies of a general character, and his pay was generally peltries, ginseng and potash. By his industry Jelles Fonda accumulated a large property, and which descended to his heirs. He also served as captain under General Johnson during the last French war, and at the outbreak of the revolution received flattering inducements to join the British army. All these, however, he rejected and became captain of a patriotic company, although at the time he was exempt from military duty, being more than fifty years old. He afterwards was one of the Tryon county judges, and also served in the legislature, the last term of office being terminated by his sudden death in 1791. Many of the descendants of the Fonda family are still living in the village which bears their name.

Douw Fonda, Myndert Wemple and Hendrick Vrooman were the purchasers of the Collins tract, which we have already described. Wemple and Vrooman also became settlers on the land and are therefore included among the pioneers of the place. Peggy Wemple is said to have kept a tavern at Caughnawaga as early as 1775, and became a person of great influence.

Nicholas Hanson settled on Tribes Hill about 1725, and Henry Hanson, as has been mentioned, was the first white child born in the town. Alexander White, who was the first sheriff of Tryon county, was also a pioneer and lived, according to tradition, on the site of the Fonda court-house. White was an aggressive tory at the beginning of the war, his conduct so offending the patriots that they drove him to Canada; and returning the next year, he was promptly arrested by the vigilant committee of safety. He was succeeded as sheriff by John Frey.



George Ingersoll

Herman Visscher was one of the early pioneers and made his settlement on the Hanson track. In the same vicinity also was William H. Brower. Michael Stoller was also a pioneer, and settled on the farm more recently occupied by his grandson. Henry Coleman was not only a pioneer, but also a revolutionary soldier, and fought at the battle at Stone Arabia. John Chaley who settled near Tribes Hill was also a patriot soldier, but found himself arrayed against his own brother, the latter being with the British. Lodowick Putnam is also to be named among the pioneers of the town. It was upon his house that Sir John's raiders made the first assault after leaving Johnstown, and they cruelly murdered both himself and one of his sons. Amasa Stephens lived in the same neighborhood, and he, too, fell a victim of Indian barbarity. Mark Duxtader (descendants of this pioneer spelled the name Dockstader) settled in Mohawk at an early day, on the farm now occupied by Delavan Briggs. Colonel John Butler and his son Walter were early settlers, and both became prominent followers of the Johnsons, being, like Sir John, guilty of many of the outrages perpetrated in the valley.

During the revolution the territory now included in Mohawk was the scene of many historic events, some of which were of a very thrilling character. The inhabitants of the valley were divided in sentiment, a few being allied to the Johnsons, and therefore sustaining British interests, while the majority was true to the American cause. Even before the outbreak of the war there was a conflict of opinion, but no open rupture took place until precipitated by Guy Johnson in his suppression of the patriot convention at Caughnawaga in the spring of 1775. This was the beginning of actual hostilities in this locality, and the people who had formerly been all united, were thenceforth at enmity, the "loyalists" (as the tories called themselves) being arrayed against the patriots, the latter being styled "rebels" by the former. At this time, however, Guy Johnson and a large body of tories and Indians departed for Canada, followed in 1776 by Sir John and his adherents, which left but few of the tory element in the valley. Those, however, who did remain were carefully watched by the Committee of Safety, and it was only on the occasion of a British invasion that they displayed open enmity. The Mohawk committee to which we have referred was composed of John Marlett, John Bliven, Abraham Van-

Horne, Adam Fonda, Frederick Fisher (formerly called Visscher), Sampson Sammons, Wm. Schuyler, Volkert Veeder, James McMaster and Daniel Lane. A number of this committee, it will be noticed, lived within the present limits of the town.

Frederick Fisher (or Visscher) was an influential man in the Caughnawaga region, and was early commissioned colonel of the patriot militia. He, too, was made to feel the wrath of the Johnsons on the occasion of a parade and review of the troops. Sir John first attacked Fisher with his cane, but meeting with unexpected resistance, resorted to his sword and threatened to strike. Failing to intimidate the colonel by this means, he next procured his pistols and demanded the dismissal of the regiment, threatening to shoot him if not obeyed. Even these unusual demonstrations failed to frighten the assembled patriots, whereupon Sir John much chagrined returned to his carriage and rode away.

Prominent among the true men of the day was Sampson Sammons, born in 1742 in Greenwich (now part of New York city), who came to this locality from Ulster county, in 1769. He is mentioned as a man of unusual mental power, and well qualified for that position of influence and popularity which he gained among the settlers of the valley. He had a friendly acquaintance with the Johnsons, but their influence never abated his loyalty to the American cause. His family were ardent Whigs and as such suffered in person and property from the barbarity of Sir John and his followers. In 1780 Sampson Sammons and his sons, Jacob, Frederick and Thomas, were all made prisoners, but the father and Thomas were released, while the others, as well as a number of horses belonging to the father, were taken to Canada. Sampson Sammons was a volunteer in the battle at Oriskany and Jacob was also there. After the departure of Sir John the committee of sequestration leased Johnson Hall and its estate to Sampson Sammons, at a rent of 300 pounds per annum. The village of Sammonsville is named in honor of the pioneer family.

The varied events which fill the history of this locality during the war have been so fully stated in our earlier chapters, that they need no repetition. Sir John's raid in 1780, however, was of so fearful a character, and had such an enduring effect upon the whole valley, that it

seems proper to renew part of its detail. After leaving Johnstown the force sent against Tribes Hill was led by Henry and William Bowen, who had lived in the vicinity and well knew its people. They passed the tory settlement at Albany Bush (near Johnstown) and made their first attack on the house of a staunch Whig named Putnam against whom they bore a special enmity. Putnam, however, had recently rented his place, its tenants being tories, and these were murdered by the Indians before their identity was known. All the buildings were burned, even those at Caughnawaga, the sole exception being the church.

The raiders next assailed the house of Colonel Fisher, whose wife with two of their children were at this time in Schenectady. The women and servants fled to the woods, but the old patriot himself and his brothers Herman and John, defended the house as long as they had ammunition and finally retired to the chambers. John was killed after a stubborn fight with the savages. Herman leaped from an upper window, hoping to extinguish the flames started by the Indians, but while on a fence he was shot dead. Colonel Fisher himself was knocked down, tomahawked and scalped, and then left for dead. He recovered, however, and rescued his aged mother from the house, carried out his brother's body, and then fell exhausted to the ground. As soon as the Indians had gone one of the negro servants returned to the house and brought water to revive his prostrate master. Colonel Fisher eventually recovered, and after the war built a spacious house¹ on the same site and continued in prominent service, being several years county judge. He always wore a silver plate on his head to cover the scar of the scalping knife.

One of the principal points of attack, next to the Fisher house, was the residence of Adam Fonda, who like Colonel Fisher had fought at Oriskany, where he held the rank of lieutenant-colonel. He was seized and taken to Canada and the house was burned and the fam-

¹ Alfred DeGraff, descendant in the fifth generation from Colonel Fisher, who occupies this house, has reconstructed it with such improvements as to render it one of the most beautiful places in the Mohawk valley. Mr. DeGraff has among other heirlooms a silver dollar which has been in the possession of the family more than a century and a half. Had it been placed at interest at the time referred to it would have yielded to the owner the enormous amount of \$15,000. If the reader doubts this statement let him make the calculation. The date on this coin is 1729, three years before the birth of Washington.

ily scattered, but afterwards they made their way to Schenectady. Before the house was burned one of the Tories stole a large and massive copper tea kettle, which he filled with butter and hid under the bridge, expecting to recover it on his return, but their march led in another direction, and the kettle remained there until discovered and restored to its owner. Mrs. Sarah Striker, of Tribes Hill, who is a granddaughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Fonda, has this very kettle, which is a highly valued heirloom.

After the war Lieutenant-Colonel Fonda returned and built a farmhouse, which is still standing, though remodeled and modernized. He died in 1808 highly respected, and was the last of the sons of old Douw Fonda.

After the destruction and slaughter at the Fisher house and Caughnawaga, the invaders returned to Johnstown and thence to Canada. This, however, was not the only invasion of the valley during the war, and the constant danger kept the inhabitants in constant trepidation. Sir John twice invaded the region, and the Indians under either Butler or Brant, took every opportunity to renew their depredations.

On the return of peace the former inhabitants of the Caughnawaga region returned to their farms, rebuilt their houses and barns and at once began to retrieve their losses. The Tories came also and sought to reclaim their property, but the committee of safety made such earnest opposition that they were obliged to seek homes elsewhere. Their lands had been confiscated and purchased by a new class of settlers from New England, who thenceforth mingled with the Dutch and rapidly improved the whole Mohawk valley. Caughnawaga after the war became a business centre, but retained many of the ancient memorials of colonial times. The old stone church remained unscathed, this being due to the fact that it was considered Butler property and hence was spared by the Tories and Indian invaders.¹ It was built in 1763 and its first pastor was Rev. Thomas Romeyn. In 1795 he was succeeded by Rev. Abraham Van Horne, who died in 1840, at an advanced age. He preached both in Dutch and English and during his ministry he married 1,500

¹ The church was built on lands belonging to the Butler estate and the dwelling occupied by this once lordly family is still standing, being now the Wilson farm house.

couples. In 1845 the old church was remodeled and fitted up for an academy, but it was not adapted to that service and in 1868 it was demolished.

A prominent memorial of old Caughnawaga is the Lasher house, a substantial dwelling built by Jelles Fonda. Its location is on the heights which gives it a fine prospect, and no doubt this led to the selection of the site. The building, notwithstanding its age, is of such strength that it bids fair to last another century.

The events we have thus far narrated naturally belong to the history of Mohawk, though they occurred before the creation of the town. When peace returned a more permanent settlement began, and thenceforth the population rapidly increased until all of the farm lands were under profitable cultivation. There were two important events, however, which contributed largely to the prosperity of the town of Mohawk, as well as that of the surrounding territory. One was the completion of the Erie canal in 1825, and the other the construction of the Utica and Schenectady railroad in 1835 and 1836. All along these great thoroughfares prosperous villages were built with varied manufacturing and mercantile enterprises. The county seat hitherto had been at Johnstown, a village accessible only by stage, and the people of the valley were asking for its removal to some more convenient location.

In 1836 the removal was effected, and Fonda was designated as the future county capital.

This removal awoke great dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of the northern part of the county, which led to the creation of Fulton in 1838, but during the previous year an act was passed dividing the town of Johnstown out of which the town of Mohawk was erected.

The town contains an aggregate area of 20,222 acres, and had when created a population of about 3,000. In 1860 the population was 3,136, and in 1890 a trifle less. During the last thirty years there has been no striking increase in population, except in Amsterdam, where the growth has been rapid, elevating the former village into a populous city.

To return to Mohawk we may now properly add a list of supervisors and clerks from the creation of the town to the present time.

Supervisors.—Wm. T. Sammons, 1837; Simeon Sammons, 1838; Lyndes Jones, 1839-40; Abraham P. Graff, 1841-42; Daniel Conyne,

1843-46; John I. Davis, 1847-50; Simeon Sammons, 1851; Abijah Jones, 1852; James W. Kline, 1853; Peter Fritcher, 1854; Seth C. Merrihew, 1855-56; Matthew Van Deusen, 1857; Henry Veeder, 1858; Hamilton Schuyler, 1859; Simeon Sammons, 1860-62; Douw A. Fonda, 1863-64; Henry T. E. Brower, 1865; Thomas S. Sammons, 1866-70; Edward B. Cushney, 1871-72; John D. Campbell, 1873; Stephen Fonda, 1874-76; Matthew D. Moore, 1877; George Jones, 1878; Isaac A. Rosa, 1879-82; Henry R. Royce, 1883-84; Stephen Fonda, 1885; John Peck, 1886; Isaac A. Rosa, 1887-88; Jerry S. Sitterly, 1889; Isaac A. Rosa, 1890-91; George Jones, 1892.

Town Clerks.—Christopher Y. Hammond, 1837; Samuel B. Thorn, 1838-39; Alexander Haggert, 1840; Myndert B. Wendell, 1841-42; Julian Fish, 1843; John L. Lingenfelter, 1844; David F. Hess, 1845; J. Dillenbeck, 1846-47; J. S. Haggert, 1848-49; Garrett H. Teller, 1850; D. H. Van Heusen, 1851; Henry W. Staats, 1852-54; John C. Ausman, 1855; H. W. Staats, 1856; Willett Ferguson, 1857; Giles Doxtater, 1858; Lewis Ferguson, 1859-60; Henry R. Royce, 1861; Giles Doxtater, 1862; David H. Van Heusen, 1863; John V. Davis, 1864-65; David H. Van Heusen, 1866; Abram Fonda, 1867; Daniel C. Hagar, 1868-70; Jacob Hess, 1871-72; Daniel Yost, 1873; Matthew D. Moore, 1874-75; George McNeill, 1876; George L. Davis, 1877-79; Henry R. Royce, 1880; Gideon R. Casler, 1881-84; Wallace Brown, 1885-86; John S. Van Horne, 1887; William Tiffany, 1888; John M. Brown, 1889; G. A. Putman, 1890-91; Charles A. George, 1892.

Present Town Officers.—George Jones, supervisor; Charles A. George, town clerk; Frederick Fisher, Darius V. Berry, Isaiah Sponenberg, George W. Brown, justices of the peace; Charles Christance, highway commissioner; James H. Neahr, collector; William Lentz, overseer of the poor; Jacob Young, William T. Lotridge, Julian Fox, assessors; Richard W. Schuyler, auditor.

THE VILLAGE OF FONDA.

Previous to 1835 the principal part of this village was on the site of old Caughnawaga, but Fonda superseded the latter when the removal of the public buildings took place. During the same year a number of



A. S. WOOD & ENGRAVERS N.Y.

H. A. Florida

capitalists, among whom were John S. Borst, John L. Graham, James L. Graham, Judge S. W. Jones, Charles McVean and James Porter, organized the Fonda Land Association, and purchased a considerable tract of land, now occupied by the county buildings and the business portion of the village. For the purpose of making improvements the company borrowed a large sum from the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of New York, with which, among other structures, was built, in 1836, the Fonda hotel, which is still standing, although frequent changes in its name have been made. However promising this scheme may have appeared, it resulted in disaster; the mortgage held by the Trust Company was foreclosed, the property sold, and Mr. Borst, who was the chief manager of its early affairs, became sole owner and proprietor, subject to heavy claims which eventually exhausted his resources.

On the completion of the railroad a depot was built, and Fonda became an important station, while the erection of the public buildings added the dignity of the county capital. During the next twenty years the village steadily increased until it absorbed old historic Caughnawaga. As has been stated, Jelles Fonda was the first merchant doing business in this region. In 1790 General Dodge started in trade, but soon afterward moved to Johnstown. The firm of M. O. Davis & Son was established in 1845, and the old familiar name is still seen on Main street. Peter Conyne has also been many years in trade, and other reputable houses are in operation, but it is hardly necessary to here recall the names of the present merchants as that subject is fully covered in our personal sketches.

Incorporation of the Village.—In 1850, upon the petition to the Court of Sessions at the September term, an order was made incorporating the village, subject to the approval of the electors. The order bore the date of September 3, and named as petitioners Chester S. Bromley, John S. Haggart and Richard H. Cushney. The people confirmed the order at an election held October 4, the total vote being seventy-eight, of which only three were against the measure. The first village election was held on May 13, 1851, pursuant to an act of the legislature, at which time the following officers were chosen: Richard H. Cushney, R. Van Heusen, P. H. Fonda, Charles Timmerman and Douw Van

O'Linda, trustees; John Everson, William B. Van Heusen and Gilbert S. Van Duesen, assessors; Henry W. Staats, collector; Henry Van O'Linda, clerk. The village, according to survey, included 312 acres. In 1868 the main streets were paved, and in 1865 a bridge¹ was built across the Mohawk, which was a very great convenience to the residents of Fonda and Fultonville.

With the gradual growth of the village there arose a demand for a supply of pure and wholesome water; the project was sustained by a popular vote and in 1885 the work was done. A reservoir was built on a suitable eminence, and being well fed by springs, the village is supplied by pipes laid through the principal streets. The cost of the entire work was \$25,000 and the waterworks are under control of a board of commissioners.

Manufactures have been introduced, but thus far only to a limited extent. The earliest efforts in manufacturing (aside from the domestic loom) were made in 1811, when the waters of the Cayadutta were utilized. Grist-mills were built at various places, and about the same time a fulling mill was started by John and Simon Veeder, Henry Fonda, G. Van Dusen and Myndert Wemple, with a capital of \$5,000. At a later day Simon I. Veeder occupied the building and turned it into a satinet factory. He was here five years, and in 1830 sold the property to John Booth, who died in 1843, after which Van Alstyne and Wemple altered the building into a threshing machine factory. In 1860 the property passed into the hands of George F. Mills & Co., who were owners of an adjacent flour-mill, by whom the old factory was equipped for similar use. A few years ago the leading citizens subscribed a large sum to start a knitting-mill, which was built and operated by John and Robert Owen until destroyed by fire. Later on a similar mill was erected by a company having a capital of \$52,000, but the enterprise proved unsuccessful. Still later James Shanahan became its owner, and it is now operated by him in company with John E. Ashe and William S. Briggs. A very important feature in the industries of the village

¹The first bridge across the river at Caughnawaga was chartered and constructed in 1811, but was carried away by the next spring freshet. The second bridge was built by a company chartered in 1823, the work being completed in 1824. This bridge, like that preceding it, was swept away by the flood of March 17, 1865. The present Fultonville and Fonda bridge was built during the summer of the last mentioned year. It is free, but those of earlier years exacted tolls.

are the custom flour and feed and also the roller flour mills of G. F. Mills & Co., also the flour mill operated by R. H. Smith, all of which are on the Cayadutta; also the paper mill, on the same stream. These, with a large and successful cheese factory, comprise nearly all there is in the line of manufactures, but it is highly probable that with such natural advantages the place will eventually become an extensive centre of industry. Fonda indeed has a very promising prospect in the future. The new court-house is a fine addition to its architecture, and the electric road adds much to its facilities.

Church History.—The Reformed Church of Fonda.—In 1763 the Reformed Dutch church of Caughnawaga was built, by the voluntary contributions of the settlers, among whom Sir William Johnson must be mentioned as a large donor. The structure was of stone, "standing with the southern gable to the street (the old turnpike), the steeple being on the rear end of the roof. It was lighted by eight windows and fronted eastward." On a stone tablet over the door was an inscription in Dutch as follows: "Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, and He will teach us His ways and we will walk in His paths."

The interior of the old church is best described by quoting from a historical sermon delivered by Rev. Thomas W. Jones in 1873. "It had a gallery upon its front side and across the ends. The pulpit, just large enough to admit one person, was on the west side, directly in front of the entrance door, and over it was a sounding board. On the left side of the door was a large square pew, which was said to have been occupied in his day by Sir William Johnson and his family. The portion under the north gallery was furnished with temporary benches designed to seat the Indian and negro slave worshippers."

The first pastor of the church, as has been stated, was Rev. Thomas Romeyn, whose services began in 1772, at which time the consistory was as follows: Elders, Peter Conyne, Johanes Kilts, Johanes Veeder, Frederick Dockstader; deacons, Adam Fonda, Louis Clement, Sampson Sammons, Charles Van Eps. Mr. Romeyn died in 1794, and was followed in the pastorate in 1795 by Rev. Abraham Van Horne, the consistory then being as follows: John Fonda, Garret Van Vrakelin, Joseph Printup, and Frederick Staring, elders; James Lansing, Abra-

ham Vosburgh, Johaness Van Antwerp, and Peter Quackenbush, deacons. The pastors of the church after Mr. Van Horne and until the edifice became private property, were as follows: Robert A. Quinn, called in 1833; Jacob D. Fonda, 1835. The society became indebted to Mr. Fonda for pastoral services, to secure which he purchased the church and parsonage for \$1,300 (the amount of his claim), and afterwards sold it to Rev. Douw Van O'Linda. The latter used the church as an academy, but after two or three years it was occupied as a dwelling. Later on it was purchased by Henry Veeder, and in 1868 it was demolished.

In 1843 the society built a church at the southwest corner of Railroad avenue and Centre street, which was dedicated in October of that year. Professor Andrew Yates of Union College supplied the pulpit about two years, followed in 1884 by the fifth pastor, Rev. Douw Van O'Linda. The latter was succeeded in 1859 by Rev. Philip Furbeck, who resigned in 1862. From that time until 1865 the pulpit was supplied by different clergymen, a large part of the time by Washington Frothingham. "During this period an important action was taken by this church, which materially changed the policy of its government, viz.: the establishment of a Board of Trustees for the purpose of relieving the consistory in the management of its temporal concerns."

The seventh pastor was Rev. John C. Boyd, settled in 1865, during whose pastorate (1868) the church was moved to its present location and substantially remodeled. Rev. Thomas W. Jones became pastor in November, 1870, and continued his labors until April, 1883, when he was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. John A. De Baun. The present membership of the church is about 430.

From 1763 until 1883 this church was known as the Reformed Dutch church of Caughnawaga, but in the last mentioned year, by an order of the court the name was changed to "Reformed Church of Fonda."

Zion Church, Protestant Episcopal.—The removal of the public buildings from Johnstown to Fonda led a number of Episcopal families to seek a residence in the new county seat, where Rev. John Noble, an Episcopal clergyman, frequently held services. Later on the rector of the Johnstown parish performed the same duty, but it was not until about 1864 that Zion parish was organized, with a small number of com-

municants. The church was begun in 1866, and was consecrated in May, 1869. A rector was in service during its early existence, but for many years it has chiefly depended on the Johnstown church for its clerical supplies. The present communicants number about thirty eight. The wardens are Richard H. Cushney and Henry T. E. Brower; vestrymen, Henry B. Cushney, Giles H. F. Van Horne, Edward B. Cushney, William Fonda, Robert Agnew, John S. Van Horne, Richard N. Casler, Henry Siver.

The Methodist Episcopal church of Fonda was organized in 1842 under charge of Rev. T. W. Pierson, during whose pastorate the first church home was secured. Later on the society built a frame edifice, which, to meet the growth of the congregation, has been twice enlarged, and was substantially rebuilt in 1878. The membership of the church is about 150, and the Sabbath-school about 100. Connected with the church are the Ladies' Aid Society and the Epworth League, the latter having 100 members.

The pastors of the church, with the years of their service, have been as follows: T. W. Pierson, 1842; S. Hart, 1843; Daniel Paige, 1844-45; Myron White, 1846-47; Horace Warner, 1848; G. C. Simmons, 1849-50; W. W. Pierce, 1851; A. W. Garvin, 1852-53; James Tubbs, 1854; Selah W. Brown, 1855-56; A. Wilmot, 1857; John Pegg, 1858; H. C. Sexton, 1859; A. Champlain, 1860; Robert A. Meredith, 1861; Zebulon Phillips, 1862; Jonah Phillips, 1863; M. A. Canoll, 1864; H. L. Grant, 1865-67; P. P. Harrower, 1868-69; H. L. Starks, 1870-72; M. A. Veeder, 1873-74; B. F. Livingston, 1875-77; E. A. Blanchard, 1878; Damas Brough, 1879-81; Milton Tator, 1882-83; George W. Brown, 1884-86; L. A. Dibble, 1887-88; J. W. Quinlan, 1888-91; George W. Brown, 1892.

St. Cecilia's Church (Roman Catholic).—Previous to 1882 this was a mission in charge of the Johnstown pastor, although the church on Main street was built in 1876, but even as far back as the building of the railroad and the canal, Catholic services were held in private dwellings, and by priests who journeyed to this locality from Albany and Troy. The reader will also learn by reading our previous chapters that the Jesuits prosecuted their missionary labors at old Caughnawaga during the seventeenth century. Hence we must conclude that the Roman

Catholics were the first to visit this field, although their labors were in no manner connected with the present church. In 1882 a resident priest was sent to Fonda and St. Cecilia's parish was then created. It now numbers about eighty families, and the pastors of the parish (which includes Tribes Hill) have been Rev. F. D. McGuire, appointed July 9, 1882; Rev. J. J. O'Brien, November 11, 1882; Rev. James Flood, appointment not given, and Rev. John W. Dolan, who was appointed June 26, 1888.

The Mohawk River Bank was organized in 1859, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The first board of directors comprised Daniel, David, George, James, Livingston, Joseph and Fraser Spraker, Abraham J. Davis, Richard H. Cushney, William B. Dievendorf, Isaac S. Frost, Simeon Snow and John Bowdish. The officers were Daniel Spraker, president; John Bowdish, vice-president; Earl S. Gillett, cashier, and Horace Van Evera, teller. The bank was organized and did business under the state law from its inception until 1865, and was then reorganized under the United States law by the name of National Mohawk River Bank. The old officers and directors continued in their respective positions, and the capital also remained unchanged. The bank has a surplus of \$30,000, and from its beginning has averaged an annual dividend of ten per cent. The present officers are Daniel Spraker, president; Richard H. Cushney, vice-president; J. Ledlie Hees, cashier, and J. J. Veeder, teller. Directors, Daniel Spraker, Frazer Spraker, B. F. Spraker, Richard H. Cushney, John H. Starin, and Jacob Dievendorf.

Newspapers.—The first newspaper published in this town was the *Mohawk Farmer*, indefinitely mentioned as having been printed at Caughnawaga "at an early day," but whence it came and whither it went has never been put on record.

In 1836, with the removal of the county seat, the *Johnstown Herald* was also brought to Fonda, a paper owned and published by Philip Reynolds, who changed its name to *Fonda Herald*, and continued its publication four or five years, then selling to William S. Hawley. In 1843 it was bought by Matthew Freeman and Darius V. Berry, by whom the name was changed to *Fonda Sentinel*. In 1846 Mr. Berry retired from the office, and two or three years later Mr. Freeman sold

to Junot J. Whitehouse, who in turn sold to Walter N. Clark. In the meantime the paper had been changed to *Mohawk Valley Democrat*, and was then edited by Isaac M. Gregory.¹ It afterward passed through several ownerships, among them being Clark & Thayer, Charles B. Freeman, Richard Van Antwerp, John E. Ashe, and by the latter it was sold in 1884 to Henry E. Ostrander, who is the present faithful editor and publisher.

The *American Star*, was started at Canajoharie April 5, 1855, by William S. Hawley, and five weeks later moved to Fonda. In 1856 the office was moved to Fultonville by C. B. Freeman, and the name of the paper changed to *Mohawk Valley American*, and it was united with the *Sentinel*. It afterward was fused into the *Mohawk Valley Democrat*.

Tribes Hill.—This pleasant village is located on an elevated part of the Mohawk turnpike, half way between Fonda and Amsterdam. Its population has never been large, nor has it been noted for business, but it has an exceedingly interesting history, which has been in part previously narrated. The lands in this vicinity were purchased by Hendrick and John Hanson, the first deed being executed by the chiefs and sachems of the Mohawk Indians, and afterward granted by the crown (through Governor Hunter), July 17, 1713, and contained two thousand acres. The Hansons settled here about the time the grant was made, and were therefore among the pioneers of the region. Henry Hanson is said to have been the first white child born north of the river. These early events, however, are so fully treated in an earlier part of this chapter that further allusion seems unnecessary. The name Tribes Hill was given to this locality many years ago, but no one knows its origin. Its population, though not large, is highly intelligent, and in this point it is in advance of many places more favored by business advantages. It is noted for bracing air and fine scenery, and this renders it an attractive summer resort. Its public buildings include a new

¹ Mr. Gregory's career since he left Fonda has been very successful. He has edited the *Schenectady Star*, also the *Troy Press*, and later on the *Troy Whig*. He was invited thence to become associate editor of the *Rochester Chronicle* and continued in this service a number of years after the paper fused with the *Democrat*. From Rochester he was invited to the *Buffalo Express*, where he made his mark and whence he was called to the *Elmira Free Press*. Next came an invitation to the editorship of the *Graphic*, a New York illustrated daily, which he conducted successfully for about three years and then he became editor of the *Judge*, a position which he has held since 1886 to the present time. This is certainly an unusual record for one who began as a type setter in a country office.

and spacious school-house and three churches, the broom factory and paper box factory. These, together with Bailey & Johnson's store and the small shops usually found in country villages, comprise its business interests, but a knitting-mill is to be erected, and this will be an important addition to the place.

The Presbyterian Church at Tribes Hill.—At a meeting held in the school-house, July 29, 1841, it was resolved "to build a meeting-house for the convenience and accommodation of the Presbyterian Church Society and congregation at Tribes Hill and its vicinity," and in December following, the society resolved to rent the "slips" in the "meeting-house" for one year. The first pastor of the church was Asa T. Clark, who was installed in the early spring of 1842, and remained about six years, being succeeded by Elnathan R. Atwater, who retired in December, 1850. Lewis M. Shepard became pastor May 18, 1851, and two years later was succeeded by Morgan L. Wood, the latter remaining but a short time on account of poor health. The next pastor was Peter J. Burnham, who was installed September 20, 1853, and remained nearly two years, being followed by William J. McCord for six years. William J. Blaine was installed in 1862, and continued pastor about six years. Since January 1, 1870, Washington Frothingham has supplied the pulpit,

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Tribes Hill was organized in 1863, D. W. Gates being the first pastor. The church was built during the year 1864, and was dedicated December 28. The succession of pastors is as follows: D. W. Gates, three years; A. G. Dievendorf, 1866-68; M. D. Jump, two years; A. W. Smith, two years; C. A. S. Heath, one year; William M. Stanley, one year; S. McChesney, removed; W. L. Wallace and G. H. La Grange, each two years. M. J. Osteyec has been appointed for the fourth year.

The Roman Catholic parish at Tribes Hill was organized in 1882, and prior to that time the place was an out station of Amsterdam. The priests in charge of the church at Fonda have also conducted the services at Tribes Hill. The first was Rev. F. D. McGuire, followed in succession by J. J. O'Brien, James Flood and John W. Dolan.

Schools.—To return to Fonda, previous to 1887 the schools of this place were conducted upon the same general plan as those of the

town at large. In the year above mentioned, however, upon the presentation of a petition, School District No. 6 was organized as the Union school, which, although a village institution, includes within its limits a larger area than that of the village itself. The first principal of the Union school was John H. Weinmann (now county school superintendent), who conducted it for five years, being succeeded by Charles A. Coons, the present principal. The annual expense of the school is about \$5,200. Connected with it is a fine library of about fourteen hundred volumes, consisting of valuable historical works, with a judicious collection of fiction and miscellaneous books. The fund with which the library was purchased was raised by subscription, and an annual appropriation is made for its enlargement, added to which is an equal amount furnished by the state. The present district officers are Edward B. Cushney, chairman; Ferguson Jansen, secretary; John C. Boyd, visiting committee.

The town of Mohawk is divided into ten school districts, being arranged, so far as possible, with reference to the convenience of the inhabitants. These schools require fourteen teachers who have an average daily attendance of 329, but the number of children is far greater. The aggregate value of school property is \$26,295.

Speaking of education, an important feature in this department is found in the Starin Industrial School, established by Mrs. John H. Starin, whose benefits are shared by Fonda, where Commodore Starin has purchased a building for the purpose. The object is the instruction of children according to their capacity, and to prepare them for future usefulness, and it has met highly encouraging success. The officers of the Fonda branch are as follows: Directors, Mrs. George F. Mills, assistant directors, Mrs. Edward B. Cushney, Mrs. John C. Boyd, Mrs. E. W. Richards, and Mrs. Alfred De Graff; treasurer, Miss Helen Simpson; secretary, Miss Helen Burtch; teacher of calisthenics, Miss Ella Barron.

CHAPTER XXIII.

TOWN OF GLEN.

THIS town, which lies directly south of the Mohawk, is bounded on the east by Schoharie creek (which separates Glen and Florida), on the south by Charleston, and on the west by Root. Its surface includes some beautiful flats, but consists principally of uplands, descending by abrupt declivities to the narrow intervalles along the streams. Auries creek, which has its source in the northwestern part of Charleston, flows in a northeasterly direction and empties into the Mohawk at Auriesville. It was named in memory of an Indian warrior known as "Aaron," which in Dutch is "Aurie." Irish creek, which is the only other important stream, flows in a northeasterly direction and empties into the Schoharie. An interesting natural feature of the town is a chalybeate spring located about one mile east of Glen village, in which neighborhood many attempts have been made to find iron ore, but without success. The water from the spring is very cold and refreshing, and contains iron and sulphur in moderate degrees, sufficient, however, to render it healthful. Another very curious feature in this town is an almost perpendicular bluff on Schoharie creek two miles from its mouth and known by the Indian name of "Cadaughrita." The face of this bluff towards the creek forms one side of a hill about fifty feet high, almost perfectly level on top, with a diamond shaped surface of nearly three acres. All sides of the hill are equally precipitous. The soil in most portions of the town is a loam mixed with clay. The farmers for many years devoted themselves almost entirely to dairying, and as a result many cheese factories were built, but of late the high prices paid for hay has led to the general cultivation of that crop, which is now the principal product.

Glen was formed from Charleston, April 10, 1823, and named in honor of Jacob Saunders Glen, formerly a prominent man of the town, and a patentee of ten thousand acres within its limits. This entire area,



Joel. C. Van Horne

including that of the towns of Charleston and Florida, constituted the Mohawk district until 1788, and also the town of Mohawk until 1793, when the territory east of Schoharie creek became Florida, and that west became Charleston.

The early land patents comprising portions of the present town of Glen included the following: Meebee patent, 80 acres, located near the Cadaughrita, granted to John Peterson Meebee, July 20, 1705; and another tract of 600 acres, granted to his brother Peter, April 15, 1726; the two Scott patents, one of 1,500 acres, granted to Lieut. John Scott, October 22, 1722; and another granted to his son and namesake, June 23, 1725, containing 1,100 acres; the two Ten Eyck patents of 1,500 and 185 acres, granted April 29, 1726, and April 20, 1761, to Hendrick Ten Eyck; the Shuckburgh patent of 1,280 acres granted to Richard Shuckburgh and Jacobus Van Dyke, May 28, 1755; the Visger patent, of 900 acres, granted to Johannes Visger, February 25, 1726; Corry's patent, of 25,400 acres, granted to William Corry, George Clark and others, November 19, 1737; and the Aurieskill patent, of 10,000 acres, granted to James De Lancey and four others, November 12, 1737.

First White Settlement.—It is supposed that the Mabie (Meebee) brothers, who obtained the first of the above mentioned patents, moved on to the land soon after 1705, and hence were the first permanent white settlers in Glen. The next pioneer of whom there is any record was Peter Quackenboss, one of three brothers who emigrated from Holland to New York early in the eighteenth century. Quackenboss located on part of Captain Scott's patent, only two or three years after it was granted. He resided for many years at the old Leslie Voorhees place near Auries creek, and had several children, all of whom were grown to mature years when he first came to this country. The story of the romantic courtship of his eldest son, David, who married Ann, daughter of Captain Scott, is still remembered by some of the older residents of the town. The wooing was romantic, inasmuch as David, while plying the suit of a young officer under Scott's command (like John Alden), unconsciously gained the young lady's affections himself. A result of the union thus accomplished was a son, born in 1725, which was named John, and is supposed to have been the first white child born on the south side of the river, between Fort Hunter and the Canajoharie settlements.

The pioneer settlers of Glen included sixteen Irish families brought hither about 1740, under the patronage of William Johnson, afterward baronet. They were located on lands a few miles southwest of Fort Hunter, owned by Henry Shelp and comprising a part of the Corry patent. These families did not remain long, however, for disturbances arising among the Indians a few years later, led them to abandon their rude dwellings and return to Ireland.

Richard Hoff, Marcus Hand, John Ostrom and Matthias Mount settled in the town previous to the revolution. Cornelius Conover and his son Isaac also located here about the same time, the former building a block-house for protection against the Indians. Seth Conover, who came from New Jersey, was also a pioneer, settling in Glen about 1785.

Among those who located in the town during the closing years of the last century were J. R. Van Evera, John Van Derveer, John Edwards, and John H. Voorhees. Still later additions to the population were the Vedders, Silmsers, Vrooman, Wood, Pruyn, Putman and Enders.

George Cuck, a notorious tory who had often led the blood-thirsty scalping parties of Brant and Johnson, was captured in this town in the fall of 1779. He had not been seen in the country for some time and it was supposed that he had returned to Canada, but toward spring it became known that he was concealed at the house of John Van Zuyler, who lived near the residence of the late Major James Winne. The secret transpired through information imparted to James Cromwell, a young man who was paying attention to one of Van Zuyler's daughters. A party consisting of Lieutenant Quackenboss, Isaac and Abraham Covenhoven, John Ogden, Jacob Collier, Abraham J., and Peter J. Quackenboss, Martin Gardinier, James Cromwell, Gilbert Van Aistyne, Nicholas Gardinier, Henry Thompson and Nicholas Quackenboss surrounded the house, discovered Cuck's place of concealment and shot him. Van Zuyler was then arrested and sent prisoner to Albany.

Many of the settlements in Glen suffered severely from the ravages of the revengeful tories and Indians in 1780.

Early Mills.—Peter and Simon Mabie built the first saw-mill and carding machine in the town, probably about 1797. The first grist-mill was erected about the same time by Peter Quackenboss. It stood

about a quarter of a mile from Auriesville on the bank of the creek, and the excavation made for the old race-way can still be seen.

The first store in Glen of which any record can be obtained was kept by Abraham D. Quackenboss, who erected a building for that purpose, the brick being made on the premises. This store stood about two miles below the present village of Fultonville. By strict integrity and honest dealing with the Indians, who constituted the larger share of his patrons, Quackenboss built up a large business for those times, and when the revolution became imminent his Indian friends tried¹ to persuade him to go with them to Canada. Their proposition was met by a prompt refusal, but so sincere was their respect for him that they solemnly resolved not to molest any portion of his goods or property. It appears, however, that during a raid, some time later, the Indians helped themselves freely to such of the contents of his store as were eatable, but did not harm the buildings. Among the raiders was a man named Harrington, who had formerly been in Quackenboss's employ, and he, remaining behind, applied the torch to the store. When the Indians learned of this they were so incensed at the breach of compact, that a tomahawk was leveled at Harrington's head, and it is said one savage dealt him a terrific blow, but after further consultation he was allowed to live.

John Rossa began business in the Quackenboss residence at the close of the war, and his was the only store in the town until John Smith began trading on the site of Glen village in 1797. Other merchants will be mentioned in connection with the separate villages further on in this chapter.

Schools, Past and Present.—John Hazard taught the first school in the town, this early place of learning being the house of Abraham D. Quackenboss, above mentioned. The school was opened shortly after the close of the revolution and at that time was the only one within a great distance. A very early school-house stood on the river road, near Mill Point, and its master, whose name was McCready, maintained strict discipline by the free use of the rod. Another school was erected at this point about 1820. The district school system was generally adopted throughout the state at the beginning of the present century, and since then there has been a gradual improvement both in impart-

ing instruction and also in physical culture. In the work of education Glen holds a very creditable position, the town being divided into nine school districts, with 690 children of school age, of which number 497 are pupils, the average daily attendance is 264 and twelve teachers are employed, to whom the sum of \$4,303.42 was paid in salaries during 1891. The school libraries contain 680 volumes, their total value being \$276, and the various school buildings are valued at \$21,150.

Civil Organization.—The first town meeting in Glen was held on the first Tuesday in April, 1823, at which time the following board of officers was elected: Supervisors, William Putman; town clerk, Ebenezer Green; assessors, James Vorhees, Thomas Van Derveer and Jacob F. Starin; commissioners of highways, Jacob F. Lansing and Henry M. Gardinier; overseers of the poor, Elijah Mount and Christian Enders; commissioners of schools, John C. Van Alstine and Howland Fish; inspector of schools, Cornelius C. Van Horne; collector, Abraham Aumack; constables, John C. Smith, William L. Hollady and Bement Sloan.

The supervisors of the town from 1823 to the present time, and the dates of their service, are as follows: William Putman, 1823; Christian Enders, 1824; Abraham V. Putman, 1825-28; Peter Wood, 1829-31; Abraham V. Putman, 1832-33; Peter Wood, 1834; James Winner, 1835; Harmanus Mabee, 1836-38; Peter Wood, 1839; Garrett Marlett, 1840; Abraham V. Putman, 1841; William B. Wemple, 1842-44; Garrett Enders, 1845-47; Peter Van Evera, 1848-50; William B. Wemple, 1851; Peter Van Evera, 1852; Victor A. Putman, 1853-55; Lewis Van Epps, 1856; Victor A. Putman, 1857-58; Lewis Van Epps, 1859; Frothingham Fish, 1860; Jacob Pruyn, 1861; William H. Printup, 1862; Frothingham Fish, 1863; Victor A. Putman, 1864; L. J. Bennett, 1865; William H. Wemple, 1866-67; John K. Van Horne, 1868-70; John O. Vedder, 1871-72; William R. Chapman, 1873; Edward Wemple, 1874-76; Richard Winne, 1877-79; J. S. G. Edwards, 1880; John H. Morrison, 1881; William H. Baird, 1882-83; Jay H. Faulkner, 1884-85; Henry Johnson, 1886-88; Jacob J. Veeder, 1889; Richard Winne, 1890; John V. Putman, 1891-92.

The town clerks during a corresponding period are as follows: Ebenezer Green, 1823-24; Jonathan Lee, 1825-28; John Ostrom, jr.,

1829-31; Jacob J. Enders, 1832-33; Garrett Marlett, 1834; John Hanchet, 1835-36; John Visser, 1837-39; Andrew J. Abel, 1840-41; John Perrin, 1842; Joseph Nolan, 1843-44; John Visser, 1845-48; William S. Smith, 1849-50; William H. Aumack, 1851-52; Jacob J. Enders, 1853-54; Joseph Noxon, 1855; Philip Pruyn, 1856; John Visser, 1857; Giles H. Mount, 1858-60; Richard Van Antwerp, 1861; Gilbert H. Manning, 1862; H. N. Vorhees, 1863; George Ehle, 1864; William H. Wemple, 1865; Charles H. Quackenbush, 1866-67; Peter D. Wood, 1868-69; Wellington Cross, 1870; Silius W. Horning, 1871; Charles J. Ostrom, 1872-73; John F. Clement, 1874; Delevan Polhamus, 1875; Bartholomew Foody, 1876; Seward Kline, 1877; Delevan Polhamus, 1878-79; Henry Johnson, 1880-81; Jacob J. Veeder, 1882-83; Peter McTaggart, 1884-85; Horace E. Hoag, 1886; Frank A. Perkins, 1887-88; John C. Marlette, 1889-90; Willis Baird, 1891; F. S. Veeder, 1892.

The principal town officers at present are: Supervisor, John V. Putman; town clerk, Frank S. Veeder; justices of the peace, H. H. Rulison, Richard Relyea, J. H. Ostrom and George M. Albot; assessors, Nicholas Goodard, Peter H. Mabee and Adam D. Frank; collector, Isaac J. Tallmadge.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

Auriesville, situated at the mouth of the creek from which it takes its name, was the first collection of houses in Glen of sufficient importance to deserve the name of village. The grist-mill erected by Peter Quackenboss within a quarter of a mile of this place shortly after the revolution, attracted the farmers for a long distance. Auriesville became the centre of considerable trade about the beginning of the present century, when Robert Dunbar opened a store on the site of the village. A short time afterward, and prior to the completion of the canal, Jeremiah Smith engaged in trade at this point, carrying a large stock of goods, and doing a profitable business. John C. Van Alstine conducted a store in Auriesville from 1814 until 1855, and was postmaster for many years. The post-office was established there January 26, 1824, Allen H. Jackson receiving the first appointment. Among his successors have

been John Hand, John C. Van Alstine, William Irving, David Wood, John C. Putman, and the present incumbent, George J. Abel.

A short distance east from Auriesville is a small private cemetery, surrounded by fir trees, which mark the graves of the parents of the late James Archibald, of Scranton, one of the ablest civil engineers of his day. He accompanied his parents from Scotland in early youth, and was reared in Auriesville, whence he engaged in constructing the Delaware and Hudson canal under the superintendence of John B. Jervis. Mr. Archibald did more to open the early resources of northern Pennsylvania than any other man, and in addition to his distinction in science is his rare beauty of personal character.

The Reformed Church of Auriesville was organized just prior to the middle of the present century, under the direction of Rev. Mr. Jukes. Among the pastors of this society was Rev. John Nott (a son of President Nott, of Union College), and Rev. Francis M. Kip, the latter being succeeded in 1883 by the present minister, Rev. John C. Boyd, whose residence is in Fonda. The society embraces about sixty communicants, and has an active Sunday-school with 100 scholars, of which Milan Pierce is superintendent.

A short distance east of Auriesville, on an eminence of ground, is located "The Shrine," a place of religious worship for adherents of the Roman Catholic faith. Pilgrimages are made to this spot by large numbers of Romanists during each season. The "Shrine" is supposed to mark the spot where a Jesuit missionary was killed by the Indians during the seventeenth century,

Glen village, situated on the highlands four miles south of Fultonville, near the centre of the town, was settled during the closing years of the revolution, and was for a long time afterward known as Voorheesville. The first merchant at this place was John Smith, who opened a store there in 1797. Later on Peter Voorhees began business there, and from him the village took its early name. He afterwards removed to Lysander, and his son, Henry P. Voorhees, became a successful merchant in Fultonville.

The post-office at Glen was established May 19, 1823, and the first appointment was given to Cornelius H. Putman. His successors include Jacob Burton, Hermon P. Maybee, William A. Kelley, John

Hanchet, Adam Smith, Alonzo Putman, William H. Steinberg, Philip Pruyn, John Visher, John V. S. Edwards, Joseph Noxon, Tunis Van Derveer and the present incumbent, Edward Edwards.

There are two churches in the village, both of which sprang from the first Reformed Dutch Church of Glen, which was organized in 1795, the house of worship being soon begun but very slowly finished, and services, indeed, were held in it while it was in progress. Edward Jenks was the first minister, and Peter Vrooman filled the office of deacon for many years. The old building was used until 1842, when it was removed by J. V. S. Edwards, and another erected in its place, meetings being held in the latter until 1876, when it was destroyed by fire and the present beautiful church erected. The Rev. Joseph Thyne, who resides in Johnstown, officiates at this church.

The True Dutch Reformed Church of Glen resulted from a dissension in the above mentioned congregation, but is not flourishing at present. The last minister was Rev. N. A. Fish, of Albany, who officiated at the meetings of this society until his death. Mr. Lansing then led the meetings for a time, but advancing years finally compelled him to relinquish his task, and no regular services are now held.

Mill Point is situated on Schoharie creek, and in early times was the centre of considerable business. Francis Saltz settled directly opposite this place about the middle of the last century and together with "Boss" Putman purchased the Shuckburg patent of 1,200, acres on a portion of which Mill Point is located. He sold the site of the place to a son-in-law named McCready, disposing of another farm to a second son-in-law named George Young, and a third farm to his grandson, Francis Frederick. It is said that he conveyed two hundred acres of land to Peter Crush upon condition that the latter should marry his youngest daughter, who was a cripple and unable to walk. Crush accepted, built a house on the tract and then carried his wife to it upon his back.

Fultonville is the youngest village in Glen, but owing to its favorable location on the Erie canal, it long ago became the chief centre of trade and population, outstripping the older and more remote settlements. Its early importance as a trading point was due to the construction of the canal, by which coal and merchandise destined to points on the north side of the river, and also in Fulton county, naturally found an outlet.

Later on Fultonville became the southern terminus of a plank road leading to Johnstown and the building of the West Shore road has added much to its importance.

The comfort and elegance which characterize the homes of the village, as well as the beauty of its streets and private grounds, are due to the good taste which forms so prominent a feature among its leading families.

In revolutionary days the site of Fultonville was known as "Van Epp's Swamp," a large portion of the land being then owned by the Van Epps family, whose pioneer (Charles Van Epps) located here at a very early day. It may be said that even at the beginning of the present century the place had but little growth, but in 1795 John Starin established an inn on the bank of the Mohawk, a few rods south of the present bridge, and this seemed a beginning of future development. He was a grandson of Nicholas Starin, one of the pioneers of the valley, and was born near the present site of the village in 1750. He served in the revolution and so did eight other members of the family, a record of patriotism which is indeed rare. Some years later John Starin opened a store in connection with the inn. His son Myndert, born in 1787, carried the Johnstown mail on horseback, and as the circuit court was often held at his father's public house, he early gained a knowledge of general affairs. Upon the close of the war of 1812, in which he participated, he began a successful business in Johnstown, and later on removed to Sammons ville, but in 1822 various circumstances led him to return to his native place, and entering into partnership with Thomas Robinson, the firm of Starin & Robinson was formed. They purchased a large tract, including the present site of Fultonville, which was then laid out and named after Robert Fulton, the founder of steam navigation. The firm embarked into various branches of industry, their plant including mills for sawing lumber, grinding grain, making paper, spinning wool and dressing cloth. The Erie canal, which was then in process of construction, led the firm to build a dry dock and boat yard, and thus the foundation of the present village was laid.

The business interests of the place were increased in 1825 by Henry P. Voorhees, who established a store on the south bank of the canal. He was a native of Glen, having been born about 1794 near the settle

ment known as "Log Town." His father, Peter Voorhees, was for a number of years a successful merchant in Voorheesville, now called Glen village. Henry P. Voorhees was the leading merchant of Fultonville for many years, increasing his facilities for trade each year and gaining a wide reputation as well as making a fortune. He built a large store and also warehouses near the canal, and afterwards admitted to partnership William A. Mears who had long served him as a faithful clerk. Mr. Mears built a dwelling and was a successful business man, but is now passed away, leaving a happy memory. To return to Mr. Voorhees. He erected the mansion long known as the "Voorhees place" and remained in business until 1856, when advancing years led him to retire. He then removed to New Castle, Del., where the remaining years of a long and busy life were passed.

We may also mention in this connection a number of other firms who were engaged in business in the village during its early days and who will be remembered by some of the older residents. Among them were Clark & Post, Devoe & Martin, McArthur & McKinley, Plantz & Argersinger, Crumwell & Fink, Frisby & McConkey, Shuler & Wilcox, Blood & Conyne, Scott Campbell, S. F. Underwood, Starin & Freeman, L. V. Peek & Co., and Chapman & Fonda. Canal stores were also carried on at the lower end of the village by Peter Fonda and Henry Starin, and indeed the canal trade was in those days an important factor in the prosperity of the place.

Among the representatives of the medical profession during the opening years of the present century we recall the name of Dr. Alexander Sheldon, who was a man of much prominence. He was elected to the assembly in 1800, and afterwards re-elected for several terms, during which he frequently held the office of speaker. Other early physicians were Drs. Lathrop, Van Est, and Smith. Dr. Thompson Burton, a native of Charleston, after practicing several years in that town, located at Fultonville in 1846 and continued in service until his last illness. He was at the time of his death the oldest physician in the county.

In the legal profession we recall Howland Fish, father of Judge Frothingham Fish, the latter still a resident of Fultonville, also Isaac H. Tiffany, a native of Keene, N. H., who held a respectable rank and passed his declining years in Fultonville where he died in 1859, aged eighty

years. He read law with Aaron Burr, but the majority of his professional life was spent in Schoharie county.

Fultonville is adorned by the magnificent residence and grounds of Commodore John H. Starin, which is the finest country seat in this state, west of the Hudson. Nature has done much, but art, and taste, and wealth have been required to give that perfection which marks this establishment. The grounds are thrown open to the public on certain days of the week by the generous proprietor, and the public improves the opportunity to enjoy the flowers, statuary and prospect to which they are thus made welcome.

The post office at Fultonville was established December 12, 1832, and William M. Gardinier received the first appointment. His successors and the years in which they were appointed are Cornelius Gardinier, 1841; William Shuler, 1843; John H. Starin, 1849; William Shuler, 1853; Giles H. Mount, 1861; J. H. Morrison, 1885; and William Wiles, the present incumbent, who took charge of the office October 1, 1889.

Fultonville was incorporated by act of the legislature, June 19, 1848, and the election of officers took place on the 10th of the next August. The first trustees were Andrew J. Yates, Howland Fish, William B. Wemple, Thomas R. Horton and Delancey D. Starin. The first clerk was Frothingham Fish. The present officers are Robert Wemple, president; William H. Wemple, W. A. Fuller, William Foody, trustees; Adam A. Snyder, collector; O. F. Conable, treasurer; and Frank S. Veeder, clerk.

Among the notable public improvements which have taken place in recent years may be mentioned the paving of Main street with wooden blocks from the bridge to the Reformed Church. The work was done during the summer of 1891, and cost about \$6,500, but it has given general satisfaction.

The first bridge across the Mohawk connecting Fultonville and Caughnawaga was a low wooden structure, built in 1811. It was swept away by high water and a ferry was used until 1823, when a covered bridge was built. The second structure was in use until March 17, 1865, when it also was carried away by a flood, and the present iron bridge was built during the following summer. The plank road between Ful-

tonville and Johnstown was constructed in 1849, but it has been discontinued between Fonda and Fultonville.

The Reformed Protestant (Dutch) Church of Fultonville is the oldest religious body in the village, dating its organization from November 24, 1838, when it was formed through the assistance of a delegation from the Caughnawaga church. The society rapidly increased and a house of worship was erected in November, 1839, on land bestowed for this purpose by the Putman family. The first pastor was Rev. David Dyer, who was succeeded by Rev. J. M. Van Buren. During the latter's pastorate the church and its contents were destroyed by fire, after which services were held in the school-house for several years. Another house of worship was erected in 1856. Mr. Van Buren remained with the society until 1852 and was succeeded in the pastorate by the Rev. Ransford Wells, who came in 1857 and remained eleven years. Among his successors may be mentioned Revs. H. S. Teller, J. L. Kip, jr., and F. V. Van Vranken, the latter having just finished a successful pastorate of ten years, and accepted a call to Philmont. His successor is Rev. William Schmitz. The present membership of the society is about 130, connected with which is an active Sunday-school of which Giles H. Mount was superintendent for eight years and Rev. Mr. Van Vranken about three years.

The Methodist Episcopal society of Fultonville was organized January 31, 1854, with twelve members, and the present church was built during the same year. The first minister was Rev. N. G. Spaulding, and among his successors we may recall Revs. J. W. Carhart, Homer Eaton, F. Widmer, A. J. Dievendorf, H. D. Kimball, John Pegg, Eri Baker, D. Cronk, Harmon Chase, P. P. Harrower, J. P. Huller and F. P. Youlen, all of whom filled the pastorate of this church prior to 1878. In that year Rev. J. R. Truax was appointed to the charge, being followed in 1879 by Rev. C. W. Rowley. Rev. H. C. Baskerville came in 1880, and was succeeded by Rev. A. H. Nash in 1881. Rev. W. H. Hoag was pastor from 1884 until the appointment of Rev. E. C. Hoyt in 1886. The latter remained three years and was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. G. W. Easton, in 1890. The church has about seventy members and the Sunday-school 125 scholars, Lester Carson being superintendent.

Cemeteries.—Fultonville has two beautiful cemeteries. One of these, situated on the hill southwest of the village, is a model of the landscape gardener's art, and was established by the citizens of the village in the fall of 1848. The ground was purchased from Garret Yates by a committee composed of Henry P. Voorhees, Cornelius Gardinier, Everett Yates, Joseph Miller and Howland Fish. The land was then laid out into suitable plots and sold at auction. Additional territory has since been purchased and the beauty and attractiveness of the place greatly enhanced by Commodore John H. Starin, who has also at great expense erected a magnificent mausoleum for his family.

The Maple Avenue Cemetery association was formed in 1873 and assumed the management of Maple Avenue Cemetery, a beautiful place of mortuary rest, situated on the hill about half a mile east of the village. The natural features of this ground have been increased by careful improvement, thus rendering it very attractive.

Newspapers, past and present.—The *Montgomery County Whig*, a weekly paper, was started at Fultonville in May, 1840, by Flavius J. Mills and within a year was rented to Benjamin F. Pinkham, who continued it until March, 1841. It then passed into the hands of Thomas R. Horton, who conducted it through many vicissitudes for nearly forty-nine years, with the exception of two years during the late rebellion, when he left the paper in charge of his brother, J. W. Horton. Its title was changed to the *Montgomery County Republican* in 1857, under which it is still published, having been purchased by Abram D. Smith in September, 1890. Mr. Smith is a practical journalist, and has been rewarded in his efforts by the increase in circulation, which has doubled since it came under his control.

The *Mohawk Valley American* was edited and published in 1856 by Charles B. Freeman, who conducted it with a fair degree of success until 1864, when he purchased the *Fonda Sentinel*, and united the two papers under the name of the *Mohawk Valley Democrat*, whose publication has been successfully continued.

The Masonic order is represented in Fultonville by Fultonville Lodge, No. 531, F. & A. M. The present officers are William B. Wemple, W. M.; G. L. Davis, S. W.; A. Z. Wemple, J. W.; Charles Rickard, treasurer; F. H. Saunders, secretary; Harry Empie, S. D.; G. Ander-

son, J. D.; F. Houbertz, S. M. C.; D. C. Nellis, J. M. C.; J. C. Gilbert, tyler.

The manufacturing and industrial interests of a village contribute so much to its general prosperity, that we now offer a brief view of these operations in Fultonville. The most extensive is the Starin Silk Fabric Company, of which Alfred De Graff is president. This enterprise was established several years ago and is now giving employment to upwards of 150 workers.

The factory of Myers & Parker, who manufacture brooms and brushes in great variety, is located in the western part of the village near the river. This enterprise furnishes employment to about 100 workers.

The Mohawk Valley Lumber Company operates a very extensive factory, which is under the supervision of James S. Burr.

The foundry of William B. Wemple's Sons on the south bank of the canal is one of the oldest plants of its kind in Montgomery county. The firm of Wemple & Yates, which was established in 1845, began business on the north side of the canal opposite the present works, and succeeding in part to the original foundry that had been carried on there since the beginning of inland navigation. In 1847 the foundry was moved to its present quarters. Wemple & Yates were successively followed by Wemple, Yates & Co., William B. Wemple & Sons, and later by the present firm, which is composed of Nicholas, William H., and Edwin Wemple. The firm is engaged in general foundry work and the manufacture of iron water wheels.

W. B. Cross & Co. operate the extensive flour and feed mills on the south bank of the canal, formerly conducted by P. Van Antwerp & Son, and furnishes employment to a number of men.

The Fultonville National Bank was organized January 1, 1883, and opened its doors for business on the 13th of March following, with a capital of \$50,000. The officers of the institution are John H. Starin, president; Alfred De Graff, vice-president; Lorenzo V. Peek, cashier, and O. F. Conable, teller.

One of the most important of the beneficent efforts, not only in Fultonville, but also in the Mohawk valley, is the Starin Industrial School founded by Mrs. John A. Starin for the purpose of instructing children according to their needs and capacity, and fit them for future usefulness.

The president is Mrs. Frothingham Fish ; vice-president, Mrs. Isaac M. Davis, and secretary, Mrs. Lorenzo V. Peek. The institution has been in successful operation for several years, and its benefits have been widely shared, hundreds indeed of pupils having been in attendance. A branch of this school has been formed in Fonda, where Commodore Starin has recently purchased a building for the purpose. The commodore has also conferred on Fultonville a spacious and elegant free reading room with a large and well selected library, which is the resort of all who desire mental improvement. Both sexes are equally welcome, and the goodly attendance shows how the institution is appreciated. The commodore purchased a building for the purpose, now known as Cobblestone Hall, and it has been adapted with both convenience and elegance to its present use. ¹

CHAPTER XXIV.

TOWN OF FLORIDA.

IN 1772, soon after the creation of Tryon county, its territory was divided into districts, that part lying most easterly being called Mohawk, which of course included the lands now forming this town. In 1788 Mohawk itself was divided and formed into townships, the portion north of the river taking the name of Caughnawaga, and the south part retaining the original name of Mohawk. On March 12, 1793, the towns of Florida and Charleston were created from the mother township, by which action the old historic name was abandoned, and not again revived until 1837.

Florida includes all the lands of the county lying south of the Mohawk and east of Schoharie creek, and is the largest in area, except Root, of any of the towns of the county, containing 28,364 acres. The greater

¹The building thus referred to was erected by the late Jephth R. Simms, the historian of the Mohawk valley, who there wrote his "Border Wars" which first gave him prominence. Later on he removed to Fort Plain where he passed the remainder of his life. His last work, "The Frontiersmen of New York," is a full detail of local history, such as no other man could have written, and has given its author distinction.

part of the surface is a rolling upland, about 600 feet above the valley. Bean Hill, in the south part of the town, is the highest point of land in the county, and estimated to be 700 feet above tide. The Mohawk on the north, and Schoharie creek on the west, are the largest streams touching the town, while the Chuctenunda and Cowilliga (said to signify "Willow") creeks are watercourses within the town, the first named being the larger and the latter less in size.

The earliest occupants of this region were the Mohawk Indians, and within the limits of the town, at the north of Schoharie creek, was one of their three most famous castles. This place in Mohawk language was called "Icanderoga" or "Teondeloga," meaning "two streams coming together." The castle which stood near the place was called "Os-sev-ne non," or "One-on-gon-re," according to New York Colonial History, and has been described as "a square surrounded with palisades, without bastions or out works." We may add that the enclosure was large enough to admit of the erection of huts for the inhabitants of the locality. However, in 1693, Frontenac and his French and Canadian Indian forces invaded the Mohawk county and destroyed three of their most important castles, that at the mouth of the Schoharie, called the lower castle, being of the number.

Soon after 1700 the Germans who had made a temporary home on the banks of the Hudson, began settlement in the valley of the Mohawk, which had first been promised them, and by the year 1710 they had extended their settlements west of Schenectady. These lands, as has been stated, had been promised them under the patronage of Queen Anne, who was their generous protector, and induced them to emigrate to the new world. The settlement by the Germans in this region at the time, however, was attended with much danger, and to protect them as far as possible, forts were built at various points in the valley, one being at the site of the old castle at the mouth of the Schoharie. This was done during the time of Governor Hunter, and the fort was named in his honor. The contract for its construction was taken October 11, 1711, by Garrett Symouce, Barent and Hendrick Vrooman, John Wemp and Arent Van Patten. The walls were formed of logs, well pinned together and twelve feet high, the enclosure being 150 feet square. After the close of the French war (1763) the fort was abandoned,

Surrounded by the palisades of Fort Hunter, and in the centre of the enclosure, stood the historic edifice known as Queen Anne's Chapel. It was erected by the builders of the fort, being in fact a part of their contract. It was built of limestone, was twenty-four feet square, with a belfry. The chapel was built by order of Queen Anne at her own expense, and she also gave a Bible and a valuable set of plate for the communion table. The ruins of the old fort were torn down at the beginning of the revolution and the chapel surrounded by heavy palisades, block-houses being built at the corners on which cannon were mounted. During the war Fort Hunter was garrisoned, a part of the time being under command of Captain Tremper, and here, also, the friendly Oneidas found a safe refuge when in danger of attack from the British, or their former Iroquois friends, but now dreaded enemies. During the construction of the Erie canal it became necessary to remove the chapel, its walls being used in building locks.

In accordance with the English custom a glebe of 300 acres was attached to Queen Anne's chapel. It was placed under the ownership of the "Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts," under whose care the chapel and a missionary was maintained for more than sixty years.

The statement has been made, although we fail to discover any reliable record to confirm it, that the lands now included by the town of Florida were originally a part of a vast tract purchased from the Indians by Walter Butler. About the year 1737 Sir Peter Warren, uncle and patron of William Johnson (afterward the baronet), became the owner of a large tract in the town, his grantors being Charles Williams and others, who were the patentees of 14,000 acres. The Warren purchase became known as "Warren's Bush," and was a part of the estate over which William Johnson, land agent, became superintendent. On the death of Sir Peter, the unsold portion of this estate was conveyed in three parts, one to Charles Fitzroy (Lord Southampton), one to the Earl of Abingdon, and the other to Henry and Susannah Gage. The lands about Fort Hunter, and extending across Schoharie creek, were patented July 20, 1705, to John Peterson Mabie. The patentees of other lands in the town (all granted in 1735) were Edward and Phillas Harrison, Anne Wilmot, Maynard and Elizabeth Guerin, Henry Crosby and William Crosby, jr.

William Johnson came to this vicinity in the spring of 1738, where he acted as agent for Sir Peter Warren. His first location was on the south bank of the Mohawk, about a mile below the village of Port Jackson, where he opened a store in connection with his land traffic, and sold goods to the settlers and Indians. His profits were large, enabling him to make land purchases which ultimately resulted in a handsome fortune. In 1742 Johnson began preparations for the erection of a large and comfortable mansion on the north side of the river (in the present town of Amsterdam), which he occupied in 1744, and to which was given the name Mount Johnson. About a mile or two below Johnson's store dwelt the pioneers, Alexander and Hamilton Phillips, with whom lived Catherine Weisenbergh, the German girl who became housekeeper for the young land agent and merchant, and whom he afterward married.

The Germans or Palatines (as they were called) who settled in the valley had not at that time any valid title to the land, but were considered as tenants by sufferance, and it was not until the lands were patented that a permanent occupation took place. The efforts of the land agent and merchant, Johnson, contributed largely to this end. He sold and rented parcels of the Warren tract, cleared the land and planted orchards. Martinus Cline and Francis Saltz leased farms on the Warren tract nearly opposite Mill Point, about 1750, the Cline farm being north of Saltz. Peter Young was another pioneer who settled on the east bank of Schoharie creek. He leased lands on the Warren tract paying an annual rent of five shillings ten pence for ten years, but eventually he became owner. Peter Young had three sons, George, William and Peter, jr., all of whom married and settled in the town. Peter Young's wife rendered great assistance to the distressed inhabitants of the locality during the war, she having relatives among the Tories, and therefore being in no fear of them. Indian invasions of the region were frequent, and the mere sight of a few hostile savages and Tories naturally alarmed the whole settlement and caused them to flee to a camping place on the Young farm, where the good woman provided them with food. The Young farm contains an old burying-ground in which is interred the remains of several generations of this pioneer family.

In the Young neighborhood lived Philip Frederick, who had previously married the daughter of Francis Saltz. Frederick cleared a farm and built a house, but what was of still greater importance, he also constructed a grist-mill which proved a great convenience to the settlers.

Abraham Van Horne, whose name is associated with many important events of early history of Tryon county, settled on a farm about one mile south of the Young place. He was member of assembly in 1777-78-79-80-81, and again in 1786. He was also sheriff of the county in 1781. He was a thorough patriot, and took an active part in the war. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Hoff, is likewise worthy of mention, for by her sympathy and still more generous aid she contributed greatly to the comfort of the neighborhood.

The first bridge of any importance ever built over Schoharie creek was that constructed in 1796 at Fort Hunter by Major Isaiah Depuy, who, at the time of his death (1804), was a resident of Fultonville. After its completion a stage route was established along the south side of the river from Albany to Canajoharie and adjacent settlements. In 1814 Christian Service, a tanner and manufacturer of boots and shoes, living in Florida, was drowned while attempting to cross this bridge. The accident occurred in the night, the ice having carried away the eastern portion of the bridge, a fact unknown to the unfortunate man, who urged his team with a whip, and they leaped into the water, carrying himself and the sleigh with them. David Cady, a land surveyor, settled in Florida about 1780, and became agent for the Watts tract, a part of the original Warren's Bush. He married Anne Shuler and lived in Florida until his death, in 1818. He was one of the early merchants of the town, and held the offices of justice, supervisor, county judge, member of assembly, and also a commission as captain of militia. Daniel Cady, afterward a distinguished lawyer and judge of the Supreme Court, lived for a time at David Cady's house, but he moved to Johnstown about 1795 and there rose to a position of eminence.

Among the other early prominent men of Florida we may recall the name of Samuel Jackson, merchant and capitalist, who filled various town offices, and was further honored with a seat in the state legislature and nomination as presidential elector. In addition to those who have

been mentioned as early settlers in Florida, there may also be recalled the names of other heads of families, such as Shuler, Overbaugh, Serviss, Ruff, Pettengill, Staley, Schuyler, Reynolds, Hill, Bent, Smith, Stanton, Vanderveer, Hale, Vorhees, De La Mater, Johnson, Green, Ellis, Herrick, De Graff, Cholett, Murray, Covenhoven, Earl, Clayton, Quackenboss, Snook, Gordon, Young, Mudge, and others, all of whom are worthy of some notice, and many of whom will be found further mentioned among the family sketches of this volume.

Town Organization.—As has been previously stated, the original district of Mohawk was formed in 1772, embracing within its limits a large territory. In 1788 the district was divided and the town of Mohawk created, including the towns now called Florida, Glen and Charleston. On March 12, 1793, Mohawk was divided and the towns just named separately organized. In the clerk's office in Florida there has been preserved an original volume of records of the old town of Mohawk, by which it appears that the first town meeting was held on the first Tuesday of April, 1788, when there was elected a supervisor, two collectors, five assessors, five constables, three overseers of poor, eight fence-viewers, four poundkeepers, and eleven pathmasters. The first meeting was held at the Church (the chapel), and the second at the house of John Visscher, town clerk, at Fort Hunter. Thirty-one pathmasters were elected in 1789, not a surprising fact when we consider that the town then included both Florida and the original Charleston.

This old book of records also discloses an interesting fact in the early history of the town. The land proprietors preferred renting to selling their estates, caring more for their income than the principal thus invested. This system eventually became a great annoyance to the tenants, and was finally settled by quit claim deeds granted by proprietors to the lessees. On the old record there appears one of these deeds by which Jane Watts, wife of John Watts, released to sundry tenants her interest in Warrensburg (Warren's Bush). The release was executed November 13, 1793, and is only important in this chapter from the fact that it names as grantees many of the pioneers of the town, viz.: David Cady, Nathan Stanton, Ezra Murray, Philip and Peter Frederick, William and Peter Youngs, George and Jacob Staley, John Vanderveer, Peter and Jacob Houck, Elisha Cady, George Christian, and

Peter Serviss, Roolciffe Covenhoven, Asa Waterman, John Quackenboss, Ephraim Brookway, Lewis Phillips and Phillip Doty. John and Jane Watts, above mentioned, were residents of New York city, and their daughter, Mary Watts, became the wife of Sir John Johnson.¹

The first town meeting in Florida was held on the first Tuesday in April, 1794, at the house of Ezra Murray, at which time the following officers were elected: Supervisor, David Cady; town clerk, Stephen Reynolds; assessors, George Serviss, William Phillips and David Beverly; overseers of the poor, Lawrence Shuler and Barnard Martin; commissioners of highways, David Cady, John T. Visscher and Benjamin Van Vleck; collector, Christian Serviss; constables, John Cady and Caleb P. Brown.

Succession of Supervisors.—David Cady, 1794; Stephen Reynolds, 1795-6; David Cady, 1797-1802; John Green, 1803-08; David Cady, 1809-11; John Green, 1812-15; Samuel Jackson, 1816-19; Jacob Delamatter, 1819-20; Henry P. Voorhees, 1821-22; Peter Young, 1823-24; John S. Schuyler, 1825-26; Jacob Johnson, 1827-28; Jay Cady, 1829-30; John J. Schuyler, 1831; James Greenman, 1832; Reuben Howe, 1833; James Greenman, 1834; Jay Cady, 1835-36; Samuel Newkirk, 1837; Jay Cady, 1838-39; Jacob Johnson, 1840; John French, 1841-42; Theodore R. Liddle, 1843-44; Jubel Livermore, 1845; Harmanus R. Staley, 1846; William A. Milmine, 1847-48; Adam W. Kline, 1849; Francis Newkirk, 1850-51; William H. Jackson, 1852-53; Lewis Howe, 1854; Jeremiah Snell, 1855; Lewis Howe, 1856-58; Gilbert Early, 1859; Andrew Francisco, 1860; John H. Van Vechten, 1861-63; Elias A. Brown, 1864; John Q. Johnson, 1865-66; William A. Milmine, 1867-70; John C. Putman, 1871-75; Lewis Daley, 1876-77; Cornelius Van Buren, 1878-80; Peter H. McClumpha, 1881; Calvin Whitcomb, 1882; Peter H. McClumpha, 1883; William Putman, 1884-86; Calvin Whitcomb, 1887 and February 14, 1888; A. Peck, April 24, 1888-90; Alonzo McClumpha, 1891; Robert M. Hartley, 1892.

Town Clerks.—Stephen Reynolds, 1794; Benjamin Van Vleck, 1795; John Shuler, 1796-1810; William Griffin, 1811-13; George Smith,

¹ John Watts was a leading man in his day. He was one of the founders of the Leake and Watts Orphan Asylum in New York, and a statue honoring his memory has recently been erected in Trinity church yard.

1814-18; Henry P. Voorhees, 1819-20; John J. Schuyler, 1821-22; Jacob Johnson, 1823-24; John J. Johnson, 1825-26; John G. Sweet, 1827; Jay Cady, 1828; David Johnson, 1829-30; Andrew Johnson, 1831; John McMillan, 1832-33; Elijah M. K. Glen, 1834; Andrew Johnson, 1835-37; Marvin Herrick, 1838; Jacob Johnson, 1839; Jay Cady, 1840-41; T. R. Liddle, 1842; Jonathan R. Herrick, 1843; John Denice, 1844-45; Adam C. Mead, 1846-47; Charles Dorr, 1848; William H. Witt, 1849; James Herrick, 1850-52; William A. Petten-gill, 1853; Thomas Mayner, 1854; William R. Schuyler, 1855; Thomas Mayner, 1856; Lewis Daley, 1857-59; Allen Veeder, 1860; William S. Harris, 1861; William H. De Graff, 1862-63; Lewis Daley, 1864; William H. De Graff, 1865; Jno. H. De Graff, 1866-67; W. S. Steenburg, 1868; W. H. De Graff, 1869; Nelson Vandever, 1870; William H. Hubbard, 1871-72; Charles W. McClumpha, 1873; John Devenberg, 1874; John Hubbard, 1875; John Devenburg, 1876-77; Jacob J. Johnson, 1878-79; Charles B. Broeffle, 1880-82; Alfred Peck, 1883-86; John Hubbard, 1887-88; A. S. De Graff, 1889; A. A. Rockwell, 1890-91; Albert Schuyler, 1892.

VILLAGES.

Of the villages in Florida, Port Jackson is the largest and most important. Its origin was due almost wholly to the construction of the Erie canal, as at this point a large dock was built and the place became the distributing centre for the entire region, Amsterdam being the chief beneficiary, a ferry being the mode of transit until the construction of a bridge. The first company for this purpose was chartered in 1807, the design being to build a bridge across the Mohawk between the houses then owned by Benjamin Van O'Linda in Florida and Timothy Downs in Amsterdam. The scheme however was delayed, and not until several years later was it carried into execution. On April 2, 1813, the Amsterdam Union Bridge Company was granted a charter to build a bridge between Florida and Amsterdam, the work to be done within five years. In March, 1821, the time was extended to the end of August 1, 1824, but the bridge was completed in December, 1822. In later years it was made free, but was carried away by high water Feb-

ruary 15, 1876, and then replaced with the present substantial structure. Soon after the loss of the bridge a serious accident occurred which is still painfully remembered. Attorneys Johnson I. Snell and Culver Patterson, of Port Jackson, engaged Michael Turner to row them across the river, on the night of April 24, 1876. By some misfortune their boat came in contact with the ferry rope, and all three were thrown into the water and drowned.

Port Jackson village was annexed to Amsterdam in 1888 and is therefore mentioned in the chapter relating to that city.

One of the most historic localities in the county is that upon which is built the pretty little village known for more than a century and a half by the name of *Fort Hunter*. Here stood the lower Mohawk castle, built at a now unknown date, followed by the equally famous fort from which the village takes its name, and within the enclosure of which was erected the far famed Queen Anne's Chapel, the latter itself being barricaded, garrisoned and used as a fort during the revolution. The last of these historic structures, however, was, as has been stated, removed to make a place for the improvements of a later generation. From its situation at the junction of the Schoharie with the Mohawk, the Indian village here was called by the natives I-can-de-ro-ga, but to the whites who built the fort in 1711 it was named Fort Hunter, in honor of Governor Robert Hunter, who was instrumental in locating the first settlements of the Palatines.

The Jesuits were the first missionary laborers among the Indians at the lower castle, their appearance dating farther back than the middle of the seventeenth century. They were followed, though at a much later period, by the Protestant clergymen from the vicinity of Albany, the names of some of whom we can recall. About the year 1702 Rev. Talbot performed missionary services at Fort Hunter, followed soon afterward by Thoroughgood More. Thomas Barclay, chaplain at Fort Orange, labored among the Mohawks from 1708 to about 1712, and was succeeded by William Andrews. Queen Anne's Chapel was built the same year, and was thenceforth used for worship. Mr. Andrews left the field in 1719, after which it is said no regular services were held until 1735, when Henry Barclay came and remained ten years. Like his predecessor, he too became discouraged and abandoned the field,

which was vacant for fourteen years. John Ogilvie came next (in 1749), and remained until 1764, then retiring and afterward becoming rector of Trinity parish, New York. After another vacancy Sir William Johnson made an appeal in behalf of religious instruction among the Mohawks, and John Stuart became missionary at the fort. This clergyman, however, was compelled to vacate the field in 1778. Almost as early as the arrival of the Episcopal clergy came also the ministers of the Reformed Dutch church at Albany, Godefridus Dellius (in 1703) being the first. Their services were held in log houses and barns and between them and the English clergy there existed a warm friendship. Johannes Lydius came to this field and labored with the Indians until his death in 1710. He was followed by Petrus Van Driesen, who remained until 1722. After this time the Reformed Dutch church seems to have omitted sending missionaries hither until after the close of the last French war. It is said that soon after the erection of Queen Anne's Chapel the Dutch built a log meeting house near what afterward became known as Snook's Corners, but that all traces of the building long ago disappeared.

The Methodist Episcopal society of Fort Hunter was organized in 1856, under the pastorate of Rev. Parks; earlier services of this denomination, however, were held in the school-house. The church was built in 1860, and dedicated the next year, Mr. Craig then being the pastor. The trustees at that time were John L. Voorhees, Cornelius Wemple, John W. Briggs, Spencer Voorhees, Giles Ohlen, Nicholas Newkirk, John McGraw, Nelson Reese and H. A. Dievendorf. Rev. G. W. Sisum is the present pastor of this church.

The village has also two other churches, the German Methodist and the Union, the former including in its membership a number of the German families of this part of the town, and under the pastoral care of Rev. F. W. Hoffman. The Union church has no regular pastor, although services are frequently conducted here by Rev. Jacob H. Enders.

The business interests of Fort Hunter are of some importance in consequence of its location on the canal and the West Shore railroad. Its merchants are Finlay & Cole, Brown Brothers and P. Runkle & Son, while the principal manufacturing interests are those of Dewitt A.

Dievendorf and E. Howard & Son. Spencer Billington is also an extensive dealer in hay and ships large quantities to New York. The village also has three hotels, called respectively the Ashton, Germania and Mohawk Valley House.

Minaville is situated near the centre of the town, the name having been bestowed in 1818, by George Smith, a substantial merchant, and prominent in local politics. Previous to the year mentioned the locality was called "The Street," or "Yankee Street." The village is pleasantly located on the Chuctenunda, and is a desirable place of residence. The business enterprises consist of three or four stores, the usual country shops, a cheese factory, and one or two other light industries. The public buildings are the Reformed and Methodist churches, a hotel and district school. General Brown's residence, built on the site of the village in 1811, was said at that time to be one of the most elegant in the county. Dr. Stephen Reynolds was also a prominent man in this part of the town, and was the father of Marcus T Reynolds, who became a noted lawyer of Amsterdam and afterwards of Albany.

The First Reformed Dutch church in Florida was erected on lands of Lawrence Shuler, who also was a generous contributor to it. The year of its erection is uncertain, but it is said that Thomas Romeyn of the old church at Caughnawaga preached here in 1784. In 1808 an edifice was erected by the same society at Minaville, and its organization has ever since been maintained. The congregation includes the descendants of many of the old families of this part of the town. The present pastor is Rev. R. A. Pearse.

The Methodist Episcopal church and its society at Minaville was organized about 1835, prominently connected with which were Nicholas Hill, Samuel R. Griffith, Henry Pettengill, Benjamin Herrick and Marcus P. Howland. Having its location in the centre of a fairly large Methodist population, this church is naturally strong in its membership and influence. Among its early pastors were Revs. Henry Stead, Henry L. Stark, ——— Stebbins, Joseph Conner, Ripley, ——— Warner, J. W. Dievendorf, ——— Clark, Joseph Cope and other faithful men. The present pastor is Rev. Jacob H. La Grange.

Scotch Bush, more commonly known as Powder Spring, is a small hamlet in the southeast part of the town. Its buildings are few, mainly

residences, although a post-office, store, school-house and one or two shops are in the locality. Scotch Bush, however, enjoys an important distinction in the possession of a spring of water, said to contain valuable medicinal properties that may yet come into general use.

The United Presbyterian Church of Florida is located in that part of the town which is known as Scotch Church locality. Its history dates back to the closing years of the last century, the society having been in existence as early as 1798, and including in its membership nearly all the Scotch families of the town, among whom may be named as first members John Adair, John Milmine, John McKeirle, John McKie, Alexander Murray, John Lyle, William Lander, Daniel Munson, John McGloch, John Smeallie, Alexander Keachie, Andrew Crawford, James Murray and Daniel Morrison. The first church was erected on the Derick Van Vechten farm in 1800, and the second on the same site in 1846. The church has a membership of about 140, with a Sunday-school of about eighty scholars, the latter having been organized in 1850. The name of the first pastor is unknown, but among those who have been in charge of the church are Rev. John Banks, 1802 to 1816; Pastor Donaldson, 1817 to 1820; Rev. Peter Campbell, 1823 to 1843; Rev. George M. Hall, 1849 to 1862; Rev. Robert Rogers, the present pastor, was called in 1871.

Schools.—As early as 1769 an Indian school was established at Fort Hunter, but of its history in after years there is no record. A school-house for the education of white children (a log structure) was built in the southwest part of the town in 1785, and was taught by Mr. Wright. A frame school-house was built at Belding's Corners in 1806. It is said that a part of the cost of the building was borne by the Methodists of the locality, with the understanding that they should have the use of it as a house of worship. The committee, under whose direction it was erected, comprised John Van Derveer, Daniel Herrick and John Green. Unfortunately there is no part of town history more difficult to obtain than that relating to schools and school-houses. Teachers are changed frequently, sometimes with every term, and the records made by district officers are not only indefinite, but are often lost. We learn, however, that in 1860, Florida, with a population of about 3,150 and families to the number of 512, maintained thirteen districts with one

school in each. The number of children taught during that year was 1,200. In 1891 the districts were thirteen in number; teachers employed, twelve; number of children residing in districts, 1,181; number attending the schools, 817; average daily attendance, 428; value of school-houses and sites, \$15,650; population of the town, 2,296. The general decrease noticeable in comparing these years is in part accounted for in the fact that, in 1886, Port Jackson was taken from Florida and annexed to the city of Amsterdam.

The Population of Florida.—In 1825, 2,689; 1830, 2,838; 1835, 2,896; 1840, 3,214; 1845, 3,172; 1850, 3,571; 1855, 3,154; 1860, 2,991; 1865, 2,885; 1870, 3,002; 1875, 3,063; 1880, 3,249; 1890, 2,839.

CHAPTER XXV.

TOWN OF ST. JOHNSVILLE.

THIS town, the most westerly in Montgomery, is bounded on the north by Fulton county, on the east by Palatine, on the south by the Mohawk river, and on the west by Herkimer county, East Canada creek being the dividing line. Its surface consists of broad flats in the Mohawk valley, with broken uplands gradually rising toward the north. The principal streams, all of which flow in a southerly direction and empty into the Mohawk, are East Canada, Crum, Fox, Zimmerman's, Caldwell, and Mather creeks. East Canada creek is noted for a succession of falls and rapids, descending seventy-five feet in a distance of eighty rods, this being only a mile from its mouth. The soil is a fine quality of gravelly loam, and that portion lying near the river is adapted to grain and hay, while farther north the land is well suited to grazing. Discovery has been made of three distinct mineral veins near East Canada creek, which are distinguished as the lower, middle and upper mines. The first mentioned consists largely of lead, with a trace of gold; the second is a mixture of copper, lead and zinc, but the last mentioned is mostly copper.

St. Johnsville was formed from Oppenheim, April 18, 1838, at the time Montgomery county was divided. In area it is the smallest town in the county, containing only 9,818 acres, a large portion of which formerly comprised a part of the Harrison patent of 12,000 acres, granted to Francis Harrison and others, March 18, 1722. Equalized valuation of real estate in 1891 amounted to \$1,192,748, and the personal estate was assessed at \$171,100. The town is divided into four school districts, the value of the school-houses and their sites being \$9,555. Nine teachers are employed, to whom was paid in 1891 the sum of \$3,830.25. The total number of weeks taught during the year was 154, and out of 613 children residing in the school districts, 489 attended school, with a daily average of 301. In the school library of the town are 535 volumes, valued at \$531.

The exact date of the first white settlement is not known, but it probably took place as early as 1725, and as at that date it was a part of the Stone Arabia district, its pioneers would naturally be more or less confused with those of the whole Palatine region. The first settlers were almost entirely Germans, and formed the ancestry of many of the present inhabitants. Among the families who located in different parts of the present town at that early day may be mentioned Hellebradt, Waters, Getman, Van Riegen, Walrath and Klock. It was not until 1776 that a settlement was made on the site of the village of St. Johnsville. Jacob Zimmerman located there in that year, and soon after erected the first grist-mill in the town. George Klock built another in 1801, but nearly half a century before this Christian Klock had built a church in the eastern part of the town, the date of its erection being 1756. Its members were of the Reformed Dutch connection, and Rev. Abram Rosenkrantz was their first preacher, being followed by Rev. Henry Dyslin. Henry Hayes taught a German school in the town at an early day, and the first English school was taught by Lot Ryan, an Irishman, in 1792. A tavern was kept as early as 1783, by Christopher Nellis, who added a stock of merchandise and kept store in 1801.

Many incidents of thrilling interest took place in this region during the revolution, and their recital would fill a larger volume than this, and we shall therefore only make brief mention of a few of the more important events connected with that bloody struggle. The dwelling

of Christian Klock, which stood in the eastern part of the town, was then stockaded and named "Fort House" in compliment to Christian House, the builder. The house of Jacob Zimmerman, in what is now St. Johnsville, was also stockaded. Both of these forts repeatedly repulsed attacks of the enemy and remained proof to the end of the war. Fort Hill, situated on an elevation near East creek, was also used as a place of defence during the same war. The battle between the forces of Sir John Johnson and the advance guard of General Van Rensselaer's army, under Colonel Dubois, took place at Klock's Field, near the location of Fort House, October 18, 1780. The enemy, being defeated, forded the river and retreated up the valley during the night following.

An authentic story is told of the grandfather of Peter Crouse, who was one of the early settlers. Mr. Crouse was for a time stationed at Fort Klock, and while looking one day at a body of English troops, who were at the time passing within gunshot of the fort, exclaimed jestingly that he thought he could "hit one of those fellows on horse-back." Taking aim he fired at one of the officers who was seen to fall from his saddle. The horse, being left without a rider, immediately ran up to the fort and halted before Mr. Crouse who found him a very valuable prize, specially as a bundle was fastened to the saddle containing several articles of camp life, among which was an old brass kettle. These articles were kept for many years by the Crouse family as relics of the ever memorable revolution.

During the battle of Oriskany a hostile Indian had concealed himself in an excavation in the ground, from which place he had shot at and had killed a number of American soldiers. Henry Smith, a pioneer of St. Johnsville, and who took part in the battle, finally discovered the ambush of the Indian, and watching for an opportunity, shot and killed the savage, and then hastening to the spot he seized the tomahawk and buried it in the Indian's head. Taking the gun and powder horn from the savage, he carried them with him until the close of the battle, and they have been carefully preserved as trophies by his descendants.

Incidents of war often have a tinge of romance, and it was thus in the plot formed to kidnap Peggy Bellinger, who with five sisters and their father (Johannes Bellinger) lived just above Fort Hess. Philip Helmer,

a well-known tory, had been paying unusual attention to one of the girls, and had made matrimonial proposals, but the parents, who favored the cause of the colonists, strongly opposed his suit, because of his toryism. Suffering under this rejection, young Helmer openly joined the enemy and organized a small band of Indians for the purpose of kidnapping one or both of the sisters. For this purpose he led his band toward the Bellingers, but ere he had reached the house he repented his nefarious project and hurrying ahead he managed to reach Fort Hess, where he informed the people of his design. A small company of volunteers was gathered together without delay and forming an ambuscade, they would have killed or captured all of Helmer's approaching band, had it not been for the indiscretion of one of the number, who, catching a glimpse of the approaching kidnappers, cried out at the height of his voice in wild excitement: "Boys, here they are!" The Indians immediately fled, not, however, without the loss of one of their number. Whatever may be said of Helmer's character in first deserting his friends and then betraying his villainous confederates, it appears that he subsequently married the girl.

A house, occupied in recent years by Mrs. Jonas Snell, and situated not quite a mile below the village of St. Johnsville, was, during the revolution, the home of Colonel Jacob Klock. He was an active and zealous patriot and it was at his house that the Tryon county committee of safety met, June 16, 1775. In September of the same year he was appointed colonel of the second battalion of Tryon county militia, and held the position until the close of the war.

An interesting case of identification brought about by the recognition of an old horse, is related of Leonard Paneter, who was captured by the Indians when only eight years of age. He was taken to Canada where, after a year of captivity, he was exchanged and sent with others to Schenectady. The fact that he had returned soon reached the ears of his father, who sent an older son on horseback in search of him. Arriving at Schenectady the young man found several boys drawn up in line waiting to be claimed by parents and friends. The brothers did not recognize each other, but Leonard, upon seeing the horse that carried his brother, remembered it at once and thus established his identity.

Captain Christian House became prominent for his unremitting efforts in behalf of the American cause. His home at that time was near the west line of the present town, and his house was, as has been stated, converted into a fort and stockaded at his own expense and in a great measure by his own hands. For his many brave acts and faithful service during the revolution he never asked compensation, and he lived to see the close of the war and victory for the cause he championed. He died soon after, however, and his remains were buried in an old cemetery, still in existence, near the former site of Fort House.

The history of St. Johnsville since the beginning of the present century differs but little from that of the other towns in the county. Its territory was included in the Stone Arabia district until March 8, 1773; in the Palatine district until March 7, 1778; in the town of Palatine until the year 1808; and in the town of Oppenheim until 1838, when it became a distinct town of Montgomery county. During the late rebellion the town furnished its full quota of soldiers, a record of whose services will be found elsewhere in these pages.

Civil Organization and Town Officers.—A special town meeting was held at the house of Christopher Klock, about one mile east of the village of St. Johnsville, on the first day of May, 1838, at which the following officers were temporarily elected to fill the vacancies caused by the division of the county: Town clerk, Barney Becker; justices of the peace, Peter Klock, Daniel Ayers, Josiah Loomis; collector, Daniel C. Fox; assessors, Peter Radley and Simeon Klock; commissioners of highways, Joseph W. Nellis, John F. Bellinger. The number of votes polled at the meeting was 271. The first regular town meeting was also held at the house of Christopher Klock on the 5th day of March, 1839, and the following full list of town officers elected: Supervisor, John W. Riggs; town clerk, Jesse R. Curran; justice of the peace, George Lake; collector, Daniel Failing; assessors, George Chawgo, Peter Radley, Simeon Klock; commissioners of highways, Jacob H. Flander, Jonas Klock, Benjamin Groff; commissioners of common schools, Andrew R. Groot, Chauncey Nellis, Martin Walrath; overseers of the poor, John G. Klock, J. I. Klock; school inspectors, John G. Edwards, John Wilson, Joseph Hawes; constables, James Best, Christian Flander, Hiram Jennings, John P. Staring.

The supervisors of the town since its organization, with the dates of their service have been as follows: John W. Riggs, 1839; Daniel F. Nellis, 1840-41; John R. Curran, 1842; Jabez Butler, 1843-4; Joseph W. Nellis, 1845; Lewis Averill, 1846; Jacob H. Flander, 1847; Charles Kingsbury, 1848-9; Alonzo Ayres, 1850-1; Storm R. Haight, 1852; Daniel F. Nellis, 1853; William Kingsbury, 1854-55; James Bates, 1856-7; Daniel F. Nellis, 1858; Morris Klock, 1859-60; Lewis Snell, 1861-62; George Timmerman, 1863; P. F. Nellis, 1864-5; Jacob H. Markell, 1866-7; George Ellison, 1868; George Timmerman, 1869; Peter F. Nellis, 1870-74; Isaac E. Smith, 1875; Daniel J. Storm, 1876-7; DeWitt C. Cox, 1878; William Nellis, 1879; John Edwards, 1880; Martin Williams, 1881-84; Edward Bates, 1885; Martin Williams, 1886; Gordon Hough, 1887-88; John J. Reardon, 1889; Martin Williams, 1890; Charles W. Scudder, 1891-2.

Town clerks.—Jesse R. Curran, 1839-40; Andrew R. Groot, 1841-2; Chauncey Nellis, 1843; Hannibal Fox, 1844; Aaron Smith, 1845-6; Volkert Wagner, 1847; Elisha Fox, 1848-9; Lewis Snell, 1850-51; De Witt Failing, 1852; Jacob Chawgo, 1853-55; Chauncey Nellis, 1856; Peter Hellegas, 1857-8; Rufus Fox, 1859-60; Alexander Don, 1861-63; Alonzo Nellis, 1864; William Shaver, 1865; Abner H. Klock, 1866-7; Amos Klock, 1868; Harlan P. Walrath, 1869-71; Isaac E. Smith, 1872-4; Frederick F. Krombrust, 1875; A. A. Sanders, 1876; Alonzo A. Sanders, 1877; Fred F. Kingsbury, 1878-9; Chauncey Wilson, 1880-81; C. P. Lampman, 1882-3; Henry L. Sutherland, 1884-7; Frank S. Mosher, 1888-9; Elroy C. Barth, 1890-91; Ai Fox, 1892.

The present officers of the town are as follows: Supervisor, Charles W. Scudder; town clerk, Ai Fox; justices of the peace, P. A. Yoran, C. W. Lambert, Ambrose Nellis, M. Walrath, jr.; assessors, Ambrose Dillenbeck, George W. Levitt, O. H. Duesler; collector, Charles Sutherland; overseer of the poor, J. D. Burley.

The population of St. Johnsville as given by the State census since 1840 is shown in the following: 1840, 1,923; 1845, 1,616; 1850, 1,627; 1855, 1,744; 1860, 1,688; 1865, 2,153; 1870, 2,189; 1875, 2,196; 1880, 2,002; 1890, 2,081.

The Village of St. Johnsville.—This place is picturesquely situated on the north bank of the Mohawk near the mouth of Zimmerman creek,

and is consequently not far from the centre of the town east and west. The foundation of the present thriving village was laid more than a century ago, when, in 1775, David and Conrad Timmerman (or Zimmerman, as afterward spelled) located there and erected a grist-mill near the creek which still bears their name. As has been previously stated, the mill was the first of its kind erected within the present limits of the town, and in fact remained the only grist-mill in this immediate region until 1801, when George Klock built another. Three years later, 1804, David Quackenbush erected a third grist-mill, which he continued to operate until 1832, in which year its business was suspended. These mills, built during a period when distant traveling was so difficult, naturally attracted a settlement of farmers and artisans, and thus the place became a village early in the present century. In 1825, or about the time the Erie canal was completed, James Averill built a stone grist-mill, connected with which was a distillery. Twice were these buildings destroyed by fire and twice rebuilt, being operated by Mr. Averill and his successors twenty-two years, after which the grist-mill was discontinued and the distillery was continued in its stead. During the ensuing nineteen years the establishment was operated at irregular intervals by Messrs. McNeil, Nagel, D. C. Cox and Stuart. It afterwards came into possession of H. H. Healy, who conducted it for a time and then disposed of it to D. C. Cox, who converted the plant into a paper-mill, manufacturing straw board for paper boxes.

The village was for a long time known as "Timmerman's" and the present name, St. Johnsville, was unquestionably derived from St. John's Reformed church, erected in 1770 and moved to the village in 1804. The historian, Simms, states that no church of that name was ever built in or near the village, and that the only "early church" in the town was erected in 1756, by Christian Klock, nearly a mile below the site of the village. He also says that it was a Dutch Reformed church and was never called St. John's. This, however, is disproved by the church records now in possession of Rev. Furbeck. Simms states that the village was named in honor of Alexander St. John, who was a pioneer of what is now the town of Northampton, Fulton county. He was a surveyor of more than ordinary ability, and his name is frequently found in the early records of Montgomery county. On April 4, 1811,

the legislature passed an act authorizing John McIntyre, of Broadalbin, Alexander St. John, of Northampton, and Wm. Newton, of Mayfield, as commissioners "to lay out a new turnpike road from the house of Henry Gross, in Johnstown, to the house of John C. Nellis, in the town of Oppenheim," terminating in the Mohawk turnpike near the present village of St. Johnsville. Alexander St. John did the surveying and took almost entire charge of the construction of the turnpike, and his work required his presence at "Timmerman's" a great portion of the time. He thus became well and favorably known to most of the inhabitants of the place and particularly to Henry Loyd and Christian Groff, jr., merchants there, who, when a post-office was established, were successful in securing for it the name of St. Johnsville, in his honor as surveyor and commissioner. Both theories are plausible, but to that of St. John's church is given more credence.

The building of the Erie canal placed the village in water communication with the outer world and added not a little to its importance. The Utica and Schenectady railroad, built in 1836, and now known as the New York Central, also added much to its growth, especially promoting manufacturing industries. The population continued to increase slowly and in 1857 had reached 720. On the 1st day of August of that year the village was incorporated and its organization was perfected on the 20th of the same month with a full board of officers. The election was held in the Franklin House and resulted as follows: Trustees, Wm. Kingsbury, Elisha Fox, Absalom Thumb, Gordon Hough and Truman Taber; president, Storm R. Haight; clerk, Peter Heleger; assessors, Daniel Youker, Matthew F. Wilson and George Adams; collector John B. Churchill; treasurer, John B. Fisher. In 1878 the population had increased to 950; in 1888 to 1,070; and in 1892 to 1,550, a very rapid increase in four years. The present officers of the village are: President, Otis Williams; trustees, Alvin Saltsman, Reuben B. Porter, Christian Corte; clerk, E. A. Handy.

The Reformed Church of St. Johnsville is one of the oldest religious societies in the Mohawk valley, its history dating back to the middle of the eighteenth century. The present handsome brick edifice was built in 1881 upon the site of the ancient house of worship which has served the congregation since 1770. The church received the name of "St.

John's Dutch Reformed" during the latter part of the last century, and reliable records indicate that the church title suggested a name for the village. This fact has been substantiated in a great degree by Rev. P. Furbeck, who devoted a great deal of attention to the subject. The Rev. Abram Rosenkrantz, who first ministered to the Dutch Reformed church, was a historic character, as was also his successor, Rev. John Henry Dyslin. The latter was born in Burgdorf, Canton Berne, Switzerland, and was appointed by the "high German authorities of Palatine District, Canajoharie Castle," to the church July 13, 1788. The society has a membership of about 225, and Pastor Furbeck has ministered to them four years with great acceptance and success. Hence his recent resignation to accept a call to West Copake is the occasion of deep regret to the St. Johnsville people.

Grace Christian church of St. Johnsville was organized in 1874 with thirteen members and Rev. C. E. Peake as pastor, the Sunday-school having been in existence about a year previous to that date. The latter was organized by C. M. Knox. Among the pastors who have officiated at this church, mention should be made of Revs. J. D. Morrow and Charles E. Watson, also Rev. R. E. Ander, the present pastor, who began his labors here in 1892.

The Union church was erected in 1849 by Lutherans, Methodists, and a few persons of other denominations, the site having been bestowed as a free gift by Azel Hough, with the sole condition that the building should "be open and free to the use and occupation of all moral, Christian and religious denominations." The first trustees were Adam J. Klock, Azel Hough, Nicholas J. Smith, Leonard Winegar, Enoch Snell, Nelson Rockafeller, and James H. Eagan. Rev. H. L. Dix, a Lutheran clergyman, officiated at the dedication, which took place February 7, 1850. This building did good service for many years, but has not been of late years used for religious meetings, and is now occupied by a political club.

The Methodist Episcopal church, which is a handsome brick structure, was erected in 1879, prior to which time the society worshiped in the Union church building. The church is prosperous and has an active Sunday-school. Rev. George W. Wood is pastor.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church was built in 1889, although

services had been held for some time prior to that date. Rev. John T. Driscoll is pastor.

The Episcopal society also holds meetings in St. Johnsville, Rev. Clarence E. Ball, of Canajoharie, officiating as rector.

Masonic.—St. Johnsville Lodge, No. 611, F. and A. M., was organized in 1866, with Charles Buckingham as worshipful master, which office he held for more than ten years. The present officers of this lodge are A. Miller, W. M.; Alvin Kneiskern, S. W.; E. A. Handy, J. W.; G. T. Snell, secretary; C. Whyland, treasurer; C. M. Redfield, chaplain; S. R. Brown, S. D.; Melvin Shults, J. D.; Fox Sponable, S. M. C.; Otto Bellinger, J. M. C.; John McBride, marshal; Oliver Snell, tyler.

Press.—The *Interior New Yorker*, a weekly newspaper, was begun on July 14, 1875, by William L. Palmer, editor and publisher. At the end of six months the paper was purchased by Wheeler & Haslett, who continued it till the end of the first volume, when it was discontinued. Thomas J. Haslett, the junior member of the last named firm, soon started the *Weekly Portrait*, which was succeeded by the *St. Johnsville Times*, published by W. E. Churchill. The latter paper was afterwards consolidated with the *St. Johnsville Herald*, of which C. M. Redfield was publisher. It was then known as the *Herald-Times*, and continued until the spring of 1889.

The *St. Johnsville Leader* was established in October, 1886, by Knight & Fox, who published it until October 1, 1891, when John B. Snell purchased the plant and changed the name of the paper to the *St. Johnsville News*. It is a non-political weekly, and is published every Wednesday.

The First National Bank of St. Johnsville was organized in June, 1864, with a capital of \$50,000 and D. C. Fox as president, and A. Zimmerman, cashier. J. W. Cronkhite was elected to the presidency of the bank in 1873, in which year Mr. Zimmerman died, and D. C. Fox became cashier. He was succeeded by N. G. Dodge in 1876. The present officers are: President, Joseph Smith, of Fort Plain; vice-president, J. G. Beckman; cashier, J. H. Markell; assistant cashier, Otto W. Fox; teller, George Markell, the four last named all of St. Johnsville. Mr. Smith has held the office of president for nearly twenty years. J. M. Hubbard succeeded Mr. Dodge as cashier, and Mr. Hubbard was followed in that office by Mr. Markell.

The Board of Trade of St. Johnsville was established May 30, 1892. The officers are C. W. Scudder, president; H. L. Sutherland, vice-president, and John B. Snell, secretary and treasurer.

The village has a well managed high and primary school, with 297 scholars. S. Reed Brown is principal and superintendent.

The active manufacturing interests of St. Johnsville have contributed greatly to the growth of the village. Mention is made of the following, which constitute the more important establishments:

Roth & Englehardt, manufacturers of piano actions, established in September, 1889; employ about 125 workers.

St. Johnsville Agricultural Works, Martin Williams, proprietor, established many years ago. Manufacture thresher steam engines, cutters, and other agricultural implements, furnishing employment to about sixty men.

The Mohawk Condensed Milk Company occupy the plant recently vacated by the Empire Company and employ thirty men. The home factory is in Rochester, and the St. Johnsville branch is managed by Frank Gibbie.

C. W. Scuder manufactures fifth wheels and carriage hardware, employing twelve men. This business was established by Conover & Knox many years ago.

The Lyon Knitting Company, Reanny & Taylor, proprietors, was established in 1892 and employs twenty-five workers.

Saltsman Brothers began the manufacture of carriages and sleighs when St. Johnsville was a mere hamlet. They now employ twelve men.

Bunce & Benedict, manufacturers of the bijou piano, established themselves in St. Johnsville three years ago. Their plant is elaborately equipped and employment is given to twenty-five men.

D. C. Cox manufactures paper and straw board, employing eight to ten men.

Hartley Folmsbee conducts an iron foundry and makes general castings, employing twelve men.

J. H. Kneeskern & Sons manufacture sash and blinds, employing five men.

James H. Healy manufactures cigars, employing ten men.



M J E Brower

CHAPTER XXVI.

TOWN OF PALATINE.

PALATINE lies north of the Mohawk, and directly east of St. Johnsville. On the north it is bounded by Fulton county and on the east by Mohawk. The surface of the town is mostly an upland, 200 to 500 feet above the valley, broken by deep narrow ravines, and descending irregularly toward the river. Garoga creek, a beautiful mill stream, which rises in the lake of the same name, flows in a southwesterly direction through the western part of the town and empties in the Mohawk at Palatine Church. Mill creek, a tributary of Garoga; the Kanagara, emptying into the Mohawk a short distance below Sprakers; and Flat creek, a small stream emptying into the Mohawk west of Palatine Bridge, are the other principal water courses of the town. The soil consists in a great measure of dark clayey loam, containing more or less gravel, and is highly fertile when properly cultivated. It is specially adapted to grazing, and in the manufacture of cheese Palatine has surpassed, in quantity at least, every other town in the county.

Among the five districts into which Tryon county was divided in 1772 was that known as "Stone Arabia District." It was designated as being entirely on the north side of the Mohawk, bounded easterly by the west bounds of the Mohawk district, which was a line running north and south crossing Anthony's Nose; and westerly by a north and south line crossing the river at Little Falls. Its northern boundary was the wilderness. On the 8th of March, 1773, the name was changed to "Palatine District." It will thus be seen that it comprised a vast area, including parts of the present counties of Montgomery, Fulton and Herkimer. This same area was formed into the town of Palatine, March 7, 1788, and was therefore one of the first towns organized in the county, ante-dating Johnstown, Amsterdam, Mayfield and Broadalbin five years. Of the several towns that have since been formed from old Palatine, that of Salisbury, Herkimer county, was the first to be set off,

which was done in 1797. Stratford (now in Fulton county) was set off in 1805, and in 1808, the town of Oppenheim, embracing what is now St. Johnsville. In 1827 Palatine was again reduced by the formation of Ephratah, but a portion of the latter was re-annexed upon the division of the county, in 1838. These various reductions of territory have brought Palatine down to its present area, 22,212 acres. The territory of Palatine originally comprised three historic land grants, the first being the Van Slyck patent, said to contain 2,000 acres, granted by King George I. to Harman Van Slyck, September 1, 1716. It lay along the north bank of the Mohawk extending west from the Nose, and a mile or more above Palatine Bridge, also including the "Frey Place." When this land was surveyed by Nicholas Schuyler, in September, 1723, and laid out in sixteen lots, it was found to contain 6,000 instead of 2,000 acres. Eight of these lots were conveyed to Colonel Abraham De Peyster, July 9, 1728. Van Slyck settled on a portion of the land and resided there for many years.

Next was the Harrison patent, containing 12,000 acres, and including nearly all of what is now St. Johnsville. It was purchased from the Indians, in the king's name, March 8, 1722, by Francis Harrison, Lewis Morris, jr., John Spratt, John Schuyler, Abraham Wendell and John Hascall.

Third was the Stone Arabia patent, containing 12,700 acres, and embracing land east of the Harrison and north of the Van Slyck patent. It was granted to John Christian Garlock, Elias Garlock, Andreas and Christian Feink, William Coppernoll, Jacob, John Jost and Joahnes Schmele, Heinrich Frey and eighteen others, October 19, 1723.

Within the present limits of Palatine was made the first permanent settlement north of the Mohawk, in Montgomery county, and probably the first west of Schenectady. Hendrick (or Heinrich) Frey was the name of the intrepid pioneer who located his home so far in the western wilderness. He was a native of Zurich, Switzerland, and came to New York in 1689. Prior to 1700 he journeyed up the Mohawk and erected a log dwelling a short distance west of what is now Palatine Bridge, and continued to live there on friendly terms with the Indians. His early log house remained intact until 1739 when it was replaced by a stone dwelling which is said to have been prepared for defence in the

early Canadian wars. Simms speaks of the old stone house as still "standing in good condition" in 1882, and it is no doubt the oldest house in the county. Frey is said to have laid claim to about 300 acres of land surrounding his house, the title to which was made permanent by Harman Van Slyck, who became the patentee in 1716.

This venturesome pioneer was unfortunately drowned in the river while watering his horses, but his age or what time the calamity occurred is unknown. He left one son, a namesake, who died in Schenectady at the age of about forty, leaving three sons, Henry, John and Bernard, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Catherine and Maria. The daughters married Henry Deihl, John Loucks and Christopher P. Yates, the marriage of the latter to Maria taking place December 11, 1775. Henry inherited his father's property consisting of 3,200 acres in Freysbush; 300 acres at the Palatine homestead and a Canajoharie mill site with 800 adjacent acres. Of this rich estate he gave his brothers the homestead, and to each of his brothers-in-law a farm of 100 acres. He was a colonel of militia prior to the revolution, and it is said he held the rank of colonel under Sir William Johnson in the French war. Espousing the cause of the crown at the beginning of the war, he was arrested, imprisoned and finally freed on parole, although taking no active part in the hostilities. His estate was not confiscated. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of John Yost (Joseph) Herkimer, a sister of General Nicholas Herkimer, and had one son and one daughter. Further details regarding his descendants, as well as those of his brothers, can be found in Samuel L. Frey's published record of the family.

Major John Frey, the next younger brother to Colonel Henry, took sides with the colonists, being a pronounced whig and an earnest patriot throughout the revolution. Although very young at the time, it is claimed he was a participant in one of the French wars. He was a prominent member of the celebrated Tryon county Committee of Safety, a brigade major at Oriskany, and was wounded and taken prisoner on that historic battle ground and carried to Canada. He lived to achieve further prominence, both in social and public life, and married Gertrude Shoemaker, a niece of General Herkimer, who was at that time a widow of Lieutenant Matthew Warmuth. Major Frey died in 1833, at an ad-

vanced age, in the Frey mansion erected by his only son, Henry I. Frey.

Bernard Frey, the youngest of the three brothers, together with Philip R., his nephew, joined the tories and went to Canada, being no doubt led by the powerful influence of Colonel Henry. Upon their arrival in Canada, Bernard received a captain's commission in the cruel and notorious regiment known as Butler's Rangers, while his nephew served at the siege of Fort Stanwix. Captain Bernard, who had sold his interest in the Palatine homestead when the war began, remained in Canada, where he married and continued to entertain hostility against the American government, but in the war of 1812, during the cannonading across the St. Lawrence, he fell by a ball from the American side. Thus tragically ended the life of a man, who, had he emulated the example of his brother John, and exerted his military genius in the cause of the struggling colonists, might have left an honorable name in American history.

In 1712 occurred the first exodus of the Palatines, who had been brought to this country under the protection of Queen Anne, from their settlements on the Hudson to the Schoharie country. Probably (for there are no records) in the following summer some of these Palatines ventured farther west along the Mohawk, and, indeed, it is safe to assume that a few families may at that time have located in what is now the town of Palatine.

Elias Garlock, who subsequently became one of the proprietors of the Stone Arabia patents, is said to have come from Schoharie, together with a few of his neighbors, and settled in the present town in 1717. The greatest increase in this portion of the Mohawk valley was made in 1723, when nearly 100 families are said to have come hither. It was in that year that the Stone Arabia patent was granted, and as it contained 12,700 acres and though but twenty-seven patentees are named in the grant, it is very probable that many settlers obtained a share. John Christian Garlock, whose name heads the list of grantees, was the founder of one of the Schoharie settlements, known as Garlock's dorf. He located in the neighborhood of Stone Arabia, and among others who shared this patent, but whose names have not been heretofore mentioned were John Lawyer, Warren Digart, Bartholemew Rickard, Jo-

hannes Crouse, Johannes Ensign, William Vokrs, Marden Seibart, Johannes Ingolt, Marden Dillenbeck, Adam Ensign, Theobold Garlock, Sufferinus Digart, Hans Deterick Cassalman, Simon Erchart, William Nelles, Andries Peiper, Lodwick Cassalman and Gerhart Schaffer.

A map of Stone Arabia, made from a very early survey, contains the names of thirty-one proprietors. To make the reader familiar with the pioneers' names of Palatine, mention should be made of those not included in the above list of patentees. Thus we find Johannes Keyser, Andreas Finck, jr., Nicholas Diskard, Adam and Christian Empie, Wilhelmus Kasselmann, Dierick Loucks, Johannes Mynders, William Brower, Karel Eberhart, Warner Teygart, Johannes Miller, Jacob Sybers, George Houss, Better Soetts (Suits), Johs. Schuthey, Tilleman Van Soherlyand (Sutherland), Hendrick Six, Nicholas Stensell.

Among the names of the early settlers of this town is that of Peter Wagner, who probably came hither from Schoharie about 1722. He located about one mile south of Palatine Church, where his son, Peter, junior, lived when the revolution began. He became a lieutenant-colonel of the Second battalion of Tryon county militia, and participated in the battle of Oriskany. His house, which was fortified during the war, was known as Fort Wagner. The late Peter J. Wagner, of Fort Plain, who was born in 1795, was a grandson of the colonel. George Wagner, a son of Colonel Peter, and grandfather of the late Webster Wagner, of palace car memory, also participated in the same famous battle.

Webster Wagner.—Among the names of the prominent self-made men of this county, none is more familiar than that of our subject. He was of German extraction, and a descendant of one of the pioneer families that located in Palatine early in the last century. He was born near Palatine Bridge, October 2, 1817, and was named after Dr. John Webster, the family physician. His limited advantages permitted nothing more than a common school education. In his youth he was apprenticed to his older brother, James, to learn the wagon-maker's trade, and becoming a skilled workman, was taken by him into partnership. This enterprise however did not win success. The brothers worked diligently at their trade, but could not overcome the adverse influence of the prevailing hard times. Had the shop been a success Webster

Wagner would never have reached wealth and fame, both of which were preceded by ruin. At the age of thirty he was still at the foot of fortune's ladder, having lost his patrimony and several years of labor; but with health, hope and courage, he was not the man to surrender, even though in the midst of strenuous, painful conflict. Moreover, his wife, true helpmeet, equally hopeful and energetic, loyally seconded his patient perseverance and shared the reward. From the unsuccessful venture in the mechanic's shop, Mr. Wagner turned his attention to the line of railroad travel and traffic. The only resource at the time was the railroad ticket office at a very small salary, with the privilege of living up-stairs. Mr. Wagner proved highly efficient in his new sphere, to which he added other duties, and drew corresponding increase of pay, being soon promoted to station master.

It was during these years of humble position, but none the less diligent attention to details of duty, that he turned his power of close and practical observation to good account. The benches on the caboose on which the railroad employees slept while off duty, and the fatigue of the drowsers, who were obliged to ride either night or day, suggested the sleeping car—or to him—car of triumph, destined to bear him on to speedy fortune. The idea lay germinant but dominant in his brain for many years. In time it was wrought into tangible shape, and the result was the business man's convenience and comfort—the Wagner sleeping car.

Gaining the co-operation of neighboring capital, four of these cars were built, which began running on the New York Central railroad in 1858. As soon as the sleeping car proved an assured success, he turned his attention to the drawing-room car, and in 1867 introduced the first car of this description to the traveling public. These cars became very popular, are in use upon nearly all of the principal railways of the country, and have brought to their inventor world-wide fame. His inventive genius was both persistent and practical. The oval-shaped car roof of that day, and the consequent lack of ventilation led to the much improved elevated panel, for which he took out a patent. This he sold (reserving his own right to use) to the New York Central company, and then felt that his road to success was clear. He was at that time past forty, and schooled as he had been by the stern discipline of

poverty, he was ready to greet with eager zeal the beckoning possibilities of the future. Coincident with this stage of his history, there appeared also an executive ability which surprised all who knew him. This enabled him to meet all the exigencies of a business which was destined in a few years to reach unimagined proportions. From Palatine, his office was removed to Albany, and thence to New York, where, in intimate connection with the headquarters and the controlling influence of a powerful corporation, Mr. Wagner's name and influence, business worth and excellence, were fully appreciated to the very last. There his loss is regarded as well-nigh irreparable. The value of such qualities, such integrity and fidelity, commands public recognition. Promotion comes according to the Scripture, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business, he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

In 1870 he was elected to the assembly of his native state by a majority of 200. In the following year he was named to represent the then Fifteenth Senatorial district, and was elected by 3,222 majority. The term ending he was returned to the senate without opposition and in 1875 was re-elected by a majority of 2,623 over Mr. Samuel T. Benedict, of Schenectady. In 1877, '79 and 1881, he was also re-elected by the customary majorities. He was also a delegate to the Chicago convention in 1880 and was one of the seventeen New York delegates who opposed General Grant's third term aspirations, and was instrumental in securing the nomination of General Garfield.

A few months previous to his death, a friend and comrade in official life visited him in his fondly cherished Palatine home. In their stroll about the grounds, they stood beside the graves of loved ones who had gone before. Pointing to the spot he had chosen for his own resting-place, and placing his hand upon his friend's shoulder, Mr. Wagner said: "I am ready to go at any time." Had not that a prophetic sound? No one thought, however, that his departure could be so near at hand, nor indeed could any one have imagined when that family plot was newly arranged, and the majestic and beautiful shaft was in its place, that the first precious dead over which the monumental shadow would fall would be that of husband and father. Thus, however, had it been ordained, and so rests in hope the toiler with his life

work done. After making so many happy, he "rests from his labors, and his works follow him."

The shocking accident by which Mr. Wagner lost his life occurred on the eve of Friday, January 13, 1882, near the Spuyten Duyvil creek on the Hudson River Railroad.

Of the domestic life of Senator Wagner, we may add without intruding upon the privacy of family affairs, that Mrs. Wagner was a daughter of John P. Davis, and a sister of William H. Davis, of Palatine. She survived the senator only five years, and her death renewed that profound grief expressed for her husband. But those five years were not spent in vain. As a memorial of this estimable lady, words form but a minor part, but she unconsciously left a monument and proof of her pious beneficence, and philanthropy in the spacious parlors she caused to be erected for St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Canajoharie. In one of these parlors the memorials of the dead senator are the furnishings, among them being the memorial tablet presented to the bereaved family by the legislature of the state of New York, and the desk and chair he used in the senate chambers. In the auditorium of this church the following tablet has been erected:

IN MEMORY OF

JOHN WEBSTER WAGNER.

Trustee of this church for thirty-two years,
A member for more than twenty years,
Always warmly attached to its services,
and mindful of its interests,

died

January 13, 1882.

This tablet is erected by his friends.
The memory of the just is blessed.

No more fitting tribute could be paid to the memory of this honored man than the following from the officers of the company he had so long been associated with, and of which he was the president.

At a meeting of the board of directors of New York Central Sleeping-Car Company, held the 14th day of January, 1882, the following was adopted:

An all-wise providence has permitted a sudden and terrible accident, which has caused the death of our president, Webster Wagner. He possessed in large measure the qualities which secure success, and retained the honor and respect of the world. An active and influential participant in business and public affairs, he never made an enemy nor lost a friend. He originated a plan to supply a deficiency in the system of transportation, and by his ability, energy and effort, it has become one of the great enterprises of the country. Always respecting the rights of others, and tenacious of his own, he so lived as to possess the love and confidence of all who knew him. The people among whom he was born and lived with unexampled unanimity made and kept him their representative in the senate of the state, and those who were associated with him in business, trusted entirely to his management and control. From a humble beginning, and by unaided effort, he accumulated a fortune, and attained distinguished positions, and he leaves an unsullied record of the intelligent and conscientious discharge of every public and private duty. His money and influence were liberally used for deserving measures and men, and his charities were as broad and unobtrusive as his character was modest and virtuous. His loss is great to the state, and to the varied interests with which he was connected, almost irreparable.

Directors, officers and employees are in common grief, not for the president, but for our friend.

We extend to his bereaved family our profoundest sympathy and condolence.

It is directed that this minute be entered upon the record and a copy engrossed and transmitted to his family.

(Signed)

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT,
Secretary, pro tem.

Of the five children of Senator Wagner, Emma C. is the wife of James D. Taylor, of Palatine Bridge; Anna, widow of George W. Van-Vleck, of Canajoharie; Annetta, wife of Albion E. Haines, of New York; Clara, wife of George W. Stetson, of New York. Norman L. Wagner, the only son, died in 1887.

A contemporary emigrant with Peter Wagner, was William Fox, who located only a short distance from the Palatine Church. Among his descendants, several of whom did gallant service in the revolution, were Captain William Fox, jr., Christopher P. Fox and Christopher W. Fox. They were in command of the First, Second and Third companies of the Second (Palatine) battalion at the battle of Oriskany, in which Christopher P. was slain.

Another early and prominent name in the annals of Palatine was that of Isaac Paris. Tradition says that he came from Strasburgh and settled at Stone Arabia many years prior to the revolution. Being a man of superior intelligence and integrity, he became well known among

the inhabitants of that day, and several years before the war began, was actively engaged in trade. He was a member of the Tryon county Committee of Safety, was a delegate to the State Provincial Congress, and a member of the first State Senate of New York. His name is also found among the early records of the Reformed Dutch church of Stone Arabia, of which he was an influential member. Together with his oldest son, Peter (then aged 18), he took part in the bloody battle of Oriskany, which proved a fatal encounter for both father and son. The latter was killed in the action, while the former was taken prisoner and afterwards murdered by the bloodthirsty savages. A younger son, Isaac, jr., has been elsewhere mentioned as the first merchant of Fort Plain, and a man of remarkable generosity. The old Paris house, which stood about a mile west of Stone Arabia, was burned by the tories October 19, 1780.

Palatine furnishes us with the name of another man who achieved fame by his intellect, and also notoriety by an unfortunate and tragic duel. This was George I. Eacker. His great-grandfather, Jacob Eaker, is supposed to have been the first of the family to locate in Palatine, coming hither from Schoharie in 1723, and raising, it is said, a family of twenty one children. The eldest son was George, who married Eliza, a daughter of George Snell. This son Jacob, who is remembered as a judge of the county, married Margaret, a daughter of Andrew Fink. The result of this union was two sons, George I. and Jacob I., and also four daughters.

George I. Eacker, who received his preparatory schooling at Schenectady, subsequently studied law with Brockholst Livingston in New York, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-one. Opening a law office, his marked ability, affable manner, and ready knowledge of the legal code drew around him a circle of friends and admirers. He was soon appointed master in chancery, and in 1801 was selected to deliver the Fourth of July oration in the young metropolis. This oration, which was marked by eloquence and patriotism, created a sensation in New York, and Eacker won laurels of praise from many to whom his ability was previously unknown. There were those, however, who were envious of the "Mohawk Dutchman" (as they contemptuously called him), and the success of his oration kindled their envy into hate.

Among this number was Philip Hamilton, a son of Alexander Hamilton, and a graduate of Columbia College, who openly insulted Eacker in the box of a theatre, when the latter was in company of his affianced bride. The affront was at first unnoticed by Eacker, but persistent repetitions called forth a rebuke from him, which was followed by a challenge from Hamilton and then from a friend named Price who was with him. Four shots were fired between Eacker and Price without effect, Sunday, November 22, 1801. Eacker and Hamilton met the following day at 3 P. M., and the latter fell mortally wounded upon the first fire, but lived until the following morning. Facts prove that Eacker was really driven into the unfortunate affair, and his subsequent pleasant relations with Alexander Hamilton indicate that he was not blamed by the father of his adversary.

Palatine contains two very ancient churches, the Reformed Church of Stone Arabia being the oldest religious society on the north side of the Mohawk west of Schenectady. It is not known at what date the society was first organized, as there was a congregation of this denomination at Schoharie soon after the settlement of the Palatine Germans in that place, probably as early as 1712. Rev. John Jacob Ehle was the pastor, and it is not unlikely that he attended the religious meetings of such members of his church as had moved a few years later to Stone Arabia. Among those early settlers were also a number of Lutherans, who took steps towards securing a glebe for church purposes. William Coppernoll then signed an agreement to convey a lot of fifty acres to Andreas Fink and three others, on or before April 9, 1731, binding himself in the sum of £100, "good and lawful money of New York," to keep the obligation. The instrument was not executed, however, until May 9, 1732, when Coppernoll conveyed a fifty-two acre lot to Andreas Fink, Werner Digert, Johannes Schnell and others for a consideration of £20. On this lot both the Reformed and Lutheran churches were located, a rude house of worship being constructed of logs, which for a time was used by both denominations. In 1744 the glebe was divided and two separate churches were erected by these societies. Among the active members of the Reformed congregation at that time were Jacob Schnell, Laverinus Deigert, Peter Suits, William Broner, Johannes Krems, Dirk Loux, Hendrick Loux, Harris Schnell,

William Coppernoll, Andreas Fink, Nicholas Horning and Peter Deigart. The early ministers at Schoharie officiated at Stone Arabia for many years. Among them were Rev. Ehle, Abram Rosenkrantz, John Daniel Gros, Dietrich Christian, A. Peck, Isaac Labaugh and John Jacob Wack, the latter remaining with the society from 1804 until 1828. His salary was \$400 per year, paid jointly by the Reformed Church of Stone Arabia and that of Canajoharie, both churches contributing an equal share, and both receiving an equal proportion of his time. He was required to preach two sermons in German, then one in English, followed by two more in German and then one in Low Dutch. It will thus be seen that he was indeed a remarkable clergyman for those primitive times. Among his successors may be mentioned Revs. Isaac Kitchum, B. B. Westfall, Charles Jukes, John C. Van Liew, Manning Bogardis, Philip Furbeck, G. M. Blodgett, L. H. Van Dyke, J. M. Compton and W. B. Van Benschoten. The log church was burned October 19, 1780, and was replaced after the revolution by a wooden structure. This gave way to a stone church in 1788, which cost \$3,378. It was built by Philip Schuyler, and was considered one of the best churches of that day in the Mohawk valley. The society was incorporated May 23, 1791, as "The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Stone Arabia." Among the prominent members of this church who have from time to time served the society in official capacities, mention may be made of John Zielly, Jacob Eacker, Arnout Veeder, Johannes Koch, Frederick Getman, Adam Loucks, Casper Cook, Michael Ehle, and coming down three-quarters of a century will be remembered Conrad P. Snell, Henry Gramps, John Kitts, Reuben Graff, Harrison Brown, Erwin Vosburg, C. K. Loucks, Johannes Hees, and Aurora Failing.

The history of the Lutheran church of Stone Arabia properly begins at the time of the division of the fifty-two acre glebe, which took place March 27, 1744. Among the trustees of this society at that time, whose names are found on the quit-claim deed to the church lot, were Martines Dillenbeck, John Keiser, Harris Empie, John Schuls, Jacob Schuls, Stovel (Christopher) Schuls, Lutrick Kaselman, Nicholas Stemfell, Andreas Besiner and William Nellis. In 1770 this land was conveyed to Christian Dillenback and Johannes Shults in trust. There was then standing upon it a Lutheran house of worship, which ten years later,

October 19, 1780, was burned together with the Calvinist church and the dwellings of the village. It is probable that the Reformed congregation and the Lutherans both occupied a temporary structure for a number of years following the fire. The latter did not erect a church until 1792, when that interesting and substantial structure was built which has withstood the hand of time for a century. The early records of the church are not complete and it is not known when the church organization was perfected or the first meetings were held. Rev. William Christian Buckmeyer, a Lutheran minister stationed at Loonenburg on the Hudson, was first to officiate at this church. Rev. Peter Nicholas Sommer, a native of Hamburg, Germany, and the earliest regular preacher among the Lutherans at Schoharie, also visited Stone Arabia. Rev. Frederick Ries, from Germantown, became the minister in December, 1751. During the decade from 1763 to 1773 the church was in charge of Rev. Theophilus England who, according to statements made in the correspondence of Sir William Johnson, desired to take orders in the Church of England, probably with the intention of bringing his congregation under the control of the Episcopal church. No other attempt, however, was ever made to accomplish such a change. Among the pastors following Mr. England were Frederick Reis, Philip Jacob Grotz and Peter Wilhelm Domier, all of whom preached in German, keeping the church records in the same language. The first minister who preached in English was Rev. John D. Lawyer, who came in 1827 and remained three years. Mention may be made of a few of his successors, and in this connection we recall the names of Rev. Charles A. Smith, Henry I. Smith, Martin J. Stover, Adolphus Rumpff, Rev. Curtis, Nicholas Wert and W. W. Gulick.

The Palatine Evangelical Lutheran church, more familiarly known as "Palatine Church," is located in the midst of a picturesque village which bears the same name and is the oldest church now standing within the limits of Montgomery and Fulton counties. It is a well preserved stone structure, built in August, 1770, with the proceeds raised by subscription to a paper, upon which the following names are found: Peter Waggoner, Andrew Reber, William Nellis, jr., Andrew Nellis, Johannes Nellis, Henry Nellis, Christian Nellis, David Nellis, and Johannes Hess, contributing in the aggregate, the sum of £620 or about \$3,000. Over

the entrance, which was on the north side, was the German inscription, "Erbanet im Yahr Christi, 1770, Den 18 ten Aug." The church was remodeled in 1868, upon the 18th of June of which year it was rededicated, Rev. G. A. Lintner, of Schoharie, who had preached his first sermon in the old church, officiated upon this occasion. The centennial celebration of the ancient house of worship was celebrated Tuesday, August 18, 1870, with due honor and reverence, the late Governor Seymour delivering an eloquent and fitting address. The church has always been supplied with pastors from the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia.

Salem church of the Evangelical Association of America, afterward called "the German church," was not incorporated under the first mentioned title until February 12, 1877, although the first services of this society, whose faith in many respects resembles that of the Methodist Episcopal church, were held in Palatine as early as 1835. For a number of years these meetings were held in a school house near the present church, and were conducted by Revs. Lane, Fisher and Rothschild. Later the ball-room of Andreas Dillenbeck's hotel was used, and in 1839 a union church was erected. This was replaced in 1871 by a new structure in which services have usually been held on alternate Sabbaths. The early services were conducted entirely in German, but of late years this custom has been abandoned.

Passing over the battles of Stone Arabia in which the illustrious Col. John Brown was killed, October 19, 1780, mention of which has been made in an earlier chapter, and also the military events that occurred at Forts Paris and Keyser (the two principal places of defence in Palatine during the revolution), we shall now turn to the past and present civil organization of the town.

The records covering the period of its formation and down to 1804, and from 1805 to 1827 are missing, enough only remaining to indicate that Jacob Eacker was supervisor and Peter C. Fox town clerk for the year 1803. At the town meeting held on the 3d of April, 1804, officers were elected as follows: Supervisor, Peter Gramps, jr.; town clerk, Peter C. Fox; assessors, John J. Nellis, Jost Spraker, Peter N. Smith, Henry Buckman and Martinus N. Nestle; commissioners of highways, John Eisenlord, Rudolph Dygert and Michael W. Bauder; overseers of

the poor, Joseph Wagner and Joseph G. Klock; constables, Peter J. Nellis, Jonas Reis, John J. Failing, Samuel Frame, John Fralick and Samuel Bliss.

The present equalized valuation of Palatine real and personal estate is \$2,596,557, upon which taxes to the amount of \$11,682 were levied in 1891. The town is divided into eleven school districts, having a population of 831 children of school age, 557 of whom were attending school during the year. The total average daily attendance was 299. Fifteen teachers are employed, whose salaries aggregate \$5,674 75 per annum. The school libraries contain 1,434 volumes, the total value of which is \$1,171. The school sites and houses in the town are valued at \$19,555.

The supervisors of Palatine since 1827 have been as follows: Christopher C. Fox, 1827; Martinus Dillenbeck, 1828-29; Charles Waggoner, 1830; Joshua Reed, 1831-32; George Waggoner, 1833; David Zielley, 1834; George Waggoner, 1835; Henry A. Loucks, 1836; Peter G. Loucks, 1837; Jacob G. Snell, 1838-39; Martinus I. Dillenbeck, 1840; Jacob S. Snell, 1841; Joseph England, 1842-43; Martinus Dillenbeck, 1844-45; Joseph Spraker, 1846-47; Charles Walrath, 1848; Joseph England, 1849; Livingston Spraker, 1850-51; John K. Gramps, 1852; Archibald Gray, 1853; George Wagner, 1854; Joshua Veeder, 1855; Azariah Saltsman, 1856; Joseph Spraker, 1857; John A. Failing, 1858; Joseph Spraker, 1859; John W. Saltsman, 1860; Jeremiah Strayer, 1861-62; Joshua Veeder, 1863-64; Reuben Lipe, 1865-69; Azariah Saltsman, 1870-73; David S. Patten, 1874-75; Elias J. Ellithorp, 1876-77; Jacob C. Cook 1878-79; Jacob Snell, 1880; Jacob C. Nellis, 1881-82; Azariah Saltsman, 1883-84; Daniel G. Van Wie, 1885-87; John M. Lipe, 1888-89; William N. Johnson, 1890-92.

The town clerks during a corresponding period have been: Aaron Veeder, 1827; George I. Zielley, 1828-29; Joshua Reed, 1830; Jesse Loucks, 1831; Archibald Sternberg, 1832; Jost W. Snell, 1833-34; Joseph England, 1835-36; Jacob P. Snell, 1837; Bernard Getman, 1838; Jacob Shaver, 1839; Joseph England, 1840; Josiah I. Shultz, 1841; Joshua Empie, 1842; Andrew A. Dillenbeck, 1843; James Bauder, 1844; John C. Kilts, 1845; William Baker, 1846; Conrad Kilts,

1847-48; Alexander Snell, 1849; Azariah Saltsman, 1850-51; Josiah Lasher, 1852; Jeremiah Strayer, 1853-54; James H. Dygert, 1855; S. Ludlow Frey, 1856; Josiah Sitterly, 1857; Jeremiah Strayer, 1858-59; Josiah Sitterly, 1860; Jacob J. Vosburgh, 1861-62; James Bauder, 1863; Jacob C. Cook, 1864; James Bauder, 1865-66; David Dillenback, 1867-68; Jacob Snell, 1869; James Bauder, 1870; Hermon Brown, 1871-72; Edward I. Nellis, 1873-74; Clark Kilts, 1875-76; Clark Nellis, 1877-78; Jacob Snell, 1879; John L. Vosburgh, 1880-81; Albert E. Newman, 1882-83; Charles F. Meyer, 1884; Aaron England, 1885-86; William Murray, 1887; John Coppernoll, 1888-89; David Dillenback, 1890-91; Ed J. Seeber, 1892.

The present town officers include the following: Supervisor, William N. Johnston; town clerk, Ed J. Seeber; justices of the peace, Casper Getman, Elias J. Ellithorp, James W. Nellis, Aaron England; assessors, Daniel G. Van Wie, Chauncey Wagner, Frasier Nellis; collector, Lorenzo P. Smith; overseer of the poor, Dwight E. Floyd.

The following figures will show the population of the town of Palatine during the years named: 1825, 4,072; 1830, 2,745; 1835, 2,876; 1840, 2,823; 1845, 2,695; 1850, 2,856; 1855, 2,525; 1860, 2,605; 1865, 2,561; 1870, 2,814; 1875, 2,706; 1880, 2,786; 1890, 2,871.

CHAPTER XXVII.

TOWN OF ROOT.

ROOT is the central town on the south of the Mohawk. It is bounded on the east by Glen and Charleston; on the south by Schoharie county, and on the west by Canajoharie. The surface of this town presents a variety of natural features surpassing in extent and grandeur any other portion of the county, in fact it is doubtful if any other equal area in the Mohawk valley contains so many interesting works of nature. The geologist and the naturalist here find subjects for thought and discussion, while the admirer of beautiful scenery is charmed with the prospect from the heights in the northern and central

portions of the town. The majestic hills that rise abruptly from the Mohawk to a height of 630 feet (surveyed by Capt. Thomas Machin),¹ from the northern crest of an undulating upland, the soil of which varies from a dark colored loam and clay bottom (near the eastern border), to a gravelly loam in the centre, and more or less clay and light soil in the western portion of the town. A fine quality of building stone crops out on some of the summits, but owing to the steep hills and heavy grades these quarries have seldom been worked. An abundance of black slate is found near the centre of the town. Agriculture is the principal interest, and although hay is the chief crop, oats, barley, corn and buckwheat are raised in abundance. In the vicinity of Currytown hops are grown with much success. The adaptability of the soil to grazing was recognized by the farmers at an early day, and thus we find extensive dairies and cheese factories scattered throughout the town. The manufacture of cheese has not, however, of late been carried on to the former extent, as the high prices paid for good hay offer greater advantage to the agriculturist.

The two principal streams in Root are Yatesville and Flat creeks. The former enters the town on its eastern border from Charleston and flows in a northerly direction, emptying into the Mohawk at Randall, formerly Yatesville. This stream was called by the Indians "Wasontha," as is shown by a land grant dated 1727. A beautiful cascade is to be seen about one mile north of Rural Grove, where this stream falls twenty or twenty-five feet, affording a scene of picturesque attraction. A grist-mill was erected at this point at a very early day by a man named Vrooman the place being for many years known as Vrooman's Falls. The mill was carried away by high water in 1813. Flat creek, which takes its name from the shallowness of a portion of its stream, rises in the extreme southern part of the town and flows in an irregular northerly direction, making a circuitous detour into Canajoharie, and emptying into the Mohawk at Sprakers. A large portion of the course of this stream is composed of natural features differing from those to which

¹ Captain Machin was in service during the revolution, and was employed by Washington to make the chain which was stretched across the Hudson at West Point. Some links of this immense chain are still preserved, and it is surprising that such an immense work in iron could have been done in that rude condition of mechanics. This chain kept the British vessels from ascending the river to attack Albany. Captain Machin is also mentioned in our history of Charleston, where he passed his last days.

it owes its name. For a number of miles it flows through an inclining stratum of gravel and slate, its banks forming steep and rugged ravines, and at a point one mile above Sprakers, there is a fall of sixty-five feet. At several places along its course prospecting parties have successfully brought to the surface mineral ore containing fifty per cent. of lead, and fifteen of silver, as shown by the assay of the state geologist, and this led to the formation of the Canajoharie Mining Company.

Facing the river on the northern border of Root, about two miles east of Sprakers is a bold promontory which is mentioned in connection with a similar spur on the opposite side of the Mohawk, as "The Noses." These abrupt and lofty hills were frequently used to mark boundaries in the early divisions of Tryon county.

Another striking natural feature within the limits of the town is Mitchell's cave, which is located in a margin of the woods on "Nose Hill," about one and one-half miles from Sprakers. The entrance is quite small, scarcely large enough to admit a man of heavy stature, and the passage to the first landing, sloping northward, is made with difficulty by the aid of a rope firmly attached to trees. The interior of the cave consists of several rooms or separate caverns, connected by passageways, the farthest one yet explored apparently being about four hundred feet from the entrance. Martin Carson explored the cave in 1837 and his description of it is highly interesting. He says the passage from the second to the third room is the most dangerous, leading along a shelving rock, the surface of which is wet and slippery, and bordering which was a narrow and perpendicular chasm, so deep that stones cast into it sent back echoes from a seemingly incalculable depth. The Carson party went as far as the thirteenth room, which was the largest of all, being possibly forty feet wide and twenty-five feet in height. The dome of this room was studded with beautiful stalactites of various shapes and sizes. Subsequent explorers speak of the fourth room as being large, and having in its ceiling or dome, a huge rock, which seems to be on the verge of falling. The sound of rushing water can be plainly heard in some parts of the cave, and in the lower room, several hundred feet below the surface, there is a pool of water, the depth of which is not known. The great danger attached to a survey of this wonderful work of nature has prevented a more extended exploration of its depths by naturalists and men of science.

Root was formed from Canajoharie and Charleston, January 27, 1823, and named in honor of Erastus Root, of Delaware county, a noted political leader of that time. Its area, which consists of 30,463½ acres, is greater than that of any other town in the county. This territory embraces parts of nine different land grants, the earliest of which was known as the Burnet patent. It consisted of 775 acres, including the present site of Randall village, and was granted to William Burnet, jr., February 24, 1726. The Provost patent of 8,000, lying next west of the above, was granted to Provost, Cocus, Van Wyck and others, March 8, 1726. The Livingston patent of 775 acres, extending southeast from the river in the northeastern corner of the town, was granted to Robert Livingston, jr., March 10, 1726. The Roseboom patent of 1,500 acres, included the hill known as "Anthony's Nose," and extended southeast within a mile of the site of Currytown. It was granted to Johannes Roseboom, April 29, 1726. Archibald Kennedy received a patent for 775 acres of land, lying between the Livingston land and the Ten Eyck patent, the latter in the present town of Glen. It included what is known as Stone Ridge, and was granted April 18, 1727. Ten years later, June 17, 1737, Timothy Bagley and C. Williams received a patent of 4,000 acres in the south part of the town, extending into the southeastern part of Canajoharie. The next grant, which was the largest of all, was Corry's patent of 25,400 acres, embracing parts of the present towns of Charleston, Glen and Root, and granted to William Corry, George Clarke and others, November 19, 1737. Winne's patent of 4,000 acres, adjoining Roseboom on the south and west, and including the site of Flat Creek village, was granted to Peter Winne and others, October 6, 1741. John Daniel Gros, an early preacher, received a title to the Gros patent, which embraced parts of the towns of Root and Canajoharie, March 30, 1786.

First White Settlement.—The first permanent white settler in Root, of which there is any authentic record, was Jacob Dievendorf, who located on the present site of Currytown. He came some time prior to the revolution, and with him were Rudolph Keller, David and Frederick Lewis, and Jacob Tanner, but the precise location of the early abodes of these latter named pioneers is not definitely known. Most of them were pre eminently fitted for the aggressive work necessary for

the establishment of homes in a wilderness, being descendants of a hardy German race, accustomed to toil and privation. Their powers of endurance, however, were taxed less in their efforts to clear the land of its native growth, than in protecting their primitive homes and the lives of their families from the bloody incursions of the savage and the tory. The most disastrous of these raids took place on July 9, 1781, under the lead of the tory, Doxtader. When the alarm was given the settlers hastened to a picketed block-house near the dwelling of Henry Lewis, closely pursued by the enemy. The savage horde set fire to every house in the village, except one, but what might have been an extensive loss was prevented by the timely arrival of Colonel Willett's forces, who were in time to extinguish some of the fires. Frederick, son of Jacob Dievendorf, was scalped, as was also his brother, Jacob, jr., and the latter was taken prisoner. Both fortunately recovered and returned after the retreat of the Indians. Jacob, jr., lived to acquire wealth and influence in the community, being at the time of his death one of the largest land owners in Montgomery county. He died at his residence in Currytown, October 8, 1854, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

During the above mentioned raid, Mary Miller, a little girl, was scalped and found alive, but soon after died from the effects of her injuries. Authentic record has been made of the miraculous escapes of a number of others who participated in that memorable struggle. One of these was the eldest son of Rudolph Keller, who lived too far from the fort to reach it in safety, and hence hurried with his family to a dense woods, where they escaped injury. They were compelled to witness the destruction of their home with its contents. Peter Bellinger, who came into the town subsequent to the arrival of the Dievendorfs, was plowing in a field when the raiders appeared, and loosening his horse from the plow, he mounted and fled in safety toward the Mohawk. A party of savages who started in pursuit of him captured Jacob Moyer and his father who were hiding in the woods, and scalped and killed them both. How much like fiction these tales sound in the ears of the modern reader, and yet scarcely more than a hundred years have elapsed since the homes of those struggling pioneers were laid in ashes, and the wives, mothers, and children perished in the fiendish Indian warfare.

Among other early settlers in Root were the Sprakers, Van Everas, Hubbses, Lykers, Snows and Downings, who are mentioned in another part of our history.

The town records of Root have been well preserved since the date of organization, and this good condition is undoubtedly due to the fact that the office of town clerk has frequently been held by one incumbent for several consecutive years. In reviewing the names of town clerks we find the remarkable fact that three prominent men of Root, who, during their younger days occupied that office, afterwards achieved political and social prominence, and were elected to the assembly. These were John Bowdish, Freeman P. Moulton, and the present assemblyman from this district, George J. Gove, of Rural Grove. Mr. Bowdish was elected to the assembly in 1841, and Mr. Moulton in 1863. Among the supervisors we also find Gamaliel Bowdish, who was elected assemblyman in 1847.

The first town meeting and election of officers was held shortly after the organization of the town in January, 1823. The following list comprises the names of supervisors from that date to the present time. David C. Hubbs, 1823-26; Henry Lycker, 1827-28; David C. Hubbs, 1829; Henry I. Dievendorf, 1830; George Spraker, 1831-33; John Burns, jr., 1834-35; Jacob Vosburgh, 1836-37; William C. Hubbs, 1838-39; Simeon Snow, 1840-41; John L. Bevans, 1842-43; Robert Yates, 1844-45; Charles Hubbs, 1846-48; Frederick J. Starin, 1849-50; Abram W. Gardinier, 1851; John Bowdish, 1852-53; Charles Hubbs, 1854; James W. Lyker, 1855-56; George I. E. Lasher, 1857-58; Gamaliel Bowdish, 1859-60; David Quackenbush, 1861-63; William B. Dievendorf, 1864; Ira J. Carr, 1865-66; Samuel Morrell, jr., 1867; Charles Hubbs, 1868-72; Freeman P. Moulton, 1873-76; Miles Yates, 1877-78; Robert C. Failing, 1879; Jacob D. Snow, 1880-81; Washington Downing, 1882-83; George J. Gove, 1884-85; Jacob Dievendorf, 1886-88; George J. Gove, 1889-91; A. A. Lyker, 1892.

The town clerks during the corresponding period have been as follows: Cornelius C. Hubbard, 1823-25; Joshua Young, 1826-29; John Bowdish, 1830-40; Thomas W. Bingham, 1841; Charles Hubbs, 1842-43; Josiah Lasher, 1844-47; Henry Burns, 1848-49; Hiram Burns, 1850; Elias Yates, 1851; Barnabas Vrooman, 1852-53; Isaac Folms-

bee, 1854-56; Henry Van Buren, 1857-58; John Braugham, 1859-60; Aurelian Mallett, 1861-63; George J. Gove, 1864-65; Henry Mallett, 1866-67; Reuben Dievendorff, 1868-70; Herbert A. Quackenbush, 1871-72; Edwin Folmsbee, 1873; John W. Gordon, 1874-75; Reuben Dievendorff, 1876; Peter A. Smith, 1877-78; Silas W. Cohen, 1879; Martin Van Buren, 1880-81; J. Bowdish Gove, 1882; James Folmsbee, jr., 1883; Malachi B. Spencer, 1884-85; Hibbard Burns, 1886-92.

The present town officers include the following: Supervisor, A. A. Lyker; town clerk, Hibbard Burns; justices of the peace, Herbert W. Riggs, David V. Dunn, J. Bowdish Gove, and Frank R. Bradt; assessors, George A. Dillenback, Menzo Gardinier, and Henry Runkle; collector, Albert C. Shults; overseer of the poor, James S. Allen.

The relative importance of any town is always better illustrated by a reference to the number of its inhabitants, and the following figures will show the population of Root, which has varied in a striking manner. In 1825, 2,806; 1830, 2,750; 1835, 2,918; 1840, 2,979; 1845, 2,804; 1850, 2,736; 1855, 2,748; 1860, 2,622; 1865, 2,456; 1870, 2,492; 1875, 2,290; 1880, 2,275; 1890, 2,041.

Schools, Past and Present.—The educational advantages of Root, and in fact, of the whole county, so far as the public schools are concerned, during the period of its first white settlement, were in rather a formative condition which in these days would be very unsatisfactory. The first schools in Root were composed of German scholars and German masters, this tongue being used exclusively, but as settlers from New England and the British Isles entered the community both the language and modes of teaching were gradually changed and improved. A pedagogue named Glaycher taught an English school near the Noses, in 1784, and it is probable that private schools existed in various parts of the town after the beginning of the present century. Some of the well-to-do farmers who manifested a marked desire for learning were sent to the academy at Johnstown, and finished education at eastern colleges. The district school system was in operation at the time Root was formed. Its territory is now divided into fourteen districts, in which there is a population of 603 children of school age. Of this number 465 attend school, with a daily average of 210. Thirteen teachers

are employed, whose salaries aggregated \$3,688.21 during the year 1891. The school libraries contain 449 volumes, the total value of which is \$152. The sites and school buildings of the town are valued at \$9,325.

VILLAGES.

Rural Grove.—The largest and most important village and centre of trade in town is situated on Yatesville creek, about five miles south of the Mohawk. The record of its settlement dates back to the year 1828, when Abram H. Vanderveer formed a partnership with Henry Stowits, erected a dwelling and subsequently a large tannery on the site of the residence of the late John Bowdish. Stowits gave the name of Unionville to the cluster of houses which soon surrounded the tannery, but later on this name was exchanged for the less euphonious title of Leatherville. Isaac B. Walker built an inn in 1828, and conducted it for several years, and it was afterward kept by Henry Van Buren. A store was erected by William A. Covenhoven, and on the 2d day of June, 1829, John Bowdish and Isaac S. Frost began the mercantile business. This same building was afterwards occupied by Mr. Bowdish when in partnership with George J. Gove.

The post-office was removed to this place from Currytown in 1832, to which was given the town name, Root. John Bowdish received the first appointment as postmaster, and held the office for half a century, a remarkable example of postal service and an evidence of great integrity.

The village is not essentially a manufacturing place, but aside from the usual mercantile trade carried on in a place of several hundred inhabitants, it supports a grist-mill and cheese factory. The present name of Rural Grove was adopted by the post-office department in 1872, although several residents had used the name in dating their correspondence as early as 1850. It was suggested by a beautiful grove of elms on the west border of the village.

The Methodist church of Rural Grove was built in 1845, but a society of this denomination existed in the community long prior to that date. Among the early preachers were Revs. Starks and Emerson, and after the erection of the house of worship the pulpit was supplied for a time

by Rev. Mosher of Canajoharie. A second church edifice was erected in 1860 three miles distant, which together with the Argusville society was for many years connected with the Rural Grove charge. Among the pastors who have officiated at this church since 1870 will be remembered Reverends Elam Marsh, Le Grand Jones, George C. Simmons, Milton Tator, Charles A. S. Heath, and the last pastor, Rev. J. G. Perkins.

The Christian church of Rural Grove, which was organized in March, 1854, included among its first members Elias Yates, Thomas J. Vanderveer, Jacob I. Vanderveer, Henry C. Hamilton, John Dopp, and Henry Shibley, all of whom served as trustees. The church was erected during the summer of 1854 and was dedicated on the 8th of November, Rev. Obadiah E. Morrell officiating. The first regular pastor was Rev. John Ross, who, with assistants, filled the pulpit until December 28, 1865, when the society was reorganized upon the accession of seventy-seven members from the church at Charleston Four Corners. After reorganization the pulpit was first filled by Rev. A. A. Lason, who was succeeded by Rev. J. C. Burgdurf, during whose pastorate, in 1874, the building was enlarged and improved at an expense of about \$800. The rededication took place June 11. Among the pastors who have served the church since the departure of Mr. Burgdurf may be mentioned Revs. Moore, Fenton, E. D. Hammond, Hayner, Humphrey, McGlaulin and the present minister, Rev. C. C. Thorn, who came in April, 1892.

Sprakers is a small village located on the Mohawk at the mouth of Flat creek. It is also a station on the West Shore railroad and a supply point for boats on the Erie canal. The land on which the village stands was acquired by George Spraker from his father, Jost Spraker, who was one of the Mohawk valley pioneers. George built a tavern here which was kept both by himself and by succeeding landlords for many years until finally destroyed by fire. Daniel Spraker built a store in 1822 and until the canal was completed was engaged in the transfer of freight between the unfinished sections. When the line of the canal was changed he moved his store to its bank and after a successful business career of twenty-eight years was succeeded by the present proprietor, David Quackenbush.

Joseph Spencer began business on the bank of the canal shortly after its completion, and built up a large and lucrative trade. He subsequently retired, and John L. Bevins purchased the business. Upon the enlargement of the canal he erected a substantial stone building, and after a few years the store came into the possession of the Cohens, and is now conducted by Silas W. Cohen, a member of the same family. The stone store is remarkably well preserved, and from all appearances will accommodate a large trade for many years to come.

George Spraker was the first postmaster at this point, holding the office for a number of years. Among his successors have been David Quackenbush, Henry Cohen, Mrs. Hannah Cohen, and the present incumbent, Silas W. Cohen. David Quackenbush also held the office a second time during the Cleveland administration.

The Reformed Church of Sprakers was built in 1858, on land given by George Spraker. A very old church had existed at this point prior to that time, a part of which was used in the construction of a store now standing on the south side of the canal lock. The society was for many years connected with the Reformed Church of Stone Arabia. Among the pastors officiating at Sprakers since 1858 have been Revs. E. Vine Wales, Nanning Bogardus, D. K. Van Dorn, J. A. Compton, John Miner, and the present pastor, John A. Thomas, who came July 1, 1887. The church has an active Sunday-school, of which O. C. Van Evera is superintendent.

The Spraker's Basin cheese factory, established some twelve years ago, is operated by Lorenzo Edgerton.

Currytown is the oldest village in Root, and was settled some time prior to the revolution by Jacob Dievendorf. A store was established at this place at a very early day by John McKernan, in a building on the corner opposite the residence of the late Dr. Snow. McKernan afterwards retired, and in 1820 built a bridge across the Mohawk at Randall, but the structure was carried away by the first high water. It was at Currytown that the first post-office in Root was established, the mail being brought by a post rider. The postmaster was Daniel Cuck, who was an early settler. His successor was Walter Conkling, and after him the office was held by John Bowdish, during whose tenure it was removed to Rural Grove. Currytown was then without a post-office for

a long period, but another has recently been established there, and Reuben Dievendorf is postmaster. There is no mercantile business transacted in the village now, but the substantial farm houses and buildings and well cultivated fields all give evidence of prosperity.

The Reformed Church of Currytown is the oldest religious organization in Root, having organized in or about 1790, and erected a house of worship as early as 1809. Probably the first pastor to officiate regularly for the society was Rev. Peter Van Buren, who was there in 1806 and preached at private houses. The old church was remodeled and greatly improved in 1849, and the original spire replaced by a new one. Thus enlarged and repaired, the old structure served the congregation until 1883, when the present beautiful edifice was erected at a cost of about \$7,500. The pastors who have officiated at this church during the past fifteen years include Rev. E. G. Ackerman, who came in 1878; James M. Compton, from 1879 until September 1, 1882; John Miner, in 1883, and the present pastor, Rev. H. H. Sangree, who came in March, 1888. The church has seventy-three communicating members, and a Sunday-school of fifty scholars, Reuben Dievendorf being superintendent.

Randall is the name of a post-office and village on the Mohawk and Erie canal, near the mouth of Yatesville creek. It was originally called Yatesville, but when the post-office was established, in 1863, the name of Randall was suggested and adopted by the first postmaster, Louis Lounsbery. Mr. Lounsbery held the office until the Cleveland administration in 1885, when he was succeeded by Washington Downing. The office is now held by Louis Lounsbery, a son of the first postmaster. The railway station at this point is called Downing. A Christian Church society was organized at Randall about the middle of the present century, and meetings were held in the school house for many years, the society being connected with that of Rural Grove, and receiving the services of the ministers at the latter place. The present church was built in 1885 through the earnest efforts of some of the prominent residents, among whom were Peter Van Evera and family. The dedication took place December 10, 1885, Rev. Mr. Hayner officiating. The pastors since Mr. Hayner's departure have been Revs. Humphrey, McGlauffin, Sweet, Marvin, and the present minister, Rev.

W. H. Shaw, who came in 1891. The church has about seventy members. In 1820 a bridge was built across the river at this point, but being constructed too low was soon swept away.

Flat Creek is situated on the creek from which it takes its name, about four miles south of the Mohawk. A large amount of business formerly centered at this place, and Hibbard & Wessels who kept an early store there had an extensive trade. John Burns, jr., also engaged in business at this place for a number of years. There were two hotels at one time, but there is only one now, the Hotel Wessels, conducted by Mrs. Mary E. Wessels.

The Baptist church at Flat Creek was built in 1860 and regular meetings were held for fifteen or 16 years, but recently the Reformed pastors from Currytown have officiated in this pulpit, the Baptist society having disbanded. The True Dutch Reformed church at Flat Creek was built in 1885 and is supplied once a month with ministers from New Jersey. Isaac Folmsbee was postmaster at this place for many years, being succeeded in August, 1885, by Hibbard Burns, who still holds the office.

The Flat Creek cheese factory was built in 1865 by John I. Brown and two years later was purchased by a company having a capital of \$3,100. William A. Dievendorff was president. It is now operated by Samuel Hilton who took charge about ten years since. Lorenzo Folmsbee also conducts a steam saw and feed mill at this point.

Brown's Hollow, in the southern part of the town; *Bundy's Corners*, and *Lyker's Corners* are hamlets consisting of a few houses each. At the first named place Henry Lyker erected a grist-mill at an early day, the property subsequently coming into the possession of John Brown, who increased the water power by tunneling a thousand feet through the hill. The mill was burned many years ago and rebuilt by Mr. Brown, but of recent years has only done a small business. A distillery, saw mill, linseed oil mill, carding machine and fulling mill were also in operation in Brown's Hollow in former times, but have passed away and the place can hardly expect their return.

CHAPTER XXVII.

TOWN OF CHARLESTON.

THIS is the only town in Montgomery county that does not border upon the Mohawk river. It is bounded on the north by Glen; on the east by Schoharie creek, which also serves as a dividing line from Florida; on the south by Schoharie county, and on the west by Root. Its surface is composed chiefly of high plateau immediately west of Schoharie creek, the greater part of which is undulating uplands. Abrupt and narrow valleys or ravines with small streams also form a marked feature of the topography of the town. In the eastern part bluffs from 50 to 100 feet in height are found bordering on Schoharie creek. The principal stream within its limits is Mill brook, which flows in an easterly direction, emptying into the Schoharie two miles north of Burtonville. The soil is loam generally intermixed with clay, and is adapted to spring grain and grazing.

Charleston is a very old town, and its territory has been at different times much reduced by the formation of other towns. Mention has frequently been made in this volume of the five districts into which Tryon county was divided in 1772. Of these that part of the Mohawk district which comprises the region south of the river and extending from the easterly bounds of the county west to a north and south line crossing the river at Anthony's Nose, was in 1788 organized as the town of Mohawk. Thus it continued for five years, when on March 12, 1693, its territory was divided, that east of the Schoharie being formed into the town of Florida; and that west of the stream into the town of Charleston. Thus the old town of Mohawk went out of existence, but the name was appropriately selected for the new town created in 1837 from a part of Johnstown. It will thus be seen that Charleston, when first organized, bordered upon the Mohawk, but with the increase of population, and the inconvenience of travel to town meetings, a division was made necessary, and in 1823 Glen and a part of Root were taken

off, leaving Charleston with about 25,432 acres, which is its present area. The early land grants in Charleston comprise part of the following: Bagley's patent, 25,400 acres, granted to Timothy Bagley and twelve others, November 19, 1737; Corry's patent, 25,400 acres, granted to William Corry, George Clarke and others, November 19, 1737; and the Stone Heap patent, 15,500 acres, granted to Daniel Claus, John Bowen, and fifteen others, September 15, 1770.

The last named patent derived its singular name from a large pile of stones, known as the "Stone Heap," situated on the road leading north from Oak Ridge, a hamlet in the southern part of the town. This pile of stones attracts attention from the legendary tales that hover about it and which have been handed down from the time of Indian occupancy. Probably the oldest of these traditions is that long prior to the revolution a white man was killed upon the spot, and that since that time every passing Indian was compelled to cast a stone upon it. Although the fact is well substantiated that each Indian passing the spot, and there were many, for this was the old Indian trail leading through the Schoharie Valley from the Susquehanna to the Mohawk county, complied with the above requirement. Less credence is given to this tradition than to one which simply accounts for the pile of stone as the result of a custom of the Indians, when visiting a stream or spring to throw a twig or stone in a conspicuous place, indicating to other travelers that a friend had passed. One writer, speaking of the stone heap, says: "Somewhere between Schoharie creek and Caughnawaga commenced an Indian road or foot-path, which led to Schoharie. Near this road has been seen, from time immemorial, a large pile of stone, which has given the name 'Stone Heap patent,' to the tract on which it occurs, as may be seen from ancient deeds." In 1753 Rev. Gideon Hawley made a tour of the adjacent country, and wrote as follows concerning their strange memorial. "We came to a resting place and breathed our horses, and slaked our thirst at the stream, when we perceived our Indian looking for a stone, which, having found, he cast to a heap which for ages had been accumulating by passengers, like him who was our guide. We inquired why he observed that rite. He answered that his father practiced it and enjoined it on him. But he did not like to talk on the subject." Mr. Hawley continued, "this cus-

tom or rite is an acknowledgment of an invisible being. We may style him the unknown God whom this people worship. This heap is his altar. The stone that is collected is the oblation of the traveler, which, if offered with a good mind, may be as acceptable as a consecrated animal. But perhaps these heaps of stones may be erected to a local deity, which most probably is the case." Ruttenber, speaking on the same subject, is inclined to doubt the statement that the stones formed any part of a rite of worship and says, "the stone heaps were always by the side of a trail or regularly traveled path, and usually at or near a stream of water."

Many of Charleston's early settlers, some of whom came prior to the revolution, were undoubtedly attracted to the locality by the availability of Schoharie creek as a source of mill power, and at an early day along the banks of this stream were erected numerous grist and saw-mills. Among the pioneers who first located within the town were Thomas Machin, who was interested in one of the land patents; Captain John Stanton, Robert Winchell, Adin Bromley, Henry Mayes, David Kimball, Nathan Kimball, Ezekiel Tracy, Nathan Tracy, Abner Throop, John Eddy, and Abiah Beaman. After the revolution the immigration was more rapid and included many thrifty New Englanders, some of the descendants of whom are yet residents of Montgomery county. Among these later settlers were Judah Burton, Abram Davis, John Butler, Charles Earing, Benjamin Beard, John Reimer, John Brand, John Hamilton, Isaac Conover, Peter Fero, Edward Montanye, Henry Shibley, John Schuyler, Garret I. Lansing, Alexander Hubbs, George Teeple, John Cochley, John Hoag, Elijah Herrick, Abram Guile, Ephraim Burtch, William Jamison, Joshua Tubbs, Christian Overbaugh, Sylvanus Willoughby, James Sutphen, Benjamin H. Kneeland, Elias Cady, Francis Hoag, Nathaniel Bowdish, Ira H. Corbin, James Jermain, Henry G. Haley, David Hamilton, James and Peleg Pettys, Cornelius Wiser, Sergeant Heath, Daniel Bryant, Clark Randall, Thomas Leak, Michael Winter, Jacob Weed, Jacob Smith, Ethan Eaton, Stephen Borden, Ezra Gordon, Richard Davis, Moses Pierson, Richard Clute, William Fero, and John Onderkirk.

These early pioneers found a country covered with a hardy growth of timber, and traversed by few and laborious trails. Many of the first

comers, particularly those who came from adjoining counties, left their families behind for a time, until they could clear sufficient land to build a log dwelling and sow the first crop. They generally went back to their old home during the intervening winters. Those who reached the town prior to the revolution witnessed many of the bloody scenes enacted by the tories and Indians, who scoured the country along the Indian trail leading north from Schoharie. On one of these occasions the British and Indians were pursued by a party of American militia. The former, when in the neighborhood of what is now Oak Ridge, constructed a barricade of their baggage wagons, behind which they attempted to repulse the Americans. Their resistance was not of long duration, however, and setting fire to the barricade they soon made a rapid retreat.

A history of Charleston would be incomplete without reference to the lamentable state of affairs in which a portion of the inhabitants in the central, northern and western part of the town have been at times involved. These were the tenants of the Clark lands. George Clark, lieutenant-governor of the colony of New York in 1737, at the time the Corry patent of more than 25,000 acres was granted, became secretly interested in this tract, which was surveyed and laid out and a division made between the owners. Clark then returned to England, leaving his sons, George, and Edward, in New York, to whom he bequeathed the property. Upon the death of Edward, who survived his brother, these lands came by inheritance to his oldest son, George Hyde Clark, who taking sides with the colonists during the revolution, was protected in his title, although it had originally been granted by the crown. After the war he succeeded in leasing the property to settlers, by what was known as a "three life" lease, the usual rental being one shilling per acre. The tenants built houses and barns, cleared away timber, and received the customary rights of ownership. In this manner the Clark lands passed from father to son for several years, the inheritor always bearing the name of George Clark. The last owner to the Clark land, instead of adhering to the custom of his ancestors in charging a nominal rental, pursued a different course, and when a lease expired the rent was immediately raised, sometimes as high as \$2 and \$3 per acre. So incensed were the tenants by this injustice, that when they vacated a

farm, which was in many instances eviction for non payment of rent, they burned the houses and barns they had built. In this manner began that period of devastation which so seriously shocked the surrounding community. For years this unfortunate condition existed, and now along almost every highway in that unfortunate district can be seen the ruins of former homes, while much of the land is in a wild uncultivated state. An effort was made at one time to dispossess Clark by legal process, on the plea that the lands were obtained under a title from the British government, but Judge Cady, before whom the case was tried, decided that the title was established by possession, and the action was barred by the statute of limitations. Since then, however, the failure of the landlord threw these lands into the market, and the old tenure being canceled, a better condition prevails in this once demoralized region.

VILLAGES.

Burtonville is situated on the Schoharie in the southeast corner of the town. Judah Burton, who located on a tract including the site of the village, just after the close of the revolution, was the pioneer of the vicinity, and in 1785 he erected the first saw-mill and grist-mill in the town. It was built by Felix Holt, and stood about a half mile below the present Burtonville mill. It was carried away by high water in 1814 and never rebuilt. Another mill was built that year, however, by Jonathan, Ebenezer and Abram Mudge, and was operated until 1850. Judah Burton, a son of the first settler, then built a mill which has since been operated by a number of firms, among which were Burton, Smith Colyer, Charles M. Sitterly, and J. W. and N. H. Meriness.

