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BI-CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF ALBANY.

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF ALBANY,

N. Y.,

FROM 1609 TO 1886.

WITH PORTRAITS, BIOGRAPHIES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

HOWELL.



TENNEY,

ASSISTED BY

LOCAL WRITERS.

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organize a Congregational Church he was one of the first to give support to the enterprise, and as one of the committee chosen to prepare its articles of faith and mode of government, he did much toward shaping and guiding the measures which have given the organization such prominence in the city.

He was a conscientious member of his profession, a clear and careful author, a loving and beloved instructor, the eminently true and social friend and the good citizen, bearing with fidelity no small share of the public burdens.

His works will be perused by eager students when most of his contemporaries are forgotten. His influence as a professor and teacher, although wide and extended, will become wider as the years

go by. While we speak of him as a lawyer, teacher and author, we will not forget his higher virtues as a man. So far as is the lot of mortals, his was a spotless character. Although competent to fill the highest places, he sought the humblest stations. With learning to which we all who knew him bowed with respect, he walked humbly before God and man. Beyond the members of his family circle and intimate friends, he will be remembered by the Bar, among whom his daily life was passed, by clients who depended upon his counsel, by his pupils who treasured his lectures and advice, by good citizens who were charmed by the graces of his private life, and by the wide circle of the public, who will long remember his instruction and treasure his counsel.

MEDICINE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

By FREDERIC C. CURTIS, M. D.

WHEN Henry Hudson came up the Grande River in the first decade of the seventeenth century, and on a lovely September afternoon, when the hills were clothed in autumn red, dropped anchor off the point where Albany now stands, there is no doubt that he would have found on inquiry that the dusky aborigines interestedly watching his movements from the shore were not unfamiliar with the medicine man. In one fashion or another medicine has been practiced in all ages. It is not the purpose of this narrative to trace the medical affairs of this locality back among the Mohawks and Mohegans; to commence the history of them, even during the century which followed the building of Fort Orange, a limited array of facts are found. In the voluminous records of our early history scant reference is made to the medical events which formed a part of it. To construct in any detail a sketch of them would require a fund of as yet unpublished traditions of an unbroken line of Dutchmen, all to the manor born, or a draft on the imagination unworthy of the truthful chronicler.

It is not remarkable that this should be so, for in a community intently occupied in obtaining the necessaries of life, subduing forests, planting settlements, and meeting the dangers that surrounded it from unfriendly natives, contentious governments, and a rigorous climate, there was little time to think of more domestic matters, and few, especially among these Dutch Colonies, where commercial tastes ruled, and learning was backward, to make note of them. The healthy, laborious people

who came to these shores required few physicians, and they and their surroundings presented few attractions to Old World practitioners. Still they were not unmindful of their need of the medical man, and there were those among them who in some sort practiced the art or the domestic traditions of medicine.

During the early years of all the American Colonies there were many who were looked to for advice in sickness who possessed but the simplest knowledge of medicine. The literature of the profession was not so voluminous but that any educated man might make himself familiar with the theories and practices of the times. Schoolmasters, clergymen and government officials were frequently somewhat versed in medicine; the clergy especially gave attention to the subject, as missionaries of the present day often do, by study prior to leaving the Old World. This was more frequently the case in the New England Colonies, but was also true here. Among the Dutch dominions, Rev. Dr. Megapolensis is said to have made some pretense to a knowledge of medicine. He might better have stuck to preaching, however, if his practice was of a piece with the advice he gives, in writing on the medical usages among the Mohawk Indians, and which the good vrouws to whom it was addressed very sensibly repudiated. Another of the medico-clerics was Dominic Mancius, who educated his son in medicine so that he was for a lifetime one of the prominent physicians of Albany. It is worth mentioning in this connec-

tion that, nearly two hundred years later, George Upfold, a young physician here, studied theology, and eventually became Bishop of Indiana. The Indians had learned the medical value of some indigenous herbs, and the Indian medicine man may be mentioned as one of the accessories of early colonial practice. He sometimes won a wide reputation. The story of the High Rock Spring, first disclosed to white men by the wonderful result upon Sir William Johnson, who was carried to it by the Indians, is familiar to all. Their theories, so far as they had any, were essentially supernatural, as is at the present time commonly the case among barbarous and ignorant people.

The Dutch West India Company are said to have been exceptional in their care for the health of their sailors, all their vessels being provided with a surgeon, or some one having a familiarity with medicine. They extended the same consideration to their colonies. Reference to it repeatedly recurs in their regulations, one of which is as follows: "The patroons and colonists shall, in particular and in the speediest manner, endeavor to find ways and means whereby they may support a minister and a schoolmaster, that the service of God and the zeal for religion may not grow cold and be neglected among them, and that they do for the first procure a *comforter of the sick*." This functionary, variously termed in the original *krankbesoecker* or *zieckenrooster*, is the first recognized person charged with the care of the sick in the Dutch Colonies. He was probably of an inferior order of clergy, for he is mentioned as conducting the religious service on Sundays. But he is also often found serving in other capacities and holding civil office, in which, however, he was not peculiar, for the duties of the preacher, doctor, soldier and government official were frequently performed by one individual in primitive times.

The first comforter of the sick at Fort Orange was Sebastian Jansen Crol. His earliest appearance in the history of the New Netherlands, in which he played a considerable part, was in this capacity at Fort Amsterdam. He came to this colony in 1626, two years after it was established, having been appointed Vice-Director and Company's Commissary to Fort Orange. It is a matter of justifiable inference that he continued his medico-clerical duties here, in addition to those of the office to which he was appointed. He appears to have been a judicious man, and served the colony well in his various capacities for twenty years.

He was succeeded in official position, in 1646, by Harmanus Myndertse van der Bogart. It is

only in this official capacity that Van der Bogart is spoken of, but there appears no doubt that he is identical with the ship surgeon of the same name who came to New Amsterdam in 1630 in the *Eendracht*. His term of service here was short, for he is said to have been burned to death in 1648 in an Indian wigwam on the Mohawk River.

To another than Surgeon Van der Bogart, however, belongs the honor of having been the first regular physician who came to this locality. In 1642 the number of the colonists had become sufficiently large for the Patroon to comply with the West India Company's requirements to provide them with the services of a clergyman. He accordingly fitted out a ship, which arrived here in August of that year, bringing Rev. Dr. Megapolensis, and in his most worthy company Surgeon Abraham Staats. Whether he was employed, as was the minister, to serve the colony in his professional capacity, is not recorded. Nor are we told what were his professional attainments. His *clientele* at first was not large, for Albany consisted at this time of a hamlet of twenty-five or thirty houses, built along the river as each found it convenient, in proximity to the wretched little log fort, the population being about one hundred. A burial ground had been found necessary, however, and was laid out on our present Church street. Whatever his skill may have been, oversight of which by the diarist of the day is not to be wondered at, Dr. Staats was an enterprising citizen and filled his abundant professional leisure with other work. He was the first presiding officer of the village council of Rensselaerwyck, and once assisted in making an important treaty with the Indians. On week days he was a captain, and on Sunday an elder. We are left to our unassisted inferences as to the perquisites of our primitive doctor, although the dominie's salary is matter of history. In 1642 his house, at Clavarack, was burned by the savages, who seem to have had a penchant for cremating doctors, and his wife, with others of his family, perished. He became the owner of Fort Orange, it is said, and the ground on which it stood has ever since remained in the possession of his descendants. A son studied medicine in Holland and rose to eminence in New York.

Johannes de la Montagne, a Huguenot gentleman, played a political part only in the history of Fort Orange. He came to New York in 1637, and was Vice-Director of Fort Orange from 1656 to 1664; he also held various other offices of trust in the colony. He is said to have been a skillful physician, but was not expert enough to distinguish between gold and pyrites in some war-paint of the

natives that was submitted to him for assay, and which excited much interest for a time. What is supposed to be the first enactment to regulate the practice of medicine at New Amsterdam was the following: "Ordered, that ship barbers shall not be allowed to dress wounds, nor administer any potion on shore, without the consent of the petitioners [the local surgeons], or at least of Dr. La Montagne."

Surgeon De Hinse, a Frenchman, was resident physician at the Fort in 1666. While he was here a body of French soldiers in pursuit of the Indians from Quebec found their way to Fort Albany, as it then chanced to be called, having been surrendered to the English two years before by La Montagne, and De Hinse is on record as having received official thanks for professional services to them. Surgeons on duty at the Fort served, at that time, at the pay of 2s. 6d. per diem.

In 1689 a Scotch physician, Lockhart by name, practiced in Albany, and was surgeon to the Fort. Albany was at this time a large stockaded village.

At a later date, a son of Dr. Megapolensis was a surgeon of this colony; but both he and his brother Samuel, both graduates of Leyden, spent most of their lives in New York.

It is probable that there were other practitioners of medicine during the first hundred years of our history; but these are all that appear, after considerable research, until we pass well on into the eighteenth century. The names of less than forty physicians are known as coming to the entire province of New York in the course of the seventeenth century, and of most of these but little more is known than their names. The various lineage of these here mentioned, coming as they probably did chiefly from Holland, shows how that country was then the asylum for people of all nationalities.

The prominent events of the eighteenth century around which to cluster matters of medical interest are the French War and the War of the Revolution, in both of which Albany was at times an important center. The medical science of a country is always advanced by wars; they demand skilled medical officers, and so encourage the progress of medicine. Besides, they furnish a school for practice and observation. The French War especially gave an impetus to the profession, then entirely dependent on Europe for its education. The native had no means of acquiring knowledge at home except in a sort of apprenticeship way. The English army was accompanied by a highly respectable medical staff, who contributed much to the

education of many young Americans through the military hospitals which were established.

Dr. Samuel Stringer, a native of Maryland, and educated in Virginia, where a medical school had just been started, was the most prominent physician in Albany during the eighteenth century, and was connected with both of the wars. In 1755 he was appointed by Gov. Shirley an officer in the medical department of the British army in this country. He accompanied Abercrombie, in 1758, and was present when Lord Howe fell in advancing to the siege of Ticonderoga. He served until the war ended, when he settled in Albany, married here, and remained here in practice until the outbreak of the Revolution, when he was appointed by Congress Director-General of Hospitals in the Northern Department. In this capacity he accompanied the troops on the invasion of Canada. He was a friend and probably the family physician of Gen. Schuyler, the ill-favor which befell whom, there seems reason to believe, he participated in. At any rate, he was removed from his position, an act which called forth a very angry remonstrance from the General to Congress. This was in 1777, and he then returned to Albany, where he spent the rest of a long life. It is said that he always adhered to the style of dress of the olden time—the cocked hat, tight breeches, and shoes with large buckles.

Dr. Nicholas Schuyler was another of the surgeons of this locality who was connected with the Federal army of the Revolution. He was an ardent patriot and an intelligent surgeon. After performing valuable service during the war he returned to Albany; he died in Troy in 1824.

Dr. J. Cochran, of Pennsylvania, served as surgeon in the Revolutionary army and was high in position. He became Surgeon-General of the Middle Department, and in 1781 was made Director-General of the Hospitals of the United States. After the war was over he settled in Albany.

At one time the brothers Moses and Elias Willard were physicians of Albany. They were natives of New England, and, with their father, had a hand in the bloody struggle at Lexington. Elias, before the war, had begun to study medicine, and after a brief service as a common soldier he entered a military hospital in Boston, which, under Dr. John Warren, brother of the hero of Bunker Hill, was made a training school for the much-needed medical men. Two years later he was appointed surgeon of a Maine regiment, and served till the close of the war. He came to Albany in 1801 and practiced here for twenty-five years. His brother

was younger and entered the service later ; he resided here for several years.

Every one at all familiar with the medical men of Albany a hundred years ago knows the name of Hunloke Woodruff. He was a graduate of Princeton, and shortly before the commencement of hostilities between the colonies and the mother country had begun the study of medicine, had taken up his residence in Albany, but soon was appointed surgeon of one of the New York regiments, and served until peace was declared. He accompanied the northern army to Canada, and was with Col. Gansevoort during the siege of Fort Stanwix, and attended Gen. Sullivan in his expedition against the hostile Indians of Western New York. He settled here to practice after the war and spent the best of his life here, highly esteemed as a learned physician.

Several of these men, it is observed, were contributions of the army to Albany.

As an incident of the French War it is said, in the "Memoirs of an American Lady," that when the wounded troops poured into Albany from the Ticonderoga battle-field a hospital was established in a large barn belonging to Madame Schuyler, and was attended there by a band of ladies. Thacher, a considerable historian of medical events of that time and a surgeon of the Revolution attached to this northern division of the army, says that a hospital was erected here during the French War. He says of it, as he saw it in 1788: "It is situated on an eminence overlooking the city. It is two stories high, having a wing at each end and a piazza in front, above and below. It contains forty wards, capable of accommodating 500 patients, besides the rooms appropriated to the use of the surgeons and other officers." After Burgoyne's defeat at Saratoga, Albany was for several months filled with sick and wounded from the battle-field. There were not less than one thousand of these victims of war thrown into the city, filling the hospital, the Dutch Church and some private houses. Most of them remained till the following June, when the military hospital was removed to the Highlands of the Hudson. Dr. Thacher says: "We have thirty surgeons and mates, and all are constantly employed. The wounded of the British and Hessian troops are accommodated in the same hospital with our own and receive equal attention. The foreigners are under the care of their own surgeons. I have been present at several of their capital operations and remember that the English surgeons perform with skill and dexterity, but the Germans, with few exceptions, do no

credit to their profession." He did not find the inhabitants of the city of a social disposition. They are chiefly Low Dutch, he says, and not inclined to associate with strangers. Nevertheless, Mars and Venus have in all ages been mutually attractive, and "a charming Miss M. H." was captivated by one of the surgeons. A surgeon's pay in our army was \$33.33 a month, and of a mate or assistant surgeon \$18, that of a colonel being \$75. At a later date there was a military cantonment and hospital in Greenbush, which was maintained until 1822.

Medical history is not altogether biographical, and some notes may be made of other events of the earlier time before the present century began. Henry Hudson said, when he returned with the report of his discoveries: "It is as fair a land as can be trodden by the foot of man," and the graphic pen of Irving has been taxed to all its resources in delineating this lovely valley before it had been marred by the hand of civilization. It was not only fair, but by all testimony it was salubrious. As early as 1628 one writes in a letter home: "The climate is healthful, notwithstanding the sudden changes from heat to cold. Roots and herbs are found, good for eating and for medicinal uses, working wonderful cures too long to relate." The sudden and extreme variations in temperature appear to have been the principal complaint, and were certainly very marked to those who had been accustomed to the equable climate of Holland and England. Gov. Hunter wrote in 1710: "Here is the finest air to live upon in the universe." Many instances are related of cures of consumption among those coming to the new country. They were mainly due, no doubt, to the less sedentary life of necessity led here, and absence of the insanitary influences that accumulate with the passage of years of habitation.

In this province there were fewer serious epidemics than in the New England and Virginia Colonies, where they early prevailed extensively. Fevers of acclimation or of an indigenous source were rare. The colonists did not, however, escape some most severe and fatal epidemics of imported disease. Of these, small-pox made the most grievous ravages. In 1613 it broke out and spread with fearful rapidity, among Europeans and savages. Twelve of the slender population of Beverwyck died in one week and a thousand perished among the Iroquois tribes. For two months Connecticut maintained a quarantine against the New Netherlands. Another

equally severe epidemic broke out some years later. Prior to 1730 this outdid all other pestilences with its ravages, ceasing at one time, it is said, only for lack of material to work upon, every susceptible person having had it. Inoculation began to be practical about 1730, and became quite general, the mortality from it being reported as comparatively small. "In 1799," writes Dr. Thacher, "the glorious discovery of the vaccine disease, which renders the human system insusceptible to small-pox, was announced in our newspapers and in the *Medical Repository*, of New York," and the reign of what might well have been called the king of terrors came to an end.

In 1746 a malignant epidemic of what was called the Barbadoes distemper, and also various other names, reached Albany. It was imported from foreign ships, and, beginning in August, ended with frost. From the description it was clearly yellow fever. It carried off 45 victims, mostly robust men. Spotted fever is mentioned as occurring in 1752.

An interesting episode in connection with yellow fever, and a glimpse of affairs as they existed a century ago, is obtained from the following "Notes from the Newspapers," in Munsell's *Annals of Albany* :

"September 21, 1793.—The citizens were alarmed by a letter from Judge Lansing, informing them that a vessel had passed New York having two persons on board infected with yellow fever, which was then raging at Philadelphia. Meetings of the citizens and of the Common Council were held, and measures adopted to prevent the passing of any vessel above the Overslaugh without an examination, and the ferry-men were directed how to proceed on occasions when any suspicion attached to travelers presenting themselves to be ferried over. The Common Council recommended the observance of the first day of October as a day of fasting and prayer for the aversion of the dreaded contagion.

"September 23.—On Monday evening last arrived at Greenbush, opposite the city, from the seat of Government, Hon. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and his lady. As Col. Hamilton and lady were supposed to have been afflicted with the yellow fever, then prevalent at Philadelphia, the physicians of the city, by request, immediately visited them, and on their return published the following certificate: 'This is to certify that we have visited Col. Hamilton and his lady at Greenbush this evening and that they are apparently in perfect health, and from every circumstance we do not conceive there can

be the least danger of their conveying the infection of the pestilential fever, at present prevalent in Philadelphia, to any of their fellow citizens.

"(Signed) SAMUEL STRINGER,
 "W. MANCIUS,
 "H. WOODRUFF,
 "W. McCLELLAN,
 "CORNELIUS ROOSA."

"In consequence of which on Tuesday morning an order was granted by the Mayor that Col. Hamilton and lady be allowed to cross the ferry, but only after quite a spicy correspondence between the Mayor, physicians and Gen. Schuyler, whose daughter was Mrs. Hamilton."

Aside from these outbreaks, Albany maintained its repute for healthfulness throughout the eighteenth century. During the winter of 1785, it is said that but one burial took place for the space of three months, in the Dutch church-yard, and that was of a small child accidentally run over by a sleigh. This burial place has been recently brought to light again by excavations in State street, at the corner of Broadway, human bones being found, and bricks from the old church edifice. One writes of Albany in 1796: "It enjoys a salubrious air, as is evidenced by the longevity of its inhabitants."

Concerning the now very fertile theme of the water supply of the city, a visitor to Albany, in 1785, wrote that "the well water in the city is very bad, being scarcely drinkable by those not accustomed to it, imbibing particles from the stiff clay through which it oozes; indeed, all use the river water for cooking, and many families drink it. But water works are about to be constructed to bring good water to the city."

In the year 1800 Albany was already an old city. In some respects this was a turning point in its history. About this time it began to have additions to its population from New England and to become impressed with New England ideas. Previously it had been entirely Dutch; its people, its habits, its physiognomy, its architecture were all Dutch; it is said that even its horses and dogs were Dutch. It had many usages brought from the provincial towns of Holland. A graphic picture of it at that time may be found in *Random Recollections of Albany from 1800 to 1808*, by Gorham A. Worth. The placid Dutchman smoked his evening pipe on the settee of the stoop in front of his gable-ended house, undisturbed by a care for the outside world, perfectly content with himself and his surroundings, with no welcome for strangers and their innovations. In a population

of 5,000 there were not more than five New England families. The city had no pavements and no street lamps. It had little or no foreign commerce. It needed a new element to give it an impulse, without which the nineteenth century gave promise of leaving it in a Rip Van Winkle dream, or stranded where the eighteenth was hardly holding it afloat. A change, restless and iconoclastic, began to come over it about this time; the progressive spirit of this century began to disturb its quietude, and new blood was transfused into it. The Erie Canal began to be talked about; it became the capital city, and very soon after Fulton ran the *Clermont* up the river.

The general character of the medical profession began to improve. The means of education heretofore had been very limited, and the mass of practitioners throughout the country had been deplorably ignorant. In an address before the Regents, Dr. T. Romeyn Beck stated that, of the 700 physicians in the State at this time, not more than twenty held the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Indeed it was not sought for, save in the large cities. The education of physicians prior to 1750, unless obtained in Europe, was restricted to a sort of apprenticeship and personal instruction. In 1750 the first regular medical instruction was attempted, a course of lectures on anatomy being given in New York by a Dublin graduate, Samuel Clossy. During the remainder of the century four medical schools were established; in Philadelphia, New York, and at Harvard and Dartmouth Colleges. The difficulty of reaching these precluded most from attending them. Their influence was, however, being felt toward the close of the century.

Just what might have been considered a medical education at this time, even at its best, it would be hard to define. There was hardly any facility for acquiring a practical knowledge of anatomy by dissection, so that a student could have no adequate idea of the vital organs in health or as changed by the processes of disease. When Dr. March, twenty years latter, began to give instruction here in anatomy, by lectures and dissections, he for a long time encountered much opposition in his good work. Surgery was rude and simple, as viewed from the light of to-day. Diseases could not be distinguished by our present knowledge, as, for instance, that of auscultation and percussion of the chest, and all our instruments of research were unknown. Pharmacy was as rude as the means of diagnosis, but faith in it was vastly more profound than now. The physician became skillful and renowned, as many of them did, only

as he became shrewd in observation and experienced by years; gray hairs were the only passport to popular confidence. Oliver Wendell Holmes pictures him, from vivid recollections of his early life, as "he would look at the tongue, feel of the pulse, and shake from his vials a horrible mound of ipecac, or a revolting heap of rhubarb—good, stirring remedies that meant business, but left a flavor behind them that embitters the recollections of childhood." Little of our present knowledge of the control of epidemics was possessed; small-pox, often devastating as a tornado, was just then about to be robbed of its terrors, and the preventable diseases generally, to which so much attention is now given, and which if completely held in check would infinitely lessen the rate of mortality, were neither studied as a class nor controlled by organized boards of health. No better contrast can be shown between then and now than is seen in the statement that by data, gathered from all sources, it is found that the sum total of human life has been lengthened in civilized countries 25 per cent. since the beginning of the century. Dr. Holmes says: "It is but a fractional power that the physician has over disease, and a comparatively small fraction over the issues of life and death." But what he lacks in his control of the individual is well complemented by the general work, as is proven by this general result.

Besides the men already mentioned, there are a few others then practicing here who should be spoken of. The oldest physician in Albany was Dr. Wilhelmus Mancius, the son of the Dutch dominie, who practiced medicine as well as theology in the early history of the colony. He was now past sixty years of age, over six feet in height, and a man of great popularity. He received his education from his father, and probably had more skill than learning. In his arguments with his younger and more liberally educated partner, Dr. Woodruff, he saved himself from being worsted by "Ah, de cure, Hunloke; de cure is de great ting. I cure." Dr. William McClelland was a Scotchman, an Edinburgh graduate, and for the times an educated man. He was the first president both of the County and the State Medical Societies. His partner for a time was Dr. Wm. Bay, whose long life extended to the easy recollection of many of the present citizens of this vicinity. Dr. Knauff, then advanced in years, was more an apothecary than physician. Dr. Gauff, also an old man, had been for many years a practitioner of Bethlehem, and Dr. Oliver Lathrop was a physician of Watervliet, then in middle life. Younger than any of these was

Dr. Jonathan Eights, a most exact and methodical man, who through the first half of this century was held in high esteem as a family physician, and made many contributions to medical literature. Dr. John Stearns, a Massachusetts man and a Yale graduate, then thirty years old, was for a number of years a practitioner here, and deserves especial honor from the profession, as to his efforts were due the existing law, enacted in 1806, under which our State and County medical societies have been incorporated.

The notable event in medicine at the beginning of this century was the establishment of the County Medical Society. This is undoubtedly the oldest medical society in the State, having been established in July, 1806, immediately after the passage of the incorporating law. The reason urged for the passage of this act was the abundance of charlatany and the necessity for combining the legitimate members of the profession to control it. The universal testimony is that at this time the country was overrun with empyrics. Dr. R. M. Wyckoff, to whose paper on *Early Medicine in New York* I am indebted for much information, says that medical practice in early times was pure, but that about the middle of the eighteenth century the charlatany of the Old World, which was quackish to the core, began to find a field in the New. For its own respectability and the people's good the time had come for the profession to assert itself; it did so by bringing the reputable physicians together and separating them from the disreputable. In this way the society has done more to suppress quackery (which the people should know is vastly more an evil to them than to the profession) than all the restrictive legislation that was enacted year after year for the next forty years. Dr. Thomas Hun wrote in 1844, what is always pertinent and true: "Quackery must be suppressed, not by legislation, but by enlightened public opinion of its dangers. The respectability of our profession is to be promoted, not by asking for legal privileges, but by an increase of individual zeal and co-operation." In this State no one is entitled to professional consideration unless he is a member of his County Medical Society.

From the beginning the society has maintained regular meetings for mutual improvement. It has always been a means of co-operating against local epidemics and bad sanitary conditions. Its opinion and advice has often been asked by the Mayor and Common Council. It has kept up the social relations of its members, and perpetuated their

memory by printed biographies and portraits, of which it has a considerable collection. It has explicit laws for disciplining unprofessional members, but has very seldom made use of them. It has been of a liberal spirit, and was one of the first societies to admit women to membership. The entire number of its members from first to last has been about 425. The following list includes all of the members of the Society since the organization, and nearly all the physicians of this county during the present century.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST

OF THE

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF ALBANY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION, WITH YEAR OF ADMISSION AND PLACE OF GRADUATION. THE LIVING RESIDENT MEMBERS ARE INDICATED BY A *.

- 1806, HUNLOKE WOODRUFF, New York City; died 1811, aged 56. WILLIAM McCLELLAND, Edinburgh; died 1812, aged 43. CHARLES D. TOWNSEND, Columbia College, Medical Department, 1802; died 1847, aged 70. JOHN G. KNAUFF, probably in Germany; died 1810. ELIAS WIL-LARD, Boston; died 1827, aged 71. WILHEMUS MANCIUS, studied medicine with his father, Rev. G. W. Mancius, 1758; died 1808, aged 70. WILLIAM ANDERSON, University of Pennsylvania; died 1811, aged 40. JOSEPH W. HEGEMAN, Princeton; died 1837, aged 65. CORNELIUS VROOMAN, JR., University of Pennsylvania; died 1811, aged 30. ALEXAN-DER G. FONDA, licensed 1806; died 1869, aged 84. CALEB GAUFF; Bethlehem. AUGUSTUS HARRIS, licensed by Su-preme Court, 1800; died 1857, aged 81. AUGUSTUS F. R. TAYLOR, University of Pennsylvania, 1804; died 1841, aged 58.
- 1807, PETER WENDELL, University of Pennsylvania, 1807; died 1849, aged 64. JACOB L. VAN DEUSEN, Regent's de-gree, 1806; resigned 1825.
- 1808, ARCHIBALD H. ADAMS, University of Edinburgh; died 1811, aged 42. CHARLES D. COOPER, New York; died 1831, aged 63. ISAAC HYDE, probably licensed; died 1833, aged 61. JAMES LOW, University of Edinburgh, 1807; died 1822, aged 40.
- 1809, SIMON VEEDER, licentiate of this society, 1807; died 1860, aged 72.
- 1810, WILLIAM BAY, Columbia College, Medical De-partment, 1797; died 1865, aged 93. JONATHAN EIGHTS, certificate of two physicians; died 1848, aged 75. JOHN STERNS, University of Pennsylvania; died 1848, aged 65.
- 1811, T. ROMEYN BECK, College of Physicians and Sur-geons, 1811; died 1855, aged 64.
- 1812, JONATHAN JOHNSON, licentiate of this society, 1812; died 1860, aged 75. ERASTUS WILLIAMS, licentiate Ver-mont State Society, 1800; died 1842, aged 69. PETER DE LAMATER, studied medicine 1794; died 1849, aged 77.
- 1813, ENOCH CHENEY. OLIVER LATHROP, studied with Dr. White, of Cherry Valley; died 1824, aged 57.
- 1816, MOSES BROWNELL; died March 12, 1879, aged 90. RICHMOND BROWNELL, filed diploma with County Clerk, 1816; removed to Rhode Island. SAMUEL FREEMAN, Dart-mouth; removed to Saratoga; died 1862. GEORGE UFFOLD, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1816; died 1872, aged 76. PLATT WILLIAMS, Columbia College, Medical Department, 1810; died 1870, aged 86. JOEL A. WING, licentiate Montgomery County Society, 1811; died 1852, aged 65.
- 1817, THOMAS J. GIBBONS, College Physicians and Sur-geons, 1817; died 1819, aged 22.
- 1819, WILLIAM HUMPHREYS, College Physicians and Sur-geons, 1819; died 1826, aged 31. CHARLES MARTIN, licen-tiate of this society, 1818. ASHSEL S. WEBSTER, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1819; died 1840, aged 44. CALEB WOODWARD; soon left the city.
- 1820, JOHN JAMES, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1819; died 1859, aged 70. ROGER VINTA, died 1853.

1821, MOSES CLEMENT, licentiate of New Hampshire State Society, 1807; died 1831, aged 51. HENRY B. HALLENBECK, licentiate of this society; died 1825, aged 29. LYMAN SPALDING, died 1841, aged 46. BARENT P. STAATS, licentiate New York State Medical Society, 1817; died 1871, aged 74. SAMUEL S. TRAT, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1821; died 1832, aged 33. PETER VAN O'LINDA, licentiate New York State Medical Society, 1820; died 1872, aged 75. CHRISTOPHER C. YATES, licensed by Supreme Court, 1802; died 1848, aged 70.

1822, VALENTINE DENNICK, licentiate of this society, 1822; date of birth and death not known.

1823, JOHN W. BAY, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1823; died 1877, aged 76. LEWIS C. BECK, licentiate of this society, 1818; died 1853, aged 55. ALDEN MARCH, Brown University, 1820; died 1869, aged 73.

1824, MICHAEL FRELIGH, licensed by civil process; died 1853, aged 83.

1825, RENSSELAER GANSEVOORT, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1824; died 1838, aged 35. JOHN W. HINCKLEY, licentiate of this society, 1825; died 1860, aged 57.

1826, CHARLES E. BURROWS. DAVID W. HOUGHTALING, licensed 1822; died 1829, aged 33.

1827, HAZAKI KANE, licentiate of this society, 1822; died at Nassau. HENRY VAN O'LINDA, licentiate of Montgomery County Society, 1826; died 1846, aged 41.

1828, JAMES P. BOYD, University of Pennsylvania, 1825; died May 10, 1881, aged 77. JAMES M. BROWN, licentiate of this society, 1825; died 1854, aged 50. ELISHA S. BURTON, Berkshire Medical College, 1827; died 1873. *BENJ. B. FREDENBURG, licentiate Columbia County Society, 1819.

SAMUEL HUMPHREYS, licentiate State Society, 1821; died in Liberia, 1832, aged 30. EDWARD A. LEONARD, Yale College, Medical Department, 1827; died 1837, aged 31.

MICHAEL MALONE, licentiate State Society, 1826; died 1844, aged 46. JAMES McNAUGHTON, University of Edinburgh, 1816; died 1874, aged 78. PETER McNAUGHTON, University of Edinburgh, 1825; died 1875, aged 75.

WILLIAM NOBLE; removed to Albion, Orleans County. PETER B. NOXON, licentiate of this society, 1824; died April, 1882, aged 86. PETER P. STAATS, licentiate State Society, 1825; died 1874, aged 71. WILLIAM TULLEY, licentiate Connecticut State Society, 1810; died 1859, aged 74.

HENRY VAN ANTWERP, licentiate State Society, 1825; died 1859, aged 57. LUKE WELLINGTON, Berkshire Medical College, 1825; removed. ASA BURBANK, Berkshire Medical College, 1823; died 1832.

1829, EBRAM T. BIGELOW, Fairfield Medical College; died about 1868. HENRY GREEN, Fairfield Medical College, 1814; died 1844, aged 54. ISAAC HEMPSTEAD, licentiate of this society, 1827; died 1852, aged 48. AUGUSTUS F. LAWYER, Fairfield Medical College; died March 27, 1883, aged 75. SOLOMON LINCOLN, licentiate State Society, 1829; removed. NICHIOLAS MARKAY; died. FRANCIS N. SELKIRK, licentiate of this society, 1829; died 1849, aged 40. JOHN STYLES; removed to New York City. BENJAMIN VAN ZANDT; died. JAMES WADE, licentiate Schenectady County Society, 1812; died 1867, aged 78. NANNING V. WINNE, Yale Medical School, 1828; died 1858, aged 51.

1830, HENRY BRONSON; removed to New Haven, Conn. JONATHAN H. CASE, Fairfield Medical College, 1828; died 1865, aged 58. OBADIAH CROSBY, in New York, 1828; died 1838, aged 38. VERNOR CUYLER, licentiate State Society, 1822; removed. — DAVIDSON. *THOMAS HUN, University of Pennsylvania, 1830; Albany. JAMES S. LOW; died. DAVID McLACHLAN, University of Glasgow, 1829; died 1858, aged 55. RICHARD MURPHY, licentiate State Society, 1830. WILLIAM O'DONNELL; removed to New York City. WILLIAM PEARCE. ALVA W. ROCKWELL, Berkshire Medical College, 1820; died 1837, aged 41. NELSON RUSK, licentiate Chautauque County Society; at Stuyvesant, N. Y. SAMUEL SEAW, removed to Massachusetts. GUY SPALDING, died 1854, aged 75. JOHN F. TOWNSEND, University of Pennsylvania, 1830; died 1874, aged 65.

1831, DAVID R. BURRILL, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1833; removed to Saratoga County, 1859. HIRAM CHRISTIE LANSING CORY, DARIUS COY; removed to Cobleskill. PALMER C. DORR, licentiate of this society, 1824; died 1840, aged 43. RICHARD J. DURNBURY; removed to Chicago. EDWARD W. FORT, University of Penn-

sylvania, 1831; died 1855, aged 45. TEN EYCK GANSEVOORT, University of Pennsylvania, 1825; died 1843, aged 40. LEWIS B. GREGORY, Fairfield Medical College, 1830; died 1838, aged 30. ABRAHAM GROESBECK; removed to Chicago, Illinois. ANMOND HAMMOND, Vermont Academy of Medicine; died 1849, aged 46. ALSON J. HALLENBAKE, licentiate State Society, 1831; died 1846, aged 38. CARROLL HUMPHREY, University of Pennsylvania; died at Calcutta, 1834, aged 29. E. A. LACEY. DAVID SPRINGSTED, licentiate of this society, 1830. LUTHER M. TRACEY. JOHN T. VAN ALSTYNE, Fairfield Medical College, 1823; died 1876, aged 76. LEONARD G. WARREN, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1826, died 1866, aged 63.

1832, JARVIS BARNEY, died 1838, aged 33. STEPHEN D. HAND, Berkshire Medical College, 1831. JOSIAH W. LAY, licentiate Green County Medical Society, 1816; died 1862, aged 71. PLATT WICKES, removed.

1833, LEVARETTE MOORE, Berkshire Medical College, 1829; removed to Ballston. — VAN DENMARK.

1834, JAMES H. ARNSBY, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1833; died 1875, aged 66. FREDERICK CROUNSE, Albany County. SAMUEL DICKSON, licentiate State Society, 1829; died 1858, aged 51. N. L. HUNGERFORD, licensed 1830; died 1839, aged 34. WESTLEY NEWCOMB, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1832; removed to Ithaca. WILLIAM G. RADCLIFF, removed to Philadelphia. BERNHARD SABALIS, returned to Holland. SIDNEY SAWYER, removed to Chicago, Illinois. HERMAN WENDELL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1832; died 1881, aged 72.

1837, WILLIAM F. CARTER, Dartmouth Medical College, 1834; died 1866, aged 54. H. A. GRANT, removed to Connecticut. FRANCIS W. PRIEST, left city after short residence. J. B. ROSSMAN, Fairfield Medical College, 1829; died December 23, 1883, aged 77. EDWARD Q. SEWALL, removed to Canada. JOHN H. TROTTER, licensed to practice; died 1861, aged 48. JOHN VAN BUREN, University of the City of New York; died 1856, aged 48. ALEXANDER VAN RENSSELAER, removed to New York City.

1839, JOHN BABCOCK, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1838; died March 13, 1879, aged 65. JOHN VAN ALSTYNE, died at sea, 1844. PETER VAN BUREN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1823; died 1873, aged 71. JOHN WILSON, Fairfield Medical College (?); died 1877.

1840, MASON F. COGSWELL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1833; died 1864, aged 54. OTIS JENKS, licensed by State Society, 1840; died 1854, aged 55.

1841, JOHN O. FLAGLER, died December 17, 1882. E. B. O'CALLAGHAN, licentiate State Society, 1841; died 1880, aged 80. CHARLES H. PAYNE, removed to Saratoga. U. H. WHEELER, died in Brooklyn.

1842, SELAH B. FISH, Berkshire Medical College, 1841; removed from the county.

1844, JOHN CAMPBELL, Albany Medical College, 1843; entered United States Army in 1847. C. E. DAYTON. PATRICK GANNON, in New York; died 1854, aged 74. DAVID MARTIN, Fairfield Medical College, 1828; died 1853, aged 53. WILLIAM J. YOUNG, removed.

1845, URIAH G. BIGELOW, Albany Medical College, 1843; died 1873, aged 52. CHRISTOPHER C. GRIFFIN, licentiate of this society, 1843; died 1856, aged 41. EDWARD PERRY, University of New York; died at the age of 43. J. V. P. QUACKENBUSH, Albany Medical College, 1842; died in 1876, aged 57. RICHARD H. THOMPSON, Albany Medical College, 1842; died 1864.

1846, ISAIAH BREAKER, Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, 1816; died 1848, aged 59. *SAMUEL H. FREEMAN, Albany Medical College, 1846; Albany.

1847, HENRY B. McHARG, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1848, aged 22. BENJAMIN A. SHELDON, Albany Medical College, 1847, died September 10, 1864, aged 39. *JOHN SWINBURNE, Albany Medical College, 1846; Albany. C. C. WALLER, left the city, 1855.

1848, EDWARD H. CLARKE, Albany Medical College, 1848; removed to Buffalo. HENRY B. FAY, Albany Medical College, 1843; removed to New York City. WILLIAM GROGHEGAN, Royal College Surgeons, Dublin, 1837; died 1877, aged 62. ALEXANDER W. McNAUGHTON, Albany Medical College, 1848; died January 7, 1865, aged 36. PAUL TODD TABER, Albany Medical College, 1848; died 1851, aged 25. HOWARD TOWNSEND, Albany Medical College, 1846; died January 15, 1867, aged 44. SYLVESTER

D. WILLARD, Albany Medical College, 1848; died April 2, 1865, aged 40.
 1849, DAVID WILTSIE, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1875, aged 55.
 1850, ABRAM H. MCKOWN, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1853, aged 33. THOMAS H. NEELEY, Albany Medical College, 1850; died 1851, aged 25. JACOB REINHART, Heidelberg and Gottingen, 1847; died 1860, aged 35. JAMES H. SALLISBURY, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed to New York City. AUGUSTUS VIEL, Fairfield Medical College, 1837; died February 12, 1882. ALONZO G. WESTERVELT, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed to Durham, Green County.
 1851, JAMES L. BARCOCK, Albany Medical College, 1850; died February 13, 1881, aged 58. J. R. BULLOCK, Fairfield Medical College, 1836; Albany County. IRA M. DE LAMATER, Albany Medical College, 1850; died September, 1864, aged 45. DAVID E. FONDA, Fairfield Medical College, 1838; died January 12, 1883, aged 66. WILLIAM A. HAWLEY, Albany Medical College, 1851; removed to Syracuse. CHARLES D. MARSH, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed from the city. WILLIAM B. SIMS, Albany Medical College, 1850; died October 18, 1881. S. O. VAN DER POEL, Jefferson Medical College, 1845; removed to New York, 1881. L. N. WYCKOFF, Albany Medical College, 1852; never practiced medicine; died.
 1852, F. L. R. CHAPIN, Albany Medical College, 1851; removed to Glen's Falls. SAMUEL INGRAHAM, Albany Medical College, 1849; removed to Palmyra. JOSEPH LEWIS, University of Vienna, 1847; Albany. LEVI MOORE, Albany Medical College, 1851; died June 30, 1880, aged 53. HENRY F. SPENCER, Albany Medical College, 1852; died at sea, 1862, aged 36.
 1853, HIRAM A. EDMONDS, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1857, aged 29. HENRY MARCH, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. J. H. SCOON, Albany Medical College, 1849; died July 22, 1880, aged 54. JOHN P. WITRECK, Albany Medical College, 1852; died 1873, aged 44. HARVEY B. WILBUR, Berkshire Medical College, 1842; removed to Syracuse.
 1854, WILLIAM H. BAILEY, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. WILLIAM H. CRAIG, Albany Medical College, 1852; Albany. CHARLES DEVOL, Fairfield Medical College, 1831; Albany. ALEXANDER H. HOFF, Jefferson Medical College, 1843; died 1876, aged 55. S. P. ULIN, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1852; removed to Lowville.
 1855, STEPHEN J. W. TABOR, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1841; removed to Iowa. DANIEL WASSERRACH, University of Hague, 1843; died September 11, 1880, aged 66.
 1856, FREDERICK C. ADAMS, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1862, aged 40. AMOS FOWLER, University of New York, 1846; Albany. HENRY G. McNAUGHTON, Albany Medical College, 1856; Albany. STAATS WINNE, Albany Medical College, 1851; died May 30, 1880, aged 53.
 1857, O. C. ALEXANDER, Albany Medical College, 1854; Albany. HIRAM CROUNSE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1847; Albany. GEORGE H. NEWCOMB, Albany Medical College, 1855; Albany. WILLIAM C. RODGERS, Albany Medical College, 1854; died 1860, aged 30. A. SHILAND, Albany Medical College, 1853; West Troy. JOHN I. SWART, Albany Medical College, 1853; died Nov. 24, 1878, at Schoharie, aged 47. ALFRED WANDS, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1870, aged 48.
 1858, JOHN H. BECKER, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1873, aged 45. H. S. CASE, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. ALEX. A. EDMESTON, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1871, aged 42. THOMAS HELME, Albany Medical College, 1854; McKownsville, Albany Co. MILTON M. LAMB, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1856; removed to Lansingburgh, 1873. J. J. MYERS, Albany Medical College, 1857; Albany. JAMES E. PONFRET, Albany Medical College, 1858; died Feb. 22, 1869, aged 43. LEROY McLEAN, Albany Medical College, 1855; removed to Troy. GEORGE STEINART, University of New York, 1855; removed to New York City. ANDREW WILSON, Licentiate Columbia County Society; died 1871, aged 56.
 1859, CHARLES H. PORTER, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. R. S. McMURDY, Albany Medical College,

1847; removed to Minneapolis, 1873. R. H. SABIN, Albany Medical College, 1856; West Troy. CHARLES H. SMITH, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. THOMAS SMITH, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1862. CHARLES P. STAATS, Albany Medical College, 1853; died April 16, 1884, aged 53. OSCAR H. YOUNG, Albany Medical College, 1858; removed to Michigan.
 1860, JOSEPH ATHERLEY; died 1864. J. R. BOULWARE, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. WILLIAM B. CHAMBERS, Albany Medical College, 1858; removed to Fulton County. A. S. HARLOW, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed from the county. WASHINGTON KILMER, Albany Medical College, 1860; removed to Florida. JOHN V. LANSING, New York Medical College, 1854; died May 9, 1880, aged 56. MARTIN L. MEAD, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed to Ohio, 1871. J. W. MOORE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1859; Cohoes. CORNELIUS D. MOSIER, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. JOSEPH N. NORTHROP, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1839; died Sept. 17, 1878, aged 61. JOHN SHERIFF, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed. J. L. WELCH, Albany Medical College, 1859; died June 23, 1878, aged 54.
 1861, WESLEY BLAISDELL, Castleton, Vt.; died 1864, aged 49. FRANK G. MOSHER, Albany Medical College, 1848; Coeymans.
 1862, THOMAS BECKETT, Albany Medical College, 1861; Albany. ASAH EL BURT, Jr., Albany Medical College, 1861; removed. HENRY R. HASKINS, Albany Medical College, 1861; died March 31, 1883, aged 48. J. D. HAVENS, Albany Medical College, 1861; died Feb. 12, 1875, aged 40. FRANK J. MATTINORE, Albany Medical College, 1860; died 1863, aged 29. F. B. PARMELE, Albany Medical College, 1842; died Jan., 1882, aged 68.
 1863, JOHN F. CROUNSE, Albany Medical College, 1868; died 1872.
 1864, STEPHEN JOHNSON, Albany Medical College, 1849; resigned 1875. JACOB S. MOSHER, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany; died August 13, 1883, aged 49. C. B. O'LEARY, Albany Medical College, 1860; died 1877, aged 38. H. W. STEENBERG, Fairfield Medical College, 1837; Green Island. SILAS P. WRIGHT, Albany Medical College, 1862; removed.
 1865, GIDRON H. ARMSBY, Albany Medical College, 1864; died Nov. 20, 1881, aged 39. MYRON KNOWLTON, Castleton, Vt., 1837; removed to Rochester. P. L. F. REYNOLDS, Albany Medical College, 1861; Albany. CHARLES A. ROBERTSON, Jefferson Medical College, 1853; died April 1, 1880, aged 51. WILLIAM SIGSBEE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1852; removed to Illinois. EZEKIEL MULFORD WADSWORTH, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1839; Watervliet.
 1866, CHARLES S. ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1864; Rensselaer Co. HERMAN BENDELL, Albany Medical College, 1862; Albany. JOHN FERGUSON, Albany Academy of Medicine, 1836; died 1874, aged 62. MICHAEL GILLIGAN; removed. GEORGE T. STEVENS, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1857; removed to New York City. GUSTAVUS TRESKATIS, Albany Medical College, 1865; removed to New York City. ALBERT VAN DER VEER, National Medical College (Med. Dep. Columbia Col., Washington), 1862; Albany. WARNER VAN STEENBERG, University of Vermont (Med. Dep.), 1856; died at Cohoes, May 3, 1880, aged 48.
 1867, JAMES S. BAILEY, Albany Medical College, 1853; died July 1, 1883, aged 53. A. DE GRAFF, Albany Medical College, 1858; Guelderland. ALFRED B. HUESTED, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany. JOHN R. GREGORY, Albany Medical College, 1853; removed to Trumansburg. EDWARD R. HUN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1866; died March 14, 1880, aged 38. JAMES F. MCKOWN, Albany Medical College, 1866; Albany. P. M. MURPHY, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany. V. O'LEARY, Albany Medical College, 1866; Albany.
 1868, I. M. DUNKELMEYER; removed to Cincinnati, O. ALEXANDER McDONALD; died 1877, aged 33. JOHN THOMPSON, University of New York, 1868; Albany. RICHARD D. TRAYER, St. Louis Medical College, 1869; removed to Troy, N. Y. C. E. WITBECK, Albany Medical College, 1866; Cohoes.
 1869, HIRAM BECKER, Albany Medical College, 1864; New Salem. DANIEL M. STIMSON, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1868; removed to New York City, 1871.

1870; *JOHN M. BIGELOW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. J. MYERS BRIGGS, Albany Medical College, 1869; died 1874, aged 29. THOMAS D. CROTHERS, Albany Medical College, 1865; removed to Hartford, Conn. *J. R. DAVIDSON, Albany Medical College, 1869; South Bethlehem. EUSTIS H. DAVIS, Albany Medical College, 1854; removed to Watkins. *J. D. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Cohoes. H. D. LOSEE, Albany Medical College, 1868; died 1874, aged 25. WILLIAM MORGAN, Albany Medical College, 1869; Albany; resigned 1883. *WM. H. T. REYNOLDS, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. *CHARLES F. SCATTERGOOD, Albany Medical College, 1868; Albany. *A. P. TEN EYCK, Albany Medical College, 1866; Rensselaer County.

1871, L. R. BOYCK, licentiate Otsego Co. Society, 1862; resigned 1877. ORSON F. COBB, Albany Medical College, 1868; West Troy; suspended 1876. P. J. C. GOLDING; removed to Massachusetts. *L. C. B. GRAVELINE, Albany Medical College, 1862; Albany. *LORENZO HALE, Albany Medical College, 1868; Albany. K. V. R. LANSING, Jr., Albany Medical College, 1870; died April 13, 1879. *WILLIAM H. MURRAY, Albany Medical College, 1869; Albany. E. B. TEFFT, Buffalo Medical College, 1864; removed. BARNABAS WOOD, University of Nashville, 1852; died 1875, aged 56.

1872, *FREDERIC C. CURTIS, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. ISAAC DE ZOUCHE, Albany Medical College, 1869; removed to Gloversville, 1875. *WILLIAM HAILES, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. S. A. INGHAM, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to Little Falls. J. H. LAGRANGE, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to Columbia County. J. H. LASHER, Albany Medical College, 1871; died 1873, aged 25. CALES LYON, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to New York City. PHILIP J. MAGUIRE, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; removed to Brooklyn. *B. U. STEENBERG, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. *JOHN BEN STONEHOUSE, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *WILLIS G. TUCKER, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. *EUGENE VAN SLYKE, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *R. H. STARKWEATHER, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *G. L. ULLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany.

1873, ALMON S. ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed to Pittsfield, Mass. *JOHN U. HAYNES, Albany Medical College, 1872; Cohoes. *JOSEPH H. BLATNER, Albany Medical College, 1872; Albany. GEORGE A. JONES, Albany Medical College, 1869; died 1875. JAMES C. HANNAN, University of New York, 1873; removed to Hoosick Falls, 1881. *JAMES P. BOYD, Jr., College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; Albany. FRANK GARbutt, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed to Mechanicsville. *C. E. SEGER, Albany Medical College, 1863; Adams Station. *PATRICK E. FENNELLY, Albany Medical College, 1869; West Troy. *OCTAVIUS H. E. CLARKE, McGill University, Montreal, 1870; Cohoes. ALFRED L. WANDS, Albany Medical College, 1869; removed.

1874, *J. L. ARCHAMBEAULT, Laval University, Quebec, 1870; Cohoes. *LEWIS BALCH, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. *O. D. BALL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1867; Albany. GEORGE H. BENJAMIN, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed. *L. BOUDRIAS (DE MORAT), Victoria University, Montreal, 1870; Cohoes. C. E. BUFFINTON, Albany Medical College, 1874; West Troy. *DANIEL H. COOK, Albany Medical College, 1873; Albany. HERMAN C. EVARTS, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Carthage, N. Y. JAMES A. HART, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1873; removed to Colorado about 1877. WILLIAM W. MACGREGOR, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Glen's Falls. *CYRUS S. MERRILL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; Albany. LINZEE T. MORRILL, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed. *NELSON MONROE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1840; Green Island. *GEORGE W. PAFEN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1874; Albany. *A. T. VAN VRANKEN, Albany Medical College, 1873; West Troy. *FELIX WEIDMAN, Albany Medical College, 1847; Westerlo.

1875, *HARVEY W. BELL, Albany Medical College, 1866; removed to East Albany. *MARY DU BOIS, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1871; Albany. HARRIS I. FELLOWS, Albany Medical College, 1874; died August 29, 1881,

aged 44. HIRAM T. HERRINGTON, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Rensselaer County. HENRY V. HULL, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Schenectady, 1880. *HENRY E. MERNES, Albany Medical College, 1874; Albany. JOHN E. METCALF, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Ketchum's Corners, N. Y. FRANKLIN A. MUNSON, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1873; died December 8, 1878, aged 26. *NORMAN L. SNOW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1861; Albany. *T. M. TREGO, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1874; Albany. THOMAS WILSON, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Claverack, 1876. EDWARD YATES, Jefferson Medical College, 1869; died 1876, aged 29.

1876, *R. D. CLARK, Long Island Medical College; Albany. WILLIAM A. HALL, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Fulton, Oswego Co. *J. M. HASKELL, University of Michigan; Bath-on-the-Hudson. *P. J. KEEGAN, University of New York; Albany. *T. K. PERRY, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. *W. L. PURFLE, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. ELBERT T. RULISON, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Amsterdam. *SETH G. SHANKS, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. A. H. V. SMYTH, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Minaville. *SAMUEL B. WARD, Georgetown Medical College, 1864; Albany. *HARRIET A. WOODWARD, Syracuse University, 1875; Albany.

1877, *JAMES F. BARKER, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *WILLIAM N. HAYS, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany.

1878, *JESSE CROUNSE, Albany Medical College, 1877; Knowersville. *W. O. STILLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1878; Albany.

1879, *E. A. BARTLETT, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. *G. UPTON PELTIER, Bishop's College, Quebec, 1873; Cohoes. *JAMES C. HEALEY, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *A. W. KILBOURNE, University of the City of New York, 1874; Albany. *LANSING B. WINNE, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; Albany. *FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876; Albany. *OTTO RITZMANN, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. *JOHN C. SHILAND, Albany Medical College, 1878; West Troy. *URIAH B. LAMOURE, Albany Medical College, 1878; Albany. WM. J. LEWIS, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; removed to Hartford, Conn. *MAURICE J. LEWIS, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. THOMAS B. VAN ALSTYNE, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to Richmondville, N.Y., 1880. P. B. COLLIER, Long Island College Hospital, 1866; Albany. *EDWARD E. BROWN, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. M. W. BROOKS, University of Vermont, 1879; removed to New York City, 1880. *J. E. HALL, Albany Medical College, 1877; Green Island. S. O. VAN DER POEL, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876; removed to New York. WILLIAM GREGHAN, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to New York. *JOHN D. R. MCALLISTER, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. THOMAS FEATHERSTONHAUGH, Albany Medical College, 1877; 1882, removed to New York. SHIELDON VOORHEES, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to Auburn, 1881.

1880, *DANIEL C. CASE, Albany Medical College, 1870; Slingerlands. *THEO. P. BAILEY, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1880; Albany. A. P. CASLER, Albany Medical College, 1880. *FRANK J. MERRINGTON, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. *SAM'L R. MORROW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; Albany. JOHN W. GOULD, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. JOHN J. WHITE, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to New York. *GEORGE E. ELMENDORF, Albany Medical College, 1875; Coeymans Hollow. M. R. C. PECK, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876. THOMAS D. WOODEN, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. LEHMAN B. HOIT, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. JOHN THOMAS KEAY, Albany Medical College, 1879; died January 4, 1881, aged 28. DANIEL FEGAN, Queen's University, Dublin, Ireland; removed to Ireland.

1881, *GEORGE S. MUNSON, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. JOHN F. LOCKWOOD, Albany Medical College, 1881; removed to Wisconsin. S. EDWARD ULLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. *T. W. NELLE, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *W. J. NELLE, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. *F. L. CLASSEN,

Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *HOWARD MILLER, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *HOWARD S. PAINE, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *LAURENTINE ROUCHEL, Buffalo Medical College; Albany. THOMAS G. HYLAND, Bellevue Medical College; removed. CARROL H. PHILLIPS, Albany Medical College, Watervliet; died February 14, 1883. C. W. GREEN, Albany Medical College; removed. CHARLES F. HUDDLESTON, Albany Medical College; removed.
 1882, *W. B. SABIN, Albany Medical College, 1882; West Troy. *SAMUEL PETERS, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1846; West Troy. FRANK S. PETERS, Albany Medical College, 1874; died 1883. *HENRY HUN, Harvard Medical School, 1879; Albany. *GEORGE E. LYON, Albany Medical College, 1882; West Troy. *W. H. FOWLER, Jefferson Medical College, 1879; Albany. *DAVID FLEISCHMAN, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany.
 1883, *WILLIAM L. SCHUTTER, Albany Medical College, 1883; Albany. *FRANK H. FISK, Albany Medical College,

1883; Albany. *CHARLES K. CRAWFORD, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *J. W. RILEY, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. WALTER W. SCHOFIELD, Albany Medical College, 1882; removed to Massachusetts. *C. M. CULVER, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. J. W. MANN, Albany Medical College, 1882; died 1884.
 1884, *J. H. MITCHELL, Albany Medical College, 1882; Cohoes. *R. J. BROWN, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. *T. F. C. VAN ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. *JOSEPH D. CRAIG, Albany Medical College, 1884; Albany. *EDGAR C. HALLENBECK, Bellevue Medical College, 1881; Bethlehem. G. S. KNICKERBOCKER, College Physicians and Surgeons; removed. C. C. SCHUYLER, Albany Medical College; Troy (non-resident).
 1885, *SELWIN A. RUSSELL, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *FREDERICK D. MORRILL, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *JOHN H. SKILLICORN, Albany Medical College, 1883; Albany.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

YEAR.	PRESIDENT.	VICE-PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.	TREASURER.
1806	Hunloke Woodruff.....	Wm. McClelland.....	Charles D. Townsend.....	John G. Krauff
1807	"	"	"	"
1808	"	"	"	"
1809	"	"	"	"
1810	"	"	"	Peter Wendell
1811	"	"	"	"
1812	Wm. McClelland.....	Charles D. Townsend.....	J. L. Van Deusen.....	"
1813	Jonathan Eights.....	Isaac Hyde.....	T. Romeyn Beck.....	"
1814	"	Erastus Williams.....	"	"
1815	"	"	"	"
1816	"	John Stearns.....	Peter Wendell.....	Joel A. Wing.
1817	John Stearns.....	James Low.....	"	"
1818	"	"	"	"
1819	"	"	"	"
1820	James Low.....	William Bay.....	"	"
1821	Jonathan Eights.....	"	"	"
1822	C. C. Yates.....	"	William Humpfrey.....	"
1823	William Bay.....	Jonathan Eights.....	"	"
1824	"	"	"	Barent P. Staats.
1825	"	"	"	Peter Van O'Linda.
1826	Joel A. Wing.....	Peter Williams.....	"	John W. Hinckley.
1827	"	"	Peter Van O'Linda.....	"
1828	Platt Williams.....	Charles D. Townsend.....	James P. Boyd.....	Roger Viets.
1829	"	Barent P. Staats.....	"	Edward A. Leonard.
1830	Charles D. Townsend.....	"	Luke Wellington.....	Isaac Hempstead.
1831	"	"	"	"
1832	Alden March.....	Guy Spalding.....	Elisha S. Burton.....	Carroll Humpfrey.
1833	"	"	"	"
1834	Barent P. Staats.....	B. B. Fredenburgh.....	Herman Wendell.....	Jarvis Barney.
1835	"	Peter B. Noxon.....	"	"
1836	"	Alva W. Rockwell.....	"	"
1837	John W. Bay.....	L. G. Warren.....	Abraham Groesbeck.....	John F. Townsend.
1838	James P. Boyd.....	Peter McNaughton.....	"	Henry Greene.
1839	"	"	"	Henry Van O'Linda.
1840	Jonathan Eights.....	"	Peter Van Buren.....	"
1841	Peter Van Buren.....	John S. Van Alstyne.....	Henry Greene.....	"
1842	"	"	"	"
1843	"	"	Jonathan Case.....	E. B. O'Callaghan.
1844	Thomas Hun.....	Henry Van O'Linda.....	John Campbell.....	"
1845	"	Mason F. Cogswell.....	"	"
1846	Mason F. Cogswell.....	R. H. Thompson.....	"	"
1847	"	"	J. V. P. Quackenbush.....	C. C. Waller.
1848	James McNaughton.....	John Swinburne.....	Benjamin A. Sheldon.....	"
1849	"	"	"	J. B. Rosman.
1850	James H. Armsby.....	Wm. F. Carter.....	"	"
1851	"	"	"	"
1852	J. V. P. Quackenbush.....	U. G. Bigelow.....	Sylvester D. Willard.....	C. C. Waller.
1853	"	"	"	"
1854	Uriah G. Bigelow.....	Samuel H. Freeman.....	"	"
1855	"	"	"	"
1856	Samuel H. Freeman.....	Sylvester D. Willard.....	Levi Moore.....	William H. Bailey.
1857	"	"	"	"
1858	Sylvester D. Willard.....	S. O. Vanderpoel.....	"	"

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.—CONTINUED.

YEAR.	PRESIDENT.	VICE-PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.	TREASURER.
1859	William F. Carter.....	S. O. Vanderpoel.....	Levi Moore.....	William H. Bailey.
1860	S. O. Vanderpoel.....	Leonard G. Warren.....	Oscar H. Young.....	George H. Newcomb.
1861	"	"	"	"
1862	Howard Townsend.....	Joseph Lewi.....	"	Henry March.
1863	Peter McNaughton.....	Levi Moore.....	J. R. Boulware.....	"
1864	Peter P. Staats.....	Frank G. Mosher.....	"	H. R. Haskins.
1865	Levi Moore.....	R. H. Sabin.....	Martin L. Mead.....	F. L. R. Chapin.
1866	James E. Pomfret.....	"	"	Thomas Beckett.
1867	R. H. Sabin.....	James L. Babcock.....	George T. Stevens.....	"
1868	James L. Babcock.....	J. W. Moore.....	Charles H. Porter.....	Andrew Wilson.
1869	William H. Craig.....	C. D. Mosher.....	"	"
1870	William H. Bailey.....	Andrew Wilson.....	"	D. V. O'Leary.
1871	Joseph Lewi.....	Amos Fowler.....	John M. Bigelow.....	"
1872	Albert Van Derveer.....	A. Shiland.....	Frederic C. Curtis.....	William H. Murray.
1873	John Swinburne.....	H. W. Steenberg.....	"	W. H. T. Reynolds.
1874	James S. Bailey.....	C. E. Witholt.....	Joseph H. Blatner.....	"
1875	Henry March.....	J. D. Featherstonhaugh.....	Lewis Balch.....	D. H. Cook.
1876	Joseph N. Northrop.....	William H. Murray.....	B. U. Steenberg.....	A. T. Van Vranken.
1877	Charles A. Robertson.....	Louis Boudrias.....	Eugene Van Slyke.....	H. E. Merceness.
1878	Frederic C. Curtis.....	A. T. Van Vranken.....	T. Kirk Perry.....	"
1879	John M. Bigelow.....	B. U. Steenberg.....	Lorenzo Hale.....	G. L. Ullman.
1880	A. Shiland.....	William Hailes.....	"	"
1881	Jacob S. Mosher.....	John U. Haynes.....	T. Featherstonhaugh.....	M. J. Lewi.
1882	Norman L. Snow.....	D. C. Case.....	M. J. Lewi.....	"
1883	Herman Bendell.....	J. L. Archambeault.....	E. A. Bartlett.....	"
1884	J. D. Featherstonhaugh.....	T. Kirk Perry.....	Jno. Ben. Stonehouse.....	Uriah B. La Noure.

The publications of the society have been quite remarkable. The entire Transactions of the society have been printed in three volumes of 400 or 500 pages. The first was prepared by Dr. S. D. Willard, and extends to 1850; the second, chiefly by Dr. J. S. Bailey, covers the next twenty years, and the third, chiefly by Dr. F. C. Curtis, recently printed, is filled by the ten years following, down to 1880. These volumes contain biographies of nearly two hundred members, and a number of portraits of deceased and prominent members. The society also has maintained for five years a monthly journal, the *Albany Medical Annals*. Dr. March, in 1830, wrote "A Plea for Establishing a Medical Journal in Albany." Our periodical, which is largely made up of material presented at the monthly meetings of the society, has a considerable circulation outside of the society's territory, and extracts from it frequently appear in other journals. The Editorial Committee are Drs. F. C. Curtis, A. Van der Veer, Lorenzo Hale, J. B. Stonehouse and Willis G. Tucker. Probably no other society in the country has done so much in the matter of publication.

The cholera epidemic of 1832 was an important epoch in the annals of medicine. This disease, which in its European and American history belongs to this century, made its first appearance on this continent at Quebec in 1832, and a fortnight later broke out in Albany. It justly created great alarm. At the request of the Mayor, a meeting of the

Medical Society was called to devise means to arrest its progress, and a staff was organized, consisting of Drs. Eights, Wing, Greene, Boyd, Townsend, Wendell, James, McNaughton and March. The physicians of the city met every evening at the City Hall, where an album was kept in which to enter the names of the deceased. The number of reported cases was 1,147, of which 422 were fatal. Two years later, on a fresh outbreak, there were 124 cases, with 78 deaths. No such fatal disease had prevailed since the small-pox epidemics of early history.

Conspicuous among the younger men then was Dr. James P. Boyd. His faithful work at that time gave him an impetus, and he secured a position which made him for very many years one of the first physicians in the city. The brothers James and Peter McNaughton were older by several years. The former had been a professor in a medical school then for twelve years, and at the time of his death, in 1874, he was the senior teacher of medicine, probably, in the world. He was made at this time President of the Board of Health, and wrote a paper on the disease, which was in much demand. His brother, in a less public way, was, perhaps, even more active as a practicing physician. Both of them, in civil as well as medical relations, were for half a century among the first citizens of Albany. The brothers Staats, of the same name as our earliest historical physician, were well known men here for many years. The elder, Dr. Barent, was prominent in politics, and was also a trustee of

numerous mercantile concerns. He was at this time Health Officer of the port. Dr. Alden March was a well-established physician, having come here from New England in 1820. In the fifty years that he practiced he made a world-wide reputation as a surgeon and teacher. The Doctors Beck were, in some respects, the most remarkable men in our history. One of them was sent at this time by the Governor to visit the northern frontier for the purpose of procuring information and organizing boards of health. Dr. T. Romeyn Beck is known over the civilized world as the author of "Medical Jurisprudence." Both of the brothers devoted most of their lives to teaching and scientific literature. Younger than any of them was Dr. Thomas Hun, just entering practice then, and the only one of that time now living, having, however, well earned retirement from active work by over fifty years of service, which brought him a reputation second to none in the country. This strong body of men, most of them of thorough literary and medical education, formed the body of the profession through the two middle quarters of this century, and all of them lived so nearly up to the present time that there are few Albanians to whom they are not perfectly familiar. They had a hand in every important event, professional or civic, that transpired through the long period that they worked together, during which the city doubled its population two or three times.

As in the last century the wars were important periods in our medical history, so in this. In the war of 1812, which was partly at our door, a few of the local physicians were engaged. Most prominently was Dr. Platt Williams, a graduate of Williams College, and prepared by a long course of professional study. The war broke out soon after he began to practice, and he immediately received from Gov. Tompkins the appointment of surgeon to the Second Regiment of Riflemen. He served through the war on the Niagara frontiers. Two years later, having returned to Albany, he was appointed post surgeon of the cantonment at Greenbush, and retained the position till its abandonment in 1822.

Dr. Henry Greene, a native of Rhode Island, immediately after his graduation in 1814, was made assistant surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Regulars, and saw hard service in Canada, remaining in the army till peace was declared. He came to Albany in 1828, was prominent here in the cholera epidemic, and was one of the first faculty of the Medical College.

Dr. Joel A. Wing was for thirty-eight years a physician of Albany. Almost as soon as he graduated he was, without his knowledge, appointed surgeon in the army, which he did not accept, so that his connection with the war was but nominal. He, however, was made post surgeon of the Greenbush barracks in 1844. On his first visit to the barracks, being young, undersized and unimpressive, he was treated with some insolence by the orderly, or nurse. He knocked the man down, and it took all the money he had to pay the fine imposed by the justice; but he secured wholesome respect afterward. Dr. Wing worked very hard in the cholera epidemic and was himself taken with the disease, his recovery speaking well for his associates. In the course of his life he held various important civil positions.

The Mexican war was enacted at a remote point, and none of the profession of this county appears to have served in it.

The late Civil war furnishes a point around which to group a very considerable number of the men and events of our peaceful profession. The men who participated in it were for the most part those of to-day. Its outbreak found Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, then one of the most active physicians in the city, in the office of Surgeon-General of the State, which place he filled from 1859 to 1863, under Gov. Morgan. It gave him the medical direction in the formation of all regiments sent from this State, the examination of all applicants for and filling of all vacancies in the medical staff of each regiment. He had at the end of his term of service over 600 surgeons in the field. He established promotion by grade in medical corps instead of regimental. During a portion of McClellan's advance in the Peninsula, and in the first battle of the Wilderness, he went as volunteer surgeon. Subsequently he was inspector of hospitals for the Sanitary Commission. After the war Dr. Vanderpoel was for eight years Health Officer of the Port of New York. He was also for many years on the Medical College faculty and physician to the hospitals. In 1881 he removed to New York City.

Dr. J. V. P. Quackenbush was Surgeon-General from '63 to '65, under Gov. Seymour, and carried out its arduous duties almost to the end of the war. He spent his entire professional life in Albany, one of its prominent physicians, a leading citizen and a most popular lecturer at the Medical College and hospitals.

Dr. S. D. Willard succeeded him in official position, but died during the same year. He had pre-

viously seen considerable service at the front as volunteer surgeon, especially in 1862, after the battles of the Peninsula, to look after New York soldiers. The profession, of Albany especially, is indebted to him for much laborious work on medical and historical literature, and Willard Asylum was justly named after him for his efforts toward its establishment.

Dr. James D. Pomfret was Surgeon-General from '65 to '69, under Gov. Fenton. In '62 he was appointed surgeon of the 113th Regiment, which was raised entirely in this county; it was changed to the 7th Heavy Artillery, and till May, '64, was placed in the defenses of Washington, during which time he acted as Brigade Surgeon. It then being sent to the front, he was made Division Surgeon, and later Surgeon-in-Chief of the 2d Army Corps. After his return home he had charge of the Soldiers' Home here and was connected with the college and hospitals.

Dr. Jacob S. Mosher was the last of the Albany physicians to hold the office of Surgeon-General, from '69 to '73, under Gov. Hoffman. He served as volunteer surgeon from his graduation in '63 to the close of the war in the hospitals of the Army of the Potomac and at Washington. While there he was appointed Asst. State Medical Director at Washington, holding the position till '67. From '70 till '76 he was Deputy Health Officer of the Port of New York, was on the Yellow Fever Commission appointed by Congress, and till his death, in 1883, was prominent in various departments of medicine and in civil life, being one of the most variously gifted men Albany has ever had.

Dr. J. W. Moore entered the navy in '61 as Asst. Surgeon, and served in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River for fourteen months as Surgeon of the Flotilla, participating in many battles, beginning with that of Sewall's Point, the first naval battle of the war. He was in the same fleet with the *Monitor* during its fight with the *Merrimac*. He also served in the North Atlantic Squadron and was Fleet Surgeon of the St. John's River Flotilla. For six months he was with the frigate *Florida*, which was fitted out to cruise for the *Alabama*. After serving for a year in the U. S. A. General Hospital he returned home to Cohoes, where he has since been actively engaged in private practice.

Dr. J. Savage Delavan was appointed Asst. Surgeon, 169th Infantry, in '63, but not being mustered, owing to lack of numbers in the regiment, entered hospital service at Washington. After a time he was commissioned by Gov. Buckingham 1st. Asst. Surgeon, 1st Connecticut Artillery, and remained

with that regiment through the war, declining the surgeoncy of 1st N. Y. Cavalry, offered him by Gov. Seymour. He was in all the artillery battles before Petersburg down to the repulse of the Confederates at Fort Steadman, and was at the "mine" and the taking of Fort Fisher. Before the war he was for some time Pension Examining Surgeon, and was again appointed after the war. He was Vice-Consul at Geneva, Switzerland, for two years. Having resumed practice in Albany, he is one of the physicians to the Homœopathic Hospital, and has been one of the three State Commissioners of Health of the State Board of Health since it was first organized.

Dr. Herman Bendell served in the Army of the Potomac and of the Shenandoah from '62 to the close of the war. He was first appointed Asst. Surgeon, 6th N. Y. Artillery; in December, '64, he became surgeon of the 86th N. Y. Vet. Vols. During the final campaign to Richmond he was surgeon in charge of the Depot Field Hospital. He was discharged as Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, N. Y. V. After the war he was Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Arizona Territory, and has now for several years been engaged in private practice here. He now holds the office of Pension Examining Surgeon.

Dr. Samuel B. Ward during a part of 1862 was in the service of the Sanitary Commission on transports of sick to northern ports. In September of that year he became, by contract with the Medical Director of the Department of Washington, acting Medical Cadet, and afterward acting Assistant Surgeon. Having obtained his degree in medicine, he was appointed, after examination, Assistant Surgeon, New York Volunteers, by President Lincoln, and served till the close of the war. He has been connected with the National Guard since 1872, being now surgeon of the Ninth Brigade. He came to Albany in 1876, and has since been one of the faculty of the Medical College and connected with the hospitals.

Dr. Charles A. Robertson was commissioned Surgeon of the 159th New York Volunteers in 1862. He was at Irish Bend, the siege of Port Hudson, Donaldsonville and Vermillion Bayou. Before Port Hudson, he was acting Division Surgeon of Field Hospitals. He was on special service through the Têche country. Prior to the war he had practiced ophthalmology in Boston, and after his service he came to Albany and was the first specialist in this branch of practice, in which he was remarkably skillful. He was attached to several hospitals and had a large practice till his death in 1880.

Dr. Thomas Helme, of McKownsville, was commissioned Assistant Surgeon, 148th New York Volunteers, in November, 1863. His grandfather was a revolutionary soldier and a prominent man in Rhode Island; his father was in the war of 1812 in some military capacity. In 1865 Dr. Helme was promoted to Surgeon of the 85th Regiment. He saw service in the Carolinas and Virginia, was in all the battles before Petersburg, and at the taking of Fort Harrison was wounded while on a charge, so that he was laid up for several weeks. Otherwise he was on active service to the close of the war, when he returned to this county, where he is still in active practice.

Dr. Charles H. Porter was made Assistant Surgeon, 40th New York Volunteers, in November, 1862, but was not mustered. In January, 1863, he was commissioned Surgeon of the Sixth Artillery, to which regiment Dr. Bendell was attached, serving with it to the close of the war, being mustered out with the rank of Brevet Colonel, New York Volunteers. He has since practiced in Albany and for several years has been one of the pension examining surgeons.

Dr. Alexander H. Hoff came to Albany in 1853, and was Surgeon-General from 1854 to 1856. For several years he was examining surgeon at the United States rendezvous here. He entered the army as Surgeon of the Third New York Volunteers, becoming the same year Medical Director under Gen. Fremont, and Chief of Hospital Supplies. In 1864 and till the close of the war he was Medical Director of Transportation. In 1867 he entered the regular army as Surgeon and Brevet Colonel, United States Volunteers, and remained in the service till his death in 1876. His son is now Assistant Surgeon, United States Army.

Dr. N. L. Snow entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, 153d New York Volunteers, in August, 1862, was promoted Surgeon, February, 1864, and was discharged October, 1865. He was in the defense of Washington, was with Sheridan in the Shenandoah, and with Banks on his Red River campaign. During the summer of 1865 he was Health Officer of the District of Savannah. He practiced a number of years at Canajoharie, and about 1875 came to Albany. He has hospital and college connection, and is now President of the Board of Aldermen.

Dr. Albert Van Der Veer was appointed Medical Cadet at the Ira Harris Hospital in June, 1861. The following year he was made Medical Cadet in the army, being one of the original one hundred. He served in this capacity at Columbia College

Hospital, Washington, until December, 1862, when he was appointed Assistant Surgeon, 66th New York Volunteers, joining his regiment at Falmouth, Va. In August, 1864, he was promoted surgeon of the same regiment. For over two years he was surgeon in charge of one of the operating tables of the First Division Hospital, Second Army Corps, during the time also having charge of locating the hospital supplies, building winter quarters, etc. He was mustered out with his regiment, which had participated in many of the battles of the Army of the Potomac, August, 1865, and returned to Albany, where he has since been engaged in active practice. Since 1876 he has been a member of the Medical College Faculty as Professor of Surgery, in which department he is pre-eminent in the annals of Albany, besides having a very extensive general and consulting practice in a large region about this city. He is a frequent contributor to medical literature, and is a member of many home and foreign societies, being at this time President of the State Medical Society.

Dr. A. B. Husted served as Hospital Steward of the 113th New York Volunteers (Seventh Heavy Artillery) from 1862 to 1864, the regiment being on garrison duty near Washington. March, 1864, he became Assistant Surgeon, 21st New York Cavalry, and served as such till July, 1866, seeing very active service in the Shenandoah and on the overland stage route north of Denver, along which the regiment was distributed after the war. He has since resided in Albany, and is now one of the faculty of the College of Pharmacy.

Dr. George H. Newcomb was commissioned, August 1862, Assistant Surgeon, 113th New York Volunteers (Seventh Heavy Artillery) and served with it till May, 1865, being promoted Surgeon, February, 1865. This regiment, which was raised in this county, was on garrison duty at Washington, and saw service, in all of which he participated, from Spottsylvania to Petersburg.

Dr. George T. Stevens was Surgeon 77th New York Volunteers from October, 1861, to December, 1865, and was present at nearly all the battles of the Army of the Potomac after the first Bull Run, and of the Shenandoah under Sheridan. In 1862 he was appointed Operating Surgeon of the Third Brigade, and during periods was in charge of the division hospital. After the battles of the Wilderness, he had charge of wounded officers of the Sixth Corps, who were taken to Fredericksburg. He has contributed largely to the surgical history of the war and is author of "Three Years with the Sixth Corps." He practiced in Albany for

several years after the war, and for a time was connected with the Medical College; he now resides in New York.

Dr. P. M. Murphy entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, 134th N. Y. V., March, '64, and was mustered out with his regiment, June, '65. He was in the Army of the Cumberland, in the Southeast, with Sherman, and in the March to the Sea; he participated in all the engagements of the 20th Corps—about twenty-seven in all. He was commissioned Surgeon of the 89th Regiment, but not mustered. Since the war he has resided in this city.

Dr. A. A. Edmeston entered service as Assistant Surgeon, 18th N. Y. V., in '61, and was soon after promoted surgeon of the 92d Regiment, and served through the war. He participated in many of the battles, whose names are familiar, in Virginia and North Carolina. Once he voluntarily accompanied a body of sick and wounded men to Libby Prison and remained there several weeks. While in the army he contracted chronic diarrhoea, from which he never recovered; he died in 1871.

Dr. Frank J. Mattimore was appointed Assistant Surgeon, 18th N. Y. V., in 1862. He saw arduous service at Antietam and the disaster of Fredericksburg. He was mustered out with his regiment in 1863 and returned home, where he died a few months later from the effects of swamp fever which he had contracted in the service.

Dr. Wesley Blaisdell was also a martyr to the war. He was a practitioner of Coeymans, and in August, '62, enlisted as Assistant Surgeon, 113th N. Y. V., being transferred a few months later to the 75th Regiment. In July following, having served at the siege of Port Hudson, he resigned. After a short time he went back to the army and was sent to Newburn, where he contracted yellow fever, which terminated fatally.

Dr. C. B. O'Leary was professionally connected with the army almost throughout the war, with intervals, and with various regiments. He was Assistant Surgeon of the 25th and 145th Regiments, and Surgeon of the 175th, serving with the Army of the Potomac and at Port Hudson. He returned to Albany, and died here in 1877. His brother, Dr. D. V. O'Leary, was recently health officer and is now postmaster of the city, being also on the medical staff of St. Peter's Hospital.

Dr. Warner Van Steenberg entered the army in '61, as Assistant Surgeon, 1st N. Y. Inf.; a year after was promoted Surgeon of the 55th, and afterward was transferred to the 120th. He was mustered out with his regiment, with the rank of Brevet

Lieutenant-Colonel. He settled to practice in Cohoes, where he remained until his death in 1880.

Dr. P. L. F. Reynolds was commissioned Assistant Surgeon, 169th N. Y. V., September, '62; he resigned December, '63. The regiment saw service in Virginia and the Carolinas. In March, '65, he received a commission as Assistant Surgeon, 94th N. Y. V., but was not mustered. He is now practicing in Albany.

Dr. William H. Craig, then a practitioner for eight years in this city, was commissioned, October, '62, Surgeon 177th N. Y. V., a regiment which was raised in Albany, to serve nine months, and seeing service at Ponchatoula, Scivique's Ferry and Port Hudson. He remained with his regiment until the expiration of its service. Since the war he has resided in Albany, and has for several years held the office of postmaster.

Dr. Jephtha R. Boulware served as Assistant Surgeon of the same regiment with which Dr. Craig was connected, the 177th, as did also Dr. Oscar Young, who resided here for several years. Dr. Boulware has been a prominent practitioner in Albany since his war service, and for a time was Surgeon of St. Peter's Hospital.

Dr. Henry R. Haskins was commissioned Surgeon of the 192d N. Y. V., which was partly raised in this county, in February, '65, and was mustered out in the August following. He practiced in Albany till his death in 1884; was for several years Professor of Anatomy at the Medical College, and was prominent especially as a surgeon.

Dr. Thomas Beckett was made Assistant Surgeon, 25th N. Y. Nat. Guard, April, '61, and served with it for five months in Virginia. October, '62, was again mustered as First Assistant Surgeon 4th Regiment (Corcoran's Brigade), consolidated with the 175th N. Y. V., and sent to Louisiana. For a time he was detached and placed in charge of the sick of General Emory's Division. He accompanied his regiment on the expedition to Plaquemine and the Tèche raid, and at the battle of Briland was three days and nights on the field; at Port Hudson he had become so reduced in health that he was discharged, June, '63, with the rank of Brevet Major, N. Y. V. In '65 he was placed on duty as Acting Assistant Surgeon at the Ira Harris Hospital here, and served to the end of the war.

Dr. Charles P. Staats was made Assistant Surgeon, 67th New York Infantry, in 1863, seeing service for a year and a half with the Army of the Potomac. After being mustered out with his regiment he returned to Albany, where he died in 1884.

Dr. John H. Wilbur, now a practitioner of Cohoes, enlisted in the 44th New York Volunteers in 1861, and after two years' service was discharged on account of physical disabilities. In September, 1866, he was commissioned by Gov. Fenton Surgeon of the 108th Infantry, and served till the regiment disbanded.

Dr. R. H. Sabin, of West Troy, received a commission as Assistant Surgeon, Seventh New York Artillery, but was prevented by domestic affairs from serving.

Besides these there were a number of Albany physicians who, while having no regular regimental attachment, saw considerable service in army hospitals and at the front after severe battles. Dr. Mason F. Coggsell, a practitioner here since 1833, and having held various offices of responsibility, was at the outbreak of the war appointed Examining Surgeon. He was surgeon of a post hospital in 1862, and served as volunteer surgeon after the battles of the Wilderness. In 1863 he visited hospitals in the West with Dr. Thomas Hun, for the Christian Commission. His death in 1865 was attributed partly to his hard work in Virginia. Dr. J. V. Lansing was examiner of recruits here, where a large number of regiments were organized. He also served as contract surgeon, or acting assistant. For many years he was connected with the college and hospital here; he died in 1880, while surgeon to Dannemora prison. Dr. Henry March was assistant volunteer surgeon, sent by the State in 1861-2; he was on hospital service at Fortress Monroe and at Fredericksburg. Dr. Wm. H. Bailey, for many years a leading physician of Albany, was sent to Washington and the army to look after the welfare of New York troops, several times by the Governor and the Christian Commission. He is now connected with the Albany Hospital; is one of the pension examining surgeons, and a late president of the State Medical Society. Similar special service was rendered by Dr. John Swinburne, a sketch of whose life may be found on another page, Dr. Levi Moore, Dr. J. L. Babcock, and probably others. Dr. Alden March gave his valuable services to the inmates of the Soldiers' Home located here. Dr. James H. Armsby rendered the same patriotic service. Dr. Ira M. Delamater, Dr. S. H. Freeman and Dr. A. P. Ten Eyck were likewise connected with the work in this home for disabled soldiers.

Besides those who have served in a professional capacity, there are a few among the physicians here who may be mentioned for other service during the war.

Dr. O. D. Ball enlisted, November, 1861, in the Third New York Light Artillery as Quartermaster-Sergeant; in 1864 he was commissioned Second Lieutenant, and a few months later was promoted to First Lieutenant and assigned to duty as regimental quartermaster, and for a time was acting Assistant Adjutant-General. He went up the James River with the army under General Butler as ordnance officer, and was engaged in the preliminary battles and siege of Petersburg, the battles of James River and Wilson's Landing. He served through the war and came to Albany in 1874, after several years' practice in Otsego County.

Dr. Edward E. Brown entered the service in September, 1862, as First Lieutenant Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, and was promoted Captain, serving through the war. He saw service principally in the defenses of Washington; was engaged in the taking of Harper's Ferry. Since graduating at the Albany Medical College he has practiced in Bethlehem, and now is settled in Albany.

Dr. E. A. Bartlett, a descendant of the Dr. Josiah Bartlett, signer of the Declaration of Independence, enlisted as private in the Fourth United States Artillery in 1863, for five years, and participated in twelve engagements of the Department of the Cumberland and Tennessee. He was wounded at Puffski in January, 1865. In 1866, the war having ended, he was, through Senator Harris, discharged, in order to complete his collegiate education. His professional life he has spent in Albany. He is a contributor to literature, general and medical, his latest work being a popular brochure on cholera.

Dr. F. C. Curtis enlisted in the spring of 1864, with a large part of his college class, as private in the 40th Wisconsin hundred days' regiment, and saw service during the summer chiefly in the defenses of Memphis.

Dr. Lewis Balch, although not in the army during the war, may be mentioned as a prominent medical officer of the National Guard, in which he is a senior surgeon, 10th battalion, with rank of major. He is connected with the college and the hospitals here, and is now health officer of the city.

As completely as possible the military history of medical men in this county has been presented in recognition of the important relation that exists between war and the science of medicine.

During this century the city and county have maintained the early repute for healthfulness, the cholera epidemics already referred to being the most notable inroad upon it. The topography, soil and

drainage are favorable to salubrity. The city especially is admirably situated, with its succession of slopes and valleys draining rapidly into the all-absorbing river, and it needs but a decent attention to artificial aids for removing waste and moisture, with an abundance of pure water, to keep it the healthiest city in the world.

The various medical institutions which have been brought into existence during the century are important features of our medical history. The Albany Medical College was organized in 1838, and is one of the oldest schools of medicine in this country. As early as 1821 Dr. Alden March began to give a course of instruction in anatomy by lectures and dissections, and continued it until the organization of the College; for ten years of the time also holding the chair of anatomy and physiology in the Vermont Academy of Medicine. He began in 1830 to agitate the propriety of establishing a college and hospital here. Soon after this Dr. James H. Armsby became associated with Dr. March in his private school, at the same time also lecturing at the Vermont institution. He delivered several courses of public lectures on anatomy, and did much thereby to awaken the interest of prominent citizens in the subject. This resulted in a meeting of citizens in 1838, at which the preliminary steps were taken toward its organization, some of the best men in the city co-operating for the purpose. Funds were subscribed, a faculty and board of trustees selected, and the Lancaster school building leased, rent free, of the Common Council. The first course of lectures began in January, 1839, to a class of fifty-seven students, and an extensive museum, chiefly contributed by Drs. March and Armsby, was displayed to the public. This museum has received further contributions from Drs. March, Armsby, McNaughton, Van Der Veer and others, until now it is one of the largest in the country, and is still, on stated days, open to the public. During the first few years Dr. Armsby and Mr. Amos Dean, who was professor of medical jurisprudence, delivered public lectures in the evening, which added much to the interest in the institution. In 1841 the Legislature made an appropriation of \$15,000 to it, and subsequently \$6,000, and the citizens of Albany contributed \$10,000 for its establishment. The first class that graduated numbered thirteen. Since then the college has contributed 2,000 men to the medical force of the country, all over which they are scattered, and many of them the leading men of their localities. The college has had on its board of

trustees the first citizens of Albany, and the leading physicians have been on its faculty or board of curators. Within a few years the demand for higher education has been met by the requirement of a preliminary examination of all applicants for admission, by the establishment of a three years' graded course of study, and by monthly written examinations. But very few medical schools in this country are thus exacting; this one, consequently, stands high. The final examination by the faculty is a written one, and after it the graduate has still to pass another by the board of curators. The course is not only scientific but practical, by the exhibition of cases, operations and laboratory work, and a number of prizes stimulate the students to their best efforts.

The following is a historical list of the college faculty from its beginning until now, in the order of their appointment: Drs. Ebenezer Emmons, James H. Armsby, David M. Reese, Alden March, Henry Greene, David M. McLachlan, Amos Dean, Esq.; Drs. Thomas Hun, Gunning S. Bedford, James McNaughton, Lewis C. Beck, T. Romeyn Beck, Howard Townsend, Ezra S. Carr, J. V. P. Quackenbush, Charles H. Porter, G. F. Barker, Jacob S. Mosher, S. O. Vanderpoel, James E. Pomfret, John V. Lansing, H. R. Haskins, Albert Van Der Veer, E. R. Peaslee, Meredyth Clymer, W. P. Seymour, George T. Stevens, John M. Bigelow, Maurice Perkins, Ira Harris, Esq., LL.D.; Drs. Willis G. Tucker, William Hailes, H. E. Webster, M. A., Drs. John Swinburne, Lewis Balch, Samuel B. Ward, John P. Gray, Edward R. Hun, James P. Boyd, Jr., C. S. Merrill, S. O. Vanderpoel, Jr., Franklin Townsend, Jr., Frederic C. Curtis and Henry Hun. Of these a few had but a short connection with the institution, and a few were non-residents of this city.

On the present faculty are: Dr. Thomas Hun, LL.D., Dean, and Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, LL.D., both Emeritus Professors; Dr. Albert Van Der Veer, *Surgery*; Dr. Maurice Perkins, *Chemistry*; Dr. John M. Bigelow, *Materia Medica*; Dr. Lewis Balch, *Anatomy*; Dr. Samuel B. Ward, *Practice of Medicine*; Dr. John P. Gray, *Psychological Medicine*; Dr. James P. Boyd, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*; Dr. Willis G. Tucker, *Chemistry*; Dr. William Hailes, *Histology*; Dr. C. S. Merrill, *Diseases of the Eye and Ear*; Dr. Franklin Townsend, *Physiology*; Dr. Frederic C. Curtis, *Diseases of the Skin*, and Dr. Henry Hun, *Nervous Diseases*. Dr. Henry March is Curator of the Museum, Dr. E. Van Slyke, Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Dr.

S. R. Morrow, Lecturer on Surgery. Dr. A. L. Carroll, Secretary of the State Board of Health, has also delivered a course of lectures on Hygiene. Most of the faculty are connected with one or more of the hospitals of the city. In years past summer courses of lectures have been given, at which many of the physicians of the city have assisted the regular faculty. These are now suspended, and the regular course of six months lasts from early in September till March. The Curators of the College are: Drs. Samuel H. Freeman, William H. Craig and Norman L. Snow, of Albany, Dr. James D. Featherstonhaugh, of Cohoes, and Dr. Barent A. Mynderse, of Schenectady.

The college owns a valuable library, particularly rich in rare old works, much of which was selected by Dr. T. Romeyn Beck. It has laboratories that are extensive and complete, having been recently rebuilt. Alumni Hall, a wing of the college, is a gathering place for all medical organizations, its walls being covered with portraits of members of the County Medical Society. There is a large Alumni Association, holding annual meetings on commencement days, through whose members the college gets much of its patronage.

The Albany College of Pharmacy is another medical institution that deserves mention. Like the Medical College, it is a department of Union University by the Board of Governors of which it was created in 1881. Its course extends over two years, lectures being given in the evening. It is required of the students to spend four years with a reputable pharmacist. The faculty consists of Dr. Willis G. Tucker, Dr. A. B. Husted and Mr. G. Michaelis. The late Dr. Mosher was connected with it up to the time of his death.

Albany is fortunate in the possession of several hospitals; a fact which speaks well for its benevolent spirit. Reference has already been made to the military hospitals. The Albany Hospital was founded in 1849. For the first few years it occupied buildings on the corner of Madison avenue and Dove street. In 1854 the present fine building on Eagle street near the Medical College was secured for it, having been used as a county jail till then, and remodeled at a cost of over twenty thousand dollars. This was largely due to the unremitting efforts of Dr. James H. Armsby, to whom more than any other citizen Albany is indebted for its educational and benevolent institutions. He gave his professional services to the hospital during his life, and raised over one hundred thousand dollars for it by personal applica-

tion. In 1872 a large addition was built, and with numerous and costly improvements since it has been made one of the most perfect hospitals possible, with accommodation for about 150 patients. It has as an especial feature a large number of private rooms, respectively fitted up by and named after the various Protestant churches in the city, and no hospital in the country is so homelike to those so unfortunate as to need its care. Patients taking private rooms may be attended there by their own physicians. It is under the care of a board of fifteen governors, who are elected annually by the members of the corporation, a gift of fifty dollars entitling the donor to a vote for life. It is supported by private contributions, by the income of an endowment fund and from the rent of private rooms, and by the payment from the city and county towns for the care of the sick. The present staff of the hospital consists of Dr. Thomas Hun, consulting physician; Drs. Samuel H. Freeman, Joseph Lewi, John M. Bigelow and Samuel B. Ward, attending physicians; Drs. Albert Van Der Veer, William Hailes and Norman L. Snow, attending surgeons; Drs. Cyrus S. Merrill and Herman Bendell, eye and ear surgeons; Dr. William H. Bailey, obstetrician; Dr. James P. Boyd, gynecologist, and Dr. Frederic C. Curtis, diseases of the skin. The hospital has a dispensary for the care of out-patients, to whom advice and medicines are furnished gratuitously. It is open daily. Several thousands are thus treated yearly.

St. Peter's Hospital was opened in 1869, in the building on the corner of Broadway and North Ferry street, which was for many years occupied by Stephen Van Rensselaer, son of the late Patroon. This building has been much enlarged by more recent additions. It is in charge of the Sisters of Mercy, with the co-operation of an advisory board of forty gentlemen. Being near the railroads, it receives a great many cases of accident. It has also a dispensary for out patients to which many, not only from the city but from neighboring counties, come for treatment, not less than twenty-five thousand persons having been treated gratuitously there since it was opened. The staff of physicians consists of Dr. Thomas Hun, Samuel B. Ward and Daniel V. O'Leary, consulting physicians; Drs. A. Van Der Veer and Lewis Balch, consulting surgeons; Dr. Henry Hun, Selwyn A. Russell and T. Kirk Perry, attending physicians; Dr. S. R. Morrow, P. J. Keegan and William Hailes, attending surgeons; Dr. J. M. Bigelow, laryngoscopy and throat diseases; Dr. C. S. Merrill, G. A. Munson and T. F. C. Van Allen, ophthalmic

and aural surgeons; Drs. James P. Boyd and Franklin Townsend, obstetric surgeons; and Dr. F. C. Curtis, physician for diseases of the skin.

The Child's Hospital, one of the most effective institutions in the city, was organized in 1875. It is under the charge of the Sisters of the Order of the Holy Child Jesus. A board of lady managers has the care of its financial management. The total number of beds is 75, three of which are endowed. It is mainly supported by voluntary contributions. On its medical staff are Drs. Thomas Hun and John Swinburne, consulting, and Dr. Lewis Balch, Henry Hun and T. M. Trego, attending physicians, Dr. C. S. Merrill having charge of diseases of the eye and ear, and Dr. J. W. Cox of the homœopathic ward.

The Albany City Homœopathic Hospital was chartered in 1872, and in 1875 was consolidated with the dispensary, which was incorporated in 1868. It is under the charge of a board of managers, and its staff includes most of the homœopathic physicians of the city. The institution furnishes accommodation for 30 patients, a large part of whom are charity cases, although it has several private rooms for paying patients. Its support comes from voluntary contributions and a yearly appropriation from the city. The part that homœopathic physicians have had in our medical history will form a separate chapter.

The Alms House Hospital and Insane Asylum has capacity for the sick poor and insane of the county. It is situated at the outskirts of the city, on the grounds and under the management of the Alms House officials, Dr. R. H. Starkweather having its professional charge as city physician.

The work of the hospitals is very well supplemented by the Open Door Mission and the Hospital for Incurables, the youngest of the benevolent institutions. Their purpose is to care for the indigent sick and crippled who, being incurable, cannot be provided for by the hospitals. Besides these there are a considerable number of asylums and homes in the city which need and receive medical care.

During the century Albany has grown nearly twenty times in population, Cohoes has become a considerable city, and West Troy a large village of thirteen thousand inhabitants. Instead of a dozen physicians, mostly dwelling near the site of Old Fort Orange, there are now not less than one hundred and seventy-five throughout the county. There is hardly a specialty in medicine which is not ably and abundantly represented here. These, with the hospitals, the medical school, the medical

journal, the exceptionally central and accessible location of the city, and a body of general practitioners of as high character and capability as any in the country, have made Albany the metropolis and center for an extensive territory. No locality is more free from empirics than is this city and county of Albany; there is none in which the *esprit du corps* of the profession is better, and none in whose history and development more able and forceful medical men have borne an active part. It is an honor to be the chronicler of so good representatives of a profession which is one of the most useful in the elements of human weal and advancement. Lack of space has prevented the mention of many who should be spoken of and of the high offices that have been held; but enough has been detailed to show the very considerable part the profession has taken in bringing this old place to its good position in history. However rapidly Albany may grow in the future, its past and present gives evidence that the medical profession will keep pace with it in strength, energy and capacity.

HISTORY OF THE INTRODUCTION AND PROGRESS OF HOMŒOPATHY IN ALBANY COUNTY.

BY H. M. PAINE, M. D., OF ALBANY, N. Y.

This historical sketch embraces:

I. History prior to the organization of the County Homœopathic Medical Society.

II. History subsequent to the organization of the Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society.

III. Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Society, showing titles of papers and contributions to medical science; also the position of the society regarding the polemics of homœopathy.

IV. History of the Albany City Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary.

I.—HISTORY PRIOR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANY COUNTY HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The homœopathic system of medical practice was first introduced into the City of Albany by Dr. Augustus P. Biegler, in the autumn of 1837.

At that early period only a few persons had heard of the new system, and a still smaller number of its adherents were willing to trust it in severe forms of disease. There were a few, how-

ever, who were thorough converts to the new method. Their confidence in the efficacy of homœopathic treatment was such that they adhered to it alone, even in the most rapid and dangerous diseases.

Among this class of firm believers in the new system, the name of Rev. Dr. Myers, pastor of the First Lutheran Church, deserves special mention. The reverend doctor, at that early day, had procured from Leipsig a number of homœopathic remedies and a small book, printed in the German language, giving directions for the proper administration of the medicines.

By these firm believers in homœopathy Dr. Biegler was cordially welcomed and zealously supported, and the system he represented, by turn earnestly advocated and fearlessly defended.

Dr. Biegler was born in Prussia; he resided, at the time of graduation from the University of Berlin, at St. Wendel; his diploma is dated March 29, 1832, and bears the signature, among others, of Christian G. Hufeland. He received letters of recommendation from Dr. Hufeland and others to professors in another German university, in which also he pursued medical studies subsequent to his graduation at Berlin.

He began the practice of homœopathy at Albany in November, 1837. In the next year (1838) he passed the requisite examination, and was admitted to membership in the Medical Society of the City and County of New York.

Dr. Biegler remained in Albany until the spring of 1840, when he removed to Schenectady, and in the autumn of that year became a permanent resident of Rochester, Monroe County, N. Y.

During this journey westward, which occupied several months, Dr. Biegler delivered lectures on homœopathy in the principal cities along the route. These lectures awakened great interest in the new system, and resulted in the addition of many converts to the homœopathic method of medical treatment.

Late in the autumn of 1840 Dr. Biegler left Rochester for the purpose of visiting Hahnemann, at Paris. He remained at that city about one year. As a testimonial of esteem, Hahnemann presented him with a beautiful carnelian stone ring, on which a profile of the head of Hahnemann was engraved; also a lock of his own hair, with a note from Madame Hahnemann.

After his return to this country Dr. Biegler resumed practice at Rochester, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1849, at the age of 59 years. Dr. Biegler enjoyed the rare oppor-

tunity of a long personal acquaintance with Hahnemann.

Soon after Dr. Biegler's advent Dr. Rosenstein established himself at Albany. The two physicians formed a partnership in business, which was terminated in a few months by the removal of Dr. Rosenstein from the city.

Dr. Biegler was succeeded, in the spring of 1840, by Dr. Charles Frederic Hoffendahl. Dr. Hoffendahl was born, June 28, 1799, at New Brandenburg, in Mecklenburg-Strelitz. He began medical studies at the age of seventeen years, at the St. Joseph's Academy of Vienna, a training school for military surgeons.

In 1820, having passed his examination, he was attached to an Austrian infantry regiment (entitled Wurtemberg) and accompanied it during a campaign in Italy. He then, in 1828, finished his studies and obtained his degree at the Medical University of Berlin.

It is probable that he became a homœopathic practitioner soon after graduation, having previously acquired a knowledge of homœopathy while in the Austrian army, through the kindness of Regimental Surgeon Schmidt.

Dr. Hoffendahl came to this country in 1837, and settled at Philadelphia, where he remained until 1840, when he became a resident of Albany. He remained at Albany two years, and then, in 1842, removed to Boston, Mass., where he died, April 24, 1862, at the age of sixty-three years.

In 1841 Dr. Isaac M. Ward, of Newark, N. J., came to Albany. After a very successful and remunerative practice of seven years, he retired to New York in the autumn of 1847. Dr. Ward has long since retired from active practice. He resides (1885) at Elizabeth, N. J.

Dr. Charles H. Skiff came to Albany in 1842. Dr. Skiff was born at Spencertown, Columbia County, N. Y., May 12, 1808. The greater part of his boyhood was spent with his grandfather, Nathan Skiff, on Skiff Mountain, in the town of Kent, Litchfield County, Conn. He was graduated from the Berkshire Medical College, at Pittsfield, Mass., September 5, 1832.

After the death of a dearly beloved daughter and a severe illness of his own, during which he obtained evidences of the practical superiority of the new over the old method, he fully adopted the homœopathic system.

He remained at Albany less than one year, and thence, in the fall of 1843, removed to New Haven, Conn., where he resided, with the exception of two years spent at Brooklyn, N. Y., to

the time of his death, in 1875, at the age of sixty-seven years.

He was the first physician to practice homœopathically at New Haven; he was one of the founders of the Connecticut State Homœopathic Medical Society, and also one of the original members of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

Dr. Henry D. Paine came from Newburgh, Orange County, to Albany in 1845. He formed a partnership in business with Dr. I. M. Ward. The partnership continued two years, and was terminated by the removal of Dr. Ward to New York. Dr. Paine removed from Albany to New York in the spring of 1865, where he is still (1885) participating in professional duties.

Dr. E. Darwin Jones began the practice of homœopathy at Albany in the spring of 1846. He had been an old-school practitioner several years. On a careful and thorough investigation of the homœopathic system, he became convinced of its superiority, and immediately adopted it in practice. At the present time (1885) Dr. Jones is still engaged in active practice at Albany.

Dr. David Springsteed had also been an old-school physician several years. He was induced to read homœopathic publications, and to test the utility of homœopathic remedies in certain diseases. After a prolonged examination, involving many practical experiments, in the spring of 1846, he openly announced himself a convert to the new system. Dr. Springsteed then resided in the town of Bethlehem, Albany County. He removed to the city of Albany in 1861.

By reason of advanced age, in 1880, he retired from active practice and removed to Saugerties, Ulster County, and subsequently, in 1882, to Brooklyn, N. Y., where at the present time (1885), although feeble in bodily strength, he is enjoying the evening of life in the possession of all his mental faculties.

Dr. John Alsop Paine began practice at Albany in January, 1847. Dr. Paine was born at Whites-town, Oneida County, N. Y., July 10, 1795. He received an academical education at Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., and was graduated from the Medical Department of Yale College in the spring of 1825.

In the course of his long and eventful career he engaged successfully in practice in Volney, Oswego County; Paris, New Hartford and Utica, in Oneida County, N. Y., and Newark, N. J., from which place he removed to Albany. He remained six years in Albany, and died at Lake Forest, Ill., June 16, 1871, in the 76th year of his age.

He practiced the old-school system prior to the year 1844, at which time, being detained several weeks at Albany for the purpose of giving evidence in a suit to recover damages for injuries received in this city by a patient who had been a long time under his care, he availed himself of the opportunity thus afforded for witnessing the application of the new system, as illustrated by the practice of Dr. I. M. Ward, at that time a resident of Albany.

On returning to his home at New Hartford, he at once instituted a series of trials, at first in cases in which the usual old-school remedies had failed. These tests resulted in demonstrating to his entire satisfaction the availability of a method having a far wider range of application—one opening up a greater wealth of resources in its applicability in the treatment of even the most dangerous and rapidly fatal diseases—than any he had hitherto witnessed. These advantages he quickly perceived and speedily availed himself of in daily practice, and held to them during the remaining years of his professional life with singular tenacity, seldom, except under the most urgent necessity, ever resorting to old school palliative or alterative treatment.

Dr. Paine was elected to a number of official positions in connection with the medical associations, old-school and new, in which he held membership.

He was a skillful and successful physician; he was genial in disposition, judicious and exemplary in his daily life. His influence over his patients was marked by characteristic cheerfulness, hopefulness and unusual urbanity of manners. His presence in the sick room was often an inspiration, prompting a faithful co-operation in the use of the remedial measures suggested.

He manifested decided originality in determining the active as well as the predisposing causes of disease; hence his opinion regarding the diagnosis of difficult and obscure cases was frequently desired by his professional associates.

Dr. Henry Adams, son of Dr. Peter C. Adams, was born at Coxsackie, N. Y., July 6, 1787. He pursued the study of medicine under the supervision of his father, and was admitted to practice in the twenty-first year of his age.

During the war of 1812 he was appointed surgeon in the American army, and was stationed at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y. At the close of the war he returned to Coxsackie and resumed practice.

About the year 1846 he was persuaded to investigate the claims of homœopathy, and was not slow to accept its principles as an improvement upon the old method. His confidence in the new system never wavered.

He came to Albany in 1848, remaining two years. He removed to Cohoes in 1850, where he resided to the time of his death, which occurred July 6, 1857, on his seventieth birthday.

He possessed great individuality and originality of method. He was firm and positive in his convictions, and pursued a course, once decided on after mature deliberation, with untiring perseverance. He was a man of few words. His thoughts and opinions were expressed in strong, terse language and laconic sentences.

Dr. Horace M. Paine, son of Dr. John A. Paine, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, in March, 1849. He at once began practice in Albany, remaining until 1855, when he removed to Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., where he resided until 1865, returning that year to Albany.

Prior to the year 1849 the accessions to the ranks of homœopathic practitioners were from among those who had been previously engaged for several years in old-school practice. Dr. Paine was the first young physician who began the practice of homœopathy immediately after graduation.

Dr. Paine at the present time (1885) is a resident of Albany, and is engaged in active practice.

In 1851 a physician by the name of Brooks came to Albany. He had been an old-school practitioner fifteen or sixteen years, and had recently become a convert to the new system. He remained at Albany two or three years, and then removed elsewhere.

Dr. William H. Randel was graduated, in the spring of 1851, from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, and immediately thereafter began the practice of homœopathy in Albany.

Dr. Randel visited Europe in 1867, and spent a greater part of a year in observing the results of treatment adopted in the principal hospitals in England and on the Continent. He is still (1885) a resident of Albany, and is engaged in active professional duties.

Dr. James W. Cox was graduated, in the spring of 1852, from the Albany Medical College, and at once began the practice of homœopathy in Albany. He entered into partnership in business with his former preceptor, Dr. Henry D. Paine. The partnership continued seven years, and was then dissolved by mutual consent. Dr. Cox subsequently formed a partnership with Dr. John S. Delavan. Dr. Cox is, at the present time (1885), engaged in practice in Albany.

Dr. C. G. Bryant was graduated, in the spring of 1852, from the Albany Medical College. He associated himself in business with his former preceptor, Dr. D. Springstead. He remained one year in Albany, and then removed to San Francisco, where he died in 1866.