A carding machine and fulling-mill was in operation at this point as early as 1810, having been erected by Joseph Blanchard. Woolen goods have also been quite extensively manufactured in Burtonville, the first enterprise of the kind being started by A. G. Randall in 1844. A tannery and nail factory may also be included among the early industries of the place.

The settlement was at first known as Mudge Hollow, a name derived from Captain Abram Mudge, who opened the first hotel early in the present century. When the post-office was established a few years

later the name of Eaton's Corners was chosen, but in 1837 it was changed to Burtonville in honor of Judah Burton. The postmasters have included the following persons: Ebenezer Knibbslee, 1825 to 1828; David Eaton, 1828-31; Isaac Brownell, Judah Burton, Stephen Hoag, David M. Scott, J. D. Bowman, J. Rockwell, and Dewitt C. Chase, who was first appointed April 18, 1861. Mr. Chase is the present incumbent.

Burtonville contains two churches, the Methodist Episcopal, organized in 1857, and the Christian church organized in December, 1865.

The first bridge across Schoharie creek in this town was erected at Burtonville in 1790. It was built of wood and remained until 1814. It was replaced by another bridge in 1820 which did service until 1841, when it was carried away by high water. An iron bridge was erected in 1843, which, in 1869, was also partially carried away, but subsequently repaired and made serviceable.

Charleston Four Corners is a small village in the eastern part of the town. Business was first transacted at this point about 1810, in which year Philip Young erected a hotel there. The first merchant was Isaac Frost, who was also the first postmaster, receiving his appointment March 5, 1828. With the exception of one year, 1832, in which Jesse N. Eaton had the office, Mr. Frost held the office during a period of forty-four years. Among his successors have been Judson McDuffee, Horace E. Simmons, and the present incumbent, Ellsworth McDuffee.

The Christian church at this place was first organized as an Association of Free Will Baptists in 1813, and James Wilson as the first pastor. Elder John Ross, who came to the society in 1822, remained with them fifty years, resigning in the fall of 1872, since which time various pastors have filled the pulpit.

Charleston village, or Rider's Corners, is situated in the northern part of the town near the centre. The place was settled shortly after the revolution and has at different times contained a hotel, one or two stores, a blacksmith shop and tannery. The post-office at this place was the first established in the town, Levi Pettibone having been appointed postmaster there October 1, 1807. Among his successors will be remembered such familiar names as John Guernsey, Adam Smith, Moses Nash, Benjamin Sheldon, Peter S. Wyckoff, William Carlisle, Henry H. Belding, Darius J. Hewitt, Thompson Burton, Will-

iam H. Biggam, Elisha H. Brumley, Daniel W. Schuyler, Charles W. Van Dusen and Cornelius D. Hall.

The First Baptist Church at Rider's Corners is the oldest in the town, dating its organization as far back as 1793. The first pastor of this society was Rev. Elijah Herrick, who was succeeded by his son Calvin.

The first school in Charleston was built in 1800 although it is probable that instruction, however imperfect, had been maintained prior to that date. Among the first teachers in the town was Andrew Biggam. At present the town is divided into ten districts, in which there is a population of 306 school children, 262 of whom attend school. Ten teachers are employed at a total expense of \$2,000 per annum. The school sites and buildings are valued at \$5,435.

The population of the town since 1825 is here given: 1825, 2,102; 1830, 2,148; 1835, 2,124; 1840, 2,103; 1845, 1,995; 1850, 2,216; 1855, 1,899; 1860, 1,837; 1865, 1,687; 1870, 1,601; 1875, 1,399; 1880, 1,334; 1890, 1,174. John P. Hall is the present supervisor, and Ellsworth McDuffee, town clerk.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

STARIN, JOHN H.—From the earliest years of the history of the Mohawk valley the name of Starin has been conspicuous in its records. Nicholas Starin was one of the pioneers, and immigrated hither in the year 1720. The original family consisted of eight persons, and included Nicholas and Catherine, his wife, and their children, named Frederick, Valentine, Adam, Tunis, Joseph and Catherine. Their first settlement was near the present village of Fonda, but soon afterwards several of the sons removed to German Flats, near the residence of General Herkimer, under whom they fought at Oriskany.

John Starin, grandson of Nicholas, was born in 1750 near the present site of Fultonville, and was old enough when the French and Indian war began to share its perils. The revolution found him ready to en-



Yours

Geo. A. Harris

list in the service of his country, which he did, as also did Nicholas, Jacob, George, Henry, Valentine, Philip, John and Adam Starin, nine in number. During the whole of the great struggle this family showed the greatest devotion to the patriotic cause. When peace was declared the Starins all became active members of the community, and some of them were called to important service. On the organization of Herkimer county in 1791, Henry Starin was appointed first judge. John Starin, another of the nine, soon after the close of hostilities, opened a store and an inn on the south bank of the Mohawk, the spot being near the present bridge. Myndert Starin, son of John, was born in 1787, in what is now the village of Fultonville. In his youth he served as mail-carrier, making a horseback route to and from Johnstown, and as the Circuit Court was often held at his father's public house, he early became acquainted with the business of the day. He was a man of intelligence and decision, and had a strong love of country. Hence, when the draft was made for the war of 1812, though he was then suffering illness, he waived his privilege of exemption and stood by the result of the draft. He was at this time a captain in the infantry, and when the war closed he opened business successfully in Johnstown; but three years afterward (1819) he made Sammonsville the scene of his operation. There he built mills, an ashery, hotel, distillery, etc. In 1822, associated with the late Thomas Robinson, he purchased a large tract, including the present site of Fultonville, and their plans embraced twelve different forms of industry. Among these were saw-mills, grist-mills, making paper, spinning wool and dressing cloth, to which were to be added a nail factory, a distillery and an ashery. The Erie canal was then in process of construction, and the plans of Starin & Robinson included the establishment of a dry dock and boat yard. Myndert Starin married, March 22, 1816, Rachel Sammons, daughter of Thomas Sammons, who won distinction in the revolution, and was a member of congress. Myndert Starin died in 1845, being then in his fifty-eighth year, and leaving eight children to the care of the widow. She was a Christian woman of strong character, and impressed upon her children lessons worthy of such a character. Mrs. Starin died September 6, 1855.

John H. Starin, son of Myndert and Rachel Starin, was born August 27, 1825. His early days were passed in Fultonville, and after attend-

ing district school he had a brief course at Esperance. He also attended the Kingsboro Academy, then a prominent educational institution. In 1842, being then seventeen, he began the study of medicine in Albany, but soon afterward returned to Fultonville as clerk in the drug store of his brother, Delancey. When the firm of Starin & Freeman was formed he took charge of the drug department, which he soon afterward (1847) purchased, and henceforth conducted the business in his own name. He was made postmaster, and this, with a successful drug trade, may for a time have satisfied his ambition.

New York, however, soon attracted him by its vast facilities, and in 1856, being then thirty-one, he conveyed his business to the metropolis, but still retained his original residence. On establishing himself in New York his industry and energy reached what was then considered a very satisfactory success, and he was invited to a partnership in a first class house, which he declined. A new field was even then opening before him, and one that was more congenial to an administrative mind. This was the freighting business. He had frequently been of service to railway managers to a degree which indicated his peculiar abilities, and this led to a closer connection. He had won the confidence of the chief freighters of the metropolis, and on the opening of the rebellion he was found to be especially adapted to an important duty. This was the transportation of ordnance, military stores and commissary supplies throughout the cities of Brooklyn and New York. It was accomplished by him at a reduction of from one-third to one-half former cost, and with a rapidity and precision which knew no failure.

When the war closed John H. Starin's reputation as a freight operator led to a contract with one of the most important railroads, which placed its business in his hands. His facilities for loading and unloading their trains were such that the work was done at a reduction on previous cost, and hence the experiment proved mutually satisfactory. The example of the New Jersey Central was followed by other leading railroads until the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and the Central-Hudson sought each a similar arrangement, and as a result the heaviest part of the freight was afterward removed by the one controlling intellect.

Mr. Starin's energy was soon turned to harbor navigation and this led to the purchase of the steamer *Blackbird*. Thus was begun a marine

interest which subsequently became the most extensive in the waters of the metropolis and gave to him his well-known title. A grand fleet soon plied in the waters of the harbor and sound, bearing his especial signal, numbering in the various kinds of craft at one time 176 boats. A ship yard was established for construction and repair and the entire business was made successful beyond conception. Two lines of Staten Island Ferry and a steamboat line to New Haven were afterwards added to the list of Commodore Starin's enterprises. The creation of Glen Island out of a long neglected spot is also a remarkable proof of Commodore Starin's genius and taste. More than a half million visitors annually enjoy the benefit of this lovely resort during the season, and thus health and innocent pleasure are brought within the reach of the masses of the metropolis.

Commodore Starin has been often brought before the public as a leading agriculturist and hence it may be said that his home estate at Ful-tonville embraces six hundred acres of land, and are all under improvement. Its natural beauty, including a grand prospect of the valley, has been admirably assisted by art. Here Mr. Starin has given much attention to the rearing of blooded horses and cattle and to other features of advanced farming. A stately mansion crowns the highland, which is furnished with every modern improvement, and the grounds have been beautified until it is one of the most picturesque and attractive country homes in the state. Commodore Starin's floral taste has led to the erection of spacious conservatories, where may be seen the rarest exotics, including palms and agaves, as well as all varieties of flowers in perfect culture, and the grounds are enriched by the finest array of statuary (in marble and also in bronze) to be found in any private grounds in the country. Not the least in this number is a statue of the Commodore executed in bronze and presented by a number of New York business men as a token of regard. It is a fine likeness, and the unveiling of the statue was attended by a large assemblage of citizens. The addresses made on the occasion were both eloquent and appropriate, and the Commodore, being then in Europe, telegraphed a fitting response to this beautiful tribute.

A powerful motive in all of Commodore Starin's undertakings has been the pleasure he derived from giving employment to deserving.

men, many of whom he has assisted to permanent success. Commodore Starin was elected to the United States congress by the 20th district in 1876 and also in 1878, and made for himself a record in Washington as a man of deeds rather than words.

Mr. Starin married Miss Laura Mears Poole, daughter of John Hudson Poole, a man of sterling character, a civil engineer by profession, and an associate of Dewitt Clinton. Mrs. Starin has been more than equal to all the emergencies of her husband's successful life and has proved herself a worthy helpmate and companion. Three sons and two daughters were born to them.

VAN HORNE, JOEL C., was born on the 16th of June, 1828, in the town of Glen, Montgomery county, N. Y. He is descended from one of the pioneers of that section, where his grandfather settled in the early years of that town. His father was Jacob Van Horne and his mother Sarah Faulkner, also of Glen. The family through the three generations have been farmers and among the most successful ones of the county. The children of Jacob Van Horne were six, four of whom were sons.

The subject of this notice was forced to depend upon the district school of his native town for his education; but what he there obtained he made good use of and has added to it during his life a fund of general information, particularly upon agricultural subjects. He began working out for neighboring farmers when only eleven years of age, his wages being only four dollars per month and his board; but he persevered in spite of his adverse circumstances, and by his sterling characteristics, his industry and reasonable economy, was able to acquire a competency and eventually to retire from a long period of active labor. For many years he was one of the largest shippers and dealers in hay in the country, in which business he was particularly successful.

In the year 1888 Mr. Van Horne settled in Amsterdam, but he still retains his interest in agriculture, owning two fine farms in his native town.

He was formerly a director in a bank at Johnstown and also at Fultonville. He was always averse to holding public office, declining to accept the honors proffered him by his fellow-citizens. In all his busi-

ness relations with his fellow-men he is an example of honesty, always reliable and trustworthy, seldom if ever failing to keep his word, no matter how adverse the circumstances under which he may be placed. He is in every respect a self-made man, and enjoys the respect and confidence of the community in which he lives.

Mr. Van Horne was first married February 4, 1869, to Alice A., youngest daughter of Abram V. Putman, of Glen. She died on the 22d of February, 1887, survived by only one child, Libbie V., who, on the 24th of June, 1891, was united in marriage to Mr. J. Enders Van Derveer, of Glen, N. Y. Mr. Van Horne's present wife, Kate Morford, was a teacher in California for several years previous to their marriage, which occurred June 11, 1888. Her parents, John N. and Margaret (Ingersoll) Morford, are residents of his native town.

Mr. Van Horne is temperate in all things, enjoys the society and comforts of his home to all others, but nevertheless he has traveled quite extensively, both in his native and foreign countries.

McFARLAN, JOHN.—Among the many sturdy Scotch immigrants who settled early in the present century was Donald McFarlan, of the parish of Collander, Perthshire, Scotland, where he was born September 22, 1773. He came to Montgomery county in 1801 and settled in Perth. His wife was Catherine McFarlan (of another family of that name) to whom he was married in 1819. Their children were Alexander and Catherine (twins), John, the subject of this notice, Jeanette, Margaret and Isabel. Donald McFarlan died when his son John was quite young and the boy went to live with an uncle on a farm, where he attended the district school when he could be spared from labor. His first occupation for himself was as a clerk in a store in Broadalbin, whence he went to West Galway as partner in a country store from May, 1855, to May, 1857. He next came to Amsterdam and entered the store of Hawley & Cady where he remained for a time and left it to engage in the manufacture of knit goods in company with William Stewart and John C. Miller at Forestville. In 1861 he formed a partnership in the knit goods manufacture with Abram Marcellus, and for twenty-three years, until 1884, the two men labored

together in harmony and built up one of the largest manufacturing industries of the place. In 1884 Mr. Marcellus retired and Mr. McFarlan continued the business until his death. Soon after the retirement of Mr. Marcellus, a nephew of Mr. McFarlan, John H. Giles, was taken into the firm.

In his long business career in Amsterdam Mr. McFarlan developed and exhibited those marked traits of character which gave him his place among the foremost citizens of the place. Possessed of the typical qualities of his race, he was a most industrious and persevering worker, while his business sagacity was keen and comprehensive. He was a man of positive nature, decided in his opinions and courageous and unhesitating in expressing them. Frank to the point of bluntness, fully endowed with sound common sense, he was never blinded by sophistry or superficiality, and his sturdy honesty was proverbial. He showed strong attachment for his friends and never betrayed their confidence. To his employees he was ever considerate, but he could not be driven from his theories as to what was just and right between himself and those in his service. In the knit goods strike of 1886, no manufacturer exhibited more firmness in refusing to grant the unjust demands of the Knights of Labor. In his home he was a most kind and considerate husband and devoted father. He will long be remembered as one of the men of force, character and enterprise who have done so much to make Amsterdam what it now is. He was for many years a director of the Farmer's National Bank and held the office of vice-president at the time of his death. He was a charter member of the Board of Trade, a trustee of the Green Hill Cemetery Association, and a director of the Chuctenunda Gaslight Company. In politics he was an uncompromising Republican, but never sought political office. He was a consistent Christian and long a trustee of his church. In various ways he filled a large place in the public and private life of his adopted city.

Mr. McFarlan was married on the 6th of November, 1867, to Sophia Aulls Capell, of Dansville, N. Y., by Rev. M. S. Goodale. His death occurred December 4, 1891, at the Glen Sanitarium, Watkins, N. Y. His widow survives as a resident of Amsterdam. A daughter, Miss Katherine McFarlan, and two sons, George and John, also survive. Miss Isabel McFarlan of Broadalbin, and Mrs. Catherine Giles, of Rockport, Mass., are sisters of Mr. McFarlan.

ROBB, WILLIAM H., was born in the town of Florida, Montgomery county, July 1, 1843. He is a son of James M. Robb, also a native of Florida, and by occupation a farmer. Their immediate ancestor was George Robb, a native of Scotland, whence he came to Montgomery county in the early years of its settlement. James M. Robb's wife, and the mother of William H., was Cathaline Crawford, of Princeton, Schenectady county, N. Y. Their family consisted of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest. Reared during his early life on his father's farm, the lad attended the district school in alternation with his labor at home, and subsequently was in attendance at the academy in Fergusonville, Delaware county, N. Y., the seminary in Middletown, Saratoga county, and the Saratoga High School. Returning to Amsterdam he closed his studies in school in the Amsterdam Academy in 1862.

The young man had ere this formed the determination to study for the medical profession, but preparatory to beginning he taught school one winter on what was known as "Yankee Hill," near Amsterdam, and finished a term for A. W. Cox in the stone school-house in Amsterdam.

On the 4th of April, 1863, when he was twenty years old, Mr. Robb began his medical studies with Dr. Jacob G. Snell, of Amsterdam. In December, 1865, he graduated from the Albany Medical College, and on the 1st of January, 1866, commenced his professional life by forming a partnership with his preceptor, Dr. Snell. They continued together in harmony and the enjoyment of a large and increasing practice until 1873, since which date Dr. Robb has practiced alone, with the exception of three years (1880-83), when he was associated with Dr. Charles Stover.

Such is a brief record of the career of one of the successful physicians of Montgomery county. The personal traits and characteristics and the acquired attainments which have contributed to give Dr. Robb his present professional standing are chiefly a naturally studious inclination, with physical powers to endure arduous study; persistence in the early formed determination to succeed in life; exceptional industry and that personal attribute called by such names as magnetism, sympathy, and the tenderness of heart that is so potent in the sick room. These

attributes have made him welcome in a great number of homes extending throughout and beyond the county, and brought him at a comparatively early age a degree of success that is most enviable. He has been a member of the County Medical Society since 1866, and has held the offices of president and vice-president of the society; is a member of the New York State Medical Association and one of its founders; a member of the American Medical Association.

In the other relations of life Dr. Robb is no less happily situated. He is public spirited, with a strong faith in the future of his adopted home, and enters energetically into any project that promises to benefit Amsterdam. As evidence of this, it may be mentioned that he was the original advocate of measures to supply the city with pure water, and labored assiduously for years to that end. He also took an active and intelligent part in the movement that resulted in providing a system of sewerage, in its benefits second only to the water supply. It has been mainly through the efforts of Dr. Robb that the Public Library has been successfully organized, an undertaking, the benefits from which will reflect credit upon him in the future. His fellow citizens have called him to the office of health officer, and he was a member of the school board for a number of years.

Dr. Robb was married on the 14th of November, 1872, to Miss Margaret J. Moody. They have four children, two sons and two daughters.

EIGHMY, JOHN W., was born in Milton, Saratoga county, on the 5th day of August, 1845. He is the son of Alfred Eighmy, who was a contractor and builder, and was born in the farm house in the town above named. Alfred Eighmy married Louisa Spencer, also a native of Milton. The Eighmy family are of German descent. There were four children of Alfred and Louisa Eighmy; the eldest a daughter who is deceased; twin sons, living, and the subject of this sketch.

John W. Eighmy's early life was passed at home, working on the farm in summer and attending the district school winters. At sixteen years of age he was thrown upon his own resources and without other means of bettering his circumstances than a strong will and unflinching determination. He engaged to work on a farm at \$5 per month, and

during a few succeeding years divided his time between attending school and working to pay his expenses. He early determined to become a lawyer, and to that end threw his whole energies into the work of obtaining an education and to the study of his profession. At the age of nineteen years he entered the office of Judge Batcheller, at Saratoga Springs, where he finished his studies and when twenty-one years old was admitted to the bar. For several years he successfully practiced at Saratoga, during which period several important cases in the higher courts were entrusted to his care. About the year 1875 he came to Amsterdam, where he soon occupied an honorable position and by close attention to his business and integrity in all transactions with his fellows, has risen still further in public esteem. For the past ten years his time has almost wholly been given to pension business, and no other man in Northern New York has had so large a volume of this work entrusted to him, or been so successful in prosecuting claims of all kinds. It has been said that he never undertakes a poor claim, and never abandons a good one. He is a man of excellent judgment, possesses a clear and logical mind, and is genial, courteous and popular. In 1887 he received the Democratic nomination for justice of the civil court of Amsterdam. His opponent was considered one of the strongest that the Republicans could nominate, and while the Democratic ticket was defeated, Judge Eighmy was honored with election. For four years he faithfully, honorably and efficiently discharged the duties of the office, giving the best of satisfaction to the public at large.

Mr. Eighmy was married October 3, 1877, to Adelaide A. Clarke, daughter of Dr. Alfred Clarke, of Syracuse, N. Y.

BUCKBEE, ISRAEL I., was born on the 12th of February, 1821, in Dutchess county, N. Y. He is the son of Gilbert I. and Mary Buckbee, and is the representative of the fourth generation to bear the name, Israel Buckbee, in this county. His grandfather, Jeremiah Buckbee, was one of seven sons, five of whom fought bravely in the revolutionary war. He was of English origin and a prominent farmer in Dutchess county, where he owned a valuable tract of land; he also owned a tract of land in Warren county, mostly uncleared,

and there the doctor's parents went as pioneers in 1822, to share in the improvement and development of that locality. Gilbert I. Buckbee, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1794 and died in Fonda in 1878, at the age of eighty-four years. Three years later his wife died in the same place, aged eighty-five. On the home farm in Warren county, in what was almost a wilderness, Dr. Buckbee's boyhood was passed, until his father purchased another farm nearer to the village of Glens Falls. The family and their ancestors were Quakers. At the age of seventeen years the young man began the study of medicine with Drs. Clark & Peck, of Glens Falls, and later he studied with Dr. Littlefield, his uncle. This was followed by one year's course in the Vermont Medical College, and two more in the Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1841. He spent one year with Dr. Snow, of Root, Montgomery county, and afterwards located in Fonda, where he has since resided and practiced his profession. He is a member of the Montgomery County Medical society, and has been a member of the New York State Medical Society since 1866. On the 10th of September, 1890, Dr. Buckbee completed a period of practice of fifty years' duration, and the occasion was honored by a meeting of his professional brethren in the county society, and others, which was held at his residence in Fonda. After a repast brief congratulatory addresses were made by Dr. Charles Stover, then president of the society; Dr. William H. Robb of Amsterdam, and Dr. Van Derveer of Albany, to which Dr. Buckbee made a fitting and feeling response. Letters were also read from several who could not be present. It cannot be out of place here to quote briefly from the remarks of Dr. Stover, addressed directly to the host, in which he said: "If the mind is allowed to run backward fifty years and recall the scanty equipment that the period allowed the medical student to be provided with when he launched into practice; if one will recall the lack of clinical instruction, the paucity of instruments of precision, the labyrinthine maze of rooted superstitions and venerated errors that preceded the application of the inductive method to medicine, and then reflect that our associate whom we are here to honor to-night has kept even pace with the march of medical progress, that the mellow experience of his life has been so blended with latter day

science that we are all content to sit at his feet and be taught, we must award to him proven qualities of industry and courage. I hope we may hear from his own lips to what conditions and to what circumstances may be attributed his signal success. For it *is* success for fifty years to have gone in and out amid the families of a community, and to have sympathized with them in their sorrow and rejoiced with them in their joy, to have given comfort to the afflicted, to have buoyed them up with hope when hope seemed dead, to have protected family honor, and been able to shield the innocent and the weak while presenting no barrier to offended justice. It *is* success for fifty years to have done one's duty as an honest citizen at the caucus and the polls, while touching the community at so many points as only the physician may; it *is* success to have merited and held the esteem of one's professional associates, to have been in sympathy with the enthusiastic aspirations of youth, to have borne the friction of laudable strife without sacrifice of one's manliness."

Others of the speakers echoed similar sentiments to the foregoing and all testified to the eminent professional and manly qualities of Dr. Buckbee.

Dr. Buckbee was married on the 14th of February, 1844, to Anna C., daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Bunn, of Amsterdam. They have one child, Luella B., wife of Ferguson Jansen, one of the solid business men of Fonda, and the couple has two sons, Frederick Israel and Romeyn Buckbee. Frederick has chosen the medical profession and is now in Yale University. Romeyn is also pursuing useful education.

Dr. Buckbee, in addition to his professional labors, has taken much interest in agriculture and owns a good farm near Fonda, and his residence is one of the finest in the village — none too good, however, for one who has so truly won the title of "the beloved physician."

VAN BUREN, CORNELIUS.—The ancestors of the subject of this sketch were Holland Dutch, and his grandfather, whose name was also Cornelius, left the valley of the Hudson river and settled at a very early day with the other pioneers of the town of Glen, Montgomery county, N. Y. There he cleared and improved a farm, reared his family, and lived a life of respectability and met with such success as fell

to the hardy settlers of that locality. Among his children was Peter P. Van Buren, who was born in the town of Glen on the 24th of January, 1814, and died there on the 17th of May, 1851. His wife was Rachel Enders. Peter P. Van Buren was also a farmer and passed his life in his native town, where he gained the respect and confidence due to the man of integrity and industry. He had children as follows: Cornelius, the eldest; Emily, born April 15, 1842, married Boyd R. Hudson, of Glen; Helen, born September 10, 1844, married David Getman, a well-known citizen of Mayfield, Fulton county; Enders, born December 10, 1847, died July, 1881; Martin, born June 17, 1850, now living in Amsterdam. Rachel Van Buren, the mother of these children, was a woman of excellent qualities, and died on the 16th of July, 1873.

Cornelius Van Buren was born in Glen January 25, 1840, and his boyhood until he was fourteen years old was passed wholly on his father's farm, interspersed with some attendance at the district school. While he never had a taste for the arduous toil of the farmer and early formed a determination that he would devote his life to mercantile business of some kind, he still learned lessons of industry and energy which have served him well since. He was given unusually good opportunity for that period to secure an education, following his attendance at the district school with two years at the Johnstown academy, one year at the Amsterdam academy, and one year at the excellent school at Claverack, N. Y. Thus well equipped and with his habits well formed he began in the course he had laid out for himself by the not very lofty position of clerk in a grocery at the canal station of Auriesville; but he was selling goods and that for the time satisfied his ambition, and his work, such as it was, he performed faithfully. He remained there from 1858 to 1860, when he moved a step higher by going to Fultonville, where he engaged as clerk for the firm of Voorhees, Van Antwerp & Co., who were the proprietors of the Fultonville and New York transportation line. That was before the railroad had been able to make the inroads that have been made in later years into the business of the canal, and this transportation line, like many others, carried on a large trade and their shipments were extensive. It was an excellent business school, for the young man bought as well as sold all kinds of produce, transactions sometimes being large, besides gaining the business experi-

ence of great value in connection with the diversified interests of the firm. He capably filled the position three years, when the firm placed sufficient confidence in him to send him to New York city to act as their agent at that end of the line. In the metropolis, where in the course of business he met men of large views and at the head of great interests, he gained still further insight into the methods and principles of successful men. He remained in New York three years, at the end of which period he made his final change by coming to Amsterdam in 1866, where he made his permanent home and has successfully carried on a large business for twenty-five years. He associated with himself John C. Putman in the purchase and sale of grain, flour and feed and D. & H. coal. The partnership continued until 1881, since which time Mr. Van Buren has carried on the business alone and with gratifying success. Applying the methods with which he had become conversant through his former long and varied experience, and governing his business conduct by the underlying principles of integrity, energy, industry and push, he long ago took a position among the foremost. The yards and property necessary for his business are situated on the south side of the river in what was formerly Port Jackson, and this property he has acquired by purchase; his residence is also on that side of the river.

Mr. Van Buren has received ample evidence of the confidence of his fellow citizens since his settlement in Amsterdam. He was made a trustee of Port Jackson not long after his arrival and held the office several terms, as he also did that of trustee of school district No. 13. A Republican in politics, he has brought to the support of that party an intelligent and hearty interest, wholly on account of the principles which it advocates and not as an avenue to private advancement. He was elected to the office of supervisor of the town and held it three years, 1878-80. This was followed by his nomination and election to the State Assembly, 1881-1882, when he had the honor of serving his constituents in the memorable long session, lasting into July, when Roscoe Conkling's interests were uppermost. In 1887 he was elected one of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Amsterdam, where his public spirit and sound judgment on public matters were fully appreciated. He aided in organizing the Merchants' National bank and was its vice-

president until its affairs were wound up. Upon the organization of the City National bank in 1890 he was made one of the board of directors and now holds that position. He is one of the board of sewer commissioners of the city, and in no one of these stations, political, financial or municipal, has he faltered in what he believed to be his duty or mistaken the path leading to the best results. He has been trustee of Amsterdam City hospital, and is now its president.

Mr. Van Buren was married January 24, 1867, in Boston, to Miss Marion B. Gove, daughter of George G. Gove, of that city. Their children are as follows: George G., born June 16, 1868, married Jessie Macqueen, of Schenectady, and has one child; Florence, born January 18, 1870, died May 28, 1876; Grace, born January 6, 1879, living with her parents; Harrah, born February 20, 1885, died August 13, 1885.

KELLOGG, JOHN.—This name is a familiar one in the history of Montgomery county. Supplina Kellogg was one of the early settlers of West Galway, and there in 1824 founded the manufacture of linseed oil in a small way, and carried it on until 1848. He came to this vicinity from Massachusetts and lived a life of usefulness and respectability. His wife was Susan Aldrich, of Rhode Island. They were parents of six children, all of whom are deceased excepting the subject of this sketch. John Kellogg's opportunities for securing an education were confined to the district school, but his mental qualities are of an absorbent character and through extensive reading, particularly upon subjects relating to the government and growth of his native country and its institutions, and close association with his fellow men, he long ago became possessed of a large store of general information which has served him well in the place of ampler school education. Upon the death of his father in 1848, himself and his brother, Lauren Kellogg, succeeded to the business of oil manufacture, then an insignificant industry beside its present proportions. The brothers conducted the business together with success until the death of Lauren Kellogg in 1853, when James A. Miller was admitted to the firm. In 1872, George Kellogg, son of John, was admitted, and in 1879, Lauren Kellogg, another son, was admitted to the partnership. During the

period covered by these changes the business has been increased to an extent that seems almost marvelous. From a product of only a very few barrels per day, it has risen to nearly 50,000 barrels a year, and is shipped to all parts of the United States. About 15,000 tons of oil cake are also produced, with an annual consumption of more than 750,000 bushels of flax seed. A flax mill is also operated by the firm for the production of tow, and in 1879, in order to secure better shipping facilities, they built a private railroad of about one and one-half miles in length, running from their works to the New York Central. Taken as a whole it is one of the most important manufacturing industries in the state of New York.

Leaving the business industry of which Mr. Kellogg is the head, his personality deserves consideration, for he occupies a position of acknowledged eminence in the community where he lives, not only as a factor in its material growth, but intellectually, socially and financially. He is thoroughly informed upon all public topics and his counsel is much sought and deferred to by municipal officers and those still higher in authority. Long ago, in 1863, he was elected to the state assembly and served his constituents and the state with faithfulness and efficiency. An astute observer of men and a thinker upon subjects of current interest, there are few persons ordinarily met with who are more familiar with contemporaneous history. The policy and actions of statesmen, the conditions of industry, trends of enterprise in all directions, as well as the operations of public society in science, art and religion, are all subjects of thought and reading to him, and his convictions thus formed he possesses the ability to express in clear and terse English, and the firmness to uphold them to the utmost on all proper occasions. He is still liberal in his tendencies and believes that every man should have the liberty he demands for himself. He is a strong and earnest Republican in politics, unswerving and determined in his political faith and action, but he does not quarrel with those who are less radical than himself; and so in his religious views, while he is extremely liberal and a broad and firm believer in the doctrine of evolution, he never seeks to force upon others his own beliefs, and lives a life that in all of its activities, honors his profession and himself. Mr. Kellogg has been for a number of years a member of the state committee,

and has always given intelligent and effective work to the welfare of the political party to which he belongs. He was chosen president of the Farmers' National Bank in 1890, after serving long as a director, and the institution profits by his prudent and wise direction. He is one of the water commissioners of the city, a trustee of the academy, vice-president of the cemetery association, a director in the board of trade, etc. In all these capacities he receives the constant assurance of his fellow citizens that his influence and his work are worthy of their commendation.

Mr. Kellogg was married on September 11, 1850, to Olive Davis, daughter of Benjamin Davis, of Galway, Saratoga county, N. Y. They have had four children: The eldest daughter was the wife of Howland Fish, son of Frothingham Fish, of Fulton county; she is deceased; George and Lauren Kellogg, both associated with their father in business; and a daughter, who is living with her parents.

BRONSON, JAMES H., was born in Amsterdam, N. Y., December 22, 1826. His father was George J. Brownson (the "w" having been since dropped by the members of the family), a native of Winchester, Conn., who came to Amsterdam with his parents when only two years old. They settled on a farm about two miles west of Amsterdam. There, in later years, he carried on farming to some extent, and also laid the foundation of an industry which was destined to become one of great importance. He was the first manufacturer of brooms in the state of New York, the first made in the country having been produced on the Connecticut river. His factory was established near Amsterdam, and as the business rapidly increased the surrounding farmers began, and subsequently profitably prosecuted, the raising of broom-corn to supply the new demand. In later years this agricultural product became a source of considerable profit in this locality. The elder Mr. Brownson continued in the business until 1856 and died in 1867, in the enjoyment of both material success in life and the more valued respect and confidence of all who knew him. His wife was Esther Roseboom, of Amsterdam, who is also deceased. Their family consisted of three daughters and five sons, three of the latter only now living.

When James H. Bronson reached a proper age he attended the district school at Amsterdam, the education thus obtained being supplemented by a term in the Amsterdam Academy and a course at Union College, from which he graduated in 1848. Leaving college, he taught one year in a Brooklyn grammar school and then began his business career as proprietor of a hardware store in Whitehall, N. Y., where he remained four and a half years, meeting with moderate success. In 1856 he returned to Amsterdam to take possession of the broom business of his father. The industry had by that time reached considerable importance, about forty hands being employed and the product finding a ready market over a wide extent of territory. From that time until 1891 Mr. Bronson devoted his entire energies, as far as business relations were concerned, to the further development and perfection of the industry founded by his father. Endowed with excellent judgment and foresight, which were coupled with habits of industry, sobriety and perseverance, with executive ability of a high order, it was only a natural result of his efforts that the business should grow as it did. As improved methods of manufacture were discovered or invented, many of which were at least partially due to the personal genius of Mr. Bronson, they were adopted, while the reputation and market for the product were extended proportionately, so that when he laid down his active work in that connection the factory employed about 175 hands. The business was sold to the Chicago Broom Company in 1891.

In politics Mr. Bronson was originally a Free-soiler and in 1848 cast his vote for Martin Van Buren for the presidency. But his father had been one of the early Abolitionists and was active as an agent for the "Underground" railroad, as well as an ardent temperance reformer. In this atmosphere the young man was trained and when the Republican party was formed he joined its ranks. Until 1872 he gave his influence to that political organization, but in that year, becoming convinced that as long as the two great political parties then occupying the field continued in power, the cause of temperance could not materially advance, he changed his allegiance to the Prohibition party and since that time he has been one of the advanced, active and influential workers in that field. Endowed with education, an easy and forcible speaker and a graceful writer, Mr. Bronson has found ample opportunity

to make use of these qualifications for the good of the cause which he has at heart. On numerous occasions he has addressed and read papers before ministerial and other associations on the subject; his last paper under the title of "The Christian Voter and the Liquor Traffic," he read before the ministerial association at Saratoga in the summer of 1892. He hopes to live to see the ultimate triumph of temperance throughout the land. He has held the office of president of the New York State Temperance society. In Amsterdam he has evinced public spirit and aided as far as possible the cause of religion and education; has been a member of the Presbyterian church for fifty years and elder for a number of years; has been trustee of the academy and president of school district No. 11; a stockholder in the street railway company and in many other ways has received evidence of the confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Bronson was married first in 1855 to Evelyn E. Utter, of Whitehall; she died April 20, 1879. He married second in November, 1882, Abbie S. Hervey, of Andover, Mass. They have no children.

WESTBROOK, HON. ZERAH S., of the city of Amsterdam, was born April 7, 1845, at Montague, Sussex county, New Jersey. His parents were Severyne L. Westbrook, an enterprising and respected farmer of that town, and Susan E. (Armstrong) Westbrook, daughter of James B. Armstrong, an influential farmer of the same town; the former of Hollandish, and the latter of Irish descent. There were six children—four sons and two daughters, of which Zerah was next to the youngest. His father died on March 20, 1849, when Zerah was only four years old. His mother died on November 22, 1889, in the 77th year of her age, and they were both buried in the cemetery of the Dutch Reformed church at Montague, of which church his mother was a devout member. His father left a small estate, consisting chiefly of a farm.

Young Westbrook worked out by the month for farmers in the vicinity of his old home to earn his living until he was seventeen years old, with the exception of the time spent in school. He attended the district schools of his native town from time to time during his early years, and also a select school a few months at Milford, Pa.

In July, 1862, at the age of seventeen years, while at work for Hon. Isaac Bonnell on his farm in Montague, he enlisted with a large number of young men, friends and acquaintances of his youth, as a private in Co. I, Fifteenth N. J. Vols. to serve in the Union Army. Though fully armed and equipped as a member of his company, he was refused muster in the United States service by the federal mustering officer, because he was under the age limit of eighteen years. Nevertheless he went to the front with his company upon the assurances of his captain that he would in due time be mustered in the United States service. Being of a plucky and partiotic disposition, he cheerfully continued in the ranks of his company and went to the front with his regiment, being assigned to General Phil. Kearney's old famous New Jersey Brigade, the first brigade, first division, of the Sixth Corps in the Army of the Potomac. He served with his company during the fall and winter of 1862-3, participating in the battle of Fredericksburg and Burnside's famous mud march, sharing and enduring all the trials and hardships of the Army of the Potomac during that trying period of the war, carrying a musket and taking his part as a common soldier. He was never, however, able to obtain muster into the United States service, his case having been neglected by the captain of his company, who resigned his commission and left the service a few months after the muster of the company. Being unable to obtain muster in the United States service, and becoming sick and incapacitated by disease and exposure, in the spring of 1863 at White Oak Church, Va., his colonel gave him an honorable discharge and sent him home. He then returned to his home without ever having received any pay or bounty from the United States, except one month's pay which was paid in advance on enlistment. After his return home and recruiting his health he worked on a farm for one summer in Montague. Having determined to continue his studies and prepare for a profession he entered the academy at Deckertown, N. J., in the fall of 1863, and after pursuing a course of studies there for nearly two years he went to Suffield, Ct., and entered the Literary Institute at that place, where he continued his studies and graduated in 1866. Having no means to take a college course he selected the law for his profession, and went to Albany, N. Y., and entered the Albany Law School, where he graduated with the degree of LL. B., in May, 1867, and was admitted to the bar at a General Term of the Supreme Court held at Albany.

Necessity compelled him to earn his living at once, and he immediately began the practice of his profession at Northampton, Fulton county, where he continued, teaching the public school there for one summer in connection with his law practice, until April, 1871, when he removed to the village, now the city of Amsterdam, and took up his residence there and opened an office for legal practice, where he has since resided and practiced his profession. While residing at Northampton he was married in February, 1870, to Matilda F., daughter of Fay Smith, deceased, formerly a well-known merchant of that place. His wife is still living.

Three children have been born to them, Edith, born August 11, 1871, Charles S., born January 27, 1875, and Bessie Evelyn, born February 13, 1880. Charles S. died November 21, 1878, the others are still living.

Soon after he was old enough to vote, young Westbrook espoused the cause of Democracy, and he has always been an earnest, active and consistent Democrat, advocating and supporting the cause of his party and its candidates, and has always been recognized as a trusted leader of his party in his county.

In 1873 he was elected president of Amsterdam village over E. D. Bronson, a popular candidate of the Republican party, and in 1874 he was re-elected without opposition. In 1877 he was the candidate of the Democrats for county judge of Montgomery county, and was elected over the Hon. S. Pulver Heath, the incumbent of the office, by 1,319 majority. He was re-elected in 1883 over Charles P. Winegar by the unprecedented majority of 2,221.

After serving as county judge and ex-officio surrogate faithfully and to the entire satisfaction of the people of the county for ten years, he resigned the office to accept the position of deputy comptroller of the State, tendered to him by Hon. Edward Wemple, the comptroller elect. He resigned the office of county judge and assumed the duties of deputy comptroller on January 1, 1888, which important and laborious position he faithfully filled to the credit of himself and the great financial department of the State until January 1st, 1892, when he resumed his legal practice at Amsterdam, to which he has since given his entire attention, conducting a large business in general practice in the courts. The official comptroller's reports for the years 1888-1892, prepared by him,

exhibit his industry and familiarity with the state administration and its financial affairs.

In 1888 while serving as deputy comptroller, against his wishes but in the interest of his party, he accepted the Democratic nomination for representative in congress in the twentieth or Saratoga district, his opponent being Hon. John Sanford of Amsterdam. The district being strongly Republican there was no chance for his election, and he was defeated with his party, though he received the largest vote ever given for a Democrat in the district and ran nearly one thousand ahead of his party ticket.

Judge Westbrook has occupied a leading position at the bar of his section of the state for a number of years, and is recognized everywhere as a sound and successful lawyer and an excellent *nisi prius* practitioner and advocate. He has a large clientage, and his services are always desired in important litigations in his county in which he is most always employed on one side. His faithfulness to his clients and devotion to their interests are proverbial. The published reports of the courts of record of this state show the great variety and amount of important and successful work done by him in litigations during the past eighteen years.

Many important cases in which he was successful show the importance and variety of his legal efforts. He was the counsel for Hon. Edward Wemple, Democrat, in the contest of Hon. Austin A. Yates before the state senate in 1886, over the election of senator from the eighteenth district in the election of 1885, but succeeded in convincing a Republican senate that Senator Wemple was fairly elected by ten votes and entitled to the seat.

He was also the successful counsel for Hon. John F. Dwyer, the contestant for member of assembly from Montgomery county before the assembly of 1890, and secured the seat for Mr. Dwyer from the sitting member. He was also the successful counsel for Hon. George J. Gove, member of assembly from Montgomery county for 1892, and succeeded in retaining him his seat in the state assembly.

The most noted litigation that Judge Westbrook was the successful counsel in was what were known as the Diefendorf patent right note cases, which occupied the courts for five years.

In those cases John F. Diefendorf, a farmer of the town of Root, Montgomery county, was swindled by patent right sharpers to the extent of \$12,000, in December, 1886, by promissory notes that were fraudulently obtained from him for a patent right for an alleged fire kindler. The notes were disposed of to alleged bona fide holders, who brought actions in the Supreme Court against Diefendorf to recover thereon. Judge Westbrook defended the cases, and though defeated in the lower courts he succeeded in the Court of Appeals in obtaining an interpretation of the law entirely new in its application to cases upon notes of that character, by which he finally defeated a recovery upon all the notes and saved his unfortunate client from paying any of them.

Judge Westbrook's life presents an interesting and instructive history, and furnishes an example worthy of emulation by all aspiring young men.

He is a representative American and a self-made man, having worked his way up to his present prominent position from the lowest round of the ladder without financial means or other help aside from his own ability and industry.

He possesses administrative and judicial abilities of a high order, as has been attested by his successful discharge of official functions. His life work has been characterized throughout by indomitable industry and perseverance, and intelligent and faithful devotion to all interests entrusted to him, which have been the underlying basis for his success.

He is a man of generous impulses and kindly nature, strong and devoted in his friendships and ever ready to forgive an enemy, but never yielding his convictions of right, or compromising with anything that is mean or dishonorable. Plain, unassuming, sincere and energetic, he pursues with untiring energy anything that pertains to his business or duties, or the interests of those entrusted to him. Still in the prime of life and actively pursuing his business and calling, there are undoubtedly before him yet many years of usefulness and successful work.

BUNN, THOMAS, the subject of this sketch, and whose portrait appears in this volume, was born in the town of Amsterdam June 16, 1803, near Manny's Corners, where his parents lived on a farm for some years and where they are buried. Mr. Bunn's father's name was



Thomas Bunn

John, and he died in 1813. His mother's name was Temperance French, and she died the following year, 1814. They had both reached their fiftieth year. Most of their days had been spent upon the farm where their large family of children had been born—seven daughters and four sons. The eldest child was Abigail; then followed Ann. Abner was the first son and he lived but twenty-two years. Then came John, Mary, Jane, Thankful, Nathaniel, Thomas, Sarah and Clara. The last child, Clara, was born in 1808 and is the only one of the large family now living; she is eighty-five years old (1892), lives in Troy, is very bright and active and is able to walk long distances. All of these children but Abner lived to be over seventy years old and some of them reached their ninetieth year. Thomas, the fourth son, was helpful on the farm as a boy and after reaching manhood he entered upon a more active life in the village where, in 1824, he married Elizabeth Button, who came from Pennsylvania. After living in Amsterdam village about two years he moved to Tripe's Hill (now Tribes Hill), where he kept a hotel on the old turnpike road which, in those days, brought by stage much travel from Albany and Schenectady, going through to Utica. Hotels (or, rather, as they were called in those days, public houses) were well patronized by travelers, for then journeys were made with horses. It was while Mr. Bunn lived here that he and his family went to the brow of the hill and there saw the then wonderful sight of the first train of cars moving through the Mohawk valley. Mr. Bunn owned a farm at this place while he conducted the hotel. He was also postmaster.

His first child, Anna C., now the wife of Dr. I. I. Buckbee, of Fonda, was born in Amsterdam before he moved to Tribes Hill, and while at the latter place seven children were born: Mary E., Laura V., Harriet L., John T., Minerva (who lived but two years), Emily and Elmira, the latter living less than three months. In January, 1841, he removed with his family to Fonda, the county seat, where he served as sheriff for three years, having been elected in the fall of 1840. Another son was born while there, Orville C., who lived a little more than eighteen years and died in Silver City, Nevada, in 1861.

January 1, 1844, Mr. Bunn with his family removed to Amsterdam, where he bought the large stone house and farm of fifty acres of

Matthias J. Bovee. This stone house was built by the Rev. Halsey Wood, who was then pastor of the Presbyterian church. The old house now stands as one of the ancient landmarks, with its large and well-ventilated rooms, having six of the old-fashioned fire-places, most of which are used at the present day. The one in the dining room is hung with a crane with its hanging hooks, and its hearth is of stone, four feet wide by ten feet long, which was cut in the quarries by Mr. Bunn when the house was built more than seventy years ago, while he lived as a young man in Amsterdam and worked for a time as a stone cutter. This old house is now the property of Mr. Bunn's second daughter, Miss Mary E. Bunn, who remodeled principally the exterior, leaving the interior nearly the same as of old, except for the addition of many modern conveniences. The last child of this large family, T. Romeyn Bunn, was born in this old house in 1844. Thomas Bunn's wife, Elizabeth, died in 1864 in her sixty-first year, leaving a sweet memory; she was beloved by all whose privilege it was to know her. In 1867 Mr. Bunn married Mrs. Catharine Belding, who died in the following year.

Mr. Bunn had been identified with the business interests and growth of Amsterdam for most of his lifetime. He was an old time Democrat in politics, and the Albany *Argus* had been in his home for nearly half a century. He was a man whose judgment in matters of business was safe, and by his great foresight in buying both the Bovee farm and later the Arnold farm, he left to his family a growing and valuable property. He lived an abstemious life and his habits were most correct and methodical. About 1862 he began to sell for building lots some of the farm lands now that part of Greene street near Wall, and a few years later he sold the property where the Academy now stands. Bunn street was named for him and up to and along this street he sold in his lifetime, and also on Market street, taking in his old and cherished orchard lying between Market street and the grove connected with the homestead. Thomas street was also named for him. Mr. Bunn was connected with different banking houses and his name gave strength and confidence to whatever business he was connected with. He died August 31, 1883, in his eighty-first year, having been a member of the Presbyterian church about thirty years. He left seven children and to these children he left a valuable property and an untarnished name.

MORRIS, ABRAM VROOMAN, was born on the 4th of April, 1825, in the town of Watervliet, Albany county, N. Y., and is the second son of Isaac and Jane (Vrooman) Morris. Isaac Morris was a practical shoemaker, but after following that business, and keeping a shoe store for a time after his removal to Amsterdam in 1827, he engaged in the grocery trade. Jane Vrooman, who became the wife of Isaac Morris, was from Schenectady county and a member of the family of that name which is conspicuous in the history of the lower Mohawk valley. Isaac Morris died in 1870. Their family consisted of ten children, nine of whom were sons.

Abram V. Morris attended the district schools and a short term at Horace Sprague's academy; but the circumstances of his father's family were such that he felt impelled to strike out in the world for himself at an early age. When twelve years old he went into the store of James B. and Darwin Reed in Amsterdam, where he served three years. His next employment was in Albany in the store of Seth Crapo, where he remained one year. His health was not good at that time and he returned to Amsterdam and for a short period taught the village school. This employment was not congenial to him, and he found a situation in the refreshment rooms at the railroad station in St. Johnsville. He also served as wood measurer for the railroad company for about two years, and by his industry, probity and evident interest for his employers, won the lasting regard of William C. Young, who was then superintendent of the Utica and Schenectady railroad. Returning to Amsterdam, Mr. Morris accepted a position in the dry goods store of J. W. Sturtevant, where he remained till the spring of 1846. Up to this time the larger part of his earnings had gone to aid the large family of his parents; but he had made some small trade ventures of his own, and in 1846 opened a grocery and provision store on Main street, where F. W. Bohney is now (1892) located. Here the natural traits and firm determination of the young man to succeed soon exhibited themselves. Personal self denial he practiced to the utmost, while he gave unremitting attention to the smallest details of his business. He bought his goods then chiefly in New York city, the ubiquitous drummer not having yet been born, and he showed his native sagacity and common sense no less in selling at home than in his purchases from the large wholesalers of the metrop-

lis. Of course the business grew ; it was inevitable. For fourteen years Mr. Morris toiled incessantly in his store, bringing him down to the year 1860, when he sold the business to two younger brothers and found himself in possession of almost a small fortune.

By the time under consideration, about the beginning of the last war, when Amsterdam had become a place of perhaps 4,000 inhabitants, the manufacturing era which has since been so productive of growth and prosperity here, was just beginning. Several small manufacturing establishments had been started, and Mr. Morris foresaw the result, and immediately took steps to enter the broad field of real estate operations and dealing on a large scale in agricultural products. In that year (1860) he built the Morris Hall block, on Main street, which was then the largest building on the street. He bought and sold wool, flour, grain and other products, and in some instances by heavy and bold investments realized what were then considered great profits. During two years between 1860 and 1864 he also had a partnership in the flouring-mill of Greene & Morris. In 1864, with the object of still further extending his business operations, Mr. Morris organized the private banking company of Morris, Phillips & Company, which successfully carried on banking under that style until 1869, when a dissolution by limitation took place, and Mr. Morris has ever since conducted the bank ; it is now, however, under the immediate charge of his son John V. At the present time Mr. Morris and his sons, Francis and John V., are among the largest manufacturers of the city. They have three mills for the manufacture of knit goods, over which Francis Morris has immediate charge, and which are conducted with the characteristic push and success that have marked all the various operations of the senior. They also have a large paper mill, while Mr. Morris himself can read his own title to about 1,200 acres of valuable land, much of it within the city corporation, with many buildings in and out of the city. On his farms he has given considerable attention in later years to the breeding of choice stock, without any object of speculation, however. In politics Mr. Morris is a liberal Republican ; but he has always confined his aspirations in that direction to the narrowest possible limits. He has been solicited to accept political station, as well as his sons, but they have always declined, their large business interests as well as their personal

tastes, leading them in other directions. Mr. Morris held the office of supervisor of the town one term. He has been a director in the Farmers' National Bank for many years. His well known title of "Major" was gained in 1846, when Governor Marcy appointed him brigade-inspector with that rank.

Though now on the declining side of life, Mr. Morris at sixty-seven years, is vigorous and active. It is only ten years since he assumed contracts for the construction of a large portion of the city water works, and the manner in which he performed that work has earned for him unstinted commendation, for its consummation was almost astonishing. For something like fourteen miles he opened the water-way, and much of it, particularly in the city itself, was through solid rock which had to be blasted with dynamite. The entire work, with the building of the great dam, was pushed by Mr. Morris with his characteristic energy and good judgment, and with such care at the same time that not a person was injured nor was any destruction caused in the city by the prolonged blasting. It was a task the successful completion of which might well be a source of pride to any man. The long business career of Mr. Morris, his unexampled success, his impregnable honesty, his firmness of character and belief in the right, his bluff and hearty friendship for those who have earned it, his public spirit and faith in his adopted city, his liberal support of all good causes—all these have given him a position in the community which amply fulfills what has been from boyhood his crowning ambition: to become a successful and well-rounded man.

Mr. Morris was married first on the 30th of May, 1848, to Rebecca Vedder, of Florida, Montgomery county, N. Y., and she died in 1860 at the age of thirty-two years, leaving five children, four of whom are living. In 1861 he married Anna F. Enders, also of Florida, who is still living. The eldest son, John V., was born May 4, 1849, and the younger on the 26th of April, 1851. Both of them, as has been intimated, are closely associated with their father in his large business operations, and share in his characteristics to a large degree.

INGERSOLL, JAMES, son of James, of Massachusetts, was born in Princetown, Schenectady county, N. Y., in 1793. He married Janet McClumpha, who was born in 1799 in the same town; they had

eleven children. In 1825 they moved to Charleston and purchased the old Wyckoff farm of 250 acres. He died in 1848 and his wife in 1878.

George, son of the above, was born in Charleston May 12, 1833, and received a common school education. He married January 9, 1867, Sarah J. Barlow, daughter of Moses Barlow, and this union has been blessed by one child named Nancy Ellen. At an early age he manifested a great desire for stock and as his father was then dead induced his mother to purchase some Bakewell sheep. Soon afterward he began to exhibit at the Montgomery county fairs. In 1871 he began exhibiting Leicesters and Cotswolds at the New York State Fairs and in 1881 he commenced breeding Shropshire sheep. Two years afterward he removed to Thorn Hedge farm, two miles north of Fonda, which he purchased and has brought up to a fine condition. In 1889 he exhibited at the Buffalo International Fair and won the silver cup valued at \$250. It was presented by the Shropshire Sheep Breeder's Association (England), for the best ram and five of his get, the latter to be under two years old and to have been bred by the exhibitor and also all to be owned by him. The competition on this occasion was very great, as there were sixteen competitors from six different states, namely: New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and New York, and also Canada, but the Thorn Hedge flock secured the cup. This flock has since then won two gold medals at the New York State and International fairs. Mr. Ingersoll has never been defeated and has taken five hundred premiums, many of them "first." Mr. Ingersoll has twice visited Europe, not only to purchase stock, but to learn the best methods and has made personal selections from the choicest flocks in England. He has thus become a well-known importer as well as breeder and is commonly designated the great sheep man. On one of these trips he was accompanied by Secretary Woodward, of the State Agricultural Society. Thorn Hedge farm is beautifully situated on the plank road leading to Johnstown, and here he always has a hundred or more of thoroughbred stock. In addition to sheep culture Mr. Ingersoll is a very enterprising farmer, as may be seen by a visit to Thorn Hedge. He has avoided politics, preferring to devote himself to that specialty in which he has won both wealth and distinction, and loves his home too well to yield to any outside influences, but being a plain, outspoken man, he is always ready to give his opinions on any public question.



Alfred Delgraff

DE GRAFF, ALFRED.—The De Graff family were among the early settlers of Schenectady, and Isaac De Graff was conspicuous in the revolutionary war. He was born November 16, 1756, and held the rank of major in the army. He died December 21, 1844. He had two sons, the eldest of whom was John I., who served with honor in the war of 1812. He served two terms as member of congress, and was honored by President Van Buren with the appointment of secretary of the treasury, which he was compelled to decline on account of his private affairs. He was one of the projectors of the Mohawk and Hudson railroad, and was otherwise conspicuous in the history of the valley. The second son was Jesse D. De Graff, born January 8, 1801, graduated at Union College, studied law and became a prominent attorney. He held the office of judge of the Common Pleas. On the 10th of August, 1830, he married Gazena Catherine Visscher, daughter of Frederick Herman Visscher, and they made the old Visscher mansion their permanent home. He died August 4, 1868. He was the father of four children: Susan, Charles Herman, Alfred and Isaac Howard. The first of these married William Farnham, of Troy; Charles and Howard died early, leaving Alfred, the subject of this notice, as the sole representative of the family. He was born on the old homestead where he now resides, and which he has greatly improved. On the 14th of October, 1869, he married Anna, daughter of Cornelius Phillips, a prominent farmer and business man of the 'own of Florida. Their children, Edith, Howard and Florence, are the sixth generation of the family to occupy the beautiful home in the Mohawk valley.

Besides the superintendence of his several large and valuable farms, Mr. De Graff is president of the Starin Silk Fabric Company, vice-president of the Fultonville National Bank, director of the Schenectady Bank, and is interested in various other enterprises. While taking a deep interest in politics he has never accepted a nomination for office.

Mrs. De Graff is descended from Col. Frederick Visscher, whose name has often appeared on earlier pages of this volume in connection with its revolutionary history. He was one of the commissioners to dispose of confiscated property after the war, and a member of the state convention for appreciating currency, restraining extortion, regulating prices and other duties. On the 22d of May, 1780, the Visscher mansion

was assaulted by a force of Indians and Tories. The inmates of the house were then the colonel, his mother, his sisters, two brothers and the servants. Their enemies numbered more than a hundred. The sisters fled, the brothers, John and Herman, were murdered and scalped, and the colonel himself was scalped and left for dead, but he revived and was able to carry his aged mother, who had escaped the fury of the savages, to a place of safety. Colonel Visscher afterwards found shelter with friends at Schenectady. Colonel Visscher was married to Gazena De Graff on the 22d of May, 1768, and he died on the 9th of June, 1809. He was the father of four sons and two daughters. Of the sons, Frederick Herman, the second son, became the owner of the Visscher mansion, and was the father of Gazena Catherine, before mentioned as the mother of Alfred De Graff. Thus were two of the historic families of the valley united.

DEAN, LUTHER L.—The subject of this sketch was born in Port Jackson (now the fifth ward of Amsterdam), on the 8th day of June, 1842. His father was Daniel Dean, a native of the town of Florida, Montgomery county, who passed most of his life as a shoe dealer in Port Jackson. He married Miss A. E. N. Lyon, of Essex county, N. J., and they had three children—the subject of this sketch, who was the eldest; one son who died in infancy; Malissa B., now the wife of N. C. Becker, of Amsterdam. Daniel Dean died on the 15th of June, 1879, and his widow is still living. Luther L. Dean's grandfather was Bethuel Dean, who married Margaret Phillips, of Florida, where they were among the early settlers.

Luther L. Dean was, at an early age, thrown upon his own resources. After a period at the district school he finished his studies in the Amsterdam Academy, which he attended until he was fourteen years of age (1856), when he entered the dry goods store of Gardiner Blood in Amsterdam and served as clerk four years. He then went into the Farmers' Bank and served as book-keeper four years and one month. These eight years of business experience and faithful application to the interests of his employers gave him confidence in himself and a reputation in the vicinity for industry and integrity which were of great value to him in after years.

Associating himself with Alonzo A. De Forest, then employed in the Farmers' Bank, they purchased the hardware stock of J. Warring & Son in Amsterdam. Mr. Dean took entire charge of this business and under his energetic and prudent management it was rapidly increased. At the end of fifteen months Mr. De Forest sold his interest to David McCowatt, the firm style becoming Dean & McCowatt, and the business was thus conducted two years and a quarter, when their lease expired. During this three years the business had been increased from \$10,000 to \$30,000, and the firm found it impossible to get a renewal of their lease. A sale was, therefore, made back to Warring & Son, Mr. McCowatt remaining with them in the business. This brings the record down to 1868, when Mr. Dean purchased the hardware stock of E. T. Leavenworth and associated with himself James P. Visscher, under the firm name of Dean & Visscher. This connection continued eight years until 1876, when Mr. Visscher died, and Mr. Dean took in John E. Larrabee as a partner; he had been for eight years a clerk in the store. The firm name for the next six years was L. L. Dean & Co., and when, in 1882, Mr. Dean sold out to Larrabee & Barnes, the business had been pushed up to \$60,000 a year. After twenty-five years of persevering industry in active business life, in which Mr. Dean had not only been eminently successful in a material sense, but had won from the entire community that unlimited confidence and warm friendship which follow only upon years of honorable effort, he retired for a brief rest of six months.

In January, 1883, Mr. Dean, associated with W. R. McCowatt, bought out Oscar F. Nelson and Willie B. Neilson, of the Metropolitan knitting-mill, and operated it under the firm name of McCowatt & Dean for three years, when he sold out to Thomas Little and George B. Stover. Meanwhile and some years earlier, the idle mill building which is now occupied by L. L. Dean & Co., had come into possession of the former hardware firm, and in 1866 Mr. Dean associated with himself his brother-in-law, James T. Clark, and his cousin, Isaac E. Lyon, of Newark, N. J., fitted up the mill with knitting machinery of the first class, making it one of the finest establishments of the kind in the country, gave it the name of "Park Knitting Mills," and have since carried on the business in a most successful manner. Such is a brief record of

Mr. Dean's business career, and it may be closed with the statement that in every sense it has been an honor to him.

Mr. Dean is an uncompromising Republican in politics, but has not aspired to office of any kind. He has, however, received many evidences of the confidence of the community through selection and appointment to various posts of trust and responsibility. He has held the office of trustee of the village three years; was assessor three years, and was one of the persons named in the original bill creating the sewer commission of Amsterdam, a body who built one of the most complete and effective sewer systems in the country, providing twenty-four miles of sewers at a cost of \$240,000, where engineers' estimates for fifteen miles reached \$268,000. Moreover, the bonds of the city were floated at three per cent., largely through the efforts of Mr. Dean, and in the face of often repeated predictions of moneyed men that it could not be done. Mr. Dean is one of the originators and a director of the Amsterdam City Bank; was one of the founders and vice-president of the Amsterdam Savings Bank, founded in the face of strong opposition, an institution which now has \$450,000 on deposit. He was one of the originators and a director in the Amsterdam Board of Trade; one of the originators and a director in the Amsterdam Library Association; treasurer of board of trustees and trustee of the Young Men's Christian Association, and has been its president at three different periods. He has been an elder in the Reformed Church many years and superintendent of its Sunday-school thirteen years.

This record speaks for itself and needs little comment from the biographer. Starting at the foot of the ladder in life, Mr. Dean has attained a position among the foremost representative citizens of the community.

Mr. Dean was married June 17, 1863, to Mary S. Clark, daughter of the late James A. Clark, of Amsterdam. They have one daughter Fanny, born September 26, 1876. They have had three sons, all of whom are deceased.

BLOOD, GARDINER, was born on the 12th day of March, 1829, near Mt. Morris, Livingston county, N. Y. He is a son of Alexander Blood, who was a native of Florida, Montgomery county, and went to Livingston county at the age of twenty-one years, among the

pioneers who took up and improved lands in this section. He was a respected citizen of that county and died there in 1831, when the subject of this sketch was only two years old. His wife was Nancy Clark, who was born at Hageman's Mills, in the town of Amsterdam. Their children were three, two sons and one daughter. The elder son, Robert, is deceased.

After the death of his father, Gardiner Blood was brought back to Montgomery county, and from that time until he was eighteen years old, he lived the greater part of the time with his grandfather on what was known as the Blood farm, in the town of Glen. His education was the best he was able to acquire in the district school and later at the Amsterdam Academy. Leaving school at the age of eighteen, he went to Fultonville as clerk for Shuler, Cromwell & Co.; but three months later he entered the store of A. Mathews & Son, in Schenectady, where he remained four years, from 1847 to 1851, winning the regard and confidence of his employers by his faithfulness to their interests and his integrity. In 1851 he removed to Fultonville and formed the partnership of Blood & Conyne, general merchants, which relationship continued until 1854. Mr. Blood next located as a merchant at Syracuse, but three months later came to Amsterdam, bought out a dry goods store and conducted it with success for ten years. In 1864 he joined in partnership with the late James H. Schuyler in the then young knit goods business. The manufactory was situated on the same premises now occupied by Blood & Stewart. This firm became one of the most successful and enterprising in the place, and they carried on the business together in harmony for twenty-four years, until 1888. During this long period, great advances were made in the methods employed in the industry, and the firm of Schuyler & Blood was commonly found in the fore front of the business. Mr. Schuyler died in 1885, but his interest in the mills remained in the estate until 1888, as above noted, being represented by his son-in-law, John K. Stewart, who purchased his father-in-law's interest in the year last named. (See succeeding sketch of Mr. Stewart.) The mills of Blood & Stewart are now among the largest and most successful in Amsterdam. The product is wholly men's and women's cotton underwear, and about 400 operatives are employed. He has also been a partner in a knitting mill with W. R.

McCowatt since 1888. Mr. Blood's business capacity and executive ability are fully understood and recognized by his fellow-citizens, while his staunch integrity and many sterling qualities have given him an enviable position in the community. He is public spirited and holds the welfare of the city as of prime importance; he was made second vice-president of the Board of Trade; has held the office of president of the village one term; was assessor for three years; water commissioner three years, 1881-84. He is an unswerving Republican in politics and gives judicious support to his party.

Mr. Blood has been a member of the Second Presbyterian church for about thirty years. He was married in 1855 to Gazena Elizabeth Putman, daughter of Cornelius H. Putman, of Glen. They have had two children, a son and a daughter; the son is deceased. The daughter is the wife of P. H. Bennett, of Amsterdam.*

STEWART, JOHN KNOX, was born in the town of Perth, Fulton county, N. Y., on the 20th of October, 1853. His father was William Stewart, also a native of Perth, who came to Amsterdam in the year 1860 and established a knitting mill; this was burned in 1866, and on its site a paper-mill was erected, which he carried on successfully until his death in 1872. William Stewart married Catherine Knox, of Galway, N. Y., and she died in 1882. They had two children, the subject of this sketch and a daughter. During his life in Amsterdam Mr. Stewart gained an enviable reputation as a business man, and for his integrity, public spirit and admirable qualities.

John Knox Stewart came to Amsterdam with his parents, and received his education in the academy, which he left in 1871, to take charge of his father's estate, then comprising the paper-mill above mentioned. In 1877 he married Sarah E. Schuyler, daughter of the late James H. Schuyler, of Amsterdam. Mr. Schuyler was among the leading manufacturers of the place, and long associated with Gardiner Blood in the knitting mills, as described in the preceding sketch. In 1885 Mr. Stewart entered the knitting-mill office of Schuyler & Blood, in aid of his father-in-law, whose health had begun to decline, and continued in that capacity until his father-in-law's death, which occurred in 1885.

* Mr. Blood died November 29, 1892.

In December, 1888, he bought the one-half interest formerly owned by Mr. Schuyler, and has since continued as a member of the firm of Blood & Stewart. Though still a young man, Mr. Stewart has shown business-capacity of an exceptional character, while by his personal traits he has firmly established himself in the business and social life of the place. A Republican in politics, his ability and personal popularity led to his nomination and election to the State assembly in 1890, where he served his constituents to their entire satisfaction. He has been a director of the Farmer's National bank of Amsterdam since 1890, and was one of the original sewer commissioners, holding that office three years. He is a member and treasurer of the First Presbyterian church.

Mr. Stewart was married in 1877 to Sarah E. Schuyler, daughter of James H. Schuyler, before mentioned, and they have two sons.

SERVISS, JOHN G., was born in the town of Florida, Montgomery county, N. Y., on the 1st of May, 1847. His father was Alexander Serviss, who was also a native of Florida, and a leading farmer of the county. His mother was Nancy Sherburne of the same town. The grandfather of John G. was Lawrence Serviss, who was a man of strong character, a progressive and prominent farmer. He was conspicuous in the organization of the Whig party, and in many ways a leading citizen. His wife was Mary Bigham, a native of Scotland. Their children were Alexander, George, Helen who married into the Voorhees family, and Elizabeth, who married a member of the historic Vanderveer family. Going back still another generation, we find that the great-grandfather of John G. was a revolutionary soldier and came to the Mohawk Valley very early in its history. Alexander Serviss died May 19, 1887, in Florida, and his widow is still living. The homestead in the town of Florida is still in the family.

John G. Serviss was given excellent educational advantages and he improved them to the utmost. Leaving the district school at the age of sixteen years, he attended the Amsterdam Academy one year, and the following year studied in the academy at Jonesville, Saratoga county. He then completed the classical course in the Fort Edward Collegiate Institute, leaving that institution when he was twenty years old.

He had already formed the determination to follow teaching as his life work and began at Minaville in his native town, where he remained three years. On the 18th of August, 1873, he received the appointment of principal in Union School No. 11 in Amsterdam. This position he filled with eminent satisfaction to the community for fourteen years. Long before the expiration of this protracted period, Mr. Serviss had demonstrated that he possessed both natural and acquired qualifications as a teacher, and was prolific in advanced practical ideas which he knew how to apply to his profession. Under his direction the school became one of exceptional standing, and the degree of satisfaction with which his efforts were received by those having the educational interests of the place in charge, is shown by his appointment on the 1st of September, 1887, as superintendent of that school, which responsible position he still holds. In his present capacity Professor Serviss has found a still wider field of activity, and has made himself known over a broad extent of territory as one of the progressive educators of the state. Quick to discover the merit or demerit of new methods for the advancement of education, he adopts all that seems good, and by his good judgment and practical knowledge and sound common sense, applies them successfully to his purposes. Neither is he wanting in originality in his chosen field and many educational improvements which have been adopted in Amsterdam and elsewhere are the result of his thought and study. Since his appointment to the superintendency two new school buildings have been erected, and every step of this progress and extension has received his untiring care and zeal, and felt the influence of his practical wisdom and prudence. To-day he is in the confidence of the community, and the feeling that the school system could not be in better hands is almost universal.

Professor Serviss has received ample evidence of the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens. In 1884 he was elected superintendent of the Second Presbyterian Church Sabbath-school, and filled the position until the founding of the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, when he was chosen one of the elders of the last named church and still holds the office. In March, 1890, he was elected secretary of the Amsterdam Board of Trade, held the office two years and resigned on account of the

multiplicity of his other duties. In that body he has been chairman of the educational committee since the organization of the board. He was chosen chairman of the committee of the tri county educational council, which drafted the course of study for the schools of the three counties, Montgomery, Herkimer and Fulton. He has served on several examining boards for the United States service at West Point and Annapolis. In January, 1890, he was elected one of the trustees of the Amsterdam Y. M. C. A., a life office in a board that has the higher charge of the affairs of that beneficent organization. On the 1st of December, 1891, he was elected trustee of the Amsterdam Library Association. In all of these various stations Professor Serviss has met the requirements to the utmost and won the confidence of his fellows. Wholly self-reliant, careful in forming his judgment and tenacious in the support of what he deems to be right, with executive ability of a high order, he makes himself a useful servant of the best interests of the community, and has made for himself a record of which he has every reason to be proud.

Professor Serviss was married on the 25th of September, 1872, to Lottie S. Bussing, of Minaville, only daughter of Harmon Bussing and Margaret Schuyler. They have two children, Schuyler B. and Florence.

BRAGDON, HENRY S., was born in Sullivan, Hancock county, Me., January 28, 1815, and was the son of Jonathan and Mary (Welch) Bragdon. His early life was spent in his native town, where he learned the trade of stonecutter. He left when about twenty years of age to go to Portland where he cut stone for two years, losing all that he earned during that time by the failure of his employer. He then came to New York city where he remained but a short time, cutting stone used in the construction of Trinity church. Leaving New York he came to Tribes Hill and thence to Canajoharie, where he followed his trade for a few years, and then opened a dry goods store. He was very fortunate in having a large quantity of goods at the breaking out of the war, and on them he made large profits. In politics Mr. Bragdon was a staunch Republican, and was always ready to assist in public matters whenever called upon. In his business cares Mr. Bragdon

gained that eminent title—an honest man in its broadest sense. Fully imbued with Christian principles, he relied upon the teachings of the Bible for a guide, and the golden rule was a precept that he always endeavored to practice. His public spirit was conspicuous, and when he once decided that a measure for public welfare was deserving of his support, nothing could swerve him from it or shake his determination to carry it through. This characteristic was displayed in the water works difficulties in the village a few years ago, when he generously risked his money and sustained the effort. All who knew him found him a true friend in adversity. He retired from business in 1879, and was thenceforth engaged in the care of his estate, and was for many years a director of the Canajoharie Bank. He will be remembered in this vicinity not only as a successful merchant, but also as a kind and unostentatious member of society. At his death, which occurred June 19, 1892, the village lost one of its most honored citizens.

Mr. Bragdon was married in 1847 to Maria Fox, daughter of Charles Fox of Fort Plain. Their children who survive them are Winfield S. of Johnstown, James F. of Schenectady, and Mary A., wife of Harry A. Swartfinger of Canajoharie.

JOHNSTON, WILLIAM N., was born in Palatine Bridge, March 18, 1842. His father was George G. Johnston; his grandfather, George W. Johnston; his great-grandfather, George Johnston, a native of Inverness, Scotland, born in 1740, and who came to Stratford, Conn., in 1760, where he remained until his death in 1790; he had two children, George W. and Emily. George W. was born in 1770; in 1792 he married Nancy Wright, a niece of Governor Silas Wright, of New York. They had five sons and one daughter. He died in Glenville in 1840.

George G. Johnston, father of Wm. N., was born in Stratford in 1794; he served an apprenticeship in an iron foundry, which business he followed up and made a success of, having erected and owned foundries in Black Rock, Palatine Bridge, and the city of Brooklyn. He died in 1872. He was married three times; first to Gertrude Van Slyke, who bore him two sons and two daughters; second to Mary A.

Ruby of Albany, by whom he had two sons and one daughter; third, to Atlanta Boutelle Allen, in 1834, who bore him three sons and four daughters. Atlanta Allen was a daughter of William Allen of Townsend, Vt., who, with his father, served in the revolutionary war.

William N. Johnston, son of George G., attended the common school and also a preparatory course in the Canajoharie Academy. He enlisted, November 8, 1861, in the 102d N. Y. Volunteers, was promoted to first lieutenant, then to captain, to assistant inspector-general of the brigade, and at the close of the war was breveted major for gallant and meritorious conduct in the field. He served with his regiment in the Shenandoah campaign and the army of the Potomac in the east, and the army of the Cumberland in the west.

After his return from the war Mr. Johnston attended Beloit College for about two years, then began the study of law, and in 1870 was admitted to the bar. He practiced law until 1876, when he was elected county clerk and re-elected in 1879. After serving six years as county clerk he was appointed at different times to responsible positions under the state administration. In 1888 he engaged in the stone business under the firm name of Johnston & Shaper, which was afterwards merged in the Mohawk Valley Stone Company, of which company Mr. Johnston is now president. In all the relations of life—business, political and social, Mr. Johnston has been governed by high motives and won the confidence and esteem of all by his upright and honorable course.

In 1872 he married Elizabeth, daughter of William and Ann Eliza (Gauley) Dolsen of New York. They have five children: George Albert and William Allen, students of Union College; Harry Ferris, Agnes Atlanta and Edwin Granville. Mr. Johnston has always been an active Democrat and is now serving his third term as supervisor of the town.

JOHNSTON, ALBERT J., eldest son of George G. and Atlanta (Allen) Johnston, was born at Palatine Bridge, January 31, 1839. He passed his early life in his native town attending the local schools, graduating at the age of eighteen from the Canajoharie Academy. Soon after leaving school he went to Fort Yuma, Arizona Territory,

where his half brother, Capt. George A. Johnston, was interested in a line of steamboats that transported provisions from the Pacific coast up the Healy River to Fort Yuma, which was at that time a United States military post. This was a passenger as well as a freight line and Albert J. occupied the position of assistant manager of the line. After filling this position three years he returned overland to Palatine Bridge, where he commenced the study of law and was admitted to practice the profession in the United States courts, and also filled the position of deputy sheriff for a number of years. In the summer of 1869 Gov. Don Pio Pico, one of the last Spanish governors of California, accompanied by Capt. Geo. A. Johnston and wife, visited Palatine Bridge and persuaded Albert J. to return to California, where he became secretary to the governor, residing at Los Angeles, Cal. He had entire charge of the governor's business affairs a little over two years, but he finally accepted the position of under sheriff of Los Angeles county, the sheriff being at that time Mr. Rowland, who did not perform any of the active duties of the office. In 1874 Albert J. was the leader of the party that captured Tiburcio Vasquez, the noted Mexican outlaw who was the most notorious and successful bandit of California and for whose arrest the state had offered large rewards. Soon after this Mr. Johnston removed to Denver, Colo., and became interested in different mines at Leadville, Colo. He resided at Denver till 1886, when, being taken sick, in his attempt to reach his native town, died on the route. He is buried in Palatine, and in his death Montgomery county lost a son that home and abroad made lifelong friends and was always a cheerful companion and associate of those he met in his path of life.

VAN DENBERGH, WALTER L., was born on the paternal farm in Coxsackie, where he remained until his sixteenth year. His father's ancestors were of Holland descent, and both the father and the subject of this sketch inherited the physical vigor and the tenacity of purpose which characterize that race. His taste for literature early asserted itself, and whether as a clerk in a country store, or occupied in the forwarding business, he continued his studies and made good the deficiency in his early education. His experience as a forwarder



Henry Luther.

for many years, both in New York and in Montgomery county, as well as in other branches of trade, gave him a large acquaintance, and established his character as an energetic and discreet business man. In after years when engaged in the practice of the law, many who had been customers, became clients. Leaving commercial pursuits, he read law with Frothingham Fish, was admitted in 1861, and soon took rank with the solid members of the Montgomery county bar. After practicing successfully at Fultonville for several years, he removed to Amsterdam, where he established a still higher reputation in the profession. He married, in 1846, Alice Fish, youngest daughter of Howland and Eliza (Frothingham) Fish, who died March 15, 1890, greatly mourned by all her acquaintances.

Mr. Van Denbergh's father, Robert I. Van Denbergh, was born January 29, 1791, at the homestead at Coxsackie, where his ancestors had then lived for about a century. He was educated at Union College, read law, and during the remainder of his life devoted himself to agriculture. He married Laura R. Reed of the same place, and of that union four children reached mature years: Angelica, who married Peter I. Philip of Columbia county; Isabella, who resides at Coxsackie; Walter L., above noted; and Eliza, wife of Conrad A. Hotaling of Newark, N. J. The Van Denberghs rendered loyal military services to their country during the Revolution.

LUTHER, HENRY. — The subject of this sketch was a son of Gideon Luther, and was born at Ballston Spa, N. Y., on the 5th day of January, 1831. His opportunities for securing education were confined to the district schools, and when he had reached his majority, in 1852, he went to Cleveland, O., where he was employed five years. At the end of that period he removed to Kentucky and there engaged in the clothing business, which he continued successfully until the breaking out of the war. Returning to his old home he remained there until 1870, when he removed to Amsterdam and continued in active business life until his death, which occurred on the 15th of December, 1881. In Amsterdam Mr. Luther's excellent business qualifications were fully recognized, while he was esteemed for his integrity

and uprightness. He filled the office of president of the village in 1876 and was otherwise honored by his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Luther was first married, in February, 1872, to Mrs. Melissa Wilson (Ford). Mrs. Luther died on the 6th of April, 1878. Mr. Luther married second, on the 9th of October, 1879, Mary, daughter of George Briggs, of Ballston Spa. They have two children, Henry, jr., born October 21, 1880, and a daughter, born after Mr. Luther's death, March 6, 1882, and named Melanie.

BROWER, HENRY TEN EYCK.—The Brower family bears an historic interest in the Mohawk valley. Harmon Brower was born in Schenectady in 1718, and settled at Stone Arabia. He married Margaret Ecker and they had eight children. Harmon was a son of William and Maria (Henmen) Brower. Wilhelmus was one of the eight children of Harmon Brower and was born at Stone Arabia in 1755. He purchased the homestead farm of his father in 1784 and built a log house in the woods. The first two dollars earned was by burning trees to make a clearing and selling the ashes. Those silver dollars are kept in the family as relics, their date being 1773, under the reign of Charles III. of Spain. Wilhelmus married Jane Gray, and after years of labor and thrift he built a large two-story frame house, which is still used as a tenant house and is in a good state of preservation, though ninety years old. Wilhelmus died in 1841. He had one son, Harmon W., who was born at Stone Arabia October 18, 1781, the day before Cornwallis's surrender. He married Maria, daughter of Captain Henry Ten Eyck. The latter was an officer under General La Fayette, who took him from Harvard College to place him in the American army, and he was wounded in action at Stony Point. Harmon W. Brower graduated from Union College in 1804 and was clerk for Judge Aaron Haring at Johnstown for seven years, after which he settled on the home farm in Mohawk with his father. He was a man of strong literary tastes and it is remembered of him that he paid \$150 and three horses for a set of the Edinburgh Encyclopedia. In politics he was a Whig and by his learning and natural qualifications was prominent in the community. He was the father of five children—William, born Octo-

ber 18, 1821, died in 1865; Henry Ten Eyck, born February 11, 1824; Cornelius, died when three years old, and two daughters who died in infancy. Harmon W. Brower died June 21, 1846, and his wife on April 21, 1833.

Henry Ten Eyck Brower, the grandson of Wilhelmus, is a graduate of Union college, has always lived on the home farm, and is a conspicuous citizen of the town. In 1868 he erected an elegant and spacious brick residence and has added several hundred acres of land to the estate. During the war period he held the office of supervisor two terms and faithfully discharged the duties of the position. He married, January 8, 1868, Alice, daughter of Henry Mathise. They have two children, Harmon T. E. and Arthur H., both of whom reside with their parents. Mr. Brower's farm contains a burial plot on which four generations of the family are laid to rest.

MCCOWATT, WALTER R.—The subject of this sketch was born in Paisley, Scotland, January 23, 1838, and four years later came to the United States with his mother, his father having preceded them two years. The family first settled in New York city, where the son was educated in the public schools, finishing in the Amsterdam Academy after the removal of the family to this place. Entering upon a business career while yet a young man, Mr. McCowatt first carried on a merchant tailoring establishment, and a little later formed one of the firm of McCowatt, Nelson & Wendell, coal dealers, his partners being Oscar F. Nelson and the late Harmon Wendell. In order to broaden his field of business operations he joined with Luther L. Dean in the manufacture of knit goods, under the firm name of McCowatt & Dean, which continued until 1885, when Thomas Liddle and George B. Stover took Mr. Dean's interest in the manufactory — the firm continuing under the style of W. R. McCowatt & Co., as Mr. McCowatt's estate owns the controlling interest. From the time of his entering upon this line of industry Mr. McCowatt made its every detail a constant and persevering study and became before his death one of the best informed and thoroughly practical manufacturers in this business which forms so large a part of the industry of Amsterdam. Developing the

habits of prudence and persistent industry which he had early formed, and bringing to bear his natural qualifications of sagacity, executive ability and sound judgment, Mr. McCowatt became long before his untimely death one of the foremost manufacturers of the city and enjoyed the respect and confidence of the entire community in the broadest sense. This statement is proven by the fact that he was made president of the Knit Goods Manufacturers' Association of Amsterdam upon its formation and held the position until his death; he was also prominent in the State association. Upon the formation of the Board of Water Commissioners of the city his fellow-citizens chose him as one of its members and the Common Council of 1886 reappointed him. He served one term as president of the board and was treasurer at the time of his death, having contributed invaluable service in the important work of giving the city pure water. He also held the office of trustee of the village previous to its organization as a city, and was president of the village from 1879 to 1881, serving three terms. In all of these various capacities Mr. McCowatt demonstrated his possession of all those qualities which constitute the public spirited, able and honorable citizen, gaining the fullest approbation of his associates and the community at large. An extensive reader upon all topics of current interest, his general intelligence covered a wide range, while his natural ability as a ready and forcible speaker gave him a degree of influence over others that was unusual. This influence was ever exercised for the best good of the greatest number. His business career was founded upon principles of integrity and uprightness and his character was in every sense above reproach. He was prominent in the Board of Trade and contributed much to the good work of that body. A member and constant attendant at the Presbyterian Church, Mr. McCowatt lived a life that was an honor to himself and his family and a model for the young, whose interests he made his own. His loss to the city and particularly to the family whom he so cherished was one that cannot be replaced.

Mr. McCowatt married September 26, 1865, Jennie A. Van Wormer of Amsterdam. They had seven children, four of whom are deceased. The survivors are Horace H., born December 2, 1870; Jennie M., born May 2, 1876; and Walton C., born April 21, 1883.



G. C. Simpson

SIMPSON, GEORGE C.—The subject of this sketch was born June 10, 1817, near the present city of Amsterdam, and was of Scotch parentage. His father, George B. Simpson, died in 1818, while his mother, Helen Stuart McKay, reached the advanced age of eighty-six.

His education was limited to the few advantages to be derived from the district schools of that day, and at an early age he was thrown upon his own resources; but he happily possessed a good constitution, clear head, and industry.

He learned the saddlery and harness trade, and after becoming master of the calling, opened a shop in Fultonville in 1843. In 1851 he opened another shop in Fonda, in which place he built his home, on Prospect Hill, where he lived until his death, which occurred March 28, 1891.

While residing in Fultonville he married Miss Lucy T. Gardener. Six children were born to them, three of whom died in infancy. April 25, 1867, Mrs. Simpson died, leaving three children—Helen M., John H., and Jeane G.

John H., the only son who survived infancy, was for many years an invalid, devoting most of his time to study. He was one of the best informed men of the county, and died November 10, 1887, aged thirty-three years.

In 1867 Mr. Simpson, having acquired a reasonable competency, retired from business and devoted his time to the care of his estate, and also always finding plenty to do as a neighbor and citizen.

When he settled in Fonda he immediately identified himself with the interests of the town. Whether it was the consolidation of schools, to repair or build school-houses or churches, or any other work in which the general weal was concerned, he was always ready with level head, a liberal and working hand, laboring as if it were for himself alone. For eighteen years he served as trustee of the public school, and was loan commissioner for many years.

He was strongly interested in politics, but never an office-seeker. At first a Whig and then a Republican, he was highly esteemed among his political associates and the leading men of the county.

During the Rebellion he served on all the war committees for the town of Mohawk, and rendered valuable service in filling the quota of men called for, and with others insisting that as the large bounties were voted they should be collected and paid, so that when the war closed the town of Mohawk owed no bounty debt.

While leaning strongly toward Universalism in his belief, he nevertheless did much in support of other churches. If he had any creed, it was as broad as humanity. He was also a radical temperance man, sparing neither time nor money in support of the cause.

George C. Simpson was a constant reader, a careful thinker, a close observer, well informed on all subjects, and a man of strong convictions and unbending integrity. He fearlessly supported that which he believed to be right and as earnestly opposed that which he believed to be wrong. His life was exemplary and pure.

At the age of seventy-four he passed peacefully away and was laid to rest among his beloved kindred in the Fultonville cemetery.

FONDA, HENRY A., of Milton, Pa., president of the First National Bank of that place and an enterprising and public spirited citizen, was born in the town of Fonda, Montgomery county, N. Y., which town derived its name from one of his ancestors. After graduating from the district schools of his native place, he entered the Homer, N. Y., Academy, where he devoted two years to the study of the higher branches of English. The science of engineering possessed an attraction for him and at the age of seventeen he adopted it as his life work, entering upon his labors as an assistant in an engineering corps on the Utica and Syracuse railroad. From this road he passed in a short time to the Erie, on which he held at first the position of rod-man, but later on that of superintendent of construction on the section between Corning and Hornellsville. In different capacities, some of them involving great responsibilities, he remained with the Erie road about six years. Upon leaving it he engaged with the Canandaigua and Niagara Falls road, as superintendent of construction and repairs. After filling this post two years he removed to Pennsylvania and accepted the position of superintendent of construction on the Catawissa railroad, then thirty-five miles

in extent. After being promoted to the position of assistant superintendent, and being advanced from that office to the responsible post of general superintendent of the road, he closed his connection with it (then of five years' duration), to accept the office of general superintendent of the Elmira and Williamsport railroad, to the duties of which he devoted the ensuing three years. In 1864 he became general superintendent of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg railroad, then under control of the Delaware and Western Railroad Company.

After serving this corporation five years he took a contract to build a railroad from Carbondale to Susquehanna. This contract being completed he took service with the Delaware and Hudson railroad, as general superintendent, and was placed in charge of all the lines of this large corporation from Carbondale, Pa., to Whitehall and Rutland, Vt. At the expiration of four years' steady service under this company, he retired from active duty and took up his residence in Philadelphia, where he spent several years. In 1887 he removed to Milton, where he established a permanent residence. Having definitely relinquished engineering pursuits, he turned his attention to farming and stock-raising. He is now the owner of a large stock farm and residence on Cayuga lake, near Aurora, and also of five extensive stock farms in the vicinity of Milton. His barn on the largest farm on Cayuga lake is the finest in the state.

Mr. Fonda has paid particular attention to the breeding of Hambletonian stock and has raised many notable specimens of this strain. His success in this later departure in farming and stock-raising is extremely gratifying to him. In them he finds agreeable and interesting relaxation, which is both welcome and beneficial after so many years of active and absorbing railroad life. Since 1888 Mr. Fonda has been president of the First National Bank of Milton, and he divides his time between his duties as a financier and the agreeable occupation of a "gentleman farmer." His habits are those of a thorough business man, everything confided to his charge being attended to thoroughly and with the strictest regard for the interest of others, as well as respect for their rights.

At a time when real estate in Chicago was low in value and on the rise, he invested largely in property in that city, and has reaped a rich reward as a result of his enterprise and sagacity in this field. After the disastrous conflagration which in 1880 destroyed so large an amount

of property in Milton, Mr. Fonda promptly loaned quite an amount of money to rebuild the place, and through this wise and timely action on his part it has rapidly recovered from the damaging blow it sustained, and is making rapid strides to a more prosperous and advanced condition. His public spirited action in this and other matters has had a weighty influence upon the business interests of Milton, and has earned for him a reward in the general prosperity which gratifies him far more than any pecuniary advantage he may eventually reap in consequence. Mr. Fonda started in life without means and has reached his present financial independence and leading position as a citizen, solely through his own unaided enterprise and ability. So far from this fact operating to close his heart to the claims of his less fortunate fellow-men, it seems to exert just the contrary effect, for it is well known that many who were struggling have been helped by his generosity, extended willingly and from a sense of duty as a steward of wealth, rather than through any desire for notoriety or subsequent reward. Men gifted with such admirable qualities raise the standard of life and living, both for themselves and all who dwell within reach of their influence, and may justly be styled the pillars of the community—the strong supports of the higher ideas of duty and citizenship prevailing in a free and enlightened country. Every dollar of Mr. Fonda's wealth has been amassed by straightforward business operations. Disdaining sharp practices and resolutely declining them, he nevertheless acquired means far in excess of many who descended to petty if not more culpable methods.

He lives in a manner commensurate with his ample fortune and social position, and not the least of his satisfaction is the consciousness that his success with all that it brings, is the outcome of an upright business life. His farms adjoining the town of Milton, containing in all 700 acres, are models, and upon them is to be found some of the finest stock in the state. In addition to his connection with the First National Bank, he is a director in several other banks, and also of the Elmira and Williamsport railroad company. He has never accepted any political office nor had any aspirations in that direction, but held a commission as colonel on Governor Pollock's staff during his term as governor of the state of Pennsylvania. Modest and retiring in disposition, he avoids rather than courts notoriety, although never withholding his name or in-

fluence from any enterprise having for its object the benefit of mankind. His charities are bestowed quietly, and to many he has been a true friend in times of panic and distress.

Mr. Fonda married, on January 1, 1862, Miss Caroline Louisa Brown, daughter of Isaac Brown, a prominent merchant of Milton. His only child, a son, Lawrence B. Fonda, who was educated at the University of Pennsylvania¹ in Philadelphia, has recently joined the Sons of the Revolution through that patriotic record which has been so faithfully won by his ancestors. Mr. Fonda's grandfather (Henry Fonda) served as a captain in the war of 1812, and his great-grandfather (Adam Fonda) was lieutenant-colonel under General Herkimer at the Oriskany battle. Adam Fonda was a son of Douw Fonda, who was slain by the Tories during Sir John Johnson's raid in 1780. What a debt our country owes to this ancient patriotism!

WEMPLE, EDWARD—The subject of this sketch comes from ancestry noted for their sturdy characteristics, their devotion to principle and their love of liberty. Far back in the history of Holland his forefathers lived and labored for the good of their country and humanity, and their enterprise was not confined to their native land. They sought other and wider fields for advancement of civilization and human progress. Large numbers of them sought this free land, where they found ample room and opportunity to develop material resources, and where they labored with strong hands and brave hearts to subdue the forests, establish homes, and aid in the upbuilding of the great citadel of freedom. They were also the first to establish free schools in this country and to introduce the noble sentiment that all men are born free and with equal rights. The Mohawk valley was the theatre where these sturdy emigrants did their whole duty, and its later pre-eminence as a progressive and well governed locality is due very largely to them.

In the year 1712 a Johannes Wemple, an ancestor of the comptroller, was one of the company to whom Queen Anne granted the Caughnawaga patent, which included grants of lands in the Mohawk valley. Other Wemples came from their old homes in Holland and settled in this new region. Inspired with the principles of civil and religious lib-

erty they built school houses and planted churches, and caused the waste and desolate places to bloom like a garden all along the now rich valley of the Mohawk. More than a century ago a Mr. Wemple was one of the founders of the old Dutch church of Fonda, which stood among the earliest landmarks of religious devotion in this country. This ancient church was taken down a few years ago.

The Wemples were known for their patriotism here. During the old French and English wars they bravely defended their homes against the invaders, and when the storm of the Revolution broke with all its violence over our shores they heartily espoused the cause of the struggling colonists. And no one rejoiced more truly than did the Wemples of those revolutionary days, who were living in the Mohawk valley, when they at length saw the sunshine of liberty gleaming through clouds and darkness, and the star spangled banner of Washington and Adams and Jefferson unfurled over this new and rising Republic.

On the 23d of October, 1843, Edward Wemple first saw the light of day in the old home at Fultonville, N. Y. At the common schools of his native village he was taught the rudiments of his earliest education, and was afterwards a student of the Ashland Academy in Greene county, and of the Schenectady Union School, where he was prepared for a collegiate course. He learned readily, and was a diligent student; hence he was ready for college at an earlier age than most other boys. Entering Union College, then in a flourishing condition, he was graduated from there in 1866, at the age of twenty-three. He was not long in deciding upon the choice of a profession, for during his college course the study of political and legal science seems to have possessed special charms for him. On leaving college he entered on the study of law in the office of W. L. Van Denbergh.

Mr. Wemple's father was at that time largely engaged in the foundry business at Fultonville, and needed the assistance of an active, educated young man to assist him in carrying on the management of the concern, and so he persuaded his son Edward to relinquish his legal studies and enter into partnership with him. It just suited the active temperament of our young law student, and was an agreeable change from the close sedentary habits of professional life. He soon acquired a thorough, practical knowledge of the foundry business, and on the death of his

father in 1869 he continued it with increasing success down to the present. At the same time he was diligently employing his leisure moments in the study of political and state affairs in which he was to become so prominent, exhibiting those qualifications which belong to the right man in the right place.

Mr. Wemple entered political life as an ardent young advocate of the principles of the Democratic party, to which he has always adhered with an uncompromising spirit. He had scarcely reached the age of thirty before he was chosen president of the village of Fultonville, in 1873, and from that period we may date the beginning of his useful, active, and honorable career as a popular political leader. He next filled the office of supervisor of his native town, in the prosperity of which he has always taken a lively interest. This position he held during the years 1874, 1875 and 1876. In 1876 he was elected as a Democrat to the Legislature over David W. Shurter (Rep.), and N. T. De Graff (Pro.), and served acceptably on the committees of railroads, villages and the library. He was re-elected to the Legislature in 1877. Increasing in popularity, his party nominated him four years after the close of his legislative term in 1882, for member of Congress from the Twentieth district, and though the district is a strong Republican one, he was triumphantly elected over Hon. George West, of Ballston, the Republican candidate.

His congressional record formed a bright page in his history, and demonstrated his capacity as a practical man, whose highest aim is not to serve party alone, but the country at large. He served with credit on the committee on public buildings and grounds, and also on that of railroads and canals. He advocated the measures for securing better mail facilities, and took a leading part in the welfare of the veterans of the Union army, pushing forward a prompt settlement of their just claims. He also presented the measure of giving the president the power to veto separate objectionable items in appropriation bills without killing the whole bill. The justice of this congressional act must be apparent to all classes, irrespective of party. But one of the grandest measures for which Mr. Wemple contended till it was successfully accomplished, was the securing of an appropriation to erect a noble monument at Schuylerville, to commemorate the glorious and decisive

victory over the British on the ever memorable field of Saratoga. All patriotic citizens will ever join in honoring him for his works and labors of love in a cause so worthy and just. Mr. Wemple has always been a strong friend of the Erie canal, and while in Congress he earnestly contended that the federal government should do its duty and provide for the maintenance and repair of the free artificial waterways of this State, which form an indispensable link in the chain of navigation from the great West to tidewater, just as it provides for the maintenance and repair of far less important free natural waterways in all sections of the country; and that without affecting in the least the jurisdiction of the State.

Retiring from his congressional life with well-earned laurels, Mr. Wemple sought the quietude of his beautiful home at Fultonville, among the friends of his youthful days, and in the enjoyment of domestic scenes. But he was not long to remain in the walks of private life. In 1885 he was elected to the state senate from the 18th district, composed of the counties of Saratoga, Fulton, Hamilton and Schenectady. His opponent was the Hon. Austin A. Yates, and the contest was carried on with great determination on both side. Mr. Wemple won by a majority of twenty, and it was a striking instance of his remarkable popularity among his friends and neighbors, that he should thus succeed in so strong a Republican district, and with so powerful an adversary as Judge Yates. As a state senator Mr. Wemple added additional lustre to his already well-established reputation as an able, upright and patriotic citizen. He took an active part in the leading measures which came before that body, and while he always endeavored to sustain the honor of his party, he at the same time tried to advance the interests of the commonwealth.

In the fall of 1887 Mr. Wemple was nominated for state comptroller, and was elected by a majority of 15,374, the highest vote received by any candidate on the ticket, and entered upon his duties January 1, 1888. The affairs of this high and responsible office were conducted by Mr. Wemple in a manner that reflected the highest credit. Since his retirement from this office in 1891, after four years of service, Mr. Wemple has passed the greater part of his time at his beautiful and historic home on the banks of the Mohawk at Fultonville.

The secret of Mr. Wemple's success as a politician lies in his broad intelligence, his exceptional executive ability and his strict integrity. He is regarded by his party as one who is always true to his political principles, strong in his conviction of duty, and an able exponent of the old Jeffersonian doctrines. As a man he is plain in manners, affable, and easily approachable, and popular wherever known for his geniality.

Mr Wemple married Adelaide F. Groot, daughter of Simeon C. Groot of Schenectady. Her mother was of German ancestry, and her father of Dutch. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wemple are Grace Adelaide, born August 12, 1869; Alice Maud, born June 6, 1871; Ralph Clancy, born December 2, 1872, died in infancy; and Edward Guy, born May 21, 1875, and now in the military school at Sing Sing.

WHITE JOSEPH N.—The ancestry of Dr. White is traced back to the early settlement of Worcester county, Mass. The town records of Mendon, in that county, show that in 1668, a vote was passed "to build a meeting house with all speed and to locate it near Joseph White's saw pit on the highest part of the land." In the following year the name is also found in an agreement settling the Rev. Mr. Emerson as minister in that town. Joseph White was a sergeant in the King Philip war, where he had charge of a garrison of soldiers. The record has not been traced continuously to the present time; but we know that Jacob White was born August 10, 1754. His son, Joseph, was born April 8, 1785, and he was the father of Joseph N., the subject of this sketch. Joseph N. White was born in the town of Deerfield, Oneida county, N. Y., July 4, 1816, his father having located there previously. His mother was Lucy Parke, who was born in Norwich, Conn. He received an academical and classical education at the Holland Patent Academy, the Huron (O.) Institute and the Oberlin College. He studied medicine, beginning in 1849, under the supervision of Drs. Taliaferro and Buckner of Cincinnati, and was graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in 1854. During the period of his study he occupied the position of resident physician in a large private hospital maintained by his preceptors. Dr. White was induced to enter upon a careful and thorough investigation of the claims of homœopathy

through the influence of the late Dr. Pulte of Cincinnati, a well known medical author. The result was the adoption of that system and thenceforth he pursued it with characteristic energy and tenacity.

In the spring of 1855 Dr. White settled in Amsterdam, where he soon gained an extensive practice. In early years the physicians who practiced in the homœopathic school occupied a position professionally that was vastly different from their present standing, and Dr. White was the first to maintain in the courts the legal rights of physicians of that school, and in 1870, after ten years of litigation, secured a final and favorable decision in the Court of Appeals, which was cited in the courts of other states and reported in English and French journals.

Dr. White became a member of the Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society in 1867, and was elected its president in 1869, in which latter year he was also delegate to the American Institute of Homœopathy. He was one of the founders of the Montgomery County Homœopathic Medical Society (1869), having issued the call for its first meeting, and was one of its officers during most of the subsequent years until his death. He was also a member of the Medical Society of Northern New York and of the State Homœopathic Society.

Dr. White was an earnest Republican in politics, but not a partisan or a candidate for public office. His first vote was for Harrison in 1840, and the last time he left his home was to vote at the city election in Amsterdam, when his son, E. P. White, was candidate for mayor.

Such is a brief record of the career of Dr. White; but it gives little indication of the prominent characteristics of the man. It may be said of him that he was one of those who seem to have been born with a natural aptitude for his profession, and such was his intense love for it that it was a delight to him wholly outside of personal gain through it. Indeed, so assiduous was he in its pursuit that he gave little time or attention to the financial aspect of it; to him that was a mere incidental feature of his work. If patients paid him, it was well. If they did not, he was the last one to think that he ought to try and make them. From his standpoint, the patient without a dollar was of the same professional importance with the millionaire. A part of this characteristic may, perhaps, be credited to his broad charity; but in his profession his first thought was ever to give relief, if possible. His last

was that of how much he might gain thereby in material return. This brief estimate of his character may be very properly and truthfully concluded by adding what was written of him at the time of his death by one who knew him well :

“ It will be many days before a purer minded or more unselfish man passes away from Amsterdam. His life work was healing the sick, to which he gave a devotion beyond the thought of pecuniary reward. Early and late, among rich and poor alike, he ministered with gentleness and comforted with untiring skill. He loved children and they loved him, and many of them now grown up, with others whom he has benefited, are grateful to him. But beyond all other things he loved his family. For their welfare he hesitated at no self-sacrifice and he found his happiness in theirs.”

Dr. White was for many years a member of the Presbyterian church, and his daily life was a never-failing evidence of his sincerity and faithfulness.

Dr. White was twice married. At the age of twenty-four he married Sarah A. Maxwell, in Ripley, O., who lived only six months afterward. In May, 1855, he married Catharine J. Maxwell of Johnstown (not a relative of the first wife), who survives him. Mrs. White came from Johnstown to Amsterdam in 1854, as preceptress of a young ladies' private school, which she conducted with great success until her marriage, and for which labor she was eminently qualified. She is a woman of marked strength of character and intelligence, and has been active in local charities and the general well-being of the community. Her father, William Boyd Maxwell, was born at Philadelphia, Pa., the son of Cornelius Maxwell, who came from Edinburgh, Scotland, and joined the Continental forces in the Revolutionary war. Her maternal grandfather, Joel Manrow, was also a Scotchman and Revolutionary soldier. Her great-grandfather, Abram Poole, was the first of the family to settle in Amsterdam, having located on a farm about three miles east of the present city, and afterwards moved to Kingsboro, Fulton county.

Dr. and Mrs. White had five children: William M., Edward P., Sarah E., Lucy M., and Joseph N., all of whom reside in Amsterdam. Dr. White had a younger brother, Moses White, who died September 1, 1891, at Cape Vincent, N. Y.

Dr. White's death took place in Amsterdam on the 24th of April, 1890.

PAWLING, HENRY, was born in what is now the town of Perth, Fulton county, on February 25, 1811. His father was Levi Pawling, who was born October 28, 1783, and died November 7, 1846. He settled at Galway, Saratoga county, in 1836. Levi's children were Ann Dorothy, Joseph H., Margaret Eliza, Henry (our subject), John, Abraham, Francis, Myndert, Albert, Haskell L. and Sarah Jane. The ancestry of the Pawlings was from Holland.

Henry Pawling was educated in the public schools, and at the age of sixteen moved to Hagaman's Mills, where he worked for five years, learning the cloth maker's trade. When he had become proficient, he traveled through Massachusetts, working at his trade, and finally located in Galway, Saratoga county, where he began the manufacture of his own goods, staying there about thirteen years. In 1843 he again came to Hagaman's Mills, establishing the first woolen cloth factory here. From a small investment of about \$500, the business grew under his management to huge proportions, making Mr. Pawling one of the most influential citizens of the town of Amsterdam. His sons, William M. and H. H., were associated with him in the business, which was changed to knit goods in 1857, and when he retired the sons continued the business, which is now a large and prosperous industry. In 1836 Mr. Pawling married Margaret Van Derbogart of Jefferson county, N. Y., and they became the parents of three children: William M., born in 1836; H. H., born in 1839; and Jennie M., now Mrs. Benjamin F. Herrick, born in 1838.

BREEDON, WILLIAM, was born in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England, on the 23d of September, 1828. His father was William, also, a respectable mechanic, who died in his native place. His mother was Charlotte Powell of Leicestershire. They had eight children, three of whom were sons, who came to America in 1851, two of them remaining permanently.

William Breedon was of course twenty-three years old when he reached Waterbury, Conn. He had already learned his trade as an operator and builder of knitting machinery by a service of seven years. His mechanical ability was in demand and he found employment in Newark, N. J., where he remained until 1856, going thence

to Fitchburg, Mass., where he worked until 1860. His next place of employment was in Cohoes, N. Y., where he worked until the fall of 1864, when he came and settled permanently in Amsterdam. He first worked for William Stewart and Daniel Carmichael as superintendent of their knitting mill, a position for which he was eminently fitted by his long experience. His service in all of the places above mentioned had not been confined to any one branch of the business, but acting as superintendent much of the machine work, repairs, etc., had fallen to him to perform. He remained with Stewart & Carmichael until their mill was burned, when he began the manufacture of knitting needles, a field of work which he foresaw must inevitably become a broad one through the prospective growth of the manufacture of knit goods in this place. In this business he has continued ever since, his son, Albert William, now being associated with him. They manufacture only one kind of needles, known as spring needles, turning out approximately 100,000 per week, many of them finding market in Amsterdam, while some are shipped to distant points.

Mr. Breedon is a Republican in politics. He was chosen trustee of the village in 1877 and held the office for three years, during which time he evinced an active spirit and won the regard of his fellow members of the board. In March, 1891, he was elected mayor of the city, which office he still holds by re-election. To the onerous duties of the high office Mr. Breedon gives freely of his time, and his natural qualifications of good judgment and a broad comprehension of the city's needs, enable him to so conduct his administration as to please his constituents.

Mr. Breedon was married in 1850 to Mary Shingler, of Leicester-shire, England. They have six children, one son and five daughters; all the latter but one are married. The son married Mary Norton and has five children. The cares of the regular business are now almost wholly taken by the son, while Mr. Breedon gives considerable attention to real estate which he has acquired and improved since about 1880.

HOWARD, EBENEZER.—The ancestry of Ebenezer Howard is readily traced back through several generations and into the latter years of the last century, to Enos Howard, who lived and died in Du-anesburgh, Schoharie county, N. Y. There his son Samuel was born

on the 13th of July, 1795. He married Marilla Hatch on November 12, 1814, and died on the 9th of March, 1857. Mrs. Howard was one of eight children, namely: Nathaniel, Orrin, Ephraim, Josiah, Ella, Cara, Lizzie and Marilla, and she was born on the 27th of January, 1798, and died February 25, 1869. To Samuel and Marilla Howard were born five children, as follows: Ruby, born August 28, 1815; married David Griffith September 2, 1833, and died May 5, 1836, leaving a daughter, Susan, who married Richard Jameson, and now lives a widow in Pennsylvania.

Silas H., born October 6, 1817, married Julia A. Avery October 25, 1840; she died in 1881, and he resides at Fort Hunter, N. Y., where also live his sons, Ebenezer and Edward, and daughter Ruby; his son William lives in Brooklyn and Avery in Virginia.

George, born June 7, 1819, married Charlotte Frazier January 10, 1844, and died December 20, 1884. To them were born ten children, of whom there are living Charles Howard, of New York; Mary Foody, of Albany; and Mrs. Clara Johnson, of Fort Hunter.

William T., born February 24, 1822, and died September 23, 1838.

Ebenezer Howard, son of Samuel was born at Duaneburgh January 1, 1827. He married Ellen Crane February 12, 1852, and died in Fort Hunter February 10, 1892. Mrs. Howard was born at Newburgh, Orange county, N. Y., May 16, 1832, and died at Fort Hunter February 11, 1892; she was a daughter of Jacob Crane, a teacher of mathematics of Newburgh, and had one brother, George Crane, of Australia, and one sister, Mrs. William Barnes, of Brooklyn.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Howard were four, as follows: Frank H., born January 18, 1852, and Addie L., who both died in May, 1854, of scarlet fever. George Anderson, born July 24, 1856, died at Hot Springs, Ark., April 30, 1891. Charles Louis Howard, born October 11, 1859, at Empire Lock, Fort Hunter, will be noticed a little further on.

Ebenezer Howard was a man of much more than average business capacity, a strong character, and life principles that gave him a position of honor among his fellow citizens. With only ordinary opportunities for obtaining an education, he gained by observation and reading a fund of general information which his prudent and sound judgment enabled



E. Howard

him to use to advantage in all the relations of life. In the year 1859 he became associated with John D. Blood of Fort Hunter in the manufacture of brooms in a small way. He carefully studied the business for many years and became thoroughly versed in its methods, quality of stock and the sale of the product. The factory was conducted with varying success until 1870, when Mr. Blood sold out his interest and removed to Amsterdam. Mr. Howard continued alone, enlarging and improving the business until 1873, when his factory was totally destroyed by fire. Owing to the unfortunate division of the insurance which he carried, the loss was a severe one. But with unfaltering courage he at once built and equipped the present brick factory and started with renewed zeal. After a time he associated with himself his nephew, Avery Howard, and his two sons, George A. and Charles L., and the business was successfully conducted under the firm name of E. Howard & Sons, which name is still retained. During his long business career in Montgomery county Mr. Howard became a well-known figure in the community, and by his straightforward business methods and by his general worth as a man, gained the confidence and good will of all who knew him. At the organization of the Merchants' Bank of Amsterdam he was made a director, and at the time of his death held the same office in its successor, the Farmers' National Bank. He was also a director of the Fort Hunter Suspension Bridge. His public spirit led him to take an active interest in every project for the good of the place where he lived, and his efforts contributed largely to its growth and improvement. He was an honored and useful member of the Universalist church at Bramen's Corners and an earnest and efficient mover in the temperance cause and in the Methodist church of the village in which he lived. In politics he was a Republican, but his naturally retiring disposition and distaste for active partisanship led him to decline public office. Generous in his nature his employees always found him their best friend, and the needy and worthy a sympathetic counselor and aid. At the time of his death the directors of the bank in which he was an officer adopted eulogistic resolutions, which said among other things :

“ Enthusiastic and tireless in his efforts to promote its usefulness and prosperity, this bank is indebted to him in liberal measure for the confidence reposed in it, and for the success it has achieved. His cool

judgment and sterling integrity inspired respect for all enterprises with which he was connected. He took a deep and active interest in public affairs, was ever ready to aid and advance the cause of moral and material progress, and his heart beat in sympathy with all movements designed to benefit his fellow men."

By the death of Ebenezer and George A. Howard on the dates above given, and the withdrawal of Avery Howard, the business of manufacturing brooms fell into the sole control of Charles L. Howard, who still conducts it. He inherits the excellent business qualifications of his father, while his long experience has given him a thorough knowledge of the requirements of the industry in which he is engaged. The factory is now equipped with modern improvements, including electric light, and has an average capacity of 200 dozen per day. About seventy-five men are employed, and the product is second to none.

Charles L. Howard was married June 9, 1880, to Katie Horton Burtch, daughter of A. H. Burtch, of Fonda; she was born January 21, 1860, and received her education in the Fonda public schools and at Elmira Female College. They have four children: Harry, Helen, Mabel and Ruth.

SHANAHAN, JAMES.¹ A state official whose long, industrious, persevering career in mechanical pursuits, and whose works in different parts of the country evince his superior powers as a master of his art is the Hon. James Shanahan, superintendent of public works of the state of New York. He belongs to a class of men whose talents and energy have advanced and enriched the interests of the empire state by the construction of works intimately connected with the railroads and canals, trade and commerce.

He is a native of Ireland, and was born on the 6th of February, 1829, having now reached a period in life in which high purposes, aims and achievements are usually unfolded in full power. His ancestors were useful and substantial citizens of their country, and some of them held responsible positions. His father, having determined to seek his fortune in "the land of the free," cast a lingering look on the home of his child-

¹The biography of James Shanahan, taken from the lives of noted Albanians and state officers by D. A. Harsha.

hood and then boldly sailed away with his family from the coasts of "old Erin" for American soil. His son James, the subject of this sketch, was then but eight years of age, and distinctly remembers the roar and tossings of old ocean during the voyage. On reaching this country the family first turned their faces westward, traveling into central New York and taking up their residence in the rich county of Onondaga. There for several years the elder Mr. Shanahan, who was not only an enterprising but industrious man, labored hard to earn a livelihood and to make provisions for his young family. And there James received a good common school education in the district school of his neighborhood. This course of elementary instruction he turned to practical account in later years.

Learning of the great inducements held out for emigrants, to what was then regarded as the far west, Mr. Shanahan with his family set out, in 1844, in search of the rich and fertile prairie lands of Michigan, and after a slow and wearisome journey reached that state, settling on a farm in the vicinity of Ann Arbor. James then was fifteen years of age, and for the two following years he assisted his father in preparing the new land for raising crops. But the monotonous pioneer life of a farmer in the solitudes of Michigan had not particular attractions for young Shanahan. He longed for another kind of work, to which his natural taste was inclining, and that was in the line of masonry. His father saw this ruling passion in his boy, and wisely consented that he should serve an apprenticeship in the stone-cutter's trade. He did so, and the step he then took he never afterwards regretted. An apt student in what he so much delighted, he soon mastered his trade; and a few years later we find him assistant to an elder brother, who was then a large contractor in the building of locks on the Erie and Oswego canals. Returning nearer the scenes of his more youthful days he became a studious and faithful assistant to his brother, under whose direction he may be said to have laid the foundation of his well-earned, high reputation as a master mechanic and engineer. With the knowledge and experience gained while with his brother he went to Lanesboro, Penn., where he was employed in the construction of the viaduct on the Erie railroad. On the completion of this work he felt himself qualified to undertake the duties and responsibilities of a contractor; and

to carry out his plans on a large scale he entered into partnership with his brother and two others. The new firm thus constituted was a strong one and soon engaged in various extensive works, among which was the building of a large portion of the masonry of the New York Central railroad between Syracuse and Rochester, and the masonry on the Oswego railroad.

In 1854 Mr. Shanahan, whose reputation as a skilled mechanic was widely extended throughout the country, was engaged in the construction of the "locks" in the Sault St. Marie canal. The following year he removed to Tribes Hill, Montgomery county, N. Y., now his permanent residence, while he ably assisted in the construction of the locks at Waterford.

His judgment in matters outside his occupation, but closely connected with it, was fully consulted by different parties, and in 1859 he was commissioned by the Dorchester Freestone Company to examine its quarry property at Dorchester, Province of New Brunswick. After giving the subject a careful investigation, a new quarry was opened there at his suggestion. In 1860 he was placed in full charge of the property, with highly satisfactory results. A large quantity of the stone was shipped to New York city and sold at a handsome profit to the company, which, under his superintendency, was not obliged to assess itself to supply funds for carrying on its operations. In 1861 Mr. Shanahan was compelled to remain at home, and during that year the Freestone Company ran behind some \$6,000 in its assets. His services were again sought after by the company, and upon its earnest request he resumed direction of the quarries, which, under his judicious management, were again worked with success and profit. The practical suggestions which he made, and the excellent judgment which he showed, both in masonry, quarry and engineering matters, was placing the name of Mr. Shanahan still more prominently before the public as a man of genuine merit and eminent skill.

From 1864 to 1866, inclusively, he was engaged first in furnishing stone for the erection of the New York Central railroad elevator at Albany, and also for the first railroad bridge, called North bridge, and afterward in the construction of the dam at Cohoes, an immense structure 1,400 feet long. This great work, so valuable to the Spindle City,

was completed in the course of one season, and stands as a noble monument to the skill of the builder.

In 1868 Mr. Shanahan was appointed superintendent of section No. 3 of the Erie canal, a position which he filled with honor and fidelity until his retirement from the office at the close of 1870. It may be stated in this connection, that Mr. Shanahan has always been a warm friend and advocate of our canals, and no official has ever watched over their affairs with more faithfulness or higher devotion.

On relinquishing his office as superintendent of the Erie canal Mr. Shanahan was inspired with a new ardor for his early cherished, regular occupation, the duties of which he now hastened to resume. One of his first contracts was for furnishing the stone for the new Hudson river bridge across the Hudson at the foot of Maiden Lane, Albany, constructed by the Hudson River Bridge Company. Subsequently he built the double tracks of the Hudson River railroad between Fort Plain and Little Falls, and furnished the stone for the section between Schenectady and Albany. The viaduct at Broadway, Albany, was successfully constructed by Mr. Shanahan in 1882.

Though not a politician by profession, yet Mr. Shanahan has been called to serve the state in a legislative capacity.

Regarding Mr. Shanahan's public life, we quote the following from the "Life Sketches of Assemblymen, 1870":

"Montgomery county in 1868 elected a Republican Assemblyman by nearly two hundred majority. When last fall the Democrats of the Fifteenth Senatorial District had nominated Isaiah Blood for Senator against Truman G. Younglove it was known that a most desperate effort would be made to wrest this district, notwithstanding its two thousand majority, from the Republicans. To do this it was first of all necessary that the Democrats of each Assembly district should nominate their strongest and most popular man. Nor were the Republicans ignorant of the nature of the contest in which they were entering and the necessity for a like care in the selection of their candidates. In Montgomery county the Democratic convention, having in view the necessity for the wisest action and the strongest possible candidate, nominated James Shanahan, of Tribes Hill. The result justified the selection. He received a majority of six hundred over his Republican

competitor, changing the majority on the State ticket from two hundred Republican (as it was in 1868) to nearly four hundred Democratic.

“Mr. Shanahan is an effective worker, a man of cool judgment and remarkable energy; a careful observer of men and things, and is possessed of untiring perseverance.

“The estimate in which he is held in the House may be judged from the fact that although a new member he has been placed on two of the most important committees, viz.: the Committee on Canals and the Sub-Committee of the Whole. He is also a member of the Committee on Public Printing.”

For several years after the expiration of his legislative term Mr. Shanahan followed his regular business, until in 1878, when he was appointed assistant superintendent of public works of the state of New York. In January, 1883, he was appointed by Governor Cleveland as head of the department, an appointment which people of both parties looked upon as one that would not have easily been improved. Now in his true element, perfectly at home in all the duties and obligations pertaining to his office—the right man in the right place—he still continues to administer the public affairs in his department in an acceptable manner. In many respects Mr. Shanahan is a remarkable man. From his long experience in works of construction he has gained a perfect, practical knowledge of engineering as applied to practical construction; and it is but just to say that he admirably fills the present important and responsible office. A man of great perseverance and energy as well as skill, he successfully infuses his spirit into his subordinates with the happiest results. Always busy, and at the same time cool, deliberate, thoughtful, he carries on the daily duties of his office in a thorough, systematic manner.

Tall in person, with a plain open countenance, simple in his manners and agreeable in his conversation, he exhibits strong mental characteristics, especially in his chosen profession, without the least affectation, pride or vanity.

In tracing his career from the time when, as a poor boy, he commenced his apprenticeship as a stone-cutter at Syracuse, and noticing the numerous and important works which he has since accomplished, one can not but be favorably impressed with his indefatigable industry and un-



D. J. Cassidy

yielding perseverance, his constant, earnest effort to rise higher in the knowledge of his calling, and above all his uncommon skill which enabled him to successfully complete those works, causing his name to shine as a star of no small magnitude in the horizon of the mechanical world.

He is now a member of the firm of Shanahan, Briggs & Company of Fonda, of the Starin Silk Fabric Company of Fultonville, a member of the contracting firm of Shanahan & Turner, a director in the Fultonville Bank, and is also president of Cayadutta Electric Railroad Company.

In October, 1854, Mr. Shanahan married Ellen, daughter of James and Ellen Maloy of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CASSIDY, DAVID DEMAREST, was born on the 6th day of April, 1827, in the town of Florida, Montgomery county, N. Y. His father, Christopher Cassidy, was born in the year 1796 and married Catharine Wemple, who was a native of the town of Florida. They had three children, two of whom died in infancy, leaving David D. as the only survivor. The elder Mr. Cassidy was a respected citizen of Florida and died at the early age of thirty-five years, when the subject of this sketch was only four years of age. His wife died in 1852.

David D. Cassidy's boyhood was passed in his native town, where he attended the district schools. He afterwards completed a fair English education by a short term at the Poughkeepsie Collegiate School. Left almost wholly without means, the young man was thrown upon his own resources at an early age, and in 1844, when seventeen, found employment as a clerk in a dry goods store in Amsterdam. This occupation he followed faithfully for about four years, making his employers' interests his own, industriously studying business methods and principles and practicing habits of prudence and economy, which served as a foundation for his after career. In 1849 he entered the Farmers' Bank of Amsterdam (now the Farmers' National Bank) as a clerk. This was the decisive step in his life-work. From the day he entered the bank until he left it, forty years later, Mr. Cassidy gave its welfare his constant thought, his devoted energy and watchful care. Even in

his first humble position he saw that the exercise of the qualities which he felt that he possessed would doubtless enable him to rise to an honorable and fairly lucrative station, and he, therefore, determined that nothing should be left undone by him that might aid him to reach the top of the ladder as far as related to that institution. Through the various positions in the bank he steadily rose — clerk, bookkeeper, teller, assistant cashier and director, until in 1859, after ten years of faithful service, he was placed in the position of cashier, a position which in country banks and banks in small cities, is the chief executive office of the institution. He had now reached the highest goal as viewed by him, for although he was in after years repeatedly asked to accept the presidency of the bank, he rightly understood that such a step was a downward one, except in a purely honorary sense. As cashier he was practically master, and that was what he had been and wished to continue to be.

For thirty years with scarcely an intermission, and with none at all of more than a few days each, Mr. Cassidy held the reins of this financial institution, and by his constant presence, watchfulness, sound judgment as to important acts, and tireless zeal for its general welfare, he made it one of the largest and most prosperous banks in the interior of the state.

The reader need not be told that the foregoing is an honorable as well as a successful business record. Its parallel for long continued and successful service is not often met with, and in this instance its results gave Mr. Cassidy a position in the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens that is most enviable. Never, from the time he entered the bank as clerk until his retirement, was he asked by the directors for a bond of any description—a fact almost unprecedented in similar institutions. Such was the widely known watchfulness with which he guarded the interests of the bank that on several occasions desperate burglars, after their capture, acknowledged that their contemplated efforts to rob its vaults were abandoned. Mr. Cassidy now fills the office of trustee of the Amsterdam Academy, and has been a director and treasurer of the Chuctenunda Gas Light Company since 1878. Upon his retirement from the cashiership of the bank the local press found occasion to speak in high terms of his career.

Said one paper: "As cashier and chief executive officer of the Farmers' National Bank he passed in and out of its doors for thirty years, and during that time, by industry and tact, he lifted the stock from par value in 1859 to two hundred and fifty in 1889, besides paying regular dividends of from ten to fifteen per cent. per annum. The bank building itself was erected by him and is still the finest structure of its kind in town. A man of thoughtful turn and an economist of time, he mingles in society but little, except as business requires, his leisure being spent at home, at his desk, or among his books. And yet he is pre-eminently social in his temperament. On questions of finance he is particularly at home." Another paper said: "In the discharge of his duties he has been tireless in his industry and unceasing in his vigilance. In the storms of financial depression, both local and in the country at large, the bank has stood firm as a rock. Its successful career and present solid condition are the work of a lifetime. Mr. Cassidy has a right to be proud of the results which he has achieved."

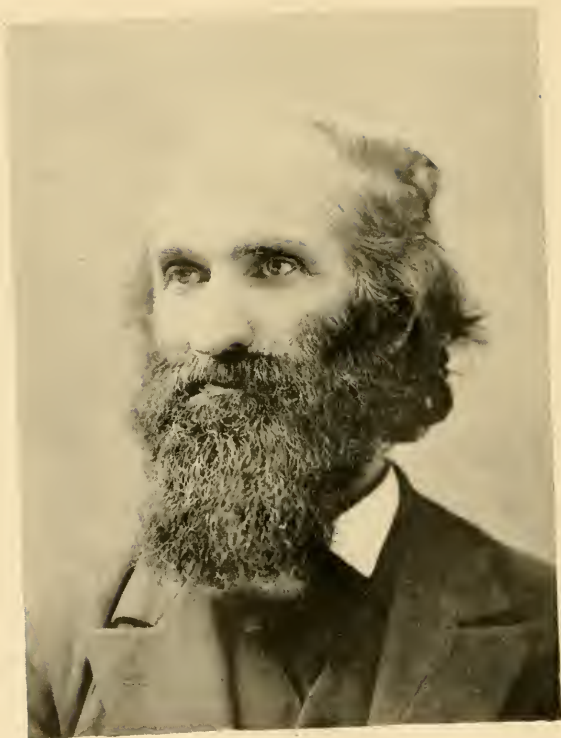
Upon the completion of the bank building, which was erected entirely under his supervision, the directors recognized his faithfulness and services in a set of resolutions expressing their appreciation of the same and tendered him, as a substantial token of their gratification, a present of one thousand dollars

Since his retirement from the bank Mr. Cassidy has given his attention to the improvement of his real estate in Amsterdam, of which he is a large owner. The new Cassidy block on East Main street has very recently been erected and adds much to the beauty and prosperous aspect of that part of the city, while his conspicuous and handsome residence on the highlands has been much improved and enlarged.

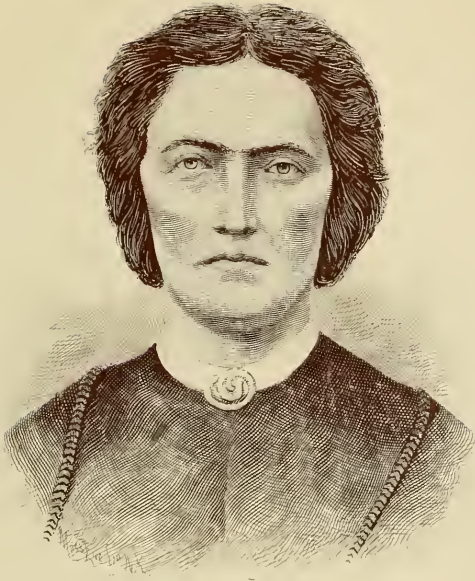
Contrary to the often found conditions, Mr. Cassidy's unremitting attention to business through a long period of years has not shut him off from the other pursuits which go so far to make life worth living. Though unable to give much attention to purely social affairs, he has found opportunity to enrich his mind by extensive reading, and to gratify his natural love for the beautiful in nature and art. His fund of information obtained by reading and close observation is a rich one, especially upon matters of finance and political economy. His ability to clearly express his opinions, and his naturally genial temperament, make him always a welcome companion.

On April 17, 1866, Mr. Cassidy married Mrs. Catharine M. Efner, second daughter of Peter H. Clute, of Rochester, N. Y. They have two children, a daughter, Belle, born January 12, 1869, and a son, David D., jr., born October 23, 1871, now a student in Harvard University.

KELLOGG, DAYTON SMITH, was born in Cornwall, Litchfield county, Conn., and is the youngest son of John and Polly (Clark) Kellogg. For several years he received private instruction from Rev. Herman Daggett, formerly principal of the Foreign Mission School at Cornwall. This school was founded by the American Board of Foreign Missions for the purpose of educating missionaries for the foreign field. The first missionaries to the Sandwich Islands were educated there. He afterwards attended the Cornwall Seminary, which for years was in charge of the Rev. E. W. Andrews, who afterward became pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle, New York. Graduating from this school, he became a teacher, and was for two years principal of Union Academy, Springfield, N. J. He then went to New York and studied dentistry with several of the most eminent dentists of the country, including Drs. Harvey and John Burdell, and Solyman and Augustus Brown. In 1845 he came to Fort Plain to visit his friend, Rev. Thomas Armitage, who was then in charge of the Methodist church of Fort Plain, and was induced to settle there and open a dental office. He at once acquired a very lucrative and successful practice which has continued to the present time. He was the first resident dentist in that section of the Mohawk valley. In 1854 he became editor and proprietor of the *Mohawk Valley Register*, which he conducted as an independent journal for several years. In 1880 he inaugurated an enterprise which was instrumental in giving to Fort Plain a large number of its most elegant residences. By cutting a street along the face of Prospect Hill, at a great expenditure of labor and capital, and the bridging of Otsquago creek at the foot of Centre street, he made this beautiful eminence (which overlooks the most beautiful portion of the Mohawk valley) accessible and very desirable for residences. Dr. Kellogg is of the eighth generation from Lieutenant Samuel Kellogg, one of the brothers who emigrated from England in 1640. Joseph Kellogg settled in Hadley, Mass.; Daniel in Norwalk, Conn.;



Duyton S. Kellogg.



Hannah W. Kellogg

and Samuel in Hatfield, Mass. The late Loyal C. Kellogg, for thirteen years chief justice of Vermont, Gov. William Pitt Kellogg and Clara Louise Kellogg are descendants of the same branch. Judah Kellogg who graduated from Yale College in 1763, and who for thirty-two years was in public life, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, as he was also of the late Judge Frederick Kellogg, who died at Cornwall in August, 1891, in his ninetieth year, after long service of the public in various capacities. The offices of probate judge and court of record have been in the Kellogg family for more than one hundred years, and are still held by Philo Kellogg of Cornwall. John Kellogg, the father of the subject of this sketch, was an old school Democrat, and was one of the seven in the town who stood together on political questions for several years under the "stand up" law of Connecticut. Dr. Kellogg married Hannah, daughter of David and Mary Waddell of Mariaville, N. Y. Mrs. Kellogg died August 7, 1890. Their only child, Willie Waddell Kellogg, died November 2, 1867, less than two years of age.

The following sketch of the life of Mrs. Kellogg is contributed for this work: Sprung from a noble race and nation, eminent as a witness-bearer for God's truth, and conspicuously bringing forth the fruits thereof, she proved true to her favored lineage, and very successfully exemplified its sturdy virtues all along the path of her useful life. She was by no means one to be "blown about by winds of contrary doctrines," nor to be "moved from the hope of the Gospel," however to other people might appear its air and aspect. She was never disposed to "follow a multitude to do evil," but, on the contrary, if ever occasion offered, she was, like the Abdiel of the poet, "faithful among the faithless found."

Her mental capabilities were of a superior order, which led her to be always best pleased with the purest literature, as well as with the soundest sentiments. She was no butterfly connoisseur of letters; and will ever be recalled with marked pleasure and the highest respect by such as were privileged with the teachings of her earlier years, or by social and conversational intercourse with her in her subsequent life. She possessed a vigor of mind that lifted her far above the vulgarly ascribed "weakness of womanhood," and that made her a fit companion

of the other sex. She could hardly be classed with Milton's "Fair defects of nature."

"She showed that her soft sex contains strong minds,
Such as evaporate through the course wall;
As through coarse stone elixir passage finds,
Which scarce through finer crystal can exhale."

As to her more directly personal and domestic traits, more private and sacred in their sphere, centering about friends, kindred and home, those only could do her strict justice who lived with her the more closely, and were the unavoidable observers of her hourly steps. It would be a manifest indelicacy in a non-relative to enlarge much here. Suffice it for one who was her critical pastor, to give in his testimony to her kindness and fidelity as a parishioner; to her known hospitality and courtesy to all; to her perfect simplicity and transparency of general character; to her uniform womanly dignity of demeanor, and to her ardent and untiring concern for the welfare of the whole human race to which she belonged. Her piety, the crowning glory of any life, I think no one ever questioned. The evidences of it were too numerous, and too emphatic, for that. Her "citizenship" was clearly on high.

"There was a light around her brow,
A holiness in her earnest eye,
Which show'd,—though wandering earthward now,—
Her spirit's home was in the skies."

Hannah Waddell was the daughter of David and Mary Waddell of Mariaville, Schenectady county, N. Y. In her early childhood she evinced a precocious intellect, a love of learning, a great fondness for books, and eagerly read everything that came in her way. When she was eight years old she had read Shakespeare's plays, and her frequent and copious quotations from them in after years, showed how well she comprehended them. She was also in her childhood a Bible student, and committed to memory most of the Psalms. Before she was fifteen she was familiar with the English classics, and her love of poetry made her acquainted with all that came within her reach. At this age also she had studied carefully the higher English branches, algebra, geometry, physiology, natural philosophy and chemistry. Soon after she

entered the State Normal School at Albany where she graduated with honors, being chosen to write the "Parting Song" at the close of the year. She afterwards entered Mrs. Willard's renowned school at Troy, N. Y., but her health failing she was obliged to relinquish her studies for a time, but at the opening of Fort Plain Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute under the principalship of the Rev. Dr. King, now of the Fort Edward Institute, she was one of the first of the 513 students who registered there at the opening of the first term. At the close of the first collegiate year she was the first and only graduate. It was not in her thoughts to become a teacher, but the faculty and trustees had formed so high an estimate of her acquirements and capabilities that they made overtures to her, and finally persuaded her to accept a position as teacher of higher English. She was afterwards induced to accept the preceptresship under the Rev. Dr. J. E. Latimer, who subsequently became Dean of the School of Theology in Boston University. She numbered among her associate literary colleagues some of the foremost scholars and workers of the day—Dr. Joseph E. King of Fort Edward Institute, Rev. Dr. James King of N. Y., Dr. J. E. Latimer, Dean of the School of Theology of the Boston University, Prof. G. F. Comfort of the Syracuse University, Dr. Flack of Claverack Institute, Prof. W. H. Bannister of the Nyack Institute, Mrs. J. E. Latimer, and Miss Ensign, now Mrs. Bishop J. P. Newman.

In 1858 she was married to Dr. D. S. Kellogg of Fort Plain, N. Y. Her literary labors had been too arduous for a naturally slender frame, and she settled down to a quiet home life, hoping in time to be sufficiently restored to engage in literary work. Her friends had hoped to see volumes from her pen which she wielded so readily, strongly and beautifully. But her nervous system never recovered its tone, especially after the painful sickness and death of the wonderfully precocious and lovely Willie Waddell Kellogg, their only child; and she was compelled to limit her work to correspondence with her large circle of literary friends, and occasional translations from the French for the press. She had a poetical mind, and often, in her school days, indulged in flights of imagination which found ready acceptance in the local press and in the magazines.

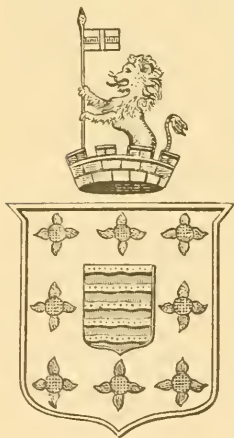
The Waddells were of illustrious descent, coming from one of the old and notable families of Europe. Captain John Waddell, for remarkable

pro prowess and important military services rendered the crown, received the arms and crest in 1627. The explanation of the armorial bearings with the account of the achievements for which they were given, will be best conveyed by a transcription from the original in the Herald's College in London. It is reproduced verbatim et literatim.

In the heraldic engraving the different colors which belong to armorial bearings are represented by lines, dots, and plain surfaces. Thus, Or (gold), is indicated by a field covered with dots; Argent (silver), by a plain field; Gules (red), by perpendicular lines; Azure (blue), by horizontal lines; Sable (black), by perpendicular and horizontal lines crossing each other; Murrey (orange), by diagonal lines intersecting each other.

To all and singular, as well nobles and gentiles as others to whom this present-writing shall come, William Segar, alias Garter, principal King of Arms of Englishmen, sendeth greeting in our Lord God everlasting—Whereas antiently from the beginning the valliant and Virteous acts of worthy men have been commended to the world with sundry monuments and remembrances of their good deserts, amongst wch. the chiefest and most usuall hath been ye bearing of Signes and tokens in Shields commonly called Arms, wch. are evident demonstrations of prowesse and vallour diversly distributed according to ye quality and deserts of the Persons meriting ye same, which order as it was most prudently devised in the begining to stir and kindle ye hearts of men to ye imitation of like noblenesse and virtne, even so hath ye same been and yet is continually observed, to ye end, that such as have done commendable service to their Prince or countrye, either in Warre or Peace, by Sea or by Land, may receive dne honor in their lives, and also derive ye same successively to their Posterity after their Deaths forever. In wch. respect—Whereas John Weddall of Steben heath in ye County of Middlesex, Esqr. now Captn. of ye Rainbowe a principall Ship of his ma'ties Navie Royall, designed in this p'sent Voyage and Employment, 1627; hath by Sufficient Testimonie made it appear unto mee, that to ye Hon: of his Prince and Countrye, the discharge of the trust reposed in him, and ye great benefite to this Our King-

dome; exercising trade and traffique in those remote parts of the world; He valiantly attempted the takeing of the Castle of Ketchmey, a place of great importance within the Gulfe of Persego: wherein it pleased God to make him victorious and to his great



honor to take Prisoner Rufero Don Batho Capt. of ye Castle and General of the Sea Forces then in open Hostility against the King of Englands subjects; and such Protestants as were in Amity with him. And having achieved the Victory placed ye English colors upon the said Castle, carefully providing by conditions with the Duke of Seras, that the same should continue so far subjected to ye King of England, as was by ye said conditions provided and that signall of Our Nation to remain there.

After going forward in this Lawdable maner, being againe designed for farther service in these Regions; he most prudently with great Resolution and Judgment attempted the conquest of Castle and City of Ormons; a place of Renowne and consequence; and after 10 weeks siege haveing in ye prosecution of ye said Achion, by Sea as well as Land, burnt and sunk four Gallions of great Force; whereof Don Rufero before mentioned was Generall; he obtained ye Victory; wch. he carried wth great moderation and mercy, setting at liberty and giving conduct and passage to other parts, where they might find reception; to about four thousand Christian Soules, enemies to the English, that retired into ye said Castle of Ormons for their last refuge; and so established the benefit of that Victory; that his Ma'ties Subjects, wch. by his gracious Charter have sole Trade there, receive the moyety of the Tribute and customes of that place.

Wherefore I ye said Garter could doe no lesse being thereunto instantly required by ye said John Waddall, but assigne invest and arme him with such a Coat of Arms as is convenient to his degree and good deservings.

The field argent; an innschitueon barnly wavy of ten or and gules; an Orle of Fireballs proper; as in perpetuall remembrance of his atchievements in sinking and burning of his enemies. And further for Ornament unto his Healme, for a convenient Crest and Cognizance to him and his posterity; on a Wreath of his Colours Or and Gules; out of the Battlements of a Castle azure; a demy Lyon Or; holding a Banner of St. George, to denote his good service in surprizing the Castle of Viechmey, and planting ye English Colours thereon.

All which Arms and Crest and every p't and p'cell thereof, I ye said Garter by power of my Office of Garter Prin'll K. of Arms, authoured by ye institution of ye noble order of the Garter to grant these marks of Honor and Noblesse to deserving men, Doe by these p'sents give, grant, ratifie and confirme unto ye said Joh: Weddall and his Posteritie; with their due differences forever; that he and they the same may use beare and shew forth, in Shield, Signet, Monument, Escutcheon, Penon, and Atehev'm't; or any other Wayes or Means according to the Law of Arms and lawdable customs of this Realm of England; without lett or interruption of any whatsoever.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of Office May 3 Ao 1627 Anno. Regni Regis Caroli tertio, etc.

WM. SEGAR GARTER.

A branch of the Waddell family came to the United States in the early history of this country. James Waddell, the famous "Blind Preacher," came over in 1739. Wm. Wirt says of him, to his biographer, Dr. James W. Alexander, "That the description given of his eloquence had fallen far below the truth. In person he was tall and erect, his

mien was unusually dignified and his manners graceful and eloquent. Under his preaching audiences were irresistibly moved, like the wind shaken forest." President James Madison said "He has spoiled me for any other preaching." "Patrick Henry classed him with Samuel Davis, as one of the greatest orators he had ever heard." It was he who made the memorable allusion to our Saviour, so often quoted, "Socrates died like a man but Jesus Christ died like a God." Rev. Moses Waddell established a classical school in Charleston, S. C., and among his pupils were Hugh S. Legare, John C. Calhoun and James L. Petigru. As an instructor, Dr. Waddell was one of the most popular and successful men of his day. Alexander H. Stevens says of him, "In his insight into the character of students, the constitution of their minds, their capacities, capabilities and aptitudes, and in drawing out and developing, by proper training, discipline and government, he had few if any equals." His first wife was a sister of John C. Calhoun. His son James graduated at the University of Georgia in 1822, and filled the chair of Latin and Greek till 1856. John Newton Waddell graduated at the University of Georgia and entered the ministry in 1841. He filled the chair of Latin and Greek in the University of Mississippi for nine years, and in the Lagrange College till 1866. The University of Nashville gave him the degree of D. D. in 1851, and the University of Georgia that of LL. D. in 1873.

Captain Waddell's son, William, was among the prominent merchants of New York in 1773, and alderman of the city. His grandson, Coventry, was a cousin of the Earl of Coventry, who was the head of the ancestral house. He at one time headed the list of real estate owners in the city of New York, and occupied a handsome residence on Fifth avenue, that was known as Waddell's castle.

Through intimate relations with Andrew Jackson he became the president's private secretary and subsequently United States marshal for the northern district of New York. And his friendship with Martin Van Buren secured him an important appointment. A notable fact in his history was the holding of an office for over forty years, that of registry of bankruptcy.

The Waddells in those early days took a conspicuous part in social and fashionable society. The members attended Trinity church, and

their family vault is over two hundred years old. They owned a farm in the vicinity of where Canal street now is, and at one time owned what was known as "Murray Hill Farm." One of the sons was a colonel in the war of the rebellion, and was provost marshal of Vicksburg. Another son was an officer under Farragut when he ran past the batteries of Vicksburg. James Iredell Waddell, the famous commander of the Shenandoah, was born in North Carolina in 1824. His history is too well known to need repeating.

Mrs. Kellogg was equally illustrious on her mother's side, being descended from the family of Scotland's world-renowned poet, Robert Burns, and also in a direct line from the Fletchers. She was naturally reserved with strangers, not easily approached until well acquainted, but most genial and kind with all classes, very gifted in conversation, having a remarkably retentive memory, keeping pace with the events of the day, well versed in the political affairs of our country as well as those of the old world. The names and history of the reigning sovereigns of Europe with their general characteristics, their intermarriages with the sovereigns of different nations were perfectly familiar to her. Persons acquainted with her will readily recognize very many of the qualities and characteristics and traits of character described in the foregoing sketches of the Waddell families. She was tall and erect with a massive head, a large, keen and penetrating eye, before which, with its steady, unwavering gaze those older than herself would quail. She answers well to the character given by Alexander Stevens to Dr. Moses Waddell. She was possessed of a resolution, a firmness and decision of character, which, under like circumstances, would, with Ridley and Latimer, have welcomed the stake. No influence could have been exerted to swerve her from what she conceived to be right. She had the abilities, the quickness of perception, the intuitive knowledge of human nature and breadth of judgment which, had she been a lawyer, would have made her a Daniel Webster; or had she been on the bench a Taney; on the battlefield a Napoleon, or in the pulpit a Beecher or Spurgeon. But she was greater than all these, she was a true and devoted wife, a fond and loving mother, a constant friend, a sincere, intelligent, devout Christian, kind and gentle, charitable to the poor—in truth a grand and noble character. She went down to the grave with

an unfaltering trust in God, loved, revered and lamented by all who knew her, her only sorrow and regret being the grief and loneliness of those she left behind.

KLINE, WILLIAM J., editor and publisher of the Amsterdam daily and weekly *Democrat*, was born in Fultonville, Montgomery county, N. Y., on the 7th of November, 1848. After the completion of his studies in the district schools, the Johnstown Academy, and Prof. Collins' private school in Albany, he entered Union College and graduated with honor in 1872. The following year he spent in the office of John H. Starin, in New York city, and then came to Amsterdam and purchased the *Weekly Democrat* office of Ashe & Matthewson. The paper felt the influence of his ability as a writer and manager from the first, and its prosperity warranted him in 1879 in starting the daily edition. Republican in politics and conducted on a vigorous policy, the journal has constantly grown in influence and favor and has long been recognized as one of the ablest Republican organs in the interior of the State. Mr. Kline is a fluent writer of a strong practical tendency and has won the approbation of the community by his honorable conduct of his paper.

LYNK, M., editor and business manager for the Recorder Publishing Company of Amsterdam, was born in the town of Cherry Valley, Otsego county, N. Y., on December 24, 1853. His opportunities for obtaining an education were limited to the district schools, and at the age of sixteen years he came with his parents to Amsterdam, where he entered the *Recorder* office as an apprentice and devoted the ensuing ten years to thoroughly learning the art of printing. He then left the office and shared in starting the Amsterdam *Sentinel* with Thomas McNally. Eight months later he sold out his interest and about two years thereafter purchased the Fort Plain *Standard*. This journal he conducted successfully for ten years, when in the fall of 1889 he returned to Amsterdam and established a job printing office. On the 1st of February, 1892, he bought an interest in the *Daily Recorder* with E. H. Finlayson. The latter soon left the firm, and on the 1st of



William J. Kline.



M. Synt.

September, 1892, Mr. Lynk organized the Recorder Publishing Company and assumed his present position. The *Daily Recorder* was founded in 1881. Formerly a Republican organ, its politics was changed to Democratic, February 1, when Mr. Lynk came into the firm. Mr. Lynk is a writer of fine ability and is thoroughly energetic and enterprising in the business conduct of the establishment. The *Recorder* enjoys an encouraging and increasing circulation and wields an influence in local politics.

SANFORD FAMILY, THE. — No name, perhaps, is more closely interwoven with the history of Amsterdam and more fully identified with its upbuilding than that of Sanford. Coming here when the place was a hamlet, the pioneer and the several descendants have not only witnessed every stage of development in village and city, but have been important, stirring factors in its growth, both materially and socially.

John Sanford came to Amsterdam more than seventy years ago (1821) from Roxbury, Conn., endowed with a good education and an ample store of energy and determination to advance in life. He first found employment in teaching school, which he followed a few terms here and afterwards in Mayfield, where he also carried on a small mercantile business. Returning to Amsterdam, he opened a store and in a few years was among the foremost of the place. He continued this business until 1840. Meanwhile his fitness for the duties of public life had been fully demonstrated to his fellow citizens and in 1840 he was elected to Congress in the Harrison campaign. He served in that body only one term, but with entire acceptance to his constituents. Returning to Amsterdam, he commenced the foundations of what is now one of the largest manufacturing industries in the Empire State—the making of carpets. This business, in a somewhat incipient condition, he brought here, with those who had been conducting it, from elsewhere, and about the year 1842 the first product was ready for the market. Into this industry he threw his whole energies and in a few years made it one of the most important in the place. Unfortunately the factory was burned in the year 1853. Mr. Sanford then retired from active life. His death occurred in 1857. He left a marked impression upon Amsterdam, and his public spirit was felt in all the aspects of its growth and welfare.

SANFORD, STEPHEN, son of John, was born in the town of Mayfield, in what is now Fulton county, May 26, 1826. Believing fully in the benefits of education, his father placed him, after the customary period in the district school, in the academy at Amsterdam. Subsequently he attended for two and a half years at the Georgetown College, D. C., and then entered the military school at West Point. After availing himself of the systematic study and discipline in that famous institution, Mr. Sanford felt that it was obligatory upon him to return home and share with his father the cares of a growing business. Accordingly in 1844 he entered the carpet manufactory, took up the practical work from the very beginning, and when he was made a partner in the mill he was a thorough master of every detail of the business of carpet manufacturing from the raw material to the finished product. The copartnership dated from 1848. When his father retired from the business the son purchased his interest, which then consisted of very little else than the ruins of the burned mills. But enough had been done previous to that to convince Stephen Sanford that, with his practical knowledge and self-confidence in his ability to conduct a large industry, he could build up a business which would be a substantial addition to the village of Amsterdam as well as of material benefit to himself. He built a mill on the burned site and renewed the business in a small way, but with marked success from the start. This is not the proper place to follow in detail the gradual but steady growth of this great industry, and it will suffice to note that every building in the now enormous plant in which are employed about 2,500 hands and from which are turned out annually a product of more than \$3,000,000, has been erected and furnished with machinery by Stephen Sanford and under his personal supervision. In the accomplishment of this vast work the traits of character with which Mr. Sanford is endowed—industry, perseverance, integrity and wonderful self-reliance—combined with his practical knowledge, have contributed; and to these qualities must be added his very exceptional executive ability and his capacity for grasping large undertakings and seeing their end from the beginning. He is a remarkably accurate judge of human nature, seldom mistakes the character and motives of men, and hence has been able to surround himself with employees of all grades who feel a personal interest in the advancement of his projects and feel respect and admiration for him as a man.

In politics Mr. Sanford is a Republican and has been unswerving in his allegiance to that organization. Possessed of broad ideas on most subjects, a deep thinker upon all practical problems and political economy, his counsel has been much sought, and had he so desired he could have held numerous conspicuous positions in the gift of the people. Only one political office has he consented to accept—that of congressman in 1868. He served faithfully and ably one term and declined a renomination, largely on account of the demands made upon him by his extensive business interests. He has been frequently called to positions of responsibility and trust by his immediate fellow citizens, and in his connection therewith has served their interests faithfully and honorably. He was a member of the Electoral College that gave New York State to U. S. Grant, and was a member of the National Convention in 1876. He was for many years a director in the Farmer's Bank; by his energy and interest it may be said, he created, and became president of the Amsterdam Reservoir Company, through which a thousand acres have been flooded by the waters of Chuctenunda creek, supplying an immense water power for his own and other manufactories. He has been president of the Amsterdam Academy, president of the Gaslight Company, president of the Cemetery Association, founder and is president of the Amsterdam City Bank and erected the handsome block in which it carries on its business. He has also built several other handsome blocks in the city. He is president of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society, etc.

The position occupied by Mr. Sanford in the business and social life of Amsterdam may be readily inferred from the foregoing. In the prosecution of all large public undertakings he is appealed to for his sound judgment, wise counsel and material aid, all of which are freely given. Prompt and outspoken by whomsoever addressed; quick to arrive at conclusions and fearless in their support, he is still courteous at all times, and genial and warm-hearted with those who enjoy his friendship.

Mr. Sanford was married on the 12th day of December, 1849, to Sarah Jane Cochran. They have had five sons, two of whom, John and William, are living. The eldest is John Sanford, now member of Congress from his district. Both of them are associated with their father in his business.

SANFORD, JOHN, manufacturer and congressman, was born at Amsterdam, N. Y., January 18, 1851. He attended the district school, and afterward the Amsterdam Academy. In 1865 he entered the Poughkeepsie Military Institute, and remained there until 1868, at which time he entered Yale College, from which he graduated in 1872, with honor. Immediately after his graduation he entered his father's carpet mills at Amsterdam (which were established by his grandfather in 1840), and, taking a subordinate position, worked himself up in the various departments, until, after years of faithful service, he was admitted as a member of the firm.

In the fall of 1888 he became the nominee of the Republican party for Representative in Congress from the Twentieth Congressional district, comprising the counties of Montgomery, Schenectady, Fulton, Hamilton and Saratoga. This district was more generally known as the "Saratoga district." The number and importance of its manufacturing industries (comprising gloves, knitted goods, carpets, locomotives, paper and pulp, linseed oil, etc.), representing a total annual product of over thirty millions of dollars, naturally made it a center of interest in the great political battle for the supremacy of the policy of protection for American industries, which was the central plank of the Republican platform that year. As the chosen advocate and leader of these great industrial interests and the thousands of operatives dependent upon them for employment, his campaign was aggressive, and his speeches on the stump demonstrated his earnestness and ability as a champion of the protective policy. He was elected by 3,300 plurality over Judge Zerah S. Westbrook, the Democratic nominee. The total vote polled was 45,932, of which he received 23,966—52 per cent.

His term as congressman began March 4, 1889, and he took his seat in the House of Representatives at the opening of the Fifty-first Congress, December 2, 1889, and was made a member of the committee on manufactures, the committee on the library and the committee on reform in the civil service. During this first session of his service, he took an active part in the work of framing the McKinley bill, and, by reason of his business training and familiarity with the varied industries of his district, was able to render valuable assistance to the committee on ways and means, by whom he was selected for the delicate and difficult task

of reconciling the conflicting interests of the woolen-manufacturers and the wool-growers, in the matter of wool duties, and he presented an agreement upon which they united. In his speech advocating the passage of the McKinley tariff bill, he evinced careful research and perfect familiarity with his subject. He also ably conducted a defensive fight, before the ways and means committee of the House and the finance committee of the Senate, in the interest of the glove-manufacturers of his district, against a powerful opposition of wealthy importers, regarding the duty on gloves. This glove industry represented an annual product of nine millions of dollars, and furnished employment to more than forty thousand people in his district. He won this fight, thereby opening up the manufacture of ladies' fine kid gloves in the United States.

He took an active part in the question of reciprocal trade treaties; and a set of resolutions which he prepared and presented to Congress, in July, 1890, near the close of the first session of the Fifty-first Congress, authorizing the President to enter into negotiations with the government of Spain and the republics of Central and South America, with regard to reciprocal arrangements of trade, and recommending the suspension of legislation touching the subject of duties on sugar and molasses until the next session of Congress was referred to the committee on ways and means for consideration, and attracted much attention. Also a bill which he introduced during the next session, in December, 1890, to re-fund the 4 and 4½ per cent. bonds into bonds bearing 2 per cent. interest, and to convert the United States notes into certificates of indebtedness without interest, which was referred to the committee on ways and means, and indicated deep study and careful attention to the financial questions of legislation then awaiting the action of Congress.

As a speaker on the floor of the House, he was earnest, able and impressive, and his speech in support of the mail subsidy bill, delivered during the second session of the Fifty-first Congress, advocating a national policy of advancement for American shipping as well as other American industries, was an eloquent plea, and won friends and votes for that important measure which afterwards became a law.

In the fall of 1890 he was renominated by his party and again became its standard-bearer. The McKinley tariff law, which was signed by

President Harrison October 1, 1890, had not been in operation long enough to enable the people to judge fairly of its effect upon business and prices, and every means was employed by the opponents of the protective policy in the campaign which followed, to promote the belief that articles of ordinary use and consumption were to be forced up to fabulous prices. Congressman Sanford was also compelled to meet and overcome in this campaign an opposition from the State Democratic administration at Albany, and from the leaders of the Democracy, who believed that his defeat would be regarded as a repudiation of the tariff legislation of the Fifty-first Congress on the part of a large and representative body of the wage-workers, for whose benefit, its friends claimed, it was largely framed. The result of this election gave Mr. Sanford 18,369 of the 36,748 votes cast, being about 50 per cent. of the total vote, and elected him by a plurality of 1,581 votes over Alexander B. Baucus, the Democratic nominee. The significance of this result can be better understood when it is remembered that the result of this election throughout the country changed the majority in the House of Representatives from 19 Republican to 246 Democratic, and the congressional delegation from New York State from 18 Republicans and 16 Democrats to 11 Republicans and 23 Democrats.

In the Fifty-second Congress he served on the foreign affairs committee, the committee on education and the committee on expenditures in the state department. The Democratic majority of nearly three to one made it impossible for a Republican to accomplish anything of importance in the way of legislation in this Congress; but he continued to devote himself assiduously to the interests of his constituents in the matter of pension claims and their numerous other personal requests, and his efforts in this direction were highly appreciated by his constituents—particularly by the veterans, the large majority of whom had supported him in his second campaign without regard to party lines, and many of the Grand Army posts had passed and sent to him resolutions expressing appreciation of his championship of their interests. During the four years that Mr. Sanford remained in Congress he never failed to reply, promptly and fully, to every letter written to him from his district—without regard to the politics or social position of the writer.

In the summer of 1892 the Democratic administration at Albany brought about a gerrymander of the congressional districts of the State, which separated Montgomery and Schenectady counties from Saratoga, Fulton and Hamilton counties, and attached them to Otsego, Schoharie and Greene counties—forming the Twenty-first Congressional district. The Republican convention called to nominate a candidate to represent this new district in the Fifty-third Congress, met at Schenectady, October 8, 1892. A strong sentiment had found expression for some months among the leading Republicans of the new district in favor of renominating Mr. Sanford for a third term, and this sentiment was strongly reflected in the delegates to the convention, who knew he would be the strongest candidate they could nominate, and there is no reason to doubt that he would have been nominated for a third term had it not been that he had stated his determination—both to leaders of the party personally, and in newspaper interviews—to devote his attention, after the close of the Fifty-second Congress, to his private business. He was married at Sanford, Florida, February 17, 1892, to his second cousin, Miss Ethel Sanford, third daughter of General Henry S. Sanford, deceased, formerly United States minister to Belgium.

Three successive generations of the Sanford family have been represented in Congress from the district of which Montgomery county forms a part. Probably this case is without a parallel in the history of American politics. John Sanford, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Connecticut and settled in Montgomery county early in this century. In 1840—the year of “Tippecanoe and Tyler too”—he was elected to the Twenty-seventh Congress as a Democrat, and served one term. He helped to make the protective tariff of 1842. In 1868 his son, Stephen Sanford, was elected to the Forty-first Congress from the same district, as a Republican. He helped to maintain the protective system, and was an influential member of the committee on manufactures and the committee on patents.

LOADWICK, GEORGE H., the subject of this sketch, is, in point of years of service, the senior member of the Amsterdam press. He is also the best known Amsterdam editor in the Mohawk Valley, not only personally but through the medium of his paper, *The Morning*

Sentinel, which has come to be recognized as the leading Democratic journal in the twenty-first congress district.

Mr. Loadwick was born in the village of St. Johnsville, in 1848, and is a son of the late Charles Loadwick of that place, and is, therefore, a "Mohawk Dutchman." During his boyhood he had such educational advantages as were afforded by the village school. Possessed of good natural ability and by contact with the world, he builded upon this scholastic foundation an education that has enabled him to cope with those who boast of academic and collegiate courses. When still a young man he was the teacher in his alma mater. While thus engaged he became a frequent and valued contributor to the columns of the *Mohawk Valley Register*, published at Fort Plain. This was his first newspaper work, but he displayed decided talent and taste for the work.

In 1869 he moved to New York city and became one of the corresponding secretaries of the United States Publishing Company. He retained this position for several months and was then transferred to Cincinnati, Ohio, to open a branch office for the company in that city. He remained in Cincinnati about three years, and during this time utilized his leisure hours in inditing occasional contributions to the *Evening Times* of that city, over the name of "Joe Gibbons," a signature that was afterward made famous in the Mohawk Valley while Mr. Loadwick was the correspondent of the *Albany Argus*. The publishing company desired him to go to San Francisco to establish another branch of their business on the Pacific coast, but interests in the east impelled him to decline the commission, and he returned to the valley of the Mohawk.

Soon afterward he purchased an interest in the *Mohawk Valley Democrat*, published at Fonda. Mr. Loadwick assumed editorial management of the paper, remaining one year, severing his connection with the *Democrat* to become the Mohawk Valley correspondent of the *Albany Argus*. He held this position for about six years. During this time he became a familiar figure in the valley villages, and the writings of "Joe Gibbons" were copied very extensively from the columns of the *Argus*. Leaving the *Argus* he became city editor of the *Utica Observer*. On the 1st of January, 1878, he succeeded Chas.



Geo. H. Boardwick.

P. Winegar as editor of the *Amsterdam Recorder*, and remained with the paper until February 18, 1882. At this time he purchased an interest in the *Amsterdam Sentinel*, assuming the editorial and business management of the paper. About eight years ago he bought the interest of his partners and became sole owner of *The Sentinel*. On October 4, 1884, *The Sentinel* was changed from a weekly to a daily paper, and on May 28, 1888, the paper was first issued as a morning paper, the only morning paper issued between Albany and Utica.

It is the policy of the paper to treat all people alike, the rich and the poor receive the same attention. It is aggressively progressive, speaking of men and measures as it finds them. Mr. Loadwick is a fearless and forceful writer, and is gifted with a style peculiarly his own, almost always strongly impregnated with keen wit, and not infrequently with scathing sarcasm. As a controversialist there are few who have the temerity to engage him in a bout. Although not given to public speaking, he can, when occasion demands, acquit himself most excellently. Somewhat blunt and abrupt in manner and speech, he often impresses a stranger unfavorably, but upon closer and more intimate acquaintance the inherent qualities of sociability and friendship come gradually to the surface, and you begin to admire him despite first impressions.

Mr. Loadwick is a man of extremely temperate habits, and demands that his employees are sober and industrious. He was married March 10, 1874, to Miss Emily Mosher, of St. Johnsville, and the union has been blessed by two young daughters, Misses Bessie Maria and Florence Emma, to whom he is greatly devoted.

COREY, DAVID PARSONS, was born April 23, 1803, near Williamstown, Mass. He died May 18, 1869. When six years old his father died, and at an early age he determined to support himself, relinquishing to his mother his portion of the homestead, and doing whatever his hands found to do, sometimes working for farmers, alternately with attending school. When eighteen years old on examination the commissioners gave him a certificate "for sufficient learning, and in all respects well qualified to teach a school." In various years he taught

both at Salem and Hoosic. He read law in the office of the very able jurist, Samuel Stevens (who afterwards removed to Albany), and in 1829 was admitted to the bar in Washington county. He had energy, perseverance and courage, and was not lacking in public spirit or patriotism. About this time Governor De Witt Clinton appointed him "Brigadier Judge Advocate" of the New York tenth division of militia, and he served as an officer so long as "general trainings" were deemed necessary.

About 1830 he came to Amsterdam, was admitted to practice as "Attorney in the Supreme Court" of Montgomery county, and in 1832 was admitted as "Counselor in the Supreme Court," and appointed "Solicitor, Court of Chancery;" in 1834 was appointed by Governor William L. Marcy "Master and Examiner in Chancery" for Montgomery county; in 1835 was admitted as "Counselor in the Court of Chancery," and was admitted to practice as "Attorney and Proctor, Solicitor, Counselor and Advocate" in the Courts of the United States.

Mr. Corey came to Amsterdam when the number of inhabitants did not exceed 500. He at once interested himself in every project tending to promote the growth, prosperity and general good of the place. He assisted in getting a public library and gave it place in his office and for several years acted as librarian; also a "Literary Society," of which most of the prominent men were members. The clergymen, lawyers, doctors and teachers took an active part. The ladies were invited to write essays on the subjects of interest to be debated. He was one of the contributors to purchase and construct the reservoir; a patron of the Agricultural Society; president of the Temperance Society for many years, etc.

In 1839 he was active in organizing "The Farmers' Bank," and not having sufficiently recovered from a severe illness to resume his "practice," gave his services for a year as "cashier." He was one of the founders of the Female Seminary, so auspiciously inaugurated with the learned J. W. Sterling and his accomplished wife at its head. In 1840 a male department was added and organized under the same board of trustees, called the "Female Seminary and Academy." He performed the duties of trustee and secretary of this institution for about thirty years. Twelve times he was elected president of the village.

In the practice of law Mr. Corey soon secured confidence, and he pursued it with continually increasing reputation, and was not less deserving on account of his private and social qualities. His talents and his habits of industry eminently qualified him for an active part in public affairs, and induced his fellow citizens to call upon him on all occasions when anything was to be done for the common welfare. He was a personal witness of the many changes which had occurred in the history of Amsterdam and was intimately identified with them. No man contributed more than he to the substantial prosperity of the place. He was a friend of education, temperance and morality, and gave the full weight of his influence and active services to promote them. On the records of all agencies for good in the history of the past, his name holds a prominent place. In his profession he was distinguished less for his eloquence at the bar and before a jury, than as an intelligent and well-read lawyer, and a discriminating and safe counselor.

On May 14, 1844, Mr. Corey was married to Emily, only daughter of Cornelius Van Derveer and Maria Phillips. They had three sons. The eldest died in infancy. Watts Parsons Corey from childhood manifested mechanical genius and was ambitious and inventive. When he was nineteen years of age he was granted a patent for a "Link and Valve Motion" to increase power, and to regulate steam. This attachment has been adopted in some of the mills and on railroad locomotives. He found no greater satisfaction than to know that his inventions were serviceable. He was an enthusiastic fireman, and many years was engineer on some one of the steamers, including one of his own construction. He took high rank as a machinist. In 1873 he was engaged with his brother manufacturing knit goods generally; they were the patentees, sole proprietors and manufacturers of the "Novelty Shirt." He had one son, B. Franklin Corey, who died in January, 1883, aged sixteen years.

Barnet Lee Corey was born March 21, 1851, and died August 14, 1874. Was at Cornell University as sophomore in 1869, and as junior in Union College in 1870. In 1871 he entered Wabash College and there graduated June, 1872. In the class day exercises was prophet, and delivered one of the honorary orations at the Commencement. Soon

after he began the study of law in the office of Horde & Hendricks, of Indianapolis, Ind. In 1873 he came to Amsterdam to assist his brother in the manufacture of knit goods, intending to resume his chosen profession. For one so young he stood high on the roll of honor, both as an intellectual and a business man. One daughter survives him.

Mrs. Corey's only brother, John Watts Van Derveer, was born in Florida, N. Y., February 21, 1820, and died at Fonda, N. Y., November 27, 1860. In 1831 he commenced his education in Amsterdam at Horace Sprague's Academy for Boys. Subsequently he attended the High School at Lawrenceville, N. J., his uncle, A. H. Phillips, being proprietor and one of the founders of that institution. In 1842 graduated at Union College and delivered one of the honorary orations at the Commencement. Entered as student at law in the office of D. P. Corey, admitted to the bar in 1844 and became partner of D. P. Corey. He soon won for himself the respect and admiration of all who knew him, both as a lawyer and a gentleman. To the poor and unfortunate he freely gave his counsel, and shared his means. Very few have been gifted with more ability and more correct notions of what is honorable and upright. Firm in his adherence to the right, yet courteous in a large degree, with great argumentative powers, and laudable ambition, a talent to comprehend and expound the intricacies of the law, a good command of language and a forcible, earnest way of expressing himself, he was deservedly popular. In 1849 he was elected clerk of Montgomery county, served six years, and declined another nomination. Through all his political and business life the integrity of his character was preserved unblemished.