Dr. Lester M. Pratt, of Fulton, Oswego County, N. Y., came to Albany in August, 1854. He was graduated in the spring of that year from the Homœopathic Medical College of Philadelphia. He formed a partnership in business with Dr. H. M. Paine, which continued one year, and was terminated by the removal of Dr. Paine to Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y. Dr. Pratt has, on two occasions, entered into partnership with Dr. John S. Delavan. Dr. Pratt, at the present time (1885), is engaged in active practice at Albany.

Dr. George H. Billings was graduated from Castleton Medical College in 1857, and the same year began the practice of homœopathy at Cohoes. He remained at Cohoes seven years, and then removed to Brooklyn. He returned to Cohoes in 1870, where he is now, in 1885, engaged in active professional duties.

These seventeen physicians, the pioneers of our school in Albany County, espoused the homœopathic system when its very name was, in the estimation of the dominant school, a synonym of reproach, and, as indicative on the part of the homœopathist, of a deficiency of sound judgment. Homœopathists were regarded as visionary in their conceptions and superficial in their attainments. Many of the pioneers of homœopathy, however, were men of profound learning; they were ripe scholars, and were in full possession of all those mental qualities required for originality of thought and independence of action.

At that early day the opposition to homœopathy was intense. The intimation of the slightest predilection toward the new system was sure to cover the offender with obloquy, and ultimately result in almost complete professional ostracism. The homœopathist was speedily expelled from the medical organizations to which he belonged, and was henceforth debarred all professional fellowship with his former medical associates. Hence, to break away from esteemed friends, and to exclude one's self from the fellowship of those whose aid would be frequently extremely desirable, was a test of courage and self-reliance to which few were willing to subject themselves.

It has been repeatedly asserted that the early homœopathists renounced the old-school system of practice on account of the probable pecuniary ad-

vantages to be gained thereby. The pioneers themselves, however, are conscious of being uninfluenced by mercenary motives. They adopted the homœopathic system only after repeated trials had proved its superior curative advantages, and they adhered to it in the confident expectation that these points of intrinsic excellence would ultimately establish its claims for public recognition and general adoption.

They broke away from—nay, rather were driven out of—the old-school because they believed that they could more effectively serve the public; they were confident of accomplishing better results in practice; of saving a larger proportion of human life, and of contributing to the diminution of the duration and intensity of diseases which afflict mankind. Whether their reward would come during their life time they could not foretell; but of its coming at some future day they had no reason to doubt.

And when they relinquished the old method it was a radical and entire separation. Indeed, the completeness of the renunciation of old-school methods is a marked characteristic of many of the earlier converts to homœopathy. They appeared to have a morbid dread of even an occasional resort to the milder cathartics and narcotics, which the younger homœopaths—those who have had a shorter practical knowledge of the old methods—have never experienced.

When they gave up the old system, they renounced it wholly; when they adopted the new, there was no reservation at any point in favor of the old. There was no blending of the two opposite systems. The new method, to them, seemed to act more in harmony with natural conservative forces, hence was considered preferable in all curable diseases.

A review of the work accomplished by these pioneers of our school in Albany County, even at this early period, shows that their confidence in the new system was well founded, and that we are, at the present day, measurably enjoying the fruition of their self-sacrificing labor.

Nine of the seventeen are still living, and with one or two exceptions all are engaged in the active duties of professional life.

II.—HISTORY SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANY COUNTY HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The development and progress of the homœopathic school is indicated, approximately at least, by the growth and influence of the number and

standing of its public and private institutions. The history of the society and cognate organizations, therefore, marks the advances and resources of the school and measures the degree of public approval and adoption of its system of therapeutics.

The Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society was organized at Albany, January 24, 1861, twenty-four years ago. It was organized under the provisions of a general law authorizing the formation of county homœopathic medical societies, passed in 1857.

The names of the members of the society are as follows:

1861. Dr. David Springsteed, Albany, 1861, 1862.
 1861. Dr. Henry D. Paine, Albany,
 1861. Dr. E. Darwin Jones, Albany, 1863.
 1861. Dr. Lester M. Pratt, Albany, 1864, 1878, 1884.
 1861. Dr. James W. Cox, Albany, 1867, 1882, 1883.
 1861. Dr. William H. Randel, Albany, 1865.
 1862. Dr. J. Savage Delavan, Albany, 1866.
 1864. Dr. William S. Baker, Cohoes, 1868.
 1866. Dr. Horace M. Paine, Albany, 1874.
 1867. Dr. Harman Swits, Schenectady, 1870.
 1867. Dr. Joseph C. Butler, Albany.
 1867. Dr. J. H. A. Graham, Berne.
 1867. Dr. Heman B. Horton, Albany.
 1867. Dr. Joseph N. White, Amsterdam, 1869.
 1868. Dr. James F. McKown, Albany, 1877.
 1869. Dr. George A. Cox, Albany.
 1869. Dr. P. L. F. Reynolds, Albany, 1873.
 1869. Dr. Nelson Hunting, Albany, 1876.
 1870. Dr. Edward A. Carpenter, Albany.
 1870. Dr. John Smithwick, Albany.
 1870. Dr. Stephen H. Carroll, Albany, 1871.
 1871. Dr. Henry G. Preston, Albany, 1872.
 1871. Dr. Phillip I. Cromwell, Albany.
 1871. Dr. Edward C. Howe, New Baltimore.
 1871. Dr. John H. Fitch, Gallupville.
 1871. Dr. Frederick W. Thomas, Albany.
 1871. Dr. George H. Billings, Cohoes, 1879, 1880, 1881.
 1872. Dr. D. A. Cookingham, West Troy.
 1873. Dr. Charles E. Jones, Albany, 1875.
 1873. Dr. Townsend Bowne, Albany.
 1873. Dr. William E. Milbank, Albany.
 1874. Dr. Rufus Reed, Cohoes.
 1874. Dr. Catharine E. Goewey, Albany.
 1876. Dr. Howard L. Waldo, West Troy.
 1876. Dr. R. B. Sullivan, Albany.
 1876. Dr. James J. Wallace, Albany.
 1876. Dr. John J. Peckham, Albany.

- 1876. Dr. William H. Van Derzee, Albany.
- 1877. Dr. Edwin B. Graham, Albany.
- 1877. Dr. George H. Benjamin, Albany.
- 1877. Dr. John N. Bradley, Adamsville.
- 1877. Dr. G. P. H. Taylor, Stillwater.
- 1878. Dr. William H. Griffith, Albany.
- 1878. Dr. Gertrude A. Goewey, Albany.
- 1879. Dr. Mary G. Pomeroy, Albany.
- 1879. Dr. George F. Gorham, Albany.
- 1882. Dr. Edward L. Crandall, Albany.
- 1882. Dr. Robert Kennedy, Green Island.
- 1884. Dr. Walter F. Robinson, Albany.

The first seven names are those of the original members and founders of the society, those who were present at its first meeting or united with it during the first year of its existence; the figures at the right indicate the date of election to the presidency; those at the left, the date of election to membership in the society.

Of the founders of the society, all are still living, and, with one exception, all are engaged in practice. Of the remaining forty-three, all, except four or five, are living, and are at the present time (1885) participating in the duties and bearing the responsibilities of professional life. Of the whole number, nineteen are residents of and active practitioners in Albany County.

III.—ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, SHOWING TITLES OF PAPERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL SCIENCE; ALSO THE POSITION OF THE SOCIETY REGARDING THE POLEMICS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

Abstract of Titles of Papers Presented at Meetings of the Society.—A large proportion of the reports of scientific work accomplished by resident homœopaths has been published in books or widely separated medical journals, hence no list showing, even approximately, the number and quality of these papers is obtainable. Neither do the records of the society furnish evidence of a title of the contributions to current medical literature. Reference to the more prominent, however, of the papers and reports presented from time to time and read at its meetings show a wide range of investigation, and results extracted from rich mines of practical clinical experience. They are as follows:

Diseases of the Throat and Air Passages.—Carbolic acid in the treatment of chronic laryngitis, April, 1867; nasal catarrh treated by inhalations, August, 1870; hay fever, September, 1871; chronic catarrh of the air passages, January, 1872; pneumonia, October, 1874; croup and diphtheria differentially considered, December, 1876; malignant

diphtheria, July, 1883; chronic tonsilitis, April, 1884.

Diseases of the Pelvic Organs.—Improved form of speculum, January, 1867; carbolic acid in the treatment of ulceration of the os uteri; for the relief of leucorrhœal discharges, and for chronic cystitis, April, 1867; fissure of the rectum, January, 1870; intra-uterine treatment by means of medicated suppositories, August, 1871; spermatorrhœa, three papers, September, 1871; difficult, tedious and instrumental labors, September, 1871; puerperal convulsions, September, 1871; enuresis nocturna, December, 1871; methods of intra-uterine treatment, May, 1872; infiltration of urine into cellular tissue, May, 1873; degeneration of the placenta, July, 1882; congenital phimosis in an adult, July, 1882; hygiene and therapeutics of uterine and ovarian diseases, January, 1883; cases of spasmodic dysmenorrhœa, January, 1883; apparatus for conveniently applying the hot water douche, April, 1884.

Cerebral and Nervous Diseases.—Causes of insanity, September, 1871; paralysis following diphtheria, August, 1877; apoplexy, August, 1877; tinnitus aurium, July, 1882; cerebral congestion, simulating yellow atrophy of the liver, April, 1884; nervous and lung diseases, utility of erythroxyion cocoa in the treatment of, October, 1868.

Diseases of the Skin.—Carbolic acid applied externally for the cure of scabies, April, 1867; tœnia capitis, April, 1869; varicella, April, 1878.

General Diseases.—Sporadic cholera, July, 1866; dropsy, cases of, July, 1867; intermittent fever, August, 1871; spinal meningitis, August, 1871; lead colic, August, 1871; osteo-sarcoma of the superior maxillary, September, 1871; local cellulitis, September, 1871; fungoid tumor, September, 1871; records of two post mortems, September, 1871; biliary calculi, September, 1871; typhoid fever, December, 1871; tumor in the region of the subclavian triangle, December, 1871; abdominal tumor, January, 1872; cerebro-spinal meningitis, April, 1872; constitutional predisposition to certain diseases, April, 1874; dysentery, April, 1874; spinal meningitis, April, 1874; record of prevailing diseases for six months, in connection with meteorological observations for the same period, January, 1877; iris versicolor, for the relief of sick headache, November, 1876; iodine in the treatment of syphilis and scrofula, June, 1877; cancer of the stomach, July, 1878; traumatic peritonitis, April, 1879; the utility of lycopodium in the treatment of diabetes, April, 1879; the importance of having all plumbing work done under competent supervision,

July, 1879; the applicability of massage in the treatment of certain diseases, April, 1879; record of a post mortem, July, 1882; the use and abuse of tonics, July, 1882; the deleterious effects of feeding swine slaughter-house offal, October, 1882; typhoid fever, October, 1882; urinary analysis and Bright's disease, January, 1883; diabetes insipidus, July, 1883; typhoid fever, April, 1884; therapeutic indications for the administration of pilocarpine, June, 1877.

The Polemics of Homœopathy.—The contest between the old school and the homœopathic has been a long and bitter one. Homœopaths justify themselves in maintaining adherence to the tenets of their system on the ground of its superior qualities when subjected to practical tests in the treatment of disease. The old school, on the other hand, justify their hostility to homœopathy on the ground of the alleged absurdities of its principles.

Homœopaths admit that the theoretical formulas promulgated by Hahnemann, regarding the smallness of the dose and the methods by which the medicines are prepared, are strangely absurd and unreasonable; at the same time they hold that these absurdities do not in any manner represent the principles on which the homœopathic system of therapeutics is constructed. They also hold that the essential elements of homœopathy are reasonable, sound, and an exemplification of a natural law of cure.

Hence they further hold, that the measure of liberality within the old school ought to have been sufficiently broad to have afforded all the freedom required by homœopaths in the exercise of a right which every educated physician should be permitted to enjoy, to the unrestricted employment of any and all therapeutic methods extant. In short, they hold that educational qualifications alone should regulate membership and standing in medical as in other scientific associations.

Happily time has softened the asperities of the old school. Indeed, many of the objectionable features of old-school practice, which mainly, on account of their repulsiveness, forced the homœopathic system into existence, have long since been discarded, and many of the essential elements of the new system have been substituted. All are now willing to admit that the harshness of the old-school method has been greatly modified since the introduction of the homœopathic.

The history of the Homœopathic Medical Society of Albany County embraces the second quarter centennial covered by the great medico-ethical controversy of this century. Its records show that

the members of the society have been active participants in the work of securing for themselves and their system a legal status equal in every respect to that of their old-school rivals. The following extracts, selected from many of similar import, set forth the animus and purposes which have successfully controlled the active participants in the polemics of homeopathy.

The first extract is taken from a report of the proceedings of a meeting held December 9, 1873. It has reference to the refusal of the American Public Health Association to admit to its membership Dr. T. S. Verdi, a homœopathic physician, residing at Washington, D. C.

Resolutions Protesting Against the Illiberality of the American Public Health Association.—However undesirable it may be, we are very frequently reminded of the dissensions among medical men. The origin and progress of the contest between the two principal rival schools demonstrate the fact that all overt acts of intolerance have been perpetrated by our opponents. Homœopaths, in every instance, have acted on the defensive.

It would appear that our old school opponents intend to continue this intortecine strife until compelled, by force of public sentiment, to recognize homœopathic physicians as equals, and entitled to all the amenities of professional intercourse.

The only question at issue between the representatives of the two rival schools is simply one involving a difference of opinion regarding the application of remedies in the treatment of disease. The old-school, according to the recent testimony of professors in the medical department of the University of Michigan, has "no general law" on which to base appropriate treatment. The homœopathic school, on the other hand, founds its system of practice on a well-defined and philosophical principle, which is applicable in a large percentage of curable cases; hence its superior success. * * *

Homœopaths are clearly entitled to membership in the National Association. They and their friends in all parts of the country will, if necessary, throw their whole influence into this contest, and will continue to do so while necessity calls for action. The old-school fraternity may as well conclude, without unnecessary delay, that, in all public affairs, they must consider homœopaths equal with themselves in every respect, and entitled to the full enjoyment of all the rights, privileges and immunities accorded any portion of the regular medical profession.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, Dr. T. S. Verdi, a graduate in medicine, holding diplomas from various medical colleges, and a practitioner in good and regular standing, has been duly appointed a member of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia by the President, which appointment has been confirmed by the Senate of the United States ; and

WHEREAS, The zeal, energy and success manifested by Dr. Verdi, in the discharge of his duties as a member of the Board of Health, has received the merited respect and confidence of the people of Washington ; and

WHEREAS, His Excellency, the Governor of the District of Columbia, duly appreciating the services and integrity of character of Dr. T. S. Verdi, appointed him a special sanitary commissioner to visit European cities ; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Verdi, in the performance of said official functions, has exhibited in his recent mission to European cities unusual ability ; and

WHEREAS, Dr. C. C. Cox, President of the Board of Health of Washington, being an active member of the American Sanitary Association, has proposed the name of Dr. Verdi for membership in the same ; and

WHEREAS, Said association, at its annual convention, held in New York, November 12 to 15, 1873, declined to elect Dr. Verdi a member, for no cause except adherence to homœopathy in his private medical practice ; and

WHEREAS, Such a course must be considered arbitrary and mischievous ; therefore,

Resolved, That any association, the object of which is the advancement of general public interests, sanitary or otherwise, which circumscribes its boundaries of membership within the narrow limits of sects, either religious, medical or political, fails in its mission, and subverts the very principles of its existence ; is contrary to the genius of American institutions, being a direct violation of the great principles which involve the very foundation of free government, and is guilty of a course of action as pernicious in principle as it is unwise and impolitic in practice.

Resolved, That the American Health Association, in refusing membership to two officers of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, appointed thereto by the President and confirmed by the Senate of the United States, as proposed by Dr. Cox, President of said Board of Health, has, by that act, subverted the advancement of sanitary reform for the benefit of the people.

Resolved, That Drs. T. S. Verdi and D. W. Bliss, being both federal officers, exercising their prerogatives of office for the people of the District of Columbia, their proscription from the Public Health Association is an insult to the President and people of the District of Columbia.

Resolved, That the unanimity of public approval in the removal of Dr. Van Aernam, late Commissioner of Pensions, for having attempted to raise the issue that adherence to a particular creed or belief should constitute a qualification for official position, clearly demonstrated the opposition of the American people to similar acts of proscription.

Resolved, That the American Health Association will not be entitled to receive the respect and moral support of the people of this country, until it shall have removed the present sectarian barrier to membership.

Resolved, That this society, as a representative of a large and respectable class of scientific medical practitioners, repels

the insult offered to the school of medicine to which it adheres, and calls upon all just and fair men to condemn the illiberal course of the American Health Association.

Resolved, That the Homœopathic Medical Society of Albany County tenders thanks to Dr. C. C. Cox for his manly defense of the rights of men before the American Public Health Association, and for his scathing denunciation of partisanship and sectarianism.

Resolved, That we respectfully request the members of Congress from this State to approve the legal recognition of the American Health Association, only when convinced that the articles of incorporation embrace a provision prohibiting the exclusion of members on account of adhesion to any preferred theory of medical treatment.

Resolutions Advocating Equal Representation of Old-School and Homœopathic Physicians in a State Board of Health.

WHEREAS, Strenuous efforts have been made during the past few years to enact a law creating a State Board of Health, so constructed as to provide for the appointment in said board of old-school physicians only ; and

WHEREAS, No good reason exists why the control of all the sanitary affairs of the State should be intrusted to one school of physicians, to the exclusion and detriment of another ; and

WHEREAS, Such exclusive control would indirectly establish a sectarian medical monopoly ; therefore,

Resolved, That while we earnestly advocate the enactment of such sanitary measures as have for their end the prevention of diseases and lengthening of human life, we earnestly protest against the passage of any health bill, providing for the appointment of medical men, which does not recognize an equal numerical representation by name of the two dominant systems of medical practice.

Resolved, That we cordially assent to, and respectfully request the passage, by the next State Legislature, of a law securing equal representation from both the old-school and homœopathic schools of medicine.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to State officers, members of the legislature, officers of State and County medical societies and their legislative committees ; also, to the committee on Legislation of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

IV.—HISTORY OF THE ALBANY CITY HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

Two public charitable institutions, a hospital and a dispensary, now united and maintained as a single organization, have been opened and successfully conducted by the homœopathic profession of Albany.

A proposition to open a public homœopathic free dispensary was first made at a meeting of the Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society, held early in the year 1865. During the following two years various plans were offered and an interest in the subject was sustained, which culminated, in the fall of 1867, in the establishment of a free dispensary, at that time the only public institution in Albany for furnishing gratuitous medical service and medicines to those who choose to avail themselves of its advantages.

Since the organization of the dispensary, seventeen years ago, it has gratuitously afforded medical and surgical aid to more than sixty thousand applicants. It is, at the present time (1885), in as flourishing a condition as at any period since its establishment, the number of prescriptions ranging from three to five hundred per month.

The dispensary service soon revealed the fact that many of the applicants required hospital accommodations. With a view, therefore, of enlarging its usefulness, and placing its work and operations upon a permanent foundation, a building was purchased in the summer of 1872, and supplied with the requisites for both dispensary and hospital uses. The building at first selected having been found undesirable, in 1875 a larger and more suitable one was provided.

The present hospital and dispensary building is centrally and conveniently located at 123 North Pearl street; is large and complete in its appointments, and is provided with all suitable appliances for accommodating upward of fifty patients.

There are enrolled upon its staff the names of all the resident homœopathic physicians in Albany, and in addition thereto, two of Albany's ablest old-school surgeons; a fact which clearly indicates the obliteration of sectarian barriers to unrestricted professional fellowship.

The resources of both the hospital and dispensary are derived from sums appropriated by the city government and from private sources. Although these institutions are incumbered with a debt of several thousand dollars, the income has been hitherto sufficient to meet all claims for current expenses.

ALBANY CO. ECLECTIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In compliance with the act for the incorporation of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York, which was incorporated April 24, 1865, and by the written advice of the honorable secretary of that body, under date of May 19, 1874, and in pursuance of a cordial invitation, the friends of medical reform assembled at the office of Dr. Robert Liston, in the City of Albany, June 1, 1874, to organize a County Eclectic Medical Society, auxiliary to the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York. Dr. R. Liston was appointed to the chair, and Dr. John Wilson, secretary. The constitution of the State Eclectic Medical Society was read and approved, and a constitution and by-laws were presented and adopted. After signing

these papers, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :

President, R. Liston, M. D.; Vice-President, J. T. Johnson, M. D.; Secretary, N. S. Dean; Treasurer, Dr. W. S. Filkins. The secretary was ordered to file in the County Clerk's office a copy of these proceedings, with a list of the 17 corporate members.

The County Society presented a petition to the State Society at its meeting, October 22, 1874, for recognition as an Auxiliary Society, signed by R. Liston, M. D., S. J. Birch, M. D., J. F. Neef, M. D., which was granted on the same day.

The regular meetings now are four in each year, on the first Thursdays in January, April, July, October. Membership now is 23. Of these, the following practice and reside in Albany County :

A. Cullen, West Troy.
James Douglass, West Troy.
Morgan L. Filkins, Albany.
Welcome L. Filkins, Albany.
Isaac Finch, Rensselaerville.
Jacob F. Neef, Albany.
Gustave B. Schill, Albany.
John H. Wilbur, Cohoes.
John Wilson, Albany.

FEMALE PHYSICIANS.

The practice of medicine in Albany by females properly educated dates in 1873, only 12 years ago. Up to about that time, the prejudice, not only of most male physicians, but of the people generally, was very strong against them. But the few who have settled in practice have come so well prepared, and have pursued their work so courageously, and yet so modestly and skillfully, that they have disarmed prejudice and taken respectable rank in the profession and in society.

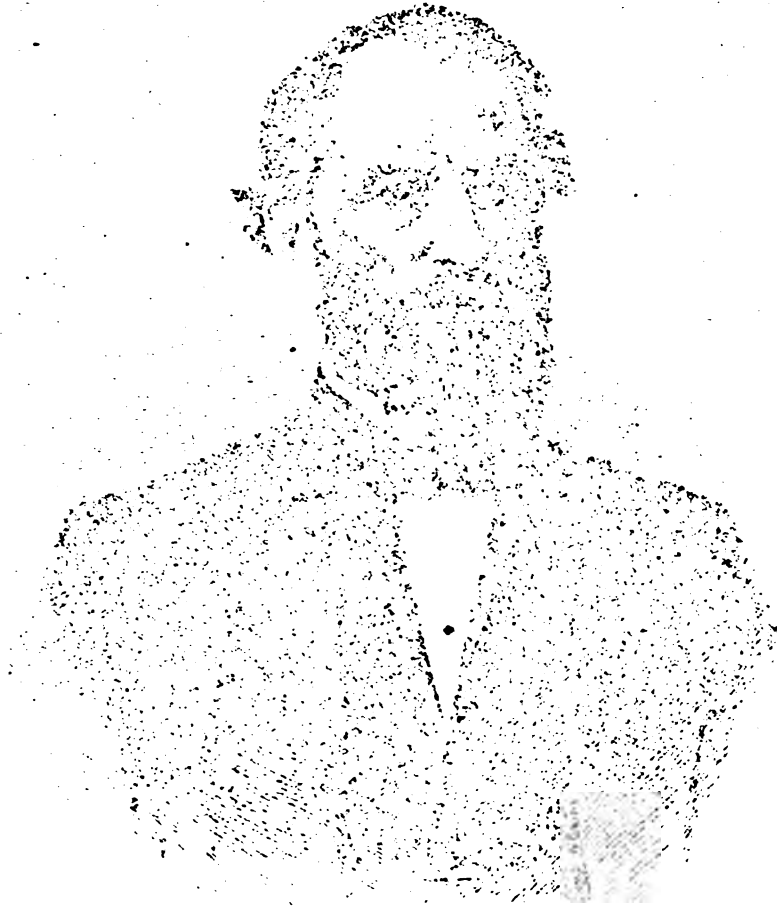
Dr. Mary DuBois was born in the State of New York. She was reared in affluence and in the enjoyment of educational advantages of the highest order. In 1870, she received her degree of M. D. at the Woman's College in Philadelphia. The two years following she spent in a Boston hospital as house physician. She came to this city in 1873, where she has ever since been actively engaged in an extensive practice.

Dr. Catherine E. Goewey came soon after, and has secured a valuable practice in the homeopathic school by her skill and energy. She is a native of this State, and graduated from the Woman's Homœopathic College in New York City.



J. P. Boulware

JEPHIA R. BOULWARE, N. D.



L. P. Boulware

1894

Dr. Harriet A. Woodward is of English descent, sprung, as it were, from a family of doctors, her grandfather and three uncles having been educated in medicine at Oxford University, Old England. The doctor was born in 1840, in Hector, N. Y., and early received a thorough training in the usual English branches and some of the higher branches, with Latin. She has always cultivated a fondness for history and natural science. In 1868 she began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. A. B. Smith, of the Hygienic Institute, Geneva, N. Y. In 1872 she entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at the Syracuse University, where she graduated in 1875, with honors. She came to Albany the same year; was admitted to membership in the County Medical Society; also to the Academy of Medicine, where she held office for two terms, first as secretary, then as treasurer; was also one of the Board of Censors in the County Society, and delegate to the American Medical Association. She stills holds her membership in the society, and is in active and successful practice in her chosen profession.

Dr. Laurentine Rouchel was born in France, in 1846; came to the United States with her parents when very young; received her early education in the district schools and in the Lowville Academy. Tuition in the French and German she received from private native teachers, and speaks both languages fluently. She began the study of pharmacy and medicine in 1879, in St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Utica, N. Y., under the direction of Dr. Edwin Hutchinson, surgeon in charge of the institution; continued her studies under the direction of Dr. John F. Oakes, of Rochester; then graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo. She began the practice of medicine in Croghan, Lewis County, and has continued the same in this city since 1881.

Dr. Anna Goewey practiced here some five years ago; then went to New York. Mrs. Carr is now in practice here as a homœopathist.

JEPHTHA RICHARD BOULWARE.

JEPHTHA RICHARD BOULWARE, a distinguished physician and surgeon of Albany, was born in Franklin County, Kentucky. His parents, whose ancestors came from Scotland, were both natives of Virginia. His father, the Rev. Theodrick Boulware, was a Baptist clergyman, well known in the churches of his denomination in Kentucky, Illinois and Missouri. He was an earnest and consistent Christian and a devoted pastor, appreciating fully the dignity of his office, and causing

it to be respected by those with whom he associated. He was for a time the settled pastor of a church, and for many years a circuit preacher in the three States mentioned above, performing the varied duties of a clergyman with a hearty willingness and an intelligent discretion that savored rather of the apostolic age than of the nineteenth century. During these years of earnest work, he never received—it being inconsistent with his principles to receive—a single cent for his clerical labors. He was a man of strong and original mind and an earnest character, forcible in the expression of his ideas and fond of theological controversy. He led a life of almost puritanic simplicity, combining religious fervor with practical sagacity, having a wise care for the things of this world, as well as of the next. He accumulated a handsome property, and died at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, loved and respected by all who knew him.

Of his three daughters, the eldest married Joseph Hansbrough, a bold and successful merchant of Independence, Missouri. The second daughter was not married; she died soon after arriving at the age of womanhood. The youngest daughter married Joseph S. Rogers, a wealthy and enterprising farmer and stock-breeder in the "blue-grass region" of Kentucky.

Of his six sons, three were enthusiastic farmers who earnestly devoted themselves to agricultural pursuits and stock raising.

The second son became a physician, practicing his profession in New Orleans, La. He soon acquired a lucrative practice, but died while a comparatively young man. The sixth and youngest son is a distinguished lawyer, still living in Missouri, noted for his eloquence and persuasive power with a jury.

The fourth son was Jephtha R. Boulware, the subject of this sketch, who, with the restless spirit of many young men, left his comfortable home and the easy life of a school boy, and wandered forth without any very definite aim, excepting to see the world and make a place for himself in it. He had received a liberal education so far as the schools of his neighborhood afforded, besides careful instruction from his father. For a boy of his years he was intelligent and well informed, but he soon found a marked difference between a life in a home of plenty and an existence dependent for its continuance upon his own labor. Young in years and slight in form, without a trade, unused to severe labor, he had to accept such various employments as he chanced to find and was capable of performing.

For a short time he worked as a farm laborer, but ultimately attended the Rock Spring Seminary, in Illinois, and soon taught school, in which pursuit he was so successful that in four years after leaving his father's house he returned to it in a reasonably prosperous condition.

After remaining home a year, devoting his time to study, he again went forth and resumed the occupation of a school teacher. While teaching, he became interested in phrenology, and carefully

perused the works of Combe, Spurzheim and other writers upon that subject. His interest in this science led him to a thorough study of the anatomical structure of the human brain, and eventually led to his becoming a physician. Though successful as a teacher, he again returned home, at the solicitation of his father, who gave him "a farm and hands," letting him take his choice out of half a dozen farms. He then married and settled down, applying himself to agricultural pursuits for a few years. He married Miss Sarah J. Kidd, the eldest daughter of Mrs. Hannah Kidd, at Nashville, Washington County, Illinois. Seldom has wedded life proved more satisfactory than in this instance. Dr. Boulware has often said that the success, both professional and financial, which he attained in after life, was due to the patient, inspiring and cheerful influence which he received from his wife. She was his support and helpmeet in adversity and a patient, loyal companion in prosperity. Their union was blessed with two children, Theodrick K. Boulware and Hannah J. Boulware. Theodrick, on completing his general education, began the study of law in the office of Rufus W. Peckham and Lyman Tremain, both eminent lawyers of Albany. The former was for many years one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and afterward a Judge of the Court of Appeals. The latter declining judicial honors, was Attorney-General of the State, and among the most distinguished advocates of the country. Theodrick also, studied in the Albany Law School, and was admitted to practice on graduation, after examination by the professors in that institution; but, declining to enter the profession in that way only, he presented himself before the committee appointed by the Supreme Court of the State, and after examination was admitted to practice. He was a young man of sterling character, modest and unassuming. His mental characteristics, his good habits and earnest application, made it apparent that he would distinguish himself in his chosen profession. But soon declining health made it evident that his own and his parents' hopes were to be blighted. He accepted the inevitable with characteristic calmness, and after lingering a few years, died, respected and beloved by all.

Hannah married John A. Richardson, a manufacturer. Her husband's health gradually became impaired, a result of his exposure as a Union soldier in the war of the Rebellion, as well as by his persistent devotion to business. After a few years he retired from business, and has since resided most of the time at the South, seeking to regain his health.

Dr. Boulware, a few years after his marriage, removed to Albany, N. Y., which place has since been his home, and where he now stands in the front rank of the medical profession, both as a physician and a surgeon. By teaching school and by working at various mechanical employments, in which he was successful, although he never served any apprenticeship, he secured sufficient funds to support his family and to systematically pursue the study of medicine.

He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1859. His earnest and intelligent interest in medicine secured for him, early in his student life, a warm friend in Professor Howard Townsend, M. D., who encouraged him by personal attention and advice, and gave him free access to his large professional library, of which great use was made by him to his manifest profit, at a time when his pecuniary circumstances did not allow him to purchase the rarer and more expensive medical works. During two winters he also pursued the practical study of analytical chemistry in the laboratory, under the instruction of Professor Charles H. Porter, M. D. The late Hon. William Cassidy, LL. D., was another distinguished and influential friend who took an active interest in the young physician's success, and, upon his recommendation, Dr. Boulware was appointed to several medico-political offices, that not only supplied him with some money, but also gave him, what he regarded as more important, opportunities for increasing his professional knowledge.

For several years in his student and early professional life Dr. Boulware was in charge of the Albany County Hospital for the Sick and Insane. He made its great clinical resources yield him a rich harvest of positive knowledge by the thorough system of careful observation which he at once adopted and diligently pursued.

It was his custom in each case under his care to write down the diagnosis, with a minute record of all the symptoms observed, and when a death occurred he made a careful autopsy, comparing the pathological conditions with his previous notes. In this institution, and during his earlier professional life, he made for himself and others, and for legal purposes, over four hundred elaborate *post-mortem* examinations, and carefully dissected several hundred human brains. His unwearied attention to his business, his sagacity and common sense, and his thorough theoretical and practical knowledge of his profession, early gained him, not only a large and lucrative practice, but also the sincere respect and esteem of his fellow practitioners. He soon became prominent as a surgeon as well as a physician. For many years he was the surgeon of the principal hospitals in Albany, and was called to fill other positions of trust and honor. He successfully performed many capital operations, such as excision of the hip joint, lithotomy and the operation for strangulated hernia. He successfully treated several cases of femoral and popliteal aneurism by compression, using for the purpose an ingenious instrument of his own construction. Dr. Boulware has very frequently been called upon as an expert in medico-legal cases. His sound surgical and medical knowledge, and his practical sagacity and tact, have always secured from the most unwilling counsel a fair presentation of his views, and very frequently the public commendation of the presiding judge, for the clearness, learning and skill displayed in his testimony. He has long been a prominent member of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, and has held most of the responsible offices of that organization, rep-



Amos Fowler

using it for several years. A year or so after the Medical Society of the State of New York had a similar society he has also been a permanent member since 1865. Dr. Fowler has prepared numerous reports on various pathological specimens submitted by his pupils to the County Medical Society, and a number of papers on medical and surgical subjects to the State Medical Society, which have been published in their Transactions.

In the winter of the Rebellion Dr. Fowler was called to assist in the operations of the 7th Regt. of the New York Cavalry, and during his absence was elected by the officers of the regiment to be elected as they during the absence of the officers. In respect as shown in the following resolutions.

Resolved, That the following resolutions be adopted by the members of the State Medical Society, in New York City, on the 10th day of the month of November, 1862.

Resolved, That the members of the State Medical Society, in New York City, do hereby express their appreciation of the services rendered by Dr. Fowler during the absence of the officers of the 7th Regt. of the New York Cavalry, and do hereby express their appreciation of the services rendered by Dr. Fowler during the absence of the officers of the 7th Regt. of the New York Cavalry.

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When these resolutions were not adopted by the County Society, they excited comment, and a year or so later they were embodied in a resolution adopted by the Medical Society of the County of New York. Among those most eminent physicians of the New Code were a large number who were present and voted against Dr. Fowler.

resolutions. In this case, as in the case of Fowler's views were in advance of the times, but happily, in this instance, only a few years in advance, and his merit has long since been caught up with him.

Having acquired an abundant competence, and still being in good health, though advancing in years, Dr. Fowler has been, for some time gradually withdrawing from practice, believing it wiser to gracefully leave the field to younger men before feebleness and old age should compel him to retire; but, honored and esteemed by his professional brethren, and looked up to with confidence, veneration and respect by all classes whose trusted physician he has been for many years, he is often called in consultation, and so long as he lives he will never be more so entirely disengaged from the functions of a medical adviser.

His general temperament, his unselfish devotion to the medical science, his benevolence to the poor, his kindly sympathy with the suffering, have endeared him to his fellow citizens.

Dr. Fowler has never declined to accept nomination for any office, and has declined popularity, and has never been engaged in political life. He has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world, and has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world. He has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world, and has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world. He has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world, and has never been engaged in any of the ordinary business of the world.

AMOS FOWLER, M.D.

Mark Fowler, uncle of Gen. Amos Fowler and Rev. and Hon. Oliver Fowler, emigrated at an early day from Lebanon, Conn., to Herkimer County, N. Y. He and his numerous family of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, were engaged in the lumbering and farming business, and were successful in their enterprises.

Amos Fowler, the subject of this memoir, was born in the town of Herkimer, N. Y., on the 10th day of the month of November, 1800. He was educated in the common schools of his native town, and attended the Herkimer Academy, where he was graduated in 1818. He then attended the Albany Medical College, where he was graduated in 1821. He practiced medicine in Herkimer County, N. Y., for several years, and then removed to Albany, N. Y., where he practiced for a number of years. He was a member of the Albany City Dispensary, and was elected its president in 1840. He died in Albany, N. Y., on the 10th day of the month of November, 1880.



Amos Fowler

representing it for several years as a delegate to the Medical Society of the State of New York, of which latter society he has also been a permanent member since 1868. Dr. Boulware has presented numerous reports of cases and pathological specimens occurring in his practice to the County Medical Society, and a number of papers on medical and surgical subjects to the State Medical Society, which have been published in their Transactions.

In the war of the Rebellion Dr. Boulware served as assistant surgeon in the 177th Regiment of the New York Volunteers during its continuance in the field. He was universally respected by the soldiers for his attention and kindness to them during the war, and to this day the same respect is shown him by soldiers who were in the field.

He was afterward Surgeon of the Tenth Regiment, National Guard of the State of New York, and for a long period was Brigade Surgeon of the Ninth Brigade of the National Guard of the State of New York.

He is unusually liberal in his views of medicine, and kindly charitable to all practitioners, as the records of the Medical Society of the County of Albany abundantly show.

At the annual meeting of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, held at Albany, November 14, 1876, Dr. J. R. Boulware offered the following :

Whereas, There is a decided difference of opinion among members of this society regarding certain points relating to Medical Ethics, and in order that the society may definitely express itself upon them, for the guidance of its members, the following resolutions are offered for its consideration :

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for "regular" and "Allopathic" Medical Colleges to educate and graduate Homoeopathic students.

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any of its members to consult professionally with any physicians recognized by the laws of this State as legal practitioners.

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any one of its members, or any association of two or more of them, to advertise in medical journals, or in the local or other newspapers, their names and addresses, together with any specialty they may assume to practice or teach.

Whereas, The "regular Allopathic" hospitals of this city are supported by the taxpayers of this county ; and

Whereas, The "medical staffs" of these hospitals refuse to allow other physicians than themselves to send and treat pay patients in the said hospitals ; and

Whereas, Such action prevents materially the increase of the indigent fund in charitable hospitals ; therefore,

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any of its members to professionally treat their pay patients in the Albany City Homoeopathic Hospital.

While these resolutions were not adopted by the County Society, they excited comment and inquiry. A few years later they were embodied in the New Code adopted by the Medical Society of the State of New York. Among those most earnest in the advocacy of the New Code were a large number who worked and voted against Dr. Boulware's

resolutions. In this case, as in others, Dr. Boulware's views were in advance of the times, but happily, in this instance, only a few years in advance, and his medical brothers have now caught up with him.

Having acquired an abundant competence, and still being in good health, though advancing in years, Dr. Boulware has been for some time gradually withdrawing from practice, believing it wiser to gracefully leave the field to younger men before feebleness and old age should compel him to retire; but, honored and esteemed by his professional brethren, and looked up to with confidence, affection and respect by a host of families whose trusted physician he has been for many years, he is often called in consultation, and so long as he lives he will never be able to entirely abandon the functions of a medical adviser.

His genial temperament, his unselfish devotion to medical science, his benevolence to the poor, and his kindly sympathy with the suffering, have endeared him to his fellow citizens.

He has often been solicited to accept nominations to office, for which his unbounded popularity makes him peculiarly eligible; but the modesty of his character makes him averse to political life. Yet while he has always declined political honors, and has held but two offices, and those of a medical character, he has always, as a good citizen, been interested in politics. He has had for many years a quiet but decided political influence, much greater than that of most men, and it has always been exerted in the interest of good government and for the substantial good of the community. He is one of those of whom the poet says: They "do good by stealth and blush to find it fame."

AMOS FOWLER, M. D.

Mark Fowler, uncle of Gen. Amos Fowler and Rev. and Hon. Orin Fowler, removed at an early day from Lebanon, Conn., to Herkimer County, N. Y. He and his numerous family of sons were pioneers in clearing away the forests and laying the foundations of some of the thriving cities of central New York. He died in Jefferson County, April 27, 1813. His wife was Miriam Sterling, widow of Reuben Warner. Of their nine children, Alvin, the father of Amos Fowler, M. D., of Albany, was the youngest son. When Alvin Fowler was about two years old he met with an adventure so singular and so perilous as to render it unique in the annals of border life. He had only recently learned to walk, and, one day, as he was enjoying the freedom of the cleared space about his father's house, he was seized by a bear, which had been caught and chained near the door, and hugged gently in her embrace all day, despite the frantic efforts of his mother to induce the bear to give up the child. No pen could do justice to the mother's agony, her awful suspense, while making her futile attempts to rescue her baby, and watching it through the long day, expecting at any moment to see its life crushed out before her eyes. It was not until nightfall, when the father came

home, that the bear was compelled to relinquish the child. At that time the family lived at Frankfort, near the present site of Utica. Bears, wolves and other wild animals were plenty, and wolves howled around the doors of the settler's cabin till driven away with firebrands. Alvin Fowler pursued the trades of clothier and stone mason. His wife was Miss Olive Lord, whom he married in 1819, she having emigrated from Saybrook, Conn., with her father's family, two or three years earlier. Of their four children, Dr. Amos Fowler was the eldest. He was born in the town of Cohocton, Steuben County, N. Y., July 5, 1820. His father removed to Evans' Mills, Jefferson County, while Amos was yet an infant, and thence to Fayetteville, Onondaga County, when the lad was seven years old; there he owned and operated some mills, and a factory for the manufacture of woolen cloths, till 1836, when he again removed to a farm in the town of Victory, Cayuga County. Young Fowler was educated mainly in the public schools, but was also a student at the academies in Fayetteville and Victory, working on the farm summers and attending school winters. Leaving school, he became a teacher, teaching two winters in Wayne and one in Cayuga County. While thus engaged he began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Blanchard, of Victory. Later he was a student and assistant of Dr. Root's, at Memphis, Onondaga County. He entered the Geneva Medical College, and finished his prescribed course at the University of the City of New York, graduating in 1846.

Dr. Root died just before Dr. Fowler's graduation. Already well established in the confidence of Dr. Root's patrons, he returned to Memphis and took up the Doctor's practice. In 1850 he removed to Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, and from thence, in 1854, to Albany, locating on Second street, nearly opposite his present residence and office. Since coming to Albany, as before, Dr. Fowler has enjoyed an extensive practice. His standing in his profession is high, and he has served the Medical Society of Albany County as its vice-president and its delegate to the State Medical Society. Dr. Fowler was married, August 30, 1850, to Miss Caroline M. Harris, daughter of Nicholas Brown Harris, M. D., of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, who bore him four children, two of whom died in infancy. She died, April 3, 1880, at Savannah, Ga., while returning with her husband from a journey in the South. Their son, Warren Hamilton Fowler, studied medicine at the University of the City of New York, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and is now practicing his profession in Albany.

Their daughter, Caroline I. Fowler, is a member of her father's household. July 25, 1882, Dr. Fowler married his present wife, Mrs. Mary Poole, a native, and, for most of her life, a resident of Albany. Though not active in politics, the Doctor has pronounced views on public questions and is an adherent of the Republican party. He was reared within the pale of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but for some years has been a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Albany.

JOSEPH N. NORTHRUP, M. D.

Dr. JOSEPH NORMAN NORTHRUP was born at Decatur, Otsego County, New York, in 1817, and was in the sixty-first year of his age at the time of his death, which occurred September 17, 1878. He was a son of Abner Northrup and Jerusha Gibbs, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. He had two brothers and two sisters, only one of whom, the youngest brother, survives him. His father was a farmer, and the early part of the life of Dr. Northrup was spent at home upon the farm. The foundation of his education was obtained in the common school. At the age of thirteen he went to the Oneida Institute, a manual labor school, where he spent three years. Leaving school, he came to Albany, where, after passing a year as a clerk in a drug store, he entered the office and family of Dr. Samuel Shaw, and began the study of medicine. When about eighteen years of age he entered the Vermont Academy of Medicine, graduating in 1839. His diploma was signed by Dr. William Tully, Professor of Theory and Practice and *Materia Medica*; Theodore Woodward, Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics; James H. Armsby, Professor of Anatomy and Physiology; and John De Wolf, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History. He had a great admiration for Dr. Tully, whose name and sayings were frequently on his lips in later years. After graduating, he attended a course of medical lectures at the Transylvania University, at Louisville, Ky., defraying his expenses by conducting a writing school and by a little practice among Northern people residents there.

He began his professional work as a salaried physician upon a plantation of about six hundred negroes, in Mississippi, being the only medical man within twenty miles. He staid there a year and a half, taking the yellow fever, from which he narrowly escaped with his life. This necessitated his removal north. After spending a year in Albany, he returned to his native place, where he practiced his profession for twenty years. In 1840 he married Miss Mary Jane Lansing, the only daughter of Col. Robert C. Lansing, of Decatur. His practice there was large, embracing long rides into the adjoining counties of Delaware and Schoharie. He held for some time the office of division Surgeon of Militia, Gen. Burnside being division General. The only civil office that he filled outside of his profession was that of supervisor, which he held for two years. He was elected delegate to the State Medical Society from Otsego County, and became a permanent member of the society in 1861. In 1859 he returned to Albany and entered upon a general practice there, which became extensive and lucrative. He joined the Albany County Medical Society in 1860, and held for several terms the office of censor, and was elected president in 1876.

His death, which occurred nearly twenty years after he came to Albany to reside, was startlingly sudden in its circumstances, taking place upon the anniversary of his wedding-day. Preparations having been made for the customary celebration of this anniversary, he went early in the evening to

J. N. Northrop

home, that the bear was compelled to relinquish the child. At that time the family lived at Frankfort, near the present site of Utica. Bears, wolves and other wild animals were plenty, and wolves howled around the doors of the settler's cabin till driven away with firebrands. Alvin Fowler pursued the trades of clothier and stone mason. His wife was Miss Olive Lord, whom he married in 1810, she having emigrated from Saybrook, Conn., with her father's family, two or three years earlier. Of their four children, Dr. Amos Fowler was the eldest. He was born in the town of Cobleskill, Steuben County, N. Y., July 5, 1820. His father removed to Evans Mills, Jefferson County, while Amos was yet an infant, and thence to Lanesville, Onondaga County, when the lad was ten years old; there he owned and operated saw-mills, and a factory for the manufacture of women's cloths, till 1836, when he again removed to a farm in the town of Victory, Cayuga County. Young Fowler was educated mainly in the public schools, but was also a student at the academies in Fayetteville and Victory, working on the farm summers and attending school winters. Leaving school, he became a teacher, teaching two winters in Wayne and one in Cayuga County. While thus engaged he began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Blanchard, of Victory. Later he was a student and assistant of Dr. Root's, at Memphis, Onondaga County. He entered the Geneva Medical College and finished his prescribed course at the University in the City of New York, graduating in 1846.

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Dr. Northrup then went to work as a salaried physician in a plantation of about six hundred negroes, in Mississippi, being the only medical man within twenty miles. He staid there a year and a half, taking the yellow fever, from which he narrowly escaped with his life. This necessitated his removal north. After spending a year in Albany, he returned to his native place, where he practiced his profession for twenty years. In 1841 he married Miss Mary Jane Lansing, the only daughter of Col. Robert C. Lansing, of Decatur. His practice there was large, embracing long rides into the adjoining counties of Delaware and Schoharie. He held for some time the office of division Surgeon of Militia, Gen. Burnside being division General. The only civil office that he filled outside of his profession was that of supervisor, which he held for two years. He was elected delegate to the State Medical Society from Otsego County, and became a permanent member of the society in 1861. In 1859 he returned to Albany and entered upon a general practice there, which became extensive and lucrative. He joined the Albany County Medical Society in 1860, and held for several terms the office of censor, and was elected president in 1876.

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J. W. Williams

New York

J. N. Northrup



John B. Rossman, M.D.

make a professional call upon him, and instead of sending for his carriage he went even when going for a short distance on foot. He was troubled with dyspepsia, which led to an affection of the heart. His health failed, and while preparing medicine in his study room, he suddenly gasped for breath, fell back in his chair, and in a few minutes expired.

This is a true sketch of the life of a man which covered any veins of gold. He ended in the midst of his griefs, and he he was fully engaged in all his business till the last day of his life for him, he passed away in the morning, and not started in the dawn till he had seen that he were not materially out on the street. His accidents were, however, this was a man who brought out of it which his mind was that, starting the world with his own hands, by his own unaided efforts, and his place in an honorable profession, and the high esteem in which he was held by his citizens. He was a man of gentle and cultured manner, who was a man of great and sincere lamented. When his life was broken by great griefs, it was always attended with devotion to duty, to his profession and to his fellow men. His grave does not include the memory of those virtues, and it is the willingness of his example. Two years before his death he became a member of the First Reformed Church of Albany.

JOHN B. ROSSMAN, M. D.

Dr. JOHN BUSKIRK ROSSMAN was born September 27, 1836, in Johnstown, Columbia County, N. Y. He was the seventh child of a family of sixteen children. Fourteen grew to maturity. Four of the sons were physicians. His father, John F. Rossman, was a worthy man, much respected in the community in which he lived. He was elected sheriff of Columbia County for two consecutive terms. With a fair amount of education, he wanted to give his children a liberal education, and to give them the best that could be obtained in the schools in his vicinity. John, however, attended the district school, but was sent to the Albany Academy, where he made proficiency in the classical and English branches. He is reported to have been a lad of excellent morals and high attainments. In order to be able to continue his education, he fixed more permanently his clerical residence, and he taught a district school several winters. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Woodhead, of Clermont. We next hear of him in the law office of Mr. Killian Miller, of Clermont. He remained there only a short time, then he returned congenial with his tastes. He then began the study of medicine with Dr. McClellan, of the same office he went to Hudson, in the winter of 1855, and attended medical lectures at the office of Samuel White. He attended medical lectures at the school of Herkimer County, N. Y., at Herkimer, and received a degree there in 1859. After graduation he returned to Johnstown, his native town, where he commenced the practice of his profession. At that

time he was earnest, and attended to his business. His general manner and sympathetic nature soon made him popular. His reputation increased, and a young physician was called to longer distance, and to families of greater intelligence. He next met Mr. John Richmond, an Englishman who had purchased from Mr. Livingston a large tract of land called Livingston's, and Dr. Rossman had taken possession of a small tract of property, and to his home Dr. Rossman was called. Here it was that the Doctor met Miss Elizabeth May Fairbank, a young daughter of Mr. Richmond, and the young people soon after his marriage Dr. Rossman was elected a member of the Schenectady County. He was married and in 24 years, when he came to Columbia County, he was married to a country physician, and he was then as the doctor is now, a young man of twenty-four. But with the same energy and prompt attention he continued to practice. A few years later he was elected a member of the Society of Columbia County, and in 1857 he was elected a member of the Schenectady County. In 1857 he was elected a member of the Schenectady County. In 1857 he was elected a member of the Schenectady County.

He married Miss Elizabeth Fairbank, daughter of Thomas Hun and John Fairbank, and they had several children. Semi-centennial meetings were held in the County Medical Society. He was elected a member of the Society in 1856, and in 1856, with a few others, he organized a society for himself, and some of his friends, and Dr. Rossman was elected its president. He was an indigent man, and a true and steadfast friend of his fellow men. He was a successful physician, and his heart was in his work. He died on July 27, 1880, and had a long and useful life. His wife, Elizabeth, died on July 27, 1880, and had a long and useful life. His wife, Elizabeth, died on July 27, 1880, and had a long and useful life.

DR. PETER AND ARTEMESIA SWINBURNE, M.D.

DR. PETER AND ARTEMESIA SWINBURNE lived on the Black River, where they were married in 1831. His father, a native of England, was also largely engaged in the trade. Dr. Swinburne was a mere child when his father's early years were spent under the father's care, a native of Connecticut, and he was a man of great mental activity and great force of character. After the death of her husband, she took up the duties of the family, and to her careful attention the Doctor owes much of his success in



make a professional call a few blocks away. Instead of sending for his carriage, as he usually did, even when going but a short distance, he walked. He was troubled with dyspnoea on exertion, due to an affection of the heart. He saw his patient, and, while preparing medicine in an adjoining room, he suddenly gasped for breath, fell from his chair, and in a few minutes died.

This is a brief sketch of the life of Dr. Northrop, which covered forty years of professional work, and ended in the midst of his greatest usefulness, while he was fully entering into all that went to make up life for him. He passed away at the full tide; he had not started on the down-hill side of life. There are not many lives that are marked with great incidents; nevertheless, this outline of his career brings out a fact which has in it much to admire, that, starting in the world with nothing, he gained, by his own unaided efforts, education, a worthy place in an honorable profession, a competence, and the high esteem of his associates and fellow citizens. In character, he was a genial, open-hearted man, whom many knew well and whose loss is sincerely lamented. While his life was unmarked by great events, it was always attended with devotion to duty, to his profession and to his fellow men. His grave does not inclose the memory of these virtues, nor limit the worthiness of his example. Two years before his death he became a member of the First Reformed Church of Albany.

JOHN B. ROSSMAN, M. D.

Dr. JOHN BUSKIRK ROSSMAN was born, September 27, 1806, in Johnstown, Columbia County, N. Y. He was the seventh child of a family of sixteen children. Fourteen grew to maturity. Four of the sons were physicians. His father, John J. Rossman, was a worthy man, much respected in the community in which he lived. He was elected sheriff of Columbia County for two or three consecutive terms. With a family so large and facilities for education so limited, Mr. Rossman was not able to give his children a liberal education, yet he gave them the best that could be obtained in the schools in his vicinity. John not only attended the district school, but was sent to a neighboring academy, where he made proficiency in the higher English branches. He is represented as having been a lad of excellent morals and of studious habits. In order to be able to continue his studies and to fix more permanently his elementary education, he taught a district school several winters. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. T. Broadhead, of Clermont. We next hear of him in the law office of Mr. Killian Miller, of Hudson. He remained there only a short time, the law not being congenial with his tastes. He then resumed the study of medicine with Dr. McClelland. From this office he went to Hudson, in the office of Dr. Samuel White. He attended medical lectures at Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and received his degree there in 1829. After graduation he returned to Johnstown, his native town, and commenced the practice of his profession. Although

young, he was earnest, and attended closely to business. His genial manner and sympathetic nature soon made him popular. His reputation increased, and the young physician was called to longer distances and to families of greater intelligence. Previous to this Mr. John Richmond, an English gentleman, had purchased from Mr. Livingston, while in London, the tract of land called Livingston Manor. Mr. Richmond had taken possession of his purchased property, and to his house Dr. Rossman was called. Here it was that the Doctor first met his future wife, Miss Elizabeth Mary Fairbank, the granddaughter of Mr. Richmond, and the great-granddaughter of the Earl of Preston. About two years after his marriage Dr. Rossman moved to Richmondville, Schoharie County. He remained there about eight years, when he came to Albany. City life is always attractive to a country practitioner, and almost as often as the change is made there is serious disappointment. But with Dr. Rossman it was different. Practice came slowly, but patient waiting and prompt attention to every call secured business. A few years found him in the midst of a lucrative practice. In 1827 he was made a member of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, of which he was treasurer in 1849 and 1850.

He enjoyed a reunion with Dr. Thomas Hun and Dr. Charles Devol to celebrate their semi-centennial in practice, given by the County Medical Society. He was elected alderman from his ward about 1856, which office he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Dr. Rossman was a kind and affectionate husband, an indulgent and attentive father, and a true and steadfast friend. His peculiarities were the eccentricities of his head, and not of his heart. His wife, Elizabeth Mary Fairbank, died July 27, 1868. She had eight children—four sons and four daughters. Three sons and two daughters are still living. In 1869 he married Miss Rebecca P. McCarthy. By this union he had one son and two daughters, all of whom are living. Soon after he located in Albany Dr. Rossman united with the Middle Dutch Church, and led the life of a consistent and devoted Christian. His last few years gave decided evidence of increasing age. He continued to grow more and more feeble until December 23, 1883, when he peacefully and hopefully passed away to receive the rewards of a life well spent.

HON. JOHN SWINBURNE, M. D.

JOHN SWINBURNE was born to Peter and Artemesia Swinburne, at their homestead on the Black River, Lewis County, May 30, 1820. His father, a native of Ireland, was a farmer and also largely engaged in business. He died while Dr. Swinburne was a mere child, and the latter's early years were spent under the care of his mother, a native of Connecticut, and a woman of rare mental activity and great force of character, who, after the death of her husband, took entire charge of the family; and to her careful training the doctor ascribes much of his success in

life. His early education was gained in the common schools of the neighborhood and in the academies of Lowville and Denmark, in Lewis County, and that of Fairfield, in Herkimer County. Having passed his early years at his birthplace, at times teaching school, at the age of twenty-one he determined upon the study of medicine for his profession, and began reading at twenty-three, when he entered the Albany Medical College, registering as a student in the office of the late Dr. James H. Armsby, of Albany. Graduating in 1846 with the degree of Doctor in Medicine, Dr. Swinburne determined to make Albany his home, and opened an office for the practice of his profession. In 1847 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Albany Medical College, and continued to teach that branch of medicine for several years. In 1851 he received his first public appointment, being made an almshouse physician at a time when what was known as "ship fever" was raging as an epidemic, treating during his term of office over eight hundred cases, and finally falling a victim to the disease himself.

From this time up to the breaking out of the Rebellion the Doctor devoted his time to his private practice, which was constantly enlarging. In 1861 he was again called upon to give his services to the public, and was put in charge of the sick at the recruiting depot in Albany, serving as chief medical officer on the staff of Gen. John F. Rathbone. Until the spring of 1862 he remained at this post, 1,470 sick passing under his care, out of which large number only twelve died. April 7, 1862, Dr. Swinburne was appointed one of the auxiliary corps of volunteer surgeons who went from the State of New York to the war, serving without pay. He proceeded to Fortress Monroe, and shortly after his arrival received orders to report for duty to Dr. Tripler, Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac. In company with Drs. Willard, Cogswell and Lansing, of Albany, he set out for the White House, the head of navigation on the Pamunkey River, where Dr. Tripler had his headquarters, reaching there May 18. The establishment of a hospital at this place, to which the wounded could be sent from the front, being decided upon, Dr. Swinburne and his companions were requested to found the same. After rendering valuable services at this station, the Doctor, early in June, returned to Albany, and on the 12th of that month (1862) received a commission from Gov. Morgan, as Medical Superintendent of the New York State wounded soldiers, and was sent to Washington with a letter from the Governor to the Secretary of War. Upon the Secretary's indorsement, Surgeon-General Hammond entered into a contract with Dr. Swinburne for "medical and surgical services to be rendered with the Army of the Potomac," and the Doctor accordingly again reported to Medical Director Tripler. In section 9, *Special Orders of the War Department*, appears the following:

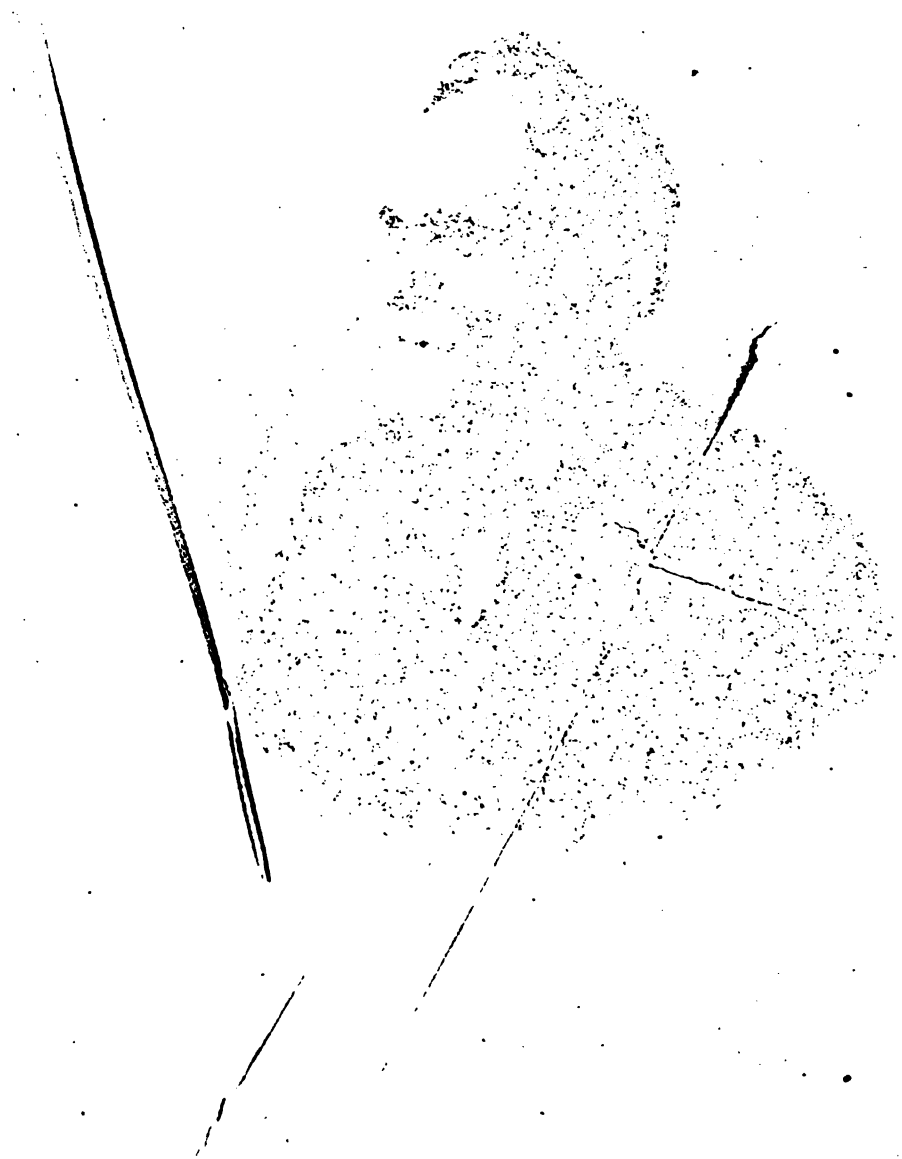
"Acting Assistant Surgeon John Swinburne will report to Surgeon J. J. Milhan, U. S. A., Medical Director, Third Army Corps, for special duty at Savage's Station.

"By command, MAJOR-GEN. McCLELLAN."

With this order the Doctor immediately complied, receiving further orders to establish a general hospital at Savage's Station, Virginia, of which he was to take charge, with instructions to make requisitions for the necessary materials and stores. With his accustomed energy, the Doctor set about the work given him to do, but unforeseen difficulties arose, greatly delaying the construction of the hospital. On the 26th of June, when the hospital was not more than half prepared, owing to the non-fulfillment of his requisitions, wounded men began to be brought in in large numbers, and the Doctor's surgical labors began. On the 28th he was informed by Dr. Tripler that it would be necessary for him to remain at the hospital, the army being about to change its base of operations, which would put the enemy in possession of Savage's Station in a few hours, at the same time giving him a letter from Gen. McClellan to the Commander of the Confederate forces explaining his (the Doctor's) position. After the action of Sunday evening, the 29th, the hospital, with all it contained, was in the hands of the Confederates. From this time up to the 26th of July Dr. Swinburne remained with his charge, struggling with his assistants through increasing hardships and privations, day by day having less of the necessaries for the proper management of the sick and wounded, buying food for the hospital with his own funds, until at last, after repeated communications with the authorities in Richmond, on the 26th of July orders came allowing the removal of the sick and wounded, with their attendants, to City Point. Reaching the latter place on the 27th, the Doctor turned over his command to the proper officers and returned to Albany on sick leave, suffering from a chronic dysentery brought on by exposure and improper food.

In the winter of 1862-63 he and Dr. Willard were appointed by the State Medical Society a committee to confer with the Legislature upon the subject of the further relief of the wounded, the result of such conference being the unanimous passage of a bill granting \$200,000, to be applied to the care of the sick and wounded of the State of New York, and the Doctor was once more sent to the front. Returning again in 1864, he was appointed by Gov. Seymour (Democrat) Health Officer of the Port of New York, and had the satisfaction of having his nomination unanimously confirmed by a Republican Senate. At that time the provisions for a quarantine station were very inadequate, and the Legislature, acting upon the suggestions of the Doctor, began the construction of the two artificial islands in the lower bay now used for that purpose. The idea of building an island in fifteen feet of water, exposed to the force of storms and tides from 3,000 miles of the Atlantic Ocean beating against it, was deemed almost impossible, but the Doctor demonstrated it could be done, and to his energy and perseverance New York is indebted for one of the best planned quarantine stations in the world.

In recognition of this distinguished service, the Legislature, by an act, named the first of the two islands thus constructed "Swinburne Island



John F. Kennedy

life. His early education was gained in the common schools of the neighborhood and in the academies of Lowville and Denmark, in Lewis County, and that of Fairfield, in Herkimer County. Having passed his early years at his birthplace, he spent some time teaching school, at the age of twenty-one he determined upon the study of medicine for his profession, and began reading at twenty-three, when he entered the Albany Medical College, registering as a student in the office of the late Dr. James H. Arnaby, of Albany. Graduating in 1846 with the degree of Doctor in Medicine, Dr. Swinburne determined to make Albany his home, and to open an office for the practice of his profession. He was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Albany Medical College, and in 1847 he opened a branch of medicine in Albany, in which he received his first public appreciation, being made an assistant surgeon at a time when what was known as "ship fever" was raging in epidemic, treating during his term of office eight hundred cases, and being called a victim to the disease himself.

From this time up to the breaking out of the Rebellion the Doctor devoted his time to his private practice, which was constantly enlarging. In 1861 he was again called upon to give his services to the public, and was put in charge of the sick at the recruiting depot in Albany, serving as chief medical officer on the staff of Gen. John E. Rathbone. Until the spring of 1862 he remained at this post, 1,472 sick passing under his care, of which large number only twelve died. In the fall of 1861 Dr. Swinburne was appointed Surgeon of the 1st Corps of volunteers, and sent to the State of New York with the 1st Division. He proceeded to the front, and remained there until after his arrival at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. In company with Drs. Willard, Cleggswell and Lansing, of Albany, he set out for the White House, the head of navigation on the Pamunkey River, where Dr. Tripler had his headquarters, reaching there May 18. The establishment of a hospital at this place, to which the wounded could be sent from the front, being decided upon, Dr. Swinburne and his companions were requested to found the same. After rendering valuable services at this station, the Doctor, early in June, returned to Albany, and on the 12th of that month (1862) received a commission from Gen. Morgan, as Medical Superintendent of the New York State wounded soldiers, and was sent to Washington with a letter from the Governor to the Secretary of War. Upon the Secretary's indorsement, Surgeon General Hammond entered into a contract with Dr. Swinburne for medical and surgical services to be rendered with the Army of the Potomac, and the Doctor accordingly again reported to Medical Director Tripler. In section 9, *Special Orders of the War Department*, appears the following:

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In the latter of 1862 he and Dr. Willard were appointed by the State Medical Society a committee to confer with the Legislature upon the subject of the further relief of the wounded, the result of such conference being the unanimous passage of a bill granting \$200,000, to be applied to the care of the sick and wounded of the State of New York, and the Doctor was once more sent to the front. Returning again in 1864 he was appointed by Gov. Seymour (Democrat) Health Officer of the Port of New York, and had the satisfaction of having his nomination unanimously confirmed by a Republican Senate. At that time the provisions for a quarantine station were very inadequate, and the Legislature, acting upon the suggestions of the Doctor, began the construction of the two artificial islands in the lower bay now used for that purpose. The idea of building an island in fifteen feet of water, exposed to the force of storms and tides from 3,000 miles of the Atlantic Ocean beating against it, was deemed almost impossible, but the Doctor demonstrated it could be done, and to his energy and perseverance New York is indebted for one of the best planned quarantine stations in the world.

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John Swinburne

Hospital." Up to 1870 Dr. Swinburne remained at quarantine; he then went abroad with his family, being desirous of rest and recreation. But he was not a man who could "take his ease at his inn." The Franco-Prussian war having broken out, Dr. Swinburne, being in London, on September 4, 1870, received an earnest request from Minister Washburne and the American Sanitary Commission to come to Paris and take charge of the American Ambulance in that city. Laying aside his personal comfort, he acceded to the request, and lost no time in reaching Paris. There he remained as Surgeon-in-Chief of the American Ambulance until March, 1871, leaving as the Commune was coming into power. How highly his labors were appreciated by the American International Sanitary Committee we will leave Dr. Thomas Evans, President of the Committee, to state. In his report of the doings of the American Ambulance, the distinguished physician says:

"In securing the services of Dr. John Swinburne as Surgeon-in-Chief of the Ambulance, the committee was particularly fortunate. Dr. Swinburne was a surgeon *par excellence*. He had had an extensive professional experience, and had obtained a justly acquired and widely-known home reputation. Thoroughly acquainted with military medicine and the constitution and management of army hospitals, an earnest advocate of conservative surgery, an enthusiast even as regards the conservative treatment of compound-fractures, a skillful operator whenever operations were required, he possessed a rare and highly valuable quality—a knowledge of the way how to deal with men; in a word, he knew how to manage both his patients and his assistants; and not infrequently was he called upon to exercise this special knowledge. Associated, as he was constantly, with a body of forty or fifty persons, all volunteers, holding a certain social position, uncontrolled by the restraints of a military discipline, all naturally ambitious to excel, and perhaps occasionally even over-jealous of the success of their fellows, Doctor Swinburne knew how to direct these energetic elements, obtain from them the largest amount of labor, and maintain in every department of his service his own personal ascendancy."—(See "Sanitary Associations During the Franco-German War," Vol. I, 1870-71.)

In recognition of his services, Dr. Swinburne had the rare distinction conferred upon him by the French Government of being made a Knight of the Legion of Honor, also receiving the Red Cross of Geneva. Having finished his labors in the Ambulance, he resumed his travels, spending his time in different parts of Europe until the fall of 1871, when he returned to his home in Albany.

A predominant feature of Dr. Swinburne's practice has been conservative surgery, especially in the treatment of fractures. Shortly after graduating in medicine he directed his attention to treating fractures upon other principles than those in vogue at that date, and in 1848 he discarded the use of such splints, bandages and apparatus as were generally employed, relying upon extension alone to accomplish the sought-for result. Such a departure was a bold procedure, and after having fully tested and proved his method of treatment, in both private and hospital practice, in 1859 he published in the Transactions Medical Society of the State New York of that year an article on the treatment of these injuries by extension. During this year he also reported a case of death by the entrance of air into the uterine sinuses (caused by an abor-

tionist), at which time it was said and believed to be almost the only case of the kind on record.—(*Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter*, 1859.) In 1861 appeared another paper on the treatment of fractures by simple extension and counter-extension.—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1861.) In the next year a review of the case of the People against Rev. Henry Budge, indicted for the murder of his wife, tried at Oneida, N. Y., in August and September, 1861, in which Dr. Swinburne forcibly criticised the medical testimony of the defense, and combatted the ground assumed by them by numerous experiments.—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1862.) In the same year he also published in the *Medical and Surgical Reporter* of Philadelphia a synopsis of the trial of Hendrickson, who poisoned his wife by the administration of aconite. This trial also caused much discussion in the medical world, and although the Doctor was severely handled by other professional men for his views as expressed when on the witness stand, he proved his position to have been perfectly correct. In 1863 he published his report to Surgeon-General Hammond, with his experiences in the Peninsular campaign, "Resection of Joints and Conservative Surgery."—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1863.) In 1864 two more papers in the same journal, one upon "Compound Comminuted Gunshot Fractures of the Thigh; the Means for their Transportation and Treatment;" and the other the "Report of the Committees appointed by the Society to Confer with the Governor and Legislature relative to the Additional Relief of the Sick and Wounded Soldiers from the State of New York." The Doctor also proposed and advocated for the transportation of those suffering from fractures of the leg or thigh a stretcher so arranged that extension and counter-extension could be maintained without pain or discomfort to the patient, or any material alteration of the stretcher.—(*Lessons in Hygiene and Surgery*, by Dr. Gordon, C. B.; *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York*, 1864.) He also strongly advocated the resection of shoulder joints instead of amputation, and many are the grateful letters he has since received from those whose limbs he saved to them.

In 1863 Dr. Swinburne was elected a permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York. In November, 1872, he was chosen president of the Medical Society of Albany County. In 1876 he was chosen Professor of Fractures and Dislocations and Clinical Surgery in the Albany Medical College. He was one of the four surgeons to the Albany Hospital from its foundation up to 1864; also consulting surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, and for a number of years has been surgeon-in-chief of the Homœopathic and Child's Hospitals. In 1879 he established in the City of Albany a Dispensary for the treatment of all manner of diseases and fractures. This Dispensary was established on a humanitarian basis, where the sick, maimed and lame were invited to come and be made whole, without money and without price. From its foundation the Doctor has himself had a

general supervision of all that was going on, and had as assistants a corps of surgeons trained under his own tuition in conservative surgery. In addition to his large private practice nearly 60,000 people have been treated at the dispensary up to the close of last year, at least 25,000 of these being surgical cases. For the year 1884 the register gives the number of new cases treated as 7,502, of which 4,340 were medical cases and the remaining 3,156 surgical. During the year 250 fractures were treated, 178 of which were of the upper extremities and the remainder of the lower limbs. In the treatment there has not occurred one poor result, a record unequaled by any institution in the annals of surgery. During this period not an amputation of any nature has been performed, the Doctor maintaining that the too frequently indulged in use of the amputating knife is barbarism. His conservative doctrine is to save the limb and help nature in the work of curing. He has paid out of his private funds upward of \$5,000 per annum to carry on his dispensary since its foundation, and now proposes, if the State will not do so, to found a dispensary in addition to the one he now runs for the care and treatment exclusively of injured railroad men.

His career in public life has been almost as marked as that of his professional.

In 1882, the citizens of Albany, irrespective of party, organized to effect a reform in the municipal affairs of the city, and after much persuasion induced the Doctor to run as the People's candidate for the mayoralty. The election was a bitterly contested one on the part of the ring, who desired to retain power, and on the part of the citizens, who demanded a reform. By a manipulation of ballots the voice of the people was frustrated and his opponent inducted into the office. The frauds, however, were too glaring, and at a public meeting the evening after the results were announced the people there convened decided to commence legal action to set aside the declaration and award the office to Dr. Swinburne. After nearly a year and a half of maneuvering in court by the incumbent's counsel, in taking advantage of the law's delays, the case was finally set for a definite day for trial. As soon as this judicial order was made, the incumbent, Michael N. Nolan, resigned the office, and Dr. Swinburne, by order of the court, took possession. In the spring of 1884, he was again nominated by the citizens and indorsed by the Republicans, but was again counted out by a small majority. Suffering at the time from blood poisoning, having been infected while performing an operation, he could not and would not consent to a contest for the office in the courts, although his friends were satisfied they could prove a large majority in his favor, and went west for his health. Returning home with his powers recuperated and his vigor restored, he was greeted with a reception unequaled in previous days, the streets being figuratively a mass of blocked humanity. The citizens again assembled, and knowing there was more protection at the ballot box in national than civic elections, and appreciating the worth and ability of the Doctor,

nominated him for Congress. The nomination was indorsed by the Republicans, and when the ballot was counted it was found that he had a majority of 2,504 over the then sitting member, T. J. Van Alstyne, recognized as one of the very strongest men in the district. By this election the political complexion of Albany County was changed over 7,000 votes.

Dr. Swinburne was married in 1847 to Miss Harriet Judson, of Albany, by whom he has had four children, one of whom is living.

SAMUEL BALDWIN WARD.

The ancestry of an eminent physician is always important to those who would intelligently study his career and character. The study will explain what debt he owes to the past and to circumstances, and to what measure he has been the architect of his own fortune. We are all of us sensible enough to know that good birth, in the American significance of the word, is a valuable fact in the same sense in which good health is, and that creditable as unaided effort or the overcoming of difficulties is, they whose equipment for the labor of life has been insured by nurture, counsel and culture are most apt to prove themselves completely competent for the manifold duties of professional work in the world. The pride of "self-made" men, who are as a rule half-made men, and who invariably worship their creator, is in the fact of their having attained to such a position of strength as will enable them to give to their children the initial advantages which were denied to themselves. No "self-made" man expects his sons to be "self-made" men. He wants them to escape the hardships of their father. He desires to make the beginnings of life easier for them than they were for himself. The conquest of early obstacles is laudable. The necessity to encounter them is regrettable. They consume time and effort which must be subtracted from the act of starting.

Both the fact of a sturdy ancestry of achieving freemen and the fact of careful preparation for his profession must be predicated of the cultivated physician and surgeon of whom we write. Lebbeus Baldwin Ward, the father of our subject, who was born in New Jersey, April 7, 1800, and who died in New York City, June 15, 1885, was directly descended through his father from revolutionary soldiery, and through his mother from the celebrated Dod family of Newark and Princeton, renowned as teachers and exponents of natural forces, and conspicuously identified with the institutions and literature of science. The mother of Dr. Ward, *nee* Miss Abby Dwight Pratt, of Hatfield, Massachusetts, was descended through both parents from the best Old England and New England stock, and was the daughter of a clergyman of marked strength of intellect and character. The father of Dr. Ward, whose recent death became the occasion of marked tribute to his worth and deeds by the press of the State, was first an engine builder and then a maker of wrought-iron



Saml. B. Hunt.

general supervision of all that was going on, and had as assistants a corps of surgeons trained under his own tuition in conservative surgery. In addition to his large private practice nearly 60,000 people have been treated at the dispensary up to the close of last year, at least 25,000 of these being surgical cases. For the year 1884 the register gives the number of new cases treated as 7,504, of which 4,340 were medical cases and the remaining 3,156 surgical. During the year 250 fractures were treated, 178 of which were of the upper extremities and the remainder of the lower limbs. In the treatment there has not occurred one fatal result, a record unequalled by any institution in the annals of surgery. During this period a total abolition of any nature has been proposed by the Doctor maintaining that the use of the knife is indulged in use of the amputating knife is barbarism. His conservative doctrine is to save the limb and help nature in the work of curing. He has paid out of his private funds upward of \$5,000 per annum to carry on his dispensary since its foundation, and now proposes, if the State will not do so, to found a dispensary in addition to the one he now runs for the care and treatment exclusively of injured railroad men.

His career in public life has been almost as marked as that of his professional.

In 1882, the citizens of Albany, irrespective of party, organized to effect a reform in the municipal affairs of the city, and after much persuasion induced the Doctor to run as the People's candidate for the mayoralty. The election was a bitterly contested one on the part of the ring, who desired to retain power, and on the part of the citizens, who demanded a reform. After a number of bills the vote of the people was taken, and his opponent indicated that he would resign, but, however, late tonight, on a public meeting the evening after the results were announced the people there convened decided to commence legal action to set aside the declaration and award the office to Dr. Swinburne. After nearly a year and a half of maneuvering in court by the incumbent's counsel, in taking advantage of the law's delays, the case was finally set for a definite day for trial. As soon as this judicial order was made, the incumbent, Michael N. Nolan, resigned the office, and Dr. Swinburne, by order of the court, took possession. In the spring of 1884, he was again nominated by the citizens and indorsed by the Republicans, but was again counted out by a small majority. Suffering at the time from blood-poisoning, having been infected while performing an operation, he could not and would not consent to a contest for the office in the courts, although his friends were satisfied they could prove a large majority in his favor, and went west for his health. Returning home with his powers recuperated and his vigor restored, he was greeted with a reception unequalled in the history of Albany, the streets being figuratively a mass of flowers of humanity. The citizens again assembled, and knowing there was more protection at the ballot box in national than civic elections, and appreciating the worth and ability of the Doctor,

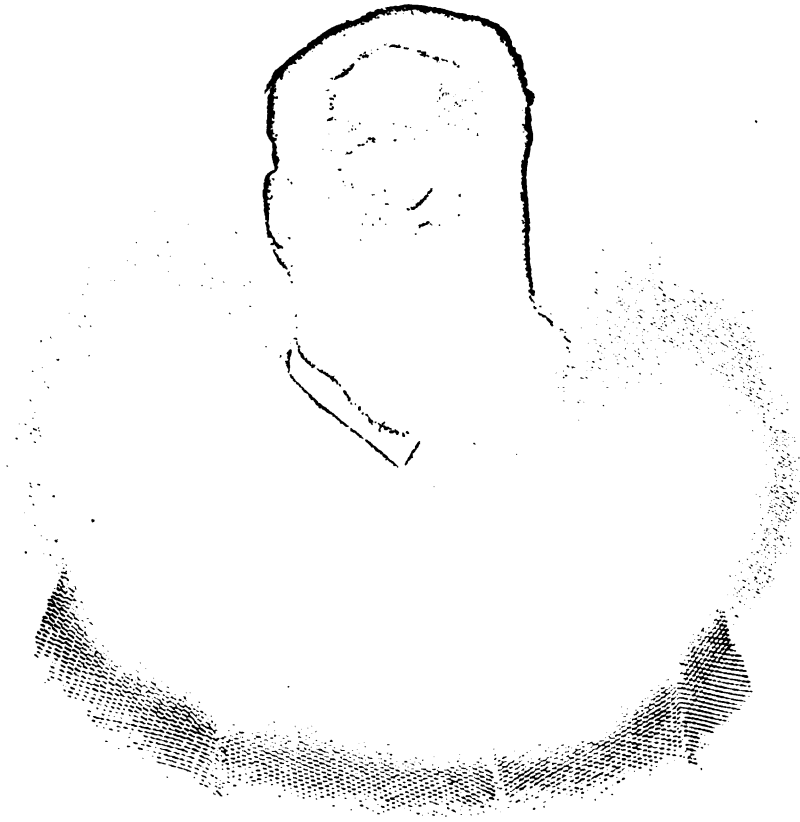
nominated him for Congress. The nomination was indorsed by the Republicans, and when the ballot was counted it was found that he had a majority of 2,504 over the then sitting member, T. J. Van Alstyne, recognized as one of the very strongest men in the district. By this election the political complexion of Albany County was changed over 7,000 votes.

Dr. Swinburne was married in 1847 to Miss Harriet Johnson, of Albany, by whom he has had four children, one of whom is living.

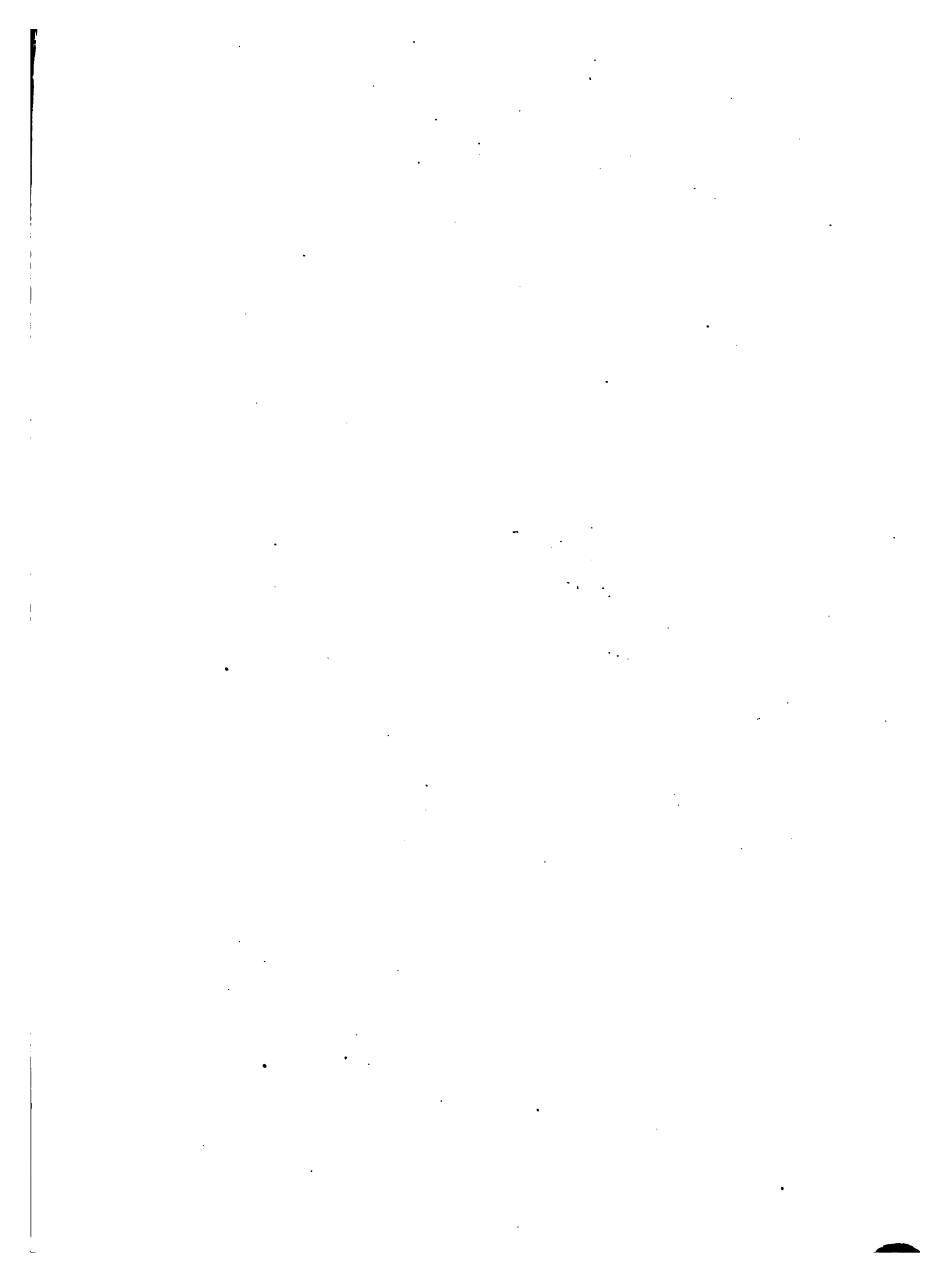
SAMUEL BALDWIN WARD.

The ancestry of an eminent physician is always important to those who would intelligently study his career and character. The study will explain what debt he owes to the past and to circumstances, and to what measure he has been the architect of his own fortune. We are all of us sensible enough to know that good birth, in the American significance of the word, is a valuable fact in the same sense, in which good health is, and that creditable as unaided effort or the overcoming of difficulties is, they whose equipment for the labor of life has been insured by nurture, counsel and culture are most apt to prove themselves completely competent for the manifold duties of professional work in the world. The pride of "self-made" men, who are as a rule half-made men, and who invariably worship their creator, is in the fact of their having attained to such a position of strength, which were denied to their fathers, which were denied to their fathers. A "self-made" man expects his children to be "self-made" men. He wants them to escape the hardships of their father. He desires to make the beginnings of life easier for them than they were for himself. The conquest of early obstacles is laudable. The necessity to encounter them is regrettable. They consume time and effort which must be subtracted from the act of starting.

Both the fact of a sturdy ancestry of achieving freemen and the fact of careful preparation for his profession must be predicated of the cultivated physician and surgeon of whom we write. Lebbeus Baldwin Ward, the father of our subject, who was born in New Jersey, April 7, 1800, and who died in New York City, June 15, 1885, was directly descended through his father from revolutionary soldiery, and though his mother from the celebrated Dod family of Newark and Princeton, renowned as teachers and exponents of natural forces, and conspicuously identified with the institutions and literature of science. The mother of Dr. Ward, *nee* Miss Abby Dwight Pratt, of Hatfield, Massachusetts, was descended through both parents from the best Old England and New England stock, and was the daughter of a clergyman of marked strength of intellect and character. The father of Dr. Ward, whose recent death became the occasion of marked tribute to his worth and deeds by the press of the State, was first an engine builder and then a maker of wrought-iron



Saml. B. Ward.



forgings, being the founder of the Hammersley Forge Works, at the foot of Fifty-ninth street, New York, on the North River. He was an occupant of many business, judiciary and religious trusts, a member of the State Assembly when the position was honorable in fact as well as in designation, and a Commissioner of the Metropolitan Board of Police, in the first years of its establishment.

Of Revolutionary and Puritan forces the representative, Samuel B. Ward was born in New York City on June 8, 1842, in the large stone house which his father had built in the English style, near the forge works, as a homestead. Early in life he put forth the evidences of the qualities which have since conspicuously marked him. He was studious, practical, a lover of nature, fond of physical sports and accomplishments. He was generous, unsuspecting and winningly frank. He had the ability to inspire confidence among those with whom he contended for the prizes of youth in manly emulation. The society of an ideal home made his progress in the studies of boyhood easy, inciting and rewarding, and at the age of 16 he entered Columbia College in his native city, well prepared for the course of training to which he was subjected in that institution. He graduated with honors in 1861. Not only did he stand among its first in academic honors, but he was chosen by his classmates to the highest positions within the gift of their friendly suffrages. His scholarship and his popularity were thus attested on the threshold of his active life. After a year of as much study as slower or duller men diffuse into three years, young Ward was appointed a medical cadet in the United States Army. The position enabled him to combine with the continued study of medicine and surgery such clinical instruction and such administrative experience as were extremely valuable. In 1863 he was commissioned by President Lincoln an Acting Assistant Surgeon of the United States Army, and in 1864 an Assistant Surgeon of the United States Volunteers, a little in advance of the completion of his medical studies, which he successfully pursued in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, and in the medical department of Georgetown University, in the District of Columbia. He was matriculated from the latter school. The army medical experience of Dr. Ward was mainly that comprised by hospital service in Washington, Alexandria and the vicinity. It was such as brought him into contact with a great variety of complaints and injuries. It enabled him to work with and under the ablest minds in his profession. It familiarized him with the relations of government service to great sanitary undertakings. It devolved large responsibilities on him, and he showed coolness, readiness and resource in meeting them.

At the close of the war, though accorded the opportunity of remaining in the service of the government in the line of his profession, Dr. Ward began the practice of it in his native city. He was made Professor of Anatomy and then of Surgery in the Women's Medical College. He met

with decided success in the practice of his profession. His class lectures at the first showed that crispness, aptness and directness, the ability to enlighten and to incite students, which they possess in marked degree. He was chosen a member of the Northwestern Medical and Surgical Society of the metropolis and was made its secretary. He began and has since continued the contribution of accounts of cases to the *Medical Record* and to the *New York Medical Journal*. He became and has remained an active companion of the first class of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. In 1871, he married the late Nina N. Wheeler, daughter of William A. Wheeler, Esq., of New York City, of whom death bereaved him in October, 1883. During his residence in New York Dr. Ward was elected Assistant Surgeon of the famous Seventh Regiment, with the rank of captain, on June 1, 1872, a position he held until June 12, 1876, the year in which he removed to Albany.

The activities and honors of his profession have crowded on this gentleman at the State capital. His position as the Professor of Pathology, Practice, Clinical Medicine and Hygiene in the Medical College of Albany has made him widely known throughout the profession. He has long been the surgeon of the Fifth Brigade, formerly the Ninth Brigade of the State National Guard. He has, since September, 1883, been a member of the Board of Health of the city, and since January, 1885, one of the Civil Service Examiners for State officers. A member of the New York County and Albany County Medical Societies, Dr. Ward has several times been elected a delegate to the American Medical Association, and he is a permanent member of the State Medical Society. In all the movements of his profession, within the capital or the State, he has been required to become meritedly prominent on the demand of his brethren, while the State and municipal authorities have availed themselves of his knowledge and skill in the counsel they have taken touching large sanitary subjects. He became A. M. by the act of Columbia College, his *alma mater*, in 1864, and he received the degree of Ph. D. from Union University on June 28, 1882. In 1885 he was confirmed by the Board of Regents of the University of the State as a member of the executive committee of the State Normal School, at Albany, in place of the Hon. St. Clair McKelway, resigned.

The citation of the proofs of professional and public preferment could be continued. But enough has been given to serve the purpose of showing that Dr. Ward has won a distinguished position in his profession alike by the concession of its members and in the opinion of the public. The enumeration of the dignities and trusts he has received does not touch the question of his personality; neither can the essentially narrative nature of an outline biography do so. Those who stand to him in the relation of personal friends or professional colleagues know that there are few men in the world of so attractive and worthy personal parts, and that his culture, knowledge and judgment, developed by study and labor in his own



SYLVESTER D. WILLARD, M. D.

land and by study and travel in many foreign countries, are as distinctive and pronounced as are his qualities of fellowship. As the physician and the friend, the best record he has made is in the hearts of those with whose sorrows and joys his own life has been blended. That record is unreportable and sacredly privileged from the public gaze.

SYLVESTER D. WILLARD, M. D.

Dr. SYLVESTER DAVID WILLARD was born in Wilton, Conn., June 19, 1825, and died in Albany, April 2, 1865. He came of the same family as those eminent divines, the Rev. Samuel Willard and the Rev. Dr. Joseph Willard, the former of whom was a Vice-President and the latter President of Harvard College. His father was a highly respectable physician and an honored citizen; his mother, who was of a much esteemed family of Albany, was a lady of great moral and Christian worth. Young Willard received his literary training at an academy in his native place. In the fall of 1845 he came to Albany, upon invitation of his relative, Dr. Wing, with whom he became a student. He entered the Albany Medical College, graduating therefrom in the winter of 1848.

After serving for some time as an assistant to Dr. Wing, he began practice on his own responsibility, and very early attracted the attention and the confidence of that eminent citizen, the late Dr. T. Romeyn

Beck, to whom, perhaps, more than to any other individual, he was indebted for the earliest expressions of public respect and confidence that were awarded to him. Shortly after he began practice he became connected with the Albany County Medical Society, and served successively as its secretary, vice-president and president. In 1858 he was a delegate to the State Medical Society, and was appointed its permanent secretary, an office which he signally honored, especially by preparing each successive year, with great ability, a volume of the Society's transactions.

From the opening of the Rebellion, in 1861, his whole heart went into every movement connected therewith; and, in the spring of 1862, he went, with two other prominent physicians of Albany, to act as a volunteer surgeon to the Army of the Potomac. From Fortress Monroe he proceeded to White House, where he was invested with an important agency in establishing a large field hospital, which brought immediate relief to many hundreds of our wounded soldiers. During a brief sojourn there, he suffered the severest hardships of labor and exposure, and contracted a disease which developed itself more fully after his return, and which there is some reason to believe was never entirely dislodged from his constitution. He made one or two attempts afterward to return to this field of labor, but was obliged to abandon his object.

But the most important public enterprise in which Dr. Willard engaged was the establishment

of an institution for the relief of the chronic insane. His mind had been directed to this subject for a considerable time, and he had collected a vast amount of information bearing upon it, which he had embodied in a luminous and elaborate report. That report had met with a most respectful attention from the Legislature, and everything indicated the speedy carrying out of the plan which he had proposed, when Dr. Willard found that his days of activity on earth were numbered. The Willard Asylum for the Insane, so named as a memorial of him, has been established since his decease. At the time of his death he was holding the positions of Secretary of the State Medical Society, Examining Surgeon for the Pension Office, and Surgeon-General of the State, all of which were to him posts of arduous labor and unceasing fidelity. But the duties of these offices, in addition to his more private professional engagements and other diversified claims upon his time, imposed upon him a burden greater than his physical constitution was able to bear. A sudden attack of disease, superinduced by excessive exertion, accomplished its fatal work within a very few days. The solemnities of his funeral, as well as the warm memorial tributes of different bodies, including the Legislature of the State, furnished the most unquestionable evidence that his death was regarded as a public calamity.

Dr. Willard's intellectual character was marked by quick perception, sound judgment, retentive memory, and much more than the ordinary power of analysis and investigation. A diligent student of books and a close observer of men and things, he acquired a very large amount of general as well as professional knowledge, and he devoted much time to the local history and biography of the medical profession, the results of which appear in "Albany Medical Annals," Vol. 1. He possessed large executive ability, and power of readily bringing other minds into harmony with his own. He had, moreover, an exquisite taste, an eye to discern whatever is beautiful in nature or art, and the delicacy of his perceptions, especially in regard to architectural proportions, was well-nigh unrivaled. His moral qualities were akin to his intellectual ones. He had great simplicity and directness of character. With him the question, "what is right?" was all absorbing, and he sought to settle it by light from above and from within, without listening to the pleas of expediency or of imagined self-interest. His spirit was eminently genial and cheerful, and, with his fine intellectual qualities and more than ordinarily attractive manners, rendered him a most agreeable companion. He was, withal, a man of great benevolence. There was a chord strung in his heart that vibrated quickly to every form of human suffering.

But the intellectual and moral qualities with which Dr. Willard was originally endowed were essentially modified in their action by the influences of Christianity. When about sixteen years old, during an extensive revival of religion in his native place, he entered upon the Christian life,

and shortly after he joined the Congregational Church at Wilton, and on his becoming a resident of Albany transferred his membership to the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, which was unbroken during the remainder of his life. For several years he superintended the mission school in Lydius street with great fidelity and success, though it must have been at no small inconvenience, in view of his daily professional engagements. In his medical practice he often prescribed for the spiritual as well as the physical man. The grand enterprise for the relief of one of the most terrible forms of human woe, which he had so much at heart in his last days, was evidently prosecuted not merely from considerations of public expediency, nor yet merely or chiefly from the influences of a naturally benevolent spirit, but from those higher principles and feelings which it is the province of Christianity alone to inspire.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF SOME PHYSICIANS.

WILLIAM HOWARD BAILEY was born in Bethlehem, Albany County, December 28, 1825. He was the seventh child of Dr. Solomon Bailey. When about five years of age his father discontinued the active practice of his profession and retired to a farm. His father had always manifested a great interest in the education of the young, and was for years the active school officer of the town. His family received his first and continued attention, and to him more than to the schools in the neighborhood were they indebted for their educational foundation upon which to build in after life. After the death of his father, which occurred when he was thirteen years of age, he continued his studies at Albany Academy, the Academy at Utica, the State Normal School at Albany, and the Seminary at Cazenovia. Five years he devoted to teaching. While having the charge of the Union school in Trumansburg, he commenced the study of medicine. He continued it all spare hours during the two years that he had charge of male academy in Cassator, Alabama. He returned to his native county, attended lectures at the Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1853. His mother, living in Utica, induced him to commence the practice of his profession there, but in September, 1854, he removed to Albany, where he has been in practice since. He was made member of the Albany County Medical Society in 1854; was four years its treasurer, delegate to the Medical Society of the State of New York, and President of the County Society; was made a permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York in 1864, and was Secretary of the same from 1865 to 1875. He was elected President in 1880. He received the honorary degree of M. D. from Soule University, Texas, in 1871, and the degree of LL. D., in 1877, from the Washington and Jefferson College, Penn. He was elected Alderman of Albany in 1874. In 1882 he was appointed one of the consulting board of the Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane at Poughkeepsie, a

position he continues to hold. He was Obstetrician several years at Albany Hospital; also U. S. Examining Surgeon for Pensions.

O. D. BALL was born, 1840, in Otsego County; educated at Hartwick Seminary; received his A. M. degree at Union College; entered the army in 1861; served as Regimental Quartermaster, Third New York Artillery; as Ordnance Officer, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and Assistant Adjutant-General, Department N. C. Graduated in medicine from New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1867; practiced medicine in Otsego County until 1874; then removed to Albany, and continued the practice ever since. Was Coroner of Otsego County three years; President of Otsego County Medical Society, and for three years Demonstrator of Anatomy in Albany Medical College.

JAMES F. BARKER was born in Schenectady in 1851. He is of New England ancestry. He graduated from Union College in 1874. He studied under Dr. James H. Armsby, of Albany, and graduated from the Medical College in that city in 1877. In the same year he began practicing with Dr. Gideon H. Armsby. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. Among the papers written by him is a biographical sketch of Dr. Gideon H. Armsby, who died in 1882.

EZRA ALBERT BARTLETT comes of a historic family, his great-grandfather, Josiah Bartlett, M. D., being one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Bartlett served three years in Battery "M," Fourth U. S. Artillery, during the war of the Rebellion. He received the degree of A. B. from Rochester University in 1870, and that of M. D. from Albany Medical College in 1879, since which he has practiced in Albany. He was married in 1871 to Miss Jennie Sargent, of Rochester, N. Y. The name of Bartlett abounds in every department of literary and professional life in this country, especially in New England.

HERMAN BENDELL began practicing in Albany in 1876. He has met with success, and while he is well versed as a general physician, he has made his specialty diseases of the eye and ear. In this difficult branch he has acquired high reputation. He is a member of the Board of Public Instruction, and has been its President for one term.

JOHN MILTON BIGELOW was born in Albany, August 22, 1846. He graduated from Albany Academy in 1863, from Williams College in 1866, from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1869, and received the degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College in 1870. He began practice in Albany. His specialty is diseases of the throat, air passages and heart. He is a member of the County Medical Society, and the State Society. He was County Physician for 1876 and 1877. In 1870 he was appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics and Attending Physician to the Albany Hospital, and in 1876 to St. Peter's Hospital. He has written papers on "Idiopathic Peritonitis," "Croup," "Hyper-

drosis," "Tobacco Poisoning," and other subjects.

JOSEPH H. BLATNER, of German descent, was born in Albany, August 20, 1848. He attended private schools, the Albany Academy, Amherst and Williams Colleges, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1872. He studied abroad for two and one-half years, entering at Leipsic, Prague and Vienna, and visiting the large hospitals of Germany, England and France. While at Prague he received the degree of M. A. O. During the first two years of his practice he was in partnership with Dr. A. Vanderveer. He was a member of the Albany Dispensary Staff, and is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. His specialties are obstetrics and diseases of women and children.

RICHARD J. BROWN was born in 1849, in Lanark, Perth County, Canada. He attended school there until 17 years of age, when he entered the printing office of the Perth *Standard*. He was a reporter for one year; then went on the *Toronto Globe*. He left this business and entered St. Michael's College, Toronto. After meeting with many reverses he removed to Albany in 1870, making it his home ever since. He entered the office of Swinburne & Balch, graduated from the Albany Medical College, and, in 1881, began the practice of his profession.

FREDERICK LUKE CLASSEN was born in Albany, July 7, 1857. He was educated in the public schools, graduating from the High School; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1881, and at once began practice. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, and has been one of its Censors. He has held, since 1883, the position of Coroner's Physician. His specialty is diseases of the throat and lungs. He is author of "Aneurism of the Aorta," "Water as a Surgical Dressing," and "Hydro Nephrosia."

JOHN BLISS CONKLIN was born in Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, in 1832. His family moved to Illinois in 1884. He graduated at Chicago Medical College in 1852. He read homoeopathy and graduated in that school in Detroit in 1854. He practiced in Bennington, Vt., one year. Made cancers a specialty, and practiced in Buffalo, N. Y., six months; in San Francisco, Cal., eighteen months; and in Mexico, six months. Returning, he settled in Albany in 1862, where he has since continued practicing his profession.

CHARLES M. CULVER was born at West Troy, September 28, 1856. He graduated from Union College in 1878, and from Albany Medical College in 1881. He attended at the University of Berlin for eight months, going thence to Paris, where his studies were pursued for ten months; thence to London, returning to Albany in 1883, where he began practice as an oculist and aurist. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. During the present year, his translation from the French of Dr. Landolt's (Paris) work on "Refraction and Accommodation of the Eye" will be published.

FREDERIC C. CURTIS, though of New England parentage, was born in South Carolina. He graduated from Beloit College in 1866, and received his M. D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1870, after which he took a year of travel in Europe. He was established here in 1871. He is an ex-President of the County Medical Society, permanent member of the State Society, and member of American Public Health Association and American Dermatological Association, editor of "Albany Medical Annals," and of Vol. III of "County Society Transactions." He is Professor of Skin Diseases in the Albany Medical College, and physician in the same department in Albany and St. Peter's Hospitals. He is also a member of the State Board of Health.

JOHN SAVAGE DELAVAN was born in Ballston, Saratoga County, October 18, 1840. He was a student at Military Institutes and at Union College. He graduated from Albany Medical College in 1861, practicing in Albany for one year. During the Civil War he served as surgeon in various positions. At the close of the war he returned to Albany, and was appointed Pension Examining Surgeon, which he held, with the exception of about one year passed in Europe on account of poor health, until 1875. Under the administration of Mr. Hayes he was Vice-Consul at Geneva, returning to Albany in 1879. He was appointed, in 1880, one of the Commissioners of the State Board of Health. His specialty is diseases of women. He is author of many papers, among which are "Vital Registration," "Use of Alcohol in Health," and a series of articles entitled "Obstetric Hints for Young Practitioners."

FRANK H. FISK was born, August 6, 1853, in Salisbury, Ct. He attended the public schools of Bridgeport, Ct.; studied medicine in Springfield, Mass.; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1882, and at once began his practice in Albany. His specialty is surgery, and he has performed many capital operations. He is a member of the County Medical Society.

DAVID FLEISCHMAN was born in Albany, March 12, 1859. He graduated from Albany High School in 1875, Yale College in 1879, and Albany Medical College in 1881. He began practice in Albany in November, 1882, making throat diseases his specialty. He is the author of "Nasal Polypus;" is a member of the County Society, and physician for throat diseases in the Albany Hospital.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON FREEMAN is a lineal descendant of Edward Freeman, who came from England in 1635, and was one of the first settlers of Plymouth. He is a grandson of Hon. Jonathan Freeman, one of the founders of the township of Hanover, N. H., and of Dartmouth College, of which he was trustee and treasurer for forty years, and a member of the United States Congress when Washington was President, a member of the Committee of Safety during the Revolutionary War, and filled many other important trusts in the history of

the State and Nation. Jonathan Freeman, Esq., the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Hanover, N. H., where he was greatly esteemed for his unostentatious charities and probity of character. Besides filling other important offices of trust, he was Justice of the Peace and Quorum for more than forty years. Dr. Freeman was born in Hanover, N. H., August 24, 1821, and was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1843. He studied medicine at Dartmouth Medical College, and graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1846. He afterward became associated with his former preceptor, Dr. James H. Armsby, as partner in professional business, which continued for twelve years. He has been an active member of the Albany County Medical Society, and has contributed monographs on various subjects of professional interest. He was twice elected President of this Society. His address on "Human Longevity and Hygiene" was published in the Transactions of the State Medical Society, of which he was elected a permanent member in 1862. He married, in 1851, Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Gideon Hawley, of Albany. He is President of the Board of Curators of the Albany Medical College, and a member of the Medical Staff of the Albany Hospital, which positions he has filled for many years.

GEORGE E. GORHAM was born at Le Raysville, Bradford County, Pa., November 8, 1850; attended Le Raysville Academy and Waverly High School, and graduated from Hahnemann College, Chicago, Ill., in 1874. He located in Athens, Pa., remaining there until 1878, when he removed to Albany. He is a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy, the New York State Society, the Albany County Society, and the Society of Northern New York. He was Secretary and Treasurer of the County Society, is now its Vice-President, and Secretary and Treasurer of Society for Northern New York. He is the author of "Treatment of Croup by Inhalation of Bromine," "Common Sense Therapeutics," and "Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver," with cases.

WILLIAM HAILES, JR., was born in Albany, October 14, 1849. He was educated in the public schools and at the Albany Classical Institute under Prof. C. H. Anthony. During 1868 and 1869 he studied under the late Dr. Alden March, and classified his notes, which had been accumulating for fifty years. During this time he articulated a skeleton, which is yet in the College Museum. He graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1870, being class valedictorian, receiving a competitive prize. In 1872 he established himself in practice in Albany, which has been interrupted only by two trips abroad—one taken in 1875 to Germany and Italy; the other, three years later, to Paris and London, where he attended lectures. During 1869-71 he was resident physician in the Albany Hospital, and is now attending surgeon to the same, and to St. Peter's Hospital. In 1872 he was Demonstrator of Anatomy; in 1873, Lecturer on Surgical Dressings and

Appliances; and since 1874 has been Professor of Histology and Pathological Anatomy in the Albany Medical College. He has daily classes in practical microscopy, held in Alumni Hall of the college. He frequently lectures before medical and other societies upon technical, scientific and popular subjects. He has performed many capital operations, his specialties being surgery, cathology and microscopy. He is Vice-President of the County Medical Society, and delegate to the British Medical and New York State societies.