INMAN, HORACE, was born in Salisbury Center, Herkimer county, N. Y., on the 29th of July, 1839. He is a son of Hiram Inman, who removed with his family to Middleville, in the same county, when the subject of this sketch was only six months old, and thence he removed to Hagaman's Mills, Montgomery county. There he carried on a wood-working business, making furniture, wagon hubs and spokes and other articles, besides doing some work in iron and brass. He died there in the year 1880.

Horace Inman's opportunity for securing education in school was extremely limited. When he was twelve years of age he was taken out of the district school to begin the practical work of his life in his father's factory. But this did not seem like a privation to him, for the work was pleasing to him and such as he was naturally fitted for. He advanced rapidly in practical mechanical knowledge and ability and the business was soon substantially under his management. He remained in that capacity until he was twenty-one years old, when he came to Amsterdam and carried on the sale of furniture where Reese & Co are now located. He continued this business until 1867, but meanwhile in 1864, he went south to Madison Parish, La., and carried on a cotton plantation one year, but the financial outlook was not what he had hoped for and he abandoned the enterprise. In 1868 he went out of the furniture business and for eight months acted as foreman in the shops of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company at West Troy. Following that he spent one year in the Young Wringer Works in Amsterdam, after which he traveled about four years selling machinery and hardware.

In June, 1874, Mr Inman began the manufacture of paper boxes in Amsterdam, buying out a small business. This proved to be a decisive move on his part and led up to all his later business career. Possessing natural inventive talent of a high order, and acquired mechanical skill, he soon discovered that the making of paper boxes by machinery, then an almost unknown art, presented a problem worthy of his study. Two removals of his business brought him to his present location on Spring street, and there in 1882 he began carrying out the ideas he had formed for perfecting and constructing paper box machinery. He soon afterward organized the American Paper Box Machine Company, which took into its control several of his patents, while he built the machines for them in shops established by himself under contract. The box making business itself passed first to the firm of Horace Inman & Son and later to the Inman Manufacturing Company, which still manufactures machinery for the other company, as well as a large variety of other special machines, a number of them under Mr. Inman's patents. Their works now employ about 175 hands and their catalogue contains descriptions of such machinery as the Inman Slitting and Winding Ma-

chine, Inman Narrow Slitting Machine, Inman Box Covering and Trimming Machine, Inman Double Box Machine, Inman Single Strip Machine, Inman Automatic Cut Off, Inman Top and Bottom Labeling Machine, Inman Staying, Trimming and Setting-Up Machine, Inman Corner Cutter, Envelope Band Slitter, Straw Board Scorer and Cutter, Straw Board Handler, Paper Mill Slitter and Winder, Inman Double Glue Kettle, Inman Folding-Box Machine, Corner Staying Machine, besides others.

In this connection it is proper and of general interest to print herewith the following account of the former condition and late growth of this business, as given by the American Box Machine Company:

Previous to the year 1881, all boxes made in the United States and in all other parts of the world were made of short pieces of paper; usually paper made 20x24 inches, then cut to proper lengths, either shorter than that or longer, spliced together as the case might be, first putting on the trimming strip (be it one or more) and afterwards the band or covering strip, thus requiring three operations for covering the box, the hand pasting each piece separately and putting it on. This necessarily wrinkled and soiled the paper largely, as all glazed paper which is usually used on boxes is covered with water color, the color being held to its place chiefly by glue and beeswax. Most boxes at that time were made with paste, because the labor of putting paste on was much less than putting glue on, which makes a better box and soils the outside of the paper less. Previous to this time nearly all glazed papers which were used in covering boxes was colored in the roll, then cut up in short pieces usually 20x24 inches, then finished under a polishing or glazing machine, each sheet by hand, pulling it through a short distance each time of the stroke. This would leave irregular shaped stripes on the paper and would not finish it evenly. Some paper was finished in a calendering machine and then cut up in the usual marketable lengths—20x24 inches—and furnished the trade in this shape, to be cut to the best advantage for the box maker. There was another great objection to this kind of work, that existed in coloring the paper. The outer edges were liable not to be as deep in color as the center, and by cutting them up for hand work in short pieces they would sometimes cut one way of the paper and sometimes the other, and where they were joined together would vary in color.

The machine for single strip work was invented by Gordon Munro and bought in by the American Box Machine Co. The double strip machine was invented by Horace Inman, the present manager of the American Box Machine Co, he having been in the box business since June 10, 1874, working by hand the same as the others until the year 1881. The company then bought out these covering machines, using a continuous strip of paper pasted on one side and applied to the box automatically; also two or more strips united together, pasted on one side and applied to the box automatically and cut off the proper length. It was very difficult at that time to get any paper made in the roll suitable for box covering purposes. The firm of Doty & McFarlan of New

York city commenced making paper for that purpose in the roll and made a success of it. Other firms were obliged to make the change, and now nearly all the box papers are made and finished entirely in the roll, doing it much better and cheaper than the old way of cutting it up and finishing it. At the present time almost all papers are made and finished in the roll, and if needed in the sheet, are cut up after being finished.

At that time (the year 1881) there was no machine on the market for cutting and winding paper in the roll that would cut glazed paper smoothly and true and wind it up. For a time, until the machine was built which the present company now manufactures for that purpose, the covering machines were a failure on that account. There were several machines which were claimed to do this work, but after practical trial, they failed to work satisfactorily. The company in question have built and put on the market over three hundred of these slitting and winding machines, and nearly every one of them represents a paper box shop and plant of covering machines in addition to it. This creates a saving of labor of about one-half over hand work and an improvement of the quality of the work done; at the same time less skill is required and a more economical use of covering and sticking material is accomplished. This has caused the great change in the paper box manufacturing trade. One of the advantages the present company have of putting these machines on the market, is being connected with the Inman Manufacturing Co., before mentioned, who manufacture paper boxes. The company puts the machines in practical use in their place before they are given out to the public, thus being able to give them a test which no other concern is able to do, as any machine built will develop weak points, and must be improved on, and changes must be made from time to time, before the public can have a machine that will give satisfaction and meet all needs. Although this machine in its infancy was not considered a success by the trade generally, as soon as it developed itself and proved itself a success, there came an army of infringers under all sorts of excuses. No one disputed the fact that the present company and its predecessors were the first who put the practical machine on the market; but they claimed in all cases that our patents were of no value. The company has had very extensive litigation, costing a great many thousands of dollars, and in all cases up to the present date, has won every suit commenced against infringers, and has promptly brought suit against every infringer that could be located. Some suits the infringers would settle before a trial; others were stubbornly resisted until the United States Court, in which all these cases are tried, decided it for the company. Decisions have been had on all important patents in favor of the company in the United States District Courts, and large judgments are now held against an infringer, on which collection is anticipated either from the builder or his customers, who are liable for damages, after the sheriff returns the execution unpaid. Although this company has had decisions in its favor in the high courts of the land, people are still found in business with no knowledge of patent laws and no experience in that line, who assume to be better judges of these patents than the higher courts. It is also found that in the majority of cases the infringers are men of no means, so that if judgment is secured against them it cannot be collected, leaving their customers entirely at the mercy of the company.

The paper box business is a growing one, there being more than double the boxes used in this country that there were ten years ago. Cheapness and quality are the great aims of the public, and the tendency of all manufacturers is to put their goods up in packages which will preserve them from being soiled and transport them in proper shape; therefore the paper box trade is in a very flourishing condition, there being about two hundred tons of paper used every day in paper boxes in this country.

This company claim (and the courts have sustained it) that it is impossible to make a paper box using a continuous strip of paper pasted on one side and automatically applied to the box, without using the machines made by this company, because it is not practicable to use short pieces and paste them and put them on the box.

The Horace Inman Manufacturing Company, they being practical box makers, have seen that there is great need of improvements in other machinery besides the box covering machines, and have devised machines and put them on the market for doing all the kinds of work—scoring, corner cutting, staying up the corners of boxes, and many other improvements in the box trade, to facilitate the manufacture of paper boxes. These machines are on new principles, different from anything heretofore put on the market. It is not to be understood that no improvements have been made by others in that time, but it is claimed that the same general principle is carried out by all other manufacturers that was used fifty years ago. The machinery made by this company is a radical change over the old way; hence it is found that in a great many cases in the trade, where people have used the old style and the old way of machines, no matter how great the improvement in what is now made, they think it is of no value. This is true in reference to the machinery above mentioned. The public is invited to inspect the works at Amsterdam, where nearly all the machinery can be seen running, showing the practicability of the new way and new order of things.

Mr. Inman is a Republican in politics, but not an active partisan, his own affairs demanding and receiving his constant attention. He is a charter member of the Amsterdam Board of Trade and takes a proper degree of interest in the growth of the city. He was married at the age of twenty-one to Elizabeth Joslin, of Perth. They have three children: Harry A., who is now in business with his father; Willard D., deceased; Carrie, and Charles, living at home.

KENNEDY, THOMAS F.—Born in Albany, N. Y., in April, 1852, of Irish parentage, he passed his youth in that city, attaining his education there in the public schools. At the age of fifteen years he became a citizen of Amsterdam, moving there with his father, who was engaged in mercantile pursuits. For five years he filled a clerical place in his father's grocery store and then became its proprietor. His apti-



Thos. F. Kennedy

tude for business, which he evinced in early youth, developed rapidly and he soon became the leading merchant in the grocery line in the city. In 1886 he engaged in the knitted goods industry and is now a member of the firm of Yund, Kennedy & Yund, and their concern is one of the largest and most successful in the knitted goods trade. In his business as in his other undertakings he has shown a capacity for intelligent and adroit business tactics rarely excelled by a young man. In politics Mr. Kennedy is an uncompromising Democrat. He has frequently been approached with political nominations for places of honor, but he has invariably declined them. He has, however, occupied places of distinction on the Board of Water Commissioners and in the official board of the City Hospital, places without compensation in salary or emoluments. Born a Catholic, he clings to the faith of his father and the precepts of the Roman Church. He is regular in his church attendance and liberal in his contributions. In his church relations, as in other walks of life, his devotion and sincerity is never questioned; he is faithful and thorough.

In 1883 Mr. Kennedy married Mary M. Kyne, daughter of the late Patrick Kyne, a lady who enjoys a place in the hearts of all who know her, because of her many virtues. Their home is blessed by four children who are subjects of their constant solicitude. At this writing, January, 1893, he is devoting the greater share of his time to his manufacturing interests, leaving his large mercantile business in the hands of another, it being his purpose, ultimately, to cease being a merchant. He is much respected in every circle in which he moves, and is a citizen who enjoys the confidence of all men.

BORST, HENRY VROMAN, was born at Cobleskill, N. Y., in July, 1853; his father died when he was eleven years old and he was immediately thrown upon his own resources; he started to teach school, working on a farm during vacations; he educated himself at the Cobleskill Free School, Brockport Normal College and Cornell University. After leaving Cornell he studied law with Judge Lamont at Cobleskill for one year and then entered the law office of James C. Dewey, esq., then of Albany, N. Y., where he continued his law studies at the same time taking a course in the Albany Law School. He was

admitted to the bar in May, 1877, and a few days thereafter graduated from the Albany Law School, being one of the four speakers at the Commencement exercises. In January, 1878, he located in Fort Plain and formed a co-partnership with D. C. Shults. Mr. Borst was elected district attorney in 1883 by about seven hundred majority. In January, 1888, he was appointed by Governor Hill county judge of Montgomery county, and was nominated by his party for that office in the fall of the same year, but was defeated by seventy-five majority, although being some six hundred ahead of his ticket. On his appointment to the office of county judge he removed to Amsterdam and entered into a partnership with Judge Westbrook for the practice of law. The firm still continues and enjoys a large practice. Judge Borst has always been a Democrat and in every campaign since he was twenty years old his services have been in demand as a public speaker on the stump and on other occasions. He is a tireless practitioner and never ventures into court with his client without having first ascertained every phase and detail, even to the minutest, involved in the case. This, perhaps, largely accounts for his success before a judge and jury. He is forceful and argumentative in his legal addresses, and is destined to reach a very high position at the bar of the State. He has been twice married, his first wife dying shortly after their marriage, leaving him a legacy in an interesting daughter, who is now grown into early womanhood. His present marriage, like the first, is a most happy one, and his home is gladdened by the presence of three interesting sons.

YOST, GEORGE, was born near Johnstown, Fulton county, N. Y., December 6, 1810. His father was a respected farmer of that time, and he gave his son ample opportunity to secure an education. Entering Union College at the age of fifteen years, he graduated with honor in the class of '29. At that time the late Daniel Cady was one of the foremost lawyers of the interior of this State, and upon his graduation Mr. Yost entered Mr. Cady's office, where he ardently pursued his studies until he was admitted to the bar. It is an indication of Mr. Yost's attainments and character at that time, that Mr. Cady immediately gave him a partnership in his business, which continued to their

mutual satisfaction for several years. In 1846 Mr. Yost took up his permanent residence in Fort Plain, Montgomery county, where he very soon occupied a prominent position in his profession. In 1854 he was elected to the State Senate. Originally a Whig and later a Republican in politics, he took an active interest in the current of important events during the decade preceding the outbreak of the civil war. His record as a legislator in the Senate was an honorable one in all respects and gave satisfaction to his constituency. In 1863 he was elected to the office of county judge and surrogate, and held the place until 1867, when he was defeated for re-election by James H. Cook, of Canajoharie. In this honorable judicial office Judge Yost added to his already established professional reputation. Very few of his decisions were reversed and his impartiality and integrity were never questioned. As a politician Judge Yost made a deep impress upon his time, particularly in his own congressional district, and during the period when Montgomery and Herkimer counties constituted one district, he was one of the leaders in a small coterie who were almost invincible. During the war period Judge Yost gave his unwavering support to the government. After his retirement from public office, he gave his attention to his large practice, devoting himself at all times faithfully to the interests of his clients. Eminently well versed in the law, especially in its various relations to real estate, possessed of a wonderful memory, and a calm and sound judgment, Mr. Yost's counsel was widely sought and very highly respected. At his death his professional brethren in Montgomery and adjoining counties met and united in expressions of profound respect and ardent admiration of the deceased. Judge Yost was prominent in the Masonic Order, a member of Fort Plain Lodge, Hiram Union Chapter, R. A. M. and Utica Commandery, K. T. He was long a director and legal adviser of the Fort Plain National bank, and in all proper ways evinced public spirit and interest in the well-being of the community. For about ten years preceding Judge Yost's death, he substantially retired from business, except as his attention was required for his property interests. His death took place on the 8th day of February, 1888. He had never married, but left in his attractive home two sisters and his niece, Mrs. Mary J. Parsons, who still survive.

YUND, JOSEPH.—The quiet and contented life that Mr. Yund is now being favored with, no one who knows him best, can envy. It has come to him after many years of a most active career of shifting scenes, and vicissitudes common to mankind. Born near Strassburg, Germany, in July, 1823, seventy years have rolled over him and he is yet found in the enjoyment of vigorous health. He was educated in his native land and there learned the spinner's trade. He pursued this vocation until 1866, when he started in the furniture business; that he followed until he had secured to himself a competency, upon which he retired in 1881. At the age of twenty-seven (1850) he married Louisa Bougraft, whose life has been spared to enjoy with him the reward of their early struggles. The union was favored with three sons, Theodore J., Charles C., and Albert, active and reputable business men of Amsterdam. In 1854 Mr. Yund came to America and with the exception of a year or two has passed the interim in Amsterdam where, for many years prior to 1881, he was engaged in business as a cabinet maker and furniture dealer, and in which calling he accumulated a comfortable fortune. As a Catholic he is devoted to the spiritual and temporal interests of St. Joseph's German Catholic Church, in which he holds a responsible office. In fact he was instrumental in building this church, giving largely from his means and devoting his entire attention to its construction. In politics he is a Democrat. He occupies a handsome home and his declining years are fraught with happiness.

YUND, THEODORE J.—In the subject of this brief biographical story we find a most pronounced illustration of the fact that no social prejudices, no class distinction, no differences of birth, can prevent the man of true merit from winning a reward in this land of personal liberty. Mr. Yund was born in October, 1852, in Alsace, then one of the French possessions, now belonging to Germany, of industrious and thrifty parents. At the age of two years, 1854, he came to America with his parents, who located in this county. His boyhood was passed in the usual way. He attended the public schools and his home training taught him to be frugal and industrious, qualities that he preserved and which became of inestimable value to him in climbing



Chas C Hund



Prof. Lund

to the place among men to which he has attained. At the tender age of fourteen he began his active business career by accepting a clerical place in the furniture store of Joseph Yund & Co., at Amsterdam, the senior member of which was his father. He soon evinced such aptitude for a mercantile pursuit that in 1872 he became an equal partner with his father in the furniture trade, the firm name being Joseph Yund & Son. This relation was most successful and in 1881 he became sole proprietor of the business which had grown to be larger and more successful than any of its kind between the cities in the Mohawk Valley. He engaged in business to succeed and he was constant and tireless in his determination to accomplish this end. In 1886 Mr. Yund became interested in the knitted goods industry on quite an extensive scale. This required so much of his attention that he associated with him in the furniture trade his youngest brother in 1890 and the firm name became Theodore J. Yund & Brother, and it so remains. Connected with him in the knitted goods industry were his brother Charles C., Thos. F. Kyne and his brother-in-law, Thomas F. Kennedy. This firm soon attained a commanding place among manufacturers of knitted underwear uninterruptedly until 1892, when Mr. Kyne relinquished his interest in the copartnership and the firm was reorganized under the name of Yund, Kennedy & Yund, and is so being continued. The capacity of the establishment has recently been doubled and is a highly prosperous institution. In 1879 Mr. Yund married Miss Elizabeth L., daughter of the late Michael Kennedy, and the union has ever proved a most happy one. He is a member of St. Joseph's German Catholic church and liberal in his offers to its support. In politics he is a Democrat, but rarely becomes identified with active politics. He is known for his stirring business qualities and social relations and is a representative citizen of his adopted city.

YUND, CHARLES C.—Probably no young man in the county of Montgomery is entitled to a greater measure of praise for the financial success that has attended his tireless efforts to win a place among men than has the gentleman whose name gives title to this hasty review of an honorable and active life. Born in Fort Hunter in

1855, where his parents located upon their arrival in this country as natives of Alsace, Germany, his childhood and youth were not unlike those of country-born boys. His father finding his business, that of a spinner, not sufficiently remunerative, sought a broader field by settling in Amsterdam. Here Mr. Yund attended the public schools and the academy, thus attaining an education that has served him satisfactorily in his business pursuits since he reached man's estate. He, evidently, resolved in early life to reach that goal where a competency is afforded those who have the perseverance and tact to reach it, for his career has been that of a man constantly alert, ever alive to the requirements needed in a useful and valuable manhood. When he completed his academic course he engaged in a clerical capacity in the clothing trade. He served three years in this capacity and then learned the trade of a cabinet maker, a calling he acquired that it might be found valuable to him in later life. He then became known as a clothing merchant in a small way. But he had the elements of success in him and his business was rapidly developed, and in 1881 he purchased a hotel property on the principal thoroughfare of the city which, at a cost of several thousand dollars, he converted into an establishment particularly adapted to the clothing trade, rendering it the most attractive business building on the street. With enlarged facilities and possessed of a sturdy determination to win, he pushed on, soon becoming the most enterprising and extensive clothier in the county. He was a liberal patron of the advertising columns of the press, generous in his subscriptions to praiseworthy objects and active in all undertakings calculated to promote the welfare of his city. In 1886 he became interested in the knitted goods industry, which has proved a successful venture. At this writing, January, 1892, he is engaged in closing out his clothing business with a view to devoting his entire attention to knitted goods as a member of the firm of Yund, Kennedy & Yund. In 1883 he married Miss Theresa Kennedy, youngest daughter of the late Michael Kennedy. They have been blessed with three interesting children and their home is one of the prettiest and most attractive in the city. Politically Mr. Yund is a Democrat and while he always finds delight in the success of his party, he never seeks to be identified in its councils. He is a communicant

in and attendant of St. Joseph's Catholic church. He is practically a self-made man and is in the enjoyment of the well-earned confidence and respect of all who are favored with his acquaintance.

WENDELL, JOHN DUNLAP, county judge and surrogate of Montgomery county, N. Y., was born at Sprout Brook, in the town of Canajoharie, N. Y., September 13, 1840, and is the third son in the family of ten children of the late Benjamin Wendell and Sarah (Fox) Wendell. His father was a shoemaker and postmaster at Sprout Brook until 1856, when he purchased and moved on a farm between Sprout Brook and Fort Plain, so that the subject of this sketch was compelled to work out among the farmers in the summer and in the winter attended the district school at Sprout Brook, and after school in the winter, while his father was postmaster, he carried the U. S. mail each day from Buel to Sprout Brook, a distance of about two miles, and doing it most of the time on foot. He was examined by John H. Brookman, the superintendent of public instruction, now of the town of Minden, and granted a certificate to teach school, and commenced teaching at Mapletown, in the town of Canajoharie, Montgomery county, N. Y., teaching in the winter and working on the farm in summer, until the fall of 1861, when he entered the Albany Law School, and graduated from that school in the spring of 1862, and he became a member of the bar the same year, locating at Fort Plain, Montgomery county, N. Y., in the office of ex-Judge Yost, who then was county judge and surrogate of Montgomery county, N. Y., and in 1874 formed a partnership with his brother, Fred Fox Wendell, which firm continued in business until the spring of 1883, when the firm was dissolved on account of Fred Fox Wendell accepting the position of superintendent of the tax department of the West Shore Railroad, which position he has occupied ever since. During the time this firm was in business they had charge of the land department of the West Shore Railroad in obtaining the right of way through Montgomery, Herkimer and Schenectady counties, trying all the commission cases, making searches, drafting deeds, etc.; this firm having done a large and lucrative business, and having been connected with some of the most important trials had in

the Mohawk valley during said time. After said firm dissolved another law firm was formed composed of Judge Wendell and Edwin S. Vandeußen, who had been with the firm of J. D. & F. F. Wendell from 1876. The subject of this sketch is now and has always been a Republican and has been frequently called to give advice and counsel to the party, having been chairman of the Republican County Committee, and in 1875 was nominated and elected by a large majority to the office of district attorney of the county of Montgomery, which office he held from 1875 to 1878, and in 1888 was nominated and elected county judge and surrogate of Montgomery county, which position he now holds, and he is so well versed in the law and the practice pertaining to Surrogate court that the decisions made by him, and many of them having been appealed, have not been reversed by the appellate court. In 1862 he married Luemma, daughter of Thomas King, late of Fort Plain, N. Y. He is a member of the Holland Society of New York, and is now and has been for some time one of the vice-presidents of the New York State Bar Association, is also president of the Fort Plain Social and Literary Club, and is one of the directors of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, a state bank located at Fort Plain, N. Y., he having taken a prominent part in incorporating the said bank. He is now and has been since 1863 a member of the Methodist Church of Fort Plain. He is now and has been since 1883 attorney for the West Shore Railroad.

PART II.

FAMILY SKETCHES.

FAMILY SKETCHES.

The sketch of any individual or family contained herein may be readily found by referring to the Index of Part II.

ARKELL, JAMES, manufacturer, is a descendant of Sir Hugh De Aracle and of Sir George Rooke, names famous in English history. Mr. Arkell has carved a name for himself worthy of his illustrious ancestry. He was born on the 16th of October, 1829, in Berkshire, England, emigrated with his parents to America, and settled on a farm near Canajoharie. He early developed literary taste and while yet a boy began lecturing. He was for many years manager and proprietor of the *Canajoharie Radii*, and in 1859 he and Adam Smith embarked in the manufacture of paper sacks, which has since developed into a very large and lucrative business. Mr. Arkell is a staunch Republican. He has been state senator and is a power in the councils of his party. He is a ready and eloquent speaker and a powerful writer on political and financial affairs. He includes among his friends many of the eminent statesmen of the day and was a frequent and welcome visitor to General Grant in his last sickness. He was the chief promoter and owner of the Mt. McGregor railroad, and for some years the principal proprietor of the *Albany Evening Journal*. In 1853 he married Sarah H. Bartlett, who was born in 1835 at Philmont, and is a daughter of Ebenezer Bartlett, of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Arkell have the following children: William J., born March 26, 1856, now a joint owner of the *Judge* and also of *Frank Leslie's Newspapers*, New York; he married Minnie A. Cahill; Mary F. A., born April 2, 1862, and now wife of Edwards Burnap; Bartlett, who married Carrie Clark; Laura, born on the 18th of July, 1866, and now wife of John Ilse; Bertelle, born on the 28th of January, 1871, and now wife of Bernard Gillam. Mr. Arkell is a large contributor to the church and benevolent purposes. He has recently rebuilt his residence at great expense, and it is now one of the finest in Central New York.

Arndt Family, The.—Prior to the revolutionary war, three brothers named Arndt emigrated from Germany and settled in the state of Pennsylvania. One of the number, after a few years, returned to his native country, and another (Abraham), left Pennsylvania and settled in Minden. Abraham, the founder of the present branch of the family in Montgomery county, from the beginning took a great interest in public affairs, became major in the militia, and participated with his command at the battle of Oriskany. In 1786 he purchased a farm in Minden for £112, from the state of New York, upon which he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1825. In 1786 he was elected state senator and held that position until 1791, and in 1792 his name appears in the town records of Canajoharie, as holding the office of supervisor.

He was married after he came to Montgomery county and had thirteen children. Two of the number died in their infancy; of the remainder, John, born August 11, 1782, died in Herkimer county; Anna was born June 16, 1794, date of death unknown; Elizabeth was born February 5, 1796, married Abram Moyer and died in Minden; Catherine was born February 28, 1798, and married Henry Nellis of Palatine; Maria was born September 25, 1799, and married Peter Nellis of Palatine; Magdalena was born September 9, 1801, but the date of her death is unknown; Abram was born November 18, 1803; Jacob W., born December 12, 1805, married and removed to Grand Rapids, Mich.; Eve, born October 24, 1807, married H. F. C. Moyer and removed to Newark; Peter was born January 23, 1810, married Miss Adams of Fort Plain, and removed to Grand Rapids, Mich.; Henry was born July 21, 1812, and died at Newark. Of the thirteen children Abram resided on the old homestead (where he was born) until his death, which occurred October 1, 1864. On June 22, 1826, he married Mary Walrath. They had four children, viz.: Maria, who married Henry Sanders, and died in Minden; Minerva, who married David Elwood and is now living at Jackson, Mich.; Alfred, who resides in Minden; and Henry, who is now a resident of Bay Ridge. Alfred, the eldest son of Abram, was born on the old homestead, June 1, 1831, and has always resided there. On the 22d day of June, 1870, he married Adaline, daughter of John Diefendorf, of Minden. Of their children one died in infancy; the others were Beatrice, who died, aged fourteen years; and Charles, who is now living with his father on the farm. Mr. Arndt is a prominent farmer and a Republican in politics.

Archer, Gilbert G., Florida, telegraph operator and agent of the West Shore railroad at Fort Hunter, was born at Constantia, Oswego county, January 22, 1859. He was one of six children of Hugh G. and Margaret (Hoyle) Archer. Hugh G., the father, was born in Scotland in 1834, coming to this country when a boy; his wife, Margaret Hoyle, was also born in Scotland in 1838. The early life of Gilbert G. was spent in Kentucky, where he was educated, after which he returned to New York state, and since 1887 has been telegraph operator and agent of the West Shore railroad, having been stationed at Fort Hunter since 1888. In addition to his regular duties he has done a large amount of insurance business in the town. He was married January 20, 1883, to Hattie A. Marsh, one of nine children of P. S. and Lavina (Bly) Marsh of Constantia.

Aldrich, Frederick H., Amsterdam, was born in Saratoga county, on the 14th day of March, 1853, and was educated in the public schools and Starkey Seminary in Yates county. In the year 1879 he came to Amsterdam. On the 5th of April, 1874, he married Sarah J. Frasier of his native place, by whom he had six children: Sattie M., Annah B., Amy A., Elbert H., Nettie J., and Frederick H., jr. Mr. Aldrich's father, John H., was born at the old home and married Sally M., by whom he had seven children. Her father, John Johnson, was a soldier and captain in the war of 1812. Mr. Aldrich is foreman in Tennis, Peck & Co. broom factory.

Allen, Nelson W., Amsterdam, father of Chauncey W., was born in North Galway, Saratoga county, July 12, 1812, and was educated in the public schools of his day. About the year 1834 he married Ann, daughter of Sarah and John Nott, formerly of

England. They had eight children, two have died, five daughters and one son survive: Sarah A., who married Isaiah McNeil, now of Bristoe, Va.; Marion, who married Elijah Barber of Galway; Lydia and Lois reside in this city with their brother and sister; Jennie E. and Chauncey W. are doing a grocery business on West Main street in this city. The Allen family came from Vermont in early times and are of English extraction.

Ayres, Alexander, M. D., Minden, is a lineal descendent of Capt. John Ayres, who settled at Ipswich, Mass., in 1648. The line of descent is as follows: First, John; second, Samuel; third, Jabez; fourth, Jabez. The latter was the grandfather of our subject, and was a revolutionary soldier. He was stationed in the winter of 1778 at Bound Brook, N. J. His son, Henry, the father of Dr. Ayers, was born in 1774, at New Braintree, Worcester county, Mass., and came to Oppenheim, in 1792. He was engaged in farming, and married Abigail Bean. Their eldest son (of a family of nine children) was the doctor, who was born in Oppenheim, April 9, 1811. After attending the local schools, at the age of nineteen years, he taught school at Little Falls for several terms, afterwards at East Creek. About 1833 he commenced the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. Daniel Ayres, at East Creek. He attended for two years lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Fairfield, and graduated in 1836 from the Medical College at Castleton, Vt. In the same year he was licensed by the Montgomery Medical Society to practice surgery. In 1836, his uncle having removed to Amsterdam, he commenced practicing at East Creek, but in the same year removed to Pontiac, Mich. After a residence there of three years, owing to sickness in his family, he returned to East Creek, where he practiced until 1857, when he came to Fort Plain, and continued in active business until his death, August 27, 1886. In 1831 he married Miss Harriet C. Farr of East Creek, and they had seven children: Sarah Helen, died young, in Michigan; Walter, resides in Oregon; Douglass, Albert, Harriet and Alexander, all residents of Fort Plain; and Helen, wife of Henderson Peck, attorney at Parkersburg, W. Va. Dr. Ayres was a member of the New York State and Montgomery County Medical societies, and was one of the founders of the New York State Medical Association. A Democrat in politics, he was elected supervisor of the town. He was in active practice for half a century and was a gentleman of the old school, courteous and dignified in his manners, honorable and gentlemanly in his intercourse with his medical brethren. Douglas Ayres, M. D., was born at East Creek, August 20, 1842. His education was acquired at a select school at Greene, Chenango county, where he remained two years. He then became a student at the Fort Plain Seminary for two years and the next three years he attended the Fairfield Academy. He commenced the study of medicine with his father at Fort Plain, and in 1861 entered the Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1865. He commenced the practice of his profession the same year in Fort Plain, and in 1870 formed a partnership with his father, which continued until the death of the latter. He is a member of the American and New York State Medical Associations, and the Montgomery Medical Society, and has been president of the latter and first vice-president of the State Medical Association. He is a Democrat in politics.

Ashe, John E., Mohawk, Fonda p. o. (son of James), was born May 6, 1845, and was brought up in West Bloomfield. He attended the West Bloomfield Academy, and in 1866 graduated from Union College. He read law in Troy and in 1868 was admitted to the bar. In partnership with Monroe Cady he practiced two years in Owego. On account of ill health he gave up the practice of law, and was deputy clerk of the legislature. In 1872 he established the *Amsterdam Democrat*, which he edited until 1875, when he bought the *Mohawk Valley Democrat*, which he published and edited for seven years with ability and success, when he was appointed deputy superintendent of public works of the state of New York. In 1890 he engaged in business with James Shanahan. April 1, 1891, he joined the firm of Shanahan, Briggs & Co., as proprietors of the Cayadutta Mills at Fonda, which manufacture knit goods. May 29, 1878, Mr. Ashe married Catherine, daughter of James Shanahan. They have three children: Mary, James Shanahan and John Elmer. Mr. Ashe is a rare instance of the combination of law, journalism, public life and manufacturing interest, and is a popular man with all classes.

Barkley, William H., Amsterdam, p. o. Tribes Hill, was born at Burtonville, in the town of Charleston, January 20, 1864, a son of Charles J. and Harriet (Montayne) Barkley. His ancestry, on the father's side, was Scotch; on the mother's side, Hollanders. The grandfather (Henry Barkley) came to this country about 1780, and settled in Albany county, where seven children were born; Charles J. was next to the youngest. He was married in 1859, and was the father of eight children; seven are now living: Charles D. of Amsterdam; Emma (Mrs. Henry Snyder of Amsterdam); Frances (wife of Irving Haskins, of Schenectady); George A., who lives at Burtonville; Anna May, Elmer E., and our subject. William H. Barkley attended district school at home and helped on the farm until eighteen years of age, when he entered the Albany Normal School to prepare for a teacher, under Prof. E. P. Waterbury. After leaving there he accepted a call to Auriesville, where he taught two years and then came to Tribes Hill, where he taught four years. In 1891 he accepted a call to Fort Hunter to the great regret of his many friends in this place, but as he holds a state certificate, he is needed in the larger and more advanced schools. August 1, 1889, he married Margaret Van Antwerp, daughter of John H. and Jennie (Coyne) Van Antwerp of Fonda, and they have been blessed with one child, Schuyler V. A.

Bennett, William T., Amsterdam, was born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, May 29, 1853, and was educated in the high schools of Leicester; he is by occupation a dyer, and about 1880 he came to the United States, first locating at Utica, where he remained four years as the superintendent of the dyeing department of the Globe Woolen Mills. In 1884 he came to Amsterdam, where he commenced business on his own account. He has recently built a commodious brick building on West Main street suitable for his growing trade. Mr. Bennett is a member of the Royal Somerset Lodge in England, F. and A. M., is also a member of the Woodbine Lodge, No. 250, of Knights of Pythias, a member of the Kenneyto Tribe, No. 10, of Improved Order of Red men. He was elected alderman in 1889 for two years. March 20, 1874, he married L. Rebekah Perkins, of Somersetshire, England; they have two children, both sons: William P., born in Frome, Somersetshire, March 30, 1876, and Charles J., born February 9, 1878. Mr. Bennett is a member of the Amsterdam board of trade.

Blauvelt, G. Edwin, Amsterdam, p. o. Hagaman's Mills, was born in Paterson, N. J. November 19, 1844. He was a son of John I. and Ann (Berry) Blauvelt. John I., his father, was a son of John Joseph Blauvelt, who was born in New York in 1766, and was the father of seven children, of whom John I. was the oldest. He was born March 19, 1804, was married April 20, 1840, and had seven children, of whom four are living: William H., Martin, Anna M. (Walter), and G. Edwin, all residents of New York state. Our subject lived at home during his early life, being educated in the public schools, and a six years course in the High School at Paterson. In 1862 he went to Andover, N. J., where he was engaged as clerk in a general store four years, returning home for three years. In 1872 he came to Hagaman's Mills to act in the capacity of book-keeper in the Star Hosiery Mills, rising to the position of superintendent and remaining eighteen years. May 12, 1874, he married Catherine A. Terwilliger, daughter of Abram and Margaret E. (Pawling) Terwilliger of Hagaman's Mills. She was born June 22, 1842. A niece of Mrs. Blauvelt takes the place of children in their home, Jessie, who was born January 25, 1881, a daughter of Helen Palmateer, now deceased. In 1890 Mr. Blauvelt, with Austin and the Stairs brothers, built a knitting mill at Rockton, which they have since successfully conducted.

Breedon, William, Amsterdam, was born on the 23d of September, 1828, in Loughborough, England, and was educated there. He was apprenticed to the trade of machinist at Leicester for seven years, until he was twenty-one. He married Mary Shingler of Leicester, and in 1851 came to the United States and located at Waterbury, Conn. He worked in other places in first-class establishments as a knitter until 1864, when he came to Amsterdam and engaged in the manufacture of spring knitting needles. In 1877 he was elected member of the board of trustees for three years, and in 1891 was elected mayor of the city, and also re-elected in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Breedon have had six children, five daughters and one son: Sarah, who married Oscar K. Potter; Eliza E., who married William Crowell; Mary J., who married Charles E. Rivenburg; Lottie, who married Charles M. Morse; Albert W., who married Mary Norton, and Harriet L., who resides at home. In 1879 he took his son Albert W. into partnership, and the business is now conducted under the firm of William Breedon & Son.

Breedon, Albert W., Amsterdam, was born on the 20th of July, 1859, in Fitchburg, Mass., and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. By occupation he is a needle manufacturer, and is in partnership with his father, under the firm of William Breedon & Son. On the 12th of March he married Mary Norton, of Bennington, Vt. They have five children, three sons and two daughters, namely: Robert, Albert W., jr., Reuben, Mary and Lotta.

Brown, George, of Amsterdam, was born in 1801 in Rhode Island and came to Montgomery county when a young man, being a mason by trade. In 1842 he married Catherine Miller, born in Scranton December 25, 1811, but then living in Amsterdam, by whom he had seven children, three of whom are dead: Warner, who was in the late war and was killed November 4, 1862, at Snicker's Gap on the Blue Ridge between the Loudon and the Shenandoah valleys; Mary A., died January 6, 1889; and Free-

man, died April 11, 1874; Rachel A., who married Harvey Nestle, now residing at Delta, Oneida county; Harriet, who married Captain Abram V. Smith, who died May 10, 1889. In August, 1891, she married Daniel H. Davis and now resides at Dexter, Me; Frances, who married John Campbell of Amsterdam; they have one son, Arthur J.; and George, who is in the employ of the government in Amsterdam, married Mrs. Belle Hutton (Blanchard), formerly of Albany. Mr. Brown died November 14, 1861. Mrs. Brown's grandfather, Joshua Griffin, was a soldier in the revolutionary war and helped to build the historic forts in this valley.

Becker, Charles F., Amsterdam, was born in Prussia on the 21st of September, 1859, and came with his parents to this country when he was only seven. They located in Port Jackson, now the Fifth ward of this city, where he was educated. When he was very young his father died and he was thrown on his own resources. For a number of years he worked in the knitting mills in various positions, and is now on the police force of this city. On the 20th of September, 1880, he married Minnie, oldest daughter of Frederick and Anna La Bahan. They had two children, a boy and a girl, namely: Louis F. and Anna M. Both died of diphtheria, one at the age of four and the other at the age of two.

Bunn, T. Romeyn, Amsterdam, was born on the 19th of December, 1844, in Amsterdam, at the old stone homestead, and is a graduate of Union College of the class of 1866. After his graduation from college he became a dry goods merchant and continued in that business until the death of his father, Thomas Bunn, in August, 1883, when he took charge of the estate, opening up and laying out into city lots a beautiful property for which he found a ready demand. The rapid growth and increase in the valuation of his father's estate is largely due to his efforts. The enterprise he has shown in building a large number of houses and pushing forward improvements has led many others to buy and build homes for themselves. On the first of June, 1871, he married Kate R., the oldest and accomplished daughter of Judge Charles R. and Mary E. Ward Rhodes of Marietta, Ohio. Mary E. Ward Rhodes is a great-grandchild of General Artemas Ward of revolutionary fame. Mr. Bunn is the youngest elder of the Second Presbyterian church of this city. His father was born in the town of Amsterdam the 16th day of June, 1803, and married Elizabeth Button of the same place, formerly of New Jersey. They had ten children, seven daughters and three sons: Anna C., who married Dr. I. I. Buckbee of Fonda; Mary E., who lives in the old homestead (purchased from the heirs and remodeled for herself); Laura V., who married George Dean of Amsterdam; Harriet L., who married Rev. C. A. Conant of Bangor, Me.; Emily, who married Chandler P. Bartlett of this place; and John T., who married Elizabeth Runkle, both of whom are dead; Orville C., who died in Silver City, Nev.; also two daughters who died in infancy. The ancestry of the Bunn family is from Holland.

Benn, Israel P., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Windsor, Broome county, November 17, 1825, and was a son of Hugh I. and Ruth (Alden) Benn. He accompanied his parents to Fulton county in 1840, where he had the advantage of a good common school education. In 1844 Hugh, his father, died aged 65, leaving Israel to depend on himself. He engaged with Henry Pawling of Hagaman's Mills, and was

on the road selling cloths and buying wool at various times for about fifteen years. In 1863 he again joined Mr. Pawling, staying one year. In 1864 he started a general store in Hagaman's Mills, where Mr. F. Hagaman is now located, running it for about three years. He worked a farm for a year and a half when he again went into a store at the corner where Rubeck's harness shop is now, remaining there about twenty-two years. In June, 1886, his son built a store and hall on the main street, which his father now occupies as a general store and post-office, having been appointed July 1, 1889. May 5, 1846, he married Jane Bishop of Mayfield, by whom he is the father of three children: William J., born August 18, 1847; Frances E., born November 18, 1849; Charles L., born November 22, 1861, all of Amsterdam. Mr. Benn is still living at sixty-nine years of age.

Birch, James F., Amsterdam, was born in Greenbush, Rensselaer county, February 17, 1820, and was the son of George H. and Phœbe (Mitchell) Birch, who were the parents of fourteen children, of whom twelve reached manhood and six are yet living, viz.: Harriet Link of Rensselaer county, eighty-four years old; Frederick of Michigan, seventy-eight years old; George of Castleton, seventy-five years old; Caroline Defriest of Greenbush, sixty-eight years of age; and Henrietta Couse of Greenbush, fifty-six years old. James, the subject of our sketch, attended the public school and at the age of fifteen went to the Amsterdam Academy, his parents having moved hither in 1827. February 6, 1845, he married Hannah M. Clizbe, a daughter of Darius and Mary (Jones) Clizbe. Mr. Birch moved on the farm where he now lives immediately after his marriage, and has made a blooming garden of a former desolate wilderness. It was a farm of sixty-one acres, but in 1891 he sold Mr. Safford forty acres and built a fine residence, across the road from the old homestead, where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Birch are the parents of four children, of whom only two are now living: Charles E., born February 6, 1855, and Edward J., born August 4, 1860. Charles conducts a fruit farm near his father's residence and Edward a milk depot in Amsterdam.

Banta, Jacob B., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in the town of Perth September 4, 1804, and was a son of Barnard and Ellen (Van Epps) Banta, who came to Fulton county from Saratoga county before 1800. Jacob attended the village school and helped his father on the farm until he was twenty-nine years of age. After the death of his father he conducted the farm until 1843 when he moved into the town of Amsterdam, where he rented a farm for three years. In 1846 he bought 100 acres on Manny's road which he kept for forty-four years; he then moved into his fine village residence on Haskell street at Hagaman's Mills. March 7, 1839, he married Hannah M. Levitt, daughter of Sherwood Levitt of Perth. They were the parents of six children: Justus L., born April 28, 1843; Mary E., born March 26, 1846; Charles H., born October 14, 1849; Jane A., born April 20, 1853; George S., born July 23, 1857; and Clara A., born September 4, 1860. Mrs. Banta died January 26, 1892, aged seventy-three. Jacob Banta, the subject of this sketch, is one of the oldest residents of this town and some of his early recollections are important matters of history. He has been very prosperous during his life, which he owes only to

his own industry and good management. He has hosts of friends, for his genial disposition and pleasant manner make "Uncle Jake" the companion of old and young, and with his business friends in city and country he is very influential.

Bowman, John F., Florida, was born in the town of Glen on the 12th day of July, 1863. He was the youngest of five children of Frederick and Anna (Newman) Bowman. Frederick Bowman was born in Germany and came to this country about forty-eight years ago, settling in Glen some eight years after. He removed to Florida in 1867 where he has since been engaged in farming. John Bowman was married to Elizabeth Noeltner of Glen on the 21st day of September, 1887. They have one child, Edna M. Bowman, born December 23, 1890.

Bush, Abraham, Minden, was born in Minden, January 1, 1852. His grandfather, Gotelieb Bush, was the son of George Bush, and he married Julianna Casler, by whom he had thirteen children, one of whom died in infancy. The children were as follows: Maria, who married John Walrath, and died at Boonville; Elizabeth, who married Daniel Lintner, and died at Fort Plain; Lydia, who married Henry Miller, and died in Otsego county; Margaret, who married Jacob Sitts, and died in Oneida county; Jacob died in Minden; Isaac died in the West; Adam resides in Fort Plain; Nancy, widow of John Oliver Diefendorf, lives in Fort Plain; Eve, married George Ehle, and died at Johnstown; Julianna, married Aaron Dillenback, and died in Dexter; and William, who died in infancy. Peter G., father of Abraham Bush, was born in Minden December 20, 1816, and died in that town August 2, 1887. He married Catherine, daughter of Abraham Diefendorf, and they had eight children: George Albert, James H., Adaline, wife of Rev. Byron Fake of Fort Plain; Abraham, Elizabeth, wife of Charles Martin of Minden; Margaret, who died aged seven years; Charles Edward died aged fifteen months; and Emily, died aged five months. Abraham received the benefit of a common school education and has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. A Republican in politics, he has been school trustee and tax collector in his district. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Moses Smith, and they have two children: Howard S., and Edna.

Brookman, John I., Minden, was born in Minden, August 31, 1818, and received a district school education, and also spent one term at the Cherry Valley Academy. He was brought up on a farm, but at the age of eighteen commenced teaching school, which occupation he followed for seven years, having schools in Minden, St. Johnsville, and three terms in Herkimer county. He then learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed in summer and taught school winters. This he followed until 1862, when he bought his present farm of seventy-six acres, which he has increased till now it comprises 200 acres. In politics a Republican, he has been town superintendent of schools, commissioner of schools, and supervisor several terms. He married Ann Lintner, and they had nine children, viz.: Marvin, died young; Reuben, died aged thirty years in Minden; Marvin and Martha (twins), the former residing in Minden; the latter is the wife of Philip J. Diefendorf of Canajoharie; Alice, wife of Erving Manclow of Johnstown; George W., married Emma Shaul, and has two children, Mabel and Lulu, and lives in Minden; Edgar and Edwin (twins), in Vermilion, S. D.; and Anna, who died in childhood.

Baader Family The.—The first settler of this family was Urial Baader, who came from the valley of the Rhine. He settled in Minden, and purchased of Rudolph Keeler and others a farm, part of which is now in possession of his grandson, Nathan Baader, and which has always belonged to one who bore the name of Baader. Urial married Elizabeth Moyer, and had these children: Jacob, died in western New York; George U.; Adam, who died in Herkimer county; Urial, died in Minden August 15, 1844, aged fifty-five years; Elizabeth, married John Peck, and died in western New York; and Mary, married John Moyer, and died in Minden. Urial died in Minden July 16, 1831, aged eighty-four years, four months and four days. His wife died November 17, 1828, aged seventy-six years, five months and fourteen days. George U., of the above family, was born in Minden October 4, 1787, and married May 6, 1810, Peggy, daughter of Peter Dunckle. She was born October 5, 1789. The only issue of this marriage, Nancy, died in infancy. George U., married February 5, 1813, Maria, daughter of Peter Dunckle. She was born November 7, 1796. Their children were Levi, born January 3, 1815, died February 27, 1890, at New Orleans, La.; Peter, born December 15, 1818, resides in Rockford, Ill.; Ephraim, born April 10, 1823, died in infancy; Simeon, born August 25, 1825, died in Kansas in June, 1860; John G.; Margaret Ann, born September 25, 1830, married Jacob H. Moyer, and died in Minden May 10, 1862; Anna Elizabeth, born November 10, 1833, wife of Dr. A. S. Scovill of Morea, Saratoga county; George and Nathan. George U. came and lived on the farm now occupied by his son Nathan, which then consisted of 200 acres, and he felled the first tree on the farm. The present residence was built in 1806, previous to which there was a log house. The farm was very heavily wooded and contained the largest pine tree for miles around; it measured seven feet and four inches in diameter; about fifteen feet from the ground it formed two branches about twenty-five feet it became three, and about thirty-five feet four, all of large size; it made thirty-six logs, none less than ten feet in length and yielded 13,000 feet of lumber. George U. died June 23, 1869, and his wife January 15, 1888. John G. (son of George U.), was born in Minden August 15, 1827, and married Eliza, daughter of John Zoller. Of their six children, all but one (Frank W.) died in infancy. John G. was always engaged in farming, and held the office of secretary of the Farmers' Insurance Co., of Minden. He was a Democrat in politics, and died April 1, 1892. Frank W., son of John G., was born in Minden September 29, 1866, and married Meeta, daughter of Daniel A. Devoe of Canajoharie. They have one child, Harry D. Frank W. is a Democrat in politics and has been secretary of Montgomery County Council of Grangers for two years, and was for five years secretary of the Fort Plain Union Grange No. 515. George (son of George U.) was born in Minden August 13, 1836, and married October 22, 1858, Catherine, daughter of Andrew Yerdon. She was born in Minden November 16, 1838. They have two children, Lydia, wife of Alfred Moyer of Fort Plain, and Kate May, wife of James Lasher of Minden. Nathan, son of George U., was born in Minden June 9, 1839, and married Augusta, daughter of Dr. Solomon M. Sackrider. They have five children: Florilla May, wife of Joseph H. Smith of Fort Plain; Adelbert N., Ethel Nelhe, and Victor S. (all residing at home), and Keith Ray, who died aged ten years. Mr. Baader has always resided on his present farm, and is a Democrat in politics.

Brookman, John H., Minden, is the great-grandson of Godfrey, who married a Mrs. Anna Stover of New York, and had two children, a daughter, and a son named John. The latter married Nancy Sanders, and their children were: Nancy, who married Jacob Weiting; Lany, married John Dillenback; Deeny, married Charles Garlock; Elizabeth, married Peter Quackenbush; Mary, married Henry Dillenback; and John, the only son, who died in Minden in 1855, aged fifty-eight years. He married Mary Dillenback and their family was as follows: Ann Eliza, who married Charles Wagner; Catherine, lives in Cincinnati; Rachel Malinda, married Peter Wiles and died in Minden; Martin H., resides in Minden; Betsey Mariah, who is the widow of Henry Mathias and resides in Herkimer county; James Isaac, died in Minden; Almira, married Martin A. Pickard and died in Minden; Hannah Margaret, who married Isaac Dillenback and resides in Cortland county; and John H., the oldest of the above family, who was born in Minden October 21, 1817, and married, February 25, 1841, Nancy, daughter of Peter A. Casler. Their nine children are as follows: Henry, Chancey, died aged twenty-seven years; Mary C., wife of Solomon Dillenback of Minden; Helen Elizabeth, wife of Albert Diefendorf of Minden; Malvina, died aged two years; John Martin, married Catherine Smith and lives in Minden; Walter, died aged ten years; Ida Eliza, wife of William Dillenback of Minden; Edward, lives in Minden; and Viola May, wife of Frank E. Hufnail. John H. Brookman has fifteen grandchildren living and two deceased.

Baird, William Hoagland, Glen, was born in the town of Charleston, February 10, 1849. He was one of three children of William and Dorothy Malinda (Abel) Baird, the others being Mary Ellen (Mrs. J. H. Serviss) and Heppie A. (Mrs. M. Monnt Shelp.) His father, William Baird, was born in Charleston, September 23, 1818, and was the son of Benjamin Baird, born October 11, 1786, and Eleanor (Miller) Baird, who was born May 4, 1798. His wife was Dorothy Malina Abel, daughter of Philip and Hepzibah (Conover) Abel, born May 10, 1816. William Hoagland Baird's great-grandfather, William Baird, came to Glen from New Jersey in 1796, having been born in that state September 22, 1742; his father (also named William Baird) was born February 24, 1704, and died in 1793. His ancestor emigrated from Scotland to New Jersey. William Hoagland Baird married, September 29, 1875, Miriam C., daughter of Stephen and Anna M. (Edwards) Ostrom of Glen, she being one of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Baird have two children, Nellie O., born October 29, 1877, and Benjamin H., born June 23, 1884. Mr. Baird served the town during two terms as supervisor.

Button, Benjamin F., Canajoharie, was born at Buel, July 2, 1824, and was a son of Thomas and Sally (Elmendorf) Button. Joseph, great-grandfather of Benjamin T., came to this country from England and landed at Plymouth Rock, afterwards settling at Canaan, Conn. He had three sons, Benjamin, Joseph and Shubal. Benjamin, the youngest child and grandfather of our subject, was born in Connecticut, January 1, 1759, and married there Clarissa Hamlin. They came to Buel in 1781, and had eleven children, eight of whom reached adult age. They were as follows: Chauncey, George, Benjamin, Thomas, Hamlin, Mathias, Laura and Maria. Thomas, fourth son, and father of our subject, was born at Buel, January 23, 1790, and on January 21, 1814, married Sally Elmendorf, daughter of Frederick Elmendorf of Ulster county. They

had twelve children, seven of whom reached adult age, but only two are now living: George W., a farmer in Schuyler county, born April 23, 1829; and Benjamin. The early life of the latter was spent at Buel. He was educated in the common schools and Ames Academy, and married, January 20, 1848, Catharine, daughter of John and Christiana (Smith) Phillips of Buel. They have had eleven children, five of whom survive: Monroe, a mechanic of Fort Plain; C. Ellsworth, principal of Angelica high school in Allegheny county; Emma, wife of Norman Folmsbee of Johnstown; John A., mechanic, of Johnstown; and Evander, a farmer living at home. Mrs. Catharine Phillips Button died November 9, 1877, and Mr. Button then married, March 19, 1882, Mary C., daughter of Jacob Young of Buel. Benjamin T. Button died September 29, 1892.

Bullock, Willis, Canajoharie, was born August 17, 1844, in the town of Canajoharie, about a mile south of the village, on the farm now occupied by Frederick Shinneman. He was a son of Hiram and Catharine (Seeber) Bullock. The earliest ancestor we can trace on the father's side is Reuben, grandfather of Willis, who was born in Columbia county. Tradition says that his father and two brothers came from England about the middle of the eighteenth century. One of these brothers settled in southwestern New York, one near Philadelphia, and the other—the great-grandfather of Willis—on the Hudson river near Kinderhook. Reuben Bullock was the father of sixteen children, six sons and ten daughters. One son survives, Lewis of Sharon Springs, who was born in 1807; Hiram, father of Willis, was the third son, born 1799, and followed farming all his life. In 1811 his father removed to Canajoharie, and at his death in 1842 Hiram succeeded to the farm, which he conducted until 1864. When forty-one he married Catharine, daughter of Johannes W. Seeber, who was a son of William H. Seeber of revolutionary fame. (See Seeber family history.) Hiram Bullock had four children, three of whom are living: Anna of Canajoharie; Charles, a railroad employee of Canajoharie; and Willis. The latter has always lived in this town, where he was educated at the academy, receiving a supplementary course at the Poughkeepsie Business College. In 1867 he engaged in the hay trade which he has since followed. He has been an active member of the Republican party, and has held the office of commissioner two terms; trustee of the village three years; president of the village one term, and for the last thirteen years has been a member of the board of education. In 1892 he founded the *Hay Trade Journal*, a novelty in the line of literature, devoted to the trade from which it derives its name, and its editor and proprietor, Willis Bullock, is known (by name at least) from Maine to San Francisco. Mr. Bullock married in 1875, Hettie B., daughter of Dr. Joseph Burbeck of Canajoharie, and they have two children, Willis, jr., and Dewitt.

Bellman, William W., Canajoharie, was born in Cherry Valley, April 4, 1853, and was the son of Christopher and Maria (McFee) Bellman. The grandfather of William W. (Martin) was born in Germany about 1810 and came to this country about 1850, locating in Wisconsin, where he died in 1880. He was the father of seven children, five of whom are living: John, the oldest, died in Minnesota; Martin, Henry, Roxanna, Catherine and Christopher, the father of our subject, who was born in Germany June 26, 1826, and came to this country a few years before his father, in June, 1844. He

first located in Canajoharie, where he remained a few years working at railroading, also on the plank road and farming until 1858, when he bought the farm where he now resides in Cherry Valley. In 1850 he married Marie McFee, a daughter of William and Catherine (Ough) McFee. They have had six children, three of whom are living: George C., a farmer in Canajoharie; Lewis E., who lives on the homestead; and William W., our subject, whose early life was spent in Cherry Valley. He was educated in the public schools and assisted his father on the farm, with the exception of one year when he worked for another farmer. On the 10th of November, 1880, he married Josie, a daughter of A. B. and Anna E. (Bowman) Miller of Ames. They have had four children, two of whom are living: Laura, died August 2, 1882, being four months old; Walter A. died March 8, 1888, being four and a half years old; of the two living, Bertha E. was born November 5, 1884, and Leo C. was born January 23, 1892. In 1883 Mr. Bellman bought the property known as the old Mereness farm, where he now resides.

Bellman, George C., Canajoharie, was born in the town of Cherry Valley about a mile from his present residence, September 4, 1857, and was the son of Christopher and Marie (McFee) Bellman. His early life was spent on the old homestead, where his parents moved when he was about a year old. He was educated in the public schools and at Fort Plain Seminary, and after leaving school he taught one year at St. Johnsville. He also worked four years at carpenter work and then began farming, spending one year on Mr. Bowman's farm; but in 1879 he bought the farm which he now owns and which contains 100 acres. When Mr. Bellman bought the farm it had no buildings; he has added many improvements, among which being a fine residence built in 1880, and new out buildings erected in 1879. On the 17th of October, 1877, he was married to Lizzie M. Duesler, daughter of Harry and Artmitia (Hose) Duesler of St. Johnsville. They have three children: Jennie E., born March 26, 1882; Florence C., born December 31, 1885; and Earl L., born February 5, 1888. Mr. Bellman is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in politics.

Betts, Philip, Canajoharie, was born in New York, June 3, 1845, and at the age of twelve began as delivery boy in a market, which was his starting point to learn the butcher's trade. In 1870 he came to Canajoharie, where he was engaged with Menzo Button in a market for a year and a half, when he bought out the business and has ever since conducted it on his own account. In 1884 Mr. Betts built on the corner of Mohawk and Church streets the fine brick block which he now occupies. This is one of the most sightly of Canajoharie's handsome buildings. In 1870 he married Ida Phillips, of Fort Plain, who died eighteen months later. He then married Helen Campbell, who lived but three years. His present wife is Nettie Blount, of Oswego county, by whom he has two daughters: Helena M. and Marion L. Mr. Betts owns a handsome residence, one of the finest in the town. He is a supporter and his family are members of the Canajoharie Dutch Reformed church.

Benton, Milton J., Canajoharie, was born in the town of Canajoharie near Ames, June 16, 1830, and was the son of Hylan and Cynthia (Hodge) Benton. His grandfather, Chandler Benton, was born in Massachusetts, and was the father of eleven chil-

dren. Hylan, who was the youngest, was born in 1799 and was a small child when his parents moved to Ames. His father died when he was seven years old and he was put to work very early in life with Samuel Schuyler. In 1820 he was married to Cynthia Hodge of this town, and they were the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living: Myra, wife of Daniel Seeber of Janestown, Cal.; Keziah Curtis of Stockton, Cal., a widow; Byron of Rockwell, Iowa; Milton J.; Cynthia Stoddard of Merced, Cal. In 1849 his wife died and in the following year he married Mrs. Eve Flint, a widow, and they were the parents of three children, two of which are now living: Viona Lasher and Cherry. Milton J., our subject, has spent his whole life in this town with the exception of four years which he spent in California, where he tried mining and also conducted a saw-mill. Returned here in 1859 and bought a farm of sixty acres, the present residence of the family, to which he has added many improvements—a fine house and out-buildings, making it now, with the forty acres he has added to it, one of the best farms in the town. December 20, 1860, he married Ase-nath, daughter of Anthony and Eliza (Anthony) Walter of Waterford, and they are the parents of three children: Cynthia, born December 9, 1861; Walter, born February 17, 1865; Florence, born September 16, 1874. Mr. Benton has been for twenty years an active church worker, and is a steward of the M. E. Church at Canajoharie. He is a Republican in politics but not an office seeker.

Bauder, Irving, Root, was born in St. Johnsville January 10, 1836, and is a son of Melchior L. and Sarah (Swackhamer) Bauder. His grandfather, Leonard Bauder, was born in Palatine, and was a farmer and a Democrat in politics. He died in St. Johnsville at the age of eighty-six, having been in the war of 1812. He was a pensioner of the war, and had served at Sacketts Harbor. He was twice married and had by his first wife three sons and six daughters. His second wife was Eve Zimmerman by whom he had no children. Irving is the only one of his father's children living. He received a common school education, and at the age of twenty began for himself on his father's farm. In 1862 he went to St. Johnsville and worked a small farm, until about 1866, when he located on his present farm of 160 acres. Mr. Bauder has made his own way in life, and is a Democrat in politics. In August, 1856, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Catherine (Dysslin) Nellis of St. Johnsville (her grandfather being the Rev. John H. Dysslin), and they have six children: John N., Charles M., who died aged twelve; Mary E., wife of Charles Brown; Katie C., wife of John McNeill; Emma S., wife of Grant Brown; Irving H. Mr. Bauder and wife are members of the Christian Church.

Bonesteel, A. I., Root, a son of Henry and Mary A. (Hill) Bonesteel, was born in Rensselaer county, March 26, 1844, and received a district school education. He is an active Republican, and unmarried and resides on the farm which his father bought in 1872 in Montgomery county. His grandfather, Lodowich, came from Germany and settled in Rensselaer county, where he reared one daughter and eight sons, two of whom served in the war of 1812. The father of our subject was born in Rensselaer county in October, 1803. He was three times married, first to Ann Enos. His second wife was the mother of A. I. and James H. Bonesteel. She died in 1853, and he married, third, Louisa Burdick, by whom he had one daughter, Carrie. He died October 3,

1882, and his wife survives him. The mother of A. I. Bonesteel was born in Rensselaer county. Her father was of Scotch descent, and served in the revolutionary war.

Bellinger, William, Canajoharie, was born on the 19th of December, 1846, in Root, and is a son of William I. and Eliza (Putman) Bellinger, both of Dutch ancestry and natives of Montgomery county. The father was born on the 6th of December, 1806, at Spraker's Basin, and is remembered as an upright and honorable man; his great-grandfather, William Bellinger, emigrated with the Palatines from the banks of the Rhine. William I was a colonel of militia and had command of the One Hundred and Thirty-eighth regiment of state militia. He was supervisor of the town of Bleecker, Fulton county, for a number of years. He died on the 17th of February, 1872. William Bellinger was brought up on a farm and followed agriculture for several years; he still owns the old homestead, a fine farm of ninety acres, in the town of Root. In 1837 he engaged in the insurance business with Maj. A. V. Davis, and in the year 1890 with A. G. Richmond, under the firm of Richmond & Bellinger. On the 19th of January, 1876, he married Anna V., daughter of Elijah and Rebecca (Vischer) Garlock. She is a great-granddaughter of Colonel Vischer (or Fisher), first judge of Montgomery county, and colonel of the Tryon county regiment at the battle of Oriskany. Mr. and Mrs. Bellinger have two children, Florence V. and Elijah W. Mr. Bellinger is a Republican in politics, has been justice of the peace, is a notary public and a Mason.

Conover, Seely, Amsterdam, was born at Shufty's Corners in the town of Leray, Jefferson county, February 20, 1841, and came with his parents to Charleston when five years old. He was educated in the public school, and from 1861 to 1862 taught school. August 6, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fifteenth New York State Volunteers, and participated in the following battles: Harper's Ferry, Bermuda Hundred, Old Church, Drury's Bluff, Proctor's Creek, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, trenches before Petersburg, Mine Explosion and Deep Bottom, where he was wounded in the left shoulder, the ball passing upward and lodging in his neck. This took place August 16, 1864, at which time he was captured and taken to the prison hospital at Richmond. After six days he was paroled and sent to the Naval School Hospital at Annapolis, where he remained four weeks; he was then granted a home furlough for two months, after which he returned to the Naval School, where the bullet was extracted from his neck, and he still has it in his possession. In March, 1865, he rejoined his regiment in North Carolina, on its march to join General Sherman's army, which they met at Goldsboro, and were mustered out of service at Raleigh on June 17, 1865, and honorably discharged at Albany, July 3, 1865. After being discharged he continued his studies at Whitestown Seminary, from which institution he graduated; he then taught school eight years and was school commissioner of Montgomery county three years. In the spring of 1879 he taught the spring term in Amsterdam Academy, and after this he bought the book and stationery business from Marcus Gardner, and formed a partnership known as Conover & Kline, which lasted for six months; at this time Robert P. Orr bought the interest of Kline and the store was conducted under the firm of Conover & Orr seven years, since which time the business has been conducted by Mr. Conover alone. Mr. Conover was a member of the board of education eight years, supervisor of the first ward two years, is a member of the E. S. Young Post No. 33

G. A. R., department of New York, is treasurer and one of the trustees of the First Baptist church. August 16, 1871, he married Sarah, third daughter of Hosea and Phebe (Wands) Davis of Charleston, who was at one time his assistant teacher. They have six children, three sons and three daughters: Donald D., Mabel, Blanche, Leah, Maurice W., and Kenneth P. The ancestry of the paternal side is Dutch and Scotch, and the maternal side, Welsh. He is one of the trustees of the Savings bank, and a member of the finance committee.

Cooling, Miles, Amsterdam, was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, September 4, 1858, but at the age of eleven he came with his parents to this country and located at Amsterdam on the 1st of May, 1871. He first worked in Sanford & Son's carpet factory, but in 1873 he entered the boot and shoe store of his cousin, John Kavanagh, on East Main street. In February, 1885, Mr. Kavanagh retired from the concern and Mr. Cooling succeeded him and still continues the business. In religion he is a Roman Catholic, being one of the leading members of St. Mary's congregation, besides many other organizations; he is financial secretary of branch No. 110 of C. M. B. A., trustee of the Olympus Club, and one of the founders of the Catholic Union. In politics Mr. Cooling is a Democrat, being well known in the councils of his party; he is a fine conversationalist and an easy writer, contributing frequently to the public press. In April, 1892, he was elected water commissioner for three years, is now president of St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery Association. October 26, 1892, he married Catherine F., third daughter of Thomas and Catherine Carr of this city. Mr. Cooling's father has been dead twelve years; his mother is still residing in this city.

Clark, Augustus, General, Amsterdam, was born in Broadalbin, on the 16th of April, 1820, and was educated in the public schools until he came to Haganan's Mills to reside. He was a clerk in a general store until 1836, but in 1838 he came to Amsterdam where he was a clerk in a general store and also book-keeper for two years for John Sanford. In 1840 he became a member of the firm under the name of Sanford & Clark, which continued four years and then expired by limitation. On the 7th of September, 1842, he married Lydia A., third daughter of Welcome and Susan Cole Chase of Amsterdam. They have one son (Arthur T.) born February 15, 1855. The ancestors on his side are English, French and Irish and on Mrs. Clark's side English. General Clark received his commission as general of militia from the governor of this state.

Clark, Walter S., Amsterdam, was born on the 31st of August, 1855, in Amsterdam, and was educated in the common schools and Amsterdam Academy. On the 2d day of October, 1876, he married Jennie, youngest daughter of Col. John and Maria McDonald of this city. They had two boys, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Clark died on the 23d of February, 1897. Mr. Clark's father, John M., was born on the 24th of September, 1809, in the town of Perth. In the year 1836 he married Mary Creighton of the same town, by whom he had nine children. The ancestry of the family is Scotch.

Cross, William E., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam, March 15, 1862, and was educated in the public schools. After leaving school he learned the jewelry business, and in 1890 he started in business on his own account. On December 29, 1886, he married Anna M., only daughter of Cady H. and Mattie L. Van Vorst of Schenectady, and

they have one child (C. Hollister) born November 15, 1890. Mr. Cross's father (George H.) was born in Fultonville in 1840. He was a carpenter and contractor, and married Sarah E. Parker of Amsterdam. They have four children: William W., George H., jr., Ameail M. and Harry S. George H. Cross enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Sixty-Fifth New York Volunteers and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. William E. is a member of W. E. Cross Camp, No 154; this camp was named after him and it was organized December 16, 1890. Mr. Cross is past chaplain of the camp. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, Chuctenunda Lodge, No. 100, also of the Kenneytto Tribe of Improved Order of Red Men, 110, also of the Amsterdam Lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the Amsterdam Lodge of B. P. O. E. and of J. D. Serviss Steamer Company, No. 1.

Cleveland, Ferrand H., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Summit, Schoharie county, April 26, 1840. He received an academic education and entered Rutgers College, but before graduating he enlisted, March 29, 1864 in Company G, Third New York Cavalry. He was wounded in a skirmish at Chula Station, Va. May 14; and July 11, 1864, being then attached to the staff of Gen. A. V. Kantz, commanding cavalry, Army of the James, he was severely injured while carrying dispatches and honorably discharged on account of such injuries in September, 1865. After the war he went to Chicago, but in 1872 located in Schenevus, Otsego county, where he conducted a boot and shoe store and insurance office. In April, 1886, he was located at Amsterdam by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York as district agent. October 19, 1870, he married Lydia E., youngest daughter of Amasa and Sarah C. Dingman of his native town; they have two children, a daughter, Genevieve, and son, Henry B. Mr. Cleveland's father, Henry A., who was born in Charlottesville, December 18, 1810, was a blacksmith and a farmer. He married Bethiah Decker of the same town, by whom he had three children. Mr. Cleveland's great-grandfather, David Galusha, was a sergeant in the revolutionary war and served under La Fayette; his wife's grandfather, William Clement, was one of the famous "Boston Tea Party." He also marched with Arnold to Quebec, but escaped when Montgomery fell, and having returned, he served throughout the war. Mr. Cleveland's mother's father (Peter Decker) was in the war of 1812, and his grandfather, Asa Cleveland, was also a soldier in the same war. The genealogy of his father's family he traces to the fourteenth century—1356—and his mother is a descendent of Rev. John Young, first pastor at East Hampton, Long Island.

Clizbe, Marcus W., Amsterdam p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam on the site of Rockton May 15, 1814, and was the son of Darius and Mary (Jones) Clizbe. Darius, father of our subject, came from near Newark, N. J., with his parents, Joseph and Hannah (Roberts) Clizbe, in 1798 when Darius was nine years old. Joseph Clizbe, grandfather of Marcus W., was born June 27, 1756, and served in the war of the revolution. He was the father of seven children, Darius being the fourth. Darius was born November 8, 1786, and he also was a soldier, serving in the war of 1812. He was the father of seven children. Three died during childhood and the names of the others were Marcus W., Hannah M. (Mrs. James Birch), William, Louisa J. (Mrs. Alexander Scott), Charlotte, Samuel J. Marcus W., our subject, has always lived on the Clizbe farm, formerly called the Kennedy farm, where he now resides. He was educated at

the district school at Manny's Corners, and at Amsterdam at a select school kept by Horace Sprague. December 10, 1844, he married Emily Van Dyke, daughter of John and Rebecca (Morse) Van Dyke of Amsterdam, who came to this county from Albany county in 1825. Their union has been blessed with four children: Charlotte, born September 19, 1846; Gertrude, wife of John C. Chalmers of Ann Arbor, Mich., born December 5, 1850; Mary, born April 28, 1853; William, born November 19, 1859.

Cole, Jacob, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in the town of Broadalbin, December 21, 1820. He was the son of Jacob and Laney (Carncross) Cole. Jacob Cole was a son of Isaac who came from Holland about the time of the revolution, and settled at Broadalbin when this section was only a wilderness. He bought 160 acres of land which he cleared off for a farm, and kept until just previous to his death, selling it and buying another small place of ten acres, where he died May 20, 1853. Jacob was educated in the common schools and lived with his parents until 1840, when he went to the town of Florida, where he worked until 1852. On October 18, 1855, he married Sarah Fonda of Amsterdam; they are the parents of six children, five of whom are living: Hattie, now Mrs. McLaughlin of Utica, born July 5, 1856; Charles C. of Hagaman's Mills, born March 16, 1858; Marilla, now Mrs. John Stewart, born October 19, 1862; John, born June 8, 1863; and Shuler, born August 5, 1868. Mr. Cole is quite an able man, though past seventy years, and his wife is still living to comfort him in his declining years. His son Charles has been unfortunate, having lost his wife, Ella Sowles, who died January 20, 1892, leaving one child, Clarence Earl, who is eight years old. Shuler married Lizzie Sanders of Manny's Corners.

Collins, Stephen, Amstersdam p. o., born in Limerick, Jefferson county, August 13, 1844, and is the son of John S. and Mary (Nott) Collins. His early life was spent at home and he attended the district school during the winter terms, between the age of ten and nineteen, when he went as a partner with his brother Tunis in running a threshing machine for two years, when he bought the "Elmwood farm," then known as the Jackson farm. He has lived on this place ever since and has built the finest farm house in the town, also new out-buildings and fences, and made many improvements which beautify and benefit the property. In 1874 they lost about \$1,200 worth of stock by disease, which was a severe disaster to Stephen in his struggle for a home. December 11, 1866, he married Martha L. Shedd of Jefferson county, sister of Mrs. Tunis Collins. An adopted son of twelve years fills the place of children, as they have none of their own, and took him when he was but three years old. In 1888 Stephen, our subject, was elected on the Republican ticket to the office of supervisor, and made a marked success as such, winning a case for "equalization of taxes" against the county.

Candee, John W., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Hagaman's Mills October 16, 1847, and is a son of Leander and Maria (Palmateer) Candee. Leander N. Candee was a son of David W. and Elizabeth (Ostrom) Candee. John W., our subject, lived at home during childhood, attending the public school at Hagaman's Mills until he was eighteen years of age, and then took a course of instruction of his uncle, Peter Smeallie, of the Andes Collegiate Institute. After leaving that insti-

tution he attended Ames's Commercial school at Syracuse for about six months. He then followed the carpenter's trade for six years, and on August 16, 1871, he married Nellie M. Nason, daughter of William Nason of Glens Falls. In 1883 he engaged with William M. Pawling of the Anchor Hosiery Mill, as bookkeeper and clerk, which position he still holds. Mr. Candee lives on the old homestead where he was born. Mr. and Mrs. Candee are the parents of two children: Mabel N., born July 30, 1877, and Anna M., born February 26, 1881.

Chapman, Reuben, Amsterdam p. o., was born in Albany, May 7, 1825, and is a son of Reuben and Hannah (Zeraner) Chapman. Reuben, the father of our subject, was born in East Haddam, Conn., August 2, 1778, and came to Albany about 1805, where he conducted a flour and feed store until 1828, when he came to the town of Amsterdam and bought the farm of 152 acres where Nelson Scott now lives. Reuben, our subject, attended the district school until he was sixteen, when he joined his father in working the farm. January 17, 1855, he married Sarah E. Bell, daughter of Andrew and Anne (McClellan) Bell. January 12, 1866, eleven years after marriage, she died, leaving one child, Jane Anna, now Mrs. Charles Birch, of Amsterdam, born April 29, 1858. In 1855 Mr. Chapman bought the farm of 100 acres known as the "Stewart farm," where he has since resided. March 12, 1867, he married Henrietta (Gunsalus) Hill, daughter of Henry and Henrietta (Valinda) Hill.

Collins, Charles E., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam April 11, 1848, and is a son of Stephen H. and Esther (Riggs) Collins. Stephen H. Collins was born in Amsterdam April 20, 1814, and was a son of Joseph and Hannah (Silkman) Collins. Joseph came from Connecticut to Greene county previous to 1800. He came to Amsterdam in 1812 and settled at the place where Harrower's mills now stand, where he died in 1866, aged eighty-six years. He was the father of thirteen children, twelve of whom grew up and were married, and eleven of whom left descendants. Charles E., the subject of our sketch, was one of a family of ten, seven boys and three girls. His early life was spent at home where his father now lives. He was educated in the district school and Amsterdam Academy. At the age of thirty he was married to Sarah Cole, daughter of Lewis and Angeline (Ruggles) Cole, March 5, 1879, and moved on the farm where he now lives. She died July 26, 1886, leaving three children: Francis L., born September 13, 1881; Mabel E., born April 5, 1884; and Sadie L., born July 12, 1886. He is one of the charter members of Amsterdam Grange, No. 705, P. of H.; also a member of Artisan Lodge, No. 84, F. and A. M.; also Amsterdam Chapter, No. 81, R. A. M., and St. George's Commandery, No. 37, K. T.

Charlesworth Family, The.—John Miles Charlesworth, the first of the name to locate in Minden, was by birth an Englishman. He came to this country with his parents, previous to the revolution. While in New York he enlisted in the American army, and after the close of the war he settled near Fort Plain and was engaged in farming. He married Margaret, daughter of John Lipe and they had eight children, all of whom lived to a ripe old age, there being four sons and four daughters. Mary and Margaret were the two oldest. Mary married a Reese, and Margaret a Hawn, moving to the state of Ohio. John and Daniel were next. John married Nancy, daughter of Esquire

Youngs of Fort Plain, and moved to Steuben county, where he was a well-to-do farmer and raised a large family of sons and daughters. Daniel married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Devendorf of Minden, and they had nine children, eight of whom are still living. He moved from Fort Plain to St. Lawrence county in 1843, where he resided until his death in 1884, being then ninety-two years old. He was a lifelong farmer, and left four daughters and two sons living in Ogdensburg. Charles, the eldest of the family, resides in Minden, and Josiah (the next younger) is in California. Next we mention Elizabeth and Catharine Charlesworth. Elizabeth married Isaac Carnross. Catharine's first husband being William Getman, who lived and died in Fort Plain; her second husband, Horace Thayer, also lived and died in the same place. They had one daughter, Maggie Thayer, who married Guilford Flawn, and who still resides in her beautiful residence at Fort Plain, where her mother also passed almost her entire lifetime. Clark and David were the two younger of the family. Clark married Nancy, only daughter of John C. Lipe of Palatine. He was a merchant and musician for many years at Fort Plain, but finally moved with his entire family to Avoca, Steuben county, where he pursued farming until his death. David was for many years a furniture dealer at Fort Plain; he moved to Albany and was engaged in the grocery business until he died. Charles, the eldest of Daniel Charlesworth's family, was born in Minden September 16, 1822, and married Eliza Seeber, daughter of John W. Seeber of Canajoharie. They have two children, Roselle and John. Roselle married Ellen Devendorf, daughter of John Devendorf, of Minden; they have one daughter, Lizzie M. Charlesworth. John married Celestia Steenberg, daughter of Aaron Steenberg of Minden, and they have two children, Stanton and Eva Charlesworth. Charles, as well as his sons, is engaged in farming. They are in politics all Democrats.

Cassidy, David D., Amsterdam, was born on the 6th of April, 1827, and was educated in the district schools and the Poughkeepsie Collegiate school. From 1844 until 1849 he was clerk in a dry goods house, but in 1849 he entered the Farmers' National bank, first as a clerk and afterwards book-keeper, then teller, assistant cashier, and finally cashier. The latter position he held for thirty years, during which the bank was remarkably successful. Mr. Cassidy, indeed, has won a high reputation as a financier, and has also been very successful in other business. He is a large real estate owner, and the Cassidy building on East Main street, consisting of stores and flats, not only shows good taste and judgment, but is a valuable addition to Amsterdam's business architecture. When Mr. Cassidy resigned his position in the bank to attend to his own private affairs, a general regret was expressed in the community, but has still continued in public service, being a trustee of the Amsterdam Academy, and also treasurer and director of the Chuctenunda Gas Light Company. On the 17th of April, 1866, he married Mrs. Catharine M. Efner, second daughter of Peter H. Clute of Rochester, and they have two children, a daughter (Belle) and a son (David D., jr.), who is a student in Harvard college. Mr. Cassidy's father was born in the year 1796, and married Catherine Wemple of the town of Florida, by whom he had three children, two of whom died in infancy, and David D., the subject of this brief and imperfect sketch.

Putman, W. Brower, Mohawk, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in the town of Johnstown, June 5, 1829, and is a descendant of Victor Putman, who held the grant for the mile square of land in the town of Amsterdam. Mr. Putman's boyhood was spent with his parents. He attended the village schools and assisted on the farm until 1853, when he hired a farm in Amsterdam and conducted it three years. He then moved to the town of Mohawk, and in 1872 bought the farm which he now occupies and which contains seventy-five acres. He has greatly improved the place during the twenty years of his ownership, and has built a very fine house, also new barns and other outbuildings, rendering it double in value since he made the purchase. March 4, 1853, he married Mary E. German of Schoharie, and they are the parents of six children: Henry of Johnstown; Alvin of Tribes Hill; Ira of Mayfield; Emory of Fultonville; Adelbert of Mayfield, and William, who lives at home. Mr. Putman has always been interested in politics, but never an office seeker. His ambition has been to reach the point where he now stands as a successful farmer; one characterized by industry and good management, elements which are so essential to those who cultivate the soil.

Bowers, William, Mohawk, was born in Newark, N. J., January 1, 1842, his parents having come from Hanover (Germany) the previous year; but they soon moved to Montgomery county. He had three brothers, Charles, Henry and Albert, who reside in Fulton county. William worked at farming as soon as he was large enough, and in 1863 enlisted in the Twentieth New York cavalry, Company I, and served until the close of the war. At Suffolk, Va., he was thrown from his horse and had three ribs broken. He received an honorable discharge, being mustered out in August, 1865. He is a member of Vandever Post No. 57, G. A. R. In 1868 he married Mary Comer and settled on the farm where he has since resided. He has had four children: George, Minnie (died October 4, 1871), John and Gertrude. Mr. Bowers was in the hospital at Norfolk eight months. He was a corporal, and his last battle was at Fort Fisher, Michael Comer, father of Mrs. Bowers, was born in Ireland, and came to this country in 1846, making Fonda his residence until his death in 1869. He married Bridget Glynn, who survives him in Fonda. Mr. Bowers has a fine farm, and also a valuable sulphur spring, the only one in the town, which will yet become a health resort.

Burke, John Davis, Fort Plain, was born in Glen and was the oldest son in the family of eight children of John and Charlotte (Ver Meter) Burke. His father was a tanner and carrier. Our subject obtained only a common school education. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to James Halliday, carriage maker in Caughnawaga. After serving his time he went to Albany and was employed in the well-known Gould shop. April 1, 1831, he went to Minaville and opened a carriage shop on his own account, but it was destroyed by fire in 1833, and on May 3 of that year he came to Fort Plain and commenced carriage building which he continued till his death, November 8, 1891. He employed from fifteen to twenty men and manufactured a general line of carriages, sleighs and plows, dealing only in his own productions. In politics he was a Democrat and filled various village offices. He married Miss Cornelia Hopkins, and of their five children but one lived to mature age—Helen B., widow of William Evans. She resides in Fort Plain, N. Y.

Berry, Darius V., Mohawk, son of Henry V. and Hannah (Van Antwerp) Berry, was born in Johnstown (then Montgomery county), October 1, 1822. His father, Henry V., who was of Irish parentage, was born in 1787, and lived and died a farmer in the town of Mohawk. In 1816 he was commissioned a justice of the peace, and in 1835 was elected to the Assembly. It was during his term that the county seat was removed from Johnstown to Fonda. He was a Democrat and a Union man during the late war. He died in 1871 and his wife in 1872, aged eighty-three years. They had five children, four sons and one daughter: Maria Dockstader; John V., attorney, who died July 3, 1853, in Marysville, Cal.; George W., a farmer, who died March 14, 1887, in Mohawk; Darius V., and also Henry F., who died at the age of thirty. Darius V. Berry was educated at the common schools and also at Ames Academy, which then was a flourishing institution. In the fall of 1843, with Matthew Freeman, he purchased the *Fonda Herald*, named it the *Fonda Sentinel* and edited it until 1846, when he was appointed postmaster of Fonda. In the spring of 1847 he moved to Canajoharie and engaged in the mercantile business until 1850, but the next year he returned to Fonda, and entered the county clerk's office. On the 1st of January, 1853, he was appointed deputy county clerk, a position which he held until 1856, when he was elected county clerk. This office he held for three terms and was highly popular from his courtesy as well as knowledge of the public records. In 1865 he engaged in milling and farming at Berrysville until 1875, when he was appointed postmaster at Fonda, retaining the office until 1888. Mr. Berry's expert management of the post-office was universally appreciated. He was clerk of the board of supervisors in 1850, and held that office three years. He was elected a member of assembly in 1868, and justice of the peace in 1891. He was also deputy county clerk from January 1, 1889, to February, 1892, having served over seventeen years in the county clerk's office. Mr. Berry has won a high position as both faithful and successful in public life. He married Charlotte, daughter of Simon D. Kittle, March 12, 1844. She died in 1878, leaving two children: John D. of Columbus, O., and Simon D., who did good service during the rebellion as a member of the Third Cavalry, and who died aged thirty-three, leaving three sons and one daughter. Mr. Berry is a Mason.

Bulger Family, The.—John Bulger was born near Ballangary, county Tipperary, Ireland, August 15, 1833. He came to America in 1850, and after staying one year in New Jersey came to Minden. He married Betsey Pickard, and they have five children: R. Simon, Margaret E., wife of Nicholas Stoner of Springfield Center; John J., resides in Minden; Barbara Ann, wife of D. B. Ellis of Johnstown; and Charles D., who resides in Minden. R. Simon, the eldest of the above children, was born in Stark, Herkimer county, March 13, 1853, and married Katie, daughter of the late Josiah Geesler. They have five children, viz.: Earl Jay, Pearl May, John Ray, Glen W., and Edna L., the two oldest being twins. He has taught the winter terms of school since 1872, and some summer terms in Montgomery and Herkimer counties. He is a Democrat in politics, and was twice elected justice of the peace, and also supervisor of Minden in 1891-92.

Bush, George Albert, Minden, the oldest son of Peter G. Bush and Catherine Diefendorf, his wife, was born in Minden, September 22, 1844. Receiving but a com-

mon school education, he worked on his father's farm and came in the spring of 1858 with him on his present farm of 100 acres, on the Cherry Valley Turnpike in the town of Minden. In politics a Republican, he has never sought public office.

Henry S. Bragdon was born in Sullivan, Hancock county, Me., January 28, 1815, and was the son of Jonathan and Mary (Welch) Bragdon. His early life was spent in his native town, where he learned the trade of stone cutter. He left when about twenty years of age to go to Portland where he cut stone for two years, losing all that he earned during that time by the failure of his employer. He then came to New York where he remained but a short time, cutting stone used in the construction of Trinity church. He came to Tribes Hill and thence to Canajoharie, where he followed his trade a few years, and then opened a dry goods store. He was very fortunate in having a large quantity of goods at the breaking out of the war, and on them he made large profits. In politics Mr. Bragdon is a staunch Republican, and was always ready to assist in public matters whenever called upon. While in mercantile life he conducted business on the cash principle, and so also with his expenditures, and it was his pride to be considered an honest man, a title which he truly deserved, using his Bible as a guide through life, and always living up to the golden rule, to "Do unto others as ye would have others do unto you." Henry S. Bragdon had great nerve and courage, and also a sense of the humorous, which cheered his darkest hours. His nerve was displayed in the water works difficulties in this village a few years ago, when he generously risked his money and sustained the effort. All who knew him found him a true friend in adversity. He retired from business in 1879, and was thenceforth engaged in the care of his estate and was for many years a director of the Canajoharie Bank. He will be remembered in this vicinity not only as a successful merchant, but also as a kind and unostentatious member of society. At his death, which occurred June 19, 1892, the village lost one of its most honored citizens. He was married in 1847 to Maria Fox, daughter of Charles Fox of Fort Plain. Their children who survived them were Winfield S. of Johnstown, James F. of Schnectady, and Mary A., wife of Harry A. Swartfigner of Canajoharie.

Boyd, Rev. John Campbell, Mohawk, is the son of the late Dr. James P. and Mary A. Boyd, and was born in Albany March 2, 1836. His father was not only an eminent physician, but a man of earnest piety and long a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian church. Mr. Boyd was graduated from Albany Academy in 1853, and from Princeton College in 1855, and his rank is shown not only by the degree of B. A. and M. A., but also by the fact that he was valedictorian of his class, an honor only conferred on the most finished scholar. He then began legal studies in New York with Judge Van Vorst, and was admitted to the bar in 1857. But his attention was led to the ministry, and he eventually entered Princeton Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1863. He was one year in charge of a mission church, but in 1865 accepted a call to the Reformed church of Fonda, which then was in a very feeble condition. During his pastorate the congregation improved, and the church was removed to its present location and enlarged. After five years of labor he was obliged by ill health to resign, but later on was invited to Valatie, Columbia county, where he held a pastoral charge for six years. In 1878 he was called to Kingsboro where he labored until 1883, when he returned to Fonda and

took charge of the churches at Auriesville and Sammons ville, but resigned the latter on the 1st of January, 1892. His first wife was Clarissa Schuyler, daughter of the late George Schuyler of Fonda, but she was soon removed by death, and on August 28, 1873, he married Clara, daughter of Isaac M. Davis, of Fonda long known as a successful merchant. During his residence in Fonda, Pastor Boyd has taken deep interest in the public schools, and has been a member of the Board of Education since 1888, doing valuable service in this important field of duty. As a preacher he is noted for sound doctrine and easy delivery. He has always been a student, and next to theology has been a deep historical reader, to which has been added the advantages of a tour through Great Britain and the continent, including a visit to the famed city of Rome. Pastor Boyd has two sons whom he has carefully educated and who give promise to future usefulness.

Billington, Thomas M., Amsterdam, was born in Fonda October 19, 1846, and was educated in the common schools. He was engaged in the wholesale grocery business in Oil City, but was burnt out in the great fire which destroyed more than half that place. Alfred Wright, who was also burnt out at the same time, starting afterwards in business in Rochester, Mr. Billington became his traveling agent. He was sixteen years with Mr. Wright and ten years with Adolph Spiehler, both of Rochester. Mr. Billington, on December 12, 1867, married Abby P., daughter of Dr. Anderson of the town of Northampton, Fulton county, by whom he had three children, one son and two daughters: Harry, who married Mary Fosmire of this city; Etta G., died at the age of fourteen years; and Laura, who married Lee S. Anibal of Northville. June 8, 1885, he married Harriet L., youngest daughter of Dr. William H. Johnson of Jonhstown; they have had two children, both boys, one of whom died in infancy, and Louis Johnson, who was born May 1, 1887. Mr. Billington's father, Henry, was born in Stone Arabia and married Minerva, daughter of John H. Morrell of Fonda. They had seven children, six of whom are living. His father enlisted in Company I, 115th N. Y. Volunteers, and was killed in the battle of Gettysburg in 1863.

Crouse Family, The—The first settler of this family in Central New York was Jacob Krauss, a German, who came to this country early in the eighteenth century. He married, June 24, 1724, Catharine Elizabeth Nellis, who died March 30, 1754, and he died March 29, 1778. Their children were John Jacob, born June 6, 1725; Maria Elizabeth, born September 21, 1728; Maria Margaretha, born September 15, 1731; John George, born October 21, 1733; Robert, born December 25, 1736, and died in the war of the revolution; George, born August 5, 1740; Catharina, born March 28, 1744; and Anna, born December 14, 1746. All these children are supposed to have been born in Minden. George Krauss, who afterwards spelt his name Crous, married, May 21, 1765, Catharine Grausen. Their children were: Jacob, from whom the Syracuse family is descended; George, who died in Avon; Robert, who died in Minden; Henry; Catharine, who married George H. Nellis; and Maria, who married Hiram Vedder. George, died September 28, 1824. Henry of the above family was born in Minden January 11, 1787, and married, February 16, 1812, Caty, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Sanders. Their children were Oliver, born September 10, 1812, died at Fort Wayne, Ind.; Catharine, born March 9, 1844, married James Genter; William; George, born

March 28, 1817, died unmarried at Fort Plain; Henry Sanders; Jacob, born September 17, 1820, died in Iowa; Elizabeth died young; Jeremiah, died aged twenty-three; Maria, died in infancy; Samuel, born January 2, 1827, died unmarried in Fort Plain; Simeon, born October 24, 1828, a physician, died in Warren, Herkimer county; Menzo, born March 20, 1831, unmarried, resides in Fort Plain. The latter and Henry S. are the only male descendants living of Henry Crouse,* who died February 14, 1864. His wife died April 28, 1860. William, of the above family, was born in Minden October 19, 1815. His father owned the farm on which a part of Fort Plain is located. He left home at the age of thirteen years, and from that time until he was twenty he was employed in a dry goods store in Canajoharie. Then, with his brother George, he engaged in the same business in Fort Plain, but finally sold his interest to his brother, and formed a partnership with Solomon Kellar at Starkville, where he continued three years. He then went into business with his brother Oliver at Springfield, but three years later dissolved partnership and for the next ten years carried on business for himself in Warren. He then returned to his native town and began dealing in hops and other produce, which he followed until his retirement from active business. In politics he was a Republican. He married Margaret, daughter of Richard R. and Jane (Chisholm) Ward of Starkville. He died February 27, 1879. Henry Sanders (son of Henry) was born in Minden December 30, 1818, and married Harriet M., daughter of George Crouse. They have no children. Henry S. is living on the farm which was settled 125 years ago by his grandfather.

Clark, William, Minden, was born at Cooperstown June 24, 1811, and was the second son of a family of nine children of Cyrenus and Rachel (Tracy) Clark. After attending the public school, at the age of fourteen he was employed by General Averill who at that time conducted a grocery and tannery at St. Johnsville. He remained in General Averill's employ five or six years, and then opened a general store at Cooperstown, but he came to Fort Plain in 1842, and became interested with Abraham Hoffman in the canal and forwarding business, under the firm name of Clark & Hoffman. He also became a partner in the grocery house of Clark & Wood. Owing to the decline of the canal business, Mr. Clark engaged in the hop trade, in which he was interested up to the time of his death. He was formerly a Whig, but became a Republican on the organization of that party. He was a member of Assembly in 1848, and of the State Senate in 1862, besides holding various town offices. He married Anna Maria Neukerck, and had the following family: Charles H., who resides in San Diego, Cal.; William; Kenneth, a banker of St. Paul, Minn.; Livingston, a coal merchant, also of St. Paul, Minn.; Ellen, wife of Edward Kopper of the same place; Elsie, who married F. R. Whitwell and died in Fort Plain. Mr. Clark married, second, Mary Edwards, by whom he had one child John E., who died young. He died May 28, 1885. William Clark of the above family was born in Fort Plain June 7, 1844. He attended the Fort Plain Academy, and at the age of sixteen years became a clerk in the grocery store of O. O. Austin, where he was employed two years. After working for A. J. Wagner and E. W. Wood he became a partner in the grocery firm of Wood, Clark &

* There are two male descendants besides the above, who are great-grandnephews to Henry Crouse and whose names are James L. Cook and George B. Cook.

Hall, and was interested until May 1, 1892, as partner in this and other firms, which were outgrowths of the original concern. On retiring from the firm of Clark & Wood, he took charge of the wholesale provision department, which he now carries on. In politics a Republican, he has held various town offices. He is president of the Fort Plain & Richfield Springs railroad, and is the owner of 5,000 acres of land, divided into twenty-nine farms, located a few miles from Fort Plain. He married Rexie, daughter of E. W. Wood.

Casler Family, The.—Adam Casler married Mary Sitts, and had the following family, John A., who died in Minden; Adam, died in Columbia; Jacob, died in Oneida county; Nicholas, died in Canada; Isaac died young; Elizabeth, married Henry Lattery and died in Stark; Mary, married John Casler and died in Palatine; and Anna, married Gottlieb Bush and died in Minden. Adam, died in Minden, March 10, 1846, aged eighty-one years; his wife died September 24, 1848, aged eighty-four years. Of the above family, Peter A. was born in Minden, where he died October 19, 1869, aged seventy-two years, four months and two days. He married first Katy Fox, who died April 7, 1836, aged thirty-nine years; second, Elizabeth Saltsman, who died April 3, 1854, aged sixty-one years, eleven months and twenty-eight days. They had nine children, viz.: Maria, widow of Archibald Littner, resides in Minden; Nancy, wife of J. H. Brookman of Minden; Isaac N. lives at Danube; Adam P. died at Minden; Betsey lives in Minden; John P., born in Minden, October 24, 1827, married first Catharine Van Camp, who died in Minden; second, Catharine Wiles. He lives in Minden and has no children. In politics he is a Democrat, and has been excise commissioner. Peter, born in Minden, September 17, 1829, married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry I. Wiles, and has had four children: Jennie, who died aged four and a half years; Seward, Cattie and Anna. He is a Democrat and has been commissioner of highways and school trustee. Henry died young, in Minden, and Catharine married Ephraim Wagner, and died in Minden.

Casler, John, Minden, was a revolutionary soldier, and had four sons, Jacob, Adam, Philip and Nicholas. Jacob, the first mentioned, was born in Minden and removed to Orleans, Jefferson county, where he died. He married Nancy Stitts, and had six children: John, who died in Springfield; Mary, who married James Bander and died in Orleans; Jacob, who died in Racine, Wis.; Abraham, who died in Springfield; Peter, who died in Orleans; and Nicholas J., who is the only survivor of the family. He was born in Minden, June 18, 1808, and married for his first wife, Lany, daughter of Joseph Fox, and they had nine children; Moses, who died aged thirteen years; Rufus, lives in Minden; Sanford, resides in Ypsilanti, Mich.; Eli, resides in Minden; Maria, wife of Isaiah Sitterly, of Palatine; David, a Methodist clergyman, located at Michigan; Harvey, a Methodist clergyman at present located at Cold Brook, Herkimer county; Martha, wife of David Fox, of Minden; and Irving, died aged eight months. Nicholas J. married for his second wife Mary, daughter of John Roof of Stark. He was Republican in politics and was assessor of the town of Minden two terms. He was connected with the state militia about fifty years ago and held the rank of captain. In his early life he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed eight years, when he purchased

a farm near Brookman Corners, which he carried on till 1864, when he removed to his present residence in Frey's Bush.

Carson, Lester, Glen, one of nine children of Martin and Christiana (Moyer) Carson, was born in Root, March 4, 1848, the others being Ann, Peter, Urban, Elisha, and Caroline (all deceased); and John M., Isaac, and Elizabeth, wife of Abram Miller. Martin, the father, was one of six children of Martin Carson, who was born in Rhode Island and came to Root in early life. His wife was Prudence (Codner) Carson. Christiana Moyer, the mother, was one of eight children of John and Elizabeth (Meagley) Moyer of Herkimer county. Lester Carson married, on October 5, 1887, Frances E., one of six children of Frederick and Mary (Cox) Simpson of Albany, the others being Edward, Benjamin, Theophilus, Elliot and Florence. Mr. Carson is a carpenter and builder by trade, and has always lived in the town of Glen. The paternal grandfather of Martin (father of our subject) was John Carson, who married Anna Crum. His maternal grandfather was Stephen Codner, who married Sarah Rodgers. The paternal grandfather of Lester Carson was Martin Carson, who married Prudence Codner. The paternal grandfather of the mother of Lester Carson was Henry Moyer, who married Christiana Lathers; and her maternal grandfather was John Meagley, who married Catharine Sall. Her father was John Moyer, who married Elizabeth Meagley.

Cross, Walter B., Glen, was born May 14, 1846, in the town of Florida, he being one of five children of Walter and Susan T. (Brown) Cross. Walter Cross, the father, was born in the town of Cobleskill, September 3, 1814, and was one of three children of James Cross, who was the son of Amos and Hannah (Austin) Cross, who moved from Dutchess county to Cobleskill in 1782. Their children were Latham, Polly, Sally, Jeremiah, Joseph and James, the grandfather of our subject; also Phoebe, Joshua, Austin and Margaret. The other children of Walter and Susan T. Cross were Jerome, Wellington, J. Howard (dead), and Addie M. (Mrs. E. P. Jennings). Walter B. was married in December, 1868, to Elizabeth Ostrom, one of eight children of Stephen and Ann M. (Edwards) Ostrom of Glen. They have three children: Susan B., Antionette and Edward O. Mr. Cross has lived in Fultonville seventeen years, being for many years engaged in the grocery business, but is now one of the proprietors of what was formerly the Van Antwerp Steam Elevator and which is operated under the firm of W. B. Cross & Co., and is doing a large and increasing business. Wellington Cross was born in Florida, May 14, 1846, he being a twin brother of Walter B. Cross. He was married January 28, 1874, to Diantha L. Van Hensen, daughter of Franklin and Eliza (Smith) Van Heusen of Tribes Hill. They have five children: Henriette Y. B., Harry F., James Bailey, Ray Sheldon, and Willard J. Cross. Mr. Cross has always been engaged in business in Fultonville as a merchant and insurance agent.

Carson, Isaac, Glen, was born in Root, April 6, 1840, he being one of eight children of Martin and Ann (Moyer) Carson. The others were John M., Lester, Elizabeth, (wife of Abram Miller), all living, and Peter, Urban, Elisha, and Caroline (all deceased). Martin Carson, the father, was born in Glen, and was one of seven children. The others were Stephen, Elisha, John, Isaac, Daniel and Ann, wife of Enoch Pruyn. Ann (Moyer) Carson was born in the town of Root, one of eight children of John Moyer.

The others were Henry, John, Peter, Catherine (wife of Samuel Walker), Ida, Ellen (wife of George Esters), and Elizabeth Moyer (deceased). The grandfather, Martin Carson, was born in Rhode Island and came to Glen in early life. Isaac Carson married July 3, 1862, Josephine Barlow, one of eight children of Raymond and Beersheba (Ryder) Barlow of Glen. The others were Melissa, wife of J. N. Tallmage; Elizabeth, wife of William Dunlap; Lucy, wife of William R. Fero; Elthea, wife of Peter Carson; Celia, wife of Harrison Dingman; William Henry (deceased), Sarah and Sheldon Barlow. They have five children: Raymond, Melissa, Ida, Etta and Lena; and one grandchild, a daughter of Raymond Carson, named Maud.

Countryman, Julius Edgar, Canajoharie, was born in Danube, Herkimer county, February 8, 1850, a son of William and Katy A. (Cronkhite) Countryman. His boyhood was spent on the farm in Danube and in attending school in Minden. When he was fourteen his father bought the farm in Canajoharie where he now lives. On April 23, 1879, our subject married Elizabeth M. Empie, daughter of Alanson Empie of Sharon, and they have three children: Virgin E., born August 5, 1882; Theresa, born June 20, 1884; Percy A., born September 5, 1887. Mr. Countryman has always taken an active interest in the success of the Republican party, but is not an office seeker. He, in company with Mr. Van Wie, were the first organizers of the Mapleton Grange. Mrs. Countryman is also an active member of the Reformed church at Mapleton.

Countryman, Milton, Ames, was born at Minden on the 24th of June, 1852, and is a son of William and Katy Ann (Cronkhite) Countryman, both of Minden and of German origin. At the age of twenty-four he graduated at the Albany Business College, and was then employed as head teacher in the Paterson (N. J.) Business College for nearly a year. Then returning home he purchased a farm of James Sprucker, which he owned for three years, and then unfortunately lost his wife, after which he located in Ames and traveled in the west for several months. On his return he bought out A. B. Lehman's general merchandise business, which he conducted for over five years, and was appointed postmaster by President Harrison May 13, 1888. In 1892 he sold his store business, retaining his postmastership, also purchased the Wells estate (in Ames) and devoted his time as agent for agricultural machinery and church and school furniture. His father is a farmer, living in Canajoharie; his great-grandfather was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and his grandfather (George E.) was a farmer and lived at Ford's Bush, Minden. Mr. Countryman is the youngest of three brothers, all farmers, living in this town. In politics he is a Republican. He has married twice, first to Mary Winne, who died in February, 1884; in 1888 he married Viola, a daughter of Menzo Garlock of Ames. He had two children by his first wife (Winnie and Elizabeth), and one son by his second wife.

Chase, Mrs. Lucretia, Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was a daughter of Phoenix and Sarah (Corcoran) Lane, and is the widow of Oliver Chase. The latter was born March 4, 1825, and was a son of Oliver and Ruth Darrow Chase. The ancestry of this family on the father's side is of English descent, and the name is one of the oldest in the history of the county. Oliver was born near Ames, but when eleven years of age his parents moved to Buel. He was educated at Ames Academy, and always followed farming.

In 1852 he bought the farm where our subject now resides. It includes fifty acres, and is devoted to the cultivation of hops, hay and general farming. July 1, 1852, he was married to Lucretia Lane, and their union has been blessed by two children, but only one is living: Sarah, wife of Walter D. Schuyler, a machinist of New York. Mr. Chase died December 30, 1882, and the son, Charles O., was born November 1, 1857, and was foremost in working for the rebuilding of the church which has been closed some years. He did not live to see it completed, and died September 19, 1876. The daughter, Sarah, was married February 4, 1884. Mrs. Chase is an active member of the Buel Presbyterian church, as is her daughter also.

Seeber, H. Clay, Canajoharie, Marshville p. o., was born on the farm where he now resides, in the town of Canajoharie February 2, 1845, and was a son of William H. and Catherine M. (Van Vechten) Seeber. William Seeber, great-grandfather of our subject, located within half a mile from H. Clay's present home. He was born June 13, 1747, and married Elizabeth Schnerr, born in Germany, October 17, 1764. They were the parents of seven children: One of the sons, Adolphus, was born in 1773, and was married to Sally P. Yates of Canajoharie, daughter of Col. C. P. Yates. They were the parents of eight children, and William A., father of our subject, was the second son. He was born January 1, 1805, and always lived on the farm. He married Catherine M. Van Vechten of the town of Mohawk, January 23, 1841, and they were the parents of five children: Annie, wife of Judge Finn of San Francisco; Lucinda of Canajoharie; Celia, wife of George T. Finn of Brooklyn; Chester, a lawyer of San Francisco, and Harry H. Clay, our subject. He was educated in the public schools and also at Bowman's Select School at Albany. At his father's death he assumed control of the farm and has since successfully conducted it. December 23, 1875, he married Alice T. Van Evera of Canajoharie, and they have three children: Herbert V., born November 4, 1877; Florence W., born December 17, 1879, and Elizabeth, born May 30, 1881. Mr. Seeber is a member of the Reformed church and has held the office of deacon in that church. He is not a professed politician, but is an ardent supporter of the Democrat ticket and its candidates. He conducts a large farm of 160 acres, 130 under cultivation for hay and grain, and a dairy of fifteen cows. This property has been in this family for five generations, and H. Clay has every reason to be proud of bearing the name of one who was among the earliest settlers of our county.

Clapper, Peter S., Mohawk, Fonda p. o. (son of George W.), was born August 16, 1839. In 1863 he married Margaret Dugan of Albany county, and in 1871 came to Amsterdam, where he was a carder in the knitting mill. August 16, 1887, he moved to Berryville and established a shoddy mill, and has carried on business since at that place. He employs six men and does a good business. He has three children living: John, Hannah and Peter S. His ancestors were early settlers of Claverack, Columbia county. His mother was Maria, daughter of Holmes Tipple. Her family were all born in the same town, and were of Dutch ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Clapper are members of St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic church at Fonda.

Coolman, Peter W., Mohawk, son of Peter, was born December 7, 1858, and is a farmer, residing on the homestead. He married, in 1888, Orvetta Cook of Palatine,

daughter of Jacob C. Cook, and they have one daughter, Marion Bertelle, born July 12, 1892. Peter Coolman, father of our subject, was a son of William and was born April 10, 1814, in the town of Palatine. He married, in 1838, Betsey Wick, by whom he had six children. She died in 1854, and later on he married Mary A. Vechte of Johnstown. Their three children are Mary J., wife of Rufus Suits, residents of Brooklyn; John and Peter, the latter two residing in Mohawk. Mr. Coolman died January 21, 1889. He settled in the town of Mohawk in 1847, and filled the office of assessor for six years. His widow resides with her son Peter. William, grandfather of our subject, was born in the town of Palatine and married Miss Scott, by whom he had three sons and four daughters. His father was a soldier in the war of the revolution, and fought at the battle of Stone Arabia under Colonel Brown. His gun (with which he killed an Indian) is in the possession of his great-grandson Peter. The family is of German descent.

Christman, Morris, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., son of John and Nellie (Miller) Christman, was born in the town of Palatine, February 12, 1832, where he resided until 1886, at which time he settled in Mohawk. He married Orinda Kincaid of Palatine, a daughter of Theophilus, and they have two children, John and Adella, the latter a farmer and dairyman. John Christman was born in Palatine in 1808 and died December 23, 1890. He was a son of Jacob Christman, who was in the war of 1812. John had four children: Morris, William C., Mary, wife of Jerry Vosburg, and Charles. Nellie, wife of John Christman, died in 1866.

Chase, Dewitt Clinton, was born in Duaneburg, Schenectady county, October 22, 1816. His grandparents, Ebenezer and Susannah (Sheldon) Chase, were born in the town of Amenia, Dutchess county. The Chase family emigrated from Wales. Dewitt C. Chase was married November 23, 1854, to Jane L. Dakin of Hillsdale, Columbia county. They have one son, Clarence D. Chase, who is in the railroad business and located at Northampton, Mass. Jane L. (Dakin) Chase was one of five children of Joshua and Harriet (Burton) Dakin. Joshua Dakin was one of eleven children of Jacob and Olive (Clark) Dakin of North East, Dutchess county. Joshua Dakin, the father of Jacob Dakin, removed from Patterson, Putnam county, to North East, Dutchess county, in 1767. Simon Dakin, father of Joshua Dakin, who had lived near Boston before he was located at Patterson, moved to North East in 1773, and was pastor of the Baptist church at that place till his death, which occurred in 1803. Harriet Burton Dakin was one of eleven children of Elijah and Lucy (Collin) Burton. The father of Elijah Burton was Judah Burton; his father was Isaac, his father Jacob, his father John, thus tracing the ancestry back to Boniface, who lived in what is now Lynn, Mass., and who was 113 years old at the time of his death.

Clute, Richard, Mohawk, Fonda p. o. (son of Andrew), settled in the town of Charleston about 1844, and carried on the John Schuyler farm. He married Sarah Baird of Charleston, in 1838, and she died in 1845, leaving four children. Richard died about the year 1881. Christopher B., son of Richard, was born November 30, 1842. He came to Charleston with his father when two years of age. At the death of his mother he was adopted by his uncle, Abram C. Baird, and lived with him until August 25,

1862, when he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-Third New York Volunteers. He was in eight engagements and a number of skirmishes, and received an honorable discharge October 2, 1865, at Savannah. He was never wounded, but lost his health in the army by fever. The One Hundred and Fifty-Third Regiment participated in the following battles: Sabine Cross Road, Louisiana, April 8, 1864; Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864; Cane River Crossing, La., April 23, 1864; Mansure Plains, La., May 14, 1864; Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864; Opequan, Va., (same day); Fisher Hill, Va., September 22, 1864; Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864; beside a number of severe skirmishes. After his return home Mr. Clute learned the harness-maker's trade of Jeremiah Borst, of Cobleskill. In 1871 he married Mary E. Dodge, daughter of Asa P. Dodge of Glen, and they had five children. In the year of his marriage he went to Westmoreland, Oneida county, and opened a harness shop, remaining there seven years. In 1878 he located in Fonda, where he has ever since remained. He has been trustee of the village, and is a member of Van Deveer Post, No. 57, G. A. R.; he was commander three years, and was re-elected in the fall of 1891. He is also a member of the Improved order of Red Men, No. 121, and is past sachem and past prophet of his tribe.

Crause, Leonard I., St. Johnsville, was born where he now resides, November 28, 1837, and is a son of Peter and Lavina (Fry) Crause. Leonard, the grandfather (whose father was an early pioneer) was born in Fulton county and was a soldier in the war of 1812. He died in the winter of 1865, aged seventy-five, having held numerous town offices. He married Sallie Loadwie, by whom he had two children, Peter and Nancy Nellis. He was a member of the F. & A. M. His wife died about 1870, aged seventy years and their son, Peter, who was born in Fulton county in March, 1816, died in St. Johnsville in September, 1891. He served in several town offices and was a Democrat and a Mason. His wife died in 1883. They had six children: Leonard I., Alpha, Lena, Amos, Milford, and one who died in infancy. Leonard I. received a common school education and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company B, 115th New York Volunteers. He was captured at Harper's Ferry. He was sent to Annapolis, and thence to camp at Chicago. After being exchanged was with the regiment in South Carolina. He was in the battles of Olmstee, Chesterfield Heights and Cold Harbor. He was under General Butler, and was at Fort Fisher, Raleigh, Goldsboro, and was mustered out at Raleigh in June, 1865, and discharged at Albany July 3d of that year. On his return home he engaged in farming and now owns a homestead of seventy-five acres. In politics he is a Democrat. On January 1, 1873, he married Clara, daughter of Simeon and Mary (Gray) Claus, of Montgomery county.

De Graff, Alonzo H., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam on the 12th of December, 1846, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He enlisted twice, first on the 1st of June, 1862, in Company C, 25th N. Y. S. N. Guard, and then re-enlisted June 17, 1863, in Company M, 14th N. Y. Heavy Artillery, and was promoted to first sergeant, then to second lieutenant, and also to first lieutenant, and was discharged as captain of the same company in September, 1865. He is by profession a civil engineer and has had charge of the construction of several important railways, and is now superintendent of the Amsterdam water works. On the 15th

of December, 1875, he married Mary M., youngest daughter of Fay Smith, of Northampton, Fulton county. They have five living children: Harry W., Helen M., Carlton R., Mary and Alonzo H., jr. Mr. De Graff's father, Harmonius, was born at the old home in the year 1800, and married Susan Thomas, the latter a native of Scotland. They had six children, three of whom are living: Helen M. Schofield, who resides in New York; Alonzo H., and Susan D. Miller, who resides in Michigan. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and Scotch. Captain De Graff has the distinction of engineering the present extensive Amsterdam water works which fully prove his skill in hydraulic apparatus. The city is thus supplied, from a distance of twenty-five miles, with an abundant supply of pure water, which is one of the most inestimable of earthly blessings.

Dickson, John W., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in Rotterdam, Schenectady county, August 12, 1858, and is the son of Anderson C. and Nancy B. (Vank) Dickson. Anderson C. was a farmer in Rotterdam and John W. was educated in the public school in that village, but when he was eighteen years old his father sold his farm and moved to Amsterdam, where our subject engaged in the Globe Knitting mill for two years, after which he became delivery clerk for John McClumpton where he remained until 1883. Later on he engaged with A. V. Morris & Co., as shipping clerk and has since held that position, having now full charge of the packing and shipping department in mill No. 2 at Fort Johnson. May 27, 1879, he married Martha Van Alstine, daughter of Martin and Eliza (Potter) Van Alstine of Fort Johnson. Mr. Dickson is one of a family of ten children, eight of whom are still living: Ezra of Amsterdam; William, a furniture dealer of Amsterdam; Jane of Northville; Elizabeth, Dennis, Ella, and Sarah of Amsterdam. Mrs. Dickson has one brother, A. P. Van Alstine of Amsterdam. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson are among the leaders of the Fort Johnson Church society. They were of the first promoters and leaders in the formation of the Y. P. S. C. E., and in the building of their chapel at Fort Johnson. Mrs. Dickson has charge of the children's class meeting. This is a class formed in 1888, first by three children meeting at her home and bringing others with them, until now she is the leader of the class of forty-three members. They hold their meetings in the chapel Sunday afternoons. Some fruit has been gathered from this class. Three are members of the church, two others are converted, a full proof of Mrs. Dickson's earnest and faithful work for Christ and the Church. It is to be hoped that this couple may see the full fruition of their effort. Mr. Dickson has been class leader at Fort Johnson since 1886.

De Graff, Nicholas I., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born in the De Graff settlement near where he now lives, June 15, 1809. Magdalen De Graff was born at the same place September 2, 1813, and they were children of Isaac and Elinor (Voorhees) De Graff. Isaac was a son of Jeremiah and Anna (Quackenbush) De Graff. Jeremiah, the grandfather of our subjects, was a son of Isaac, who came to this country during the reign of George the third, at which time the early deeds of the property are dated. The great-grandfather and grandfather came up the Mohawk in flat boats from Schenectady and settled on this old historic spot, which was a grant from the king. Hence their descendants could relate the memories of what their ancestors had told them of

the Indian wars; how they had to hide their valuables and also their stock, to prevent depredation. At one time the grandmother stood alone while a party of Indians were looking for her husband, having a tomahawk raised over her head which she snatched from the Indian; this saved her life, and she has often sent her boys out in the woods to hide until the savages had left. In 1886, on the 21st of March, the old homestead was burned, together with its contents, among them being the ancient records and many valuable relics belonging to this historic family. But they have now built a fine residence in its place. They are the last of the family, and although now in advanced years, look back with pride on their old family name, and pleasant recollections of the author of this work. Magdalen was a victim of the fire, being badly burned and the shock has left her almost an invalid. In those early days there were no churches, and the first religious services were held in the barn built by the grandfather of our subject. An Indian, educated for a missionary, by the name of Samson Occum, officiated at this meeting. No one present could start the hymn, and the grandmother of our subject asked her little son John, a lad of ten years, to start the tune. The little fellow arose and sang the hymn. Isaac De Graff, father of Nicholas, was the first child in the family, and as there were no churches for ministers outside the cities, the mother walked to Schenectady, a distance of sixteen miles, and carried her baby to have it christened (kalonped was the Dutch word used in those days). She started early on a Saturday morning in company with one of her colored women ("slaves" then called), and walked barefoot to save her leather shoes, which were then thought to be something too fine for common use. Just outside the city limits she bathed her feet in a stream of water running by the roadside, donned her stockings and shoes, and went on her way to the house of the minister, where she remained until Monday morning. Then the trio began their homeward journey, where they arrived at the close of the day, weary and footsore, but doubtless with hearts filled with peace and content. There is another pretty story connected with this wife and mother: When she herself was a baby lying in her cradle, her husband, then a young lad, came to her home on an errand. After asking for what he desired, the mother arose from her chair, saying, "Rock the baby while I wait on you," adding with a pleasant laugh, "she may make a wife for you some time." The words proved prophetic. In after years he married the young lady whom in babyhood he rocked in her cradle.

Duell, Seneca P., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born in Saratoga county, January 2, 1831, and is the son of Jason and Ada (Youngs) Duell. Three brothers by the name came to this country from England, one of whom (Peter) was the ancestor of this family. He married Cynthia Clark of Saratoga county, and they were the parents of one child, Jason, the father of our subject. Peter Duell died in 1801. His son Jason was born in 1799 and followed farming all his life. He owned a fine farm of 150 acres in Saratoga county, where his children were born, two sons and five daughters; two of the daughters are dead. The names of his children are Volney, Laura Davis, Cynthia Barras, and Caroline. Seneca P. was educated in the common schools and lived on the farm until he was twenty-three years old, then learned the mason's trade and worked at that and carpentry. December 21, 1858, he married Lucy Cheeseman, and they have three children: Frances A., now Mr. John G. De Graff, born March 28,

1860; Andrew D., a carpenter in Schenectady, born April 23, 1861; and John I. of Glenville, who was born February 2, 1863, and married, May 6, 1885, Ann M., daughter of Thomas E. Romeyn of Glenville, and granddaughter of Rev. Thomas Romeyn. In 1875 he bought the farm of forty acres known as the Jacob De Graff farm, where he now lives. He has built a fine residence, and improved the property, and now has one of the prettiest places in this section.

Dwyer, John F., Amsterdam, was born in Ireland, June 20, 1837, and when very young came with his parents to Quebec, and afterwards to Troy, where he remained until 1854. He followed the plumbing business in various places and came to Amsterdam in June, 1860. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Thirty-Second New York Volunteers, and at the expiration of the regiment's time, was transferred into the signal service of the Army of the Potomac. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war as first sergeant. He has been village trustee of Amsterdam for three years, and was treasurer of the joint board of Amsterdam and Port Jackson at the time the bridge was erected, and mayor of the city in 1890. In 1891 he was elected member of the Legislature. He is chairman of the Civil Service Board, and one of the trustees of the city hospital. He is president of the only base ball club of its kind that we know of in the United States (nine of his own sons). January 10, 1865, he married Sarah Davis of this city; they have had eleven children, nine are living, all sons: Francis A., Mathew, John L., James, William, George, Edward, Lawrence and Joseph. In 1888 his son Francis A. was admitted to partnership, and Dwyer & Son now conduct a plumbing, steam, hot water and gasfitting establishment.

De Graff, J. Teller, Amsterdam, was born in the house in which he now lives on the banks of the Mokawk. It is a portion of the old De Graff grant, issued to Isaac De Graff by George III. He was born October 11, 1836, and is the son of Emanuel and Maria (Mynderse) De Graff. Emanuel was a son of Emmanuel De Graff, who was the builder of this house in 1804, and the father of five children, four boys and one girl. He was a farmer and always lived on the farm with the exception of two years when he conducted a store in Amsterdam and one year in Schenectady where he had a soap factory. John Teller was educated in the public schools and also a two years' course in Amsterdam Academy under Professor Cavert. He has always lived on the farm and at the death of his father he assumed its control. January 8, 1861, he married Ella Veeder of Rotterdam, who lived but five months after. November 10, 1869, he married Mary J. Ried, daughter of James and Laura Ried, and now have two children, Edward T. and Luella. Mr. De Graff has always been influential in politics, and has held many offices of honor and trust; was supervisor four years, first elected in 1880 when Amsterdam city was a part of the town, serving two terms, and was again elected in 1885, after the division, serving again two years. He is a good business man, his management of real estate and its transfer is of the highest order. His son Edward is rapidly rising to take his father's place, and now holds the position of teller in the Farmers' National Bank of Amsterdam.

Davis, Gordon J., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Waterford, August 17, 1859, and is the son of David G. and Elizabeth A. (Cannell) Davis. He spent

his early life at home, attending the graded school until he was eighteen years of age. His father died when he was a child, but his mother, by dint of hard work, and judicious management, gave him a good education. In 1879 he entered the drug store of J. Higgins & Co. to study for a pharmacist, for which profession he passed the state examination at Albany, October 17, 1884. He remained with this firm two years after receiving his certificate, then came to Hagaman's Mills and opened on his own account. It was up-hill work for several years, but Mr. Davis has now gained the confidence of the people, has built up a fine trade and conducts one of the prettiest drug stores the writer has had the pleasure of visiting. June 27, 1888, he married Hattie L., daughter of R. D. Palmateer, formerly editor of the *Waterford Advertiser*, and they are now the parents of one child, Louise, born July 16, 1891.

De Graff, John H., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Mohawk, Montgomery county, on the 2d of September, 1835, and was educated in the common schools and the old stone academy. In his early boyhood he learned to be a carpenter and cabinet maker. In the year 1865 he came to Amsterdam and was manager of a furniture factory, and in the year 1873 he became associated with William Serviss. They purchased the site of the Mudge Hollow Flouring Mills in connection with the saw-mill, later on a cider-mill was added, and they are doing business under the firm of Serviss & De Graff. He was married twice, first on the 3d of December, 1857, to Naomi Deuslar of the town of Ephratah. She died on the 14th of December, 1860. On the 3d of March, 1863, he married Caroline, only daughter of Edwin and Caroline (Davis) Conklin. They have had three children; two died young and one daughter survives, namely, Carry May, a graduate of the Misses Bell's school of Amsterdam, who resides with her parents. Mr. De Graff's father, John J., was born in the town of Mohawk about the year 1811. He married Phebe Godwin, of Fulton county, by whom he had two children, one son and one daughter, John H. and Mary C. The latter married Augustus L. George of Fonda. Mr. De Graff's great-grandfather Godwin, was in the revolutionary war, and died on a prison ship in New York harbor. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and Welch. Major John Davis, great-grandfather of Mrs. De Graff, was born at East Hampton, Long Island. He married Puah Parsons, May 14, 1772. He served during the revolutionary war a major in Col. Livingston's regiment; was with Washington. He was taken prisoner by the British at Sag harbor, Long Island, and died January 10, 1782, on board the *Jersey* prison ship. His widow with her five children—William, Abigail, John Parsons (grandfather of Mrs. De Graff), Ashael and Ramus, located at Amsterdam on a tract purchased with money from the sale of land granted her by the government. She also owned large tracts of land in Ohio and the western part of New York. Her son Ramus settled in Ohio. She died January 29, 1832. Col. John P. Davis (grandfather of Mrs. De Graff), was born at Lyme, Conn., November 4, 1777; was married to Susannah Allin June 1, 1805, and died July 31, 1848. He at one time owned 600 acres in Montgomery county, where he lived until his death. James Allin (great-grandfather also of Mrs. De Graff) was born in Rhode Island February 25, 1744; was an early settler of Amsterdam, and a member of the legislature. For further particulars regarding Major John Davis, look at Simms' history of the Schoharie County and Border Wars of New York, and history of the Davis family which was published a few years ago.

Dunlap, Barlow W., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Charleston November 9, 1856, and was educated in the public school and at Amsterdam Academy. Taught school for three years, two of which he was principal of the Fifth Ward School in this city. He first studied law with W. W. Dawley, afterwards with J. A. Serviss, and was admitted to the bar on the 10th of September, 1880. He has practiced law here since and was elected to the assembly in 1888 and 1890. On the 24th of December, 1878, he married Annie, only daughter and child of Newton and Adelaide Howe, of this city. They have one son, Clarence Howe Dunlap, who was born on the 8th of March, 1882. Mr. Dunlap's father (William II.) was born at the old home in Charleston in November, 1827. He is now a summer hotel keeper at Asbury Park. He married Elizabeth Barlow of Glen. They had three children: W. Barlow, Nellie, who married Robert A. Parker, and Emma, who married John E. Orchard. Joseph, the grandfather, was born in Charleston in 1803. His great-grandfather Joseph came to Charleston in 1791. Their ancestry is Scotch.

Dowlsland, James Ralph, Amsterdam, was born in Westmoreland, Oneida county, May 8, 1842. Received a common school education. Enlisted the first year of the civil war in Company I., Third New York Volunteers, and was honorably discharged at the expiration of two years with rank of corporal. He then went to Toledo, O., where he accepted a position in a hardware store. February 12, 1867, he married Amelia, only daughter of Abraham Halleck of his native town. Mr. Dowlsland belonged to the Masonic Order was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, also of the Knights of Pythias, and a supporter of the Uniform Rank connected with the latter order. He had been promoted to major of the Second Regiment, and was colonel of the same when he died. He came to Amsterdam in 1877 and established a large grocery house; was considered by all as a model in uprightness and fair dealing, and was an earnest Christian. In politics an adherent to the Republican party. He died October 12, 1889, at his residence, 74 Division street.

De Graff, Nicholas Jeremiah, Amsterdam, was born in the village of Amsterdam on the 9th of June, 1842, the home in which he first saw the light being one of the land marks of "ye olden time," and is still standing near the Central depot. He was educated in the public schools and at Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a farmer but when the tocsin of war sounded through the land his heart beat in unison with the noble volunteers, who early responded to their country's call to arms. On the 3d of July, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred Fifteenth New York Volunteers. He was soon promoted from the ranks to the position of second lieutenant, afterwards to first lieutenant and acting adjutant. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged. He served his country with honor and distinction, and upon his return to Albany was brevetted captain for gallant and meritorious conduct. On the 15th of October, 1868, he married Debbie, third daughter of Luther and Nancy Young of Tribes Hill. They have two children, one son and one daughter, Herbert E. and Laura Y. He is a Presbyterian and holds the office of deacon, and in politics he is a Republican and temperance man. His father (Emanuel) was born at the old home and married Maria Mynderse of Guilderland Center, Albany county. They had five children, four

sons and one daughter: John T., Myndert M., Nicholas, Elizabeth and Emanuel E. The ancestry of the family is Holland Dutch and French. In 1873 Mr. De Graff engaged in the boot and shoe business at 29 East Main street, Amsterdam, which he still continues at the same place. He is a descendant of revolutionary stock, and an ancestor (Nicholas De Graff) was killed in Glenville by the Indians and French in July, 1748. Another Nicholas De Graff was engaged at the battle of Oriskany, August 6, 1777.

Dean, Frank S., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam May 20, 1864. He was educated in the graded schools of the city, and has been engaged in the capacity of clerk since his school days, having for some years been clerk with De Graff & Kline in the hardware business. May 12, 1886, he married Lida Adella, youngest daughter of Clark P. and Frances R. Hawley of Johnstown. Mr. Dean's father (William H.) was born at Port Jackson May 9, 1809, and married Eunice A. Huntley of Phoenix, Oswego county. They had two children, Chauncey E., who married Kittie M. Roth of this city, and Frank S. His grandfather, Nathan Huntley, was in the war of 1812. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and Scotch.

De Graff, Gilbert C., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam within a few rods of his present residence, April 22, 1849, and is the son of Daniel and Eliza (Connor) De Graff. Daniel De Graff was a son of Isaac and Elinor (Voorhees) De Graff. Isaac was born near Cranesville July 3, 1770, and was the father of five children, of which Daniel, father of our subject, was the youngest. He was born April 29, 1819, and always lived at De Craff Corners until his death, which occurred March 29, 1888, leaving four children: Jesse I. and Gilbert C. by his first wife, and James L. and Luella M. by his second wife. Gilbert's boyhood was like that of all others who live at home and attend at first the public school. When he was about eighteen he entered the Amsterdam Academy where he finished his education in 1869. November 30, 1871, he married Cornelia C. Wessel, daughter of John and Nancy Wessel of the town of Amsterdam, and they are the parents of two children: Arthur, born March 29, 1874, and Bertha, born October 3, 1876. Mr. De Graff lives on a plot of two and one-half acres of his own, where he has erected a cosy residence and new out-buildings, next door to the old homestead, which he conducts as a dairy farm, finding a ready market in Amsterdam.

De Graff, Oscar, Amsterdam, youngest son of John G. and Magdalen A. (Pollock) De Graff, was born April 4, 1863, on the old homestead one mile east of Amsterdam, on the north bank of the Mohawk. He was educated at the district school and Amsterdam Academy, and at the age of twenty-one left home to study telegraphy. A few months afterward he took charge of the railroad office at North Java, and later worked for the Western Union Telegraph company at Amsterdam, and in the fall of 1889 began working for the Fitchburg and West Shore railroads at Rotterdam Junction as operator. He stayed there until April 1, 1892, when he purchased the Bronson farm, situated near his old home, and which was the former home of his wife, whereon her parents had lived for nearly forty years. He was married November 27, 1890, to Fannie V. Bronson, daughter of Mrs. W. J. Bronson of Amsterdam. Her father, William J. Bronson, came to this country from England and settled at Haganman's Mills. He

left there to buy the farm where Mr. De Graff is now located. He died October 28, 1885, leaving nine children: Sarah, now Mrs. Donald Grant; Jane E., the late Mrs. C. E. Collins; Louisa; Lottie, now Mrs. H. Bruillard; William N.; Mary Belle; and Fannie, wife of our subject.

Devendorf, Dr. Henry A., Florida, was born in Sharon June 30, 1826. He was a son of Abram H. (who was born September 30, 1801, and died January 12, 1872) and Catharine (Ehle) Devendorf, who was born August 12, 1802, and whose ninetieth birthday was celebrated by her descendants in August, 1892. The grandfather was Henry Devendorf, who was born in 1772 and died in 1834. His father was Captain Henry Devendorf, a soldier of the revolution, captain of Company 5, First battalion, Canajoharie, and who was killed at the battle of Oriskany. Henry A. Devendorf married, December 9, 1851, Rachel Pettingill, born April 12, 1835, a daughter of Henry C. (who was born October 18, 1800, and died May 26, 1885,) and Toinettie Ziely, daughter of David and Anna (Newkirk) Ziely. Her grandfather was Cornelius Pettingill, a son of Captain Samuel Pettingill and Elizabeth Cline, the former a soldier in the revolutionary army, and captain of Company 5, Third battalion, Mohawk, who was killed at the battle of Oriskany. Dr. Devendorf and wife have had eight children: Nettie, wife of Willard Selmsler of Johnstown; Alvin J., who resides at home; Emma C., wife of Edward Edwards of Glen; De Witt A. of Fort Hunter; Mary, wife of C. B. Meding, M. D., of New York city; Milton of Florida; and two who died in infancy. (*Notes from Mrs. Rachel P. Devendorf.*) From Germany, Holland and the British Isles they came, so long ago! What tidings from the New World reached them in that far off land, I know but little, and that little I remember when over fifty years ago, as we all sat around the big fire-place, of a long, stormy, winter evening (a fire that always burned brightest when the weather was stormy and cold) some one would say, "Granny, tell us a story about the old country." "Dear child," she would say, "I never lived in the old country, but I did live with my grandfather, Martinus Cline. I went there when I was about thirteen years old. They told me that they heard in that far-off land that freedom, peace and great wealth could all be theirs, if they could brave all dangers of that then mysterious great width of waters; and then there was something said which they hardly could believe—that much money could be gathered from many bushes, not knowing how to translate the English into German, which was that much money could be realized from many bushels, not bushes. Martinus Cline was the son of a well-to-do farmer in High Germany. When quite young he went to Holland to seek his fortune. There he married the adopted daughter of a wealthy lady. Their first child's name was Elizabeth; the next was Martinus. He was about ten months old when they left their home in Holland; it was thirteen months before they found a home in America, and it was nearly winter when they dug a place and covered it with boughs, where they lived the first winter, and they afterwards chose that place as a burial lot. It can be plainly seen to this day. Francis Laltz came at the same time; an account of which may be seen in the Illustrated History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties. Just before they left Holland, the wealthy lady told Elizabeth to come to her money chest and there she filled her little apron with silver pieces. The children found some time to play on an immense stone then lying opposite the barn in Schoharie

creek, which even now can be seen. My grandmother Pettingill's mother was a daughter of Martinus Cline. She married John McGraw. The first work the father of John did when he came to this country, was to make mortar for the old stone fort at Fort Hunter (1712). Dr. Samuel Pettingill married Elizabeth, oldest daughter of Martinus Cline. Christine McGraw married a son of Dr. Samuel Pettingill. Did they realize their dream of freedom, peace and great wealth? The frontiersman's story is one and the same, of all our ancestors. Our children were taught to "remember their Creator in the days of their youth," but sometimes a solemn thought oppresses me: If, when we come to the judgment seat, it be said to us, "Where are your children?" we should have to say, "While Thy servants were busy here and there they were gone." We are thankful we may hope this may not be.

Dunn, Andrew, Minden, Fort Plain p. o., was born at Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, August 9, 1831, and was the only child of David and Helen (Carnduff) Dunn. He attended a private school and an academy in his native country. His father was a calico printer, and in 1842 emigrated to America, landing in New York. He went to Fall River, Mass., but owing to a depression in trade, could not find employment there, and came to West Galway, where he remained until the spring of 1844, when he went to Stockport, Columbia county, and worked at his trade. Our subject worked in the mills with his father. The works where they were employed, being destroyed by fire in 1847, they came to Herkimer and Montgomery counties. Andrew, then seventeen years of age, learned the jewelry trade of James Pooley at Amsterdam, and remained with him until the fall of 1851, when he came to Fort Plain and commenced business for himself. He was accompanied by his father who also learned the jewelry trade, and was connected with his son until his death in 1872. Andrew Dunn purchased the store he now occupies in 1855 and moved into it in 1856. He has found it necessary to alter and enlarge it several times to accommodate his increasing business. In 1880 his son David E., and later Andrew G., became partners, making the firm A. Dunn & Sons. He is one of the four partners of the Fort Plain Spring and Axle Works, and is secretary and treasurer of that company. He is also one of the five partners of Dunn, Smith & Co., Fort Plain Knitting Mills, his son David E. being the managing partner. He is vice-president of the Fort Plain National bank and has been a director for twenty-five years. He was secretary and treasurer of the Minden Gas Light company from its organization in 1864 until its consolidation with the Electric Light company in 1888, and is secretary and treasurer of the consolidated company. He is also president of the Fort Plain Cemetery association. A Republican in politics, he has never sought political honors. In 1855 he married Louise, daughter of Nicholas Gros of Palatine, who was a son of Captain Laurence Gros and nephew of Rev. Johan Daniel Gros, professor of moral philosophy in Columbia College, New York, and one of the early ministers of the church on Sand Hill near the fort. Mr. Dunn's family consists of Ellen L., David E. and Andrew G.

Diefendorf, Willis Eugene, Minden, was born at Sharon Springs, June 5, 1855, and is the oldest son in a family of three children of Ephraim G. and Mary A. (Lake) Diefendorf. When our subject was seven years of age his father removed to Fort Plain, where he has always lived. At the age of fourteen he became a clerk in J. R. Simm's

book and stationery store, where he remained four years, when he engaged in the same business himself, and has continued it ever since. He is identified with several of the industries of Fort Plain, and is known throughout the Mohawk valley as a public spirited and successful business man. He is a Republican in politics, and married Emma, daughter of Jonathan Ricketts, of Johnstown.

Dunckel, Dr. Walter Adams, Minden, was born at Fort Plain, February 20, 1869. He is the only son of Alvin Adams and Mary (Bleecker) Dunckel. After attending the village schools he prepared himself for college at the Clinton Liberal Institute, from which he graduated in 1887, and attended a course of lectures in the medical department of Columbia College, from which he graduated in 1890. He secured an appointment on the staff of St. Luke's hospital of New York, and after service in that hospital he returned to Fort Plain, where, since December, 1891, he has practiced his profession. He is a Republican in politics.

Dewey, James Elias, Minden, was born in Jefferson, Schoharie county, July 17, 1820. He is the oldest son of Elias and Mary (Teall) Dewey. After attending the district school and a select school kept by Rev. William Salisbury, he went to the Jefferson Academy. He spent the years 1837-38-39 in traveling in the south and west, and then taught district school. On April 1, 1840, he commenced the study of law with Abraham Becker, at South Worcester, Otsego county. He afterwards attended the Cherry Valley Academy, and read law with Jeremiah E. Carey, who became a member of congress. He commenced the practice of his profession at Cherry Valley in 1846, having been admitted to the bar in January of that year, at Albany. He continued practicing at Cherry Valley until 1866, when he was burned out. He then removed to Fort Plain and resided there until the spring of 1867, but in 1873 removed to Albany, where he was engaged in business until 1880, when he returned to Fort Plain and continued in active practice until 1887. In politics a lifelong Democrat, Mr. Dewey has never been an aspirant for political honors. He married Miss Sarah E. Wilkins, and they have five children, viz.: Sarah (wife of Herbert C. Wood of Fort Plain); George A., Edward W. (both residents of New York city); Mary Teall and James E., jr., residents of Fort Plain.

Dillenback Family, The.—This name was originally spelled by the first settlers Dillenbach, but the "h" has been changed to "k," and in some instances "e" is used instead of "a" in the last syllable. John Dillenback lived in Palatine, near Stone Arabia, where he died. He had twelve children, all of whom, except Conrad and John, lived and died in Palatine. The former died in Minden, the latter in Canajoharie. Of this family John was the first to die, at the age of sixty-three years. The others all lived to be over seventy-seven years of age. The children were as follows: Henry, Andrew, Conrad, John, Benjamin, George, Martin, Daniel, Margaret, who married John Dockstader; Elizabeth, who married Theophilus Ingalls; Nancy, who married Daniel Van Wie; and Phoebe, who married Peter Nestle. Conrad, the son of John, was born in Palatine April 16, 1772, and died in Minden October 20, 1849. He married, November 1, 1796, Margaret Woglemuth. She was born October 21, 1774. They had eleven children, viz.: Lydia, who died aged three years; John, died young; Henry, born

October 26, 1798, died in 1882, at Fort Plain; Solomon, died young; William; Eve, born November 25, 1806, widow of Baldus Dillenback, lives in Fort Plain; Catharine, born August 20, 1809, widow of Henry I. Wiles, resides in Minden; Thomas, died young; Peggy, born July 24, 1813, married David Wiles, and died at Cherry Valley; James, died young; and Joseph. Conrad removed from Palatine to Minden in 1808, and bought the farm now occupied by his grandson, James Dillenback. William (the son of Conrad) was born in Palatine, August 14, 1803, and married Catharine, daughter of Nicholas Casler. They had twelve children, viz.: Moses, a resident of Little Fall; James; Aaron, lives at Dexter, N. Y.; Ezra, resides in Minden; Levi, resides in Fort Plain; Lavina, wife of Charles A. Walrath of Minden; Lany, widow of William H. France, lives in Minden; Mary, wife of Henry Smith of Minden; Catharine, died aged sixteen; Lydia, wife of Louis Mower of Minden; Jonas, lives at Cobleskill; and Almira, wife of John P. Walrath of Richfield Springs. William was brought up on the old homestead, where he died June 9, 1875. James, the second son of William, was born in Minden, January 12, 1823, and married Maria Hess. They had seven children: Rufus, died aged thirteen; Betsey Catharine, wife of Irving Van Ness of Canajoharie; Juliette, wife of Dr. William Zoller of Fort Plain; Irene, who married Jacob J. Wiles, and died in Minden; William, born October 21, 1854, married Ida, daughter of J. H. Brookman, and has six children: Eugene, Anna, Jennie, Sherman and Grand (twins) and Rufus. William resides on the farm with his father. Seward, died young; and George M., born September 22, 1874, married Hattie, daughter of Jacob Ehle. They have one child, James G.; he is a farmer in Minden. James is a widower, and has always resided on the farm purchased by his grandfather, and which now consists of 200 acres. Joseph, the youngest son of Conrad, was born in Minden, June 1, 1818, and married Margaret, daughter of John A. Casler. They have had three children: Norman, died aged twenty years; Solomon, born September 30, 1844, married Mary Catharine, daughter of J. H. Brookman, and they have one child, Emery J., born March 4, 1879; and Mary M., wife of Martin A. Pickard, of Minden. Joseph has resided on his present farm of 100 acres since 1843.

Devoe, Daniel Isaac, Minden, was born in Warren, Herkimer county, January 19, 1860, and is the only son of a family of four surviving children born to Daniel A. and Maria (Snell) Devoe. His father is a farmer, and our subject attended the district schools, also the Clinton Liberal Institute, graduating in 1878, after which he took a course of study at the Rochester Commercial College. Finishing his studies in 1879, he became clerk in the drug store of Petit & Read of Fort Plain. After remaining in this position for three years Mr. Devoe went to Canajoharie, and in company with John N. Snell, opened a drug store, the firm being Snell & Devoe. Mr. Snell disposed of his interest to Thomas E. Dygert, and the firm became Devoe & Dygert. In 1885 Mr. Devoe disposed of his interest and came to Fort Plain, and formed with W. S. Shumway the present firm of Devoe & Shumway. In politics a Republican, he was elected county treasurer in 1890, his term expiring January 1, 1894. He married Agnes E., daughter of Joseph H. Shumway, and they have one child, Ethel.

Devendorf Family.—The original pioneers of this name were from Switzerland, two brothers and a cousin, who came to the Mohawk valley. The latter was killed at the

battle of Oriskany under General Herkimer in 1777. Jacob Devendorf located in Minden, where he owned one of the original patents. From him descended Solomon, who married Christina, a daughter of another Jacob Devendorf. They had the following family: Nancy, who married John P. Smith and died in Onondaga county; Elizabeth, married Peter March, and died in Minden, aged ninety-two years; Polly, widow of Nicholas Moyer, lives in Minden; Peggy, married George Cronkhite and died in Minden; Christina, married Peter Miller and died in Minden; Solomon, died in Minden in 1851; John S., died in Wisconsin; Henry S. and Farley both died in Minden. Solomon (son of Solomon) was born in Minden May 10, 1807, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Zoller. Of their five children, viz.: Farley, Abram, Christina, Marvin and Melvin (twins), all but the second died young. Solomon was a farmer and died in Minden June 10, 1886. Abram, the only survivor of the above family, was born in Minden December 25, 1840, was educated in the Fort Plain Seminary, and in 1859 graduated at the State Normal School at Albany, where he remained two years. He then became a student at Duff's College, Pittsburgh graduating in 1861. He taught school in Minden one winter and then engaged in farming, which he followed till April, 1891, when he became connected with the Zoller Lumber Company of Fort Plain, as treasurer, which position he now holds. He is a Republican, and has been vice-president of the First National Bank of St. Johnsville, and, since the organization of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Fort Plain, has been one of its directors. He married Celia A., daughter of Levi Snell of Minden, and has one child, Irving S.

Diefendorf, James A., Minden, was born in Minden, April 5, 1822. His grandfather, Jacob Diefendorf, married first a daughter of John Brookman, by whom he had the following children: Henry, who died in Clay; Abraham I., Michael, who died at Boonville. His second wife was a Miss Baum, and their children were Daniel and John I., (who both died in Minden); James, a physician (died at Milwaukee); and Josiah, who resides in California. The father of our subject (Abraham I.) was born in Minden, where he died July 28, 1858. He married Elizabeth Lintner, and of their seven children two died young. The others were John Oliver, who died at Fort Plain; Catharine, widow of Peter G. Bush, lives in Minden; Nancy, wife of Chauncey Diefendorf; and Maria Eliza, who married Harvey Wendell and died at Albany. James A. had the benefit of but a common school education, and worked on his father's farm, which is the only one now occupied by Orange Eckler. He afterwards engaged in farming in the town of Roseboom, but in 1852 returned to Minden, where he has since resided. He is a Republican in politics. He married Maria, daughter of Rev. John I. Wendell, a Methodist clergyman. Their children were Elizabeth, wife of Eli Cas'er of Minden; Anna Jane, wife of Albert Dunkle of New York, and Emery, who died aged twenty-two years.

Davis, William H., Canajoharie, was born in the village of Canajoharie, October 25, 1824, a son of John P. and Olive (Stafford) Davis. In 1816 a family (then consisting of Richard Stafford and his wife, the grandfather and grandmother of our subject) came to this town from Stafford Hill, near Cheshire, Mass., and their descendants still make this their home. Richard Stafford died here in 1826. On the father's side we learn

that the grandfather, Phineas Davis, was a native and resident of Freehold, N. J. His son, John P., was born in that town in 1795 and came to this town at the same time with the Stafford family. He was a contractor and builder and erected some of the best homes and churches in the Mohawk valley. He was the father of eight children: Joel R., died in 1863; Mary married Levi Wagner; Susan married Webster Wagner and died in 1887; George died in 1863; Amelia, wife of Homer P. Williams, of Montana, near St. Louis, Mo.; John P., jr. of New York; Margaret Elner, who died in infancy; and William H., our subject. John P. Davis, sr., died in 1860. The early life of William was spent in this town; he was educated in the Canajoharie Academy, and when he was nineteen years of age he left home to enter the large grocery and wine store of H. & W. J. Averill of Troy. He was sent from there in 1845 to represent their interests in Rochester, in the house of Brackett, Averill & Company, a branch of their concern; the same year the old house removed to New York. On the death of the senior partner, Horatio Averill, in 1855, Mr. Davis went to New York, where he succeeded to the business of the old firm under the firm of Brackett & Company, and January 1, 1868, he purchased the Brackett interest, and continued the business under the firm of Davis, Clark & Company, having admitted to partnership the youngest brother of our subject, John P. Davis. In 1891 Mr. Davis retired from the firm, after having been in active business for forty-six years. He left his brother, John P., at the head of the house and the business still continues under the firm name of Davis, Waters & Company. Mr. Davis has been largely interested since its earliest days in the Wagner Sleeping Car Company, besides many other enterprises. He has been a director and vice-president of the Canajoharie National Bank since 1870. He was married in 1853 to Anna Catharine, a daughter of George Geortner of Canajoharie. They had four children; Olive Stafford, who married Charles H. Whitaker of Toledo; Edith Allene, who married William S. Hawk, one of the proprietors of the Windsor Hotel of New York; the other two children, William G. and Anna C., died in infancy. Mrs. Davis died February 10, 1869. Mr. Davis has repeatedly been offered nomination for political offices but has always refused, and desires now, after a life spent in active business, the rest and quiet which would be beyond his power were he a politician.

Dewey, Amos, Canajoharie, was born about a mile north of Ames, June 6, 1835, and is the son of Flavel and Betsey F. (Bingham) Dewey. The great-grandfather of Amos B., with his two brothers, were the first of the family in this country, coming here from England and locating in Vermont. The grandfather of Amos B. was Daniel, born in Vermont, April 24, 1760. His wife's name was Joanna Dutton, who was born May 3, 1769. They had three children: Flavel, Ann and Temperance. Flavel, the oldest child, was born in Vermont February 3, 1801, and married Betsey F., daughter of Abial and Susan (Fowler) Bingham. Of their five children there are living: Mary, wife of Henry A. Jones of Brooklyn; Charles Henry, an insurance agent at Brooklyn; and Amos B., the subject of these notes. The early life of the latter was spent in this town. He was educated at Ames Academy and also at Lowell Academy, and assisted his father on the farm until January 28, 1858, when he married Louise E., daughter of Benjamin and Effie (Armstrong) Jones of Sharon. They had two children, both now deceased: Walter L., born October 27, 1858, died May 16, 1873; and Willis J.,

born September 18, 1861, died August 28, 1889. He was engaged in glove manufacturing in Johnstown. In the spring of 1858 Mr. Dewey bought the farm where he resides, a beautiful home, in connection with which he owns an apiary of over fifty swarms. He has always been a Republican, and has held the office of justice of the peace for over eighteen years. In 1883 he he was elected justice of session for this county.

Devoe, Daniel, Canajoharie, Fort Plain p. o., was born in the town of Warren, Herkimer county, April 19, 1820, and is the son of Cornelius and Ann (Deyoe) Devoe. About 1750 three brothers by this name came from Germany, one settled in Pennsylvania, one was of a roving disposition and never married or made a home, and the other, the great-grandfather of our subject, settled near Schaghticoke. His son Anthony was born in 1744, and served in the war of the revolution. He married Larey Vandenburg of Rensselaer county, and they were the parents of nine children, Cornelius, father of our subject, being the second son. He was born April 30, 1797, and always lived in Herkimer county and died there in December, 1888. He married Ann Deyoe of Pittstown, Rensselaer county in 1819, and they were the parents of six children; three are now living: Wallace G. of Warren; Julia A. Ludden of Columbia; and Daniel, our subject. His early life was spent in Herkimer county, and he was educated in Springfield High School and Academy. He assisted his father summers and taught school winters for six years. When twenty-seven years of age he married Maria Snell of Herkimer. May 6, 1847, he leased a farm until 1851, when he bought the place, lived on it until 1863, when he moved to the town of Canajoharie, where he bought the farm of 200 acres on which he now lives. They are the parents of six children, four of whom are living: Margaret A. Duryee of Everett, Washington; Charlott N., wife of Dr. A. Zoller of West Union, Ia.; Daniel I., druggist of Fort Plain; and Demetra E., wife of Frank W. Bauder of Minden. Mr. Devoe is one of the active members of the Universalist church at Fort Plain. He has held the office of deacon in this church for about ten years, and is considered one of the best farmers there is in the town.

Doxstater, Jacob J., Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born July 30, 1809, and died December 10, 1885. He married Eliza, daughter of Albert Veeder, by whom he had four children. She died December 2, 1847, and later on he married Miss Cornelia Williams, by whom he had one child. Jacob J. was a farmer and had 350 acres of land. At his death he was considered one of the leading farmers of the town. Daniel, son of Jacob, was born November 9, 1846, in Mohawk, and married Emily Dillenback of Palatine, daughter of George H. Dillenback. He is a farmer, owning 200 acres of land and a large dairy. He is also interested in real estate in Waukegan.

Dockstader, Henry, Mohawk, son of Frederick, was born in Mohawk April 11, 1778, and died October 4, 1866. He married Margaret Eaker of Palatine, and of their thirteen children three are now living: Jacob, who lives at Canajoharie; Benjamin, residing at Natural Bridge; and Henry, who was born August 23, 1816. The latter married in 1849 Gertrude Caldwell, and they had five children: Luella (deceased), Maggie, Clara, Jennie and Hattie (deceased). Jennie is the wife of Cornelius Lotridge;

Maggie married David H. Wemple; and Clara lives at home with her parents. The family is of German ancestry. They attend the Dutch Reformed church at Fonda. Mr. Dockstader owns a farm of 160 acres.

Davis, George L., Mohawk, son of John V. and Sarah (Wemple) Davis, was born in Mohawk, April 22, 1854. His grandfather Davis was born in Dutchess county, and married a Miss Veeder. He came to this county when a young man, and was active in politics. He had a family of four sons and four daughters, and was a member of the Dutch Reformed church. His son, John V., was born in 1827, and died June 1, 1874, and was buried with Masonic honors in addition to the usual church services. He was a popular man in Fonda for many years, and served three terms as deputy sheriff. He was an active Republican, being a frequent delegate to county and state conventions. He was also a prominent member of Fultonville Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. His widow is still living, and their children were Richard, who died at thirty-five, deeply lamented; George L., Willett F., Anna B., Marshall, who died at twenty (also a very painful bereavement), and John W. George L. Davis received a common school education and engaged in the news business at Fonda when seventeen years old, which he carried on until 1889. Since 1880 he has been in the insurance business. In 1888 he was elected county clerk and was very popular in that office. He was also town clerk for three years, and always was an active Republican. February 8, 1892, he was appointed deputy revenue collector, and having turned over the news business to his brother John, he is enabled to devote himself to his present engagements. Mr. Davis is happily married and has a fine boy, and owns a very handsome dwelling and may be considered one of the rising young men of Fonda.

De Bann, Rev. John A., Mohawk, son of Abram I. and Maria (Van Houten) De Baun, was born in Clarkstown, Rockland county, March 6, 1833. The family is of Huguenot origin and is identified with ancestral piety. Mr. De Bann graduated from Rutgers College in 1852, and three years later from the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at New Brunswick, N. J., with the degrees of A. B. and A. M. In 1855 he was stationed at Oyster Bay, L. I., where he remained three years, whence he was called to Niskayuna, remaining there twenty-four and a half years and fulfilling a faithful and laborious pastorate. In 1883 he accepted a call from the Reformed church of Fonda, where he has labored with ability and with great acceptance. On July 26, 1855, he married Elizabeth B. Coddington of New Brunswick, N. J., daughter of David and Deborah (Van Derveer) Coddington. They have had seven children, four of whom are living: John C., Dr. Cornelius W., Maria and Anna M; the others died in infancy. Pastor De Baun holds high rank among the working clergy, and was president of the General Synod of the Reformed church in 1880. He was also invited to deliver the address at the installation of Professor Lansing to the chair of languages at the New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and he is in frequent service of this public character in addition to his contributions to the press. He was also elected president of Hope College, but felt that duty required him to remain in his present field. Pastor De Bann is an instructive preacher, preferring usefulness to display, his object being simply to convey Scripture truth. He adheres to the standards of the church, notwith-

standing the tendency of the age to human inventions. Before coming to his present field he made a foreign tour to recruit health, and visited some of the most interesting scenes connected with that Reformation whose doctrines he has so faithfully maintained. Since his removal to Fonda his son (Cornelius) has graduated at the Albany Medical College and established himself in practice in the same village with encouraging success, and thus father and son are laboring, each in a philanthropic profession.

De Baun, Cornelius W., M. D., Mohawk, son of Rev. John A. De Baun, was born in Niskayuna, June 21, 1865. He attended Union College two years and then studied medicine with Dr. F. G. Buckbee of Fonda, and also with Dr. A. Vander Veer of Albany, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1887. He began practice in Fultonville the same year, but later on moved to Fonda, where he has since been engaged in his profession with marked success. On May 4, 1887, he married Miss Laura C. Mills, daughter of George E. Mills, and they have one child, John A., jr. Dr. De Baun is secretary of the County Medical Society, also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the order of Red Men and was one of the founders of the Fonda Literary Society which has done so much toward the culture of local talent.

De Wandelaer, James G., Palatine, was born in Mohawk, November 11, 1836. His father was Gansevoort De Wandelaer, and his grandfather, John, was a native of Albany. The latter, during the early part of his life, was an assistant in the law office of Judge Van Vechten of Albany, and was under Gov. George Clinton in the year 1786 paymaster of the militia. Some time after the revolution he moved to Palatine and purchased the farm of 600 acres, known as the Schenck farm, where he lived until his death. He also owned a grist, saw and fulling mill. His wife was a daughter of Col. Peter Ganesvoort, and they had six sons and two daughters. Ganesvoort De Wandelaer was born in Palatine in 1797, reared on a farm and married Delia, daughter of Adam Getman of Ephratah. The two oldest children died in infancy, but one daughter and two sons survived. He fell heir to his father's property, which he afterwards sold and bought the farm now owned by Jacob Nellis. At one time he owned the farm on which the Fonda court-house now stands, and also the farm now occupied by William Campbell. In 1845 he bought the farm now occupied by James G., where he died. When a young man he studied medicine and also was clerk in the store of his uncle, Conrad Ganesvoort, who kept the first store in Fort Plain. He died in 1867 and his wife in 1876. James G. De Wandelaer was reared on the farm where he now resides. In 1885 he married Anna, daughter of George Lawyer of Schoharie. He is a farmer, owning 288 acres of land, with good buildings, and has the largest dairy in Palatine. In politics he is a Republican. His brother, John A., enlisted in the Union army in 1862, and served under General Banks in Louisiana, where he was in four engagements; also under General Sheridan, in Virginia, he participated in five engagements and was wounded in the shoulder in the battle of Winchester. He died April 9, 1891, at Adamstown, Md., and his remains were interred in Washington.

Dockstader, Albert V., Palatine, was born in Mohawk. October 3, 1839. He is a son of Jacob J., who was a son of John, and the latter the son of Jacob, whose father was Marcus Dockstader, of German descent, who lived and died in Mohawk. John

Dockstader and his father, Jacob, were born in Mohawk and were farmers. John married Phœbe Dillenback and raised three sons and five daughters. Both parents died in Mohawk. Jacob J. Dockstader was born in the same town in 1809, and was a farmer. He married Eliza, daughter of Albert Veeder, who, with his father was taken prisoner by Sir John Johnson, but afterwards released. Jacob J. had three sons and one daughter by his first wife. His second wife was Cornelia Williams who is now living and is the mother of his second daughter. He died in 1885. Albert Doxtstader was educated in the public schools and at Clinton Liberal Institute, and married Gertrude, daughter of Conrad P. and Gertrude Snell of Palatine. They have two children, Arthur J. and Earl W. At the age of twenty-six Mr. Dockstader went from Mohawk to the town of Florida and bought a farm which he now owns. He resided there until 1888, when he came to Palatine and bought the farm he now occupies. He was justice of the peace in Florida and has been highway commissioner. His wife is a member of the Reformed church. It may be added that Conrad P. Snell, whose daughter became Albert V. Dockstader's wife, was member of assembly in 1851.

Diefendorf, Warner W., Palatine, was born December 2, 1831, in Oneida county, but removed with his parents when a year old to Montgomery county. His father was Warner; his grandfather John; and his great-grandfather John J. John Diefendorf married Maria Failing, and had twelve children, among them Rev. B. I. Diefendorf and also Dr. Abraham Diefendorf, the well-known physician. He held many minor offices, and was a deacon in the Reformed church, but afterwards became a Methodist. He died in 1860 and his wife some years previously. Warner Diefendorf was born at Frey's Bush in 1796. He received a good education and married Christiana Wohlgenuth, a native of Frey's Bush, and a daughter of William Wohlgenuth, who was born in Palatine, and after the revolutionary war married Maria Counterman. Warner Diefendorf had twelve children, ten of whom reached maturity. He was a member of the M. E. Church, and assisted in building the church at Salt Springville. He and his wife both died in 1877, having lived together over sixty years. Warner W. was raised on a farm and educated in the public schools and also at Cherry Valley Seminary. In 1860 he married Margaret A., daughter of James W. and Mary (Coppernoll) Hopkins of Minden. They have two children: Miles H., a produce dealer of Canajoharie; and Lillian E. In 1871 Mr. Diefendorf went to Fort Plain and had a grist-mill for three years, but the next eight years he sold produce and also pumps. He afterwards bought the "Archibald Fox farm" in Palatine, where he now resides. He is a member of the Royal Templars of Temperance at Fort Plain, and of the M. E. Church at the same place, which he helped to build. He is also trustee of the old Palatine church, the oldest in Montgomery county.

Diefendorf, Jacob, Root, was born November 16, 1836, at Currytown, and is the son of William B. and Elizabeth (Diefendorf) Diefendorf. The grandfather, Jacob, was a son of Jacob Diefendorf, who came from Switzerland with his father, Henry, about the 1730, and soon after settled at Currytown. He was one of the earliest pioneers in Root. He had three sons: Jacob, Frederick and Henry. Frederick was killed by a falling tree, and Jacob and Henry were both the grandfathers of the subject of this sketch.

Jacob, the parental grandfather, was born at Currytown September 23, 1769. He was a boy about twelve years old when taken prisoner by the Tories and Indians, and in one of the battles was felled by an Indian, scalped, and left for dead. The day after the battle he was found and cared for by his friends. He was an extensive land owner and farmer. By his wife, Margaret Bellinger, he had two sons and three daughters. He died at Currytown October 8, 1854, and his wife about 1842. The father of Jacob (William B. Dievendorf the only surviving son) was born August 30, 1805, at Currytown. He was an extensive farmer and was one of the first dairymen of his town. He was a Democrat, and served as supervisor. He died March 11, 1882. His nine children were as follows: Jacob, Henry A., Charles, Catherine, Charlotte, Fannie M., Lydia and Elizabeth. Margaret died aged twenty. The wife of William B. was born November 24, 1811, and was a daughter of Henry D. and Margaret (Lyker) Dievendorf. Her father served in the assembly of the state and was county judge. She was one of nine children: Jacob H., Henry L., Cornelius, John F., Catharine, Elizabeth, Hannah, Margaret and Fannie. Jacob Dievendorf was reared on a farm and received a common school education, supplemented by an academic course. He married January 5, 1865, Lydia, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Mount) Shelp. They have had five children: Elizabeth A., Luella, David K., William J. and Sarah M. Mr. Dievendorf is an extensive farmer and dairyman, owning the old homestead of 220 acres besides two other farms of 200 and 190 acres respectively. He furnished a substitute for the war; has served as supervisor for three terms and is a Democrat. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church. He is also interested in the bank at Fonda and the cheese factory of his town.

Dievendorf, Henry A., Root, was born April 9, 1838, and is the son of William B. and Elizabeth Dievendorf. He was reared on a farm and received a common school education, supplemented by a course at the high school in Canajoharie. In 1868 he began for himself, and in 1877 bought 304 acres of land one mile south of Sprakers, and in 1891 200 acres in Sprakers. He is a director in the National Spraker Bank at Canajoharie and a manufacturer of cheese. In politics he is a Democrat. He married December 25, 1874, Tenetta, daughter of Elias and Lucretia (Wessels) Lasher, natives of Root. Mr. Lasher reared three sons and six daughters. He died September 23, 1869, aged sixty-three. His wife survives him, aged seventy-seven. Mr. and Mrs. Dievendorf have five children: Wilham B., Mary L., Edwin G., Catharine E. and Luetta. The family are members of the Reformed church. Mr. Dievendorf is greatly interested in educational methods. He is also a successful business man and is interested in the bank and also in several cheese factories.

Elwood Family.—The first settler of this family in the Mohawk valley was Peter Elwood. He was an Englishman, and settled in what is now the town of Minden. He married Margaret Nellis, and they had the following family: Henry, who died in Frankfort; David, died in Herkimer county; Peter; George, died in Montgomery county; Nancy, married John Miller and died in Minden; and Margaret, widow of Luke Lewis, lives in Chautauqua county. The original settler, Peter, died in Minden. Peter of the above family, was born in Minden in March, 1800, and married Mary Moyer. Their children were Nancy, who married Josiah Root and died in Minden;

Reuben; David, a resident of Fort Plain; Margaret wife, of Lansing Fake, resides in Troy; Mary, widow of Milton Failing, lives in Minden; Peter, died in October, 1875. Reuben, of the above family, was born in Minden February 12, 1827. His father was a farmer, and his early life was spent in agricultural pursuits, his education being limited to the district schools. Mr. Elwood carried on farming till 1871 when he came to Fort Plain and was engaged in buying and selling country produce till 1882. He then went into the coal and fire insurance business, which he has since conducted. Politically he is a Republican, and since the Clinton Liberal Institute was located at Fort Plain, he has been one of its trustees, and also for three years secretary and treasurer. He married Catharine, daughter of John Dillenbeck of Danube, and they have two sons: Byron H., born in Minden, married Jessie Burlingame of Pownell, Vt. He is a widower and has one child, named Florence. Ellsworth E., born in Minden June 4, 1861, married Emma, daughter of E. W. Wood. They have one child, Edwin R.

Edwards, Charles Clement, Minden, was born in Ephratah, November 3, 1850, and is the fourth son in a family of eight children of James and Catherine (Nellis) Edwards. His father became a resident of Palatine in the spring of 1853, and he attended the local schools and the Fort Plain Seminary. In the fall of 1865 he became a clerk in the dry goods store of C. Y. Edwards, where he remained two years and he then attended the Johnstown public schools for one year, and later on accompanied his father who removed to Jonesville, Saratoga county, and he was engaged one year in farming. Returning to Fort Plain our subject was for two years clerk for C. Y. Edwards, and after that was clerk for E. W. Edwards at Johnstown. In the spring of 1875, in company with his brother, J. K. Edwards, he purchased the hat, cap and men's furnishing stock of A. G. Mabee, and two years later Mr. Edwards obtained his brother's interest in the business, which he has since carried on. A Republican in politics, he has never held public office. He married Blanche, daughter of Emmet Raymond of Saratoga county. They have two children: Blanche Raymond and Elizabeth Anna.