WILLIAM N. HAYS was born in New Scotland, Albany County, in 1850. He studied higher mathematics, natural sciences and classics at Falley and Whitestown seminaries until 1872. He then began the study of medicine with Prof. James H. Armsby, and graduated with honors from the Albany Medical College, in 1875. He has been resident physician at the Albany Hospital.

NELSON HUNTING was born in Wrights, Schoharie County, November 21, 1837; attended the Academy in Gallupville, the State Normal School, Albany, and graduated from New York Homoeopathic Medical College in 1869. He practiced for three years in Gallupville, removing to Albany in 1872. He is a member of the American Institute of Homoeopathy, the New York State Society and the Albany County Society.

ALFRED B. HUESTED received his diploma from the Albany Medical College in 1863, and in 1868 opened a retail drug store on the corner of Eagle and Daniel streets. Dr. Husted, in September, 1883, was appointed Professor of Botany and Materia Medica in the Albany College of Pharmacy, of which he was one of the founders; and in July, 1884, a member of the State Board of Pharmacy.

P. J. KEEGAN is a well-known physician and surgeon of Albany. Formerly he was house physician at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, and is now visiting surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, Home for the Aged, and of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Albany.

URIAH B. LAMOURE was born, March 4, 1844, in Albany; attended the Albany Academy; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1878, and began practice. He is member of Albany County Medical Society, and is now its treasurer. He received the appointment of County Physician four years ago, which he still holds. His specialty is diseases arising from the abuse of stimulants.

MAURICE J. LEWIS was born in Albany on the 1st day of December, 1857. After graduating from the Albany Free Academy (High School) he took a private Cornell course with Prof. Altmeyer, at the same time taking up the study of medicine. He graduated in January, 1877, and acted as class orator. Was appointed to the house staff of the Albany Hospital, serving for one and one-half years. He continued his studies in 1878, at the University of Heidelberg, and in 1879 at the Vienna University, where he became one of the assistants in the Children's Hospital under Prof. Widerhofer.

On his return from Europe he commenced the active practice of medicine, devoting himself more particularly to diseases of women and children, on which subjects he has delivered several courses of lectures in the Albany Medical College. He is an ex-President of the Academy of Medicine, has been Secretary of the Albany County Medical Society, member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, and is connected with the Dispensary Staff of the Albany Hospital. He has contributed variously to the literature of medicine, more particularly in his special branches of practice. He is a member of various fraternal bodies, and at present senior deacon of Wadsworth Lodge, No. 417, of Free Masons.

JOHN McALLISTER was born in Brooklyn, March 5, 1858, and attended the Catholic Brothers' College, Chicago, Ill., and the public schools of Albany; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practice. His specialty is insanity and diseases of the nervous system; often called to testify as an expert. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

HENRY MARCH, son of Dr. Alden March, was born at Albany, N. Y., December 13, 1827. He was educated in New Haven and Fairfield, Conn., and in Albany, graduating from Albany Medical College in 1853. He is a member of Albany County Medical Society, of the New York State Medical Society, of the American Medical Association, and Curator of the Albany Medical College. He was president of the County Society in 1876, and its treasurer in 1863. He is the author of papers, read before the County Society, on "Anesthetic Agents," "Polypus of Uterus," "Paracentesis-Thoracis," etc.; and "A Biographical Sketch of Jeremiah O. Havens, M. D." During the civil war he served for a brief period as volunteer surgeon. In 1862 he married a daughter of Walter R. Bush, Esq., of Troy, N. Y. Dr. March is a director of the Y. M. C. A., and manager of the City Tract and Missionary Society.

HENRY F. MERENESS was born at Sharon Center, Schoharie County, March 19, 1849. He was educated at the public schools, Fort Plain Seminary, Knoxville Academy, and the State Normal School at Albany, where he graduated in 1869. He studied medicine with Dr. James H. Armsby, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1874, and began practice in Albany. His specialty is obstetrics. He was valedictorian of his class, and was for some time Treasurer of the Albany County Medical Society. Since 1879 has been Acting Assistant Surgeon of the Marine Hospital service for the Port of Albany. He is Surgeon on the staff of Albany Burgesses Corps, and Treasurer of the same.

CYRUS S. MERRILL was born in Vermont. He graduated from Amherst College in 1867, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1870, and settled in Albany, making a specialty of Ophthalmology and Otology. He is a member of the American Ophthalmology Society, of the American Otology Society, and of the Albany

County Medical Society. He has received appointments as Professor of Ophthalmology in the Albany Medical College, Ophthalmic and Aural Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, the Albany City Hospital, to the Child's Hospital in Albany, and to the Troy Hospital. He is the author of many papers upon his specialty.

WILLIAM F. MILBANK was born in Coeymans, Albany County, March 8, 1841. He graduated from the Albany Academy in 1859, and from the Albany Medical College in 1872. He is a member of the Albany County Homœopathic Society, of the New York State Society, and the American Institute of Homœopathy, being for several years Secretary of the County Society. His specialty is Surgery.

EDWARD MOORE, M. R. C. V. S., located in Albany in 1872. He went abroad and matriculated at the Royal Veterinary College, London, receiving honors. He was there offered, by the Privy Council, the position of Inspector under the provisions of "The Contagious Diseases Act." In 1877 Dr. Moore returned to Albany. He has been veterinary editor of the *Cultivator and Country Gentleman* for seven years, and is a Fellow of the Veterinary Medical Association of London, England. His reputation as a cattle pathologist is well established, and his practice extends throughout the United States and Canada.

FREDERICK D. MORRILL was born in Wakefield, Mass., August 3, 1855. He attended the grammar schools of Boston and the public schools of Albany, N. Y.; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1880, beginning practice the same year. During 1879, '80, '81 he was resident physician of the alms-house, and is now City District Physician. His specialty is diseases of women and children; is author of "Injections and their Uses in the Practice of Medicine." He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

GEORGE S. MUNSON was born in Waterford, Saratoga County, April 4, 1856. He was educated by private tutors, at Anthony's Classical Institute and Princeton College, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1880. The two years following were passed in New York under the teachings of Drs. Knapp, Noyes and Agnew, and while there he was First Assistant to the New York Ophthalmic and Aural Institute, Dr. Knapp, Surgeon-in-Chief. He began practice in Albany in 1882, and was married in 1884 to Miss May S. Downing, of the city. He has been for two years Ophthalmic and Aural Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, and is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

WM. H. MURRAY was born in Pound Ridge, Westchester County, December, 1845; graduated at Union College, 1867, and Albany Medical College, 1868; settled in Albany, 1870; was Supervisor of Sixteenth Ward, 1877, and held the position four years. He was elected Alderman, 1882, and President of the Common Council. By virtue of that office, was sworn in as Mayor when Mayor Nolan resigned, and held the office till the Courts gave it to Dr. John Swinburne. Has held the offices of

Police Surgeon, District Physician, Coroner's Physician, and now holds the office of Physician to Penitentiary. Has held the office of Vice-President and Treasurer of Albany County Medical Society.

THEODORE W. NELLIS was born at Schoharie Court House. He graduated from the Schoharie Academy in 1869, and the Albany Medical College in 1881. His specialty is the treatment of hernia and kindred diseases; he is the manufacturer of trusses and other surgical appliances, and conducts the business of druggist and apothecary. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, treasurer of the Alumni Association of the College, and a member of its executive committee.

WILLIAM J. NELLIS was born at Schoharie Court House, September 3, 1855. He graduated from the Schoharie Academy in 1872, and from the Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practicing in Albany. He is a member of the Albany County Society, and for two years, 1883 to '85, served as Censor.

GEORGE W. PAPAN was born in Albany in 1854; graduated at the Columbia Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1874. He has practiced his profession in Albany for the last eleven years.

T. KIRKLAND PERRY was born in Dublin, Cheshire County, N. H., June 16, 1852. He attended the public schools of Albany, graduating in 1866, and received a classical education through private tutors. He served several years with Messrs. Clement & Rice, as their prescription clerk; studied under Dr. A. Vanderveer, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1875. He was essayist of his class, and received a prize for his thesis. He at once began practice. He is a member of the County Society; was its secretary in 1878, and is now its vice-president. He is author of papers upon "Clinical Thermometry," "History of Anencephalic Monsters," "Scarlatina, with Unusual Complications," and an address, entitled "Obstetric Memoranda," delivered as Vice-President of the County Society, in 1884. He has been, since 1876, member of the dispensary staff of the City Hospital, and is attending Physician at St. Peter's Hospital. He was married, in 1878, to Grace Crosby Moore, who died in April, 1885, leaving two children.

CHARLES H. PORTER, of Dutch and New England ancestry, was born in Ghent, Columbia County, November 11, 1834. He was educated in Hudson, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., and at Yale College, where he was made A. M. in 1857. His medical studies were pursued in the Albany Medical College, whence he graduated in 1861. He settled in this city, making a specialty of medical jurisprudence. He is a member of the New York State Medical Society, and of the Connecticut Academy of Science. He has been a frequent contributor to professional journals; for two years he was Professor of Chemistry in the Vermont Medical College, and from 1855 to 1862 Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence in the Albany

Medical College; from 1872 to 1874 he was attending Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, Albany. In the late war he was Assistant Surgeon, Fortieth Regiment, New York Volunteers; and, from 1862 to 1865, Surgeon Sixth Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery. He has been United States Examining Surgeon since 1871.

PORTER LA FAYETTE REYNOLDS was born in Cabot, Washington County, Vermont, in 1823. He graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1861; he practiced for six months in Troy, N. Y.; then became Assistant Surgeon to the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, removing to Albany in December, 1863. He is a member of the Albany County Homœopathic Society, and of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

JOSEPH WARREN RILEY was born in West Troy, Albany County; attended the public schools of Troy and graduated from the Troy Academy. Began the study of Medicine, 1878; graduated from Albany Medical College, 1882. Served two years as resident physician of the Albany almshouse, and one year as city physician; has been practicing since 1882 in the city of Albany.

OTTO RITZMAN was born in Albany, April 7, 1857, and received a common school education; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practice. He was appointed District Physician in 1879, which he still holds. He is a member of the County Society. In 1884, in partnership with W. H. Murray, M. D., he established a drug store.

DEXNIS P. SHEVLIN was born, August 3, 1858, in Albany. He graduated from the Christian Brothers' Academy in 1876, and from Albany Medical College in 1880; practiced at Saratoga Springs for three years; located in Albany in 1883; was coroner's physician, 1883, '84. His specialty is diseases of the throat and lungs. He is member of the Albany County Medical Society, Union Medical Association, Saratoga County Medical Society, and is Physician to the Catholic Benevolent Society of Albany.

JOHN HENRY SKILLICORN was born in Albany, Dec. 25, 1860, and educated at Albany High School, Cornell University, and Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1883. He was professor of anatomy in the Medical College, for the years 1882, '83, '84, and was the first to successfully carry an independent quiz class through the year. He is a member of the County Society and author of "How to Study Anatomy Scientifically," "Reports of Complicated Cases of Typhoid Fever" and contributor of various articles upon popular medicine. His specialty is surgery, particularly fractures.

NORMAN L. SNOW was born in Root, Montgomery County, April 7, 1839. He graduated from Union College, 1859, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City in March, 1861. From 1862 to 1865 he served in the United States army; then practiced at Canajoharie, N. Y., remov-

ing in 1875 to Albany. He was a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, and is a member of the Albany Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, and of the American Medical Association. From August 23, 1862, to February 18, 1864, he was Assistant Surgeon in the United States army, and Surgeon from February 18, 1864, to October 18, 1865. During the summer of 1865 he was health officer of the district of Savannah, Ga. He was President of the Albany County Society in 1882. He has served as Alderman-at-large, and is now President of the Albany Common Council. Dr. Snow's literary contributions are many, among which are: "Syphilitic Degeneration of Arteries as a Cause of Aneurism," "Strangulated Hernia, with Result of Nine Operations," and "Some Practical Facts in Fractures of the Thigh," verified by the treatment of twenty-five cases occurring in private practice.

H. R. STARKWEATHER was born in Montgomery County, June 11, 1850. Graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1871. Since that time has been engaged in the practice of medicine in the city of Albany. Was elected Supervisor in 1878, and continued in the board three terms. Served five years as coroner's physician and is now city physician.

B. U. STEENBERG, born in Malta, Saratoga County, April 18, 1839; graduated from Albany Medical College, 1870; was Secretary of the Albany County Medical Society in 1876, and Vice-President, 1879.

JOHN BENJAMIN STONEHOUSE was born in Albany, June 4, 1852. He graduated from the Albany Academy in 1869, and from the Medical College in 1871, from which time until November, 1874, he was Assistant Surgeon in "Sanford Hall," a private insane asylum at Flushing, L. I.; he then came to Albany, remaining until 1876, when he became Resident Physician, one year, at "Brigham Hall," Canandaigua, N. Y. His specialties are nervous and mental diseases. He is Secretary of the County Medical Society. For three years he served as Lecturer on Nervous and Mental Diseases in the Albany Medical College, and now has charge of that department in the Hospital Dispensary. He is one of the editors of the *Albany Medical Annals*. Among works by him are: "General Paresis of the Insane," "Syphilitic Nervous Diseases," "Delirium Tremens." In May, 1882, he published the result of "Niter of Amyl in Opium Poisoning," which he claims was the first case ever so treated. As President of the Union Medical Association he read, in 1883, a paper entitled "Historical Retrospect of the Care of the Insane."

JOHN THOMPSON was born at Athboy, County of Meath, Ireland, December 10, 1837, and emigrated to this country in 1847. He was educated in the public schools at Binghamton, and graduated from the Medical Department of the University of the State of New York in 1868, and at once began practice in Albany. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Jr., was born in Albany, November 4, 1854. His education was pursued at the Albany State Normal School, the Albany Academy, and Williams College, where he graduated in 1873; three years later he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; and during 1876-7 was House Surgeon in Charity Hospital, New York. He then pursued his studies at Vienna, Strasburg and London, returning in 1878, and commencing practice in Albany. He is attending Physician at St. Peter's Hospital, and to the Protestant and the Catholic Orphan Asylums; he is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, of which he has been Censor. His specialty is Diseases of Women and Children. Among papers of which he is the author are: "Ovulation and Menstruation, considered in their Physiological Relations," "Treatment of the Parturient Breast," "Some Considerations on Uterine Congestions," and "Parturient Hæmophilia."

THOMAS M. TREGO was born in New York City, August 30, 1847. He graduated from Rutgers College, N. J., in 1870; he studied medicine under Drs. S. O. Vanderpoel, Thomas, and Edward R. Hun, of Albany, and Thomas M. Markoe, of New York City, and graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1874. He returned to Albany, where he held the position of Resident Physician to St. Peter's Hospital, which he soon resigned and began practice. He was shortly appointed attending Physician at the Child's Hospital and St. Agnes' School. In 1878 he visited England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and France, resuming, upon his return, his practice.

WILLIS G. TUCKER, Ph. G., Ph. D., was born, Albany, October 31, 1849. He was educated at the Albany Academy and the Albany Medical College, receiving his degree of M. D. in 1870. Dr. Tucker's professional life has been a successful and busy one. The offices held by him are: Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Albany Medical College, 1871-4; Lecturer on Materia Medica and Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 1874-5; Adjunct Professor of Materia Medica and Chemistry, 1875-6; Professor of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry, 1876-1882, to which has been added Professor of Medical Jurisprudence and Registrar of the Albany Medical College, since 1882; Professor of Natural Science, St. Agnes' School, since 1873; Instructor in Chemistry, Albany Academy, 1874, etc., etc. He was one of the founders of the

Albany College of Pharmacy, and is a member of the leading American medical and scientific societies. During 1881-84 he was analyst to the State Board of Health. Dr. Tucker, in addition to his professional work, has been a contributor to various scientific periodicals.

ALBERT VANDER VEER was born, July 10, 1841, in Root, Montgomery County. He attended lectures at the Albany Medical College, the National Medical College and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, graduating in December, 1862, from the National Medical College (Medical Department of the Columbia College, Washington, D. C.). He received the degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College in 1869, and settled in Albany. In 1874-75 he spent six months in the hospitals of London and Paris. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, of which he was president in 1873; the New York State Medical Society, of which he was elected president in February, 1885; the American Medical Association, and of the British Medical Association. He was appointed Medical Cadet in the United States army in June, 1862; Assistant Surgeon of the 66th New York Volunteers in December, 1862, and Surgeon in the same regiment in June, 1864; in 1869 he was made attending Surgeon of the Albany Hospital, and in 1874 of St. Peter's Hospital. He was elected, in 1869, Professor of General and Special Anatomy in the Albany Medical College, and, in 1876, Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery in that institution. His specialty is surgery, in which he has performed, successfully, many major operations. He is also the writer of many valuable contributions to medical literature.

JOHN WILSON was born in Ireland in 1812, emigrating to this country twenty-one years later. He received a theological education in a school founded by the Government, and taught one of the first public schools ever established in Ireland. He lived in Albany from 1833 to 1843, when he went to Syracuse, graduating from the Syracuse Eclectic Medical College in 1847; he received a diploma from the New York Eclectic College some years later. From 1853 to 1861 he lectured upon medical subjects throughout central New York, and returned to Albany in 1862. He is a member of the Albany District Eclectic Medical Society, and has served as its secretary and treasurer. He also belongs to the State Eclectic Society.

HISTORY OF EDUCATION.

By Prof JONATHAN TENNEY, Ph. D.

OF all the colonies only Massachusetts and Connecticut made early provision for a common school education for the whole people. The other New England colonies made similar provision as soon as their numbers and organization made it expedient. With these colonies it was, from the first, an established principle that all government must proceed from the people, be formed by the people and for the people. Intelligence and virtue were regarded as its only safeguards. All children should early be instructed in lessons of obedience to wholesome law, in virtue as its foundation, and in knowledge enough to make them understand their rights as citizens and how to defend them, and their duties to each other and how to discharge them. It was established that self-preservation demanded that the state should insist that the money of the state, duly raised by taxation and fairly apportioned, should educate the children of the state. To this principle there was rare dissent. The crowning glory of New England, giving its sons everywhere prosperity, influence and power, comes from its free schools.

Tyranny was afraid of intelligence among the people. In some colonies, as in Virginia, free schools and a consequent free press were openly opposed. In New York, governors seldom dared open opposition; but the schools were degraded by indifference and neglect.

DUTCH COLONIAL PERIOD.

The men who held public trusts during the Dutch colonial period, such as Directors, Vice-Directors, and officers under the Patroons, received their education in Holland. This was true, also, of the few clergy and other men of the literary professions of law, medicine and teaching. During the English colonial period, at first the same class of men came over, educated in the English schools. They belonged to the aristocratic or wealthy classes. As a rule, they all regarded the laboring classes as born to toil and servitude, having little time for anything but drudgery, and little need of knowing anything else. One of the governors boldly declared that all the common people needed to

know was how to earn money to pay their taxes.

In the Charter of Freedoms and Exemptions granted by the West India Company to all patroons, masters, or private persons who "will plant colonies in New Netherlands," under date of June 7, 1629, occurs the following:

"XXVII.—The Patroons and Colonists in particular, and in the speediest manner, must endeavor to find out ways and means whereby they may supply a minister and schoolmaster, that thus the service of God and zeal for religion may not grow cool and be neglected among them, and they shall, for the first, procure a comforter of the sick there."

In the new project of freedoms and exemptions made in 1630, the same condition was re-enacted in terms as follows:

"The patroons shall, also, particularly exert themselves to find speedy means to maintain a clergyman and schoolmaster, in order that Divine Service and zeal for religion may be planted in that country, and send, at first, a comforter of the sick thither."

In the articles and conditions drawn up and published by the Chamber of Amsterdam, in 1638, for the colonization and trade of New Netherlands, under the West India Company, appears the following: "Each householder and inhabitant shall bear such tax and public charge as shall hereafter be considered proper for the maintenance of clergymen and comforters of the sick, schoolmasters, and such like necessary officers; and the Director and Council there shall be written to touching the form hereof, in order, on receiving further information thereupon, it be rendered the least onerous and vexatious."

It is here to be noted that the comforter of the sick and the schoolmaster were usually united in the same person; that he was first to wait on the sick and render other service as helper to the clergyman; and that care of the boys and teaching them was only occasional, and directed mostly to religious catechisms and a little reading and spelling, with much moral and physical discipline.

A recent intelligent writer observes: "Religion was the leading idea in Dutch teaching. I have seen a Dutch Primer, or A B C Book, as it is called (Amsterdam), similar to our *New England Primer*. It has a large rooster on one page, and a picture of a Dutch school on the other. The master has a cap on his head and a bunch of twigs in his hand. The class stands before him and other boys are seated at their desks. After a very little spelling, succeeds the Lord's Prayer, Creed, Decalogue, Morning and Evening Prayer, Grace before and after meat. The instruction is altogether religious, which feature (I suppose) is retained in our Catholic schools to this day. The English Episcopalians also had their Primer, corresponding to the Dutch and New England Primers."

Adam Roelantsen, previously a schoolmaster in New Amsterdam, came to Rensselaerwyck as a settler in 1639. From all that has been learned, he appears to have been the first schoolmaster at New Amsterdam from 1638 to 1639. He appears in several law suits from 1638 to 1653. We hear of him last in Manhattan.

We are sorry to find that his character was one of great rashness and imprudence; that he was easily provoked and frequently engaged in quarrels and lawsuits with his neighbors. In one of these he was found guilty of adultery and sentenced to be publicly flogged. Indeed, the character of the early clergy and schoolmasters was often such as to be a scandal to "the Divine Service" and to the service of educating the children.

Dr. O'Callaghan well says: The state of morals in New Amsterdam was, at this period (1638), by no means healthy, owing as well to the description of persons which trade brought thither, as to the absence, in a great part, of an agricultural population. This remark applies as well to Beverwyck, and to other years than 1638.

The mass of the people who came to New Netherlands were unable to read or write. Most of them were indifferent to the matter. Hence, schools, when opened, were kept irregularly, by ill-qualified and unprincipled men, and as a temporary service.

The better educated and more prosperous spoke and wrote of the importance of good schoolmasters. But the money and effort necessary to secure them were seldom given. These were needed in the interests of trade.

That a school was needed and in contemplation in Beverwyck as early as 1643, is made manifest by a letter of the worthy Arendt Van Curler to the

patroon. But we find no evidence that this "contemplation" resulted in action. Indeed, very little is said about schoolmasters or schools in Rensselaerwyck or Beverwyck during the whole Dutch period.

A schoolmaster, in 1644, was estimated at one-fourth the value of a clergyman, or thirty florins per month, finding his own rations. In 1661, his pay had advanced to eighteen guilders per month and board-wages. It may have been all he was worth.

The commonalty were required to have the youth instructed by good schoolmasters. But the requirement was seldom enforced. The common people were poor; the government had matters to see to of more personal interest. It will be noticed that the schools were not free so long as the patroons were required to pay for them.

The schoolmaster of that early day "acted many parts." He was expected to be especially helpful to the minister and the church out of school as well as in. It was his duty to "promote religious worship," to "read the word of God" at the opening of service, and sometimes to "exhort the people." He was a "consoler of the sick." He attended the consistory. He was church clerk, sexton, bell-ringer and grave-digger, and usually served as foresinger, precentor or chorister. A very useful man he might be; but how much of a teacher could he be!

"A comforter of the sick who could also act as schoolmaster." "A precentor who could also act as schoolmaster." Old documents often use these expressions.

The historian of the town of Flatbush writes:

"From the records of the town, it appears that the schoolmaster acted as town clerk, and as the rates of tuition were low, previously to the American revolution, the offices of sexton and "foresinger," or chorister of the church, were conferred upon him, with a view to increase his emoluments. He received all interment fees for infants and adults, according to a scale of established prices, and for his services as chorister he was paid an annual salary by the consistory of the church. The chorister, in addition to his duty of taking the lead in setting and singing the Psalms and Hymns, was also required to ring the bell for all public services, to read the commandments at the commencement of the morning worship, and the Apostles' Creed in the afternoon. These latter services were all performed in the Dutch language, and uniformly continued so until about the year 1790, at the time when Mr. Gabriel Ellison, the first English schoolmaster, left the village."

Flatbush did not differ much from other settlements of those days.

It is deemed worthy of note by an observer in 1647, that a college had been founded in Massachu-

setts some ten years before; but little or no efforts had been made by the authorities of New Netherlands to establish even a primary school in any part of the country. It was asserted that "the youth is spoiled," and needed a school that they might be "kept out of the street" and "under strict subordination." Grog-shops and houses where tobacco and beer could be had were plenty. They were sometimes kept by discouraged schoolmasters.

In the remonstrance against the management of the West India Company, made by Adrien Vander Donck and others, claiming to represent the people of New Netherlands, and addressed to the Lords States General, in 1649, occurs the following: "There ought to be, also, a public school, provided with two good teachers, so that the youth in so wild a country, where there are so many dissolute people, may, first of all, be instructed and indoctrinated, not only in reading and writing, but also in the fear of the Lord. Now the school is kept very irregularly, by this one or that, according to his fancy, as long as he thinks proper."

In his reply to this remonstrance, in the same year, Secretary Van Tienhoven, in behalf of the Director-General, admits that the new school-house has not been built, and that "there is no Latin school or Academy;" but claims that a place has been selected for the school of Jan Cornelissen, while other schools, enough for "the circumstances of the country," are kept by "other teachers" in "hired houses." But little credit can be given to any statements made by this corrupt man and servile tool of the West India Company. His history shows him to have been most corrupt in morals and false to every trust.

Later, the remonstrants, complaining of the neglect of the interests of New Amsterdam by "the Company" and its Director, say: "The plate has been for a long time passed around for a common school, which has been built with words; for as yet the first stone is not laid. Some materials only have been provided. However, the money given for the purpose hath all disappeared and is mostly spent, so that it falls somewhat short; and nothing permanent has, as yet, been effected for this purpose." This complaint was made in 1650. Its statements, no doubt, represent the true state of matters in regard to educating the common people of New Netherlands during the Dutch colonial period. It is true that the "Dutch," as Broadhead tells us, "were eminently a charitable, well-educated, moral people." Holland had eminent scholars and educated and pious ministers; but

they did not often come to New Netherlands in the seventeenth century, with the West India Company traders or the patroons. That the traders of "the Company" or the merchants of Amsterdam gave themselves much trouble, beyond a few words, about the schooling of their countrymen and their children in the Valley of the Hudson, does not appear in history. In the inflated speeches and writings of some ill-advised orators and writers of more recent times only, do we read erroneous statements on this subject. History should be true, to be valuable. The best principles of Holland patriots, scholars and Christians did not shine forth in the representatives of the West India Company who came to early New Netherlands as agents and traders. It is false to history to color them as scholars, philanthropists and saints.

The local authorities were sometimes earnestly besought to provide the inhabitants with a proper schoolmaster. "Perceiving how necessary such a person was to the establishment of a well-constituted republic," a committee was appointed to build a school-house and to collect funds for defraying whatever expenses might be incurred. Andries Janse was appointed to take charge of this institution in the course of the following year, and received a present, on entering upon the discharge of his duties, of \$20. This was at Beverwyck in 1650; but his services appear to have been of short duration.

Rev. Gideon Schacts, who was "called as minister to Rensselaerwyck" in 1652, and was afterward, at the request of the inhabitants of Fort Orange and Beverwyck, minister of the latter place, was directed to teach, also, the Catechism there, and instruct the people in the Holy Scriptures, and to pay attention to the office of schoolmaster for the old and young." History is silent in regard to his service as a schoolmaster. His ministerial service was a turbulent one enough.

About 1656, the Holland City of Amsterdam offered certain conditions to emigrants to New Netherlands, which were submitted to the Directors of the West India Company, and received their approval. These are found among them:

"7. Said city shall cause to be erected about the market, or in a more convenient place, a public building for Divine Service: *item*, also, a house for a school, which can likewise be occupied by the person who will hereafter be sexton, psalmsetter and schoolmaster; the city shall, besides, have a house built for the minister.

"8. The city aforesaid shall provisionally provide and pay the salary of a minister and schoolmaster,

unless their High Mightinesses or the Company think otherwise."

The cities did not like to pay taxes; and "the Company" and "their High Mightinesses" usually thought "otherwise." These inducements to emigration remained on paper.

After giving an extended account of the wretched condition of the churches throughout the colony in 1656, Dr. O'Callaghan truly remarks: "Bad as it was with the churches, it was worse as regards schools; not one of all these places, whether Dutch or English, had a schoolmaster, except the Manhattans, Beverwyck and Fort Cassimer."

We can produce no stronger testimony in regard to the state of popular education in the colony of New Netherlands, even toward the latter part of its existence, than what follows. These clergymen had spent some years in the colony, the former as the first spiritual guide sent out to Rensselaerwyck by the patroon, and the latter as the minister of New Amsterdam.

Revs. John Megapolensis and Samuel Drisius write, in 1657, after making some statements in regard to the churches in the province, that "It is to be added that (to our knowledge) not one in all these places, whether Dutch or English Villages, hath a schoolmaster, except Manhattans, Beverwyck, and now one, also, at Fort Cassimer on South River; and though some parents would give their children some instruction, yet they experience much difficulty, and nothing else can be expected than a ruined youth and a bewilderment of men's minds. Scarcely any means can be seen to remedy this evil: First, because some villages are only in their first establishments, and whilst people come naked and poor from Holland, they have not means to provide a minister and schoolmaster; Second, because there are few qualified persons in this country who can or will teach."

However much Stuyvesant may have valued learning, and seen the need of it among the common people, and made promises, he subordinated everything to the immediate interests of the West India Company, whose servant he was; and spent revenues and time freely for garrisons and for military excursions to extend and preserve their territorial and mercantile advantage against the Swedes, the English, the French and the Indians. He had no money for schools. He got up collections which were never used for the purpose; he suggested the outhouses of the government buildings as good enough places for common schools; and suffered intemperate, illiterate and

vicious schoolmasters to have charge of them. Schools on paper were often referred to by the public officials; and school-rooms in out-of-the-way places, with lack of proper provisions for seating, light and warmth, were rented when not needed for any other purpose, so long as the schoolmaster saw fit to occupy the gloomy places. The clergy were poorly enough paid, unless they became favorites of the government or entered into land speculations; but public schoolmasters, as well as official "dog-whippers," often failed to receive for their menial service even the salary or tuition promised. They usually secured some more desirable place as soon as possible. Some turned to trade, others to tavern-keeping, and not a few became servitors in some capacity under the government.

Whatever the schools were during the latter part of the Dutch colonial period was largely due to the clergy of the villages, most of whom seem to have been educated in Holland, England, or New England before they came here. They and the leading officers of the government and some of their agents were usually men of diligence and observation, and learned for those times. Gov. Stuyvesant employed a private tutor, thus showing his esteem for learning and his lack of confidence in the other schools of New Amsterdam.

The first Latin high school of the province, taught by one Dr. Curtius, was established in 1659, in New Amsterdam, and patronized chiefly by the aristocratic classes. It soon came into trouble on account of the peculiar notions of some of the parents and the lack of firm and independent government on the part of the learned schoolmaster. His pupils "beat each other and tore the clothes from each other's backs," while "some of the parents forbade him punishing their children." Dr. C. returned to Holland in disgust, and Rev. Mr. Luyck, private tutor to the sons of Mr. Stuyvesant, succeeded him. Students came to him from other villages, and even from the colonies of Delaware and Virginia, to acquire a classical education. In 1663, there were two pupils from Fort Orange, and we may believe there were others from its vicinity. Previous to this, the nearest Latin school was in Boston. We hear no more of Dr. Luyck and his school after 1664.

Such was the condition of public education in New Amsterdam, in Beverwyck, and places adjacent, down to the close of the administration of Peter Stuyvesant, in 1664, as shown by the best documentary and other evidence that has come down to us.

EDUCATION IN ENGLISH COLONIAL NEW YORK.

In the office of the Secretary of State is found the following license :

WHEREAS, the teaching of the English tongue is necessary in this government ; I have, therefore, thought fitt to give License to John Shutte to bee the English Schoolmaster at Albany ; And, upon condition that the said John Shutte shall not demand any more wages from each Schollar than is given by the Dutch to their Dutch Schoolmasters, I have further granted to the said John Shutte that hee shall bee the onely English Schoolmaster at Albany.

Given under my hand, at Fort James, in New York, the 12th day of October, 1665.

RICH'D NICOLLS.

An order for Jan Jeurians Bleecker [Becker, or Becker] to be schoolmaster at Albany, granted by Gov. Lovelace, reads :

WHEREAS, Jan Jeurians Beecker had a Graunt to keep ye Dutch school at Albany for ye teaching of youth to read & to wryte ye which was allowed of and confirmed to him by my predecessor Coll. Richard Nicolla. Notwithstanding which severall others not so capable do undertake ye like some perticular tymes & seasons of ye yeare when they have no other Employment, where by ye Schollars removing from one Schoole to another do not onely give a great discouragement to ye maister who makes it his businesse all ye yeare but also are hindred & become ye more backwards in thre learning for ye reasons aforesaid I have thought fitt that ye said Jan Jeurians Beecker who is esteemed very capable that way shall be ye allowed schoolmaster for ye instructing of ye youth at Albany & partes adjacent he following ye said Employment Constantly & diligently & that no other be admitted to interrupt him. It being to be presumed that ye said Beecker for ye youth & Jacob Joosten who is allowed of for ye teaching of ye younger children are sufficient for that place.

Given under my hand at fort James in New Yorke this 16th day of May, 1670.

FRANCIS LOVELACE.

Prof. Jonathan Pearson is authority for the item following: "On the 4th of April, 1676, Gerrit Swartt, Jan Becker and Arien Appel were chosen schoolmasters of Albany. They were then to be the sole schoolmasters of the village ; but shortly after, the same year, Luykas Gerritse [Wyngaard] was also appointed schoolmaster, because he was impotent in his hand."

Gerrit Swartt had held the office of Sheriff of Rensselaerwyck from 1668 to 1673. Out of politics, he took up teaching. Becker was an inhabitant of Fort Cassimer, on the Delaware River, in 1656, and church clerk there ; in 1660 he read sermons on Sunday at Altoona, and was keeping tavern. He was soon after convicted of selling liquor to the Indians, in violation of law, and fined 500 guilders for the offense. For this he was pardoned, because he was no worse than many others. We next find him petitioning for a clerkship under

"the Company," at Esopus, or anywhere else, because he had lost in keeping tavern, and became poor and needy, and finally begged that he might "be permitted to keep school to instruct the youth in reading and writing," if he could get no other position. It seems that he got a school at Beverwyck, and was confirmed "to keep ye Dutch School at Albany" by Gov. Nicolls, and afterward by Gov. Lovelace. In 1663 he had his home at Greenbush, and was notary public as well as schoolmaster at Beverwyck, and was esteemed "very capable that way, whilst Jacob Jooste Covelens was allowed for teaching the younger children." He finally removed to Albany ; was alderman, 1690-92, and died about 1697. Appel came from Leyden ; had a lot at Beverwyck in 1654, conditioned that he build a house to be used as an inn for travelers and not an ordinary tippling house. Two years later he sued his truckman for the loss of an anker of brandy ; and after residing awhile at New Amsterdam, became one of the four schoolmasters of Albany, from 1676 to 1686. Wyngaard became a baker and occupied the south corner of Broadway and State street as a shop in 1715. Such were some of the early schoolmasters of Albany County. As the teacher, so is the school. As the school, so are the people who sustain it. No further comment is necessary.

It is to be regretted that so few authentic records are in existence touching the educational efforts made by the body of the learned clergy of Reformed Dutch Church in America. That they were earnest and as effective as the times allowed is undoubted.

We give the following Articles of Agreement made between the consistory of the church and magistrates of Flatbush, on the one side, and Johannes Van Eckkelen, accepted schoolmaster and chorister, on the other, in October, 1682, as a sample of what was expected of the schoolmasters of 200 years ago in provincial New York. Eckkelen was a young man from New Albany :

SCHOOL SERVICE.—I. The school shall begin at eight o'clock, and go out at eleven ; and, in the afternoon shall begin at one o'clock, and end at four. The bell shall be rung when the school commences.

II. When the school begins, one of the children shall read the morning prayer, as it stands in the catechism, and close with the prayer before dinner ; in the afternoon it shall begin with the prayer after dinner, and end with the evening prayer. The evening school shall begin with the Lord's prayer, and close by singing a psalm.

III. He shall instruct the children on every Wednesday and Saturday in the common prayers, and the questions and answers in the catechism, to enable them to repeat them the better on Sunday before the afternoon service, or on Monday, when they shall be catechized before the congregation.

Upon all such occasions, the schoolmaster shall be present, and shall require the children to be friendly in their appearance, and encourage them to answer freely and distinctly.

IV. He shall be required to keep his school nine months in succession, from September to June, in each year, in case it should be concluded upon to retain his services for a year or more, or without limitation; and he shall be required to be regulated by these articles, and to perform the same duties which his predecessor, Jan Thilaud, above named, was required to perform. In every particular, therefore, he shall be required to keep school, according to this seven months agreement, and shall always be present himself.

CHURCH SERVICE.—I. He shall keep the church clean, and ring the bell three times before the people assemble to attend the preaching and catechism. Also before the sermon is commenced, he shall read a chapter out of the Holy Scriptures, and that between the second and third ringing of the bell. After the third ringing he shall read the ten commandments, and the twelve articles of our faith, and then take the lead in singing. In the afternoon after the third ringing of the bell, he shall read a short chapter, or one of the Psalms of David, as the congregation are assembling, and before divine service commences, shall introduce it, by the singing of a Psalm or Hymn.

II. When the minister shall preach out of town, he shall be required to read twice before the congregation, from the book commonly used for that purpose. In the afternoon he shall also read a sermon on the explanation of the catechism, according to the usage and practice approved by the minister. The children, as usual, shall recite their questions and answers out of the catechism, on Sunday, and he shall instruct them therein. He, as chorister, shall not be required to perform these duties, whenever divine service shall be performed in Flatlands, as it would be unsuitable, and prevent many from attending there.

III. For the administration of Holy Baptism, he shall provide a basin with water, for which he shall be entitled to receive from the parents, or witnesses, twelve steyers. He shall, at the expense of the church, provide bread and wine, for the celebration of the Holy Supper. He shall be in duty bound promptly to furnish the minister with the name of the child to be baptised, and with the names of the parents and witnesses. And he shall also serve as messenger for the consistory.

IV. He shall give the funeral invitations, dig the grave, and toll the bell, for which service he shall receive for a person of fifteen years and upwards, twelve guilders, and for one under that age, eight guilders. If he should be required to give invitations beyond the limits of the town, he shall be entitled to three additional guilders, for the invitation of every other town, and if he should be required to cross the river, and go to New York, he shall receive four guilders.

SCHOOL MONEY.—He shall receive from those who attend the day-school, for a speller or reader, three guilders a quarter, and for a writer, four guilders. From those who attend evening school, for a speller or reader, four guilders, and for a writer, six guilders shall be given.

SALARY.—In addition to the above, his salary shall consist of four hundred guilders, in grain, valued in Secwant, to be delivered at Brooklyn Ferry, and for his services from October to May, as above stated, a sum of two hundred and thirty-four guilders, in the same kind, with the dwelling house, barn, pasture lot and meadows, to the school apper-

taining. The same to take effect from the first day of October, instant.

Done and agreed upon in Consistory, under the inspection of the Honorable Constable and Overseers, the 8th of October, 1682.

I agree to the above articles, and promise to perform them according to the best of my ability.

JOHANNES VAN ECKKELEN.

In the Dutch period all private schoolmasters were required to be duly licensed by the civil and ecclesiastical authorities. This requirement, in substance, was continued and enforced by the English. We quote as follows:

INSTRUCTIONS TO GOVERNOR DONGAN, GIVEN AT WINDSOR, MAY 29TH, 1686.

38. And wee doe further direct that noe Schoolmaster bee henceforth permitted to come from England & to keep school within Our Province of New York without the license of the said Archbishop of Canterbury; and that noe other person now there or that shall come from other parts, bee admitted to keep school without your license first had.

Similar instructions were given to Gov. Sloughter, January 31, 1689; Gov. Fletcher, in 1691; to the Earl of Bellomont, August 31, 1697, and to Gov. Hunter, December 27, 1709, except that the Bishop of London, instead of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was named in each of these cases. Soundness in the beliefs and practices of the English Church was especially required.

The licenses to teach school have generally been issued by the authority of the Colonial officers; but we now find one granted by municipal authority as early as January, 1700:

Att a meeting of ye Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council held in ye City Hall of Albany, ye 23d of January 1700.

The request of Cornelis Bogardus by ye mouth of Mr. Willm de Meyer to be admitted a schoolmaster for ye City is taken into consideration and unanimously doe graunt ye same, as also a freeman of this City upon his arrivall.

On the 27th of November, 1702, "An act for the encouragement of a Grammar Free School in the City of New York," was passed by the General Assembly of the province. This is believed to be the first legislative act for the encouragement of public education passed within the colony. "One able, skilfull and orthodox person" was to be the schoolmaster; "youth and male children of French and Dutch extraction, as well as of English," were to receive instruction "in the languages or other learning usually taught in Grammar schools," and £50 annually were to be paid the said schoolmaster, who was to be licensed by the Bishop of London or the Governor of the province, upon the recommendation of the Com-

mon Council of New York City. Lord Cornbury gave his official approval to the act, but it is not in evidence that he took any interest in the school. Under date of April 25, 1704, he licensed George Muirson to teach English, Latin, Greek, writing and arithmetic, and gave an order for the payment of his half-yearly salary, October 20, 1704. Soon after the schoolmaster left for England, and Andrew Clarke was licensed as his successor several months later. But that he ever taught does not appear. The act limited the school to seven years, and we hear no more of it. It seems to have failed of success. Nor is it worthy of mention, except as one step, however faltering, on the part of the people, to secure benefits for themselves and their children. It is, also, an interesting fact in our history to put on record that John Abeel, member of the General Assembly from Albany County (1702-04), was one of the committee that reported the bill to the House.

Cornbury was ever ready to sign his name to licenses, accompanied by feathery displays of titles, because the times seemed to call for schoolmasters. Several licenses were granted to candidates for teaching in towns on Long Island, in Westchester, in Kingston and New York cities during the administrations of Cornbury and Hunter. But we find but little said of the schools. Some of the teachers are found, soon after the date of their licenses, in speculative trade, in subordinate public office, in brawls and lawsuits, either as plaintiffs or defendants, or in taking clerical orders in the church. It is evident that families of wealth and political position took but little interest in public schools; their taxes went to support them, and the children of the poor attended them. The poor then had no votes; yet they had a strength to which some respect must be paid. That respect was paid mostly in promises.

A Dutch schoolmaster seems to have been employed at Kinderhook as early as 1702, as appears from the following certificate in favor of Mr. Van Kleck:

KINDERHOOK the 30th Novemb., Anno Domini 1702.

In the first year of the Reign of her Majesty ANNE, Queen of England, Scotland, Ireland and France, Defender of the Faith, We the undersigned inhabitants of Kinderhook patent acknowledge and Declare that Paulus van Vleg during the whole of the time that he hath resided here and since he was accepted as Precentor and schoolmaster of our Church hath truly comported himself to the Great content of our congregation.

JOHANNES VAN ALEN,
CORNEAST BORGHARDT,
ABRAM VAN ALSTYN,
ZAMMERT VAN YANSEN.

An early Albany schoolmaster has, perhaps, no other memorial of service in this capacity than the following:

At a Common Council held in ye City Hall of Albany this first of May, 1703.

Evert Ridder of the City of Albany makes his humble application to the Mayor, Aldermen and Assistance to be permitted to teach schoole in the City aforesaid, which request is taken into consideration, and granted accordingly.

Nearly twenty years later we find the following:

Att a Common Council held in the City Hall of Albany, the 8th day of April, 1721.

Whereas it is very requisite and necessary that a fitt and able Schoolmaster settle in this city for teaching and instructing of the youth in spelling, reading, writing and cyphering, and Mr. Johannis Glandorf having offered his service to settle here and keep a school if reasonably encouraged by the corporation, It is therefore Resolved by this Commonalty, and they do hereby oblige themselves and their successors to give and procure unto the said Johan's Glandorf free house rent for the term seven years next ensuing for keeping a good and commendable school as becomes a diligent Schoolmaster.

That a "diligent schoolmaster" was "very requisite and necessary" at that time is made patent by this very document of the City Fathers.

It afterward appears that Mr. Glandorf complained that the house assigned him was too small, and, on his petition, the Common Council, on the 21st of July, 1721, resolved to hire for him a larger house at £10 per annum, to commence in the next November. After this, we hear no more of Glandorf or his school.

Passing over all these feeble efforts in the cause of public education, it is proper for us here to say that no effort seems to have been made to revive this free school act of 1702, nor to make like provisions by law for the encouragement of schools of any kind, for a period of more than 30 years afterward. Nor do we find any record whatever of legislation in the interests of primary education during the colonial history of the State, nor until after the State became one of the United States of America.

The common schools, as intimated previously, gave little attention to any except the most common branches, such as spelling, reading, writing and the fundamental rules of arithmetic in their simplest applications to accounts. Much attention was given to the catechisms and formulas of religion as taught in the dominant church. The Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer and other portions of the Bible were taught. The Apostles' Creed was sometimes included.

The study of the mathematical sciences was generally regarded as more important than the studies of nature, belles-lettres and language. The private schools of the highest order were expected to teach arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, surveying, gauging and navigation. Very little attention was given to geography and the natural sciences. Little was known of them.

In the cities, some French, fancy work, dancing, formal religion and social formulas, with a little English language and literature, were taught in one class of private schools. In another class, boys were taught something of Latin, Greek and practical mathematics, with grammar rules and reading, spelling and writing. The student of ancient documents and records must see, in the bad penmanship, miserable spelling and imperfect or barren sentences, how little was acquired in these schools.

But the people of that day had much physical activity and energy, with much keenness and acute observation. They were fully alive to the opportunities in their way, and had about all the learning that their times and situation demanded. Schools and books and teachers and a broader and deeper mind culture were sleeping in a future, in the dawning only of which, we may hope, we are now living. The world moves slowly; but it moves. We must speak charitably as well as truly of the past, modestly of the present, and hopefully of the future.

The venerable "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," incorporated in the year 1701, sent many missionaries to this province until nearly the period of the Revolution; and, at the suggestion of Col. Caleb Heathcote, furnished a number of schoolmasters for various settlements of the province, during a period of more than fifty years. The following extracts from the official history and reports of the society more fully exhibit the facts on this subject.

One of the first acts of the society was to send to the English colonies on this continent, a missionary to make personal examination. The person selected was the Rev. George Keith, whose journal relative to this tour is contained in the "Collections of the Protestant Episcopal Society."

After Mr. Keith came over and had made a survey of the field before him, he, in conjunction with the few clergymen then in the northern part of the colony, made the following statement in November, 1702:

NEW YORK.—There are some counties, five of which are inhabited by Dutch and those of Dutch extraction, viz.: Albany, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and King's County, in

which the Church and Church of England Schools have not yet been settled, but the Presence of the present Governor of that Province, his Excellency the Lord Cornbury, has mightily influenced many of the people of the said counties to desire that Church of England Ministers and schoolmasters may be sent amongst them; particularly Albany representatives have desired his Lordship that an English Schoolmaster might be established in that county. * * * This Province, though it hath a great number of inhabitants, could never yet obtain a public legally Established School.

A provision is made by law for six ministers. There is yet no provision for Schoolmasters made by law, though by the zealous recommendation of the Lord Cornbury to the general Assembly, a legal maintenance is undoubtedly expected, and till then the Church of England Schoolmaster in the county of New York, as heretofore, will be supported by the voluntary contributions of those whose children are instructed by him; notwithstanding it is humbly conceived that an annual Pension for the support and further encouragement of some Ministers and Schoolmasters in poor Towns will be of great use and service to the Church.

No School house yet erected in this Province.

In all these Counties where the Church is established by the law of this Province, the People generally are in a readiness to embrace the Doctrines and Worship of the Church, and to Encourage Free Schools.

Col. Heathcote seems to have conceived a plan for the establishment of schools throughout the province, having written to the Secretary of the "Venerable Society," under date of April 10, 1704, as follows:

I had once formed a projection for fixing schools in this country for the benefit of all the youths therein, in order to their being trained up, not only in learning but in their tender years to ingraft them in the Church, but the storm which was lately raised upon me concerning church affairs, made me lay the thought of it aside for a while. However, if God is pleased to spare my life a little longer, I will, with His assistance, set it on foot, and hope it will be blessed with its desired effect.

This society was very active, not only in educating the youth of the Church, but in furnishing opportunity everywhere in the province to people of every kind, even negroes and Indians, for acquiring the elements of temporal knowledge and lessons in religion as taught in catechisms, horn-books and primers. Efforts were made to teach the Mohawks and other Iroquois tribes for many years, but with little success. Their wild and perverse nature, their roving, restless life, were all against the missionary and the schoolmaster. They, after several years of faithful trial, "abandoned this miserable race of men." This was in 1718. Some fifteen years later, further efforts to instruct the Indians were made, with better success.

The following specimen quotations from the society's annual "Abstracts of Proceedings" are of interest in this connection:

Besides the Missionaries, there has been a great Demand upon them for Catechists and School-Masters to instruct not only the Servants and Slaves (who have heretofore lived as without God in the World) but also the Children of the Planters, especially the poorer sort, in Reading, Writing, and the Principles of the Christian Religion, as Taught and Professed in the Church of *England*; but the Narrowness of their fund having obliged the Society to send but few of these, a worthy member of their body, Colonel *Heathcote* of *New York*, has suggested an expedient of maintaining a great many more School-Masters, at the easy rate of Five or Six Pounds *per annum*, which the Society has most readily embraced, and referred it to the Governor himself, and the Missionaries of that Province, to put the proposal into practice.

Mr. *Hudleston*, Schoolmaster at *New York*, teaches fifty poor children on the Society's Bounty to read and write, and instructs them in the Church Catechism, many of which are now fit for any Trade; and as they go off, his number is always kept up, poor People daily coming to see if there is any vacancy to admit their Children, being not able themselves to pay for their Learning.

The Society also have received an Account from Mr. *Possy*, in 1731-33, Schoolmaster at *Albany*, in the Province of *New York*, That he hath lately instructed 8 negroes, *viz.*: 6 Adults and 2 Children, who have been baptized by the Reverend Mr. *Mills*, the Society's Missionary at *Albany*.

Mr. *Naxon*, the Schoolmaster, writes from *New York*, August 6, 1738, That he hath upwards of fifty poor Children, whom he teaches to read, write and cypher upon the Society's Charity; and brings to *Trinity Church*, on *Wednesdays*, *Fridays* and Holy Days, to be catechised. He adds, there is great want of Common Prayer-Books and Psalters.

And as the maintenance of a learned and orthodox Clergy abroad, though the principal, is not the only Intent of this Corporation, but they are also to make such other Provision as shall be found necessary for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts: The Society have done all in their power to encourage the setting up of Schools, that the rising Generation may be brought up in the Nurture and Fear of the Lord, and they give Salaries to three Catechists and twelve Schoolmasters for this purpose.

We give a few extracts from the standing orders of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts relating to the schoolmasters:

I. That no person be admitted a Schoolmaster, till he bring Certificates, with respect to the Particulars following:

1. The Age of the Person.
2. His Condition of Life, whether Single or Married.
3. His Temper.
4. His Prudence.
5. His Learning.
6. His sober and pious Conversation.
7. His Zeal for the Christian Religion and Diligence in his Calling.
8. His Affection to the present Government.
9. His Conformity to the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of *England*.

II. That no Person be sent, as a Schoolmaster by the Society, till he has been try'd and approv'd by Three Members, appointed by the Society or Committee, who shall testify, by Word or Writing, his Ability to teach Reading,

Writing, and the Catechism of the Church of *England*, and such Exposition thereof, as the Society shall order.

Instructions for schoolmasters employed by the Society:

I. That they well consider the End for which they are employed by the Society, *viz.*: The instructing and disposing Children to believe and live as Christians.

II. In order to this End, that they teach them to read truly and distinctly, that they may be capable of reading the Holy Scriptures, and other pious and useful Books, for informing their Understandings and regulating their Manners.

III. That they instruct them thoroughly in the Church-Catechism; teach them first to read it distinctly and exactly, then to learn it perfectly by Heart; endeavoring to make them understand the Sense and Meaning of it, by the Help of such Expositions, as the Society shall send over.

IV. That they teach them to Write a plain and legible Hand, in order to the fitting them for useful Employments; with as much Arithmetick, as shall be necessary to the same Purpose.

V. That they be industrious, and give constant Attendance at proper School-Hours.

VI. That they daily use, Morning and Evening, the Prayers composed for their Use in this Collection with their Scholars in the School, and teach them the Prayers and Graces composed for their Use at Home.

VII. That they oblige their Scholars to be constant at Church on the Lords-Day Morning and Afternoon, and at all other Times of Publick Worship; that they cause them to carry their Bibles and Prayer Books with them, instructing them how to use them there, and how to demean themselves in the several Parts of Worship; that they be there present with them, taking Care of their reverent and decent Behaviour, and examine them afterwards, as to what they have heard and learned.

VIII. That when any of their Scholars are fit for it, they recommend them to the Minister of the Parish, to be publickly Catechized in the Church.

IX. That they take especial Care of their Manners, both in their Schools, and out of them; warning them seriously of those Vices to which Children are most liable; teaching them to abhor Lying and Falsehood, and to avoid all Sorts of Evil-speaking; to love Truth and Honesty; to be Modest, Gentle, Well-behav'd, Just and Affable, and Courteous to all their Companions; respectful to their Superiors, particularly toward all that minister in holy Things, and especially to the Minister of their Parish; and all this from a Sense and Fear of Almighty God; endeavoring to bring them in their tender Years to that Sense of Religion, which may render it the constant Principle of their Lives and Actions.

X. That they use all kind and gentle Methods in the Government of their Scholars, that they may be lov'd, as well as fear'd by them; and that when Correction is necessary, they make the Children to understand, that it is given them out of kindness, for their Good, bringing them to a Sense of their Fault, as well as of their Punishment.

XI. That they frequently consult with the Minister of the Parish, in which they dwell, about the Methods of managing their Schools, and be ready to be advised by him.

XII. That they do, in their whole Conversation, shew themselves Examples of Piety and Virtue to their Scholars, and to all, with whom they shall converse.

The labors of these schoolmasters and catechists seem to have been very self-denying, devoted and useful. They continued from about 1702 to 1776. The annual salaries paid varied between £7 and £50, the clergy receiving the highest salary.

Says Rev. Dr. Berrian, speaking especially of Trinity Church :

There is nothing with which I have been so much struck and impressed, in the investigation of the early history of this Parish, as the zeal, the earnestness, and devotedness of the schoolmasters and catechists of that day. The former appear to have been selected from among the laity with great caution and care, and to have been persons of respectability and worth. The latter were occasionally laymen, but more commonly such as were preparing for holy orders, or who had actually received them. Some of these were men of liberal education, who in the commencement of their professional life were full of promise, and who ended it with respect and honor. But they all seem to have entered with the same spirit upon their humble labors, and to have prosecuted them with a patience, an interest and a blessed result, which put ours to shame at the present day. Intellectual was not then, to the extent that it is now, separated from religious improvement, but both went hand in hand throughout the week. The whole of early life was, in a certain measure, devoted to Christian instruction, and not merely reserved for the scanty intervals between the hours of worship on the Lord's Day.

It is delightful to observe, in the annual reports of the schoolmasters and catechists to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, with what cheerfulness and industry they appear to have labored in their useful but lowly employment.

We have given enough to show that, however lowly and incomplete were the labors of the schools of this society for the education of the children of the humbler classes in this State for the first three-quarters of the last century, the work was a noble one, and is specially deserving as it was about the only work of the kind that was pursued with zeal and patience during this long period of general disturbance in public affairs. The instruction was purely elementary. John Adams, who visited Rye in 1774, where this society supported a school from 1707 to the period of the Revolution, says: "They have a school for writing and cyphering, but no Grammar School." Rye belonged to Connecticut until 1683, and its schools in its early history, we infer, were not inferior to those of any other settlement in the province of New York.

The establishment, in 1773, of "a public school to teach Latin, Greek and Mathematics, in the City of New York," under authority of an act of the General Assembly of the province, may be regarded as an event of considerable interest in the history of public education in this colony; though, like the Grammar Free School of 1702-1709, it

seems to have flourished during a period of only about seven years. Both the schools referred to may have been vitally, if not formally, connected with the repeated proposals and attempts, beginning as early as 1703, to found a college in this province; though of this there seems to be no official evidence.

This latter school was incorporated, October 14, 1732, with Alexander Malcolm as schoolmaster. He was required to admit and teach gratis as many as twenty youths, apportioned among the ten counties, of which Albany County had two assigned. Candidates were not to be under 14 years of age, to have been "well instructed in reading and writing of English," and to be recommended by the Justice of Sessions, or by Mayor, Recorder and Alderman in cities.

This act was renewed for one year, amid much opposition, December 1, 1737. The members for Albany County, Col. Rensselaer and Col. Schuyler, favored the bill. Its conditions were not essentially changed.

Female teachers were not plenty, as nearly as we can learn, in the early history of New York; not one do we find in New Netherlands. Some appear in the schools of Long Island and Westchester, where were many settlers from New England, in the latter part of the seventeenth century. They were, no doubt, importations from Connecticut, where females were early employed, especially in the summer schools. One writer thinks that Rachel Spencer, who taught school in Hempstead, and died in 1687, was the first schoolmistress on record in the provinces; and that the nameless "traveling woman who came out of ye Jerseys, and kept school at several places in Rye Parish," about 1716, was second schoolmistress in the provinces, of whom we have any record. In this, however, we think, he errs; as, in an old account book noticed by Mr. H. Onderdonk, in Flushing, the book-keeper, in 1681, reckoned with Elizabeth Cowperthwaite, about "schooling and diet for children," and in 1683, with Martha Johanna "upon an agreement for thirty weeks schooling, paid for by a red petticoat." In 1685 Goody Davis keeps schools at Jamaica in "a little house," soon after used "as a shoppe."

At a much later period, the girls in Mr. Hildreth's school, at New York City, "in the afternoon learned to write, being the rest of the day under the care of a schoolmistress employed by the Vestry," by whom they were "taught needle-work."

Who was the first schoolmistress in Albany County? We have, thus far, asked in vain.

Some are and must be brighter and greater than the rest. While wealth is no measure of wit or learning, it affords larger opportunities for the culture of whatever tact or talent may be native. And as long as learning adds grace to riches and respect to public and social position, it will be sought by families who have money to aid in its attainment.

Hence, the children, especially the sons, of the wealthy families of the colonial period in this State were often placed under a private tutor, who, sometimes, was the parish clergyman. Tuition schools, usually of only temporary duration, were established in the larger towns, especially in New Amsterdam, to which the favored children of fortune resorted.

Under the English Government, private or subscription schools were to be found all over the country. In some neighborhoods Dutch was taught.

Before the Revolution, if but little attention was given to the mental culture of young men in the schools, there was still less given to the young women. Most in the humbler walks of life regarded themselves as born to household drudgery. Beyond this few attained. In the realm of letters they were usually ambitionless. Many bright daughters, who married worthy men and became excellent wives and mothers, could read only simple reading and rarely write at all, or, if at all, only their names.

Those who attained more than this were usually daughters of men of fortune and unusual intelligence, who early manifested marked fondness for knowledge and tact in acquiring. They learned of parents or older brothers at home, or of private tutors. Observation, books and conversation did much for girls of active minds who had access to these great educators.

As a remarkable illustration of a woman of those days educated without the "advantages" of schools, we quote what Mrs. Grant tells us, in her "Memories of an American Lady," of Miss Margareta Schuyler, who afterward became the wife of her cousin, Col. Philip Schuyler, and the honored Madame Schuyler. Her mind from her earliest years was distinguished for maturity and remarkable aptness. Its culture came about by the keen appreciation of her talents and the wise direction of her mental training by her uncle, Col. Peter Schuyler, after the early death of her father, Col. John Schuyler. "He was at the pains to cultivate her

taste for reading which soon discovered itself, by procuring for her the best authors in history, divinity and belles-lettres. The few books of this kind that she possessed were very well chosen; and she was early and intimately familiar with them. Whatever she knew she knew to the bottom; and the reflections which were thus suggested to her strong, discerning mind were digested by means of easy and instructive conversation." Col. Schuyler was acquainted with the families of rank in New York, where he had many relatives. Spending a portion of every winter there, "he often took his favorite niece along with him," who soon attracted attention by her personal graces as well as by the charms of her conversation." Here she was much admired, because such "cultivation and refinement were rare"—out of the routine common to young women of her time—and she had a mind strong enough to bear the admiration bestowed upon her without the conceit and pedantry of weaker minds. She was never taught that the great motive to excelling was to "dazzle or outshine others; she never thought of despising her less fortunate companions, or of assuming superiority over them. Her acquisitions were never shaded by affectation."

Such was "Aunt Schuyler" of Albany in her early womanhood, according to one who wrote of her, long years after, as the model "American lady." She was a queen all her life in the wide circle that knew her. The women she lived among "were all natives of the county, and few had more than a domestic education." But men who possessed the advantages of early culture and usage of the world daily arrived in New York and Albany. "Female elegance" in the colony was not common. Says Mrs. Grant: "The supply was not equal to the demand." Mrs. Schuyler received due attention. "She was respected for the strength of her character, the dignity and composure of her manners," her unusual mental culture and her practical common sense.

"The Mohawk language was early familiar to her. She spoke Dutch and English with equal ease and purity; was no stranger to the French tongue, and could read German." And yet we do not find that she ever attended a fashionable ladies' school.

"Books are, no doubt, the granaries of knowledge; but a diligent, inquiring mind, in the active morning of life, will find it strewn with manna over the face of the earth, and need not, in all cases, rest satisfied with intelligence accumulated by others, and tinged with their passions and prejudices. Whoever reads Homer and Shake-

speare may daily discover that they both describe nature and art from their own observation.

"The enlarged mind of 'Madame Schuyler' and her simple yet dignified manners made her readily adapt herself to those with whom she conversed, and everywhere command respect and kindness, and, on a nearer acquaintance, affection followed. But she had too much sedateness and independence to adopt those caressing and insinuating manners by which the vain and artful soon find their way into shallow minds. Her character did not captivate at once, but gradually unfolded itself. You always had something new to discover. Her style was * * * without the least embellishment, and at the same time so pure that everything she said might be printed without correction, and so plain that the most ignorant and most inferior persons were never at a loss to comprehend it. It possessed, too, a wonderful flexibility; it seemed to rise and fall with the subject. I have not met with a style which to a noble and uniform simplicity united such variety of expression. Whoever drinks knowledge pure at its sources, solely from the delight in filling the capacities of a large mind, without the desire of dazzling or outshining others; whoever speaks for the sole purpose of conveying to other minds those ideas from which he himself has received pleasure and advantage, may possess this chaste and natural style. But it is not to be acquired by art or study."

We have given this example of Miss Schuyler, afterward known as Madame Schuyler, as an exhibition of the best type of an educated woman in the New York colonial period, before the formation of our government, when female education was generally little thought of, when scarcely any public provision for it was made. She was an Albany lady. She lived in the days of our grandmothers. The methods of her education, the use she made of it, and its reflex influence on her character, are deserving the careful consideration of the girls of this generation, when the avenues to knowledge are as plenty and free as water.

Lossing, in his *Life and Times of Gen. Philip Schuyler*, tells us that young Schuyler (born in 1733), when a little more than 14 years of age, "had studied the ordinary branches of a plain education under the instruction of his mother, for the schools of Albany were very indifferent. He also had the advantages of listening to the conversation, and perhaps actually receiving instruction from educated French Protestants, who had ever been welcome visitors to the mansion of Gen.

Schuyler at the Flats. He received some instruction in the science of mathematics from one of those Huguenots who may have been employed as a private tutor in some wealthy families at Albany."

Young Schuyler's education was directed toward a mercantile life. He was sent to school, when 15 years of age, to New Rochelle, in Westchester County, among the sons of French Huguenots and New York merchants. At that time, no class of people in the province was more thrifty and progressive; none had superior culture in good manners and the learning of the day. They were religionists of the John Calvin school, and were matched only by the Puritans in their zeal for mental and spiritual progress, and for the rights of conscience and popular government. This school, kept among those French refugees of the latter part of the seventeenth century and their descendants, was the only one in New York, at that time, where was taught the French language, and few, if any, taught so well other subjects needed by an intelligent merchant. Its principal, Rev. Mr. Stoupe, was a Swiss, and pastor of the French Protestant Church of the settlement. Three years later, Schuyler was spending his summers among the hunters and trappers of the upper Hudson. He became influential among the Indians. He spent several weeks every autumn and winter with his relatives and friends in the City of New York, where he found congenial society. Large landed estates soon demanded his care, and the affairs of his country demanded his influence, his wealth, his talents and his acquirements of head and heart. He is given here as one of the best examples of the methods and influence of the education of his times among the young men of good family and ample means, and who were not aiming at law, medicine or divinity.

Schools in New York were of a very low order as late as 1760. Said a writer of that time: "The instructors want instruction, and through a long, shameful neglect of all the arts and sciences our common speech is extremely corrupt, and the evidences of bad taste as to both thought and language are visible in all our proceedings, public and private." Reading was neglected by all classes; education was regarded as an affectation of learning, and a student was rarely found outside the professions of law, medicine and divinity.

Some few of the young men were sent over to Europe for education. They belonged to families of wealth or social and political influence. There were no higher schools for the people—for the poor and toiling classes. If they obtained rank by

learning, wealth and title, it was the expression of an irrepressible energy that nothing human could resist. Such expression has become common all over our country now.

Commerce engrossed the energies of the principal families of New York, in provincial times, as we have often had occasion to say. It was the surest avenue to wealth and social distinction. The young men destined to these pursuits attended schools for teaching writing and accounts; went thence to the counting room; and, in due time, were sent on some short trading trip, usually to the West Indies. Affairs, society and the activities of the day did the rest.

The leading hindrances to the promotion of learning, especially of the masses, during the whole English colonial period, may be summed up as follows:

1. The helplessness of the working classes. A large portion regarded themselves as born to ignorance and servitude, as powerless of influence, and destined to nothing but lives of drudgery. Such were most of the tenants, farm laborers and ordinary mechanics and traders in Albany County.

2. The general indifference of the officers and friends of royalty to anything that could elevate the masses. Education set people to reading and thinking, as it did in New England. It led them to know their rights, and knowing, to dare resist tyranny and assert popular sovereignty. Royal governors were afraid of schools for the common people.

3. The aristocratic class, which possessed wealth and some learning, were fond of association with men of royal rank, fond of having dependants, eager for increase of wealth and power. They were quite willing to keep the poor in blissful ignorance and poverty. They disliked paying taxes for schools, and despised labor.

4. Wars, and rumors of war, characterized all this period. These called for forts and munitions of war, for training for war, and for active service against the enemy. The arts of peace were neglected or perverted. Schools were hindered when contemplated, and interrupted when in operation. So things continued until the close of the Revolutionary war. Then men began to think and read and talk of rights and duties.

HIGHER AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.

There were no schools of medicine, law or divinity; no normal schools for teachers. The young disciples of Esculapius used "to ride" with "the old doctor," and visit with him his bedside

clinics, and witness his office consultations and treatment. Coke and Blackstone were read in the office of some eminent knight of the green bag; and young aspirants sat at the feet of some learned Gamaliel and listened to his wisdom, took in his advice, and saw how he managed causes in the courts. But it is said that Albany had no professional lawyer for over 100 years. Students who contemplated the ministry read courses in theology in "the study" of some leading clergyman, and prepared sermons subject to his criticism. The clergy often gave academic instruction to those who came to them, especially to young persons of their parochial charge.

Gov. Montgomerie had the largest private library in the province of New York previous to the Revolution. It numbered 1,341 volumes. Judge Smith, the historian, had a library of about 1,000 volumes, including his law books. The first law library we hear of was that of Broughton, Attorney-General, 1701 to 1705, which contained only 36 volumes. In 1730, Dr. Millington, of England, bequeathed a thousand volumes to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," which was sent to New York City, and kept in the old City Hall, for the use of the clergy and gentlemen of New York, and the neighboring governments of Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, upon giving security to return them. In 1754, 700 volumes of well-selected books were purchased by subscription, for the commencement of a public library, which was the origin of the New York Society Library. The libraries of our own city and county, and of more recent times, will receive attention later.

According to Judge Campbell, in his Annals of Tryon County, Rev. Samuel Dunlop, of the Scotch-Irish race, educated at Edinburgh, came to Cherry Valley, as pastor of the Presbyterian Church there, in 1741. He opened a school for the instruction of boys in the classical and other branches of higher education, which continued for many years. It was the first school of this grade west of Albany. His boys were received into his house and made a part of his family. They came from Albany, Schenectady and other towns along the Mohawk and Hudson. Some of them became conspicuous during the trying times of the Revolution.

There were but few academics in this State where higher and classical studies were pursued before the nineteenth century dawned. The boys went to the New Rochelle School for French and business training. In Kingston, Kinderhook and Schenectady they pursued studies preparatory to college.

Academies were established in various parts of the State soon after the Revolution, among which were Dutchess County, Canandaigua, Erasmus Hall, East Hampton, Farmer's Hall, Jownstown, Lansingburg, Montgomery, Oxford, Union Hall and Washington, furnishing increased facilities for higher instruction.

Albany Academy, for boys, was incorporated in 1813, and has always held a high rank and been a great force in the educational movements in this county. A more detailed history will appear in the City of Albany.

Rensselaerville Academy, now taught by Prof. B. F. Eaton and wife, has long been in operation, has taught a teachers' class for many years, and has been well attended and done good work in the southwest part of our county, reflecting the intelligence and good sense of its Yankee founders.

Knoxville Academy has done much to promote intelligence in the Town of Knox and vicinity. During the late war of rebellion eleven had entered, from among its students, into the military service for the Union.

Coeymans Academy, established in 1858, prospered under the Misses Brace and Thomas McKee. There has been, during these last eighty years, select schools and various institutions for educating the young in New Scotland, Watervliet and other towns in the county, useful, no doubt, but brief in duration.

After the conquest of New Netherlands by the English, no encouragement was given to the subject of education by the Colonial Government. For almost a century "there was no institution in the province where an academic education could be acquired."

The historian, Chief-Justice Smith, referring to this matter, while making allusion to the action of the Legislature of the State in 1746, authorizing the raising of £2,250, by lottery, for founding a college, says: "To the disgrace of our first planters, who beyond comparison surpassed their eastern neighbors in opulence, Mr. DeLancey, a graduate of the University of Cambridge, England, and Mr. Smith were for many years the only academics in this province except such as were in holy orders." Although about one hundred and twenty years had passed since the Dutch had commenced the settlement of New Amsterdam, and about eighty years since it came under the English Crown, the above lottery law was the first legislative movement toward founding a college in the present territory of New York State.

Harvard, Yale, William and Mary and other early American colleges became the first nursing mothers of some of the boys of the province of New York. A careful examination of general catalogues gives us the names of those who were graduates of American colleges, natives or residents of New York, prior to the year 1800. We may have omitted some few; but the list at best indicates the great difference in favor of New England in the zeal for higher education in those years. Some of these graduates were New Englanders, who came to New York after graduation; some less known to fame are, no doubt, omitted.

The graduates from Harvard were Benjamin Pratt, 1737; Samuel Auchmuty, 1742; John Van Horne, 1744; Daniel Treadwell, 1754; Philip Livingston, 1755; Peter Livingston, 1757; Rufus King, 1777; John Jeremiah Van Rensselaer and Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1782; Ambrose Spencer, 1783; John Thornton Kirkland, 1789.

From Yale, Samuel Johnson, 1714; William Smith, 1719; Peter Van Brugh Livingston, 1731; John Livingston, 1733; Henry Barclay, 1734; Benjamin Nicoll and William Nicoll, 1734; Jacob Cuyler and Philip Livingston, 1737; William Livingston, 1741; Samuel Buel, 1741; Hendrick Hans Hansen and William Peartree Smith, 1742; William S. Johnson, Caleb Smith and Benjamin Woolsey, 1744; John Morin Scott, 1746; Richard Morris, 1748; Gideon Hawley, 1749; Thomas Jones, 1750; Ezra L'Hommedieu, 1754; John Sloss Hobart, 1757; John H. Livingston, 1762; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1760; John De Peyster Douw, 1777; James Kent, 1781; Francis Bloodgood, 1787; John Woodworth, 1788; Samuel A. Foot, 1797.

From Princeton, John McKesson, 1753; Peter R. Livingston, Philip P. Livingston and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1758; Peter V. B. Livingston, 1756; Samuel Kirkland, 1765; Aaron Burr, William Linn and William S. Livingston, 1772; Morgan Lewis and John Blair Smith, 1773; Henry B. Livingston, 1774; Henry P. Livingston, 1776; Edward Livingston, 1781; Derrick Ten Eyck, 1782; Nathaniel Lawrence and Jacob Radcliff, 1783; Abraham Ten Broeck and Peter R. Livingston, 1784; John V. Henry, 1785; Maturin Livingston and Peter William Livingston, 1786; Smith Thompson, 1788; Jacob Ten Eyck, 1792; John H. Hobart, 1793; Abraham Ten Eyck, 1795.

From Rutgers, Simeon DeWitt, 1776; Pierre Van Cortlandt, 1783.

From Kings, now Columbia, Philip Van Cortlandt, 1758; Phillip Livingston, 1760; John Jay, 1764; Eg-

bert Benson and Robert R. Livingston, 1765; Henry Rutgers and John Watts, 1767; Benjamin Moore, Gouverneur Morris, John Stevens, Gulian Verplanck and Peter Van Schaick, 1768; Alexander Hamilton, 1774; DeWitt Clinton, 1786; John W. Yates, 1787; Samuel Jones, 1790; Alexander Proudfit, 1792; John Forbes, 1794; Daniel D. Tompkins, John B. Romeyn, Rensselaer Westerlo, 1795, and others less known to the public. Taken all in all, the early sons of these early colleges were a Titanian progeny; sons of thunder born in tempestuous times and for great emergencies.

The intelligent student of local history will notice that a good proportion of these graduates were natives of Albany County, or were identified with it as their home or by their distinguished public careers while residents.

The first graduating class of King's College was in 1758, and numbered seven. From 1776 to 1786 there were no graduates, the college buildings having been taken for military purposes. This institution, the first of the kind in the State, has produced many patriots, statesmen, divines and scholars who have reflected honor on the college and given useful lives to the State. Its first medical class graduated in 1769. In 1797, it gave Albany Dr. William Bay. It early contributed to rendering the science and practice of medicine more respectable than it had hitherto been.

But sectarian feeling, as well as the all-absorbing struggle for freedom at that period, did much to retard the early growth of the college. The Episcopal Church had the political power under the Royal Government; but the Dutch Reformed and Presbyterian Churches were a power among the masses, and had much wealth and influence. There was great jealousy of a church establishment, especially of a church that had a bishop at its head. William Livingston led the opposition, but not as against all religion. In that day, the divorce between learning and religion was not thought of. The State had authorized a lottery, in 1746, which realized about £3,500. This was to go for founding a college. The opposition to the charter was virulent, and based on the principle that it ought not to be controlled by any one sect, as its funds were raised under State law for a non-sectarian college.

Something of the character of the times is shown by the remark made by Rev. Dr. Johnson, President of the College, in 1762, that "it is a great pity, when patents are granted, as they often are, for large tracts of land, no provision is made for religion or schools."

King's College, now and since 1784 Columbia, was founded in 1754, after the long colonial days of popular ignorance and official tyranny. Harvard dates its beginning in 1638, and Yale in 1701. It was not lack of wealth or power that kept home facilities for a higher education from the sons of New York. New Jersey had its Presbyterian Princeton before the Episcopal King's of New York, and its Dutch Reformed Queen's, now Rutgers, soon after. And even Dartmouth, which came near raising its voice in Albany County, appeared among the rocky hills of New Hampshire, "*vix clamantis in deserto*," as early as 1769.

The Regents of the University came in 1784; reorganized in 1787; and have ever since been the active, discreet and earnest guardians of academic, collegiate and professional learning all over the State, granting charters to academics and other schools, providing funds, encouraging sound instruction, and diffusing in various ways that "intelligence" which, as Jefferson says, "is the life of liberty." Their office is kept in Albany and all their meetings are held here.

Union College has been an important educational factor in Albany County as well as in Schenectady, for about ninety years past. Its history appears in the latter county, because it is located there. It appears that a project giving it a start as Clinton College originated in 1779. One motive is declared to have been to educate "men of learning to fill the several offices of Church and State." Among these earliest and earnest movers to establish a college in what was then Albany County were Rev. Eilardus Westerlo, Gen. Philip Schuyler and other prominent citizens of Albany. When it went into operation in 1795, seven of its first trustees were Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr., Abraham Ten Broeck, Goldsbroow Banyar, John V. Henry, George Merchant, Stephen Van Rensselaer and Joseph C. Yates, all of Albany.

Eliphalet Nott graduated at Brown in 1793, and William L. Marcy twelve years later. Dr. Nott came to Cherry Valley as teacher and preacher, and thence to Albany, in 1798, as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. From this church he went forth as President of Union College in 1804, and, for 62 years, was distinguished as a skillful manager of boys. The influence of this college upon the cause of learning in Albany County cannot be over-estimated. Some of its most talented and useful sons and citizens have been educated among its nearly 7,000 graduates. Albany Medical School, Albany Law School and Dudley Observatory, with Union College, now constitute Union University.

The law and medical schools of Albany, for many years important agencies in educating our sons, are specially mentioned in another part of our work. So, also, is the Lancasterian School, and other important schools, both public and private, that have existed in this century, or do now exist, in our capital city.

But not all the parents of Albany boys believed in a collegiate education. The following anecdote comes to us from an old Albany merchant, as illustrative of the feelings of a type of utilitarian men who are not all dead yet. Our Dutch citizen was a man of hoarded wealth, who had one only son, named Dirck. He was advised to give him an education. After some thinking, he gravely replied :

“If I educate Dirck in college, and he dies, the money I spend on him is lost.”

Dirck did not go to college. He never earned any money, but was clothed and fed and sheltered by the savings of his ancestors. He was a wild boy; he drank freely and kept bad company. He died in the gutter one night, after a drunken carousal, without the expense of a college education.

It is evident, then, that previous to the Revolutionary war no general system of education was established. It was confined chiefly to the wealthy classes. The importance of schools for all the people had not been recognized in New York. All schools that were in operation were of a private character, or were incorporated by special legislation. Often favored children received instruction from the parish clergyman, or from some young student who became a sort of family tutor while pursuing his own studies. Rarely, some father, elder brother or other relative gave direction and stimulus to some bright mind which had the taste, strength of mind and energy to acquire valuable and systematic knowledge and discipline without school or schoolmasters.

In all its years of feudal power and inherited wealth, years of control by a rich company of merchants or by royal governors who grew rich by selfish rapacity, there were no free schools for the people, reckoning down to the close of the Revolutionary war, and all along the rich valley of the ever-trading Hudson from the sea to the Mohawk Flats.

Consequently, New York had no Benjamin Franklin, plebeian born and educated in the free schools of Boston.

No, nor any Samuel and John Adams, and many others of their spirit, whose first lessons were taken

in the intelligent homes and free colleges of the common people.

But this spirit of liberty could not be confined. It came to New York, especially to the city, from New England, and inspired the Sons of Liberty to resist oppression and establish freedom.

AFTER THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

The manorial lands of this county, after the Revolution, were rapidly taken up by industrious farmers, and the shops in the villages and the mills along the streams were occupied by busy mechanics. No provision had been made by the patroon for the schooling of the children. Among the early settlers upon the farms all over the county were not only the frugal Hollander, but the peace-loving Huguenot, the hardy Scot and the earnest German. Nor was the New Englander absent. Indeed, he was “all about,” and couldn't be content until his children could have a school.

The Yankee schoolmaster was on hand, and a spare room of the farm-house of some well-to-do farmer was fitted up for a school a part of the year. The school was started by a voluntary agreement to pay so much for each pupil's schooling. Fuel was cheap and readily contributed by the farmers; the “master” or older pupils attended to building the fires and cleaning the school-room. The teacher “boarded around.” The schools were modeled upon the plan of the country schools in the “Eastern States,” from which most of the teachers and many of the patrons came.

So matters went on for many years. The boys and girls were taught spelling, reading and writing, some arithmetic, and many other useful things. Good manners were not left out. They were waked up; they were inquisitive; many of them read the weekly paper, the catechism, the New Testament, and various books that belonged in families, and were loaned to any one who would read them.

Schools of to-day, many of them, are imperfect enough in all conscience; but just consider them as they were, with very few exceptions, at the beginning of the present century, and even later.

The school-houses, if any, were usually located in one of the most God-forsaken spots that could be found, where white beans and buckwheat would not grow; on some bleak hill or on some arid or swampy place, surrounded by the drifting snows of winter or the sands and miasma of summer. If in a city, the location selected must be in some by-place, where the land was cheapest, where business was duller and dirtiest, where the best families

would not be disturbed by the sight of the uncouth garb and uncultivated noise of free-school children. The rooms and surroundings were lacking in every element of health, comfort or decency. Temperature uneven, ventilation entirely disregarded, light bad for eyes, seats and desks bad for bones, muscles and lungs,—everything was provocative of weariness, disease, mischief, dullness and bad morals.

The schoolmasters were usually more noted for hate than love, for brutal severity and repulsive manners than for that magic, winning power that rules without ruining children. Few taught because they loved instruction or humanity. They stepped into some other vocation at any early opportunity. Money, learning, life, church and state have lost unmeasured values from such school-houses and school-keepers!

Later, when summer schools began to be taught by females, many might have said, as did one honest "schoolma'am," "'tis little they pays me, and little I teaches 'em." They were generally worthy dames, who taught their pupils good manners; to rise and stand when the minister and school officer visited the school; the girls to make a low courtesy, and the boys to take off their hats and make a bow to all strangers and others whom they met on the way to and from school, to perform the same reverential duty to the teacher as they entered the school-room door, and on making their exit. There was much of reading the stories of the Bible, and much of teaching maxims of piety and duty, with oral instruction in matters of simple, every-day knowledge.

Some of these worthy pioneers in the exercise of woman's rights and duties, were exceedingly lacking in scholastic knowledge. Some could write only their names, in ill-favored letters, and could teach only "easy reading," and in cyphering were limited to the simplest problems and tables in the fundamental rules. But they were women of common sense, good conscience and exemplary lives; and did much to help hard-working mothers to take care of their children, and teach them obedience, order, neatness, and respect for superiors. Knitting, sewing, patchwork and lettering samplers were usually taught the girls in these "woman schools;" sometimes painting in water colors and fancy needle-work, especially in the private schools. The use of the rod was not confined to the schoolmasters.

Such were most of the schools of the county in the fifty years after the close of the war of the revolution.

At the first meeting of the State Legislature, after the adoption of the constitution, George Clinton, then Governor, in his address, remarked that "neglect of the education of youth is one of the evils consequent upon war."

Gov. George Clinton was evidently a friend of public schools for all the people, and used his official influence in their favor. At the opening of the legislative session of 1795, he says: "While it is evident that the general establishment and liberal endowment of academies are highly to be commended, and are attended with the most beneficial consequences, yet it cannot be denied that they are principally confined to the children of the opulent, and that a great portion of the community is excluded from their immediate advantages. The establishment of common schools throughout the State is happily calculated to remedy this inconvenience, and will therefore engage your early and decided consideration."

April 7, 1795, the State Legislature appropriated the sum of £20,000 annually for the term of five years, for encouraging and maintaining schools in the State. Of this sum, £1,590, or \$3,975, was allotted to Albany County. This was regarded as a long stride toward a general free school system.

In 1813, Mr. Spafford, of Albany, author of the *Gazetteer*, thus expresses himself in regard to the schools of our State and County: "At present the modes of common school instruction in this State are liable to many objections. In this respect, we are considerably behind the New England States, who have reduced this branch of education to a system. But their method is rapidly gaining ground, and common schools have considerably increased in number and respectability within a few years; and this amelioration is more perceptible in the country than in populous towns, where our schools for the elements of a common education are not so good as in the country.

"The wealthy spare no expense in the education of their sons, principally at academies and colleges, though some continue the practice of former times, having private tutors in their families.

"The yeomanry and the ranks of middling wealth resort to day and boarding schools; the most common kind being the former, supported through the year or only in the winter, and too little attention is paid to the qualifications of instructors.

"The recent introduction of schools on the plan of the benevolent Lancaster promises very beneficial results to the poor in populous towns; at present, these are confined to the cities of New York and Albany.

Of female education, he remarks: "The rich spare no expense, and much time is spent in the frivolous accomplishments of a genteel education, to little purpose. Music and drawing, except in cases of decided propensity, are of little ornament and less utility, though they may amuse the idle." He then admits that they "afford elegant and agreeable diversion when cultivated with taste," and may "expand the mind formed for expansion."

Better facilities for the higher education of girls began to engage the attention of intelligent parents in Albany, early in this century. Private schools were started with varied success. The most important enterprise of this kind was the Union School, so called, started by Ebenezer Foot, in Montgomery street, in 1814, from which grew the excellent and widely useful Albany Female Academy, a history of which will be given in the history of education in the city of Albany. We mention it here only to say that its doors have always been open to girls residing outside the city at reasonable rates of tuition; that it has usually had the best of instructors and a wise supervision; that its course of study has favored the liberal and practical branches, and that its influence upon female education in this county has been most beneficial.

In 1838, the distinguished English traveler, Buckingham, made a brief sojourn in Albany, and closely studied its institutions. In the Female Academy he says he found about 250 in attendance from the city and 140 from the country. The school instruction and management, then for about twenty years in charge of that eminent educator, Alonzo Crittenden, he found most admirable. He adds: "This experiment, which has now been continued for upward of twenty years, has proved abundantly what many have affected to disbelieve or doubt, that the female intellect is in no degree whatever inferior in its capacity to receive and retain instruction in the highest and most difficult branches of learning to the male; that their powers of application and their zeal for information are, also, quite equal to that of the other sex; and that such differences as have hitherto existed between the intellectual condition of male and female youths have been wholly owing to their being subjected to different modes of education."

These sentiments, regarded as questionable sixty years ago, have been so firmly established by the observation of teachers and school officers that "experiment" is no longer called for, and "disbelief and doubt" are no longer found, even among the oldest of the "old fogies" in education.

In Preston's Statistical Report of the county for the year 1820, we find enumerated in the county, 155 common schools, "exclusive of parts of schools adjoining other towns," to wit: in Albany, 25; Bethlehem, 25; Coeymans, 15; Westerlo, 16; Rensselaerville, 18; Berne, 30; Guilderland, 11; Watervliet, 12; also an academy of 150 students, Lancasterian school of 400 pupils, and a mechanic school, all in the city of Albany. The Albany Female Academy, although then in operation, is not named. The same writer, John Preston, an old teacher of his day, residing in Westerlo, says: "Our country schools, and many in cities, at present are too tedious and too expensive in teaching children the elementary parts of sciences." He places a high estimate upon the now exploded Lancasterian system of school management, as "surpassing anything of the kind heretofore discovered."

Henry R. Schoolcraft tells us that his great-grandfather was a schoolmaster, and taught the first English school in Schoharie County, in his old age, and was known as one of the very few prominent ones in the region of Albany County, at that early day.

Apollos Moore came from Berkshire County, Mass., and settled in Rensselaerville soon after the Revolution, where he was long and widely known as a successful schoolmaster. From 1812 to 1828, he was County Judge, and for many years a leading citizen of the county. Moses Patten, from New Hampshire, also resided in this town, and was a leading teacher of public schools for many years. He held the office of Surrogate from 1840 to 1844.

Hon. A. J. Colvin speaks of William Hicks as a leading schoolmaster in Coeymans in the early part of this century. He was a great speller, and teaching spelling was his hobby. Only the "common branches" were taught. The "criminal stick" recorded punishable crimes, and woe to the young culprit who earned the ferule or the birchen rod.

John Preston, of Westerlo, was one of the best Yankee schoolmasters that taught in the country towns of the county in the first part of this century.

We wish we could give a complete list of these pioneers, but it is not possible at this writing.

County Superintendents of Common Schools.—The legislature passed an act, drawn by Hon. John C. Spencer, May 26, 1841, requiring County Boards of Supervisors to appoint biennially a County Superintendent of Common Schools, charged with the general supervision of the public schools in his

jurisdiction. The office was abolished, November 13, 1847. The following gentlemen served in this office in Albany County: Royal Shaw, Francis Dwight, Rufus King, Horace K. Willard, Abraham Van Vechten, Henry S. McCall.

This office was abolished "without petitions from any considerable number of people and without proposing a substitute." It became unpopular because, in some cases, incompetent men, appointed as partisans, abused their trust; and the small salary was claimed by the niggardly as an added burden upon the taxpayer. It was a backward step, and so regarded by the best friends of education everywhere. It left all school supervision to Town Superintendents, who, with rare exceptions, neglected trusts for which they had no fitness. Such was the united testimony of Samuel Young, N. S. Benton, Christopher Morgan, Henry S. Randall, Samuel S. Randall, Victor M. Rice, and other prominent State officers and educators.

School Commissioners of counties are chosen for a term of three years by the electors of their commissioner district. There are now three districts in Albany County, exclusive of the cities of Albany and Cohoes, with the supervision of whose schools these officers have nothing to do. Local school boards are chosen by the cities to manage their own school affairs. These school boards usually elect an agent called Superintendent of Schools. The County Commissioners are required to examine and license local public school teachers, except such as hold State or Normal School diplomas; to visit their schools; to aid in organizing teachers' institutes; to do several other duties, and to report annually to the State Superintendent.

ALBANY COUNTY, FIRST DISTRICT.

1856, John B. Shear, Coeymans; 1858, John G. Vanderzee, Cedar Hill; 1861, L. Carter Tuttle, Cedar Hill; 1864, John C. Nott, Albany; 1867, William E. Whitbeck, Bethlehem Center; 1870, Leonard A. Carhart, Coeymans; 1873, John F. Shafer, Cedar Hill; 1876, David D. L. McCulloch, New Salem; 1879, Alexander F. Baker, Cedar Hill; 1882, Samuel F. Powell, Coeymans; 1885, John J. Callanan, Callanan's Corners.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Peter Tinklepaugh; Edward V. Filkins, Berne; 1861, George L. Boughton, Rensselaerville; 1867, Zina W. Snyder, Potter's Hollow; 1870, Julius Thayer, South Westerlo; 1864 and 1873, Zeboliah A. Dyer, East Berne; 1876, Sanford Simon, Rensselaerville; 1879, Rufus T. Crippen, Rensselaerville; 1882, Elias Young, Reidsville; 1885, Charles De La Mater, Modena.

THIRD DISTRICT.

1856, John H. Sand, Knox; 1858, William Arthur, Jr., West Troy; 1861, Thomas Helme, Guilderland; 1867,

George H. Quay, Knox; 1864 and 1870, John P. Whitbeck, West Troy; 1873, Thomas Helme, McKownville; 1876, William J. McMillan, West Troy; 1879, Charles E. Sturges, Knox; 1882, Thomas P. Heenan, West Troy; 1885, George McDonald, West Troy.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

1856, John Muckle.

The Commissioners whose terms expired December 31, 1856, were four in number, one from each Assembly district. They were appointed by the Board of Supervisors about June 1, soon after the passage of the act constituting them. After this the county was divided into three School Commissioner Districts, not including the cities and villages having special school acts relating to supervision. Since November, 1857, the Commissioners have been elected at the annual State election, and commence their official term of three years on the 1st day of the January succeeding.

The first State Normal School was located in Albany by law, May 7, 1844, under the supervision of the State Superintendent and the Regents of the University. We give a more extended history of this institution in another place. We mention it here as one of the great events in the history of education, occurring in this county over forty years ago, and, ever since, shedding its benignant influence upon all the schools in the State, but especially upon those of Albany County. It was, with the characteristic conservatism of the educational legislation of the times, limited to an existence of only five years. DeWitt Clinton, in 1826, and other eminent statesmen of that day, who saw that poor teaching was the great obstacle to the progress of popular education, had spoken of the importance of such an institution. The best educators and school officers urged it. Its establishment as an experiment was a necessity. It was opened as a school, with twenty-nine pupils, December, 1844. It has never been closed. April 12, 1848, it was made a "permanent establishment" by law. July 31, 1849, it occupied its present building. This autumn it is to be removed to its new building on Washington Park, admirable for location, architecture, and all needful appointments for its appropriate work.

Its successive principals are thus named: David P. Page, George R. Perkins, Samuel B. Woolworth, David H. Cochrane, Oliver Arey, Joseph Alden, Edward P. Waterbury.

Teachers' Departments in academics were provided for by a legislative act of March 30, 1849, and kept up to this day by subsequent acts, by which, under certain conditions, in academics so-

lected by the Regents of the University, a class of pupils receive special instruction in the art of managing and teaching schools a portion of each year. Under this act I find that Rensselaerville Academy and Knoxville Academy have done some useful service in this way; but it has been very limited in quantity and variable in quality.

Teachers' Institutes have been a popular and powerful agency in the working educational forces of the State and County. The first in the State was opened at Ithaca, April 4, 1843, by Prof. John S. Denman, of Tompkins County, and held two weeks. Salem Town, James B. Thompson and David Powell were the assistants. Twenty-eight teachers attended. A law providing for holding them annually in each county was passed, November 13, 1847, appropriating sixty dollars to each county which should comply with its provisions.

We add as complete a list as we can now make out of those held in this county. We do not find that Albany County was among the earliest to comply with the terms of the act.

For some years they were not held regularly, and were thinly attended. Indeed, to this day, the attendance embraces but a small part of the teachers of the county, and but little popular or professional enthusiasm has ever been awakened in these State institutions in Albany County. The years and places of holding, and the number of members enrolled for twenty years past, are here given :

- 1865.—Clarksville, 118 ; East Berne, 106 ; Watervliet, 173.
- 1866.—Chesterville, 181 ; Watervliet, 110.
- 1867.—Cohoes, 93.
- 1868.—Chesterville, 110 ; Knowersville, 73.
- 1869.—
- 1870.—Chesterville, 140 ; Coeymans, 66.
- 1871.—Watervliet, 71.
- 1872.—Chesterville, 172.
- 1873.—East Berne, 167.
- 1874.—Knowersville, 131.
- 1875.—Clarksville, 144.
- 1876.—New Salem, 132.
- 1877.—Knowersville, 144.
- 1878.—New Salem, 163 ; New Salem, 89.
- 1879.—Clarksville, 102 ; Adamsville, 75.
- 1880.—Knowersville, 145 ; Berne, 157.
- 1881.—New Salem, 120 ; Coeymans, 78.
- 1882.—Chesterville, 146 ; Knowersville, 108.
- 1883.—New Salem, 62.
- 1884.—Coeymans, 121.
- 1885.—Knowersville, 97.

The State Geological Survey was authorized by law, April 15, 1836, and was carried on in four districts. Albany County was included in the first

district. The following distinguished scientific men residing in Albany were engaged with others in that survey as principals or assistants: Prof. William G. Mather, in geology; Prof. Ebenezer Emmons, in geology and agriculture; Dr. James Eights, in geology; Prof. James Hall, in geology and palaeontology. The work commenced in 1836 and terminated with their first reports in 1841, except that of paleontology, which is still continued under Dr. James Hall, who has served in this department since 1843. Besides the five annual reports, twenty-one huge printed volumes, abounding in facts and illustrations, attest to the extent and thoroughness of the work done.

The State Museum of Natural History, recently placed in the State Hall, of which James Hall has been director since 1866, is a wonderful collection, a great and impressive teacher of science, an outgrowth of this survey, continually increasing under the fostering care of the Regents of the University, who are its legal trustees, and by the wise and devoted activity of its museum staff, consisting of Profs. James Hall, geologist; Joseph A. Lintner, entomologist, and Charles H. Peck, botanist.

In 1820, sixteen years before the above State survey was commenced, a Geological and Agricultural Survey of Albany County was made by Prof. Theodoric Romeyn Beck. This was the first undertaking of the kind in the State.

Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, with characteristic public spirit and zeal for promoting valuable knowledge, employed Prof. Amos Eaton, then of Albany, to make a geological examination of the rocks along the line of the Erie Canal. His report was published in 1824, and was a work of decided merit, considering the state of science at that date.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY, except *ex officio*, appointed since 1787, and having residence in Albany County, with year of appointment, have been as follows :

- John Rodgers, 1787; Philip Schuyler, 1787; Dirck Romeyn, 1787; Filaridus Westerlo, 1787; John McDonald, 1787; Abraham Van Vechten, 1797; Thomas Ellison, 1797; Simeon De Witt, 1798; James Kent, 1800; John Tayler, 1802; Ambrose Spencer, 1805; Elisha Jenkins, 1807; De Witt Clinton, 1808; Peter Gansevoort, Jr., 1808; Joseph C. Yates, 1812; Solomon Southwick, 1812; Smith Thompson, 1813; John Woodworth, 1813; Martin Van Buren, 1816; John Lansing, Jr., 1817; John De Witt, 1817; Samuel Young, 1817; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1819; William A. Duer, 1820; Harmanus Bleecker, 1822; Samuel A. Talcott, 1823; James King, 1823; Peter Wendell, 1823;

William L. Marcy, 1823; Jesse Buel, 1826; Benjamin F. Butler, 1829; Gerrit Y. Lansing, 1829; John Keyes Paige, 1829; John Tracy, 1830; John A. Dix, 1831; Erastus Corning, 1833; James McKown, 1834; Amasa J. Parker, 1835; Joseph Russell, 1839; John C. Spencer, 1840; Gideon Hawley, 1842; John V. L. Pruyn, 1844; Martin Van Buren, 1845; Jabez D. Hammond, 1845; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, 1849; John N. Campbell, 1851; George W. Clinton, 1856; George R. Perkins, 1862; Henry R. Pierson, 1872; Anson J. Upson, 1874; John A. Dix, 1876; Charles E. Smith, 1879; St. Clair McKelway, 1883; Hamilton Harris, 1885.

Standard historians have scarcely noticed the subject of education. We have had little help from them. They write of wars, and the strifes of kings and other men struggling for wealth and power. There is a record of contending factions in Church and State. From them the student of history learns little of the homes of the people, of the training of the young, of the pursuits of the student of science and literature, or of the mighty influences that come from wise and godly men and women, working for humanity and country, in quiet places. And yet these are all of vital importance.

School statistics, as published in our school documents, possess little value previous to about 1857. Mr. Victor M. Rice is entitled to the credit of organizing a plan for them, but little improved since. He had able clerks in his department; and county school commissioners were trained by him to a habit of making intelligible and truthful reports. An examination of the State Annual School Reports for thirty years past will enlighten the student of education, as he can be enlightened in no other way, in regard to the progress of education in our State and County. We would be glad to collate facts and make comparisons from these tables, but space forbids.

The influences that have been working for a century past to advance the education of the masses in this State, have been many. Albany County, as embracing the State Capital, and the temporary homes, at least, of legislators, statesmen, jurists, educators and philanthropists, from whom these influences have proceeded, has had great advantages. In the City of Albany these influences have been powerfully felt. They have led to the establishment of our many private schools, our excellent academies and public schools, our schools of law and medicine, our Dudley Observatory, our libraries and Cabinets, and all our facilities for advancement in knowledge.

It must be admitted that these influences have slowly entered into our country towns. We have

no doubt that the manorial system, so long existing in these towns, has been the chief paralyzing cause. It made men groveling and ambitionless. A better day for these beautiful valleys and hills, these homes and villages, is lifting. Schools and school-houses are better, and men and women of intelligence and influence are multiplying.

No one can question that these good influences had their origin and stimulus from New England. The immigration from that land, which began immediately after the Revolution, and has continued ever since, has spread and intensified these influences.

Among the men whose exertions and influence have essentially contributed to the establishment of the schools referred to, and to the securing, finally, of a real, permanent school system, free for all the people, may be named the following who have had residence in this county, not to speak of Governors, Regents, and State Superintendents named elsewhere:

Gideon Hawley, Eliphalet Nott, Alexander G. Johnson, Henry B. Haswell, John O. Cole, Franklin Townsend, John V. L. Pruyn, Bradford R. Wood, Friend Humphrey, Henry Mandeville, Alonzo Potter, Jabez D. Hammond, John C. Spencer, Daniel D. Barnard, Ebenezer Foot, T. Romeyn Beck, Francis Dwight, Alonzo Crittenden, Benj. F. Butler, Thomas W. Valentine, John W. Bulkley, Samuel B. Woolworth, Alden March, James H. Armsby, Daniel J. Pratt, Henry S. McCall, Charles P. Easton, John E. Bradley, Merrill E. Gates and many others, including, of course, all competent and faithful educators, male and female. Of these twenty-nine, nineteen are natives of New England. They were acknowledged leaders. Others, "of every kindred, every tribe," have cheerfully co-operated or followed, and enjoyed the benefit of their labors.

After years of struggling in the dark, without system, Gideon Hawley, of Connecticut, was elected State Superintendent of Common Schools, in 1813, and held the office, with a salary of \$300, for eight years. "To no individual in the State are the friends of Common School Education more indebted for the impetus given the cause of elementary instruction in its infancy than to Gideon Hawley." Organization, supervision, practical knowledge of minute details, patience, perseverance, honest work and sincere love for the cause were the requisites in one man. Mr. Hawley united all these. He settled in Albany, was long time Secretary of the Board of Regents, and lived to see the reward of his labors. Many followed him

most worthily. The work was carried on in the Secretary of State Department, with increased experience, by such men as Yates, Flagg, Dix, Spencer, Young, Benton, Morgan and the Randalls. In 1854 Superintendent Rice took the helm, followed by Weaver and others. But none after Hawley had a home in this county except during their official terms. Jonathan Tenney and Addison A. Keyes are the only Deputy State Superin-

tendents of Public Instruction who were permanent residents in Albany County.

The Educational growth of our County has been very rapid during the last one hundred years, and especially so during the last fifty years. Its history, to which we have given a few pages only, could easily be expanded into a volume. In the special history of Albany City we shall give more attention to its local institutions of learning.

A LIST OF THE TOWNSHIPS (t.), CITIES (c.), INCORPORATED VILLAGES (i. v.), VILLAGES (v.), HAMLETS (h.) AND NEIGHBORHOODS (n.) IN ALBANY COUNTY,

WITH THEIR DISTANCES FROM ALBANY CITY IN MILES, THEIR POST-OFFICES, RAILWAY STATIONS, LOCATION IN TOWN, LOCAL NAMES, ETC., BY PROF. J. TENNEY.

Towns, Cities, Villages, etc.	Post-offices.	Railway Stations.	Distances in Miles from State Capitol.	Location in Town.	Local Names and Other Notes.	
ALBANY.....	P. O.	{ N. Y. C., B. & A., etc. }	....	....	Fort Orange, The Fuyck, Beverwyck, Aurania, Oranienberg, Williamstadt, were early names.	c.
Arbor Hill.....	Albany P. O.	.....	1/2	N.	.....	n.
Groesbeckville.....	" "	.....	1	S.	Annexed from Bethlehem.	n.
Martinsville.....	" "	.....	1/2	S.	Named for George Martin.	n.
North Albany.....	" "	.....	1 1/2	N.	Annexed from Watervliet.	n.
Tivoli Hollow.....	" "	.....	1	N.	.....	n.
Washington Park.....	" "	.....	1	W.	Public Park.	n.
West Albany.....	P. O.	N. Y. C.	2	N.	Mostly in Watervliet.	v.
BERNE.....	P. O.	.....	23	.....	.....	t.
Berneville.....	Berne P. O.	.....	23	N.	Beaver Dam, Corporation.	v.
East Berne.....	P. O.	.....	19	N. E.	Philla, n. Warner's Lake.	h.
South Berne.....	P. O.	.....	21	S.	.....	h.
West Berne.....	P. O.	.....	27	N. W.	Mechanicsville, Peoria.	h.
Peoria.....	W. Berne P. O.	.....	27	N. W.	Named for Peoria, Ill.	h.
Reidsville.....	P. O.	.....	16	S. E.	Named for Sandy Reid.	h.
Thompson's Lake.....	.....	.....	17	N. E.	Summer Resort.	h.
BETHLEHEM.....	Bethlehem Center P. O.	.....	5	.....	.....	t.
Adams' Station.....	P. O.	A. & S.	6	C.	Adamsville.	v.
Becker's Corners.....	P. O.	.....	8	S.	The Hook.	h.
Bethlehem Center.....	P. O.	.....	5	C.	Babcock's Corner.	h.
Cedar Hill.....	P. O.	.....	8	S. E.	Steamboat Landing.	n.
Hurstville.....	Albany P. O.	.....	3	N.	.....	n.
Kenwood.....	" "	W. S.	2	E.	Mouth of Normanskill.	v.
Normansville.....	{ Adamsville or Albany P. O. }	.....	4	N. E.	Upper Hollow.	h.
Selkirk.....	P. O.	W. S.	10	E.	.....	n.
Slingerlands.....	P. O.	A. & S.	7	N. W.	.....	v.
So. Bethlehem.....	P. O.	W. S.	10	S.	Janes' Corners.	v.
Upper Hollow.....	Adamsville P. O.	.....	4	N. E.	Normansville.	v.
Van Wie's.....	P. O.	.....	5	E.	.....	n.
Wemple.....	Bethlehem Center P. O.	W. S.	3	E.	.....	n.
COEYMANS.....	P. O.	.....	13	.....	.....	t.
Alcove.....	P. O.	.....	21	S. W.	Stephensville.	v.
Aqueduct.....	P. O.	.....	16	S. E.	Peacock's Corners.	h.
Coeymans Hollow.....	P. O.	.....	18	S. C.	.....	v.
Coeymans Junction.....	Coeymans P. O.	W. S.	13	E.	.....	h.
Coeymans Landing.....	Coeymans P. O.	.....	13	S. E.	.....	v.
Indian Fields.....	P. O.	.....	20	N.	.....	h.
Keefer's Corners.....	P. O.	.....	20	N. W.	Named for Balthus Keefer.	n.
Mossy Hill.....	.....	.....	22	S. W.	.....	n.
Stephensville.....	Alcove P. O.	.....	20	S. W.	.....	v.
COLOZA.....	P. O.	{ R. & S. and T. & S. }	9	.....	.....	c.
COLONIE.....	.....	.....	....	....	{ A town from 1808-15, now a part of Albany. }	t.
GUILDERLAND.....	P. O.	.....	9	E.	.....	h.
Dunnsville.....	P. O.	.....	15	N. W.	Named for Christopher Dunn.	h.
French's Mills.....	Fuller's Sta. P. O.	.....	13	E.	Named for Abel French.	n.
Fuller's Station.....	P. O.	W. S.	13	C.	Named for Maj. John Fuller.	h.
Guilderland Center.....	P. O.	.....	12	C.	Bangall.	v.

A LIST OF THE TOWNSHIPS, CITIES, INCORPORATED VILLAGES, ETC., ETC.