Elithorp, Elias J., Palatine Bridge, was born in Saratoga county in 1831. His father was Isaac and his grandfather Azariah Elithorp. The latter came from Connecticut at an early day and settled in Edinburgh, Saratoga county, and married Effie Younglove, who bore him five sons and five daughters. Isaac was born in Saratoga county, May 6, 1796, and married Effie Russell, by whom he had seven sons and one daughter. He was a member of Fish House Lodge F. & A. M., and was also a Royal Arch Mason. He died in Saratoga county, where he had always lived, in 1856 and his wife in 1880. Elias J. Elithorp married Mary, a daughter of Arie and Margaret (Neahr) Van Wie. They have had two children: Etta, who died at one year of age; and Oscar, a graduate of Albany Medical College, who died in 1882 aged twenty-six. When a young man Elias J. came to Montgomery county and settled at Palatine Bridge, where he has since resided. He has been a contractor and builder for thirty years, and was supervisor two years and commissioner of highways three years, at present being justice of the peace. He is a member of Hamilton Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M., Hiram Union Chapter No. 53, and Utica Commandery No. 3. He is a member of Royal and Select Master Lodge of Albany, and has taken his 22d degree in Masonry.

Eldredge, Henry Moyer, Minden, was born in Leesville, Schoharie county, March 27, 1851, and is the seventh of a family of nine children of Clinton and Catherine (Moyer) Eldredge. His father was a farmer, and his education was limited to the common schools. He taught school for four years and in 1876 commenced to read law in the office of Coons & Winnie of Sharon Springs. He was admitted to the bar in 1879 and in March of the following year opened an office in Fort Plain, where he still continues to practice. A Democrat in politics, he has held the office of justice of the peace in Schoharie and Montgomery counties, and was from 1883 to 1889 clerk of the board of supervisors. He married Ida C., daughter of Aaron Dunckel, of Minden.

Edwards James Keller, Minden, was born in Eohratah, and is the third son of a family of eight children born to James and Catharine E. (Nellis) Edwards. His grandfather, John Edwards, was a member of Congress in 1838. Our subject attended the local schools also the Fort Plain Seminary. He engaged in mercantile business at the age of eighteen years and was for one year clerk for Fanley & Griffiths, hardware dealers. In 1866 he went to Johnstown and became interested in the manufacture of gloves and mittens, and also carried on farming. He married in 1869 Kittie R., daughter of Joshua Vedder of Nelliston. He returned to Fort Plain in 1871, and was resident buyer for a New York produce house with whom he was engaged two years. In the fall of 1873 he bought a stock of hats and caps formerly owned by A. G. Mabee, which business he carried on till 1876. In the latter year he engaged in the manufacture of furniture, doing a wholesale and retail trade, which he has since continued. In politics he is a Republican and in 1878 he was elected county treasurer, which office he filled till 1885. He is a prominent Mason and he was a trustee of the lodge for many years; also a trustee of the Red Men Lodge and of the Reformed church. He is also president of the Fort Plain Furniture Company and a director of the Fort Plain National Bank. He has one daughter, viz.: May Gertrude.

Edwards, J. S. Glen, of Glen, one of the four children of John V. S. Edwards and Mary (Hosford) Edwards of Glen, was born January 16, 1847, the others being Edward, Geddes H., and Mary (Mrs. George Abel). John Edwards, grandfather, was born in Root, his wife, Ann Van Schayck, was born on Staten Island. William Edwards, the great-grandfather, came from Wales and in early life settled in Root. Mary M. (Hosford) Edwards, the mother of J. S. Glen, was a daughter of Joseph and Maria (Glen) Hosford, her father being John S. Glen of Schenectady, and his father was Abraham Glen, whose brother Jacob was the original patentee in Delancy patent of 10,000 acres in the towns of Glen and Root. His daughter Deborah was the grandmother of Maria (Glen) Hosford. The father of Abraham and Jacob was John Alexander Glen. His father, Alexander Lindsey Glen, came from Scotland and was one of the original settlers of Schenectady. J. S. Glen Edwards was married February 28, 1872, to Mary Van Deveer, one of two children of William and Elizabeth (Putman) Van Deveer of Glen, the other being John Van Deveer. Her grandfather was John Van Deveer and his father was Tunis Van Deveer, who was a native of Monmouth county, N. J. He held a commission in the revolutionary army. They have two children, Florence M. and Deborah Glen Edwards. It is from one of this family (Jacob S. Glen) that the town of Glen takes its name.

England, Morgan, Palatine, was born in Palatine December 28, 1848. On the paternal side he traces his ancestors through Benjamin N. England, his father; Nicholas England, grandfather, to Benjamin England, great-grandfather, a Lutheran minister, who came from Germany. On the maternal side, his mother was Amelia Cook, his grandmother was Catherine Shultz, and his great-grandmother was Catherine Loucks. Benjamin N. England and wife, parents of Morgan, had three sons and two daughters, of whom Morgan and Menzo alone survive. Benjamin N. was a farmer and dealer in produce. He voted for Lincoln, though a Democrat. He was a justice of the peace, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was his wife. He died November 7, 1883. His father survives and lives in Palatine. Morgan England was educated in the common schools and Fairfield Seminary. April 23, 1890, he married Maggie, daughter of D. S. and Margaret (England) Potter. In addition to farming, Morgan taught school fourteen years. He was also partner with J. J. Potter in the hay and coal trade; in 1890 the partnership was dissolved, and he has since continued the business alone in connection with farming 120 acres. He is a member of the Red Men and also of the Grange. He and his wife are members of St. Mark's Lutheran church at Canajoharie.

Fagan, William T., Amsterdam, was born near Harrisburg, Pa., in 1833, and moved with his parents when a child to Tribes Hill. He was educated in the public schools and academy and is a graduate of the Rochester University and Theological Seminary. He was pastor of the Baptist churches at Rome, Amsterdam, Booneville and Norwalk, Conn. About twelve years ago he retired from the ministry and has since resided in Amsterdam, engaging mainly in real estate and newspaper work. He never married.

Fowler, Mrs. Sarah A., Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born May 2, 1828, at Conner's Mills, and is a daughter of Gilbert Conner and sister of James Conner. Gilbert Conner's father, Garrett O'Conner, was born in Ireland July 25, 1766, and came to this country previous to the revolution. Sarah J. was educated in the school of her district. One of her earliest recollections is the building of the Reformed church at Hagaman's Mills. She was married October 4, 1853, to Alonzo Fowler of Saratoga county, a year after her father's death. Mr. Fowler has been a very successful farmer, considering the many reverses he had when first securing the Conner farm, owning now one of the finest as well as one of the largest farms in this section of the county.

Frazer, Dr. Leonard A., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Bethlehem, Albany county, on the 17th of May, 1846, and was educated in the public schools and in the Cass High School and graduated from the Albany Medical College in the year 1871. He began to practice at Slingerlands, Albany county, and in the year 1881 he came to Amsterdam. On the 19th of October, 1870, he married Catherine A., second daughter of Albert I., and Catherine Slingerland of Albany county. They had five children. Theresa died at the age of sixteen years, Robert, Albert S., Catharine M. and Leonard H. The doctor's father (Robert) was born in the same county on the 10th of June, 1804 and married Mrs. Sarah A. Arkles of the same town. All their children died in infancy except Leonard A. His grandfather came with his parents from Scotland when an infant. General Frazer was of this family and was killed at the battle of Sar-

atoga in the Revolutionary war. These Frazers were descended from the same clan with Lord Lovatt and lived at Inverness, Scotland.

Fitzgerald, Timothy, Amsterdam, was born on the 11th of October, 1855, in the town of Florence, Oneida county, and was educated in the public schools. In early life he was a farmer and afterwards learned the carpenter's trade and worked at the business in the far west. He was in Utah territory two years but returned to this state and located at Amsterdam in 1881. On the 19th of April, 1881, he married Mary Griffin of the town of Lewis, Lewis county, by whom he had two sons and one daughter: William, Mary E., and Edward F. Mr. Fitzgerald is doing a prosperous business in the manufacture and bottling of carbonated drinks, corner of Church and Reid streets, Amsterdam.

Folmsbee, Peter, Amsterdam, was born in Root, January 9, 1828; he was educated in the common schools of those times and until he was twenty-two was a farmer; he then learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he followed in that town twenty-two years. In 1865 he married Malvina Wessell, of his native place, by whom he had one son, Luman, who afterwards married Lottie Jones of Amsterdam. Mrs. Folmsbee died in August, 1870; he then came to Amsterdam in 1871 to work at his trade, and February 6, 1872, he married Mrs. Sarah A. Mills (born Brown) of Washington county; she had four children by her first husband, Taylor L. Mills, namely: Lewis T., who married Alice Sinclair (an English lady); Emma, who married Moses N. Newell, formerly of Troy; Minnie, married Earl Vought of this city; and Frederick H., who married Margaret Lyons of Cambridge, Mass. Mr. Folmsbee has worked at his trade in this city twenty-one years; his father, James, was in the war of 1812 at Sackett's Harbor.

Flansburg, Albertus B., Amsterdam, was born on the 1st of August, 1856, in the town of Wright, Schoharie county, and was educated in the public schools and graduated from Fort Edward Collegiate Institute in 1877. He taught school for five years and read law with Walter L. Van Denberg, and was admitted to the bar in 1883. He has since practiced law in this city and at the time of writing (1892) is a justice of the city court. His father, Henry, was born in the town of Berne, twelve miles south of Albany, on the 26th of August, 1814. He married Janette Rosekrans of his native place. They had seven children, three sons and four daughters: Louise E., Henry R., Catherine E., Sarah J., Loretta S., Garrett E. and Albertus B. He is of Dutch stock, his forefathers having come from Holland.

Fox, Ira, Amsterdam, was born April 2, 1862, in the town of Mokawk, and is the son of Lyman and Harriet J. (Snell) Fox. His father (Lyman) was born in the same town April 25, 1836, and was the father of six living children. Frank, the second son, is still living on the old homestead and the other four reside in Johnstown. Ira, the subject of our sketch, attended the school in West Amsterdam until he was sixteen, when he entered the Johnstown Academy, where he spent two years securing a good business education. In 1880 his mother died. He left home at once and began work at carpentering in Amsterdam where he remained two years. November 8, 1882, he married Martha A. Boyd of Amsterdam. After his marriage he worked one of his

father's farms in the town of Johnstown for one year, then engaged with Mr. Sanford as a carpenter. He had been here but a short time when, the foreman leaving, Mr. Fox succeeded to the position which he has since retained, and Mr. Sanford owes much of the beauty and good appearance of everything to the watchful eye of his superintendent. Mr. Fox is the father of two children: Martha L., born September 1, 1883; Walter I., born January 17, 1886. Mr. Fox now owns and conducts a dairy farm of 160 acres near Fort Johnson.

Fraser, John T., Florida, was born in Albany, February 24, 1827. His father (Hugh) was born in that city, in the year 1793, but his mother (Julia Ann M'Entee) was a native of Philadelphia. His grandtather, John Fraser, was born in Scotland. He has one sister living, Mrs. Southwick of Albany. John T. married, July 1, 1852, Eleanor Kelley, daughter of Peter and Anna M. (Dougall) Kelley of Scotch Bush, and they have an adopted daughter, Eleanor Fraser. Mr. Fraser is a business man in Albany, spending his summers upon his farm in the town of Florida.

Failing Family, The—This family is of German descent, and the pioneer was one of the fifty families sent to this country by Queen Anne. He settled at Livingston Manor on the Hudson, and removed to Schoharie county. Some time previous to the revolutionary war he came to Canajoharie. He had a family of six sons, of whom the youngest was Henry. The latter had a large family of children, viz.: Jacob H., Richard, Henry, John, Philip, Elizabeth, who married Jacob Walrath; Nancy, who married Henry Zimmerman; Catharine who married another Zimmerman; and Alice, who married a man by the name of Wormwood. Richard, of the above family, had a son, John R., who married Elizabeth Loveless, and had eleven children, viz.: Louisa, widow of David Ehle, resides in Minden; Rufus; Mary, widow of Albert Barnes, lives in Pennsylvania; Alonzo, died in Canajoharie; Luthera, wife of William Skillan of Vine-land, N. J.; Schuler, lives in Fort Plain; Eleanor, wife of Peter Kisner of Amsterdam; Emma, widow of William H. Harper, resides in Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, died young; Henrietta, wife of William Dingman, resides in Virginia; and Jane, widow of J. Q. A. South, resides in Fultonville. John R. was a blacksmith by trade, and became a resident of Fort Plain in 1834, where he died in 1875. Rufus, the oldest son of the above family, was born in Canajoharie, January 21, 1824, and married first, Jane Blessing, by whom he had three children: Celia Elizabeth, wife of Henry Husen of Starkville; Ida A., wife of W. R. Walrath of Fort Plain; and Josephine who died young. He married second, Augusta Ellsworth, by whom he had two children: Maria S., wife of Lewia Shinnahan of Franklin, and one son named Rufus W. He was interested with his father in the foundry which he now runs in Fort Plain. He is a Republican in politics, and has been president and trustee of the village, also excise commissioner. Henry, son of Henry (the later being son of the original ancestor), married Mary Chapman and had eight children: Simeon, who died in Minden; Josiah, who died in Portland, Oregon; Jeremiah; William, who died in Seneca Falls; James, resides in Binghamton; Catharine, died in Minden; Eliza, died in New York; and Sarah Jane, who married Daniel Rapp and died in New York. Henry died July 16, 1826, aged about fifty-six years. Jeremiah, of the above family, was born in Minden

November 19, 1810, and married April 28, 1846, Eliza Ann Lightall, who was born in Ephratah April 17, 1822. They had four children: Sarah Jane, who died aged twenty-four; Mary Lucy, who died aged eighteen years; Elizabeth, died aged two years; and Josiah, who was born in Fort Plain July 12, 1859, married Carrie Hodges and is a merchant at Hartford, Wis. Jeremiah worked on a farm until the death of his father, when he came to Fort Plain and learned the blacksmith's trade, and has since resided there. He is a Republican.

Fish, Leonard Frothingham, Fultonville, was born in Fultonville March 25, 1867. After completing his studies at the Fultonville Union school he took a four years' literary course at Clinton Liberal Institute at Fort Plain. He read law for three years with R. B. Fish and was admitted as an attorney and counsellor on the 2d of December, 1890, and is now in active practice at Fultonville. He is the youngest son of Judge Frothingham Fish of the Supreme Court, who by many years' service became distinguished as an able jurist throughout the State. He is a grandson of Counsellor Howland Fish (a graduate of Yale college, and who for a term of years was district attorney of Montgomery county) and Eliza Frothingham. Howland Fish was a son of Peter Fish (who was of Holland descent and who served in the revolutionary army and fought for the country at Bunker Hill) and Alice Howland who was of English descent. Eliza Frothingham was a daughter of Thomas Frothingham (who was of Scotch descent and who fought for the country at Bunker Hill) and Elizabeth Frost, who was of English stock. Mr. Fish's mother's name was Susan Bronk, and she is a daughter of the Rev. Robert Bronk and Catherine Van Denbergh. Catherine Van Denbergh was a daughter of John Van Denbergh and Agnes Storm. Robert Bronk was a son of Judge Leonard Bronk (a gentleman of immense wealth, who was an officer in the American army in the revolution, and served eleven years in the assembly, four years in the senate, and ten years upon the bench in the State of New York) and Catherine Van Denbergh, all of whom being of straight Holland descent. Judge Leonard Bronk was a son of John Bronk, and a grandson of Robert Bronk, who was granted a patent of an immense tract of land in the State of New York. On November 8, 1892, our subject was elected district attorney of Montgomery county by a handsome majority.

Foster, Alonzo B., M. D., C. M., Mohawk, is the son of Daniel R. and Lydia A. (Becker) Foster, was born in Waterford, Ontario, Canada. He graduated from Trinity Medical College of Toronto in 1887, also College of Physicians and Surgeons of the same city, and the New York Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital in 1888. The same year he settled at Fonda where he has since practiced with success. In 1887 he received the degree of fellow of Trinity College.

Fox, Mathew, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., (son of William) was born at Fort Plain August 29, 1797. His father, William, was born in the town of Palatine, and the father of William was one of the first settlers in the county and town, where he built the first grist-mill. William married Margaret Wormuth, a sister of Lieutenant Wormuth. He was a farmer and was one of the guard at Fort Plain. He had three sons and a daughter: Peter, Daniel, Matthew and Elizabeth. Matthew married Catharine Dockstader, daughter of Nicholas Dockstader, and settled about two miles west of Fonda, where he re-

mained a few years, and then removed to the farm now owned by his son Julian, which he bought and cleared, residing thereon nearly forty years. He died June 1, 1866, having accumulated a large fortune. His wife died in August, 1867. They had six sons and three daughters. Julian married Mary Dockstader, daughter of John J. Dockstader, and he has one child, Boyd D., who resides at home. Mr. Fox has held the office of assessor seven years.

Fonda, Adam H., Mohawk, Fonda p. o., son of General Henry Fonda, was born November 7, 1799, in the village of Fonda. He married Catharine, daughter of Adam Dockstader, and settled on the farm now owned by J. J. Whitmore. They had two sons and four daughters: Henry A., now a resident of Milton, Pa.; Adam D. (deceased); Hester, wife of Abram I. Veeder; Sarah A., wife of John D. Benson, who resides at Randolph; Eleanor M. and Alida C., who reside in Fonda. Adam H. died October 2, 1852, and his wife February 23, 1870. Henry is president of a bank at Milton, Pa. He married Carrie Brown, and has one son, Lawrence.

Fox, Christopher C., Palatine, was born in Palatine, June 16, 1843. His father was Peter G., and his grandfather Christopher C. Fox, born in 1774 in Palatine, a farmer, who married Margaret Gramps (born in 1775), who bore him seven children. They both died in Palatine, he in 1852 and she in 1856. Peter G. Fox was a farmer, and married Maria, daughter of Casper J. Cook of Palatine, and they had three sons and four daughters. He died in Palatine January 26, 1879. Christopher C. Fox, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools and at Fort Edward Seminary. He married May 27, 1868, Dorcas, daughter of Frederick and Lorane (Yost) Sammons of Montgomery county, one of a family of eight children. They have had the following children: Lorane S., Marcus (deceased), Clara N., Charles C. Mr. Fox has been highway commissioner six years. His wife is a member of the Reformed church at Fort Plain.

Fox, Richard, Palatine, was born in Palatine, June 5, 1822, and is a son of William W., whose father was William W. W., a native of Germany, who came to America previous to the revolution. William W. W., senior, was a man of more than ordinary education, and was an officer in the revolutionary army. He settled on a farm owned by Richard Fox and died there. The grandfather of Richard was born in Palatine, and married a Miss Recta. He was a justice of the peace for forty years. He and his wife were members of the Reformed church, and both died in Palatine. William W. Fox was born in Palatine, educated at the common school, and was the father of twelve children. He lived and died on the farm now occupied by Richard. Richard Fox married Mary Frailey of Palatine, by whom he has four children: William, Myron, Laney E. and Meletta. He is a farmer and has thoroughly improved his farm and built a fine residence. He is a Democrat, and he and his wife are members of the Reformed church.

Fuller, Augustus, Palatine Bridge, was born in the town of Palatine in 1846, and is a son of Alva and Elizabeth F. (Shill) Fuller. He was educated in the common school, after leaving which he assisted his father on the farm until the age of eighteen, when he entered the employ of the New York Central railroad company, first as brakeman,

and afterwards as conductor for the Wagner Palace Car Company, for about ten years. In 1885 he went into the railway mail service, between New York and Syracuse, and was in the employ of the government four years. In 1891 he bought the large grocery store in Palatine Bridge of John P. Planck, which he has since successfully conducted, and he is now doing a large business. December 11, 1872, he married Helen, daughter of John G. Eaker of this town, and they have one child, Mary E. Mr. Fuller was elected in 1875 on the Democratic ticket to the office of collector.

Floyd, Dwight E., Palatine, was born in Palatine, August 4, 1845. His father was John Floyd, and his grandfather Thomas Floyd of England, who married Phoebe Allen, and raised nine children. They both died in England. John Floyd was born in England, March 26, 1819, reared on a farm, and educated at the common schools. He married Elizabeth Kirton, and their only child was Dwight E. Mr. Floyd came to America in 1845, and worked on a farm for Daniel Smith of Palatine, for five years. He then bought the farm of sixty-four acres, where he has since lived. He has always been an apiarist. He and his family are Methodists, and he is liberal in the support of the church. He is a Democrat. Dwight E. Floyd was raised on a farm and educated at the common school and at Fort Edward Seminary. In 1878 he married Hattie, daughter of James and Theresa (Brockett) Dempster. (The grandfather of the latter is Rev. Joel Dempster.) They have two children: Bertha and John D. Mr. Floyd has always been a farmer and apiarist, having about 400 colonies of bees. He is a Democrat, and is overseer of the poor. His wife is a member of the Fort Plain M. E. church.

Fake, Abram, St. Johnsville, was born June 11, 1825, in the village of Minden, and is the son of John and Anna (Shoemaker) Fake. The grandfather, Nicholas, was an early pioneer in Minden, and had a family of eight children: George, Joseph, John, Peter, Isaac, Henry, Jacob and Hannah. He was a Whig and died in his eighty-fifth year. The father of Abram was born in 1797 in Rensselaer county and died in Minden in 1883, in his eighty-seventh year. He was a Whig and afterward a Republican. He married first Ann Shoemaker, by whom he had five children: Peter, Abram, Eliza, Mary, and one who died an infant. His second wife was Elizabeth Gibson, by whom he had one child, John M., who died when young. Abram Fake was born and reared on a farm and received an academic education. At the age of twenty-three he began farming, which he followed until the spring of 1874 when he moved to Nelliston. In 1879 he moved to St. Johnsville. He married twice, first to Mary A., daughter of William and Polly (Timmerman) Davy, and they had one child, Amaziah W., who now lives on the old homestead. Mary A., his wife, died in June, 1853, and he married for his second wife Matilda J., daughter of James and Leah (Voorhees) Wiley, of Fulton county. They are members of the Lutheran church of Minden. They had one child, A. James, who was educated at Cazenovia Seminary, also Hamilton College, and the New York Law School. He is a resident member of the Oneida Historical Society of Utica, a counsellor of the American Institute of Civics of New York, Delta Kappa Epsilon and Theta Nu Epsilon college fraternities, and a member of the Dutch Reformed church of St. Johnsville. He is now connected with John D. Beals in the law in New York.

Gardiner, James B., Amsterdam, was born on the 19th of December, 1852, in Amsterdam, and was educated in the public schools and the Amsterdam Academy. After the completion of his education he became a clerk in his father's hardware store. He afterwards was employed in the knitting mills of Phillips, Gardiner & Company, and is now in company with C. H. Warring under the firm of Gardiner & Warring of the West End knitting mills, manufacturing fine knit goods. Mr. Gardiner is an active member of the Board of Trade. On the 6th of October, 1875, he married Carrie S., oldest daughter of H. S. Sacia of Amsterdam. They have one son, Harry S.

Gardiner, E. Watson, Amsterdam, was born on the 17th of June, 1864, in Amsterdam, and was educated in the public schools and the Amsterdam Academy. Soon after he obtained his majority he began business on his own account in furnishing knit goods manufacturers with supplies and trimmings. On the 11th of September, 1889, he married Effie, oldest daughter of James and Catherine Van Brocklin of this city. They have one son, Leonard Yeomans. Mr. Gardiner's father, Leonard Y., was born in Greene county in the year 1824 and came to Amsterdam when a young man. He married Josena Bronson, by whom he had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. Leonard died in California after he grew to maturity. Four survive, Emily, James B., Marcus and E. Watson.

Gray, John J., Amsterdam, was born on the 2d of July, 1814, in Ephratah, and was educated in the public school and the Canajoharie Academy. He taught school four winters and also one summer, and in 1863 went to Illinois, where he was a farmer and contractor. He superintended the first work on the Chicago and Galena railway and also operated in land. After four years he returned east and located at Port Jackson, now the Fifth Ward in Amsterdam. On the 12th of January, 1842, he married Maria L., second daughter of Warren and Catherine (Pettingill) Curtiss. They had two children, a son and a daughter; the son Howard died in infancy, and Georgianna Gray survived. She married Charles A. Jewett on the 6th of September, 1876, and has one daughter, Florence G. Mr. Jewett's former home was Chanmont, Jefferson county. Mr. Gray served the public in the capacity of constable and deputy sheriff one year. He was a contractor for the enlargement of the Erie canal, six miles of it being his contract. His savings were invested in land, and it has increased in value to a very great extent, especially that adjoining the city. Mr. Gray's wife died on the 10th of October, 1890. His father (Jacob) was born in the town of Palatine and married Hannah Everson of the same town. They had one son, John J. His grandfather was a major in the revolutionary war.

Grieme, Henry G., Amsterdam, was born on the 24th of April, 1812, in Diepholsby, Germany, and was educated in the public schools and bred a contractor and builder; his father and grandfather and others of his family worked at it for generations in Germany. At the age of fourteen he entered a school of architecture, studying winters and working summers, until he reached the age of twenty-one. From this time forward in Germany and in this country he has prosecuted his favorite occupation. In the year 1868 he came to this country and located at Amsterdam, and has been a successful architect and contractor, and very many beautiful buildings attest his skill. He

is also the architect for the large buildings Stephen Sanford & Sons are continuously erecting and is contractor for the same. Mr. Grieme has also a large lumber yard in the Fifth Ward, and a very extensive brickyard with all the modern conveniences for operating the same. He also conducts the process of steam drying the bricks, which he considers a superior and quicker method. He has married twice, first on December 22, 1868, to Louisa Kline, formerly of Germany, and the ceremony took place at Hoboken. They had three children, two daughters and one son: Amelia, married William La Bahu of this city; Henry W., and Dora L., who resides at home with her parents. For his second wife he married on the 30th of May, 1877, Mrs. Maria Schotte. They have one daughter, Lucy P. Mrs. Grieme had four children by her first husband, as follows: Martha A., Mary C., Cuno B., and Gussie P.

Gregory, E. Sanford, Minden, was born in Cooperstown, October 15, 1834, and is the oldest son in a family of five children of Stephen and Phœbe (Fairchild) Gregory. After attending the public schools he went to Gilbertsville Academy, then under the principalship of Ivory Chamberlain. He graduated in 1850 and came to Fort Plain and was employed for seven years as a clerk in the drug store of John H. Babcock in 1857 he became a partner with Mr. Babcock, the firm continuing until 1864 as Babcock & Gregory. In the latter year W. H. H. Lintner became a partner, and another store was opened at Little Falls under the charge of Mr. Lintner, the firm being Gregory & Co. at Fort Plain, and Babcock, Lintner & Co. at Little Falls. These firms continued until 1871, when by mutual agreement Mr. Gregory took the Fort Plain store, which he has since continued to run, and the other partners the Little Falls store. Mr. Gregory is the inventor of the Gregory quick-drying yellow floor paint, and also manufactures the well-known horse cure, Sanford's Liquid Heave & Distemper Remedy. Politically he is a Republican. He married Achsah, daughter of Asa N. Draper of Waterloo, and they have four children: Walter, a resident of New York; De Lancey, Lucia B., and Charles S.

Grant, John P., Minden, was born in Minden, December 1, 1835, and is the second son of a family of three children of John P. and Elizabeth (Sponable) Grant. He was educated in the common school and the Fort Plain Seminary. Mr. Grant early became engaged in farming, which he followed till 1862, when he connected himself with the firm of R. Bamber & Co. of New York as a resident buyer for all kinds of country produce. He was in the employ of this firm, and Bamber & Elwood till 1880, when he became a wholesale and retail dealer in butter, cheese and produce in Fort Plain. In 1887 he added an extensive grocery stock to his business, which he has since carried on. In politics a Republican, he has been town clerk of Minden for three years, and for two years trustee of the village of Fort Plain. He married Annetta, daughter of Benjamin S. Vrooman of the town of Mohawk, and they have had five children: Mary Elizabeth, Wells S., Webster, who died aged nine years; Russell S., and John P.

Genter, James, Minden, was born in Springfield, Otsego county, December 13, 1804. He attended the local schools, also the Academy at Cazenovia. In 1826 he came to Fort Plain and studied law with Henry Adams and was admitted to the bar. He at one time formed a partnership with Henry Cook, and the firm was Genter & Cook, but

after the dissolution of this firm he practiced alone until within a year of his death, August 3, 1889. Politically he was a Democrat. December 3, 1835, he married Catharine, daughter of Henry Crouse. She died February 3, 1882. Their children were: Mary Augusta, died aged twenty-three years; Catharine Elizabeth, married H. N. Lockwood of Auburn, and died in New York August 6, 1888; and Helen Alice, wife of George B. Cook of Fort Plain. On the occasion of Mr. Genter's death, a meeting of the legal fraternity was held, and resolutions of condolence and respect were passed. He was for over fifty years associated with the members of the bar of Montgomery county. He was uniformly courteous in all business and social relations, of a quiet and retiring disposition, and was regarded as an honest and careful lawyer. George Byron Cook, was born in Milton, Saratoga county, April 26, 1839, and is the only son in a family of two children of Chauncey H. and Jane Ann (Shearer) Cook. After receiving a common school education, in 1857 he came to Fort Plain and was employed in the dry goods house of Shearer & Cronkhite, and February 13, 1863, became a member of the firm of R. H. Shearer & Company. The latter firm was dissolved March 1, 1873, and Mr. Cook opened a dry goods store, which he carried on till January 1, 1892. In politics a Democrat, he has never held any public offices. He married September 1, 1870, Helen Alice, daughter of James Genter and they have two children, James Lockwood and George Crouse.

Garlock, De Forest, Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in the town of Canajoharie, about one and a half miles north of Buel, November 12, 1860. He is the son of Peter S. and Margaret (Vroman) Garlock. December 15, 1866, he married Ella M. Sammons. (See Sammons Biog.)

Garlock, William, Canajoharie, Marshville p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence, January 24, 1827, and is the son of George A. and Margaret (Lambert) Garlock. The grandfather of our subject is the earliest ancestor we can trace. His name was Adam and with his brother George were the only ones of the family who remained in this country during the Revolution. Adam was born in 1754 and was married to Hannah Grey, and they were the parents of seven children; William, Adam, George A., Henry, Nancy, Katie, Betsey. Adam, the grandfather, was a soldier in the Revolution, and drew a pension until his death, which occurred in 1840. His son, George A., was born in 1790 and served in the war of 1812. He married Margaret, daughter of Peter and Anna (Lipe) Lambert of Frey's Bush, just before the war of 1812. They were the parents of ten children and five are still living: Menzo of Ames, Catherine of Fort Plain, Susan, wife of Washington Garlock of Utica, Elizabeth, wife of Dwight A. Tibbles of Fort Plain, and William our subject. With the exception of five years which he spent in California, he has always lived on this farm. He was educated in the common school and assisted his father on the farm until the death of the latter, which occurred July 26, 1847; then he worked it on shares for his mother until 1851. After his mining venture in California (which was successful) he returned to the old home in 1855. In 1858 he bought out his brother's interest. June 17, 1857, he married Mercy Hamilton, daughter of Henry C. and Emeline (Shepherd) Hamilton of Charlestown, and they are the parents of eight children, seven are living: Frank H., Minnie E., Mabel V., John I., Nellie, George H., Harvey I., and Bayard T. Mabel,

wife of Seymour Cooke, died October 8, 1889. Mrs. Garlock, mother of our subject, died in 1876, eighty years of age. Mr. Garlock is not an active politician but is known the town over as an honest, upright citizen, and good neighbor.

Garlock, Nathan, Canajoharie, Marshville p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence, September 9, 1852, and is the son of Peter and Laney (Loucks) Garlock. The great-grandfather of our subject, Adam Garlock, settled on the farm of Adam and Rueben Garlock, the first of the family in this town. He was the father of seven children, of whom George was one of the oldest. He married a Margaret Lambert and they were the parents of eight children, five are now living: William of Canajoharie; Menzo of Ames; Susan, wife of Washington Garlock of Utica; Elizabeth, widow of Dwight Tibbles of Fort Plain; and Catherine Garlock who makes her home with Mrs. Tibbles. Peter Garlock, father of our subject, was born January 7, 1817, and always lived in this town. He was a farmer and married Laney Loucks of Manheim, July 5, 1842, and they were the parents of four children: Anna, wife of Harvey Wagner; Libbie, wife of Albert Dunckle of Canajoharie; Lida, wife of James Schuyler of Fonda; and Nathan, our subject, whose whole life has been spent on the farm. He was educated at Ames Academy and also at Little Falls Academy. He married Luella Winne, daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth (Wessels) Winne of Mapletown, October 10, 1878, and their union has been blessed by three children: Gertrude E., born January 17, 1881; Matie C., born September 30, 1884; Voorhees, born August 15, 1891. Mrs. Garlock, mother of our subject, lives with her son and is in her seventy-second year. After his marriage Mr. Garlock conducted the farm on shares until his father's death, February 11, 1886. He is considered a very successful farmer. He owns two farms which together contain 212 acres, and cultivates mostly hay and grain, with the addition of a dairy of twenty-six cows. He is called a good friend and neighbor.

George, Augustus L., Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born in Silesia, Germany, May 7, 1827, and is the son of Anthony and Barbara (Gumprich) George. He was educated at the public schools of his country, and learned the cabinetmaker's trade. In 1849 he came to America and located at Fonda, where he worked two years for Charles Timmerman and then became a partner in the cabinet business. In 1853 he started in business alone, and has carried on cabinet making and undertaking for forty years. In 1852 he married Catherine De Graff of Fonda, daughter of John, and has four sons: John, Joseph, Francis and Charles. The whole family joined the Reformed church. He is a member of Fultonville Lodge No. 531, F. and A. M. He has been deacon in the Reformed church ten years, and was elected elder in 1866; he has led the choir twenty-nine years. In 1884 he visited his native country, stopping at Hamburg, Copenhagen, Berlin and Frankfort, and spending a considerable time with his two brothers and one sister in the village of Weschkau. Mr. George is a very active man, and conducts a Sabbath-school at Berryville, where he is deeply beloved. His industry in business has been rewarded by success, and he has taken his two sons (John and Joseph) in partnership. They are as a family noted for industry, temperance and all that improves society.

Faulknor, Jay H., oldest son and one of three children of Benjamin and Mary E. (Mabee) Faulknor of Glen, was born in that town February 8, 1849, the others being

Anna (dead) and Edwin Faulknor, who lives upon the farm adjoining. He was married, March 20, 1872, to Mary E. Hoff, one of four children of William N. and Amelia (Shelp) Hoff of Glen. They have two children: Abram M. and Glen H. Faulknor. He has been called to various offices of public trust; was commissioner of highways five years and of great service in building the Mill Point bridge in 1879; served two years as supervisor with credit to himself and public satisfaction. He and his family have lived on the farm where they now reside since 1871, on which farm several years ago was kept a store, with a dressmaking department in connection. The family have in their possession a piece of goods purchased there by their grandmother (now dead) when she was a young girl. A Fourth of July celebration was once held there with a great crowd. Some of the old fighting stories of that day are told over yet as they are handed down by memory. There was also a blacksmith shop located there.

Faulknor, Benjamin A., Glen, was born in the town of Glen March 22, 1822. He was one of seven children of Daniel and Hannah (Van Patten) Faulknor of Glen, the others being as follows: Jane, wife of Asa P. Dodge; Harriet (deceased), wife of William Van Buren; Cenith, widow of G. P. Serviss; Benjamin A., Mary Ann, widow of Charles Fieldhamer; Ann, widow of Mayhew Bunn, and Adelia, who died in her youth. The latter two were half sisters of Benjamin A. Caleb Faulknor, grandfather of the latter, was born in Connecticut and settled in Palatine in early life. His father came to Glen when a young man, married and settled here. Benjamin A. Faulknor married, November 25, 1847, Mary Mabee of Glen. They have had three children: Jay H., Edwin and Anna (deceased.) Edwin resides with his parents. He married, October 20, 1886, Nelia Allen, a daughter of Harvey and Phebe (Almy) Allen of the town of Root. They have two children, Leslie and Anna E.

Fairbanks, Dr. James R., Amsterdam, born in Pittsfield, Mass., on the 11th of October, 1842, was educated at the Harvard Medical College and graduated from the Berkshire Medical College in October, 1866. He was in the War of the Rebellion as hospital steward and acting assistant surgeon of the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers from August 15, 1862, until the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge. In 1868 he married Elizabeth M. Bishop of Truxton, by whom he had two daughters: Hattie B. and Eliza. The doctor's father (Jabez) was born in Hadley, Mass., in 1801, and married Harriet Stocking of Westfield, Mass., by whom he had three sons: Jabez W., Edgar P. and James R., all of whom were in the war, and two daughters: Achsah and Hattie. Edgar P. Fairbanks died in the army.

Getman, William F., son of Richard and Mary (Shults) Getman, was born July 4, 1849. He married, June 23, 1875, Viola Shults, and in 1876 he bought the farm of 121 acres where he now resides. They have three children: Anson, Orvia, Bertha V. In 1879 he built the Getman cheese factory, which is located on his farm, and has a capacity of 300 cows. Mr. Getman is a member of the Grange and also the Improved Order of Red Men.

Groff, Hamilton, Palatine, was born in the town of St. Johnsville, Montgomery county, August 11, 1828. His father was Daniel Groff, and his grandfather was an early settler of Oppenheim, where he passed his whole life. Daniel Groff was born in

Oppenheim, and married Eve Failing, by whom he had eleven children. He moved to Sharon and afterwards to Stone Arabia; the last ten years of his life he lived retired at Fort Plain. He died in 1879, and his wife in 1888. Hamilton Groff was raised on a farm, and is a man of liberal education. His wife was Nancy Flanders of St. Johnsville, by whom he had five children: Charles H., John H., Alice, Arthur D. and Albert, who died in infancy. Mr. Groff owns 350 acres of land, including the farm on which he resides, which contains 125 acres and has good buildings. His house, built in 1870, at a cost of \$9,000, is one of the finest residences in the town. He has a large dairy, and is a director of the Spraker cheese factory, for which he was salesman four years. He and his family attend the Reformed Church at Stone Arabia.

Gramps, Harvey, Palatine, was born in Palatine, September 20, 1853. His father was Reuben; his grandfather was John H.; and his great-grandfather, Henry Gramps, who was an early settler of Palatine, and who served in the revolution. John H. Gramps was born in Palatine March 5, 1796, and married Mary Snell, who bore him twelve children, nine of whom reached maturity. He served in the war of 1812, held several town offices, and died May 18, 1860, his wife dying in 1854. Reuben Gramps was born in Palatine, June 4, 1825, was a farmer, and married Marie Markell (born January 20, 1831), who bore him the following children: Aurelia, Harvey, Alida and Elmer. He survives his wife, who died September 24, 1881. Harvey Gramps was educated at the common school, supplemented by several terms at an academy. He is a farmer, and a Republican. He married, January 2, 1878, Julia, daughter of Azariah and Kattie A. (Kilts) Saltsman. They are members of the Reformed church at Stone Arabia.

Gove, George J., Root, son of Johnson and Sarah (Walker) Gove, was born in Watervliet, Albany county, December 4, 1834, but after his father's death his mother came to Root. He received his education at the common schools, and at the age of thirteen entered the store of Ira Hoag, and at fourteen came to where he now carries on business, and became clerk for John Bowdish. In 1870 he became a partner. In 1884 the partnership was dissolved and he then took in his son as partner. He also carries on a farm of 140 acres. He is a Democrat in politics and has served as town clerk two terms; was supervisor in 1884-85; re-elected in 1889-90-91; in 1889 and 1891 was chairman of the board. In the fall of 1891 was elected to the assembly from Montgomery county and served on internal affairs—taxation, retrenchment and canals. He married Louisa, daughter of John and Jane A. Bowdish of Rural Grove, who reared three daughters. Her father served many years in town offices, and was assemblyman one term. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1846, and died in 1886 at the age of seventy-eight. Mr. and Mrs. Gove have had six children: J. B., Laura, who died in infancy; Anna W., who died aged twenty years; George J., who died aged eleven years; Myrta L., and Maggie M. Mr. and Mrs. Gove are members of the Christian church. The grandfather, Elijah, was born in New England, of English descent, and reared three sons and six daughters. He was an early pioneer of Charleston. Johnson Gove was born in the latter town in 1799. He followed boating at Troy and later on was deputy sheriff of West Troy. He married first Laura Sears, by whom he

had one son and three daughters. His second wife was Sarah Walker, who bore him one child, who is the subject of this sketch. Johnson Gove died in 1835, and his wife in 1882. She was born in Charleston, a daughter of Jacob Walker, who was of Dutch descent. He moved to Jefferson county, where he finished his days.

Gardenier, Lorenzo, Root, was born where he now resides February 11, 1837, a son of Abraham M. and Rhoda (Grantier) Gardenier. He received a district school education, and now owns the old homestead, comprising 171 acres. He has served as overseer of the poor, and is a Democrat. He married, October 27, 1881, Jane, daughter of Charles and Mary (Lyker) Gordon. They have two children, Mary Libbie and Bertha. Martin, grandfather of Lorenzo, was a son of Capt. Jacob Gardenier, who was one of the earliest settlers of the town of Glen. He served as captain and received thirteen wounds in the battle of Oriskany. For his bravery he was presented with a sword having a solid silver handle. This was willed to the father of Lorenzo, and was lost. Martin Gardenier was born near Canghnawaga, February 26, 1756, and married Anna Huyck December 21, 1784. Their four sons were Abraham, Isaac, William and Jacob. In 1802 he settled in Root, now in Schoharie county, where he owned two hundred acres of land. The old house still stands. He died in 1812. The father of Lorenzo was born May 5, 1798, and died in Root, where he served as supervisor, and held other minor offices. He died in May, 1871. His wife was born in December, 1799, and died in August, 1866. Of their eight children, five are living: Ann M., William, Louisa, Lorenzo and Menzo.

Herrick, Sarah A., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in the house now her residence, October 22, 1840. She was a daughter of James Conner, whose parents were old settlers in the county. When locating here they built the saw and grist-mill still known as Conner's Mill. The old mill was built about 1800, and stood until 1863. It was a familiar landmark to the oldest inhabitant, and was immediately rebuilt by Mrs. Herrick's father (James Conner) after its destruction by fire. Mrs. Herrick was married September 14, 1865, to Marvin Herrick of Hagaman's Mills, who still conducts the farm and mills which fell to Mrs. Herrick upon the death of her father, which occurred in April, 1875, at his sixtieth birthday. The mother of Mrs. Herrick, Mrs. Conners, is still living, three score and ten years of age.

Hagaman, J. Morgan, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born October 8, 1824, and is a native of Hagaman's Mills, where his early life was spent. His education was acquired at the public school of the village and one year's attendance at the Amsterdam Academy. At the age of twenty-one he went to Long Island, taking with him machinery for the manufacture of carpets. While there he married Esther Allen of Saratoga county. Two children bless their union: Francis L., born November 22, 1846, and Aaron P., born August 26, 1848. In 1846 Mr. Hagaman returned to the village of Amsterdam, where he was engaged by Mr. Sanford for about five years, moving to Fort Plain to stay but two years, when he returned to Amsterdam and remained eight years. In 1861 he returned to his native village and resumed the management of his farm, and in 1880 he established a general store, under the management of his son, Aaron P. Mr. Hagaman's ancestors were Hollanders, and were among the earliest settlers of this

section of the country, coming here in 1787. Mrs. Hagaman still lives, beloved by her children and neighbors.

Hubbs, Hiran, Amsterdam, was born in Florida, on the 24th of November, 1819, and was educated in the district schools and the Amsterdam Academy. He studied medicine with Dr. Jacob G. Snell of Port Jackson, now fifth ward of this city, and in 1845 he graduated from the Albany Medical College. He divides his time in the practice of medicine and in farming. He has been married twice, first to Susanna Radley of his native town, but in the year 1846 she died. For his second wife he married Catharine, second daughter of Jeremiah Schuyler. They have three children, one son and two daughters; Charles, who married Jessie E., daughter of Ex-Senator Adam W. Kline of this city, by whom he has one daughter named Katherine; Eveline S., married John N. VanAntwerp of Fultonville; Maude A. resides with her father. Charles Hubbs is now in Europe enjoying a pleasure trip with a party of friends. Mrs. Hubbs died in July, 1866. Mr. Hubbs is president of the Farmers' Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery and Fulton counties, a director of the Farmers' National Bank of Amsterdam, and is now a retired farmer.

Herrick, George, Amsterdam, was born in Florida, Montgomery county, on the 31st of May, 1812, was well educated and was a successful farmer until he retired in 1882. He was married twice, first on the 25th of June, 1835, to Sarah J. Stanton of his native place. She died on the 15th of January, 1882. He married on the 7th of November, 1883, Marion M., third daughter of John and Jane Storrie of Amsterdam. Mr. Herrick's father, Benjamin, was born near Albany. On the 1st of November, 1780, he married Sally Winegar. They had eight children: Delia, Marvin, Harvey, George, Elizabeth, Jacob, James H. and Harriet. Mr. Herrick's grandfather, Daniel, was a soldier in the Revolution. Mrs. Herrick's father, John Storris, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and married Jane Miller of his native place. They have seven children. The ancestry of the family is Danish, German and Scotch.

Hannon, George R., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Monticello, Sullivan county, on the 18th of December, 1852, and when he was two years old came to Elmira with his parents, where he was educated in the public schools. He was in the grocery business there for fifteen years, and was an alderman in the First ward of Elmira for two years at the same time Senator Hill was an alderman of that city. On the 25th of June, 1879, he married Aurelia E. Farrington of Elmira. They have five living children: Aurelia E., Alexander Cameron, May F., Irving S. and Roger R. In 1882 he came to Amsterdam as manager for Foster & Green, in the lumber business, for four years. About this time Mr. Foster died, he then entered into partnership with James W. Green, Mosber & Company, which continued three years, at the expiration of which a joint stock company was formed under the corporate name of the Mohawk Valley Lumber Company, with a \$100,000 capital, of which Mr. Hannon is vice-president. This is a branch office of the main one at Fultonville. Mr. Hannon has been alderman in the Fifth ward for four years.

Hagaman, Hannah, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born one mile south of Hagaman's Mills, May 28, 1816, and is a daughter of Aaron and Sarah (Toll) Marcellus.

Aaron, the father of our subject, was a son of Abasnerus Marcellins, who came to this country from Holland about 1747. He was the father of six sons and two daughters, of which Aaron (father of our subject) was the third. When he was twenty-five years of age his father gave him a hundred acres on the Manny's road where he lived until 1800, when he went to Steuben county where he died in 1807. He was the father of four children: Abasnerus, Charles, Esther, and Hannah (our subject), who was educated in the public schools and Ovid Seminary. After leaving school she kept house for her father until her marriage, which was in 1840. She was married to Henry H. Hagsman of Hagsman's Mills, and moved on to Mr. Hagsman's farm, where they remained until 1848 when they came to Hagsman's Mills, to the residence he had built there and where he died in 1882 aged seventy-one years. They were the parents of but one child, John H., born August 4, 1850, with whom Mrs. Hagsman makes her home, and she is still strong and comparatively well, considering her age is seventy-six years.

Harvey, Thomas, Amsterdam, was born on the 16th of June, 1826, in West Charlton, Saratoga county, and came here with his parents when he was nine years old, where he was educated in the common schools. He learned the trade of machinist with his father with whom he became partner at the age of twenty-one and continued until 1864. Their specialty was manufacturing agricultural implements, drills, ploughs, threshing machines, etc. They sent the first eight-horse threshing machine to California in 1840. After dissolving in 1864, he formed a copartnership with John McDonald and Perry Cline for the manufacture of knit goods until they were burned out in 1872. About the year 1881 he sold his interest in that concern and is now in business with his son, Elmer F. Thomas Harvey was married January 24, 1854, to Emily F. Powell, third daughter of Charles F. and Sally M. Powell of Kingsboro. They have three sons, Watson Powell, John Fraser, and Elmer F. Watson P. was born on the 6th of October, 1859, and was educated in Amsterdam Academy, finishing his studies at Ripley College, Vermont. He has been a manufacturer of knit goods, but is now identified with the *American Knit Goods Review*, a paper devoted to the knit goods interest, located at 318 Broadway, corner of Pearl street, New York. In April, 1873, he married Carrie, second daughter of Prof. Henry K. Salisbury of this city.

Hagsman, Francis, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam about one-half mile from his present residence June 28, 1819, and is a son of Francis and Fanny (Clark) Hagsman. Francis senior was born at Hagsman's Mills February 22, 1756, and was a son of Joseph (who came from Holland in 1757), and was the first settler at Hagsman's Mills and from whom the village derived its name as he was the founder of the first saw and grist mill in the place, and Betsey Hagsman. Francis, father of our subject, was in the military service in 1806, and married Fanny Clark February 20, 1809. They were the parents of nine children, only four now living, Joseph R. of Illinois, Fannie J. Burbank of California, Minor S. of Amsterdam, and Francis, our subject. Mr. Hagsman was educated in the public schools and made his home with his parents until he was twenty-four years of age, when he married Mary Conner, daughter of Gilbert and Sally (Hagsman) Conner, January 25, 1840, after which they moved to West Charlton, where Francis worked at blacksmithing for three years, when

he returned to Amsterdam and bought the farm of thirty-three acres where he now lives. He has built here a comfortable and pleasant home and a blacksmith and wagon-making shop, where he has continued in business since 1862. They were the parents of two children: Sarah Alice, born January 29, 1847, and Fanny Ellen, born September 22, 1848. The latter married, September 25, 1877, Samuel R. Froom, now residing in Perth. Mrs. Hagaman died February 5, 1883. Her family were descendants of Joseph Hagaman's second wife.

Hugo, John Henry, Amsterdam, was born in Menden, Prussia, May 18, 1833. He came to this country in 1856 and settled in Sowerbury and married Margaret Shoemaker of that place. He had attended school in Germany but found it rather hard to progress at first in this country. For about seven years he was employed by Christopher Seeley and his brother James in the broom manufacture, in the summer working out in the growing corn, and in winter making brooms. In 1870 he rented a farm in Niskayuna, which he worked nine years, after which he came to Amsterdam and bought a farm of 142 acres at Manny's Corners, where he still resides. He has built a fine residence and new barns and his place has the appearance of being the home of a prosperous farmer. They are the parents of ten children, seven of whom are living: Christopher J. Henry, born December 8, 1856; William E., born November 18, 1860; Carrie M. Ebert, born February 25, 1863; Louisa L. Knack, born May 15, 1865; Charles E., born July 28, 1871; Maggie S., born June 20, 1873; and Dora M., born October 28, 1875. The three children who died were Louise C., born December 15, 1858, died April 9, 1888; Emma L., born June 14, 1867, died August 20, 1891; Frederick J., born May 19, 1868, died December 30, 1897.

Howe, Mrs. Julia A. Florida, one of the five children of George and Sarah (Vanderzee) Serviss, was born in the town of Florida, where she has always lived, on the 12th day of March, 1836. Lewis Howe, her husband, a son of Rufus and Ursula (Sceely) Howe, was born in Florida July 16, 1835. They were married January 2, 1860, and Mr. Howe died October 11, 1875.

Howe, John, Florida, was born in Florida September 11, 1817. He was one of three sons of Cornelius and Mary (Griffin) Howe. Cornelius the father was born in this town in the year 1788, being one of nine children of Charles Howe, who was born while his parents were on a voyage to this country and who settled in this town at an early date. Charles Howe, the grandfather of John Howe, was a soldier in the war of the revolution, rising to the grade of sergeant and later an ensign. In 1840 Mr. Howe was married to Susan French, a native of Amsterdam. She was the daughter of John French, a prominent man in his day. They have two children, Cornelius living at home, and Emma, now Mrs. John Serviss, living at Amsterdam. For the past forty-three years, with the exception of six, Mr. Howe has lived upon the farm, which is spoken of as the best 100 acres in Florida.

Herrick, Lewis H. Florida, one of four children of James and Margaret J. (Sawyer) Herrick, was born at Minerva in the town of Florida, on the 19th day of April, 1847. He married Alice, daughter of Robert and Harriet (Brookway) M. Minnow, of the town of Florida, and they have one son, R. J. Herrick.

Houck, Jacob, Florida, was born in the town of Florida on the 14th of August 1832. He was the son of Isaac Houck, born in Florida in 1802, and Catherine (Enders) Houck, born at Fort Hunter. He was married in 1855 to Adaline, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Van Horn of Charleston. The grandfather, Jacob Houck, came to Florida from Schoharie county in 1793 and located upon the extensive property which his grandson now occupies. The Houck family trace their ancestry in Holland to a remote period.

Haig, Walter R., Minden, was born in Lisbon, St. Lawrence county, January 7, 1845, and is the second son in a family of seven children of John and Agnes (Aitchison) Haig. He received an academical course of study at the Potsdam Academy and the Canton University. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1872 and commenced teaching the public schools at Dixon, Ill., where he remained one year, and the following year he had charge of the public schools at Norwood. He then accepted the position of professor of Latin and Greek at the Clinton Liberal Institute at Clinton, and on the removal of that institution to Fort Plain he became a resident of the village. He resigned his professorship in 1887, to become a partner in the Fort Plain Glove and Mitten Company, in which he is still interested, and in which employment is given to fifteen workers. Professor Haig is a Republican in politics. He married Mary L., daughter of Dr. John Parry of Buel. They have four children: Glen, Frank, Therese and Ethel.

Hackney Family.—William Hackney came from England to Minden soon after the revolution. He married Elizabeth Zimmerman, and they had the following family: Benjamin, who became a contractor and went west, purchasing the site of Aurora, Ill., where he died; Jeremiah, who engaged in the lumber business and died in the same place; Adam, died there also; David; John and Joseph, who both died at Warren, Pa.; Maria, married George Wolgworth and died in Minden; Peggy, married John Vroman and died in Minden; David, of the above family, was born in Minden December 10, 1794, and married December 19, 1833, Magdalen Diefendorf, who was born May 4, 1804, and died June 8, 1838. Their children were: Susanna, who died aged three years, and David G. Mr. Hackney married second, Mrs. Christianna Lipe (born Scott), and died January 5, 1873. David G. was born in Minden May 23, 1838, and after attending the public schools was sent to Fort Plain and Cazenovia Seminaries. He was engaged in farming until 1860, when he came to Fort Plain and formed a partnership with Menzo Crouse in the grocery business. The firm continued business under the name of Crouse & Hackney until about 1865. Mr. Hackney was also engaged with William Crouse in buying and selling wool, hops and cheese, which partnership lasted until about 1882, since which time Mr. Hackney has operated alone. A Democrat in politics, he has been for four years president of the village of Fort Plain and a member of the State Loan Commission during Governor Hoffman's administration. He was postmaster of Fort Plain during President Cleveland's administration, and was appointed by Governor Hill one of the Commissioners of Fisheries. The Hackney Hose Company of Fort Plain is named in honor of Mr. Hackney. Mr. Hackney married Mary E., daughter of James Edwards, and they have four children, viz., Catharine E., wife of Edward Shults of New York; William C., married Anna, daughter of George A.



D. G. Hackney

Streeter of Johnstown, and has one son, George Streeter Hackney; William C. is cashier in the State Treasury Department; Mary, Ellen, and David G., jr.

Haslet, William Alanson.—The original settler of the Haslet family in the Mohawk valley was Thomas Haslet, grandfather of W. A. Haslet. He emigrated from England and settled in Greenbush. His son Thomas learned the hatter's trade and settled in Florida. The latter married Eunice, daughter of Gideon Curtiss, who was from New Haven, but became one of the early settlers of Florida. They had eight children, of whom William A. was the oldest son and was born in Florida, April 23, 1804. He married, May 25, 1826, Elizabeth, daughter of Matthias Becker, and the same month came to Fort Plain and having learned his father's trade, engaged in that business. He erected a shop and dwelling on the site of the present residence of F. S. Haslet. He was one of the original stockholders and directors of the Fort Plain Bank, and in January, 1858, was elected president of that institution, and upon the organization of the National Fort Plain Bank occupied the same position up to the time of his death. He was a Democrat in politics and in 1848 was elected member of assembly, but declined a renomination. His last political office was as delegate to the state convention held at Syracuse in 1874. He died October 13 of the same year. John Becker Haslet, his only child, was born in Fort Plain March 10, 1827, and after attending the local schools finished his education at an academy in Poughkeepsie. He was engaged with his father in business, and after the death of the latter carried on the concern alone a few years. He devoted a large share of his time to the affairs of the National Fort Plain Bank, and the Fort Plain National Bank, holding in both of these institutions the position of vice-president. In early life a Democrat, since 1880 he affiliated with the Republicans, but was never an aspirant for political honors. He married first, October 21, 1851, Margaret Lasira Martin of Michigan. February 3, 1858, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Sternbergh of Albany. He died January 30, 1886. Frederick Sternberg Haslet, the only child of John B. and Elizabeth Sternberg Haslet, was born in Fort Plain October 6, 1862. After attending the local schools he graduated, in 1881, from the Clinton Liberal Institute and in the following year he entered the employ of the National Fort Plain Bank, and in 1886 was elected assistant cashier of the same institution, and in 1888 cashier, which position he still holds. He is a Republican in politics. September 23, 1891, he married Edith Catherine, daughter of Alfred De Graff of Fonda.

Hudson, William, Minden, was born at Cherry Valley, April 6, 1829, and was the son of William Hudson, who married Mary Allen, and had the following family: Ephraim, who died at Tarrytown; Elza, who married Giles Cook and died at Albany; Lucia Maria, widow of William Stayner, resides in Minden; William; and Lucius Putnam, who went south before the war, and has not since been heard from. The parents of William, our subject, removed to Minden when he was five years old. He received a common school education and taught school until 1867, when he engaged in market gardening, which he now carries on. He married Anna Jane Suyder, and has five children: Mary Eliza, William Augustus, Lucius Prescott, Anna Maude, and Howard Farley.

Houpt, Ferdinand J., Glen, one of four children of Alpheus F. and Sabrina (Odell) Houpt, was born in the town of Dryden, Tompkins county, the other children being Mary J., Ella (Mrs. J. W. Hiles of Dryden), Letitia (Mrs. I. W. Sharpstine), who is now dead. The grandfather was Philip Houpt of Dryden. F. J. Houpt was married June 8, 1887, to Carrie Putman, daughter of John V. and Mary K. (Van Buren) Putman of Glen, she being one of two children, the other being Abram V. Putman. They have two children: Mabel L. and Victor P. Houpt. Mr. Houpt engaged in railroad business in 1880 as station agent and telegraph operator and continued it until 1887, when he became a dealer in hay, a business he is still engaged in. He is a member of the firm of Lunny & Houpt, having their headquarters in New York.

Hill, Arthur, Canajoharie, was born on the old homestead, near the village of Ames, July 28, 1852, a son of Gifford A. and Harriet (Lansing) Hill. The early life of Arthur was spent on the old farm. He received his education in the Ames Academy, and in the Hungerford Institute of Jefferson county, and Fort Plain Seminary. He left school at the age of twenty, and taught school for three terms. January 26, 1879, he married Essie Vosburgh, daughter of Jacob and Almira (Gardenier) Vosburgh of Flat Creek. At this time he moved to Canajoharie, where he engaged in the produce business, continuing three years, and then bought the livery business of S. A. Field, which he conducted for eight years. He then returned to the produce business, which he still follows. He is an active worker in the Republican party, and in the spring of 1892 he was elected by the largest majority of any man on the ticket, to the office of highway commissioner. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are members of the Canajoharie Methodist church.

Hill, Charles G., Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie, June 10, 1862, and is a son of Gifford and Harriet (Lansing) Hill. Squire Hill, the great-grandfather, was born in Scotland and came to this country previous to the revolution, bringing his wife and nine children, five sons and four daughters. They settled on this farm and it has ever since been in the hands of the Hill family, being now four generations. Squire Hill was an officer in the revolution. His wife was Dorothy, daughter of Ebenezer and Sabrina (Whittaker) Walker of Rehoboth. They had these children: Bethiah, born in 1772; Zaccheus, Ebenezer, William, Squire, Pliny, May, Elizabeth and Dorothy. Squire, the fourth son and grandfather of Charles G., was born in 1790 and married, January 31, 1811, Sarah Arthur of Lewis county; they were the parents of three children: Bradford, Pamela and Gifford A. The latter was born April 4, 1824, and made his home on this farm. He was educated at Ames Academy and June 2, 1849, he married Harriet, daughter of Cornelius and Lydia (Reed) Lansing of Saratoga county, and they had six children, all of whom are living: Audella, wife of Dewitt Hills of Herkimer county; Arthur, born July 28, 1851; Pamela, wife of Irving J. Simmons of Canajoharie; Lydia, wife of Jay Vosburg of Flat Creek; Flora E., who lives at home; and Charles G., our subject, who conducts the old homestead, a fine place of about 200 acres, nearly all under cultivation for hay, grain and dairy products.

Hees, J. Ledlie, Mohawk, son of Jacob and Frances (Spraker) Hees, was born January 24, 1862. He was educated at Fort Plain Institute and at Pine Plains, preparatory to a college course, which he gave up for a lucrative position in New York when

seventeen years of age. He remained there until he was twenty-one, when he was appointed teller in the National Mohawk River Bank in Fonda, in which position he continued until 1885, when he was appointed cashier, being then the youngest cashier in the country. He still retains that office and under his care the bank dividends are as large as they were when interest was much higher—thus far the dividends indeed are ten per cent. per annum. He married, October 12, 1887, Adela S. Moore, daughter of George F. Moore of Detroit, and they maintain a very handsome domestic establishment. Mr. Hees is a director in the Fonda & Gloversville Electric Railroad, in which he holds the office of treasurer, and he enjoys public confidence to a degree rarely reposed in so young a financier.

Hodge, Augustus M., Palatine, was born in the town of Canajoharie, near Ames, December 3, 1836, and is a son of Abram and Caroline (Mills) Hodge. Abram (son of Reuben) was born in July, 1794, and was a carpenter and builder, having erected many houses in this town. The last work of the kind which he did was the building of the mill at Ames, after which he took the mill to operate, which business he followed for a number of years, retiring in 1844. He had five children: Orville, a retired merchant of Cobleskill; Mary M., widow of the late Dr. John H. Stafford of Canajoharie; Ellen P., wife of Horace Bush of Lowville; Emily, wife of E. H. Barnard of Fremont, Neb.; and Augustus M. Abram Hodge died in 1881, in his eighty-seventh year. The whole life of our subject has been spent in this town. He was educated at Ames and Lowville academies, and at the age of twenty he engaged as clerk with the firm of Bush & Stafford, druggists, who had just opened a store on the corner of Canal and Church streets. He continued with them for ten years, and then purchased the interest of Mr. Bush, making the firm name Hodge & Stafford. In 1870 the senior member sold his interest to his son, Charles T. Stafford, and the latter was a partner with Mr. Hodge for fourteen years, when he bought Mr. Hodge's interest in the stock, but after one year alone lost his health, and died in 1888. Mr. Hodge then re-purchased the stock and has since conducted the business alone. He has not taken any active interest in politics, his business absorbing his time and attention. In 1867 he married Helen O., daughter of the late Edwin Williams, and they have had three sons: William B., a student of Syracuse University; Albert Earl and Horace B. They are active members of the M. E. church, as are also the two older sons. Mr. Hodge is one of the trustees of the church, and president of the school board of Palatine Bridge. In 1882 he was elected president of the Montgomery County Bible Society, which position he held three years, and he has during his whole life been an earnest worker in all that tends to purify and elevate mankind.

Hubbs, Charles, Root, a native of Long Island, came to the town of Root about 1802 and settled on a farm near Rural Grove, there being but a small clearing at that time. His wife was Mariam Coffin, and their children were: Elizabeth, Jane, Mariam, Selah, Obadiah, Gideon, Hannah, David C., William C., and Charles. William C., the youngest son, was born in Half Moon, Saratoga county, and moved with his father to Root when about seven years old. He received a common school education, and lived on the farm where his father settled, until his death. He married Eleanor Edwards, of Charleston, and they had eight children, four sons and four daughters: Charles, Jemima,

Elizabeth A., Ruth, William N., Solomen E., David, and Hannah M. He was supervisor of the town and held other offices. He was a Democrat, and took an active part in politics. Charles Hubbs, oldest son of W. C., was born July 6, 1817, and resided on the farm with his father until of age. He received a common school education and after leaving home taught school two years. He then entered the store of John Bowdish, where spent several years, first as clerk and then as partner. He then sold out his interest and remained in the store as clerk several years. He was town clerk two years, was supervisor nine years, and a member of the legislature in 1850. In 1858 he married Mary J., daughter of Henry Van Buren and Elizabeth (Van Valkenburgh) Van Buren, his wife. Mr. Hubbs has been justice of the peace twelve years, and notary public since 1873.

Hazelton, Major John F., Canajoharie, was born at Chester, Rockingham county, N. H., May 9, 1838. He was educated in Union College, from which he graduated in the class of 1860. He then engaged in the practice of law, but left that to raise a company of troops at Columbus, Wis., in July, 1862. He went into service with the Twenty-Third Wisconsin Volunteers as captain of Company G. He saw service with the Army of Tennessee under Gen. A. J. Smith, and was at the siege of Vicksburg. After the surrender of that place Captain Hazelton was appointed by President Lincoln major and assistant quartermaster and assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division of the Sixth Corps, Army of the Potomac. In 1864 he was assigned to the Second Division of this Corps, where he remained until the close of the war, after which he continued with the general army for six months, doing duty at Fort Larned, Kan. He is an honored member of Farrell Post, No. 61, G. A. R. After the war he resumed the practice of law for a short time at Albany, and a few months in Fulton county. In the spring of 1867 he moved into Schoharie county, locating at Esperance, where he practiced until July, 1878. While there he held the office of deputy collector of internal revenue for Schoharie county. He was appointed in 1867, and resigned in 1878, when he was appointed by President Hayes consul of the United States to Genoa (Italy), which position he held for five years, and in 1883 was appointed by President Arthur consul to Hamilton (Canada) where he remained until June 1, 1885. Major Hazelton married, January 14, 1864, Harriet E. Isham of Esperance, and their union has been blessed by one son, Henry I., a reporter on the *New York Advertiser*. In 1887 Major Hazelton became half owner and editor of the *Canajoharie Radii*. He owns one of the finest dwellings in town.

Huston, Hiram L., Canajoharie, was born on the 8th of February, 1845, in Boston, Mass., and is a son of Hiram and Mary L. (Stetson) Huston, both families of old New England stock. The father was a manufacturer. Mr. Huston's early life was spent in Boston and at the age of fifteen years he entered Columbia College, from which he graduated with the class of 1864. In the years 1865 and 1866 he traveled in Europe, and studied in the University of Heidelberg for about fifteen months. He began the study of law in New York, where he was admitted to the bar in 1868 and practiced there until 1873, when he came to Canajoharie and now is one of the leading members of his profession in the county, having been for six years assistant district attorney. He is a Democrat and a Free Mason. On the 28th of November, 1877, he married Anna, daughter of John and Catherine (Cowenhoven) Dillenback of Canajoharie.

Hees, Johannes, Palatine, was born in Holland, March 4, 1743, and came to America in 1763, settling at Walkill, Ulster county. After a few years he came to Palatine and settled in Stone Arabia. He was an extensive farmer and merchant, carrying on two stores at the time of his death. He was well educated, and being a man of deep piety was often called upon to officiate at funerals and also to preach, frequently going a long distance to fill some vacant pulpit. His children were Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Elizabeth. He died August 13, 1802. His first wife was Maria Christine; his second was Eva Coppernoll. Jacob, the third son of Johannes, was born at Stone Arabia and married Elizabeth Lipe. He owned a farm on the banks of the Mohawk. He was a Democrat, and served one term in the legislature; was also a member of the constitutional convention of 1821; was an elder in the Reformed church, and also a leading man and financier. His children numbered twelve. He died in 1840, his wife surviving him twenty-five years. Abraham, third son of Jacob, was born April 11, 1811, on the old farm in Palatine, where he lived and died. He was educated in the Canajoharie Academy and read law with Judge Daniel Cady of Johnstown, and Millard Fillmore of Buffalo. He was master in chancery under Governor Wright, and was district attorney and United States commissioner, which latter office he held at the time of his death, February 28, 1884. He practiced law over fifty years. He was one of the organizers of the Republican party, and was an elder for many years in the Reformed church. He married Maria Smith of Palatine, by whom he had six children, all deceased except the oldest, Jacob. John, the third son, served in the Nineteenth New York Regiment (afterwards the Third Artillery), going in as private and coming out as captain. He died from disease brought on by exposure in the army, February 28, 1874. Jacob, son of Abraham, was born July 23, 1835, on the old homestead. He was educated in the public schools and at Canajoharie Academy. In 1852 he began as clerk for W. Baker & Co., and in 1856 became a member of the firm, remaining until 1860. In 1866 he began the clothing business at Fonda, which he has continued to the present time. In 1857 he married Frances Spraker of Fonda, and her death occurred September 26, 1886. They had two children, Maria Louise, wife of A. S. Colvin, editor of the Glens Falls *Daily Times*, and James Ledlie, cashier of the National Mohawk River Bank of Fonda. October 10, 1888, Jacob Hees married Maranda Gifford Rosa, formerly of Wisconsin. The family are members of the Reformed church. Mr. Hees has in his possession the ancient German Bible which Johannes Hees brought with him from the fatherland, and which, with the Prayer Book and Hymnal, formed his library. It contains the family record in German, and with the death of each child is inscribed a brief and appropriate prayer. This Bible is one of the oldest in the Mohawk valley, and is a very precious heirloom.

Horn, Jacob J., St. Johnsville, son of Adam and Gertrude (Zay) Horn, was born October 29, 1849, in Germany, and received his education in this country at Fort Plain. At the age of fifteen he began business with his father in the mill. He married, February 28, 1872, Harriet, daughter of George and Maria (Snyder) Pickard, of English origin, and they have one child, Helen E., a bright young lady, and the first to graduate from the St. Johnsville High School. The parents of Jacob J. were natives of Germany (near Darmstadt), the father born in 1822 and the mother in 1827. They

were married in October, 1848, and July 4, 1850, landed in New York, having been seven weeks on the ocean. Adam Horn was one of a family of six children, several of whom came to this country and settled. His wife was a daughter of John Jacob Zay, who served in the army under Napoleon I. Adam located with his wife at Fort Plain, and worked at milling until the fall of 1864, when he came to St. Johnsville, and with Joseph Goeser rented a mill. In 1865 Mr. Horn took the mill for two years, afterwards purchasing it and continued to operate it until his death in 1884. He was a member of F. and A. M., also of the Lutheran church. He reared five children: Jacob J., Fredolin, Mary, Lizzie, and Gertrude.

Johnson, William H., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam June 23, 1843, and is a son of David B. and Maria (Quilhot) Johnson. David B. came to this county from Columbia county in 1838, and located near the West Amsterdam Lutheran church, where William H. was born. His early life was spent on the farm and attending the district school until he was eighteen years old. In 1869 he came to Tribes Hill, where he engaged as clerk with James B. Bailey, which position he held until 1884, when he bought out Mr. Bailey and conducted the store alone two years, when Mr. Bailey bought a half interest with him. February 16, 1882, he married Sarah E. Holley, daughter of Cyrus and Elizabeth R. (Jones) Holley of this town. Mr. Johnson is one of a family of ten children; five are now living: Sarah M., now Mrs. Stephen Wilde; Mary A., now Mrs. Jacob Fonda of Amsterdam; David B., jr.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Charles Wilde, and William H., our subject. Their father died in 1887, seventy-two years of age, and their mother died in 1863. Mr. Johnson has been a very successful business manager, and is interested in one of the largest and best general stores in the town of Amsterdam. He is one of the solid citizens of Tribes Hill.

Johnson, Eleazer W., sr., Amsterdam, was born on the 21st of January, 1840, at Johnstown, and was educated at Claverack. In early boyhood he assisted his father about the hotel and was a farmer about fifteen years, and the past ten years he, associated with his son, has kept a hvery in this city. He has been married twice, first on the 27th of September, 1858, to Lois Potter of Johnstown, by whom he had four children, two sons and two daughters: A. Sarah, Rodney H., Eleazer W., jr., and Elizabeth A. Mrs. Johnson died on the 30th of December, 1876. For his second wife he married Emma Batchelor of this city. They have two daughters, Mary and Lellia. Mr. Johnson's father was born in the year 1813, at Yonker Hill in this town, and married Ann S. Wells of Johnstown. They had one son, Eleazer W.

Johnson, Richard G., M. D., Amsterdam, was born on the 13th of January, 1859, in the town of Florida, and was educated in the public schools and Hudson River Institute. He graduated from the Medical University of Pennsylvania of Philadelphia in the year 1883 and began to practice in the city of Amsterdam. On the 20th of March, 1889, he married Laura D., only daughter of Joseph and Lucretia Peck of this city. His father, John Q. Johnson, was born at Minaville, in Florida, about the year 1824, and married Jennie A. Still of the town of Glen. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters: Jacob J., book-keeper for John Van Antwerp; Henry A., hvery and boarding stables; Richard G.; James A. is a book-keeper for a firm in Herkimer; Kate S.,

third child and oldest daughter living, resides at home. Two daughters died in infancy.

Jones, James V., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born about fifty rods from where he now lives, and came here when he was but seven years of age to live with his grandfather, Samuel Jones. The latter came from Orange, N. J., and bought this place in 1794 when he was about twenty-seven years old. Samuel Jones was the father of six children: Mary; Lewis; Cornelius; Cyrus; Eveline; and Jane Annie. The second son, Lewis, was the father of our subject, and was born October 11, 1794. He always lived on the old farm, and in 1819 he married Sarah Hayes of Galway, Saratoga county. Her ancestors were also from Jersey. They were the parents of four children: Mary A., born May 19, 1850; Julia A., born September 11, 1821; James V., born April 4, 1824, S. Chester, born April 19, 1825. The third, James V. (the subject of our sketch) has always lived on the old homestead. May 30, 1850, he married Angelica Van Allen, daughter of John and Margaret (Putnam) Van Allen, and a granddaughter of Adam and Eve Van Allen. Their union has been blessed with two children, but both are now deceased. A grandchild of ten years (William James Jones) is the only descendant of this old Montgomery county family. Mrs. Jones died December 14, 1891, aged seventy, and their son, Edwin L., died January 11, 1884, aged thirty-three, and their other son died in 1854 when only one year old.

Jenkins George W., Minden, was born in Pamela, Jefferson county, August 15, 1846, and was the second son in a family of five children of Peter J. and Naoni (McDaniel) Jenkins. His father was a native of the town of Danube, Herkimer county, and when he was eight years of age his father removed to Jefferson county. He is engaged at present as a jeweler at Sac City, Iowa. George W. obtained his education at the district schools of his native town, and in his early life he engaged in the mercantile business. At the age of twelve years he became a clerk in a general store at Pamela, which was carried on by his father under the firm name of P. J. Jenkins. During the age of fourteen and eighteen he carried the mail between Pamela Four Corners and Evan's Mills, a distance of three and a half miles. While performing this work he missed only one trip, which was owing to a heavy rain storm in the spring of the year, which rendered the roads impassable. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Co. I, One Hundred Eighty-sixth N. Y. Vols., which was raised at Sackett's Harbor, and was mustered out of service in June, 1865. Previous to his enlistment he had given up mercantile pursuits and engaged in farming in Pamela. In 1868 he removed to Minden and carried on farming until 1874. In the latter year he purchased the store property of Henry Sanders at Minden, opening a general store, in which he has since been engaged. In connection with his store he runs a supply cart in the towns of Danube, Stark and Minden, covering a radius of twelve miles from his place of business. In politics a Republican, he has been postmaster at Minden since 1878. He married Ticy, daughter of Alfred B. Davis, and they have one child, Flora, wife of Fayette Cronkhite of Minden.

Jackson, John Charles, Minden, was born in Marcellus, Onondaga county, September 17, 1864, and is the oldest son in a family of four children of Amos and Julia (Holcomb)

Jackson. After attending the district schools he became a student at the Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Mass., from which he graduated in 1885. He studied medicine with Dr. Edmund Carleton, professor of surgery at the Woman's College and Hospital of New York, and took a course of study at the New York Homœopathic Medical College, from which he graduated in 1888. He commenced the practice of his profession in the latter year in Syracuse, where he remained about four months, and in the summer of 1888 came to Fort Plain, where he has since practiced. He is a Democrat in politics. He married Ida, daughter of Harvey E. Wagner of Canajoharie.

Jones, George, Mohawk, son of Jeremiah and Electa Curray Jones, was born in Claverack, Columbia county, July 19, 1837. He received his education at the common schools and Greene County Academy. He began his business life as clerk in a store where he remained two years, after which he spent three years selling tobacco. In the spring of 1869 he came to Fonda and engaged with Ambrose Fritts in the bottling business. He later established a fish, oyster and fruit market. In the spring of 1880 he bought the Fonda Bottling Works, and now has the largest concern of the kind between Albany and Utica. He has been president of the village two years, president of the water board two years and supervisor in 1878 and 1892; he is a Republican and takes an active interest in politics. He is a member of Lodge 218 of the Odd Fellows at Johnstown. He married Anna C. Stickles, and they have four children: Gernon L., Lizzie M., Harry and William.

Kline, Oliver S., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Florida, March 10, 1853, and received an academic education; was a teacher for nine years, since he has been a merchant and now is in the hardware business with Isaac J. De Graff under the firm name of De Graff & Kline. June 12, 1883, he married Martha A., youngest daughter of Alexander and Harriet Dorn of Princetown, Schenectady county; they have three children, two sons and one daughter: Alexander D., Harold J., and Olive M. Mr. Kline's father, Joseph, was born at West Amsterdam, March 28, 1819; he married Jeannette M. Staley of the town of Rotterdam; they had seven children, three sons and four daughters: Geroy G., Andrew J., Oliver S., Nancy, Mary J., Harriet and Ella A. The Kline family came from Holland and were among the early settlers in this alley. The ancestry of the family is Dutch, Scotch and Irish.

Kessler Family, The.—John Keesler, a native of Germany, formerly lived where the village of Fort Plain is now located. He was a weaver, and died in the western part of this State. He married Rowena Waffle and their children were: Peter, Adam, Margaret, Nancy, Christopher and John. The latter was born in Minden January 10, 1810, and married, February 14, 1830, Elizabeth Walrath. Their children were, George, who died at Chittenango; Peter P.; Elizabeth, wife of Christopher Lipe of Palatine; Nancy, widow of William Martin, lives in Minden; Avrela, wife of Ferdinand Smith of Fort Plain; Sena, wife of George Kahler of Big Flats; Henry; Matilda, married John Abbott, and died in Minden; Serena, wife of Edward S. Wagner of Benton Harbor, Mich.; Clara, wife of Barney Walrath of Fort Plain; Mary Jane, wife of Menzo Smith of Fort Plain; John and John W., both died young; and Edgar C., who was born July 8, 1858, and married Mary, daughter of Sylvester Moyer, and has three children; Lula, Mabel E., and Edgar S. John died in Minden December 25, 1863.

Kimball, Professor Julius W., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Duanesburg, August 14, 1844; he was educated in the public school and prepared for the academic course, but at the age of eighteen he enlisted in Company C, 14th N. Y. Heavy Artillery, and during his service, from the battle of the Wilderness to the fall of Petersburg, he never failed to respond to roll call; he participated in the following battles: Spottsylvania, North Ann River, Cold Harbor, siege of Petersburg, Poplar Grove Church, Pegram Farm, Hatcher's Run, and Fort Steadman, where he was taken prisoner March 25, 1865. For a short time he suffered the horrors of Libby prison at Richmond. From September, 1864, until March, 1865, he served in the color guard and for a short time carried the regimental flag. After his return from Libby prison he was promoted to sergeant and was detailed to act as sergeant-major of the battalion. He afterwards received a second lieutenant's commission in recognition of good conduct as a soldier, and was honorably discharged on the 26th of August, 1865. Returning from the army, he resumed his studies at Starkey Seminary, Eddytown, Yates county, until 1869, when his father received a stroke of paralysis. This misfortune compelled him to return home and care for his father, which he faithfully did until he died in February, 1875. As the principal of the Burtonville school, Professor Kimball was ranked among the first teachers in Montgomery county. In the fall of 1876 he moved to Amsterdam and accepted the principalship of School No. 8. He ranks among the foremost of popular instructors in the Mohawk valley where he has for years been prominently identified with educational interests, an intelligent, capable and enthusiastic superintendent and instructor, so recognized by the citizens of Amsterdam in general, and the patrons of the school in particular. Since 1876 much has been accomplished, and to his individual effort much praise is due in raising the schools to their high standard of efficiency. He has been president of the Montgomery County Teachers' association, and was unanimously elected president of the State Teachers' association at its meeting at Elizabethtown, Essex county, in 1887. Professor Kimball is, in the best sense of the word, a self-made man, and his example to the rising generation is of practical value as illustrating the lofty possibilities of American citizenship. He is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M., and has been its master; also of E. S. Young Post No. 33, G. A. R., of the department of New York, and has been its commander. October 5, 1880, he married Belle C., youngest daughter of Robert and Mary (Chesney) McBride of Philadelphia; they have two sons: Wallace MacBride and Robert Almon.

Kline, James W., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam July 20, 1813, and was educated in the public schools and worked at farm work until he was eighteen years old; afterwards he learned the carpenter's trade and became a contractor and builder until 1845, when he became a general store-keeper at Tribes Hill, under the firm name of Kline & McDonald. In 1857 he went to Fultonville and carried on mercantile business under the firm of Wilson & Kline for some years, when he moved to Amsterdam carrying on the same business under the firm of Kline & Warwick. In 1864 he was elected sheriff of Montgomery county for three years; and was supervisor of the town of Amsterdam in 1887, 1888, 1889. In 1874 he was re-elected sheriff and moved to Fonda. January 20, 1842, he married Ann, second daughter of Fisher and Jane Putman of Tribes Hill; they have had two sons: Stephen H. and William P.,

both of whom are dead. Mr. Kline's father, William, was born in Oneida county about the year 1779, and married Angelica Teller of Schenectady; they had ten children, seven grew to adult age: James W., Cornelius, Adam W., Perry, Susan, now Mrs. Felthousen of Milwaukee; two died, Stephen and Sandy. The ancestry of the family is of German and Holland Dutch. Mr. Kline resides here, living a retired life.

Kline, Adam W., Amsterdam, was born on the 5th of February, 1818, in Amsterdam and was educated in the public schools of that day. In early life he was a carpenter, but has been a merchant and manufacturer. At one time he was president of the First National bank, was supervisor one year in the town of Florida, and served two terms as supervisor of Amsterdam. He was elected state senator for the sessions of 1866-67 and was chairman of the committees on trade and manufacturers and on roads and bridges, and served on the committee on banks; he also was appointed on a special committee on federal relations where he took an active stand and offered the following resolutions: "*Resolved*, That in the present crisis of National affairs it becomes all loyal men to exercise wisdom, prudence and moderation in the discussion and settlement of public measures. *Resolved*, That by the amendment to the Constitution the perfect liberty of all people, of whatever race or color, and their equality before the law, are guaranteed in every portion of the Union, and the power to enforce such liberty and equality is conferred; that this power should be exercised by the passage of appropriate laws for the protection of the freedmen from oppression, and the unflinching enforcement of those laws, if necessary by the entire power of the Federal administration in those States which seek to interfere with or contravene this enlightened principle of the fundamental law. *Resolved*, That denying the dogma that a State can die or that it can secede, we are in favor of the admission in Congress of representatives and senators from every State in the Union, whenever it shall appear that they are unmistakably loyal, that they have been elected in accordance with the Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, and that they can comply with the established tests, and not otherwise. *Resolved*, That recognizing in those principles a common ground upon which the President and Congress may stand, supported by the controlling loyal sentiment of the country, we declare our trust in the fidelity of the President to the great principles he was elected to represent, and our confidence that the Union members of Congress are honestly seeking to establish those principles in wise and prudent action; that in a united Executive and Congress, we feel assured will be found ample security for the interests, the honor and welfare of the country, and of all classes of its people." He was also for a time treasurer of the county. On the 22d of February, 1844, he married Bata A. Simons of Florida, whose family came from New England. They had three children, two sons and one daughter: Harlan Page, who was well educated and was mayor of Amsterdam and held other public offices and was one of Amsterdam's wide-awake business men. He married Delia Bennett of Amsterdam, by whom he had one son who lived, named Harold B. Harlan Page Kline died on the 28th of February, 1891, mourned by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and Mrs. Kline, his widow, is living in Hartford, Conn., where she is educating her son. Perry H. Kline, the other son, was an attorney-at-law and resided at home,

but died while this work was in progress. The daughter is Jessie E., who married Charles Hubbs. Mr. Adam W. Cline is living a retired life in the city that he helped to build and prosper. He has the sympathy of the public in his recent bereavements.

Kyle, Rev. Joshua R., Amsterdam, was born on the 2d of August, 1834, in Greene county, Ohio, and was educated in the public schools and Miami University, from which he graduated in 1859. He is also a graduate of the United Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Xenia, O. He is now and has been for the past twelve years pastor of the Reformed church in the Fifth ward of Amsterdam. He has been married twice, first on the 25th of September, 1867, to Jennie M. Ostrom of West Charlton, and they had three living children: Grace O., Mary J. and Jennie O. Mrs. Kyle died on the 3d of March, 1878. On the 16th of February, 1881, he married Hattie Ostrom. Mr. Kyle's father (Samuel) was born in the year 1777, near Chambersburgh, Pa., and when quite young moved with his parents to Kentucky. He married twice, first to Ruth Mitchel of that state, and moved to Ohio soon after his marriage in 1802. They had six children. Mrs. Kyle died about the year 1813. For his second wife he married Rachel Jackson of Pennsylvania. They had fifteen children, nine sons and six daughters, namely: Jane, Robert, Ruth, James, William, Thomas, John, Joanna, Henry, Joshua R. and Ellen (twins), Roland and Martha (twins), Hugh J. and Mary.

Kaufman, William H., Amsterdam, was born October 6, 1855, in Hagenburg, Furstenthum, Schaumburg, Lippe. His father was architect and builder for Duke George of the above place. The son received his education in the public schools until his ninth year; he then entered the private schools until his thirteenth year, and then entered the Military Music school in Buckeburg and remained from March, 1869, till July, 1872, when he took his papers of release, and was recommended to the marine band of Washington, D. C. On the 14th of September, 1872, he sailed from Bremen to the United States, arriving in New York on the 25th of September, and at once started for Washington. He presented his papers to Professor Snyder, then band leader, and was admitted, but when examined by the marine surgeon, he was registered as not being up to the required physical standard. He then procured work with a confectioner and caterer in Georgetown (Martin Hebner), who offered him a better position in his business as caterer for the White House, which he had charge of from 1873 until 1879, when James Breslin (of the Gilsey House, New York) gave him charge of the pastry and cooks of the Netterwood House, New Jersey. He is a member in good standing of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M., and has taken the 32d degree. He is a member of the board of trade, and other organizations, is treasurer of the Knights of Pythias, joint board, the Chuetenunda, Woodbine, and Berliner lodges, and is present chairman of the board of trustees of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, and treasurer of its congregation. He is also treasurer for the Royal Arcanum No. 1,259. On May 8, 1883, he married Minnie, daughter of Rev. Dr. G. L. Rietz of Amsterdam. They have two daughters, Minnie and Nellie. He started business in Amsterdam May 10, 1884, as confectioner and caterer for weddings and parties.

Kinsley, Collins A., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Ballston, Saratoga county, April 23, 1835, and is a son of Abiel and Charity (Dickson) Kinsley.

Abiel, the father of our subject, was born and brought up in Connecticut and came to Saratoga county about 1815; he was a patriot soldier in the war of 1812 and received two wounds, which made him an invalid during his lifetime. He died in February, 1847, leaving five children, of whom three are living: Horton H., in California; Mrs. Alma Fostmire of Mayfield, Fulton county; and Collins A., our subject. His parents moved to Fulton county when Collins was six years old, where he received an education in the public schools. At the age of eighteen he went west where he traveled extensively, operating saw-mills, until 1862, when our country called for volunteers to quell the rebellion. In July of that year he enlisted in the Ninth Michigan Cavalry. At first this regiment was put in the Fourth Corps under General Burnside, and his first service was seen on the Morgan raid into Pennsylvania. He was also in the battle at Cumberland Gap, and having been placed in the army of Tennessee he was also in the siege of Knoxville. His regiment was then ordered to Nashville, where they were furnished fresh horses and then ordered under Sherman in his famous march to the sea; stopping by the way to drive the rebels from Atlanta. He was under General Francis Kilpatrick the remainder of the march. He was at the battle of Savannah, and also at Aikin, Ga., where he was wounded in the leg. At the close of the war he went back to Michigan, where he remained two years, then going into Wisconsin, Minnesota, and from there to Missouri where he stayed three years, coming back to Fulton county in 1872, where he opened a grocery and provision store, which he conducted for two years, then going to Perth, and starting a store which was burned one year later. He rebuilt, however, and the next year he sold out and moved to Haganman's Mills, where he joined I. P. Benn until 1884, when he built the fine residence where he now lives. January 31, 1872, he married Mary A. Bishop of Mayfield; they were the parents of one child who lived but three years, Alvah H., born March 12, 1873, died January 12, 1876.

Kline, George J., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam on what is known as the old George Kline farm, May 8, 1846, and is a son of John G. and Mary (Clark) Kline. John G. was a son of George, who was also a native of this country, a son of John Kline who came hither from Holland and located in this town, and held a grant from George the Third for a square mile of land on the north side of the Mohawk river. His son George was his third child, born in 1783. He married Sarah Van Ness, by whom he had nine children; two are living: Jane Walter of Amsterdam, and Catherine Plantz of Johnstown. John G., the second son, married in 1845 and was the father of two children, John (deceased), and our subject, George J. Mr. Kline was educated in the public schools of Amsterdam, and lived with his mother (after his father's death, October 7, 1850), until his marriage to Susan Quillhot, September 28, 1871. In 1876 he bought the farm of ninety-five acres where he now lives, known as the Stoller farm, to which he has added many improvements, making it one of the prettiest and best in the northern part of the town. He is the father of three children: Elizabeth, born January 9, 1873; Mary A., born July 24, 1880, and Belle, born April 6, 1882.

Kellogg, Dayton Smith, was born in Cornwall, Litchfield county, Conn., and is the youngest son of John and Polly (Clark) Kellogg. For several years he received private

instruction from Rev. Herman Daggett, formerly principal of the Foreign Mission School at Cornwall. This school was founded by the American Board of Foreign Missions for the purpose of educating missionaries for the foreign field. The first missionaries to the Sandwich Islands were educated there. He afterwards attended the Cornwall Seminary, which for years was in charge of the Rev. E. W. Andrews, who afterward became pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle. Graduating from this school, he became a teacher, and was for two years principal of Union Academy, Springfield, N. J. He then went to New York and studied dentistry with several of the most eminent dentists of the country, including Drs. Harvey and John Burdell, and Solyman and Augustus Brown. In 1845 he came to Fort Plain to visit his friend, Rev. Thomas Armitage, who was then in charge of the Methodist church of Fort Plain, and was induced to settle there and open a dental office. He at once acquired a very lucrative and successful practice which has continued to the present time. He was the first resident dentist in that section of the Mohawk valley. In 1854 he became editor and part proprietor of the *Mohawk Valley Register*, which he conducted as an independent journal for several years. In 1880 he inaugurated an enterprise which was instrumental in giving to Fort Plain a large number of its most elegant residences. By cutting a street along the face of Prospect Hill, at a great expenditure of labor and capital, and bridging the Otsquago creek at the foot of Centre street, he made this beautiful eminence (which overlooks the most beautiful portion of the Mohawk valley) accessible and very desirable for residences. Dr. Kellogg is of the eighth generation from Lieut. Samuel Kellogg, one of the brothers who emigrated from England in 1640. Joseph Kellogg settled in Hadley, Mass.; Daniel in Norwalk, Conn., and Samuel in Hatfield, Mass. The late Loyal C. Kellogg, for thirteen years chief justice of Vermont, Gov. William Pitt Kellogg and Clara Louise Kellogg are descendants of the same branch. Judge Kellogg, who graduated at Yale College in 1763, and who for thirty-two years was in public life, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, as he was also of the late Judge Frederick Kellogg, who died at Cornwall in August, 1891, in his ninetyeth year, after long service of the public in various capacities. The offices of probate judge and court of record have been in the Kellogg family for more than one hundred years, and are still held by Philo Kellogg of Cornwall. John Kellogg, the father of our subject of this sketch, was an old school Democrat, and was one of the seven in the town who stood together on political questions for several years under the "stand up" law of Connecticut. Dr. Kellogg married Hannah, daughter of David and Mary Waddell of Mariaville, N. Y. In her early childhood she evinced a precocious intellect, a love of learning, and a great fondness for books. She attended Mrs. Willard's school at Troy, and afterwards graduated from the State Normal School at Albany with honors, being chosen to write the parting song at the close of the session. At the opening of the Fort Plain Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute she was one of the first of the 513 students under Principal J. E. King, now of Fort Edward Institute, and was at the close of the first collegiate year the first and only graduate. She then accepted the position of teacher of languages and higher English in the school, and became preceptress under Rev. J. E. Latimer, late dean of Boston Theological University, which position she filled with great ability until her marriage in 1858. Mrs. Kel-

logg died August 7, 1890. Their only child, J. Willie Waddell Kellogg, died November 2, 1867, at the age of about a year and a half.

Kelly, George, Canajoharie, was born near Sprakers, in the town of Root, March 25, 1847, and is a son of Charles R. and Gertrude (Stowitts) Kelly. The first of this family that can be traced was Ebenezer Kelly, who was a native of Dutchess county, where he was born October 27, 1782. He married Susan Viel and they were the parents of four children: Dean, George, Charles R. and Eliza. Mrs. Kelly died May 3, 1822, aged thirty-seven years, and he married for his second wife Abigail Legg. She died December 21, 1840. Mr. Kelly died August 16, 1865. Charles R., the youngest son, was born December 24, 1806, in Herkimer county near Middleville. He learned the carpenter's trade and married, in March, 1842, Gertrude Stowitts of Root. In 1837 his people moved to Root, where they remained until 1849, when Charles R., in company with George (his brother), bought the farm where the subjects of this sketch have since resided. Charles R. was the father of three children: Carrie E., wife of Oscar Van Evera; Mary E., wife of C. W. Nipe of Frankfort, Herkimer county, and George, our subject. George was but two years old when his parents moved on the farm where he has since lived. He was educated at Sprakers and Canajoharie Academy, and assisted his father on the farm until his death, which occurred September 15, 1874, and since then he has conducted the farm for himself. April 8, 1891, he married Ada Lehman, daughter of John and Anna (McLoughlin) Lehman. They have one child, Charles L., born March 24, 1892. Mrs. Kelly is a member of the Reformed church at Sprakers.

Klinkhart, John, Canajoharie, was born in the town of Canajoharie, August 31, 1843, and is a son of Amos. He was educated in the public school, and when about seventeen he took his father's place in the distillery at St. Johnsville, which position he filled for two years. August 30, 1862, he enlisted in the 153d N. Y. Volunteers, being mustered in October 18, 1862. He first saw service in the Red River campaign under General Banks, at the battles of Pleasant Hill, Sabine Cross Roads, Atchalafaya, and Mansura Plains. After this campaign they were ordered to the Shenandoah valley, and under General Sheridan were in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. His regiment was then ordered to Savannah, where they served the remainder of their enlistment. They were mustered out of service October 18, 1865, landing in Canajoharie on that date just three years from the day they left home. After his return he assisted his father one year and then conducted a farm in the eastern part of the town for eight years. He then bought the farm where he now resides. December 4, 1867, he married Mary L., daughter of Christopher Spear of State Bridge, Oneida county, and they have had four children: Willis L., born September 13, 1868; Amelia M., born November 24, 1871; J. Amos, born December 19, 1874; and Ida May, born May 29, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Klinkhart are active members of the German Lutheran Church, in which Mr. Klinkhart has held the office of trustee for four years.

Lewis, Peter J., Amsterdam, was born in West Galway, Fulton county, November 25, 1836, and was educated in the public schools and studied law with Sacia & Smith of this city; he was admitted to the bar in 1867 and to the United States bar in 1888 and has always practiced in Amsterdam. He was a close student and attained a high de-

gree of efficiency in his profession and is a member of the State Bar Association. July 19, 1875, he married Annah Parkhill of Elmira, a school teacher of that city and the ceremony was performed there in the First Methodist Church. Mr. Lewis died January 10, 1892, mourned by a host of professional and other friends. Mrs. Lewis's father, Hamilton B. Parkhill, was born in Steuben county and married Angeline Earnest of the town of Florida, and had seven children: Elizabeth, Charlotte, Mary, Angeline, Delos L., Alberta and Annah.

Lindsay, William, Amsterdam, Rockton p. o., was born in county Arinagh, Ireland, November 4, 1859, and is a son of William and Martha (Totten) Lindsay, who came to this country in 1881 and first settled in Amsterdam where the family of fourteen children made their home, excepting Stewart, who died in September, 1884, and William, who came to Rockton in 1886. He had been educated in one of the regular schools of Ireland, and had spent five years apprenticeship in a grocery store, so when he came to Rockton he took up the business he was acquainted with and built and conducted a large grocery store which he sold March 1, 1892. While in the grocery store he began dealing in real estate, having built ten residences, five of which he still owns. He has worked hard and deserves all the success he has received. April 18, 1888, he married Elizabeth S. Ruman, daughter of Charles Ruman, who came from England about twenty years ago. Their union has been blessed with two children: Edna M., born September 10, 1889; Violet E., born March 21, 1892. Since he came here he has been in partnership with Mr. Austin in the ice business, also they have started the lime trade which is very successful. Mr. Lindsay has been very prosperous and he feels confidence in its continuance. He has held positions of honor and trust, has been postmaster since an office was opened in June, 1888; was town clerk in 1890; and a director of the New York Building and Loan Association.

Lewis, Sylvester D., Amsterdam, was born in Gorham, Ontario county, on the 3d day of April, 1828; was prepared for college at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, Lima, and graduated from Union College in 1857. He attended the Albany Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1859 and practiced law at Avoca, Steuben county, several years, but this not being to his taste, he began the study of medicine at the Albany Medical College, graduating in 1866. He practiced medicine in the state of Illinois ten years. In the spring of 1876 he located at Amsterdam. On the 20th of August, 1857, he married Margaret E. Clute of Schenectady, who died April 29, 1888. He has two sons living: Francis D. and George G. The oldest is a graduate of Union College and is now private secretary of Congressman John Sanford. George G. is a graduate of Albany Medical College and in 1891 he went abroad to perfect his studies and was six months in Paris, and six months in Berlin, and is now in partnership with Dr. D. I. McMartin in Amsterdam.

Lohmeyer, Henry, Amsterdam, was born in Prussia, on the 27th of December, 1839, and was educated in the public schools of that country and at the age of fifteen his father gave him his time. He was the youngest of seven children and on the 6th of October, 1858, he came to America, landing at New York. He located in the Mohawk valley and worked for Aaron Pepper; he was always industrious and sober and has

now accumulated a fine property and enjoys life in travel and leisure. On the 4th of December, 1866, he married Martha A., only child living of John and Eva Taylor of the town of Florida, on what is known as the Taylor farm. Her father, John, was born on the 3d of August, 1782, in New Jersey; he married twice, first to Anna Voorhees about 1807, and came to Charleston in 1808; in the same year he bought a farm in the town of Florida and also conducted a tannery for many years. They had seven children, four grew to maturity, three sons and one daughter: Ruluff F., Keziah W., David H., and Joseph C. Mrs. Taylor died in the year 1823. On the 3d of July, 1824, for his second wife he married Eve Schuyler, who was born in New Jersey in 1787. They had three children and all grew to maturity: Martha A., Alice J., and Jacob S. John Taylor died on the 7th of June, 1864; Mrs. Taylor died on the 12th of January, 1884, aged ninety-seven. The ancestry of the family is English, Dutch and German.

Lutton, Mrs. John, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Amsterdam, May 1, 1834, and is a daughter of Jeremiah and Maria (De Graff) De Graff. (See De Graff biography.) Her early life was spent with her parents, she attending the district school at Manny's Corners. September 7, 1859, she married John Lutton, who came to this country in 1846 and settled in Amsterdam. Immediately after marriage they moved to Rochester where he rented a farm, remaining there fifteen years. Then they returned to Mrs. Lutton's birthplace, staying there two years, when they came to the large dairy farm of sixty-three acres where Mrs. Lutton now lives. They were the parents of nine children, six of whom are living: Fannie M., wife of Lewis Waterstreet of Amsterdam, was born December 2, 1860; Mary Alma, born May 24, 1868; Jessie G., born September 2, 1869; Elizabeth C., born May 28, 1871; Maggie De Graff, born November 10, 1873; Wales F., born January 11, 1875. John Lutton died October 17, 1890, aged sixty-two years.

Lester, James, Amsterdam p. o., was born in Ireland, March 17, 1815, and is a son of John and Mary (Montgomery) Lester. When his parents died (1837) James came to this country to try his fortune. He first settled in Albany, where he remained less than two years, when he came to Amsterdam. His first work was the assisting to enlarge the locks on the Erie canal. He left that work, moving on the farm where he now lives, which he then rented; in 1861 he bought the farm. April 10, 1842, he married Fannie Shannon of Albany. Three children live to bless their union: Mary J., born July 14, 1844; she is now Mrs. Greene of Amsterdam; John W., born March 11, 1857; and Louisa J., born March 13, 1859. Mr. Lester has been a very successful farmer, and having started with small capital he is now the owner of one of the best farms of eighty-four acres that can be found in this section, and says he knows how he came by it; it was done by his own hard work, ambition, and putting his money to good use. Mrs. Lester's memory of the first village of Amsterdam is very distinct, and she has seen it grow from a very small place to the present prosperous city.

Lutton, William, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in County Down, Ireland, December 25, 1832, and is a son of Thomas and Rebecca (Hare) Lutton. His father died when he was but a year old and his mother when he was only twelve. He

attended the public schools where he acquired education enough to answer him in his business. He came to this country in 1858, going directly to Hagaman's Mills where he worked by the day for about six years, when he bought nine acres of land on which he built his house and barns. July 22, 1859, he married Agnes Beatty of the same county in Ireland, who was one of his schoolmates. Their union has been blessed by six children, four of them living: Sarah J., born April 30, 1860; John, born December 4, 1861; Robert W., born April 5, 1863; Fannie, now Mrs. Frazer, born January 11, 1867. The names of those they mourn are George Albert, who died July 26, 1891, aged eighteen; and Rebecca, wife of B. Fitzgerald, who died April 18, 1892, aged twenty-seven. In 1874 he bought about seven acres to add to his little farm, and he with his happy family are comfortable and contented with their prosperity.

Luke, Mrs. Sarah C., Florida, daughter of Thomas and Caroline McClumpha, was born in the town of Florida on the 6th of June, 1843. She was married in 1870 to George B. Luke, son of Samuel Jackson Luke of the same town, where she has always lived. Mr. Luke died in 1880. There are five children, four of whom are Gilbert M., Carrie H., Frederick and Thomas J., living at home with their mother; Edwin T., the eldest, occupying a position of trust in the office of S. Sanford & Sons, carpet manufacturers, Amsterdam.

Lambert Family, The.—Peter, father of John P. Lambert, was one of the first to enlist in the revolutionary army. He resided and died in Minden. He married a Miss Lipe, and of their family there were two sons, John P. and Peter. The latter died in Canajoharie. John P. was born in Minden, and died in his native town in 1845, aged forty-five years. He married Margaret, daughter of Frederick Moyer, and their children were: Moyer, John, Peggy, wife of William Alpaugh of Minden; Peter, a resident of Minden; Moses, Anna Maria, who died single; David, Menzo, died young; Daniel Alfred, died young; Adam, who lives in Minden; and Nancy Catherine, wife of Wilber F. Timmerman of Johnstown. Moyer, the oldest in the family, was born in Minden, February 17, 1823, where he died on March 5, 1881. He married Sally, daughter of Jacob Walrath. Their five children were John, who died in Minden, leaving a widow and daughter, Melvina, wife of Abraham Wagner of Stark; Nancy Catherine, who died young; Menzo, and D. Etta, a school teacher in the Fort Plain public school. Menzo, son of Moyer, was born in Minden August 12, 1857, and married for his first wife, Alice Flanders, by whom he has two children, Bertha E. and Carrie E. His second wife was Emma Walrath, and they have one child, Earl Theodore. Mr. Lambert learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed till 1888, when, owing to the death of his brother, he had the care of the home farm.

Lighthall Family.—The first settler of this family in the Mohawk valley was Francis Lighthall, who came from Germany. He had six sons, viz.: Nicholas, John, Francis, Daniel, George and Abraham. George was born in Minden in 1797, and died in 1876. He married Betsey, daughter of Peter House, and they had thirteen children, one of whom died in infancy; the others were: Peter, Mary, who married Abraham Snyder, and died in Minden; Nancy, wife of Peter House of Minden; Daniel, who died in Minden; Sally, widow of Roswell Houpt; Catherine, died young; Eliza, married Edward

Bean, and died at Watertown; Margaret, wife of George White of Saratoga Springs; Delia, wife of John O'Brien of Watertown; Lavinia, married Milton Jones, and died at Watertown; Lucinda, wife of Peter Lints of East Schuyler; and John Lighthall of Saratoga Springs. Peter, the eldest of the above family, was born in Minden February 15, 1810, and married March 26, 1839. Eva, daughter of Peter Monk. She was born in Danube July 5, 1813. They have eight children: Katie, wife of Matthew Brohm of Minden; Nancy, wife of John Melick of East Albany; Mary, wife of Jephtha Hand of Stark; Martha, wife of Jerome Petrie of Danube; George, born in Minden April 15, 1849, married Luella Keller, and has two children, William, and Frank, who resided in Minden; Lizzie, wife of Frederick Detinger of Minden; Menzo, born in Minden July 5, 1853, married Carrie Bronner, and lives in Minden; Irving, born in Minden May 31, 1857, and married Cotha Bronner and lives in Minden.

Lambert, Emory E., Canajoharie, was born in Frey's Bush, Minden, March 29, 1859, and is a son of John and Mana (Dunckle) Lambert. The earliest ancestor of the family we can trace was John Lambert, grandfather of Emory E. He was a native of this county and married Margaret Moyer. They were the parents of eight children, of whom John, the father of Emory E., was the second. He was born July 9, 1824, and always lived in Minden. He married June 20, 1851, Maria, daughter of Abram Dunckle of Canajoharie, and they were the parents of two children: Edwin, who died September 24, 1888, aged thirty-six years, and Emory E. The early life of the latter was spent in the town of Minden, where he was educated in the common schools and assisted his father upon the farm until his marriage, which occurred January 30, 1884. His wife was Annie, a daughter of Ira and Nancy (Moyer) Dunckle. In 1888 Mr. Lambert bought the Wohlgenuth farm of 109 acres, which is considered one of the best in this town, the principal crops being hay and grain. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert are active members of the Ames Methodist church.

Lasher, Arnold V., Canajoharie, was born in Stone Arabia May 20, 1840, and is a son of Samuel and Harriet (Vedder) Lasher. Sebastian Lasher, who was a native of the town of Hillsdale, Columbia county, resided at Stone Arabia, and was the father of several children, one of whom was the father of Arnold V. He married Phebe Vosburg, and they had five sons and five daughters, eight of whom are still living: Samuel, a farmer of Frey's Bush; Aaron, a retired blacksmith of Fort Plain; David, a farmer of Palatine; Henry, a farmer of Stone Arabia; Maria, widow of John Coppernoll of Fort Plain; Nancy, wife of Frank Bowers of Fort Plain; Lany, of Minden; and Clara, widow of Henry Smith of Nelliston. Samuel, the oldest son, was born in Stone Arabia in 1809, where his early life was spent. He married Harriet, daughter of John Vedder of Palatine, and they had seven children, five of whom survive: Agnes, wife of E. D. Evans of Gloversville; Irene, wife of Marvin Young of Frey's Bush; Gertrude, wife of Christian Wyngard of Frey's Bush; John, a farmer of Sharon; and Arnold V. His childhood was spent in Stone Arabia until the age of twelve, when his parents moved to Frey's Bush, where they have ever since lived. Arnold was educated in the common schools. August 25, 1862, he enlisted in the One Hundred Fifty Third Regiment N. Y. Volunteers, and first saw service under General Banks in Louisiana, at the battles of

Pleasant Hill and Sabine Cross Roads; he was also in the battle at Mausura Plains, at Winchester, September 19, 1864; at Cedar Creek October 19, 1864; at Fisher's Hill and at Opequan. He was mustered out October 17, 1865, being just three years to a day in service. Although in so many engagements, he received but one slight wound. After his return he married Almira Hastings, daughter of Joseph and Almira (Colman) Hastings of Sprout Brook, October 21, 1867, and they have one son, Stanley II., born June 7, 1872. After his marriage Mr. Lasher bought the farm where he now resides of Jacob Farqueharson, and he has since devoted his time to its cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Lasher are supporters of the Methodist church at Sprout Brook.

Lottridge, Cornelius, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born December 22, 1805, on the old homestead, and died February 22, 1891, aged eighty-six years. He was a son of Robert and Sarah (Smith) Lottridge, who were of German descent, and settled about three miles from Fonda on the farm now owned by Robert Lottridge, and which has been in the family over 100 years. Cornelius married Alida, daughter of H. Wemple, and they had three sons and one daughter. Two of the children survive. William T., youngest son of Cornelius, was born December 29, 1834, in the town of Johnstown, where he resided until 1851 and then moved to Mohawk. He was educated in the common school, and in 1856 married Catherine, daughter of Jacob R. Schuyler, by whom he had three children: Cornelius, Schuyler, and Mary E., wife of Winslow Van Dusen. Mr. Lottridge was elected assessor in 1892, and since 1886 has been in the hay business.

Liddle, Thomas, Mohawk, son of Alexander and Nellie (Blood) Liddle, was born in Schenectady county in January, 1839. His grandfather, Thomas Liddle, was born in Scotland and came to America about the year 1800 with his parents, who settled in Oswego county, removing thence to Schenectady county. He was a farmer and dairyman and made what was termed English cheese. His wife was Janette Robinson. They raised a large family of children, and both died in Schenectady county. Alexander, son of Thomas, was born in Schenectady county, and followed farming. He was a Scotch Presbyterian, and in politics a Whig. His children were: Thomas, John, Stewart and Robert (deceased), Mary, Sarah, Ida, and Nettie (deceased). He died in 1880. His wife, Nettie Blood, died about 1886. The subject of this sketch received a common school education, and at seventeen years of age began to work as clerk; at twenty he opened a dry goods store in Amsterdam, which he conducted for ten years, and then spent ten years upon a farm in Albany county, after which he engaged in the clothing and coal business. He has been a manufacturer of knit goods about eight years and is now in the employ of his brother and son in that business in Amsterdam. In 1880 he was elected to the assembly from Albany county, and in 1885-86 from Montgomery county, on the Republican ticket, by 250 to 300 majority over his opponent in a Democratic county. He was mayor of Amsterdam in 1887-88, and in 1891 was elected sheriff by 300 majority. He married Anna, daughter of William and Maria (Johnson) Kunklem of Watervliet. They have had three children: William A., a graduate of the Albany Medical College, and a student of fine promise; Nellie and Anna. He is a member of the M. E. church, and his wife of the Presbyterian church. He is a Mason, a member of the Red Men and Knights of Pythias, and is an active politician.

Lohman, Nicholas, Palatine Bridge, was born in Germany on the Rhine, August 14, 1841, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Shannon) Lohman. In 1855 the family sailed for this country, and landing in New York came to Fonda, where both father and son worked for farmers in the town of Mohawk. Nicholas was bound out to a farmer named N. McLaughlin for his board and clothes, consisting of blue jean overalls and jacket. He was often obliged to stand on a half bushel measure and turn the fanning mill until eleven or twelve o'clock at night. His shoes he made himself, out of the bark of trees bound by willow wisps, and in winter time these formed his only covering for his feet while chopping in the woods. He ate his meals off an old box, while his seat was the floor. At the age of seventeen he left Mohawk and went to Mapletown where he worked for a Mr. Doxtader, faring much better than at his first place. He was there but one year when he moved to Palatine. There he bought a small lot and built a house, working out by the day. He afterwards took a farm of new land, which he broke up and tilled. In 1869 he moved to Palatine Bridge, where he kept a saloon, and for six months worked for the American Express company. In 1870 he sold his saloon and went into the foundry business, which he leased of Colonel Johnson. He conducted this three years and has since kept teams for hire. He was elected constable in 1870, and for the last sixteen years has been deputy sheriff. For seven years he has held the office of deputy marshal. For fourteen years he has been overseer of the village of Palatine, and has been in the employ of the State as bank watch for four years. In 1861 he married Mary Van Slyke of Mohawk, and they have had three children: Anna, wife of William D. Hess of Canajoharie; David N., local editor on the Canajoharie *Courier*; and George, who died January 2, 1890, aged twenty-one. Mr. Lohman has been a student of medicine for animals for over thirty years, and is to-day the leading veterinary surgeon of this section.

Lipe, Adam, Root, son of John L. and Elizabeth (Wormouth) Lipe, was born May 5, 1845, in Onondaga county, where his parents lived a short time. He received his education in the Canajoharie Academy, after the district school. He owns the paternal farm, consisting of 158 acres. He is an active Republican, having served as assessor. He married Maggie, daughter of Aaron and Sarah A. (Hubbs) Putman of Johnstown. He has one child living, J. Earl, having lost two in infancy. Adam I., grandfather of Adam, was a son of John Lipe, one of the first pioneers of Root, who was killed by a horse. He served in the war against the Indians, and had one son and two daughters. Adam I. served in the war of 1812, and was a Whig in politics. He married Catharine Rickard, and had three sons and four daughters. He died in 1874, aged seventy-eight. His wife died November 19, 1888, in her ninety-first year. John L., son of the above, was born October 6, 1817, and died December 28, 1883. His wife survives him, aged seventy-eight years. They had three children: Martin, Adam, and Jeanette, wife of Charles S. Snow. The father of Mrs. Lipe, sr., served in the war of the revolution.

Lindsay, Albert E., Root, son of Lorenzo Dow and Matilda (Moy) Lindsay, was born January 29, 1863, in Huntingville, Compton county, Quebec. He received a common school education, supplemented by an academic course. At the age of eight years

he went into a railroad office summers to learn the business, attending school during the winter. In 1877 he commenced work for the Passumpsic Co., remaining with them until 1880; worked for the N. Y. & N. E. RR. Co. about four years in various capacities. In June, 1884, he came to Spraker's, where he has had charge of the West Shore railroad office ever since. He married, October 8, 1885, Maggie, daughter of David and Margaret Quackenbush. They are members of the M. E. church of Canajoharie, of which Mr. Lindsay has been one of the stewards since 1886. The family is of Scotch origin. The grandfather, Arnold Lindsay, reared a family of five sons and five daughters. The father of Albert E. was a contractor and builder, and died in July 1888. His wife survives him. They had four sons, of whom but two survive: Albert E. and Raymond B.

Lyker, Dr. Almer A., Root, son of John and Amanda (Van Derveer) Lyker, was born August 26, 1854, in Root. He was reared on the farm, and received a common school education, supplemented by an academical course, and then taught three terms. At the age of twenty-one he began the study of medicine with Dr. Shibley of Rural Grove and Dr. Albert Van Derveer, of Albany, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1879. He practiced with his preceptor, Dr. Shibley, but since 1880 has practiced alone. He has held the office of coroner three years, and in February, 1892, was elected supervisor. He is a Democrat and is active in politics. He was the promoter and originator of Rural Grove Driving Park, and bred the trotter "Cherry Blossom." Dr. Lyker is one of the most public spirited men of the town.

Lyker, Henry C., Root, Argusville p. o., was born in the town of Root September 6, 1822, and is a son of Cornelius and Eve (Wilson) Lyker. He was educated in the district schools, and was a captain of militia in the late war. He has been a farmer all his life, owning two farms of 188 acres, on the line of Montgomery and Scholarie counties. He has served as supervisor for eight years, and also held various minor offices. He is an active Democrat in politics. September 22, 1848, he married Sarah M. Malick, daughter of Aaron and Anna (De Reemer) Malick. His wife died April 19, 1886. She had been a member of the Lutheran church for thirty years, and he has been a member of the same church for over forty-five years. Mr. Lyker was the founder of the Argusville Silk Mills, established in 1889, makers of silk gloves. It is operated by J. H. Clark. John Lyker was born where he now resides, in the south part of Root, July 1, 1828, and is a son of Cornelius and Eve (Wilson) Lyker. The grandfather, Henry Lyker, whose father came from Holland and settled in New Jersey, was born in the last named state, and served in the war of 1812 as colonel. He came to Root in 1781 and entered one hundred acres where our subject now resides. He served as justice many years, and died aged over ninety years. His wife was Catharine Runkle, who reared two sons and five daughters, all of whom married and had families. Cornelius was born in Niskayuna, October 29, 1776, and came to Root with his father, adding to the homestead 160 acres, which he owned at the time of his death, August 3, 1858. He served as commissioner, and sent a substitute to the war of 1812. He was a Democrat in politics. His five children were: Catherine, James, Henry C., Ann Eliza and John. The mother of Henry C. and John Lyker was born in Minden. She

was a daughter of James Wilson, who was a farmer. John was reared and lived all his life where he now resides, with the exception of two years spent in Gloversville and four years in a hotel at Rural Grove. John served in the office of commissioner of the town and owns 150 acres of the original homestead. He is an influential man in the Democratic party. He married, June 11, 1851, Miss Amanda Van Derveer, daughter of Joseph and Harriet (Allen) Van Derveer. They have three children: Dr. A. A. Lyker, Villa R., wife of Herman Ehle, and Joanna, wife of C. V. Hall. Mrs. Lyker is a member of the Christian church which she has attended over forty years.

Manzer, Edwin F., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born April 13, 1859, at Westford, Otsego county. His early life was spent at home, securing an education at Draper's Academy, his early training being wholly mercantile, as his father (Sanford E.) was one of the leading merchants of Westford. At the age of twenty-one Edwin came to Hagaman's Mills, where he engaged with H. Pawling & Son as bookkeeper, rapidly rising to the position of superintendent. About the first of February, 1892, he assumed control of the largest general store in Hagaman's Mills, where in the short time he has conducted it he has built up a fine trade. September 20, 1882, he married Anna E. Collins, daughter of Ira and Hannah (Knapp) Collins. Mr. Manzer's ancestry is German.

Munsell, William J., Amsterdam, was born at Port Jackson, June 13, 1840, and was educated in the common schools and Amsterdam Academy. At an early age he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner with his father. The family have followed it for four generations. William J. began contracting on his own account in 1878, but previously was a foreman for Stephen Sanford for fourteen years. He married, June 13, 1866, Prudence Mathews of Johnstown, but she died in the year 1879. In November, 1881, he married Emma Brice of this city; they have five children, four sons and one daughter: Lizzie, Stephen Sanford, William J., jr., Eugene and Ransom. Mr. Munsell's father (Chauncey) was born in the town of Florida in 1814; he married Jane E. French of his native town; she was a daughter of John French, and they had four children, two sons and two daughters: Susan May, William J., Meriam and John. Her father was sheriff of Montgomery county one full term before the county was divided. Mr. Munsell enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-Third New York State Volunteers, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war as orderly sergeant; his brothers and sisters are dead.

Messinger, Stephen, Amsterdam, was born in Saratoga county January 4, 1825, and was educated in the public schools and has had a variety of occupations. He followed monumental work about thirty years but since 1887 he has been a contractor for sidewalks and building stone. Mr. Messinger has been president of the board of education and is now a member of that board; he is a member of Artisan Lodge, No. 84, F. & A. M., and also its treasurer. He came to Amsterdam in 1851, and on the 14th of December, 1859, he married Emeline, eighth daughter of Josiah and Mary Goodrich, of Granville, Washington county. They have two children: Charles G. (who married Emma Playford; they have two sons, C. Raymond and Ford S.); and Emma E., who married Smith G. More of St. Lawrence county, and they now reside in North Dakota.

Major, Walter M., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Perth, May 9, 1834. In early life he was a farmer, afterwards sold agricultural implements, and also was a real estate operator. He came to Amsterdam about 1867. In 1865 he married Ruth A. Shuler of this county; she died July 9, 1888, mourned by the bereaved husband and a host of friends. His father, John, was born in Galway in 1791, and married Jane Maxwell of Charlton. They had twelve children, eight sons and four daughters: John, Ursula, David, Mary A., Ebenezer, Margaret, Jennie E., Walter M., No. 1, who died, Walter M., No. 2, Joseph, William J. and Hugh B. Mr. Major represented the town of Perth in the Fulton county board of supervisors in 1861-62.

Morris, John F., Amsterdam, was born August 31, 1839, in Amsterdam, and was educated in the public schools of the city. He is associated with A. V. Morris & Sons, taking charge of that part of the business conducted at Fort Johnson, but resides in Amsterdam. On September 15, 1864, he married Mary E., oldest daughter of John D. and Catherine (Livermore) Serviss of Amsterdam; they have two daughters: Kittie L., and Mary S., who resides at home with her parents. Kittie L. married P. Henry Smeallie of this city, and has two children, John Morris and Marion Elvira.

Morphy, Thomas, Amsterdam, was born on the 15th of June, 1836, in Sussex county, England, and with his parents came to the United States in 1850, locating at Amsterdam, where he was educated in the public schools and Johnstown Academy. For two years he was in the grocery business in Port Jackson, now the fifth ward. The Morphy brothers were the first to build a public storehouse in this city in the years 1880-'81, and have conducted a large flour, feed and grain business under the firm name of Morphy Bros. On the 21st of December, 1859, he married Maria L., second daughter of Cornelius and Rebecca (Pettingell) Conover. They have one daughter Katie C., who married Frederick Davey of Amsterdam.

Miller, James A., Amsterdam, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and when a child came with his parents to America and lived in New York. In a short time his parents moved to Galway, where they purchased a farm. In 1852 Mr. Miller came to Amsterdam and became a member of the firm of Kellogg & Miller, and a few years later married Elizabeth F. Clark of New Bedford, Mass. They had three children: Lizzie, who died at the age of five; and two now living—Kate, who married George M. Holbrook of Amsterdam; and John C., who married Sarah R. Nelson. They have one son and one daughter, Charles Raymond and Minerva Gladys. Mr. Miller is president of the First National bank, vice-president of the board of trade, director in the Gas company and an elder in the Second Presbyterian church.

McClary, Major William, Amsterdam, was born in Broadalbin June 23, 1810; he was educated in the public schools of his day; in early life he was a farmer but afterwards learned the mason's trade and for many years was a contractor on public works, and also private buildings. He came to Amsterdam in the year 1827 and June 20, 1837, he married Martha, daughter of Alexander Adams of the same place. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Sears. They had seven children: Sarah, died in infancy; Daniel F. and Jane M., died after they reached maturity; four survive: William, jr.,

who married Annie Sherrick of Oswego; John and Helen (twins), and Martha. John, Ellen and Martha reside at home. Mr. McClary's father, William, was born in North Carolina, and when a young man came with his mother north; he married Bessie Kennedy, by whom he had four sons and two daughters. His father's brother, Samuel, was in the war of 1812 and his mother's brother, Robert, was also in the war of 1812. Mr. McClary was elected to the legislature in 1852 and was superintendent of the canal from 1842 until 1846 inclusive. In politics he is a Democrat; his first vote was cast for General Jackson.

Miller, John C., Amsterdam, was born in Glasgow, September 27, 1828, and came with his parents to this country when he was only two years old. They located in West Galway in the town of Perth, and he was educated in the public schools and in early life was a farmer. In the spring of 1853 he became a manufacturer in Amsterdam, but sold out in 1884. He then became a contractor of street pavements and sewers. On the 9th of May, 1860, he married Louisa M., oldest daughter of Isaac and Esther Jackson of this city; Mrs. Miller died July 24, 1877. They have two daughters: Esther and Louisa J. (who married Frank E. Waldron and they have three children, John M., Hicks B. and Louisa M.)

McCurtie, William, Amsterdam, was born on the 18th of May, 1826, in Glenville, Schenectady county, and was educated there and learned the carpenter's trade. In 1853 he went to Illinois and was three years in Chicago and seven years in Centralia, from which place he enlisted in Company A, First Illinois Light Artillery. The date was March 1, 1862, and he was honorably discharged in the state of Mississippi on account of sickness. On the 10th of December, 1850, he married Sarah A., third daughter of Nicholas and Jennie Van Slyck of his native county. They have three children, one son and two daughters. One daughter, Alice, died on the 7th of November, 1874. Frank, who married Louisa Talmage of Amsterdam, and Jennie, who resides with her parents. Mr. McCurtie's grandfather on his mother's side (Aaron Stephens) was quartermaster in the war of 1812 and one of his great-grandfathers was a soldier of the revolutionary war. Mr. McCurtie is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Marshall, James E., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in county Tyrone, Ireland, May 10, 1857, and is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Hempton) Marshall. His parents came to this country the same year of his birth, and settled in the town of Perth, where they remained three years, then came into the town of Amsterdam, and the second year moved on the J. McKay farm, but moved thence to the George Clark farm. James was sent to the common school, where he received a start for an education; finishing his course behind the desk in his own store. When he was eleven years old he hired out to work for Darwin Schuler for \$5 a month, and followed farming in this way until he was nineteen, when his father took a farm, and James helped him two years; after this he went to Michigan and engaged in railroading for eight months. During that time he married Melvina Wright, and after his marriage (December 30, 1879) he came back to this county and the next year went into gardening, which he followed until 1881. He then bought out the general store of M. M. Robb at Fort Johnson, which he has conducted in so successful a manner that the business has in-

creased fivefold what it was when he bought it. He has leased the adjoining building for a flour and feed store, and is the postmaster at Fort Johnson, but this is the only public office he thinks he will aspire to. He is the father of one child, Clarence B., born April 17, 1881. Samuel Marshall, his father, died June 15, 1890, fifty-one years of age. John Marshall was married to Mary Burrows, daughter of Francis Burrows of Schenectady, May 14, 1891. He has always been engaged in gardening until the fall of 1891 when he rented the market at Fort Johnson of his brother, which he has since successfully conducted.

McDougall, Daniel, Florida, one of seven children of James and Mary (Campbell) McDougall, was born October 6, 1844, on the farm where he now lives. The others of the family were Lawrence, Helen M., Isabella (all deceased), John C., who resides at Oil City, Pa.; Elizabeth D., widow of Alfred Millmine, and George, living at Burtonville. James, the father, was born April 3, 1806, in Princetown, and Mary, his wife, was born in 1809. John, the grandfather, was born in Scotland, and settled in Princetown, where died. Daniel McDougall married on November 13, 1872, Margaret, one of three children of Hugh and Clara (Montgomery) Stewart of Florida, the others being Addie (Mrs. J. S. Young of Chicago), and Henry Jackson (deceased). John Stewart, her grandfather, was born in Florida, his wife being Margaret Ross. Her great-grandfather, Stewart was born in Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. McDougall have three children: Hugh Campbell, Mary Adaline, and Donald Raymond.

Miller, Jonas, Minden, was born in Minden, December 4, 1821. His grandfather Conrad Miller, had a family of nine children: Peter, Conrad, Daniel, Henry, John, George, Christiana, who married George Snyder; Mary, who married Nicholas House; and Nancy, who married John Woltz. Henry of the above family was born in Minden, where he died December 3, 1833. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Zoller, and they had six children: Henry, who died in Danube; Cornelius, who was killed by accident when twenty years of age in Minden; Nancy and Mary, both died young; Solomon, who resides in St. Johnsville; and Jonas. Henry was a blacksmith by trade and carried on a shop for many years on the Dutchtown road, near the residence of the late Solomon Devendorf. Jonas, our subject, received only a common school education, and on the death of his father the family was left in straitened circumstances. Mr. Miller engaged in farming, which he has always followed, and he now owns one of the best farms in the town of Minden comprising 140 acres. In politics a Republican, he has never held any political office. He married Janet McKenzie, and they had four children, viz: Cornelius, who died aged twelve; Irving, who resides in Palatine; Alton, who resides in Minden; and Helen, wife of Otto Fox, assistant cashier of St. Johnsville National Bank.

Martin, Charles, Minden, was born at Fort Plain, July 27, 1850. His father (Charles) was a native of Germany, emigrating to America, where he located at Fort Plain. He was a mason by trade, and enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-Third Regiment of New York Volunteers. He received a furlough on account of sickness and was returning to his regiment in 1864, when he had a relapse, and died at Albany, in his thirty-ninth year. He married Charlotte Hillabrandt, and

they had seven children: Carrie, Charles, William, who died aged four years; Henry G., the well known druggist at Fort Plain, died in that village, leaving a widow and one child (named Harvey); John and Fred (both residents of Fort Plain); and Lewis, who died at the age of fourteen years. Charles, the oldest son of the above family, received only a common school education. In his early life he worked at farming, but was for ten years employed at the Fort Plain Spring and Axle Works. He moved on his present farm in 1882. He married Elizabeth, daughter of the late Peter G. Bush, and they have four children: Katie C., George A., Jennie B., and Charles.

Moyer, Abram H., Minden, was born May 22, 1796, at Minden, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Arndt of Minden, who was born February 5, 1796, in the above town. Abram H. died July 21, 1878, and Elizabeth, his wife, died February 23, 1852. They had eight children, of whom Mary Ann, the oldest, was born December 31, 1815, and married John Hesler, February 19, 1840. They had three children: Mary M., who married John Johnson of Fonda; Lizzie, who died at Fonda in 1858; and Abram, who died at Minden in 1853. John Hesler died February 10, 1881, and Mary Ann, his wife, died January 1, 1892, at Fonda. Eliza Ann, second child of Abram H. Moyer, was born February 6, 1818, and died October 15, 1844. Lucinda, the third child, was born September 12, 1820, and June 23, 1853, married John Jarvis; they had one daughter, Libbie, who married Edw. Hill, of Chicago. John Jarvis died at Chicago March 17, 1875. Byancy, the fourth child, was born September 12, 1823, in Minden, and married John Shawl of Columbia, June 23, 1852. She died December 23, 1856. John Shawl died June 19, 1888. Sylvester, fifth child, was born August 3, 1826, and married Irena Gramps of Stone Arabia, on August 11, 1851, and they had two children: Heley, who married Viola Flanders of Oppenheim, and Mary, who married Edgar Keesler of Frey's Bush. Simeon, sixth child, was born July 22, 1828, and married Lanie Eygabroad of Minden, December 27, 1849; Lanie, his wife, died July 7, 1872, and he married second, Isadore Ball of Michigan. Almina, seventh child, was born August 15, 1831, and married James Miller of Minden; they had two children: Adda, who married William Caulkins of Amsterdam, and Rufus, who married Jennie Cohn of New York; they are all living at Yonkers. James Miller died December 18, 1879, at Amsterdam. Marcy, the eighth child of Abram Moyer, was born in Minden November 6, 1834; he married Catherine Cornelius of Minden, July 18, 1856, (who died January 21, 1872), and they had five children: Samarie E., was born March 28, 1856, and married Charles Sanders of Minden, October 26, 1877; she died December 20, 1880. Minnie K. was born January 13, 1860, and married Edwin Moyer in 1878, at Minden. Abram E. was born April 21, 1862, and died January 13, 1873, at Minden. Gertrude M. was born August 21, 1864. Edward O. was born March 21, 1871. Marcy married for his second wife Josephine Cornelius, and they have one daughter, Nettie B., who was born May 6, 1880, in Minden.

Mosher, Stafford, Minden, was born in Canajoharie January 20, 1846, and is the only son of E. C. and Ann M. (Stafford) Mosher. His education was acquired at the public schools of the town and the academy. He engaged in mercantile business in the hardware store of S. H. Miller & Co. of Canajoharie, where he remained five years. He then learned the trade of carriage maker with his father, and was employed with him till 1874.

The next year he was partner in the grocery store of Mosher & Devendorf at Canajoharie. His father's trade having increased so as to require his attention, he left the grocery to accept a position of book-keeper with him, but owing to an accident he was obliged to give up his position. He was for the next nine years librarian of the State senate, and on his retirement from that office became a clerk in the Canajoharie National Bank, where he remained until the organization of the Farmers' & Merchants' Bank of Fort Plain, where he was made cashier, a position which he now fills. A Republican in politics, he was supervisor for the town of Canajoharie two years. He married Celestia J., daughter of Samuel Vunk of Charleston.

Moyer, Henry L., Minden, was born in Minden January 31, 1785, and married July 24, 1808, Hannah Walrath, who was born May 15, 1788. Their children were Charles, born January 29, 1810, died in the west; Henry H., born March 4, 1814, died in Minden; Peter, born May 28, 1815, died in Minden; Sally, born January 8, 1818; died in Minden; Moses, born December 18, 1819, died young; David, born March 26, 1823. Jacob H. was connected with the State militia, and held the office of pay master. Jacob H., son of Henry L., was born in Minden December 4, 1811, and married January 10, 1850, Margaret, daughter of George U. Bauder. Their only child was J. Wesley. Mrs. Moyer died July 10, 1862. Jacob H. married for his second wife Mary E., daughter of Henry S. Diefendorf. He died January 25, 1888. J. Wesley Moyer was born April 29, 1856, and married February 4, 1880, Anna C., daughter of Chauncey L. Moyer. They have four children: Jacob H., Chauncey L., Flora L., and Mary E.

Marcellus, Abram, Amsterdam, was born at Cranesville, Montgomery county, on the 1st of January, 1821, and was educated in the common school and Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a wood-worker and lived for nine years in Illinois; he then returned to Amsterdam and manufactured reapers and mowers for about ten years. In 1860 he went into the knit goods business in company with the late John McFarlan, under the firm name of Marcellus & McFarlan, which continued about twenty-three years, when Mr. Marcellus retired from business and now lives in his fine residence in the west end of the city. On the 30th of June, 1865, he married Henrietta Steadwell of the town of Florida. They have six children, three sons and three daughters. Louise S., who married Dr. E. E. Reynolds of this city; Agnes V., who married Dr. William Liddle of Fonda; and Katie, who died March 14, 1878; Abram M., Henry A., and Frederick S., who resides at home. Mr. Marcellus's father, Ashuerus, was born in the town of Amsterdam and married Mary, daughter of Gabriel Manny of this town. They had eleven children. Mrs. Marcellus's father, Albert Steadwell, was born in Dutchess county and married Hannah Hayes of his native county. They had ten children and came to the town of Florida at an early day. The ancestry of the family is Dutch, French and English.

Miller, J. Jay, M. D., Amsterdam, was born on the 3d of October, 1834, in the town of Lansing, Tompkins county, and was educated in the public schools and Central College of this state. He was a minister of the Christian denomination eighteen years, and afterwards studied medicine and graduated from Albany Medical College in the year 1871. In the early part of the year 1887 he came to Amsterdam. He was married

twice, first to Catherine De Conders of Groton, Tompkins county. They had one son, William Tyler, who is a skilled physician at Cobleskill, and S. Pearl, an adopted daughter, who is being educated at Amsterdam Academy. She resides at home. For his second wife he married Carriebe Bullard of Sherborn, Mass. She is quite talented in vocal and instrumental music.

Miller, Abram B., Canajoharie, was born in the town of Canajoharie on the 29th of December, 1834, and is a son of Adam S. and Hannah Coons Miller. His mother was born in Rensselaer county and his father in Columbia county. The latter's grandfather (John Miller) came from Germany and settled in Columbia county. Adam Miller, Abram's father, came to this county about 1831 and settled on the farm now owned by the family. He is still living at the age of ninety-three years. Mr. Miller was reared on the farm, and educated at the common schools and at Charlotteville and Ames Academy. For thirty years he was a teacher; he was at Fultonville six years and taught at St. Johnsville, Palatine Bridge, Buel and Ames for twelve winters. He was commissioner one term, and owned a farm in Glen eight years; he is a civil engineer, and also a veterinary surgeon, registered. He owns a fine farm at Ames village, and is a Republican and an active worker for his party. He has been commissioner of highways and justice of the peace. On the 11th of January, 1859, he married Anna E., daughter of Alvy Bowman, among the first settlers of the county. They have four children: Josephine, wife of William Bellman; Minnie, wife of Walter Hilts; John, who married Nora Wessells; and Horace.

Merselis, Daniel W., Canajoharie, was born in Knox, Albany county, October 9, 1836, and is a son of Gerardus G. and Catharine (Weidman) Merselis. The grandfather of our subject, Gerrit N. Merselis, was a native of this country, born in 1767, and always a resident of Albany county. He married, November 20, 1799, Eve, daughter of Henry Ball, and they had four children: Gerardus Groesback, Peter, Margaret, Maria E. Gerrit M. died January 16, 1832, and his wife, Eve, died March 14, 1810. Gerardus G., the oldest son, was born in Albany county, January 12, 1801, and always lived there. He married, November 8, 1827, Catharine, daughter of Felix Weidman of Berne, Albany county, and they had five children: Elizabeth, wife of Jacob M. Hochstrasser of Berne; Catharine, who died July 12, 1864, aged thirty-one years; Anna M., wife of George W. Quackenbush of Barnyville, Schoharie county; Lois J., wife of Avery K. Slade, a farmer of Berne, and Daniel. The early life of the last named was spent in Albany county. He was educated at the select school at Berneville, and after leaving school assisted his father on the farm until his marriage, which occurred October 8, 1862, his wife being Elizabeth, daughter of John M. and Orpha (Dennison) Wood of Albany county. His father was from Dutchess county, and her ancestors came from Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Merselis have had eight children: Orpha D., born July 26, 1863, wife of Charles H. Groff of Minden; Willie G., born December 17, 1864, a miller of Nebraska; Catharine, who died, May 31, 1874, aged seven years; Mary E., born October 3, 1869, wife of James Shults; Arthur D., born March 16, 1874; Dewey W., born March 15, 1878; Reua S., born May 27, 1879, and Antoinette V., born February 7, 1882. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Merselis came to this town, and in

partnership with Luke Slade bought the grist-mill at Waterville and the farm of twenty-seven acres which Mr. Marselis now conducts. In 1866 Mr Slade sold his interest to Eugene Wood, brother of Mrs. Merselis, which partnership continued till 1869, when he sold out and is now in Austin, Minn. Mrs. Merselis's father makes his home with them, and is in his eighty-second year.

Lepper, Jacob, Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born one mile north of Fort Johnson in the town of Amsterdam, November 23, 1825, and is a son of Joseph and Rebecca (Fairchild) Lepper. The earliest ancestor to whom our subject can trace was his grandfather, Jacob Lepper, who came to this country previous to the War of the Revolution from Germany, and located in New York. He remained there one and one-half years, working at the blacksmith's trade, but before the war came to this county (then Tryon county) and built a blacksmith shop, grist-mill, saw-mill and store, which were burned by the Tories and Indians, who also robbed him of a large sum of money. He married Mary Hook in 1785, and they were the parents of ten children, of whom Joseph was the third, born January 24, 1789. His first wife was Rebecca Fairchild, by whom he was the father of six children, four now living: Maria, now Mrs. Seth Noble of Illinois; Angelica, now Mrs. Jacob Shuler of Syracuse; Sally, now Mrs. Smith Hall of Illinois, and Jacob, our subject. His second wife was Hannah Lepper, by whom he had six children, two are living: Rebecca, now Mrs. Ashley Kellogg of Illinois, and Margaret, now Mrs. Benjamin Levy of Illinois. Jacob spent his early life on the farm, assisting his father and attending the district school, until his marriage, December 3, 1846, to Margaret Hanson, daughter of Nicholas and Hannah (Putnam) Hanson of Amsterdam. He worked the old homestead farm for three years, then came to present locality where he remained twenty-six years. His house, cider-mill and barn were burned out and he then went to Tribes Hill for seventeen months, and came to his present residence in 1874. They have three children living: David of Springfield, Ill.; Alida B. of Florida; Mary J., now Mrs. Edward F. Clark of Albany. Their mother lives at the age of seventy-one years. Mr. Lepper was a soldier in the civil war, enlisted February 28, 1862, in the Thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteers, was wounded in June, 1862, at Chancellorsville, and discharged July 25, the same year. Remained at home until September 15, when he joined the Tenth New York Volunteer Cavalry. He saw service in many exciting engagements, among them Fredericksburg, Petersburg, the Wilderness and Gettysburg, where he was again wounded. He bears scars of his loyalty to his country, and now lives quietly at home, conducts a small place of six acres, leasing his farm of sixty-six acres. In regard to his soldier history, very few can be found who volunteered twice in one year without a dollar of bounty. He has dearly earned the pension he now receives of \$12 a month.

Milmine, Alfred J., Florida, one of two children of William M. and Emeline (Wiltsie) Milmine, the other being Lettie A. (Mrs. Geroe Kline), was born in Florida February 1, 1858. William M. Milmine, the father, was born in the town of Florida March 25, 1820. Emeline (Wiltsie) Milmine, the mother, was one of the ten children of John and Maria (Dorn) Wiltsie of Duanesburg. James Milmine, the grandfather, was born in Duanesburg, his wife being Marie Van Vechten. He came to Florida in childhood

and lived and died here. John Milmine, the great-grandfather of Alfred J., was born in Scotland, but came to this country in early life and bought the property on which Alfred J. and his father now live.

McMartin, Duncan, Hagaman's Mills, was born in Amsterdam in the house now the residence of his family, November 1, 1815, and is a son of Finley and Henrietta (Bell) McMartin, who came to this country from Perthshire, Scotland, in 1809. Duncan, the subject of our sketch, was one of a family of fourteen children, one of whom, Thomas McMartin (now dead), was professor of pathology in the medical college of St. Louis. Only two of the fourteen are now living: John McMartin, born May 6, 1809, in Scotland, and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Ayres of Denver, Col., born February 8, 1817. The early life of Duncan was spent on the farm and his education was what he could obtain in the public schools of the town. July 3, 1856, he married Susan J. Helling, widow of John Wenban and daughter of Henry and Julia (Downes) Helling. To them were born six children, three of whom have passed away, viz.: Henrietta, died September 29, 1860; Henrietta, second, died May 6, 1864; Julia Addie, died September 7, 1864. Two of the survivors, Isabelle K. and Henrietta B., are living at the old homestead, and Mamie (Mrs. S. Davies) is living in Buffalo. Duncan, their father, died September 12, 1890. Mrs. McMartin still lives on the old homestead with her brother John and her two children and bears her sixty-six years with pride when she thinks of her ancestral name.

McIntyre, Peter C., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, September 18, 1819, and is a son of James and Anne (Campbell) McIntyre. James (his father) was born in Westchester county in 1785 and went to Scotland in 1806 to settle up his father's estate, he being the oldest son of five children. He married and stayed there sixteen years, then returned to this country and settled in Johnstown, then in Montgomery county. He was the father of seven children, five of whom are living: James of Johnstown; Ewen, an eminent druggist of New York; Archibald, a commission merchant of Albany; Martin, a druggist at Fonda; and Peter C. (our subject), who was educated at Johnstown Academy under Thomas Frothingham. He spent a short time in a dry goods store at Johnstown, then went on the farm with his father where he remained until May 26, 1846. He married Anne M. Bearcroft, daughter of James and Jane (Potter) Bearcroft; they have had three sons, one of whom died when three years old. James A. was born March 10, 1847; Peter C. of Albany, born June 1, 1855. Mrs. McIntyre still lives to comfort her children, being now sixty-nine years of age. Mr. McIntyre conducted a hotel in Schenectady and also in Johnstown, each one year. He then bought the Franklin House in Johnstown which he conducted fifteen years with great success. In 1865 he sold out the hotel and went into partnership in a grocery at Albany for one year; then was in the glove manufacture one year, and in 1869 he bought a farm in Orange county, Va., where he remained six years, then came back to this county. His son, James A., was married March 30, 1869, to Evan Lingenfelter, and they are the parents of three children: Maggie, John S. and William. They are industrious farmers, and Mr. McIntyre looks back with pride on his ancestral name, his father being chief of the clan of McIntyres of Glencoe, and he himself has a commission as captain, signed by Governor Morgan.

Mount, Elijah, Canajoharie, was born in Root, near Mapletown, July 18, 1816, and is a son of Mathias and Elizabeth (Gulick) Mount. Elijah, grandfather of our subject, a native of New Jersey, came to this county in 1799, locating in Glen, where he lived until his death. His first wife was Lydia Barclay, by whom he had four children: David, Mathias, Susan and Lydia. His second wife was a daughter of Lewis Mount of Glen. By her he had four children: Elijah, Humphrey, John and Hannah. The second son of his first wife, Mathias, was the father of Elijah, and was born in New Jersey, July 19, 1792, making him seven years old when his parents came to this county. He was drafted for the war of 1812, but before being ordered to the field the war closed. In 1814 he married Elizabeth Gulick, whose father came from Germany and located in Broadalbin. By his first marriage he had one child, Elijah, our subject. His second marriage was with Elizabeth Mount, daughter of Thomas Mount of Sharon, and they had five children, only two of them reaching adult age—Mary and Rebecca. When Elijah was about five years of age his father moved to Sharon, at which place Elijah married, September 28, 1837, Mercy Emiletta, daughter of David and Mercy (Cox) Gordon. They had nine children, seven of whom are living: Mary J., wife of John Hatmaker of Gloversville; Ment E. of Jackson, Mich.; Alvin G., who conducts the farm; Lydia, wife of Rev. Joseph Walroth of Chicago; Mathias W. of Gloversville; George of Jackson, Mich.; and Ida, wife of Sanford White of Canajoharie. The oldest son, L. Winne, was a volunteer in the 115th N. Y. Regiment, was wounded taken prisoner, and died in a rebel prison in 1864. When Elijah was twenty eight, his father bought the farm of 226 acres, and at his death in 1863 it was divided, Elijah now having 150 acres. The latter has held offices of honor and trust in his town for several years, and is deacon in the Baptist church at Ames. Mrs. Mount died in May, 1877, aged sixty years.

McFee, James Adelper, was born in Cherry Valley, March 13, 1850. His father was Norman McFee, a grandson of Alexander McFee, who came from Scotland before the Revolution and settled in what is now Otsego county. Mr. McFee has spent several years teaching the public schools of Sprout Brook, Buel, Ames, Mapletown and other places. He studied at the Cherry Valley Academy and at Cazenovia Seminary, from which he graduated in 1875, completing two full terms—the academic and the Latin scientific. He studied theology two years, and in 1877 was admitted on trial into the Northern New York Conference, and stationed at New Bremen, Lewis county. Health failing, he was obliged to resign his appointment, and has never since taken a regular charge, but continues to preach occasionally as a local elder. Since 1881 he has lived on a farm pleasantly located near the village of Ames, engaged in general farming, stock breeding and fruit culture, and occasionally has a call to do surveying. In politics Mr. McFee is a Prohibitionist, but liberal toward all who have an interest in the welfare of our common country. In 1875 he married Frankie, youngest daughter of the late Benjamin Wendell of Minden, and sister of Judge J. D. Wendell of Fort Plain. They have no children.

McIntyre, Martin, Mohawk, Fonda, p. o., son of James and Ann (Campbell) McIntyre, was born in Johnstown May 5, 1835. He received his education at Kingsboro

and Johnstown academies, and studied pharmacy with his brother Ewen of New York, who was president of the New York College of Pharmacy, having held that office for fourteen years. Mr. McIntyre opened a drug store in Fonda in 1874 and carries on the business at the present time. He married Elizabeth Cherry. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., N. Y. S. P. A., and of the Reformed Church. His wife is an Episcopalian. They have a very beautiful residence which is noted for its flowers and other marks of rural taste.

Meyer, Dr. George L., Palatine, was born in Palatine, April 7, 1863, a son of John G. and Mary E. (Snyder) Meyer, natives of Germany. His grandfather was Frederick Meyer, whose father was also named Frederick, and was a physician in Germany. Frederick, junior, married Mary Sophia Hütter, who bore him five sons and three daughters. John G. Meyer was born in 1819. When a young man he came to Palatine where he has since resided. He is a blacksmith and wagonmaker and for many years kept a shop at Stone Arabia. He had three sons and five daughters; George L. was the youngest of the family. Mrs. John G. Meyer died July 29, 1882. Dr. G. L. Meyer was educated at the common school and the Union Free School at Palatine Bridge. At eighteen he began teaching school which he continued for three years, studying medicine at the same time with Dr. S. A. Wessels of Canajoharie. At the age of twenty-one he entered the medical department of Michigan University, graduating in 1887. In July, 1887, he began practice at Stone Arabia, where he has since been very successful. In 1889 he married Ada, daughter of Abner and Adelia (Williamson) Yauney of Ephratah. Abner Yauney was born January 20, 1842, and married in 1867, and had two children. His wife died November 10, 1870. Abner's father was James Yauney, born in September, 1800, in Johnstown, and married Hannah, daughter of Daniel Bedford, who was born in 1776 in England, and settled in Dutchess county where he died in 1820. James Yauney and wife had eight sons and one daughter. He was a member of assembly in 1839, and died at Ephratah in 1888.

Mowrey, Michael W., Palatine, was born in Amsterdam, October 10, 1852. His father was Pliny Mowrey, and his grandfather Ezekiel Mowrey. The latter, a native of Massachusetts, came to Johnstown at an early day and settled on a small piece of land. He had four sons and two daughters. After his death his widow lived with Pliny until her death in 1866. Pliny Mowrey was born in Johnstown, and married Mary Wert, by whom he had five sons, four of whom are living. He was a carpenter, and spent his married life at Tribes Hill, where he died in 1863. His widow married Gilbert Palmateer, a farmer of Ephratah. Michael W. Mowrey attended the common school until eight years of age, when he assisted in supporting the family by working on the farm. He followed farming until 1874, when he married Nancy A., a daughter of John V. Wood. They have had the following children: Arthur J., Elmer V., Edith M., Viola E. and Edna, all living. In 1874 Mr. Mowrey began the manufacture of straw board at Garoga, but in 1887 the business was moved to Wagner's Hollow, and has since been carried on there. The firm, which is Mowrey & Wood, employs eight men and makes 200 tons yearly. They also have a saw-mill and cuts 200,000 feet annually. Mr. Mowrey is a Republican, and a member of Stone Arabia Grange No. 690.

McDuffee, Ellsworth, Charleston, was born in Charleston, March 22, 1862, being one of eight children of Calvin and Mary E. (Dunlap) Mc Duffee; the others being Adell, Nelson, Daniel, Walter, May, Lulu (Mrs. William Tiffany) and Mercy. Calvin (the father) was one of seven children of Daniel McDuffee of Charleston, and married Mary, a daughter of Joseph and (Patterson) Dunlap of the same town. Ellsworth McDuffee married, February 22, 1861, Lulu Snyder of Charleston, one of two children of John and Roba (Scott) Snyder, the other being Caroline (Mrs. James Wood), who is dead. Mr. McDuffee has lived in Charleston about twenty years. He is a merchant at Charleston Four Corners, also postmaster and town clerk.

Moyer, Charles, Root, son of John and Mary H. (Lasher) Moyer, was born June 16, 1852, where he now resides. His grandfather was John Moyer, born in Mohawk and died in Root in 1863, aged eighty-six years. His wife was Elizabeth Magley, by whom he had three sons and five daughters. John, father of Charles, was born in Root, where he died, February 8, 1855, and at his death one-half of the farm of 120 acres fell to the lot of Charles, who later bought the other half. His wife died in August, 1869. She had two sons by her first husband, of whom Charles is the only one living. She married, second, Peter Moyer, and they had one son, Wilson. She was a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Bellinger) Lasher. Charles Moyer moved with his mother at the age of four years to Canajoharie, where he lived until her death. He received his education in the Canajoharie and district schools, and attended Whitestown Seminary for two years, having taught school seventeen terms, working at farming during the summer time. In politics he is a Democrat. and is a member of Fultonville Lodge, F. & A. M. On March 28, 1877, he married Maggie Lathers, who was born in Root, and is a daughter of John H. and Elizabeth (McLaughlin) Lathers of Mohawk. They have two children, Ida M. and Emery F.

Nestle Family, The.—George M. was born in Palatine, June 17, 1812, and on January 15, 1835, he married Margaret Timmerman; they had six children, all of whom were born in Minden. They were as follows: David G., born December 5, 1835, died in Minden; Jennie, born March 2, 1837, married Lucius Diefendorf, and died in Minden; Nancy, born October 7, 1839, wife of Peter Geesler of Minden; George L. and John L. (twins), born May 8, 1843, both died in Minden; and Daniel E. George M. was a stone mason by trade and always resided in Minden, where he died April 20, 1858. His wife died December 21, 1881. Daniel E. of the above family was born in Minden, May 16, 1847, and married on December 3, 1873, Mary Catharine, daughter of Colonel Josiah Roof. They have three children: Minnie, Lula and George M. Daniel E. has been a resident of Minden always, excepting four years when he resided at Rcme. He has always been engaged in the mill business, and purchased his present mill in Minden, October 30, 1877. He is a Republican in politics, and has held the office of commissioner of highways.

Nellis, John W., Canajoharie, was born in Palatine, June 10, 1855, and is a son of James and Mary M. (Wert) Nellis. Among the Palatines who arrived in this country in 1710 were three brothers, William, Christian and Johannes Nellis. William Nellis and twenty-six other Palatines, on the 19th of October, 1723, procured a patent for

twelve thousand acres of land lying in the town of Palatine, known as the Stone Arabia patent. Following the descendants of William Nellis, the first, we find Andrew Nellis, his son, who had a son Phillip, who was the great-grandfather of our subject. He was born on the old homestead, December 1, 1746, and married at the age of twenty-four Elizabeth Dietz of Cherry Valley. He served in the Continental army in the revolution and his regiment was in the battle of Oriskany, and was with the Palatines at the defence of Stone Arabia. He had eleven children, of whom Peter P., the third son and grandfather of John W., was born in September, 1783. He married at the age of twenty-two Margaret Spraker, who was born on this farm. Of their nine children, James, father of John W., was the fourth son. He was born April 2, 1816, in Fairfield, Herkimer county, and came to this town at the age of twenty. Six years later he married Mary M., daughter of Daniel Wert of Johnstown, and they had fifteen children of whom ten are still living: D. C. Nellis of Topeka, Kan.; D. W. of the same place; Louisa, wife of H. W. McAfee of Topeka, Kan.; A. J. of Johnstown; Ozias of Amsterdam; Jay, Emma (wife of S. J. Patten), Magdalene, Anna, and John W., all of Palatine. The latter was educated in the public schools and assisted his father on the farm until the death of the latter in 1888. John W. inherited the farm, being the third generation to possess it. He is a member of Hamilton Lodge, No. 79, F. & A. M.; secretary of Montgomery council Patrons of Husbandry, and is a member of the Lutheran church of Canajoharie. This is one of the oldest families in the county.

Nellis, Jacob C., Canajoharie, was born in St. Johnsville (then Oppenheim) December 30, 1831, a son of Jeremiah and Margaret (Fox) Nellis. The earliest ancestor we can trace of this family, is Christian Nellis, a native of Germany, who located near St. Johnsville. There was a tract of land in that town known as the Klock & Nellis patent, which was issued by George III. Mr. Nellis has in his possession two deeds granted by Christian Nellis, the first to his son, Christian Nellis second, which grants to him, in consideration of 300 pounds, a large portion of the original. These deeds are both dated June 8, 1767. Christian second was the father of four children, two sons and two daughters. The sons were John C. and Jacob C., the last named being grandfather of the subject. He was born November 26, 1772, and was a captain of militia, his commission being now in possession of his grandson. He married Magdalen Kellar of Minden, and they had one son and seven daughters. The son, Jeremiah, was born March 20, 1809, and followed farming in St. Johnsville. He was also captain of militia of the state, and was colonel of the Nineteenth Regiment, New York Militia. He was for one term supervisor of the town of Oppenheim, and was member of the legislature for the county of the sixty-first session in 1838. He also held many minor offices in the town. In February, 1831, he married Margaret Fox, daughter of Christopher Fox of Palatine, and they had four children: Emelia, widow of Darius Vedder, a farmer of St. Johnsville; John C., also a farmer of the latter town; Margaret A., wife of Dr. C. C. Vedder of St. Johnsville; and Jacob C. The early life of the latter was spent in St. Johnsville where he was educated in the common schools and assisted his father on the farm until thirty-five years of age, when he engaged in trade in Montgomery county. Two years later he was burned out and returned to Montgomery county, where he engaged in farming on his present location, a fine place of seventy

acres, which he conducts as a dairy farm, finding a market in Fort Plain. He has also been engaged in the ice business for fifteen years. In 1860 he married Harriet Chawgo of St. Johnsville, and of their four children, Walter is a machinist of Fort Plain; Sarah is the wife of Frank Lipe of Fort Plain; Jerry is a mechanic in the latter town, and Anna resides at home. Mrs. Nellis died May 17, 1880, and Mr. Nellis married second, October 5, 1881, Jemima Van Patten, widow of Morgan Alsdorf, and they have one child, Emma, a student at Fort Plain. Mr. and Mrs. Nellis are supporters of the Universalist church at Fort Plain, where they are regular attendants.

Nare Family, The.—Five brothers, John, Henry, Jacob, Frederick and David came to this county before the revolution, with their father, settling in different parts of the county. Zachariah, son of Henry, was born in the town of Palatine and married Catharine Ecker. They had ten children, six sons and four daughters: Henry, George, Adam, James, John, Magdalena, Betsy, Cathern, Margaret. He died about 1884, and his wife in 1883. Henry, oldest son of Zachariah, was born June 12, 1813, in this town, and has always resided here. He married Eleanor, daughter of Harmaunus Van Dusen, and they had three children: Simeon, Catherine (deceased), Amelia, wife of John Stuhlman, a native of Germany, who came to America in 1852, and they have one child, Emma. Simeon, son of Henry Nare, was born August 5, 1839, and married Sarah A. Wemple, by whom he has two children: Charles and Ella. The former resides at home, and the latter married Frank Jansen, of Troy, and has one child, Raymond R. Jansen, who was born in March, 1892. Charles married Sarah A. Gardener, a daughter of J. Putman Gardener. Mr. Nare has always been engaged in farming.

Nellis, Sylvander, Palatine, was born in Palatine, October 13, 1853, a son of John J. and Elizabeth (Fox) Nellis. He received a common school education, and married in 1876, Annie M., daughter of Willard Snell of Ephratah. They have one son, Judson S. Mr. Nellis is a farmer, has been highway commissioner seven years, and is a member of Fort Plain Lodge, No. 433, F. and A. M.; K. of P.; and is a Granger. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

Nestle, Daniel L., Palatine, was born in Palatine, April 20, 1851. His father was John Nestle; his grandfather, Martinus Nestle, whose father was an early settler in Palatine. Martinus Nestle married Elizabeth Lasher, and had five sons and four daughters. They both died in Palatine. John Nestle was born in Palatine, April 16, 1813. He married, in 1835, Catherine, daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Wolaver) Dillenback (parents of two sons and three daughters), and granddaughter of Capt. Andrew and Catherine (Finck) Dillenback, parents of one son and three daughters. Captain Dillenback was killed in the battle of Oriskany, during which his son Andrew was in a fort at Stone Arabia. John Nestle and wife had five sons and four daughters. He was a blacksmith, a farmer, and a member of the militia. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church; he died July 16, 1878, and his widow lives with Daniel L. The latter, at the death of his father, took possession of the farm. He has held town offices, and is a member of Palatine Union Grange, No. 580.

Nellis, Abraham, Palatine, was born in St. Johnsville, September 26, 1820. His father was Joseph I. Nellis, and his grandfather Joseph Nellis, whose grandfather was

one of the first of the family to settle in now Montgomery county. Joseph Nellis was born in 1759, served in the revolutionary army, and married Miss Lampman, who bore him two children: Joseph I. and Mary. The family were members of the Lutheran church. He died February 22, 1834. Joseph I. Nellis was born in 1786, was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools; he was a farmer and a Lutheran; he married Magdaline Bellingier of Montgomery county, by whom he had six sons and one daughter; he died in 1862. Abraham Nellis received an academical education and afterwards spent two years at Union College. For a time he was a clerk in the New York post-office, after which he read law with General Sanford of that city. In 1848 he went to California, and a second time in 1851. He married, in 1847, Christia Nellis; they have had four children: Ella L. (deceased); James (deceased); Abraham, jr.; Mrs. Julia Duncan of Nelliston. Mr. Nellis is a practical surveyor. He came to Palatine in 1855 and engaged in farming. In 1860 he started the village of Nelliston, which was named for him in 1880. He was instrumental in securing a free bridge over the Mohawk, between Nelliston and Fort Plain, and which is the pioneer for all free bridges on that river. He was formerly a Democrat, but has been a Republican with the organization of that party. He is a member of Hamilton Lodge No. 79. F. and A. M., at Fort Plain, and was made a Royal Arch Mason at Canajoharie. He and his family are identified with the Palatine Lutheran church.

Overbaugh, Myron, Florida, was born in Charleston on the 3d of August, 1853. He was one of seven children of Nelson and Elnor (De Forest) Overbaugh, the others being Charles, Benjamin, Mrs. P. Haslet McClumpha, Mrs. Gilbert McClumpha, and Mrs. Daniel Blood and Allen Overbaugh. The ancestors of Mr. Overbaugh were among the early settlers of this region. He was married October 2, 1878, to Catherine, daughter of Abram and Ann Elizabeth Van Horn of the town of Glen. They have three children, Van H., Elbert and Elsie.

Ostrom, Stephen, Glen, one of eight children of Stephen and Anna Maria (Edwards) Ostrom, was born at the old family homestead, December 9, 1856, the others being Charles J., Anna M. E., wife of Richard Winne; Elizabeth, wife of Walter B. Cross; Miriam C., wife of W. Hoagland Baird; Margaretta (deceased); David I. and Ella L. Ostrom. Stephen, the father, was born February 13, 1812, and always lived in Glen, where he died August 19, 1886. His wife (Anna Maria) was a daughter of John and Ann (Van Schaick) Edwards of Glen, and was born March 19, 1818. Her grandfather, William Edwards, was born in Wales. He emigrated to this country in early life and settled in this state, marrying Christina Smith, who was of German descent. The father of the first Stephen Ostrom was John, who was born in Dutchess county, April 1, 1764. When twenty-one years of age he came to Glen and settled the farm where his grandson Stephen now lives, and where he died December 20, 1846. He married Anna Lane, who came from New Jersey February 8, 1787, and she died here on November 4, 1830. His father, Henry Ostrom, was born in 1741, and the wife of the latter, Abigail Davenport, was born January 12, 1746.

Ottman, Mrs. Catharine A., Canajoharie, is a daughter of Christopher and Lydia (Hutton) Ottman. Christopher (father of our subject) was born in Root April 18,

1816, and was a son of Henry Ottman, also a native of this country. The great-grandfather, Christian Ottman, came to this county from Holland, settling here previous to the war of the revolution. He was the father of three children, and his wife was Elizabeth Liker, a daughter of Squire Liker of Root, and Henry, grandfather of our subject, was the oldest son. He was married when a young man to Catharine Alpaugh, daughter of Abram and Ann (Pettinger) Alpaugh. Mrs. Alpaugh was a native of New Jersey. Henry was the father of eleven children, six of whom survive: John of Michigan; William of Root; Nelson of Root; Usher of Albany county; Eve Liza, also of Albany county; Ann, widow of George Denham of Albany, and Christopher, father of Catharine, whose home is in Root. He married, at the age of twenty-seven, Lydia, daughter of George and Sarah (Wycoffe) Hutton of Schoharie county, and they were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are living: Henry W. of Esperance; Sarah, wife of Albert Karner of Wynan's Kill; Harriet, wife of Peter Kocher of Canajoharie; Lottie of Fort Plain; Lorena, wife of Lawrence Vogle of Canajoharie; Jasper of Canajoharie; Mary, wife of H. E. Shinaman of Fort Plain; Ezra of Root, who lives on the old homestead, and our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Ottman are both living, the former seventy-seven years of age, and the latter sixty-nine. Mrs. Ottman conducts a fine farm of 120 acres devoted to hay and grain, and also conducts a dairy of about twenty-five cows. She has two children, Benjamin, who conducts the farm, was born April 28, 1877, and Ada Bertha, a student at Clinton Liberal Institute.

Powell, Samuel F., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Westerlo, Albany county, June 29, 1846, and was educated in the public schools in winters, working on the farm in summer; he also attended Coeymans Academy one year; after this he taught school several terms to obtain means for his further education; he then took the full course at Albany State Normal School, graduating therefrom in January, 1877. January 19, 1882, he married Maria R. Van Derzee of Coeymans; they have five children, three sons and two daughters: Caroline J., Annie L., Van Derzee, Samuel F., jr., and Winfield B. Mr. Powell came to Amsterdam in 1888; he was elected school commissioner in 1881 of Albany county, and served with distinction one full term; he has been a druggist since 1884; his grandfather on his mother's side, Sylvanus Kelly, was in the war of 1812.

Pettingill, Adam Z., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in the town of Mohawk, a mile west of Tribes Hill, April 5, 1858, and is a son of Cornelius and Mary E. (Zieley) Pettingill. He is now conducting the leading industry of Tribes Hill, a paper box manufactory. He employs a large number who make their homes in this village. But the principal advantage of such an establishment in the place is that it gives employment to those who make their purchases at home and thus help the place. The business has been established but six years, and from a small beginning Mr. Pettingill has built it up to its present large proportions. Although doing an extensive business it will be greatly increased the present year (1891). He finds a market for his product in the mills at Fort Hunter, Fultonville, Fonda and Amsterdam. His specialty is the fancy boxes such as are used for silk mitts, etc. He buys most of the stock used direct from the manufacturers in car loads, the paper board mill at Stillwater furnishing the most of it. Mr. Pettingill comes from the old pioneer stock, connected with the an-

cestors of many of the leading business men of this county. His father died in 1871 when Adam was but thirteen years old, and he has had to pull for himself since, with what success is shown by the above sketch. January 19, 1887, he married Julia Slatery of Troy. He has always been an active worker for his political party but not an office seeker. Content to let others govern while he devotes his time and attention to his business.

Pawling Mary A., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Perth, Fulton county, January 24, 1835. She was a daughter of Thomas and Helen (Morton) McQueen, both of whom came from Scotland about 1827, among the earliest settlers of their section. She was educated in the public school and came to Hagaman's Mills in 1857. November 14, 1860, she was married to Myndert W. Pawling of Hagaman's Mills, son of Levi and Jane (Hagaman) Pawling, and they have three children: Jennie, now Mrs. R. B. Davis, born August 11, 1861; Belle, now Mrs. Skinner of Utica, born December 8, 1865; and Henry W., born July 19, 1868, now attending Rutgers College, acquiring a theological education. Mrs. Pawling's niece, Jennie C. Pawling, is a member of her family, having lost her mother in early infancy. She was born March 15, 1882. The first twelve years of Mrs. Pawling's married life were spent on a farm, when Mr. Pawling losing his health they moved into the village, where he died July 18, 1876, aged fifty-six years.

Plantz, Giles H., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in Perth, June 19, 1845, and is a son of Michael and Charlotte (Plantz) Plantz. As far back as our subject can trace, the ancestry were natives of this country. Peter Plantz, grandfather on the mother's side, was born about 1790 and died in 1875. He was the father of ten children, Charlotte being one of the number. Michael Plantz, and grandfather on the father's side, was born about 1785 and died in 1870. He was the father of five children, of which Michael, the father of our subject, was next to the oldest. He married Charlotte Plantz, and they are the parents of six children, four now living: David of Perth; Elizabeth, now Mrs. John H. Putnam of Johnstown; Melissa, now Mrs. George Joslyn of Perth; and Giles, our subject. He was educated in the common schools of Amsterdam and always lived there until his marriage, December 28, 1870, to Etta Hough of the town of Mohawk, and they have one child, Lottie E., born August 20, 1875. Mrs. Plantz died the same day. After his marriage he moved to his present residence, a fine farm of 143 acres. February 20, 1878, he married Etta Putnam, daughter of Aaron and Sarah A. (Hubbs) Putnam of Johnstown. Mr. Plantz has always been a successful farmer, diligent and industrious. He has never been a political office holder, but devotes his whole time and attention to his business.

Putnam M. Matilda, Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born March 31, 1829, at her present residence at Tribes Hill. Mrs. Martha Putnam Van Allen was born at Fonda April 29, 1833; Mrs. Cornelia B. Putnam Pine was born at Fonda October 21, 1838. These three sisters were daughters of Tunis and Rachel (Kline) Putnam. Tunis was a son of John A. Putnam of Massachusetts, who came to this town previous to 1800. He was the father of ten children, of which Tunis was next to the youngest, and he was married March 13, 1828. He was the father of four children, the three mentioned

above, and Sarah A. Putnam, who died in infancy. Tunis Putnam died in 1850, forty-five years of age. His wife, Rachel Kline, died January 1, 1890. She was a daughter of John Kline whose ancestors were Hollanders. He was born in this county in 1778, and was the father of six children, of whom but one is living—Mrs. Angelica Johnson, born February 4, 1816. The name of Putnam is one of great importance in the history of this county, the family being direct descendants of General Israel Putnam of revolutionary fame. John A. Putnam, their grandfather, was for years engaged in the manufacture of leather, also conducted a large farm. The residence of these sisters was built about 1800, one of the oldest in the town of Amsterdam.

Pruyn, Catherine Mrs., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Glen, Montgomery county, March 20, 1819, and July 11, 1839, married Col. Charles H. Skillan of New York. After their marriage they lived in Rome, where he enlisted a regiment of men, known as the Fourteenth N. Y. Volunteers; he was its colonel and was killed in the battle of Gaines' Mills while leading his men in that action; he was as brave a man as ever wore the Union blue. Her second husband was born in the town of Glen, November 25, 1811; he was well educated, was a merchant in the town of Glen forty years and afterwards moved to Amsterdam, where he was a grocery merchant twelve years. He was married three times; first to Jane Ostrum, second to Phœbe, daughter of Rev. Henry V. Wycoff; on June 14, 1874, for his third wife he married Mrs. Catherine (Visscher) Skillan. Mrs. Pruyne never has had any children. Mr. Pruyne was the soul of honor in all his business transactions, and in all the relations of life was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and died in the faith May 23, 1888, loved by all.

Potter, John K., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam on the farm north of the city known as the John Hand farm, January 20, 1823, and was educated in the public schools. He was a farmer until he attained the age of twenty-five, afterwards he was in the lumber business and has been an auctioneer for over thirty years; he has been deputy-sheriff for six years, under sheriff three years, supervisor of the town of Amsterdam two years, and in war times he was town collector. January 4, 1843, he married Margaret, a daughter of Frederick and Hannah Moore of the town of Amsterdam; they had seven children, four of whom are living: Anna E., who married Thomas Emmitt Allen, now of Jackson, Mich.; Isabella M., who married Philip Playford of this city; Oscar K., now city treasurer, who married Sarah Breedon; and Jay N., who married Sarah A. Clapper, now of Catskill. The names of those that died are as follows: Ichabod, who married Alice Smith of this place and died at Catskill, March 19, 1891; Eugene M. and Jennie M., who died about the age of twenty-two months.

Putnam, Victor G., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill, p. o., was born on the old Putnam farm on the north shore of the Mohawk, November 22, 1818, a son of Garret V. and Mary (Hanson) Putnam. Garret V. was a son of Victor Putnam who came to this country from Holland and owned one of the original grants on the north side of the Mohawk, where his son Garret was born in 1793, and always lived there until 1847, when he moved across the river and lived on a farm at what is called Yankee Hill, where he

died in 1875, leaving four children: Dow, living in this town; John H., who lived on the old homestead at Yankee Hill; Deborah A. of Tribes Hill; and Victor G., our subject. Garret was drafted for the war of 1812 but secured a substitute. Victor G. was educated in the public schools of this town and lived at home until his marriage to Jane Stoller, daughter of Christian and Magdalen (Reese) Stoller, which occurred September 21, 1843; after this event he moved to the farm adjoining his present residence, where he remained three years, then came back to his father's farm where he has since remained. He is the father of three children: Sarah, now Mrs. John Sweet of Akin; Anna, and Willard. Mr. Putnam has been a successful farmer and has one of the best hay and grain farms in western Amsterdam. There is a large stone quarry on the place, which is a source of income and profit to Mr. Putnam. He has never been interested in politics.

Peck, Tunis, Amsterdam, was born at Hoffman's Ferry, Schenectady county, on the 13th of September, 1835, and was educated in the public schools and in early life was a clerk in a grocery store. Afterwards he became a partner under the firm name of Green, Wemple & Peck. In 1877 he became a broom manufacturer and is now doing business under the firm name of Tunis, Peck & Company. He was married twice, first in the year 1858 to Annie Lasher of Fonda, by whom he had two children, a son and a daughter, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Peck died in 1865. In the year 1867 he married Susanne Miller of Amsterdam, by whom he has two sons, William M., and Tunis Ralph. Mr. Peck's father, Abram, was born in Charlton, Saratoga county. He married Margaret Swart of the same place. They had two children, only Tunis survived.

Putman, Howard, Amsterdam, was born in Auriesville, Montgomery county, on the 21st of December, 1859, and came to Port Jackson with his parents in 1860. He attended the public schools and Amsterdam Academy and taught school three years, and read law three. when, on the 3d of November, 1888, he was admitted to the bar. He was elected supervisor to represent the First Ward in March, 1886 and 1887. In March, 1888, he was elected city recorder, serving three years, and justice of the peace in 1889, a position which he still holds, besides serving as sewer commissioner and member of the board of education of school district No. 11. He has been identified with the fire department since he was a boy and is now a member of E. D. Bronson Steamer Company, and has been its secretary seven years. He has also been president, secretary and treasurer of the fire department. On the 6th of June, 1880, he married Clara, only daughter of John N. Phillips of this city. They have one son, John M., who was born on the 16th of May, 1882. Mr. Putman's father, John' C., was born in the town of Mohawk on the 12th of January, 1822. On the 10th of December, '1845, he married Mary M. Consaul, formerly of Schenectady. They had seven children, three sons and three daughters. William and J. Consaul are now dead. The following survive: Harriet E., Anna, Cora and Dora (twins), and Howard, as noted above.

Potter, Oscar K., Amsterdam, was born at Spraker's, Montgomery county, on the 15th of May, 1852, and came here with his parents when he was two years old. He was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He was elected city

treasurer March 1, 1892, and on the 18th of December, 1873, he married Sarah A., oldest daughter of William and Mary Breedon of Amsterdam. They had one daughter, Laura K., who died April 14, 1880, aged five and a half years. Mr. Potter's father was born on the 20th of January, 1823, in Amsterdam, and married Margaret Moore of the town of Amsterdam. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters, namely: Anna K., Isabella M., Oscar K., Jay N., Eugene, Ichabod and Jennie M. The ancestry of the family is Dutch.

Peck, Richard, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Wells, Hamilton county, on the 27th of July, 1849, and received a public school and academic education. For one year he followed the vocation of teaching and then read law with a distinguished lawyer, Richard H. Rosa (who held the position of district attorney of Fulton county) for three years and six months. In November, 1874, he was admitted to the bar and practiced at Broadalbin, Fulton county, for one year and three months, after which he came to Amsterdam on the 10th of January, 1876, where he has since resided and practiced his profession. He is a member of the board of education of the city of Amsterdam. On the 23d of August, 1877, he married Lizzie S., only daughter of Richard T. and Eleanor Wade of South Adams, Mass. They have one son, George H., who was born on the 7th of August, 1881. Mr. Peck's father, William B., was born at the old home in Hamilton county, and was county clerk. He married Frances M. Craig of Hamilton county. William B. was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, on the 7th of May, 1864. The ancestry of the family is English and Scotch.

Pawling, William M., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., is a son of Henry and Margaret (Van Der Bogart) Pawling, and was born August 12, 1837, in the town of Galway, Saratoga county. His father, Henry, was born February 25, 1811, and his mother, October 8, 1819, and they were married March 31, 1836. Their children were William M., born November 2, 1839, and Haskell, born in December, 1849. Six years after William's birth his parents moved to Hagaman's Mills, where he went to the village school and also tended cards at his father's mill before and after school hours. In 1849 he left school and gave his whole time to the mill. In 1857 his father, with a partner named Jackson, started the manufacture of knit goods, William Pawling acting as a general superintendent. After the withdrawal of Mr. Jackson from the firm William joined the U. S. navy, shipping aboard the steamer *Fahkee*, dispatch vessel for Rear Admiral Lee. He saw about eight months of service, when he came home and joined his father in partnership in the manufacture of knit goods, remaining thus until about 1871 when he left to build what is now known as the Harrower mill. In 1879-80 he built the Anchor knitting mill at Hagaman's Mills and it was run with the other two, under the firm name of H. Pawling & Sons. In 1884 a division was made, Henry Pawling retiring, H. H. Pawling taking charge of the Star hosiery mill, and William M. of the Anchor knitting mills, which mill he has since conducted.

Pickard Family, The.—This name was originally spelt Pickert, and afterwards Pickerd, and about the commencement of the present century the "e" was changed to "a." John Pickard, the original settler of the family in the Mohawk valley, came from Holland and bought a farm in the original Holland patent, which was located near Brook-

man's Corners, in what is now Minden. This farm has never been out of the possession or name of the family. John was a schoolmaster in his native country, and on coming to America previous to the revolutionary war, he taught languages. Dominie Wack learned the English language from him. He was the first quartermaster-general in the United States, having been appointed in 1775. While carrying dispatches from some point to Cherry Valley he incurred a sickness or was wounded, from the effects of which he died about 1780. He is buried at Stone Arabia. The following of his children are all we have any trace of: Jacob, Nicholas, Henry, John and a daughter. They all removed to other localities in New York State, excepting Nicholas, who was born in Minden about 1748, and had the following children: Isaac, John, George N., a daughter who married Jacob Wieting; another daughter who was stolen from her parents while an infant by the Indians and who never returned to her native town. Nicholas died in 1830 and is buried at Hallsville. Of his sons, George N. remained on the old homestead. He framed the first wood building in the Otsquago valley. He was born in Minden, July 8, 1778, and married Catharine, daughter of Martin Bettinger. Their children were Abraham, Magdalena, born July 9, 1799, married John Countryman, and died at Cherry Valley; Martinus, born October 4, 1801, died in Minden; Leah, born July 8, 1804, and married Felix Wagner of Minden; Catharine, born November 27, 1806, died at the age of twenty years; George N., died February 5, 1829. Abraham, the oldest of the above family, was born in Minden, May 28, 1797, and married Susan, daughter of Frederick Bronner. She was born November 25, 1804, and they had nine children: Levi, born August 12, 1825, lives in Root; Caty, born January 18, 1827, married Ephraim Wiles, and died in Minden; Asa; George N., born January 22, 1831, lives in Perth; John Adams; Martin Andrews, born February 11, 1835, a resident of Minden and proprietor of Brookman's Corners factory and store; he has one son, Ralph aged twelve; Jacob Henry, died in 1872, aged thirty-five years, and Mary Elizabeth (twins), wife of Ames Walrath of Minden; and Amy Ann, born February 19, 1840, married George Hussang and died Minden. Abraham died December 6, 1882. Asa, of the above family, was born in Minden November 10, 1828, and married Jane Fero. They have one son, Julius A., born September 4, 1853, and married Sarah Linter. Asa learned the trade of blacksmith in 1846 of Jacob Sneek, and located where he now lives in 1852. John Adams, of the above family, was born in Minden November 28, 1832, and married Mary Margaret Youngs. Their four children are: J. Eugene, a resident of Guthrie, Oklahoma Territory; May, wife of Elmer E. Wilbur of Johnstown; Albert E., and De Etta. John A., is a carpenter and contractor and located in Fort Plain in 1886, and is the owner of the old farm.

Phillips, George Edgar, Minden, was born at Fort Plain, October 5, 1854, and is the second son in a family of three children of George and Almira (Hadcock) Phillips. After attending the schools at Fort Plain, at the age of fourteen years he commenced clerking, and was engaged in different stores in Fort Plain till 1876, when he commenced the study of law with James Genter. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1879, and formed a partnership with Mr. Genter, which was dissolved in the spring of 1882, since which time he has carried on business alone. A Republican in politics, he has never held public office. Mr. Phillips married, October 16, 1882, Jeanie, daugh-

ter of Thomas Hollis of Fort Plain. Mrs. Phillips is a native of Birmingham, England. They have two children, Gertrude and Edna.

Putnam, John W., Glen, one of seven children of William and Eliza C. (Martin) Putnam, was born in Glen, June 14, 1847. The others were John, Martin, Hannah, Mary (all deceased); Ann Leslie (Mrs. Delos Higbie); and Harriet (Mrs. William L. Sammons). William Putnam, the father, was born in Mohawk and was one of four children. His wife, Eliza C., was born in Glen, and was one of the thirteen children of Jerry Martin and wife. John Putnam, the grandfather, was also born in Glen. John W. Putnam was married in 1881, to Jennie H. Rickard of Skaneateles. She was the daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Rickard, and was one of three children. Mr. Putnam was born on the old homestead, where, excepting a few years in early life, he always lived.

Post, Henry W., M. D., Glen, one of two children of O. R. and Rachel C. (Watrous) Post, was born at Brattleboro, Vt., November 23, 1854. On the completion of the high school course in his native city he entered Amherst College in 1872. He then took two courses at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York and spent two years in the city hospital at Hartford, Conn., after which he began the practice of his profession in the town of Marcellus, where he remained for nine years. In 1889 he removed to Fultonville, where he now resides, continuing his profession. February 4, 1880, he married Julia Daboll of Memphis, one of five children of Henry and Charlotte Goodwin Daboll. They have two children, Florence and Henry D. Post.

Payne, H. Blackford, Glen, was born in London, England, February 26, 1859, where he was educated and lived until twenty-one years of age. His father was Francis Pegg Payne, M. D., and his grandfather was Harry Blackford, the noted inventor and member of the old established firm of Cooper & Blackford, coach lace manufacturers of Long Acre, London. Mr. Payne studied law but at the age of twenty-one he entered his brother-in-law's lace mill in Nottingham, where he soon developed a remarkable ability in the manufacture of lace, he being the originator of twenty-four inventions in connection with the knitting and lace industries, the most important of them being the straight warp knitting machine, known in the trade as "Payne's Fast Warp Machine," and the circular traverse warp knitting machine (the first invention of this machine). He was also first inventor of the double tier lace machine. He was married in Nottingham on March 26, 1881, to Ann Hall of that city. He came to this country in 1888, and has been superintendent of the Starin Silk Fabric company since May 1, 1889. He has four children: Henry F. B., Winifred A. B., Lillian A. M., and Florence Victoria. The Starin Silk Fabric company of Fultonville was organized by Commodore John H. Starin in 1885 for the benefit of the young people of Fultonville, the product being silk gloves and mitts. The factory gives remunerative employment to about 200 workers, the product being nearly one million pairs of gloves and mitts per year. The main building is 85 x 35 feet, three stories and basement, with adjoining workshops. Mr. H. Blackford Payne is superintendent of the mill.

Place, Daniel N., Minden, was born in the town of Poestenkill, then Sand Lake, Rensselaer county, May 15, 1838, and is the oldest son in a family of nine children of

John J. and Lucinda (Searles) Place. His father was a blacksmith by trade, and in his early life he worked with his father. His education was limited to the district schools, and he afterwards learned the wagonmaker's trade, and opened a shop at Poestenkill, where he continued till 1868, when he purchased of Henry Adams a grocery store in Troy. He disposed of this business in 1872, and two years later purchased of Charles Garrison of that city a wholesale coffee and spice stock, which he continued to run till his removal to Minden in 1880. Since his location in Montgomery county he has been engaged in farming. He married Huldah Horton, and they have five children, viz.: Louisa, wife of George Harpel of Lansingburgh; James E., a merchant in Minden; Hattie M., wife of Frederick Stair of Rotterdam; Frank B., in the men's furnishing business at Troy; and George V., a resident of Minden. Mr. Place is a Democrat in politics, and was for two years town clerk of Poestenkill, and has been for the past twelve years justice of the peace.

Putman, Simon W., Mohawk, son of George F. and Sarah C. (Veeder) Putman, was born in Fonda, March 7, 1853, and has always lived in that place. He was educated in the common schools and Amsterdam Academy. In 1878 he was appointed clerk of the surrogate's court and filled that position until January 1, 1889, when he was admitted to the bar, having previously practiced for several years. In 1881 he was elected justice of the peace, and served as trustee of the village and as member of the board of water commissioners. He is a member of the Fultonville Lodge No. 531 F. & A. M., Fonda Lodge 226, A. O. U. W., Mohawk River Lodge 168 K. of P., and Cayadutta Council 1405 Royal Arcanum. John I. Putman was a son of Captain Gerrit Putman of Schenectady county, who owned a large tract of land in that county, and served as captain in the army of the revolution. John I. settled on Tribes Hill at an early day, where he purchased a mile square of land, and raised a large family of children. Fisher Putman was a son of John I. and was born at Tribes Hill. He married Jane Ellison, and was an early postmaster, holding the office for several years. He was a harness-maker and carried on that business during his life. He had six children by his first wife and three by his second—a Miss Balch. George F., son of Fisher, was born at Tribes Hill June 26, 1824. He learned the trade of blacksmith and carried on the business in Fonda until his death, July 13, 1891. He married Sarah C. Veeder, who bore him four children: Lydia, who died in infancy; Simon W.; Charles M., born January 26, 1859. He lives in Johnstown and is a painter; also George A., born October 4, 1864, who lives at Fonda.

Putman, Victor A., Glen, was born on the old homestead in the town of Glen, July 28, 1822, and is one of the eight children of Abraham V. Putnam, who was born August 28, 1800, and was married September 21, 1813, by Rev. Peter Van Buren, to Maria, daughter of John C. and Eva (Clute) Vedder. Maria was born March 15, 1796, and died February 19, 1850. Victor C. Putnam, the grandfather, was born in the town of Glen (at that time Tryon county) May 31, 1756, and died November 9, 1816. He was lieutenant in Colonel Willett's Levies, also in Colonel Harper's, and fought at Oriskany and at Johnstown. He married first Anne, daughter of Abraham Garrison. She was born in 1757 and died February 14, 1813. He married second Mrs. Margaret (Visscher) Ten Eyck, daughter of Hermon Visscher, and sister of Col. Frederick

Visscher. She was born March 11, 1759, and was one of two children who made their escape at the massacre of their brothers at the homestead farm in 1780. Cornelius, the great-grandfather, was born in 1724, and died April 19, 1798. His wife, Elizabeth (Pruyn) Putman, was born in 1726 and died March 21, 1812. The father of Cornelius was Victore Putman, who married, December 2, 1706, the sister of Jan Pieterse Mebie. In 1727 the land lying next to the Mabie property was put down on an old parchment map as owned by Victore Potman, and this land is still in the possession of a descendant of the family. Victore was the second son of Jan Pootman. Johannes (Jan) Putman in 1661 was a boy of sixteen, living at Albany. He came to Schenectady in 1662, and married Cornelia, a daughter of Arent Andries Bradt, and Catalyntje De Vos, of Schenectady. In 1690 both he and his wife were massacred by the Indians. Victor A. Putman was married October 6, 1840, to Eveline Van Horne, who was born April 23, 1822, only daughter of Cornelius C. and Hannah Van Horne. They had four children: Anna, born November 19, 1841; John V., born March 14, 1844; Abram V., born February 14, 1849, died January 18, 1852; and Van Horne, born August 28, 1854, died July 31, 1855. Anna Putman married, December 30, 1861, Edwin D. Cady, and they have one son, Rev. Putman Cady, born at Auriesville, May 13, 1863. He received his preparatory education at Schenectady, and graduated from Princeton College in 1885, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1888. He is now pastor of the First Presbyterian church of West Superior, Wis. Abraham V. Putman, father of our subject, was appointed, March 22, 1816, ensign of a company of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment of Infantry of the State of New York by Governor Tompkins; was appointed, April 24, 1818, lieutenant in same regiment by Gov. Dewitt Clinton, by whom he was also appointed, December 27, 1826, captain of riflemen. He was supervisor during the year 1828, and was member of assembly of the State of New York in 1836-37. He died April 3, 1855. Victor A. has also served as supervisor. John V. Putman who is now serving his second term as supervisor, was elected justice of the peace in 1885, and served four years. The above three were supervisors of the town of Glen one-fourth of the time since 1828.

Putman, Victor, a native of Holland, settled in Root previous to the Revolution. He was an old man when the war broke out, and a cripple, and when out fishing one day with two other men, they were taken prisoners and he was killed. He had six sons and four daughters. Philip V., son of Victor, was born in Root, and married Elizabeth Kring, by whom he had nine children, seven sons and two daughters. He was a hatter by trade, and was a cloth dresser several years. He was blind for some years before his death, which occurred August 19, 1859. His wife died February 22, 1856. His son, Stephen, was born in Root, March 4, 1824. When he was nine years old his father moved to Palatine, and Stephen resided there until twenty-five years of age. At the age of fourteen he went to work out on a farm. January 22, 1851, he married Miss Dockstader of Palatine, and two years later he bought the farm where he now lives. He had thirteen children, seven of whom are living. His wife died July 8, 1884. He was roadmaster in his district for thirty-two years, and was instrumental in getting the Yellowville road through. He is a member of the Reformed church of Stone Arabia, of which he has been elder eight years. Stephen Putman's father was born November 20, 1791; he also was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Pardee, J. H., Palatine, was born in Hampden, Conn., April 3, 1834. His parents were John and Harriet Pardee, natives of Connecticut, who reared two daughters and three sons, J. H. being the youngest. His grandfather was Joel Pardee; and his great-grandfather was Thomas Pardee. The family has been in this country over two hundred years, and is of French and English descent. J. H. Pardee received a common school education and learned the trade of mason. He afterwards became a machinist, and was superintendent of the Spring and Axle works at Bridgeport for a time; after which he went to Massachusetts and married Martha, daughter of Loring and Harriet (Foster) Shumway of Belchertown. The Shumways trace their ancestors to the *Mayflower*. J. H. and wife have one son, Thomas, who is a clerk for Devoe & Shumway of Fort Plain. In 1880 Mr. Pardee came to Fort Plain and took charge of the Spring and Axle works at that place. He was superintendent five years, since which time he has been engaged in the invention and construction of tools used in the shop.

Powers, William H., Root, was born in Sprakers, April 13, 1866, and is a son of Nelson and Eliza C. (Quackenbush) Powers, natives of Palatine and Root, respectively. In early life Mr. Powers was a railroad man in the employ of the New York Central Railroad, but has followed farming since. He was the only child of his parents that reached maturity. He received a district school education, and taught school three terms. At the age of twenty he engaged in farming and was elected justice of the peace in February, 1889, which office he resigned in July, 1891. He is a Prohibitionist in politics.

Quackenbush, David H., Palatine, was born in Root, July 9, 1836. His father was William, born in Root, September 10, 1810, and his grandfather was Peter, a native of Holland, but an early settler of Root, where he died. The mother of David H. was Clarissa Leroy, born in Montgomery county. William Quackenbush and wife raised a family of ten children. He was a farmer and died in 1864, and his wife in 1883. David H. was brought up on a farm and attended the common school. He married Phoebe, daughter of Daniel Van Wie of Palatine. They have one daughter, Nancy, now Mrs. McClellan Quackenbush, and who resides on the farm of Andrew Van Wie, deceased; she has one child, Maggie. David H. and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia.

Quilhot, John, Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in the town of Perth January 24, 1830, and is a son of Peter (born March 22, 1798) and Jane (Van Nest) Quilhot. This name is one of the oldest in the history of Fulton and Montgomery counties. The ancestors were French, and the family as far back as we can trace were residents of this section. Peter, father of our subject, was born in 1798 and died in 1864, leaving nine children, six are now living: Anne Gertrude Moore of Mohawk; Arian Vosburgh of Johnstown; Jane E. Heagle of Johnstown; Stephen of Amsterdam; Peter of New York; and John, our subject. He was educated in the common schools and helped his father on the farm until the latter's death, when he and his brother Henry (who died in 1881) conducted the farm. January 6, 1858, he married Jane A. Hart, daughter of Henry and Dorothy (Stoller) Hart, and their union has been blessed with two children: Henry J. of Johnstown, born September 12, 1859, and Anna, born March 20, 1865.

Mrs. Quillbot died in 1867. Mr. Quillbot lived on the farm until 1891, when he moved to his present residence near the Lutheran church, where, in his advanced years, he finds enough to occupy his time in attending to the twenty acres belonging to this place. His daughter Anna lives with him, and is his comfort in his declining years.

Romeyn, Thomas E., Amsterdam, was born on the farm where he now lives, in Amsterdam, December 27, 1844, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Van Wormer) Romeyn. Thomas, father of our subject, was a son of Rev. Thomas Romeyn, who was a son of Rev. Thomas Romeyn, who was the first protestant preacher west of Schenectady. Thomas, grandfather of our subject, was located in Florida and preached in the circuit including the counties of Montgomery, Schenectady and Saratoga. Thomas Romeyn, father of our subject, was educated for a surveyor and always followed that profession together with that of farming. He was married when he was thirty-four years of age, and when he died, July 10, 1885, he left one child, Thomas E. (our subject), whose boyhood days were spent at home. He was educated at the common schools, Jonesville and Amsterdam Academies. September 2, 1863, he married Jane A. Milroy, daughter of John E. and Matilda (Haswell) Milroy of Glenville. They are the parents of five children: Thomas T., Anna M. (now Mrs. John Deuel), Elizabeth, Benjamin and J. Edwin. Mr. Romeyn has always lived on the old homestead with the exception of six years, when he lived in Glenville. He conducts and owns three large grain farms, making together about 230 acres. He is prosperous and successful, and has been a town officer a great many terms, also followed surveying for twenty-nine years.

Rivenburg, Jonas, Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in the town of St. Johnsville, October 18, 1847, and is a son of Martin and Mary A. (Rockenfelter) Rivenberg. The ancestry of this family were Hollanders. But as far back as our subject can trace the immediate family were born in this country. The early life of Jonas was spent in Ephratah, where his parents moved soon after his birth. He was educated in the common schools, and was yet a schoolboy when the war broke out. On December 28, 1863, he enlisted in the Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery, and saw service about Norfolk and through Virginia. He stayed with the regiment until the close of the war, when he was mustered out under general orders on the 24th of August, 1865. He returned home and followed farming. October 16, 1867, he married Martha Darby, daughter of Samuel Darby of Ephratah. Their union has been blessed by seven children, six of whom are living: Jennie, now Mrs. S. Liford; Samuel, Carl, Edward, Adrian, and Millie. Mr. Rivenburg is the trusted engineer of No. 2 mill at Fort Johnson, and has been engaged with A. V. Morris & Sons for about six years.

Rulison, Ellert T., M. D., Amsterdam, was born on the 9th of June, 1852, in Parish, Oswego county, and was educated in the public schools, Mexico Academy and Cazenovia Seminary. He graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1875 and first practiced at Bath on the Hudson for four years, but came to Amsterdam in 1880. Dr. Rulison early saw the necessity of a city hospital, and was one of the first, if not the original promoter of it, and the wisdom of this project has been so manifested that now there is need of an enlarged building and other facilities. The doctor is a member of

the New York State Medical Association and the Montgomery Medical Society; also of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M. of Amsterdam, Chapter No. 81 R. A. M., and of Chuctenunda Lodge No. 100, Knights of Pythias. On the 2d of October, 1878, he married Libbie, only daughter of William and Christina Newhouse of Bath. They have had four children: one girl, Lillian M., died in infancy. Three are living, Mabel N., Elbert T., jr., and Emily C.

Reid, Jay A., Amsterdam, was born on the homestead near Amsterdam June 13, 1843; he received a common school education and was a farmer by occupation. October 19, 1871, he married Alice, third and youngest daughter of Daniel D. and Mary I. Herrick of this city. They have had two children, Arthur and Frank; the latter died at the age of fourteen months. Mr. Reid's father, James, was born in Scotland and when he was seven years old came with his parents to the United States. They located in the town of Amsterdam, now incorporated in the city. His father married Lura Bartlett of Galway; they had three children, two sons and one daughter: Mary, who married John T. De Graff; Jay A., and Edward M., who resides in Brooklyn.

Reid, W. Max, Amsterdam, was born in the village of Amsterdam June 8, 1839, and was educated in the public schools. In his early life he was a clerk in several dry goods establishments, and afterwards book-keeper for I. C. Shuler & Company. At the death of John McDonald he took charge of his widow's interest in the concern until the dissolution of the partnership in 1889; at this time Mr. Reid began business for himself by gathering the fragments of the old concern together, and has since manufactured burial caskets and conducted an undertaking establishment. Mr. Reid is identified with the public enterprises of this city; he is president of the board of trade, secretary of the Amsterdam city hospital, secretary of Green Hill Cemetery association, senior warden of St. Ann's Episcopal church, trustee of the Young Men's Christian association, member of the advisory committee of the Children's Home, a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M., of this city. After the board of trade was formed he was largely instrumental in securing the charter for the city of Amsterdam. June 8, 1860, he married Laura L., oldest daughter of the late John and Maria McDonald; they have three children, two sons and a daughter: James McD., who is deputy postmaster and married Carrie Nettle of Gloversville; they have one daughter, Laura Pauline; Carrie C., who resides with her parents, and Augustus C., who is a student in the designing department of Stephen Sanford & Sons. Mr. Reid's father, William, was born in Spedlock, Dumfries, Scotland, November 12, 1779, and sailed from Greenock June 1, 1802, arrived in New York August 8 the same year, and located in the town of Amsterdam, February 1, 1806; he married for his first wife Sarah, sister of the late Benedict Arnold and had five children: Darwin E., James B., Louisa J., Minerva and Marion. September 23, 1835, for his second wife he married Chloe Smith of Galway, and had three children, one died in infancy, two sons survive: W. Max and Myron W., who is a druggist in that town. Mr. Reid's father taught school the first four years after his arrival; he was afterwards a merchant, justice of peace and held other offices. In Scotland he had an acquaintance with Robert Burns, the Scottish Poet, who resided at Dumfries a portion of his life.

Rulison, Eleazer E., M. D., Amsterdam, was born on the 2d of April, 1855, in Parish, and was educated in the public schools and Mexico Academy and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1881. He located in the city of Amsterdam and on the 11th of March, 1882, married Adell E., second daughter of Lewis and Harriet Miller of Mexico, Oswego county. They have one daughter, Marion M. Dr. Rulison's father, Allen, was born in Herkimer county on the 2d of October, 1818, and married Emily Cornelia Brockway of Parish. They had four children: one son, Austin, died at the age of three years; Elbert T., Eleazer E., and Luman B., who is a physician in West Troy. He married Ada Ogsbury of the city of Albany. They have one daughter, Adell. The three sons have been farmers, school teachers, and are now leading physicians in the several places where they reside. The doctor has been surgeon for the West Shore railway the past six years.

Ruback, Charles F., Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Prussia, February 19, 1847, and is a son of Frederick and Mary (Wardell) Ruback of Prussia, who came to this country in 1862 and settled in West Galway. Charles, our subject, spent five years with Mr. Calderwood dressing glove leather. March 6, 1867, he married Nellie Youngjohn, daughter of Garret and Mary (De Graff) Youngjohn. After his marriage he bought a place containing sixteen acres of land, which he kept but five years and sold at a profit, buying then eighty-eight acres in the same town, where he lived ten years. During the time he owned the farm he bought a threshing machine, which he run so successfully and understood so well that the manufacturers (who took the first premium on their machine at the Centennial Exposition) employed Mr. Ruback to act as their representative to Prussia and Russia, and he has now in his possession his passport, dated December 16, 1876, and signed by J. C. Bancroft, our minister to the German Empire at that time. The manufacturers sent three machines to Russia which Mr. Ruback set up and started. When we remember that at that time Russia was at war with Turkey, it was a dangerous position to be placed in, and the manufacturers showed great confidence in him, to send him on such a mission. In 1882 he sold his farm at Galway and came to Hagaman's Mills, where he bought a house and store on one of the principal streets and started a harness shop. He is the father of nine children, only three of whom are now living: Emma J., now Mrs. Charles Fink of Hagaman's Mills, born January 30, 1868; Sophia E., now Mrs. Luther Sowle of Hagaman's Mills, born July 24, 1869; Mary Ellis, born February 10, 1878. Emma Fink is the mother of one child five years old. Mr. Ruback is a successful business manager and is building up a trade second to no other harness store in his vicinity.

Roof Family, The.—The first settler of this family in America was Johannis Rueff (anglicized Roof). He was born at Duilack, Snabia, Germany, January 9, 1730, and married January 13, 1759, Anne Mair Leonhido, a native of Heidelberg. In 1759 they came to Philadelphia, and in 1760 removed to Fort Stanwix, now Rome. They remained there till 1777, when the fort was attacked and they came to Canajoharie, where they both died. They had eight children, the four older ones having been born in Fort Stanwix and the others in Canajoharie. The fifth son, Andrew, was born in Canajoharie, July 1, 1785. He had two children, Catharine, who married Elijah Failing and died in Baldwinsville, and Josiah, born in Minden August 21, 1821, who married

Nancy, daughter of Peter Elwood of Minden. They had twelve children: Peter Elwood, born November 15, 1843, died August 31, 1848; Ann Maria, born May 24, 1846, died August 31, 1848; Reuben, born June 10, 1848, studied civil engineering at Fort Edward Academy, graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, in 1874; he came to Fort Plain in 1878, where he practiced law until his death September 27, 1885; Daniel, born January 24, 1850, died March 14, 1856; Mary Catharine, born January 10, 1852, wife of Daniel E. Nestell of Minden; John A.; Homer, born November 17, 1855, resides in Frankfort; Charles, born August 21, 1857, resides at Suspension Bridge; Ida, born July 24, 1860, wife of Byron C. Miller of Minden; Lydia, born July 23, 1860, died March 15, 1861; Webster, born February 5, 1863, resides in Syracuse; Cora Dell, born September 15, 1865, wife of Eugene Smith of Minden. Mrs. Roof died May 31, 1892, aged sixty-six years, ten months and ten days. John A., son of Josiah, was born in Minden, October 11, 1853. His father was a farmer, and his education was limited to the winter terms of the district schools. At the age of sixteen years he turned his attention to cheesemaking, which he followed till 1879, when he became connected with the Orange County Milk Association, a stock company, which is owned principally by New York partners, and which manufactures condensed milk which is shipped to New York city in cans and retailed by the association's wagons in that city. Mr. Roof is a stockholder in that company and also holds the position of superintendent. A Republican in politics, he has also been trustee of the village of Fort Plain, and in 1892 was elected president. He married Emily, daughter of David Geesler of Fort Plain, and has five children: Maude, Nellie, Guy, Harvey and John.

Rapp, William C., Minden, was born in Canajoharie, December 10, 1853, and is the fourth son in a family of five sons of Daniel and Sarah J. (Failing) Rapp. His early life was spent on the farm, and he received only a common school education. He carried on farming until 1882, when he was employed at Fort Plain by the American Express Company, and spent one year for them at Poughkeepsie, and about four years ago became superintendent of the Fort Plain cemetery, which position he now fills. He is a Republican in politics. He married Martha, daughter of William Tiffany of Fort Plain, and has two children: Eula and Bertie.

Rickard, Charles, Glen, was born in Root, January 3, 1847, and is one of five children of Henry and Sarah Ellen (Abel) Rickard of Root, the others being Philip Abel, William Henry, Frederic (who died in childhood), and one sister, who died in infancy. Charles married, October 29, 1873, Margaret Ann, one of six children of Abram and Catharine (Devendorf) Starin of Glen. The others were as follows: John H., Jacob A., Lizzie, wife of Douw Heagel, David H., and Levi A. Starin. Mr. and Mrs. Rickard have two children, Clara Lynn and Maggie May Rickard. Mr. Rickard began in business in Fultonville in 1869, and in 1873 entered the drug business in that place where he has since remained. He has been one of the most successful business men in the locality, having for the last few years turned his attention to real estate. He is now one of the largest real estate owners in Fultonville. Mr. Rickard has also interested himself in the school, being a member of the school board when the new school-house

was erected, which is one of the best in the valley. He has also been president of the board of education, etc.

Roser, Adam, Canajoharie, was born near Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, July 16, 1823, and came to this country in 1850. He located in Canajoharie where his first business was teaching music and as a leader of brass and string bands, which profession he followed in connection with his trade as cabinet maker for about thirty years. In 1852 his brother Joseph came to this country, and as soon as they had accumulated money enough they formed a partnership in the furniture business, which they gradually increased until they were the leading establishment in that business in this section. Adam retired from the firm in 1887 and has since lived a retired life. He has held the office of trustee of the village for three years, being elected for two successive terms. In 1853 he married Julia Kerschner, who was born in the same town in Germany. They had one son who died in infancy, and five daughters: Lena, wife of Frank Gesser, a draughtsman of Utica; Mary, died in November, 1886; Julia, wife of Voorhees Bush of Canajoharie; Sarah, wife of William Knapp of Canajoharie; and Katherine, wife of F. L. Burton, jeweler, of Canajoharie.

Richmond, Adelbert G., banker of Canajoharie, was born in DeRuyter, Madison county, on the 22d of January, 1838, and is a son of R. W. and Caroline Hart Richmond. The father was a dealer in live stock and came from Rhode Island and early settled in De Ruyter. The Harts were among the earliest settlers of Madison county. Adelbert G. was educated at the village school and about 1856 entered the bank at Chittenango where he remained three years as teller. He then went to the Mohawk bank as teller for three years, when he went to Washington, being engaged in the treasury department from 1862 to 1865. Returning to the Mohawk valley, he became the first cashier of the National Bank of Canajoharie, which place he still holds and at the same time is engaged in various enterprises. On the 15th of March, 1883, he married Helen A. Weaver of Canajoharie, by whom he has one daughter, Emily Adell, born on the 20th of June, 1884. Mr. Richmond is a Republican in politics, but prefers to give his entire time to the attention of his business affairs than to accept any office. He is an enthusiast in archeological research, and has a collection of about 20,000 specimens from nearly every State in the Union and many parts of Europe and the islands of the sea. He has been an extensive traveler in making his collections. He has recently built for himself one of the finest residences in the Mohawk valley.

Roser, Joseph, Canajoharie, was born at Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, December 29, 1832, came to this country in 1852 and located in Canajoharie where he has since made his home. He was one of the three sons of a cabinet maker, who were all musicians, and each was taught his father's trade. Joseph, in company with his brother, Adam, started what is now one of the largest furniture and undertaking establishments in this town in 1856. Mr. Roser at first met with many difficulties in his business, but by persevering he surmounted these and an increase of trade has placed him in easy circumstances. In 1869 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the office of town clerk and was re-elected in 1870-71. He has also held the office of village trustee for two years. December 27, 1855, he married Sophia, daughter of Charles Scharff of this

village, a native of Germany (Hanover). They have had five children, four of whom survive: Elizabeth, wife of Fred C. Leppert of Canajoharie; Joseph A.; William J., of the firm of Roser & Burton, jewelers; and Frederick C. Joseph Roser visited Germany, his native home, in 1882.

Retallick, Joseph, Canajoharie, Marshville p. o., was born in Cornwall, England, May 29, 1831, and came to this country in 1832 with his parents, William and Charlotte (Dennis) Retallick. They located first in West Troy, where William followed farming the rest of his life. He was killed by the cars on his eightieth birthday in April, 1856. They were the parents of five children, four of whom are living. The early life of our subject was spent in West Troy. He was educated in the common school, and early took up canaling as a means of livelihood, and by saving his earnings, when twenty years of age he had enough money to buy a boat of his own, and when he came to Canajoharie in 1862 he owned three boats. That year he bought the farm of his present residence. This is a fine farm of 115 acres and one of the most beautiful homes in town. The principal industry is the cultivation of hops, of which Mr. Retallick has about thirty-five acres, employing about sixty-five workers in the busy season. January 16, 1853, he married Melissa Ellis, daughter of Joseph H. and Perlina (Mills) Ellis of West Troy, and they have had eight children—George H., born March 27, 1855; William E., born October 30, 1857; Joseph E. and James W. (twins), born July 5, 1859, the latter dying aged twenty-two months; James, born September 22, 1865; Freddie, born in 1863, who was killed September 13, 1874, by a runaway; Charles, born May 19, 1868; and Alfred, born December 9, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Retallick are active workers in church matters, and he is a trustee of the Marshville Evangelical church. Mr. Retallick is deserving of praise, for he began life under unfavorable circumstances, and is now one of the largest farmers and hop-growers in the county. He is the owner of 330 acres, divided into three farms, the old homestead, and George and William each conducting one.

Robinson, Henry J., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in Albany county, December 1, 1800, and is a son of Anthony and Ann (Flagg) Robinson. The grandfather of our subject came to this country from England in company with Sir William Johnson; his name was Daniel Robinson and he was the father of three children, of whom Anthony was the only son. There were two daughters, both of whom were taken by the Indians, and though their father spent two years searching for them they were never found. Anthony was born in Johnstown in 1775; was married in Schenectady to Ann Flagg in 1797 and they were the parents of six children, of whom three reached an adult age: Daniel, Mary Ann and Henry J., our subject. His early boyhood days were spent in Albany county. When he was ten years old his parents moved to Schoharie county, from there in 1816 they moved to Duanesburg, and then to Albany, where Henry was married to Ellen Bullock of Bethlehem, October 12, 1831; she lived but eight months after. In 1833 he moved to this county, buying a farm in company with his father, and in 1834 they sold it and bought the farm of his present residence, a fine place of 148 acres. December 3, 1834, he married Elizabeth Ann Sammons, and they have been the parents of seven children, six of whom are living: Ellen, wife of John Nevens of Amsterdam; Addie M. of Canajoharie; Henry K. of Galway; Cornelius A., who owns the old homestead; Samuel N. of Canajoharie; and Mary M., wife of

Densmore Campnell of Cherry Valley. Cornelius A. was married August 18, 1880, to Katie D. Fox, daughter of Oliver G. and Sarah (Coleman) Fox, and they are the parents of two children: Clarence N., born June 13, 1881; Raymond D., born September 23, 1887. While Henry J. was living in Albany he followed carriage making, and in 1831 built the tender of the first locomotive ever run from Albany to Schenectady, and the first in the country.

Rickard, Arthur, Palatine, was born in Palatine on the old homestead now owned by his brother John, December 1, 1848. He is a son of Josiah R. and Catherine L. Rickard, mentioned elsewhere in this book. He was raised on a farm and was educated at the common school. In 1868 he married Almira, daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Nellis) Saltsman. They have had four children: Estella, Jay D. (who died in infancy), Elsie C., and John F. Mr. Rickard is a Republican, a member of Fort Plain Lodge No. 433 F. & A. M., of Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 66 K. of H., and of Stone Arabia Grange No. 690.

Rickard, John, Palatine, was born in Palatine, July 25, 1841. His father was Josiah Rickard, who married Catherine L. Nellis (born July 12, 1817); they had six sons and three daughters. His grandfather was Frederick Rickard, born in Palatine in 1878, (son of Lewis Rickard, who purchased the original farm). Frederick Rickard married Polly Snell and raised a family of five daughters and three sons. He died December 19, 1868. Josiah Rickard was born in Palatine, June 17, 1813, received a common school education, and lived and died on the Rickard homestead. He and his wife were members of the Dutch Reformed church. He died in 1888 and his wife August 26, 1879. John Rickard was brought up a farmer, and received a common school education. He married Fanny, daughter of Jacob and Hannah Phillips of Oneida county. Their children are Catherine H. and Wilmer J. Mrs. Rickard is a member of the M. E. Church. A great-uncle of the subject (John Rickard), born in 1783, owned a portion of Mr. Rickard's farm, which he gave to Josiah Rickard. He was a tailor, and died in Palatine in 1855.

Runkle, Henry, Root, a son of Daniel and Sallie (Gordon) Runkle, was born February 3, 1836, in Root. He attended the district school and the academy. At the age of thirty he took charge of his father's farm (which he now owns) containing originally 220 acres. July 12, 1861, he married Elizabeth, a daughter of Richard and Sarah (Baird) Clute of Charleston. They have eight children: Sarah, wife of Melvin J. Hight; Cornelius J., Lettie M., wife of Henry K. Ingersoll; William S., Catherine B., Lewis R., Irving H., and Frank E. He and his wife are both active members of the Presbyterian church. His grandfather, Peter Runkle, came from Holland and settled near Lyker, Montgomery county. He has the following children: John, Henry, Cornelius, Daniel, (Elizabeth, Maria and Catherine). Daniel, the father of Henry, was born October 22, 1798, in Root. He married Sallie, daughter of Peter and Phoebe Gordon, and they had six children: John D., Peter, Cornelius (deceased), Jacob G., Henry and Daniel. He died May 30, 1877; his wife died December 26, 1873. He was a Democrat in politics and a deacon and trustee of the Carlisle Presbyterian church many years.

Reynolds, Jacob, Root, was born in the town of Greenbush, Rensselaer county, February 16, 1828, and is a son of James and Hannah (Dennison) Reynolds. He received his education in the district schools and the Albany State Normal School, also at the Whitesboro Seminary, and began teaching at the age of eighteen years in the district school. He continued this for about ten years, spending his summers on the farm. He now owns a homestead of 131 acres. He married June 30, 1859, Agnes, daughter of David and Catherine (Baxter) Mereness, natives of Schoharie county, and they had four children: James M., who died aged five years; Ettie C., died aged one year; Willie, died aged seven; and Harvey, who is attending the Albany Business School. Mr. Reynolds and wife are members of the Lutheran church. The grandfather of Jacob came from Ireland and settled in Rensselaer county, where he raised a large family of children. One son (the father of our subject) was also reared in Rensselaer county and learned the trade of blacksmith. In 1835 he came to Flat Creek and bought 100 acres of the original Luke Wessell farm, where he died in March, 1876, aged eighty-three years. He was born in 1793. His wife was born in 1800 and died in 1866. Their children were Margaret, Mary, George, Jacob, Martha, Matilda and Charles. Two are now living, Jacob and Matilda.

Scott, Nelson, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam June 28, 1852, and is a son of Alexander and Louisa J. (Clisbe) Scott. His early life was spent at home and attending the district school until he was about seventeen, when he spent two winters at the Amsterdam Academy. In 1859 his parents bought the farm of 160 acres known as the old Bell farm, where Mr. Scott now lives. After the latter left school he assisted his father on the farm. December 28, 1875, he married Electa A., daughter of Stephen H. and Ester M. (Riggs) Collins. (See Collins Biog). They have been the parents of four children, two of whom are living: Charles W., born December 31, 1878, and Mary Alice, born March 9, 1888. Mr. Scott has been a successful farmer and has one of the best dairy farms in this section. Alexander (his father) came to this country from Scotland in 1839, when he was twenty-three years old. He was a very prominent and well-known man, having held the position of supervisor of the town of Amsterdam for seven consecutive years. He died September 3, 1885, leaving one other son besides Nelson, Rev. Willard Scott, pastor of the South Congregational church in Chicago. Mrs. Louisa J. Scott, mother of Nelson, was a daughter of Darius Clisbe, who came from New Jersey with his parents when but thirteen years old. She died December 24, 1880. In March, 1890, a subordinate grange of patrons of husbandry was organized in Hagaman's Mills, in which Nelson Scott has taken a great interest, and has held the office of overseer for one year, being then elected master, which office he has since held. The Patrons Fire Relief Association is connected with the grange, of which he is director and treasurer.

Sweatman, Dr. Newton F., Amsterdam, was born March 28, 1850, in the town of Sharon, Schoharie county; he was educated in the public schools and studied medicine with Dr. Van Deveer of Albany; he graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1872 and for fifteen years practiced at Fultonville, but in the spring of 1887 he came to Amsterdam. February 28, 1871, he married 'Sara, second daughter of Edward and

Mary A. Carey of Sloansville, Schoharie county; they have one daughter, Clara D. Dr. Sweatman is a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society. The ancestry of the family is Dutch on both sides.

Serviss, William, Amsterdam, was born in Fultonville, on the 23d of November, 1841, and was educated in the common schools and came to Amsterdam in 1873. He bought the site of the Mudge Hollow flouring and saw-mills, afterwards a cider-mill was added. This enterprise has since been conducted under the firm of Serviss & De Graff. On the 26th of January, 1871, he married Mary E. Williams of Florida, by whom he had two sons: Arthur P. and Earl V. Mr. Serviss's father, Chelatt, was born in Florida and married Christie McMichael of the same town. They had five children. Mr. Serviss's great-grandfather was in the battle of Oriskany.

Stairs, Robert, Amsterdam, Rockton p. o., was born in Shropshire, Scotland, April 25, 1840, and came to this country with his father, two brothers and five sisters in 1849. They settled in Schenectady where Robert attended the public schools, receiving a good business education. In 1859 they moved to Hagaman's Mills where his father died in 1889. November 1, 1865, he married Harriet D. Rowe, daughter of Henry and Martha G. (Ostrom) Rowe. In 1881 they moved to Rockton where he joined in partnership with C. D. Austin and built the knitting mill, the firm now being Austin, Stairs & Blauvelt, the latter joining them the next year. Mr. Stairs is the father of one child, William Henry, born September 29, 1870. The firm is one of the most successful in the town of Amsterdam. Mr. Stairs has charge of the carding and his brother of the spinning.

Shuler, Cholett, Amsterdam, one of the oldest residents of the county of Montgomery, was born in Florida, May 20, 1807, on the land known as the Shuler estate, which contained originally 640 acres, a part of 2,000 acres conveyed by Edward and Philip Harrison, and known as the Harrison patent. The survey was made in 1737 by Christopher Yates. The 640 acres were purchased from them by one Deboise. Deboise dying, his widow became the wife of Lawrence Shuler, grandfather of Cholett. By him the land was parcelled off to his several sons: John, father of our subject, Solomon, Lawrence, Jacob, and a small portion to one daughter. The old homestead is still in the possession of the family and owned by Henry V. Shuler. The name of Shuler is one of the oldest in Montgomery county. Their ancestor, Lawrence Shuler, was a native of Luxembourg, Germany, born in 1736, and died in 1813 at the age of seventy-seven. He came to this country when a young man and located as aforesaid. Said estate came into possession of his son John, father of Cholett, probably about 1789. John Shuler was born November 12, 1769, and lived to the ripe old age of eighty-nine. He was a man well informed in all the affairs of his day, and well known in public life. He was elected member of assembly September 26, 1814, and re-elected January 31, 1815. He was a friend of Alexander Hamilton, and acquainted with Aaron Burr. He was present at the opening of the Erie canal. His wife's maiden name was Hannah Buck, daughter of Daniel Buck, a clergyman of Canaan, Mass. They were the parents of ten children, of whom only three are living: Adaline M. Wilcox, widow of the late Oliver L. Wilcox of Gasport; Caroline, wife of George A. Woolverton, banker of AL-

bany; and Cholett. The latter was born May 20, 1807, making him in his eighty-sixth year. He remained on the old Shuler homestead until about twenty-one years of age, when he joined his brother Jacob in Schoharie county, in running a farm for a few years. In 1831 he married Ann Mallery of Florida, daughter of David and Ruth (Tucker) Mallery. They then came to Amsterdam and he purchased the farm near there known as the Mallery farm, and later, property at Ames. Between these interests his life was spent up to about twenty-five years ago, when he retired to Amsterdam, leaving his interests in the hands of his sons and resided there until the death of his wife in 1887, since which time he has been with his son Darwin, on the old Mallery homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Shuler were the parents of four children, of whom two are living: David M., born August 5, 1834, and Darwin A., born May 6, 1836. David M. married Esther E. Lattimer of Canajoharie in 1855, and they reside at Ames. Darwin A. married Ann Eliza, daughter of Joshua and Phœbe (Bostwick) Wilde, in 1865. They have two children, Ida and William.

Sowle, Isaac C., Amsterdam, was born in Perth July 25, 1842, and is a son of Jacob and Thirza (Collins) Soule. His early life was spent in Fulton county but in 1858 his parents came to Amsterdam where Isaac attended the public schools. After leaving school in 1859 he helped his father on the farm, while his five sisters, Abbie C., Hannah A., Mary E., Hester L., and Margaret attended to the household duties. February 26, 1868, he married Isabella McQueen of Perth, who was born February 22, 1843. They are the parents of three living children: Agnes L., born May 14, 1869; Cora B., born October 27, 1870; and Margaret E., born November 12, 1874. Isaac, our subject, is living on the farm he succeeded to at the death of his father, which occurred May 3, 1869. He is what is called a successful farmer, living in a beautiful home surrounded by good out-buildings, and considering the many reverses he has had, very prosperous. He has never enjoyed very good health and the burning of his barns in 1885 was quite a severe loss to him.

Suits, Nicholas J., Amsterdam, was born on the 6th of June, 1850, in Palatine, and was educated in the district schools. For many years he was a cheesemaker by occupation, but in the year 1881 he came to Amsterdam and for six years conducted the "Suits Hotel" in the fifth ward. He is now in the fresh meat business in company with Harvey Pettingill under the firm of Suits & Pettingill. On the 24th of September, 1884, he married Hepsibah, second daughter of Richard W. Sutton of this city. They have six children, three sons and three daughters: Richard J., Albert, Harry, Lettie, Jesse and Mabel C. They all died at various ages under two years except the youngest, Mabel C. Mr. Suit's father, John, was born at the old home in Palatine in the year 1815. He married Maria Bell of the town of Glenville, and had five children by his first wife, as follows: Susan, William H., Delos M., Margaret A. and Nicholas J. For his second wife he married Laney Sinous. They had six children. Mr. Suits's grandfather, Nicholas Suits, was a soldier in the revolutionary war. Mr. Suits is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, Kennyetto Tribe No. 110 of Amsterdam.

Sutton, Richard W., Amsterdam, was born in the county of Norfolk, England, on the 3d of January, 1842, and married Clara A. Sawyer of the county of Suffolk, Eng-

land. They had three children: Kate R., Hephzibah A., now living, and Edward W. G., who died in infancy. On the 21st of December, 1866, Mr. Sutton came to the United States with his wife and three children and landed in New York and located at Amsterdam. In 1875 he went to California, returning in 1876. November 10, 1877, he became superintendent of Green Hill cemetery. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. No. 209, and of the Amsterdam lodge of I. O. O. F. No. 134, and also of Kenyetto Tribe, I. O. R. M. No. 110. Mrs. Sutton died on the 28th of November, 1891.

Stover, George B., Amsterdam, was born in Cobleskill on the 4th of October, 1848, and was educated in the common schools and Canandaigua Academy. In early life he was a clerk, afterwards a merchant, and in the year 1886 he became a manufacturer. He is now manager and part owner of the Metropolitan knitting mills under the firm of W. R. McCowatt & Co. On the 23d of October, 1872, he married Josephine, oldest daughter of Jacob and Mary Van Brocklin of this place. They have four sons: Edward J., Charles F., George B., jr., and Raymond Cady. Mr. Stover's father, Martin J., was born in Pittson, Rensselaer county, in the year 1807, and was educated in the public schools and in Hartwick Seminary for the ministry. He was an able preacher, and married Lydia Hartman of Dansville, Livingston county. They had six children; three only survive: Martin L., George B. and Charles.

Shuler, Isaac Clizbee, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam in 1823; he received a common school and academic education; he was an inventor and manufacturer, the metallic casket and the terra cotta receiving vault were his inventions. October 11, 1881, he married Elizabeth Naomie, second daughter of John E. C. and Mary (Bombar) Booth, formerly of England, but then of Johnstown. They had one daughter, Elizabeth Clizbee. Mr. Shuler died October 14, 1890. Mrs. Shuler and daughter survive. The ancestry of the family on the paternal side is German and the maternal side English.

Spore, Peter P., Amsterdam, was born in Florida, December 25, 1824, and was educated in the public schools; in early life he worked on the farm and came from Crane's Village to Amsterdam in 1850; he began to learn the carpenter's trade in 1844 and afterwards the mill-wright's trade, which he followed in Kellogg & Miller's linseed oil factory for thirteen years. December 9, 1852, he married Pamela, second daughter of Thomas and Catherine McMaster of Florida; they have had four children, one son and three daughters: Myron W., who married Ellen Donlan; they had two children, Harry P. and Frank W.; Myron W. died May 25, 1885, aged thirty-two years; Anna H., who married Franklin Winslow; they had two children, Edith A. and Madison; Mrs. Winslow died April 15, 1888, and the little boy died August 15, 1885, and the little girl June 19, 1888; Mary J. and Laura died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Spore are members of the Second Presbyterian church.

Sweet, Waterman J., Amsterdam, was born at the old home in Florida, two miles and a half northwest of Minaville, on the 27th of December, 1840, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He has always been a farmer and has now retired and lives in the Fifth ward. He has been assessor of his town six years. On the 19th of December, 1865, he married Emily, oldest daughter of Peter and Mar-

tha M. Williams of his native town. They have two children, a son and a daughter: Leonard, who married Catherine B., second daughter of Spencer and Augusta Park Van Deever of his native town; and Jeunie M. who resides with her parents. Mr. Sweet's father, Leonard, was born on the 18th day of September, 1796, in Florida, and was a farmer by occupation. He married twice; first to Sally M. Pierce by whom he had six children: Fanny M., Eliza, Charlotte A., Sarah J., William A., and Adelme. For his second wife he married Susan Becker. They had four children: Margaret, Susan C., Helen, and Waterman J.

Snell, James R., Amsterdam, was born on the 5th of December, 1841, in Palatine, and was educated in the public schools and old Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a railway man in California. Upon his return McDonald, O'Brien & Snell built the Interior knitting mills. He was the lessee of the horse railway of the city of Amsterdam for thirteen years. For two years since it became an electric street railway, he has been the superintendent and is now the general manager. He has been president of the board of water commissioners for nine years and was elected member of the state legislature in 1882 and 1883, and was the first treasurer of the city of Amsterdam. On the 28th of May, 1870, he married Lucy S., only daughter of George W. and Mary Striker of this place. They had six children, three sons died in infancy, three daughters survive: Ella A., Julia I., and Florence M. His father, Dr. Jacob Snell, was born in the town of Palatine and was educated in the practice of medicine. In 1841 he came to Port Jackson and was a successful practitioner in the city until his death. He married Mary Rickard of his native town, by whom he had five children, two sons and three daughters: Arie B., Mary E., Ella A., who died young, Ella A. No. 2, and James R. The ancestry of the family is German.

Snyder, William E., Amsterdam, was born in Glastonbury, Conn., on the 15th of January, 1842, and was educated in the Manchester Academy, and graduated in dentistry in 1863 from Middletown, Conn. He was married twice, first in 1865 to Martha A. Emely of Glastonbury, by whom he had three children, all dead. Mrs. Snyder died in 1872. For his second wife he married in 1875 Alberta Parkhill, who was born in Amsterdam. They reside here in summer and winters in Florida. His father (David) was born near Amsterdam in the year 1813, and was a woolen manufacturer and moved to Glastonbury, Conn., where he married Sophronia Hurlbut in 1840. They had three children, only William E. survived.

Schuyler, John D., Amsterdam, was born on the 22d of August, 1842, in Florida, and was educated in the common schools and Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a farmer, and came to Amsterdam in the year 1877, and was elected alderman in the years 1886-1887. In the fall of 1888 he was elected sheriff of the county and served with signal ability. On the 14th of September, 1872, he married Annie M., fourth daughter of James and Mallisa J. (Pulling) Stewart. Mr. Schuyler's father was born in Florida in 1794, and married Jemima Dorn of his native town. They had twelve children; six sons and six daughters: Howard, who died in infancy; James, Eleanor, Margaret, Catherine, Jacob, Eveline, Harriet N., John D., Mary A., Andrew J., and Frank H. Jeremiah Schuyler, John's father, died on the 10th of January, 1886, and

his mother died on the 5th of January, 1882. General Schuyler was from this family, and all sprang from one source, from the two that came from Holland. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and German.

Simmons, Menzo, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in Sharon, May 4, 1829, and is a son of Best and Gertrude (Sommers) Simmons. Best Simmons (father of our subject) was a son of Martin Simmons, who came from Hamburg in 1798 when he was but fifteen years old, and settled in Schoharie county. He was the father of eight children: John, Sophrenus, Peter, Best, Alexander, Anthony, Maria, and Betsey. Best (father of our subject) was born in March, 1802. He was the father of six children, of whom four are living: Peter, who served in the Twenty-first Regiment N. Y. Volunteers; Alexander, who served in the same regiment; Nancy, now married and living in Lockport; and Menzo. Menzo was educated in the village school, and at the age of eleven he left home to work his own way in the world, as he has always done. January 8, 1855, he married Elizabeth Baker of Otsego county, but now of Gloversville. They are the parents of six children: Charles H., Gertrude Hagaman, Frank, Carrie Kennedy, Clark and Clyde.

Swart, Daniel, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam, February 6, 1822, and is a son of Albert and Elizabeth (Swart) Swart. Albert, the father, was born in Amsterdam in August, 1792, a son of William Swart, born May 22, 1767, who was also born in Montgomery county. Daniel, our subject, was educated like most of the older ones, in the district schools of this town. His father was a farmer, and he helped on the farm until he was twenty-three, when he married Sarah A. Shipley, daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Steele) Shipley of Florida. Her father was formerly of England and her mother from Vermont. He assisted others on their farms for about ten years, when he bought a place in Herkimer where he went into the broom corn culture. In 1858 he sold this place and returned to Amsterdam, where he went into the butchering business and bought a farm of twenty acres on Manny's Road. It was a very successful business, for in five years he made money enough to pay the difference in an exchange for the home of seventy acres where they now live. They are the parents of only one child, Mary J., now Mrs. Luther Bovee, of Amsterdam town, who was born April 27, 1847. Her daughter, Ida May Carel, makes her home with Mr. Swart.

Stewart, John D., Amsterdam, was born May 5, 1859, on the farm where he now resides. He was a son of Duncan and Elizabeth Stewart, and brother of Archie Stewart, who lives with him on the farm. Their grandfather came to this country in 1770 and settled in Perth, where Duncan (the father of John D.) was born, but lived there only a year when his father bought the farm of 218 acres where his descendants have ever since lived. The family is one of the oldest in the county and its members have repeatedly held offices of trust, showing their influence and popularity. John D. was married to Marilla Cole of Hagaman's Mills, December 23, 1891. Duncan, their father, died September 5, 1883, aged ninety-two years. Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart still lives at the age of sixty-seven. The Stewart family have always been very successful farmers. When they first settled here it was almost a wilderness, but by hard work and

close attention, they have made it what it now is, a very large level, and almost clear of wood, dairy farm.

Christman, Raymond, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Palatine on the 5th of December, 1858, and moved to Amsterdam with his parents when he was ten years old. He was educated in the public schools and in Amsterdam Academy. At the age of thirteen he began the art of printing, and in the year 1883 he became city editor of *The Daily Recorder*, and a correspondent to several other daily papers, which continued until August 4, 1884. He then formed a partnership with Thomas Little in the coal business which existed until January, 1887, when they dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Christman purchasing his interest. This was the first coal-yard started in Amsterdam, and was begun by John McClumpha at a time when one boat load of coal more than supplied the whole town. Mr. Christman's yard at Railway place is now second to none in the valley with its tonnage, equipment and patronage. He has just returned from a European trip which pleased him very much, but he now enjoys his home better than ever. On the 12th of August, 1880, he married Hattie T., only daughter and child of Moses T. and Matilda Heagle Kehoe of Amsterdam. Mr. Christman's father (Uriah) was born in Palatine, and married Nancy Wick of his native town. They had nine children, three sons and six daughters, six survive: Mary, wife of Henry Dillenbeck of Palatine; Catherine, wife of J. E. Dygert of Fort Plain; Martha, wife of Byron A. Klock of Little Falls; Ella, wife of Simon P. Bandee of this city; Raymond and John T. of Amsterdam. Mr. Christman studied law for a time with Judge Z. S. Westbrook. He is a descendant of John Trumbull, former governor of Connecticut.

Shuler, Freman, Florida, one of three children of Daniel and Catherine (Van Derveer) Shuler, was born in Florida on the 12th of September, 1835. His father, Daniel, was born in Florida in 1803, as was also his grandfather, John Shuler. His great-grandfather, Lawrence Shuler, came from Germany and settled in the town early in its history, selling himself for his passage, as was the custom of many in those days. Freman Shuler was married in the year 1862 to Mary A. Young of the same town. They have two sons, William H. and Daniel, both living at home, and two daughters, Mrs. Carrie A. Jacoby of Amsterdam, and Mrs. Anna E. McClumpha of Florida.

Swart, Cornelius, Florida, was born in Florida June 30, 1814. His father, Jellis, was also a native of the town, his mother, Hester (Mabee) Swart, being a native of Rotterdam. His grandfather, Tunis Swart, died in Florida, but his birthplace is not known. Cornelius Swart married, in 1835, Jane Peek of Florida, by whom he had five children. She died in 1846, and he married, in 1848, Jane E., daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Pierce) Casey of Florida, by whom he has three children: George Swart of Hot Springs, Ark; Hetty, Mrs. James G. Campbell of Charlton; and Alice, living at home. Robert Casey was born in England. His parents came to this country when he was seven years of age. He was a soldier in the revolutionary army for seven years and five months. Mrs. Swart was born in Florida on November 6, 1812, and was one of twelve children.

Schuyler, Albert, Florida, only son of Hiram and Elizabeth (Nare) Schuyler, was born in Mohawk November 6, 1850. Hiram (his father) was born in the same town,

March 7, 1830, and is one of nine children. January 1, 1849 he married Elizabeth Nare, daughter of Zachariah and Catharine (Necker) Nare of Mohawk. Richard Schuyler, the grandfather, was born in Florida and moved to Mohawk in early life, his wife being Catharine McMaster of Fonda. In October, 1861, Albert Schuyler married Mary E., daughter of John and Lucretia (Staley) Kelley of Florida. They have four children: Fannie E., Elizabeth, Mary, and John. Mr. Schuyler has lived upon the farm which he now occupies since he was six months old. He is at the present time filling the office of town clerk.

Schuyler, Thomas E., Florida, one of three children of William R. and Margaret (Lockwood) Schuyler, was born in Florida, October 26, 1857. His sister, Mrs. Eleanor Brown, resides in Minaville; the other sister, Mrs. Eva Jeanette Schuyler, resides in Amsterdam. Thomas E. was married, May 31, 1882, to Emma Kelly, one of five children of John and Lucretia (Staley) Kelly. Her sister, Mrs. Albert Schuyler, lives in Florida, her two brothers and one sister being dead. They have three boys: Willie, Howard and Albert. Mr. Schuyler has lived for ten years upon the farm which he now owns, and which is noted for its very fine apple orchard. His ancestor, Thomas Schuyler, came to this town from New Jersey.

Schuyler, Andrew J., Florida, is one of eleven children of Jeremiah and Jemima (Dorn) Schuyler, and was born on the old Schuyler homestead, July 24, 1846. Jeremiah, the father, was born in Florida November 20, 1794, and died at the age of ninety-two. Jemima Dorn (the mother) was born May 19, 1808, on the farm now occupied by our subject. The latter has three brothers living: Jacob, John and Frank, all residents of Amsterdam, one brother being deceased. He has had six sisters: Eleanor, Catharine (Mrs. Hiram Hubbs of Amsterdam), both deceased; Evaline, Harriet (Mrs. James Blood of Amsterdam), Augusta (Mrs. C. J. Hamlin), and Margaret (Mrs. Vander Volgan). Andrew J. Schuyler married, on September 23, 1874, Sarah E., one of ten children of Winslow and Elizabeth (Buchanan) Sterling of Mohawk. The others were as follows: Henrietta (Mrs. A. J. Kline), Emna (Mrs. George Holton), Libbie (Mrs. John Ecker), Stella (Mrs. Simon Putnam), Nettie, John and Winslow, all living; also Mary and James, deceased. Andrew J. and Sarah E. Schuyler have ten children: Jerry Hamlin, Hiram Hubbs, Winslow H., Clarence E., Walter J., Luella, Frank H., Arthur W., Andrew J., jr., and Roy Augustus. Jerry H., the oldest, is living in Vermont, the others are at home upon the farm. Mr. Schuyler has always lived here, and is road commissioner of the town.

Scott, Barney, Minden, was born in Fort Plain, March 17, 1829. His father died when he was nine months old; his step-father was engaged in farming, also running a saw and grist-mill, and the step-son in early life became connected with these industries. He went to Omaha, Neb., in 1857, and afterwards to Council Bluffs, in which latter place he was mayor, sheriff and also postmaster. His experience in Council Bluffs as sheriff was most exciting, having been shot three times by Indians while in pursuit of them. Returning east in 1859, he went to California and engaged in mining, but come back in three years. He had accumulated a fortune, but the steamer on which he sailed was blown up in mid-ocean, and he lost all. He came ashore at Point Con-

ception and finally reached home, his health much impaired. After a rest of two years he purchased the bus line in Fort Plain, which he ran for five years. Since this time he has engaged in the coal and agricultural implements business and in the manufacture of paper boxes. In 1891 he became a resident of Palatine. He is a Republican in politics. He married Nancy Catharine Yerdon and they have two children, Charles and Lizzie. Charles Scott was born in Fort Plain, October 18, 1861. He graduated from the Clinton Liberal Institute in 1882. He then became a clerk for his father in the coal and agricultural implements business, and in 1885 was admitted as a partner, the firm being B. Scott & Son, which continued until 1888. The year following they engaged in the manufacture of paper boxes, which they disposed of to Little Falls parties. Charles Scott then obtained a contract from the village of Fort Plain for electric lights and established a plant of the Thompson-Houston system, which after sixty days he disposed of to parties interested in the Fort Plain Gas Light Company. In all the village enterprises Mr. Scott has taken a prominent part, and success has always crowned his efforts. He then went to Newark, N. J., and for three years and a half was engaged in the manufacture of paper boxes. Returning to Fort Plain he again became interested in the coal and agricultural implements business, in which he is now engaged. He is a Republican, and married Clara C., daughter of A. J. Wagner of Fort Plain, and they have one child, Marion.

Smith, John, Hallsville.—The emigrant ancestor and grandfather of this gentleman was Johannes Smith, a Hollander who came to this country as an officer in General Burgoyne's army. After Burgoyne's surrender he came to Stark, which was then in Montgomery county, now Herkimer, where he married a Miss Bassinger. They had a son Frederick, who was born November 26, 1779, and married in 1801 Mrs. Sarah Thayer, born Johnson. They had nine children: Mary, who died aged three years; Margaret, who married Julius Mills and died in Illinois; John; Frederick, who died young; Elizabeth, married Patrick McCraith and died in Fort Plain; Richard, who died in Mexico; Peter, who resides in Stark; Moses, died at Fort Plain; and Julia, died young. Frederick, the father, died June 29, 1865. John, of the above family, was born in Stark, March 6, 1806, and married November 30, 1826, Ann Eliza, daughter of Robert Hall. She was born in Minden, August 5, 1808, and died in that town, April 13, 1885. Their children were: Robert, Maria and Sophia, twins, who died young; Frederick, born July 29, 1830, died young; Sarah, born November 13, 1831, married September 22, 1852, David B. Elwood, and died October 1, 1855; Nancy, born December 23, 1833, died aged five years; Martha, born February 4, 1836, died aged three years; and Moses. At the age of ten years John Smith was hired out by his parents until he became of age. Arrived at his majority, he turned his attention to mercantile business and opened a store at Starkville, which he carried on eight years. He also kept a hotel in that village for five years, and in the spring of 1834 removed to Minden and turned his attention to farming. He also conducted a saw and grist-mill, and at one time a distillery. In politics a Democrat, he has been justice of the peace in Herkimer county, and has held several other town offices. Robert, the oldest of the above family, was born in Starkville, September 24, 1827, and married Martha Zoller. They had six children: Charles, born May 4, 1857, died at Cazenovia Seminary Feb-

ruary 7, 1874; Fred J., born May 27, 1856, resides at Lockport; John I., born March 4, 1863, died November 1, 1874; Willard R., born June 22, 1872, died at Rutgers College, N. J., June 2, 1891; Robert Z., born February 22, 1875; and Claude A., born February 16, 1882. Moses, youngest son of John Smith, was born in Minden, October 7, 1839, and married Helen, daughter of D. D. Elwood of Stark. They have two children: Sarah G., born August 7, 1864; and Nellie T., born April 19, 1868, wife of Harvey C. Diefendorf of Fort Plain.

Shults, Dewitt Clinton, Minden, was born in Palatine, January 11, 1836, and is the oldest son in a family of five children of Alexander and Lucinda (Wagner) Shults. After attending the district schools he went to Alfred Academy at Alfred Center for two years, and Lima Seminary at Lima for one year. Returning home, his intention was to become a student in the Fort Plain Seminary, but he changed his mind and commenced to read law with Judge Jacob Wendell. He was admitted to the bar in May, 1862, and in September of that year was appointed U. S. assistant assessor for internal revenue, the district at that time comprising Minden and St. Johnsville; afterwards Palatine and Canajoharie were added, and subsequently the entire county. Mr. Shults retained this position until 1873, when he commenced the practice of law at Fort Plain. Soon after this he formed a partnership with Peter G. Webster and H. V. Borst, the firm being Webster, Shults & Borst. This partnership was dissolved in three years and the business was continued by Shults & Borst until January 1, 1888, when the latter retired owing to his election as county judge and surrogate. Mr. Shults's practice is principally confined to the surrogate's court. A Republican in politics, he has been for twelve years justice of the peace; president of the village one year, and trustee six or eight years. He married Aurelia L., daughter of Stickney J. Dygert of Minden, and has one child living, William D., assistant secretary and manager of the Union League club of San Francisco, Cal.

Shinaman, Henry Ernest, Minden, was born in Marshville, town of Canajoharie, August 17, 1852, and is the oldest son in a family of seven children of Henry and Caroline (Martin) Shinaman. His father was a blacksmith by trade, running a small farm along with his blacksmith shop, and Mr. Shinaman's education was limited to the common schools of his native town. In 1872 he came to Fort Plain and was for a year and a half employed in the grocery store of James Hless. Returning to Canajoharie, he was for three months in Jacob Hammersmith's grocery store, but owing to ill health, he was for a time obliged to abandon indoor work. After a short rest, however, he returned to Canajoharie and entered the employ of Soules & Robinson, grocers, for six months, then going to Rome where he was employed for three months by John H. Smith in a bakery and confectionery store. Thence he went to Hion to study telegraphy; remaining there four months, he returned to Fort Plain and there entered the Western Union telegraph office (at that time managed by George C. Wood) where he remained six months. He was next employed at Hion for three months by the N. Y. C. & H. R. R.R. Co. as baggage master and assistant clerk. From Hion he went to Spraker's Basin where he was employed by John Wetterau in a grocery store until the death of his father in 1874, when he returned to his native town to assist in the support of the fam-

ily, and engaged in farming from that time until 1887. In the latter year he came to Fort Plain and bought an interest in his present drug store, having as a partner H. G. Martin. This continued until 1889 when Mr. Martin's death occurred, and Mr. Shinaman purchased the entire stock, and has since conducted the business alone. Progressive yet painstaking in his business methods, Mr. Shinaman is rapidly winning an enviable position among the leading business men of this locality. In politics he is a staunch Republican, but has never aspired to public office. He married Mary L., daughter of Christopher and Lydia Ottman of Root in 1885, and they have one child, Caroline Ada.

Snyder, Peter W., Minden, was born in Minden February 15, 1810. His grandfather, Peter Snyder, came from the eastern part of New York, near Greenbush, and settled near Frey's Bush on the farm formerly owned by the late Peter Fake. Of his children, William married Maria Yerdon, and had these children: Polly, who married George Pickard, and died in Minden; Peter W., Christian, who died in Minden; Jacob, resides at Grattan, Mich.; Lucy, married Jacob Nestle, and died in Minden; Kate, wife of George Carr of Paw Paw, Mich.; Lany, wife of Solomon Alter of Hessville; Julia, wife of Jonathan Ellison of Ionia, Mich.; and Jonas, a resident of Michigan. William Snyder died at Frey's Bush April 14 1865, aged eighty-four years. Peter W., the oldest son of the above family, learned the trade of carpenter, and was engaged in that business for over thirty years. He located on his present farm in 1854. He married Maria, daughter of Isaac and Laura (Robinson) Miller. They have had seven children: Laura A., widow of David H. Minckler, who resides at Rochester; John W., who died at Herkimer; Nathan H.; Luthera Elizabeth, who married David Becker and died at Jeffersonville, Ind.; David W., superintendent of Newport and Poland railroad, was killed in an accident at Herkimer; Albert Parker and Alfred Parkus (twins), the former being a farmer in Charleston and the latter also a farmer in Middlefield.

Shelp, M. Mount, Glen, was born in Glen May 24, 1846, he being one of eight children of James Nelson and Elizabeth Ann (Mount) Shelp of Glen, the others being Amelia (Mrs. Wm. Hoff); James H., dead; Mary (Mrs. David Vedder); Lydia (Mrs. Jacob Dievendorf); Anna C. (Mrs. Patton); Benjamin V. V. and Lemuel W. Shelp. The father (James Nelson) was born on the 4th of December, 1811, he being one of twelve children of Henry, born July 30, 1789, and Lydia (Parks) Shelp, who was born on the 9th of September, 1794, they being both natives of Glen. The great-grandfather (Henry Shelp) and father of the last one mentioned, was born in Holland, emigrating to this country in early life and settling in what is now the town of Glen, very early in its history. M. Mount Shelp was married February 1, 1871, to Heppie A. Baird, one of three children of William and Malina (Abel) Baird of Glen, the others being William Hoagland Baird and Mary Ellen (Mrs. John H. Serviss). They have one son, Willis Baird Shelp.

Schuyler, George S., Glen, who was born in Glen February 22, 1818, was one of the five children of Jacob and Mary (Serviss) Schuyler of Florida. The others were: Mary A., wife of Stephen Ostrom (deceased), James, Jacob and William. Jacob, the father, was born in New Jersey and came to Florida in early life. His father (also named Jacob) was born (it is thought) in Holland, emigrating to New Jersey when quite young. George S. Schuyler married first, Clarissa Van Schaick of Glen, one

of seven children of Thomas and Anna (Hand) Van Schaick. They had six children: Jacob of Dakota; Henry Newton of Illinois; Frederick, Sarah, wife of Reuben Devendorf; Antoinette, wife of Adolphus Perrine; and Anna, wife of Abram Mabee. Mr. Schuyler married second, Anna Olin of Florida, and one son, Frank, survives from this marriage.

Starin, Levi A., Glen, one of six children of Abram and Catherine (Devendorf) Starin of Glen, was born July 11, 1846, the others being John (dead), Jacob (dead), David H., Elizabeth, and Margaret. Abram Starin, his father, was born on the homestead, now owned by Levi A., October 10, 1803; his mother being a daughter of Henry I. and Jane (Lyker) Devendorf. His grandfather, John F. Starin, was also born on the homestead which has been in the family since the revolution. He was married June 9, 1870, to Martha, a daughter of Barney and Sarah (Vosburgh) Gardinier of Fultonville, she being one of five children. They have three children: Abram B., Josie C., and Frank Leroy Starin.

Starin, Mrs. Elizabeth E., Glen, widow of Jacob H. Starin, was born in Glen, being one of nine children of Peter and Nancy (Leonardson) Van Evera; he being a native of Mapletown, and she having been born in Yatesville, now Downing. Her grandfather, John R. Van Evera, was also born in Mapletown, his ancestors coming here from Holland. She was married on the 14th of February, 1854, to Jacob H. Starin, one of six children of Abram and Catherine (Devendorf) Starin of Glen; the others being John H., Lizzie, now Mrs. Douw Heagel; David H., Margaret, now Mrs. Chas. Rickard; and Levi A. Starin. She has one daughter, Jennie, now Mrs. Oscar F. Conable of Fultonville. Jacob H. Starin, her husband, died here in 1883. Mrs. Starin has in her possession a very interesting heir-loom, an old fashioned clock, in good running order, which was brought from Holland by her great-great-grandmother Bennett, more than 200 years ago, who came to take possession of 1,000 acres of land in the present town of Root.

Sticht, Christopher, Canajoharie, was born in Germany, November 4, 1840, and came to this country in November, 1854. He located at Canajoharie on his arrival, and spent four years with his brother, John M., learning the boot and shoe business. He then went to Ohio where he spent about three years in Ashtabula and Akron. April 10, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, 19th Ohio three months volunteers from Akron, with which regiment he spent the full term of enlistment, returning shortly after being discharged to Canajoharie. Here he joined his brother in the boot and shoe business, the firm being John M. Sticht & Brother. In 1865 his brother sold his interest to Frank Shubert and the firm of Sticht & Shubert existed until 1880, when Mr. Sticht bought his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He has the leading shoe store of the town, in fact the county, and is very popular among his neighbors and townspeople. His store is located in the Phoenix block on Church street, owned by himself, and his residence is on Walnut street. In June, 1872, he married Cornelia A., daughter of William and Margaret (Engell) Low, and they have had three sons: John L., a cadet of the Annapolis Naval Academy; Arthur C., a student of Cornell University; and Howard De Witt, who died in 1885 in his sixth year. Mr. Sticht is a sup-

porter of the Lutheran Church, of which Mrs. Sticht is a member. Mr Sticht is a Republican.

Smith, Adam, Canajoharie, was born in Glen on the 17th of March, 1826, and is a son of Adam and Elizabeth (Sheldon) Smith. His father was born in this state, but his mother in Connecticut. His father was a merchant for many years at Glen and at Charleston. He was a Whig in politics and took an active interest in the affairs of his party. The grandparents of our subject on his father's side were natives of Scotland, and on his mother's side, of Connecticut. His grandfather Smith was a leather merchant of Stockbridge, Scotland, and came hither in 1780. Adam learned the mercantile trade with his eldest brother, which he continued until 1865. He came to Canajoharie in 1856 and in 1859 he and his brother formed a co-partnership with James Arkell in the manufacture of paper sacks, which has grown to an immense business, employing about 200 workers, with a business extending to all parts of the Union. Mr. Smith married in 1859 Catherine S., daughter of John and Margaret (Lasher) Van Slyke of Canajoharie. They have three children: Elizabeth S., wife of Preston K. Yates, a civil engineer in New York; Lydia K., wife of William H. Bain, coal dealer, Canajoharie; and George H., assistant treasurer of the firm of Arkell & Smith. Mr. Smith is a Republican in politics. He and his wife were members of the Dutch Reformed Church. His wife died on the 1st of May, 1886.

Shults, James W., Canajoharie, was born at Mapletown November 14, 1864, and is a son of Hiram and Mary (Winne) Shults. Hiram Shults, father of James, was born in Stone Arabia September 4, 1812, and his early life was spent there. He married Jane A. Doxtader, daughter of William Doxtader of Palatine, and they had four children, two of whom are living: Albert, of the old homestead in Root, and Catherine, wife of Fraling Keller of Oak Ridge. Mrs. Jane A. Shults died February 2, 1860. On the 22d of May, 1862, he married Mary Winne, daughter of James and Jemima (Van Sise) Winne of Glen. They had one child, James W. Hiram Shults died March 16, 1874. The early life of James was spent in Mapletown and he was educated in the common schools and at Fort Plain Academy. He assisted on the farm until 1888 when he bought the farm where he now lives. On the 23d of October he married Mary, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Wood) Merselis of Canajoharie. They have had one child, Blanch E., born July 15, 1890.

The Spraker Family.—The earliest ancestor of this family, of whom there is any record, is George Spraker, who immigrated to this country from the German Palatinate in the early part of the eighteenth century. He located in Palatine, then Albany county, and at the time of his death was the owner of some of the finest agricultural land in the Mohawk valley. He married Maria House, also of German descent, and they had nine children, four of whom were sons, and they, with their father, were in the war for independence. They were John, George, Conrad and Joseph. The latter was born in Palatine in 1764 and married when a young man, Catharine Frazier, a descendant of one of the Scottish pioneer families of Johnstown. They had eight children: Nancy, Catherine, George, Daniel, David, Livingston, James and Joseph. But one of this family is now living, Daniel, president of the National Mohawk River Bank, of

Fonda. David, the third son, was born February 23, 1801. He was educated at Union College and studied law under Marcus T. Reynolds of Amsterdam, also at Albany with Judge Alfred Conkling, and with Judge Daniel Cady of Johnstown, and was admitted to practice as attorney of the Supreme Court in 1825, and as counsellor in 1828, and was licensed in the circuit and district courts of the United States in 1842. In 1830 he became Supreme Court commissioner and in 1833 was appointed master and examiner in chancery. In 1835 and for some years previous he was a judge of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and resigned his office in the fall of that year to take his seat in state senate and court for the correction of errors, which was then the court of last resort, where he served most honorably for four years and earned his place among the historic figures of the day. In 1845 he married Harriet F., daughter of Stephen N. Rowan, an eloquent Presbyterian divine of New York, and they had six children: David, Fannie, wife of Walter P. Bonney of Erie, Pa.; Randolph, Flora M., Ferdinand W., of Cooperstown; and Hortense, wife of John H. Shaper, M. D.

Sloan, J. Richard, Canajoharie, was born in New York January 2, 1859, a son of John D. and Margaret (Wessling) Sloan. John D. was born in Germany and came to this country in 1848, locating in New York, where he lived for twelve years, and then moved to Canajoharie, where he has since remained. He was a mason by trade and was considered one of the best at that time. He had seven children, of whom four are living: John, of Canajoharie; Anna, Helen, and J. Richard. The latter was educated in the common schools, and when twenty years of age learned the trade of his father. Among the many fine buildings which he has contracted are the residence of W. J. Arkell, that of A. G. Richmond, and that of James Arkell, which is looked upon as the finest in the town; the Betts Block, the Hammersmith Block, and the Union Free School Building, a fine stone structure, requiring 900 yards of stone. In 1885 Mr. Sloan married Ella A. Woodard of Canajoharie, and they have two children: William W., born October 17, 1885; and Margueritta M., born April 29, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Sloan are members of the English Lutheran Church. Mr. Sloan has never taken an active interest in politics, his ambition lying in the direction of a business life.

Schultze, Charles E., Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie January 4, 1853, and is a son of Charles G. and Fredericka (Hyer) Schultze. His father was born in Germany and came to this country about 1840. He first located in Spraker's Basin, and while there was employed on the enlargement of the Erie Canal. His next business was to establish a grocery and provision store in Canajoharie, in the year 1842, which he conducted for a number of years, then commenced the gardening of fruit and vegetables, which he followed until his death in March, 1887. He gave his whole time to this business, which he conducted with success, taking but little interest in politics. He had three children, of whom but one (Charles E.) is now living. The early life of the latter was spent in this town, where he was educated in the common schools. At the age of sixteen he left home to try what he could do in the metropolis. He followed butchering in New York for seven years, and then returned to Canajoharie, where he opened a market in company with Lewis Martin, which partnership lasted till the fire of 1877, when the market was destroyed and Mr. Schultze lost his entire property. With great perseverance and energy he again started in business, running a wagon,

and conducting the Cottage Hotel for Mr. Benjamin, which he continued for nearly three years, then again started a market, and has since done a very successful business. In 1874 he married Esther, daughter of Thomas Stokes, a native of England, and they have had two children: Edward F., who died in 1883, aged seven years; and a daughter, Allie D.

Smith, Martin L., Canajoharie, was born in Springfield, Otsego county, in 1835. His boyhood was spent at his birthplace, and he was educated at the common schools of the town, and also the Union Free School, with a course in the Cooperstown Seminary. He came to Canajoharie in 1852, and in 1859 he engaged in partnership with Silas V. Wemple in the malting business, which continued for four years, and then he conducted it alone until the great fire in 1877 (April 30), when he lost the buildings and stock, consisting of about \$40,000 worth of barley and malt. After the loss of his malthouse he engaged in the lumber business, which he still conducts. He married, in 1861, Mary J. Geortner, of this town, and they have had two children. Mr. Smith has several times been trustee of the village, and the last time he was made president. He has been a director of the Canajoharie National Bank for the last twelve years.

Simons, Frank E., Canajoharie, was born in the village of Phœnix, Oswego county, April 28, 1851, and is a son of James F. and Lavana (Church) Simons. His early life was spent in Phœnix, but at the age of twelve his parents moved to Fulton (in the same county), where he attended the graded school. When he was twenty-one he entered the office of Beadle & Senn, Buffalo, as assistant book-keeper, taught school one term near his old home, and then returned to Buffalo, re-engaging with the same company he had previously served, and staying there until July, 1873. In September he entered Cornell University, remaining until 1876, when he entered Albany Medical College, graduating January 29, 1879. February 18 of the same year he came to Canajoharie and began the practice of his profession, which he has since continued. Dr. Simons was elected coroner in the fall of 1879 and re-elected in 1882; six years after the expiration of his term he was again elected president of the village, and has held the office of health officer since 1886. January 1, 1879, he married Minnie, daughter of Dr. O. B. Nelson of Fulton. They have one child, Willis N., born January 19, 1884. Dr. Simons is a member of Hamilton Lodge, No. 79, F. & A. M.; Hiram Union Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M.; Little Falls Comandery, No. 26; and a member of Zyara Temple of Utica. He is also a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, Taria Joras Tribe, No. 148.

Smith, Dr. Andrew P., of Ames, was born in Starkville, Herkimer county, on the 18th of January, 1818, and is a son of John and Mary Pinckney Smith. His father was of Dutch ancestry and his mother of old Yankee stock and a descendant of Thomas Pinckney, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. They were among the early settlers of the county. Dr. Smith was a self-educated man; at the age of eleven years he went west and studied medicine, attending lectures at Geneva, and began practice at twenty-seven years of age in Starkville. He was a successful practitioner for twenty-five years and accumulated a fortune. About 1878 he came to

Ames, where he has led a retired life, having been an eminent man in his profession. He was married three times; his present wife is Catherine George, a sister of Alonzo of Canajoharie. They have one son. He has been a Whig and a Republican and was for two years town clerk, town school commissioner a year, and postmaster for four years at Starkville. He is a very genial and much respected gentleman and enjoys the acquaintance of a wide circle of friends.

Sammons, Samuel G., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in the town of Canajoharie near his present residence December 5, 1815, and is a son of Cornelius T. and Jane (Gardinier) Sammons. The great-grandfather of our subject, Thomas Sammons, married Petter Nella Schoonmaker, and their home was in Fulton county. His son Thomas, the grandfather of our subject, was the father of two children; Cornelius was the oldest and was the first of the Sammons family to come to this town, coming here in 1796. Previous to this he had married Jane Gardinier of Fultonville. They were the parents of six children, but only two are living: Eliza, now Mrs. H. J. Robinson of Canajoharie; and Samuel, our subject. He lost his father when he was only six years old, and his whole life has been spent in this town. He attended the common school and worked on the farm until he was twenty years old, when he bought the old homestead farm, conducted it for six years, and then bought, in 1842, his present residence. It was then a farm of 150 acres, mostly cultivated for hay and grain and hops. February 13, 1840, he married Sarah E. Lane, and they are the parents of five children, four of whom are living: Henry T. of Canajoharie; William L., who owns the homestead farm; Mary E., wife of William Hibbard; and Ella M., wife of De Forest Garlock of Canajoharie. Mrs. Sammons died April 20, 1885, at sixty-eight years of age. Mr. Sammons is one of the first men in this town, an earnest Christian, good neighbor, and upright citizen. William L. Sammons was born on this farm January 30, 1845, has always lived in the town. November 5, 1870, he married Ella Webster of Sharon. She died March 29, 1879. In 1888 he bought the old homestead farm of his father and has since conducted it. February 7, 1882, he married Hattie T. Putnam of Glen, and they have one child, S. Merton, born April 1, 1884. Mr. Sammons is a member of the Presbyterian church at Buel, and it is said of him "He is a good neighbor."

Suits, Peter Langrave, M. D., Mohawk, Tribes Hill p. o., son of Joseph N. and Lucinda (Van De Warker) Suits, was born in Palatine March 9, 1845. His education was obtained at the common schools and Fairfield Academy, and he taught school for ten years. He took three courses at the Albany Medical College and graduated in the spring of 1879. He located at Tribes Hill the same year, where he has since practiced. For three years he has been the physician at the Montgomery county asylum. He is a Democrat in politics, in which he takes an active part. In 1872 he married Lydia A. Rogers of St. Johnsville. He is a member of the state and county medical societies. Josiah Suits, oldest brother of Dr. Suits, was born in May, 1838, and has taught school in Montgomery county thirty-six years. Nicholas Suits was a son of Peter Suits and was a farmer. He was in Fort Paris during the revolution. His father was among the first settlers in this valley, the so-called "Palatinates." George Suits, brother of Nicholas, served seven years in the revolutionary war, in which he held the office of corporal. He had no children. Joseph N. Suits, a son of Nicholas, was born in Palatine August

6, 1809, and married Lucinda Van De Warker, who was born June 24, 1818. They had ten children. He was a tailor by trade; also a violinist of note, and Dr. Suits has in his possession a Cremona violin which was made in Italy in 1700. Joseph N. Suits died in 1883, and his wife in 1885.

Sitterly, Jere S., Mohawk, son of Christian and Maria L. (Snell) Sitterly, was born in Palatine January 9, 1863. After attending the common schools he spent two years at the Clinton Liberal Institute at Fort Plain. He graduated from Fort Edward Collegiate Institute in 1882 at the head of his class, and read law with Carroll & Fraser of Johnstown. In May, 1884, he was graduated from the Albany Law School with the degree of LL. B. He then read law with Judge Z. S. Westbrook of Amsterdam, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1885. On the 1st of April, 1886, he came to Fonda and opened a law office, where he has since remained, having won an extensive practice. He is a Democrat and was elected supervisor of the town of Mohawk in 1889, but prefers his profession to political life. He is a member of the Fultonville Lodge No. 531, F. and A. M., the Order of Red Men, K. of P., and the Reform Club of New York.

Schenck, Ralph, Mohawk, who was a native of Monmouth county, N. J., settled in 1784 on the farm now owned by Morris Christman. He had two sons, William and Edward Taylor, and eight daughters: Rebecca, Eleanor, Ann, Alda, Mary, Catharine, Margaret and Sarah. Edward Taylor was born February 1, 1793. He married Elizabeth Wemple, daughter of Myndert Wemple, and they had seven children. He was a farmer, and died in 1856, and his wife in 1883. Mynard, son of Edward, was born October 19, 1833, and married Eliza, daughter of Ralph Putman, who died September 18, 1892. They had three children: Belle Everett, Edward Taylor and Jennie E. Edward Taylor married Libbie Stoller, and they have two children, John Taylor and Maude E. Jennie E. married Marion Gross, and they reside in New York.

Smith Ralph H., Mohawk, Fonda p. o., a son of Parchel B. and Harriet (Haines) Smith, was born in New York June 7, 1855. His father was a varnish manufacturer at Hunter's Point, L. I. When Ralph was fourteen years old his father removed to Wilton, Saratoga county, and resided there until his death in February, 1876. His wife died in June of the same year. Ralph was in the employ of the N. Y. C. railroad for three years, then returned to his home and was engineer in the steam flouring-mill a short time. He then learned the miller's trade, and in 1887 built a steam grist-mill on his father's old farm, and sold the mill in April, 1892. September 25, 1889, he bought the Berryville flouring-mill, which has four run of stone, and has a capacity for grinding 400 bushels per day. In 1879 he married Flora Hodges of Saratoga county.

Spraker, Daniel, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born August 26, 1798. He was one of six sons of Jost Spraker, all of whom were reared at the old homestead on the Mohawk turnpike at Sprakers, and became active and prominent business men in that vicinity. Daniel Spraker is now the only survivor. The Spraker family has long been prominent in the Mohawk valley in wealth and enterprise, as well as in social and political influence. George Spraker, the earliest ancestor of the family in the valley, was a native of Saxony and settled in Palatine about the year 1775. He was an industrious man

and at the time of his death was the owner of some of the finest farm land in the valley. He had four sons and five daughters, and the sons, with himself, bore arms against the British and Indians in the war for independence. On the death of George Spraker, Jost, his youngest son and the father of Daniel, succeeded to the paternal homestead. He became well known, not only in this state but beyond its limits. Travelers through the valley before the time of the railroads, were entertained at his hotel, popularly known as "Spraker's Tavern," which became famous for liberal hospitality, being a point at which relay horses for stage coaches were always supplied. It was here that Daniel was born and reared. Jost Spraker married Catharine Frazer, a descendant of one of the Scottish pioneer families who first settled in Johnstown, and they reared six sons and two daughters. Daniel began business for himself at the age of twenty-one at Spraker's Basin, engaging in the mercantile, storage and forwarding business, and soon became one of the leading merchants of the valley. Later on for about three years (1854-55 and 56) Mr. Spraker lived a retired life at Canajoharie. In 1853 the Spraker brothers, having realized the importance of the banking business, established the Spraker Bank at Canajoharie, and soon afterwards the Mohawk River Bank at Fonda. On the organization (in 1856) of the latter, which was first a State and is now a National bank, Daniel Spraker removed to Fonda and became its president, and has held that office ever since—a period of thirty-six years. He has also been one of the directors of the Spraker Bank since its organization. In 1826 he married Eliza, daughter of Stephen Dykeman of Canajoharie, a prominent miller and distiller. He lost his wife in 1850, and has since remained a widower. Of their seven children, three died in infancy. One daughter, Mrs. E. E. Gillett, died in 1865, and another, Mrs. Jacob Hees, in 1886, and but two children are now living, Mrs. John W. Wilson of Fonda, and James D. Spraker of New York. Mr. Spraker has been throughout his long and successful life an unswerving Democrat, and though in his ninety-fifth year, is still active and energetic in his public and private duties.

Saltsman, Jeremiah, Palatine, was born in Palatine July 24, 1836. His father was Peter I. Saltsman; his grandfather, John Saltsman, whose father came from Germany and settled on the farm of 100 acres now owned by Jeremiah Saltsman. John Saltsman was born in 1767, reared on a farm and, November 1, 1791, married Elizabeth Getman (born December 26, 1772, in Palatine), who bore him two sons and two daughters. He died July 6, 1822, and she in 1857. Peter I. Saltsman was born in Palatine January 26, 1792, was always a farmer and married Catherine, daughter of William Saltsman, who bore him eight sons and six daughters. He and family were members of the Lutheran Church at Stone Arabia. He died August 17, 1882. Jeremiah Saltsman was brought up on a farm and educated at the common schools. September 28, 1864, he married Catherine (born in Palatine, December 30, 1844), daughter of Hiram and Catherine Shults. Hiram Shults's father had three brothers captured in the revolutionary war, one of whom, Martin, died during his imprisonment. Jeremiah Saltsman and wife had the following children, namely: Cora (deceased), Myron H., Clarence P., and Ethel C. Mr. Saltsman has a farm of 200 acres and runs a large dairy. He is a member of Fort Plain Lodge No. 433 F. & A. M., and of Stone Arabia Grange No.

690. His son Myron is a member of the Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 66 K. of P., at Fort Plain. The family are members of the Lutheran Church at Stone Arabia.

Snyder, George, Palatine, was born in Cayuga county in October, 1834. His father was Henry Snyder, and his grandfather bore the same name. The latter was a native of Dutchess county and went at an early day to Cayuga county, where he became a wealthy man. He was the father of three sons and five daughters. Henry Snyder, junior, was born in Cayuga county, raised on a farm and sent to the common school. He married Sylvia Slocum, who bore him two children. He died and his widow married Thomas White, and bore him one son and three daughters. The mother now resides at Rochester, aged about eighty years. George Snyder was raised on a farm and married, May 16, 1865, Martha J. Cranker of Palatine. Their children are as follows: Eugene R., Henry A., Jennie M., George I., Carrie M., Sylvia C., John H., Mabel B., and Clarence L. Mr. Snyder was in the livery business for several years in Cortland county, and in 1859 went to California and engaged in buying and selling stock. He came to Nelliston in 1862, and since has been a drayman, for many years in partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Cranker. He was one of the first trustees of the village. He was reared a Universalist. Mrs. Snyder died in December, 1888, aged forty-one.

Smith, J. Harvey, Palatine, was born in Salisbury, Herkimer county, September 1, 1828. His father was Daniel Smith; his grandfather, Gilead Smith, who came at an early date from Saratoga county and settled on the Royal Grant in Herkimer county; his great-grandfather was Benajer Smith, who settled in Saratoga county where he lived and died. Gilead Smith was twice married; first to Eleanor Disbrow, who bore him four children; second, to Thankful Peck, by whom he had two children. He died in Herkimer county in 1837. Daniel Smith was born in Salisbury May 15, 1803, and married Delight, daughter of Simeon Ives, a native of Wallingford, Conn., who came to Herkimer county when a boy; his wife was Apluma Shepherd, who bore him nine children. Simeon Ives was the son of John, who served seven years in the revolutionary war, and died at the age of ninety-three. J. Harvey Smith received an academic education, and in 1851 married Cornelia Ives of Lewis county. She died while visiting her parents in 1853. In 1855 he married Alvina E. Hayner of Rensselaer county, who bore him the following children: Emma J., Charles D., Frank H. and Nellie E. He and his family are members of the Reformed Church at Fort Plain.

Saltsman, Amelia M., Palatine, was born in Palatine on the farm where she now resides. Her father was Daniel Saltman, who was born on the same farm, February 12, 1795; her grandfather was John Saltsman, who married Elizabeth Getman. Daniel Saltsman was raised on the farm and educated in the common school. He married Catherine Nellis of Palatine, who was born October 25, 1798. Her father was John Nellis, whose biography appears in this book. Daniel Saltsman and wife had four sons and nine daughters, of whom the following are living and reside in Palatine on the home farm: Amelia M.; Almira, now Mrs. Arthur Rickard; Frederick; John D., and Andrew. The older sisters, Mrs. Oliver Gary and Mrs. Peter I. Nellis, also live in Palatine. Daniel and wife were members of the Stone Arabia Lutheran Church. He died December 5, 1871, and his wife in 1863.

Smith, Charles D., Palatine, was born in Palatine November 16, 1861. He is a son of J. Harvey and Elizabeth (Hayner) Smith. He was raised on a farm and educated at the public schools and Clinton Liberal Institute. He married in 1883 Myra, daughter of Justis and Martha (Bauder) Cole. They have two children, Grace and J. Harvey, jr. Mr. Smith lived with his parents until 1891, when he engaged in the hardware business with A. Stewart and C. A. Bergen. He has also for several years carried on fancy poultry raising. He ships his stock to all parts of the United States, to Canada and France. He is an active Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Reformed Church at Fort Plain.

Scott, Alonzo M., Charleston, was born in Root March 27, 1842. He was one of thirteen children of Horace and Rebecca (Hoag) Scott of Charleston and Root. Horace Scott, the father, was a son of Ashel M. Scott, who was born in Connecticut and emigrated to Montgomery county in early life. His father was one of three brothers who emigrated from Scotland to Connecticut. Rebecca Hoag, the mother, was one of twelve children of Francis and Robie (Briggs) Hoag. Alonzo M. was married June 30, 1860, to Alida Campbell of Charleston, one of seven children of John and Delara (Griffith) Campbell of Charleston. They have three children: Kitty (Mrs. George Morris); Jennie (Mrs. Cary Eaton); and Emma (single). Mr. Scott has lived in Charleston since thirteen years of age. He served nearly three years in the army; was supervisor of the town from 1885 to 1889; justice of the peace eight years and justice of sessions two terms, and is now serving his sixth year as notary public.

Snell, John B., St. Johnsville, was born in St. Johnsville July 17, 1865, a son of Lewis and Ann L. (Lasher) Snell, natives of St. Johnsville. His father was a prominent and enterprising citizen and business man, greatly respected; he served as supervisor of the town, and was a Democrat in politics. Both parents died in their native town. They reared three sons and one daughter. The great-grandfather of John B. came from Switzerland in 1795 and settled in Montgomery county. He was the first pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church in that section, and was in other ways prominently identified with the early history of the state. The subject of this sketch received a common school education, supplemented by a course at Chamberlain Institute, New York. He spent ten years in business pursuits in Philadelphia, Pa., and October 1, 1891, bought the *St. Johnsville Leader*, and changed it to the *St. Johnsville News*, which he now publishes. He married in 1891 Charlotte K., daughter of Isaac E. Smith of his native place.

Saltsman, Alvin, St. Johnsville, son of Peter I. and Catherine (Saltsman) Saltsman, the youngest of the family, was born in Palatine July 10, 1840. He received a district school education, and at the age of fifteen began to learn the wagonmaking trade in St. Johnsville, when his brother William was operating the shop. In 1862 they formed a partnership as Saltsman Bros., employing ten men in their business. Mr. Saltsman has been an active man in business affairs. He has served as trustee of the town, and is a member of F. & A. M. September 18, 1862, he married Caroline, daughter of George and Lana (Youran) Timmerman, natives of Herkimer county. His grandfather was in the battle of Oriskany, where he was wounded. He was an early pioneer. Alvin

Saltsman and his wife have one child, Mariette, wife of E. C. Bartle. Mrs. Saltsman is a member of the Dutch Reformed church; her grandfather was Adam Timmerman of Herkimer county. Mr. Saltsman is a director of the First National Bank. John, grandfather of Alvin, came from Germany and settled in Palatine before the revolutionary war, where his son, Peter I., was born in 1800. He was in the war of 1812, and died in 1882, aged ninety. He has fourteen children, of whom eleven grew to maturity.

Spraker, Daniel, jr., Root, son of George and Elizabeth Spraker, was born in Sprakers and received his education at the district schools and the academy. He has been in the insurance business since 1861. He served as justice of the peace for eight years. For three years he acted as justice of sessions, occupying a seat on the bench with such eminent jurists as Justices Potter, Rosecrans and Bockes. Was clerk of the board of supervisors for four years, and for many years has been a general contributor to the press. He owns and resides in the old family homestead at Sprakers, and is contented with enjoying the life of a private citizen and attending to his chosen business.

Truax, George S., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born in the town of Pitcher, Chenango county, September 16, 1837, and is a son of John and Eliza (Gray) Truax. John Truax was born in Schenectady county and was married in 1829. He was killed in a saw-mill at Hagaman's Mills in 1873, being then sixty-eight years of age. He left four children: Cornelius E., Elizabeth A., Eliza (now Mrs. Geo. H. Dingman), and George S., our subject; his grandfather was General Edwin Gray of the war of 1812. Mrs. Truax (mother of our subject) still lives in her eightieth year. The family was first represented in this country by three brothers who came here from the boundary line between France and Holland; one brother returned soon after, and one was killed by Indians, leaving one only as ancestor of the family. The great-grandmother used to tell a story of hiding from the Indians in a large hollow log. The family went to Chenango county where George was born, returning in five years to this place where he received his education in the public schools. In 1869 he went to work on the railroad; he rapidly rose to conductor, and this he followed twenty-one years. In 1872 he bought the farm where he now lives. He was married to Ida M. Devendorf of Little Falls April 17, 1870. He left the railroad in August, 1890, and has since worked the farm. They have one child, Mabel V., born December 2, 1881. The farm is a very good hay and grain farm, and his home is one of the prettiest along the Mohawk, and Mr. Truax is considered one of the happy prosperous farmers of the town.

Terwilliger, William H., Amsterdam, was born in the city of Amsterdam on the 16th of March, 1864, and was educated in the Amsterdam Academy nine years, and is now a thorough machinist. On the 17th of June, 1885, he married Alice Vossler of Amsterdam. They have one daughter, Susan M. Mr. Terwilliger's father, John, was born at Hagaman's Mills in the town of Amsterdam on the 11th of October, 1839, and was educated in the public schools and worked at the carpenter's trade with his father three years. The balance of his life he has been a machinist, and was with the Greene Knitting Company through its various corporate changes of firm names thirty-two years, and is now associated with his son, William H., in their machine and repair shop and

mill supplies. In September, 1860, he married Harriet A. Phillips of this city. They have one son, William H.

Terwilliger, Orville B., Amsterdam, was born at Haganam's Mills in the town of Amsterdam, on the 26th of September, 1837, and was educated in the public schools and the old academy on Main street. In his early life he learned the carpenter's trade and for many years has been one of Amsterdam's contractors and builders. On the 2d day of May, 1861, he married Mate Gilbourne of Troy. They have three children, two sons and one daughter. George, who was born on the 19th of February, 1862, and married Florence Ableing of Canajoharie; they have one daughter, Ada; Cora, who married John N. Smith of Trenton, New Jersey, and they have one daughter, Mabel; and Frank, who resides at home. Mr. Terwilliger's father, Solomon, was also born at Haganam's Mills; he was a carpenter and builder and married Sarah A. Priest of Esperance. They had seven children, five survive: Louisa, Abbie, Edward, John and Orville B. The family is of Dutch, English and German extraction.

Timmerman Family, The.—This name has been written Timberman by some of its descendants. The family came originally from Switzerland, and the first of whom we have any information are the brothers Jacob, Lawrence, Theobold, George and Henry, of whom Theobold is the only one who settled in Minden. He removed from St. Johnsville to this town in 1759 and was injured from the running away of a team of horses, from which injury he died. He married Elizabeth Hawn, and had five children: Adam, Thomas, John, Elizabeth and Polly. Adam married Margrate Matice and settled on a farm adjoining. John married Anna Diefendorf and settled in Frey's Bush. During the war of 1812 he was captain of artillery, and went to Sackett's Harbor. Elizabeth married William Hackney, and Polly married John Faling. Thomas married Elizabeth Sanders and remained on the homestead. He had ten children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were as follows: Solomon, who married Maria Ehle and lived and died in Monroe county; Betsey, who died unmarried, in Danube; Polly, who married William Davy and lived and died in Danube; Eve, who married Peter Davy and lived and died in Danube; Katie, widow of Abram Devendorf, lives at Depauville, Jefferson county; Lany, married Allen Story and removed to Monroe county, where she died while young; Benjamin, married Mary C. Churchill and did a large furniture business at Buffalo, removing to Iowa, where he died; John never married, and now resides in California; David T. married Charlotte, daughter of Gen. Isaac Ellwood; Thomas died in Minden, lacking twenty-two days of being ninety. David T. remained on the old homestead, and at the present writing is within a few months of eighty-nine. They have had eleven children, one of whom died in infancy. The others are: Menzo, unmarried, resides in Minden; Eliza, died aged twenty-five; Mary, who died at Albion, aged twenty-eight; Marvin S., who married Ione Bowen and removed to Sycamore, Ill., where they had four children, two of whom died in infancy; Charlotte L., who resides in Chicago; and Willard E., also a resident of Chicago. Ione died at Sycamore, and Marvin S. at Minneapolis; David Henry, who died young; Augusta, who married W. A. Moyer and lives at Baldwinsville; they have two children, Glen and Mabel; Emma, who resides at Min-

neapolis: Manley E., who married Emma Wilkes and has three children, two of whom, Ray and Claire, are living; Williard E., who resides in Minden, unmarried; and Della, who died aged fifteen years. David T. Timmerman has in his possession a deed bearing date of 1759, to Theobald Timmerman, his grandfather, and the land deeded has been in direct possession of the family ever since.

Teepie, Calvin P., Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born in Carlisle, Schoharie county, September 17, 1857, and is a son of Edward and Catharine Teepie. In 1881 he went to Crown Point to learn photography with E. M. Johnson, and in 1886 he located in Fonda, where he has been successfully engaged in his business ever since. In 1886, the year of his location in Fonda, he married Blanche Peckham of Ballston Spa, and they have one child, Rubie B.

Thompson, Wilbur S., Palatine, was born in Palatine Bridge December 8, 1846, and is a son of Joseph and Nancy (Porter) Thompson. His ancestry as far as can be traced were natives of this country. Joseph Thompson was born in Boston, and on reaching manhood learned the trade of stone cutter, and in 1842, when the Erie canal was built, he came to this county to work on aqueducts and bridges. He died in 1889 in California, leaving two children: Maria, wife of Henry S. Murray, superintendent of the Pettit Manufacturing Company of Canajoharie, and Wilbur S., the subject. His early life was spent in Palatine; he was educated in the academic department of the Palatine school and when about seventeen years of age he went into the store of James D. Taylor of Palatine, where he remained but two years, when he entered the employ of the American Express Company as agent, and has faithfully worked for them for twenty-seven years. In 1867 he married Pauline Keller, daughter of John Keller of Canajoharie; they have had three children: Harriet, Edith, and Henry M. Mr. Thompson has held the position of trustee of this village for six years. He was one of the founders of the order of Red Men of this village, and he now holds the office of senior sagamore.

Towman, Frank B., St. Johnsville, attorney, was born in Mayfield, January 7, 1860, and is a son of Bennett W. and Hannah M. (Rhodes) Towman. After the death of his parents he lived with his grandparents, William H. and Rosie (Blake) Rhodes, and at the death of his grandfather in 1867, went to live with an uncle in Saratoga county until thirteen years of age. In the fall of 1875 he moved to Johnstown, where he remained till 1877, attending school and teaching. He then attended a preparatory school at Johnstown until 1881, when he began the study of law at Northville with Lee S. Anable, and was admitted to the bar in 1885 at Albany. He then went to Johnstown, and in August, 1890, came to St. Johnsville, where he has since resided. September 10, 1885, he married Carrie Q., daughter of Abram and Eliza J. (Quinlan) Van Arnam. Mr. Towman is a member of F. & A. M.; I. O. O. F.; and K. of P. On his mother's side he is a tenth generation descendant of Roger Williams. He and his wife are members of the church—he of the Presbyterian, and she of the Methodist Episcopal. The grandfather, Wendell Towman, came from Baden Baden, Germany, in 1832. His wife was Fannie Zaley, by whom he had four children: Pauline, John, Bennett W. and one other. Bennett W., father of Frank B., came to Fulton county,

and later settled in Mayfield, where he followed lumbering. He died February 26, 1864, and his wife November 29, 1862. They had four children, two of whom survived: Sarah J., who married and died childless in 1880; and Frank B. Mrs. Frank B. Towman died June 28, 1892, at St. Johnsville, leaving her husband and one daughter, who was born June 19, 1892, and named after her mother after her death.

Voorhees, J. Enders, Amsterdam, was born at Fort Hunter on the 17th of September, 1836, and was the son of John Leslie Voorhees of that place, who died at the old home at Fort Hunter. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm, but when a young man he took up his abode in Amsterdam. In 1867 he entered the Farmers' National bank as book-keeper, a position he held until 1881. Upon the organization of the Greene Knitting Company he became a member and was elected president and acted in that capacity until his death. He was president of the Farmers' National bank of this city, of the Edison Electric Light and Power company and many other institutions of this city. He was a wise and prudent counselor, his advice was of much value, which had much to do with the prosperity of the bank. Mr. Voorhees took a deep interest in Masonry and was a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. and A. M., Amsterdam Chapter No. 81, R. A. M., Dewitt Clinton Council No. 22, Temple Commandery No. 2 of Albany, N. Y., Albany Sovereign Consistory, also of Cyprus Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., Albany, and member of the Holland Society, New York. On the 13th of November, 1866, he was united in marriage to Cornelia A. Becker of Port Jackson (now Amsterdam), who survives him with one daughter, Mrs. William G. Waldron. He also leaves a brother, James Voorhees, of the Greene Knitting company, and three sisters: Sarah J., and Elizabeth of Amsterdam, and Kate L. of Fort Hunter. Mr. Voorhees was "known and read of all men," as a square, upright, business Christian gentleman.

Van Vechten, John H., Florida, one of four children of David and Sarah C. (Hubbs) Van Vechten, was born May 29, 1825, on the old homestead purchased by his great-grandfather July 25, 1771, for fifty pounds, he having lived there since 1766. The original deed, in a good state of preservation, is in the possession of Mr. Van Vechten. His great-grandfather, Hubartus Van Vechten, was born at Catskill October 31, 1725. He was a soldier in the revolutionary army, and died July 4, 1778. His wife was Mary Spore. His son Derrick, the next in line, was born at Catskill October 24, 1753, and served all through the revolutionary war, receiving not even a scratch. He was in the battles of Oriskany, Saratoga and many others. His wife was Rachel Spore. He died November 17, 1847, being then in his ninety-fifth year. His son David, father of John H., was born on the old homestead in Florida, March 1, 1799. He died there November 11, 1862. His wife, Sarah C. Hubbs, was born November 4, 1808. John H. Van Vechten married, February 13, 1850, Isabella Keachie, who was born in Florida January 12, 1822, and who died June 7, 1891. They had two children, Carrie Bell, who died in childhood, and Agnes Mary, now Mrs. Alfred Dougall, who with her husband, lives upon the property in a house near by. The record of this family is uncommon in these days of changing property. Five generations of the Van Vechten family lie in their burying-ground near the old home.

Van Deusen, Edwin Smith, Minden, was born in Canajoharie December 1, 1854, and is the third son of a family of five children of Justus and Nancy (Judd) Van Deusen. He attended the local schools, the Cherry Valley Academy, and the Fort Plain Seminary. In 1876 he commenced to read law with Judge John D. Wendell of Fort Plain, and was graduated from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He was admitted to the bar at the fall term of 1879 and from 1880 to 1883 was managing clerk in the law office of J. D. & F. F. Wendell. On the retirement of the junior member in 1883, Mr. Van Deusen became a partner, under the firm name of Wendell & Van Deusen, which copartnership continued until 1889, since which time he has practiced alone. In politics he is a Republican. He married Emma, daughter of Henry C. Sanders of Minden.

Vedder, John J., Glen, was born in Glen May 12, 1867, and is a son of David F. and Mary E. Shelp Vedder. The other children were Francis B., Anna Maria, and Nelson D., deceased. John J. was married October 5, 1887, to Gertrude Hanson, daughter of Henry D. and Sarah Maria (Lottridge) Hanson of Mohawk. She was one of five children, the others being William L., Charles, Clarence H. and Bertha Hanson. Mr. and Mrs. Vedder have two children, David H. and Bertha M.

Van Antwerp, John N., Glen, was born in Glen February 13, 1855. He was one of two children of Peter and Rachel (Enders) Van Antwerp, the other being Putnam Van Antwerp, deceased. Peter, the father, was one of six children of John L. and Susan (Quackenbush) Van Antwerp, both natives of Rotterdam, who in early life came to Glen, where they lived and died. The other children were: Rebecca (Mrs. George Davis); Margaret (Mrs. Martin Kliue, deceased); Mary Ann (Mrs. William Irving); Lewis; and Susan (Mrs. Simon Van Antwerp, deceased). Rachel (Enders) Van Antwerp, the mother, was one of seven children of Peter and Eleanor (Newkirk) Enders, the others being Garrett, Eleanor (Mrs. Tunis Van Derveer), Christie Ann (Mrs. Eckerson), Jacob, John and Samuel Enders. Simon Van Antwerp, father of John N., was born in Rotterdam, as was also his wife, Rebecca (Mabee) Van Antwerp. His father, also named Simon, emigrated from Holland at an early day and settled in Rotterdam. The chest in which some of his effects were brought to this country is now in the possession of his great-granddaughter, Mrs. George Davis. John N. Van Antwerp was married January 8, 1878, to Lina S., daughter of Hiram and Catharine (Schuyler) Hubbs of Florida, she being one of three children. They have had two children: Roy Hubbs, who died when ten years of age; and Ethel Van Antwerp. Mr. Van Antwerp was engaged for many years in the flour, feed and grain business with his father at Fultonville, but is now engaged in the manufacture of knit goods at Amsterdam, employing about 140 workers and producing about 125 dozen per day, the factory being known as the Pioneer Knitting Mill.

Van Horne, Schuyler, Glen, one of the nine children of Cornelius C. and Hannah (Van Horne) Van Horne, was born on the family homestead in Glen, September 25, 1831. His father, Cornelius C., was also born on the homestead January 15, 1794. His wife, Hannah Van Horne, was born in the town of Florida July 4, 1796. His grandfather, Cornelius, was born at White House, N. J., March 10, 1745, afterwards

removed to Glen, where he married at the age of twenty-one Eva Frederick of Florida. He died February 26, 1823. From him the ancestry is traced directly back to the year 1634, when Jacques Van Horne was one of the committee of two of the board of trade of New York, on resolutions to form a plan to colonize the Netherlands. Schuyler Van Horne married, October 12, 1853, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Lydia (Parks) Shelp of Glen. They have three children: Cornelius S., Alice, wife of William H. Voorhees, and Hannah, wife of Frank Edwards. Cornelius S., the son, married Mary A. Van Horne of Florida, September 27, 1876, she being a daughter of Cornelius D. and Adaline Van Horne. They have three children: Nellie C., Hannah M., and Cornelius H.

Shults, Christopher W., Palatine, was born in Palatine October 10, 1817. His father was William Shults, and his grandfather, Henry Shults, also born in Palatine, and one of three brothers who were taken prisoners in the revolutionary war, and the only one who returned. He married a widow, Mrs. Empie, by whom he had three daughters and seven sons. At the close of the war he settled where his grandson, Walter Shults, now lives. The latter married Mary Rieted, and they had ten children. Parents and children were members of the Lutheran church. He died in 1846, and his wife in 1850. Christopher W. Shults received a common school education, and in 1846 married Lucinda (born May 27, 1824), daughter of Casper and Elizabeth (Bander) Getman. They had the following children: William C., Arvillura (deceased), Clark L., Martha and Cora. When Mr. Shults was three years of age he was brought by his parents to where he now lives. He helped to clear the farm he now owns. He has followed farming and lumbering. He and his family attend the Lutheran church.

Vrooman Family, The.—Henry Vrooman was born in the town of Mohawk and married for his first wife a Miss Smith, by whom he had three children, viz.: Benjamin, Catherine (wife of Barney Vedder of Mohawk), and Barney, who died young. He married second a Miss Culver, and their children were William, a resident of Penn Yan; Annette, a resident of New York; and Elizabeth, who married Samuel Myas and is living at Penn Yan. Benjamin, son of Henry, was born in Mohawk, April 26, 1816, and married Mary Garlock. Their children are as follows: Willard, Henry, died aged forty-two years in Mohawk; Elizabeth, wife of Amos Bennett of Buffalo; Arnette, wife of John P. Grant of Fort Plain; Mary E., resides in Mohawk; John and Katey, who died young. Benjamin died in Mohawk, May 18, 1885. Willard, of the above family, was born in Mohawk, March 22, 1844, and resided in his native town until the spring of 1882, when he came to Minden. He married first, Elizabeth Sammons of Mohawk. His second wife was Harriet Suits of Mohawk, by whom he has two children, Clarence and Elsie Elizabeth.

Van Derveer, Ira, Glen, was born in Glen November 7, 1850. He was one of four children of Tunis and Eleanor (Enders) Van Derveer, the others being Virginia, John Enders and Henrietta (who died in infancy). Tunis, the father, was born December 6, 1822, on the homestead in Glen. He was one of seven children of John and Anna (Voorhees) Van Derveer of Florida. Tunis, the great-grandfather, was born in New Jersey and came to Glen in early life. Eleanor Enders, the mother, was one of nine

children of Peter and Eleanor (Newkirk) Enders, of Florida, the latter being a daughter of Garrett and Rachel (Gardenier) Newkirk of Florida; the former born January 21, 1760, and the latter February 24, 1763. Ira Van Derveer married, June 25, 1890, Cora, one of three children of John and Sarah (Stokes) Lewis of Johnstown. John Enders Van Derveer married in 1891, Elizabeth, daughter of Joel and Augusta (Putnam) Van Horne, of Amsterdam. The farm where Ira and his parents live is known as "Willowdale Stock Farm" owned by the Van Derveer brothers, and is noted for its blooded imported Percheron and French coach horses.

Vedder, John O., Glen, was born in Glen, May 27, 1827, being one of six children of John and Elizabeth Ostrom Vedder; the others were David, Nancy, Abigail (deceased), Maria, and Elizabeth (deceased). John, his grandfather, was born in Albany county and came to Glen and settled in early life. His wife, Eva (Clute) Vedder, was also born in Albany county. Elizabeth (Ostrom) Vedder's father, John Ostrom, was a native of New Jersey. His wife was Anne Lane (see sketch of Stephen Ostrom). John O. Vedder married in 1854, Jane Ann Lasher of Root, one of nine children of George I. E. and Catherine (Smith) Lasher, the others being Catherine (Mrs. Abram P. Yates); Minerva (Mrs. L. Van Burgin); Margaret (deceased); Charlotte (Mrs. Delevan Yates); Louise (Mrs. Charles Lattimore); George (deceased), and William and Herman Lasher. They have two children, Elizabeth (Mrs. Mount Edwards), and Anna C. Vedder.

Van Heusen, Franklin, Glen, was born in the town of Johnstown (now Mohawk) April 28, 1812, being one of ten children of Wynant and Elizabeth (Cooper) Van Heusen. Wynant, the father, was born in Albany and came to Tribes Hill and settled in early life, his wife being a native of Long Island. Franklin Van Heusen was married in 1837 to Elizabeth Smith of Glen, a daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Sheldon) Smith. They had four children, two now living: Ruby Elizabeth (Mrs. Henry Persse of Denver), and Diantha Louisa (Mrs. Wellington Cross of Fultonville). Mr. Van Heusen has lived nearly all his life at Tribes Hill as a farmer but is now living with his daughter, Mrs. Cross in Fultonville.

Van Buren, Daniel F., Glen, one of two children of William and Harriet (Faulkner) Van Buren, was born in Glen April 19, 1842, the other being Barney Van Buren, of Fonda. His grandfather, Barney Van Buren, who married Susan Marlett, came to Glen from Otsego county in early life. Daniel F. Van Buren married, October 22, 1879, Charlotte E., one of three children of Henry and Catharine (Becker) Mabee; the others being Maria, wife of Jacob Argersinger; and Susan, wife of Conrad Shutts. Her paternal grandfather was Peter H. Mabee, and his wife was Maria Quackenbush; her great-grandfather, Harmanus Mabee, lived upon the farm, a part of the original grant of 1,000 acres, accorded to the Mabees. Her great-great-grandfather was Capt. Hendrick Mabee, who lived on the homestead, and was an officer in the revolutionary war. Her maternal grandfather was Mathias Becker of Florida, and his wife was Helen Martin, daughter of Peter and Susan (Beyeau) Martin. Her maternal great-grandfather, Peter Martin, was killed by the Indians, and his house in Florida burned to the ground. His wife and three children were taken prisoners, and afterwards rescued by

General Butler, the general taking her grandmother on his horse with him and wrapping her in his fur-lined cloak, she being but a small child.

Van Evera, Roof, Canajoharie, was born October 22, 1819, and has always lived on the farm where he now resides, and is a son of Cornelius N. and Maria (Roof) Van Evera. The great-grandfather of our subject (Cornelius Van Evera) was one of the original settlers in this town (born in 1732 and died in 1815). His son Nicholas was born in this town September 8, 1770. and married, February 18, 1792, Agnes Van Alstine, from Helderberg, whose people afterwards settled in the town of Root. They were the parents of three children: Cornelius, John and Henry. Cornelius, the father of Roof, was born November 14, 1793, and married, December 14, 1814, Maria Roof, daughter of John and Gertrude (Spraker) Roof. Colonel John Roof was an officer in the revolutionary war. Cornelius was the father of three children: Nicholas C., a retired merchant of Michigan; Maria A. Burdick, died March 3, 1888, aged sixty-five years; and Roof, our subject. The latter was educated in the common schools. In 1848 he took five different contracts in the construction of the canal, which work he was engaged in for two years. March 15, 1842, he married Cornelia M., daughter of Andrew and Catharine (Wessels) Hibbard of Root. They have two children: Josephine, wife of Alonzo Geweye of Canajoharie, and Oscar C., who conducts the home farm. The latter was born December 15, 1849, and received his education in the Canajoharie Academy. He married, December 23, 1873, Carrie, daughter of Charles R. and Gertrude (Stowitts) Kelly of Canajoharie. They have one child, Howard R., born November 13, 1879. Mrs. Van Evera, mother of our subject, is still living in her ninety-sixth year, having been born July 12, 1797.

Van Wie, William, Canajoharie, was born in Palatine, May 24, 1848, and is a son of John D. and Maria (Wormuth) Van Wie. Daniel, the grandfather of the subject, was a native of Palatine, born in 1789. He married Nancy Dillenback of Palatine, and they had ten children, eight of whom survive: George, Henry, John D., Andrew, Jerome, Sarah, widow of Josiah Dillenback; Eve, widow of John Van Deusen of Steuben county; Phoebe, wife of David Quackenbush; Agnes, deceased; and Lavina, who died in Steuben county in 1890. John D., father of William, was the third son. He was born in Palatine January 9, 1819, and married in 1848 Maria, daughter of M. Wormuth of Palatine. They had two children: Helen, wife of Luther Dillenback; and William, our subject. The early life of the latter was spent in Palatine. He was educated in the common schools and at Canajoharie Academy, and in 1870 his father bought the farm in Canajoharie where William now lives, and which they have since made their home. September 3, 1873, William married Lucretia, daughter of Jacob and Ann Leslie (Printup) Wessels of Root. They have five children: Vernon J., born June 24, 1875; Bertha Lesley, born March 29, 1878; Adin, born February 26, 1888; Anna Voorhees, born May 23, 1890; and William A., born June 27, 1892. Mr. Van Wie is a staunch Democrat, a member of Mapletown Grange, and is now trustee of the school in district No. 4.

Van Alstine, Cornelius, Canajoharie, was born in the town of Canajoharie, about a mile east of the village, December 17, 1840, and is a son of Mathias and Rebecca

(Van Evera) Van Alstine. His early life was spent in the town of Canajoharie, where he was educated in the common schools. August 11, 1864, he married Mary J., daughter of John B. Van Alstine of Ames. They have had five children, three of whom are living: Cora B. of Canajoharie; Adelbert, who lives at home; and Ellis. Mrs. Mary J. Van Alstine died July 22, 1826, aged thirty-six years, and he married second Cornelia C., daughter of Martin Smith of Mapletown, March 26, 1878. They have one child, Mary J., born October 12, 1879. Mrs. Van Alstine is a granddaughter of Peter Van Valkenburg and great-granddaughter of Lambert Van Valkenburg, who built the old homestead near the town line nearly 100 years ago. A great many relics of these old days are still in the hands of the family. Mr. Van Alstine was a soldier in Company E, Forty-Third New York Volunteers, serving four years in the Army of the Potomac, and was twice wounded, once very seriously.

Van Alstine, Cornelius, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie, April 6, 1817, and is a son of Cornelius and Maria (Platts) Van Alstine. Cornelius was the first of the family to visit this town. He died in 1828 at the age of fifty-five, leaving six children, of whom three are living: Jane of Marshville, Ephraim of Syracuse, and Cornelius. The latter was educated in the common schools and assisted on the farm until he was twenty-eight, when he married and started for himself, buying a farm near Marshville of over 100 acres. He remained here until 1860 and then as his wife was feeble he gave up farming and spent two years in Canajoharie and two in Marshville and then bought the only store in the village of Marshville. The same year he was appointed postmaster and has held that position ever since. He has a fine trade and is a successful business man. On the 1st of April, 1845, he married Mary, a daughter of Seymour Marsh, from whom this village was named and who is the inventor of the truss so commonly used. Mr. Van Alstine has been the father of eight children, six of whom are living: Seymour of Boston; Annie, wife of James W. Dygert, the supervisor of Canajoharie; Mary, wife of John W. Smith of Marshville; Charles P. of Philadelphia; Benjamin G. of Marshville; and Viva, wife of Roselle Cross of Albany. Mr. Van Alstine is quite an active politician, not as an office seeker but for the success of the Republican party. He is known among the citizens of this place as an honest upright man. Mrs. Van Alstine died May 9, 1868, aged forty-eight. Benjamin G. Van Alstine was born in this town, July 7, 1860, and is now conducting the general store at Marshville. He also does a butchering business and conducts a meat market in this place. August 5, 1888, he married Frank, a daughter of John F. and Aurelia (Reynolds) Brownell of Northville. They have one child, Guy B., born May 20, 1889. Mr. Van Alstine is one of the first business men of this town.

Van Ness, Henry, Canajoharie, was born in Schodack, Rensselaer county, March 20, 1821, and is a son of Philip and Marie (Springstead) Van Ness. John Van Ness, the grandfather of Henry, was a native of this State, and he was the father of five children, of whom three were boys, one of whom was Philip, father of Henry. He was born in Rensselaer county and always lived there until his death about 1827. He was the father of six children, two of whom are living: Ann, widow of Barent Hoes of Rensselaer county, and Henry. When the latter was but six years old his father died and four or five years after his mother married William Cronkhite of Minden. Henry lived

with his grandmother Springstead until he was seventeen, when she died. He then worked among the farmers of Minden for four or five years. On March 9, 1842, he was married to Hannah Cronkhite, daughter of John C. and Kate (Walrath) Cronkhite. They had six children, four of whom are living: Irving, a farmer of Canajoharie; Sarah J., wife of Eugene Link of Canajoharie; Ellen, wife of Amaziah Fake of Minden; and Idela, widow of Wm. Link, lives at home. Mrs. Van Ness died in 1884, at sixty-six years of age. In 1854 Mr. Van Ness bought the old homestead, a fine farm of 140 acres, increasing it by later purchases to 180 acres; in 1887 he sold the farm, with the exception of about four acres, to his son Irving who now conducts it. Mr. Van Ness has built a fine house on his reserved piece and also new barns and other out buildings. He is a Republican. On November 4, 1885, Mr. Van Ness was married to Sarah Cronkhite, the youngest sister of his first wife.

Van Slyke, Margaret, Canajoharie, a daughter of George and Catherine (Eacker) Lasher, is the widow of the late John S. Van Slyke, who was born January 19, 1810, at Flat Creek, town of Root, a son of Samuel I. and Catherine (Mitchell) Van Slyke. Samuel was also a native of this country, but his father (the grandfather of John S.) was John Van Slyke, who came to this country from Holland. As near as can be traced he settled in Root, and was the father of seven children of whom Samuel was the second son. He married when about thirty-five years old, Catherine, a daughter of Wm. Mitchell, who came to this country from Scotland. They were the parents of five children: John S., Andrew, Robert, Richard, and Maria, who died in infancy. Samuel I. died February 7, 1851, aged eighty-five. His wife died May 9, 1828, aged fifty. John S. married, January 3, 1833, Margaret, daughter of George and Catherine (Eacker) Lasher. The latter was a sister of George Eacker of Palatine, whose name is famous in history as having fought a duel with Philip Hamilton, a son of Alexander Hamilton, in which Hamilton was killed. In 1850 John S. Van Slyke bought the farm where our subject now resides. It is a beautiful place containing 143 acres of good land devoted to the cultivation of hay and grain. He was the father of eight children: Catherine S., Anna M., Lydia M., Andrew, George, Eliza A., Agnes M. and Isabella C., but of these only three are now living: George, who lives in Palatine; Eliza A., who lives with her mother; and Agnes M., the wife of Joseph G. Thrall of Gloversville. They have one child, Margaret S., who was born November 6, 1879. John S. died January 14, 1890. Mrs. Van Slyke's grandfather Eacker was in the revolutionary war.

Van Wie, Peter, Canajoharie, was born February 6, 1853, at the old home at Stone Ridge, and is a son of Luther and Mary M. (Collyer) Van Wie. Aurie Van Wie (son of John), the grandfather of Peter, was a native of Palatine, born about 1800. He married Margaret Neahr, and they had nine children, viz.: Henry, John, Luther, Benjamin, Fletcher, Catherine, Agnes, Martha and Mary. Luther, third son and father of our subject, was also born in Palatine, July 27, 1832, and married, January 1, 1852, Mary M., daughter of Peter and Catherine (Smith) Collyer of Root. They had nine children, four of whom survive, as follows: Minerva, wife of Euclid Garlock of Canajoharie; Cora, wife of Warren Lehman of Fonda; Arthur, a glove cutter of Gloversville; and Peter. The latter received his education in the common schools, and married, October

28, 1874, Luella, daughter of Philip A. and Louise (Wessels) Rickard of Root. They have five children: Lula M., born February 23, 1877; Sheldon H., born January 11, 1880; Lela, born December 11, 1881; Roy A., born March 5, 1886; and Elias E., born August 15, 1888. At the death of his father, July 7, 1884, Mr. Van Wie assumed the control and ownership of the homestead farm. He and his family are members of the Mapletown Reformed church.

Van Deusen, Henry A., Canajoharie, Sprout Brook p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence December 19, 1812, and is a son of Michael and Christina (Allen) Van Deusen. The earliest ancestor we can trace was Isaac Van Deusen, who was born December 18, 1704, at Great Barrington, Mass. He married Fische Burgart January 29, 1730, and they had a son named John (grandfather of our subject), born March 19, 1737, and was married June 16, 1762, to Catherine Hollenbeck, and they were the parents of seven children. Michael was the fifth son. He was born January 27, 1778, was married February 14, 1808, at Schodack to Christina Allen. They were the parents of eleven children, eight are living: Margaret, now Mrs. David C. Winne, a widow of Salamanca; Justice, Harlow A., a doctor of Sprout Brook; William A., equal partner of H. A. Van Deusen in the homestead, also of Sprout Brook; Oliver B., of Gowanda, Cattaraugus county; Francis, of Van Horn, Iowa; Mary M., widow of Chas. Hibbard of Sprout Brook; and Henry A., our subject. Michael Van Deusen came to Canajoharie in 1811 and bought the farm known as the old homestead, a farm then of fifty acres but now of 150 acres. Our subject was educated in the public school and Whitesboro Academy. After leaving school he engaged as clerk with a dry goods merchant of Canajoharie. May 14, 1854, he married Eliza Clum of Canajoharie. When his father came to this section, in addition to the farm he bought a saw-mill and cloth-dressing and wool-carding mill. After he left the village store he went into business with his father until his father's death, February 1, 1853. His mother died March 3, 1860. In 1849 they built a new mill; they first manufactured cloth, and about 1865 turned their mill into a woolen yarn manufactory which they followed until 1884. Since 1857 Henry A. has been postmaster of the village with the exception of three years during Cleveland's administration.

Van Wie, Fletcher, Root, was born in Palatine March 17, 1841, a son of Aurie and Margaret (Nare) Van Wie. The grandfather of Fletcher was John, who was a son of Hendrich H. Van Wie, who came to this country from Holland prior to the revolution and settled in Albany county, where he died in 1774. He purchased 300 acres in Palatine, and gave it to his children. John Van Wie settled on this tract and lived the rest of his days. He had five sons and two daughters. His son Aurie, the father of Fletcher, was born December 16, 1798, and in 1852 came to Root, bought 300 acres and resided there until his death, February 6, 1877. He was a Lutheran in religious belief, and a Whig and Republican in politics. His wife died May 28, 1869. She had five sons and four daughters: John, Henry, Benjamin, Luther, Fletcher, Catharine, Agnes, Martha and Mary. Fletcher was reared on the farm and received a common school education. At the age of about fifteen he took charge of his father's farm, and lived with and cared for him until his death. He now owns 150 acres. In politics he is a Republican. He

married, July 4, 1861, Anna M. Edwards, who was born in Glen, a daughter of William H. and Eleanor (Mount) Edwards, natives of Montgomery county. William H. Edwards was a son of John Edwards, whose father came from Wales. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie have five children: Aurie G., William H., Margaret, wife of John R. Blood; John E. and one who died in infancy. The family are members of the Reformed Church.

Wilde, Charles, jr., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam April 16, 1856, and is a son of Edward and Harriet (Plantz) Wilde. Edward Wilde was a son of Joshua Wilde. The early life of Charles, jr., was spent with his grandfather Plantz at Albany Bush, where he attended the district school. His father died in August, 1857, and his mother married again in 1867. Charles lived with her part of the time until 1875, when he engaged with H. B. Shepard in his grist-mill at Fort Johnson, where he remained five years, during which time he married Sarah M. Hanson of Amsterdam. Their union has been blessed with one child, Laura B., born January 4, 1881. In 1880 Mr. Wilde bought the farm of ninety-seven acres, a part of John McDonald's estate. The house, although now repaired into a modern building, was standing here before the revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Wilde are both industrious and ambitious and therefore prosperous and happy.

Wittemeier, Frederick, sr., Tribes Hill, came to this country from Germany in 1850 when sixteen years of age, and located in Schenectady, where he married Louisa Wessel in 1858, and his son Frederick was born. Frederick, sr. came to Tribes Hill in 1860, and engaged in farming. In 1861 he started the manufacture of brooms in which he is still engaged. He is assisted by his five sons in this business, and they conduct an extensive manufacture—about 40,000 a year. He is the father of seven children: Henry, William, John, Charles, Ella, now Mrs. W. H. Oterson; Louise, and Frederick, jr., our subject. The manufacture of brooms is conducted by the last named on his father's farm of ninety acres, well adapted to hay and grain. Henry is the only son married; his wife was Carrie Van Buren of Schenectady; they are the parents of two children: Florence and Henry Harold. The factory employs twenty workers and manufactures 20,000 dozen yearly, and it is run by steam power; they procure broom corn from Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, and handles from Wisconsin and Fulton county. They have a fine farm and very pretty residence. Previous to his marriage Mr. Wittemeier, sr. had traveled through the west and was very prosperous as a contractor in the copper mines at Lake Superior. He also worked at his broom trade at Buffalo, and was engaged in the manufacture of brooms at Columbus, Ohio.

Ward, James H., Amsterdam, was born in Schenectady September 13, 1827; he was educated in the public schools of that city and at the age of fourteen he became a clerk for five years. Afterwards he learned to be a machinist; he was married twice, first on February 2, 1850, to Elizabeth H. Cole of West Troy, by whom he had two children, a son and a daughter: J. Edwin, who married Elizabeth Tilford of Amsterdam and resides at Bradford, Pa.; and Lillie J., who married William A. Shepard and resides in Syracuse. Mrs. Ward died May 26, 1880. August 21, 1882, for his second wife he married Mrs. Kate A. Draper (Swits) of Schenectady. Mrs. Ward had two children by her first husband, Mr. Draper, one son and one daughter: Mary Belle, who married J.

Howard Pettit of Amsterdam; they have one son, Ward H.; and J. Clarence, who married Jessie French of Adrian, Mich., and reside in Detroit. Mr. Ward came to this city in the year 1867 and was in the foundry business in the fifth ward under the firm name of Ward, Perkins & Company. He has been superintendent of the Chuctenunda Gas Light Company of Amsterdam for fifteen years. Mr. Ward's father, Jabez, was a native of New Jersey and came to Schenectady as early as 1812; he married Electa Dean, and had twelve children, eight of whom lived to be over fifty years old. Only two are living: James H. and Spencer C., who resides in Rochester.

Winegar, Charles P., Amsterdam, was born in Greene county on the 10th of November, 1835, and moved to Albany county with his parents when a year old. He was educated in the public schools and Rensselaerville Academy, and graduated from Madison University in 1857, and in the year 1858 he was admitted to the bar at Plattsburgh. He published the first daily newspaper in Amsterdam and was a newspaper man as proprietor and editor twelve years. On the 10th of November, 1858, he married Mary E., only daughter of Thomas B. and Catherine Sammons of Amsterdam. They have three children, two daughters and a son. One of the daughters, Flora, married Prof. A. P. Brigham of Colgate University; and the other, Abigail S., married Harvey L. Finch, a merchant of Saratoga Springs. The son, William Hoadley, who is a student at Colgate University. Mr. Winegar's father, Rev. Reuben Winegar, married Ann H. Hoadley of Swanton, Vt., and was a prominent minister in the Baptist denomination in the state of New York for over fifty years. They had three children, two sons and a daughter: Daniel H., Charles P., and Mary A. The family was distinguished in the early history of the valley. The Sammons family and their ancestors were in all of the patriotic wars.

Wright, George, Amsterdam, was born in Florida December 31, 1843, and was educated in the public schools. He was a farmer until he attained the age of twenty-two, when he learned the carpenter's trade; in 1868 he came to Amsterdam and worked for others until 1871 when he began as a contractor, a business he still continues. He has married twice first on December 23, 1869, to Julia Hart; she died September 3, 1870. On March 25, 1875, he married Mary Ellsworth of Canajoharie. They have a daughter, Grace C. Mr. Wright is a member of Woodbine Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and of the American Mechanics.

Whitecomb, Calvin, Amsterdam, was born on the 22d of February, 1838, in Johnstown, and in early life was a farmer in Glen. In the spring of 1866 he came to Amsterdam and entered the employ of Fieldhaner & Van Buren, grocers, as clerk. In 1871 he removed to Port Jackson and opened a grocery store, which he has since continued. By his courtesy and fair dealing he has won the confidence of the public and enjoys a large and profitable trade. He is an earnest and steadfast Republican, and since he became of age he has taken an active part in politics. He held the position of postmaster of Port Jackson for about thirteen years. In 1882 he was elected supervisor of the town of Florida and in 1887 he was re-elected; he served as chairman of the board that year, being the first Republican to serve in that capacity for many years; he was again put in nomination and elected. That spring Port Jackson was

annexed to Amsterdam, which caused another election of supervisor for the Fifth ward. Mr. Whitcomb was again renominated and re-elected, and has also been chairman of the Republican county committee. Mr. Whitcomb is a member of the Baptist denomination and has been trustee about fifteen years and treasurer five years. All his honors have come unsought and have been the result of a desire on the part of the community for faithful and intelligent service. In September, 1865, he married Harriet, fourth daughter of Jacob Newkirk. They had three children, two sons and a daughter: Beecher, who died in infancy; Frazier C., who is a clerk for his father; Lilly, who resides with her parents. Mr. Whitcomb's father, Levi, was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1797, and when a young man came to this state and married Maria Miller of this county. They had three children, two sons and a daughter: Luther, Mary, and Calvin. Mr. Whitcomb's mother died in 1840. His father married second, Phebe Hall, and had one daughter, Jane.

White, George B., Amsterdam, was born on the 6th of April, 1849, in the town of Milford, Otsego county, and came with his parents to Duaneburg when he was four years old. He was educated in the Albany Normal School and was prepared for college at Union School, Schenectady. In 1870 he entered Union College, graduating in 1874. He taught school, alternating with the study of law. He first read law with Ralph E. Prime of Yonkers, afterwards with E. Winslow Paige of Schenectady, and with Judge M. L. Stover of Amsterdam. In the year 1877 he was admitted to the bar. He first practiced in Troy, and in 1881 he formed a copartnership with Z. S. Westbrook, of Amsterdam, and remained with him for three years; since then he has practiced law alone. He was for two years justice of the peace of Amsterdam, and in the spring of 1881 he was elected city recorder. On the 30th of January, 1884, he was married to Barbara T. Carver of Whitehall. They have two children, a son and a daughter: Georgia P. and Percy. The ancestry of the family is English and Scotch.

Wait, Henry, Amsterdam, Hagaman's Mills p. o., was born in the town of Maryland, Otsego county, February 2, 1819, son of Philip and Lucretia (Rouse) Wait. His boyhood days were spent at home until the age of nine, when he was left to shift for himself. When he was fourteen his father bound him out to a merchant by the name of John Becker, of South Wooster, for four years. Then he went to Albany and accepted a position as clerk in Laisdell & Fasset's dry goods store. He remained in Albany until 1842, when his health failed. Then he went to Knox where his father lived on a farm, but his health was not restored. The next year he went back to Albany and went into partnership with his brother in a boot and shoe store on Broadway, near Steuben street. In 1850 he gave up this business, but remained in Albany county for three years, after which he went to New York, engaging with Howes, Hyatt & Co. as a salesman, which occupation he followed until 1857, when he came to the town of Amsterdam, where he has since resided, and now owns a grain farm of ninety-seven acres. January 12, 1856, he married Susan A. Barney, daughter of Manley and Rachael (Miller) Barney of Saratoga county, who died March 26, 1888. They were the parents of one child, William Henry, born March 12, 1865.

Walts, Gasheree, was born in Stark in 1830, and died in Minden, August 8, 1875. He married Diana Miller, and they had three children: Mary, wife of Herman Failing, of

Minden; David; and Burton, a resident of Stark. Gasheree was a cheesemaker by trade, and established the Frey's Bush factory in 1862, with which he was connected at the time of his death. David, the oldest son of the above, was born in Stark, February 4, 1854, and attended the district school of his native town of Minden. He had learned his father's trade at the age of seventeen years, and is still conducting the Frey's Bush factory. He opened a hotel and store at Frey's Bush in 1890. A Republican in politics, he has been postmaster at Frey's Bush since 1886. He married Ida, daughter of Jabez Pickard, and they have one child, Nellie.

Wemple, H. Seymour, town of Minden, was born in Mohawk April 26, 1862, and is the second son in a family of seven children of Robert and Sarah (Vrooman) Wemple. He attended the local schools and Cazenovia Seminary, leaving the latter institution in 1880. His father owns the county asylum, and Mr. Wemple after leaving school, till 1882, assisted his father in the management of its affairs. In the latter year he went to New Haven and for one year was cashier in John H. Starin's office in that city. He then came to Fort Plain and purchased from John Zetty his present business, dealing in coal and farming implements. In politics a Democrat, he has been trustee of the village four years. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, of the Order of Red Men, Knights of Pythias, and now is master of Fort Plain Lodge No. 433, F. & A. M. He married Jennie, daughter of the late Samuel Fisher of Fultonville, and has two daughters, Mary Louisa and Gertrude Nare Wemple.

Wiles Family, The.—Peter J., son of John, was born in Minden July 26, 1821, and married Melinda, daughter of John Brookman. She was born in Minden December 22, 1823, and died May 2, 1879. Peter died February 20, 1877. They had children as follows: Mary, born September 8, 1843, widow of Conrad Walster, resides in Minden; Lary Catharine, born November 16, 1845, wife of John P. Casler of Minden; John, born March 23, 1849; Elmira, born September 9, 1856, wife of Tuleson Duncel of Minden; David, born March 18, 1859, resides in Minden; Abraham, born July 31, 1861; William, born July 2, 1863; and a daughter born January 28, 1842, and died August 28, 1842. William married Lary, daughter of James Alter of Minden, and they have two children, Reny and Leah. Mr. and Mrs. Duncel have two children, Fayette and Cary. John, the oldest son, also a native of Minden, married Emma, daughter of George Flint. They have had three children, Alvin, who died in infancy; Florence, born June 30, 1882; and Effie, born December 24, 1887. Mr. Wiles is a carpenter by trade, but since 1877 has been engaged in farming.

Wood, Edwin Wellington, Minden, was born in Middlefield, Otsego county, March 25, 1820, and is the youngest son in a family of four children of Levi and Olive Wood. His father was a farmer, and his early life was spent in agricultural pursuits, and attending the winter terms of the district school. He was also a student at the Clinton Liberal Institute. In 1840 he became identified with the grocery business, and in 1842 he was a member of the firm of Davis & Wood of Cooperstown. He disposed of his interest in this firm in 1844 and came to Fort Plain, and from that time until 1881 was engaged in the grocery business in the store now occupied by Wood & Smith. During this time he had various partners, and part of the time was alone in business. The firm

originally consisted of himself, William Clark and Charles Newkirk, the firm name being Clark, Newkirk & Wood. On the retirement of Mr. Newkirk the firm was Clark & Wood. Then James Hall and William Clark, jr., became partners with Mr. Wood, the firm being Wood, Clark & Hall. Mr. Hall disposed of his interest, and the firm of Wood, Clark & Co. was formed, the company being Mr. Wood's son Herbert, which continued until Mr. Wood's retirement in 1881. In 1864 he helped to organize the Fort Plain bank and became one of its directors, and in 1875 was elected president, which position he also filled for the Fort Plain National bank, which was an outgrowth of the former institution. In 1869, in connection with James Skipman, who had removed his spring and axle works from Springfield to Fort Plain, he helped to form the Fort Plain Spring and Axle company, and is now one of the four owners of the plant, and holds the position of vice-president. He is also one of the five owners of the Fort Plain Knitting Works and is president of the Fort Plain Gas and Electric Light company. A Republican in politics, he has never been an aspirant to political honors. Mr. Wood is interested in educational matters, and it was mainly through his efforts that the Clinton Liberal Institute was removed from Clinton to Fort Plain, and the site where the buildings now stand, also the cost of the buildings and the land at that time was given by him to the institution. He is a member of the board of trustees. He married for his first wife, Emily, daughter of Herbert Coburn, and their children are: Rexy, wife of William Clark; Herbert C., Albert S. and Emma, wife of E. E. Elwood. His second wife is Alice, daughter of Chandler D. Faulkner of Utica, and they have one child, Chandler.

Wendell, Frederick Fox, Minden, was born in Canajoharie September 18, 1848, and is sixth son in a family of ten children of Benjamin and Sarah (Fox) Wendell. After receiving a common school education he attended the Fort Plain and Cooperstown Seminaries and graduated in 1868 in a preparatory course from Cazenovia Seminary. In the fall of that year he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, from which he graduated in the fall of 1872. He commenced reading law with his brother, John D., and in 1874 formed a partnership with him, which was dissolved in 1883 on account of Mr. Wendell receiving the appointment of general tax agent for the West Shore railroad. The duties of this office comprise all the legal business of the road in reference to the taxes and real estate. A Republican in politics, Mr. Wendell has never been called upon by his fellow citizens to hold public office. He married Emma, daughter of Isaac Bush of Turin, Lewis county, who also graduated from Cazenovia Seminary. They have one child, Irma B.

Weller, Lester Myron, Minden, was born in Minden May 12, 1856, the youngest child in a family of seven children of Jordan and Ann Maria (Dieffendorf) Weller. He attended the public schools of Fort Plain and on December 14, 1875, he commenced the study of law with Judge John D. Wendell, and was admitted to the bar January 31, 1879. He then commenced the practice of his profession in the office of the late Judge George Yost, and subsequently formed a partnership with John S. Yost, the firm being Weller & Yost. This was dissolved in April, 1884, and Mr. Weller continued in business alone until May, 1885, when he associated himself with his present partner, Joseph L. Moore, the firm being Weller & Moore. This firm has been connected with many important cases, among which may be mentioned the foreclosure of a mortgage given

by George Clarke on over twelve thousand acres, divided into one hundred farms, which were all located in Montgomery county and the consequent litigation which extended over a period of five years. They also in 1891 erected a three story brick office building in Fort Plain, which is acknowledged to be the best building of its kind in Montgomery county. Mr. Weller in politics is a Democrat, but has never been an aspirant to public office. He is the treasurer, also one of the trustees of the Clinton Liberal Institute and Fort Plain Military Academy. He married first, Emma, daughter of Jeremiah Wagner of Fort Plain, by whom he had one child, Harry G. He married second, Clara M., daughter of Chandler D. Faulkner of Utica.

Moore, Joseph Leonard, was born in Albany December 24, 1859, and is the youngest child in a family of two of Dr. Levi and Georgenia (Todd) Moore. After attending the public schools he graduated in 1878 from the Albany Academy. He commenced the study of law with James E. Dewey in Albany, and on the removal of that gentleman to Fort Plain accompanied him. He was admitted to the bar in 1881, and practiced alone until he became a member of the firm of Weller & Moore. Politically he is a Republican. He married Annie L., daughter of Davis W. Bates, an attorney of Cherry Valley. They have one child, Leonard B.

Walts, Reuben, Minden, was born in Minden, December 1, 1845. His grandfather Jacob Walts, came from Stark to Minden in 1834, and bought the farm now occupied by his grandson. He died in Minden in 1852, at the age of sixty-two. He married Mary, daughter of Peter Elwood. Their children were David, Gasheree, Peter, a resident of Steuben county; Isaac, died aged fourteen; Margaret, married Benjamin Failing and died in Steuben county; Polly, married Dexter Pickney, and died at Stark; and Catherine, married Peter Dunckle and died in Minden. David, mentioned above, was born in Stark January 19, 1821, and by his first wife, Nancy, the daughter of Abram Dunckle, had four children: Wesley, who died in 1871 in Minden; Reuben; Rosie, wife of Peter B. Moyer, of Minden; and Mary, who died aged twenty-four. David died in Warren, January 16, 1866. Reuben Walts received only a common school education, and worked on his father's farm, which he has carried on since the latter's death. He married Anna, daughter of John Lumley, and they have had eight children: Mabel, who died aged twelve years; Harry, Edith, who died aged two; Emerson, Ray, who died aged four; Howard, Grace, who died aged five years, and Ivy.

Wagner, Englehardt, was born in Minden, and was the son of Englehardt Wagner. He died in the town of Minden in 1823. He married Elizabeth Countryman, who died in Stark, in 1887, at the age of about one hundred years. Their children were: Mary, who married Martinus Pickard, and died in Minden; Marcus, Andrew, who died in Stark; Sally, widow of Daniel Casler, lives in Minden; Charles, who died in Canajoharie; and Englehardt, who was born in Minden, September 18, 1823, and married Betsey Sneck. Their two children, Charles and Mary Elizabeth, both died in childhood. Marcus, son of Englehardt, was born in Minden, September 30, 1807, where he died June 2, 1857. He married Eliza, daughter of Henry I. Diefendorf. She died in Minden July 7, 1886, aged seventy-six years. The children by this marriage were: Ephraim M., and Eliza C., widow of Jacob H. Pickard, who resides in Minden. Marcus lived

on the farm now occupied by his son. Ephraim M. was born in Minden, August 20, 1836, and married for his first wife, Jane, daughter of Isaac and Mary Ann Zoller. The issue of this marriage was Charlie E., a resident of Gloversville. He married second, Catherine, daughter of Peter Casler. His third marriage was with Clara Roberts. They have had four children: Cora D. and Clarence G., who died in childhood; and Lelah E. and Clara B., now living.

Walrath, Emory, Minden, was born in Minden, February 2, 1860. His grandfather, Jacob Walrath, married first a Miss Wagner, by whom he had five children, viz.: Jacob, William J., Betsy, widow of Garret Sneck, who resides in Jasper; Sally, widow of Moyer Lambert; and Anna, who married Daved Geesler, and died in Minden. Jacob married second, Nancy Deck, and their children were Hiram, Amos, Emily, wife of David Lambert, of Minden; Maria, wife of George Pickard, of Perth; and Almira, who married William Geesler, and died in Minden. William J., the father of Emory, was born in Minden June 25, 1822, and married Lucinda Dunckle. Of their children three reached maturity, viz.: Mary E., wife of William C. House of Minden; Annie M., who married Emory Diefendorf, and died in Minden; and Emory. William J. died August 3, 1885. Emory, of the above family, married Lydia Ifland, and has two children, Willie and Margie. He has always been a resident of Minden, and has carried on farming in connection with the shipping of eggs to New York and other markets.

Winnie, Richard, Glen, was born on the Winnie homestead in Glen, November 3, 1830. He was one of ten children of Major James and Jemima (Van Cise) Winnie. James was born in Ulster county in 1796, and came to Glen in 1803. His father, Luke Winnie, was born in Ulster county also, coming to Glen in early life, where he kept a hotel on the spot where Richard Winnie now lives, until his death, May 18, 1831, at the age of sixty-nine. His son James continued the hotel business for several years after his father's death. He was married in 1855 to Sarah Conover, who died a few years later. He subsequently married Elizabeth Stowitts, who died, leaving one son, James W., who lives with his father on the farm. Two other children died in infancy. He married third, Anna M. E. Ostrom, who is now living. With the exception of eight years in the town of Root, and two years in Fultonville, Mr. Winnie has always lived in Glen, upon the farm where he was born.

Wemple, Edward, Glen, was born October 23, 1843, he being one of six children of William Barent and Rebecca (Yates) Wemple of Fultonville (see sketch of Nicholas Wemple). He graduated from Union College in 1866, studied law for a time, then entered the foundry business with his father. He was elected supervisor of the town in 1874, serving three years; was elected assemblyman in 1877-78; was also elected to congress in 1882; then was elected state senator in 1885. He was also elected state comptroller in 1887, and re-elected in 1889. September 16, 1868, Mr. Wemple married Adelaide F. Groot of Schenectady, by whom he has three children living: Grace Adelaide, wife of W. H. Parker; Alice Maude, and Edward Guy Wemple; three of their children having died young. Mr. Wemple's successful career shows his adaptation to public life in which he has reflected credit on his native place—having been always characterized by honesty, ability, and courtesy.

Wemple, Nicholas, Glen, one of six children of William Barent and Rebecca (Yates) Wemple, was born in Fultonville February 22, 1834; the others being Abram (dead), William H., Edward, Frank P. and Ann Alida (Mrs. Francis W. Kip, jr.). William Barent Wemple, the father, was born in Caughnawaga (now Fonda), August 16, 1809. He moved to Fultonville in early life, where he engaged in many important enterprises, among them the foundry now operated by his sons. He served the town as supervisor and in other capacities for many years. He was married, March 14, 1833, to Rebecca Yates, and died December 16, 1869. His father, Barent I., was also born at Caughnawaga, September 12, 1778. He married Nellie, a daughter of Ralph Schenck. He died April 1, 1811. Johannes B., his father, was also born in the same place, April 18, 1731. He married Maria Veeder of his town and their house was burned, May 22, 1780, by John Johnson's Indians. He was captain in 4th company 3d battalion Tryon county militia, organized August 26, 1775. He joined St. George's Lodge, F. & A. M., Schenectady, April 1, 1775. His father, Johannes (the great-great-grandfather of Nicholas), married Catalina Schermerhorn June 15, 1700. In 1711 he was "of the Mohawk county on the Mohawk river." He was a large land owner, one of the trustees of the Schenectady Patent and with five others contracted with colonial Governor Hunter, October 11, 1711, for the erection of two forts, one at Onondaga, the other at Fort Hunter, within the enclosure of the latter was to be built a chapel. This was familiarly known as Queen Anne's chapel and was destroyed many years ago, but the parsonage is now the residence of D. W. Devenderf. He died October 14, 1749. His father, Myndert, was born in 1649. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1689, and was killed at the massacre of February 9, 1690. His father, Jan Barentse Wemple, was born in Dort, Lower Netherlands, Holland, in the year 1620. He came to America in a Dutch vessel in 1640. He was one of fifteen original settlers of Schenectady county. He died in 1663. His father, Johannes, was born, lived and died in Dort, Lower Netherlands, Holland. Nicholas Wemple was married first to Elizabeth S. Empe of Ephratah, who died April 9, 1869. She was the mother of three children: Carrie and Ella, who died in childhood, and William Barent Wemple, jr., who was born September 29, 1866, and who was married, June 15, 1892, to Gertrude Lillian, a daughter of John B. and Lillian Gertrude (Lipe) Berry of Fonda. Nicholas Wemple married second, Margaret, daughter of William W. and Jane Ann Kline. In 1856 he entered the foundry business with his father, where he has since remained. He has served as president of the village and has been prominently identified with the Masonic order.

Wessell, Joseph P., Glen, was born on the Printup homestead (his mother's home) in Glen September 5, 1850. He was one of two children, the other being Lucretia (Mrs. William Van Wie) of Jacob and Ann Lesley (Printup) Wessell. Andrew Wessell, his grandfather, is believed to have been born in Root. His wife was Nancy Rudolph. The father of Ann Lesley was Joseph, and her mother Lucretia Huguenin Printup. Joseph P. Wessell, married December 9, 1874, Elizabeth M. Bellinger of Root, one of thirteen children of Colonel William and Eliza (Putnam) Bellinger, the others being Mary, Margaret (widow of David Jones), Caroline (Mrs. George W. Putnam), William, Winfield and Clarence, Bellinger and John, Lewis and Andrew, three having died young. Her grandfather was John Bellinger. They have one child,

Mamie L. Wessell. Mr. Wessell has spent nearly all his life on the farm where he was born.

Wemple, Adam Z., Glen, was born in Mohawk January 26, 1855, and was one of seven children of Robert and Sarah (Vrooman) Wemple of Mohawk, the others being Catharine Mary (Mrs. Sylvanus Quackenbush); H. Seymour, Gertrude (Mrs. Ezra Nare); Evanna (Mrs. Peter Schuyler); Sarah (Mrs. Ed. Ryan); and Marshall F. Wemple. Adam Z. was married, October 24, 1877, to Lydia Wilson, daughter of Ira and Sarah Jane (Schuyler) Wilson of Mohawk. They have four children: Harvey D., Florence N., Robert, jr., and J. Schuyler Wemple. Mr. Wemple has lived in the town of Glen twenty-four years and for the past eight years has been in charge of the county alms house.