Towns, Cities, Villages, etc.	Post-offices.	Railway Stations.	Distances in Miles from State Capitol.	Location in Town.	Local Names and Other Notes.	
Guilderland Station...	P. O.	A. & S.	14	S. W.		A.
Hamiltonville.....	Guilderland P. O.	.....	8	E.	N'd for Hon. Alex. Hamilton.	v.
Knowersville.....	P. O.	A. & S.	17	W. C.	Named for Hon. Benj. Knower.	v.
McKowaville.....	P. O.	.....	4	S. E.	Named for Hon. Jas. McKown.	A.
Sloans.....	Guilderland P. O.	.....	8	E.	Hamiltonville, Sloans.	v.
Knox.....	P. O.	.....	21	.....	.....	L.
Knoxville.....	Knox P. O.	.....	21	C.	The Street.	A.
Knox Station.....	Knox P. O.	A. & S.	22	N.	.....	n.
East Township.....	P. O.	.....	19	E.	.....	v.
West Township.....	P. O.	.....	23	W.	.....	v.
NEW SCOTLAND.....	P. O.	.....	8	E.	.....	L.
Callanan's Corners.....	P. O.	.....	12	S. E.	.....	A.
Clarksville.....	P. O.	.....	12	S. W.	.....	v.
Feura Bush.....	Jerusalem P. O.	W. S.	9	S. E.	Jerusalem.	A.
Helderberg.....	P. O.	.....	15	N. W.	.....	n.
Jerusalem.....	P. O.	W. S.	9	S. E.	Feura Bush.	A.
New Salem.....	P. O.	.....	12	N. W.	.....	v.
New Scotland.....	P. O.	.....	8	E.	.....	A.
New Scotland Station.	Voorheesville P. O.	{ A. & S. and W. S. }	11	N. E.	Voorheesville.	v.
Oncqueghan.....	.....	.....	14	S.	Tarrytown.	A.
Union Church.....	P. O.	W. S.	9	E.	Unionville.	A.
Unionville.....	Union Church P. O.	W. S.	9	E.	.....	A.
Voorheesville.....	P. O.	{ A. & S. and W. S. }	11	N.	{ Named for Hon. A. B. Voorhees. }	v.
Wolf Hill.....	P. O.	.....	13	W.	.....	n.
RENSELAEVILLE.....	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	23	.....	.....	L.
Cooksburg.....	P. O.	.....	32	S. W.	Named for Thomas Cook.	v.
Connersville.....	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	.....	S. W.	Williamsburg.	A.
Medusa.....	P. O.	.....	29	S. E.	Hall's Mills.	v.
Peckham Hollow.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Obsolete; Willow Glen.	A.
Potter's Hollow.....	P. O.	.....	33	S. W.	Named for Samuel Potter.	v.
Preston Hollow.....	P. O.	.....	32	S. W.	Named for John Preston.	v.
Rensselaerville.....	P. O.	.....	23	N. E.	{ Named for Gen. S. Van Rensselaer. }	v.
Smith's Corners.....	Medusa P. O.	.....	28	S. E.	Named for Moses Smith.	A.
Williamsburg.....	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	28	N. W.	Connersville.	A.
WATERVLIET.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	L.
Boght.....	Cohoes P. O.	.....	10	N.	Groesbeck's Corners.	A.
Cemetery.....	Albany P. O.	R. & S.	3	E.	{ Rural, St. Agnes and Anshe Emeth Cemeteries. }	A.
Center.....	Karner P. O.	N. Y. C.	8	N.	Karner.	A.
Creasant.....	.....	T. & S.	12	W.	Railway Station.	A.
Gibbonsville.....	West Troy P. O.	R. & S.	6	E.	Named for James Gibbons.	v.
Green Island.....	P. O.	R. & S.	7	E.	Tilbitt's Island.	i. v.
Groesbeck's Corners.....	Cohoes P. O.	.....	10	N.	The Boght.	v.
Ireland's Corners.....	Loudonville P. O.	.....	3	C.	Named for Rev. Selah Ireland.	A.
Karner.....	P. O.	N. Y. C.	9	W.	Named for Theodore Karner.	A.
Latham's Corners.....	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	{ Town House and Van Vranken's Corners. }	A.
Lisha's Kill.....	P. O.	.....	9	N. W.	.....	A.
Loudonville.....	P. O.	.....	3	S.	Named for Lord Loudon.	v.
Lower Aqueduct.....	.....	.....	12	N. E.	On the Mohawk.	n.
Menand's.....	Albany P. O.	A. & T.	3	E.	Named for Florist Menand.	A.
Newtonville.....	P. O.	.....	5	C.	Named for John M. Newton.	v.
Port Schuyler.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Named for Peter Schuyler.	n.
Shakers.....	P. O.	.....	8	W.	Shaker Community since 1776.	v.
Spencerville.....	West Albany P. O.	N. Y. C.	2	S.	Named for Julius A. Spencer.	v.
Town House Corners.....	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	Van Vranken's.	A.
Van Vranken's Corners.....	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	Town House Corners.	A.
Washington.....	.....	.....	5	E.	Port Schuyler.	A.
Watervliet Center.....	P. O.	.....	9	N.	.....	v.
West Albany.....	P. O.	N. Y. C.	3	S.	Partly in Albany City.	v.
West Troy.....	P. O.	R. & S.	6	E.	{ Includes former Port Schuyler, Gibbonsville and Washington. }	i. v.
WESTERLO.....	P. O.	.....	22	.....	.....	L.
Chesterville.....	Westerlo P. O.	.....	22	C.	Named for Rev. John Chester.	v.
Dormanville.....	P. O.	.....	20	E.	Named for Daniel Dorman.	A.
Lamb's Corners.....	So. Westerlo P. O.	.....	26	S. W.	.....	A.
South Westerlo.....	P. O.	.....	24	S.	.....	v.
Van Leuven's Corners.....	Westerlo P. O.	.....	20	N.	{ Once Sackett's Corners and Preston's Corners; named for Isaac Van Leuven. }	n.
Westerlo Center.....	" "	.....	22	C.	.....	n.

HISTORY OF POPULATION IN ALBANY COUNTY.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

THE legitimate purpose of the Census seems to be to determine matters essential to an intelligent and equitable administration of public affairs. At first nothing was taken account of except the population classed by ages, sexes, and sometimes by races. In this way the strength of a people for the productive pursuits of peace or the destructive hazards of war, was measured. And when some respect began to be given to the popular demand for natural rights, it was important, to begin with, to have some scale of representation.

As imperfect as these census takings confessedly are, they are valuable as an approximate measure of the growth and prosperity of a people. To take them as they come to us is the best we can do, when we propose to show the historic movement of population and the great events and industries that accompany it or depend upon it. Hence, we have carefully collated, from every resource in our reach, this chapter as a valuable contribution to our history.

As will be seen, the statements of population during the Dutch Colonial period are but little better than estimates; and even when taken by direction of government officers, not only in the English Colonial times, but even in this day, by so many "enumerators," and from the mouths of so many dishonest, ignorant or timid people, the tabulated reports have never yet reached perfection.

Our facts and inferences in regard to the number and condition of the population of New Netherlands during the Dutch period, and of New York during the English period, are derived from the documents and other historic papers of those periods.

Wassenacr's *Historia Van Europa*, Amsterdam, 1621-1632, says: "There are now no families at Fort Orange. They are all brought down. They keep five or six and twenty persons, traders, there. Bastiaen Jansz Crol is Vice-Director there. He remained there since the year 1626, when the others came down."

This helps confirm our opinion that no permanent settlements in or near what is now Albany

were made prior to 1630; perhaps we ought to say, prior to 1639.

The same writer, speaking of Fort Amsterdam, says: "The population consists of 270, including men, women and children." Fear of the savages, and the dreary state of things about frontier Fort Orange, thus early led the "families," "the women and children," to "come down" to a place of better security.

That the early population of both Manhattan and Beverwyck consisted of few persons, except the officers and servants of the West India Company, is well agreed. A little band of colonists came over in 1630 as farmers and farm servants under the patroon, and did service under leases or otherwise, on the manor lands of Rensselaerwyck. Few had families.

In 1638, most of the population was confined to New Amsterdam and Fort Orange.

Their "High Mightinesses" had information in April, 1638, that "the population in New Netherlands does not only not increase as it might, but even that it is decreasing," which they attribute to the neglect of the West India Company to properly encourage immigration and provide for the protection of the immigrants by proper "inducements and pre-eminences."

Free trade, in 1638, gave some impetus to immigration; but most who came over preferred trading with Indians to cultivating the soil. In 1646, as shown by the Van Rensselaer papers, only 216 colonists had been sent over to Rensselaerwyck in sixteen years, reckoning from the first arrival in 1630.

Governor Stuyvesant tells us that, in 1647, soon after he came in charge of New Netherlands, "The whole province could not muster 250 or, at most, 300 men capable of bearing arms." This includes, of course, all the settlements in and around New Amsterdam, Esopus and Beverwyck. This he attributes in part to the "exceedingly detrimental, land-destroying and people-expelling wars with the cruel barbarians" that were aroused and carried on under Kieft. In this connection he speaks of his "troublesome neighbors of New

England," whose population numbered "full fifty to our one." Not far from this time New England was dotted over with agricultural and commercial settlements, many of which had organized as independent towns; and its population was reckoned at 60,000.

Until 1656, the little church of nine benches satisfied the religious worshippers of Fort Orange and the Colony. The early population of Beverwyck was an unsettled one. Some few of the better class purchased lands beyond the limits of Fort Orange, and settled down as industrious farmers; some returned to Fatherland; and others retired to the more stirring town of New Amsterdam, down by the sea. Population increased slowly upon the frontiers up the Hudson and Mohawk. Many were vagabonds of the lowest character; most unfit as founders or builders of a permanent and prosperous society.

In 1673, nine years after the English came in possession, we are told: "They and as many of the Dutch nation as are yet residing under this government is calculated to amount, women and children included, to about six thousand."

In 1678, Gov. Andros writes: "Inhabitants and planters about 2,000 able to bear arms; old inhabitants of the place or of England, except in and neere New York, of Dutch extraction, and some few of all nations."

"The town itself is upon a barren spot of land, and the inhabitants live wholly upon trade with the Indians." Gov. Dongan in 1687, says this of Albany.

The first attempt at taking a census in the Province of New York, was made in 1686 by Gov. Dongan, by request of the Board of Trade and advice of Council. The Sheriff had the matter in charge, assisted by constables or other under-officers, and reported on or before the 1st of April to the Governor.

A LIST OF THE HEADS OF FAMILIES,

And the number of men, women and children in each household in the City and County of Albany, June 16, 1697:

	Men.	Women.	Child.
Joannis Harmense.....	1	1	1
Myndert Schuyler.....	1	1	1
Joannes Schuyler.....	1	1	11
Aryantie Wendels.....	0	1	3
Alda Schuyler.....	0	1	4
Pieter Van Brugh.....	1	1	1
Marities Lervens.....	0	1	3
Margaret Schuyler.....	0	1	0
Melchert Abrahamse.....	1	1	3
Wouter Van Derzee.....	1	1	0
Pieter Van Olands.....	1	1	3

	Men.	Women.	Child.
David Schuyler.....	1	1	2
Mrs. Bradshaw.....	0	1	1
William Ketchlyn.....	1	1	2
Lucas Lucase.....	1	1	3
Jan Bratts Widdow.....	0	1	6
Rodof Gerritse.....	1	1	0
Jan Rosie.....	1	1	0
Isaac Caepse.....	1	1	3
Hendrick Masselis.....	1	0	0
Hendrick Hals.....	1	1	2
Joannis Becker, Jun'r.....	1	1	3
Jacob Staets.....	1	1	1
Dirk Van der Heyde.....	1	1	4
William Hogan (L.).....	1	1	3
Joannis Teller.....	1	1	3
John Fyne.....	1	1	0
Hendrick Lansing.....	1	1	2
Woter Wan der Uythof.....	1	1	0
Paulus Martinse.....	1	1	1
John Carr (E.).....	1	1	0
James Parker (F.).....	1	0	0
Hendrick Oothout.....	1	1	5
Colo. Pieter Schuyler.....	1	1	4
Pieter Van Woglom.....	1	1	0
Jacob Winne.....	1	1	0
Teunis Dirkes.....	1	1	1
Abraham Staets.....	1	1	1
Benoni Van Corlaer.....	2	1	5
Jurian Van Hoese.....	1	1	1
Joseph Yeats (E.).....	1	1	6
Joseph Janse (Sp.).....	1	1	2
Jonathan Broadhurst (E.).....	1	1	4
Jan Verbeeck.....	1	0	0
Eghbert Teunisse.....	1	1	5
Leendert Phillipse.....	1	1	0
Albert Ryckman.....	4	1	5
Fredrick Harmense.....	1	1	2
Jacob Cornelisse Bogart.....	1	1	7
Omic Lagrange, Jun'r.....	1	1	0
William Holie.....	1	0	0
Harman Gansevoort.....	1	1	6
Jan Quackebosse.....	1	1	6
Jan Salomonse.....	1	1	9
Godefridus Dellius.....	1	1	0
Hendrick Hause.....	1	1	2
Catelyntie Schuyler.....	0	1	0
Jacobus Schuyler.....	1	0	0
Geart Hendrikse.....	1	1	4
Jacob Van Schoonhoven.....	1	0	0
Joannis Bratt.....	1	1	1
Wessel Ten Broeck.....	1	1	4
Frans Winne.....	1	1	3
Maria Lookerman.....	0	1	1
Gerrit Rycker.....	1	1	0
Ryer Gerritse.....	1	0	0
Jan Vonda.....	1	1	1
Harpert Jacobsse.....	1	1	0
Willem Gysberse.....	2	1	5
Takel Dirckse.....	2	1	1
Jan Cornelisse Vlacler.....	1	0	0
Jacob Teunisse.....	1	1	6
Anna Ketchheya.....	0	1	3
Johannis Thomasse.....	1	1	1
Effe Lause.....	0	1	1
Johannis Hause.....	1	0	0
Barent Albertse Brat.....	1	1	1
Cornelis Van Ness.....	1	1	1
Anna Vander Heyden.....	0	1	3
Volkert Van Loese.....	0	1	5
Tierck Harmense.....	1	1	4
Anthony Brat.....	1	1	4
Jacobus Van Vorst.....	2	0	0
Thomas Harmense.....	1	1	2
Joannes D'Wandelaer, Junior.....	1	0	0
Jan Van Ness.....	1	1	4
Gerrit Van Ness.....	1	1	2
Willem Claesse.....	1	1	3
Myndert Fredrickse.....	4	1	0
Tryntie Carstene.....	0	1	3

	Men.	Women.	Chil- dren.		Men.	Women.	Chil- dren.
Swcer Marcellis	1	0	0	Mees Hogeboom	2	1	1
Pieter Bogardus	3	1	3	Pieter Villcroy (F.)	1	1	7
Hendrick Van Rensselaer	1	1	3	Marcellis Ffranse	1	1	0
Abraham Wendel	1	0	0	Rachel Ratcliffe	0	1	7
Evert Wendel	2	1	2				
Dirk Wessel	2	1	4	IN RENNELAERWYCK, OR THE COLONIE.			
Anthony Coster	1	0	0	Kiliaen Van Rensselaer	1	0	0
Isaac Ouderkerk	1	1	1	Henrich Van Ness	3	1	6
Bastiaen Harmens	1	1	5	Harman Janse	2	1	4
Thomas Williams	1	1	3	Andries Gardenier	1	1	6
Anthony Van Schaick	1	1	4	Douwe Vonda	2	1	3
Hendrick Roseboom	1	1	1	Wouter Quackenboss	1	1	4
Jonathan Janse	1	1	0	Jan Dirckse	1	1	0
Rycr Jacobse	1	1	4	Evert Ridder	1	1	3
Cornelis Schermerhoorn	1	1	2	Cornelis Teunisse	3	1	4
Abraham Kip	1	1	3	Dorothe Douw	0	1	1
Jacob Lookerman	1	1	0	Andries Douw	3	0	0
Frans Pruyn	3	1	4	Geestruy Janse	0	1	0
Anthony Bries	1	1	2	Thomas Janse	1	0	0
Catalyntie Jacobse	0	1	1	Lucas Janse	1	1	2
Gysbert Marcellis	1	1	3	Marten Cornelisse	2	0	1
Warnaer Carstense	1	1	0	Gerrit Gysbertse	1	1	5
Wouter Quackenboss, Junior	1	1	0	Claes Van Petten	2	1	5
Claese Ryrse Van Dam	1	1	0	Joannes Onderkerck	4	1	0
Abraham Lansing	1	0	0	Joannes Onderkerck, Junior	1	1	4
Evert Wendel, Junior	1	1	6	Henrick Beekman	1	1	5
Geertie Ten Eyck	0	1	4	Barent Coeymans	4	0	3
Barent and Hendrick Ten Eyck	2	0	0	Pieter Van Slyck	1	1	4
Abraham Cuyler	1	1	3	Teunis Van Slyck	1	1	1
Steven Grosbeck	1	0	0	Barent Gerritzy	2	1	4
Martin Cregier	1	1	5	Cornelis Hendrikse	2	0	0
Jullis Vonda	1	1	0	Elizabeth Hendrikse	0	1	1
Johannis Roseboom	1	1	4	Gerretie Jacobse	0	1	6
John Gilbert (E.)	1	1	5	Jan Spoor	1	1	6
Daniel Brat	1	1	0	Levinus Winne	1	0	2
Abraham Schuyler	1	1	2	Casper Luenderse	1	1	5
Esther Tiercks	0	1	1	Daniel Winne	1	0	0
Joannes Appel	1	1	0	Gerit Van Wey	1	0	0
Claes Jacobse	2	1	1	Ryk Michielse	1	0	0
William Jacobse	1	1	2	Jan Huybertz and his mother	1	1	0
Lucas Gerritse	3	1	1	Claes Swertse	1	0	0
Johannis Beekman	1	1	6	Neeltie Van Bergen	0	1	5
Isaac Verplanck	2	1	6	Richard Janse	1	0	0
Robert Livingston (Sc.)	3	1	5	Matthys Hooftyling	2	1	3
Phillip D'Foreest	1	1	5	Arent Slingerland	1	3	3
Hendrick Van Dyck	1	1	4	Solomon Van Vechten	1	0	0
Jacobus Turk	1	1	4	Cornelis Tymese	3	1	0
Harmanus Wendel	1	0	0	Joannes Hanse	1	1	6
Phillip Wendel	1	1	3	Cornelis Stevens	2	1	9
Melgert Wendel	1	1	7	Cornelis Martense	1	1	4
Joannes Lucase	1	1	1	Tys Janse	1	1	3
Melgert Melgertse	1	1	1	Robert Tewise	1	1	4
Joannes Blecker, Junior	1	1	2	Isaac Janse	1	0	2
Joannis Glenn	1	0	0	Nicolaes Janse	1	1	4
Jan Janse Blecker	2	1	1	Jan Tewise	1	1	1
Hendrik Roseboom, Junior	1	1	2	Servis Abrahamse	1	1	3
Nanning Harmense	1	1	3	Jacob Janse	1	1	7
Abraham Tewisse	1	0	0	Hans Jury's wife	0	1	4
Pieter Mingael	1	1	0	Jan Salisbury	2	1	1
Claes Rust	2	0	0	Joannis Visbeck	1	1	5
Jan Vinhagen	2	1	1	Firanch Hardin	1	1	7
Gerrit Lansing	2	1	3	Jan Van Hoese	1	1	0
Jan Nack	3	1	1	Carl Hanse	1	1	5
Jan Lansing	2	1	4	Jochim Lamberts	3	1	4
Gerrit Roseboom	1	1	3	Isaac Vosburgh	1	1	4
Cornelis Slingerland	1	1	3	Gerret Jacobse	1	1	2
Albert Slingerland	1	1	1	Andries Heugh	3	1	5
Gerret Lucasse	1	1	1	Samuel Gardner	1	1	3
Cornelis Sherloyn	1	1	5	Lambert Jochimae	1	1	2
Myndert Roseboom	1	0	0	Edward Wheeler (E.)	1	1	3
Dirck Brat	1	1	3	Jacob Bastiaense	1	1	6
Joannes Outhout	1	1	4	Pieter Vosburgh	1	1	3
David Ketcheyn	1	1	1	Pieter Martense	1	1	3
Maes Cornclisse	1	1	5	Jan Tyse	3	1	1
Hillegont Rykse	0	1	2	Hendrik De Brouwer	2	1	1
Maes Rykse	1	0	0	Jan De Wever	1	0	2
Wednwe Gerritse	0	1	1	Abraham Janse	1	1	2
Jan Gerritse	1	0	0	Lambert Janse	1	1	4
Dankel Ketcheyn	1	1	1				

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Adam Dingmans.....	1	1	3
Lawrence Van Aclen.....	5	0	2
Jannetie Bevers.....	6	1	2
Andries Lause.....	2	1	1
Frans Pieterse.....	1	1	1
Johannes Janse.....	1	1	6
Coenraedt Hooftylingh.....	1	1	2
Helmer Janse.....	1	1	0
Phillip Konnings.....	1	1	6
Jan Casperse.....	1	1	4
William Janse.....	1	1	0
Michiel Collier.....	1	1	3
Jan Alherse.....	1	1	4
Jacob Casperse.....	1	1	5
Andries Bratt.....	1	1	3
Joha Van Loon.....	1	1	6
Jan Brouck.....	3	1	6
Andries Janse.....	3	1	0
Gerrit Teunisse.....	3	1	4
Jonas Douwe.....	1	1	5
Jan Baptist.....	1	1	2
Dirck Teunisse.....	4	1	1
Gysbert Cornelisse.....	2	1	0
William Jan Shutt.....	3	1	2
Hillebrant.....	1	1	3

At this count Benjamin Fletcher was Governor, Simon Young, Sheriff of Albany County, and Dircke Wessels, Mayor of Albany. The "list" is specially interesting as containing the names and enumeration of the ancestors, nearly two hundred years ago, of many of the people of Holland blood now living in this county. The census aggregates 1,452, of which 379 are men, 270 women and 803 children. Of the letters in parentheses, E. denotes English; F., French; Sp., Spanish; Sc., Scotch; I., Indian. The others are supposed to be Dutch.

The population of the city and county of Albany, as taken by the order of Governor Bellomont, in 1698, at the close of King William's war, consisted of 382 men, 272 women, 805 children and 23 negroes. In 1689, at the beginning of this war, it had been 662 men, 340 women and 1,014 children. The decrease during the war was reported as follows :

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Departed.....	142	68	209
Taken prisoners.....	16	..	..
Killed by ye enemy.....	84	..	..
Dyed.....	38	..	..
Total.....	280	68	209

The effect of the war of 1689-98 on the Five Nations is reported as follows :

	1689.	1698.
The Moboggs.....	270	110
The Onondaga.....	130	70
The Onondages.....	500	250
The Cajoages.....	320	200
The Sennekes.....	1,300	600
Total.....	2,550	1,230

In 1703 the population of Albany city and county is reported to have been 2,273.

Rev. Thomas Barclay, in September, 1710, writes : "In the city and county of Albany, there are about 3,000 souls, besides the garrison. Most of the inhabitants are Dutch, the garrison excepted, which consists of three companies, each company one hundred men."

Governor Hunter writes to the Board of Trade, under date of June 23, 1712 : "I have issued orders to the several counties and cities for an account of the numbers of their inhabitants and slaves, but have never been able to obtain it complete, the people being deterred by a simple superstition and observation that sickness followed upon the last numbering of the people." In 1715 he writes further that, "The superstition of this people is so insurmountable that I believe I shall never be able to obtain a complete list of the number of inhabitants of this province."

Governor Hunter, in April, 1716, writes to the Board of Trade : "The number of militia in this province, by my last account, is 5,060. I cannot say that the inhabitants increase in that proportion as they do in the neighboring provinces, where the purchases of land are easier."

In June, 1720, "A list of the Freeholders of the City and County of Albany" was taken, by order of the Court of Judicature, under direction of Garrett Van Schaick, High Sheriff. The county then included Kinderhook, Claverack, Schaghtioke, manor of Livingston, Niskayuna, Schenectady, Half Moon, Coxackie and Catskill. In the present territory of Albany County, 153 freeholders were reported for the city, and 81 for the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

In 1723, there were reported as whites, 1,512 men, 1,408 women, 1,404 male children, 1,369 female children—5,693; and "of negroes and other slaves," 307 men, 200 women, 146 male children, 155 female children—808. Total, 6,501.

Goscn Van Shaick, Sheriff in 1731, enumerates :

White males above 10 years old.....	2,481
" females " " " ".....	1,255
White males under 10.....	2,352
" females " " " ".....	1,212
Black males above 10.....	568
" females " " " ".....	185
" males under " " ".....	346
" females " " " ".....	174
Total.....	8,573

The remarkable excess of the male population at this time is worthy of notice. The population of New York City at this time was 8,622, with no remarkable difference in the sex population. Sheriff Van Schaick thus remarks upon the matter : "It is remarkable that in New York there are,

above ten years, 147 males and 995 females more than in Albany, and 1,029 males and 185 females (under ten) more than in New York; which is accounted for by this part being a trading place, and many of the males go abroad; of course, many females *hve fallor*; and perhaps in the county they are better breeders, I believe many younger."

In 1737 the Albany County population is stated as follows:

White males above 10 years.....	3,209
" females " "	2,995
" males under " "	1,463
" females " " "	1,384
Black males above " "	714
" females " " "	496
" males under " "	223
" females " " "	197
	19,681

This is an increase of 2,108 since 1731, and exceeds that of New York County by 17.

An account of the number of inhabitants in the Province of New York was taken, June 4, 1746, by order of Gov. Clinton. Every county was taken except Albany. Upon this it was noted: "Not possible to be numbered on account of the enemy." This was during King George's war of 1744-48, called the war of the Austrian Succession;

At the enumeration taken by order of Gov. Clinton, May 10, 1749, after this war was over, Albany County contained:

Males under 16 years.....	2,249
" 16 and under 60.....	2,359
" above 60.....	322
Females under 16.....	2,137
" 16 and upward.....	2,087
Total whites.....	9,154
Male blacks under 16.....	309
" " 16 and under 60.....	424
" " 60 and upward.....	48
Female blacks under 16.....	334
" " 16 and upward.....	365
Total blacks.....	1,480

The whole province at this time contained 6,275 whites and 10,692 blacks.

The sheriffs of the several counties made another enumeration in 1756, during the French and Indian war. The returns of Albany County showed:

Males under 16.....	3,474
" above 16 and under 60.....	3,795
" 60 and upward.....	456
Females under 16.....	3,234
" above 16.....	3,846
Total whites.....	14,805
Black males under 16.....	658
" " over 16 and under 60.....	786
" " 60 and upward.....	76
" females under 16.....	496
" " above 16.....	403
Total blacks.....	2,619

In 1771 Gov. Tryon ordered a census, which resulted for Albany County as follows:

Males under 16.....	9,740
" above 16 and under 60.....	9,822
" 60 and upward.....	1,136
Females under 16.....	9,086
" above 16.....	9,045
Total whites.....	38,829
Black males under 16.....	876
" " above 16 and under 60.....	1,100
" " 60 and upward.....	250
" females under 16.....	671
" " above 16.....	980
Total blacks.....	3,877
Total population.....	42,706

This was the last counting of the people under the Colonial Government of New York. Less than four years later the war for independence had actually begun. The population during these troubled times made slow increase. It probably did not exceed 45,000 in Albany County during the Revolutionary war. But it must not be forgotten that Albany County then included what are now Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Greene and Schenectady Counties. A part of Vermont was also claimed.

Gov. Tryon, in 1774, makes the following remarks concerning the population of the province, which includes Albany County: "The high price of labor and the plenty and cheapness of new land fit for cultivation, as they increase the means of subsistence, are strong additional incitements to marriage, and the people entering into that state more generally, and at an earlier period of life than in Europe, the proportion of marriages and births so far exceeds that of populous countries that it has been computed the colonies double their inhabitants by natural increase only in twenty years. The increase in this colony has been nearly in the same proportion." He adds: "The accession to our own numbers by emigrations from the neighboring colonies and from Europe has been considerable, though comparatively small to the number thus acquired by some of the southern colonies."

The necessities of the Revolution made a fair census desirable in all the thirteen colonies. Accordingly, one was ordered by the Continental Congress in 1775, to be taken by committees in each county. But the returns were imperfect, and only fragments are preserved.

Another census, for the purpose of assigning State quotas and means, was ordered in 1782.

A census was also taken in 1786 under the Confederation.

The first Federal census was taken in 1790, and has been repeated every tenth year since by United States marshals and their deputies, and has formed the basis of representation in Congress. Besides the enumeration of the people, classed in different ways, almost every conceivable subject connected

with our nation's development has come to be included in our decennial census returns. But our purpose and space limits us chiefly to population. Some of the most valuable facts gathered for this county will appear in their appropriate places.

UNITED STATES CENSUS FOR ALBANY COUNTY.

Towns.	1790.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.	Incorporated.
Albany.....	3,506	5,289	9,356	12,630	24,209	33,762	50,763	62,367	69,422	90,758	1686
Berne.....	.....	.....	5,134	5,531	3,607	3,740	3,441	3,065	2,562	2,616	1795
Bethlehem.....	.....	.....	4,430	5,114	6,082	3,238	4,102	5,644	6,950	3,752	1793
Coeymans.....	.....	.....	3,574	2,872	2,723	3,107	3,050	3,116	3,077	2,912	1791
Coboes.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,357	19,416	1869
Colonie.....	.....	.....	1,406	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1808
Guilderland.....	.....	.....	2,476	2,270	2,742	2,790	3,279	3,246	3,132	3,459	1803
Knox.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,189	2,143	2,021	2,025	1,656	1,694	1822
New Scotland.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,912	3,459	3,304	3,411	3,251	1832
Rensselaerville.....	2,777	.....	5,928	3,435	3,685	3,705	3,629	3,008	2,492	2,488	1790
Watervliet.....	7,667	.....	2,365	2,806	4,962	10,141	16,675	25,449	22,609	22,220	1788
Westerlo.....	.....	.....	.....	3,458	3,321	3,096	2,860	2,692	2,384	2,324	1815

NOTES.—In 1790 our present county had only the City of Albany and the Towns of Watervliet and Rensselaerville. The column giving date of incorporation indicates when new towns have been made out of the same territory. These towns have made some changes by division. The varying influences of manufactures and trade, the facilities of modern commerce and travel, and the demands of modern life have made marked changes in their population.

The first State Constitution, adopted in 1777, provided that a septennial census of *electors* should be taken as a basis of representation in the Senate and Assembly of the State. Under this authority a census of this class was taken in 1790, 1795, 1801, 1807, 1814 and 1821, each provided for by special acts. The persons counted were divided into four classes, viz.:

1. Those allowed to vote for Senator, Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and required to be worth \$250 and over.
2. Those worth from \$50 to \$250.
3. Those not freeholders, but who rented estates for \$5 annually.

4. Those with no property qualifications, but were freemen in New York City, October 14, 1775, or in Albany, April 20, 1777.

No returns beyond these inquiries were made before the fifth State census, made in 1814, when directions were given to ascertain the total population. The last census under the first Constitution was taken in 1821.

The revised Constitution of 1821 ordered a State census to be taken in 1825, and every tenth year thereafter, for the purpose of equalizing the representation. Changes have been made in the methods of enumeration and in the number of facts to be gathered.

NEW YORK STATE CENSUS, GIVING THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF THE COUNTY.

Towns.	1814.	1821.	1825.	1835.	1845.	1855.	1865.	1875.	1885.
1. Albany.....	10,083	.....	15,971	28,109	42,139	57,333	62,613	86,541	.....
2. Berne.....	4,447	.....	.....	3,956	3,667	3,206	2,851	2,565	.....
3. Bethlehem.....	4,325	.....	.....	3,303	3,315	5,151	5,928	3,746	.....
4. Coeymans.....	3,272	.....	.....	2,957	2,978	2,963	3,264	3,122	.....
5. Coboes.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,943	.....
6. Colonie.....	1,657	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Guilderland.....	2,264	.....	.....	2,803	2,995	3,188	3,207	3,502	.....
8. Knox.....	.....	.....	.....	2,262	2,161	1,888	1,809	1,641	.....
9. New Scotland.....	.....	.....	.....	3,130	3,288	3,227	3,311	3,264	.....
10. Rensselaerville.....	5,333	.....	.....	3,507	3,589	3,088	2,745	2,579	.....
11. Watervliet.....	2,564	.....	.....	6,961	11,209	20,889	27,279	20,891	.....
12. Westerlo.....	.....	.....	.....	3,074	2,957	2,648	2,497	2,316	.....

We regret that all our researches have failed to give us the United States Census returns for the country towns in the county in 1800, and of the State census returns in 1821 and 1825.

The act passed by the Legislature of 1885, providing for taking the State decennial census of that year, was vetoed by Governor Hill, and no census has been taken.

ANTI-RENTISM IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ITS ORIGIN, RISE AND PROGRESS—ITS ADVENT AS A POLITICAL POWER, AND ITS DECLINE AS SUCH—REMARKABLE SHERIFF'S POSSE AND MILITARY DEMONSTRATIONS—THE LEGAL CONTROVERSY—THE QUARTER SALE AND ITS OVERTHROW—MANOR PROPRIETORS FINDING THAT THEY ARE NEITHER LORDS NOR PATROONS, NOR LANDLORDS, SELL THEIR DISPUTED INTEREST—FORFEITURE AND CONFISCATION OF LANDS, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ENFORCED BY SPECULATORS—PRESENT STATUS OF THE CONTROVERSY.

By Hon. ANDREW J. COLVIN.

ANTI-RENTISM had its origin in Albany County. It started into existence very soon after the death of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the last holder of the manor of Rensselaerwyck under the British crown. His death occurred on the 26th day of January, 1839. He was known to that generation as the patroon, sometimes the good patroon, and after his death as the old patroon. The manor was more than a principality in size, and comprised the greatest portion of the lands—cultivated and wooded—in the present counties of Albany and Rensselaer.

As primogeniture was the law of inheritance in England, so it was of the colonies, and this Stephen Van Rensselaer, therefore, as the eldest son, inherited this manor of Rensselaerwyck. The revolution, and the laws following, changed the rule of inheritance, and gave to all the children alike.

To break the force of this radical change, and to keep this vast landed interest in the hands of his two eldest sons, that might be, and their descendants, if possible, this Stephen Van Rensselaer on arriving at his majority adopted the system of selling his lands in fee, reserving to himself in the conveyances, and to his heirs and assigns, all mines and minerals, all streams of water for mill purposes and the like; and then certain old-time feudal returns, denominated rents, payable annually, at the manor house in Watervliet, such as a specified number of bushels of good, clean, merchantable winter wheat, four fat fowls, and one day's service with carriage and horses; and, finally, the reservation or exaction of one-quarter of the purchase price on every vendition of the land.

This patroon was advised that he could do this, even on grants in fee; and it is reported that Alexander Hamilton framed the form of conveyance to be adopted.

There was at this time an English statute, known as the statute of *Quia Emptores*, which rendered it impossible for a subject, on a conveyance in fee of his land, to make, or if made to enforce by re-entry or forfeiture, such feudal reservations. That was a right remaining in and belonging to the crown alone.

It was, probably, assumed by Mr. Hamilton that that statute was never in force in the colony, and that it, therefore, had no existence in the State, or any statute tantamount to it; or he may, perhaps, have had no knowledge of the English statute, as it was adopted so long ago as the reign of Edward I.

However that may have been, it is certain that this patroon, acting upon such advice from some quarter, sold in fee, with warranty of title, his farming lands in Albany and Rensselaer counties, the deeds containing the feudal reservations above mentioned. The system seemed to work smoothly enough during his life and the lives of the first purchasers; but, on his and their death, the successors of the latter, as owners, began to grow restive under the burdens imposed; and, on being urgently pressed after the death of the patroon by his sons Stephen and William to make payments of the rents in arrear as reserved in the deeds, they—the owners of the lands—began to question the legality of the reservations.

The patroon, by his will, devised all his interest in the lands thus sold by him in fee, with the reservations of rents, to his two oldest sons, Stephen and William P.; the scrivener who drew the will and himself undoubtedly supposing that he verily owned the escheat or reversion of such lands; in other words, and in more familiar language, that he still owned or retained the soil thereof. To the oldest son, Stephen, was given the rents in Albany

County; and to William P., the second son, the rents in Rensselaer County, as reserved in the conveyances.

Here, on the death of the father, commenced the first troubles of the landholders, or the tenantry, as they were called by the manor proprietors.

While the old patroon was one of the most gentle, kind-hearted and benevolent of men, and often generously reduced the rents, and by many sympathetic acts called forth the gratitude and love of the landholders, the young patroons,—proud, perhaps, of the great acquisitions, and it may be withal in need of money, as the rents, after the father's death, came in sparingly and reluctantly,—were sternly exacting, and they required full and prompt payments, and omission to pay was followed by prosecution and threatened eviction.

It was not long, under these circumstances, before strong hostility was exhibited to the fee-farm rent system in these two counties, soon extending into adjacent counties affected by the same system.

It is remarkable, on taking advice of counsel, as the landholders did, that no opinion was given or suggestion made that the deeds of the patroon being absolute conveyances of all his interest in the lands, the reservations were, for that reason, invalid as incumbrances, made so by the English statute before mentioned.

The counsel consulted were either ignorant of the existence of that statute or they dismissed the consideration of it on the assumption that it was never the law of the Colony or of the State. Had that statute, at the time of the anti-rent outbreak, been recognized as the law of the State, it is not too much, probably, to assert and believe that, before the distinguished judges who then adorned the bench, with the Senate composing the court of last resort—a popular as well as judicial body—the anti-rent controversy would have been spared more than a quarter of a century of political and legal conflict, and the feudal-burdened counties have become as enlightened, prosperous and free as their sister counties of the State.

The anti-renters, desirous of compromising the disputed matters on some equitable, even liberal basis, early in the spring of 1839 held a convention or meeting, numerously attended, on the Helderbergs, in the town of Berne, and appointed a committee to wait on Stephen Van Rensselaer, the eldest son of the old patroon, for the purpose of ascertaining if an amicable settlement of manor claims for rents in arrear could not be effected, and to learn, in the language of the day, upon what terms the soil could be bought, ignorant that

they owned the soil already by their deeds of conveyance.

The committee, consisting of such sterling men as Lawrence Vandusen, of Berne, afterwards elected county clerk, who acted as chairman; Edgar Schoonmaker, Hugh Scott, Joseph Connor and John F. Shafer and others of that town, and Denison Fish, Lawrence Fenner, Isaac Hoag and others of Rensselaerville, and other representative men of the hill towns and towns below the hill, on the 22d of May, 1839, went to the manor office in Watervliet to see and converse with Mr. Van Rensselaer on the subject for which they were appointed; but he refused to speak to or recognize them even by a nod. Passing into the inner office occupied by his agent, Douw B. Lansing, he held a somewhat lengthened and confidential conversation with him, and the agent then came out and said that Mr. Van Rensselaer would communicate with them in writing. This excited great indignation, the committee feeling that they had been treated with lordly and haughty contempt.

Mr. Van Rensselaer did some time subsequently address a letter to Mr. Vandusen, the chairman of the committee, which was read at meetings of the anti-renters held at East Berne on the Helderbergs, and other places in the summer of 1839. In this communication Mr. Van Rensselaer declined to sell on any terms, saying, among other things, that he would be doing injustice to himself, to his family and to society at large should he consent to do so.

This determination of the manor claimant on the Albany side of the river led to the wildest excitement in the anti-rent towns of Albany County, and open resistance to the collection of rents was boldly urged and practiced. Rent agents were insulted, and were not safe among the excited people. Sheriffs were resisted in discharge of their duties, by men masked and dressed in calico and Indian costume; their horses were shorn of mane and tail; the wheels of their vehicles were removed and hidden; firearms were displayed; tar and feathers threatened, and strong demonstrations of force generally exhibited.

Such was the extent of the resistance that early in December, 1839, the Sheriff, Michael Artcher, called to his aid, in serving process, the *posse comitatus*, or power of the county. Among many prominent citizens summoned was ex-Gov. Marcy, who, amid much laughter, declared grimly and facetiously his readiness to go; and he did actually go with the *posse* on foot as far as Adamsville, where a gentleman friend found him and conducted him in his carriage as far as Clarksville, and there the

Governor remained until evening, when he returned with the *posse* to Albany.

The Sheriff, with his *posse*, consisting of six hundred citizens, started from Albany on the third day of December, 1839, for Reidsville, a hamlet on the Helderbergs, about sixteen or eighteen miles from Albany. On arriving within a few miles of the place, the Sheriff, selecting from the body of the *posse* a committee of seventy-five of the stoutest hearted, left with them for Reidsville, where it was understood the anti-renters were collected in force. Just before reaching Reidsville the Sheriff and his committee encountered a body of fifteen hundred mounted men posted across the public highway, barring and refusing their further progress, and ordering them to go back. Whereupon the Sheriff and the committee returned obediently as directed; and on making report to the main body of the *posse* of the formidable resistance encountered, the whole body gladly took the backward march to Albany, where they arrived in safety the same evening at 9 o'clock.

People generally at the time, in discussing this unheard of *posse* and its ridiculous termination, declared that a bold front on the part of the Sheriff, with twenty resolute men, would have enabled him to pass through the mounted horsemen without injury, and do what he desired to accomplish of a legal character.

On the morning after his return, the Sheriff gave the Governor—William H. Seward—an animated if not exaggerated account of the resistance he had met with.

The Governor deemed it his duty, under the circumstances detailed, to call out the military, and he did so promptly and efficiently, for he ordered out a force sufficient to capture every man, woman and child on the Helderbergs. It was composed of the Albany Burgesses Corps, Captain Bayeux; Albany Union Guards, Captain Brown; Albany Republican Artillery, Captain Strain; First Company Van Rensselaer Guards, Captain Kearney; Second Company Van Rensselaer Guards, Captain Berry; Troy Artillery, Captain Howe; Troy Citizens Corps, Captain Pierce; and Troy City Guards, Captain Wickes.

This formidable body of citizen-soldiery, in general command of Major William Bloodgood, headed by Sheriff Archer, started for Reidsville, on the Helderbergs, December 9, 1839, to encounter and overcome the rent-resisters. With colors flying, drums beating, cannon rumbling, and bayonets gleaming in the wintry sun, its march from Albany was imposing.

It reached the Helderbergs without a shadow of resistance, and, encamping at Reidsville, found no enemy there to attack or oppose. It remained in camp and on duty at that point, and other places, for a week, and then returned to Albany, greatly chagrined and sadly bedraggled, amid the peltings of a pitiless rain storm of almost unexampled severity.

Similar but much smaller demonstrations, under proclamations of subsequent governors, set on foot by rent claimants and timid sheriffs, have occurred several times since. The object has always seemed to be, not to serve and enforce process, for that was never really impossible in the hands of a vigorous and courageous officer, with only a respectable *posse*; but by military exhibitions of display, accompanied by sheriffs' *posses* in force, to intimidate and drive the landholders into settlement and payment of iniquitous demands.

The resistance to the collection of rents and attempted enforcement of collections went on for some time in the tumultuous manner stated, without successful or encouraging results on either side. The landholders hoped the petty and threatened acts of resistance made by them might induce Mr. Van Rensselaer to offer some terms of compromise; but he refused all compromise unless his tenantry, as he called them, would cease all further opposition, acknowledge themselves in the wrong and pay up what they owed.

This obstinate state of the controversy led the landholders, under the advice of some antiquarian adepts in legal lore, to question the Van Rensselaer title to the manor. It was insisted that the letters patent were invalid on many grounds, not necessary now to be stated, as it would lead to fruitless discussion. It is enough to say of it that it soon brought the feudal rent conflict into the arena of politics.

Politicians, always keen to scent the advent of a new and potent power for votes, were quick in seizing this opportunity and putting the landholders in shape for political action. They must, it was urged, have a public press to make their cause and their grievances known to the people, and this was done with little delay.

The *Freeholder*, published in the City of Albany, became the organ of the embryo party. It was conducted for many years with great ability. Both of the old political parties, to a greater or less extent, entered into the controversy, although the National Republican or Whig party, then the opposition party to the Democratic, furnished, apparently, the largest number of anti-rent or land-

holders' advocates. The landholders now sought, through political agitation, the enactment and enforcement of laws to protect them against the feudal exactions. Their first object, therefore, was to secure the Governor and a controlling number of members of the Legislature; and at once, in the elections, they made their power felt. Rensselaer, Columbia, Dutchess, Sullivan, Ulster, Greene, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schenectady and Montgomery Counties promptly sent representatives of the landholders to the Legislature; and Albany County espoused their cause by overwhelming majorities. Ira Harris, as their especial representative, was elected to the Assembly in 1845 by a majority exceeding two thousand votes. In 1846 he was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and in the same year again to the Assembly, and subsequently to the Senate, and finally to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court. Silas Wright, whose name was a tower of strength, and who, as the Democratic candidate for Governor, carried the State in 1844 for Polk as President against Henry Clay, was beaten for re-election by John Young in 1846, because his action as Governor with respect to the anti-rent outbreak in Delaware County, in which Steele, a deputy sheriff, was killed, had given offense to this new and potent organization. It would be out of place, in a history of Albany County, to detail the successes or the defeats of this organization in other counties or in the State, or its fate in the Legislature, or its decline as a political body. It is sufficient to say that the landholders' party, as a political organization, with its organ, the *Freeholder*, died out gradually, and that the contest subsequently became strictly legal in its character.

Among the conditions contained in the manorial grants in fee, as well in Albany as in other counties, was a provision that the grantee, his heirs or assigns, was to pay to the lord or proprietor of the manor, on every sale or vendition of the land *ad infinitum*, one-quarter of the purchase price; so that, if a given farm—worth, for instance, \$2,000—with all its buildings and other improvements, put on it by the landholder himself, was sold four times, the manor proprietor would get the whole value of the farm, including the improvements; that is, \$500 on each vendition, making the full sum of \$2,000 on the fourth sale.

Litigation in the courts first assumed shape on this quarter-sale provision in 1848, and in 1852 the question was carried into the Court of Appeals for final adjudication. The ground taken there by the counsel for the landholders in opposition to the

quarter-sale was, that the condition was void because it was a fine upon alienation, repugnant to the grant and against public policy; but Judge Ruggles, who delivered the opinion of the court, placed the decision in effect upon the statute of *quia emptores*, which, although he concluded was not in force within the colony, and, therefore, not in the State, yet, in his own words, "that our statutes of escheats and of tenures, the one passed in 1779 and the other in 1787, acting retrospectively, performed the same functions and wrought the same changes in the feudal tenures of this State as the statute of *quia emptores* did in England. They put an end to all feudal tenure between one citizen and another, and substituted in its place a tenure between each landholder and the people in their sovereign capacity; and, by taking away the grantor's reversion or escheat, they removed the entire foundation on which the power of the grantor to restrain alienation by his grantee formerly rested, and they placed the law of this State, in respect to the question in controversy, on the same footing on which the law of England now stands and has stood since the reign of Edward the First"—that is, since 1290, when the statute of *quia emptores* was passed.

Judge Ruggles also said: "The right of re-entry for non-payment of rent, or the non-performance of other covenants, is not such an interest in the estate as makes the condition in question valid. It is not a reversion, nor is it a possibility of reversion, nor is it any estate in the land." And again he said: "A rent is not a reversion or a possibility of reversion, and nothing but such a reversionary interest in the land has ever been held to authorize a condition against alienation."

And Judge Ruggles adds, in the same opinion, that, although the quarter-sale condition is valid in leases for lives and years, for there the lessor has a reversionary interest in the land, yet on conveyances in fee it is void, for he has no reversionary interest left. And such was the unanimous judgment of the Court of Appeals; and so ended all further enforcement of this hoary-headed exaction.

The life and soul of this decision is this: the manor proprietors by sale and conveyance of their lands in fee divested themselves of all estate in the lands, and no relationship whatever of a legal character thenceforth existed between them and their grantees. They were not landlords, and the grantees were not tenants; for it is idle to call him landlord who does not own the land, and him tenant who does own it. And so quarter-sale con-

dition died, and by parity of reasoning so died also all other attempted feudal restrictions, by way of covenants or conditions in deeds in fee, to free commerce in manor or other lands in the State of New York.

The Court of Appeals at the time of this decision was composed of the following Judges: Charles H. Ruggles, Chief Judge, and Addison Gardner, Freeborn G. Jewett, Alexander S. Johnson, John W. Edmonds, Malbone Watson, Philo Gridley and Henry Welles, Judges.

The Court of Appeals, in a subsequent decision, pronounced in 1859, by Judge Denio, dissented from the opinion of Judge Ruggles with respect to the existence of the statute of *quia emptores* here, and held that that statute was always the law of the colony, and that it was the law of the State as well before as after the passage of our act concerning tenures in 1787. "A contrary theory," said Judge Denio, "would lead to the most absurd conclusions. We should have to hold that the feudal system, during the whole colonial period, and for the first ten years of the State government, existed here in a condition of vigor, which had been unknown in England for more than three centuries before the first settlement of this country."

After the decision of the Court of Appeals in 1852, the Van Rensselaers and other manor proprietors were advised by their counsel to sell, as it was evident that the other feudal conditions, such as the payment of wheat in bushels, fat fowls, days' service with carriage and horses and the like, contained in the conveyances, and forfeiture of the land in case of non-payment, must rest and be rejected upon the same principle as the quarter-sale condition, to wit, want of relation of landlord and tenant between the parties; for if that relationship did not exist in the one case, it was obvious that it did not exist in the other, and could not, therefore, exist at all.

While the manor proprietors, tired of the long continued resistance and the failure to collect alleged rents, had, previously to 1852, in a few instances, sold to some submissive landholders the soil of their farms, as it was called, they now, under the adverse litigation attending the quarter sale, on the advice of counsel mentioned, expressed a willingness to sell at prices ridiculously small, if they really believed the rents claimed were legal and collectable; and speculators or adventurers in numbers, ever ready to take chances, however desperate, or, if possibly successful, however detrimental to the general welfare, pressed forward to buy; and they bought. The chief or

principal purchaser was Walter S. Church, then of Allegany County, New York.

It must be here observed, once for all, that the term speculator or adventurer in this case is not made use of in an invidious or offensive sense, or even reproachfully, but by way of designation or discrimination. He is not an inheritor of manorial rights, and he does not take by devise. He simply comes in as a stranger on speculation, and buys casual or disputed claims, as he would buy lottery tickets or stocks in Wall street. He is, therefore, a speculator or adventurer in the contest, in which he purchases chances. If successful in the venture, his fortune is made, and he can take his ease, and live and spend and entertain freely and handsomely. If unsuccessful, he is no worse off than other speculators who spend on a hazard all, perhaps, they possess, and all they can borrow.

The last mentioned purchaser or speculator has, for more than thirty years, made a busy and troublous time of the venture for himself and for the landholders.

That he has been indefatigable in it, is saying little. His labors and his activity have been immense, and his presence, wherever or however required to promote or protect his interest, has been almost ubiquitous. Did the controversy drift into the Legislature, as it did from time to time, he confronted it there, at every step, with an energy untiring and sleepless, and open house and ample table as potent auxiliaries. When it went into the courts in the form of multiplied ejectment suits, prosecuted under his personal direction and in his interest, he was there alike active, untiring and vigilant; and it must be written, or this historical sketch will be imperfect, honored judges did not deem it improper, and have not considered it incompatible with their position, to accept the proffered hospitalities of his bachelor home, partake of his sumptuous repasts, sip his costly wines, and receive his courtly attentions; and distinguished lawyers, and lawyers engaged in the cases against the landholders, have participated in the entertainments; even Governors and Lieutenant-Governors have not refused to join in them.

It may be said that these social entertainments have exercised no control in the judgments pronounced by the courts. That may be so. But in cases involving civil rights, the forfeiture of real property and enormous pecuniary exactions besides, it cannot be expected that the landholders, victims in the actions, have regarded their possible influence with indifference. In a great controversy like this, in which judgments are given upon the

statutes of landlord and tenant—where such statutes cannot possibly apply—the rule of *stare decisis* should not be allowed to prevail; and therefore the judges should keep their minds open to further argument and decision, without possible bias in any way or from any direction; for it has been well said that a single decision has never, in any case, been allowed to stand if found opposed to principle, and in a conflict of decisions the doctrine of *stare decisis* does not hold.

It is familiar to every well-read lawyer that there are hundreds of cases in the books that have stood settled as law for centuries, which have been overturned by the broad, luminous and analytical mind of a Mansfield or a Marshall, a Spencer or a Kent—intellects which have elevated and ennobled the race, not debased and degraded it—and it will scarcely do to say that this generation of judges is infallible, or wiser and greater than those illustrious prototypes.

If it be asked how the controversy has progressed since the purchase by the adventurers, and how it stands to-day between them and the landholders, it may be summed up briefly.

In 1858, in the case of Van Rensselaer against Ball, first, among many cases, that went to the Court of Appeals after decision in the quarter-sale suit, the right of the manor proprietors, or the purchasers of their interest, to maintain actions of ejectment against the landholders, was put by that Court, in the opinion written by Judge Denio, before alluded to, upon a statute passed by the Legislature in 1805, authorizing grantors of lands to have the same remedies for the recovery of rents as if the reversion had remained in them.

Now, this statute was passed after the manor proprietors had sold their lands, with scarcely an exception, and could not, therefore, be legitimately employed in the office it was called on to perform; that is, it could not confer a right if none existed before. But this was not all; Judge Denio then proceeded to apply the statutes of landlord and tenant to the cases, after he had demonstrated beyond all contradiction that these statutes could not by any possibility be made to apply, in consequence of the prohibitory statute of *quia emptores*, and our statutes of tenures and escheats.

This decision so shocked the public conscience, that the Legislature in 1860 promptly repealed the statute of 1805, so far as conveyances executed before that time were concerned.

After that statute was repealed, the feudal rent litigation was renewed; and other cases, having gone through the lower courts, were carried to the

Court of Appeals for renewed decision, where they were decided in 1863. That Court then took a new departure, and held that the statute of 1805 was not necessary to the maintenance of the actions, but that the provisions of a statute enacted in 1846, abolishing distress for rent, and for other purposes—a statute passed in the interest of the landholders, through the agency of their own representatives in the Legislature—supplied the place of the statute of 1805. The opinion in the case was written by Judge Henry R. Selden.