Warren, R. Devene, Canajoharie, was born in Warren, Herkimer county, October 25, 1862, and is a son of Charles E. and Mary (Van Antwerp) Warren. As far back as we can trace the ancestry of this family they were natives of this State. Richard Warren, grandfather of R. Devene, always made his home in Herkimer county. He was the father of four children, all of whom are living: Roselle, of Richfield Spa.; Helen, wife of R. D. Whiteman, a dry goods merchant of Mohawk; Albert, a boot and shoe merchant of Mohawk; and Charles F., father of our subject, a farmer in Canajoharie. He was born September 14, 1830, in the town of Warren, and made his home there until 1870. February 5, 1856, he married Mary R., daughter of Daniel and Eliza (Armstrong) Van Antwerp. They have had three children: Daniel M., born November 22, 1857, died November 10, 1860; Alice, born March 10, 1859, married James R. Scott of Brooklyn June 16, 1880, and died April 5, 1891, leaving three children—Florence B., Ethel Q., Warren; and R. Devene, subject of our sketch. The early life of the latter was spent in Warren. He was educated in the Mohawk graded schools and at the age of twenty-six engaged as clerk in the general store and post-office of M. Countryman at Ames, where he remained two years, during which time he bought the undertaking business of Grenville Scott (deceased) in the village. In the summer of 1892 he took a course of instruction at Syracuse in the school of embalming, conducted by S. A. Sullivan, receiving his diploma June 30, 1892. Mr. Warren has made a great success of his profession, and is gradually building up a trade second to none in the town. He is a member of the Methodist church at Ames.

Wheeler, Charles W., Canajoharie, was born on the 25th of April, 1834, in Ames and is a son of Willard R. and Laura (White) Wheeler, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Canajoharie. The father, a descendant of Josiah Wheeler, one of the original "Boston Tea Party," was a merchant at Ames many years, a Democrat in politics and was supervisor of the town. He was a member of the Masonic lodge and was one of the founders of the M. E. Church at Ames. He was a son of Isaac Wheeler. Our subject's maternal grandparents came from Connecticut at an early day and settled on a farm in this town; both families were of English origin. Mr. Wheeler was educated at the village school and graduated at the Canajoharie Academy. In early life he engaged in the insurance business, which he has since continued. He was elected justice of the peace in 1865 and has held that office ever since. He studied law and

was admitted to the bar in 1887, and is now actively engaged in the practice of his profession at Canajoharie. On the 30th of January, 1850, he married Nancy E. Cowenhoven of Dutch ancestry. She was a daughter of John E. and Elizabeth (Van Alstine) Cowenhoven. The latter family was among the very early settlers of the county and among the influential families of the Mohawk valley. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler have three children: Willard R., a plumber; John C., a lawyer; and Elizabeth. Mr. Wheeler is a Democrat in politics and is one of the oldest Masons of Hamilton Lodge No. 79; he has been master of the lodge several times and H. P. of Hiram Union Chapter No. 53 R. A. M. He is a genial and much respected citizen.

Wessels, Richard L., Canajoharie, was born at Flat Creek August 16, 1827, a son of Luke, jr., and Aveline (Van Epps) Wessels. The great-grandfather of Richard L., Luke Wessels, was born in Holland and came to this country with his father when a boy. They settled first at New York, between the years 1750 and 1760. His father took up sixty acres of land on Manhattan Island. After the father's death, Luke and a brother left New York, the latter settling at Wessels Hill and Luke at Flat Creek. Luke has four sons: Abram, Isaac, Luke, and Cornelius. The third son, Luke, was the grandfather of our subject. He was born at Flat Creek in 1780, and in 1799 he married Tonica Van Valkenburg of this town. Of their three sons and three daughters but one, Lucretia, is now living. She is the widow of Elias Lasher, of Spraker's Basin. Luke, the son, was the father of Richard L. He was born June 20, 1802, at Flat Creek, and in 1823 married Aveline Van Epps of Fultonville, by whom he had ten children, all living: Abram of Pennsylvania; Evert of Dakota; Elisha of Texas; John of Amsterdam; Luke of Colorado; Tinnetta, wife of George Rowledge of West Galway; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Mead of Hoffman's Ferry; Jane, wife of Jacob Mowers of Currytown; Peter A. of Gifford; and Richard L. The early life of the latter after the age of ten was spent in Cherry Valley, where he married, July 3, 1849, Anna M., daughter of Richard Horning. They have had six children, but two of whom survive: Silas Addison, a physician of Canajoharie; and Nora, wife of John Miller of Ames. In 1867 Mr. Wessels bought his present farm in the village of Ames, a beautiful farm of 223 acres. Mrs. Wessels died May 14, 1889, and Mr. Wessels married second, Hannah E., daughter of Philip Smith of this town. The marriage occurred March 11, 1891. They are active workers in the church, and Mr. Wessels is trustee and class-leader of the Ames M. E. Church.

White, Dr. Joseph, Canajoharie, was born on the 9th of May, 1800, at Chatham, Conn., and when five years of age came with his parents to Middlefield, Otsego county. His early life was spent in hard labor on the farm and at the age of twenty-one he began the study of medicine with his second cousin, Dr. Joseph White of Cherry Valley, who was then one of the leading physicians of the county. In 1821 he joined the Masons and took a great interest in the workings of the society; he was chairman of the committee of foreign correspondence from 1852 to 1872. In 1824 he began to practice at Penfield, but soon after ill health obliged him to seek a milder climate and in 1831 he went to Washington, D. C., and opened a drug store. In 1832 while there he had the cholera, the first time it appeared in the country. In 1835 he bought a drug store in Cooperstown

and in 1838 he exchanged it for a drug store in Canajoharie. For several years in company with Mr. Marsh he was engaged in the manufacture of trusses. He continued the practice of medicine until the fall of 1878 when increasing ill health compelled him to retire. On the 20th of March, 1845, he married Marietta, a daughter of Abraham and Ruth Johnson Roseboom. She was born on the 30th of March, 1813, in the town of Cherry Valley. Her father was a prominent farmer and owned several thousand acres of land in Otsego county; the town of Roseboom was named after him. Dr. and Mrs. White had three children, all living, as follows: John R., born March 25, 1846; Sarah E., born October 27, 1848; and Joseph H., born August 29, 1885. The Whites trace their ancestry to one Elder John White, who came to America about 1695. He was one of the first settlers of Cambridge, Mass., and lived within the college grounds of Harvard.

Worden, Rev. Alonzo T., of Ames, was born in Oneida county, April 15, 1841, and is a son of Calvin and Julia Ann (Teall) Worden, both natives of the State. His father was a descendant of Isaac Worden of Quebec, originally a French family of the name of De Warden. The grandfather of Alonzo T. settled at Stephentown about 1800. His mother was a daughter of Rev. H. V. Teall, who was a pastor of many of the Christian churches of central New York. Our subject at the age of nineteen found himself in Minnesota at the outbreak of the rebellion, and at once became a soldier in Company A, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served three years in the war. He was at the battles of Mill Springs, Shiloh, Chickamauga, and Chattanooga. He was especially mentioned for bravery at the latter battle, in the Minnesota State History. At the close of the war he studied for the ministry and became a pastor in the Free Baptist church. He was eight years pastor at Unadilla Forks, and has been ten years at Ames. The two beautiful churches at Ames and Marshville have been built under his pastorate. He has been a writer for the press for several years. Among others for *Judge and Frank Leslie's Newspaper*. His poems of light character may be found in many collections. He is a pensioner of the war and a member of the G. A. R., and has been selected on many occasions as the orator on Decoration-day. In May, 1870, he married Sarah E., daughter of Peter Whittaker of Oneida county. They have had six children, four of whom are living: May, wife of George Turnbull of Ithaca; Carrie, Kittie, and Hattie. Mr. Worden has been a Prohibitionist in politics since 1880, but formerly was a Republican. He is a member of the Masons of Blue Lodge third degree.

Wiles, Abram, Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in the town of Minden July 20, 1825, a son of John, jr., and Laney (Yorden) Wiles. The great-grandfather of our subject, Joseph Henry Wiles, was born in Germany, and came to this country before the war of the revolution, and was an officer in the continental army during that war. His son John was born in 1776 and was the father of thirteen children; only one is living, Catherine, wife of Henry Yorden of Minden, eighty-eight years of age. John Wiles, jr., father of our subject, was the oldest son; he was born November 19, 1797, and married Laney Yorden, daughter of Adam Yorden of Stark, March 17, 1822. They were the parents of nine children and three are now living: Sarah, who lives with Abram; Menzo, an agent at Johnstown; and Abram, our subject. When the latter

was two years old his parents moved into the town of Canajoharie on the farm now occupied by Charles A. Wiles. Abram lived on that farm until 1861, when he bought the farm of his present residence. It is a fine one of 100 acres. March 14, 1850, he was married to Mary C. Flint of Minden, and their union has been blessed by four children: John C., born September 23, 1851; Charles A., born May 14, 1855; Laney Marie, wife of Jonas Cooper of Canajoharie, born June 24, 1860; A. Edward, born March 28, 1867. Mr. Wiles is one of the leading farmers of this town, owning 225 acres of the best land in the vicinity. He has always been a supporter and attendant of the Presbyterian Church at Buel.

Wilson, William H., Mohawk, son of J. W. and Betsey (Wallace) Wilson, was born in Ballston, December 12, 1814. When he was three weeks old his father moved to the town of Watervliet. William H. received a common school education. When he was fifteen years old he assisted his father, who was engaged upon the railroad, then being built between Albany and Schenectady (the first in the state) by keeping time books and other services. In 1835 his father had a contract on the (then) Utica & Schenectady R. R., now the N. Y. C. R. R., under which William H. acted as foreman, having charge of the workmen. In 1837 he married Evaline Weaver, who bore him five children: John W., a farmer at Canastota; Albert C., who was a soldier in the late war; Floyd B., a distinguished lawyer in New York and well known orator and literateur; Annie E., who resides at home; and Warren, who died in infancy. In 1837 he bought the Halfway House between Albany and Schenectady; in 1844 the hotel was burned, when he built the house that is now standing. In 1852 he moved to Tribes Hill and bought a farm of 100 acres, which he carried on until 1872, when he retired and settled in Fonda. His wife died February 18, 1888. They were members of the Dutch Reformed Church. Mr. Wilson has been assessor and trustee of the village, and town assessor.

Wilson, John W., Mohawk, a son of J. W. and Betsey (Wallace) Wilson, was born July 2, 1821, in Albany county. When he was nineteen years of age his father moved to Amsterdam. In 1848 he, in company with James W. Kline, opened a store at Tribes Hill, and in 1856 opened a general store at Fultonville and carried on that business for a few years. He then sold out and opened a drug store, which he carried on fourteen years. He has been secretary and treasurer of the Montgomery County Agricultural Association. He is a Republican, and a charter member of Fultonville Lodge No. 531, F. & A. M., having joined in 1859. He has been secretary and treasurer several years. He is also a member of Johnstown Chapter No. 78, R. A. M., and a member of the Holy Cross Commandery No. 51, K. T. of Gloversville. In 1853 he married Mary Davis who died in January, 1859, and their only child in the following month. In 1860 he married Louise, daughter of Daniel Spraker, and they have had one child, who died in February, 1865.

Wagner, Nathan, Palatine, was born in Palatine December 20, 1818, and is a son of Peter P. Wagner, a son of John Wagner, whose father was Colonel Peter Wagner, a son of Peter Wagner, who came from Hamburg, Germany, and settled in Schoharie county, and afterwards, in 1772, on the farm now owned by J. Harvey Smith in Pala-

tine, where he died. Col. Peter Wagner was heir to this farm, which remained in the Wagner family many years. John Wagner was born in Palatine, and married a Miss Allen, who bore him the following children: John, Peter P., and Ezariah. He married second, a Miss Bleecker. His death occurred about 1836. Peter P. Wagner was born in Palatine in 1788, was raised on a farm, and married Mary, daughter of John Fiele. Their children were as follows: Nathan, Edward, Ezariah, Lucinda, Mary A., Julia A., and Amelia. Mr. Wagner was assessor and constable, and he and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church. He died in 1826 and his wife in 1836. Nathan Wagner was raised on a farm and was educated at the common schools. His father died when he was seven years of age and his mother when he was thirteen. When he was fifteen he had control of the farm he now owns. He married Nancy, daughter of John Gramps of Palatine, who bore him three children as follows: Peter, John, and Menzo (deceased). Mrs. Wagner died May 23, 1860. May 21, 1862, he married Eliza, daughter of Col. Nicholas Wagner, son of Peter Wagner, whose father was Col. Peter Wagner above mentioned. Nicholas Wagner was born in Palatine and married Elizabeth Keller, who bore him the following children: Nancy, Eliza, Catherine, Gertrude, Julia, Ann and Nicholas. He was in the war of 1812, was a Lutheran, a Mason, and died in 1860; his widow died in 1882.

Wessell, Jacob, A., Root, was born at his present residence January 21, 1837, and is a son of Peter L. and Clarissa (Wessell) Wessell. His grandfather was Luke Wessell, a son of Luke who came from Kinderhook to Charleston prior to the revolution, and in 1765 located on 250 acres of land (where Jacob A. now resides) in Flat Creek. He was a carpenter and millwright, and built the first saw-mill on Flat creek, which he operated. He was a Democrat in politics. He married Jane Hugoner, and they had three sons and three daughters. His son Luke, grandfather of Jacob A., died in July, 1860, aged over seventy years. His wife was Lenetta Van Valkenburg, and they had three sons and three daughters. His son, Peter L., was born on the homestead May 17, 1810, and resided in the town all his life. Of his six children, five survived: Luke, James, Jacob, Elizabeth, and Cyrus. Peter L. died May 6, 1887, and his wife survives him. She was a daughter of Luke and Elizabeth (Vine) Wessell, who were early settlers of the town of Root, and of Holland descent. Jacob A. Wessell received a district school education, and is of the fourth generation who have lived on the homestead. He is a Democrat in politics, and is active in the service of his party. He married, December 6, 1860, Ellen Fox, who was born in Schoharie county, a daughter of Charles and Catharine (Wagner) Fox, natives of Schoharie and Montgomery counties respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Wessell have two children: Clara, wife of J. Cook Van Valkenburg; and Birdilla, wife of Grant Smith. In April, 1888, Mr. Wessell lost the house erected by his great-grandfather, it having been destroyed by fire.

Young, Henry Charles, M. D., Hagaman's Mills, was born at Tarrytown August 11, 1861, and is the son of William H. and Melissa A. (Soules) Young. Mr. Young's parents were formerly of this section, his father's birthplace being Amsterdam, his mother's Broadalbin. In 1863 his parents moved to Sing Sing where they remained until 1868, when they returned to Amsterdam. They remained here about eight years,

where Henry received his primary education, and then moved to Schenectady to give him the advantage of better schools, and prepare him for entering Union College, from which he graduated July 1, 1884. In the fall of that year he entered Albany Medical College, graduating March 16, 1887. He then went to New York to take lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and attended clinics at the hospitals. July 5, 1887, Dr. Young started in practice in Hagaman's Mills, and married, September 16, 1891, Jennie E. Reddish, daughter of Mrs. John Reddish of this place.

Young, Norman, Minden, was born in Minden March 30, 1836. His great-grandfather, John Young, was a native of Germany, and settled on a farm about two miles east of Mr. Young's present residence, and which is now known as the "Dingman place." He had one son, John Christian, the grandfather of our subject, who was born in Minden, where he died February 28, 1835, aged eighty years. He was twice married, and by his first wife he had the following children: Jacob, who died in Wisconsin; Christian, who died in St. Lawrence county; Abraham, who died in Minden; David, who died in Springfield; and Nancy, who married John Eaton, and died in Fort Plain. His second wife was Margaret Shunk, and their children were: Nicholas; George, who died in Worcester; Henry, who died in Springfield; Lawrence, who died in Minden; Daniel, who died in the South; Mary, who married Nicholas Jordan, and died in Stark; and Gertrude, who married Abraham Bellinger, and died in Stark. John Christian removed to the farm now occupied by his grandson, Norman. Nicholas, father of Norman, was born in Minden December 3, 1804. He married Mary Witmire, and their four children are: Norman, Margaret, wife of John Adam Pickard of Fort Plain; Catharine, wife of George Flint of Minden; and Charlotte, wife of Nicholas Stawits of Root. Nicholas died in Minden August 16, 1884. Norman Young married Lany Hoffmail, and their children are as follows: John Edward, single, resides with his father; Alvin, died when seven years old; Willard, a farmer of Minden, married Grace Kessler and has two children, Willard, jr., and Florence; Anna, wife of William Wohlgemuth of Minden; Mary J., wife of Albert H. Eckler of Stark; Carrie, unmarried; Minnie, wife of William Crum of Minden; Arthur J., died at the age of nine years; and Nicholas D., unmarried, and resides with his father.

Yost, Daniel, Mohawk, son of Peter, was born in 1839. He was graduated from Union College in 1861, and after reading law with Carroll & Smith, he was admitted to the bar in 1864. He located in Fonda, and has practiced there ever since. He was clerk of the Surrogate's court for four years. His wife was Emily A., daughter of Eli Pierson of Johnstown. They have one child, Eli. Daniel Yost is an able lawyer, and is also a genial citizen and highly esteemed by all his extensive acquaintance.

Yost, Peter, son of Jacob, was born in Johnstown in 1802. He was a farmer, and married Sarah, daughter of Michael Moore. They had six children, three sons and three daughters, four of whom reached maturity. He died in 1850, and his wife in 1861 or 1862.

Yoran, Levi W., Palatine, was born in Amsterdam, December 27, 1854. His father was Jonas Yoran, and his grandfather was Jacob Yoran, who married Miss Pettibone, and they had eight sons and eight daughters. Jonas Yoran was born June 10, 1820,

raised on a farm and educated at the common school, being remarkably proficient in mathematics. In 1841 he married Catherine (born in Amsterdam), daughter of Michael and Sallie (Whitmore) Wert. They had sixteen children, of whom one son and five daughters survive. He was a farmer and a carpenter, and later a manufacturer of paper at St. Johnsville and Garoga. The last sixteen years of his life were spent at Rockwood, where he died January 26, 1892. His widow resides in Rockwood. Levi W. Yoran when a boy began working in a paper-mill, which he followed for fifteen years, when he was made foreman of the mill, and has held that position since. In 1882 he married Emma J., daughter of Ezekiel and Sallie (Allen) Mathews of Johnstown. Mr. Mathews died some years ago; his widow is still living at Johnstown. Levi W. and wife have one child, Mabyn, born December 7, 1887. In 1882 Levi came to Palatine and engaged in the manufacture of straw board, and has since followed that business. He employs six men, and manufactures about 175 tons a year. He is a Democrat, and belongs to the Stone Arabia Grange, No. 690.

Zoller, Jacob I., Minden, descended from the original settler, Jacob Zoller, one of four brothers, Jacob, Henry, Casper, and Andrew, and one sister. The four brothers settled near Fort Willett, in Dutchtown, the sister remaining in New York, where she married. Jacob Zoller was shot through the shoulder in the battle of Oriskany and with Andrew was taken prisoner. Andrew returned, but Jacob was never afterwards heard from. Henry, his oldest son, inherited the farm under the old English law. Jacob I. was born in Minden, where he died June 8, 1863, at the age of eighty-six years. He served in the war of 1812, and was stationed at Sackett's Harbor. He married Catharine, daughter of John Christian and Elizabeth Ehle. She was born August 30, 1782, and died October 29, 1868. Their children were John I.; Mary, born May 9, 1807, widow of Henry I. Crouse, of Mindenville; James, born April 20, 1809, resides near Ogdensburgh; Jacob, born July 29, 1811, died aged seventeen years; Josiah, born September 27, 1813, built the Zoller house at Fort Plain, which he ran for a number of years, and died at Fort Plain; Henry Chauncey, born December 18, 1815, resides in Columbia, Herkimer county; Abraham, born May 6, 1818, died September 27, 1854, at Racine; Catharine, born October 25, 1821, widow of John C. Van Camp, lives at Otranto, Iowa; John I., the oldest of the family, was born in Minden, March 9, 1805, and married Eliza Sanders. They had eight children: Catharine Elizabeth, died young; Jacob, Abraham P., resides at Fort Plain; Martha, wife of Robert Smith of Hallsville; Mary, resides in Minden; Catharine, wife of Peter Miller of Lockport; Libby, died aged thirteen; Charles, married Ianthe Klock, now resides on the old homestead farm. John I. died November 15, 1891. For several years he carried on the mercantile business. He was also member of assembly from Montgomery county in 1843. Jacob, the oldest son of the above family, was born in Minden April 15, 1833. He served four terms in succession on the board of supervisors, and married Mary Jane Dygert. They have five children: John I., Maude J., Thomas J., and Abram and Zaida (twins). Mr. Zoller is engaged in the wholesale produce and provision business in Little Falls.

Zoller Family, The.—The first of this family to come to this country settled in the Mohawk Valley during the revolutionary war. They were from Switzerland. Jacob

and Andrew were in the battle of Oriskany; one was killed and the other died soon after. Henry and Casper Zoller, who were brothers, came and located in the now town of Minden. One sister married and located in New York; all trace of relationship lost. Henry married Nancy Youngs, and had the following family: Abraham; John; Gertrude, who married Charles Garlock, and died in Herkimer county; Elizabeth, married Henry Miller, and died in Minden; Katie, married George Fake, and died in Herkimer county; Mary, married Martin Duesler, and died in Root; and Nancy, married John Miller, and died in Jefferson county; Henry died December 12, 1831, aged eighty years six months and four days. Abraham, the first one mentioned above, was born in Minden in August, 1782, and married Mary, daughter of Jacob Moyer. They had ten children: Daniel, died in Minden in 1835; Nancy, married Jacob Baum, and died in Minden; Elizabeth, married Solomon Devendorf, and died in Minden; Mary, widow of Jeremiah Walrath, resides in St. Johnsville; Catharine, widow of Isaac Walrath, lives in Fayette county, Iowa; John A., is a resident of Fort Plain, and is connected with the Zoller Lumber Company; Abraham, for over twenty years was connected with the United States treasury department at Washington, and is at present in Europe; Henry; Nancy, wife of James Kelly, lives in Herkimer county; and Caroline, wife of Henry Moyer, lives in Fayette county, Iowa. Henry, the youngest son of the family, was born in Minden, July 13, 1827; his education was obtained at the local schools and Little Falls Academy. His father was a farmer, and until 1857 he was engaged in farming. Disposing of his farm in that year, he went to Omaha, and for five years carried on a grocery and pork-packing business. In 1862 he drove thirty head of cattle west over the plains, and finally located at Bannock City, in what is now Montana, where he engaged in mining. He remained in this locality two years, when he returned to Fort Plain, and the year after returned to Montana with a stock of general merchandise. This time he remained sixteen months, and returned east to Albany, where, until 1884, he was engaged in the fruit and vegetable business. In the latter year he became a resident of Fort Plain, and since that time has been interested in the lumber business. He is a Republican in politics. His first wife was Julia, daughter of Daniel Groff, by whom he had two children: Seward II., who is engaged in building railroads in Cuba; and Eva May, who died in Fort Plain. Mr. Zoller married for his second wife Margaret, daughter of Daniel Groff. John, son of Henry, was born in Minden January 15, 1790, married Peggy Keller March 26, 1815; they settled on the homestead and continued farming. John died in 1862, and his wife in 1876. They had six children: Isaac, born August 25, 1816, married Mary A. Hall, and died in 1858; Anna, born September 6, 1824, married Peter Moyer, and died in 1856; Caty, born April 12, 1822, married Jacob Snyder; Eliza, born March 16, 1824, married John G. Bauder; Solomon, born September 1, 1827, married Catharine Diefendorf; Helen, born July 14, 1836, married Peter B. Moyer. Solomon is now occupying the old homestead and also the Abram Zoller farm. He is a Democrat and held the office of supervisor a number of years. He had two sons: Isaac and John. John died in his ninth year; Isaac married Cora A. Dunckel and has one child, John D., which is the fifth generation on the same farm.

Wetterau, Henry, Canajoharie, was born in Germany November 2, 1834, and is a son of Lawrence and Mary Wetterau. Henry came to this country in 1854, and

located first in Brooklyn, where he remained but a year and then came to this county, first to Sprakers, where he remained a short time, then removing to Canajoharie. In 1858 he bought the first part of his present farm, ten acres, to which he has added until now he has upward of sixty acres, which comprises a fine farm, and which he carries on with great success. He has raised hops for about eighteen years on a moderate scale, but is now extending that branch of farming, having in all nearly fifteen acres of one of the finest yards in this section of the country, and by his industry he has well earned the reputation of being a model farmer. August 4, 1859, he married Hannah Greavy, who came to this country from Germany in 1856. They have had four children: Carrie, wife of V. J. Allen of Johnstown; Henry C., engaged in mercantile business in New York; Frederick G., a stenographer, who is now studying for the bar at the University of the City of New York; and Elizabeth, wife of Abram Yost of Johnstown. Mr. Wetterau is an ardent Republican, having voted for every Republican candidate from Abraham Lincoln down to the present time. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church at Canajoharie.

Vedder, John D., Glen, is the only son of David and Ann (Schuyler) Vedder, and was born January 21, 1863. David, the father, was also born in Glen, and is one of six children of John and Elizabeth (Ostrom) Vedder of that town, the others being John O., Nancy, Maria, all living; and Abigail and Elizabeth, deceased. John Vedder, the grandfather, was born in this county as was also his wife. Their ancestors were natives of New Jersey, who afterwards moved to Albany county, and still later to this town. Ann (Schuyler) Vedder, the mother of John D., was one of five children of John D. and Margaret Ann (Van Horne) Schuyler; the others being: Daniel, Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Van Horne; Hannah, widow of Milton Hewett; Antoinette, wife of Cornelius Van Horne. His great-grandfather was Daniel Schuyler of Florida.

Van Horne, Abram, Glen, was born on the old Van Horne homestead in the town of Glen November 22, 1829. He was one of nine children of Cornelius and Hannah (Van Horne) Van Horne. Cornelius C., his father, was also born on the homestead January 15, 1794, his wife Hannah being a native of Florida, where she was born July 4, 1796. Cornelius Van Horne, his grandfather, was born at White House, N. J., May 18, 1745. When twenty-one years of age he emigrated to Montgomery county, and settled in Glen, marrying Eva Frederick of Florida. The Van Horne ancestry is traced without a break, back to the year 1634, and among many facts of interest is the record of the marriage of Cornelius J. Van Horne to Anna Maria Jans, daughter of Anneke Jans of New York, the ceremony taking place October 4, 1659. Abram Van Horne was married to Anna Newkirk January 1, 1856. They had four children: Edgar, married Henrietta De Forest and second Kizze Shelp; Catherine (Mrs. Myron Overbaugh); Amy (Mrs. Edwin Leach); and Seeley Van Horne.

Saltsman, Ward Beecher, Minden, was born in Palatine December 5, 1868, and is the youngest son in a family of three children of Jacob I. and Julia N. (Gray) Saltsman. His early education was obtained at the district schools, and he also attended the Brockport State Normal School, the Clinton Liberal Institute, and Eastman's Busi-

the firm was dissolved by Mr. Stilwell retiring and Adam Smith joining it, making the firm B. & A. Smith. This firm commenced, in 1860, with James Arkell, the business of making flour sacks, which is continued to the present time under the firm of Arkell & Smith, and which had in 1865 reached such an immense extent that Mr. Smith gave up the store and devoted all his time to it. He was one of the most accomplished and successful business men of the present day, and was always distinguished for integrity and fair dealing. In December, 1884, he died and Canajoharie lost one of its most honored citizens. He left at his death, besides his wife, five children: William N. (of Arkell & Smiths' factory); Mrs. Charles G. Pettit, and Edward S., also of Canajoharie; Dr. J. L. Smith of San Antonio, Texas, and Mrs. J. E. C. Pedder of the same place. Mrs. Smith is a daughter of Rev. W. N. Scholl, formerly pastor of the English Lutheran church of Canajoharie, and a clergyman deeply beloved by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Salisbury, Henry K., Amsterdam, was born in Seward, Schoharie county, on the 31st of July, 1834, and graduated from the Carlisle Academy. His father (the late J. H. Salisbury) was a lawyer of more than usual ability, and had few equals before a jury. He was also a member of the legislature in 1848, representing Schoharie county. He married Eliza M., daughter of Charles F. and Catharine Wagner Fox of Argusville. They had five children, one son and four daughters: Ella, who married David Maxwell of Charleston; Carrie, married Watson P. Harvey of this city; Charles F., who is associated with his father in the Erie Knitting Mills, under the firm of H. K. Salisbury & Son; Margurette, who married E. B. Noble of Albany; and Minnie Kate, who married John E. Willoughby, city editor of the Amsterdam *Daily Democrat*. Mr. Salisbury's father was born in Carlisle in July, 1807. He married Margaret Quackenboss. They had five sons and one daughter: Ann M., died at the age of six; Washington, Henry K., Julius C., Warren F., and John H., jr. Mr. Salisbury's great-grandfather, Joseph, was in the revolutionary war. They are among the earliest settlers of Schoharie county.

Noonen, William C., Amsterdam, was born in the house where he now lives in the town of Amsterdam, January 20, 1860, a son of Michael and Mary A. (Clark) Noonon. Michael Noonon was a son of Thompson and Katharine (Hough) Noonon. The name of Hough is one of the oldest in the valley, as they came hither before the revolution, and Katharine was a daughter of John George and Charlotta (Lefter) Hough. John George was born on February 15, 1740, and died September 20, 1813. His wife was born October 25, 1748, and died May 13, 1809. Katharine was born February 16, 1772, and married in June, 1792. She died August 3, 1851. Thompson Noonon died July 10, 1830. He was the father of ten children. Michael, one of the number, was born November 11, 1802, and married Mary A. (Clark) (Kline) Noonon, March 30, 1859. They were the parents of two children: John M., born December 27, 1861, died January 18, 1885, and William C., our subject. The latter was educated in the Johnstown and Amsterdam academies, with a full course in the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College Institute at Buffalo. After leaving school in 1881, he became book-keeper for S. Baker of Buffalo for about a year and a half, then engaged with the Farmers' National Bank of Amsterdam, continuing for about three and a half years. From there he

went to Thomas & Pettengill's hosiery mill, and after a short time joined as partner with T. Peck in the manufacture of brooms, following this business till the fall of 1889. During this time he visited Omaha to improve some property there of which he is the owner. He now makes his home on the old homestead, a grain and hay farm of ninety-seven acres, about as good a farm as can be found in northern Amsterdam.

Lipe, Ephraim, hay broker, was born July 14, 1837, and is a son of A lam I. Lipe, a native of the town of Root, who was born June 28, 1794, and died on his seventy-eighth birthday. He was the son of John Lipe, a German, who settled on the farm before the revolution, and was killed by a running horse while attempting to cross the road very near our subject's residence. Ephraim Lipe was born and brought up on this farm. His mother was Catharine Rickard, of German ancestry and of revolutionary fame. He married at Canajoharie, February 23, 1860, Eliza A. Wood, a daughter of Abram Wood, a commission merchant and farmer, who belongs to one of the oldest families of the county. He lived on the farm until 1884 when he moved to the village of Sprakers, and from there in 1890 to Canajoharie. He is in the wholesale hay trade, and has for the last twenty-five years done the largest business in that line in the Mohawk valley, the firm being E. & W. H. Lipe. Mr. and Mrs. Lipe have six children, three sons and three daughters; Walter H. is the oldest; the next, Marie E., who is the wife of W. E. Tompkins of Tarrytown; then Fred W., who is also connected with the firm; Walter H. and Raymond P. are connected with the Imperial Packing Company of Canajoharie, a stock company doing a large business. The two younger are Bertha Virginia and Jennie Lawson. Mr. Lipe is a staunch Republican, and always looking out for the interests of his country.

Borst, Henry V., Amsterdam, was born at Cobleskill in July, 1853; his father died when he was eleven years old and he was immediately thrown upon his own resources; he started to teach school, working on a farm during vacations; he educated himself at the Cobleskill Free School, Brockport Normal College, and Cornell University. After leaving Cornell he studied law with Judge Lamont at Cobleskill for one year and then entered the law office of James C. Dewey, then of Albany, where he continued his law studies, at the same time taking a course in the Albany Law School. He was admitted to the bar in May, 1877, and in a few days graduated from the Albany Law School, being one of the four speakers at the commencement exercises. In January, 1878, he located in Fort Plain and formed a co-partnership with D. C. Shults. Mr. Borst was elected district attorney of Montgomery county in 1883 by about 700 majority. In January, 1888, he was appointed by Governor Hill county judge of the same county, and was nominated by his party for that office in the fall of the same year but was defeated by seventy-five majority, although 600 ahead of his ticket. On his appointment to the office of county judge he removed to Amsterdam and formed a law partnership with Judge Westbrook. The firm still continues and enjoys a large practice. Judge Borst has always been a Democrat, and in every campaign since he was twenty years old his services have been in demand as a public speaker on the stump and on other occasions.

Bailey, James B., Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born in Connecticut October 27, 1833, a son of William and Catherine (Blake) Bailey. In 1868 he came with his par-

ents to Fulton county, where they lived but two years, when they came to Tribes Hill where Mr. Bailey has since resided. He was educated in Greenville Academy, under Professor Hand and finished under Professor Bannister at Johnstown Academy. After leaving the academy in 1853 he taught school for about ten years; during this time he married Mary Schuyler, January 19, 1859, a daughter of Winslow and Elizabeth Schuyler. They have lost two children, and Mrs. Bailey died February 15, 1884. In April, 1866, Mr. Bailey went into the mercantile business in his present location, in partnership with H. T. Hull, whose father, Dr. A. W. Hull, had conducted the store for many years. He bought his partner's interest in 1868 and conducted the business alone until 1887, when he was joined by W. H. Johnson as a partner. The post-office is located in their store, and has been for over twenty-five years. Mr. Bailey was married to Julia H., youngest daughter of Franklin Van Husen of this town, September 8, 1885, who died October 21, 1889. Mr. Bailey has never been interested in politics; his highest ambition is to be an honest, upright citizen. He is highly gifted as a vocalist and organist and his services in the Tribes Hall Church are fully appreciated. The firm of Bailey & Johnson is the only general supply store in Tribes Hill.

Burtch, A. H., Mohawk, son of John and Hannah (Hall) Burtch, was born in Saratoga county on the 4th of February, 1835. In 1844 his father removed to Fonda, where he resided until his death. A. H. Burtch was educated at the common schools. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade with his father. In 1856 he was appointed deputy postmaster; in 1860 he was made clerk of the Surrogate's Court, which position he filled for two years. In 1862 he was elected county clerk, serving six years. He has been in the mercantile trade for four years. June 1, 1887, he was again appointed clerk of the Surrogate's Court. Mr. Burtch is a Republican, and has served his party as a member of the county committee since 1867, being chairman of the same since 1886. He is a member of Fulton Lodge F. and A. M., and of the Holy Cross Commandery of Gloversville. On January 1, 1858, he married Charlotte A. Horton, who has borne him six children. Frank F., son of A. H. Burtch, was born March 5, 1862; he attended the public schools of Fonda and the Eastman Business College of Poughkeepsie. At the close of his schooling he worked several years in a sash and blind factory, and in 1885 formed a partnership with his father under the firm name of A. H. Burtch & Son. In 1886 John M. Marcellus purchased the interest of A. H. Burtch and the firm Burtch & Marcellus continued business until April 1, 1887, when it was changed to the Stone Store Shoe Co. In 1890 Frank F. Burtch was appointed postmaster of Fonda. He was superintendent of the water works for three years. In October, 1880, he was married to Cora L. Phillips of Fort Plain. He is a past sachem of the Caughnawaga Tribe of Red Men and a member of Royal Arcanum, No. 1405, and Fultonville Lodge F. & A. M.

Casler, George B., Minden, was born in Minden, August 7, 1864, and is the second son in a family of five children of Jeremiah and Amelia (Pickard) Casler. His father was a farmer, and his education was limited to the district schools. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits until March 20, 1888, and he then became a clerk in the insurance office of A. Cary, and on May 1, 1890, became a partner. The firm was dissolved on account of the death of Mr. Cary in 1891, and the business is now carried on by Mr.

Casler. This was the first insurance agency to be established in Fort Plain, and was started December 4, 1840. Every class of insurance can be obtained at this office, and Mr. Casler is the representative of the following companies: Connecticut Mutual Life, and Travelers Life and Accident; the Aetna, Phoenix, and Connecticut Fire of Hartford; Franklin Fire of Philadelphia; Springfield Marine & Fire of Springfield; Home Fire of New York, besides the following foreign fire insurance companies: Lancaster of Manchester, England; British Mercantile of Liverpool, England, and Edinburgh, Scotland; and the Caledonia of Edinburgh. Mr. Casler is a Democrat in politics.

Cary, Alfred, Minden, was born at Litchfield, Herkimer county, March 31, 1812, and was the second son in a family of six children of William and Lydia (Trask) Cary. After attending the local schools he became a student at the Cedarville High School. At the age of eighteen he went to Utica, where he learned the trade of mason. After his apprenticeship he went to Canajoharie, where he remained a few months, and in 1833 came to Fort Plain, and from that time till 1840 was engaged in building. In the latter year he opened an agency for fire insurance, with which he was connected until his death, January 17, 1891. He was a Republican in politics, and was postmaster in Fort Plain during President Lincoln's first administration. He married, December 19, 1838, Zilpha L., daughter of Timothy and Zilpha Snow of Litchfield.

Crane, Frank E., Amsterdam, was born at Elizabeth, N. J., on the 4th of April, 1861, and was prepared for college at Schenectady Classical Institute. He entered college then, where he took the regular course, including civil engineering, graduating in 1885. On the 1st of April, 1890, he was appointed city engineer of Amsterdam. Mr. Crane's father, Martin, was born in New Jersey and married Julia A. Harris of his native state. They had two children, a daughter Sarah E., and Frank E., who was married October 20, 1892, to Emma W. Myers of Amsterdam. His mother and sister reside with him in this city.

Devendorf, Dewitt A., Florida, was born in Florida May 2, 1863. He was one of eight children of Dr. Henry A. and Rachel (Pettingill) Devendorf. When about seventeen years of age he became interested with his father in the manufacture of brooms on the farm. In 1887 he went into the business on a larger scale, built a factory with modern improvements, having a capacity of 110 dozens brooms per day. The increase of the business is such that a new building is now being erected, which, when completed, will more than double the capacity of the enterprise. Mr. Devendorf was married September 28, 1887, to Agnes B. Hudson, one of three children of Boyd R. and Emma (Van Buren) Hudson of Glen. She died February 14, 1891, leaving two children, Henry Hudson and Dewitt Boyd Devendorf. The residence of Mr. Devendorf is the historic "Queen Anne's Chapel parsonage," of revolutionary note, and which was built in 1711, and is the oldest house in the county.

Diefendorf, Yates, Root, was born August 29, 1847, a son of Cornelius and Catharine (Yates) Diefendorf. The latter were natives of Root, Cornelius having been born in 1820. He died in 1880, and his wife survives him at the age of sixty-three. She is a member of the Reformed Church. Cornelius was a Democrat, as was also his father Henry I. Yates received his education at Fairfield Seminary, and has always followed

agricultural pursuits. They own 227 acres of land, comprising the homestead of his grandfather. He married, in 1874, Helena, daughter of William H. and Lavina Sprong of Sharon. Mr. and Mrs. Diefendorf have two children, Carrie and Earl. They are members of the Reformed Church, their membership dating back fifteen years. Mr. Diefendorf is interested in another farm besides the one on which he resides, and also in the Flat Creek Cheese Factory.

Dahlen, Daniel, Palatine, was born in Germany, March 20, 1832, came to America and settled in Nelliston. He married first, Elizabeth Swartz, and they had one daughter, now Mrs. Beek of Nelliston; he married second, December 10, 1868, Rosena, daughter of John and Barbara (Walrath) Shellhorn of Germany (parents of two daughters and one son). Mr. Dahlen and wife had six children; Daniel G. (deceased), William F., Frank (deceased), Nellie M., Harry J., and Daniel. Mr. Dahlen was a mason and built most of the brick blocks in Canajoharie and Fort Plain. He was president of Nelliston three years. He and his family were members of the Lutheran church at Fort Plain. He died September 2, 1885.

Ehle, Henry E., Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie on the farm now owned by Norman Countryman, September 27, 1822, and is a son of Daniel and Magdalen (Cornue) Ehle. Harmanus Ehle, great-grandfather of Henry E., came from Germany previous to 1760; of this there is no doubt, as Harmanus, the grandfather of our subject, was born in this country in 1762. He had five brothers: Jacob, father of Abram Ehle; Anthony, twin brother of Harmanus; Michael, John, William, and Peter, and three sisters. Harmanus the second was born in this town in 1762 and he and his twin brother Anthony were in the war of the revolution. They were musicians, and would change off; while one was playing the other would fight. Harmanus married when about twenty-eight years old, Betsey, daughter of Daniel and Sally (Wessels) Cornue of Canajoharie. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters: Herman, Daniel, John, Sally, Eliza, and Maria. Daniel, the second son and father of Henry E., was born March 8, 1795. He served a short time in the war of 1812, and at the age of about twenty-two married Magdalen, daughter of Peter and Jane (Quenaw) Cornue, and they had nine children, eight of whom survive: Eliza, wife of Luke C. Walrath of Palatine; Elisha of Gloversville; Maria, widow of the late John J. Walrath of Minden; Jane Ann of Mapletown; Marcus, a mechanic of Marshalltown, Iowa; Sarah of Canajoharie; Abram B. of Des Moines; and Henry E., our subject. When Henry E. was in his eighth year his father bought the farm on which the former now lives, and where he resided since the purchase. He was educated in the common schools, and married, July 21, 1851, Almira, daughter of Henry and Margaret (Sailor) Failing. They had five children: Daniel, who conducts the homestead farm; Herman H., a produce dealer of Gloversville; Maggie, who lives at home; Eliza, wife of Charles Empie of Sharon Centre; Ardella, wife of John C. Gove of Rural Grove. Daniel Ehle was born on the old homestead, December 1, 1852. He was educated at Port Lighton and in select schools, after leaving which he taught school winters for fourteen years. October 29, 1879, he married Gertie, daughter of John and Nancy (Green) Rice of Palatine, and they have three children: Mertie, born February 20, 1882; Virgil, born February 2, 1884; Ledro, born June 13, 1886. Mr. Ehle has a fine farm of 100 acres.

Edwards, Frank, Glen, was born in Glen March 7, 1857, he being one of nine children of William H. and Eleanor (Mount) Edwards of Glen. The others were John, William H., M. Mount, Stephen O., Seeber, Anna M., wife of Fletcher Van Wie; Elizabeth and Eleanor. William H., the father, was born in 1817 and was one of seven children of John and Ann (Van Schaack) Edwards. The father of John was William, who was born in Wales. His wife, Christina, was of German descent. William H. Edwards had two brothers, John V. B. and Thomas, and four sisters, Anna Maria, wife of Stephen Ostrom; Margaret, Antoinette, wife of James Barhite; and Jane, wife of Newton Van Derveer. Eleanor Mount, his wife, was one of six children of Matthias and——(Van Vechten) Mount of Glen, the others being Benjamin, Jane, wife of Henry Snook; Rebecca, wife of Garrett Lansing; Kate, wife of William Seeber; and Margaret, wife of C. Yates Seeber. Frank Edwards married, November 12, 1884, Hannah Van Horne, one of three children of Schuyler and Elizabeth (Shelp) Van Horne of Glen, the others being Cornelius, and Alice, wife of William H. Voorhees (see sketch of Schuyler and Van Horne). They have two children, Elizabeth and Irene.

Ehle, Abram, Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now lives, September 27, 1799, a son of Jacob and Jennie (Van Evera) Ehle. His grandfather was a native of Germany and came to this country about 1745, locating near Canajoharie, where he bought the farm now occupied by Charles King. He was a widower and married Elizabeth Miller just before starting for this country. They had seven children: Peter, captain of a boat on the Mohawk during the revolution; Anthony and Herman (twins), the former a captain of State militia; John, who died a middle aged man, leaving one son, Herman I., who was the leading merchant of Canajoharie for many years; Lena, Nancy, and Jacob, the father of Abram. Jacob was the youngest son and was born in 1765 near Canajoharie. He acted as sentry in Fort Ehle during the revolution, and married at the age of about thirty, Jennie, daughter of Rynier Van Evera of Canajoharie. They had five children: Ellinor, Elizabeth, John, Maria, and Abram. Mrs. Jennie Ehle died in 1805, and Jacob married second, Rebecca, daughter of Benjamin Higgins of Canajoharie in 1810. They had four children, of whom but one lived to adult age, Fannie Arndt of Milwaukee. Abram, our subject, has always made his home on this farm, which his father sold to him about 1850. He was educated in the common schools, and on October 20, 1840, married Esther, daughter of John Reed of Exeter, Otsego county. Three children have been born to them: Alonzo W., a marble dealer of Canajoharie; Louisa Clark (deceased), who had one son, Devere of Illinois; and Caddie Smith, who married William J. Ball of Illinois. Mr. Ehle is one of the oldest men in this town, and a representative of the earliest settlers in the county. He was a member of the Reformed church at Mapletown for over sixty years. Charles A. Ehle was born in Root November 12, 1864, a son of Alonzo and Elizabeth (Hubbard) Ehle. He has always lived in this town. He was educated in the graded schools at Canajoharie, and January 28, 1885, married Della, daughter of Henry S. and Henrietta (Malette) Smith of Sharon, Schoharie county. In 1882 Mr. Ehle took charge of the homestead farm, which he bought in 1891. It contains 190 acres.

Finehout, Edgar D., Minden, was born in Minden May 16, 1851. His grandfather, Aaron Finehout, was born in Minden and died in Canajoharie. He married Catharine

Keller, and their children were: Henry, Peter, James, Aaron, John, Margaret, who married Solomon Norton; Daniel, and Kate, who married Elisha Dorr. Of this family the only survivors are: Henry, who resides at St. Paul, Minn.; John, a merchant at Canajoharie; Margaret, widow of Louis Russell, who lives at Liverpool. Aaron, the father of Edgar D., was born in Minden October 17, 1824. He married Catharine M., daughter of George and Mary Lintner. They had a family of seven children, viz.: Edgar D., who married Estella, daughter of Truman Wikoff, and who reside on the old homestead farm, on the Cherry Valley turnpike; Arthur, died unmarried, aged twenty-six years; Anna, married Willard White, and died in Canajoharie; Mary, wife of William R. Lewis of Cherry Valley; Frank, who married Libbie Van Camp of Fort Plain, and who died aged thirty-one years; Cora, wife of Frank Winnie of Cherry Valley; and Kittie, wife of George Fox of Canajoharie. Aaron was always engaged in farming, and was a Democrat in politics. He died in Minden April 24, 1877.

Failing, Henry, Canajoharie, was born just west of Canajoharie June 18, 1799, and died September 9, 1892. He was a son of Captain John and Maria (Timmerman) Failing. At the time of the exodus of the Palatines from England, a member of the family of Failing was one of the emigrants. This was the great-grandfather of Henry. His son, Henry Failing, was a soldier in the battle of Oriskany. He married Catharine Wagner, and they were the parents of five children: John, Joseph, Warner, Peter and Elizabeth. John, the oldest son, was born about the time of the revolution, and married Maria Timmerman of Dutchtown. They had ten children: Henry, Nancy, Julia, Benjamin, Abram, Elijah, Polly, Sally, Margaret and Elizabeth. John was a soldier, a captain of a company in the war of 1812, and was in the battle of Sacketts Harbor. Henry Failing, grandfather of the subject, was one of the earliest settlers in this town and located on the river road on the present Wagner farm, and when Henry was about six years old his father bought a farm at Frey's Bush where he lived, and died in 1845. Henry married in June, 1823, Margaret Sailor, who was born August 13, 1799, and they had four children: Almira, wife of Henry Ehle of Canajoharie; Adam, a farmer of Illinois; Norman, who died November 12, 1891, aged sixty-three years; Harman, who died in infancy. Mrs. Margaret Failing died December 3, 1835, and Mr. Failing married, second, Sally Sailor, a sister of his first wife. They had one child, Alvin, a printer of Canajoharie. Sally died in 1840. He married for his third wife, Eliza, daughter of Jacob Seeber of Minden, and they had three children: Harvey S., who conducts the homestead farm; Nora, wife of John W. Ressique of Canajoharie; and Jacob H., who died in infancy. Eliza Seeber Failing died January 23, 1882, in her eighty-fourth year. In 1847 Mr. Failing bought the farm which his son now conducts. Harvey S. Failing was born March 11, 1849, on this farm. He was educated in the Canajoharie Academy, and married, October 16, 1872, Frances C., daughter of Oran and Eliza (Showerman) Goble of Baldwinsville, and they have five children: Alice, Lizzie, Nora, Howard and Henry (twins). Mr. Failing is one of the active members of Mapletown Grange No. 613, and has held the office of steward in that order.

Ferguson, John, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam April 6, 1839; he was educated in the public schools, and at the age of sixteen years he began to learn the blacksmith's trade. At the end of his apprenticeship he bought the shop and has

since conducted the business alone. The increase of the property has doubled several times in the period of thirty-seven years. He married, March 16, 1861, Marietta, second daughter of Tuluc and Anna Cooley of Amsterdam; they have one daughter, Anna Belle, who resides in Troy. Mrs. Ferguson died March 17, 1878. May 6, 1880, he married Mary L., daughter of John and Sarah (Daly) Serviss of Florida. Mr. Ferguson's father, John P., was born in Scotland and came with his parents to the United States when he was six years old; he married Eliza Van Wormer, and had six children, five sons and one daughter: William, John J., Wallace, Alman, Mary E. and Marens; his father went to California in 1849, and was never heard from again; his mother died in August, 1867. Mr. Ferguson is a member of Bronson Steamer Company No. 2, is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, Chuctenunda Lodge No. 100, and Amsterdam Lodge No. 134 of I. O. O. F.

Farmer, Thomas J., Palatine, was born in Brooklyn July 24, 1840. His father was Joseph S. Farmer; his grandfather was Thomas' Farmer; and his great-grandfather was also Thomas, who, with three brothers, came from England and settled near New Brunswick, N. J. Thomas, the grandfather, married Rachel Still; they had three sons and two daughters and both died at New Brunswick. Joseph S. Farmer was born in New Brunswick, received a common school education, and was a clerk and a sailor. He married Margaret Suydam and had four daughters and three sons. In 1849 he went to California, returned to New York and engaged in the commission business. He next went to Illinois and followed farming for a time; returned to Rockwood, and finally settled in Johnstown, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying, however, in New Brunswick while on a visit in February, 1889. He was a Mason and Odd Fellow. His wife now lives in Johnstown aged seventy-five years. Thomas J. Farmer was educated in the public schools of Brooklyn. From the age of fourteen he has followed a mercantile career in various places, both as clerk and proprietor. He married February 15, 1872, Minerva (Peeler) Swan, widow of Hiram Swan. Mrs. Farmer was born September 29, 1844. Her father was Elijah Peeler, born May 15, 1819, married Helen M. Washbyrn, January 5, 1843, had three sons and four daughters, and died August 17, 1884. His widow resides in Nelliston. Her grandfather was Jeremiah Peeler, who married Maria Thumb, by whom he had four sons and four daughters; he died in 1873, and she in 1860. Thomas J. Farmer and wife have the following children: Gertrude, Helen M., Thomas J., Hazel. He is a member of Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 66, K. of P. His wife is a Good Templar and a member of the W. C. R. of Fort Plain. Mr. Farmer has been president and a trustee of the village.

Fisher, Frederick, Mohawk, is the son of John and the grandson of Frederick. The latter came to this country from Germany and first settled near Schenectady, and afterwards two miles south of Fonda, on the farm now owned by H. H. De Graff. John was born in 1792 on the old farm. He married Barbara Gross. In 1816 or 1817 he settled on the farm now owned by his son Frederick, and spent his life there. He died January 1, 1858. His wife died six years earlier. They had five children, of whom Frederick is the only survivor. He was born December 20, 1813, and married Sarah A. Buxton. They have had six children, of whom only Sarah and Newman J. sur-

vive. Frederick has been assessor twice, commissioner of highways three terms, and in the spring of 1882 was elected justice of the peace. His wife died March 27, 1881.

Greeley, William. Minden, was born in Sprakers, town of Root, April 22, 1864, and is the youngest son of Patrick and Mary (Rooney) Greeley. His education was obtained in the district schools, and his father was a farmer till 1872, when he removed to Sprakers. In 1884 he came to Fort Plain and engaged in the restaurant business, and since May 1, 1889, has been sole proprietor of the European Hotel and Restaurant. In politics Mr. Greeley is Democratic. He is an active member of the K. of P., and is captain of Bauder Division No. 22 of Fort Plain. He is also a member of Otsquago Lodge No. 507 I. O. O. F., Gyantwaka Tribe No. 170 of the Improved Order of Red Men. He married Luemma, daughter of Sidney Smith of Minden, and they have two children, Nellie and Evelyn.

Gordon, Winne, Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now resides in Canajoharie, August 26, 1864, and is a son of Alexander and Margaret (Hanson) Gordon. The grandfather of our subject, David Gordon, was born near this place in 1780 and has always made his home in this section. His first wife was Mary Cox, and they had seven children: Phenix, Alvin, Alexander, Lysander, Mary A., Evangeline, and Emiletta. Alexander, the third son, was born May 30, 1820, and was educated in the common schools. At the age of twenty-six years he married Margaret Hanson, and they had three children: Austin, a cabinet-maker in Johnstown; Alice, wife of Elmer Morrell of Ames; and Winne. The latter has always lived on the farm on which he now resides. He was educated in the Ames Union Free School and at the age of eighteen he began farming on this place, which he has since followed. April 1, 1891, he bought the farm where he now lives, which was known as the old Gordon farm.

Garlock, Euclid, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie on the farm now occupied by George Retallick, April 21, 1844, and is the son of Elijah and Nancy (Smith) Garlock. George, grandfather of our subject, was the father of five children: Benjamin, Leonard, Elijah, Margaret, and Lucy. Elijah, the father of Euclid, is the only one of three sons living. He was born in 1818, and when quite young married Nancy, daughter of Herman Smith of Canajoharie, and they were the parents of seven sons, five of whom survive: Leonard, a farmer of Kansas; Harmon, a mechanic of Canajoharie; Simeon, a physician of St. Louis, Mo.; Valentine O., a mechanic of Fort Plain; and Euclid. The early life of the latter was spent in this town. He was educated in the common schools and assisted his father on the farm until about twenty-two years of age, when he went to Kansas, staying there but little over a year, when he returned and conducted a farm in Canajoharie. November 28, 1872, he married Minerva, daughter of Luther and Mary M. (Collyer) Van Wie of Canajoharie, and they have three children: Edith M., Perlia E., and Bert E. In 1873 Mr. Garlock moved into the town of Palatine where he conducted a farm for three years, and then bought his present residence and farm of ninety-seven acres, which he devotes mainly to hay and grain. Mr. Garlock has held offices of trust in the town, and his family are members of the Reformed Church at Mapletown.

Garlock, Elijah, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie, about four miles south of the village, December 27, 1809, a son of George and Elizabeth (Garlock) Garlock. As far

back as we can trace, which is to the grandfather of our subject, the family have always been residents of this town. George, the father of Elijah, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and served at Sacketts Harbor and also one of the contractors of the Erie canal. Elijah was one of a family of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are dead except Elijah, whose whole life has been spent in this town. He was educated in the common schools and assisted his father on the farm until his marriage in 1833; he married Nancy Smith, daughter of Harmanus Smith of the town of Mohawk, by whom he had seven sons: William, who died in Canajoharie; George D., who was a soldier in the rebellion and died in Kansas in 1883; Leonard of Kansas; Herman of Canajoharie; Simeon, a physician of St. Louis; Euclid, a farmer of Canajoharie; and V. Oscar of Fort Plain. After Eljah was married his father gave him a farm of 100 acres and he conducted it until 1870 when he moved in the village and has ever since occupied his present residence. Mrs. Garlock died in 1850 and Elijah married Rebecca Visscher, a daughter of Daniel and Hester (Conyne) Visscher of Tribes Hill, by whom he has had two daughters: Anna, wife of William Bellinger of Canajoharie, and Hester Elizabeth, who lives at home. Mr. Garlock is a staunch supporter of the Democrat ticket, has held the office of commissioner of highways of the town and is one of the leading citizens of this place.

Briggs Family, The.—Elisha Briggs was born in New Bedford, Mass., June 22, 1787. He married Deborah Weir, and removed to Johnstown, and settled there about 1810. He had four children: Eliza, Nancy, Almira, and John W. His wife died February 24, 1820, and he married second, Sarah Babcock of Chatham, Columbia county, by whom he had seven children: Garrett E., Thomas R., William Avery, Charles E., Mary E., Daniel C., and Delavan. Elisha died August 30, 1864, and his wife, Sarah, April 13, 1874. He was overseer of the poor eight years, and was a large farmer, owning over 1,000 acres of land at the time of his death, which was considered to be worth \$100,000. He was a Whig in politics, and later a Republican and a strong protectionist. Delavan Briggs was born October 18, 1828. In 1851 he married Almira Dockstader, daughter of John Dockstader, and a year later he settled on the farm where he has since resided, comprising 128 acres. In 1864 he was elected assessor, and has been engaged in the butcher business. He has six children: W. S., Phebe, Henry, John, Edward and Carrie.

Briggs, William S., son of Delavan, was born October 23, 1853, in this town, and graduated at Clinton College in 1871. In 1872 he opened a drug store in Fonda, which he has carried on since. He also had a drug store in Meriden, Conn., for six years. In 1887 he organized the Fonda mill of which he was treasurer. In May, 1891, the business was changed to Shanahan, Briggs & Company. September 5, 1877, he married Jessie, daughter of Sidney Smith, and they have three children: Marcia C., Corrie A., and Gilbert S.

House, William C., Minden, was born in Oppenheim, November 4, 1850. His father removed to Minden when he was sixteen years of age since which time he has been a resident of that town. He has been engaged in farming, and since 1887 has carried on the egg business, shipping to eastern markets. He married Mary E., daughter of the late William I. Walrath. They have one adopted daughter, Tessie.

Hill, Squire, Canajoharie, was born on the farm on which he now lives, at the north end of it, on the old Hill homestead, December 14, 1852. He is a son of Bradford A. and Pamela (Reed) Hill. Bradford was a son of Squire and Dorothy (Walker) Hill and a brother of Gifford A. Hill. He was born on the homestead farm near Waterville, January 1, 1820, and at about the age of twenty-seven he married Pamela Reed, living for about three years after on the farm; he then bought the farm now occupied by Squire, consisting of seventy-seven acres, to which he made additions until he owned over 200 acres. He had three children: Sarah E., wife of J. Alfred Gordon of Argusville; Mary V., wife of Henry Fitzgerald of Rexford's Flats, and Squire. The whole life of the latter has been spent on the farm. His father died in 1874, leaving the farm to him. He was educated in Adams University, and October 3, 1877 married Eunice, daughter of J. J. and Aurelia (Eliot) Tucker of Otsego county. They have four children: Virgie M., born April 13, 1880; Florence G., born April 12, 1882; Pamela, born June 9, 1884; and Bradford W., born February 26, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are active in church works, and are members, he of the Methodist and his wife of the Baptist church. He is a Republican.

Ingersoll, Alexander, Glen, one of four children of John and Leah (Liddle) Ingersoll, was born on the homestead June 1, 1864, the others being John L., Nettie, widow of Nelson D. Vedder (and their children Leland N., Earl I. and Zerah Vedder); and Katie Ingersoll. John, the father, was born in Charleston and was one in a family of eleven children: George, James, William, Margaret, wife of Nelson Momford; Mary, wife of Jacob Lord; Sarah, wife of John Mereniss; Martha, Mrs. Charles Miller; Christie, Annie, and Nancy (who died early). Leah J. Liddle, the mother, was born in Duaneburg and was one of ten children, the others being Alexander F., who is now deceased; Robert J., J. Augustus, Edward T., Mary, Elizabeth, wife of William J. McClure; Margaret, and Sarah, wife of William L. Avery. The father of John was James Ingersoll, and his father (James also) was a native of Connecticut, and his wife, Janet McClumpha, was born in Duaneburg, of Scotch descent. Leah J., mother of Alexander, was a daughter of Alexander Liddle, jr., his wife being Catharine Allen. His father was Alexander Liddle, sr., who was born in Scotland, and came to this country with his father, Robert Liddle, when seven years of age. His wife was Mary Gifford of Duaneburg.

Jones Brothers, Frederick and Augustus, were both born in Canajoharie, Frederick August 14, 1844, Augustus December 13, 1847, and are sons of Charles and Charlotte (Wellock) Jones. Charles Jones was born in Hanover, Germany in 1817, and came to this country when a young man and married Charlotte Wellock, also from Germany, in 1840. They were the parents of five children, only three are now living: Mrs. W. F. Cook, and our subjects. The latter have always made their home in this town; they were educated in the public schools and their first business venture was made in 1868, when they bought a canal boat and tried canaling. Their experience in this was a varied and interesting one. Starting with very small capital they were many times almost discouraged, but they worked hard and finally succeeded. This was their introduction in the coal business. They bought coal in New York and delivered it here, finding a ready sale in the winter. In 1865 they met a severe reverse, the water in the

river rising and being full of ice it carried away their residence, and completely destroyed their property. They then bought a place at the corner of Main and Mohawk streets, and invested in real estate, which proved profitable, and in 1868 they rebuilt their house, which was taken by the West Shore Railroad Company in 1882. In 1887 they gave up the real estate business, giving their whole attention to the coal trade, which has increased and they are now doing a large business. October 1, 1885, Frederick married Henrietta Schrader and their union has been blessed by four children: Ward Augustus, born December 23, 1886; Fred Willock, born April 27, 1889; and Hilda Sophia and Herbert Schrader (twins), born January 31, 1892. When we consider the hard work they have had all their lives it is certainly not surprising that they have become one of the leading firms of this place. Their father died when Augustus was but eleven years old, and from that date they have been pulling against the stream. He left them a debt on the land he purchased adjoining their home; often have they paid this, but through some flaw in the papers, part of it was taken from them. They have both held office in their village, but their ambition is to be known as honest, upright business men.

Johnston, William N., Palatine, was born in Palatine Bridge in 1844. His father was George G. Johnston; his grandfather, George W. Johnston; his great-grandfather, George Johnston, a native of Inverness, Scotland, born in 1740, and who came to Stratford, Conn., in 1760, where he remained until his death in 1790; he had two children, George W. and Emily. George W. was born in 1770; in 1792 he married Nancy Wright, a niece of Governor Silas Wright, of New York; they had five sons and one daughter. He died in Glenville in 1840. George G. was born in Stratford in 1794; he served an apprenticeship in an iron foundry that existed until his death in 1872. He was married three times; first to Gertrude Van Slyke, who bore him two sons and two daughters; second to Mary A. Ruby of Albany, by whom he had two sons and one daughter; third, to Atlanta Boutelle Allen, in 1884, who bore him three sons and four daughters. Atlanta Allen was a daughter of William Allen of Townsend, Vt., who, with his father, served in the revolutionary war. William N. Johnston attended the common school and also a preparatory course in the Canajoharie Academy. He enlisted, November 8, 1861, in the 102d N. Y. Volunteers, was promoted to first lieutenant, to captain, to assistant inspector general of the brigade, and at the close of the war was breveted major for gallant and meritorious conduct in the field. He served with his regiment in the Shenandoah campaign and the army of the Potomac in the east, and with the army of the Cumberland in the west. After his return from the war he attended Beloit College for about two years, then began the study of law, and in 1870 was admitted to the bar. He practiced law until 1876, when he was elected county clerk and re-elected in 1879. After serving six years as county clerk he was appointed at different times to responsible positions under the state administration. In 1888 he engaged in the stone business under the firm of Johnston & Shaper, which was afterwards merged in the Mohawk Valley Stone Company, of which company Mr. Johnston is now president. In 1872 he married Elizabeth, daughter of William and Ann Eliza (Gauley) Dolsen of New York. They have five children: George Albert and William Allen, students of Union College; Harry Ferris, Agnes Atlanta

and Edwin Granville. Mr. Johnston has always been an active Democrat. He is now serving his third term as supervisor of the town.

Kavanaugh, John, Amsterdam, was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, March 22, 1851, and came with his parents to Amsterdam when six months old; he was educated in the public schools and worked for a time in Stephen Sanford & Sons' carpet mills. At the age of sixteen he entered the employ of Thomas Morphy as clerk in a boot and shoe store, and was with two successive employers, he bought out the shoe business of McElwain & Dodge, and later on sold out to his cousin, Miles Cooling. He afterwards manufactured brooms for two years, then became associated with his father in the grocery and coal trade, and upon the death of his father he assumed full control of the business for himself and heirs. May 16, 1876, he married Josephine McDewitt of Greene county. Mr. Kavanaugh's father (Miles) was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, about 1818, and married Mary Ann Swan of his native place, and came to the United States in the fall of 1851; he located in Amsterdam: they had three children, two sons and one daughter: Mathew (died at the age of twenty-two years), John, and Essie. Mr. Kavanaugh is a member of the Olympus club, one of the trustees of the Amsterdam Savings bank and of Amsterdam City Hospital, also of St. Mary's Cemetery, is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, was one of the trustees of the village of Amsterdam, and was town clerk of the town of Amsterdam. His father died November 16, 1889.

Kellogg, Rebecca I., Amsterdam, was born on the farm of her present residence in the town of Amsterdam, November 26, 1828, and is a daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Lepper) Lepper. The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Lepper, came from Germany. He located first at Stone Arabia, and afterward came to the farm on the West Turnpike, where Jacob Lepper now lives. He was the father of ten children, of which Joseph was the sixth. He was born January 26, 1789, and was married to Rebecca Fairchild November 7, 1812, by whom he was the father of six children, when she died June 24, 1826. His second wife, and mother of our subject, was Hannah Lepper, whom he married May 10, 1827, and they were the parents of six children. Of these twelve children six are now living. Rebecca is the second youngest. When Joseph was a young man he bought this farm of 156 acres where Rebecca was born and has always lived. March 3, 1885, she was married to Ashley L. Kellogg of Chicago. Mr. Kellogg has been in the mercantile business in that city, but is now the manager of this fine farm, which is devoted to the raising of hay and dairy products. The grandmother of our subject told many tales of pioneer life in this country. She was once taken prisoner by a party of Indians, who came up behind her as she was gathering fruit, and with her babe was carried to Canada, where she was kept thirteen months, the Indians offering her part of the time horse flesh to eat. At the end of that time she was exchanged with other prisoners. Mrs. Kellogg is engaged in church work, and always takes an interest in every good work.

Lipe, Seeber, Minden.—The Lipe family is of German descent, and John Lipe had an only son (David), born in Minden, May 4, 1770, and married Elizabeth Seeber, who was born May 29, 1779. He died May 4, 1855, and his wife April 21, 1858. They

had a family of eight children, all of whom were born in Minden and died in that town, excepting the younger two. They were Elizabeth, born June 26, 1790, who married Charles Walrath; Abraham, born September 3, 1801; William, born June 14, 1807; John Frederick, born August 10, 1809; David W., born March 13, 1813; Harriet, born April 28, 1815, who married Nathan Lipe; Seeber, born August 26, 1818, who married Catherine Bonner, and resides in Fort Plain; and Almira, born March 5, 1822, widow of William Kougher of Fort Plain.

Loucks, Conrad K., Palatine, was born in Palatine, July 15, 1821. His father was Henry J. Loucks, and his grandfather Jacob Loucks, a native of Palatine, who was in the revolutionary war, after which he settled at Stone Arabia. He married a Miss Cook, and had a family of two sons and four daughters. Henry J. Loucks was born in Palatine June 30, 1791, raised on a farm, was in the war of 1812, married Catherine, daughter of Conrad Kilts, had two daughters and one son, and died in Palatine in 1865, and his wife in 1864. They were farmers and members of the Reformed Church. Conrad K. Loucks was raised on a farm, attended the common school, and married Lavina M., daughter of John Patten of Palatine. Nine children were born to them as follows: John H., Caroline, Joel, David C., Lansing P., Elizabeth, Albert, Laura (deceased), and Mary A. (deceased). Mr. Loucks has always followed farming.

Lentz, Conrad, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., was born in Germany December 25, 1812. He married Elizabeth Regal and has ten children, six sons and four daughters. In 1854 he came to America and settled at Stone Arabia, where he engaged in farming. His wife died in 1888, and he now resides in Fonda. His son William was born March 31, 1851, and came to this country with his father at the age of three years. At the age of seventeen he went to Fort Plain to learn the trade of blacksmith with Stichel & Ganset, and after eighteen months spent there he returned to Fonda and entered the shop of George F. Putman, where he remained over fourteen years. In 1882 he commenced work for himself, and has been in the same shop since. He married Julia Swift and has had six children, four of whom survive. They are as follows: William H., Mary Ellen, Jennie, Emma, Frank and Charlie, the latter two deceased.

Lyker, John V., Root, was born December 22, 1843, where he now resides at Lyker's, a son of Henry and Jane (Davis) Lyker. The grandfather, Henry (son of Henry who came from Germany in 1833), settled in New York state. He was an early pioneer of Schenectady county, and later came to Root, where he engaged in farming. He also operated a grist-mill and distillery. He served as major-general in the war of 1812, and was justice for about forty years. He married Miss Meliack and reared two sons and six daughters. His wife died in 1842, and he died in 1850. His son Henry was born in Schenectady county in 1797, and came to Root with his father. He was a contractor for six years in the building of the reservoir in New York. He served in the war of 1812 as captain, and also had a distillery. He reared a family of six children: Cornelius H., Charles, Catherine, Louisa, John V., and Emma (deceased). The father died in 1872, and the mother in 1883, aged seventy-four years. Both were members of the Reformed church. John V. was reared on the farm and received a district school education. At twenty-five he began for himself on the farm where he now lives. He is

a breeder of Holstein cattle. He has served two years as overseer of the poor, has been postmaster ten years at Lyker's, and is now serving his sixth year as highway commissioner. He is a Democrat. May 2, 1874, he married Susan, daughter of Ruloff and Lydia (Van Husen) Olmstead. They have six children: Laura, Henry, Arthur, Harma, Emina, and Alida.

Mansfield, Thomas W., Amsterdam, was born in West Troy January 21, 1850. He was educated in the public schools and was for several years a cartridge maker in Watervliet Arsenal. He came to Amsterdam in 1870 and for eight years worked in the confectionery business, when he started in business for himself manufacturing all kinds of confectionery, a business he still continues. July 23, 1872, he married Pricilla F., oldest daughter of Samuel F. and Catherine Stewart of Newtonville. Mr. Mansfield is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84 F. & A. M., of which he is now senior warden; also member of Amsterdam Chapter No. 81 R. A. M.; also member of St. George's Commandery No. 37 K. T. of Schenectady; also of Dewitt Clinton Council R. & S.; also of the Consistory thirty-second degree, and of the Mystic Shrine of Troy, and is also one of the vestrymen of St. Ann's Episcopal church. The ancestry of the family is English.

Myers & Parker, broom and brush manufacturers. This enterprise was established in the city of Amsterdam in 1827 by George W. Bronson, it being the first broom industry founded in the valley. James H. Bronson succeeded his father in the business, and in 1885 William P. Myers (who had been engaged in the grocery business since 1874) became a partner, and in 1890 William H. Parker succeeded Mr. Bronson. In that year the plant was removed to Fultonville, a new and elegant factory being built, the main building being of brick three stories in height, and 120 feet in length by fifty feet deep. This building embodied all the modern improvements and among them the first electric light in use in any broom factory. Among the auxiliary buildings is an iron storehouse forty by eighty feet and one thirty by one hundred. The capacity of the factory is an output of 500 dozen goods per day. William P. Myers was born in the city of Brooklyn April 5, 1855. He was married December 29, 1886, to Minnie A. Van Evera, one of two children of Horace and Margaret (Abel) Van Evera of Fultonville. William H. Parker was born in Dutchess county January 23, 1865. He was married June 25, 1891, to Grace Adelaide Wemple, one of three children of Edward and Frances A. (Groat) Wemple of Fultonville.

Mabee, Abram, Glen, was born in Glen October 20, 1840, one of four children of Harmanus and Maria (Newkirk) Mabee; the others being Peter H., Mary E., wife of Benjamin Faulkner; Eleanor, wife of John K. Van Horne. Harmanus, the father, had one brother, Henry Mabee. His father was Peter H., also born in Glen. The remote ancestor of the Mabee family was Jan Pieterse Mabee, who came to Schenectady in 1684. He married Anna, daughter of Pieter Jacobse Borsboon, one of the original proprietors of Schenectady. In the year 1697 Rode, called by the Christians Dirk, a Mohawk sachem, with the consent of the other Mohawks, granted a piece of ground containing eighty acres, lying on both sides of Schoharie creek, commonly known as Kudarodae (or Caudagrity, as it is now written) to Jan Pieterse Mabee, on consider-

ation that his wife "is something related to the Mohawk castle." This land is said to be still in the possession of the Mabee descendants. Abram Mabee married, September 9, 1874, Anna Schuyler, daughter of George S. and Clarissa (Van Schayek) Schuyler of Glen, she being one of six children.

Murphy, Thomas, Canajoharie, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, December 3, 1812, a son of John and Kate (Kilbronen) Murphy. Thomas married at the age of twenty-eight Mary Prunkett, daughter of Oliver Prunkett. In 1851 Mr. Murphy brought his family to this country, locating first in New York, where he remained but a short time, then coming to this town, where, in 1863 he bought his present farm of 168 acres. He has quite a large hop yard, and during the busy season employs twenty workers. He has had eight children of whom six survive: Mary, wife of Patrick M'Kough of Glen; Frank, a farmer of Otsego county; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Kearns who conducts the homestead farm; John, who went to California in 1872 and became a miner; James H., a butcher of Amsterdam; and Kate, wife of John Carney of Amsterdam. Mr. Murphy has made a success of farming.

MacGregor, Alexander, Amsterdam, was born on the old MacGregor homestead in the town of Florida September 15, 1809, where he resided and followed the occupation of a farmer until 1886, when he moved to the city of Amsterdam and retired from active pursuits. His father, Duncan MacGregor, was born near Glasgow, Scotland, and came to this country when a young man. Shortly after his arrival he married Ann, daughter of Call MacGregor, and they had four sons: Daniel, Alexander, John and Robert. March 3, 1836, the subject of this sketch married Deborah Smith of the town of Perth. They had two daughters, Helen A., who died at the age of thirteen, and Martha Ann, who married John B. Thompson of the town of Florida. They have two children living: Herbert and Alexander; two dead, Howard and Jessie. June 28, 1855, Mr. MacGregor married Rebecca, only daughter of Jacob G. and Margaret Putman of the town of Glen. By this union Mr. MacGregor has three children, two daughters and one son: Frances, the first daughter, who married Lewis A. Casler of the town of Florida, has one daughter, Maude, and a son, Arthur L.; Margaretta, the second daughter, married Jacob McClumpha of the town of Florida, and they have a daughter living, Majorie, and lost one son, Earl A., at the age of three years; John Alexander, the only son, is a member of the firm of MacGregor & Schuyler, merchants of the city of Amsterdam. Mr. MacGregor had two uncles who lost their lives in the war of 1812. The ancestry of the family is Scotch on both sides. The present Mrs. MacGregor is a granddaughter of Captain Garret Putman of revolutionary fame, and is Holland Dutch descent.

Nellis Family, The.—The great historian of the Reformation, John Fox, writes as follows: "In the meantime the Protestants of Heidelberg (a city in the province of the Palatinate) sank into poverty, and many of them became so distressed, as to quit their native country, and seek an asylum in Protestant States. A great number of these coming into England in the time of Queen Anne, were cordially received here, and met with a most humane assistance, both by public and private donations." Three thousand of these refugees embarked at Leith, Scotland, in ten ships, early in 1710,

bound for America. Seven of these ships arrived here safely, having buried 470 of their number at sea. They landed at Governor's island, June 13, 1710. Among them were three brothers, William, Christian and Johannes Nellis. They first settled on a tract in Dutchess county, but in 1712 with other Palatines, they hewed a road across the Catskills, and came to Schoharie river. Afterwards Johannes Nellis went to Pennsylvania, and settled in the vicinity of Gettysburg, and in 1720 William and Christian settled in the Mohawk valley near Palatine church. On the 19th of October, 1723, William and twenty-six other Palatines procured a patent of 12,000 acres, designated the Stone Arabia patent. Afterwards he and George Klock procured a smaller tract, known as the Klock and Nellis patent. William Nellis had five sons: Andrew, Ludwig, Henry, Johannes and William, jr. On the 30th of December, 1768, a pledge or agreement was made and subscription list started for the erection of a church edifice for the "Lutheran congregation of Canajoharie on the north side of the Mohawk river." "The bowmasters or managers of this church building, till finished conveniently, according to the majority of our votes: Peter Waggoner, Andrew Reber and Christian Nellis, jun." The deed for the land upon which the church was to be erected was dated "the second day of January in the ninth year of His Majesty's reign, King George the Third, &c., Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, between Hendrick W. Nellis of Canajoharie in the county of Albany, &c., province of New York, yeoman, of the one part, and the church wardens of the Lutheran congregation of the same place on the north side of the Mohawk river of the other part, witnesseth, that the said Hendrick W. Nellis, for and in consideration of a particular love and affection to the said congregation, and for the establishment and maintainance of said Lutheran church, hath given, granted, aliened, infeoffed and confirmed, and by these presents," etc. Then follows a description of the lot, which fronts eighty feet on the highway and is sixty-four feet deep, being a parallelogram. A stone church was erected and completed on the 18th day of August, 1770. The total cost was £620. On this subscription list appear the names of William Nellis, jr., Andrew Nellis, Johannes Nellis, Henry Nellis, Christian Nellis, David Nellis, each of whom paid £60. "And William Nellis, the father of William, Andrew, Johannes and Henry Nellis, paid for the making of the spire, &c., to the steeple of said church." Several of the Nellis family held offices of profit and trust under the English crown. Hendrick W. Nellis's son Henry and his son Robert went to Canada and joined the British army at the commencement of the revolutionary war, consequently their land was confiscated. William Nellis, jr., had five sons: Johannes, Peter I., Joseph, William and John I. John I. was born in 1769, and died in 1849. He was the grandfather of Peter F. Nellis of St. Johnsville, who has in his possession many of the documents connected with the early history of this country, of the Nellis family and of the Palatine stone church. Joseph was born in Palatine (at that time Canajoharie) April 17, 1759, and died February 24, 1834. He married Mary Lantman and they were the parents of two children—Joseph I., born in the town of St. Johnsville May 23, 1787, and died September 21, 1862; and Mary, born in 1792, who died at the age of thirteen. Joseph I. served as an officer in the war of 1812-15. He married when eighteen years of age, Magdalen, daughter of David Bellinger of St. Johnsville, and they were the parents of eight children: Charles, Benjamin J., Josiah, Cath-

arine, Aaron, Stephen, Abraham, and Horatio. The elder three are dead. Horatio, the youngest son and father of Jacob H., was born in St. Johnsville February 25, 1827, was educated in the common schools, and married, January 9, 1849, Catharine, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Keller) Sanders of Minden. They had four children, two of whom are living: Jacob H., and Arthur C., a merchant seedsman of Staten Island. In March, 1849, Horatio Nellis moved into the town of Canajoharie, where he bought the old Walrath homestead, a fine farm of 120 acres. Here Jacob H. was born, April 2, 1850, and he has always lived in this town. He was educated in the Canajoharie Academy and Fairfield Seminary, and married, November 11, 1873, Estella, daughter of David Quackenbush of Root. She lived less than a year, leaving an infant that survived her but a few days. February 21, 1883, he married, second, Ella D., youngest daughter of Colonel Stephen Ostrom of Glen, and they have three children: Clara L., born March 15, 1885; Margaret A., born February 9, 1887; and Joseph I., born January 1, 1882. In 1877 Mr. Nellis established the manufacture of bee-keeper's supplies, and also conducted a lumber yard, being forced out of the business in 1883 by the West Shore Railroad company. Horatio Nellis was supervisor of the town in 1871, and has held the office of assessor and town auditor. Jacob H. was commissioner of highways of the town in 1883. The family are staunch Democrats, and are members of the Lutheran church.

Nellis, Frazier, Palatine, was born in St. Johnsville April 21, 1858. His father was Edward F. Nellis; his grandfather, David Nellis; his great-grandfather, John I. Nellis, whose father came to Palatine at an early day. John I. was born near Palatine church and lived and died there; he had two sons and three daughters. David Nellis was born in Palatine and married a daughter of Peter and Catherine Fox, who raised a family of three sons and one daughter; he was a farmer, and the family were Lutherans; he died in 1860, and his wife a few years before. Edward F. Nellis was born in Palatine in 1830, raised on a farm, and educated in the common schools; his wife was Nancy, daughter of Henry Saltsman; they had two sons and a daughter. Mr. Nellis was a farmer and a Democrat, and the family were Lutherans; he died June 6, 1884, and his widow resides with Frazier. The latter was raised on a farm and educated at the common school. In 1890 he married Katie, daughter of John Helmer of Oppenheim; they have one child, Myra. Mr. Nellis is a Democrat and has been assessor for three years.

Nellis, Edward I., Palatine, was born in Palatine April 9, 1844, and is a son of Jacob W. Nellis, a native of Palatine, who married, May 4, 1833, Annie E. Crosby, born August 14, 1814, who bore him four sons and three daughters, Edward I. being the youngest. Mr. Nellis and family were Lutherans; he died in 1879, and his wife is still living. Edward I. Nellis was educated at the public schools, supplemented by several terms at Fort Plain Academy. He has always followed farming. In 1881 he married Grace, daughter of George and Emma Brooker of Palatine (parents of one son and three daughters); Mrs. Brooker died April 22, 1890. Edward I. Nellis and wife have three children: Clyde E., Jay J., and Harry A. Mr. Nellis has been town clerk, and is a member of Fort Plain Lodge No. 433, F. and A. M., and he and his wife are members of the Universalist church.

Ottman, Ezra G., Root, son of Christopher and Lydia (Hutton) Ottman, was born January 23, 1860, where he now resides. His education was obtained in the district schools and Eastman's business college. He follows farming. His grandfather, Henry Ottman, was a son of Christopher, who was stolen while herding stock and forced into the English army, and brought to America and compelled to fight against the colonists. At the close of the revolution he settled in Lyker's Corners. He married a daughter of Squire Lyker, by whom he had one daughter. He married, second, a Miss Sharp, who bore him two sons and one daughter. He died at Brown's Hollow. Henry, his son, was born at Lyker's in 1786 where he died in 1856. He married Katie Alpaugh, by whom he had six sons and two daughters. One of the sons, Christopher, father of our subject, was born near Lyker's April 18, 1816, and in 1851 located where Ezra J. now resides. Of his eleven children nine survive: Henry W., Sarah, Catharine A., Hattie, Lottie, Lorena, Jasper C., Ezra G., Mary, and two who died in infancy. The mother was born in Sharon, and is a daughter of George and Sarah (Wyckoff) Hutton, natives of Glen, and the parents of four sons and three daughters.

Perkins, John W., Amsterdam, was born in Poughkeepsie on the 9th of August, 1839, and came with his parents to Amsterdam via the Erie canal, which at that time was a common mode of transportation. He was educated in the public schools and early in life learned the moulder's trade. About the year 1865 he began business on his own account and in 1884 formed a partnership with Edward L. Schmidt under the firm of Perkins Foundry Company. He has been married twice, first in 1862 to Elizabeth S. Parantau of this city. They had five children, three sons and two daughters. Edward J., Clara, Clarence, William and Elizabeth. Mrs. Perkins died in the year 1870. In the year 1873 he married Dora M. Booth of this city. Mr. Perkins's father, William, was born in 1802 in Lubenham, Leicestershire, England. He married Jane Wright and came to the United States in 1835. They had nine children, seven of whom are living; Ann, Emma E., Thomas, John W., Joseph, Joshua and Hattie M.

Post, James, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., a native of New Jersey, came to this country when a young man and settled in Glen on the Cadorty Flats, where he built a tannery which he conducted for many years; he was also a farmer. He was twice married, and had five children by his first wife and three by his second. Abram Post, son of James, was born in Glen. He married Anna E. Haslett of Florida, and had two children: W. H. and Mary C. He was a farmer and held the office of assessor, and was a faithful supporter of the church. W. Haslett was born November 17, 1835, in Mohawk, and has always lived there. He is a farmer and owns 140 acres. He married Annie E. Brower, and has three children: Abram W., Gertrude G., and Mary C. His second wife was Anna M. Gardinier. Mr. Post has a fine residence at Tribes Hill railway station which he has recently remodeled in a very thorough manner. His farm is beautifully situated and he is always ready to welcome his friends in the most hospitable manner.

Smith, Isaac Eugene, St. Johnsville, was born July 24, 1814, in Minden, being the eldest son of Samuel F. and Maria (Cox) Smith, and was reared on the farm. He received a district school education with a course at the Seminary and Eastman's Busi-

ness College, from which he graduated in the spring of 1862. In July of that year he entered the army, enlisting in Company B, 115th Regiment New York State Volunteers. At the organization of this company he was made second sergeant. His first service was at Harper's Ferry, where, after a few days' skirmishing and fighting, on the 15th of September, 1862, his regiment, with some 10,000 other troops, surrendered to Stonewall Jackson. They were immediately paroled and started for Washington, but arriving at Annapolis were ordered to Chicago as paroled prisoners of war. In November following, an exchange of prisoners having been effected, they were ordered back to Washington and from there to the department of the South, being stationed at Hilton Head. He participated in the battle of Olustee, February 20, 1864, where he received a serious gun shot wound and lay in hospital three months, rejoining his regiment before the wound had healed. At Bermuda Hundreds, the 10th Corps, to which his regiment belonged, having been ordered to form part of the army of the James, and participated in all the engagements of his regiment during the campaign around Petersburg and Richmond, of which the most important battles were Bermuda Hundreds, Deep Bottom, Cold Harbor, Chapin's Farm, Darby Town Road, Fort Gilmer near Richmond, Mine Explosion near Petersburg, and Assault and Capture of Fort Fisher. He was commissioned second lieutenant on May 18, 1863; first lieutenant and captain May 18, 1865. He served on the staff of Colonel Barton and General Pennypacker, commander 2d brigade 2d division 10th corps, first as aidecamp and then as acting assistant adjutant-general, serving in the latter capacity from September 18, 1864 until the disbandment of the brigade in September 18, 1865, at Raleigh. On the muster out of the 115th regiment, in June, 1865, he was transferred to the 47th New York Veteran regiment, and was among the last of the volunteer troops to be mustered out of service, receiving his final discharge at Hart's Island. Returning home he resumed farming for a couple of years and then engaged in the drug business in St. Johnsville, which he conducted until 1880, when he sold out and accepted a position as cashier in the freight department of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R. at Schenectady, resigning this position in the winter of 1883 to accept one as assistant paymaster with the North River Construction Company, engaged in building the West Shore railroad. On completion of the road he obtained a position with the Wagner Palace Car Company as conductor, in which service he is still engaged, and has recently been granted a patent on a ticket—known as the Smith system of coupon tickets for drawing room and sleeping cars. He was elected town clerk of St. Johnsville in 1872-73-74, and supervisor in 1875 on the Republican ticket. He was married, February 12, 1867, to Elizabeth Reed Kingsbury, daughter of William and Charlotte (Armitage) Kingsbury of St. Johnsville, formerly of Marblehead, Mass., and London, England, respectively. Our subject and wife had four children: Sarah H., who died October, 1884, aged sixteen; Charlotte K., wife of John B. Snell; William K., who died in infancy; and Julius Frederick; his wife died April 23, 1887; she was born in St. Johnsville July 17, 1846. The grandfather, Isaac, was born near Morristown, N. J., October 6, 1775, and moved with his father (Asher Smith) to Vermont in March, 1797. He married Polly Tichenor of Bridgeport, Vt., who bore him four sons and two daughters. He moved from Vermont in the year 1800 and bought a home in what was then the wild region of western New York, set-

ting in Mentz, Cayuga county. A few years after he moved to Camillus, and in 1812 was elected member of assembly; soon after he moved back to Cayuga county and was elected member of assembly for that county. He died at his home in Seneca Falls, where he had lived some years, March 1, 1854. His son, Samuel P., was born in Mentz September 15, 1802. When quite a young man, his health being impaired, was advised by his physician to go south and went to Baltimore, remaining there for a while, and preferring something to do he applied to a company building a railroad from Baltimore to Frederick City, and was given a position as foreman; later on he was made paymaster, and remained with the company until the road was put in operation, when at the earnest solicitations of his father he returned home to take charge of his milling business. In 1837 he married Maria, daughter of Ebenezer and Nancy Cox of Minden, and engaged in farming, which he conducted until within a couple of years of his death, when he surrendered the management of it to his son, William C. He had held the office of assessor of his town for several years and for two terms that of justice of the peace. He had nine children, six sons and three daughters. He died at his home on the farm December 29, 1881, being in his eightieth year. His wife, four sons and one daughter survive him, named respectively, Isaac E., Julius E., William C. and Gertrude E., wife of James E. Place.

St. John, Lewis M., Canajoharie, was born on the 9th of March, 1836, on the farm where he now lives. He is a son of Sylvanus and Chloe (Stark) St. John; the former a native of New Canaan, Conn. Mathew St. John, the great-great-grandfather of Lewis M., was the founder of the family in America, and was a farmer or yeoman. About 1680 he came, it is believed, from England and settled in Norwalk, colony of Connecticut. He had four sons. Mark, the second son and the next in line, had seven sons, three of whom were killed at Queenstown Heights. The only authentic knowledge the family have of Mark is that he was, in 1765, a collector of taxes in the colony of Massachusetts for the king of England, and died about 1770. John St. John, the grandfather, settled at Waterville in 1800 and built the grist and saw-mills there. In the war of 1812 he was captain and died about 1814 of fever contracted in the army. Our subject's father was reared at Waterville and succeeded to the business of his father. In 1822 he sold all his interest there and came to the farm where he reared his family; he died at the age of seventy there. The paternal grandmother of Lewis was a Drake, tradition says, a direct descendant of Sir Francis Drake, and a daughter of Rev. Aaron Drake, a Baptist preacher; she died at the age of eighty-five. Mr. St. John was educated at Ames and at Fort Plain Seminary. He has continued on the farm all his life except for eight years spent at East St. Louis in the real estate business. He is a Republican, as was his father, who was a strong anti-slavery advocate. In August, 1871, he married Lydia A. Jackson, born January 1, 1852, at Erie, Pa., daughter of Nathan P. Jackson of Rochester. On her father's side she traces her ancestry back to General Israel Putnam of revolutionary fame. Mr. and Mrs. St. John have three sons: Clyde L., born November 13, 1871; Lewis S., born February 13, 1874; and Harry A., born November 29, 1888. Mr. St. John and his wife are members of the M. E. church of Canajoharie.

Schuyler, Frederick, Root, was born in Root June 29, 1846, he being one of six children of George S. and Clarissa (Van Schaick) Schuyler of Glen. The others were: Sarah, Mrs. Reuben Devendorf; Mary Antoinette, Mrs. A. Prunyn; Jacob; Anna, wife of Abram Mabee; and Henry W. Schuyler. His grandfather, Jacob, was born in the town of Florida, his wife being Mary Serviss. George S., the father, was one of six children, as was also his wife, Clarissa. Frederick Schuyler married, November 26, 1877, Rebecca, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Burns) Fisher of Fultonville, she being one of five children, the others being Jennie, wife of Seymour Wemple; Lizzie; Hattie, wife of Charles Quackenbush; and Charles. Her grandfather was Charles Fisher of Glen. They have one daughter, Clara May. Mr. Schuyler has resided in Glen for the past thirty-eight years.

Smith, Joseph, Minden, was born in Minden July 17, 1817, and is the second son of a family of four children of Abraham and Margaret (Klock) Smith. When our subject was four years of age his father removed to St. Johnsville, and his early education was obtained at the district schools of that town. At the age of thirteen he came to live with his uncle, Henry H. Smith, in Minden. His uncle was a farmer living about five miles west of Fort Plain, on the River road. In 1867 Mr. Smith came to Fort Plain to reside, and since that time has discontinued active business. He was one of the first stockholders of the St. Johnsville National Bank, became a director in 1867, and for the last ten years has been president. A Republican in politics, he has never been an aspirant for political honors. Mr. Smith married first, Nancy, daughter of John Adam Snell. Of the two children, one died in infancy, and the other, Alfred Alonzo, became a member of the 115th New York Volunteers, and was killed at the battle of Olustee. He married second, Celia, daughter of John Adam Snell, by whom he had five children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were: Charles, who died at Denver, aged twenty-four years; Frank F., a resident of Richmond, Ind.; and Herbert, died in Minden, aged twenty-two years; and Lillian.

Steingraves, Orlando, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie about two miles south of the village, May 14, 1839, and is a son of Augustus and Elizabeth (Craft) Steingraves. Augustus, his father, was one of the earliest settlers of the town, coming from Hanover, Germany, when twenty-five years old. He located in this town on his arrival and found plenty of occupation as a carpenter in the new country. His wife, Elizabeth Craft, was born in Germany and they were married four years after their arrival. They were the parents of three children: Louisa Steingrebe of Quincy, Ill.; Marie Brand of Syracuse; and Orlando, our subject, whose whole life has been spent in this town. He attended the public school and assisted his father on his farm until he was twenty-one, when he started out for himself. In 1865 he went into the grocery business, first as clerk for Jacob Hammersmith until 1876, when he bought Mr. Hammersmith's interest in the store and assumed control. He remained thus until 1882 when he sold to E. Seabright, and was out of business until 1886 when he started a new grocery store in the new Hammersmith block which he has since successfully conducted. On April 29, 1869, he married Doretta Jones, daughter of Charles and Charlotte (Willeck) Jones of Canajoharie, and they have two children: Olive L., born January 23, 1871, and Elizabeth M., born September 3, 1874. Mrs. Steingraves died June 29, 1885. Mr. Stein-

graves has never taken much interest in politics, but has held offices of trust in the village, and has twice been elected town clerk of Canajoharie, but his ambition is to be an honest and successful business man.

Stewart, James, Amsterdam, was born December 4, 1794, in the highland village of Port Nellan, Perthshire, Scotland, the home of his family for generations. Born of a sturdy, vigorous race, he inherited, from a long-line of noble ancestors that reaches back four hundred years to David of Scotland and Robert Bruce, those sterling qualities of head and heart that were destined in the new world to make him a man among men, a noble bearer of a noble name. His parents came to America in 1796 and located at Mayfield. At the age of sixteen he left the farm to make room at the fireside for a large family, of which he was the oldest. Following in the footsteps of his father, he became a stone cutter of no mean ability and later a government contractor. All over the country, in many states, along the lines of canals and railways, may be seen for generations to come, in solid stone, locks, massive arches and bridges, the monuments of his labor, for he builded wisely and well. In not a few instances, rather than place his seal upon unworthy work, he lost heavily on these contracts. In some he was, by special legislation, awarded reimbursements. In 1843 he married Melissa J., daughter of Dr. Abram Pulling of Amsterdam, and a lineal descendant of Colonial Governor Fitch of Connecticut, who proved a most worthy helpmate. Richly dowered by nature, both mentally and physically, Mrs. Stewart possessed a personality singularly rare; hospitality and charity were spontaneous expressions of her nature, and their united life was most happy and successful. Though living more than thirty years after her husband's death in the shadow of that deep affliction, she yet bore most nobly the burdens that thus devolved upon her—a young woman still. In 1846 Mr. Stewart purchased the old Johnson place, Guy Park, which he rebuilt and enlarged, making it one of the most beautiful homes in the Mohawk valley. Here on this farm his children were born and reared, surrounded on every side by the evidences of a master mind, that his children's children may now emulate; for his works stand as models for to-day. To a phenomenal physique, he added exceptional mental resources and breadth of intellect, which set its seal in no uncertain lines upon his every work. Here he brought his aged parents to end their days, and built to the already large house an additional wing for their accommodation, and here too, directly in front of his home, on the tracks of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. he met a most sudden death on July 28, 1860; thus terminating a life than which the world knows no nobler. His second daughter, M. Evelyn, who married Albert C. Phillips of the town of Florida, now occupies the old homestead. They have two children, a daughter and son, Anna E. and William Stewart.

Stover, Martin J., Amsterdam, father of Dr. Charles, was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer county, was educated in the public schools and Hartwick Seminary; he has been a minister for over fifty years in the Lutheran denomination. August 24, 1837, he married Lydia A. Hartman of Dansville, Livingston county; they have six children, five sons and one daughter: Jacob H., James H., Sarah J., Martin L., George B., and Charles. Jacob H., James H. and Sarah J., are dead. Judge Martin L. has a fine soldier's record and is judge of the Superior Court. Charles was born at Cobleskill, February 28, 1851; he was first educated in the public schools, prepared for College at

Seneca Falls Academy and entered Cornell University in 1871. In 1876 he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1880 as an M. D., and began the practice of his profession the same year in Amsterdam; he was in company with Dr. Robb three years; the family is of German ancestry. Dr. Stover is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84 F. & A. M. and Amsterdam Chapter 87 R. A. M., and Dewitt Clinton Council No. 22 R. & S. M. of Albany, and of St. John's Commandery No. 37 K. T. of Schenectady. He is a member of the Medical Society of the State of New York and of the Montgomery County Medical Society.

Rickard, Charles, Glen, was born in Root January 3, 1874, and is one of five children of Henry and Sarah Ellen (Abel) Rickard, of the same town, the others being Philip Abel, William Henry, Frederick, who died in childhood, and one sister, who died in infancy. Charles married on October 29, 1873, Margaret Ann, one of six children of Abram and Catharine E. (Devendorf) Starin of Glen, the others being as follows: John H., Jacob A., Lizzie (Mrs. Douw Heagel), David H. and Levi A. Starin. Mr. and Mrs. Rickard have two children, Clara Lynn and Maggie May Rickard. Mr. Rickard began business in Fultonville in 1869 and in 1873 entered the drug business in the same place, where he has since remained. He is one of the most successful business men in the valley. Within the last few years he has turned his attention to real estate, and is now one of the largest real estate owners in Fultonville. He has also interested himself in the schools of the place and was one of the school board at the time of the erection of the school-house, which is one of the finest in the region. He is also president of the board of education.

Rosa, Isaac A., Mohawk, son of Isaac A. and Phebe Ann (Alvord) Rosa, was born in Broadalbin in 1836. In 1855 he began the manufacture of gloves and mittens in Broadalbin, which business he continued until 1862, when he went to New York and opened a clothing store; this he disposed of in 1868 and moved to Fonda, where he kept the Fonda Hotel (now Snell House) until 1882, when he was elected sheriff for a term of three years. He has been supervisor of Mohawk for eight years; treasurer of the agricultural society for five years; delegate to state, senatorial and congressional conventions several times; for seven consecutive years was chairman of the Democratic county committee, and has always taken an active part in politics. In 1856 he married Charlotte C. Gorton, and they have had four children, two of whom are living. In 1857 he joined Artisan Lodge, No. 86, F. & A. M., of Amsterdam. He is a dealer in lumber, a builder and contractor, and has built a large number of houses for himself in Fonda. Isaac R. Rosa, father of Isaac A. Rosa, was born in Schenectady. He kept the Rosa Hotel in Broadalbin for twenty-five years, and died in 1849. In 1800 his father, Richard, moved to Broadalbin when that section of the country was a wilderness. He was a contractor and a builder, and bought a large tract of land.

Saltsman, Adam, Palatine, was born in Palatine, December 18, 1832. His father was Henry, and his grandfather was William Saltsman, whose father immigrated from Germany and settled in Palatine, near where Adam was born; he married Catherine Wagner and had ten children. Henry Saltsman was born in Palatine in 1802, raised on a farm, and married Elizabeth Lipe, who bore him five sons and three daughters. She

died in 1844, and he married Catherine Loucks, who had one daughter. He was highway commissioner, and with his family was a member of the Lutheran Church. Adam Saltsman was raised on a farm, and married, in 1867, Matilda Nellis of St. Johnsville, to whom two children have been born: Jay, who died May 4, 1892, aged twenty-three, and Helen, who is at home. Mr. Saltsman is a member of Stone Arabia Grange, No. 690. The family attends the Stone Arabia Lutheran Church.

Spraker, James D., was born at Spraker's, Montgomery county, and is one of seven children of Daniel and Eliza (Dykeman) Spraker, being their only son. The others were Catharine, Alice, Louisa, wife of J. W. Wilson of Fonda; Frances, Isabella, and Harriet. Mrs. Wilson is the only one of the daughters living. James D. Spraker married December 14, 1870, Harriet M., one of the children of John H. and L. M. (Mears) Starin, the others being De Lancy and Charles Freeman (both deceased), Myndert, and Caroline, wife of Howard Carroll of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Spraker have three children: Laura Belle, Marguerite, and John Starin Spraker. They reside in New York city, where Mr. Spraker has been engaged in business for the past twenty-one years.

Stafford, Harvey R., Canajoharie, was born in the village of Canajoharie, and is a son of Brown and Phoebe (Young) Stafford. The first Stafford who came to this country was Thomas, who emigrated from England in 1626, and was one of the settlers of Newport, R. I., in 1638. He removed in a few years to Providence, and from thence in 1652 to Warwick, where he died in 1677. He was a millwright, and at Plymouth he built the first mill in this country for grinding corn by water-power. His grandson, Colonel Joab Stafford, was the great-great-grandfather of Harvey R. He was colonel of a Massachusetts regiment during the revolution. Tracing the ancestry we find that the father of Brown Stafford was a resident of Cheshire, Mass., when Brown was born in 1810. On reaching manhood he first learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed after he came to this town. He built here the old Methodist church, the one at Ames and the one at Johnstown. In 1846 he started a grocery store in Canajoharie and shortly afterwards took up the insurance business. In 1859 he gave up the store and devoted his attention to the latter. His death occurred January 1, 1886, and Canajoharie lost one of its most respected citizens and one who had always been an active worker in the Methodist church, being a steward of that church at the time of his death. He held the office of village trustee for a great many terms and was a coroner of the county for several years. His business at his death was left to his son, Harvey R. Stafford, who for a number of years had been his partner. He still conducts it and represents eleven different fire insurance companies, and is agent for the New York Life and the Employers Accident Company.

Smith, Bartholomew, Canajoharie, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, April 3, 1851, and came to this country with his brother, Anthony, in 1866. He first located in Fort Plain, where he was employed by his uncle, Michael Galvin, who was then conducting a hotel. He remained there till 1875, then he moved to Canajoharie, at first selling auction goods; after this he established a grocery and provision store in the Nellis block, which he conducted till the fire of April, 1877, after which he sought for new

quarters, where the Hammersmith Block now stands. He did business there until the fall of 1877, and then removed to the Stafford Block, corner Church and Bowery, where he carried on a successful business until his death. This occurred August 17, 1887, and Canajoharie lost one of its best business men. Mr. Smith, at the time of his death, was the owner of the northern part of the Stafford Block, where his store was located. He married a daughter of Thomas Crough and sister of Timothy Crough.

Scharff, Charles W., Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie November 19, 1844, and is a son of Charles and Louisa (Strauman) Scharff. Charles Scharff, the father of the subject, was a native of Germany, and came to this country in 1836, locating in Canajoharie. He was the father of eight children, four of whom are still living; Elizabeth, widow of John L. Ranzo of Canajoharie; Sophia, wife of Joseph Roser of the same place; William J., a hotel-keeper of Fort Plain; Charles, W., our subject, whose whole life has been spent in this town. He was educated in Canajoharie Academy and on leaving school he entered the store of J. H. Davis to learn the tinsmith trade, where he remained until August 5, 1862, when he enlisted in the One Hundred Fifteenth N. Y. Volunteers and was with it in the battles of Olustee, Cold Harbor, Harper's Ferry, Chesterfield Heights, Petersburg, Fort Fisher and other engagements. He was mustered out of service June 27, 1865, when he returned home and spent two years in a Utica shop to finish his trade. He returned to J. H. Davis and spent fifteen years in his establishment, after which in 1882 he opened the hardware store and tin shop on Church street, which was burned in 1890. He then secured his present location on Main street, where he carries a general line of everything in the hardware business. In 1866 he married Carrie Shoemaker of Utica. They have had three children: Phoebe, wife of Peter G. Dillenbeck of Canajoharie; Florence, wife of Gurnen Jones of Fonda; and Charles M., a clerk in his father's store. Mr. Scharff has held the office of village treasurer for three years and is the present postmaster of Canajoharie.

Saltsman, William M. (deceased), a farmer, was born in Palatine in 1818, and died in 1883. His father was Michael, and his grandfather was William Saltsman. Michael Saltsman, who was a farmer, was born in Palatine and married Margaret Cook of Palatine by whom he had six children. He died in 1854, and his wife in 1869. William Saltsman was raised on a farm, educated in the public schools, and married in 1850, Maria, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth (Keck) Martin. The latter were the parents of twelve children. Mrs. Martin is an aunt of Judge Keck of Johnstown. Mr. Saltsman is a farmer, and he and his wife are Lutherans. They have had five children as follows: Philip M., Mary E., Alexander, William J., Irwin. Mr. Saltsman was a member of the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia, as is his wife at the present time.

Snell, Jacob, Mohawk, is the son of Alexander and Mory (Loucks) Snell, and was born in Palatine July 11, 1847. He received a common school education and was a farmer and stone contractor until April 1, 1883, when he bought the Fonda hotel and changed the name to the Snell house, which he recently sold at a profit. In 1885 he was elected sheriff. He was supervisor of Palatine one year, and town clerk two terms. He was engaged in boating on the Erie canal for a year and for another year was superintendent for Belden, Dennison & Co. on the Welland Canal. He is a member of the

Knights of Pythias and Red Men; is a Republican and an active worker in politics, and has been a delegate to county and state conventions. In 1867 he married Nancy C. Nellis of Palatine, daughter of Captain John J. Nellis. They have five children: Lizzie, Lulu, Elda, J. D., and James A. Alexander Snell, father of Jacob, was born in the town of Palatine and resided there during his lifetime. He was a farmer. He married Mary, daughter of Peter C. Loucks, and they had nine children, eight of whom are living. He was elected sheriff of Montgomery county in 1861 and held various town offices. During the late war he was active in securing recruits, going to Nashville and enlisting colored men to help fill the quotas of the towns of his county. He died September 17, 1892. His wife is still living at Yonkers.

Van Deveer, Tunis I., Amsterdam, was born in Florida April 7, 1800, and settled in Amsterdam in 1822. He was a descendant of John and Katharine (Conover) Van Derveer, natives of New Jersey, but of Holland descent. They were residents of Florida for over half a century, and were a family of wealth and influence. On November 13, 1822, Tunis I. Van Derveer married Theodosia, daughter of John and Nancy Merrell of Charleston, and located on a farm that bears his name, at that time just outside the (then) small village. He was one of the most prosperous farmers in the Mohawk valley, and had a careful, far-seeing judgment in all transactions. He was noted for his liberality, and was one of the most public-spirited as well as traveled men of his day, both in this country and Europe. He was one of the first to feel the importance of a female seminary, and in May, 1838, he with E. E. De Graff, headed a subscription with a thousand dollars. In September, 1841, the Agricultural society of Montgomery county was organized, making Mr. Van Derveer its first president. He had seven children, four daughters and three sons. On August 24, 1871, he was called to bid adieu to scenes in which his own hands and guiding judgment had taken part, and leave for a "house not built with hands, eternal in the heavens." His wife survived him twenty-one years, and on September 4, 1892, at the rare age of ninety-one, in the full possession of all her faculties and encircled by the affections of her children and grandchildren, she passed the evening of her life, and when her summons came, gently fell into her Saviour's arms and "slumbered over" in the life beyond.

Van Evera, Peter F., Glen, was born in Root August 23, 1856. He was one of three children of James P. and Maria (Vedder) Van Evera, the others being Mary Louisa, wife of Theodore Clark, and Ella Grace, who died at the age of fourteen. James P., the father, was born in Glen December 20, 1832, and is one of nine children of Peter and Nancy (Leonardson) Van Evera, the former born in Canajoharie March 23, 1803, and the latter born in Root. The other children were: Charles S., John, Peter, Milard F., Ida C., wife of W. T. Schuyler, Elizabeth E., widow of Jacob H. Starin; Jane Ann, wife of John Van Derveer; and Mary Louisa, deceased. John R. Van Evera, great-grandfather of Peter F., was born in Holland and came to Montgomery county in early life. Peter F. was married October 10, 1878, to Emma, daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Houck) Gardinier of Schoharie county. Mrs. Van Evera was one of three children, the others being: Anna, wife of Haslett Post; and Elizabeth C., who died in childhood. They have one daughter, Ella Grace. The grandfather of Emma

Gardinier was Henry, and his wife was Elizabeth Enders Gardinier. Elizabeth Houck, her mother, was one of seven children of Henry and Margaret (Kniskern) Houck.

Voorhees, Edward G., Glen, was born in Glen February 9, 1856, and is one of five children of Spencer and Eliza (Hutton) Voorhees, the others being Francis H., Annie C., wife of George Cross, Emma H., wife of John Stokes, and Ella, wife of Chauncy Ottman. Spencer, the father, was born in Florida, and was one of six children of John Voorhees of that town, the others being John, Nelson, Jane, wife of John Hutton, Eliza, and Mrs. David Rulison. Eliza Hutton, the mother, was one of four children of Timothy and Eliza Hutton. Edward G. Voorhees married, June 26, 1878, Henrietta Vunck, daughter of Reuben and Sally Ann (Hewitt) Vunck of Charleston. Mrs. Voorhees's sisters were Lavina, wife of Daultford Hall; Ella, wife of Albert Osterhout; and Lorena, wife of Alfred Osterhout. They have four children: Bessie E., Spencer, jr., Hetty B., and Foster H. Voorhees.

Van Evera, James P., Canajoharie, was born in Glen on the 20th of December, 1831, and is a son of Peter and Nancy (Leonard) Van Evera, natives of this county, and both families among the early settlers of the Mohawk valley. In early life the father was a teacher and clerk in a store in Ames. He was a Whig and a Democrat in politics and for several terms was supervisor of his town. James P. was reared on a farm and followed farming for several years. In 1884 he came to Canajoharie and in 1888 became interested in the manufacture of refrigerators. He is president of the stock company of which A. G. Richmond is treasurer. They are doing an extensive business, the largest of the kind in the Mohawk valley. On the 18th of October, 1842, Mr. Van Evera married Maria, a daughter of Francis B. Vedder of Glen, whose people were among the early settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Van Evera have three children: Peter F., Mary Louisa, and Ellen Grace, deceased. Mr. Van Evera is a Democrat in politics. He and his wife are active members of the Reformed church. Both families are of Dutch origin.

Vedder, Joshua, Palatine, was born in Palatine in 1824. His father was Aaron Vedder, son of Arnold Vedder, a native of Schenectady and early settler of Stone Arabia, who married a Miss Doxtater, who bore him four sons and three daughters. Aaron Vedder was raised on a farm, educated at the common school, and married Catherine, daughter of John P. Gramps and wife (a Miss Bellinger), parents of one son and four daughters. Aaron and wife had four sons, two of whom died in Palatine. Joshua Vedder married Gertrude Graff, a native of St. Johnsville. They have had five children, namely: Amanda (deceased), Edward (deceased), Catharine R., Mary, Arthur G. In 1860 Mr. Vedder came to Nelliston, and in 1876, in partnership with his son-in-law, Mr. Snyder, engaged in the mercantile business, and they have since been known as the fashionable hatters and furriers of Fort Plain, carrying also a stock of men's furnishing goods. Mr. Vedder was supervisor of Palatine three years. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church, as were their ancestors.

Wilson, Henry, Mohawk, son of Jacob, was born in Mohawk in 1806, spending most of his lifetime here, where he followed farming. He married Elizabeth Gross, and they had six children, four sons and two daughters; he died in 1841, and his widow is

still living on the old farm owned by his daughter Maggie. The house is one of the oldest in the county, being built about 1743 by John Butler, who came from England. Henry, the only son of Henry Wilson living in this county, was born September 12, 1830, and has always lived on the farm. He married Elizabeth Hillabrant, and their five children are Edward, Garry (deceased), May (deceased), Henry, and Harvey; the three surviving children reside at home.

Wagner, W. Clark, Palatine, was born in Minden, February 23, 1854. On the paternal side his father was Jeremiah Wagner; his grandfather, William Wagner, and his great-grandfather, George Wagner. William Wagner was born in Palatine in 1779, married Nancy Shults, and had twelve children. He died May 19, 1862, and his wife died a number of years afterwards. Jeremiah Wagner was born January 21, 1814, and married Charlotte, daughter of William Getman of Ephratah. They had one son and two daughters. He was a tailor and resided in Fort Plain the greater part of his life. He died May 19, 1857, and his wife February 13, 1858. W. Clark Wagner became an orphan at four years of age, and was reared by his uncle, Nathan W. Wagner of Palatine. He attended the common school, and chose the occupation of farming. On February 1, 1882, he married Marietta, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Zimmerman) Sponable of Minden. They have four children: Albert C., Lottie E., Alice M. and George S. Mr. Wagner is a Democrat, and he and his family attend the Reformed church at Fort Plain.

Wagner, Harvey E., Canajoharie, Fort Plain p. o., was born in Minden, at Brookman's Corners, August 18, 1841, and is a son of Charles and Ann E. (Brookman) Wagner. The great-grandfather of our subject (Englehardt Wagner) was born in Germany, but the other ancestors were born in this country. Harvey Wagner, grandfather of our subject, was the father of six children, of which Charles was second youngest. He was born in Minden April 24, 1816, and was married to Ann Brookman October 25, 1838. They were the parents of two children: John H., born August 14, 1839, and Harvey E., our subject. This family is one of the earliest settlers of this country, their ancestors living in Minden previous to 1800. When Harvey was eight years old his parents moved into Canajoharie and bought the farm of 210 acres, where they now live. John H. enlisted in the 44th Regiment New York Volunteers, known as the "Ellsworth Avengers," and was killed at the six days fight at the Wilderness at Spottsylvania court house, May, 1864. Our subject was educated in the public school, lived with and assisted his father until his death, which occurred September 14, 1879. February 6, 1866, he married Anna Garlock of this town, and their union has been blessed by five children: Ida, wife of Dr. John Jackson of Fort Plain; Lizzie, Viola, Lillian M., and Charlie P. Mr. Wagner is only interested in politics for the benefit of his country, but not an office seeker. He desires popularity as an honest, upright citizen, and successful farmer, which he has become by his own industry.

Warner, Charles E., Amsterdam was born in Amsterdam, September 27, 1862, and is a son of John and Jennett (Mitchell) Warner. John Warner came to this country from England in 1850, when he was twelve years old, and located at Cohoes. Beginning with nothing but good habits he has built up the largest knit goods manufactory

in Amsterdam, the firm name being Warner, De Forest & Company. He has been a member of assembly for two terms, and is one of the most influential men of the city. Charles E. was sent to the public schools, and thence went to a select school until twelve years of age, when he entered Amsterdam Academy. From thence he went into his father's mills in 1879, learning the knitter's trade, and in 1881 he became foreman of the knitting room in mill number 2. In June, 1886, he resigned this position to enter into partnership with his uncle, William Warner, in Rockton. On June 15, 1881, he married Hattie A., daughter of James and Louisa (West) Pitts of Ballston Spa. Mrs. Pitts, mother of Mrs. Warner, was a sister of George West of Ballston. They are the parents of three children: John W., born February 22, 1883; Louis H., born April 12, 1888, and Jessie Anna Warner, born August 2, 1892. William Warner, his uncle and partner, died January 26, 1892, leaving Charles in full control of the manufactory. The firm has built up a fine business, employing eighty workers. They make a specialty of knit jersey overshirts, men's shirts and drawers, and children's underwear. Mr. Warner says they are now doing a business of \$100,000 a year, being three times the amount they did the first year they were in the business. He has bought a beautiful residence in Rockton, where he now makes his home.

Wilkie, Henry O., Amsterdam, was born at Charlton, November 14, 1853. He was educated in the public schools and Charlton Academy, and when a boy he worked on a farm and taught school several winters. In 1880 he came to Amsterdam, entering the employ of I. C. Shuler & Company, where he remained until 1890, when he started a grocery store, a business he still continues. July 22, 1885, he married Carrie A., only daughter of William A. and Martha A. Firth of this city. They had three children, a son and a daughter died of scarlet fever, Walter O. is living. Mr. Wilkie's father, Elbert, was born at the old home in Saratoga county in the year 1822 and married Sophronia J. Snow of Batchelorville of his native county; they had eight children, six survive: Henry, Grace, Franc W., Addison, John and Joseph.

Warring, Charles H., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam in 1860, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He has always been a manufacturer and is now making knit goods under the firm of Gardiner & Warring. His father, James E., was born in Utica, and married Alida Sanford of this city. They have two children, a son and a daughter, Charles H. and Mary S. His grandfather, Jeremiah Warring, was born in Connecticut in 1789 and came to this state when a young boy with his parents; he married Sarah Bartlett, by whom he had nine children. He died in 1873. He had a representative in the war of 1812. James E., the father of Charles H., was the youngest child of the family.

Waldron, Hicks B., Amsterdam, was born in Waterford, July 17, 1840, and he was educated in the public schools and at Ballston Spa Institute under Dr. Babcock. He studied law with George G. Scott of that place, and was admitted to the bar in 1862 and began to practice at Albany the same year. In 1863 he went west and was docket clerk of the Kansas House of Representatives and afterwards was chief clerk of the United States disbursing office of the department of Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Dakota for three years. Returning to Amsterdam in 1866 he has held the

office of president of the village, police justice and justice of the peace, was one of the members of the first board of sewer commissioners, was mayor of the city in 1890-91, and has been for the last ten years a member of the board of education. For the past two sessions was deputy clerk of the assembly. He married Eva E. Gunsaul of Perth, by whom he had two sons: William G. and Frank E. For his second wife he married Harriet M. Gildersleeve of Hornellsville, and they have three children, one son and two daughters: George G., Kittie May and Lillian P. Mr. Waldron is a past-master of Artisan Lodge, No. 84, F. & A. M., and member of Montgomery Lodge, No. 47, I. O. O. F., and of Neoskaleeta Tribe, No. 149, of Improved Order of Red Men.

Snyder, Orlando C., Amsterdam, was born in Sharon, Wisconsin, October 24, 1848, and came with his parents to Sharon, Schoharie county, when he was four years old. He was educated in the district schools and is by occupation a mason, contractor and builder, also fine ornamental worker. On November 24, 1875, he married Sarah, sixth daughter of Isaac and Alida Loucks of Sharon, and they have had four children, three sons and one daughter: Ira D., died at the age of five years; Chauncey L., died at the age of thirteen months; Willie H., died at the age of five months, and Nellie M., who survives. Mr. Snyder's father, Dr. James D. Snyder, was born in the town of Sharon, and was well educated. In early life he was reared on a farm and afterwards graduated in medicine and practiced until his death in this State; he married Maria Relyea formerly of Albany county, by whom he had six children, four sons and two daughters: John W., Orlando C., Mary O., David J. N., and Ida M., and John who died in infancy. The ancestry of the family is Dutch, and the great-grandparents of Mr. and Mrs. Snyder came from Holland. Mr. Snyder's people were in the revolutionary war. Mr. Snyder is a member of Lodge 219 A. O. U. W. of Amsterdam, also of Neoskaleeta Tribe No. 149 of Improved Order of Red Men, also of the American Mechanic's Association.

White, Edward Payson, Amsterdam, was born on the 21st of March, 1858, in Amsterdam, and was educated in the private schools and Amsterdam Academy and graduated from Union College in 1879 with the first honors. The following two years he taught the classics at LeRoy Academy, and in 1881-83 he was the editor of the *Amsterdam Daily Democrat*. He then entered Harvard Law School and in September, 1884, was admitted to the bar and began to practice in Amsterdam. He has been city attorney for three terms. On the 7th of September, 1887, he married Mary L., oldest daughter of John R. and Elizabeth N. Olmsted of LeRoy. Her father is an able lawyer of that place. His father, Joseph N., was born in the town of Deerfield, Oneida county, on the 4th of July, 1816, and was educated in Oberlin College, and graduated from the Ohio Medical College and practiced in Cincinnati several years. He came to Amsterdam in the early part of 1855, where he continued in active practice for thirty-five years. He was one of the pioneers of homœopathy in this part of the State, and a prominent member and officer of the Medical Societies of the New School. On the 15th of May, 1855, he married Catherine J. Maxwell of Johnstown. They had five children, three sons and two daughters: Doctor William M., a practicing physician here, Edward P., Sarah E., Lucy M., and Joseph N., a student in Union College. Joseph N., the father, died on the 14th of April, 1890.

Wemple, Dow, son of Barney, was born June 30, 1769, in Fonda. He was a blacksmith and had a shop in Fonda in 1811. He bought the farm where his grandson, Barney, now lives. He married Angelica Zieley and had five sons and four daughters. He died in 1850. His father, Barney, was one of the first settlers in Fonda. He built the grist-mill in that place, and was a dealer in furs. He was in the revolutionary army and was killed at Oriskany. The Indians burned his mill and his widow had it rebuilt during the war. David Wemple, son of Dow and Angelica Wemple was born in Fonda March 26, 1804. He married Evaline Lottridge, daughter of Robert. He was a farmer, and kept the Montgomery county poor-house four years. He held various offices, and had a family of four children. He died in August, 1862, and his wife May 26, 1840. Barney, son of David, was born December 27, 1826. He has always been a farmer, and held several town offices. March 27, 1848, he married Margaret, daughter of Lucas Sponenburg, by whom he had seven children. She died in 1877, and he married second, Malinda Sponenburg. His children are: David, married Margaret Doxtater; Adam, married Ella Devenburg; Catherine, wife of Walter Coleman; Elizabeth, wife of W. Wilson; Simon of Saybrook, Conn.

Williams, Cornelius V., Amsterdam, was born in Florida on the 12th of July, 1854, and was educated in the public schools. In early life he was a farmer but in 1880 he located in the Fifth Ward of this city. He is an alderman and represents the Fifth Ward and also conducts a large creamery. On the 31st of December, 1879, he married Cora B., second daughter of Charles and Oliver C. Wright of Florida. They have three children, two daughters and one son: Oliver M., Charles, and Ada E. Mr. Williams's father (Peter) was born in Peterboro in 1820 and married Martha M. Van Horne, who came to this city in 1888. They had five children: Cornelius V., Emma, who married W. J. Sweet of the town of Florida; Mary E., married William Serviss of this city; Sarah A., married Albert Francisco also of this city; and Jennie who resides at home with her mother. Mrs. Williams's father was born in Westerlo, Albany county, and married Olive C. Fancher of Florida and had five children.

Myers, Augustus, Amsterdam, was born in Prussia, Germany, December 15, 1845, and at the age of eight years came with his parents to the United States in 1853; he first located in Charlton, and soon after went to West Galway. December 16, 1863, he enlisted from Schenectady county in Company E, Thirteenth Heavy Artillery, N. V. S. Volunteers, was honorably discharged August 25, 1865, and then came to Amsterdam where he resided most of the time. He has followed the occupation of a contractor and builder for twenty three years in this city. October 7, 1867, he married Dora E., only daughter of Alexander and Esther J. McCann of Scotch Bush (Florida), and they have three children, two sons and a daughter: W. Fenton, who is an attorney-at-law residing in Chicago; John A., who is a clerk in this city; and Julia A. who resides at home. Mr. Myers is a member of E. S. Youngs Post No. 33 G. A. R. of the department of New York, and past junior vice-commander of the post.

De Graff, Jeremiah H., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was a son of Peter and Mary (Seaman) De Graff, and was born in the house where his present residence is, January 4, 1824. Peter De Graff, father of our subject, was a son of Frederick and Elizabeth

De Graff. Frederick, the grandfather of Jeremiah, came to this country about 1771 and bought a tract of land extending from the creek at Cranesville to a little east of Chuc-tununda, along the Mohawk and north into the interior one mile, of which Jeremiah has the old deed, written on parchment. He was the father of nine children, of which Peter was next to the youngest, and he was the father of four children: Susannah, who died at twenty-two years of age; Maria, afterwards Mrs. Clute; Andrew, who died at sixty-five at the old homestead; and Jeremiah. Mrs. Clute married at fifty-three years of age and has always lived at the old place, where she and her husband both died within a few hours of each other, April 2, 1892, and they were buried on the 4th in one grave. Mrs. Clute was mourned by all the representative families of the town by whom she was loved as a charitable and Christian lady. Jeremiah's early life was spent at home attending school until he was fourteen, when he shipped aboard a whaler at New Bedford, Mass. He tells many stories of his life at sea, cruising on the coast of Alaska during the summer, then going to warmer latitudes in search of sperm whale during the winter. He has made the circle of the earth four times in this business, which he quit in 1846. In 1850 he married Harriet Kinney of De Ruyter, Madison county, and they were the parents of two children: Jerome K., born August 29, 1851, now living at the old homestead, and Selona L., now Mrs. Porter H. Stanton of Chenango county, born May 22, 1853. Jerome was married July 25, 1874, to Mary J. Baker of Lincoln, Chenango county, and their union has been blessed by three children, but one is living, Fred J., born July 3, 1879. Mrs. J. De Graff died April 10, 1892, at sixty-one years of age.

De Graff, Isaac J., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam, October 26, 1845, and was educated in the public schools; he was a farmer until 1872 when he came to Amsterdam and was a grocery merchant for two years. He then accepted a position in the American Express office which he held three years; he is now engaged in the hardware business which he has followed for fifteen years, first with George Overbaugh, and then with A. McLaffray. He then formed a copartnership with Oliver S. Kline, purchasing the hardware stock of Schuler Bros. and consolidating both under one firm name, De Graff & Kline. On December 31, 1866, he married Agnes, fifth daughter of Abram and Martha Levy of this city. Mr. De Graff died in the year 1878. On July 4, 1880, he married Marion T. Leffray of this city; they have one daughter, Carrie Mildred. Mr. De Graff's father, Jeremiah, was born in Amsterdam in 1805 and married Mahala Collins of the same place. They had seven children, one son and six daughters. The old ancestor came from Holland as early as 1710, coming up the Mohawk river in flat boats with his goods and family and staying over night half a mile west of Crane village. Being pleased with the place they remained there, after making satisfactory arrangements with the Indians, and this place has ever since been owned by some of the De Graff family.

Yates, E. Lansing, Canajoharie, was born in Mohawk about a mile north of Fonda, September 5, 1811, and is a son of Everett and Catharine (Fonda) Yates. Three brothers of this name came from Yorkshire, England, two of whom went south, and the third, Joseph Yates, settled near Albany, in Rensselaer county, and it is from this root that the family have grown. The grandfather of our subject, Christopher, was a

grandson of Joseph Yates, and he was the father of six sons, of whom Everett, father of E. Lansing, was the oldest. He was born in Rensselaer county, and came to this county about 1788-89, locating in Mohawk. His wife, Catharine Fonda, was a native of Mohawk, and they were the parents of seven children, of whom Lansing is the only one living. His early life was spent in Mohawk, where he attended the common schools and assisted on his father's farm until he was of age, when he started out for himself. He married in 1834, Catharine Doxtader of Mohawk, and they had two children: Jerome Yates, a merchant of New York; and John Yates, a farmer of Hopewell Junction. Mrs. Yates died in 1839 and Mr. Yates took for his second wife Catharine Abel of the town of Glen, and of their children four survive: Elizabeth, wife of William H. Lippen-cott of New York; Mount A., of the firm of Yates & Dain of Canajoharie; Gilbert M., a merchant of Minneapolis; and Preston K., a civil engineer of New York. In 1837 Mr. Yates moved into Canajoharie, where, with the exception of from 1841 to 1849 he followed farming until 1863, and then, after a rest of six years, he entered the malting business, in which he has since been engaged. Mr. Yates was one of the original directors of the Canajoharie National Bank, holding that office till 1872.

Sloan, Peter, Canajoharie, dentist of Canajoharie, was born in Johnstown on the 13th of May, 1835, a son of Samuel and Aseneth Swift Sloan, who was a blacksmith for many years. He was a Scotchman and came to America about 1820; his wife was from Massachusetts of old New England stock and traces her family history back for nearly two hundred years. Peter Sloan was educated at Johnstown and studied with Dr. Abbott in 1857 and 1858. He commenced his practice in his native town, where he remained for some years, then came here in 1861 and has always enjoyed a fine practice. In December, 1862, he married Lucretia Wright of Albany; they have five children, two sons and three daughters: Ina, wife of William S. Van West, optician; William Irving, Samuel Maxwell, Alice, and Lucretia W. The doctor is an independent in politics.

Walrath, William, Palatine, was born in Palatine in 1850. His father was Josiah, and his grandfather was William, son of Isaac, a native of Palatine. The grandfather, William, married Lany Wagner, and had one daughter and five sons, all of whom were members of the Stone Arabia church. Both parents died in Palatine. Josiah Walrath was born in 1820, and married Nancy Loucks, who bore him three sons and one daughter. He held various town offices, and he and his wife were members of the Reformed church. He died in 1867 and his wife in 1873. William Walrath was raised on a farm and was educated at the common school. He married in 1887 Libbie (born in Hudson), daughter of James Moore; they have one daughter, Irene E. Mr. Walrath has held town offices, is a member of Fort Plain Lodge No. 433, F. and A. M., and is a Democrat.

Van Horne, Rev. Abram, was born in White House, N. J., in 1763, and was educated at the New Brunswick Collegiate Institute. He married Anna Covenhoven, daughter of Cornelius, who owned 1,400 acres of land, and was a man of wealth. He came to Fonda about 1795 and preached at the Dutch Reformed church over forty years. He also assisted in organizing many churches in this State and two in Canada. He died

January 5, 1840, and his wife November 14 of the same year. Abram A. Van Horne, son of Rev. Abram, was born January 27, 1790, and came to Fonda with his father, when a small boy. He married Jane Fonda, who was born November 6, 1792, and was a granddaughter of Jellis Fonda. They had a family of nine children. Mr. Van Horne died April 14, 1871, and his wife March 21, 1881. He was a farmer, and owned beside, a tannery, shoe shop, blacksmith shop and store. He was a member of assembly in 1825-26, justice of the peace for twenty-seven years, and he and his wife were members of the Dutch Reformed church. Giles H. Fonda Van Horne, son of Abram A. and Jane, was born June 11, 1816, in Caughnawaga (now Fonda), and was educated at the Canajoharie and Johnstown Academies. On August 2, 1836, he married Catharine Veeder, by whom he had four children, all of whom died in infancy. His wife died February 26, 1844. He married second, Margaret E., daughter of Colonel N. Smith of Utica, October 7, 1845, and they had five children, three of whom survive. He has been engaged in farming all his life. In 1835 he built the Montgomery hotel and opened it in 1836. He kept it for twelve and a half years, and is still the owner. He was postmaster for the Assembly in 1862-63, clerk for the insurance committee in 1864-65; deputy-sheriff three years; town superintendent of school three years, and was constable and poormaster. When eighteen years old he joined the State militia, and was captain and lieutenant-colonel. In 1862 he was appointed enrolling officer for Montgomery county. In 1865 when President Lincoln's body lay in state at Albany, he was appointed marshal and was officer of the day. He is a Democrat, and has taken an active part in politics. He has been delegate to state, congressional and senatorial conventions. He was also marshal of the day at the centennial of Hamilton College. He is an Odd Fellow, and a member of the Episcopal church. In the former he has taken all the degrees. He has been a member and officer of the State Agricultural Society since its inception, and has frequently been in important service in this connection.

Putman, John V., Glen, Auriesville p. o., was born in Glen March 14, 1844. He was one of four children of Victor A. and Evaline (Van Horne) Putman. His father, Abram V. Putman, was also born in Glen. Her father, Cornelius Van Horne, and mother, Hannah (Van Horne) Van Horne, were also natives of the same town. John V. Putman was married in September, 1864, to Mary K. Van Buren, one of two children of Jeremiah and Caroline (Shelp) Van Buren of Glen. They have two children: Carrie (Mrs. F. J. Houpt of Fultonville), and Abram V. Putman. Mr. Putman has always lived in the town of Glen, has acted as justice of the peace, as assessor for three years, and is now supervisor of the town for a second term.

Wagner, Chauncey, Palatine, cousin of the late Senator Wagner, was born in Palatine August 5, 1821. His father was George, and his grandfather also George, who, with three brothers, Joseph, Peter and John, came from Germany before the revolution. George Wagner, sr., was in the revolutionary army and was wounded at the battle of Oriskany. He settled on a farm near where Chauncey Wagner now lives. About a hundred years ago he built the house now occupied by Chauncey, in which he died. He had three sons and four daughters. George, jr., was born in Palatine June 9, 1793. He was reared a farmer and educated at the common school. His wife was

Margaret Strayer, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. He was a farmer and a hotel-keeper, and was supervisor of Palatine before the county was divided. He and his family were members of the Lutheran church at Palatine. He died August 10, 1873, and his wife September 4, 1873. Chauncey Wagner received his education at the common school, supplemented by several terms at the Clinton Liberal Institute. He has always lived on the farm where he was born. He married, October 2, 1849, Emiline, daughter of Colonel Amos and Lucinda (Todd) Foster of Herkimer county. Mr. Wagner has been an active Democrat, and has held town offices. His wife is a member of the Universalist church at Fort Plain.

Waterstreet, John H., Amsterdam, was born in Glenville January 10, 1857, was educated in the public schools, and in early life worked on a farm. He came to Amsterdam in 1880, where he was clerk for David Strauss in his wholesale and retail grocery store for two and a half years. He was also with James R. Dowsland eight years (until his death), and one year with Mrs. Dowsland, when he, in company with J. L. Fredendal, bought the business and conducted it for a while. Mr. Waterstreet purchased Mr. Fredendal's interest and conducts the business on his own account. On January 8, 1883, he married Augusta, youngest daughter of Frederick Wilkie. They have three children, one son and two daughters; Ernest, Amelia and Florence. Mr. Waterstreet's father, John D., was born in Germany and came to the United States when a young man. He married Maria Speckeen, by whom he had nine children, five sons and four daughters: John H., Joseph C., Annie, Daniel, Elias, Samuel, Augusta, and Theodore.

Carson, Silas, Amsterdam, was born in Root June 21, 1842, and was educated in the public schools, and in early life was a farmer. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade and in 1876 came to Amsterdam, where he has since been a contractor and builder. On April 21, 1870, he married Lavenna, second daughter of Henry and Lucinda Walters of Fonda, and they had two children: Henry W., who died aged seven years; and Lucinda, who died aged five years. Mr. Carson's father, John, was born in Glen April 2, 1806, and married Margaret Beekman, by whom he had six children: Martin J., Stephen J., Silas, Wilham H., Elizabeth A., and Martin M. His brother, Martin J., was a soldier in the late war and was assistant engineer on the gunboat "Ellen" and died of yellow fever. He also had an uncle Elisha, who was in the late war, and died in one of the prison pens of the south. Two cousins also served in the late war.

Walrath, Harry, St. Johnsville, was born in Minden June 27, 1845, and is a son of Jeremiah and Mary (Zoller) Walrath, and grandson of Peter Walrath, whose father was also named Peter, and who came from Holland. Our subject's grandfather was born in Minden May 15, 1786, and served in the war of 1812 as a commissioned officer, at Sackett's Harbor. His wife was Elizabeth Duesler, by whom he had three children: Eva, Elizabeth Margaret and Jeremiah. He died at the age of sixty-five, and his wife in her ninety-second year. Our subject's father was born January 16, 1815, in Minden, where he lived and died March 22, 1873, aged sixty-five years. His wife, who survived him, bore him four children: Maggie, Berzee Harry, Carrie and Seward. Harry Walrath was educated in the Clinton Liberal Institute, and graduated from Eastman's

Business College in March, 1866. In 1876 he entered the employ of the railroad and in 1879 began as conductor in the Wagner car service on various lines. In 1886 he began as passenger conductor on the New York Central. In 1888 he located where he now resides in St. Johnsville. He is a Mason, a Republican, and a member of the order of railway conductors. September 26, 1878, he married Kate, daughter of Matthew and Gertrude (Myers) Dygert of Herkimer county. Matthew Dygert raised the Second New York Artillery and was a collector of internal revenue, and was also a merchant in New York and Mohawk. He had two daughters, Kate and Jennie.

Patten, David S., Palatine, was born in Palatine June 27, 1834. His father was John Patten, a native of Danube, and his grandfather was Henry Patten, born in Germany and an early settler of Herkimer county. He was a carpenter, and was killed by falling from a building. John Patten came to Palatine in 1830 and bought the farm now owned by David S. His wife was Elizabeth Hatmaker, who bore him one son and one daughter. They were members of the Reformed church at Stone Arabia. David S. Patten was raised on the farm, and married Margaret, daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Fox) England of Palatine. They have had the following children: John J., Margaret, Annie, and Ella, who died in infancy. Mr. Patten is a Democrat, has been supervisor two years, assessor nine years, commissioner of highways three years, and overseer of the poor six years. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Canajoharie.

Lutton, Charles A., Amsterdam, was born at Hagaman's Mills January 10, 1860, was educated in the public schools of Amsterdam and afterwards in a private school. He was in the employ of I. C. Shuler & Company eight years, afterwards about 1882 he began the undertaking and livery business, which he has since conducted. His father, Charles Lutton, was born in the north of Ireland about 1823 and married Elizabeth Cole of his native country, coming hither soon afterward. They had four children: Rebecca, who died in 1862; Elizabeth, Charles A., as above noted, and Emma, who resides at home with their mother. The father died November 7, 1888, from an accident. Mr. Lutton is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M.; Amsterdam Chapter No. 81, R. A. M., and of Kenneyto Tribe No. 110, I. O. R. M.; also of Woodbine Lodge No. 250, K. of P., of which he is past chancellor. He is colonel of the second regiment uniform rank of the K. of P., and is a member of the Austin division of the U. R. K. P.

Gilbert, Charles N., Amsterdam, was born in Albany, December 15, 1863, and was educated in the graded schools of the city, also in the Albany High School, and graduated from the Albany College of Pharmacy in 1885. He came to Amsterdam in the year 1888, formed a copartnership with S. F. Powell in the wholesale and retail drug business and grocers' sundries, under the firm of Powell & Gilbert, on East Main street. Mr. Gilbert's father, J. H., Ph. D., was born in Durham, Greene county, in 1834, was educated in Le Raysville Academy and Delaware Literary Institute, and holds the position of professor of mathematics in the Albany High School. He married Abigail E. Newell of his native state and town, and they had five children, two sons and three daughters. Mr. Gilbert is a member of the board of trade and president of the Y. M. C. A. The family is of English and Scotch descent.

Hoffman, Silas I., St. Johnsville, was born December 12, 1857, at Little Falls, and is a son of Jacob and Margaret (Fusselman) Hoffman, and grandson of Simon, who came from Germany and died at Little Falls. Our subject's father carried on a meat market and canal grocery in Little Falls. He was the father of seven children. Silas I. Hoffman received a common school education, and at eleven began to earn his own living; first in a mill for two years, then one year in a news room, then in a clothing store for two years, and in 1874 entered the N. Y. Central freight house as helper. In 1880 he came to St. Johnsville and has been agent since. In 1887 he returned to Little Falls as freight agent until 1890; he is also agent for express companies. He married on November 29, 1879, Elizabeth, daughter of Michael and Nancy (Bellinger) Levee, who bore him two children: Edna L. and Leland S. He has held prominent positions in social, fraternal and benevolent societies, and is now president of the board of education of St. Johnsville.

Quiri, Edward A., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam March 20, 1861, but at the age of twelve years he moved with his parents to Florida, where he remained twelve years. He was educated in the public schools and became a clerk in S. B. Thing & Company's boot and shoe store, where remained three years. In the spring of 1889 he formed a copartnership with Henry Clark and went into the boot and shoe business under the firm of Quiri & Clark. The copartnership was dissolved in 1890, and Mr. Quiri conducts it alone with success. October 5, 1887, he married Elizabeth Lindsay of this city, and they have a son, Edward L. Mr. Quiri's father, Edward, was born in Alsace, France (now Germany), in 1836, and when a young man came to the United States. In 1856 he married Mary A. Yund formerly of his native place; they had seven children, five sons and two daughters: Edward A., Charles, Alfred, Victor, Eugene, Mary and Caroline. Mr. Quiri's father was a soldier in the English army in the Crimean war and holds an honorable discharge. Edward A. Quiri is a member of Montgomery Lodge No. 47, I. O. O. F.

Bellinger, Otto, St. Johnsville, was born in Minden, July 29, 1863, a son of Henry P. and Lucy (Klock) Bellinger, and grandson of Philip, whose father was Christian, a revolutionary soldier, who was captured by the Indians and carried to Canada. Philip Bellinger was born in Danube. He married a Miss Timmerman and raised six sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity and raised families. Henry P. Bellinger was born in Herkimer county, December 3, 1828, and was raised a farmer. About 1844 he moved to Minden and located on 150 acres of land; he now owns 240 acres. April 3, 1888, he moved to St. Johnsville, where he owns one of the finest homes in the village. He married, January 7, 1842, Lucy, daughter of John B. and Eva (Timmerman) Klock, who bore him three children: Emery, Eva (wife of Alvin Dygert), and Otto. The latter was educated in the common schools and Clinton Liberal Institute, graduating in 1882.

Walrath, Seward, St. Johnsville, was born July 18, 1855, in Minden, and is a son of Jeremiah and Mary (Zoller) Walrath, and grandson of Peter Walrath. The subject's father was born in Minden, where he spent his life as a farmer. He was a Republican and served in several town offices. He was a Universalist, and owned 114 acres, the farm

on which his father settled. He had four children: Maggie Berzee, Harry, Carrie and Seward. He died in 1875 and his widow survives. Seward Walrath was raised on a farm and educated at Fort Edward. In 1877 he began clerking for Smith Bros., where he worked for four years, and then was six years with C. Buckingham. October 10, 1888, he began for himself and has been successful. He is a Republican and a Mason.

Ruff, William, Florida, one of the two children of William A. and Mary J. (Ladd) Ruff, was born in Florida on the 25th day of November, 1854. William A., the father, was born in the same town in 1827. His mother was a native of Duanesburg, and he has one sister, Mrs. Nettie Duesler, living in Florida. William Ruff was married November 22, 1876, to Anna B., daughter of James and Selina (Holmes) Filkins of Duanesburgh, but she was born in England. They have two children, Carrie and Lena Ruff.

Moore, David, Mohawk, Johnstown p. o., son of John F. L., married Ann G. Quilhot, and had a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters. Of these children seven are living. Mr. Moore was a farmer and died March 17, 1889. His widow resides on the homestead farm. Henry, son of David, was born February 27, 1860, and carries on the home farm. He is a member of Johnstown Grange, and is lecturer for 1892. The family are members of the Johnstown Lutheran Church.

Pruyn, Jacob, Root, was born in Glen, November 14, 1846, and died September 10, 1892. He was one of nine children of Jacob and Catharine (Holtzberger) Pruyn, the others being Francis H., Marion Elizabeth, Milton, Catharine and Isabella (the two latter deceased), Harvey, Charles, and Anna Augusta. Jacob, the father, was born in Berne, Albany county, October 28, 1808, and his wife, Catharine, was born in Florida, August 18, of the same year. Francis I. Pruyn, the grandfather, was born in Albany, January 30, 1781. His wife, Tenette (De Forest) Pruyn was born in Florida, January 9, 1787. Jacob Pruyn, the great-grandfather, was also born in Albany. Francis Pruyn, his father, married Alida Van Evera, a native of Amsterdam (Holland), who at the age of about eighty-two made a will (under date of August 20, 1767), bequeathing to her descendants, among other property, a number of negro slaves. That will, together with her wedding ring and other heirlooms, including a table which came from Holland over 200 years ago, is now in possession of Marion E. Pruyn.

Getman, George, Palatine, was born in Palatine, April 14, 1828. His father was Casper and his grandfather was George Getman. The latter was a native of Ephratah, and a farmer. He married Margaret Cook and had four sons and three daughters, and they both died in Ephratah. Casper Getman, born in Ephratah, was a farmer, and married Elizabeth Bander of Palatine; they had two sons and two daughters. He was a highway commissioner, and a member of the Reformed Church, and his wife of the Lutheran Church. They both died in Palatine. George Getman was a farmer, educated at the common school, and married Magdalen, daughter of Levi Dillenback of Palatine. Their children were as follows: Samantha, Alvia, Casper, Emma, Byron, and Arwillma. Mrs. Getman died and later on Mr. Getman married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Edwards) Reid of Ephratah. They had two children: William (deceased), and Lizzie A. Mr. Getman is a Democrat and held the offices of assessor, collector, and excise commissioner. He is a member of Canajoharie Lodge F.

& A. M., and he and his family have always been supporters of the Reformed Church at Stone Arabia. Casper, third child of George, at present resides on the old homestead. He was born July 24, 1857, reared on a farm and educated at the common school. In 1886 he married Florence N., daughter of Thomas Sammons, of Sammonsville (father of three sons and six daughters). They have one child, G. Russell. Mr. Getman is a Democrat, a justice of the peace, a member of Stone Arabia Grange No. 690, and he and his wife are members of the Reformed Church at Stone Arabia.

Bunn, David C., Charleston, was born in Charleston June 15, 1845. He was one of two children of William C. and Sarah (Goewey) Bunn. He was married June 20, 1879, to Anne E. Earing, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Ostrander) Earing; she being one of two children; Cornelia, her sister, died in early life. Jacob, the father, was a son of Michael Earing of Rensselaer county, and was one of four children. Elizabeth (Ostrander) Earing was one of eleven children of Peter and Hannah (Cooper) Ostrander of Rensselaer county. The Earings came from Greenbush, Rensselaer county, to Charleston in 1877, settling on the farm which they now occupy. David C. Bunn and wife, Anna, are living with them.

Hammond, Worden, Mohawk, son of John Hammond, was born in Providence, R. I. His father was a Baptist minister and settled where the city of Utica now is. He was the first minister, and his wife organized the first Sunday school there. They had three sons, Worden, John and Calvin, and they were all surveyors, and assisted in laying out the city of Utica. Worden married Catlina Fonda, widow of Henry Fonda, and daughter of Christopher Yates. In 1807 he settled in Fonda and followed surveying until his death, June 27, 1813. His wife died in 1852. They had five sons: John, Christopher Y., Worden, Henry F., and Luther. Christopher Y., the only survivor, was born October 28, 1805. He received a common school education and married Pamela Quackenbush of Glen. They had two children, both deceased, Luther G. and Mary Ellen. For twelve years Mr. Hammond was in the produce and commission business in Albany, and for three years in New York. He was in the health department in the latter city for six years. He and his wife are the oldest living members of the Reformed church. The beautiful cemetery of Fonda was a present from Mr. Hammond to the corporation.

Groff, Benjamin, St. Johnsville, was born where he now resides, November 18, 1812, and is a son of Christian and Catherine (Nestle) Groff. His grandfather Groff came from Germany in colonial days and settled in Palatine, where he died; his wife died in St. Johnsville, aged ninety-six. They were members of the Lutheran church. Christian Groff was born in Palatine and settled on one hundred acres where our subject resides, about 1790, and where he spent his life, dying in 1843, aged seventy-two. Christian served in the war of 1812. He and his wife were Lutherans. Benjamin Groff was self-educated, and at the age of thirty-four he took charge of the homestead. He married Lany A., daughter of Nicholas J. and Catharine (Flanders) Smith, and they had nine children. Martha, died at seven; Alonzo, died at twenty-one; James, died at eleven; Mary Cress; Catharine Storms; Lucinda Failing; Daniel; Fayette; and Emily, died at seven months. Mrs. Groff died in March, 1878, aged sixty-seven.

Groff, Fayette, was born where he now resides, January 29, 1853, and is a son of Benjamin and Lany (Smith) Groff. At the age of twenty-two he started for himself on the farm he now occupies. He is an ingenious man and possesses a fertile mind. He married, September 8, 1875, Antoinette, daughter of John and Gertrude (Klock) Burkdorf. They have two children: Lucinda and Floyd B. He and his wife are active Lutherans.

Bellinger, Jacob M., Root, son of Andrew W. and Elizabeth (Lipe) Bellinger, was born November 1, 1835, on the farm where he now resides, which belonged also to his father and his grandfather. He received a common school education, and in politics is a Republican. His grandfather was William Bellinger of Holland, who was one of the one hundred pioneers of Root, and died at the age of seventy-four years. June 13, 1833; his wife, Hannah, died May 22, 1825. He was a farmer, and reared four sons and four daughters: John, Philip, Margaret, wife of Jacob Dievendorf, Catharine, wife of Jacob Lasher; Elizabeth, wife of Cornelius Runkle; Maria, wife of William Chrisler; Andrew and Conrad. He was a large land owner. His son Andrew W., father of our subject, was born in Root October 15, 1790, and died September 17, 1859, at the age of sixty-eight years and eleven months. His wife, Elizabeth, died January 22, 1866, aged seventy-three years. They had three sons and four daughters: William A., Eliza, John, Hannah, Margaret, Mary Catharine, Susannah and Jacob Menzo, of whom Jacob M. is the only one now living. Andrew W. was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was a Whig and a Republican. Jacob M. married, February 20, 1856, Gertrude M., daughter of Philip C. and Catharine (Zimmerman) Bellinger, and they had six children: John A.; Emma, who died aged thirteen years; Mary Catharine, wife of Raymond Carson; Willis P., Charles M., and Walter J. Mr. and Mrs. Bellinger are members of the Reformed church of Currytown. Charles M. Bellinger, third son of Jacob M. and Gertrude M. Bellinger, was born May 1, 1869, and is the only one of the children living at home with his parents. At the age of seventeen he became a member of the Reformed church, of which he is now a deacon, having served two years. The farm, consisting of about 150 acres, is one of the best in the county, having been the home of his great-grandfather, grandfather and father, and will also belong to him. After attaining a good district school education, he became a student at the State Normal school at Albany for one year, 1888-89, and after completing two terms of teaching (the latter term being in a commercial school at Albany) he was on account of the illness of his father, called home, where he has since remained.

Ozmun, I. Davis, M. D., Canajoharie, was born in South Lansing July 6, 1856, was educated at the Ithaca Academy and the Cortland Normal school, and graduated at the Syracuse Medical College. He began practice in Canajoharie in October, 1888, and makes a specialty of the eye, ear, nose and throat, though having also a general medical practice.

Smith, John Garret, Minden, was born in Root, Montgomery county, September 1, 1837, and is the third son in a family of four children of Noah and Ida (Lenderson) Smith. His education was limited to the district schools of his native town. At the age of fourteen years he was apprenticed to John D. Burke of Fort Plain, to learn the

carriage-maker's trade. He was employed by Mr. Burke until 1873, when he commenced the manufacture of carriages himself. In 1886 he formed a partnership with Henry Rebell, the firm being Smith & Rebell. The firm manufactures a general line of wagons, carriages and sleighs, and employs from seven to ten men. Mr. Smith in politics is a Republican. He married Mary, daughter of the late Jonas Nestle of Fort Plain.

Moyer, Jacob, Minden, married Elizabeth Walrath, and had the following children: Jacob, Peter, Henry, Nicholas, Mary, who married Abraham Zoller; and Elizabeth, who married Jacob Moyer. Peter (mentioned above) married Nancy, daughter of Jacob Devendorf. Their children were David; Polly, who married Peter Elwood, and died in Minden; Jonas, died at Hammond; Elizabeth, married Cornelius Cronk-hite, and died in Minden; Nancy, died single; and Catharine, widow of Josiah Zoller, lives at Fort Plain. Peter died in 1855, aged fifty-two years. David, son of Peter, was born in Minden, May 12, 1801, and married May 1, 1825, Lany, daughter of Solomon Devendorf. She was born May 27, 1803. Their children were as follows: first, Daniel, born April 13, 1826, and resides at Lysander; he married Minerva Abeel, and has four children: William A., Dewitt, Augusta and Martha; second, Henry, born October 13, 1827, resides at Bush Creek, Fayette county Iowa; he married Caroline Zoller, and has three children: Emma, Jennie and Dwight; third, Peter B., born in Danube, July 17, 1833, married for his first wife, Helen, daughter of John Zoller of Minden. Their children were Myron, born August 29, 1858, and Clara, born November 5, 1859, wife of Nathaniel Bleekman of Oneida; he married second, Rosie, daughter of David Walts. Peter B. became a resident of Minden in 1862, and has been engaged in farming except from 1876 to 1880, when he operated the Red Mill at Fort Plain. Fourth, Lydia, born July 3, 1837, died in childhood; fifth, David, born in Danube, December 2, 1838, married March 15, 1871, Matilda, daughter of Daniel Failing of St. Johnsville; she was born in that town December 2, 1848. They have two adopted daughters: Katie, wife of Jacob Alter of Danube, and Louisa. David has been a resident of Minden since 1873 and has always been engaged in farming; and sixth, Seward, born February 1, 1851, resides in Fort Plain. David removed from Minden to Danube and engaged in farming. He died there September 5, 1869, and his wife July 29, 1869.

Veeder.—Johannes Veeder, father of Simon, came from Holland, and owned 1,000 acres of land near Fonda. Simon Veeder was born on the farm and married Margaret Terwillager, by whom he had two daughters and six sons; he died in 1843, and his wife died in 1832. Volkert, his son, was born in 1776 and married Alida Fonda, by whom he had eight children. Asenath, his youngest child and only survivor of the family, is of the fifth generation, and has her sister's grand-daughter, Katie V. Smith, living with her, who is of the seventh generation, this farm having been in possession of the Veeder family for 200 years.

The Hartley Family.—This family is one of great antiquity in England. In the county of York, as well as in Dorset, Berkshire and Cumberland, are several distinguished families of this name, each claiming a common origin in the Hartleys of Chor-

ton in Lancashire, and having essentially the same insignia and motto. "Vive ut Viras." There is to the present generation a line of descent direct from Sir John Hartley, knighted by Charles I. in 1623. The family was variously distinguished in England for moral and intellectual vigor, numbering among its members Dr. David Hartley, the metaphysician, the Vicar of Armley, an eminent divine, and David Hartley, statesman, who as representative of the English crown, concluded the definitive treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States at the close of the revolutionary war. Robert Hartley, grandson of the Vicar of Armley, married Martha Smithson, who was very closely related to James Smithson, who founded the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. Isaac Hartley, son of Robert, was a woolen manufacturer at Cockermonth, England, and married Isabella Johnson, removing to Charlton, Saratoga county, in 1798. In early life he was the companion, schoolmate and townsman of the poet Wordsworth. Isaac and Isabella had five children: Martha, born in 1789, married Alexander Ferguson of Charlton, and died in 1856; Isabella, born in 1792, died in 1875; Robert M., born in 1796; Mary, born in 1802, died in 1873. She married John Barlow of Florida; Isaac, born in 1804, married Sarah Barlow, and died in 1880. Robert M. was educated at Fairfield Academy with a view to the ministry, but owing to impaired health he settled in New York in 1820, where he entered the drygoods business. He soon became closely connected with the church and philanthropic work, and mainly through his energy was founded the New York Temperance Society, the Association for the Improvement of the Poor, Juvenile Asylum, Workingman's Home, Society for the Relief of the Ruptured and Crippled. In 1824 he married Catharine, daughter of Reuben Munson. Their children are: Mrs. Isabella H. Sherwood, born in 1826, living at Bristol, Pa.; Marcellus, born in 1827, of the firm of Hartley & Graham, New York; Joseph W., born in 1829, now secretary of the United States Electric Light Company of New York; Mrs. Mary H. Brown, born in 1833, died in New York in 1885; Rev. Isaac S. Hartley, born in 1830, now of Great Barrington; Reuben M., born in 1832, of Florida; Mrs. F. B. Wightman, born in 1836, of New York; Mrs. J. H. Cowdrey, born in 1840, of Edgewater, N. J.; and Mrs. John L. Brower, born in 1843, of New York. After a long life, full of usefulness, Mr. Hartley died in New York March 3, 1881, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. His wife died December 7, 1873, aged sixty-nine years. Reuben M. Hartley came to Florida in 1849. In 1856 he purchased the farm where he now resides, and is one of the prominent and influential men of the town. In 1858 he married Jane, youngest daughter of the late Garret B. Van Derveer. They have three children: Mrs. Horace Walrath, residing at Minaville, born in 1859; Robert M., born in 1862; G. Van Derveer, born in 1864, married in 1888 Clara, eldest daughter of David P. Luke of Scotch Bush. They have two children, Abbie, born in 1889, and Myra, born in 1892. He lives on the adjoining farm, purchased by him in 1887. Robert M., the oldest son, was educated in the district schools and a three years course at the Amsterdam Academy. He is a close student of history—especially of the Mohawk Valley and of the Indians. He is a member of the Mohawk Valley Historical Society, an earnest Republican in politics. In February, 1892, he was elected supervisor of the town of Florida, and is active in the interests of his town and county. He is also a

member of Tienonderoga Tribe 176 Improved Order of Red Men of Minaville. He is unmarried, and lives on the old homestead. A century ago the farm now occupied by Mr. Hartley was something of a business center, there being a grist-mill, potash works and store, of which not the slightest trace remains.

Bixby, Hiram, St. Johnsville, was born in Saratoga county April 23, 1807, and is a son of Joshua and Sallie (Tourtellot) Bixby of Rhode Island and Connecticut, respectively. Joshua was born April 6, 1768, and his wife September 19, 1775; they came to Saratoga county in 1796; he died March 3, 1860, and his wife August 23, 1856. They were the parents of five sons and five daughters. Hiram Bixby came in 1830 to St. Johnsville and worked as a mason and at stave making. In 1837 he bought an acre of land, on which he has since resided; he owns, also, two lots which he secured on a mortgage, and has other means, all earned by days' work. In politics he is a Democrat, and cast his first vote for Jackson. He married, October 22, 1835, Dorothy, daughter of Joseph I. and Mary (Rouse) Klock. They have no children of their own but have brought up two of his brother's children: Alphonso (deceased), and Sally, who died at the age of seventeen.

Dorn, John A., Florida, the fourth of seven children of Amos H. and Susan Ann (Radley) Dorn, was born in Florida on the old Radley homestead, where he now lives November 24, 1843. Amos H., his father, was born in Berkshire county, Mass.; his mother, Susan Ann (Radley) Dorn, having been born in the Radley homestead. Her father, John P. Radley, was also born on the same spot, April 17, 1792. The grandfather, Philip Radley, was born October 9, 1765, in Bethlehem, Albany county. He settled in Florida upon the farm now occupied by John A., in the year 1791, the deed being in possession of the family. John A. married, June 18, 1873, Sarah L., daughter of Elijah and Ruth Rockwell of Duanesburg. They have two children: Ruth Annah, and John A. Among the family belongings is a remarkable Dutch Bible, weighing sixteen pounds, which was printed in Amsterdam in the year 1702, also an ancient English watch belonging to Mr. Davis's great-grandfather, which our subject now owns.

Seeber, William H., Canajoharie, Fort Plain p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence in Canajoharie November 6, 1826, a son of William and Nancy (Failing) Seeber. The great-grandfather of our subject came to this country from Germany and located in this county; the first trace we have of the family direct was the purchase of this farm by William Seeber during the revolution. The road past the farm was laid out as a turnpike from Canajoharie to Cherry Valley, but at the time of the purchase was a foot path for the Tories and Indians. William Seeber was the father of seven children; one of them, Henry, grandfather of our subject, was born December 13, 1769. He was the father of two children: Margaret, who married John Yordon, and William H., the father of our subject, who was born May 29, 1791, and married Elizabeth Failing April 5, 1812. They were the parents of four children: Henry, Abraham, Catherine, and Josiah. Mrs. Seeber died April 5, 1820. His second wife was a sister of the first, Nancy Failing, married in January, 1821, and they were the parents of three children: Eliza, Margaret, and William H., our subject. He has two sisters and a half-brother living. William now lives on the old homestead farm that has been in the possession

of the Seeber family for over 125 years. He married Catherine Mount of Glen February 6, 1856, and they have two children: Clarence M., born March 14, 1857, and Charles J., born January 11, 1864. Mr. Seeber is not an active politician, and is content to let others govern, but is known as a good farmer and an honest upright citizen. William H., his father, died February 26, 1881. His mother died April 19, 1876, on her ninety-second birthday.

Van Derveer, Thomas, J., Root, was born on the farm adjoining his present residence August 26, 1830, a son of Joseph and Harriet (Allen) Van Derveer. His father's father was Garrett Van Derveer, who came from Monmouth county, N. J., and was a pioneer of Charleston, where he followed farming and shoemaking. He was an active Presbyterian. He moved to and died near Rural Grove. His wife was Rachel Covenhoven, daughter of Peter Covenhoven, on whose farm the battle of Monmouth was fought. He was an early pioneer of Montgomery county. Garrett Van Derveer reared eight sons and two daughters, of whom Joseph was the fifth son. He was born in Charleston March 23, 1802, served in the various town offices as a Democrat, and was overseer of the county poor for three years. He was also an extensive farmer in Root. He died in March, 1877, and his wife in April, 1879. They had five children, one of whom died. They were Mary A., Shibley, Thomas J., Amanda Lyker, and Ruth E. Mallett. Thomas J. was reared on the farm and educated in the district schools and the Collegiate Institute at Marion, Wayne county. He taught school nine consecutive years, eight in his own district. He remained with his father during his life, and the homestead fell to him. In 1885 he sold out and located where he is now in 1887, on a farm of 147 acres. He was one of the organizers and a director of the Root cheese factory, and is also a director of the Fulton and Montgomery Insurance Co. He has served as justice eight years, and held various minor offices, having been active in politics. He is a breeder of Shropshire sheep and Jersey cattle. November 29, 1857, he married Caroline, daughter of Ezra and Emily (Corbin) Hoag, natives of Root and Charleston, the former born October 1, 1797, and the latter January 21, 1800. They were Quakers, the father a son of Nathaniel Hoag, a pioneer and successful farmer of Root. Thomas J. and wife have two children: Joseph E. and Maxalynn. Mr. and Mrs. Van Derveer have been members of the Christian church forty years.

Christman, George H., St. Johnsville, was born in Ephratah April 10, 1843, a son of Peter and Mary (Sponable) Christman, and grandson of Jacob N. Christman. The latter was born in Schoharie county and died about 1879, aged eighty-four years; his wife was Maria Van Valkenburg, who bore him ten children: Peter Christman was born June 9, 1810, in Schoharie county and was raised in Fulton county. He had four children: Lena, George H., Nathan, and Eli. George H. Christman was raised on a farm and educated at the common school. At the age of twenty-seven he began lumbering which he followed for three years, and then engaged in farming. In 1886 he bought and settled on 200 acres in St. Johnsville; he has been engaged in the manufacture of cheese. He is an active Democrat and has held town offices; he is also a Knight of Pythias. He married, February 19, 1873, Margaret, daughter of Augustus and Margaret (Bellinger) Smith, and they have four children: J. Ettie, Clarence A., Smith, and Edward. Mrs. Christman is a Lutheran.

Snell, Orville (deceased), was born in Minden in 1845, and was a son of John A. and Mary (Failing) Snell. He was reared on a farm and in 1862 enlisted in Company B, One Hundred Fifteenth N. Y. Volunteers, was taken prisoner at Deep Bottom August 16, 1864, and was confined at Salisbury until March, 1865, when he was liberated bereft of his reason from starvation. On his return he was so emaciated and reduced that his own friends did not know him. After the war he engaged in farming, but sold his farm after a time and removed to the village of St. Johnsville, where he died July 15, 1877, from disabilities arising from his service in the army. He married, June 18, 1873, Elizabeth, daughter of Josiah and Catherine (Timmerman) March, who was born in Minden in 1850. Her grandfather was Peter March, a native of Minden, whose father, John March, was a pioneer of Minden. The subject has three children, but one of whom is living: John A., a graduate of the high school and of Eastman's Business College, Poughkepsie.

Howard, Charles Louis, Florida, one of four children of Ebenezer and Ellen (Crane) Howard, was born at Empire Lock, Fort Hunter, October 11, 1859. The other children were Frank and Addie, who died in childhood, and George A., who died at Hot Springs, Ark., April 30, 1891. Ebenezer Howard, the father, was born at Duanesburg January 1, 1827, and was a son of Samuel (born July 13, 1795, and died March 9, 1857) and Marilla (Hatch) Howard (born January 27, 1798, died February 25, 1869). The great-grandfather was John Howard, who lived and died in Duanesburg. The mother, Ellen (Crane) Howard, was born at Newburgh May 16, 1832, and died at Fort Hunter, February 11, 1892. Charles Louis Howard married, June 9, 1880, Kittie H., daughter of A. H. Burtch of Fonda, she being a graduate of the Elmira Female College. Their children are as follows: Harry, Helen, Mabel, and Ruth. Mr. Howard was educated at Johnstown Union School and Amsterdam Academy. In August, 1880, he engaged in the broom business with his father, brother and cousin. This industry was started in 1859 by E. Howard and John D. Blood, and was continued until 1869, when Mr. Blood sold out his interest and removed to Amsterdam. Mr. Howard enlarged and continued the business until 1873, when the factory was totally destroyed by fire. Mr. Howard at once rebuilt and equipped the present brick factory, and later associated with him his sons and his nephew. By the death of E. Howard and his son, George A., and the withdrawal from the firm of Avery Howard, the business is now conducted solely by C. L. Howard under the firm of E. Howard & Sons. The mill is equipped with modern improvements, including electric light, and has an average capacity of 200 dozen per day, which during the busy season is increased from fifty to ninety dozen above that. There are about seventy-five men constantly employed, and the product is second to none. Ebenezer Howard was one of the active members of the Broom Manufacturers' Association. He was a director in the Farmers' National Bank of Amsterdam, and Fort Hunter Suspension Bridge and was one of the most valued members of the community.

Horn, Fridolin, St. Johnsville, a son of Adam and Gertrude (Zay) Horn, was born at Fort Plain November 27, 1851. He received a common school education and has been in business with his brother in the mill. He married Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Bright) Miller. Mr. Miller was born in Germany March 25, 1820, and died in Thompsonville, Conn., September 3, 1869; he was a baker by trade. His wife was

born in Utica, and was a daughter of William and Susan (Reed) Bright, who were born in England and Glasgow, Scotland, respectively; they had three children: John, Susan (deceased), and Mary. Fridolin Horn and wife have five children: Myra E., Inez B., Fridolin M., Adam J. and Carleton J.

De Graff, Garrett H., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam on the farm where he now lives January 20, 1831, a son of John G. and Hester (De Graff) De Graff. John G., father of our subject, was born in 1808 on the old homestead where Garrett now lives, and his ancestors were among the earliest settlers of this town. Garrett was educated in the public schools of this town and at the age of seventeen he went on the farm to assist his father until he was twenty-seven years old. April 15, 1852, he married Mary A. Seaman of Amsterdam, daughter of James Seaman, who is remembered as one of the most prominent Democrats of the town. In 1857 Garrett left the farm to try railroading, which he followed fifteen years, being foreman of construction ten years. He lived two years on a farm in Saratoga county, in 1874 he came back to the old homestead where he intends to remain the balance of his life. Mr. De Graff has had seven children, four of whom are now living: Edward, born October 15, 1851, resides in Michigan; Hester, born August 14, 1853, died June 17, 1881; Byron, born April 4, 1861; Alice, born March 27, 1862, died June 5, 1876; Ida, born March 7, 1864, now Mrs. Burnside, of Amsterdam; Mansfield, born July 17, 1867; and Josephine, born September 22, 1870, died May 19, 1878. Mr. De Graff has been a successful farmer. He is prominent in politics and in 1892 was the only candidate elected on his ticket.

Reid, Myron W., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam October 22, 1845, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. After completion of his education he became deputy postmaster; afterwards clerk in the freight office of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R. He next took a course in the commercial college in Rochester, and upon his return accepted a position with John Young & Son until 1869. In the year following he opened a drug store in company with Middleton Warnick (now of the Green Knitting Co.) under the firm of Warnick & Reid. Mr. Warnick retired from the business in December, 1881, and Mr. Reid has since conducted the business in his own name. Mr. Reid was manager of the Western Union Telegraph Co. for twelve years. June 17, 1869, he married Sarah, second, daughter of Ephraim and Altana D. Kellog, formerly of Burtonville. They have one son who is assisting his father in the drug store. Mr. Reid is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84 F. & A. M. of Amsterdam Chapter No. 81 R. A. M., and several other societies.

Swart, Isaac W., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born on the same farm that he now lives on June 28, 1804, a son of William and Maria (Vedder) Swart. William, his father, born in 1767, was a son of Jeremiah Swart, who came from Holland previous to 1740 and settled on the banks of the Mohawk. He was the father of eight children, five sons and three daughters. The five boys were among the earliest settlers of this section; three of them locating on the south side—Josiah, Walter and Benjamin; the other two on the north (or in Amsterdam) were John and William. Their grandfather was named Vedder, and he lived in the old fort above Amsterdam known

as Fort Johnson. At one time he was captured by the Indians and taken to their camp about a day's travel from the fort; but he had a friend in their camp; he had befriended an Indian chief at one time, and after the rest of the party were asleep he liberated Mr. Vedder, who arrived home at Fort Johnson the next morning. William, the father of our subject, bought with his farm an old mill from Lewis Groat, and on the same site, in 1807, he built another mill which still stands. The early life of Isaac was spent at home; he attended the public school and received a good business education. At the age of twenty-eight he married Margaret Vedder, daughter of Harmon Vedder of Florida. Two years after he built a house where he now lives. In 1855, when the New York Central was being built, he made a hotel of his home and conducted it as such for seventeen years. Mrs. Swart died April 16, 1869; their four children had died before that time. December 11, 1872, he married Anna E. West of Schenectady county, and they have one child, Ada, born July 24, 1874. A history could be written of this family, as they are numerous and prosperous, and can trace their ancestry back to the earliest history of our country. Mr. Swart remembers the war of 1812 and the large number of soldiers who marched by his father's home up the Mohawk valley. He is quite strong and healthy, has always been secluded but very influential in the town. At one time he conducted a large broom mill, furnishing the New York Central company.

Hewitt, Daniel C., Amsterdam, Rockton p. o., was born in Philadelphia January 27, 1834, and is a son of Ira and Eliza (Warner) Hewitt. Ira, father of our subject, was a native of this country, but his grandfather came from Sweden, while the ancestry of Eliza (Warner) Hewitt is English. The name originally was spelled "Huewitt," but time has modified it to its present form. In 1841 the parents of our subject came to this county and located at Manny's Corners, where Daniel was sent to the public school. They remained here but two years, when they moved to Fort Johnson, leaving there in 1844 to go to Amsterdam. Mr. Hewitt conducted a bakery where the city post-office now stands, for one year, and then they came to Rockton where Daniel finished his education and where he has since lived. When Daniel was twenty-one he joined his brother, Henry H., and leased a stone quarry of Marcus Clizbe, and continued with this until 1864. In 1863 he suffered the misfortune of losing all his hard-earned savings. He enlisted in 1864 in the U. S. navy and saw service at both battles at Fort Fisher, and was in the blockade service on the coast of North Carolina. He returned in 1865, and that fall he joined his brother Nias and started a lime and stone business in connection with their quarry and cut stone. He has been twice married; his first marriage was January 5, 1860, to Mary L. Dickson of Amsterdam, who died in the following December; his second marriage was October 23, 1867, to Jane S. Gillies of Amsterdam, a daughter of John S. Gillies, a merchant of Rockton. They are the parents of nine children, six of whom are living: Horace G., born July 21, 1868; Jennie M., born May 4, 1872; Daniel C., jr., born August 5, 1874; Nias, born December 17, 1879; Agnes L., born September 9, 1883; Henrietta E., born July 3, 1887. Mr. Hewitt has, next to Divine Providence, only himself to thank for his prosperity, as what he has he made himself by hard work and good management. He assisted his son on the Ist

of January, 1892, to start a general store in Rockton, which is run under the firm of D. C. Hewitt & Son, and is a very successful establishment.

Van Wie, Daniel G., Palatine, was born in Palatine January 23, 1843, and is a son of George and Maria (Wolgemuth) Van Wie. His father was born here September 3, 1814, and had but one child, Daniel G. The early life of the latter was spent in Canajoharie, and when he was six years old his parents returned to Palatine, where he was educated in the common schools and assisted his father on the farm until he was twenty-eight when he assumed control and has since successfully conducted it. In 1887 Mr. Van Wie bought the farm now occupied by his son, consisting of 110 acres, and in 1888, he, in company with his father-in-law, bought the James R. Van Evera place in Canajoharie, consisting of 175 acres, which in addition to the homestead of 135 acres, makes him one of the largest land owners of this section. In 1864 Mr. Van Wie married Margaret L., daughter of Peter B. Snell of Palatine, and they have four children: George D., a farmer in Palatine; Alice M., wife of Elmer Gramps of Palatine; Earl P. and Everett S. Mr. Van Wie has taken an active interest in the politics of his town, and was supervisor in 1885, being re-elected in 1886-87, during the last session being on the board of equalization, he saved the town some \$800 in taxes. He is the present assessor of the town. He is a director of the Farmers' Insurance company of the town of Palatine, member of Hamilton Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M.; Palatine Union Lodge (Grafton), and secretary of the order. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie, daughter and one son, are members of the Reformed church of Canajoharie.

Gray, Charles S., Palatine, was born in Palatine in 1850. He is a son of Sidney Gray, a son of Andrew S. Gray, a son of Samuel Gray, who came from Ireland and settled in Palatine. Andrew S. Gray was born in Palatine and was a farmer. He married Elizabeth Phillips, who bore him four sons and two daughters. He was a member of Assembly, and he and his family were members of the Reformed church. He died in 1856. Sidney Gray was born in 1820 in Palatine, was a farmer, and married Annie (Christman) Nellis, and had four sons and one daughter. He and his wife were members of the Reformed church. He died in 1882. Charles S. Gray was raised on a farm, and married in 1873, Almira, daughter of Richard Gilman of Palatine. She died in 1883, and in 1886 he married Estella M., daughter of Jeremiah and Catherine (Snell) Strayer of Palatine. Mr. Strayer and wife had three daughters and one son. The children of Charles S. Gray are: Ella, Clarence and Lavere, all living. Mr. Gray has always been a farmer and is a member of Stone Arabia Grange No. 690, and of the Reformed church at Stone Arabia.

Dillenback, John, Palatine, was born in Palatine December 25, 1840, and is a son of Andrew A. Dillenback, whose father was Andrew Dillenback. Andrew A. was born in Palatine September 18, 1800, reared on a farm, and married Margaret Neahr, who bore him four sons and four daughters. He was a farmer, a Democrat, and held several town offices: he and his wife were Lutherans. He died January 6, 1881, and his wife December 14, 1874. John Dillenback, in 1872, married Eliza, daughter of John and Catherine (Dillenback) Nestle. They have two children: Martha E., born June 11, 1873; and Albert N., born September 22, 1874. Mr. Dillenback has been inspector of

elections several times, and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia.

Rice, Jonas, Palatine, was born in Danube, Herkimer county, September 10, 1835, a son of Jonas Rice, whose father was John Rice, a native of Danube where he lived and died. He raised four sons and three daughters. Jonas Rice, senior, was born in 1801. He was a highway commissioner, captain in the militia, and was in the war of 1812. He married Eva Klock of Montgomery county, who bore him four sons and four daughters. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. Jonas Rice, the subject, was raised on a farm and attended the common school. He married Catherine Brower of Palatine, born May 23, 1848. She is a daughter of Frederick and Hannah (Nellis) Brower, who had two children. The father of Frederick was Herman, whose father was Herman, a son of William, a native of Holland, who came to America about 1700 and settled in Palatine. The land on which he settled is now owned by the fifth generation. William Brower married Rebecca Vedder, who bore him four sons and four daughters, the first child being born in 1713. Herman, father of Frederick, was born in 1768 and died in 1874. His wife was Magdaline Doxtater, born in 1778, and died in 1851. They have had five sons and eight daughters, and were members of the Reformed church. Frederick Brower was born April 22, 1818, and married Hannah Nellis, October 27, 1843. She was a daughter of Peter and Hannah (Doxtater) Nellis, parents of five sons and eight daughters, all but three of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Rice have the following children: Annie E., Cora, Gertrude W. (deceased), Libbie, Fred J., Kittie, Leslie H. Mr. Rice has always been a farmer; he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia.

Showerman, Menzo, Palatine, was born in Palatine, July 19, 1852, a son of Henry Showerman, also a native of Palatine. The latter was educated at the common school and for fifteen years followed coopering (his father being a cooper and shoemaker), and since has been engaged at farming. He married Annie, daughter of Joshua Dillenback, of Palatine, and had four sons and one daughter. They now reside with Menzo, and are members of the East Palatine Reformed church. Menzo Showerman was raised on a farm and attended the common school: in 1873 he married Caroline, daughter of Conrad Loucks. Their children are Annie L., Bertha M., and Earl H., all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Loucks are members of the East Palatine Reformed church.

Spraker, Frasier, Palatine Bridge, was born at Palatine Bridge, September 9, 1825, a son of Livingston and Sarah (Leonard) Spraker. Livingston, who was the fourth son of Jost Spraker, was born in July, 1803, and early in life became a conspicuous figure in public affairs. He was several times supervisor of the town and was at one time sheriff of the county; was also one of the original founders, and a director of the National Spraker Bank of Canajoharie, and also the National Mohawk River Bank of Fonda. He was one of the original subscribers to the old Fort Plain Bank and was at one time vice-president of that institution. He was also a stockholder in both the Herkimer County and Montgomery County Banks. He was a director and for a number of years a member of the board of auditors of the Utica and Schenectady railroad, which subsequently became the N. Y. C. RR., in which he was director and also audi-

tor. He was one of the founders of the Wagner Palace Car Company, and was a delegate from this district to the Democratic National Convention of 1864. He was one of the leading Democrats of Montgomery county during his whole lifetime. He married Sarah Leonard of Massachusetts, and they had seven children who reached maturity, two dying in infancy. Frasier, the subject of our sketch, is the only one now living. He received his education at Union College, graduating in the class of 1850 at the age of twenty-five. He commenced the reading of law and was at the same time a deputy sheriff. He was admitted to practice at the bar in 1852 at Ballston Spa, before Judge Cady and Judge Page. He continued practice in this profession until about 1870, and during this time was a director of the National Mohawk River Bank and the National Spraker Bank. He was a member of the discount committee and also of the vaults committee of each bank, and still holds the same positions. He is now president of the National Spraker Bank of Canajoharie, to which he was elected in September, 1880. In politics he is a Democrat. He married in 1854, Catharine Fredenburgh, whose ancestors were among the early settlers of Columbia county. They have four children: Benjamin F., a lawyer of Canajoharie; Sarah V., wife of Lawyer W. G. Cook of Brooklyn; Helena E., and Anna V. P. Mr. Spraker is a member of Hamilton Lodge F. & A. M., and a strong supporter of St. Mark's Lutheran church of Canajoharie, of which he has been one of the trustees for a number of years.

Wagner, Oliver G., Palatine (deceased), was born in Palatine. He was reared on a farm and received a common school education. He married Mary E. Snyder, a native of Palatine, and daughter of Jacob and Dolly (Fox) Snyder, who reared two sons and one daughter. Mr. Snyder was a shoemaker and at his death owned a farm. Jacob's father (Ludwig) was an early settler of Montgomery county; he and his wife both died in St. Lawrence county. Jacob Snyder and wife were members of the Reformed church at Fort Plain. He died in Palatine in 1838 and his wife in 1890. Oliver C. Wagner and wife had two daughters, Ida and Carrie; there is also an adopted son, Frank A. Mr. Wagner died April 25, 1892.

Leip, John, Palatine, was born in Berlin, Germany. His parents were Jacob and Margaret Leip, who raised three sons and two daughters. Jacob was a farmer, and is still living at the age of eighty-two years, and wife at eighty-one. John Leip was raised on a farm and received a good education in Germany. He was eighteen years of age when he came to Palatine—a poor boy without friends, and was obliged to sleep without shelter for several nights. For ten years he worked on a farm, and for sixteen years he was in the employ of the N. Y. C. RR. He has become a well-to-do resident of Nelliston. He married, first in 1855, Catherine Newman, of Germany. She died childless in 1884, and in 1885 he married second, Delia, daughter of Christian and Dorothy (Berghart) Newman of Palatine. They have three sons: John, Lewis and Charles. Mr. Leip has been president of Nelliston and also trustee. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Fort Plain.

Cranker, John, Palatine, was born in Palatine February 12, 1845. His father was John Cranker, a native of Mohawk and a farmer, who married Miss Peeler, a native of Palatine, by whom he had two sons and three daughters; one son died in infancy.

Mr. Cranker was a Mason, and died in 1855; his wife survives him. After the death of his father, Johu, jr., followed farming until eighteen years of age, when he and his brother-in-law engaged in trucking in Fort Plain; they also run a lime kiln and stone quarry for a number of years. In 1890 he bought the American House in Nelliston and has since conducted it. He has been president of the village one year and alderman two years. He enlisted in 1864 in the 192d New York Volunteers and served until the close of the war. At the age of twenty-four he married Elizabeth Beck, a native of Albany; their children are Flora, Charles, Elsie and Dora, all living in Palatine.

Shaper, Henry A., Palatine, was born in Canajoharie September 7, 1857, a son of Augustus and Sophia (Shineman) Shaper. Augustus, the father of Henry A., was born in Germany, coming to this country with his parents when only three years old. They located in Canajoharie and when he reached manhood, after receiving a common school education, he engaged with his brother in the stone cutter's trade, which he has since followed, with the exception of six years spent on a farm. He has had five children, four of whom survive: Ida, a school teacher of Canajoharie; William C., a superintendent of a quarry of the Mohawk Valley Stone Company; Lena, who lives at home; and Henry A. The life of the latter has been spent in this town: he was educated in the Canajoharie Academy, and at the age of twenty he went in with his father to learn the stone cutter's trade, which he followed until 1888, when he went into partnership with William N. Johnson, as proprietors of the stone quarries in Palatine. He is now general manager of the Mohawk Valley Stone Company. He was married April 29, 1883, to Margaret E. Burns of St. Paul, Minn., and they have seven children: Edward, Irving, Lena, Howard, Henry, Bernard and Margaret. Mr. Shaper is one of the leading men of the village, of which he now holds the office of trustee. He is also the sagem of the I. O. of R. M., and treasurer of the Royal Arcanum; a member of Hamilton Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M., and a member of the German Lutheran church of Canajoharie.

Empie, Clark, Palatine, was born in Palatine June 26, 1853. His father was Joshua Empie; his grandfather, John Empie; and his great-grandfather John F. Empie of revolutionary fame, who settled in Ephratah, near where Clark Empie now lives, and where he lived and died. John Empie was born in Ephratah, married Nancy, daughter of George Getman, and had eight children, three of whom survive. He was a farmer, and died in Ephratah December 12, 1864, aged sixty-three; his wife also died there. Joshua Empie was born in Ephratah November 9, 1814, and married, July 19, 1838, Eliza (born January 10, 1818), daughter of John E. and Nancy (Snell) Gramps, who bore him four sons. He was a farmer, held many town offices, and with his family was identified with the Dutch Reformed church. Clark Empie was raised on the farm and educated at the common school. August 15, 1885, he married Lizzie L., daughter of Edward and Artemisia Gray, and a native of Oppenheim. They have two children, Ruby J. and Alton. Mr. Empie is a Republican.

Saltsman, Romain, Palatine, was born in Palatine May 25, 1857. His parents were Jacob H. and Nancy M. Saltsman. He was brought up a farmer and was educated in the

common schools and Fort Plain Seminary. October 5, 1881, he married Mary E., daughter of John and Eleanor (Van Vost) Empie of Ephratah. They have three children: Laura A., Lloyd J. and Warren D. When seventeen years of age Mr. Saltsman began teaching school, following it for ten years. He belongs to Fort Plain Lodge No. 66, K. of P., and Stone Arabia Grange No. 690, of which he has been secretary since its organization. He is an active Republican, and has been supervisor of elections. He and family are faithful supporters of the Lutheran church at Stone Arabia. Jacob H. Saltsman, father of Romain, was born in Palatine December 29, 1825, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Lipe) Saltsman. He was raised a farmer and educated at the common school. In 1852 he married Nancy M., daughter of John C. Kilts. He has always been a farmer, is a Republican, and with his family are Lutherans. John C. Kilts, son of Conrad Kilts, was born in Palatine in 1800. He married Nancy Nellis, and had eight children. The family belonged to the Reformed church. Mr. Kilts died in 1865 and his wife in 1877.

Miller, Irvin, Palatine, was born in Minden February 3, 1855, a son of John Miller, a native of Minden. Jonas Miller was reared on a farm and received a common school education. He married Jennette (born in Minden), a daughter of George and Sophia McKenzie, natives of Scotland. They had three sons and one daughter, all of whom are living except the eldest. Mr. Miller is a farmer, and resides on the farm, where he was born. He is a Republican. Irvin Miller was raised on the farm and was educated in the common school. At the age of sixteen he began clerking for Smith Bros. of St. Johnsville. He made two trips to the west, locating first in Illinois, and second in Wisconsin; in both places his stay was short. In 1878 he married Jennie (born in Minden), daughter of D. C. Cox of St. Johnsville. He was engaged in business with D. C. Cox for three years, and came to Palatine in 1881 and began the manufacture of straw board, and has since continued that business at Palatine church.

Beck, Peter A., Palatine, was born in Palatine, June 10, 1831. His father was Benjamin Beck and his grandfather John Beck, a native of Germany, who came to this country in 1784, married Mary Nellis of Palatine, and had five sons and one daughter. His wife inherited forty acres of land from the old homestead, and to this Mr. Beck added forty acres; upon this farm they lived and died—he, April 28, 1847, and she in 1848. Benjamin Beck was born in Palatine in 1802. He married Elizabeth Reas, who bore him two sons and four daughters. He was always a farmer, and he and his family were Lutherans. He died in Palatine December 26, 1886, and his wife April 26, 1884. Peter A. Beck was educated in the common schools, and reared on the farm where he always lived. September 4, 1834, he married Elizabeth, daughter of David and Catharine (Claus) Gray of Ephratah. They have four children: Walter, who resides on the homestead, and who married Alice, daughter of Peter J. Nellis of Palatine, and who have two children: Ward P. and Clinton; Romea, now Mrs. George Baudet of Ephratah; Elvira, now Mrs. Delbert Eacker of Johnstown; and Lizzie E., now Mrs. Dewitt Dorn of Ephratah. Mr. Beck owns 171 acres of land; he keeps a large dairy; he is a Republican, and he and his family are members of the Lutheran Church. His son Walter is a member of the Stone Arabia Grange No. 690.

Wood, W. W., Palatine, was born in Ephratah. His father was John V. Wood and his grandfather John Wood. The latter was born April 12, 1778, married Nancy Murray (born September 24, 1779), and had eleven children. He came to Ephratah at an early day and lived and died there. John V. Wood was born in Ephratah, December 27, 1818, was raised on a farm, but spent most of his life as a sawyer. He married first, Nancy Sharp, who died about a year after. He then married, December 22, 1850, Mary Cretser (born February 6, 1828, in Ephratah). They had four sons and five daughters. He died April 16, 1876, and his wife February 6, 1885. W. W. Wood was brought up on a farm and was educated at the common school. In 1874, with his brother-in-law, W. M. Mowrey, he began the manufacture of straw board at Garoga, and in 1887 came to Wagner's Hollow, and is now one of the firm of Mowrey & Wood. Mr. Wood is a member of Garoga Lodge, No. 300, F. & A. M., is an active Democrat, and has served as inspector of elections and collector.

Cook, George, Palatine, was born in Oppenheim, July 28, 1846. His father was Jacob J. Cook, and his grandfather, George Cook, was a native of Germany, who came to Fulton county at an early day and began farming. He had four sons and two daughters, and died in Montgomery county. Jacob J. Cook was born in 1812 near Albany, and went to Oppenheim. He married Mary, a daughter of Samuel Barker of Oppenheim. They had seven sons and two daughters, of whom two sons and one daughter survive. He was a farmer and blacksmith, and belonged to the state militia. George Cook was raised on a farm and was educated at the common school. He married Lovina (born in Palatine), a daughter of Nathan Getman of Ephratah, a farmer, whose wife was Nancy Claus, and who had three sons and four daughters. Mr. Cook and his wife have had four children: Nathan, Chauncey, Jennie and Mabel (deceased). In 1863 Mr. Cook enlisted in the Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery and served to the close of the war; he was at Fort Fisher and Fort Vassel in North Carolina, and Fort Ringgold, Virginia. He has always been a farmer, is a member of Mohawk Valley Lodge, No. 66, K. of P., also of Uniform Rank, No. 22, at Fort Plain. He and family are identified with the Dutch Reformed Church.

Rickard, Frederick, Palatine, was born in Palatine, May 7, 1854, a son of Josiah and Catherine L. (Nellis) Rickard, mentioned elsewhere in this book. He was brought up on a farm and educated at the common school. December 20, 1887, he married Almira (born in Palatine November, 1862), daughter of William and Louisa Abel—he a native of Germany and she of Palatine. Mr. Abel and wife had four sons and two daughters; he died in 1872, and his widow resides in Palatine. The children of Frederick Rickard and wife are Warren N. and Harry. Mr. Rickard is a cheese manufacturer and farmer, also a member of Stone Arabia Grange No. 690. He and family attend the Dutch Reformed Church.

Snell, Peter B., Palatine, was born in Danube, Herkimer county, April 15, 1820. His father was Conrad Snell, who was born at Snell's Bush in 1777, and married Margaret Bellinger of Danube. He died in 1860, and his wife died at the age of sixty-five. His paternal grandfather was Peter Snell, whose wife was Mary Kilts. He served in the revolutionary war, after which he settled in Snell's Bush and lived there until his

death. Peter B. Snell was reared on a farm and obtained his education at the common school. In 1844 he married Maria, a daughter of Peter P. Smith of Danube. They have had eight children: Margaret, Catherine, Alice, Ida, Annie (deceased), Ella, Navina and John P. In 1850 Mr. Snell came to Palatine from Ingham's Hollow, where he had lived three years. He now owns 160 acres in Palatine, on which he has erected good buildings. He runs a dairy and raises hops, having been engaged in the latter business for twenty-seven years. He is a Democrat, a member of Union Grange No. 580, and has been town auditor.

Walrath, Reuben K., Palatine, was born in Palatine, February 4, 1818. His father was Peter P.; his grandfather, Peter H.; and his great-grandfather, Henry Walrath, who bought the land now owned by Reuben K., as well as considerable other land in Palatine. He was buried on the farm now owned by Peter Ehle. Peter H. Walrath was born in Palatine in 1766; he married Annie E. Hillegas (born in 1763), who bore him seven daughters and two sons; he built a log house on the farm now owned by Reuben K., and lived, died and was buried there. Peter P. Walrath was born on the homestead, September 18, 1793, married Evaline, daughter of George G. Kloek (born June 2, 1792) of St. Johnsville, and had one child, Reuben K. The family belonged to the M. E. Church. He died March 12, 1865, and his wife August 2, of the same year. Reuben K. Walrath was educated in the common school, and has always lived on the farm where he was born. December 24, 1840, he married Marion, daughter of John and Sarah (Wicks) De Forest of Minden, who had three sons and two daughters, and who both died in Minden. Reuben K. Walrath and wife have had children as follows: Helen A., born August 16, 1842, died October 22, 1879; Minerva A., born August 3, 1844, died April 30, 1859; Albert P., born July 10, 1848, who lives in Wilmington, Del., and is in the employ of Postmaster-General Wanamaker at Philadelphia; Marion A., born October 5, 1850, died December 13, 1869. Mr. Walrath is a Republican, and he and family are members of the M. E. Church at Canajoharie, in which he has been class leader for the last fifty years.

Wohlgemuth, Peter C., Palatine, was born in Palatine, June 27, 1854, a son of Leonard and Elizabeth (Coughnet) Wohlgemuth. For five generations the family have owned this farm. The great-grandfather, John, was the father of Jacob. The latter had five children, of whom but one is now living, Leonard, who was born in 1819 and married first Dorothy Coughnet. She died and he married second Elizabeth, sister of his first wife, by whom he had five children, four of whom survive: Maggie A., wife of Vedder Yates, of Root; Catherine, wife of W. H. Richard, of Sprakers; Jacob L., a traveling man of Canajoharie; and Peter C. The latter was educated in Fort Plain Seminary and Macedon Academy, and married, October 11, 1876, Ella, daughter of Peter B. Snell of Palatine, by whom he had four children: Claude P., born September 30, 1877; Carl L., born January 29, 1880; Fred J., born December 5, 1881; and Frank S., born March 1, 1887. The year of his marriage Mr. Wohlgemuth took charge of the homestead farm. In 1891 he was elected commissioner of highways of the town of Palatine, on the Democratic ticket. He is lecturer of the Palatine Union Grange and was chosen as master of the Montgomery and Fulton County Council the year it was formed, continuing through the second year as master of Montgomery Council, the

Fulton county people having organized a council of their own. He was also master of his home lodge for about three years. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church of Canajoharie.

Failing, Abram, Palatine, was born in Oppenheim, December 19, 1846, a son of Abram and Catharine (Baun) Failing. Abram, the father, was a farmer and owned a saw-mill in Oppenheim. The early life of the latter was spent in St. Johnsville, where his parents moved when he was but two years old. He was educated there and in the common schools of Mayfield and Oppenheim. At the age of fifteen he enlisted at the breaking out of the war, in Company B, One Hundred and Fifteenth Regiment Volunteer Infantry for three years. He first saw service at Harper's Ferry, and was captured there under General Miles, but was paroled and sent back to the federal lines. He was sent from thence to Chicago for western service, but was ordered back to Washington and was on guard duty for two months and then went to Fortress Monroe; from thence to Yorktown, and then to South Carolina. He was at Beaufort about five months and then went to Jacksonville. He was in the battle of Olustee where he was wounded and lay in hospital four months. He then went to Richmond where, July 30, 1864, he was injured by the blowing up of the mine at Petersburg, which did not deter him from engaging in the fight at Deep Bottom on the north side James river. He was seriously wounded and was discharged on account of his wound, May 11, 1865. He engaged, after his return home, in the cheese-making business, following this fourteen years. He then went into the poultry business which he follows at present. His first wife, Anna E. Groff, died November 22, 1882, leaving three children: Mattie E., Etta and Reuben. Mr. Failing married second Alice Atkins, widow of Byron Flanders, and they have three children: Norman, Arthur and Willie. Mr. Failing is a member of Hamilton Lodge, No. 79, F. and A. M. and also of Post Farrall, G. A. R.

Nellis, James W., Palatine, was born in Fulton county, February 10, 1850. His father was Henry Nellis, a native of Montgomery county, who married Catherine Fox and had five sons and three daughters; they were farmers and members of the Lutheran church. Henry Nellis was born in Montgomery county in 1824, was reared on a farm and attended the public schools. He married Eve, daughter of Jacob J. and Ellen (Quackenbush) Wilson, who bore him seven daughters and two sons, of whom the subject is the sixth child. Mr. Nellis was a farmer, held many town offices, and he and his family were Lutherans. He died in 1882; his widow survives. James W. Nellis was educated at the public schools and remained on the farm until twenty-four years of age. In 1879 he married Emma, daughter of Henry and Nancy Osborne of Fulton county, who bore him the following named children: Carrie, Gertie, Mabel and Lester H. October 1, 1874, he came to Nelliston and engaged in the butcher business, which he followed eight years. He was then elected justice of the peace and took up the practice of law, which he followed until 1888. He has been justice of the peace eleven years, and twice elected justice of sessions. In 1888 he began the bakery and grocery business, which he still continues. He is president of the village of Nelliston and his wife is a member of the Dutch Reformed church.

Nellis, Harvey, Palatine, was born in Palatine, May 16, 1846, a son of John J., a son of John I., whose father was John L. and was a son of Lewis Nellis, who came from Germany and settled where Harvey Nellis now resides. John L. was born in Palatine in 1765, served in the revolutionary army, at one time owned a large tract of land, and died in 1841. John I. was born in Palatine, September 12, 1790, married, November 28, 1813, Annie Christman, and had one son and three daughters. They were Lutherans. He died April 10, 1867, and she November 17, 1874. John J. Nellis was born August 12, 1814 in Palatine, was raised on a farm, and married January 29, 1837, Elizabeth Fox, who bore him five sons and three daughters. Mr. Nellis was a captain in the militia, and he and his wife were Lutherans. He died September 12, 1875, and his widow still is living. Harvey Nellis was raised on a farm and educated at the common school. In 1877 he married Ervina, daughter of Simeon and Mary (Gray) Claus. Mr. Claus was born in Montgomery county and his wife in Fulton county; they had eleven children. Simeon Claus's father was Nicholas, whose father was killed during the revolutionary war. He was shot while unloading wheat on his farm; and his wife saved her life by hiding under the sheaves of wheat. Harvey Nellis and wife have had five children: Emma, John J., Adam (deceased), Mary and Harvey. Mr. Nellis has always been a farmer, is a member of Fort Plain Lodge, No. 433, F. and A. M., and he and his family are identified with the Lutheran Church.

Van Wie, George D., Palatine, was born in Palatine where his father, Daniel G., now lives, June 30, 1864. His whole life has been spent in this town. He was educated in the Clinton Liberal Institute, and assisted his father on the farm till January, 1889, when he moved on the farm of his present residence, a fine place of 110 acres, the principal crop being hops, of which he has about 5,000 plants, and employs during the busy time about sixty workers. He married in 1887, on September 28, Janie, daughter of William Miller of Palatine, and they have one child, Margerie J., born February 16, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie are members of the Reformed church of Canajoharie.

Billington, Spencer, Florida, was born at Bull's Head in Florida on April 25, 1850, being one of four children of Amos and Sallie M. (Sweet) Billington. In 1870 he graduated at the State Normal school at Albany, and for the following ten years he followed the profession of teaching school, and was highly popular and successful. In 1880 he engaged in business as a hay dealer, which occupation he has followed to the present time. He was for over two years a member of the commission house of Plowman & Billington, located at No. 15 New York Hay Exchange, Thirty-third street and Eleventh avenue, New York, and at Fort Hunter in the town of Florida, but now carries on the business in his own name, Mr. Plowman having gone out of the firm. On the 24th of April, 1878, he was married to Mary S., daughter of Samuel and Minerva Francisco of the town of Florida. They have five children: George F., Nellie E., Herbert L., Lena D. and M. Janet.

Shull, Alfred W., Stone Arabia, was born in the town of Palatine on the same farm he now resides on, December 12, 1834, and is a son of Daniel L. and Mary (Cook) Schull. Colonel William, the grandfather, was colonel of the 101st militia, receiving the appointment in April, 1818. He came to this town from Lewis county in 1834, and

located on this same farm. He married Eliza Hurty, and they had four children: Catharine, Daniel L., Mary and Alfred. Daniel L., father of our subject, was born near Lowville, Lewis county, in 1810, and married Mary, daughter of Captain Rudolph C. Cook of this town. He was a captain of militia in the war of 1812. The first occupation of Daniel L. was that of teacher, which he followed but two years, and then joined with his father in the purchase of the old homestead farm, where he continued until his death. He was killed August 20, 1869, by a stroke of lightning, leaving four children by his first wife, Mary Cook, who died in 1848; and three by his second wife, who still lives. Her name was Catharine Shults; the children were as follows: Catharine, who died in 1884, aged thirty-six; Elizabeth, wife of Walter Shoemaker of Chicago; and Charlotte, who died aged eleven years. The children by his second wife are: Mary, wife of James Broat of Iowa; John of Sioux City, Iowa, a lumber merchant in company with his brother, Willard C., the other son. The whole life of Alfred W. was spent on the farm, and he was educated at the Carlisle and Cooperstown Seminaries. After leaving school he returned to the old farm. After his father's death he bought the interests of the other heirs, and has since successfully conducted it. He also owns the hotel on the opposite side of the road. In 1875 he married Martha M. Wallace, by whom he had one daughter, Mary Elizabeth, now attending the Chicago University, and a son, Alfred W., jr., who died in infancy. Mrs. Shull died in January, 1884, and Mr. Shull married, second, in June, 1888, Ida Gray, daughter of Samuel Gray of Palatine. Mr. Shull has never taken an active interest in politics, and is a supporter of the Republican party. He is a successful farmer, owning a farm of 208 acres (the home farm on which was located Fort Paris of revolutionary days); also two other farms in Palatine, and one in Fulton county. Mr. Shull has a bell hanging in a belfry on his wagon-house, which originally bore the inscription of "Sir William Johnson, baronet, 1774, made by Miller & Ross in Eliz Town." The bell weighs over 100 pounds, and was originally used by Sir William, and after his death by his son, Sir John, as a dinner bell. Upon the confiscation of the property of Sir John, it was purchased by several members of Caughnawaga church and placed upon that building. Here it continued to perform its sacred mission for over fifty years, when the entire church property having been purchased by Rev. Douw Van O'Linda, the bell was sold by him to Daniel L. Shull, who restored it to its original use, that of a dinner bell. In 1862, Mr. Shull for the reason that it was cracked and imperfect in tone, had it recast.

Brower, Harmon, Palatine, was born in Palatine August 18, 1844, and is a son of Harmon H. and Margaret (Spoor) Brower. The great-grandfather of the subject, (Harmon Brower), was a native of this town, and had a son Harmon, also born here, who had thirteen children, Harmon H. being the oldest son. He was born in 1804, and always lived on the old homestead, on which various members of the family have lived for 150 years. During the revolution part of the woodwork of this old house was burned, but part of the wall of the original house is still standing, which was first built by the great-grandfather. They have been a family of farmers, and controlled about 200 acres of the best agricultural land in this section. Harmon H. had five children: Sarah, wife of Daniel Yanney of Ephratah; Mary, widow of William Brower of Mohawk; Helen, wife of Charles Chrissman of Mohawk; John, a farmer on the home-

stead; and our subject. The latter received a common school education and worked on the farm until he was twenty-nine years of age, when he bought his present residence of 115 acres, where he built a fine dwelling and added many improvements. In 1872 he married Maggie Schnyler of Mohawk and they have had four children: Herman H., Maud, Hamilton S., and Bert. In 1870 Mr. Brower was elected town clerk of Palatine, and re-elected in 1871.

Dockstader, William, Palatine, was born in St. Johnsville October 21, 1841, and is a son of Frederick and Keziah (Soules) Dockstader. Jacob P., the grandfather, a native of Palatine, was the father of ten children, of whom Frederick was the youngest son. He was born in Palatine in 1809, and while a young man removed to St. Johnsville, where he followed his trade of shoemaking. He married in that town, Keziah Soules, who is still living, aged eighty-one years. They had ten children, ten of whom survive: Jacob, sexton of Tribes Hill cemetery; Benjamin, a farmer of Calker City, Kansas; Peter, a farmer of Ephratah; Nancy A., wife of Alonzo Aker of Palatine; George, a farmer of Ephratah; Uriah, of Johnstown; Mary, wife of Jacob Chrisman, a retired farmer of Palatine; and William, our subject. When the latter was three years old his parents moved to Ephratah, where he was educated in the common schools. He worked on the farm until his majority, when he spent nine years on different farms, and then went into the cheese business, which he has since followed being located at the Palatine Union factory three years, and the last sixteen years at his present location. He married in 1872, Sarah A. Getman, daughter of Uriah Getman of Palatine, and they have had three children: Eddy C., born December 16, 1872; Boyd D., born April 5, 1880; and Ida, born July 1, 1881. In 1885 Mr. Dockstader added to the cheese factory a grist and cider mill, which have proved quite a successful venture. His interest in politics is only for the success of the Democratic party, and not as an office-seeker.

Patterson, William H., Charleston, was born in Duaneburg February 29, 1858. He was the only child of Clark and Elizabeth (Liddle) Patterson. Clark Patterson, the father, was born in Connecticut, being one of eight children of William Patterson, a native of that State, who emigrated to Schenectady county in early life and who was a lieutenant in the revolutionary army. Elizabeth (Liddle) Patterson, the mother of William H., was one of seven children of Thomas and Jennie (Robinson) Liddle, who was born in Scotland, coming here in early life. The others were Robert, John, Aleck, Romeyn and Peter Liddle and Jane (Mrs. Henry Wright). Mr. Patterson has always lived in Duaneburg and Charleston.

McDuffee, Judson, Charleston, was born in Charleston June 6, 1846, being one of three children of William and Temperance (Davis) McDuffee of Charleston, whose father and mother were born in Edinburg, Scotland. Temperance Davis, the mother, was one of three children of Lyman and — (Vunck) Davis. Judson was married December 28, 1870, to Thankful Brown of Carlisle. She is one of eight children of David E. and Elizabeth (Dillenbeck) Brown. They have had seven children: Charles, Winfield L., William, Elizabeth, Ida May, Minnie and Newell G. (who died in childhood). With the exception of five years in business in New York, Mr. McDuffee has resided in Charleston, being a farmer and hay-buyer.

Egleston, Ervin J., Charleston, was born in Charleston December 24, 1849. He was one of four children of Simon and Caroline (Rockwell) Egleston; the others being Benjamin, William and Perry Egleston. Simon, the father, was one of three children of Benjamin Egleston of Charleston; the others being Amos and Mehitable (Mrs. Peter Van Valkenberg). Caroline Rockwell, the mother, was born in Esperance, and was one of nine children of James Rockwell; the others being Lewis, Isaiah, Jerry, and Williams Rockwell, also Eliza (Mrs. John Diniger), Louisa (Mrs. Spencer Knapp) and two who died. Ervin J. Egleston was married December 1, 1876, to Naomi Rockwell of Esperance, one of five children of Hiram and Nancy (Bradshaw) Rockwell; the others being Mary Jane (Mrs. Hiram Jones), and Eli Rockwell, and two who died in childhood.

Argersinger, Charles, of Glen, was born in Fulton county November 15, 1844, being one of five children of Martin C. and Jane (Cromwell) Argersinger. The others were Christian, Franklin B., Ella (Mrs. John Tompson), and Ida. His grandparents were Christian and Mary (Selmser) Argersinger, the latter of Fulton county. His mother was one of four children of Peter Cromwell, the mother of Peter having been Elaine (Yost) Cromwell. Charles Argersinger married, June 11, 1872, Phœbe L. Voorhees, one of five children of Henry and Emma (Lansing) Voorhees, the others being Peter, John, James and Annie (Mrs. David Hubbs), the latter deceased. They have three children: Emma, Edward V., and Herbert W., who lives at home on the farm.

Stowitts, George P., Root, son of Jacob and Nancy (Lyker) Stowitts, was born where he now resides July 3, 1820, receiving a district school education. He owns 150 acres of the original homestead, and is a general farmer. He served as assessor on the Republican ticket. July 14, 1841, he married Charlotte Legg, born in Minden, Mass., and the daughter of Asa and Abigail (Benson) Legg. Asa Legg was of English origin, and the grandfather, David Legg, served throughout the revolution. Charlotte Legg came to Root in 1835. She received a district school education. Mr. and Mrs. Stowitts have three children: Jacob, Cornelius, a Presbyterian minister who was educated at Hamilton and Auburn; and Herbert, who died aged four years. They have also an adopted daughter, Emma, wife of L. A. Serviss. Mr. and Mrs. Stowitts have been lifelong members of the Reformed church. Mr. Stowitts was one of the organizers of, and is a stockholder in the Flat Creek cheese factory.

Leonardson, John D., Root, son of Aaron and Lana (Gross) Leonardson, was born in Root January 10, 1830, and received a district school education. He cared for his father until the death of the latter, and now owns the homestead of 108 acres. In December, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army and participated in the battle of Fair Oaks, and was a musician, and received his discharge August 31, 1865, at Richmond, Va. He returned home and resumed farming. He is a Republican in politics. He married Nancy, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Quackenbush) Van Valkenburg, and they have one daughter, Ada Maxwell. Mr. and Mrs. Leonardson have been members of the Lutheran church for thirty years. John T., grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the revolutionary war, was of Dutch origin and a farmer at Randall. His wife was Sarah Putnam and they had four sons and two daughters. They both died at Flat Creek. Aaron Leonardson was born in Root, and served in the war of 1812. He

was twice married, by his first wife he had two children. By his second wife he had five children, four of whom reached maturity: Eliza, Catharine, Henry and John D. Aaron died July 31, 1868, aged seventy-three years.

Lounsbury, Louis, Root, son of Louis, was born July 6, 1813, in the town of Onondaga, in the same county. His father was a shoemaker, and carried on that business near the Indian Reservation. Louis graduated from the Onondaga Academy and after leaving school entered the store of Orin Tyler, remaining about four years. He then entered a dry goods store in Syracuse, continuing three years. He next taught writing schools for four years in various towns, then ran a boat on the Erie canal for several years, and in 1850 he located at Yatesville and built a store, carrying on business for several years. He was superintendent of the Erie canal for three years, and then went to New York and became port warden there from 1858 to 1885. He then returned to this county where he has ever since resided. He was instrumental in getting the post-office established here, and called the office Randall. His son, John E., was the first postmaster. He married Mary A. Martin and had eight children, five of whom survive: Louis E., Helen Elizabeth, Thurlow Weed, Louise E., Darsey E., and John Edward, William B., and George H., the latter three deceased. Mr. Lounsbury has been a Republican ever since that party was organized.

Dievendorf, Charles, Root, son of William B. and Elizabeth (Dievendorf) Dievendorf, was born March 3, 1853, where he now resides. He was educated in the district schools and Fort Plain and Fairfield Academies. He resided with his father until the death of the latter, and now owns the homestead farm of 344 acres, besides another farm of 200 acres, and a half interest in 132 acres with his brothers. He also owns a farm in Schoharie county, 140 acres, and is a stockholder in the Fonda National Bank. He owns a half interest in Dievendorf & Snow's store at Canajoharie; also stock in the N. Y. C. & L. S. railroads; in the Western Union Telegraph Co.; and in the Flat Creek cheese factory. Mr. Dievendorf is a Democrat in politics. He has been twice married, first to Helen, daughter of Elias and Lucretia (Wessel) Lasher. They had three children: Elizabeth, William, and Lucretia. His wife died April 16, 1885, and he married second, Alice, daughter of Jesse and Ann E. (Countryman) Fox of Schoharie county, and had by her two children: Dewey and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Dievendorf are active in the Reformed church.

Failing, Robert C., Root, was born in Fort Plain March 4, 1836, and is a son of Philip and Lana (Nellis) Failing. He was reared on a farm and received a district school education. At the age of eighteen he left the homestead and spent two years in the west, returning at the end of that time, he lived on the farm until he was twenty-nine years of age. In the fall of 1867 he bought 100 acres where he now resides, adding later thirty acres. He makes a specialty of hops. He is Republican, and has served as trustee and supervisor, being only the second Republican who has ever been elected since the formation of the party. He was a delegate to the convention in 1885. April 6, 1865, he married Mary E., daughter of Russell and Margaret (Cornue) Bishop. They have one child, Alice V., wife of Frank Van Valkenburgh. His wife is a member of the Reformed church. His grandfather, John P. Failing (whose father came from Hol-

land and settled in Fort Plain), was born near the latter place in 1780, and died in 1840. He married Mary Casler, by whom he had four sons and five daughters, of whom one son, Philip, was born at Fort Plain June 30, 1809, and has been a farmer and hop grower. He retired wealthy, and is still active. He was one of the first organizers of the first Universalist church at Fort Plain. He reared three sons and three daughters, all living and married. His wife died March 1, 1891; she was born near Fort Plain, a daughter of John Nellis, who was a son of General George H. Nellis, a colonel and then general in the war of 1812. He was at Sackett's Harbor, and then served several terms in the assembly.

Lipe, Jacob I., Minden, second son of John A., was born in Minden October 20, 1796, and married Lany, daughter of John C. Ehle. She was born in Minden December 7, 1796. Their children were: Jeremiah, born May 25, 1821, died in infancy; Josiah, born November 2, 1823, resides in Minden; John Ehle; Delia, born January 11, 1829, widow of Thomas Parr, resides in Amsterdam; and Ann, born October 28, 1834, wife of Ephraim Miller of Little Falls. Jacob I. resided on the farm now occupied by his son, John E., where he died February 6, 1879. Mrs. Lipe died September 11, 1891. John Ehle Lipe was born in Minden September 7, 1826, and married, January 27, 1848, Susan, daughter of John and Margaret Coughtry. They have three children: Charles Ehle, born March 20, 1851, married Mary Sponable, and has one child, John Clifford, and carries on a machine shop in Syracuse; Ada C., born April 13, 1855, wife of T. Romayne Zimmerman of Minden; Willard Coughtry, born December 21, 1861, married Jennie Sponable, and has one child, Marjorie. He is engaged in the cigar box manufacturing business in Syracuse. John Ehle Lipe, has always been engaged in farming in Minden, and is a Republican in politics.

Wood, Herbert Coburn, Minden, was born at Fort Plain July 8, 1849, and is the oldest son of E. W. and Emily (Coburn) Wood. After attending the village schools he entered the Clinton Liberal Institute, but on account of ill health did not graduate. After a clerkship of two years in the grocery store of Wood, Clark & Hall, and on the retirement of the junior member of the firm, Mr. Wood obtained a partnership, the firm being Wood, Clark & Company. The senior Wood retired from the firm in 1881 and the firm became Clark & Wood, which continued till 1889, when Archie Stewart acquired an interest and the firm became Clark, Wood & Stewart. Mr. Stewart retired from the firm September 12, 1891, and F. H. Smith became a partner. William Clark disposed of his interest May 1, 1892, and the firm now consists of H. C. Wood and F. H. Smith. In politics Mr. Wood is a Republican. He married Sarah L., daughter of James E. Dewey of Fort Plain, and they have three children: Alice D., Edwin W., and Rexie L.

Lipe Family, The.—This family is of German extraction. One John A. Lipe, who was born August 1, 1764, was a merchant in Minden, and kept a store on what was known as Sand Hill in that town. He had also engaged in agricultural pursuits, and was the only one engaged in mercantile business at that time in Minden. He married on November 11, 1788, Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Lambert. She was born April 24, 1768. Of their ten children, one died in infancy. The others were: Elizabeth, born

January 2, 1793, married Andrew Bellinger, and died in Root; John I.; Jacob I.; Conrad, died aged twenty-one years; Catharine, born November 13, 1800, married John Walrath, and died in Minden; Margaret, born April 12, 1804, married Solomon Sanders, and died in New York; Maria, born May 18, 1805, married David Diefendorf, and died in Minden; Daniel I., born November 22, 1808, died in Michigan; and Susan, born November 26, 1811, resides in Fort Plain. John A. always lived in Minden, where he died. He married for his second wife Mrs. Elizabeth (Daggett) Keller. John I., the oldest son of the above family, was born in Minden March 3, 1795, and died in that town May 2, 1870. He married Maria, daughter of Adam Timmerman. She lived to be ninety years of age. Their children were: Eliza, who married Jonas Nestle, and died in Minden; Catharine, married Chauncey Getman, and died in Minden; Margaret, married David E. Casler, and died in Minden; Nancy, married Jacob Cook, and died in Illinois; Adam and Elvira, both died at the age of eight years. John I. was engaged in farming pursuits, also operated a saw and grist-mill, and lived just west of Fort Plain. Adam, the only son of John I., was born in Minden February 18, 1830, and married, December 27, 1853, Martha, daughter of John Adam Snell of Snell's Bush, Herkimer county; they had seven children: John Adam, a resident of Chicago; Mary Elvira, who married Michael Romain Keith, and died in Minden; Julia Camilla, died aged four and a half years; Francis Albert, married Sarah, daughter of Jacob C. Nellis, and has two children, Greta, and an infant, and resides in Fort Plain; Herman Seeber, a resident of Fort Plain; Clara Elizabeth, wife of Henry Reibel of Fort Plain. They have one child: Herman Emiel Reibel, and Margaret Gertrude, who died aged sixteen. Adam Lipe was engaged in farming until 1875, when he came to Fort Plain, and bought what was known as the Montgomery House, changing the name to the Lipe House, which he carried on till his death, which occurred August 19, 1889.

Van Slyke Family, The.—Nicholas Van Slyke came from Holland and was one of the early settlers of the Mohawk valley. He married a Miss Luthers and had four children: Garret, who died in Herkimer county; John; David, who died in Minden; and Timus, who died in Palatine. John of the above family was born in Minden, and died in that town in 1867 in his eighty-sixth year. He married Jane Schouten and had a family of fourteen children, viz.: Polly, married John Lewis and died in Minden; Eliza, married Peter Valentine, and died in Erie, Pa.; Nancy, widow of Henry Haven, resides at East Schuyler; Nicholas, lives in Minden; Margaret, died young; Emeline, married Joseph Sparks and died in Minden; Charlotte, died young; Jane, married Henry S. Baxter and died at Erie, Pa.; Catharine, died young; Livinia, widow of Milica Thompson, resides in Buren county, Michigan; Maria, widow of Charles Flambury, resides in Minden; Daniel; Lucinda, wife of Charles H. Hibbard of Manhus; Lifitte, married R. C. Cannem, and died at Minden. Daniel, the youngest son of the above family, was born in Palatine, September 30, 1832, and married Catharine Hess. Of their five children two died in infancy. The others are: John, born in Minden, November 24, 1859, married Ella McCauley, and has two children, Daniel and Edward; Charles, born in Minden, April 9, 1861, married Mrs. Addie (Wicks) Winslow. He was engaged in farming till 1891, and since then has conducted a cheese factory; Hat-

tie, wife of John H. Free of Chicago. Daniel is a Democrat in politics, and has been commissioner of highways. In 1853 he went to California, where he remained five years. Besides being engaged in farming, he has carried on lumbering and runs a saw-mill. He is proprietor of the Hallsville cheese factory.

Moyer Family, The.—One of the oldest, as well as one of the most numerous families in Minden, is the Moyer family. They are of German descent, but owing to the fact that no records have been preserved in the families, we are unable to give any definite information in reference to the earliest settlers of that name. Andrew Moyer was born in Minden March 12, 1777, and married Nancy, daughter of Abraham Arndt. They had six children: Solomon, Jacob A., Anna Maria, wife of Jacob Sanders of Minden; Catharine, who died young; Abraham; Helen, died in Minden. Andrew Moyer died July 29, 1867. Jacob A., son of Andrew, was born June 5, 1818, and married Amelia, daughter of Henry S. C. Mayer. Their children are Andrew Henry, born October 30, 1854, married Alice, daughter of William Lipe, has one child, May Louisa, born October 11, 1884; Ida Louisa, died young; Ralph, born May 18, 1860, married Florence, daughter of George Hisingen and lives at Ilion; Frank, born October 20, 1862, married Julia, daughter of Martin Flanders, has one child, Ray, and resides in Minden.

Moyer, Frederick, Minden, was born in Minden and married Mary Rickard, by whom he had ten children: Margaret, who married John Lambert, and died in Minden; John F.; David, died in Stark; Betsey, widow of Lorenzo Youngs, lives in Minden; Henry, resides in Johnstown; Isaac, died in Fort Plain; Maria, widow of Peter J. Miller of Stark; Jeremiah, died in Danube; Ann, widow of Cornelius Diefendorf, resides in Syracuse; and Ezra, who died in Minden. John F., the oldest son of Frederick, was born in Minden, August 28, 1805, and married, January 12, 1827, Nancy, daughter of Garret Youngs. She was born in Minden January 20, 1807. Their children were: Garret, who died in Minden; John Aaron; Mary Catharine, born May 20, 1832, wife of William Hess of Phœnix; Nancy Maria, who married Ira Duncle, and died in Minden; Chauncey Lambert; Peter Alfred; Daniel Nathan; and John F., who died August 10, 1882. Peter Alfred, son of John F., was born in Minden September 20, 1838. He married Mahala, daughter of Abraham Jordan of Stark, and they have three children: Charles Aaron, married Roseda Williams, and has one child, Florence, they reside in Minden; Ellen, wife of James Thompson of Minden; and Nellie E.

Yost, John Sherburne, Minden, was born in Yost Station, June 1, 1858, and is the youngest son in a family of five children of Daniel and Phœbe (Fero) Yost. He attended the local schools and graduated in 1879 from the Fort Plain Seminary, and the same year commenced the study of law with his uncle, Judge George Yost. Admitted to the bar in 1879, he formed a partnership with Lester M. Weller. This firm was dissolved in 1883, when Mr. Yost went to St. Louis, and was a member of the law firm of Frost, Clardy & Co. He remained in St. Louis for a year and a half, when he returned to Fort Plain and since that time has practiced his profession, continuing his business making a specialty of criminal cases. In politics a Republican, he has never held any public offices. Mr. Yost married Catherine, daughter of James Carroll of St. Johnsville, and they have one child, William Frost, jr.

Zoller, William, Minden, was born at Ogdensburgh, June 14, 1846, and is the third son of a family of ten children of James and Huldah (Greene) Zoller. In 1861 he became a student at the St. Lawrence University at Canton. In 1875 he entered Hahnemann Medical College at Philadelphia, from which he graduated in March, 1878. He had, previous to this, studied medicine with Dr. N. Child of Ogdensburgh. He commenced the practice of his profession at Fort Plain the same year in which he graduated, and where he has since continued. He is a member of the St. Lawrence County Medical and the New York State Homœopathic societies. In politics a Republican, he is at present one of the county's coroners. He married Mrs. Juliette (Dillenbeck) Zoller.

Snyder, Henry C., Minden, was born in Minden January 14, 1829, and died in that town July, 7, 1889. He married Catharine, daughter of Peter Hoke, and they had three children: Jacob H., a resident of Danube; Emma and Willard. His father was Jacob Snyder, and he has always resided on the homestead in Minden, where he was engaged in farming. In politics a Democrat, he never was an aspirant for public office. Willard, the son of Henry G. Snyder, was born in Minden, September 10, 1864, received a common school education, and since his father's death has carried on the farm.

Weller, Edwin, Minden, was born in Minden February 15, 1847. His education was limited to the district school and he spent his early life on his father's farm, excepting a period of two or three years when he was engaged with his father in the plaster business at Fort Plain. Since 1870 he has carried on the old homestead farm, which is situated in the southern part of the town of Minden, and which he purchased in 1879. Politically he is a Republican. He married Mary Jane, daughter of the late Isaac Copley, and they have four children, viz.: Le Roy, Gerta, Lena and Grace.

Van Dusen, Barnet, Minden, was born at Greenbush, Rensselaer county, March 20, 1795, and married October 3, 1819, Nancy Yerdon. Their children were Elijah, born November 13, 1820, died in Minden; Harriet, born August 2, 1822, wife of Hiram Walrath of Minden; Davis, born October 6, 1824, died in Minden; James, born November 30, 1826, died in Minden; Robert born January 21, 1829, died in Virginia during the war; Maria, born April 6, 1831, wife of Noah Beckman of St. Johnsville; Solomon, born January 18, 1833, lives at Fort Plain; Rebecca, born February 27, 1835, wife of Adam Wiles of Minden; John P., born February 8, 1837, lives at Frey's Bush; Dewitt; Willie, born July 6, 1841, lives at St. Johnsville; Seward, died aged three years; and George J., died aged three years. Barnet lived in Minden, where he died. He was a harnessmaker and shoemaker and in latter years attended the town toll gate. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Dewitt, of the above family, was born in Minden, May 12, 1839, and married Helen Dix. They have one child, Alzetta May. He has been engaged in cheesemaking twenty-three years—nine years in Vermont, and the remainder of the time in Minden.

Smith, J. Cooper, Minden, was born in Oxford, Chenango county, July 21, 1827. His father, John Smith, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1789, and married Susan Hewes. The other children by this marriage were: William, a resident of Fort

Plain; James, living in Onaga, Kansas; Esther, married Dewitt C. Gibson, and died in Fort Plain; Robert, lives in Lyons; and Catharine, wife of John Diefendorf of Fort Plain. John came to America in 1819, locating at Hallsville, where, after remaining three years, he went to Oxford. He returned to Minden in 1828, where he died January 31, 1865. J. Cooper Smith married Catherine, daughter of Henry Sart of Minden. They have three children: Grant, a conductor on the Pullman Palace Car attached to the Royal Blue Line, between New York and Washington; Nettie and John. Mr. Smith went to California in 1852, being engaged in mining. After staying there two years, on returning home he worked on the *Yankee Blade* of Point Aquilla. Returning to San Francisco, he continued mining two years longer, and came home in 1856. The following year he went to Lyons, where he was engaged in mercantile business till 1865. Since that time he has carried on farming in Minden. In politics he is a Democrat.

Sanders Family, The.—Of German descent, the first one of which of whom we have been able to obtain any record, who settled in Minden, was Henry Sanders. He married a Miss Moyer and had three sons, Henry, Solomon and Jacob. The latter was born in Minden March 17, 1780, and died in that town April 21, 1856. He married Elizabeth Keller, and had seven children: Lany, who married Daniel Diefendorf, and died in Jefferson county; Elizabeth, widow of J. I. Zoller, resides in Minden; Henry C.; Jacob, a resident of Minden; Mary, also a resident of this town; Catharine and Nancy, twins, the former the wife of Horatio Nellis of Canajoharie, and the latter died young; Henry C., the oldest son of Jacob, was born in Minden March 20, 1814, and died April 21, 1887. He was twice married, and his surviving children are by his second wife, Mary Nellis. They are as follows: Emma, wife of Edward S. Van Deusen of Fort Plain; (Charles H. and Herbert, both died in infancy); and James H., born in Minden March 7, 1860, married Magdalena Klock. He is a graduate of the Utica Business College, and also learned telegraphy. He was for a short time on the Northern Central Railroad, and was also engaged in a general store at Farnington, Dakota. He returned to Minden in 1886 and has since been engaged in farming, residing on the old homestead. He is a Democrat.

Yost, George, Minden, was a descendant from one of the oldest families of the Mohawk valley. He was born in Johnstown, December 6, 1810, and was the oldest son in a family of seven children of Nicholas and Esther (Sanmons) Yost. His father was a farmer, and he attended the local school of his native town, but becoming by an accident crippled, his father determined to give him the advantages of a better education, and at age of seventeen he became a student at Union College, graduating from same three years later. He chose the law as his profession, and after reading with Judge Daniel Cady of Johnstown he first practiced at Buffalo, but afterwards formed a partnership with Judge Cady, which continued until 1844. Judge Yost in 1846 came to Fort Plain, and in company with Judge John Darrow, opened a law office. Some two years afterwards Daniel Lobdell became a member of the firm. Judge Darrow, on account of ill health, retired from the firm and the partnership was finally dissolved in 1855 on account of Mr. Lobdell removing from the place. A Whig, afterwards a Republican in politics, Judge Yost in 1854 was elected to the state senate, his oppo-

ment being Henry Churchill of Gloversville. He was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and he was recognized as one of the most eminent lawyers of that body. He declined a re-election, but in 1863 was elected county judge, and on his retirement from that office continued to practice his profession till 1879, when he retired from active business, having by his exertions and a successful career accumulated a large fortune. Judge Yost was an active Mason and had conferred upon him all the degrees of that order which were given in this country. The judge was known amongst his legal brethren and the general public as an honest lawyer, his clients' business being looked after as if it were his own. He died February 8, 1888.

Walrath, Alfonzo, Minden, the only son of Jacob and Elizabeth Walrath, was born in Danube, November 1, 1840. His education was obtained at the district schools. His father being a farmer, he engaged in agricultural pursuits until twenty years of age, when he opened a boot and shoe store at Fort Plain and conducted it one year, when he removed it to Little Falls, remaining two years. Returning to Fort Plain, he invented various machines for the manufacture of brooms. He then commenced to manufacture his own inventions, in which business he is at present engaged. He produces about two hundred gross of broom ferrules weekly, besides twenty corn huskers and twenty burl cutters annually, and gives employment to ten men. Mr. Walrath is a Republican in politics, and has held various town offices. He married Mary E., daughter of T. B. Farley of Fort Plain and has six children: Maude, wife of E. C. Crane of Utica; Alton A., Jessie, Nettie, Hazel and Mary. Mr. Walrath has always been interested in musical matters, and was for fifteen years leader of the Walrath and Fort Plain band, and was also for twenty years a leader in church choirs.

Edick, John, Minden, was born in Minden May 6, 1821. His grandfather, Frederick Edick, was born in Germany, December 6, 1769. He came when a young man to America and first settled at Sand Lake. He located in Montgomery county in 1808, settling on a farm which he purchased near Salt Springville in Minden. He married, September 6, 1791, Getty Smith, who was born September 13, 1773. Their children were Katie, born April 19, 1794, died in infancy; Robert, born January 15, 1795, died in infancy; Frederick, born January 5, 1798, died at Lansing, Michigan; Conrad, born February 24, 1799, died in Minden; Betsey, born October 28, 1801; John, born June 6, 1803, died in Newfane, N. Y.; Caty, born May 15, 1815, married William Campbell and died in Orleans county; Margaret, born November 30, 1807, married John Carpenter and died at Chicago; Christian, born May 28, 1808, died in infancy; Phoebe Maria, born May 24, 1814, died at the age of sixteen; David Erastus, born May 6, 1816, died at Fort Plain. Jacob, the oldest surviving son of the above family, and father of John J. Edick, was born in Greenbush, July 28, 1796, and died in Minden, December 27, 1889. He married first Nancy Lambert, who was born July 25, 1798, and died June 5, 1823. The only issue of this marriage was John J. He married June 11, 1826, for his second wife, Katie Ann Bost. They had seven children, viz.: Margaret, born July 31, 1827, wife of Elijah Bush of Cherry Valley; Pamela, died aged three years; Menzo, born November 25, 1834, and Andrew Pine, born July 27, 1837, both residents of Springfield; Nancy, born August 1, 1832, wife of Alexander Livingston; Ephraim,

died, aged twenty-four years; and Jacob Adam. The latter lived on the farm now occupied by his son, Jacob A., for sixty-five years. John J. Edick married for his first wife Elizabeth Countryman, and they had three children: Henry, died aged seven years; Alice, wife of John Willis of Richfield Springs; and John, who resides in South Dakota. His second wife was Margaret Bronner. He has always been a farmer, and is a Republican in politics.

Smith, Matthew, Minden, was born in Sharon, June 20, 1829. His father, Irdney Smith, was also born there, December 20, 1796. He married January 30, 1833, Nancy Baur, who was born in Sharon February 17, 1801. They had eight children, viz.: Almira, who married Elijah Meny, and died in Canajoharie; Henry, died aged two years; Matthew, Jerome, died in Richfield Springs; Eliza Ann, resides at Salt Springville; and Sidney. The latter married for his second wife Jane Knowlton, and they had seven children: Harriet, Nancy, Seymour, Preston, Jacob, Laura and William. He removed from Sharon to Springfield, and came to Minden in 1833, locating on the farm now owned by his son, Matthew Smith. He died at Richfield Springs in 1860. Matthew of the above family had only the benefits of a common school education, and has always been engaged in farming on his present farm. He has also been interested in raising fast roadsters, and is the owner of the well known gelding "Telephone." He married for his first wife Nancy Humphrey, and they had two children: Preston, who died March 17, 1858; and Rodney, who died February 11, 1861. His second wife was Elizabeth Willse, and their children are as follows: Mortimer, born February 9, 1865, who married Mary Huffnail, by whom he has one child, Mabel Densmore, born March 29, 1866, died May 23, 1874; Nancy, born April 9, 1867; Mary, born June 19, 1868; Nellie, born August 6, 1869; Almira, born December 9, 1870, wife of Dexter Bowman of Stark; Lucy, born December 9, 1872, died May 15, 1874; Robert, born November 10, 1875; and Addison, born January 25, 1877.

Wiles, John, Minden, married Magdalen Yerdan, and had the following family: Henry I., John, died in Canajoharie; Margaret, who married Nicholas Hook and died in the west; Maria, who married Adam Yerdan and died in Otsego county; Daniel, died in Springfield; Catherine, widow of Henry Yerdan, resides in Minden; and Jacob who died in Minden. Henry I., son of John, was born in Minden, April 18, 1808, and married Catherine Dillenbeck. Their children were Margaret, wife of Jeremiah D. Moyer of Glen; Lany, widow of Henry Shall, resides in Minden; Adam; Elizabeth, wife of Peter Casler of Minden; George; Mary, wife of Henry Wallster, of Minden; Lester, resides in Johnstown; and Julia, wife of Addison Bauder, who died in Minden. Henry I. died May 1, 1880. George, son of Henry I., was born in Minden July 2, 1843, and married for his first wife Helen Nestle, by whom he had one child, Arthur. He married for his second wife Mrs. Louisa (Mattise) Wiles.

Cronkhite, William, Minden, the grandfather of Farley, married for his first wife, Maria Smith, and had a family of eight children, viz.: Cornelius, who died in Cicero; Hannah, who married John Hahneman, and died in Minden; George; James, who died in Little Falls; Anson and Sheldon, who died at Cedarville; Minerva, who married John Casler, and died in Minden; Maria, who married Jacob C. Wolcott and died in

Minden. William married second, Mrs. Maria Van Ness, by whom he had two children: Louisa, who married John Parr and died in Canajoharie; and Luraine, who married Thomas Milligan, and died in Minden. George, of the above family, was born in Minden, May 9, 1809, and married Peggy Devendorf. They had four children: Farley; James, who died at Central Bridge; Harriet, wife of Hamilton Snell of Minden; and George D. George died December 21, 1879. Farley was born in Minden, March 27, 1837, and married Frances Snell, and their children are Frederick H., a resident of Minden; Burton, who died aged seventeen years; and Alice.

Dygert, George S., Minden, the youngest child and son of Sylvanus Dygert, was born in Minden, July 10, 1810. The other children of Sylvanus Dygert were John, who died in Canajoharie; Adam, who died in Jefferson county; Warren, died young; Betsey, married Peter Dunckle and died in Minden; Delia, married Peter Garlock and died West; George S., married Lucy Ann Dunckle December 25, 1834. She was born in Minden, November 7, 1814. Their children were William H., born December 15, 1836, died aged three months; James H., born November 15, 1839, lived in Canajoharie; Edward, born August 2, 1842, unmarried, resides in Minden; Anna, born July 13, 1849, wife of Alphonzo Green of Minden; and Alvin and Albert (twins) born May 7, 1851; the latter died at the age of twenty-two years. The former married Eva E. Bellingier, and their children are Kenneth, died aged ten months, and Leo, born June 16, 1891. Alvin is a resident of Minden, a Democrat in politics, and has been for the past three years inspector of elections.

Witter, John Jacob, Minden, was born in Brooklyn, Conn., December 6, 1842, and is the only son in a family of three children of John and Mary A. (Bradford) Witter. His mother was a lineal descendant of Governor Bradford, colonial governor of Massachusetts. After attending the local schools, he fitted for college at the Munson Academy. Graduating in 1859 he accepted the position of principal of the public school at Putnam, Conn., but owing to ill health was obliged to resign. He then opened a select school in the same place, which he closed, and also had to abandon the idea of a college education on account of entering the United States Navy. He was attached to the U. S. steamer *Fort Henry* as an apothecary, when she was part of the east gun squadron. He was afterwards transferred to the U. S. steamer *Nyack* of the Pacific squadron, serving as yeoman. He was discharged from the U. S. service in 1876 and returned to his native town; on account of his ill health he came to the Adirondack regions of New York state, remaining about two years. He then accepted a situation as teacher in Clay, Onondaga county, where, after teaching one term, he came to Starksville, Otsego county, where he taught three terms. He came to Fort Plain in 1872 as principal of the public schools of the village, and after twelve and a half consecutive years, resigned, for the purpose of traveling on the road as a salesman for the Fort Plain Glove and Mitten Company, an industry he was largely interested in as partner. After traveling five years, at the urgent solicitation of the school board of Fort Plain, he again became principal of the public school, which position he now holds. In politics a Democrat, he has never been an aspirant to political honors. He married Sarah, daughter of the late Dr. Uriah Potter.

Potter, Uriah, Minden, was born in Salisbury, Herkimer county, January 11, 1806, and was the oldest son in a family of five children of John and Dorcas (Seikles) Potter. After attending the local schools he went to Fairfield Academy, and afterwards studied medicine with Dr. Holmes of Indian Castle. He commenced the practice of medicine at Hallsville, in 1832, where he continued till 1862, when he removed to Fort Plain. During the war he was surgeon of the board of enrollment stationed at Schenectady. He was a member of the Montgomery Medical Society, and was a Republican in politics. He married Mary, daughter of Jacob Coofman of Minden, and they had seven children: Kate, wife of Martin Van Derveer of Richfield Springs; Emily, resides in Fort Plain; Darwin, a physician of Rochester; Sarah, wife of John J. Witter of Fort Plain; Bradford, who died in Fort Plain; Mary, wife of Arthur M. Williams of Fort Plain; and Marlton, a resident of Fort Plain. Dr. Potter died December 16, 1869.

Sneck, George, Minden, was born in Minden, November 25, 1825. His father, Frederick Sneck, was born May 2, 1799, and married Elizabeth Wiles. She was born May 3, 1798. The children by this marriage, beside George, were John, a resident of Minden; Catharine, who married Cornelius Casler, and died in Minden; Betsey, wife of Englehardt Wagner of Minden; Ann, wife of Adam Yorden of Sharon; Lany, wife of George Countryman of Canajoharie; and Maria, wife of Peter Gesler, died in Minden. Frederick died at Sharon, January 30, 1890, his wife on February 6, 1887. George Sneck married, January 20, 1848, Catharine, daughter of George Hess. Their children were: Anson, born December 30, 1850, died September 17, 1868; Mary Francis, born March 27, 1855, died February 3, 1858; and Alice, born August 9, 1867, wife of John A. Shinnaman of Utica. George Sneck died October 14, 1883. He learned the blacksmith trade from his father and his uncle, Jake Sneck, which trade he followed till 1859, when he engaged in farming, which he carried on up to the time of his death.

Hall, George W., Glen, was born in Glen, February 3, 1854. He was one of eight children of Court and Sarah (Fornicrook) Hall, the others being Mount, Philip, Luther (deceased), Garrett, Mary, wife of Oscar Nesberg, Alice, and Martha (deceased). Court Hall, the father, was one of five children of Cornelius Hall of Glen, the others being Cornelius, Luther, Veeder and Ann, wife of Garry Yates. Sarah Fornicrook was born in the town of Florida, one of six children; the others being Philip, Henry, Charles Rachel, wife of Henry Snyder, Hannah, wife of Elijah Disbrow. George W. Hall married, December 27, 1877, Lottie F. Bunn, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Freeman) Bunn of Florida, she having one brother, Charles Bunn. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have two children, Ella W. and John D. B. Hall.

Schuyler Peter V., Glen, one of two children of William T. and Ida C. (Van Evera) Schuyler, was born in Glen July 28, 1855. The sister of Mr. Schuyler was Louisa, wife of Henry C. Storey. William T., the father, was born in Glen, and was one of five children of Jacob and Mary (Serviss) Schuyler; the others being George, Jacob, James, and one sister (Mrs. Stephen Ostrom, who died many years ago). Ida (Van Evera) Schuyler, the mother, a native of Root, was one of nine children of Peter and Nancy (Leonardson) Van Evera, the others being John P., James P., Elizabeth E., widow of

Jacob H. Starin, Peter, Jane Ann, wife of J. J. Van Derveer, Charles S., Millar D. F., and one sister who died in childhood. Jacob Schuyler, the grandfather, was born in Holland, and emigrated to this country in early life, settling in Glen, where he married Mary Serviss. Peter V. Schuyler married Eve Anna, one of seven children of Robert and Sarah (Vrooman) Wemple. (See sketch of Robert Wemple). They have two children, William T. and Henry S.

Hudson, Mrs. Emma (Van Buren), widow of Boyd R. Hudson, Glen, was born in Glen and is a daughter of Peter P. and Rachel Maria (Enders) Van Buren; he being born in Glen and one of seven children of Cornelius Van Buren, who was a native of Otsego county. She was married May 6, 1863, to Boyd R. Hudson, who died in February, 1891. They had three children: Agnes B. (Mrs. Dewitt Devendorf) dead, Van B. and Emma A. Hudson. Richard, the father of Boyd R. Hudson, was born in Newburgh, his wife, Abigail Wood, having been born in Root. His grandfather was also Richard Hudson; he was a soldier in the Revolutionary army and was stationed at Fort Montgomery (some six miles below West Point) when it was attacked by the British in 1777; he escaped across the river in the night upon the great iron chain stretched across it.

Mabee, Peter H., Glen, was born on the old Mabee homestead on Schoharie creek in the town of Glen, June 15, 1838. He was one of four children of Harmanus and Maria (Newkirk) Mabee of Glen, the others being Abram Mabee, Elinor (Mrs. John K. Van Horne), dead, and Mary (Mrs. Benjamin A. Faulkner of Glen). His grandfather, Peter H. Mabee, was born in Glen. His great-grandfather, Harmanus Mabee, also lived in the town. The farm on which Peter H. Mabee has always lived is a portion of the original Mabee patent of 1,000 acres. Mr. Mabee has in his possession many interesting relics of the early days in the valley, among them being five parlor chairs, which were the property of William Johnson, which were a portion of his effects confiscated and sold. They were purchased by Mr. Mabee's great-grandfather Garrison, and have since been handed down from one generation to another in the family.

Van Epps, William, Glen, one of two children of Jacob and Isabella (Bennett) Van Epps, was born in Glen October 23, 1855; the other child was Evert Van Epps. Jacob, the father, was born in Glen and was one of seven children of John E. Van Epps; his wife was one of ten children of William and Elma (Strong) Bennett of Duanesburg; his father being Colonel Bennett; Solomon Strong being her grandfather on the mother's side. Jacob Van Epps was born in Glen January 8, 1822, and died in Fultonville August 21, 1888. William Van Epps was married October 15, 1882, to Anna Gertrude Martin, a daughter of Barney J. and Rebecca (Schenck) Martin of Fonda. They have one son, William Leland Van Epps. They moved from Glen to Fultonville, where they now reside, in 1889. Mr. Van Epps is poormaster of the town.

Ostrom, David J., Glen, was born on the family homestead in Glen May 30, 1854. He was one of eight children of Stephen and Anna Maria (Edwards) Ostrom of Glen, the others being Stephen, Anna M. (Mrs. Richard Winnie), Elizabeth (Mrs.

Walter B. Cross), Minnie (Mrs. W. H. Baird), Ella L. (Mrs. J. H. Nellis), and Margaretta (dead). His mother was one of seven children of John Edwards of Glen. He was married September 20, 1876, to Mary, only child of Everett and Ann (Seluser) Van Epps of Glen. Her grandfather, John E. Van Epps, was born in Glen, as also was his wife, Elizabeth (Vedder) Van Epps. Her great-grandfather was Evert Van Epps, and his father, John Van Epps, came from Holland and settled here. David J. and wife have two children, Victoria and Earl Ostrom.

Wemple, William H., Glen, was born January 12, 1838; he being one of six children of William B. and Rebecca (Yates) Wemple of Fultonville. He was married September 10, 1867, to Anna, daughter of Rev. Abram Diefendorf. They have had three children, two of whom, Lulu and Charles Yates, died in childhood, and Harry Diefendorf, who was born March 21, 1872, and who lives at home being employed in the office of the foundry. William H. entered the foundry business in 1863 with his father and has continued in it until the present time, the business being now carried on under the firm name of William B. Wemple's Sons. Mr. Wemple has served the town as town clerk, and as supervisor for two terms.

Edwards, Edward, Glen, was born in Glen February 10, 1850. He was one of four children of John V. S. and Mary M. (Hosford) Edwards, the others being J. S. Glen, Geddes H., and Mary (Mrs. George Abel). Edward Edwards was married October 17, 1883, to Emma Devendorf, one of six children of Henry A. and Rachel (Pettengill) Devendorf of Florida; the others being Nettie (Mrs. Willard Selmsler) Mary (Mrs. C. B. Meding), Jay Dewitt and Milton Devendorf. They have one daughter living, Julia Antoinette, another daughter having died in childhood.

Galbraith, Frank F., Glen, was born in Richmond, East Canada, April 12, 1865. His parents moved to Massachusetts when he was a child. He has always been connected with railroad business as telegraph operator and station agent, having been located for several years at St. Johnsville, also at Gloversville, and for four years at his present location at Auriesville Station on the West Shore road. He was married in 1886 to Margaret Burr, daughter of Lucius F. and Margaret (McDonald) Burr of Johnstown. They have two children, Mary E. and Harry T. Galbraith.

Peddie, William J., M. D., Glen, one of three children of Daniel W. and Mary (Barker) Peddie, was born at Broadalbin January 7, 1858; the other children were: Charles Peddie of the firm of Leggett & Peddie of Glens Falls, and Ella J., wife of George Nash of Albany. His grandfather, James Peddie, was born in Perth, Scotland, whence he emigrated, settling on the place where his grandson, William J., was born. William J. married first on April 16, 1883, Ella Gardner, who died leaving one child, Bertram Peddie. He married second, January 26, 1887, Carrie, daughter of John D. and Sarah McIntyre of Perth. They have two children living, McIntyre and Edith V. Dr. Peddie was educated in the Broadalbin Free school, the Amsterdam Academy, and under the preceptorship of Dr. Van Deveer of the Albany Medical College, from which he graduated March 2, 1882. Since that time he has been engaged in the active practice of his profession in Fultonville and Glen,

Abel, Andrew S., Glen, was born in Glen on the Abel homestead September 12, 1823, and died March 20, 1892. He was one of nine children of Philip Abel of Glen and Catharine Coover Abel of Charleston, the others being: Abram, Mary Ann, Mrs. John Cline, Sarah (Mrs. Henry Rickard), Elizabeth (Mrs. A. C. Rickard) all deceased; an infant Malina (Mrs. William Baird), Margaret (Mrs. A. C. Rickard), Catharine (Mrs. D. F. Hewitt), and Jane Abel. Andrew S. Abel married, October 3, 1848, Jeannina, one of six children of John and Anna (Van A. twery) Great of Fultonville, the others being Gertrude, Rebecca (Mrs. David Brower), Margaret, Eliza (Mrs. Barney Gardener), and Jane (Mrs. F. J. Starin). They had three children, Anna M., Abel, and Gertrude Abida; the latter died in childhood.

Gardener, Barney, Fultonville, was born in Glen September 3, 1815, and was one of two children of Nicholas S. and Ellen (Schencs) Gardener, his brother, Samuel, is a resident of Rock county. 10 Samuel, the grandfather, came from Holland in early life. He was a soldier in the revolutionary army and was wounded at the battle of Oriskany, being shot by two Indians as he was standing behind a tree. The bullets were extracted and he lived for several years. His brother, Captain Jacob Gardener, was killed in that battle. Mr. Gardener is living with his fourth wife, who was Elizabeth Wiley of Fort Plain. They have one daughter, Lelah, who lives with them. He has five other children living: Edward, in Columbia county; Leonard and William in Texas; Josephine (Mrs. George A. Kisselberg) of Columbia county; and Martha (Mrs. Levi A. Starin) of Glen. Mr. Gardener has always lived in this town, and has been for fifty-two years on the place where he now lives.

Wemple, Robert, Fultonville, one of seven children of David and Evaline (Lounige) Wemple of Mohawk, was born January 28, 1831. The other children were: Barney of Mohawk, Dow of Glen, William of Mohawk, Sarah (Mrs. Abenzo Schuyler), Anna (Mrs. G. H. Mount) of Fultonville, and Mary. His grandfather, Dew Wemple, was also born in Mohawk. Mr. Wemple married, February 18, 1848, Sarah, one of twelve children of Volkert and Sarah (Smith) Vrooman of Mohawk. They have seven children: Adam Z. of Glen, Mary C. (Mrs. S. Quackenbush), H. Seymour of Fort Plain, Gertrude (Mrs. Ezra Nare) of Johnstown, Eve Ann (Mrs. Peter Schuyler) of Fultonville, Sarah (Mrs. Edward Reyn) of Fultonville, and Marshall F. of Glensville. In 1860 Robert Wemple moved to Glen, bought the county poor-farm, which he conducted for sixteen years, and in 1881 retired, moving to Fultonville, where he now resides. Mr. Wemple has served two terms in the legislature as member of assembly, and is at the present time president of the village.

Vedder, Francis B., Fultonville, one of four children of David F. and Mary E. (Shelp) Vedder of Glen, was born February 20, 1807. The other children were John J., Anna Maria, and Nelson D. deceased. His father, David, was born on the Vedder homestead, as also was his grandfather, Francis B. Vedder. His great-grandfather, John, came to Glen from Schenectady in early life, and settled on the farm where David F. and John now live. Francis B. married, May 28, 1879, Margaret Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Margaret Elizabeth (Devendorf) Bellinger of St. Johnsville. Philip Bellinger, her grandfather, was a native of Minden. They have two children, Charles David, and Mary N. Vedder.

Vedder, David F., Fultonville, was born May 12, 1835, on the homestead in Glen, and is one of six children of Francis B. and Maria (Newkirk) Vedder. Francis B. was also born on the homestead in Glen; his wife, Maria, being a native of Florida. The other children were: John, Francis F., Jasper, Eliza (Mrs. John F. Devendorf), and Maria (Mrs. James P. Van Evera). John Vedder, the grandfather, came from Schenectady in early life, and settled on the farm, his wife being Eve Vedder. Maria, mother of David F., was a daughter of Cornelius and Margaret Newkirk of Florida. David F. Vedder was first married February 16, 1859, to Mary E. Shelp, daughter of Nelson and Elizabeth (Mount) Shelp of Glen. She died leaving four children: Francis B., John J., Anna Maria and Nelson D. (deceased). He married second, on November 7, 1888, Jane Ann, daughter of Garrett G. and Rebecca (Van Vechten Mount) Lansing of Charleston.

Haggart, George S., Fultonville, was born in Fonda June 9, 1863, being one of eight children of George S. and Elizabeth (Abrams) Haggart. The others were Alexander S., Jost W., Delo, Libbie (Mrs. John Venn), Mabel (Mrs. William Russ) Carrie B., and Sadie (deceased). His grandfather, Alexander Haggart, was born in Mohawk. His great-grandfather came from Scotland. Our subject was married, August 14, 1887, to Hattie M. Pulver of Glen, one of seven children of John Pulver. Mr. and Mrs. Haggart have two children, Raymond S. and Sadie. Mr. Haggart has for several years been in business in Fonda, but moved to Fultonville in 1891, where he is doing a successful grocery and provision business.

Abel, George J., Glen, one of six children of Abram and Margaret Ann (Hall) Abel of Glen, was born February 15, 1851. The others were: Peter and Eugene, deceased; and Philip, Anna, and Maria (widow of Mr. Irish). Abram Abel, the father, was one of nine children of Philip and Catharine (Conover) Abel of Glen. The others were as follows: Andrew, Elizabeth (Mrs. Alexander Rickard), both deceased; Mary Ann (Mrs. John Clute), Dorothy (Mrs. William Baird), Sarah (Mrs. Henry Rickard), Margaret (Mrs. Alexander Rickard), Catharine (Mrs. Daniel Hewitt), and Jane Abel. Margaret Ann (Hall), the mother, was one of two children of Peter and Hannah (Van Horne) Hall of Glen, her brother, Cornelius being deceased. Hannah was a daughter of Cornelius Van Horne. George J. Abel married December 2, 1891, Mary, daughter of John V. S. and Mary M. (Hosford) Edwards of Glen.

Wendell, Willis, Amsterdam, was born in the city of Amsterdam and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He is one of Amsterdam's thorough business men with his drug store and storage house. He married Elizabeth, only daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Herrick of this city. They have two children, both sons, Henry H. and Willis, jr. Mr. Wendell's father, Harmon, was born at Frey's Bush on the 19th of February, 1835, and was educated in the public schools, followed by academic instruction. Coming to this city when a young man, he entered a drug store as clerk, afterwards became a partner, then sole proprietor. For some years before his death, he manufactured knit goods in partnership with Oscar F. Nelson, under the firm of Nelson & Wendell. In the drug business he took in as partners, Austin and Becker, the firm for some years being Wendell & Becker. On the 23d of September, 1857, he

married Almira M., fourth daughter of Joseph L. and Delilah Mosher of Duaneburg. They had two children, both sons: Frank M., who died at the age of nineteen, and Willis. Harmon Wendell died on the 28th of July, 1880, aged about forty-five years.

Bartlett, Dudley S., Amsterdam, was born in Galway on the 27th of June, 1824, and when quite young came with his parents to West Galway, and afterwards to Johnstown. He was educated in the public schools and old Johnstown Academy and came to Amsterdam in the year 1864. On the 22d of December, 1852, he married Mary Ann McClew of Minaville. They have three children, Frank, Willis M. and Josiah. Frank married Anna M. Griffith of the town of Florida. They have one son, Gardner. They reside in Pittsfield, Mass. Willis M. is a teller in the First National Bank of Amsterdam. Josiah is a painter and resides at home. Mr. Bartlett's father, Martin, was born in West Galway on the 12th of January, 1790, and married Abigail Smith of Charlton. They had six children, three sons and three daughters: Josiah, Backus L., Dudley S., Elizabeth, Laura and Mary A. Mr. Bartlett's grandfather, Josiah, was born in Connecticut, and some of the ancestors were in the early wars. They are of English, Welsh and Scotch extraction.

Young, Luther H., Amsterdam, was born on the 9th of September, 1846, in Canajoharie, and was educated in the public schools and Eastman's Business College. He began business with a Mr. Huntley in 1867 under the firm of Huntley & Young, a general dry goods establishment. In 1884 he sold out his interest and for four years was engaged in several enterprises. In 1884 he formed a copartnership with John R. Striker in a general dry goods business, under the firm of Young & Striker, which is continued until this day. Mr. Young's father, Luther, was born in Fonda on the 9th of August, 1802. He was educated in the public schools and in his early life he was a carpenter and builder, but the best part of his life he was a farmer. For thirteen years he resided in Canajoharie, and returned to Tribes Hill where he spent the balance of his days. On the 1st of January, 1835, he married Nancy Briggs of Johnstown. They had five children, two sons and three daughters: Elisha, who died in January, 1882; Elizabeth A., died in January, 1878; Sarah L., Deborah, and Luther H. His father died at Tribes Hill on the 12th of April, 1876, and his mother in September, 1859.

Wessells, Dr. Silas A., Canajoharie, was born in Cherry Valley on the 10th of June, 1851, a son of R. L. and Anna Horning Wessells, natives of Otsego county, the father of Dutch and the mother of German origin. Both families were among the early settlers of that county. Dr. Wessells was educated in the schools of his native town, at Ames Academy and at Cazenovia Seminary. He studied medicine with Dr. A. J. Smith of Ames, and attended lectures at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he graduated in 1878. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession at Argusville, thence to Ames, and soon came to Canajoharie, where he has enjoyed an extensive and lucrative practice, and he is now one of the leading physicians of the county. He is a member of the Medical Society of the county, a Mason and a member of the Order of Red Men; he is a Democrat and has been coroner for one term. In the year 1878 he married Alzina Snyder of Ames, a daughter of Nathan M. Snyder, a

farmer and a descendant of an early settler of the county. They have two children, Flattie E. and Amy Maud.

Rowe, John H., Amsterdam, was born in Columbia county, on the 10th of May, 1842, and came with his parents to Schenectady county when he was eight years old. He was educated in the public schools and was a farmer by occupation. On the 1st day of September, 1869, he married Harriet, only daughter of Abram and Mrs. Maria (James) Jennings De Graff. They had one daughter, a dutiful and accomplished young lady, who died January 23, 1889, aged eighteen years. Mr. Rowe's father, Elisha, was born at the old home in 1818, and married Lenna Link of his native place. They had two children, John H. and Eva C. Mrs. Rowe's father was born in Amsterdam, and married Mrs. Maria Jennings. They had one daughter. Her people were in the early and late wars.

Benn, Francis E., Amsterdam, was born on the 18th of November, 1849, at Haganman's Mills, and was educated in the public schools of that place and was employed in the mills several years. For the past fifteen years he has been overseer of one of the departments in Stephen Sanford & Son's carpet factory. On the 24th of December, 1868, he married Martha L. McGarry of Glenville. They have had three children, one son and two daughters. Orrin E. died when he was three years and six months old, the daughters survive: Jennie M. and Hettie. The name of Benn is very rarely seen, but is of English origin.

Schuyler, Jacob, Amsterdam, the son of Jeremiah Schuyler, was born in Florida on the 15th of November, 1828, and was educated in the district schools of his town. He resided at home until he was twenty-two years old, and then came to Port Jackson (now Fifth ward). He was interested in the Fultonville Canal Line four years, and then bought a farm, following farming for four years, sold it, but bought one in Schenectady county, which he owned four years, working it himself one year. He came back to the old camping grounds and for three years owned the store house and grocery business. For seven years he went to Canada as a cattle drover and was foreman for nine years for the Schuyler & Bloods Mills. About the year 1885 he became a resident of Amsterdam, and now conducts a harness and carriage repository on Division street. At Christmas, 1849, he married Maria, second daughter of Simon and Anna Mabee. They have two daughters, Emma S. and Anna.

Brown, George, Amsterdam, was born in Ireland on the 16th of May, 1841, and came with his parents to the United States when he was four years old. They located in Gloversville, and he was educated in the public schools and was a leather dresser by occupation. In October, 1861, he enlisted from Johnstown into Company E, Black Horse Cavalry, N. Y. S. Volunteers, which disbanded in 1862. On the 22d of August, 1863, he re-enlisted in Company H, Thirteenth N. Y. Artillery, and was wounded and taken prisoner and confined in Libbey Prison. He was honorably discharged at Norfolk on the 21st of June, 1865. On the 25th of October, 1865, he married Mary Radley of Amsterdam. They have six children, four sons and two daughters, namely: John H., Timothy F., Thomas, Ellen, Catherine and Edward G. The family came to reside in Amsterdam in August, 1884.

Chrisman, Charles C., Amsterdam, was born in Gray, Herkimer county, on the 9th of June, 1854, and was educated in the public schools. He has a good business education and ever since he attained his majority he has been a hotel keeper. He has lived in several western states for some years, also at Tribes Hill three years. In the year 1878 he married Anna, only daughter of Reuben S. and Harriet Quilhott of the city of Amsterdam. Her father, Reuben S. Quilhott, was a soldier in the Mexico war and of the late Rebellion.

Lyfort, Seymour, Amsterdam, was born in Edinburgh, Saratoga county, and educated in the public schools; he was a carpenter by occupation. February 28, 1888, he married Jennie, oldest daughter of Jonas and Martha Rivenburg of Fort Johnson, where they now reside. Mr. Lyfort's father, Alonzo, was born March 28, 1825, in Vermont and came to this State with his father and mother when a young man; he married Amanda Scribner, by whom he had six children, four sons and two daughters: Martha, William, Frederick, Anna, Arthur, and Seymour.

Potter, George W., Amsterdam, was born on the 3d of July, 1845, in Montgomery county and moved with his parents to Charleston Four Corners and from thence to Soansville. He attended the public schools there, also Carlisle Seminary, Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie and Albany High School. For the past fifteen years he has been interested in the knit goods business and knit goods on commission both here and in New York. On the 15th of June, 1878, he married Addie L. Taft of New Haven. They have three children, two sons and one daughter: Harold T., Gladys and Guy. Mr. Potter's father, Edward E., was born in Albany, and married Fannie M. Van Derveer of Charleston. They had seven children, as follows: George W., Noah-diah S., Caroline S., Edward S., jr., Emma, John S., and Isaac F.

Patterson, Alexander M., Amsterdam, was born in Florida February 22, 1883, and was educated in the common schools of that town. In early life he was a farmer, afterwards a merchant, in fact he has had a variety of occupations and is now a contractor. In April, 1860, he married Jane Van Epps of Glenville, and they had two sons, Isaac E., and John D. Mr. Patterson's father, Seeley, was born in Duaneburg; he married Adelme Montgomery of Florida, by whom he had five children: Alexander M., William H., Clara, Emeline, and Frances. His grandfather, William, was in the war of 1812 and the great-grandfather came from the old world at an early day. Both sons are farmers. Mrs. Patterson died June 15, 1889, mourned by her family and friends.

Selmser, Jacob, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Perth October 7, 1823; he was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a farmer, and merchant-miller, and lived in Seneca county twenty-eight years. September 30, 1857, he married Catherine, oldest daughter of Daniel and Jane Moore of the town of Mohawk. Mr. Selmser's father, Martin, was born in Johnstown; he married Susan Moore, by whom he had twelve children, five sons and seven daughters: John, Henry, Godfrey, David, and Jacob, Mary, Susan, Elizabeth, Laney, Catherine, Margaret, and Sarah. The ancestry of the family on both sides is Dutch. Mr. Selmser is now a builder in this city.

Windbiel, John, Amsterdam, was born in Baden, Germany, May 25, 1844; he was educated in the public schools and came to the United States in 1864, first locating at Rondout, from thence he went to New York where he remained three years when he came to Amsterdam. April 20, 1868, he married Mary Hopmeir of this city; they have had nine children: Mary, Thomas, George, Edward, John J., Lena, Laurretta, Mattie, and John P. All the children are dead except Thomas, Laurretta, and John P. The family are all members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church.

Lindsay, Richard, Amsterdam, was born in Ireland November 20, 1847, and came with his parents to the United States when he was three years old. His grandfather had returned from the United States to Ireland and had often expressed a wish to come back, but never did; his son William however did and located with his little family in West Galway, but afterwards came to Amsterdam. Richard was educated in the public schools; he conducted a grocery business, has been assessor six years, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. September 25, 1878, he married Mary E. Firth of Elmira. They have six children, all sons: Albert O., Frederick C., Ernest R., Elmer J., Clarence B., and David W.

Kurlbaum, Ernest, Amsterdam, was born in the city of Minden in Germany, May 14, 1839, where he was educated. In 1865 he came to the United States and after landing in New York came to Amsterdam. November 26, 1865, he married Louisa Krah of his native place. They have five children, three sons and two daughters: Ernest H., Louisa C., Anna A., William L., and Frederick R. For several years he worked at various occupations. About 1887 he bought the old building on Market street, which was torn down and upon the site he built the Central hotel, which he completed in 1888. Ernest H., the oldest son, is his father's assistant in its management; he married Emma S. Niles of this city June 1, 1892.

Clizbee, Samuel J., Amsterdam, was born on the old homestead in the town of Amsterdam, February 1, 1831. In the process of time another farm was added to the original purchase, upon this part, Mr. Clizbee is the owner and has resided upon it since he was ten years old; he received a common school and academic education. December 18, 1860, he married Mary A., daughter of Lewis Chamberlin of Jersey City; she was formerly of Glenville; they have had four children, three daughters and one son: Ida M., who married William Hugo of this city; Clara, Electa, and George H. reside at home with their father. Mrs. Clizbee died September 4, 1889. His father, Darius, was born in New Jersey, November 8, 1789, and came with his parents to this town in the year 1798. May 26, 1812, he married Mary Jones of Amsterdam, by whom he had seven children, four sons and three daughters; Marcus W., Hannah M., Cyrus, William, Louisa J., Charlotte and Samuel J. Mr. Clizbee's father, Darius, was in the war of 1812. The ancestry of the family is Welsh on both sides.

Kline, Charles, Amsterdam, was born at Tribes Hill, and was educated in the public schools, but in early life he was a farmer. On the 23d of July, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred Fifteenth New York State Volunteers. At the time the company was organized he was made third sergeant, afterwards orderly sergeant, second lieutenant, and was discharged as first lieutenant on the 7th of July, 1865. He

was a paroled prisoner of war from September 15 to until November 19. On September 29, 1864, he was wounded in the right arm in an assault on Fort Gilmer, north side of the James river. His arm was amputated on the field and he was taken to Hampton Hospital. In January, 1865, he returned to his regiment and served the balance of the time with one arm. He has married twice, first January 1, 1868, to Louisa A., daughter of Stephen and Emogene Whiting of Albany county. They had one son who died aged seven. Mrs. Kline died February 14, 1870. On the 20th of November, 1872, he married Esther, oldest daughter of William D. and Mary Heath. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters: Alida S., Carrie H., Charles S., Walter R., William A., Emily D. and John W. Mr. Kline's father was born at the old home and married Alida Putman of Tribes Hill. They had eight children: John H., William, Nicholas, Maria, Sarah, Charles, Jane and Elizabeth. Mr. Kline is now the chief of police of Amsterdam.

Birch, Seymour, Amsterdam, was born on the 22d of December, 1842, in the town of Amsterdam two miles north of the city and was educated in the public schools and graduated from Amsterdam Academy. He spent one year at Union College, which he left to assist his father in the lumber business and at the age of twenty-one he became a partner. In 1865 his brother Joseph P. returned from the war and took his father's interest in the concern, which was conducted by them until 1870, when Seymour sold his interest to his brother. He was in the knit goods business three years, and formed a copartnership with George H. Munson in insurance and real estate business which continued until 1880. From then until now Mr. Birch has conducted the business in his own behalf. He enlisted in Company G, Seventy-Seventh New York State Volunteers, and in 1863 was honorably discharged. On the 16th of October, 1868, he married Mary E. Munson of this city, by whom he had three children: one daughter, Grace, died in infancy; John W. died at the age of eleven years; Mary M. resides with her parents and is being educated. His father, Alfred Birch, was born at Clifton Park, Saratoga county. In 1802 he married Margaret Peters of his native place. They had eleven children and at this date, 1892, ten children are living. The ancestry of the family is English, Scotch and Welsh.

Van Deveer, George G., Amsterdam, was born in Florida, on the 28th of March, 1840, and was educated in the district schools and Amsterdam Academy. He is one of the county's intelligent farmers and is a prominent granger. He is much interested in improving live stock, especially good horses. On the 18th of October, 1876, he married Belle, only daughter of John and Nancy McCann of Macedon, Wayne county. They had one son, namely, George M., one of the brightest boys of the time, who died at the age of nine years of diphtheria. He was mourned by the whole community. Mr. Van Deveer's father, Garrett B., was born just south of where his son George G. now resides in Florida in 1798. He was educated in the common schools of his day and was a farmer by occupation; "his word was his bond" and he was "read and known of all men" as a good neighbor and a true friend. In 1829, he married Mary, daughter of Peter A. and Sarah (Serviss) Young of his native town. They had eight children, five sons and three daughters: one son, Henry, died when he was an infant; eight survived:

Peter Y., Catherine, Sarah A., Jane, John, Tunis, W. Spencer and George G. Mr. Van Derveer's mother's father, Peter P. Young was a member of the legislature several terms and at all times identified in church matters. The family on both sides were soldiers in the war of the Revolution and in the war of 1812.

Francisco, Albert, Amsterdam, was born on the 26th of June, 1848, in Minden. When a year old he moved with his parents to Florida and was educated in the public schools and at the Little Falls Seminary and Fort Edward Academy. In the year 1880 they came to Amsterdam and are conducting a grocery and fresh meat business. He has been married twice, first in the year 1872 to Henrietta Steen of Florida. They had two children, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Francisco died in October, 1873. On the 14th of January, 1875, he married Sarah A., third daughter of Peter and Martha M. Williams of Florida, by whom he had three children, two daughters and one son: Emma S., Charles H. and Ellen M. Mr. Francisco's father, Isaac, was born in Florida in March, 1820, and married Charity Berzee of his native town. They had three sons: Anderson R., Charles C. and Albert. His grandfather, Rufus, was in the war of 1812 and one of his brothers was shot by a tory.

Filton, Charles H., Amsterdam, was born in Gilman, New Hampshire, on the 25th of April, 1835, and came with his parents to Bangor, Maine, at the age of seven where he received a common school and academic education. He first began the study of dentistry at Stillwater, Wisconsin, and still further with his old preceptor in Mexico, Oswego county, and completed his studies with three courses in Boston. In 1865 he began to practice at Camden, and on the 26th of June, 1866, he located at Amsterdam. He has been married twice, first in January, 1857, to Maria, third daughter of William Robinson of Maine. They had one son, William F., who is in Kansas City. On the 27th of December, 1863, Mrs. Filton died. For his second wife he married Elizabeth Bostwick of this city, in October, 1867. They had three children, two sons and one daughter: Alonzo, died at the age of fifteen years, loved by all who knew him; Mattie S. and Charles B. who reside at home. His father, Timothy, was born near Meredith, New Hampshire, in 1792 and died in 1863. He was in the war of 1812. His wife died in August, 1868. Her maiden name was Susan Osgood.

Spore, James, Amsterdam, was born at Crane's Village, December 9, 1837, and was educated in the public schools; he worked at farm labor until he was old enough to learn the machinist's trade with the McElwains. He then went to West Albany, and was in the employ of the New York Central Railroad shops from 1864 for twenty-five years, when he returned to the McElwains in Amsterdam, where he has since been a valued mechanic. February 24, 1856, he married Charlotte, third daughter of Morris and Matilda Quick of Charleston; they had two children who died in infancy, both girls: Theresa J. and Dora. Mr. and Mrs. Spore are members of the Emanuel Presbyterian church in Amsterdam.

Spore, John A., Amsterdam, was born in Florida, June 30, 1833, and moved with his parents to Crane's Village when he was about two years old; he worked on the farm until he was eighteen years old, when he started to learn the machinist's trade with the McElwains where he remained five years; he was west two years,

after which he returned to his former employers where he has been foreman thirty-five years; he was married twice, first January 20, 1858, to Rebecca De Graff of Amsterdam, and they had a son, Emanuel N., who resides at Little Falls. For his second wife, January 30, 1867, he married Jane E. Kinney, of Albany county; they have two daughters, Helen M. and Sarah H.; both reside at home. Mr. Spore's father was born in Charleston, July 26, 1795. April 1, 1824, he married Helen Pettingill; they had five sons, Peter P., David, Simeon W., John A., and James. Both Mr. and Mrs. Spore's father and mother died at Crane's Village. The ancestry of the family on both sides is Dutch.

Cook, Mason, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Schnyler, Herkimer county, on the 3d of February, 1825, and was educated in the public schools. He worked at farm labor until he was nineteen years old. Mr. Cook has occupied several official positions in the employ of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. Co. during the forty-eight years he has been with them, and is now freight agent in Amsterdam, a position which he has held for seventeen years. He has been married twice. On the 18th of May, 1854, he married Ellen Sytliff of Oriskany. They had one daughter, Anna M., who died in 1884. Mrs. Cook died in 1869. On the 25th of September, 1878, he married Mrs. Harvey (Christman) Park of Utica. She had one daughter by her first husband, namely, Grace M., who resides at home with her parents. Mr. Cook's father, Moses, was born in Connecticut and married Lavina Brown, formerly of Massachusetts. They came to this region of the country when they were lately married, and they had six children: Rozina, Jeanett, Samuel, Moses, Nancy, Mason.

Austin, Charles D., Amsterdam, was born on the 5th of May, 1845, in Port Jackson (now Amsterdam) and was educated in the public schools of Tribes Hill. In early life he was a druggist and is now a manufacturer of knit goods, doing business in Rockton, under the firm of Austin, Stars & Blauvelt. On the 9th of December, 1869, he married Francis A., youngest daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Hillebrant of Johnstown. They had three children, two sons and a daughter: Edward T. and Lizzie F. died, the first at the age of eight years and the latter at three and a half years. C. Wilbur survives, born on the 22d of January, 1874, and is now being educated. Mr. Austin's father, Hiram, was born at Stillwater about the year 1798, and married Eliza Van Husen. They had seven children, five sons and two daughters. The ancestry of the family on both sides is Dutch.

Ecker, Daniel W., Amsterdam, the father, George G. Ecker, was born in Mohawk, about the year 1793; he married Lena Nare of his native town, by whom he had nine children, six daughters and three sons: Edward, Catherine, Bessie, Margaret, Annie, Allie, Gertie, John H., and David W., who is a patron of this work and the youngest member of this family. He was born on the 19th of November, 1844, in Palatine, and was educated in the common schools and Fort Plain and Gloversville Academies. He left home at the age of seventeen for the oil regions and returned to Amsterdam. He was a farmer and also in the milk and ice business, and is now in partnership with Jacob Schuyler, and they have a repository of harness, carriages, agricultural implements, etc., on Division street. On the 14th of January, 1867, he married Margaret Dillenbeck of

Amsterdam. They have two children, one daughter and a son: Virginia, who married William Barnes of Amsterdam; and David H., who resides at home attending school. Mr. Ecker's grandfather, George, came from Holland and was in the revolutionary war. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and German.

Billings, William R., Amsterdam, was born at Port Jackson (now Amsterdam) on the 30th of December, 1861, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He has always been a farmer and has been married twice; first on the 11th of January, 1881, to Jenny Payne, by whom he had one son, Earl R., who was born on the 8th of March, 1884. For his second wife, on the 27th of February, 1889, he married Julia, only daughter of Jacob and Emma Edwards of Florida. Mr. Billings's father, William H., was born in Florida and married Rebecca H. Burns of his native town, by whom he had two children, one died in infancy, and Wilham R. Mrs. Billings's father, Jacob Edwards, was born in Ephratah in 1835 and married Emma Snell of Fort Plain, by whom he had three children: James, William, and Julia.

Collins, Peter J., Amsterdam, was born on the 13th of December, 1861, at Otisville, Orange county, and moved with his parent to Port Jervis when he was five years old, and here he was educated. He has been a railway man for the past fifteen years, first as a trackman, while for the past three years he has been freight agent for the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. Co., they being lessess of the West Shore Railway Co. On the 1st of October, 1889, he married Winfred F. Cavney of Port Jervis. They have one daughter, namely, Winfred Marie. Mr. Collins is recognized by the business community as a very efficient agent.

White, Dr. Maxwell, Amsterdam, was born on the 28th of March, 1856, and was educated in the private schools and Amsterdam Academy. He graduated from Union College in the year 1881 and from Albany Medical College in the year 1886, being valedictorian of his class. He immediately began to practice at his old home in Amsterdam and is the attending physician of the Children's Home and is president of the staff of Amsterdam Hospital. He is an elder in the Emanuel Presbyterian church and is a prominent worker in the Young Men's Christian Association.

Dersch, Conrad, Amsterdam, was born on the 1st of September, 1840, at Hesse Cassel, Germany, was educated the public schools. He was by occupation a hard wood ornamental finisher on musical instruments, and other fine work. In the year 1854 he came to the United States and first located in New York, but in 1859 he came to Amsterdam. On the 3d of April, 1862, he married Elizabeth Berkel formerly of Harshfeld, Germany, by whom he had seven children. One son, John, died at the age of twenty-three years, six survive: Adam, Eve, Mary, Carrie, Henry, and Charles. Mr. Dersch has resided in this city for thirty-three years. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and of the German I. O. O. F., and of the German Benevolent Society, and bears his share of official and financial responsibility in each.

Perry, William, Amsterdam, was born in Kidderminster, England, on the 10th of August, 1834, and was educated in the schools of that day in his native town; he served his time learning the blacksmith's trade and traveled extensively in that little

island. On the 25th of December, 1858, he married Harriet Linton of Bronsgrove. They have three children: one daughter, Lizzie, died in infancy, a son and a daughter survive. Emily D. married George D. Hart of this city. They have two daughters and a son, namely, Edna D., Herbert D. and Harriet D. William H. married Ida Jackson of this city. They have one son, Walter V. H. In the year 1872 Mr. Perry came to the United States and first located in Connecticut, where he remained one year and six months; he then came to Amsterdam and was foreman in one of the departments in Sanford & Son's carpet factory fourteen years.

Snyder, William P., Amsterdam, was born in Durham, Greene county, November 27, 1837; he received a common school and academic education and was a farmer until he attained the age of twenty-three. August 14, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Thirty-first Wisconsin Volunteers. This regiment joined General Sherman's army before Atlanta, and consequently participated in its battles and glorious career in its march to the sea. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war. He then sold his farm in Wisconsin and returned to the place of his birth: he conducted a mercantile business in Durham seventeen years, was also postmaster about ten years, and came to Amsterdam in the year 1880 and conducted a boot and shoe business for six years, which he sold: he then began to manufacture knit goods, shirts, drawers, etc., and is now doing business under the firm of Snyder, Hull & Smith. December, 31, 1856, he married Annjenette, youngest daughter of James and Diana Wright, of his native place: they have two daughters, Estella D. and Alice M. Estella D. married Nathan B. Smith, formerly of Greene county. They have two children, both sons, Verne W. and Leeland W. Alice M. married Wilbur Jenkins of this city. They have one son, Volney G.

Sawyer, Rev. Leicester J., Amsterdam, was born in New Haven December 19, 1837; he graduated from Hamilton College in 1859, and from Union Theological Seminary, New York, in 1862. October 8, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-seventh Connecticut Volunteers. December 13, 1862, at the battle of Fredericksburg, he was wounded in three places, viz.: in the hand, knee and head, was honorably discharged on account of wounds from Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, April 6, 1863. He has married twice, first September 8, 1862, to Candace A. Mack of Buffalo: she died July 14, 1877. July 24, 1878, he married H. Augusta Graham of Whitesboro: they have three children, two sons and one daughter: Lorenzo G., Ethel and Leicester G. He preached in the west twelve years. In 1877 he took charge of the Presbyterian Church at Whitesboro. March 1, 1889, he became pastor of the Emanuel Presbyterian Church of Amsterdam.

Scudder, Charles W., St. Johnsville, son of Stephen and Margaret Romans Scudder, was born in the town of Maryland, Otsego county, May 25, 1836. From 1842 until 1856 he lived in Clayville, Oneida county. In 1856 he went to Michigan and in the following year to Missouri. On account of his anti-slavery sentiments he was compelled to leave Jefferson City, Missouri, in 1859. He returned to Oneida county, and November 11, 1861, he enlisted at Schuyler's Lake, Otsego county, in the First New York Engineers, remaining in the service three years. He saw some hard fighting.

He participated in the battle of Royal Ferry; the siege and capture of Fort Pulaski on the Savannah river; the battle of James Island; the attack on the Charleston & Savannah Railroad at Popataligo; the capture of Morris island and the siege of Forts Sumter, Wagner and Gregg, and the battle of Olustee. He then in 1864 returned to Morris island, where he had charge of the engineering corps from June until November, when he was mustered out in New York city. After the war he settled in Painesville, Ohio, and traveled for Gardiner Brothers of Cincinnati, selling fruit trees. In November, 1865, he located at Canajoharie, Montgomery county. September 26, 1866, was united in marriage to Helen Louisa, daughter of John V. and Harriet Wetmore Conover. They have three children: John C., Stephen J. and Jessie H. In 1870 moved to St. Johnsville and became foreman for Conover & Knox in the manufacture of fifth wheels and carriage forgings. In 1876 Mr. Scudder purchased the business of his employers and has conducted it since then with marked ability and success. For the past six years he has been president of the National Carriage Hardware Association. He is a prominent Grand Army man and a leading spirit in the organization of Smith Post, of St. Johnsville. His neighbors and fellow townsmen heartily respect and like him for his sturdy integrity, his downright manliness, his unflinching geniality, his marked business ability, his decided convictions and his courage in maintaining them. In 1891 and again in 1892 was elected supervisor on the Republican ticket. In March, 1892, was elected chairman of the board of supervisors, over whose meetings he has presided with dignity and impartiality. At the Republican convention held at Fonda October 15th, 1892, Mr. Scudder very reluctantly accepted the nomination for member of assembly and lost the election by three votes. His home and factory are pleasantly located about a mile above the village of St. Johnsville.

Pettengill, William T., Amsterdam, was born in Florida October 15, 1840; he was educated in the common schools, and until he was twenty-five years old worked on the farm. About the year 1865 he came to Amsterdam, following a variety of occupations. In the year 1869 he became a clerk with Philip Pruyn & Co., where he remained four years, and for ten years he followed the grocery business on Bridge street, but was forced to retire on account of ill health. About 1884 he bought the interest of S. Y. Gardiner, of the firm of Gardiner & Thomas, manufacturers of knit goods, and under the firm of Thomas & Pettengill continued four years. In the year 1888 he again embarked in the grocery business which he still continues. February 17, 1875, he married Mary E., oldest daughter of William and Margaret Moody of this city, formerly of Connecticut. They have one daughter, Margery. Mr. Pettengill's father, David, was born at the old home in Florida in 1806, and married Jeannette McNee of Princetown, Schenectady county. Her father came from Glasgow, Scotland; they had eight children: Agnes, Mary, William T., Peter, Ella E., Herman M., Louisa and Anna J.

Stebbins, William H., Amsterdam, was born near Poughkeepsie, August 29, 1829, and left there with his parents when a year old for Berkshire county, Mass.; he was educated in the public schools, and his early life was devoted to farming. In the early part of the late rebellion we find him in Oswego county in this State. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 110th N. Y. S. Volunteers, serving two years and six months, when he was honorably discharged as first sergeant. He immediately enlisted in the

Second Florida cavalry, a body of Southern loyal volunteers; June 1, 1864, he was promoted second lieutenant, and to the position of captain, November 20, 1865. Early in the year 1865 he was appointed provost-marshal of Monticello, Florida, and he was honorably discharged in 1866. In his first enlistment in the 110th Infantry he participated in the assault upon Port Hudson, and was with General Banks through the Red river campaign. January 29, 1850, he married Caroline E., third daughter of Christopher and Betsey (Hall) Davis of Guilford, Conn. They have two children, a daughter and a son: Hattie C., who married J. Van Coney of this city, they have a son Harry S.; and Fred Lincoln, who is a ranchman in the State of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins have been residents of this city twenty-two years: He has served his townsmen in the capacity of trustee of the village three years, also as alderman of the Third ward three years: he is a member of the board of trade and one of the trustees of the city hospital; he was also superintendent of the construction of the river bridge; he is a member of Post Young No. 33, G. A. R. of Amsterdam, also of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. and A. M. of this city.

Blood, James, Amsterdam, was born on the 20th of July, 1837, in the town of Florida, and was educated in the district schools. In the early years of his life he was a farmer. He was married twice, first to Henrietta, third daughter of Thomas Schuyler of Florida, by whom he had two children: twins, Edward and Alice, both dying in infancy. In the fall of 1857 Mrs. Henrietta Blood died. On the 5th of December, 1858, he married Mrs. Harriet Van Antwerp, the fourth daughter of Jeremiah Schuyler. Mr. Blood lived thirteen years in Herkimer county, and came to Amsterdam twelve years ago. Mr. Blood's father, Reuben L., was born in Montgomery county, and married Mary Davenport, by whom he had four sons and one daughter: Susan, Robert, John D., James and Daniel. The Schuylers were among the earliest settlers in the valley and in New York, and were identified as soldiers in our early wars against a common foe, and in the early legislation for one common country.

O'Brien, Dr. John C., Amsterdam, was born on the 7th of August, 1803, at Bellows Falls, Vt., and was educated in the public schools. He was educated for his profession in the Medical University of Vermont, and graduated in 1827. His first practice was at Turners Falls, Mass. In the year 1830 he came to New York and located in Amsterdam. On the 9th of July, 1830 he married Jennie C., only daughter of William and Lucy Farren of Turners Falls, Mass. They have one son, John C., Jr. Mr. O'Brien's father came to Bellows Falls in 1840. He married Mary O'Hearn, by whom he had five children: Kate, William, John C., Thomas and James. Dr. O'Brien was at one time in the government mail service, and is at the time of writing city physician of Amsterdam.

Reynolds, Edington E., D. D. S., Amsterdam, was born in Ovid on the 1st of March, 1845, and went with his uncle, William F. Edington, to Geneva when he was four years old, where he was first educated in the public schools, and graduated from the Geneva Classical Union school. He also graduated from the dental department of the University of Maryland. He was brought up in the profession from a young boy, as his father followed it all his life before him. The family have six following the profes-

sion. His father, Robert S., was born in Cayuga in 1823, and married Martha S. Johnson of Ovid. They had five sons and three daughters. Edington E. married on June 4, 1890, Louise S., oldest daughter of Abram V. and Henrietta Merselis of this city. They have one son, Abram M., who was born on the 9th of May, 1892.

Conlon, Andrew B., Amsterdam, was born in Wells, Hamilton county, on the 16th of January, 1857, and was educated in the public schools and has always been a clerk and a business man. He came to Amsterdam in the year 1875 and was appointed city clerk on the 10th of March, 1889. On the 26th of September, 1880, he married Mary A., third daughter of Edward and Mary Mallett of this city. They have three children, one son and two daughters: Margaret, Mary E. and Thomas F. Mr. Conlon's father, Thomas, was born in Ireland, but eventually came to the United States. He married Margaret Doyle, by whom he had four children, namely, Thomas, Francis, Ellen J. and Andrew B.

Voorlees, George M., Amsterdam, was born on the 16th of March, 1826, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. In early life he was a farmer. On the 24 of October, 1852, he married Hannah, only daughter of William Stocum of Northampton, Fulton county. They have two children, one daughter and one son, Josephine S., who married William Topping of Albany, and Samuel A., who resides in Iowa. Mr. Voorlees was commissioned captain of Company D, 93d N. Y. S. Volunteers, and was honorably discharged in 1865. His father, Dr. Samuel Voorlees, was born in New Jersey and came with his parents here when he was two years old. He married Betsey Reynolds, by whom he had four children. The ancestry of the family is Dutch, English and Scotch.

Hand, Edward, jr., Amsterdam, was born in Glen on the 25th of October, 1867, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. In company with Tunis Peck he manufactures brooms, under the firm of Tunis Peck & Company. Mr. Hand's father, John, was born at the old home, and married Jane E. Bennett of his native town. He was a farmer by occupation and had one son, Edward J. Mr. John Hand died on the 1st day of January, 1892.

Machold, Bernhard, Amsterdam, was born on the 17th of April, 1841, in Germany, and was educated in the public schools there and at the age of fourteen began to learn the trade of mason. In the year 1868 he came to the United States, locating first in Albany, but in 1869 he settled permanently in Amsterdam. He has a large business as contractor in mason work, and in the busy season employs as many as sixty men. On the 14th of November, 1872, he married Martha Mellam from Germany, by whom he had nine children, seven sons and two daughters: G. Frederick, C. William, C. Bernhard, H. Edmund, Frank, J. Walter, Lillie M., Laura and baby.

Van Buren, Martin, Amsterdam, was born on the 17th of June, 1850, and was educated in the public schools and in a private school in Albany. For ten years he has held various positions of trust in New York and other places. In the year 1883 he became a book-keeper in the Farmers' National Bank, Amsterdam, for two years, and assistant cashier for four years. In the year 1889 he was appointed cashier of the

Amsterdam City National Bank. On the 23th of June, 1882, he married Marcia B., second daughter of John and Esther Craig of Fultonville. They have two children, both boys. John Craig, born on the 11th of December, 1885, and Martin Enders, born on the 27th of February, 1889. Mrs. Van Buren was born March 5, 1857.

Harvey, John F., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam February 28, 1859, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. He is an ornamental sign painter and decorator in company with J. A. McNaughton, under the firm of McNaughton & Harvey. June 6, 1882, he married Lizzie, oldest living daughter of Henry A. and Marietta Smith, who formerly resided at Watertown, but now live in this city. They have had four children: Frankie, who died in infancy; Geneveive, who died at the age of six; J. Fred, and Myrtle. Mr. Harvey is a member of Chuctenunda Lodge No. 100, K. of P.

Deal, John H., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam, September 4, 1842, and was educated in the common schools. In early life he was a farmer but since then has engaged in a variety of occupations. April 25, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, 32d N. Y. S. Volunteers. In the battle of Gaines' Mills on June 7, 1862, he was wounded in the hands and taken to Fortress Monroe, and afterwards to a hospital in Baltimore, and on October 26, 1862, he was honorably discharged as disabled. On July 25, 1865, he married Eugenia A., third daughter of George A. and Ann Cramer of Florida, and they have two children: George B., who married Minnie McCulloch of this city; they have a daughter Ethel; also James H., who married Mina Benson of Schoharie county; they have a daughter Stella. Mr. Deal's father, Jeremiah, was born in Amsterdam March 29, 1794, and married Rachel Vosburg of his native town; they had twelve children, nine sons and three daughters: Jane A., William, Isaac, Margaret, James, Jeremiah, Peter, Rachel A., William H. No. 2, J. Benson, Edward and John H. Some of the ancestors on the mother's side were in the revolutionary war. Mrs. Deal's brother was in the late war and died as a sacrifice on the altar of his country for the cause of freedom. Mr. Deal is a member of E. S. Youngs Post No. 33 G. A. R. of Amsterdam. Mr. Deal's grandmother, Jane, on his father's side, lived to be 106 years old.

Kennedy, James, Amsterdam, was born in Ayershire, Scotland, March 6, 1836; he was one of a family of nineteen children and in 1852 came with his brother to the United States, locating in Hampshire county, Mass., where he remained two years. He then went to Elizabeth, N. J., where he remained twelve years. He was a wheelwright by trade and sold his real estate and went for a short time to his former location in Massachusetts. He then moved to Glens Falls, where for eleven years he was extensively engaged in the boot and shoe trade. He has been a resident of Amsterdam fourteen years; he is a member of the order of Scottish Clans, Clan McAlpine, No. 60, and is president of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's, an Episcopal organization in connection with that church, and is chancellor commander of Woodbine Lodge No. 250 of Knights of Pythias for 1892. May 7, 1854, he married Ann E. Keelher of Hampshire county, Mass.; they have three children, two sons and one daughter: William Wallace, who is in Glens Falls; Helen, who married Henry I. Cook of Buffalo; and John David,

who is rector of an Episcopal church in Brooklyn. Mr. Kennedy has recently been elected city assessor for three years.

Christman, Uriah, Amsterdam, was born in Palatine, November 16, 1819, and was educated in the common schools. He was a farmer by occupation, and on January 1, 1839, he married Nancy Wicks of Canajoharie. They had eight children, three sons and five daughters: Catherine, who married Jacob E. Dygert of Palatine; Mary, who married Henry Dillenbeck of the same town; Ella, who married Simon Baunter of Amsterdam; Annie died at the age of nineteen; Martha married Byron Klock of Danube; Arthur died in his twenty-third year; Raymond, a coal merchant of this city; and John I., who is a farmer on the homestead. March 3, 1886, he married Margaret B. Walker of Broadalbin, and she died May 17, 1891. The family came from Palatine to Amsterdam in 1868. Mr. Christman was one of the directors in the Manufacturer's Bank of Amsterdam; he died April 27, 1882. John I. is one of the water commissioners of the city. The ancestry of the family is German and English.

Bostwick, John N., Amsterdam, was born in Perth, March 24, 1845, and came to Amsterdam with his parents when he was fourteen years old where he was educated in the public schools. When he attained his majority he was an expert in the business of marble and granite cutting; he is now doing a very large business, employing ten men. He has married twice, first to May Bartlett of this city, by whom he had one daughter, Kittie M. Mrs. Bostwick died in 1879. September 4, 1884, he married Ada L., youngest daughter of John and Margaret Beverly of Dolgeville, by whom he has had four children, two sons and two daughters: Stephenson Thorne, John Newman, Margaret Augusta and Lina Frances. Mrs. Bostwick's father (John Beverly), served through the late war and is now superior judge in Tacoma in the state of Washington. The ancestry of the family is Dutch and English.

Hammond, Seneca, Amsterdam, was born in Northampton, Fulton county, in January, 1829, and was educated in the public schools; he was a farmer by occupation February 20, 1858, he married Margaret Thomas of Tribes Hill; they had three sons: William L., who married Emma Radway, December 13, 1883; they have two children, both sons; Frank S. and Edward W.; Mrs. Hammond died January 5, 1890; Nicholas D married Minnie Hoffman of this city on April 10, 1889; they have one son, Paul; and Elmer E., who married, October 1, 1888, Rachel Saulwater of the town of Florida; they have one son, Walter. Mr. Hammond died January 29, 1889. Mrs. Hammond's brother Nicholas served in the late war. He died of a wound received at Antietam, being buried on the battlefield, but several weeks afterwards his remains were taken home for burial. Mrs. Hammond is a resident of the fifth ward.

De Wolfe, Charles, Amsterdam, was born in Newport, Herkimer county, in 1833, and moved with his brother Harlow to Syracuse, where he followed the dry goods business several years. In 1852 he returned to Herkimer, accepting a position as teller in the Agricultural Bank, and in 1857 he came to Amsterdam. For a short time he was in the Farmer's Bank and afterwards assisted in organizing the First National Bank of this city, being appointed its cashier. After some years he resigned this position and assisted in organizing the Manufacturers' Bank of Amsterdam, he being its cashier for

three years. He then started to organize the Farmer's Bank of Schenectady, but died before the plans were finished. April 17, 1859, he married Mary E., oldest daughter of the late Dr. Jacob and Mary (Rickard) Snell of this city; they have five children: Mary, who married Charles H. Benedict of Penn Yan; Irene L., Ella S., and Charles H., are dead, and Carrie S. resides at home with her mother. Mr. De Wolfe died August 13, 1878. The ancestry of the family is Dutch, German and French.

Van Wormer, Isaac H., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born where he now lives October 17, 1817, and is a son of Casper and Eva (Van Dyck) Van Wormer. Casper was a son of Peter Van Wormer who was the first white settler of this section. He, accompanied by a Van Heusen and a Staley, came here from Greene county prospecting in 1765, and Peter selected this spot, a grant of 200 acres, known as allotment No. 3; but he could not stay here on account of the hostility of the Indians. He returned at the close of the war in 1779. He told to his descendants the story of the battle of Saratoga, and how they heard the boom of the cannon at their home. He died in 1807 at fifty-nine years of age, leaving seven children of whom Casper was the oldest. He was born in 1770 and was married in 1795. He died in 1859, leaving eight children, of whom Isaac was the youngest, and he is the only representative of the family living. He was educated in the public schools of the county, and has always lived at the old homestead. September 5, 1855, he married Elinor Romeyn, daughter of the Rev. Thomas and Ann (Staley) Romeyn. They are the parents of three children: Harriet, now Mrs. William H. Hollenbeck, born January 18, 1856; Fannie, born March 14, 1859; Julia, born November 27, 1863. Mrs. Van Wormer died January 27, 1891.

De Graff, John D., Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born on the farm where he now lives June 22, 1820, and was a son of Daniel and Helen (Swart) De Graff. Daniel was born in Schenectady county, June 16, 1780. He was a son of Isaac De Graff, whose home was in Schenectady, and he was the father of seven children, only one of whom is now living, Nancy Toll of Michigan, ninety-six years of age. They were a very long-lived family, all living to be past eighty except Daniel who died June 24, 1857, seventy-seven years old. He left eleven children of whom only four are now living: Gazena, Elinor Clute, Anna Van Vrankin, and John D., our subject. He was educated in Amsterdam Academy under Horace Sprague, and West Galway Academy under Professor Watson, also at Poughkeepsie under Professor Roe. When he was eighteen he taught Rotterdam public school for one year, after which he came home to help his father on the farm. On March 6, 1850, he married Catherine M. Cheeseman, daughter of Benjamin and Thankful (Sanford) Cheeseman, who were residents of this town, moving here from Dutchess county in 1810. After their marriage he moved on the farm next to his present residence; thence, in 1873, he went to Scotia, and left his brother-in-law, Seneca Duell, to conduct his mill at the foot of the hill. He has been very prosperous and lives on one of the best farms in the town. They are the parents of one child, Susan E., born January 16, 1852.

Kline, Cornelius O., Amsterdam, was born on what is known as the Kline farm just out of Tribes Hill, November 1, 1815, and is a son of William and Angelica (Teller) Kline. William, his father, was a son of William Kline who came from Wittenburg,

Germany, before the war of the revolution. He lived in the old Fort Johnson, and his grandson tells that before the war the Indians came through this section and they had a great deal of trouble with them. Cornelius O., our subject, was one of ten children. He was educated in the common schools of this town and helped his father on the farm. The latter died in 1862 and left the farm to Cornelius, who has increased it by purchase until he now owns 158 acres. It is the only farm of the whole Kline tract that is left in the hands of one of the family. He was married February 1, 1849, to Julia Smith, daughter of Adam Smith of Glenville, and they were the parents of two children, one is now living, Sanford B., born in 1855. Their daughter, Helen M., died April 9, 1892, forty years of age. Mrs. Kline is living and is a comfort to her husband in his declining years.

Clerk, James N., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in what is now Perth, June 10, 1851, and is a son of Joseph and Charity (Kline) Clark. His early life was spent in Amsterdam, his parents moving there when James was but four years old. He was educated in the public schools of this town, and lived at home until his marriage, September 29, 1875, to Sarah M. Plantz, daughter of Adam and Maria (Veeder) Plantz of Mohawk. After his marriage he went into the lumber business and bought the saw-mill at Fort Johnson, which business he still follows. He has added a planing-mill to his place, and finds a ready market in Amsterdam for his lumber. He has been prosperous and successful, which he owes, under God's blessing, to his own hard work and good business qualities.

Wilde, James L., Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in Amsterdam November 12, 1825, and is a son of Joshua and Phoebe (Bostwick) Wilde. Joshua Wilde came to this county from Dutchess county in 1820, and was married two years after. He was the father of eleven children, eight of whom are living: John B., William, Obadiab, Stephen, Charles H., Jane now Mrs. Horace B. Shepard; Ann Eliza, now Mrs. Darwin Shuler; and James L., our subject. Joshua, the father, made many purchases of land in this section, and died in 1876, being then seventy years old. He left 160 acres of land to Stephen and Charles. James L. was educated in the common school and helped on the farm until his marriage with Mary Yates, February 9, 1849. She was a daughter of John and Lucinda (Fuller) Yates. After his marriage he leased a farm of 500 acres, which his father had previously owned, and which he worked five years. He then bought the farm of his present residence, a grain farm of forty acres, where he built a very fine residence and out-buildings, and made many other improvements, which have more than trebled the value of the property, making it one of the best in this part of the town. He lived in Amsterdam three years, where he was part of the time engaged in the furniture business. He also ran the saw-mill at Fort Johnson six years. He has no children, his only one, Mary Minerva, having died in 1878, twenty-seven years of age. Mrs. Wilde is living at sixty-five years of age. Mr. Wilde has never been interested in politics.

Lingenfelter, David, Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born on the farm where he lives, October 9, 1842, and is a son of Henry G. and Maria (Van Ness) Lingenfelter. Henry G. was a son of Grandus Lingenfelter, who died in 1823, forty years of age.

leaving nine children; on y five are now living: Michael and David of Elgin, Illinois; Eliza Tierney of Johnstown; Margaret Finehout of Fort Johnston; Magdalen Young of Elgin. Henry G., the father of our subject, was the oldest child, he was born in 1804 and died in 1879, leaving three children: Harriet, now Mrs. Moore of Johnstown, John H. of Lansingburg, and David, our subject. The latter was educated in the common schools of this district, and helped his father on the farm until he was nineteen, when he engaged with Joseph Clark for two years, after which he spent a year in Illinois, returning the next year to engage in the mitten business in Gloversville for one year. In 1866 he joined his brother John H. and bought back the old homestead of sixty-one acres of Peter Hanson. At the death of his father he was wiled his father's farm of sixty-five acres, where he now lives. Mrs. Lingenfelter, mother of our subject, died November 13, 1862. In 1881 Mr. Lingenfelter bought out his brother's interest in the two farms, and has since conducted them alone. On February 15, 1881, he married Dorothy Moore, daughter of David and Gertrude (Quilhot) Moore, and their union has been blessed by two children: Mallon M., born February 24, 1883; and George D., born March 8, 1883.

Hanson, Ira, Amsterdam, Tribes Hill p. o., was born near where he now lives in Amsterdam, February 21, 1860, and is a son of Daniel P. and Barbara (Wert) Hanson. Daniel P. Hanson was a son of Peter N. Hanson, whose father came to this country from Germany in the early settlement of this country, and the family have always made their home in this section. Daniel was one of three children, of whom but one is living, James Hanson of Johnstown. Daniel was always respected and honored by his many friends; he died April 27, 1887, leaving a wife and three children: Edward D. A., merchant of Amsterdam, born October 20, 1862; Laura, now Mrs. Harlan Haines of Johnstown, born August 18, 1872; and our subject, Ira S. His parents came to this farm when he was eight years old, and he attended public school and assisted his father on the farm until he was married, December 20, 1883, to Minerva Mosher, daughter of Barney and Jane (Plantz) Mosher of Johnstown. After his marriage he went to Johnstown where he engaged in the glove manufacture for three years, and then came back after his father's death, and has since conducted the farm. He has been successful as a farmer, and the place is a good hay and grain farm of 100 acres.

De Graff, William, Amsterdam, was a son of Nicholas W. and Catherine (Travers) De Graff, and was born where he now lives, December 28, 1831. Nicholas W. was a son of John De Graff, born in 1793 and died in 1883, at ninety years of age. William remembers some very interesting stories his father told him of the pioneer days. He was a descendant of the De Graff's who came over from Holland two centuries ago. There were four brothers and they settled on the banks of the Mohawk, from which source the large family of De Graff's have sprung. His father told some very good stories of the Indians and their tricks, and tells of his grandfather's first settling here when the section was filled with wild animals. They were often kept awake nights by the howling of the wolves, and deer ran on the farm and in the door-yards. William was educated in the public schools, and helped his father until he was married, December 18, 1861, to Margaret A. Wemple, daughter of William C. and Elizabeth (McKin-

ney) Wemple of Florida. They are the parents of one child, David Cassidy, born August 30, 1864, who is now employed by the Cluftenunda Gas company.

De Graff, John G., Amsterdam, was born in Amsterdam within twenty rods of his present residence, January 30, 1850, and is a son of John G. and Magdalen A (Pollock) De Graff. John G., senior, was a son of Garrett and Elizabeth (Duryea), and was the father of fifteen children, of whom eight are living: Garrett H., Minerva, Mathias, Melissa Dean, Isabelle, Charles P., Nettie, Oscar and John G. (the subject of our sketch), who was educated in the common schools, but at the age of eighteen he entered Amsterdam Academy for two years. After leaving school he assisted his father on the farm, and on November 20, 1878, he married Frances A. Deuel, daughter of Seneca P. and Lucy E. (Cheesman) Deuel of Amsterdam. Mr. Deuel was born in Saratoga county in 1835. Frances was born March 23, 1860. Mr. De Graff has three children living: Florence, born August 20, 1879; Howard P., born September 23, 1887; and Lucy E., born November 16, 1891. Mr. De Graff is a successful business man, and in addition to his farm duties he conducts a market of hay, straw and coal. They live on the old homestead farm in a pleasant cottage built by Mr. De Graff. They are a prominent family in church work: Mrs. De Graff is organist, while Mr. De Graff is superintendent of the Sunday school and a church officer since 1870.

Farmer, Samuel J., Amsterdam, Rockton p. o., was born in Bristol, England, July 6, 1841, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Cross) Farmer. Samuel J. attended the public school until he was fourteen, when he took a two years' course in a select school. After this he learned the mason's trade, which he has always followed. On November 29, 1862, he married Anna L. Smyth of Bristol. In 1868 he came to this country, first settling in Minaville, but stayed there less than a year when he came to Amsterdam, where he remained twelve years. In 1881 he came to Rockton, where he has built several of the largest factories of this section. He has had the contracts on L. L. Dean's, L. E. Harrower's, C. D. Austin's, Benn & Becker's, Blauvelt & Stairs', William Lindsay's, D. C. Hewitt's, and in fact all of the large buildings in the village. He has been a very prosperous mechanic, having but small means when he came to Rockton. He has by his good management and industry built up a fine property, owning five of the best and prettiest houses in Rockton, among them the fine large boarding house opposite L. L. Dean's factory.

Canda, Elizabeth and Andalusia, Hagaman's Mills, daughters of David W. and Charity (Ostrom) Canda, were born, the former January 6, 1830, and the latter on May 9, 1833, in Amsterdam. The sisters have always been found together. Their education was derived in the public school near their present place of residence. They are the direct descendants of Nehemiah Canda, who came from Connecticut in 1790 and settled in Galway, and whose son, David H., was one of the first merchants locating in Hagaman's Mills. His whole life was an interesting history. With but a common school education, at sixteen he was teaching school, then became a clerk, and then a partner. He married a granddaughter of a captain in the revolution under Washington, and joined the army, first as lieutenant, and then captain in the Light Infantry, 1807-1813. His regiment was in the battle at Plattsburgh in the war of 1812. He died April 14,

1865, the oldest member of the First Presbyterian Church. He was a prominent politician, holding the offices of postmaster and justice, and in 1820 was elected to the state assembly.

Banta, Justice L., Hagaman's Mills, was born at Hagaman's Mills April 28, 1848, and is a son of Jacob B. and Hannab M. (Leavitt) Banta. His early life was spent at home, where he received an education in the public schools. In 1864 he started the butchering business, which he followed until 1868, when he bought the Palmateer farm of fifty-three acres, which he conducted with his other business. In 1874 he added to his farm sixty acres, known as the Myndret Pawling farm. He has conducted these farms very successfully, and in 1890 he built a shoddy mill in Amsterdam, employing about twenty workers. On March 1, 1866, he married Nancy A. Peek of Hagaman's Mills, daughter of John C. and Katie (Peck) Peek. Nancy was one of a family of four children, one son and three daughters. Seven children have blessed their union: Myndret P., born May 7, 1868; Henrietta S., born May 31, 1870; Charlea A., born April 10, 1873; Alvin J., born May 11, 1874; Edith M., born November 16, 1875; Jessie, born September 30, 1878; and Earl, born May 25, 1880. Mr. Banta has been director of the Merchants' Bank of Amsterdam, and is now a director of the Farmers' National Bank.

Manchester, Darins V., Tribes Hill, was born in Charleston November 27, 1840, and is a son of John L. and Margaret (Clayton) Manchester. His early life was spent on the farm, attending public school until he was twelve years old, after which he helped his father on the farm. In 1858 he went to Wisconsin, where he worked as a carpenter for three years, coming home in 1861. August 21, 1862, he enlisted in the 103d Regiment Ohio Volunteers. He first saw service at Covington, Ky., in the guard under Gen. Lew Wallace; drove the rebels ahead of them into Lexington, where they were detached and the 103d sent to Frankfort to guard the capitol. Here they made headquarters until April, 1863, were then sent to Danville and attached to the Ninth corps under Burnside, sent to invade Tennessee, where they skirmished and raided for provisions until November, when Longstreet came up and the siege of Knoxville was started, which lasted about a month; during this he received two flesh wounds. After Sherman raised the siege, they drove the rebels to the Virginia line; were then recalled to guard duty until the spring of 1864, when they were to join Sherman's army, when the Ohio and Michigan regiments were formed into the 23d corps. They had skirmishes and one decided battle at Resaca, crowding the rebels until the battle at Kenesaw Mountain, where Mr. Manchester received the wound which crippled him for life. He was discharged by Gen. Hooker at Columbus, Ohio, in February, 1865. June 24, 1870, he married Maggie Hanson of Amsterdam, and in 1877 they moved to Tribes Hill, where he bought a farm of thirty acres, and has built him a fine residence in one of the choicest locations along the river.

Wilde, Charles H., Fort Johnson, was born in Amsterdam on what is now the Daniel Hanson farm, March 13, 1845, and is a son of Joshua and Phoebe (Bostwick) Wilde. When Charles was two years old his parents moved on what is now the John B. Wilde farm, staying there one year, when they moved on the old homestead farm, where

Charles's boyhood days were spent. He attended the public school and assisted his father until he was twenty years old, and then in company with his brother Stephen he took the farm to work on shares, which they continued until the death of his father in 1876. They then succeeded to the farm, and in 1882 Charles bought out his brother's interest and now conducts it alone. On February 1, 1882, he married Libbie Johnson, daughter of David and Maria (Quillhot) Johnson of Perth. Mr. Wilde conducts the old homestead farm of 122 acres, good land for grain and hay, and has been a success as a farmer. He has never been interested in politics, content to let others govern while he does the business and work.

Shepard, Horace B., Fort Johnson, was born in Amsterdam January 10, 1845, and is a son of John R. and Harriet (Fox) Shepard. The name originates from the German, but the ancestry traced back three generations are native born. The early life of our subject was spent in this section, obtaining his education at the Fort Johnson common schools and at Amsterdam Academy. The earliest business enterprise of Mr. Shepard was in 1863, when he and his uncle rebuilt the Fort Johnson grist-mill; he conducted this until 1874, when he and his father started a grain, flour and feed store in Amsterdam, which they conducted nine years and sold it to John L. Cristman. Mr. Shepard was elected in 1883 supervisor of the town of Amsterdam before the division of the city from the town, and in 1884 was re-elected, which demonstrates his popularity and ability. In 1882 he laid the foundation of what is now the Morris Mill No. 2 at Fort Johnson, and stocked it with machinery for the manufacture of knit goods, and run it until 1885, when he sold it to A. V. Morris & Sons. This was the foundation of the enterprise, and was the building up of Fort Johnson village. January 28, 1872, he married Jane M. Wilde, daughter of Joshua and Phoebe (Bostwick) Wilde, and their union has been blessed by three children: Horace B., jr., born April 15, 1877; Clarence W., born April 6, 1879; Belle, born August 11, 1888. Mr. Shepard's home is one of the finest residences in Fort Johnson, he having built in 1876 the large brick house and laid out the beautiful grounds of his present abode. John R., his father, died in 1885, sixty-eight years of age. His mother died in 1849, twenty-eight years of age.

Hanson, Mrs. Agnes, Tribes Hill, was born at Tribes Hill August 9, 1822, and is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Putnam) Vosburgh. William Henry Hanson was born at Tribes Hill October 18, 1824, and is a son of Abram and Mary M. (Hotaling) Hanson. The ancestry of this family was from Holland, and tradition says the earliest families of Hanson and Houghtaling came to this country about 1650. It certainly is a fact that the earliest records of any public documents in this country, find these two families already located. Victor Hanson is the first one of the family recorded. He had a son, John, the father of eleven children: Henry, Abram, Nicholas, William B., Harmanus, John, Barney, Victor, Maria, Rebecca and Katherine. Abram, the father of our subject, was born in 1788, and was a soldier in war of 1812. He died in 1862, leaving two sons, John, born 1810, now deceased; and William H. (our subject), who died January 17, 1866, leaving nine children, of whom five are living: Mary M., now Mrs. D. V. Manchester, born December 19, 1844; Lucy, now Mrs. Robert Worrell widow, born January 14, 1852; Anna E., born March 25, 1856; Franc C., born Feb-

ruary 4, 1858; Sarah M., now Mrs. William H. Lambert of Pittsburg, Pa., born August 9, 1860. Abram Vosburgh (grandfather of our subject) was a colonel in the revolution, and he was the father of six children, of which John, father of Mrs. Hanson, was the oldest. He was born December 8, 1782, and died in 1862 leaving ten children, of whom five are living: Maria Lasher of Albion; Peter Vosburgh of Tribe, Hill; Susan Cocoro of Fort Johnson; John Vosburgh of Ashton, Ill., and our subject Agnes Hanson.

Sweet, John S., Fort Johnson, was born in Florida December 1, 1839, and is a son of Lansing and Elizabeth (Schuyler) Sweet. The family ancestry traces back to Wales and the earliest settlers of the name were three brothers who came to this country in 1725, and one settled in Wilmington, N. C., and one in Connecticut, the other, Matthew, settled in Rhode Island, and was the great-grandfather of our subject. He was the father of ten children; of these was one named Samuel, one of the youngest, and he was born about 1755, and lived to be over eighty years old. He was the father of three children: Watterman, Nathaniel, and John G., who was born in 1785, and died in 1868, leaving seven children, of whom two are still living: John L. Sweet of Florida; and S. Spencer of California. His oldest son, L. W. Sweet (the father of our subject), was born March 9, 1812, was married in March, 1835, and died January 13, 1885. He was the father of two children, D. Spencer of Fort Johnson, and our subject, John S. The earliest settler of this name in this country was Samuel, great-grandfather of John S. He came here about 1798 and settled on the farm in Florida, where Watterman J. Sweet now lives; and the family have always lived in that town until 1840, when Lansing W. moved to Amsterdam and bought the farm where John S. now resides. Mr. Sweet was educated in the common school and at Fort Plain Seminary. He was married May 10, 1883, to Sarah Putnam, daughter of Victor C. and Jane (Stoller) Putnam. Mr. Sweet has always lived on the old homestead farm and is a prosperous farmer. In 1888 he was elected supervisor, and has also held many other town offices of honor and trust. His farm is part of the old Fort Johnson farm, and has 100 acres devoted to dairy and grain.

Sweet Spencer D., Fort Johnson, was born on the Lansing Sweet farm at Fort Johnson May 26, 1852, and is a son of Lansing W. and Elizabeth (Schuyler) Sweet. Our subject has always lived on the farm of his birth, where he still resides. He was educated at the Fort Johnson school and assisted his father on the farm until he was twenty-seven years old, then he leased it and worked it for himself. On November 29, 1882, he married Lizzie Rose, daughter of William Rose of Woodstock, Ontario, and they are the parents of three children: S. Ida, born December 9, 1883; Lansing W., born February 14, 1885; and Spencer, born February 2, 1891. Mr. Sweet has been a successful farmer, and erected in 1886 a very pretty residence and out-buildings. His farm of seventy-one acres is devoted to hay and grain culture. He is not a politician, but has been elected to positions of trust, and he desires to be known as an honest upright citizen.

Failing, Jacob H., Minden, the son of Henry Failing, was born in St. Johnsville April 11, 1776, and married, January 1, 1798, Gertrude Dockery. She was born March

26, 1780, and died May 26, 1839. Their children were John Adam, born September 18, 1800, and died in Palatine; Eva, born October 20, 1802, married Daniel Graff, and died in Minden; Mary, born November 15, 1804, married John A. Snell, and died in Minden; Nancy, born May 13, 1810, widow of John Feeter, resides in Little Falls; Gertrude, born November 5, 1811, married Conrad Snell, and died in Amsterdam; Julia, born January 11, 1816, wife of Enoch Snell of St. Johnsville; Reuben; Margaret, married Solomon Smith, and died in Minden, and Alexander, who died young. Jacob H. died January 26, 1859. Reuben, of the above family, was born in St. Johnsville October 3, 1817, and married in November, 1837, Catharine, daughter of Adam Klock. She was born May 5, 1819. Their children were, first, Jacob H., died in St. Johnsville; second, Adam L., born in St. Johnsville October 20, 1842, married Rachel, daughter of Gabriel Smith, and they have one child, Lillian; he is a Republican in politics, and has been supervisor two years; third, Jason, a resident of La Salle county, Illinois; fourth, Joseph, born in St. Johnsville September 25, 1846, married Mary, daughter of William Haradan of Minden. Their children are: Catharine, wife of John Sponable of Minden; Wilson R., born October 10, 1870; Jacob H., born May 8, 1872; Josephine Lindon, born May 19, 1877; Marcus H., born January 19, 1879; Nelson, born January 20, 1881. Joseph has always been a resident of Minden except two years, when he moved to St. Johnsville. His children are all natives of Minden except the oldest; he is a Republican. Fifth, Harry, and sixth, Gertrude, both died young. Reuben married, second, Mrs. Mary (Bates) Smith, and their children were, first, John R., born in Minden February 19, 1859, married Ada, daughter of Charles Zimmerman; they have no children. John R. attended the Fort Plain Academy, and graduated from the Seymour Smith Institute at Pine Plains, Dutchess county. He taught school five years in Minden, but is now engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is a Republican. Second, Ambrose T., born in Minden December 1, 1860, married Minnie, daughter of Gideon Bellinger; he has one child, Charles Adam. He is a Republican, and engaged in farming. Third, Frank M., born in Minden October 17, 1863, married Corne C., daughter of John Nugent; they have no children; he is a farmer, and a Republican. Fourth, Alberta, died young. Fifth, Reuben, a resident of Minden. Reuben was one of the largest farmers in Minden, of which town he became a resident in the spring of 1847, and where he died August 29, 1879.

Johnson, Mrs. Angelica, Fort Johnson, was born in the town of Amsterdam, near Tribes Hill, February 4, 1816, and is a daughter of John and Maria (Hanson) Kline. David B. Johnson was born in Columbia county in 1815, and died in 1887, leaving ten children. (See Wm. H. Johnson Biog.). John Kline, father of Mrs. Johnson, was a son of William Kline, who, with two brothers, came to this country from Holland when this country was a wilderness and settled on a square mile of land on the north side of the Mohawk. He was the father of ten children, of whom John, father of our subject, was the second. He was born in 1778, and died in 1867, leaving six children: Peter, Maria, Rachel, William, Henry, and Angelica (our subject), the last of the family. She was married, April 6, 1864, to D. B. Johnson, a farmer of this town. In 1886, a year previous to his death, they moved to Fort Johnson, where he bought a very fine residence on the main street of the village. After his death the farm was sold and

Mrs. Johnson has since lived in her village home. She has always taken an active interest in church work, and is now a member of the Tribes Hill Presbyterian church.

Ireland, Jay, Fort Johnson, was born in the town of Amsterdam near Fort Johnson, April 1, 1851, and is a son of Thomas S. and Elizabeth (McKay) Ireland. (See T. S. Ireland.) The early life of our subject was spent in Amsterdam and Fort Johnson. He was educated in the common schools, and in 1864 he came to this place with his uncle, Obadiah Wilde, and after the latter's death (in 1865) Jay made his home with his aunt Eliza (McKay) Wilde, a sister of George and Robert McKay. When he was twenty years of age he engaged with Caughnet & Murphy in a leather dressing mill, remaining with them four years, after that conducted his aunt's farm of twenty-two acres for about six years, then went as clerk for T. H. Kibbie in his store at Fort Johnson; then was at home gardening two years, and then engaged with A. V. Morris & Co. to take charge of their picking department and store room, a position which he still fills. On August 6, 1884, he married Nellie Stearns, daughter of Calvin D. Stearns of Iowa, formerly of Saratoga, but when she married she was a resident of Perth.

Wilde, Stephen T., Fort Johnson, was born in the town of Amsterdam on the old Wilde farm, February 25, 1840, and is a son of Joshua and Phoebe (Bostwick) Wilde. (See J. L. Wilde biog.) The early life of our subject was spent on the farm and attending the common school and he still lives on a part of the old farm. On February 4, 1888, he married Sarah M. Johnson, daughter of David B. and Maria (Quilhot) Johnson of Perth. Mr. Wilde bought in 1884 a farm of seventy-five acres, known as the old Peter Banta farm, which is worked on shares for him. He sold his interest in his father's estate to his brother Charles, reserving the southern portion, a piece of about five acres, where he has built a beautiful residence and out-buildings. Mr. Wilde is a member of the official board of the West Amsterdam Methodist church, and is considered in this part of the town as one of their best men. He has been a prosperous man and owes his prosperity under Divine Providence to his own hard work, good management and integrity.

Ireland, Thomas S., Fort Johnson, was born at Malta, Saratoga county, October 2, 1822, and is a son of Stephen and Mary (Thurber) Ireland. Stephen, father of our subject, was a son of Stephen Ireland who was a native of this country, although going back a few generations before, the family was one of the English aristocracy. He was the father of ten children, of which Stephen was the eighth. He was born in 1793 and was married when he was twenty-two years old, and was the father of ten children, of which five are now living: Mrs. Abbie Stoker of Fort Johnson, a widow; James Ireland of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Jennie Stewits of Grand Rapids; Edward S. Ireland of Denver; and our subject, Thomas S. The latter was educated in the public school and at Amsterdam Academy. When he was twenty-one years of age he was teaching in the district, and made his home on his father's farm for four years. On August 15, 1848, he married Mary E. McKay of Amsterdam, and they were the parents of six children, five of them are living: Eliza, now Mrs. Chas. Steinberg of Minden, born April 22, 1849; Jay, born April 1, 1851; Eugene, born June 22, 1853; Frank, born May 30, 1859; Edward,

born July 10, 1863; Anna was born June 16, 1857, and died July 30, 1887. After his marriage he again taught school, staying here two years, also at Tribes Hill two years and Fultonville three years, and then at Canajoharie where he taught five years, and was then elected school commissioner, served as such three years, then taught thirteen years longer at Canajoharie; after this he held many different offices: paymaster on the Saratoga and Mount McGregor railroad, general agent for the Juvane Co., manufacturers of globes, and secretary for William Arkell for one year. He came back to Fort Johnson in 1889 to teach. In 1891 he erected a beautiful home on the Main street, and lives in happiness and ease.

Clark, Joseph, Fort Johnson, was born in the town of Amsterdam, but what is now Perth, May 17, 1815, and is a son of George and Mary (Major) Clark. George Clark, father of our subject, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, October 1, 1780. He came to this country in 1801 and settled in Galway, and he was married and became the father of seven children; four are now living: George, jr., of Perth; Margaret E., now Mrs. Robert Campbell, a widow of Johnstown; Jane M., now Mrs. John C. McVan of Caledonia; and Joseph, our subject. George Clark after leaving Galway bought a farm of one hundred acres in Perth, cleared it up and built a log house, log barn and made it a good farm. He was drafted for the war of 1812, and lived and died on the old homestead. Joseph (our subject) attended public school and lived at home until his marriage, May 31, 1843, to Charity Kline, daughter of George and Sarah (Van Ness) Kline of this town. He moved on a part of his father's farm of forty acres, where he remained ten years. In 1853 he bought the farm of 110 acres where he moved to in 1855. (For family statistics see Wm. Clark's biog.) Mr. Clark remembers some of the incidents of his parents' experience in their early settlement here—how they were obliged to go four miles to reach a church, and he has now the old side-saddle on which his mother rode. They endured many hardships which the present generation will never know. Mr. Clark has never been interested in politics, but has given his whole time to the management of his farm, which is in fine condition.

Pepper, Aaron, Fort Johnson, was born in Aeckhorst, Germany, May 5, 1814, and is a son of Cordt and Louisa (Thundermeir) Pepper. He came to this country in 1842 and settled at Schenectady, where he made brooms for six years. In 1846 he married Mary Hazloe of Germany, and they were the parents of two children: Caroline, now Mrs. Horseman of Schenectady; and Aaron of Chicago. In 1848 he came to the town of Amsterdam, and in 1851 bought the farm of 120 acres where he now lives. He has built up one of the finest residences on the river, with many other improvements, and has added a farm of 225 acres, making him owner of 345 acres in this place. In 1855 his wife died at forty-six years of age. In 1869 Mr. Pepper bought the old Lingenfelter place of seventy-eight acres at Tribes Hill which he leases to a tenant. On August 26, 1857, he married Mary Myers of Germany and they are the parents of five children: Louisa, now Mrs. Krechting of New Jersey; William, of Gloversville; Lydia, now Mrs. Geo. B. Wayne of Johnstown; Lonie and Walter. Mr. Pepper is one of the prosperous and successful farmers of the town of Amsterdam, and owes his prosperity under Divine Providence to his own industry. He has had reverses too; in 1877 he lost broom shop and barns with all the stock in them by fire. Has also lost by being

willing to assist his friends. He has been elected to town office by the largest majority ever known here, which testifies to his popularity, and his son William was elected in 1889 to the office of supervisor, and to his second term in 1890, filling the office of honor and trust for the best interests of the people.

Marcellus Family, The.—Along in the eighteenth century there was a family by the name of Marcellus lived in Manny's Corners, who owned nearly all the land in that section. There were three sons, one of whom was Hanning Marcellus. He was the father of eight children: Jeremiah, Hester, Ahasuerus, Isaac, Laney A., Betsey, John C. and David. Jeremiah, the oldest, was born in 1800 and was married five times. By his first wife he had one child, George; his second wife was Sophronia Davison and had two children, Catharine A., now Mrs. Charles H. Ostrom, and James N. His third wife was a sister of the second, Margaret Davison, and had one son, Mahlon. George married Margaret Shuler, and they were the parents of four children: three are living: Georgiana, Isabelle, Amanda, Alva, the only son, died in 1891, twenty-nine years of age. James N. of Glenville, and Malon of Amsterdam are the only living male descendants of this historic family.

Marcellus, James N., Glenville, was born in Amsterdam December 31, 1839, and is a son of Jeremiah and Sophronia Marcellus. His early life was spent at home on the farm and attending the district school until his father's death, which occurred August 19, 1866, after which he conducted the farm where he now resides, of 120 acres, known as the old homestead. On February 11, 1864, he married Eliza Van Epps of Glenville; they have one child, Mary L., now Mrs. Frank Clow, who was born August 19, 1869. Frank Clow is a medical missionary and is now stationed with his family in South Western Africa. Mrs. Marcellus died September 30, 1874. On September 22, 1876, he married Mary L. Van Epps, daughter of Isaac D. and Eliza (Staley) Van Epps.

Marcellus, Mahlon, was educated in the public school of Glenville and lived at home until his marriage, which occurred September 16, 1870. His wife's name was Carrie Britton, a daughter of Harmanus and Mary (Van Wormer) Britton of Glenville. After his marriage he moved on the farm of 100 acres left him by his father, which is his present residence. Their union has been blessed by one child, Margaret D., born December 13, 1872. These brothers live by each other, and are happy, prosperous and comfortable.

Grant, Donald, Amsterdam, was born on the farm where he now lives, September 6, 1844, and is a son of Gregor and Mary Grant. Gregor Grant was born April 5, 1800, in Scotland and came to this country in 1833. Mrs. Grant was born April 10, 1810, in Scotland and came here in 1836, when they were immediately married on June 6, 1836. They were the parents of six children; only one is living, Donald, our subject. He was educated in the public schools of this town and was but seventeen years old when the war broke out; he enlisted the next year in the 115th N. Y. Volunteers. He saw service first at Harper's Ferry under Gen. Miles, commanding the 10th corps. He was taken prisoner September 14, 1862, but was paroled and sent to Chicago and soon after ordered back to Washington where they were exchanged. Then they were ordered to Yorktown and thence to Hilton Head to do garrison duty; thence to Jacksonville, under

Gen. Gilmore, and at the battle of Olustee, February 20, 1864, he was wounded and taken prisoner and sent to Andersonville. He was exchanged December 10, 1864, had two months' furlough, and again joined his regiment and remained until the close of the war. On October 25, 1870, he married Sarah A. Branson of Amsterdam town. They have three children living: Nellie B., born June 18, 1876; Donald, born May 17, 1883; Jessie S., born August 30, 1885. After the war he returned to the old homestead farm, and raises fruit and vegetables, and has made it one of the prettiest places in town; with good residence and out-buildings, and every evidence of prosperity.

Mathias, James, Cranesville, was born in Albany county July 30, 1836, and is a son of Frederick and Eunice (Remer) Mathias. The ancestors of this family, going back for five generations, were natives of this country; but they trace their lineage on the father's side to Germany, and on the mother's side to Holland. They were among the earliest settlers of Albany and Schoharie counties, and among the early settlers appear the names of two Mathiases, and from one of these this family sprang. Our subject was educated in the public schools of Albany county and a course in Watervale Seminary. He stayed at home until the war broke out in 1861 when he enlisted in the 91st Regiment of N. Y. Volunteers. He saw service in the Gulf department of Florida and Louisiana, first under Gen. Hunter for six months, where his regiment was doing garrison duty at Key West; after which Gen. Ben. Butler took command and they were sent to Pensacola to guard the forts at that place. Butler was transferred in six months to the army of the Potomac and the 91st Regiment to Baton Rouge under Gen. Banks, where they did garrison duty for three months, then they made a reconnoissance to Fort Hudson and then marched to Donaldsonville and Brashear City; thence they took transport up the lake, where they fought the battle of Irish Bend and pursued the enemy to Alexandria. He was in all the engagements at Port Hudson, where he was wounded in the leg June 14, 1863. It was almost a loss of his limb, but it was saved after a year's suffering. He was discharged from the service on account of this, and came home. He was married May 21, 1857, to Magdalen Ogsbury of Albany county, and they have had seven children, five of whom are living: Henry, born June 11, 1858; Abram, born January 1, 1860; Jennie, born January 1, 1864; Eunice, born January 1, 1866; Charles, born in Tennessee March 7, 1882. In February, 1892, Mr. Mathias came to his present home, a farm of eighty-two acres, where he has built fine out-buildings, and is erecting a beautiful residence.

Neff, Joseph, Cranesville, was born in the town of Amsterdam April 6, 1827, and is a son of Daniel and Catherine (Kline) Neff. Daniel Neff was born in this county, but his father came from England. Joseph Kline, grandfather of our subject, was also born in this country, his father coming from Holland. Daniel Neff was one of the early settlers of this section. He bought of Gilbert Marcellus a farm of 135 acres and afterwards sixty-five acres of David Wilde. Mr. Neff succeeded to the larger farm at the death of his father, which occurred in 1882 when he was eighty years old. He left two sons: Andrew of Amsterdam, and Joseph, our subject. Joseph's early life was spent at home. He secured an education at Amsterdam Academy, and at the age of eighteen went to Rahway, N. J., where he learned the carriage maker's trade. There he stayed

five years; thence he went to Tennessee and stayed there five years; then spent another five years in Mississippi. In 1801 he returned to this town where he has since remained. On May 5 1852 he married Adeine Smith of Rawlway, and they are the parents of four children, two are living: Carrie now Mrs. Moses Ritter of Rawlway, and M. Mabel. The name of Neff's one well-known throughout our county, as Daniel Neff father of our subject, was connected with canal work over twenty years; and Joseph has held offices of trust and honor in this town many terms.

Bronk, Philip, Glenville, was born in New Baltimore, Greene county, October 9, 1818, and is a son of Joseph and Harriet (Conine) Bronk. This name is one of the oldest in our country. The ancestors were Hollanders. Joseph was a patriot soldier in the war of 1812. He died Christmas eve, 1872, aged 74. He was the father of twelve children, of whom four are now living: Mary, Rebecca J. now Mrs. Isaac Hannay of Greenville, Greene county; James J. of New Baltimore; and Philip our subject. The early life of the latter was spent at home, helping on the farm and attending school. On April 11, 1855, he married Lydia Wolfe, daughter of John R. and Abigail Foster Wolfe of Greene county. Mrs. Bronk's ancestors on the father's side were Hollanders, and on the mother's side English. Her uncle, Philip Wolfe, was a soldier in the revolution. Her grandfather, Kemp Foster, was one of the earliest settlers of the State. After his marriage they came to this town where Mr. Bronk had the year before bought a farm of seventy acres, and they have since lived here, and they are the parents of of one child, Harriet F., born January 2, 1857. Mr. Bronk has a fine dairy and gran farm, and is considered a successful, prosperous farmer.

Collins, Japhet, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam at Harrower's Mill, August 14, 1823, and is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Slikman) Collins, formerly of Dutchess county, who came here in 1810. Joseph Collins died in 1864, eighty-eight years of age. He was the father of thirteen children, of whom five are now living: Stephen H., Ira, Oliver, Abigail, now Mrs. Root of Illinois, and Japhet, our subject. He was educated in the public schools of this town, and worked on the farm until he was twenty-eight years of age. February 26, 1852, he married Sarah A. Rowe, daughter of Henry and Maria (Ostrom) Rowe of Amsterdam. Two years previous he bought a farm of thirty acres south of Hagaman's Mill, which he sold in 1854 and then bought a farm of sixty-three acres on Manny's road, where he remained fifteen years. In 1869 he sold this farm and bought his present place of 100 acres, a fine dairy farm, with a beautiful residence. He is the father of three children, two are now living: Harnet L., now Mrs. Helen Cook, born March 23, 1856; Henry J., born January 27, 1858. The son they lost, George L., born December 1, 1853, was killed by a horse July 31, 1872. Mrs. Collins died March 15, 1880. Mrs. Cook, their daughter, lives with her father to comfort and care for him. She is the mother of three children: Sarah G. Staley, born December 29, 1876; William H. Cook, born, October 26, 1882; Della R., died April 12, 1889, three years old. Mr. Collins has always been a hard-working farmer and he is now rewarded by having a very fine property, and being respected by neighbors and friends.

Clark, William, Amsterdam, Fort Johnson p. o., was born in Perth July 15, 1849, and is a son of Joseph and Charity (Kline) Clark. Joseph was a son of George Clark.

who came to this country from Scotland in 1801, and located in Perth; he married soon after his arrival Mary Major, daughter of John Major of Chatham. They had eight children, four of whom are living: George, now living on the old homestead; Margaret Campbell of Johnstown; Jane McVean of Caledonia; and Joseph, father of our subject, born May 17, 1816. He was married May 21, 1840. They had five children, four are living: Sarah J., Mrs. M. Studer Moore; Hannah E., Mrs. Goodrich White; James N. of this town; and William, Mrs. Clark, their mother, died March 16, 1853, sixty-eight years of age. The early life of William was spent in the town of Amsterdam. His parents came here from Perth when he was but six years old. He was educated in the public schools of this town, and helped his father on the farm. December 17, 1870, he married Hattie Farms of Johnstown, after which he assumed control of the farm where he now lives, a fine dairy and grain farm of 100 acres. In 1861 Mr. Clark was elected supervisor of the town of Amsterdam, and re-elected in 1862, which shows his popularity with the citizens of this place.

Hurst, Henry, Tribes H. J. was born in Albany April 1, 1831, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Hurst. The ancestors of this family are from the North of Ireland, and came to this country in 1770. The father of our subject had seven children, three are living: Mrs. George Feasterly of Albany; Mrs. William Course of Susquehanna county; and our subject, Henry, whose early life was spent at home until his parents both died. He was then but nine years old, and was obliged to care for himself. When he was sixteen he came to Tribes Hill, where his brother Joseph had a blacksmith shop, and he helped him here and in Johnstown until 1852. On February 7, 1852, he married Hannah Cooper, daughter of James and Catherine Putnam Cooper of this place. They have six children: James H., born October 9, 1853; Oliver, born April 11, 1854; Charles N., born November 27, 1856; Sarah C., now Mrs. Lee Businger of Frankfort, Ind., born June 18, 1863; Frances C., now Mrs. Henry Moyer of Tribes Hill, born November 27, 1867; and May, born December 28, 1871. After his marriage Mr. Hurst gave up blacksmithing and learned the stone-quarry trade, which he has since followed. In 1852 he and his brother-in-law, Wilson Putnam, opened a stone quarry on Rocky Hill; they conducted this five years; after this Mr. Hurst conducted the business alone. In 1860 he bought of Jane Fisher a quarry of five acres, from which he has filled contracts for trimming stone, some of the best buildings in the valley being furnished from this quarry. The firm name is now Henry Hurst & Son, his son Oliver being connected with him. James H. was educated for a lawyer at Cornell University, and is now in Europe. Mr. Hurst has built one of the finest residences in the town, an illustration of what ambition, industry and thrift will do for a man.

Harrower, Lewis Eugene, Haganan's Mills, was born at Haganan's Mills, October 24, 1859. His early life was spent on his homestead, where he obtained the best education possible to be had in the common schools of that village. July 17, 1880, he started, in company with F. W. Wannan, a shoddy mill at what is now Harrower's, a thriving village of 350 inhabitants, whose people all find employment with Mr. Harrower, Mr. Wannan having left in 1881. In that year they began the manufacture of knit goods, which has been very prosperous. Lewis E. is a son of Peter H. and

Mary J. (Pawling) Harrower. January 12, 1888, he married Sarah J. Pitts of Ballston, and they are now the parents of three children: Margarete P., born April 14, 1890; Mattie Estella, born May 18, 1891; and Lewis Eugene, jr., born March 13, 1892.

Maynard, A. J., Hagaman's Mills, was born in Elmira, May 30, 1857, and is a son of John B. and Mary (Smith) Maynard. When he was six years old his parents moved to Little Falls, where he attended the public school until he was twelve years old, when he entered Fairfield Academy, where he spent five years. He then went to J. Stitts's woolen mill to the wool sorter's trade, going from there to S. B. Stitts to take charge of the wool room for eight years. In 1875 he went to Philadelphia for the same company to grade and buy wool in the west. In 1880 he settled in Hagaman's Mills, sorting wool at first, then taking charge of the seaming room until 1888, when he started a general grocery store. Mr. Maynard has added to a small stock and small trade, until now he controls a large double store well stocked with everything in the line of groceries, crockery, flour, feed, etc. On November 4, 1883, he married Ada McClellan of this place, who lived but seven years after her marriage, dying August 14, 1890, leaving no children.

Collins, Tunis V., Amsterdam, was born in Lyme, Jefferson county, June 3, 1838, and is a son of John S. and Mary (Nott) Collins. His parents had previously lived in Amsterdam and came back here in 1849 and settled about a mile east of Hagaman's Mills on a farm of 108 acres where they have since resided until the death of his father, John S., which occurred January 25, 1892. Tunis left home at the age of twenty-one and rented a farm near Hagaman's Mills where he remained two years, when he and his brother Stephen bought what is now the Elmwood farm, consisting of 150 acres, now owned by Stephen Collins. The brothers worked this farm twelve years, during which time they bought the farm known as the Truman Brown place of sixty-five acres. In 1877 the brothers dissolved partnership, Stephen retaining the Elmwood farm, and Tunis taking the Brown place and the difference in money, which he traded with George Herrick for the farm of 145 acres where he now resides. On July 3, 1863, he married Rachel Shedd of Jefferson county, who lived less than three years after her marriage. On February 17, 1870, he married Elinor Hagaman, daughter of Nicholas and Isabel (Main) Hagaman, and they are now the parents of three children: James A., born March 16, 1875; George H., born August 14, 1876; and Harlan M., born August 16, 1878.

Johnson, Mrs. T. P., Manny's Corners, was born in Amsterdam, June 1, 1832, and is a daughter of F. D. and Anne (Cooley) Van Wermer. Her father was born in Amsterdam in 1806 and her mother two years later in Florida. Egbert Van Wermer, grandfather of Mrs. Johnson, was one of the first settlers in Montgomery county. His wife's name was Elizabeth De Graff, which name is one of the oldest in the history of the county, appearing in all the old records. Mrs. Johnson secured an education in the public schools of Florida and at the early age of twenty-two, August 10, 1854, she was married to Thomas Payne Johnson of Amsterdam, son of John and Patience (Scribner) Johnson, who came to this town in 1797 when Thomas was but three years old, from Ballston. Mr. Johnson's noted name was given him from Thomas Payne, who was an

intimate friend of his father. T. P. Johnson died March 11, 1884, aged ninety years. His whole life was spent on the farm with the exception of about six months in the army during the war of 1812, and a few years he worked at the blacksmith's trade. His father's name appears as one of the revolutionary soldiers. Mrs. Johnson lives on and manages the farm left her by her husband.

Lepper, Charles W., Fort Johnson, was born on the farm in the town of Amsterdam where he now resides, March 20, 1853, and is a son of John and Mary A. (Murray) Lepper. The great-grandfather of our subject, Frederick, came to this country from Germany, and he was the father of six children, of whom Jacob, grandfather of our subject, was the oldest. He was born in 1777, and he died June 29, 1855, leaving nine children, four are still living: Hannah Shuler of Amsterdam; Patty McKay of Amsterdam; Margaret Wicks of Starkville, Herkimer county; and John, the father of our subject. The latter was born in this town March 26, 1813. He was married to Mary A. Murray, daughter of John Murray of Albany, September 1, 1847, and they have been blessed with seven children, four of whom are living: John R. of Bergen county, N. J.; Jacob F. of Fort Johnson; Catherine, now Mrs. Rollin Zoller of Herkimer county. Their father, John Lepper, died December 6, 1891. Mrs. Lepper, his mother, is living at the age of seventy-three. Charles has always lived on the old homestead, and February 11, 1891, he married Maude Edwards of Ballston Spa. He has been a prosperous farmer and a good citizen.

Herrick, George I., Amsterdam, was born in Florida March 20, 1839, and was educated in the common schools; he taught school two winters and was a farmer until he was forty-four years old; he has been a resident of this city eleven years, conducting a wholesale and retail coal business; he has been alderman of the second ward two terms, is one of the directors of the Amsterdam Savings Bank, one of the trustees of the M. E. church and of the Y. M. C. A. On November 23, 1864, he married Margaret S., second daughter of the late Alfred and Margaret (Peters) Birch of Amsterdam; they have three children, two sons and one daughter: Daniel D., Cora L., and Alfred B. Mr. Herrick's father, Daniel B., was also born in Florida in 1810 and married Mary Loomis of his native town; she was born in Massachusetts. They had five children, two sons and three daughters: Nancy, Harriet, George I., Alice and Dennison. His grandfather, Rufus, father of Daniel D., was also born in that town; he married three times and died at the ripe old age of eighty-four years.

Dolan, Rev. John W., Mohawk, son of Luke and Mary (Heany) Dolan, was born December 15, 1856. He attended school in Albany, graduated from the Syracuse High School in 1874, and from Manhattan College in 1878. He was ordained at Troy Seminary in 1882, and was assistant to Father Hovermans of St. Mary's church of Troy for two years. He was at Skaneateles three months, and was assistant to Father Fury of St. Anne's church for two years. He then had charge of St. Paul's church at Hancock for ten months. In July, 1888, he took charge of St. Cecilia's church of Fonda, and also had charge of the Church of the Sacred Heart at Tribes Hill.

Dockstader, John F., Fonda, was one of the early settlers of this town, and was a son of John Dockstader. John F. was born in this town October 25, 1784, and married

Maria, daughter of John Casselman. She was born May 25, 1791. He was a farmer and died March 3, 1858. His wife died October 5 1874. Their two children were Catharine and Benjamin, the former being deceased. Benjamin was born July 24, 1821, and married Mary J. Seaman, by whom he has one child, Benjamin F., who was born August 28, 1861. He married Alice M. Hokey, and they have four children: Edna M., James S., Kate, and Walter D. He is a member of the Mohawk Valley Grange No. 579, and is master and purchasing agent of the lodge.

Sanford, D. Halsey, Tribes Hill, was born in Amsterdam February 12, 1835, and is a son of George and Catherine A. (Stanton) Sanford. George was a son of Hugh Sanford, who came to this section in 1790 from Long Island. He located at Tribes Hill, where he had a blacksmith shop, and afterward a store and hotel near where Zieley's hotel is now. November 1, 1795, he married Ruth Halsey, and they were the parents of eleven children. Hugh died March 13, 1836, seventy-one years old; Ruth Halsey, his wife, August 25, 1866, ninety-seven years of age. George Sanford, their son (father of our subject), was born August 6, 1804, at Tribes Hill, and was a wagon maker and conducted a business in Amsterdam for many years. He then went to Hagaman's Mills to farm it for about eighteen years, then came back to the old Sanford homestead, where he died December 5, 1867. His wife, whom he married April 21, 1830, died March 26, 1889. They were the parents of two children: Hugh Stanton Sanford, living in Michigan, and D. Halsey, our subject. His early life was spent at home; he attended public school and finished his education at a select school at North Broadall in. When twenty-one his parents moved to Tribes Hill, where he has since lived, with the exception of three years that he conducted a grocery store at Pittsfield, Mass. January 4, 1860, he married Mary M. Pettingill of Mohawk, and they have two children: Cornelius and Carrie. They also lost two, George and Louella. Mr. Sanford has always taken an active part in church work and is a trustee of the Presbyterian church at Tribes Hill. He has held many offices of honor and trust in the town of Mohawk, and is as much interested in politics as he has ever been. He conducts successfully a farm of over eighty acres, all under cultivation for hay and grain.

Lasher, Peter, Mohawk, son of John S., was born in Columbia county in 1802. In 1807 his father moved to Johnstown and purchased a farm of over 200 acres. He died in 1838. Peter grew up on his father's farm. In 1855 he bought a farm of 275 acres in the town of Mohawk. In 1861 he had a large farm in Johnstown, and he was considered a very successful farmer. He married Catharine, daughter of Cornelius Smith, and they had six children: Eli, who lives in Gloversville; Jennie, wife of Dwight German, and a resident of Schenectady; Anna, wife of E. C. Quinby, and who lives in New Richmond, Wis.; William M., a resident of Fonda; John, deceased; Maggie (deceased), wife of Edward S. Horton, a resident of Fonda; Peter, deceased. William M. was born in 1837. In 1862 he went to work for the N. Y. C. R. R. Company at the Albany freight house; after a few months he began as brakeman on the road, running between Albany and Syracuse, which position he filled for two years, when he was employed as the western advertising agent of the company, in which capacity he served eleven years. He was then appointed conductor for a year, running between Albany and Syracuse, after which he was sleeping-car conductor for fifteen years. He

left the road in 1886 and has not since been engaged in business. He is a member of Fultonville Lodge, No. 537, F. & A. M., and Freeport Chapter 27 of Freeport, Ill., and of Freeport Commandery, Knights Templar. The Lasher house is the oldest in the town, having been built by Jellis Fonda more than a century ago. It is still in good condition and is noted for its grand prospect of river scenery.

Brown, Rev. George W., Mohawk, son of Augustus and Jane (Dingman) Brown, was born at Canajoharie February 14, 1850. He was educated at Canajoharie Academy, Cazenovia Seminary and Syracuse University. In 1876 he was stationed at Corinth, Saratoga county, and has been engaged in the ministry ever since. In 1884 he came to Fonda, returning after three years. He taught school for seven terms before he began his ministerial work. In 1877 he married Florence Owens of Corinth. They have one child, Frederick. Augustus Brown was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1809, and was a metal-worker by trade. In 1832 he came to America and settled in Canajoharie. When the Erie canal was widened he contracted to furnish a large quantity of stone for that work from Onondaga quarries. In 1844 he married Jane Dingman of Charleston. Two of their children are living, Rev. G. W. and Tina, both residing in Fonda. He died May 27, 1890. His wife is still living with her son.

Whitmore, Peter, Fonda, was a small boy when the revolution broke out, and was taken prisoner by the Indians, with the rest of the family. After they were released Peter went to live with a Mr. Yost in the town of Johnstown, and on coming of age married a Miss Boshart and bought a farm, residing in Johnstown during his life. He died aged about forty-five. He had three sons: John, Jacob and George, and six daughters. John, the oldest son, was born August 16, 1802, and resided in Johnstown until after he became of age. He then married Mary Wert of Johnstown, and after two or three years bought the farm now owned by his son John. He held the office of assessor, also highway commissioner and other offices. He died February 9, 1872. His wife, who survives him, was born September 13, 1803, and had six children: Peter, John, George, Hannah, Margaret and Eliza. Hannah and Eliza are deceased. John was born on the farm where he now lives, April 4, 1838.

Schuyler, Hamilton, Mohawk, son of Richard, was born in 1813 in the town of Mohawk, and married Magdalen Nare, by whom he had two sons and four daughters. He held the offices of supervisor, commissioner of highways, and other town offices. He was a successful farmer, and died July 31, 1882. His wife died in June, 1880. James C., son of Hamilton, was born September 2, 1845, and resides on the farm where he was born. He received a common school education. In 1871 he married Alida Garlock, daughter of Peter Garlock of Canajoharie, and they have three children: Nellie G., Carrie D. and Arthur H. Mr. Schuyler clerked in a store for a few months, and the rest of the time has been engaged in farming. He is a member of Mohawk Grange.

Sanderson, Frederick N., Fonda, son of Jonathan B. and Mary (Nahre) Sanderson, was born June 30, 1853, in Glen. His father died when Frederick was young, and he had to earn his own living. He received only a common school education, and learned the painter's trade, which he has since carried on. In 1888 he opened a store in Fonda,

and in 1890 he was elected trustee of the village. December 7, 1882, he married Jennie Rupert. He is a member of Lodge No. 121, of the order of Red Men; also a member of the Reformed church at Fonda, and his wife of the Baptist church of Fultonville

Siver, Henry, Mohawk, a son of Christopher and Frances Siver, was born in Guilderland, Albany county, January 26, 1847. He received a common school education, and at the age of twenty went with Swan & Sons to learn the marble business, remaining with them five years. In 1870 he came to Fonda and worked here several years, opening a shop in 1882, where he has since been engaged. Mr. Siver has held the office of overseer of the poor six years; village clerk three years; is a member of K. of P. and G. A. R. In January, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, Seventh New York Volunteers, and saw service in five battles, being wounded at the battle of the Wilderness. He received an honorable discharge in August, 1865. Mr. Siver married in 1879, Maggie, daughter of Henry Rulison.

Brown, G. W., Fonda, was born in 1854 in Decatur, was educated at the public schools, and learned the trade of harness-maker. In 1875 he came to Fort Plain, and was foreman of a shop. In 1879 he came to Fonda and worked in the same business. He has been town clerk two years, and in 1889 was elected justice of the peace, which position he now holds. He is the trial justice of the town. In 1891 he married Ida, daughter of D. H. Serviss. Mr. Brown is a member of the order of Red Men, the K. of P., the Royal Arcanum, and of the fire department.

Schuyler, Alonzo, Fonda, son of Richard, was born in Mohawk in 1822, where he spent his life. He married Sarah Wemple and had seven children, two of whom survive: Richard W. and John D. Alonzo died March 30, 1890, and his widow survives him. They are members of the Reformed church at Fonda. Richard W. was born on the farm, where he now lives, August 19, 1880, and married Libbie Ingraham, by whom he had two children, Sarah and Jennie. His wife died in 1880, and later on Mr. Schuyler married Libbie Van Antwerp, by whom he had two children: Alonzo, who died in 1887; and Roy.

Schuyler, John, Mohawk, a son of Richard Schuyler, was born January 28, 1826. In 1849 he married Delia, daughter of William A. Suits, and they had one child, Libbie, wife of John Way. Mr. Schuyler died in April, 1883, and his wife resides on the home-stead farm.

Lottridge, William, Fonda, son of Robert, was born in Mohawk, and lived and died on the same farm. His death occurred January 18, 1876. His wife (deceased) was Evaline, daughter of Richard Schuyler. Of their five children, three survive: Richard, Robert, and Sarah M., wife of H. D. Hanson. Richard was born May 14, 1848, and has always resided in Mohawk. He is a farmer, and has been twice elected commissioner of highways. He married Sarah C. Davis, daughter of Robert Davis, and they have five children: Eva D., Anna Mabel, Jennie, Sarah Florence, and Nina.

Everson, Adam A., Fonda, son of Adam, was born in this town April 6, 1817. On April 23, 1835, he married Elizabeth Lathers, and they had a family of four children, as follows: Nancy M., Hannah E., Rachel M., and Amanda C. Mr. Everson is a farmer.

Lefler, Martin, Tribes Hill, son of Michael, was born on the old Lefler farm about 1812. He married Harriet Stoller, by whom he had four children. He was a manufacturer of soap. Byron, son of Martin, was born December 19, 1845, and on August 1, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, 153d New York Volunteers. He was wounded at Winchester, and was honorably discharged in October, 1865. In February, 1867, he married Emily, daughter of Jacob Heagle, and they have four children: Libbie, wife of William P. Dillenbeck, resides in the town of Amsterdam; Edgar, Jay, and Charlie, the latter three residing at home. The family is of German descent, and Mr. Lefler follows farming.

Nellis, Peter, Fonda, son of Peter, was born in 1814. He is a blacksmith by trade, as was his father before him. The latter was a soldier in the war of 1812. He had thirteen children. Peter, jr., married Sarah Nestle, and they had thirteen children. His wife died in 1869. Benjamin Nellis, son of Peter, was born September 26, 1835, in Palatine. In 1855 he removed to this town. In 1856 he married Catharine Gramps of Palatine. Mr. Nellis is a large farmer and cheese maker, having built a cheese factory on the farm in 1875, with a capacity of 150 cows.

Hanson, Daniel N., Tribes Hill, son of Nicholas, was born in Mohawk, on the old Hanson farm, in 1795. He married Gertrude Stoller of Mohawk, and they had seven children, five sons and two daughters. He died in 1867, and his wife in 1861. The children were: John D., Henry D., Charles, Peter, Mary, Elizabeth, and Nicholas, the latter two deceased. Henry D. Hanson was born May 27, 1838, and has always resided on the home farm. He married Sarah M., daughter of William Lottridge, in 1862, and they have five children: William, Charles, Gertrude, Clarence, and Bertha. Mr. Hanson has been town collector one term, and has always been engaged in farming. Nicholas was a soldier in the revolution, and was taken prisoner and carried to Canada. His house was twice burned by the Indians. After the war he sold his property and went to Ohio.

Zieley, David, Tribes Hill, son of Adam and Rebecca (Putman) Zieley, was born March 15, 1827, in Florida, but has resided in Mohawk the most of his life. He married Sarah Whitmore, by whom he had three children, two of whom are living, Maggie and Bertha. Mr. Zieley is a farmer, and built a hotel at Tribes Hill. Adam, son of David, was born in Florida, and married Rebecca Putman, by whom he had three children, two daughters and one son: David, Mary and Rebecca. Jacob Whitmore, son of Peter, was born September 28, 1806, and married Catharine Getman, who was born December 28, 1815. They had six children, three of whom survive: Peter, who resides in Nebraska; Margaret Van Husen of Johnstown; and Sarah, wife of David Zieley, who resides in Tribes Hill. Mr. Whitmore died in 1874.

Fonda, Douw, came from Schenectady before the revolution, and settled on the site of Fonda village, which was named for him. He was killed by the Indians while sitting on his own door-step. His grandson, Peter, was born in Fonda, was a farmer, boatman, merchant and slave owner. He married Belinda Weaver of Albany county and had eleven children. Jacob, son of Peter, was born in Fultonville May 2, 1808, and died August 22, 1883. He married Catherine Quackenbush, February 3, 1829, and

had five children: Peter J., Mary C., John Scott, George Wilkins and David Scott. Jacob followed boating on the Erie canal for several years; was repair contractor on the Chemung canal in 1855-57, and conducted a coal business in Fultonville for twenty-five years, beginning in 1857. His oldest son, Peter J., and the only one now living, was born August 26, 1829, and has always lived in Fultonville, and has followed boating on the Erie canal for forty years. In 1854 he married Catherine, daughter of Lambert Huguenin. They had four children: William C., Cora A., Chester and George, two of whom are deceased. He was a constable one year, and deputy sheriff three years. William C. Fonda, son of Peter J., was born January 25, 1858. He has been engaged in the mercantile business and different enterprises most of his life. June 29, 1882, he married Ella Van Antwerp. She died January 7, 1892.

Wemple, Simon, Mohawk, Fonda p. o., son of Ephraim, was born October 16, 1841, on the farm where he has always resided. In 1868 he married Mary Harriet, daughter of Nicholas Dorn of Johnstown. They have had six children: Delilah, Ida May, Libbie, Stella, Laura and Hattie. The family belongs to the Reformed church at Fonda. Ephraim A. Wemple, son of Aaron, was born in this town in 1807. When he was five years of age he was adopted by his uncle, Jacob H. Doxtater, with whom he lived and became heir to the property. In 1830 he married Ida Williams, who bore him six sons and three daughters. He operated a farm of 290 acres. He and his family were members of the Reformed church at Fonda. He died in January, 1877; his widow is still living, over eighty years of age. The following children are living, namely: Henry, in the town of Mohawk; Jacob, a large farmer near Kansas City; Eli, a manufacturer of cider and vinegar in Johnstown; Sarah A., wife of Simeon Nare, in Mohawk; and Simeon, a retired farmer of Fonda.

Griffin, William, was born in Riverton Cottage, County Galway, Ireland, about 1780. He was a colonel in the English army. In 1848 he came to Port Hope, Canada, and died there in 1853. His sons, William and Thomas, came with him; both are deceased. William married Margaret Murphy of the same place, and died in 1852. William was born about 1812 or 1813. He married Alida Brooce, daughter of Philip. Peter Brooce, a native of France, came to Glen before the revolution, and settled near Auriesville. He was a farmer, and did boating to Schenectady. His son Philip was born in 1792 and was a farmer. He married Charlotte Goff, and had a family of seven children, four daughters and three sons. Alida, the oldest daughter, was born in 1826, and married in October, 1848, William Griffith, and had three children: Philip, William and Charlotte, who died in infancy. Philip Griffith, son of William and Alida (Brooce) Griffith, was born in Port Hope, August 10, 1831, and when two years of age came to Fultonville with his father, who died there in 1855. In 1874 he married Mary A. Griffin, who bore him seven children, five of whom are living. In 1885 he built the Mohawk Valley hotel, which carries on himself. He kept a boarding-house seven years for contractors on public works.

Overbaugh, Charles, Florida, the oldest of seven children of Nelson and Eleanor (De Forest) Overbaugh, was born in Florida October 8, 1844, the other children being Benjamin, Myron, Allen (deceased), and M. Louise, now Mrs. Haslett McClumpha, Mary

L., now Mrs. Gilbert McClumpha, and Augusta E. Overbaugh, now Mrs. Daniel Blood. Nelson, the father, was born in Charleston. Benjamin, the grandfather, was born in Florida, while Benjamin, the great-grandfather, came from New York. Nelson Overbaugh died December 26, 1880, leaving but one brother living. Eleanor De Forest, the mother, died May 23, 1891. Charles Overbaugh married, January 11, 1871, Anna Serviss, one of the nine children of George and Elizabeth (Young) Serviss of Florida. They have three children, George S., Nelson C., and Mary E. Overbaugh.

Patterson, I. Frank, Florida, one of two sons of Alexander M. and Jane (Van Epps) Patterson, was born in Pattersonville, Schenectady county, April 16, 1863, the other son being John D. Patterson, foreman of an insane asylum in Dutchess county. Alexander M., the father, was born in Florida February 23, 1833, Jane Van Epps, the mother, having been born in Glenville. Seeley, grandfather of Frank, was born in Duanesburg. William, his great-grandfather, lived in Florida during the greater part of his life and died at Fort Hunter at an advanced age. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. I. Frank Patterson was married on September 22, 1886, to Orpha L. Chesbrough, daughter of Ira Chesbrough of Mohawk, she being one of eleven children. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have two children, Ruth and Harold.

Van Horne, Daniel C., Florida, one of five children of Cornelius D. and Adaline (Van Horne) Van Horne, was born in Florida, where he now resides, December 22, 1848. The father, Cornelius D., and the grandfather, Daniel, were both born on the old Van Horne estate, where Daniel C. has always lived and which was one of the first settled in this vicinity. He married in 1870, Julia A. Schuyler, one of six children of Hamilton and Maggie (Nare) Schuyler of Mohawk. Of their six children, five are now living: Carrie (deceased), Adaline, Mabel, Lizzie D., Schuyler and Nettie.

Kearns, Thomas J., Florida, one of ten children of James and Hetty (Gardneer) Kearns, was born in Duanesburg on the 12th of December, 1841. James, the father, was born in Mohawk; his mother, Hetty Gardneer, being a native of Kinderhook; the other children are: Esther A., who is now Mrs. Benjamin Streever; Hannah, who is now Mrs. Henry Quant; Inez (dead); Mary, who married John Grindron; Alfaret, who is now Mrs. Foote; Peter, living in Troy; Harrison, in Philadelphia; Edwin (dead); and Erving in California. Thomas J. was married in 1866 to Minerva Kelly, daughter of Robert and Euphema (Aitken) Kelly of Florida, the mother being a native of New York. He has lived in Florida during the past thirty years.

Beveridge, John, Florida, one of four children of David and Margaret (Keachie) Beveridge, was born in Duanesburg May 5, 1840. David, the father of John, came to this country from Scotland in 1832, and settled in Duanesburg. John was married in 1866 to Janette Servoss, one of five children of Charles S. and Christie (McMichael) Servoss. They have two sons, James and William, who are being educated at Princeton College. Mr. Beveridge has lived upon the farm where he is now located since 1854.

Milmine, Alexander, Florida, Kline p. o., was born in Florida February 10, 1838. He was one of eight children of William A. and Elizabeth (Luke) Milmine of Florida. William A. was born on the farm July 6, 1807. His father, John Milmine, was born

in Duanesburg and died in Wisconsin. His father, John Milmine, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Scotland. He was the second owner of the farm on which Alexander Milmine now lives. Alexander was married in January, 1861, to Mary Pettengill, a daughter of David and Janett (McKnee) Pettengill of Florida, she being one of eight children. They have had two children both of whom died in childhood.

Runkle, Chas. W., Florida, one of the children of Peter and Hannah (Burnap) Runkle, was born in Root on the 21st of July, 1853. He was married in Charleston, this county, in 1855, to Anna Pierson, daughter of William N. and Elmina (Gordon) Pierson of that town. In 1887 he engaged in business with his father in the village of Fort Hunter, keeping a general store, where he has lived since that time. They have one son, Roy P. Runkle.

Walrath, Charles, Florida, one of three sons of Josiah and Caroline (Green) Walrath, was born in Florida. He married Mary E., daughter of P. Haslett and M. Louisa (Overbaugh) McClumpha of Fort Hunter. He is an energetic young farmer, and owns the McClumpha homestead at Fort Hunter, where they now reside.

Schuyler, Daniel D., Florida, the fourth of five children of Daniel and Delanah (Hilts) Schuyler, was born in Florida, the other children being Effie, Maria (Mrs. A. Young), Sarah, and Artimita Schuyler, all single with the exception of Mrs. Young, living upon the old homestead. Jacob, the grandfather, was born in New Jersey, as was Daniel their father in 1779, and ten years later Jacob Schuyler removed to the farm in Florida which the family now occupies and which had been taken up by their great-uncle, Wm. Schuyler. The estate has been in the Schuyler family for nearly 150 years.

Thayer, Hiram, Florida, one of five children of William and Fanny (Griffith) Thayer, was born on the 14th of August, 1840, in Florida on the farm where he now lives. His father, William Thayer, was born at Log City in Amsterdam in 1802; his father, Ezra Thayer, moving to Florida when William was four years old; a remarkable incident of the removal being the fact that they crossed the river upon the ice, the date being April 1, 1806, something probably never done since. Hiram Thayer was married October 22, 1862, to Anna E. Beckwith of Columbia, Herkimer county. They have two children living: Mrs. Georgiana Quiri of Amsterdam, and Edward, who lives with his parents upon the farm.

Staley, T. Romeyn, Florida, was born in Florida upon the old homestead where his father and grandfather were also born, and where his great-grandfather, Henry Staley, settled when he came to this country from Holland. Garrett Staley, his father, was born in 1822, and in 1854 married Maria Van Heusen of this town. In 1879 Mr. Staley died. There are three children: Mrs. Joseph Young of Florida; Mrs. John H. Swartz of Amsterdam; and T. Romeyn Staley, who lives at the old home carrying on the business of the farm.

Van Derveer, W. Spencer, Florida, was born in Florida October 8, 1837. He was the seventh of eight children of Garrett B. and Mary (Young) Van Derveer. Garrett Van Derveer, his father, was born in this town in the year 1799. His grandfather,

John Van Derveer, was also born in this town on the old homestead. On the 15th of September, 1863, Mr. Van Derveer married Augusta S. Parks, the eldest of eight daughters of Joseph H. and Mary Ellen (Howard) Parks of the town of Florida. They have four children: Mary E., now Mrs. Chas. Schuyler of Florida; Catherine, now Mrs. Leonard Sweet of Florida; J. Howard, lawyer, located at Fort Edward; and G. Herbert, who lives at home upon the farm. Mr. Van Derveer has always lived in Florida, with the exception of six years spent on a fruit farm in Amsterdam.

Herrick, Denison, Florida, one of five children of Daniel Davis and Mary I. (Loomis) Herrick, was born in Florida in 1850. He was married on the 25th of September, 1872, to Annie Gray, one of six children of George Washington and Mary (Bradley) Gray. Mrs. Herrick was born in the town of Glenville, her father being a native of Providence, R. I., and her mother being born in Florida. They have two daughters, living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Herrick have lived upon the farm where they now reside ever since they were married in 1872.

McClumpha, Alonzo, Florida, was born in Florida May 8, 1840, being the fourth of six children of Thomas and Caroline (Haslett) McClumpha of this town. His grandfather emigrated from Scotland and settled in Duanesburg. On the 27th of September, 1865, he married Mary Zeller of Amsterdam, daughter of Andrew Zeller. They have two sons, Harvey, the youngest, living at home upon the farm. Mr. McClumpha has always followed the occupation of farming. In 1891 he was appointed supervisor of the town.

De La Mater, William, M. D., Florida, was born in Mariaville, Schenectady county, on the 24th of September, 1862, he being one of five children of Marcus De La Mater of Duanesburg. He graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1886 and commenced the practice of his profession in his native town, removing in 1888 to Minaville, where he now resides. In December, 1888, he was married to Martha, daughter of William and Martha Dorn. The De La Mater family are remarkable for their devotion to the medical profession through several generations, and in various branches of the family.

Wemple, Harvey, Florida, Kline p. o., was born May 17, 1838, on the old Vreeland homestead where he now lives. He was one of six children of William C. and Elizabeth (McKinney) Wemple; the others being Valentine (dead); Harriet (Mrs. Adron Swart, Zanesville, Ohio); Charlotte (Mrs. John Vedder) dead; Anna (Mrs. William De Graff, Amsterdam); and Vreeland of Zanesville, Ohio. His grandfather, Cornelius Wemple, married a Vreeland, and settled on the old Vreeland homestead, where he spent the remainder of his life. Harvey Wemple was married December 16, 1862, to Mary E. Nellis, one of four children of Alexander and Charlotte (Pulver) Nellis of Florida; the others being Alexander Nellis, M. D., at Willard asylum, Marshall E. Nellis, M. D. (dead), and Abigail, now Mrs. Peter Pettengill. They have four children: Charlotte D., now Mrs. Daniel P. Phillips; Kitty C., living at home; Georgena (dead); and William Alexander, living at home. Mr. Wemple has always lived at home with the single exception of one year spent in Michigan.

Fuller, Leslie, Florida, the oldest of seven children of John and Rebecca (De Graff) Fuller of the town of Florida, was born October 10, 1840. Amos Fuller, the grandfather of Leslie, was born on the island of Martha's Vineyard, and came to this town in early life. He was the second owner of the farm on which he lived, and is believed to be one of a family of thirteen sons. Leslie Fuller married Jennie, daughter of John and Rhoda (Mory) Merry of Florida, and they have ten children: Alice (Mrs. William Kline of Amsterdam), Melissa, Hattie, Ella May, John, Edna, Charles, Jennie, Dora and an infant. Mr. Fuller has resided on his present farm for twenty-eight years.

Rapp, Gerard V., Canajoharie, was born in Brooklyn in 1858. He was educated in civil engineering in Brooklyn and after leaving school went into the field; first on the locating of New York and Northern railroad and from thence on the location, construction and completion of the West Shore and Buffalo railroad. In 1879 he came to Canajoharie, where he has since made his home. He was employed by the state as assistant engineer on the Champlain canal improvement from 1883 to 1886. In the latter year he started the quarrying of stone in his present location, first using but one derrick and employing but four men. He gradually increased his capacity until now he employs about twenty-five men, a twenty-five horse power engine, two Ingersoll rock-drills and five derricks. He has furnished the state with stone in large quantities in the enlargement of the locks, also on the Harlem depression and the Albany viaduct, and now has the contract for building a dam across the Mohawk river at Little Falls. In 1884 he married Helen, daughter of John Finehout, and they have two children: K. Louise, born in 1885; and John E., born in 1888. Mr. Rapp is an ardent supporter of the Democrat party, a member of Phoenix Lodge No. 96, F. & A. M.; Hiram Chapter R. A. M.; and of Little Falls Commandery K. T. No. 26; also of the Royal Arcanum of Canajoharie.

Halligan, James, Canajoharie, was born in County Longford, Ireland, May 11, 1836, and came to this country in April, 1853. He first located in Troy, where he was engaged with I. N. Haight, leather dealer, as a book-keeper. He remained with them until 1859, then removed to Canajoharie, where, October 28 of that year, he formed the firm of Haight & Halligan, for the handling of hides, leather and wool. This company was dissolved in 1869 by Mr. Haight selling his interest to Mr. Halligan. The latter has since continued in the same business, and has added to it, dealing in hops and other produce. In 1882 Mr. Halligan handled about \$100,000 worth of hops alone, besides his other business. The average annual business of the establishment for the last few years has been about \$100,000. In 1865 he was elected overseer of the poor, which office he has held two years. In 1867 he was elected town clerk, and supervisor of his town in 1869. May 18, 1886, he was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland, which position he held four years. Mr. Halligan is president of the Halligan Steamer company, from whom the company derives its name. May 6, 1853, he married Eliza Halligan, and they have one child, Edward J., a book-keeper for Thurber, Whyland & Company, New York. Mrs. Halligan died March 1, 1873, and later on he married Julia T. Brown of Albany, and they have four children: James, Willie, Emma and Julia. Mrs. Julia Halligan died in 1886, and Mr. Halligan's present wife is Eliza J. (Sullivan) Halligan of Rochester.

Dygart, James W., Canajoharie, was born in Palatine Bridge December 14, 1852, a son of James H. and Margaret (Van Alstine) Dygart. The father is a native of this county, as were also the mother's people, the name Van Alstine being one of the oldest in this county. The Dygerts are of German descent. The school days of James W. were spent in Canajoharie, where he was educated in the academy. At the age of fifteen he entered the employ of Babcock, Lintner & Co. of Little Falls, where he acted as clerk for six years. He then went to Moberly, Mo., where he was clerk in a drug store until 1876, when he returned to his native village and entered the drug store of J. N. Snell, where he acted as clerk. He was in business with Howard Seeber for a short time, and in the spring of 1883 established a drug store where the Shaper Block now stands. In 1888 Mr. Dygart formed a partnership with W. S. Bellinger, by the consolidation of the two stores, and the firm of Bellinger & Dygart was formed. They have a very pleasant store in the Richmond Block, where they carry a complete line of drugs, with the side lines always necessary in a country town. In 1881 Mr. Dygart was elected on the Democratic ticket to the office of town clerk; was re-elected in 1882, and again in 1887 and 1888. In 1891 he was elected by a majority of seventy-one for supervisor, and in 1892 was re-elected to the office over one who was considered the strongest man in the Republican ranks. In 1876 he married Anna, daughter of Cornelius Van Alstine of Marshville. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church, and Mr. Dygart has held the office of secretary in the Sunday-school for twenty years.

Crough, Timothy, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie August 1, 1845, and is a son of Thomas and Margaret (Madden) Crough. Thomas was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, coming to this country at the age of nineteen. He settled in Canajoharie where he followed blacksmithing, near the present location of the Pettit Manufacturing Company. Before coming to the United States he married Margaret Madden, by whom he had three children: Mary, wife of Joseph Pegnin of Clinton, Oneida county; Ellen, widow of Bart. Smith of Canajoharie; and Timothy. With the exception of ten years spent in New York, the latter has made his home in this village. After leaving school his first position was with James Halligan, with whom he remained ten years. In 1874 he was clerk for the canal collector at Fultonville, and the winter of that year he acted as assistant sergeant-at-arms of the assembly chamber at Albany, and in 1875 he moved to New York where he was employed as clerk for John H. Starin until 1883. He then returned to Canajoharie and on October 1, 1883, was appointed agent of the West Shore Railroad at Canajoharie. January 3, 1866, he married Sarah A., daughter of Henry Stoker of Root, and they have four children, three of whom survive: James H., who has charge of one of the B. & O. firms at Brooklyn; Edward, a student; and Herbert T. Nellis A. died November 12, 1881, in her ninth year. Mr. Crough is an ardent supporter of the Democratic party and is one of its influential workers.

Klock, Dr. Arie V., Canajoharie, was born in Glen on the 28th of March, 1862, and is a son of Reuben and Martha (Van Wie) Klock, natives of this county and born in Palatine. The doctor was educated at Palatine and Fort Edward Institute and studied medicine at Albany and attended lectures at Albany Medical College. In April, 1890,

he came to Ames and has had an extensive and lucrative practice. On the 6th of August, 1882, he married Hattie D. B., daughter of Charles D. B. and Delilah (Duncan) Freer of Palatine Bridge. Her father was drowned in the Johnstown flood in Fulton county in 1889.

Suits, William H., hotel proprietor of Ames, was born in Palatine on the 8th of January, 1842, and is a son of John N. and Marie Bell Suits. The father is a native of this county and the mother of Schenectady. Mr. Suits was reared on a farm where he continued until 1862, when he enlisted in Company F, 2d N. Y. Heavy Artillery and served until the close of the war. He was in many hard fought battles and was shot in the left foot at Cold Harbor. He was discharged July 4, 1863, and has since the war been a pensioner. For the last fifteen years he has been in the hotel business and has recently purchased the Ames House, which he has refitted and refurbished in fine style and it is enjoying a good trade. On the 25th of December, 1861, he was married to Josephine Van Patten. They have four children: Alice, William M. C., Ida M., and Clarence N. He is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the G. A. R.

White, Willard J., Canajoharie, was born in Cherry Valley April 6, 1855, and is a son of Willard D. and Eliza A. (Duffin) White. Abijah, grandfather of our subject, came to this section from Connecticut, when a young man. He married Sally Jones of Montgomery county. They were the parents of six children of whom Willard D., the father of our subject was the oldest. He was born in 1825 and married when about twenty-five years old, Eliza A., daughter of Barney and Bessie (Platner) Doffin of Otsego, and they were the parents of six children: Homer H., a doctor of Earlville; Etta, wife of O. J. Van Deusen of Van Deusenville; Mary E., Charles L., a farmer of Sprout Brook; Edward D., pastor of the Seattle Methodist church; and Willard J. The early life of the latter was spent in Otsego county, where he was educated in the common schools. October 17, 1877, he married Anna L., a daughter of Aaron and Catherine (Lintner) Finehout of Minden. She died June 7, 1883. In 1880 he moved into this town, where he bought a good farm of sixty-seven acres on which the principal crops are hops and hay. November 25, 1888, he married Cattie, a daughter of Martin Vogleman of this town, and they have one child, Harold D., born May 11, 1890. Mr. White is an active member of the Ames Methodist church of which he has been trustee for over four years.

Mesick, Peter A., Canajoharie, was born in Danube, October 4, 1818, and is a son of Thomas I. and Elizabeth (Skinkle) Mesick. The earliest trace of this family is the grandfather of Peter A., John Mesick, who, in company with his two brothers, came to this country from Germany previous to 1750, and settled in Ghent, Columbia county. He was the father of four children: John, Peter, Thomas I. and one daughter. Thomas I., the oldest son and father of our subject, was born in Columbia county, May 20, 1786, and married when about twenty-four years of age, Elizabeth Skinkle of the same county, who was born October 19, 1791. They were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living: Catharine, widow of John S. Bellinger of Little Falls; Cataline, widow of John Moller of Michigan; Correlia, wife of William Zimmerman of Minden; Rachel, wife of Lyman Hake of Ames; Henry, a farmer of Danube; and

Peter A. The early life of the latter was spent in the town of Danube, and he was educated in the common schools. October 13, 1853, he married Eliza, daughter of Peter and Catharine (Elwood) Snell, and they have had three children: Luther S., a farmer of Canajoharie; Mary C., wife of Charles Staley of Sharon; and Cyrus P., who conducts the old homestead farm. In 1854 Mr. Mesick moved into the town of Minden, where he bought a farm and conducted it for eight years. He then bought the farm where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Mesick are members of the M. E. church at Ames. Cyrus P. Mesick was born at Frey's Bush (Minden) May 28, 1860, and was educated in the common and graded schools at Ames. January 25, 1882, he married Libbie, daughter of James and Jane (Balmath) French of Argusville, and they have had two children, a daughter who died in infancy, and a son, Theron A., born May 15, 1886, and who died June 27, 1892, a most severe blow to this young family.

Tillotson, Mrs. Prudy M., Canajoharie, a daughter of Hiram and Electa (Marble) Tillotson, is the widow of the late Samuel Tillotson, who was born on the homestead farm June 6, 1821, being a son of Ebenezer and Susan (Johnson) Tillotson. The founder of the family in this country was Joseph Tillotson, who came from England and settled in Connecticut. But the earliest we can find of the ancestry is the grandfather of our subject, Samuel Tillotson, who was born in Connecticut in February, 1760, and married when he was twenty-seven years of age, Ann, daughter of Isaac Johnson of the same State. Samuel was the first of the family to come to this town, where, about 1800, he bought a farm. He was the father of four children: Polly, born June 9, 1789; Morehouse, born March 9, 1791; Ebenezer, born February 23, 1793; Pliny, born April 28, 1804. Ebenezer, the second son, married January 16, 1820, Susan, daughter of Isaac Johnson of Connecticut, and they were the parents of four children: Samuel, Phœbe A., Eunice, Mary D. The whole life of Samuel (husband of our subject) was spent on this farm. He was educated in Ames Academy, and October 5, 1857, married Prudy M. Tillotson of Chenango county, a second cousin of Mr. Tillotson who died July 14, 1871, without heir. The old homestead, which Mrs. Tillotson still conducts, contains about 200 acres, nearly all under cultivation for hay, grain and dairy products. They have a dairy of seventeen cows, and everything shows Mrs. Tillotson's executive ability.

McKinney, John, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie June 3, 1847, and is a son of Daniel and Catharine (Lone) McKinney. Daniel McKinney was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1810, and came to this country in 1833, first locating in Montreal, whence he came to Troy, remaining but a short time, when he came to Canajoharie. There he married, in 1842, Catharine Lone. They were the parents of four children: Belle, wife of Thomas Lynch of Canajoharie; Mary A. McKinney of Albany; James of Sprakers; and John. The early life of the latter was spent in Canajoharie. He was educated in the common schools, and his first occupation was that of farming. At the death of his father, which occurred April 2, 1889, the farm was left to his brother James, and he kept the place until 1890, then sold it to John. September 24, 1878, he married Nancy, daughter of John Y. and Elizabeth (Shaver) Eacker of Palatine. In April, 1887, Mr. McKinney bought the Hotel McKinney at Sprakers, of which he has since been the landlord.

Mills, Daniel P., Canajoharie, was born in Washington county October 26, 1824, and is a son of Peter and Sarah (Bristol) Mills. George Mill's grandfather of Daniel P., was born in Saratoga county where he always lived. He had seven children. The oldest son, Lewis, was a sea captain, and was lost at sea, aged about forty-five years. George, the other son, lived in Washington county, where he died in 1882. William was in the mercantile business at Fort Edward, and died in Wisconsin in 1877. The early life of Daniel P. was spent in Fort Edward. He was a carpenter by trade, and married, September 23, 1851, Phoebe A., daughter of Ebenezer and Susan (Johnson) Tillotson, and they have had three sons: Irwin of Sharon, Schoharie county; Charles, who conducts the homestead farm; and Reed J., who follows farming in Canajoharie. Mrs. Mills died February 9, 1889. In 1852 he bought a farm in Canajoharie, which he traded with C. Johnston five years later, and which has always been the home of Daniel P. Mr. Mills takes an active interest in the success of the Republican party, and has held the office of trustee of Ames Union school. Charles Mill's was born at Ames, November 22, 1859, and has always lived in this town. May 12, 1886, he married Estella R., daughter of William H. and Charlotte L. (Thompson) Winne of Gloversville, and they have had three children, but one of whom is now living, Frank C., born October 30, 1891.

Hodge, Squire H., Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now resides, in Canajoharie, October 22, 1835, and is a son of Isaac G. and Melissa (Hill) Hodge. The family is of English ancestry, but as far back as the grandfather of the subject they have been natives of this country. His name was Renben Hodge, and he married Amy Haven, by whom he had three sons and four daughters: Abram, Isaac, Jacob, Keziah, Lois, Azubah and Elsie. Isaac, the second son, was born in 1799, and married in 1824, Melissa, daughter of William and Anna (Mill's) Hill of this town. Isaac G. was the father of eleven children, nine of whom survive: William, a carpenter of Gloversville; Ann, wife of James Staley of Sharon Spa; Oscar O. of Herkimer; Roxanna, wife of R. A. Bowdish of Brooklyn; Elsie M. Hodge of Brooklyn; Clemenza, wife of W. H. Combs of Brooklyn; Charles E., a manufacturer of knit goods in Utica; Henrietta M., wife of Andrew Peck of the firm of Peck & Snyder, New York; and Squire H. The whole life of the last named has been spent on the farm with the exception of fifteen years in Ames. He was educated in the academy of Ames, and after leaving school taught for three years, and then took up the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1877, when he moved back on the old farm and has ever since conducted it. His father died in 1883. September 12, 1860, Mr. Hodge married Hattie, daughter of Loring H. and Maria (Babcock) Tiffany of Ames, and they have had two children: George, born April 2, 1867; Grace, born November 10, 1868. Mr. Hodge is a Republican, and both he and his wife are active members in the Methodist church, and Mr. Hodge has held the office of trustee in that church over fifteen years.

Flint, Daniel, Canajoharie, was born in Canajoharie, within half a mile of his present residence, October 25, 1825, and is a son of Adam and Zilpha (Chapell) Flint. The grandfather of our subject was born in Germany and came to this country when a young man locating in this town. He was a soldier in the revolution and was the father of six children, four girls and two boys. Adam Flint, father of Daniel, was the

oldest son. He was born about 1770; he was married twice, his first wife being Miss Potter, by whom he had twelve children, one of whom is living, William Flint, a farmer of Canajoharie. His second wife was Zilpha Chapel, by whom he had four children, three of whom are living: Levi, a veterinary surgeon of Canajoharie; Zilpha, wife of Isaac Walrod of Harrison county, Mo., and Daniel. The whole life of the latter has been spent within a half a mile of Canajoharie. He was educated in the common schools and when he was twenty started out for himself working on a farm. August 22, 1846, he was married to Laney McAllister, daughter of John McAllister of Shenandoah; their children, eight girls, are all living, as follows: Zilpha, wife of Robert Hodge of Dakota; Mary, wife of Robert D. Smith of Fort Plain; Cornelia J., wife of Harvey Argersinger of Gloversville; Eliza, wife of Frank Nellis of Fort Plain; Esther C., wife of David Baum of St. Johnsville; Armenia, wife of J. Casler of Gloversville; Etta, wife of Byron Nellis, of Fort Plain; and Lizzie Flint, who lives at home. In 1860 Mr. Flint bought the farm where he now resides. He is a supporter of the Presbyterian church at Buel.

Kocher, Mrs. Eliza J., Canajoharie, is a daughter of Jacob and Julia A. (Bowman) Drum, and widow of the late Nelson Kocher, who died October 12, 1886. The latter was born in this town July 5, 1827, a son of Jacob and Nancy (Garlock) Kocher, and brother of Peter Kocher of this town. The whole life of Nelson Kocher was spent in this town. He married, November 18, 1854, Eliza J. Drum of Sharon, and they had two children: Mrs. Rainford Garlock of Canajoharie, and Georgia A., wife of Warren Collins, who conducts the homestead farm, a beautiful place on one of the principal thoroughfares of the town. Warren Collins was born in Sharon February 6, 1864, a son of Reuben and Dorcas (Neville) Collins. He was educated in Starkey Seminary, and October 29, 1884, married Georgia A. Kocher. They have one daughter, Florence May, born September 26, 1889. Mr. Collins is an ardent Democrat, and the family are all interested in the Baptist church at Ames.

Bowman, Elisha L., Canajoharie, was born in Homer, February 5, 1839, a son of Alvy and Jane (Wessells) Bowman. The great-grandfather of Elisha L. was the first of this family in this county. His name was John Bowman; he was born in Germany and was in the revolution. He was the father of several children of whom Robert was the grandfather of our subject. This family was one of the earliest to settle in this town. Robert married Catherine Bowman and they were the parents of nine children, of whom Alvy, the father of our subject, was the oldest; he was born in 1809 in this town and went to Cortland county when he was about thirty years old, remaining there but a couple of years. He married Jane Wessels, daughter of Abram Wessels of Flat Creek, and they had six children, four of whom are living: Abram W. of Cooperstown; Ann Eliza, wife of A. B. Miller of Ames; Hattie, wife of Amos Hess of Oswego; and Elisha L., our subject. When the latter was but six weeks old his parents returned to Canajoharie and he has lived here since. On the 1st of October he married Lottie M. Jones, a daughter of Benjamin Jones of Sharon. They have four children: Bertha, wife of Louis Belman; Cora, wife of Justice Van Deusen; Effie J. Bowman and Walter E. Bowman. In 1866 Mr. Bowman bought his present farm of 125 acres, and in 1878 he erected a fine residence.

Mohawk Valley Stone Company, The, located in the town of Palatine just north and opposite the village of Canajoharie. The company was organized by the co-partnership of William N. Johnston and Henry A. Shaper, in February, 1888. Two years later, July 1, 1890, the company was incorporated, with the addition of A. B. Frey to its members. William N. Johnston was elected president, A. B. Frey secretary and treasurer, and Henry A. Shaper general manager. This company now controls five quarries and employs on an average 175 men. Although they are quarrying stone for all classes of work, their specialty is for bridge work and cut stone for buildings. Among the many large contracts this company have furnished are about twelve thousand yards of stone used in the depression of the Harlem Railroad; the sea wall at Governor's Island; for the St. Lawrence & Adirondack Railroad; the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Geneva, and their trade extends all through New York State. They have about three-quarters of a mile of side track from the New York Central Railroad, and they supply this company with a large portion of the stone used in their works. There is the largest stone quarry in this state, and they are doing a very successful and prosperous business. The machinery used is six steam hoisters, sixteen derricks, and are now contemplating putting in a large crushing plant.

Dillenbeck, Yates, Canajoharie, was born in Palatine, near Stone Arabia, March 27, 1825, and is a son of George and Magdalena (Keyser) Dillenbeck. Andrew, grandfather of Yates, was an early resident of Palatine, and was the father of fifteen children, one of whom is still living, Betsy Doxtader of Mohawk. George, the father of Yates, and fifth son of Andrew, was born May 4, 1793, and always made his home in Palatine. He married, October 20, 1815, at the age of twenty-one, Magdalena Keyser, daughter of Henry Keyser of Stone Arabia. They had six children: James, a mechanic of Gloversville; Hiram, a farmer of Steuben county; Edward, a mechanic of Indiana; William, died in 1887 aged fifty-eight years; a daughter who died in infancy, and Yates, the subject of this sketch. The early life of the latter was spent in Palatine. He was educated in the common schools and January 1, 1846, married Agnes, daughter of Arie and Margaret (Neahr) Van Wie. They have two children: George, a farmer of Glen, and Arie, a traveler for the McCormick Machine Company of Albany. In 1889 Mr. Dillenbeck bought the farm where he lives in the town of Canajoharie. Mr. and Mrs. Dillenbeck are members of the M. E. church of Canajoharie. Mr. Dillenbeck's only desire is to be known as an honest, upright citizen, a good neighbor and successful farmer.

Routstone, Jacob, Canajoharie, a native of Germany, came to this country in 1877, and after two or three months he began peddling, which he followed until 1882, when he started a general store at Brown's Hollow, in Root. He conducted this for one year, and then went on the road, selling goods at auction. He followed this for about three years, and then opened a store in the Ehle block in Canajoharie, for the sale of notions and fancy dry goods. He still conducts this store, and in 1890 bought out the boot and shoe business of S. J. McLaughlin, which in 1892 he removed to the new Shafer block on Church street. He also owns a half interest in the ladies' and gentlemen's furnishing goods store, under the firm of F. J. Stickles & Company. He is one of the leading merchants of this village, and is doing a large business.

Gage & Company, A. P., Canajoharie, dealers in dry goods, carpets, wall paper, etc. This firm was established in 1879 by A. P. Gage, a native of Otsego county, who came to this place in 1862, and engaged as clerk with H. S. Bragdon in the store where he is now located. He has now as partners Voorhees Bush, who acted as clerk for Mr. Gage a great many years, and in 1882 was taken as partner; and also Walter Gage, the other partner, who was taken into the firm about 1885. This firm is doing a very successful business in what is known as the old Hawley block, now owned by Mr. A. P. Gage.

Vosburgh, Howard, Canajoharie, was born in Flat Creek March 26, 1850, a son of Jacob and Almira (Gardenier) Vosburgh. The early life of Howard was spent in Root. He was educated in Carlisle and Whitestown Academies, and September 20, 1871, married Lydia, daughter of William B. and Elizabeth (Diefendorf) Diefendorf. They have had seven children: Charles D., a graduate of Fairfield Academy; Arthur J., born September 15, 1874; Gracie Estelle, a student of Fairfield Seminary; William L., born October 28, 1878; Bertha K., born April 11, 1881; Myra M., born March 3, 1884; and Nellie A., born February 23, 1888. In 1882 Mr. Vosburgh bought the farm where he now lives of 175 acres, known as the old Dillenback farm. He also owns the old Vosburgh homestead of eighty acres at Flat Creek. For the past six years Mr. Vosburgh has held the office of assessor of his town. His family are members of the Mapletown church.

Barnes, Arthur, Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now resides in Canajoharie, May 4, 1847, and is a son of Luther H. and Caroline (Arthur) Barnes. His grandfather, Philander Barnes, came from Massachusetts to this section when it was yet a wilderness. He was born in 1763, and married October 31, 1790, Susan, daughter of Elisha and Hannah Hooper. They had six children: Hamilton D., Cynthia, Luther H., Sophronia, Mary A., and Norman. Luther H., third child and second son, was born on this farm in 1806, where his whole life was spent. He was educated in the public schools and when about thirty years of age married Caroline, daughter of Levi Arthur of Lewis county, who was the father of seven children: Orlando, a retired farmer of Lewis county; Alfred A., retired farmer of Lowville; Levi, died in 1882, aged sixty-five years; Jane, married Samuel Lamphen of Lewis county (she is deceased); Melissa, married Daniel Rutan (she died in 1887); Pamela, wife of Charles Pebbles of Lewis county; and Caroline, who died November 16, 1846, in her thirty-fourth year. At the death of Philander Barnes, November 9, 1827, the farm was left to the children, and Luther H. bought the interest of some of the other heirs, until he possessed a two-thirds interest in the place. He enlarged the old homestead and turned it into a hotel, known as the Halfway house, between Sharon Springs and Canajoharie, and it is one of the historical landmarks of the town. The building of the railroad to Sharon took the travel in another direction, and Mr. Barnes gave up keeping hotel, but the building still stands as the residence of the subject. He died October 14, 1873. Arthur was educated in the public schools and at Ames Academy, and has always made his home on this farm, which he still conducts.

Freday, Ervin W., Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now lives, in Canajoharie January 3, 1858, a son of Conrad and Mary E. (Voorhees) Freday. His grandfather, Conrad Freday, was born in Schodack, Rensselaer county, in 1797, and at the age of twenty-four married Lucy Stanton, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Stanton of Bethlehem. They had four children, three of whom reached adult age, and one of whom is still living, Jacob Freday of Constantia, Oswego county. Conrad, father of the subject, was the youngest son. He was born May 14, 1826, in Bethlehem, and was educated in the Clarkeville public schools. He came here when twelve years of age, and assisting his father on the farm until about a year and a half before his marriage, when he went to Clarkville and attended school and clerked in a store. On October 5, 1848, he married Mary Elizabeth Voorhees, daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Carlisle) Voorhees of Root. After his marriage he bought the farm where his son now resides. He had eleven children, five of whom survive: Millard F. of Clinton, Ia.; Sarah C., wife of Oscar Hoag, a tanner of Johnstown; Franc A., widow of John W. Brown of Clark, Ia.; Homer J., a farmer of Canajoharie; and Ervin W. Mary E., wife of Charles Mitchell, died March 16, 1892, in her thirty-ninth year; Ladenna O., died May 20, 1868; Elizabeth, died February 10, 1882, in her nineteenth year; Emma O., died May 21, 1892, in her sixteenth year. Conrad, father of Ervin W., died January 14, 1892, beloved and regretted by all who knew him. Ervin W. was educated in the public schools, and December 14, 1881, he married Mary E., daughter of William and Cornelia (Wessell) Hoag of Argusville. At the death of his father he assumed control of the farm, where he now lives.

Diefendorf, Lucius, Canajoharie, was born at Frey's Bush, January 3, 1834, and is a son of Daniel G. and Eliza (Hackney) Diefendorf. The grandfather of Lucius, George Diefendorf, was a native of Montgomery county, born in 1779. He married Catharine Bell, and they had ten children, three of whom are still living: Daniel, a farmer of Roseboom, Otsego county; Levi of Michigan; and William, a retired farmer of Fort Plain. Daniel, the oldest son, and father of Lucius, was born in Frey's Bush in December, 1812, and spent his early life in that place. He married about 1832, Eliza Hackney, daughter of John and Hannah Hackney. Daniel had twelve children, ten of whom survive: Abram of Otsego county; Delevan of Canajoharie; William of Minden; Peter of Connecticut; Mortimer of Otsego county; Palmer of Otsego county, town of Wooster; Susan, wife of James Isman of Otsego county; Harriet, wife of Joseph Rury of Honesdale, Pa.; Aseneth, wife of Orlando Marks of Otsego county; and Lucius. The latter's early life was spent in Cherry Valley, where he was educated in the common schools and assisted his father on the farm until he was eighteen. He then spent nine years with his uncle William Diefendorf. In 1859 he married Jane, daughter of George Nestle, and she died two years later. In 1862 Mr. Diefendorf began farming for himself in Minden, and married October 22, of the same year, Martha, daughter of Abram and Nancy (Elwood) Fox of Minden. In 1865 he bought, in company with his brother-in-law, David Fox, a farm of 190 acres in Seeber's Lane, which they kept for two years, then sold, and bought a farm of 100 acres in Canajoharie. He lived here until 1875, when he sold that place and bought the farm where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Diefendorf are members of the Methodist church at Canajoharie.

Lasher Brothers, The.—Eugene Lasher was born near Stone Arabia, July 14, 1852. Amandus Lasher was born on the same farm November 10, 1854. They are both sons of Jacob I. and Mary (Shults) Lasher. The members of this family as far back as can be traced, have been natives of Palatine. Jacob I. was born in Stone Arabia, March 23, 1805, the son of John Lasher. He married September 18, 1844, Mary Shults, daughter of George and Elizabeth Shults of Palatine, and they had four children: Ann Elizabeth, wife of Rev. Jesse Lirch, treasurer of the Northwestern College of Napleville, Ill.; Emma, who lives at home; and Eugene and Amandus. Mrs. Lasher, mother of the subjects, died October 27, 1855, and Mr. Lasher married second, Eliza, daughter of John and Mary (Nahr) Showerman. Eliza was the widow of Oran Goble, by whom she had two children: James, a mechanic of Fort Plain; and Frances C., wife of Harvey Failing. In 1866 Mr. Lasher bought the farm in Canajoharie whereon the subjects now reside. These brothers were educated in the common schools of Canajoharie and, at the death of their father, which occurred September 19, 1872, the farm fell into the hands of the sons, and they have ever since conducted it. They are regular attendants of the Methodist church, of which Miss Lasher is a member.

Williams, Edwin, Canajoharie, was born in Connecticut, June 12, 1817, a son of Thomas and Jewima (Stark) Wilhams. The first of this family to come to Montgomery county was Thomas, father of Edwin, arriving here in 1820, when Edwin was but three years old. He located on the farm which is now the residence of the grandsons, and died there in 1831, aged forty-six. He left five children: Joshua S., who died March 29, 1858, aged seventy-five years; Olive L., wife of Alanson Abel of Canajoharie; Maria, wife of V. V. Nottingham of Syracuse; Ann Eliza, widow of Rev. Oliver Emerson, a member of the Troy Conference of the Methodist church, who died at Wallingford, Vt., in 1852; and Edwin. The latter has always lived on this farm. He was educated in the public schools of Canajoharie, and in 1840 married Eliza J., daughter of Salmon and Hannah (Waufle) Wetmore of Canajoharie. They had eight children: Thomas O., a farmer of Canajoharie; Helen O., wife of A. M. Hodge, a druggist of Canajoharie; E. Emerson, a farmer of Canajoharie; Eliza J., wife of Dr. James Young of Johnstown; Henry E. of Walden, and Herrietta (twins); Hannah J., wife of B. Diefendorf of Canajoharie; and Olive, wife of Eugene H. Abel of Canajoharie. Edwin, the subject, died January 19, 1891. He was always a leader in good works and was an official member of the Methodist church for over forty years. Mrs. Williams still lives, a comfort to her children. She is now in her seventy-third year.

Williams, Thomas O., was born on the old homestead farm June 9, 1842. He has always lived in Canajoharie with the exception of three years during which he conducted a farm in Root. He was educated in Cazenovia Seminary and Fort Edward Institute, and on December 29, 1868, married L. Amelia Fretcher of Syracuse, N. Y. They have had three children, but one of whom is living, Jennie A., born September 14, 1876. They are all members of the Methodist church.

Kirby, Valentine, Canajoharie, was born in New York October 29, 1844, a son of Isaac F. Kirby, a wholesale dry goods merchant and a member of the well-known firm of L. V. Kirby & Co. The early life of Valentine was spent in New York. He was

educated in the Elysium School and Mount Kisco Seminary. In 1859 he came to Canajoharie and engaged in the hotel business which he followed four years and was four years in the undertaking and furniture business. He then took up carpentry and mill-wrighting and took contracts for the construction of a great many of the most prominent buildings in this section, among them being the building for the Petit Manufacturing Company, the Shaper Block, the Smith residence in Palatine, the Philip Betts residence in Canajoharie, the residence of Senator Arkell, the rebuilding of the Reformed Church, the Canajoharie Union School building and many other smaller contracts. In 1863 he married Mary A., daughter of William J. Van Deusen. They have two children: Josephine, wife of David I. Snell of Palatine, and Sarah H., who still lives at home.

Lasher, Luke W., Canajoharie, was born in Root, near the village of Sprakers, May 13, 1840, and is a son of Elias and Lucretia (Wessells) Lasher. The earliest ancestor of this family of whom there is any record, was George Lasher of Root. He was born about 1775 and married Catharine Acker of Stone Arabia. They had eight children: Jacob, George, Elias, Joseph, Maria, Margaret, Catharine and Eliza. Elias, father of Luke W., was born January 27, 1808, in Root, where he always lived. He married in 1835, Lucretia Wessels, daughter of Luke and Vanetta (Van Valkenburg) Wessels. They had nine children, as follows: Tenetta C., wife of Henry A. Diefendorf of Root; Mary M., wife of William Palmer of Wolcott, Wayne county; Jennie, wife of Samuel Prine of Albany; Martha, wife of David Ecker of Fultonville; Henrietta, wife of Albert Hause of Seneca; Helen, died April 16, 1885, aged twenty-nine; George L. of Wolcott; Jacob E. also of Wayne county; and Luke W. The early life of the latter was spent in Root. He was educated in the common schools, and January 7, 1869, married Mary M., daughter of Benjamin and Sarah J. (Olmstead) Flanders of Root. They have had three children, viz.: Benjamin, born May 6, 1876; Jennie E., born April 16, 1878; Lucy H., born February 21, 1883. After his marriage Mr. Lasher engaged in farming at Marshville, where he remained eight years, and then spent two years at Ames, after which he bought the farm where he now lives. Mr. Lasher is a member of the Reformed church, and for about six years was a deacon.

Button, Phelps, Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now resides, August 24, 1834, and is a son of Mathias and Amanda (Phelps) Button. The grandfather of Phelps Button, on the mother's side, was Jonah Phelps, who was born in Connecticut and came to this county at the age of twenty-two years. He was then married, his wife being Susannah Single. In 1781 he bought this farm of ninety-four acres, but afterwards added to this until it now contains 223 acres. He had five sons and six daughters, of whom Amanda was the fifth child. She was born in 1802. The grandfather on the father's side, Benjamin Button, was a native of Connecticut, born in 1758, and was a soldier in the revolution under Washington. He married in Connecticut, Clarissa Hamlin, and they had seven sons and four daughters, of whom Mathias, father of Phelps, was the youngest. He was born at Buel, July 6, 1800, and in 1821 married Amanda Phelps, by whom he had five sons: Wattson, the oldest, died in 1851, aged twenty-five years, leaving a son and two daughters by his marriage with Elizabeth Button; Oliver died March 17, 1892, aged sixty-three years, leaving one child, Frances

A. Lambert. Charles H., who resides on part of the original farm, married Hannah, daughter of Henry Brown of Argusville; Melvin, who lives in Ames, married Melissa daughter of Stewart Pettingill of Gloversville, and they have one son and two daughters; and Phelps, the subject of this sketch. The whole life of the latter has been spent on the farm. He was educated at Ames Academy, and December 29, 1856, married Margaret A., daughter of Henry and Magdalen (Putnam) Voorhees, and they have five children: Edward, a farmer in Root; Charles, a dry goods clerk at Fort Plain; Clarence, a farmer in the town of Sharon; Henry, who lives at home; and Lula, who also lives with her parents. Mr. Button is an active member of the Baptist church at Ames, and is a Republican.

Smith, John H., Canajoharie, was born on the farm where he now lives, August 19, 1824, and is a son of Jonas and Elizabeth (Cornue) Smith. The great-grandfather of John H., John Smith, was a resident of Albany county in his younger days, and came to this county, where he bought this farm in its primitive condition, and on it built a log house, which his family (consisting of his wife and six children), occupied until there was a mill built there, and lumber cut for a farm house. The boys of the family were Simon and Nicholas. The latter was born in Albany county about 1768, and came to this town with his parents about 1782. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Van Evera of Canajoharie, and they had six children: John, James, Jonas, Martin, Henry and Cornelia. Jonas, father of the subject, was born on this farm, June 15, 1798, and was educated in the common schools. He married at the age of twenty-four, Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Jane (Quenau) Cornue, and they had one child, John H., our subject, whose whole life has been spent on this farm. He was educated in Ames Academy, and September 17, 1856, married Catharine R., daughter of Philip and Delany (Bronk) Smith of Canajoharie. Philip Smith was the son of Simon Smith, the brother of John's grandfather. At the death of his father, May 14, 1871, John H. came into possession of the old homestead, a property which has been in the hands of his ancestors for four generations—over 110 years. It is a fine farm of 160 acres. He has a hop yard of about ten acres, employing during the busy season about thirty workers. Mr. Smith is a Democrat, and contributes toward the support of the Reformed Church at Mapletown, of which Mrs. Smith is a member.

Shaper, Charles, Canajoharie, was born in Germany and is a son of Henry Shaper, a stone mason who came to this country about 1836. Charles at the age of sixteen years learned the stone cutter's trade and has ever since been connected with that business. In 1849 he opened a quarry, the first of that business at Canajoharie, and it has been successful from the start. In 1857 he purchased a tract of land of about fifty acres, in the southwest part of the village, which has proved to be a mine of wealth. Mr. Shaper has been an extensive shipper of stone to all parts of the state and has done much to build up the village. He owns some fine blocks and is a heavy dealer in real estate, and besides has operated for the last thirty years an extensive lime business. His son, Augustus E., has now the charge of the stone business. Mr. Shaper married on the 15th of February, 1849, Elizabeth Bergen, a native of Germany, who came when a child to this country with her parents. They have six children, as follows: Elizabeth,

Augustus E., Charles H., Christian D., John H. and Daniel C. Mr. Shaper is a Republican and has been a trustee of the village several terms, but has been too busy with his business to give much attention to politics. He has been a liberal contributor to the churches and he and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

Hatter, William, Canajoharie, was born on the 19th of February, 1829, in Hanover, Germany, a son of Lewis H. and Hannah (Hartman) Hatter, natives of Hanover. The father was a wagon maker. William was the youngest of five children and at the age of twenty-two he sailed for America and settled at Canajoharie, having learned his trade in Germany. He at once obtained employment and after one and a half years he started in business for himself with a capital of \$150 with Julius Fox, but in two years he purchased his partner's interest, since which time he has carried on a successful merchant tailoring establishment. He has from time to time added to his business that of ready made clothing and a general line of men's furnishing goods. In February, 1889, he turned the active management of his business over to his two sons, Albert F. and John S., now under the firm of William Hatter's Sons. Mr. Hatter owns one of the fine brick blocks of the village in which his business is conducted and other real estate. On the 14th of August, 1854, he married Elizabeth Munn of Canajoharie, who came from Germany at the age of four with her parents, who were Hessians. Mr. and Mrs. Hatter have four children: Albert F., married Mary E. Neahr, on the 24th of October, 1888; John S., who married Jennie Powers, deceased; Lizzie, and Lillie, wife of J. C. Wheeler, lawyer of Canajoharie. Mr. Hatter is a member of the Masons and Red Men.

Kocher, Peter, Marshville p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence in Canajoharie May 11, 1822, and is a son of Jacob and Nancy (Garlock) Kocher. Jacob was born in Pennsylvania in 1788, his parents being known as Pennsylvania Dutch. He married in 1809 Nancy Garlock, daughter of George Garlock of this town, and they were the parents of fourteen children, of which six are now living: Benjamin of Canajoharie; Elijah of Canada; Elizabeth of Canajoharie; Catherine of the same place; Delia, wife of Solomon Seeber of Ava, Oneida county; and Peter (our subject) whose whole life has been spent on this farm. The family moved here in 1822, and when his father bought the farm there were but ten acres, but he kept adding to it until at the time of his death (May 16, 1837) he owned 207 acres. This farm was willed to George and Elijah, and they conducted it two years, then Benjamin taking Elijah's place conducted it with George until 1868, when the latter died, willing his share to Jacob and Peter. Two years later Jacob died and since then Peter has conducted it alone. There are now 124 acres with a beautiful residence, seven acres are set out with hops. December 22, 1875, he married Harriet Ottman, daughter of Christopher and Lydia (Hutton) Ottman of Root, and they are the parents of three children: George, born May 22, 1878; Bertha E., born January 22, 1884; Peter, jr., born April 25, 1887. Mr. Kocher is the excise commissioner of the town, and is a director of the Fulton and Montgomery Counties Insurance Co.

Klinkhart, Amos, Canajoharie, was born in Koenigsen, Saxony, November 8, 1819, and is a son of Frederick and Caroline (Ennist) Klinkhart. Amos was but thirteen

years of age when both of his parents died and he was thrown on the world to care for himself. On February 25, 1839, he married Frederica Lehlin, and came to this country the next year. He was a potter in Germany, but followed distilling after he came here for twenty-five years, also working at the mason's trade for some years; he then came to the farm which he bought in 1860, and is now one of the leading farmers in this section, and also conducts an apiary. He has eight children living: Augustus of Washington; Clara Filmer; John; Amelia Abeling; George of Sharon Spa; Clara Countryman of Illinois; Fannie Vanetta of Utica; and Henry of Canajoharie. Mr. Klinkhart is a staunch Republican, but not an office-seeker—only wishes to be known in history as an honest, upright citizen and successful farmer.

Klinkhart, Henry W., Canajoharie, was born in the village of St. Johnsville, October 5, 1859, and is a son of Amos and Frederica (Lehlin) Klinkhart. His life has been spent in this town. He was educated in the public school, and lived with his father until he was twenty-eight years old, when he went into partnership with Charles E. Shultze in the butcher business, opening a market on Main street, which they conducted three years; he then sold his interest and started a market in Church street with George Bergen, which they still conduct. May 14, 1880, he married Katie Rhynehart, and they are the parents of two children: Emma C., born June 9, 1881; and Alice F., born December 14, 1886. Mr. Klinkart is now the town clerk, serving his second term. He was first elected in 1891, and his re-election in 1892, shows his popularity and efficiency.

Transue, William L., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in Bucks county, Pa., March 19, 1838, and is a son of Anthony and Mary (Lambert) Transue. The great-grandfather of our subject was born in Germany and came to this country in the seventeenth century. Tracing the family down we find the home of the grandfather was in Northampton county, Pa., and the father of our subject was born there in 1803. He was married to Mary Lambert in 1824, and they were the parents of nine children. Four are living: Franklin of Pennsylvania; Aaron of Kansas City; John of South Bethlehem, Pa.; and William, our subject. His early life was spent in Pennsylvania, where he was educated in the common school, and at the age of twenty-one learned the blacksmith's trade. He followed this fifteen years, then came to Sprout Brook and bought the Central hotel, which he conducted successfully for sixteen years, then sold out and bought the farm of his present location, a fine one of 152 acres. On June 17, 1861, he was married to Alwilda Winslow of Springfield, and their union has been blessed by one child, Ida J., wife of Emerson Eckler. They were married October 30, 1889, and they are the parents of one child, Howard S., born January 11, 1891. Mr. Eckler makes his home with Mr. Transue on the homestead. These gentlemen are both interested in politics, but not as office-seekers. It can be said of them, which is the highest praise one man can give another, they are good neighbors.

Hammond, J. Mulford, Canajoharie, Sprout Brook p. o., was born July 25, 1839, in Niagara county, and is a son of Thomas and Phœbe (Mulford) Hammond. The grandfather of our subject was born in Vermont. His son, Thomas P., was born near Sprout Brook February 14, 1812, and married Phœbe Mulford, daughter of Abram Mulford of

Long Island. They were the parents of eight children: Sarah E., wife of John J. O'Neil of Utica; Mary E., wife of Cobert Dunlap of Johnstown; Gertrude, wife of C. C. Van Deusen of Van Deusenville; C. A. Hammond, a wholesale fruit dealer of Utica; A. T. Hammond of Canajoharie; Gerard W. Hammond of Canajoharie; William Hammond, who lives here; and Mulford, our subject. When he was a small child his parents moved back to this town. He was educated in the common school, and one year in Little Falls school. He helped on the farm until 1866, when he went to Amsterdam and followed millwrighting three years, returning here in 1869, and took contracts for carpenter work, employing a large number of men until 1881; since then has conducted this farm, which contains 180 acres, all under cultivation. Hay and grain are the principal crops, with a large hop-yard of twenty-nine acres, which yields him a large profit. He employs thirty to forty laborers during the busy season. Mr. Hammond is an active worker in the Democratic party, and has held the office of commissioner for two years. Thomas P. Hammond died in 1871, sixty-one years of age. Mrs. T. P. Hammond died February 27, 1892, seventy-six years of age.

Fox, Oliver, Canajoharie, Sprout Brook p. o., was born near his present residence in Canajoharie, April 7, 1831, and is a son of George and Betsey (Bell) Fox. The grandfather of our subject (Richard Fox) came from Germany, but George, his son, was born in the town of Minden in 1784, was married to Betsey Bell in 1800, and they were the parents of twelve children, eight of whom are now living. Oliver, who was the youngest child, was educated in the common school, and at the death of his father in 1850, he went to live with Squire Dunlap, a native of Connecticut. Oliver bought the Dunlap farm, and Dunlap went to Virginia. He lived on this farm until 1860, when he bought the old Billy Dunlap farm of 172 acres, which he has since successfully conducted. In 1886 when hops were very high Mr. Fox sold 11,000 pounds at ninety cents a pound. January 1, 1866, he married Sarah Coleman, daughter of Samuel Coleman of Buel, and they were the parents of seven children, four of whom are living: John S. of Richfield, a traveling man; George H., a farmer of Buel; Kate, wife of Cornelius Robinson of Buel; and Charles D., who lives at home. Mr. Fox has held office in his town for over twenty years, and is a supporter of the best man in the field of politics. He is interested in the M. E. church at Sprout Brook, and aids in its support. Charles D. Fox was born November 5, 1862, on the old homestead farm. He was educated in the common school and has always lived at home. On March 17, 1887, he married Nora Shoemaker, daughter of Robert and Nancy (Sternberg) Shoemaker of Richfield Springs, and they have one child, Oliver G., born January 12, 1888.

Mallette, Dr. George P., Canajoharie, Sprout Brook p. o., was born in Canajoharie, near Ames, September 4, 1831, and is a son of Philo and Rhoda (Taylor) Mallette. The great-grandfather of our subject was one of the Huguenots who escaped from France at the time of the religious persecution. The story of their escape is interesting. When they left their home they were followed by those who would massacre them if caught. Being hard pressed they sought shelter under a bridge, where, in their concealment, they heard their pursuers say in passing over, that they would catch them and kill them in a piece of wood just beyond. They remained quiet until midnight, and in the

darkness they escaped and soon found passage for America. The son of this emigrant, George Mallette, was the grandfather of our subject. One of his sons, Philo, married Rhoda Taylor. They were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are living: Jay of Ephratah; Lucretia Wilcox of Canajoharie; Daniel P. of Cherry Valley; Charles C. of Springfield; William of Colyersville; James of Unadilla; Charlotte, wife of Benjamin Jensen; and our subject. His life was spent in this town with the exception of six years. He was educated at Ames Academy, and at the age of twenty-six he entered Paine Medical College at Philadelphia. When he left school he went with Dr. Mosher at Richmondville three years, practiced and studied with Dr. Chase at Warnerville one year, then came to Sprout Brook where he has since practiced. March 24, 1855, he married Sarah A. Fuller of Richmondville, and they are the parents of four daughters: Florence, wife of Edward Ferguson of Gloversville; Nettie, wife of Jervis Johnson of Richmondville; Lottie, and Ella R. Mrs. Mallette died May 24, 1888. Mr. Mallette takes an active interest in the Sprout Brook Methodist church, and was secretary and treasurer of the society for several years.

Shaw, Thomas J., Canajoharie, Sprout Brook p. o., was born at Pleasant Brook, Otsego county, October 16, 1841, and is a son of Francis M. and Lydia A. (Bush) Shaw. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas Shaw, was born in Connecticut in 1760 and came to Otsego county, settling in Decatur about 1813. He was the father of eight children. Francis M. was the second son. He was born in Connecticut in 1811 and married Lydia Bush, daughter of George Bush of Frey's Bush, who was a soldier in the war of 1812, and they were the parents of eleven children, eight are living: Julia, Henrietta, wife of Henry Farquaharson; Catherine, wife of Levi Grey; Margaret, wife of Hollett Abrams; Fanny, wife of Ferdinand Hibbard; George, John, all of Cooperstown; and Thomas, our subject. His boyhood days were spent in Otsego county, where he was educated in the Lancaster School at Cherry Valley. At the age of nineteen he started a blacksmith shop at Buel in this town. He conducted this until 1869 when he moved to Cooperstown where he had a shop for three years, then farming it for three years, coming to Sprout Brook in 1875, where he has since conducted a successful business. January 6, 1870, he married Mary J. Barringer, daughter of Moses and Mary J. (Grey) Barringer of Springfield. Mr. Shaw has never taken an active interest in politics, but devotes his whole time and attention to business. His ambition has been to be a successful business man and he is known the town over as an honest upright citizen, and good neighbor.

Brummer, Mrs. Carrie L., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born in Canajoharie July 12, 1853, and is a daughter of Augustus and Louisa (Whiteman Freebolt) and is also the widow of Philip Brummer. The early life of our subject was spent in this town, and after her marriage she moved to Worcester, Mass., where her husband conducted a jewelry store. She was married November 25, 1879, and their union has been blessed by four children: Lula, born October 26, 1880; George C., born January 2, 1883; P. Edward, born May 15, 1886; Rose Emily, born July 31, 1889. Philip Brummer died January 17, 1892, at fifty-three years of age. Augustus Freebolt was born in Germany about 1810 and came to this country in 1850. In 1851 Louisa Whiteman came to this

country and they were married soon after. They were the parents of four children, of which three are now living: Annie, wife of Ernest Findling; Augustus, who conducts a market in Fort Plain and a farm in Cherry Valley; and Carrie L., our subject. Mr. Freebolt died June 1, 1892, aged seventy-three. Louisa, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Freebolt, died June 20, 1862. Mrs. Brummer owns and conducts the farm of seventy-two acres, cultivating hops and general produce. She is a member of the Lutheran church at Frey's Bush.

Garlock, Adam H., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence in the town of Canajoharie February 28, 1823, and is a son of Henry and Laney (Bort) Garlock. The grandfather of our subject, Adam Garlock, was born in this county in 1754. The great-grandfather came from Germany, locating at Fort Plain. Adam Garlock bought this farm in its wild condition and cleared it for cultivation. They had a great deal of trouble with the Indians during the revolution, in which he was a soldier. He was married to Hannah Grey of Palatine. They were the parents of seven children: Henry, father of our subject, was the youngest. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married Laney Bort of Mapletown April 25, 1822, and they were the parents of two children: Reuben, born December 23, 1825, and Adam H., our subject. He has always lived on this old historic farm. At the death of his father, August 15, 1844, he and his brother Reuben inherited the farm which they have since successfully conducted in partnership. December 31, 1851, he married Elizabeth Seeber, daughter of William H. and Nancy (Fauling) Seeber, and their union has been blessed by two children: Ransford H., born February 27, 1855, and Augusta, now widow of John H. Fisher, born June 5, 1858. Ransford makes his home on the old farm, the fifth generation to occupy it. On January 13, 1876, he married Henrietta Kouger of this town and they are the parents of two children: La Pearl, born January 2, 1877, and Stanley K., born April 23, 1879. This is one of the best and largest farms of the town, containing 300 acres, 200 are under cultivation, hay and grain are the principal products.

Diefendorf, Philip J., Canajoharie, Buel p. o., was born on the farm of his present residence in Canajoharie March 15, 1835, and is a son of Daniel and Nancy (Wieting) Diefendorf. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Herkimer county, where John Jacob (grandfather of our subject) was born in 1762; he was married to Christina Wilson and was the father of eight children; Daniel (father of our subject) was the oldest and was born in 1793 in Danube. His first wife was Elizabeth Murphy and they were the parents of two children. After her death he married Nancy, daughter of the Rev. John Christopher Wieting, who came to this country to avoid joining the army. Daniel and Nancy were the parents of four children, three are living: Oliver M. of Schoharie county; Rev. Chauncey, pastor of the Lutheran church in Berne, Albany county; and Philip, our subject. He was educated in the Cherry Valley Academy and at the age of twenty began teaching school, which he followed for five years. He then went to farming on the old homestead. August 28, 1862, he married Maria Slingerland and they are the parents of two children: Annie G., born April 12, 1867, and Cora, now Mrs. Earl Mixer of Springfield, Otsego county, born March 7, 1869.

Mrs. Diefendorf died December 6, 1883. March 24, 1886, he married Martha Brookman of Minden. Mr. Diefendorf has always taken an active interest in church work, and for eighteen years had held the office of deacon of the Frey's Bush Lutheran church. He is Republican in his politics but is not an office seeker. He conducts a fine farm of 100 acres, and is considered a prosperous farmer and good neighbor.

Reagles, Marcus, Canajoharie, Frey's Bush p. o., was born in Canajoharie November 25, 1829, and is a son of Winther and Elizabeth (Wieting) Reagles. The grandfather of our subject (Cornelius Reagles) was one of those who fled from Schenectady to Albany in the night at the time of the massacre. He was the father of eight children and Winther was the youngest. He was born in Schenectady March 20, 1804. He was educated at Union College. His profession as teacher he followed for over thirty years, teaching among other places, at Ames, Marshville, Buel, Hinsdale, and when the old Garlock store stood on the corner of the Cherry Valley turnpike and the road to Fort Plain, he was filling the position of clerk. March 3, 1827, he married Elizabeth Wieting, daughter of Rev. John Christopher Wieting, who once acted as Burgoyne's secretary, and they were the parents of three children: Maria, now Mrs. Peter Milmine of Wisconsin; Margaret Ann, and Marcus, our subject. His early life was spent at home, and when he was fourteen years old his father bought a small farm of fifty acres, and in 1850 bought the farm known as the Gilbert Van Alstine place of 160 acres, where they lived fifteen years, then he bought the farm where Marcus now lives, and at his death, January 10, 1892, he left it to him. He owns also a farm of 160 acres in Minden and the old homestead farm of 100 acres, and forty acres in this place, making in all about 300 acres. Hr. Reagles is an active church worker, and has filled the office of deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran church for over twelve years.

Kibbie, Annie Mrs., Amsterdam, was born in Fulton county. Her first husband was George F. Cox, a native of Charlton. In his early life he was a teacher and at one time a principal of St. Johnsville Academy. He was afterwards a physician and died in 1876. Her second husband was born in Fulton county in 1824, and was well educated and a successful merchant and speculator. They were married on the 11th of September, 1877. Her father (James Canary) was born in Perth, in the year 1813 and married Harriet Dixon of Mayfield. They had three sons and three daughters: Annie, James, John C., Maurice, Fannie E., and Emma H. The grandfather, James Canary, was a colonel in the revolutionary war.

Fonda, Douw, came from Schenectady to Fonda (which place was named for him) in 1767. He had three sons; Adam, Jellis and John, and was killed by the Indians; during Sir John Johnson's raid in 1780, two of his sons, Adam and John, were taken prisoners, carried to Canada, and held there two years. Adam, on his return, settled on a farm near Fonda; Jellis bought a tract of land eight miles west; and John settled in the eastern part of Fonda. Douw A. Fonda, son of Adam, married Lavina Breese and had three children: Adam D., Garrett Tunis, and Gertrude. He was a Democrat and in 1832 was elected to the assembly. The family belonged to the Reformed church. He died in 1855 and she in 1857. Adam D., son of Douw A., was born in 1802, and married in 1822, Lydia, daughter of Thomas Sammons, and had nine children. He was a Democrat and served as loan commissioner; he was active in politics, and was influen-

tial in the removal of the court house from Johnstown to Fonda. Douw A., son of Adam D. and Lydia (Sammons) Fonda, was born October 14, 1824. He worked on a farm until he was twenty-one, when he began clerking in Fultonville for H. P. Voorhees, where he remained three years, after which he opened a general store in Fonda and dealt largely in produce, until 1887. He has served as county treasurer three years and supervisor three years; also trustee of the village several terms. December 6, 1848, he married Gertrude A. Cole of Broome county, who bore him seven children: Thomas, a New York hay dealer in company with his father; Nathan Cole, who has been cashier for John H. Starin since 1876; Herbert N., a grocer in New York; Bertha, wife of Dr. Elliott Gorton, physician to the State Lunatic Asylum in New Jersey; Sophia, who lives at home; and two are deceased. Douw A. is a member of Fultonville Lodge No. 531, F. & A. M.

Williams, Charles W., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Fulton, Schoharie county, June 27, 1843, and was educated in the public schools. In early life he was a farmer, but afterwards learned the tinsmith's trade, and in 1854 he came to Amsterdam with his parents. In 1864 he enlisted in Company A, 91st N. Y. S. Volunteers, and was in the battles of Gravelly Run, Quaker Plank Road, Five Forks and the surrender of General Lee at Appomatox; he was in the second brigade, third division, fifth army corps, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. Mr. Williams's mother's grandfather (Edwin Taylor) was in the revolution. Mr. Williams married in 1866 Kate, a daughter of H. S. Stewart of this city, by whom he had one daughter, Lena, who died at the age of five. Mrs. Williams died May 9, 1876. He married on July 27, 1887, Mary Martin of Amsterdam, and they have one daughter, Barbara M. Mr. Williams's father (David) was born in the state of Massachusetts, and at an early day came to Schoharie county; he married Mary A. Hagadorn of that county; they had seven children, as follows: Catharine, Leeman, Charles W., David, Stephen, Jennie, and Edward. Stephen, Charles W., and David were in the late war. Mr. Williams has been in the hardware business in this city since March, 1872. He is a member of Post Young No. 36, G. A. R., also a member of the Knights of Pythias, Chutenunda Lodge No. 100, a member of A. O. U. W., Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 209, and the Order of Red Men, Kenneytto Tribe No. 100.

Larrabee, Louis, Amsterdam, Cranesville p. o., was born in the town of Amsterdam January 20, 1820, and was a son of Seth and Nancy (Groat) Larrabee. Seth was a son of Richard and Patty (Webster) Larrabee. Richard came to this country during the French war and located in Rhode Island, thence went to New Hampshire where he married a sister of Daniel Webster's father. At the time of the Boston tea party he and two of his sons helped to throw that cargo overboard. He was an officer in the revolutionary war and lost one of his sons. Ebenezer was killed at Bunker Hill; Richard was taken prisoner with Ethan Allen and taken to England, where they were kept until the war closed. He died January 28, 1828, ninety-six years of age. Seth was also a soldier, having served in the war of 1812. He was born February 26, 1776, died January 4, 1850, leaving seven children, only two are now living: Caleb C. of Jackson, Mich.; and Louis, our subject. The latter has always made this town his home. Educated in the common school with a short course in Union College. When

he was twelve years old he went with Commodore Leger, visiting the Caribbean sea for the purpose of expelling the pirates. He has served as tallyman at Albany and New York wharves. He married Catharine Swart of Florida January 30, 1850, who died in 1875, leaving one child, Charles Edwin of Schenectady. March 27, 1876, he married Mary C. Bradt, daughter of John and Catherine (De Graff) Bradt, early settlers of this town. Mr. Larrabee is one of the leading farmers of this section and has a very pleasant and comfortable home. He is popular among the townsmen, and has held offices of trust and honor in the town.

Wiles Family, The.—Jacob Wiles, the son of John and the grandson of Joseph Henry Wiles, was born in Minden March 18, 1807. His father died November 12, 1831, in his fifty-seventh year. His grandfather died November 29, 1831, aged eighty. Jacob married Anna, daughter of Nicholas Casler, who died April 4, 1884, aged seventy-eight. They had three children: Ephraim, Rufus, who died in Minden June 4, 1874, in his twenty-fourth year; and Aaron, who resides in Minden. Jacob died March 5, 1891, in his eighty-fourth year. Ephraim, the oldest of the family, was born in Minden July 1, 1827, and for his first wife married Catherine Pickard; they had one son, Jacob J., and Mr. Wiles married second, Elizabeth Walrath. Ephraim died November 11, 1875, in his forty-ninth year. Jacob J. (mentioned above) was born in Minden October 21, 1848, and for his first wife married Irena Dillenback, and had one child, Anna; Irena died May 30, 1876, in her twenty-fourth year. For his second wife he married Lucina, daughter of Peter Fake.

Hyland, Dr. Thomas G., was born in Madison county on the 8th of June, 1857, and was educated in the public schools and Madison University (now Colgate University), and graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College in 1879. In 1880 he located in Amsterdam and has been eminently successful in the practice of his profession to the present time. November 27, 1883, he married Annie McAvinue of Albany. They have two children: Lillian M. and Regnia A. His father, Patrick, was born in Ireland, and in 1847 came to the United States with his wife, Mary Congdon, by whom he had nine children among them Rev. J. F. Hyland, Ilion, N. Y.; Dr. E. M. Hyland, Utica, N. Y.; and H. P. Hyland, attorney, Brooklyn. Dr. Hyland is a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society and Albany County Medical Society. In 1884 he was appointed by Governor Cleveland coroner for Montgomery county and in 1885 was elected to the same office for three years. He has been city physician in Amsterdam, and health officer for the past two years. He belongs to the National Guard of the State and ranks as 1st lieutenant and assistant surgeon to the 3d brigade. For the past two years he has acted as a civil service commissioner for Amsterdam City.

Veeder, Major-General Abram, of the militia, was the son of Johannis Veeder, and was born in Mohawk in 1743. He died January 25, 1814. His remains lie on the Veeder farm with these lines on his monument:

“His standard justice, truth his leading star,
Honor and humanity his care:
Thus passed our hero to his earthly doom,
His soul to God, his body to the tomb.
Reader, attend! copy if you can
God's noblest work, an honest man.”

During one of the Tory and Indian raids through the valley his buildings were burned. He married Sarah Vedder by whom he had one child, Albert, and she dying soon after, he married Nancy Fonda, by whom he had two sons and five daughters. Albert, above mentioned, was born in 1769 on the old farm, and married Nancy Eacker, by whom he had twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity. His second wife was Rebecca Van Vechten. He was a farmer and was the first constable in town. He was afterwards an assessor, an important office during the war of 1812, and for twenty years a magistrate of the town. The only surviving children of Albert Veeder are Margaret and Catharine, who live on the homestead farm at a ripe age. Johannis Veeder was a very prominent and useful man and his four sons were also distinguished. In addition to Abram there was Volkert, who for six terms represented Montgomery county in the Legislature, while Simon was county judge for seven years, and John had a seat in the Senate for an equal period. The descendants of the family are numerous and hold positions of usefulness in society.

Olmstead, Jeremiah, Root, was born in the town of Glen, August 29, 1849. He was educated in the public schools of Glen, and January 25, 1877, married Amelia, only daughter of David and Sophia A. Veeder of this town, formerly of the town of Charleston. They have two sons and two daughters: Freddie D., May S., Edward V., and Marjorie A. Mr. Olmstead's father, Albert, was born in Saratoga, but since he was a young man has resided in Glen. He married Hannah C. Van Schaick, and they had four sons and four daughters: John E., Albert H., Jane E., Martha A., Mary, Catharine, Jeremiah and William V. S. The ancestry of this family is Dutch, German and American.

Hand, Edward J., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Glen, Montgomery county, on the 25th of October, 1866, and was educated in the public schools and Amsterdam Academy. In company with Tunis Peck he manufactured brooms under the firm name of Tunis Peck & Co., till August 15, 1892. Mr. Hand's father, John, was born at the old home, and married Jane E. Bennett of his native town. He was a farmer by occupation and had one son, Edward J. John Hand died on the first of January, 1892, Mr. Hand's occupation at present is the settling up of his father's estate. He was elected, November 8, 1892, member of assembly from Montgomery county.

Hoffman, Julius, Root, was born in the province of Silesia, Prussia, October 25, 1838. He was educated in the public schools there, and afterwards learned the piano-maker's and organbuilder's trade, which he followed in the fatherland, and also in the various locations where he has lived, London and America. He went to London in 1862, remaining there four years. In 1866 he embarked for the United States, and located in Brooklyn, N. Y., where he remained four years. Mr. Hoffman is an expert apiarist. He removed to Rockland county, where he remained only one year, as the location was not suited to this business. He next removed to Fort Plain, and then soon afterwards located permanently in the town of Root, where he manufactures the finest article in organs and is teaching his sons the same art. He is an apiarist also, and has the latest improvements for bee culture, with an invention of his own, called the Hoffman frame, which is now in general use in this country. He has also imported the Cyprian

and Caucasian bees, and as the result of this combination with his native bees, he thinks he has a very fine breed. June 25, 1868, he married Mary Goeringer of his native place, and they have had seven children, three sons and four daughters. One son, August, was drowned at the age of seven years. The others are Hattie Ernestine, Elizabeth Marie, Paul Julius, Helen Emma, Julius Ernest, and Erna Marguerita. Mr. Hoffman's residence and surroundings are among the finest in the neighborhood, and should be an example for imitation.

Meyer, John, Root, a son of John and Mary (Kink) Meyer, was born February 11, 1837, in Bisel, Conton Hersingen, Alsace, France (now Germany). March 2, 1854, he came to the United States, when he was seventeen years old, and located in the town of Palatine. Here he attended school one term in winter and then worked on a farm by the year for six years. In the year 1860 Mr. Meyer and his brother Henry hired four hundred acres of land of Christian I. Lathers for the term of five years in the town of Root. Here his brother Henry was accidentally killed by falling on a pitchfork, and left a wife and five children, Christina, Mary, Elizabeth, Dora, Louise. December 20, 1859, he married Anna C. Minch, who was born in Germany. They had six children, five sons and one daughter: George H., John J., Catherine E. (deceased), Charles, William and Edward. Mrs. Meyer died February 15, 1874, mourned by a bereaved family. November 7, 1877, he married for his second wife Cornelia, daughter of Andrew Duesler, by whom he had one son, Henry (deceased). Mr. Meyer's father married Mary Kink of his native place; they had two sons and three daughters, Henry, John, Mary, Anna and Josephine; he served in the war with Napoleon I. Mr. Meyer has been very successful in this country, residing on his own farm of one hundred acres. His son William resides on another one hundred acres owned by him (John Meyer) and another lot of twenty-five acres, all told 225 acres. Mr. Meyer has always identified himself with the Republican party.

Smeallie, P. Henry, Amsterdam, was born in West Galway, Saratoga county, June 7, 1862. Both his parents died when he was very young, and he came to reside with his uncle, Dr. Scoon in Amsterdam, where he was educated in the schools and academy. He then entered the office of Stewart & Carmichael's paper mills as bookkeeper, and was afterwards teller in the Farmer's National Bank two years. He is now conducting a paper mill under the firm name of Smeallie, Phillips & Co. December 2, 1885, he married Kittie L., oldest daughter of John F. and Elvira Morris of this city. They have two children, a son and daughter, John M. and Marion E. Mr. Smeallie's father, Andrew J., was born at Blue Corners, March 13, 1821, and married Margaret Knox of West Galway, who was born June 11, 1823. Their children were: John K., William B., James A. and P. Henry. His father died May 3, 1869, and his mother June 3, 1868. Mr. Smeallie's grandparents, both on his father's and mother's side, came from Scotland.

Gilliland, Francis, Amsterdam, was born at Yankee Hill, Florida in February, 1820; his education was limited on account of the death of his father when he was four years old; at the age of nine he drove on the canal; at eleven he started to learn book-binding which he followed two years; afterwards he learned the piano maker's trade

which he followed for some time. When a young man he returned to the village of Amsterdam, opening a cabinet shop on the northwest side of the river bridge; he then bought two boats on the old canal and followed boating for several years; after this he followed various occupations until 1868, when he opened a general woodworker's establishment in Mudge Hollow, just above Serriss & De Graff's saw and flour mills. In 1842 he married Ellen Margaret (Staring) Gilliland who was born in Newport, Herkimer county; they had seven children, six sons and one daughter, William, Henry H., John W., Charles E., Mason T., Francis E., Harry J. and Ella B. They are all dead except Francis E. and Mason T., who are conducting the business under the firm name of Francis Gilliland's Sons. Francis E. was admitted a partner with his father at the age of nineteen years. Mason T. worked in the shoe business for nine years. Mason T. was born December 29, 1852, and was educated in the village schools. September 9, 1874, he married Margaret Sammons, a grandniece of Colonel Sammons; they have two children, Francis E. and Roy E. Francis E. was born October 26, 1854, and was educated in the village schools. January 6, 1878, he married Hannah A. Stannard of Newport, Herkimer county; they have three daughters, Sarah, Laura M. and Florence M. Sarah died at the age of six months. Mr. Gilliland has held all the important offices of the village of Amsterdam; he was president of the village two terms; trustee on three different occasions and school trustee one term; he was an ardent Republican and an Odd Fellow: he is said to be the father of the I. O. O. F. in Amsterdam. Francis E. is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Mechanic's Association; he has held the offices through in both lodges, and was trustee of the village of Port Jackson four years. Mason T. is a member of the Woodbine Lodge 250, Knights of Pythias and holds the office of master of finance.

Stowitt, Phillip H., Root, was born at the old homestead, near Rural Grove, January 28, 1857, was educated in the public schools of the town and is a farmer. He has twice married, first, on May 28, 1876, to Amelia C. Pulver, by whom he had two sons and a daughter: Edwin J., Pearl E., and Fred Howard. Mrs. Stowitt died October 10, 1885, and he married second, April 14, 1887, Lillie M. Van Alstine of Canajoharie. Mr. Stowitt's father, Jacob M., was born at Currytown, June 15, 1817. He was educated in the public schools of that day, and was by occupation a farmer. In the year 1855 he married Mary Shelp, by whom he had four sons: Philip H., Irving J., who married Blanche J. Howell and now resides in Nebraska; Howard M., who married Allie D. Van Alstine of Canajoharie; the wife of the latter son is dead, and he is at the present writing in a dental college in New York city; and Arthur D., who is a physician, and married a Miss Blanchard, of Sidney, Nebraska, where they reside. Philip H. Stowitt's grandfather Philip was born on the old homestead and married Gertrude M. Moschell of his native town, by whom he had six children: Jacob M., Henry P., George P., Margaret, Mary E., and Nancy C. The great-grandfather of the subject, George P. was killed in the battle of Oriskany, and his son Michael was captured by a squad of English soldiers at the age of fourteen when returning from a funeral at Sprakers, and he was taken to Canada and kept for a year.

Crosby, Oliver, Root, son of Obadiah and Catherine (Baird) Crosby, was born where he now lives, May 11, 1846. He was educated in the district schools and the Seminary

and owns the old homestead. He is a Democrat. August 25, 1880, he married Mary E., daughter of Michael and Jane (Ottman) Seeley, and they have five children: Alice, Theodore, Henry L., Schnyler and Foster. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. The grandfather, Theodore, son of Obadiah (who was a leather dresser and a pioneer of Root) was born in Root, and married a Mrs. Rulianna Foster, and they had five children: Seth, Elizabeth, Mary, Oliver and Obadiah. Theodore died September, 1849, and his wife died in February, 1850. Their son, Obadiah, father of Oliver, was born in Schoharie county, and at the age of seven moved with his parents to Root. In 1881 he moved to Carlisle, and died in 1886. His wife survives him. They had five children: Oliver, Isaac, Julia, who died in 1881, Lydia and Ann, who died in 1879.

Crane, T. H. Benton, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam January 10, 1842, was educated in the public schools, and was in the employ of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R. for eight years. For a time he was clerk in a grocery store. In the year 1873 he entered the employ of the First National Bank of this city, first as teller, and for the past two years has been its cashier. Mr. Crane is a member of Artisan Lodge No. 84, F. & A. M. In August, 1861, he married Mary E., second daughter of Lansing and Abigail Ostrom of this city, by whom he had three children: David Cady, Ruth E., and James Benton. Mr. Crane's father, Abraham, was born in Orange, N. J., and came to this state with his parents at the age of ten years. They located east of Amsterdam at a place known now as Crane's Village. He married Mrs. Rachel H. Welling of Trenton, N. J., and they had two children, a son and a daughter: T. H. Benton, as noted above, and Cornelia C., who married William Bolster of Albany, N. Y. Mr. Crane's grandfather, John, was a soldier in the revolution, and his mother's brother, James Potter, was in the war of 1812 and the Mexican war.

Dillenbeck, Lysander, St. Johnsville was born in Palatine October 21, 1819, a son of Martinus I. and Elizabeth (Everson) Dillenbeck. His father was an emigrant from Holland, who settled in Palatine. The subject's father was born in Palatine 1786. He was a captain in the war of 1812. The family still have the sword he carried. He was a farmer, a liberal man, always ready to assist his neighbors, and a leader in the Lutheran church. His wife was a daughter of Adam and Dorothy (Doxtater) Everson, and bore him three children: Magdaline Miller, Catharine Wagner, and Lysander. She was a member of the Reformed church. He was a Whig and a Republican, and served as supervisor. His death occurred June 9, 1859. Lysander Dillenbeck was raised on a farm, and at the age of twenty-four bought his father's homestead of ninety-two acres. Later he added forty-seven acres, and engaged in breeding Holstein cattle. In 1880 he located in St. Johnsville, and had retired from active business. He is a liberal supporter of home industries and the church. He was a Republican and had held town offices. He married first, Elizabeth, daughter of John G. and Margaret (Kilts) Shults of Palatine, who bore him the following children: Mary C., deceased wife of Martin Shults, who left two children, Ezra and Meltha; Ezra, deceased, who left his wife Percelia and two children, Ezra D. and Lizzie C. His wife died January 1, 1870 (a member of the Lutheran church), and he married second, Julia, daughter of Peter I.

and Catharine Saltsman Saltsman. They are both members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Dillenbeck died October 7, 1892.

Fox, George H., Canajoharie, was born on the old homestead farm at Sprout Brook January 10, 1855, a son of Oliver G. and Sarah (Coleman) Fox. He was educated in the common schools and Fort Plain Academy and assisted his father on the farm until his marriage with the exception of one year at Sharon depot. February 18, 1880, he married Katie, daughter of Aaron and Catharine Lintner Finehout, and they have three children: Anna L., born November 30, 1885; Cora B., born February 21, 1890; and Daniel E., born June 5, 1892. In June, 1890, Mr. Fox bought his present residence known as the Peter G. Dygart farm. This is as good a farm as there is in this section, the principal crops being hops, hay and grain. Mr. Fox is an ardent supporter of the Republican ticket, but is not an office seeker.

Collins, Ira, Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam July 4, 1820, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Wikman) Collins. His early life was spent on the old homestead farm and he attended school in that district. February 23, 1859, he married Hannah Knapp of Gloverville, daughter of Solomon Knapp. In 1852 he left home to engage on Colonel Davis's farm for two years, then going to his brother's in this town, and from there to the farm of J. J. Serviss. In 1870 he bought the farm of 110 acres of Mrs. Chapman at Hagaman's Mills. He has two children: William L., born February 23, 1861; and Anna E. Manzer, born November 20, 1864. Mr. Collins has been a very successful farmer, owing to his perseverance, ambition and integrity. Back as far as he can ascertain, his ancestors have been Americans.

Vosburg, Jay, Root, was born near Flat Creek, upon the farm where he now resides, December 25, 1857. He was educated in the public schools of his town, is a farmer by occupation, and married, October 11, 1882, Lydia, third daughter of Gifford A. and Harriet Hill of Ames. They have two children, Flora Field and J. Voorhees. Mr. Vosburg's father, Jacob, was born east of the present homestead, October 2, 1803. He was a pioneer farmer, and was twice married, first to Hannah Mount, by whom he had five children: Fannie M., Abby J., Lydia, Elish M., and Washington. The latter enlisted in the late war in the year 1862, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. Jacob Vosburg married for his second wife, January 27, 1848, Almira Gardener of Argusville, Schoharie county, and they had two sons and three daughters: Howard, who married Lydia Devendorf of this town, and resides in Canajoharie; Hattie E., who married Stanton Taylor; Essie, who married Arthur Hill of Ames; Nellie M., and Jay. Jacob Vosburg's uncle, Jacob Devendorf, was scalped by the Indians, though he lived for many years afterwards. Jacob M. Gardener, father of Mrs. Almira Vosburg, was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Brannock, H. W., photographer, of Amsterdam, was born in Williamstown, Ky., February 2, 1866. He received his education in that state, finishing in the St. Charles College of Missouri, of which his father, Prof. J. P. Brannock, was president. Leaving the college in 1885 he went to Kansas City and took up photographing, remaining there one year, when he settled in Amsterdam in the same business. Here he purchased an established studio and has advanced to the front rank among the artists of Central New

York. Many of the portraits from which the steel engravings in this volume were made, were made by him, and he also has negatives of many other leading citizens of the county. Mr. Brannock's father married Lydia E. White, and they had six children. Mr. Brannock's place of business is at 68 East Main street.

Larrabee, John E., Amsterdam, was born in the town of Amsterdam, November 24, 1851. He had the advantage of a common school education, and became a clerk for E. T. Leavenworth in the hardware business. He has been clerk and partner, conducting the business for sixteen years on his own account. In 1876 he was in partnership with L. L. Dean, continuing for six years under the firm name of L. L. Dean & Co. Afterward he formed a partnership with W. G. Barnes which lasted eight years, under the firm name of Larrabee & Barnes, and has been conducting a hardware business on his own account two years, on Market street. February 6, 1889, he married Louise Leavenworth of this city and they have one daughter, Katharine Louise. Mr. Larrabee's father, Roswell, was born in this town December 26, 1825, and married Sarah Van Vleck of Fulton county. They had two sons and a daughter; John E., as noted above; Irving, unmarried, who clerks for his brother; and Anna B., who married John King of Schenectady. Mr. Larrabee is a member of the K. of P. Woodbine Lodge No. 250. The family are of French and Dutch extraction.

Enders Family, The.—It is believed that Bertram Enders came from the lower Palatinate (along the river Rhine) with the second German immigration to America, which arrived in New York in June and July, 1710. They came to Nutton (now Governor's Island), thence to Livingston Manor on the Hudson, the latter part of the same year. They removed to the Schoharie valley in the fall of 1712, or in the spring of 1713. Bertram Enders purchased lands of Hendrick Houck in 1729 and 1730. The homestead was what is now known as the Kilmer farm. It is a few miles below Central Bridge, and is now owned by Henry Bagley. Bertram Enders had three sons, Jacob, Peter, and John. John, the youngest, remained on the old homestead where he died March 12, 1825, aged seventy years. Peter settled near Schoharie Junction. He was a revolutionary soldier. His buildings were burned in 1780, when Sir John Johnson and Brant devastated the Schoharie valley. He had five daughters: Catharine, wife of Joseph Borst; Christiana, wife of Harmon Becker; Maria, wife of Jacob Enders of Fort Hunter; Elizabeth, wife of John Enders of Fort Hunter; and Nancy, wife of Philip Dietz; and two sons, Jacob P., who retained the homestead, and Peter L., who settled at Central Bridge. Jacob Enders, Bertram's eldest son, born 1740, died 1807, came to Fort Hunter about 1758. He settled on the estate now owned by the heirs of John Leslie Voorhees. Jacob Enders had three daughters: Elizabeth, Christiana and Eva; and four sons: Jacob, John, Peter and Christian. John Enders, born in 1783, died in 1861. Elizabeth, his wife, born 1784, died in 1835. John kept the homestead which has been in possession of the Enders-Voorhees family, about 134 years. John Enders had two children, Catharine Ann, born in 1810, died in 1877, wife of the late John Leslie Voorhees; and Peter, who died in March, 1877, in his sixty-fifth year. Jacob Enders, brother of the above, was born in 1768 and died in 1827. Maria, his wife, born 1774, died 1856. They had two daughters, Catharine Ann, wife of the late Isaac Houck, and Elizabeth, wife of the late John C. Yost, and two sons, Jacob E., who

died in childhood, and Peter I. The latter was born at Fort Hunter, N. Y., 1799, where he died in 1866 at his home, which has been in the family over a hundred years. His wife, Catharine Ann, daughter of John Van Derveer, died in 1890. They had two children, Jacob Henry and Catharine Elizabeth, wife of John H. Voorhees, esq. Rev. Jacob Henry Enders was born at Fort Hunter, November 19, 1834, was graduated from Union College in 1858; from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1861. He was chaplain of the 153d regiment N. Y. S. Volunteers from October, 1862 till October 18, 1865. Was in the Red River, La., and Shenandoah Valley, Va., campaigns. In 1866 he became pastor of the Reformed Church at Lysander, where he remained until 1869. In 1867 he was married to Elizabeth Leslie, daughter of William Voorhees, who died in 1881. He was pastor of the Reformed Church, Chittenango, from 1869 to 1880. He married in 1887 Elizabeth Bridgman, daughter of John S. Gould of Albany. He was associate pastor of the Albany City Mission from 1881 to 1889; and since 1889 has been missionary superintendent of the Particular Synod of Albany.

Garlock, Michael, Sprout Brook p. o., was born in the town of Stark, Herkimer county, May 22, 1825, a son of Charles E. and Christiana (Brookman) Garlock. The great-grandfather was born in Holland and when he came to this country he settled in New York. He was the father of several children; one was Elias, the grandfather of our subject. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was wounded at Oriskany, from the effects of which he died. He was the father of five children. Charles E., the second son was the father of our subject. He was born in 1787, married when twenty-four years of age to Christiana Brookman, and they were the parents of seven children, four are now living: Peter and Nancy, twins; Peter, a farmer of Oswego, and Nancy, widow of Isaac Snyder of Danube; Eve Eliza, widow of John Walrod of Danube; and Michael, our subject. His early life was spent in Danube and as his father died when Michael was two years old, he very early started to shift for himself. In 1847 he came to this town and married, September 13, 1848, Harriet Spraker, daughter of George and Nancy (Wieting) Spraker, and their union was blessed by three children, two are living: Charles Edgar, born January 27, 1852, and Eliza Ann, wife of Fayette Wieting of Gloversville, born February 25, 1854. Nancy Helen, wife of Renben Yordon, died September 7, 1891, aged forty-one. In 1870 Mr. Garlock bought the farm of ninety-seven acres where he now lives and cultivates hops, hay and grain. Mrs. Garlock died June 16, 1884. Charles E., was married October 28, 1873, to Jennie Allen and they are the parents of one child, Florence, born February 28, 1886. Mr. Garlock is a member of the Frey's Bush Lutheran Church, and C. Edgar, a member of the M. E. Church at Sprout Brook. They are not politicians and it is said of them that they are good neighbors and citizens. Mr. Garlock's home is on the highest point in the town of Canajoharie.

Wessell, Mary E., Root, was the second daughter of Peter Ottman of Schoharie county. Her late husband, James M. Wessell, was born at Flat Creek, in the town of Root, April 18, 1834. He was educated in the public school and Carlisle Academy, was a farmer and afterwards a hotel keeper, and was generally known to be an exemplary landlord. February 27, 1861, he married Mary E. Ottman of Sharon, Schoharie county. Mr. Wessell died February 23, 1889. Mrs. Wessell will retire from hotel-

keeping March 1, 1893, having at the present writing sold her hotel property. To her credit it may be said that she conducted the hotel in the same manner that her husband did. Mrs. Wessel's father, Peter Ottman, was born in Schoharie county February 6, 1814. He married Nancy Paris, who was born May 5, 1816. They had two sons and two daughters: Celia M., Hiram, Mary E., and Charles. Mrs. Ottman died October 1, 1856. Mr. Ottman still survives. Mrs. Wessel's grandfather, Christian Paris, was a soldier in the war of the revolution.

Somers, Melancthon, Root, was born in Sharon, Schoharie county April 10, 1856. His parents moved to the town of Seward when he was three years old, where he was educated in the public schools. At the age of sixteen he began to teach school which he did successfully for two years. After this he went to Michigan where he taught school one year. He then returned east and attended the Normal School at Albany. He then resumed teaching in the town of Seward, where he taught the largest school there, with marked success for three years. In 1878 he began the study of medicine with Dr. H. A. Myers of Garnersville. In the winter of 1880-81 he attended the Eclectic Medical College of the city of New York, and afterwards studied with Dr. Jacob Van Valkenburg of Sharon for one year. Afterwards he attended the U. S. Medical College of New York city, from which institution he graduated on March 8, 1882, and located at Flat Creek June 5, 1882, where he has since been successful in his chosen profession. December 23, 1886, he married Ida B., fourth daughter of Dr. James E. Sutphen of Seward Valley. They have one son, M. Sutphen, born January 21, 1889. Barna Somers, father of our subject, was born in Sharon, April 4, 1828; was a farmer and school teacher, and married Almira Zeh of the town of Seward. Of their eleven children, four died in infancy, and the others were: Charles H., Melancthon, Libbie, Seymour, Hattie A., Willis B., and Lillie M. His father died October 18, 1878, and his mother October 18, 1890. Dr. Somers is a Democrat in politics.

Snell, Enoch, St. Johnsville, one of the leading citizens of St. Johnsville, was born at Snell's Bush November 20, 1812, a son of Sefrenes and Eve (Frey) Snell, and grandson of Peter Snell, who parents came from Germany. Our subject's great-grandfather and three brothers received a patent from Queen Anne of 1700 acres, on which they located. His grandfather Snell was born in Palatine, and died at Snell's Bush aged seventy-four years. He was one of nine Snells who participated in the battle of Oriskany, but two of whom came out alive, Peter being one of them. His wife was Anna Kilts, and they had eight sons and three daughters, 109 grandchildren and 294 great-grandchildren. Mrs. Snell was born February 9, 1750, and died December 4, 1842. Our subject's father was born at Snell's Bush in 1790, and died in 1872, aged eighty-eight years. He served at Sackett's Harbor in the war of 1812, was supervisor and held several other town offices, and was a Whig and a Republican. His wife died in 1867, aged eighty. Their family comprised six sons and six daughters. They were members of the Reformed church. Enoch Snell was raised on the farm and educated at the common school. He taught one winter term in his home district. At the age of twenty-eight he bought a farm of 200 acres where he now resides, and on which he has built a fine residence. He has been justice of the peace and is a Republican. He married, October 19, 1837, Julia H., daughter of Jacob H. and Gertrude (Dockey)

Falling. They have eight children, six of whom reached maturity: Myron, Jacob S., Gertrude (deceased), Eva D. Haen (deceased) and Della. They belong to the Dutch Reformed church.

Schmidt, Edward L. Amsterdam was born in Newark, N. Y., October 14, 1856, and was brought to Amsterdam with his parents when a year old, where he was educated at the public schools. He then learned the moulder's trade, which he followed for twenty years. He has been junior member of the Perkins Foundry Co. for the past nine years. January 24, 1888, he married Luemina, eldest daughter of John B. and Jane A. Eversburg of this city, and they had one daughter, Dora A., who died aged seven years. Mr. Schmidt's father, John M., was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to this country in 1840, where he married Elizabeth Swager formerly of Alsace, France (now Germany), and their children were as follows: Gustavus F., Lena, Edward L., Amelia, and Mary L. Mrs. Schmidt's father was Jean B. Eversburg, who was born in Schoharie county and came to Montgomery county when a young man, where he married Jane A. Ross of this county and has four children: David H., Luemina, Amy V., and Bryan. The family is of German, French and Scotch extraction.

Ostrom, James, Amsterdam, was born in Glenville, January 29, 1845, was educated in the public schools, and was a farmer until he came to Amsterdam in the year 1870. In 1871 he went into the grocery business, which he has continued since. He is also in company with T. H. Benson (France), dealers in the best make of carriage manufactured, making a specialty of the Occidentals Buggy Co's carriages, etc. Mr. Ostrom's father (Daning) was born at Watervliet, February 24, 1805, and married Abigail Carroll, formerly of Massachusetts. They had thirteen children and nine grew to adult age. Mr. Ostrom is a member of Amsterdam Lodge No. 104 I. O. O. F. and of Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 200 A. O. U. W., also of J. D. Service Steamer Co. No. 1 of the Fire Department. The family is of Dutch descent.

Godwin, John D. Amsterdam, was born in Fonda, October 24, 1843, was educated in the public schools and in early life was a painter. He came to Amsterdam in 1862, and was clerk for three years in a confectionery store. He was in one of the knitting mills for fifteen years as butter, and two years as foreman, and was in the clothes-winger factory with the late John Young & Sons seven years, and clerk in E. J. Lewis's shoe store three years. Has been in the grocery business about two years and is senior member of the firm of Godwin & Prie. He has been supervisor of the First Ward and is now alderman. He is a member of Amsterdam Lodge No. 104 I. O. O. F., also of Amsterdam Lodge No. 200 K. of P., also of Mohawk Valley Lodge No. 200 A. O. U. W. and of the Benefit Hose Co. No. 2 of the Fire Department. May 24, 1868, he married Cornelia O. Davis of this city, and they have two living children: Eric C., who married George Fite of this city, and Frances E., who married Frank Earle of this city. The family is of English, German and Welsh ancestry.

Ordman, Charles H. Amsterdam, was born in Providence, Saratoga county, July 8, 1841, was educated in the public school, and in early life was a farmer. Afterwards he learned the carpenter's trade, and has been a contractor and builder in Amsterdam about sixteen years. He has married twice, first about the year 1868, Hattie Shearman

of his native place and they had two children, both sons, one of whom died in infancy and Seth D. who was born August 7, 1874, and assists his father in the business. Mrs. Cadman died in 1875. In February, 1881, he married, second, Harriet Vedder, also of his native county and they have a daughter, MARY A. Mr. Cadman's father, Henry, was a resident of that county and married Catharine Clark. They had two children, Charles M. and Eber A. Mrs. Cadman's father, George Vedder, was born at Providence August 24, 1823, and married twice, his first wife being Angelina Blake, by whom he had two sons and a daughter, George S. who resides with his sister, Mrs. Cadman in this city, Angelina and Richard. For his second wife he married Eleazar S. Dool, by whom he had twelve children, two of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Cadman was the fourth daughter of this marriage. Mr. Cadman is a member of Amsterdam Lodge No. 154, I. O. O. F., and also a member of the American Mechanics Association.

Kilbitt, George, Amsterdam, is the youngest of four children of Martin and Eleazar Kintz. Martin Kintz was born in Johnstown, July 8, 1848. He married Eleazar's daughter of George Decker, formerly of Dutchess county and had four children, three daughters and one son, Margaret, Caroline, Anna E. and George. Martin Kilbitt was a farmer until he was fifty years old, and came to Amsterdam about twenty years ago. George is a photographer. Martin Kilbitt's father, Josiah, was born in Enfield, Conn., and came to Johnstown in this State when he was twenty-six years of age. He married twice, first in Connecticut a Miss Pyle, and had four children, Thompson P., Fox Clark, James M., and Paul, who died in infancy. His second wife was Catherine Leffler of Johnstown, by whom he had two children, Martin and John, who reside in Johnstown. The ancestry is of English and German extraction.

Englehardt, Frederick, St. Johnsville, was born in Meiningen, Germany, June 16, 1855 and is a son of Lewis and Caroline Leck, Englehardt, who came to this country in September, 1863, where he followed his trade of shoemaker. He reared one son and four daughters. The son received his education in the schools at New York city, and at the age of eleven years began to learn the trade of cabinet-maker. In 1877 he went West and served four years in the Second U. S. Cavalry assisting in protecting the Northern Pacific railroad in its construction. In the fall of 1877 he began working at piano-making and in 1881 engaged with Swanway & Sons. In January, 1884, he established himself with A. P. Roth in the piano business in New York, and in April of that year was turned out and then came to St. Johnsville, where he now carries on a business requiring 150 operatives, in which he is general manager. He is an active Mason and member of the K. of P. He married in February, 1881, Selma Dodge, daughter of August Dodge, and they have four children, Alfred, Martha, Walter and Selma. They are members of the Lutheran church.

Eastbrook, William F., St. Johnsville, was born in St. Johnsville, October 26, 1829 and is a son of Elisha and Laura Pardee Eastbrook. The grandfather, Robert, was born in Vermont and came to St. Johnsville prior to the war of 1812. He died in Allegheny county. His son, Elisha, was born August 11, 1805. He carried on brick-making at St. Johnsville and East Creek. He died August 2, 1865. His wife was born August 5, 1804, in St. Johnsville, and was a daughter of Samuel A. Pardee, who died

December 26, 1859, aged eighty-seven years. They had one child, William P., our subject, who received a district school education and worked in his father's store fifteen years. At the age of twenty-five he began business for himself at East Creek, and in 1855 located in St. Johnsville. Two years later he and his father engaged in the brick business until 1885, when he retired. He married Mariah J., daughter of John P. Cline, and his wife died September 30, 1863, leaving no children. He is a Republican in politics.

Folmsbee, Hartley, St. Johnsville, was born in South Valley, Otsego county, July 1, 1857, and is a son of John and Mahala (Daly) Folmsbee. He received a common school education, supplemented by a course at the Academy. At the age of sixteen he began working for himself, and at the end of four years he took his earnings and bought land for speculation in Nebraska. In the spring of 1884 he came to St. Johnsville and engaged in the foundry business with William Fonda, and since 1887 has had entire control. He employs seven men and ships to all parts of the country. He is a Republican in politics. He married, February 6, 1884, Kate D., daughter of William and Eva A. (Silvernail) Fonda, by whom he has had two children, Louis W. and Leon M. The grandfather, John (whose father, John, came from Holland), lived and died in Otsego county. He reared two sons, John and Thomas, and ten daughters, all of whom grew to maturity. Our subject's father was born in Otsego county in 1822 and died in 1873. He was a Republican. His wife survives him at the age of sixty-one years. They had ten children: Dempster, who was killed in Sand Bank; Malissa, deceased; Dexter, Roseltha, Elizabeth, deceased, who left one child; Myron, Hartley, Herman, Elthera, who died aged twenty-one, and Arthur.

Markell, Jacob H., St. Johnsville, son of Nancy and Henry (Keeler) Markell, was born in St. Johnsville February 27, 1822, and received a common school and academic education. After his father's death he took charge of the home farm, and at the age of thirty went to Brockport, and entered the Brockport Exchange Bank as teller, remaining six years. He was cashier four years. In 1859 he returned to his native town, and in 1880 entered the First National Bank there as assistant cashier until 1890, when he was made cashier. He has served as supervisor on the Democratic ticket. April 15, 1857, he married Catharine, daughter of Peter P. and Lana (Nellis) Fox. She died May 10, 1892. They had no children. Mr. Markell is a Mason, and one of the organizers of the lodge in St. Johnsville. The grandfather, Jacob (son of Jacob who came from Germany and settled in Stone Arabia), served in the revolutionary war and died in Herkimer county about 1800. He served one term in congress about the year 1816. By his wife, Elizabeth Snell, he had seven children, of whom the sons were, Henry, John, and George. Henry, who was the father of Jacob H., was born in Stone Arabia and moved with his parents to Herkimer county. About 1820 they removed to St. Johnsville, where he practiced law. In 1824 he was elected to congress, where he served two terms. He died in 1839, aged thirty-nine. His four children were Jacob H., Peter K., who died aged twenty-seven; Elizabeth, and Henry.

Jenks, Henry G., St. Johnsville, was born in Ephratah July 22, 1849, a son of Rufus and Anna (Graves) Jenks. He received a common school education, and at the

age of twenty-one began business for himself in the paper business, with his father. In 1878 he moved on the farm where he at present resides, consisting of 156 acres. He married July 10, 1870, Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Snell) Mosher, and they have three children: Charles, Frank, and Hattie. The father of Henry G. was born in Providence, R. I., in 1810, a scythe maker by trade. He afterwards engaged in the paper business, which he followed for twenty-five years. After the war he came to St. Johnsville, where he built and operated an axe factory, employing about ten or twelve laborers. About 1872 he removed to Gravesville, where he and his wife now reside. They had six children: Sophia, who died and left one son; Josephine, George, Anna, Henry C., and Mary, who died in infancy.

Storms, Emory G., St. Johnsville, was born where he now resides, March 10, 1833, a son of John and Catharine C. (Northrup) Storms. His grandfather was John Storms, who was born in Dutchess county and settled on the 100 acres now occupied by the subject of this sketch. His wife was Sarah Bartlett, and they had three children: Henry, John, and Elizabeth. John Storms was born in April, 1812, and is now living in St. Johnsville. He was a Democrat up to 1848, when he became a Whig, and is now a Republican. His wife died in February, 1885, leaving four children: Emory G., Sarah M., Daniel J., and Elmina J. Emory was raised on a farm and educated at the common school and Fairfield Academy. He taught school one term and then taught music in Dickinson Seminary in Pennsylvania. He has since been engaged in farming and the sale of musical instruments of all kinds. He and his wife own the homestead and eighty-five acres in Fulton county, and also own property in St. Johnsville. He has been a contributor to the Utica and Amsterdam newspapers. He was appointed postmaster at Crum Creek, under Buchanan, and held the office until 1891. He is a Republican. He married, July 4, 1855, daughter of Nicholas N. and Effa (Wire) Shaffer, and they have three children: Frances Adelaide, Mary E. Smith, and Emma J. Our subject and wife are members of the M. E. church.

Richards, Warren N., St. Johnsville, was born at Ingham's Mills August 21, 1839, a son of Rev. William I. and Margaret (Snell) Richards. His father was a M. E. minister, and a member of Black River Conference, afterwards transferred to Genesee Conference. This preacher was the father of six children: Theodore, Huldah Ann (Scott); Warren N.; Lieutenant Duane, an Andersonville prisoner; Mary (Reece); and Julia (Peet), who was afterwards married to Lewis Files. Warren N. settled in St. Johnsville in 1859, and followed farming for six years. In 1865 he began railroading as fireman and engineer, which occupation he followed until 1885, when he engaged in the flour and feed business until 1890; he then entered the employ of the N. Y. C. & H. R. R. R. Company, where he remained until January, 1892, when he engaged with the Mohawk Condensed Milk Company. He married, March 29, 1860, Christina, daughter of Edwin and Maria M. (Klock) Snell, who were parents of six children: Christina (Richards); Maria (Finehart), deceased; Calista (Loomer); Joseph G.; Eugene E.; and Jacob, deceased. Warren and wife are connected with the M. E. church, in which he has been class leader, steward and chorister. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. and Royal Arcanum. They have three daughters: Lillie L., wife of

John Klock. Cora E., wife of Reuben B. Porter; and Maria M. Sisum. Lillie and Maria are members of the M. E. church, and Cora of the Reformed church. Mrs. Richards's mother is the daughter of Joseph G. and Christina (Baret) Klock, and he was a son of George G., whose father was Henry Klock, who was one of three brothers who came from Germany and settled in the Mohawk Valley in 1708.

Chawgo, Jacob, deceased, was a son of Mary (Flanders) Chawgo. His grandfather was Jacob, a Frenchman, who settled in Oneida county and moved thence to Otsego county; in 1831 he came to upper St. Johnsville, and occupied a large tract of land where he died. His wife was Mary Herring, who bore him two sons and four daughters. Our subject's father was born in Onondaga county and came to St. Johnsville in 1831, where he died. He had a family of two sons and three daughters. Our subject was born in Springfield, Otsego county, May 3, 1824, and died March 12, 1891. He was an active member of the Reformed church choir for thirty-five years. He filled several town offices. He was a jeweler by trade, and owned the homestead of two hundred acres. He married June 18, 1877, Louisa A., adopted daughter of Henry and Betsey (Parker) Vedder. Louisa's parents were Benjamin and Louisa (Vedder) Carpenter. Henry Vedder was born in Oppenheim, was a Democrat up to 1860 when he became a Republican, and was a Lutheran. He raised a family of three sons and four daughters. He moved to upper St. Johnsville in 1865, where he died April 6, 1881, aged eighty-two; his widow died in December, 1890, in her ninety-third year; she was born in Ireland, and her parents were George and Katie (Parker) Parker. Jacob Chawgo and wife had two children: Jay and May (deceased). Mrs. Chawgo has erected a fine residence in St. Johnsville, where she has lived since 1892.

Failing, Daniel, St. Johnsville, was born February 28, 1825, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Yonker) Failing. His grandfather was Jacob Failing, who was born in St. Johnsville about 1760; he was a soldier in the revolutionary army and was at the battle of Oriskany; his wife was Mary Cox, who bore him five sons and one daughter. Nicholas Failing was born near St. Johnsville, but moved to Oppenheim where he died. He had seven children—three sons and four daughters—of whom our subject is the only one living. Daniel Failing received a common school education, and began when twenty-one as a farmer on a hundred acres in Fulton county. In 1879 he sold out and moved to St. Johnsville village. In 1881 he bought 220 acres in the northwest part of St. Johnsville. He has served as supervisor. He married, December 15, 1847, Eliza, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Bacon; they have had four children: George B., Dell, Charles (deceased) and Hattie, who died at the age of thirteen.

Snell, Edwin S., St. Johnsville, was born in Oppenheim, October 27, 1844, son of Bernard and Emeline (Bartlett) Snell. His grandfather was Adam, who was born at Snell's Bush, where he lived and died, his wife Elizabeth bore him ten children. Our subject's father was born at Snell's Bush in 1802; after his marriage he moved to Fulton county where he resided until 1856, when he went to Little Falls for a short time, returning to Fulton county; in 1866 he moved to St. Johnsville and died there in 1871; his wife died in 1865; they had three children: Moreus (de-

ceased), Morgan and Edwin S. The latter was raised on a farm and was educated at the district school. At twelve years of age he worked for \$4 a month and at twenty-one began for himself on his father's farm. In 1870 he purchased 150 acres of land. He married February 22, 1865, Almeda, daughter of Stephen and Hannah (Vassler) Waters of St. Johnsville. They have two children: Emma, wife of Clark Markell, and Norman. Mrs. Snell is a member of the M. E. church.

Walrath, Martin, St. Johnsville, was born two miles north of St. Johnsville, February 13, 1845, a son of Martin and Julia (Flanders) Walrath. His grandfather was Adam, born in St. Johnsville, where he lived until his death at the age of eighty-four. Martin senior was born in 1814 in St. Johnsville, where he spent his life, dying in 1885; his wife survives him, aged seventy-one. Our subject was raised on a farm and educated at the district school. He taught school two terms; at twenty-two he began clerking in Fort Plain, and was also in the timber business. He was for four years superintendent of the St. Johnsville Agricultural Works. In 1881 he started a milk condenser, which he sold out in 1885; he was postmaster from 1886 to 1891, and in 1883 was elected to the assembly. He married, June 13, 1877, Celestia E., daughter of Dr. Leonard G. and Elizabeth B. (Brown) Haskins. They have two children: Leonard G. and Elizabeth May. Mr. Walrath is a Mason and Knight Templar.

Don, William E., St. Johnsville, was born July 20, 1862, son of Alex. and Susan (Edwards) Don. His grandfather was William Don, who lived in Amsterdam, and died June 9, 1839. Our subject's father was born in Amsterdam, married October 30, 1860, Susan, daughter of John Y. and Mary (Cook) Edwards, and died January 23, 1870. William E. Don married, February 11, 1885, Katie, daughter of Amos and Nancy (Lipe) Klock. They have three children: Mollie, Frank and Alexander. He operates his mother's farm.

Butler, William James, St. Johnsville, a son of Jabez and Saline (Hartwell) Butler, was born at Rome. His father was a miller by trade, and came to St. Johnsville. He married February 4, 1862, Catharine, daughter of George A. and Mary (Flanders) Chawgo. Jacob Chawgo was born, it is supposed, in Montgomery county. His father came from France. Jacob was a mechanic, and worked as blacksmith and millwright. He moved to Otsego and came thence to St. Johnsville, and with his son, George E., purchased two hundred acres of land west of the village. He died there at the age of seventy-four. His wife was Catherine Herring, who died aged eighty-five years. They had seven children: Eve, George E., Mary, Margaret, Catherine, Nancy and John, who all lived to maturity and raised families. Mrs. Catherine (Herring) Chawgo was born at Stone Arabia. Her father was a pioneer, and with two sisters, was taken prisoner by the Indians during the revolution. The women were released, but he was carried to Canada and held for two years. George E. Chawgo was born in Oppenheim, September 4, 1790; his wife was born February 23, 1792. He died at the age of eighty-seven, and his wife at the same age. Their children were: Louisa, Jacob, Abner, Catherine and Harriet; all married and raised families. Mrs. Butler is the only one now living. Subject and his wife are the parents of three children: Martha, Mary and George C., all members of the Reformed church.

Handy, Ervin A., St. Johnsville, was born June 26, 1862, in Oppenheim, a son of David and Sarah E. (Walrath) Handy, and grandson of David, who came from Massachusetts and settled in Oppenheim. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. His wife was a Miss Baum by whom he had four sons and one daughter. Our subject's father was born in Oppenheim, and worked at his trade of blacksmith in St. Johnsville, where he came when a boy. He enlisted in Company G, One Hundred Fifteenth New York Volunteers in the fall of 1862, and was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, and was discharged for disability. Returning to St. Johnsville he engaged in farming and the hotel business. He was a Democrat and served as justice of the peace. He died February 18, 1890, aged sixty-three years. His wife survives. They had two children, Rosetta Crause, and our subject. Ervin A. Handy at the age of fifteen entered a drug store as clerk, which occupation he followed for twelve years: in 1890-92 he was clerk in the freight office, and at the latter date formed a partnership with Charles Whyland, in the drug and hardware business. He has served in town offices, and is a Mason and chief of the fire department. He married, June 10, 1885, Ella G., daughter of Oliver and Ann (Ketchum) Snell; they have one child, George Raymond. They are members of the Reformed church.

Pitcher, George O., St. Johnsville, was born in Cooperstown, November 18, 1842, and is a son of John and Mary A. (Townsend) Pitcher, and grandson of Truman Pitcher, who was born in Connecticut, coming thence to Washington county, and afterwards, in 1816, to Cooperstown. John A. Pitcher was born in Washington county April 1, 1812, received a common school education, read law with Burdick & Griffen, and was a mason by trade. In 1850 he located at Van Hornsville. He died July 8, 1890, and his wife in the fall of 1891, aged sixty-eight. They raised two children, George O. and Mary Kershaw. George O. attended the common school, and at the age of fifteen began work on a farm, and at eighteen in a machine shop, where he continued until 1862, when he began clerking in a grocery store in Van Hornsville, where he was engaged two years. Until 1871 he was in the hotel business in Van Hornsville and Starkville; and at the latter date he went to Otsego and ran a hotel, whence he came to St. Johnsville in 1875, and bought and ran the Empire House for fourteen years, but now rents his property. He is a stockholder in the piano factory, and has built a fine residence. He belongs to the Masonic order and the A. O. U. W. He married, first, Emily, daughter of Jacob Blunt, and had two children. His wife died July 6, 1867, and he married Elizabeth A. Cramer. His son, Deo A., died at the age of twenty-four. He was educated in the high school and at Worcester; he was a Mason, and was in the Guarantee Mutual office in New York and the mail service, and was a talented young man.

Klock, Zebina R., St. Johnsville, was born in St. Johnsville, June 12, 1846, and is a son of Nehemiah and Almira (Shall) Klock, and grandson of John Klock, who was born in St. Johnsville, and married Gertrude Timmerman, who bore him eight children. He was in the war of 1812, and had a farm on East creek. He died at the age of eighty-six, and his wife at seventy-eight. The father of our subject was born in St. Johnsville

and was killed by the kick of a horse in 1850, when he was twenty-six years of age. He had three children, Z. R., Calvin E. and Nehemiah R. His widow married John J. Wagoner. Zebina R. Klock was raised in Danube, to which place his father moved in the spring of 1846. He attended the district school until he was fifteen, when he went to work by the month. At twenty he worked a farm for a year, and then spent a year at railroading, after which he began the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed. In 1881 he came to St. Johnsville and bought a saw-mill and spoke factory; also ran a feed mill. He is a member of the I. O. H. and Order of Ægis. He has been twice married; first to Maria, daughter of Horatio and Elizabeth (Timmerman) Freeman, who bore him three children: Frank B., Horatio and Lena (deceased). His wife died August 14, 1875, and he married, second, Gertrude, daughter of John B. and Eliza (Klock) Robinson, by whom he has had two children, Lewis M. and Helen E. He and wife are members of the Baptist church. He has an interest in a farm of 100 acres, also runs a general store.

Smith, Jonas S., St. Johnsville, was born in St. Johnsville August 28, 1855, and is a son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Snell) Smith, and a grandson of Frederick Smith who was born in Ephratah, was a lieutenant in the war of 1812, and married Elizabeth Cool, by whom he had six boys and two girls. He died at the age of fifty-three. Our subject's father was born in Oppenheim December 25, 1820, was a railroad man, and held town offices. For the past twelve years he has lived a retired life. His wife was a daughter of Jacob Snell; she was the mother of eight children and died in 1859. Jonas S. Smith was raised on a farm, and at nineteen began life for himself at clerking, which he followed for six years, when he engaged in the piano and organ business. In the spring of 1885 he bought and operated a brick yard. He is a Democrat. February 25, 1885, he married Jennie, daughter of Martin and Hattie M. (Burch) Williams who died in October of the same year.

Flanders, Martin, St. Johnsville, was born in St. Johnsville June 9, 1828, and is a son of Christopher and Mary (Hearing) Flanders, and a grandson of Jacob, whose father was Jacob, an emigrant from Holland. Our subject's grandfather was born in St. Johnsville, was a farmer, and a member of the Dutch Reformed church. His wife was Catharine Fox, by whom he had five children: Christopher, Benjamin, Jacob, Mary and Margaret. Christopher Flanders was born April 8, 1808, in St. Johnsville; he was a farmer, a Democrat, and held town offices. His children were: Martin, Reuben, Nancy, Catharine, Mary James and Ezra, all married. He and his wife were members of the Reformed church. His death occurred in 1883, and that of his wife in 1889. Martin Flanders married in June, 1852, Esther, daughter of Jacob J. and Catharine (Shaffer) Klock, by whom he had seven children, as follows: Albert, Emily, wife of Milford Shaffer; Mary, wife of Dan D. Walrath; Julia, wife of Frank Moyer; Carrie, deceased; Helen, wife of Fred Gering; and Ruie. He owns a farm of fifty acres, and has worked at the carpenter's trade all his life. In 1883 he moved to St. Johnsville, where he erected a residence in which he has since lived. He is a Democrat, and he and his wife are members of the Dutch Reformed church.

Sutherland, Henry L., St. Johnsville, was born in Canajoharie October 4, 1850, a son of Lewis and Margaret (Fresch) Sutherland, and grandson of Frederick Sutherland,

who came from Germany and settled in Canajoharie. He moved to Oswego, Ill., where he and his wife died. The father of our subject was born in Germany January 20, 1816. His wife was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, June 7, 1825, and came here with her parents, Andrew and Mary Fresch. He was a cooper. In the spring of 1858 he located in St. Johnsville, where he still lives. They are the parents of six children: Clark E., Edward W., H. L., Charles, Fred, and Minnie. Clark served in the Sixteenth Heavy Artillery; Edward served in the 115th New York Volunteers, and is now in Chicago. Henry L., in 1875, began as a job printer, which business he followed for two years, and then went to Chicago, and worked for the Bell Telephone Company, then with A. V. Hartwell & Company, as book-keeper for one year. In 1882 he returned to St. Johnsville and engaged in the insurance and real estate business with M. Walrath until 1886, since which date he has been alone. He is a Republican and has served as collector four terms.

Bauder, John M., Root, father of Mrs. Angelica Spencer, was born at Yatesville May 29, 1795. He was a farmer, and October 31, 1814, married Magdalen Doxtator of his native county, and they had four children: John, Dorcas, Angelica, and Malachi (who died aged about four). Angelica was born at the old homestead, and married Albert Spencer of Flat Creek September 9, 1852. They had one son, Malachi, who was born June 2, 1854. He was educated in the common schools, and was a merchant and farmer. He married Kattie I. Van Schaick of this place, and they have two children, Emmett L. and James A. Mrs. Spencer's grandfather, John Doxtator, was a soldier in the war of 1812. Her paternal grandfather, John Bauder, was one of the first settlers near Yatesville. Her brother's son, Isaac Bauder, was a soldier in the late war. Mr. Spencer died September 12, 1883.

Sammons, Colonel Simeon, Mohawk, son of Thomas, was born in the town of Mohawk May 23, 1811. He was educated at Johnstown, and was bred on the old homestead farm. The family has been identified with the history of the Mohawk valley for more than a century, and Sampson Sammons, the colonel's grandfather, had charge of Johnson Hall under the Tryon county committee, during the revolution. Thomas Sammons, the colonel's father, was elected to congress for two terms and the family has held other positions of prominence. Colonel Sammons always had a military taste and in early life held a commission in the militia. When the rebellion broke out he raised the 115th New York Regiment, of which he was colonel. The services of this regiment are detailed in the chapter on the military history of the county. Colonel Sammons fought at Olustee and at Petersburg, and was twice wounded. He held the office of supervisor several terms. He married Barbara Gross, daughter of Henry Gross, and they have had four children: Mary C., Henry G., Lydia, wife of Isaac H. Fonda, station agent at Fonda; and Jane Emma. Colonel Sammons was member of assembly one term, and was also harbor master for the port of New York. He died in March, 1881, and his widow resides on the homestead.

Vunk, John H., Root, father of Frank, was born in Charleston (now Glen) December 26, 1815. He was educated in the public schools of that day, and was a farmer. November 14, 1839, he married Alice, fifth daughter of Ephraim and Abigail (Kenyon)

Birch of Charleston. They had three daughters and a son: Rosellen, who married Robert Cross of Cobleskill, Schoharie county, N. Y.; Emma V., who married Allen Borden of the town of Glen; Anna V., who married Bentley Johnson of Amsterdam; and Frank, who was born in the town of Charleston. The latter was educated in the public school. He also is a farmer. June 26, 1884, he married Olive, oldest daughter of Joseph and Luey Ann (Humphrey) Bell of Charleston. Henry, grandfather of Frank Vunk, was born in Monmouth, N. J., January 31, 1792, and came with his parents to this county when an infant. He married Elizabeth Reese, and they had fourteen children. His great-grandfather, Henry, was in the war of the revolution, was taken prisoner in the battle of Monmouth. In the family of Ephraim and Abigail Birch there were twelve children. John H. Vunk had two uncles in the war of 1812, Barnes and William. Joseph Bell, father of Mrs. Vunk, resides on his farm of 121 acres in the town of Charleston, where he was born March 9, 1814. He married Lucy Ann Humphrey February 8, 1844, of the same town, she was born April 21, 1819. They had these children: Olive, born December 23, 1848, married Frank Vunk; Isaac P., born September 2, 1851; John H., born November 8, 1853; Mary Ette, born March 12, 1856, married Hiram Eaton March 1, 1885; Charles J., born July 11, 1858, married Etta Montanye March 2, 1884. Peter, father of Joseph Bell, and grandfather of Mrs. Vunk, married Mary, daughter of Abram Lott, and had eight children. Peter was born at Half Moon, Saratoga county. James Humphrey, father of Lucy Ann, and maternal grandfather of Mrs. Vunk, was born January 13, 1776, in Duaneburg, and married Mrs. Lucy Burton, whose maiden name was Brown. She was born February 27, 1782, in Connecticut.

Eaverson, Adam, Palatine, was born in Mohawk December 11, 1843, a son of Hiram (born December 24, 1823) and Caroline Vroman (born May 26, 1829, died April 4, 1876,) Eaverson. They had a family of four sons and seven daughters. Adam Eaverson was raised on a farm and attended the common school. He followed clerking for several years, afterwards engaging in mercantile business at Argusville; later he bought and conducted for five years a hotel at Randall. In 1890 he came to Nelliston and engaged in mercantile business which he has since followed. He is deputy postmaster there. Mr. Eaverson married, December 20, 1876, Isabella, daughter of David (born May 30, 1811) and Nancy Ford (born January 4, 1816, died February 13, 1877) Kretser. Their children are as follows, namely: Nellie, born September 5, 1877; Frank, born April 23, 1880; Wannelta, born August 9, 1891.

Sherwood, John B., Amsterdam, Rockton p. o., was born in Williamstown, Mass., October 27, 1838, a son of Daniel and Lucy (Green) Sherwood. Jonathan Sherwood, grandfather of the subject of our sketch, came from Connecticut to Massachusetts early in 1700. Daniel A., father of our subject was born in Massachusetts December 10, 1805, and came to Fulton county in 1851. His death occurred April 17, 1883, leaving a wife and three children: Carrie Veeder of Fulton, born June 2, 1845; Lucy Blauvelt of Rockland county, born January 16, 1847, and John B. When he was eleven years old his parents moved to Fulton county. He attended school at Fairfield Academy, and received a good business education. After graduating, for a few years he taught school

in Fulton county and assisted his father in the farm. December 22 1884 he married Elizabeth Stauffer daughter of Nicholas M. and Eliza Weber Stauffer of Fulton county. Their union has been blessed with two children Hannah born July 27 1874 and Mabel born January 22 1878. John B. came to this town in 1871 and bought the farm of 200 acres called the Dargman farm where he lived until 1884 after moving to Amsterdam any where he had previously had a fine and commodious residence.

Wells Peter F. St. Johnsville son of David and Catherine Fox Wells was born August 20 1822 in Canada. He received his education at the district schools and while young left home and went to Charleston S. C. where he engaged as clerk in a store. In 1851 he returned to St. Johnsville where he has lived ever since. He owns three farms comprising 500 acres and engages largely in farming. He is a Mason and has served as supervisor several years. He is a Democrat. In May 1861 he married Anna M. daughter of Peter F. and Lena Wells Fox and they have two children Lena and Catherine M. His wife died in July 1890. The grandfather John B. Wells whose great grandfather Wells came from Germany and settled in Columbia county in 1730 was born in France in 1770 at the time the same church was built. He served in the Democratic camp in several army offices and married a Miss Weaver by whom he had six children John David Dewitt Simon Devoet and Lena. He died in 1864. The father of Peter F. was born in France in 1800 and died in Fultonville in 1860. He was twice married and his children by his first wife were Maria Edward Peter F. and Alfred. He married second a Mrs. Osborn by whom he had no children. The mother of Peter F. was a daughter of Peter Fox a revolutionary soldier as was his father before him. John Wells in case of the subject was a prominent attorney and member of the constitutional convention of 1861. The Welles were the main contributors for the erection of the France stone church which was completed in 1877.

Hillegas David St. Johnsville was born where he now resides June 16 1836 and is a son of Conrad and Sophia Elvick Hillegas. His grandfather Hillegas came from Germany and settled in the west part of the town where he died. During the rebellion he was captured by the Indians while acting as scout and taken to Canada where he escaped after some months and returned home in mid-winter. He was a cooper and was twice married. By his first wife he had one son and three daughters and by his second three sons and two daughters. The father of our subject was the only son of his mother and was born in St. Johnsville in June 1800 and died in February 1867. He was a cooper in early life and afterwards followed farming. He was a captain of militia a Whig and an active member of the Dutch Reformed church. He was twice married his first wife being a Miss Zimmerman by whom he had four children Adam Jacob and two daughters. His subject's mother the second wife had four children Eva Nancy David and Hannah. She died in December 1861. David Hillegas has always lived on the homestead on which he has about 2000 he owns 400 acres. He is a Democrat and has been assessor. He married Sally A. daughter of James and Teresia David Central and had the following children James of Michigan Mary wife of Tom Underhill of Dakota Emma deceased wife of Alfred Nails George Melissa widow of Estlin Warren Alfred of Chicago Mildred deceased.

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quarters of his body were hung up in as many places about the nearest town, fastened by iron chains, which chains are still on exhibition at a place in Hol and called Nymwegen and were seen by some members of the present Schenck family a few years since at Nymwegen, where his name is cherished as elsewhere in Holland. His brother Peter came to this country in the year 1650, and settled in Long Island, from which place various branches of the family emanated, many settling in New Jersey where several families are still to be found, and especially in Monmouth county, where the great-great-grandfather of the writer of this sketch was born, and married to Miss Mary Winters, and they lived in New Jersey all their lives. Their son, Ralph, the great-grandfather of the present family, was born in the town of Amwell, N. J., in 1740, and married Ann Taylor, a first cousin of General Zachary Taylor, our twelfth President, the 15th of October, 1774, and four of their children were born there, including William, the grandfather of this family, who was born May 13, 1777; the other three were Rebecca, Mary and Ann. They then moved to the town of Johnstown, New York, and there Edward Taylor, Eleanor, Alida, Catharine, Margaret and Sarah were born. Ralph Schenck was one of the old pioneers of that then wild, undeveloped region, where he performed his part well in the advancement of civilization and in the cause of human freedom. When the clouds of war and revolution burst over the land Mr. Schenck enlisted in the cause of our young, struggling republic, and shouldering his musket marched boldly to the field of strife. He fought with heroic valor in the fierce battles of Monmouth and Cowpens, and was highly commended by his superior officers for his bravery on the field. In those dark days which tried men's souls his courage never flagged in the cause of freedom, but with his face to the foe on many a hotly contested battle-field, he strove manfully to maintain the honor of our flag, and the independence of our country. And to-day his name is still honored as one of the true and brave men of the revolution. On every returning Decoration Day his grave at Johnstown, where he died, is decorated for his bravery as a revolutionary soldier, with the graves of those noble men who in recent times fell while fighting for the imperilled Union. He held the rank of first lieutenant, and died September 5, 1806. His son William, of whom we have spoken, lived with his father until he married his first wife, Sarah Wood, June 17, 1798, and lived for a few years on a farm about two miles south of Little Falls, from which place he moved to Sammonsville, where his wife died, May 14, 1803, leaving two children, Ralph and Lydia. He married his second wife, Rachel Sammons, at Sammonsville, March 17, 1805, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters, namely: Benjamin, William, Richard, John, Edward Taylor, Jacob, Garret, Ann, Sarah, Rebecca and Rachel. After his second marriage William Schenck began life on a farm at Sammonsville, and from that place moved on a large tract of land of several hundred acres purchased from John Dewantler who had bought the property from Major Jellis Fonda of well known revolutionary fame, who had here a store and a mill, as well as a grand brick house which was burned in John Johnson's raid. After William Schenck obtained possession of the property, he carried on an extensive milling business, consisting of a grist mill, saw mill, fulling mill, plaster mill and cider mill, also a blacksmith shop and cooper shop. He was well sustained in his extensive business by his sons, and especially by his son Benjamin, who even when a

mere boy in his teens had charge of the large farms and milling business entirely in his father's absence, and often had sixty men employed at a time. They had at that time a splendid water power from the then durable creek, known as Kanagara, and a large, valuable spring, known as "the cold spring at Schenck's," a famous picnic ground. The produce from the farms and milling business was taken across the Mohawk river at the place by the use of a rope ferry, and loaded on canal boats, as the present railroad system was unknown at that time. More than sixty years ago William Schenck built a large and substantial brick house, which is still standing, near the site where the house of Major Jellis Fonda was burned by the Indians in the revolutionary war. A well, sixty feet deep, made by Fonda, is still in one of the yards, and there are still standing many apple trees set out by him at least 150 years ago. Besides being a place of revolutionary note it is a place of great natural beauty, and has on it beautiful woodland and fifteen springs of excellent water, which makes it a well-watered farm. Some of the springs are in such beautiful places that they are well worthy of notice. Rachel Sammons, the second wife of William Schenck, died on the place October 31, 1840, and about two years after William Schenck deeded the property to his son Benjamin, the father of the present family on the place, and went to Wisconsin, where he died at Beloit July 16, 1852, after marrying his third wife, Jane McKnight. Benjamin Schenck was born March 21, 1806, and received his education in the common schools; he lived with his father until his father moved to Wisconsin. He married, December 30, 1840, Susan Martin, who was born at Fultonville, May 22, 1818. After her marriage she came to live in the family residence built by William Schenck, in which she remained until the day of her death, which occurred January 29, 1892, and in which also the nine children of Benjamin and Susan Schenck were born, whose names are: William Henry, Anna, Catharine, Margaret, Frances, Rachael, Benjamin, Edward Taylor and Elizabeth Haslett. Mrs. Susan Schenck was also of Holland Dutch origin and a direct descendant of the well known Staats and General Philip Schuyler family of revolutionary fame, and was a woman whose generosity was proverbial; the poor people who lived in her neighborhood had reason to call her blessed. When Benjamin Schenck became the possessor of his father's property he took it with many encumbrances, but by prudence and industry he kept and improved it, and at the time of his death, which occurred August 11, 1873, he had planted many beautiful trees and had built more than twenty miles of stone wall upon it. He always stood by his word and signature, and notwithstanding the fact that he had lost several thousand dollars by endorsing, he thought men honest, and was ever ready to lend a helping hand in the same way. He always followed farming, stock-raising, lumbering and milling. He was a life-long Republican and himself and wife were members of the Reformed church at Canajoharie, and he kept besides at the time of his death a seat in each of the Reformed churches at Sprakers and Stone Arabia. He was also a director in the Canajoharie National Bank. In his lifetime he manfully battled many financial obstacles, and died leaving an untarnished reputation to his children, six of whom are still living, William Henry, Frances and Benjamin, jr., preceding their parents to the grave. Anna, Edward Taylor and Rachael are still living on the estate inherited from their father. Catharine married George A.

Nellis of Fonda, and is now at Bellows Falls, Vt., with her husband and only child, a daughter named Bertelle Schenck. Elizabeth H. married Oliver Winchester Dye of New Haven, Conn., and they are now living at Denver, Col. Martin married Adelle Van Evera of Sprakers, and has a son and a daughter named Gilbert and Susan Elizabeth. They are living at Albany, where he has his office as state engineer and surveyor of New York State. The record formerly belonging to Major Jellis Fonda is now in possession of Edward T. Schenck, one of his lineal descendants.

Hewitt, Margaret.—The late Nias Hewitt was born in Philadelphia, Pa., September 10, 1842, and came with his parents here when a child. He was educated in the public schools of Amsterdam. He was brought up on a farm and became one of Amsterdam and Rockton's business men. January 15, 1873, he married Margaret, oldest daughter of John and Jane Weir of this place, formerly of Scotland. They had no children. Mr. Hewitt died May 18, 1881. The following extracts we take from obituary notes at the time of his death: "Mr. Hewitt began life in humble circumstances, by industry, economy and probity he acquired a handsome competency. He had excellent business judgment and marked executive ability. Quiet in manner, reticent in speech, he gave the impress of much reserve force. His disposition was amiable and cheerful. He was a man of decided literary tastes, and his careful reading gave him a large fund of information. He was a self-made man in every sense of the term, and was a member of the Methodist church and was interested in its Sabbath school, and in all matters that aimed at the elevation of mankind; obeying the scriptural injunction in all things—not to let your right hand know what the left hand doeth." In politics he was a faithful Republican. His wife was a member of the celebrated Weir family of physicians of Scotland, and her mother of the Clan of the MacDonalds, and on his side of good Quaker stock.

Hogg, James, was born in Rawden, near Leeds, Yorkshire, England, November 10, 1851. He entered one of the woolen mills there at an early age, where he worked in the carding and spinning departments. His father, John Hogg, owned several hand looms and spinning jennys. In this business he was called upon to assist his father and soon became proficient in hand spinning and weaving. Hand-loom weaving being on the decline his family removed to Saltair and there entered the employ of Sir Titus Salt, Bart., Sons & Co., where he laid a good foundation in the worsted business, having served an apprenticeship to wool sorting, after which he went to Greenock, Scotland, to return to the worsted spinning and drawing. After acquiring considerable experience at the latter place he returned to his native place, Yorkshire, where he held positions in some of the largest and best mills in and around Bradford. At the age of twenty-five years he was president of the Managers and Overlookers Provident Society in Bradford. In the year 1880 Mr. Hogg came to the United States and located at Lawrence, Mass., at which place he started up a worsted carpet-yarn mill for a new company which had just been formed at the time of his arrival. He remained in this position until the year 1888, when he came to Amsterdam to take charge as superintendent of the worsted mills of S. Sanford & Sons, which place he continues to fill. Mr. Hogg is the author of a book devoted to mill mathematics. He is also patentee

of several inventions, and although unfortunately deprived of the opportunity of an early education, he has attained the rank of being a high authority in mill mathematics and is considered a thoroughly practical mill man, with a good knowledge of the various classes of wool used in the manufacture of all grades of worsted yarns. Mr. Hogg married Mary Ann Waite of Guiseley, near his native place, who came to this country in the early part of 1881 with their five sons, viz.: Ernest, James Albert, Wilfred H., G. Walter, and William Gordon who died at the age of thirteen years. Five more have been added to their family since they came to the United States, viz.: Florence Ida, Hattie M., Frank H., Jennie and Edna.

Shubert, Frank, was born in the Hessian Province, Germany, January 21, 1841, and came to this country in 1857. He first located at Palatine Bridge, where he engaged with Loucks Shell on the Frey farm for one year; he then went into the shoe shop of Henry G. Winsmen of Canajoharie to learn the shoemakers' trade. He remained with him nearly three years and then went on a farm for a short time, but soon returned to the shoe business. On the 15th of August, 1861, he enlisted in the Forty-third New York Volunteers under Colonel Fenton. He saw service in nearly all the battles of the Peninsula, including Yorktown, Williamsburg, the seven days' fight, Crampton Pass, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mary's Heights, Salem Heights, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Appomattox Court House. His regiment was in the Sixth corps throughout the war and was mustered out of service June 27th, 1865. Mr. Shubert was wounded at the battle of Cedar Creek, but he returned to the field the following February. At the close of the war he returned to his home and engaged in his old trade of shoemaking, working at it for two months when he bought a half interest in the firm of Sticht & Brother, the firm name changing to Sticht & Shubert. The co-partnership lasted fourteen years, when it was dissolved by mutual consent, and Mr. Shubert bought the store where he now is in the Stumfield block, where he has done a successful business. He now does about \$10,000 worth of business a year and is one of the leading business men of Canajoharie. He married in 1868 Cecelia M. Letter of this place, by whom he had four children, James F. who died September 8, 1890, at twenty-one years of age; Frank M. was born January 19, 1871; Walter L., born in 1874; Bertil Henrietta, born September 17, 1885.

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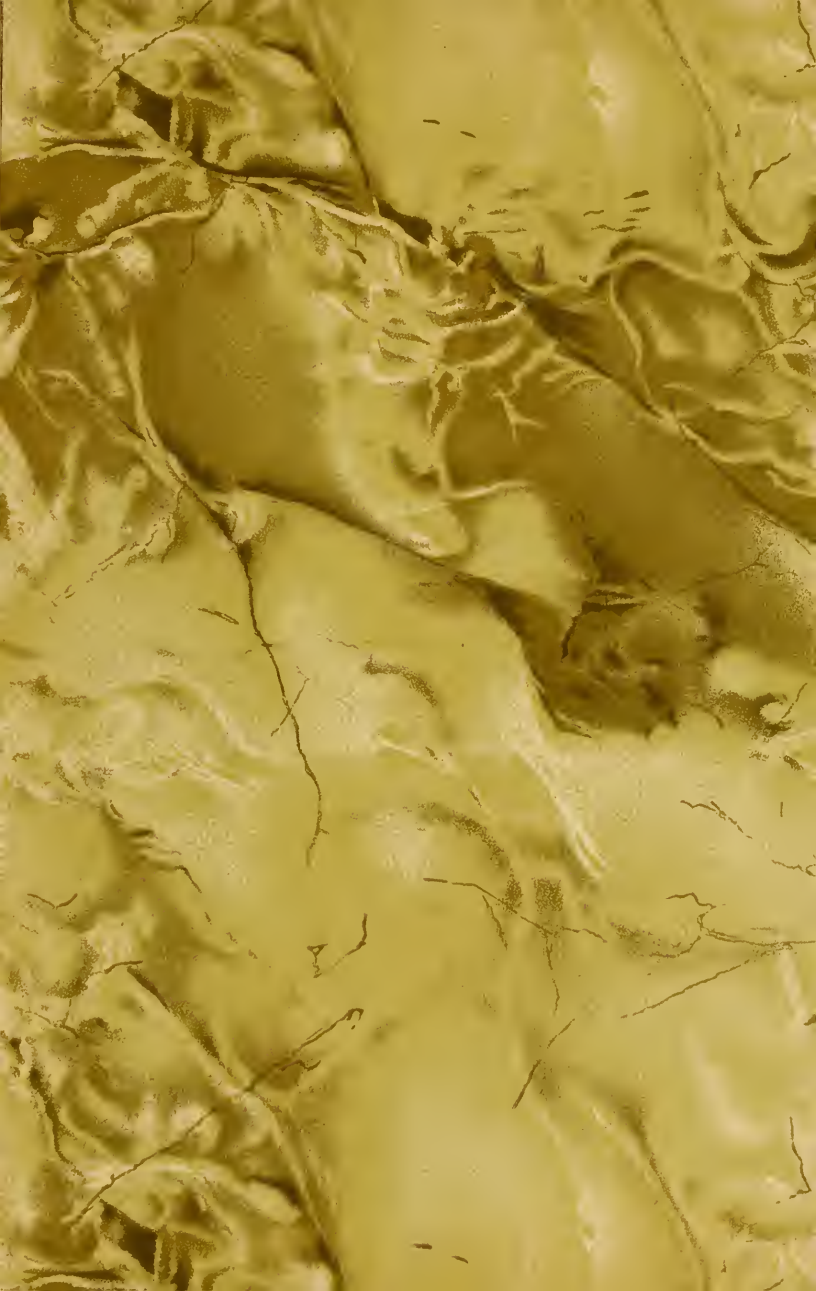
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