Judge Selden, after relying on the statute of 1846, as Judge Denio had done on the statute of 1805, to sustain the actions, undertakes to uphold them on the strength of an opinion expressed by Sugden in his work on "Vendors and Purchasers," and on two or three controverted English cases. But neither Sugden nor the disputed cases advance the idea, or even hint at it, that there can be any forfeiture of land for non-payment of rent, outside the relation of landlord and tenant; and it may be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that no case can be found, English or American, *where re-entry, or ejectment for default in the payment of rent, has been had or allowed, except where the relation of landlord and tenant existed, or was supposed to exist.*

It has been shown that the decision in the case of Ball, in 1859, in which Judge Denio wrote the opinion—is no exception to this rule—for the judgment in that case was expressly affirmed, by help of the statute of 1805, upon the statutes of landlord and tenant. And Judge Selden, in his opinion in the Reid case, written in 1863, is forced finally to admit and declare that the actions are not maintainable, except the relation of landlord and tenant exists between the parties. His very language is here copied, and is as follows: "*In many cases in our courts, between parties similarly situated, they have been spoken of and treated as landlords and tenants, and the decisions in the cases of Van Rensselaer v. Snyder (13 N. Y., 299) and Van Rensselaer v. Ball (19 N. Y., 100) can be sustained on no other ground, as they depended entirely upon a statute applicable only to parties holding that relation (2 R. S., p. 505, § 30).*"

Of the eight judges who composed the Court of Appeals in 1863, when Judge Selden wrote his opinion, it is notable that two of the most distinguished Judges of the Court, Wright and Rosekrantz, who heard the arguments, refused to take part in the decision. They could not be brought to assent to the remarkable doctrines announced by Judge Selden.

Upon this indefensible assumption by Judge Selden of the relationship of landlord and tenant between the parties to this controversy (where such relationship does not exist), hangs the enormous exactions thereafter, and even now, bitterly wrung from the cultivators of lands absolutely owned by themselves.

The workings of the system, thus inaugurated by the Court of Appeals, may be illustrated by a few out of many examples :

On the 17th day of February, 1860, one of the coldest days of the winter, the principal adventurer in the claims, accompanied by the Sheriff and his *posse*, some fourteen or fifteen in number, armed with pistols and clubs, and handcuffs to bind any that might be found to oppose, made a sudden descent upon the farm and premises of Peter Ball, situated on the Helderbergs, near the village of Berne. The farm had been his and his forefathers for generations, but then and there, in the midst of a furious mountain snow-storm, they cast him, with his family, consisting of his wife, a sick daughter and an aged colored servant, from the dwelling, out upon the public highway.

The value of this farm, within the very limits of the village, with its new, convenient and handsome dwelling-house, and other improvements, made by Peter Ball himself, was very considerable. It was one of the most desirable and picturesque places on the Helderbergs ; and as the poor old people, the sick daughter and the aged servant were forced to leave, their cries and their tears touched many a tender heart.

It may be truthfully asserted that when the Patroon sold his lands on the Helderbergs, there was not probably an acre that was worth more than twenty-five cents. The value was given afterward by the buildings and other improvements put upon the lands by the purchasers.

It was necessary, it was said, to make an example of Peter Ball, because he had been a leading and persistent anti-renter, for the influence it might exert at the time upon other anti-renters to come forward and settle exacted claims.

Martinus Lansing, whose extensive farm lay on the east or Greenbush side of the river, in view, probably, from the pinnacles of the Capitol, beneath which, in august dignity, now sits the Court of Appeals, is a more recent and flagrant case of dispossession. On this farm, worth not less than twenty-five thousand dollars, it has been estimated there was an unpaid rent claim of about eight hundred dollars. Mr. Lansing was required to pay six thousand dollars to be reinstated. He paid four thousand dol-

lars, and because he did not promptly pay the other two thousand, although he subsequently offered to pay it, and the payment was refused, he and his family were removed from their dwelling-house by an armed body of officers and men. The great farm, with all its buildings and other improvements, put on it by Mr. Lansing's forefathers, with extensive additions and betterments by Mr. Lansing himself, was immediately taken possession of by the chief speculator ; and he is to-day occupying the fine dwellings and large barns, and planting and reaping the broad acres, and pocketing the fruits, rejoicing in the great acquisition, and making exhibitions of it to admiring friends.

The reader will not be surprised to learn that Mr. Lansing died of a broken heart, poor and penniless, and that his unmarried daughters, forced to support themselves as best they may, or dependent upon the liberality of relatives, have suffered a desolation, distress and mortification over which sympathetic neighbors and friends have dropped many a tear of charity.

Another case of dispossession was that of William Witbeck, of Greenbush, whose farm lay west of Mr. Lansing's, and nearer the river. The Olcott place, which occupies a site commanding a view of all Albany, forms in part its western boundary.

As a grass and stock farm, with its buildings and other improvements put on by the Witbeck family, it was very valuable—worth not less, probably, than fifteen thousand dollars.

Witbeck had paid all assumed rent claims against this farm, but there was yet unpaid, it seemed, the costs of the ejectment suit, amounting perhaps to one hundred and fifty dollars. These, by some oversight, had not been paid. They might have been collected at any moment upon execution, if Witbeck had refused to pay, as he had much cattle and other property on this and other farms in the same neighborhood. But this was not what the principal speculator in fee-farm rents was seeking. Witbeck, he insisted had been contumacious, and had forfeited his right to retain the farm, and he declared his intention, therefore, to take possession. For this purpose Hiram Griggs, a deputy of the Sheriff of Rensselaer County, with an armed posse, was dispatched to take possession. Witbeck, as he had given out he would do, resisted, and in the encounter which followed Griggs was shot, and subsequently died. Witbeck and his two sons were arrested and indicted for Griggs' murder. They were tried in Saratoga County, and were acquitted. In the meantime, secured against further resistance, the speculator obtained peaceable possession of the

farm, and he retains it to this day, with its bountiful ingathering of harvests and fruits.

Such are some of the results of landlord and tenant statutes, where such statutes do not apply. It is the merciless taking and appropriation of land (by judicial accomplishment), with all the buildings and other improvements, put on it by the owners themselves, which never belonged to the manor or proprietors nor to the purchasing speculators; here in the State of New York, near the close of the nineteenth century, in a manner equal to anything in atrocity that could have occurred in the barbarous ages of the ninth century, when feudalism was first forced on allodial soil and on free men.

The system of swooping in farms, with the buildings and other improvements, now practiced, under the same incongruous statutes, (made possible by the like judicial action) may be illustrated by the method in which it is done:

Ejectment suits are brought to recover one year's rent claimed to be due—generally the last year—and recovery of possession of the farm for non-payment. The landholder, on prosecution, goes to the office in Albany to pay the year's rent sued for, and the costs of the action. Payment will not be accepted unless he will also pay all rents claimed to be in arrear; it may be for fifteen or twenty, perhaps thirty years. The landholder remonstrates, on the ground, as often happens, that he has only owned the farm a few years, and should not be asked to pay longer than he has owned. He is told that that makes no difference; the farm is liable, whoever may have been the owner, and he must pay all rents claimed or lose the farm. On inquiry as to the amount claimed, he is startled to learn that it exceeds the value of the farm, perhaps, with all the buildings and other improvements. That result is brought about by charging the fullest prices for the wheat, the fat fowls and the days' service with carriage and horses, with annual accumulations of interest on each. It is the old story; the successors of the old Patroon chastised the landholders with whips; the adventurers chastise them with scorpions.

The distressed farmer, sued for one year's rent, goes home and communicates to his astonished family the ruin that impends over their peaceful habitation; and ruin promptly comes in the person of the speculator, with the sheriff and *posse* at his back, who speedily close the scene upon the wretched family by pitiless dispossession unless every claim be paid.

The prices of rents claimed have been greatly increased by the speculators since the days of the

Patroons; then the fat fowls and the days' service with carriage and horses, etc., were put at uniform rates of moderate character; now they are advanced to the extremest tension. It is this feature of the fee-farm rent system, among others, which makes it so bitter, harsh and unendurable. In cases between landlord and tenant, where that relationship actually exists, the landlord must specify in his petition or complaint the exact amount of rent claimed to be due, so that the tenant may know what he has to pay, and he pays it, or leaves the premises at his option, to which premises the tenant makes no claim, for he never owned them. He has added nothing to their value by buildings or other improvements, and he leaves them without loss or distress.

Very different from this is it with the fee-farm rent system. Here the courts do not require the speculators, on prosecution, to fix the amount of rent claimed to be due. That is left to their tender mercy after they have got their ejectment judgment; and if the landholder don't then pay as required, he loses his farm, with all the buildings and other improvements put upon it by himself. These buildings and other improvements, even more valuable, perhaps, than the land itself, the Court of Appeals declared in 1852, in the opinion delivered by Judge Ruggles in the quarter-sale suit, never belonged to the manor proprietors, and certainly, therefore, never belonged to the speculators in the manor claims. Yet these speculators are now allowed, under the statutes of landlord and tenant (with assistance of the courts), to take the buildings and other improvements as well as the land itself, which the Court of Appeals, in 1852, as above declared never belonged to the manor proprietors.

This category of the fee-farm rent system places it in a light of terrific injustice.

It may be asserted, boldly and unflinchingly, that the declaration of the Court of Appeals, before mentioned and transcribed, *that because, in many cases, the parties to this controversy have been spoken of and treated as landlords and tenants, therefore, their status as such is forever fixed and cannot be changed, where that relationship does not exist, is judicial legislation and tyranny.**

* This language is used advisedly. Writers on social science concede that the courts in this country have assumed legislative power. Lester F. Ward, A.M., of the Smithsonian Institution, in a recent work on "Dynamic Sociology," says: "There are two classes of law-making bodies—courts and legislatures. The growth of law through the courts is almost unrecognized by the people at large; yet its development by this agency is, perhaps, more rapid than by legislation." The author is inclined to approve this usurpation, unmindful that judicial legislation is invidious despotism, paving the way for imperialism; destructive assuredly of our system of government described by President Lincoln as the "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

This judicial legislation on this rent question makes him who does not own the land, landlord, and him who does own it, tenant, and gives the former the latter's land, with all the buildings and other improvements, without compensation.

The question admits of no dispute, and is of ready solution: it is determined by inalienable law, and all the courts in the civilized world cannot controvert or change it.

Suppose a man, owning one of these manor farms, dies without will, and without heirs, lineal or collateral, to inherit, to whom does the farm escheat or revert, to the manor lord, or in this case to the speculator who has purchased his interest, or to the people of the State in their sovereign capacity? Every tyro in the law knows that it goes to the people. Why? Because the reversion or escheat of all lands held in fee is in the State.

This point may be further illustrated by the manner in which the taxes upon these "anti-rent" lands are assessed and paid; which is matter of interest to distressed taxpayers generally, and to opponents of non-taxable Government bonds. The speculators have never been assessed for or paid any taxes on these lands which they claim to own as landlords over a peasant tenantry. If it be said that the manor proprietors, or the speculators who have purchased from them, are not bound to pay the taxes because of the original indentures by which the farms were acquired, that does not obviate the difficulty of the assessment of the taxes. If the speculators were the owners of the lands, the assessment would be levied against them as the owners; whereas, it is a well-known fact that such taxes have always been assessed to and paid by the farmers, as the owners in fee of the lands, and not as tenants either of the manor proprietors or of the speculators. The speculators have not only paid no tax or assessment of any kind on these "anti-rent" farms, but they have successfully resisted the payment of any tax on the vast amounts of rents which they have collected from the owners of these lands, as the tax receivers in the towns will testify. Hence it has now come to be understood that the speculators have here, under the ægis of the courts, a bonanza; a property superior to any other in the country; far better than non-taxable United States bonds, for they have a limit of existence, while this rent exaction is claimed to be indestructible; assuming always that the de-

isions of the courts are never to be reversed on this question.

The people of the State, therefore, are landlords of all these manor lands, as well as of all other lands held in fee, and no individual grantor, be he whom he may, has the slightest interest or possibility of interest in any land after he has made a deed of conveyance thereof.

Servitude to the soil in perpetuity, or involuntary servitude (better known to early ages as feudal servitude, the lords in which were known as lords superior, and the cultivators of the land as vassals, feuds or bondsmen), was imposed upon France by despotic rulers in the ninth century. It was brought from Normandy and planted on the allodial soil of England in the eleventh century by William the Conqueror. It was extirpated thence, in 1290, by the statute of *quia emptores*.

That statute was the law of the colony of New York, and it and tantamount statutes have always been the law of the State. Yet the degrading system, attempted to be fastened upon the eastern counties of New York by pseudo-Patrons and manor lords, has been actually fastened upon them by judicial legislation, under anomalous statutes of landlord and tenant, where such statutes do not and cannot be made to apply, even by legislative enactment; for our Legislature is not omnipotent, like the British Parliament, but is controlled in its action by both national and State constitutions.

Whether the system is to be perpetuated for the benefit of the speculators and their assigns, or their posterity, by judicial fiat, remains to be seen.

However that may be, candid and generous men will acknowledge that to the derided "anti-renters" must be accorded the honor of arresting the progress over the continent of this revival of mediæval despotism; for there is no telling to what length it might have extended over land in vast tracts, comprising millions of acres, held by corporations and wealthy capitalists, had it not been for the determined and world-wide known resolute resistance to the enslaving system by anti-renters of the State of New York.

Through their sturdy resistance, the constitutional convention of 1846 put the system under ban for all future time throughout this commonwealth, whence it is not likely ever to have further resurrection.

THE MANOR AND THE VAN RENSSELAERS.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

A HISTORY ought to be fair and unprejudiced; and on a question which has caused so much political and legal strife as was made by the contest between the opposing claimants upon the manorial estates in Albany County, under the Van Rensselaer leases or deeds, both sides should be permitted to make the amplest statements. With this view, I had early and frequent conversations with Mr. A. J. Colvin and Mr. C. M. Jenkins, lawyers upon opposite sides of the controversy when it was in the courts; both eminent for learning and ability; both natives of the county, and now among the few still living, at a venerable age, who knew the whole matter from their personal and local relations to it. I invited both to present, in writing, the historical and legal points in a controversy that, in its day, in this locality, was hardly excelled by that of anti-slavery in intensity of interest. Mr. Colvin only has responded to my request, giving, from his view-point, the only consecutive and detailed account of the contest in its historical and legal aspects, and in its progressive steps and present status, that has ever been given. The preceding article commends itself by its clear statements of both sides of the question, by its forcible arguments, and its evident desire to be fair to all parties and true to history.

The student of history will be interested in the facts which we give below, gathered as reminiscences from some of the oldest living lawyers, and from other reliable sources.

Alexander Hamilton, brother-in-law of Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer, the "old Patroon," is said to have been his early legal counsel after he came in possession of the manor, in 1785. After the death of Hamilton, in 1804, if not before that event, John V. Henry, who died in 1829, and Abraham Van Vechten, who died in 1837, among the most eminent lawyers of their time, were employed as his counsel. It is said he paid them each a salary of \$1,000 per annum. The following anecdote has been given: About 1815, Mr. Van Rensselaer notified Mr. Henry that he could no longer pay his salary. "Very well," replied Mr. H., "then I shall be at liberty to accept a retainer

from your tenants, and I will then show you that they are no longer your tenants, but the owners of the lands." The stipend was continued to the close of Mr. Henry's life.

Teunis Van Vechten succeeded Abraham Van Vechten as the Patroon's counsel. Then Teunis Van Vechten formed a copartnership with Daniel Cady, the distinguished lawyer, and they became the counsel of the new manor proprietors on the Albany side of the river, and David Buel, of Troy, on the east side of the river. Jonathan Jenkins, of Rensselaerville, father of Charles M. Jenkins, acted as counsel for the "old Patroon," and later for the "young Patroon," in the country, while the Van Vechtens were acting as such in Albany.

After the decision in 1852, in the quarter-sale suit, it was David Buel, of Troy, one of the most able real estate lawyers in the State, who publicly declared that that decision put an end to the rent controversy, and he would never after that defend further any of the manor cases.

The lawyers that argued the quarter-sale case for the so-called tenants, were Henry Hogeboom, of Hudson, and Azor Taber, of Albany, a native of Knox. Josiah Sutherland, of New York, afterward a Supreme Court Judge, argued the case for the manor proprietors.

After the decision of this case, Andrew J. Colvin, of Albany, and Anson Bingham, of Nassau, Rensselaer County, were employed in a number of cases arising out of these claims for rents; Mr. Colvin taking the Albany County cases, and Mr. Bingham those of Rensselaer County. They took the position that, if the quarter sales were invalid, so were the rents in bushels of wheat, fat fowls, days' service, and such like, on the same grounds, viz.: that the manor proprietors had sold their lands, not leased them. This led to acquaintance between these gentlemen, and finally to a copartnership, with office in Albany. The first of their suits which went to the Court of Appeals were the Ball and Hayes cases, decided by that Court in 1859, Judge Denio writing the opinion. Associated as counsel with Colvin and Bingham, and present in

Court at the argument, were William M. Evarts, of New York, and Nicholas Hill and John H. Reynolds, of Albany; Mr. Bingham and Mr. Reynolds making the argument for the farmers, and Mr. Charles M. Jenkins, of Albany, of the firm of Jenkins & Cooper, for the rent claimants.

Some years afterward, Mr. Peter Cagger became the lawyer for the rent claimants; then Samuel Hand, with Mr. Cagger; then Hand & Hale and Schwartz; then Mr. Rufus W. Peckham; then Peckham & Rosendale; and finally Rosendale and Hessberg, who now act as attorneys for Walter S. Church.

THE LEGAL POINTS.

The historical sketch of anti-rentism by Mr. Colvin, and the novel legal questions growing out of it, have induced me, at the suggestion of some legal friends, to look over the briefs or points of the counsel on the argument of the Ball and Hayes cases and the decision of the Court of Appeals in those cases, made in 1859. On examining these points on both sides, I found them elaborated by extensive arguments and citation of authorities. Deprived of the prolixity of legal technicality, the pith of the points appears to be as follows:

Mr. Jenkins, who made the argument for the manor proprietors, or those who purchased their interest, presented, in substance, the following propositions: 1. That, while by the Van Rensselaer indentures, the grantees or purchasers took an estate in fee or of inheritance in the land conveyed, yet taken and held under agreement expressed in the conveyances, to yield and pay rent, the fee was conditional and defeasible and not absolute. 2. That reversion, or the relation of landlord and tenant, was not necessary to sustain the actions, because of the contract by which the grantees or purchasers agreed, for themselves and their assigns, to pay the rents, whereby such rents became annexed to the land and passed with it as part of the tenure by which it was held. 3. But if these positions were untenable, then Mr. Jenkins submitted that the relation of landlord and tenant existed between the manor proprietors and their grantees, and between the assigns of each, because the King, as lord paramount, had here erected and granted to the original proprietor or patentee under the British Crown, a lordship and manor to all intents and purposes; and thereby licensed the Patroon to be chief lord of the fee or manor, with power to make tenants in fee or perpetuity, holding of him; and, therefore, the statute of *quia emptores* never applied to this, the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

The answer of the opposing counsel in substance was, that the manor of Rensselaerwyck was not and never had been a lordship in fee, and was not excepted from the operation of the statute of *quia emptores*; that Mr. Van Rensselaer was simply an individual and not a chief lord, and was, therefore, like other individuals, subject to the operations of the statute. That statute made it impossible for him on the sale of his lands, to make, or attach to the conveyances by agreement, conditions for the payment of rents of any description, and forfeiture of the lands for non-payment. It was out of his power on absolute sale to make a conditional or defeasible estate or fee for non-payment of rent, whatever the language of the conveyances. There was no escaping or avoiding the force of the statute by any contract contrived or entered into by the parties to overthrow its effect. Its essence was explicit and might be put in the following language: "Individuals may lease their lands for life or lives, or for years, and attach thereto covenants and conditions for payment of rent, but they shall not do it if they sell their lands." Covenants and conditions are allowable between landlord and tenant, but impossible between seller and purchaser of lands. So much, and just so much, was resolved and accomplished by the statute of *quia emptores*, in uprooting the feudal system; and Mr. Van Rensselaer having sold, and not leased, his lands, was prohibited from burdening them with conditions for rent payments.

In deciding these cases, the Court of Appeals, as expressed in the opinion of Judge Denio, held that this statute—the statute of *quia emptores*—was always the law of the colony and that it had always been the law of the State; and as Mr. Van Rensselaer had sold his lands, and not leased them, he brought himself within the principles of its provisions. His grantees became owners of the lands, and not tenants, and the relation of landlord and tenant never subsisted between him and them; and, therefore, it was impossible to put on the lands, when sold, conditions for the payment of rents. Any mind can see that such is the inevitable corollary from this decision.

It would seem to the common-sense mind that this announcement put an end judicially, not only to the Ball and Hayes cases, but to the anti-rent controversy as well. Not so, however. Judge Denio announced the judgment of the Court against Ball and Hayes upon the condition contained in the conveyances, as though it had been made between parties occupying the relation of landlord and tenant; and as though Ball and Hayes

were tenants and the manor proprietors and the purchasers of their interest were landlords; for he applied to the cases the remedies for the recovery of rent provided by the Revised Statutes by a landlord against his tenant, on a term for years.

The state of the controversy now seems to be this: No landlord and tenant in law, but landlord and tenant to collect rents.

THE PATROONS.

I.—KILLIAN, son of Hendrick and Maria (Patrons) Van Rensselaer, pearl and diamond merchant of Amsterdam, Holland, was a man of character and substance, of ancient family, descended in the thirteenth generation from Henry Wolters Van Rensselaer. He was a director in the Dutch West India Company, of the Amsterdam Chamber, established in 1621, and was one of the foremost in availing himself of the advantages of the "Charter of Privileges and Exemptions," passed by the States General in 1629, for the encouragement of Patroons to settle colonies in the New Netherlands. It does not appear that he ever saw the rich and extended territory, twenty-four miles up and down the Hudson and twenty-four miles on either side of that noble river, which came into his possession. But, by the aid of his co-directors and his agent, Wouter Van Twiller, and others, he gained lawful possession by extinguishing the Indian titles, securing patents and fulfilling, as nearly as could then be done, the conditions as to colonial settlements on his vast acres, within the limited time. His patents gave him feudal honors and powers. He freely assisted his immigrant farmers with stock, tools, clothing, provisions and even money, until they got a fair start. He leased his lands on certain stipulated conditions, which do not seem very hard, and we have no evidence that he was, in any way, disposed to be oppressive. His policy was not to sell his lands, but to allow them to pass, according to the laws of primogeniture of that day, to the eldest son or heir, with all their privileges and exemptions and increased values. At first he reserved all rights in trade, including the trade in furs with the Indians; but these were so modified about 1638, as to become open and free to all settlers. Many of them neglected farming and engaged in the more profitable fur trade. The Patroon also reserved all mines, which were never of value in this county; and all mill privileges, which he improved by erecting grain and lumber-mills, of great utility to himself and the settlers.

Killian married, first, Hillegonda Van Bylet, by whom he had one son, John or Johannes. For his second wife, he married Anna Van Wely, by whom he had eight children, viz.: 1, Maria; 2, Jeremias, who married Maria Van Cortlandt; 3, Hillegonda; 4, Jan or John Baptiste, who married Susan Van Wely; 5, Eleanora; 6, Susan, who married Jan de la Court; 7, Nicolaus or Nicholas, who married Alida Schuyler; 8, Ryckert or Richard, who married Anna Van Beaumont. Killian died in 1646, without sight of the promised land, and was succeeded by

II.—JOHN or JOHANNES, his eldest son, then a minor. We find some mention of him in certain official or business papers, but learn of nothing done by him, except that he married his cousin, Elizabeth Van Twiller, and had a son named Killian, who died early and without issue. He never came to Rensselaerwyck. The plucky Brant Van Schlechtenhorst had charge of his interests in the manor about six years, until 1652, when he was succeeded by Patroon John's brother, Jan Baptiste, as director.

In 1658, JEREMIAS succeeded his brother, Jan Baptiste, as director, and finally became proprietor. He held his position sixteen years, until his death, October 12, 1674. He is reported to have been a man of learning for his times, and much wisdom. He discharged his trust with great acceptance to all who were immediately interested. The contest for rights claimed by Governor Stuyvesant, the director of the West India Company, is discussed in the chapter entitled Rensselaerwyck and Beverwyck, pp. 49-67.

When, in almost the last extremity, under the Stuyvesant dynasty, a General Assembly of delegates from all the towns and colonies was called, to meet at New Amsterdam, in the City Hall, April 10, 1664, Rensselaerwyck was represented by Jeremias Van Rensselaer and Dirck Van Schelluyne, and Fort Orange by Jan Verbeeck and Gerrit Schlechtenhorst. Van Rensselaer was made president of this convention of twenty-two members. It adjourned without giving any support to Stuyvesant and the West India Company.

When Fort Orange surrendered to the English, on demand, September 24, 1664, and was named Fort Albany, Jeremias Van Rensselaer peaceably took the oath of allegiance to Charles II and James, Duke of York and Albany. No change was then made by the English proprietor James, as to the rights and privileges of the lord of the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

Jeremias, two years before this, July 12, 1662, had married Maria Van Cortlandt, who survived him fifteen years. She died January 29, 1689. They had two sons: Killian, born August 24, 1663, and Hendrick, born October 23, 1667. This family had its home in Greenbush. When Jeremias died, October 12, 1674, his eldest son was in his twelfth year, and as eldest surviving male descendant in the line of Patroons of his generation, was the heir apparent to the manor. Jan Baptiste, who returned to Holland and died in 1678, had released all his rights in the manor to this Killian. The heirs of the original co-directors of the first Patroon Killian, had sold their claims. Nicholas, the clergyman, who came over from Amsterdam in 1675, and Richard, who came soon after, succeeded their brothers, Jan Baptiste and Jeremias, as directors of the manor during the minority of their nephew, the heir to Rensselaerwyck. Madam Van Rensselaer acted as treasurer of this colonie, and her brother, Stephen Van Cortlandt, had charge of the books.

III.—KILLIAN, son of Jeremias, born August 24, 1663, was the first Patroon who resided in the manor. His house was probably situated near where the Patroons have ever since resided. He came to his trust in 1684, and held it during those troublous times, so far as we can learn, with much discretion and approbation. The patent was confirmed to him by the Duke of York, October 17, 1685, and reconfirmed by Queen Anne, May 20, 1704. Before this time, Jeremias had represented to the English government that the manor included Fort Orange and vicinity, territory which Stuyvesant had claimed as belonging to the Dutch West India Company, and had forcibly seized, set-off, and held by military possession. It was his request that the government look into the matter and restore to the Patroon his territorial rights. The decision of the English crown "upon a perusal of the Ranslaer's papers," was in favor of the claim of the Patroon, "that it did belong to them." The injustice and arrogance of Stuyvesant was discovered. Says Gov. Dongan, "The town of Albany lyes within the Ranslaer's colony." "They settled the place." Orders were issued to put the Patroon in possession of Albany, and conditions of rent were fixed "that every house should pay, some two beavers—some more, some less, according to their dimensions—per annum, for twenty years, and afterwards the Ransselaers to put what rent upon them they could agree for." These orders were placed in the hands of Gov. Andros, but not put in execution. When the honest Don-

gan became governor of the province the orders were brought to him. He frankly declined putting them in execution for this very sensible reason: "I thought it not convenient to execute, judging it not for his majesty's interest that the second town in the government, and which brings his majesty so great a revenue, should be in the hands of any particular men." But, wishing justice and peace, he adds: "By meanes of Mr. James Graham, Judge Palmer and Mr. Cortlandt, that have great influence on that people, I got the Ranslaers to release their pretense to the town and sixteen miles into the country for commons to the King, with the liberty to cut firewood within the colony for one and twenty years. After I had obtained this release of the Ranslaers I passed the patent for Albany." Albany received its charter July 22, 1686, and thus early was it done because of the magnanimous generosity of the Van Rensselaers and the sagacity of Gov. Thomas Dongan.

Killian II, probably, came in possession as sole proprietor and lord of the manor on attaining his majority in 1684. He conveyed to his brother Hendrick, June 1, 1704, a few days after his patent was fully confirmed by Queen Anne, all of Claverack or the lower manor, and 1,500 acres of the upper manor, including an island in the Hudson, and Greenbush running back one mile. He seems to have been a man of public trust and influence. In 1693 he was Captain of a troop of horse and Justice of the Peace. During the time of Leisler he was strenuously opposed to his government, and went as delegate to Connecticut to secure military aid in the troubles that threatened Albany. From 1691 to 1703 he represented Rensselaerwyck in the Provincial Assembly, and was a member of the Council from 1704 to 1719. The important office of Indian Commissioner was held by him from 1706 to 1720.

His will, made in 1718, was proved May 10, 1720, probably soon after the date of his decease, at the age of 57. He married Maria Van Cortlandt, October 15, 1701, by whom he had nine children, six of whom survived him. From him and his brother Hendrick, of Greenbush, who married Catharine Van Brugh, came all the blood of the Van Rensselaers in this country.

IV.—STEPHEN I, son of Killian and Maria (Van Cortlandt) Van Rensselaer, was born March 23, 1707. He became Patroon in 1728, eight years after the death of his father, and married Elizabeth Groesbeck, July 5, 1729. They had six children, besides others that died in early infancy. Among these were Elizabeth, born July 12, 1734, who became,

in 1753, the wife of that eminent man, Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck, and Stephen, who succeeded his father. Of Stephen I we find no record of public office, except that of Indian Commissioner in 1745. He was seemingly a modest, quiet man, faithfully devoted to the interests of his princely territory. He was buried at the Mills, July 1, 1747, at the age of 40. His wife, Elizabeth, was buried December 31, 1756.

V.—STEPHEN II, son of Stephen and Elizabeth, was born June 2, 1742, and came to his manorial trust in 1763. His health was feeble and his life was short. He died of pulmonary disease in 1769, at the age of 27. January 23, 1764, he married Catharine, daughter of Philip Livingston, the Albany signer of the Declaration of Independence. One daughter and two illustrious sons were the fruit of this marriage: Stephen, the sixth Patroon, and Philip Schuyler, born April 15, 1756. Philip S. held many important trusts, among which was that of Mayor of Albany for nineteen years, from 1799 to 1816, and 1819 to 1821. In 1765, that grand old structure, the present manor-house, so long the abode of plenty, refinement, intelligence and hospitality, was erected by Stephen II. It took the place of a building situated near by, which had, for many years, been the family home of the patroons, and was so arranged as to serve the purpose of a fortress as well as of a dwelling. His widow, Catharine, married, in 1775, Rev. Dr. Eilardus Westerlo, for many years pastor of the First Dutch Reformed Church. He died in 1790.

VI.—STEPHEN III, son of Stephen and Catharine (Livingston) Van Rensselaer, was born November 1, 1764. At the age of five years he was an orphan. Gen. Ten Broeck, his uncle by marriage, was his guardian during his minority. During some of his early years he was under the supervision and direction of his talented and accomplished mother, whose influence did much to give bent to his life in those elements of religious faith and regard for holy things which always marked his character. His school-days were spent in the school of John Waters, near his home; afterward in Elizabethtown, N. J.; and then in Kingston Academy, where he made preparation for college. One year he spent at Princeton, and then entered Harvard College, where he graduated in 1782. In 1825, Yale conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. Before he was 20, he married Margaret, daughter of Gen. Philip Schuyler, who became the mother of three children, and died March 7, 1801. In May, 1802, he married Cornelia Patterson, of New Jersey, who died August 6, 1844, having

given him nine children, four only of whom survived him. His death occurred January 26, 1839, at the age of 75 years. His life was truly full of years and honors, distinguished by usefulness, good examples, public confidence, and the affection of all that best knew him. From his earliest manhood he was a devout and consistent Christian, in the communion of the church of his fatherland and of his fathers. He was a sublime moralist; a patron of learning; a friend of the poor; a kind neighbor; a public-spirited citizen, and an unflinching patriot. He was born under a king; by inheritance a feudal lord of vast wealth; a pronounced advocate of the federal constitution that succeeded the war of revolution, and a zealous politician of the Washington, Adams, Jay and Hamilton school; which, with all its mistakes, was the purest and most intelligent party that ever had a name in our political history.

His policy as a land-holder was to dispose of his large landed estate to actual tillers of the soil. He adopted the plan of offering what were called leases in fee, and at what was considered moderate rent. In this way he succeeded in bringing most of his lands, situated in Albany and Rensselaer Counties, into cultivation. These brought him a good income.

“He had none of that morbid appetite for wealth which grows ravenous by what it feeds on.” Nor could he “bring himself to feel and indulge that passion for profit and gain which consumed those around him.” Hence, he was a kind, indulgent man with the farmers, whom he regarded as his tenants. He had no schemes for making larger profits, none for mere speculation. He made no change of policy for such purpose. He was always giving to the poor; always forgiving their dues to the unfortunate; always helpful in providing good schools and promoting religious instruction among the manorial farmers. The people all loved him, and often called him “the good Patroon,” or “the good old Patroon,” as he came to venerable age.

But our space will allow us to name the honorable positions of trust which he held, and scarcely more—positions held to adorn by his character and benefit by his influence. In military life, for which he had no special fondness, he was made a Major in 1786, a Colonel in 1788, and Major-General of cavalry in 1801. As is well known, he reluctantly took command of the militia, as Major-General in the northern department, in the war of 1812, from motives of patriotism and public policy. He was appointed by Governor Tompkins, and did heroic

service at Queenstown and elsewhere. In political life, he was Member of the Assembly in 1789, 1808, 1810 and 1818; of the Senate, from 1791 to 1795; of the Constitutional Convention of 1801 and 1821. He was Lieutenant-Governor, 1796 to 1802; Member of the Council of Appointment in 1792; and of the United States House of Representatives from 1823 to 1829. In 1801, he was the candidate of the Federalists against George Clinton for Governor of the State, and in 1813, against D. D. Tompkins, with a very strong vote. In literature, he was trustee and benefactor of local schools and academies; President of the Albany Institute from 1824 to 1839; a Regent of the University from 1819; and Chancellor from 1835 until his death in 1839. He was on the Erie Canal Commission from 1810, and President of the Canal Board fifteen years. He was one of the founders of the New York State Agricultural Society, and its first President. In Masonry he became Master of the Grand Lodge of the State. In the early banking and railroad movements, and other matters of public improvement, he was among the foremost. The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, was founded by him; and he was a constant patron of literature and literary men.

When he died, none ever had a simpler funeral. It was his own request. His body was borne to the tomb of his fathers on men's shoulders. The family mourners and the citizens that knew him and loved him so well, followed from the North Dutch Church to his last resting place on foot. There was no parade, no ostentation of any kind. Albany never buried a man who was loved more sincerely or mourned more sorrowfully. In many ways he was a great man; in all ways he was, what is better, a good man.

His estate, under the United States Constitution and the laws of 1787, could not descend to the oldest son. The last Patroon died with him. His landed interests were divided between his sons Stephen and William Patterson, the Albany County lands going to the former; those of Rensselaer County to the latter.

VII.—STEPHEN IV, only son of Stephen and Margaret (Schuyler) Van Rensselaer, was born March 29, 1789. He had possession of the mansion, and was usually called, by courtesy or custom, "the young Patroon." He married Harriet E. Bayard, of New York, and had eight children, six of whom survived him. His death occurred May 25, 1868, in his eightieth year. He never sought official honors, but lived a quiet and unobtrusive life. He was interested in many charitable

objects, and a liberal giver. In the church of his fathers, of which he was a prominent member and officer, he was always valued. He was called General, a title which belonged to him as an officer of that rank in the State militia. The anti-rent controversy, described by Mr. Colvin, broke out and raged in his time.

WILLIAM PATTERSON, oldest son of Stephen and Cornelia (Patterson) Van Rensselaer, was born March 6, 1805, and occupied for a time, his lands in Rensselaer County. He built what is now called Forbes Manor for his residence; but never occupied it. He resided, for a while, in the building in Albany now converted into St. Peter's Hospital, and after his financial affairs became complicated, he made his residence in and near New York City, the rest of his life.

Thus closes our brief history of the Patroons—men who held that title for about 238 years, and whose relationship to the landed interests, to the business interests, and, indeed, to every interest in this county, was peculiar and lasting. Taking all in all, they and their descendants generally deserve to be spoken of with respectful consideration, some of them with distinguished gratitude and praise.

THE HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER BRANCH.

Many of the descendants of Hendrick, the second son of Jeremias, and brother of Patroon Killian, deserve place in our history, as persons who have led lives of eminent usefulness and honor. We only wish we had space to render them the honor they deserve. Among them we may name, as especially eminent, Colonel Killian, son of Hendrick, who was once Chairman of the Committee of Safety. He had four distinguished sons, General Henry K., a brave revolutionary officer, who was crippled for life by wounds received in battle at Fort Ann, July 8, 1777; Col. Philip, who was for many years Commissary of Military Stores in the northern department, and who built the Cherry Hill Mansion, and died there in 1798; Colonel Nicholas, who was one of General Montgomery's aids at the storming of Quebec, December 31, 1775, and was afterwards aid to General Schuyler, and fought at Ticonderoga, Fort Miller, Fort Ann and Bemis Heights. He it was who bore the news of Burgoyne's defeat to Albany, October 17, 1777. Another son, Killian K., was an eminent lawyer in Albany, and represented the County in United States Congress, ten years, from 1801-1811. General Solomon, son of General Henry K., was one of the bravest of patri-

otic men, and an eminent civilian. He fought the Indians at Maumee with Wayne and Harrison in the Northwest, and was also at the battle of Queens-town as aid to General Stephen. In both battles he was seriously wounded. He was for sixteen years Adjutant-General of the State; four years in the United States Congress, and many years Postmaster of Albany. His brother, Killian H., was a Lieutenant in the United States Navy. Jeremiah, Hendrick and John B., represented Rensselaerwyck in the colonial assemblies, filling up the thirty-five years between 1726 and 1761. Another Jeremiah, son of John, was Lieutenant-Governor of the State from 1801 to 1810. John S. was a brave soldier in the war of 1812. Robert was a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1775-77. Colonel James was one of Montgomery's aids at Quebec; and many others of this branch filled up the measure of good citizenship.

FEMALES OF THE FAMILY.—Three distinguished patriots of the revolution married Van Rensselaer daughters: General Philip Schuyler married Catharina, daughter of John; General Abraham Ten Broeck, Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen, the fourth Patroon; and General Leonard Gansevoort, Maria, daughter of Colonel Killian. Mrs. Catharine Visscher, youngest daughter of General Solomon, and widow of Rev. Samuel W. Bonney, author of

"Legacy of Historical Gleanings," and now President of Claremont College, Catawba County, N. C., deserves special mention here, as a lady of exalted worth and fine accomplishments. The female members of the Van Rensselaer family with very few exceptions, make a long list of excellent daughters, wives and mothers, ornaments to their name and their sex.

REPRESENTATION.—Rensselaerwyck had a representation in the colonial assemblies, separate from Albany, from April 9, 1691 to April 3, 1775, a period of eighty-four years. The representatives were: 1691 to 1704, Killian Van Rensselaer; 1701-2 and 1715-26, Andries Coeymans; 1703-4, Andries Douw; 1705-14, Hendrick Van Rensselaer; 1726-43, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; 1743-61, John B. Van Rensselaer; 1761-75, Abraham Ten Broeck.

It is worthy of remark that all the members of this wealthy and aristocratic family were always found on the side of popular liberty. As citizens, they voted on that side; as civil officers, they contended for it even when in a minority and against the English crown; as soldiers, they bravely fought for it and generously spent of their wealth for it. And yet they must have known that a simple representative free government would, as it did, at once abridge and finally destroy their feudal descended rights and powers.

LAND PATENTS, SETTLEMENTS, LEASES, TITLES AND BOUNDARIES.

THE claims of the native proprietors to the soil were admitted by the Holland companies and the Patroon, and purchases of lands were made from the Indian owners "for certain quantities of duffels, axes, knives and wampum." In this manner purchases were made by the Van Rensselaer Patroons and others, who made original purchases of Indian tracts of lands. The general policy of these Patroons was to lease lands and transmit them to their heirs, not to sell them. This has been briefly spoken of in other parts of our volume.

Much could be said under our heading, but we propose to say but little—just enough to give a few facts and suggestions on a subject of great interest and extensive relations.

In 1678, Governor Andros thus writes of land grabbing: "New York is in 40° 35', Albany abt. 43°. The Colony is several long narrow stripes of

wh. a great part of the settlemt. made by adventurers before any Regulacon by wh. Incroachmts. without pattendts, wh. towns have lately taken but by reason of continuall warrs noe Survey made & wildernesse, no computacon can be made of the planted and implanted." True to his King, this Governor endeavored to place a check upon such proceedings. But with poor success.

The extravagant land grants made in this State, to private persons, by some of the English Governors were in such vast parcels that the government thereby lost much revenue, which caused much uneasiness and discontent. Individuals came into collision on account of the irregular manner in which the grants usually were located—without surveys or boundaries. The most reckless governors in these transactions were Governors Fletcher and Cornbury. Lands by 50,000, 100,000, and

even a million of acres were placed in the hands of unscrupulous speculators. Conflicting claims made great trouble; honest settlers were defrauded; and the settlement of good lands by worthy citizens greatly hindered. The King interfered; called home some governors in disgrace, and vacated some of the grants. No State in the Union has suffered so much by the extravagant and unguarded distribution of its domain as the State of New York. The hurtful consequences have always been felt as prejudicial to the public interests.

The recognized claim of the Patroons, dating so far back, and being so well established by the extinguishment of the Indian claims and the actual occupation of the land, prevented any trouble from such grants in Rensselaerwyck.

While the title of the lands in this county could not be disputed, having been duly purchased of the aboriginal owners by the Van Rensselaers and confirmed by the States General of Holland, the manner of dividing off the farms was not well considered. Land was plenty and the value small. Patents and farms were located by spotted trees, stones, streams, and other points subject to decay, removal or other change. One badly defined lot was bounded as lying next to another just as badly defined. Lots overlapped each other, and gores or other shapes were left between lots without a legal occupant. Lands were stepped off, or measured with a pole, a rope, or the "leading line" of a harness. Courses were run by unskilled surveyors, running northerly or north-by-west from any evanescent or uncertain point that first came to notice in the line. In after time came the difficulty of finding the old points and retracing the old lines. This has cost labor, expense and perplexity. Many questions pertaining to the farm lands in this county are yet unsettled, the farmers wisely concluding that it would cost more than it would come to to hire a surveyor; much more to go to court. So, by some neighborly compromise, the unsettled line of division has long remained unsettled; and we may hope that it long may, except it be peaceably.

Joel Munsell tells us that the boundaries and tracts were quite indefinite, and as they became cultivated, all traces of the described bounds utterly ceased to be distinguishable. For instance, a farm now in the heart of the City of Albany, leased by the Patroon to Isaac, son of Casper Halenbeck, is thus described in the lease: "Bounded on the north by the plain and hill; on the east by the swamp; on the south by the Bever Kil; on the west by the woods." Nothing now remains but

the Kil to mark the boundaries of this tract, and that is partially arched over and used as a sewer. The hill was long since leveled, the swamp filled in and built upon, the woods cleared up, and the area occupied by streets and a dense population.

The Duke of York, as proprietor and as King, as well as his successors, saw the good policy of treating the Hollander well, and readily confirmed the rights and patents that dated under the government of the States General or of the Dutch West India Company. All other lands were claimed as belonging to the English crown; and, after satisfying the Indian title as a matter of policy, all grants were finally subject to the approval of the King.

The acknowledgment of the just title of the Patroon of Rensselaerwyck to the territory that became the City of Albany in 1686, unfairly disputed by Governor Stuyvesant, reflects credit on the policy of the English government at that time, as discussed in another place.

The claim of England to the territory of New Netherlands, by right of prior discovery, has been referred to elsewhere, and needs no further discussion here. It was at a time when might made right. Indeed, when and where in the world's history has it not been so? But how little did King James realize the value of his province of New York! Nor was George III much wiser.

Writing concerning the state of lands in the Province of New York in 1732, Cadwallader Colden, Surveyor-General, says: "By the 3d article of Surrender agreed to with the Dutch Govt. it is stipulated (in 1664) that 'all people shall continue free denizens, and enjoy lands, houses, goods, ships, wheresoever they are within the country, and dispose of them as they please.' And by the 11th article, 'The Dutch here shall enjoy their own customs concerning inheritances.'"

In pursuance of this the inhabitants took out confirmations of their lands and tenements under the hand and seal of Colonel Nicolls, the first English Governor under the Duke of York, in which their title under the Dutch is recited. The form of these confirmations appear to be everywhere the same.

Governor Nicolls likewise, granted unimproved lands to any who were willing to settle and improve them; and these first grants were made without any previous survey or without reciting any certain boundaries, but only to contain, for example, 100, 200, or 300 acres adjoining such another man's land or a certain hill, or river, or rivulet.

Subsequent governors made land grants with surveys or without, as it pleased them. Some parted

with valuable lands and large tracts for a mere trifle to their favorites. Land was plenty. The few who had influence with the government, and desired increase of power and wealth, saw their opportunity in large territory which they might settle with dependents. The evil that came from such a policy has cursed this State even to our day; giving us confusion of titles and boundaries; vexatious and expensive lawsuits; many bitter contentions, that have grown so mighty as to move the whole body politic; and kept many hard-working tenants and their families in a condition but little better than abject servitude, with all its consequences in ignorance and lawlessness. Albany County is a witness of this condition of things. The article on Anti-rentism in this volume clearly exhibits the evils that have sprung from feudal tenures, rents conditioned upon leases in perpetuity, and exacted by the Patroons and their assignees. The conflicting opinions of learned legal authority are perplexing to the lay citizen. The financial ruin of many so-called tenants, and the physical, mental and moral degradation frequently consequent upon this condition of things, are too patent for denial, and excite commiseration. This state of things shows that a great wrong has been the natural outgrowth of the policy of such land grants made long ago, no doubt, at first, with a worthy purpose. Nor is there any doubt that the Patroons, or original landholders, regarded their manorial claims as beneficial to the State as well as advantageous to themselves. They designed to treat the farmers who occupied their lands with justice, and usually did treat them with a policy both benevolent and lenient. The evils that resulted were the fruits of the system. One of the worst ills that has resulted from the lease system in this county has been its effect upon the family of the lessee, which has occupied the same soil for many years without owning anything.

If men do not possess the right of soil, however cheap the lease rents, they never can be independent citizens. They are always under the influence of their landlords. Their minds are apt to become debased and their enterprise destroyed. When their vassalage becomes hopeless, they live as dumb, driven cattle.

The exact boundaries of our county, and of the towns of which it is constituted, are not accurately defined. Says Mr. J. T. Gardner, in State Survey Report for 1877:

"Less than one hundred years ago, however, surveyors, carrying only the compass, chain, ax and rifle, contending with innumerable obstacles in

pathless forests, forced their way to the utmost limits of a wilderness stretching from the Hudson River to Lake Erie. They traversed every part, and roughly measured lines, dividing the lands into tracts of suitable size for coming settlers, and marking the lots by notching or 'blazing' surrounding trees.

"There has been no survey of the State since the pioneer surveyors ran their compass lines through the woods.

"The maps of New York are false to the extent of one, two, and even three miles in the positions ascribed to prominent points. * * * It is well known that we are far behind the rest of the world in knowledge of our own territory."

What is true of the State is measurably true of the smaller divisions of the State, of which it is composed. There is something yet to be done by the surveyors and engineers of the future.

The sagacity of the Dutch settlers is shown in their selection of lands, and the tenacity with which they held possession of them. They rarely occupied the hills. Their native Holland was a flat country, abundant in water, lying by the sea, and traversed by rivers and canals. The early colonists of this county planted their homes, usually, upon level tracts, upon the rich alluvium of the Hudson River, or other streams that run into it. These they were apt to leave to their heirs. The later German took the best he could find in the valley of the Mohawk, or else looked for his home on some fertile spot but a little removed from some stream.

The following is a list of patents of lands located in or near Albany County by the Dutch Government from 1630 to 1634, so far as they now have been found recorded in the Book of Patents and Town Records. It will interest the many descendants of our original landholders:

Kiliaen Rensselaer: Indian land east of Hudson, Rensselaerwyck, August 6, 1631; Indian land west of Hudson, Rensselaerwyck, August 13, 1631; Indian land, Papskenea, Rensselaerwyck, April 13, 1637; Indian land, Katskill, April 19, 1649; Indian land, Claverack, May 14, 1649. Jan Michelsen: a lot, Beverwyck, May 23, 1650. Rutger Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Goosen G. Van Schaick: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Anthonie De Hooges, a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Cornelis Teunissen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Andries Herbertsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Dirck Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Arent Andriessen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Volkert Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Albert Gerritsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Jacob Adrien-

sen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Willem Teller: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Annetje Bogardus: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Teunis Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Rut Adriensen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Jacob Janz Schermerhorn: a lot, Beverwyck, November 9, 1653. Jochem Backer: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1653. Pieter Loockermans: a lot, Beverwyck, July 7, 1653. Hans Kierstede: a lot, Beverwyck, July 18, 1653. Ryer Elbertsen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Laurens Lourenzen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jochem Kettelhuyn: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Evert Janz Van Embden: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Casper Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Michel Reyckersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Hendrick Andriessen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Verbeck: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Thomas Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Andries DeVos: a lot of woodland, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Thomas Sandersen: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Rut Adriensen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. And. Janz Appel Van Leyden: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Janz Schermerhorn: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Labadie: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Laurens Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Captain Abram Staets, a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Hendrick Sibbinck: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Symonz Klomp: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Hags Brunysen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Frs. Van Hoesen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Gillis Pietersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Captain Abram Staets: Cicheckawick, north of Claverack, March 17, 1654. Leendert Phillipsen: a lot, Beverwyck, March 24, 1654. Hendrick Marcelis: a lot, Beverwyck, March 24, 1654. Gillis Pietersen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 14, 1654. Wynent Gerritsen: a lot, Beverwyck, August 29, 1654. Ad. J. Van Leyden Appel: a lot for an inn, Beverwyck, December 16, 1654. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: two lots, Beverwyck, June 16, 1656. Adrien Janz Ilpendam: a lot, Beverwyck, October 28, 1656. Mattheus Abrams: a lot, Beverwyck, October 28, 1656. Claes Hendricksen: two lots, Beverwyck, September 25, 1657. Pieter Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, February 23, 1658. Jeremias Van Rensselaer: a lot, Beverwyck, February 25, 1658. Sander Senderts Glen: a lot, Beverwyck, July 13, 1658. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: a lot, Beverwyck,

September 10, 1658. Pieter Meersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 31, 1658. Thomas Chambers: a lot, Beverwyck, November 8, 1653. Volckert Jansen, et al.: a plantation, Fort Orange, March 31, 1659. — Andriessen: a plantation, Fort Orange, March 19, 1659. Arent Van Curler: a plantation, Beverwyck, March 23, 1659. Pieter Hartgers: two lots, Beverwyck, September 1, 1659. Jan Daretha: a lot, Beverwyck, February 5, 1660. Peter Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, February 23, 1660. Peter Mees: a lot, Beverwyck, August 17, 1660. Jan Costers Van Aecken: a lot, Beverwyck, March 7, 1661. Jan Tomassen: two lots, Beverwyck, March 10, 1661. Rutger Jacobsen, et al.: Pachnach Killick Island, near Beverwyck, March 10, 1661. Rutger Jacobsen: Constable's Island, Beverwyck, March 19, 1661. Arent Van Curler, et al.: Indian land, Schonowe, July 27, 1661. Schenectady, Great Flatt confirmed April 6, 1662. Jan Jansen Van Hoesen: Indian land, Claverack, June 5, 1662. J. B. Wemp, et al.: Martin's Island, Schenectady, November 12, 1662. Peter Bronck: a lot, Beverwyck, 1663. Symon Symonz Groot: a lot, Beverwyck, May 11, 1663. Casper Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, December 29, 1663. Jan Tomassen: a lot, Beverwyck, March 10, 1664. Cornelis Van Nes: twenty-one morgen, Schenectady, June 1, 1664. Teunis Cornelissen: twenty-four morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Symon De Bakker: twenty-four morgen, Schenectady, June 19, 1664. Pieter Adriensen: twenty-six morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Willem Teller: twenty-three morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: Indian tract, Half-Moon, July 10, 1664.

All lands within this State are allodial, so that, subject to their liability to escheat, the owners have entire and absolute property in them, according to the nature of their respective estates. No leases can now be made of agricultural lands for a time longer than twelve years, and all quarter sales or other restraints upon alienation, reserved in any grant hereafter made, are void in law.

Albany County never had any State lands except those occupied by State buildings. It has no United States land except that occupied by the Watervliet Arsenal and the Government building in Albany. It has had no Gospel or school lands, no literature lands, no military land grants, nor were any patents covering its territory or any part of it, ever granted originally by the English government. Some of its citizens, as the Livingstons, the Schuylers, and the Van Rensselaers, had large patents located in other parts of the State.

THE BEAVER AND THE FUR TRADE.

THE earliest industry in the territory now called Albany County was the beaver trade. Nothing else brought the first Dutch adventurers to New Netherlands, as nothing but the love of gold led the earliest adventurers from our Eastern States to the mines of California. Had it not been for the beaver, we cannot tell how much longer the settlement of our county would have been deferred. A brief account of this fur-bearing rodent, and of the important relation he sustained to our early history, seems due to him. Without it our work would be incomplete.

How much he was esteemed is shown in part by the local preservation of his honored name in Beverwyck, Beaverkill, Beaver street, Beaver block and the like.

We begin with a description in popular language of the beaver himself, that we may better understand his character and habits.

The beaver is one of the most extraordinary of all animals. It is between three and four feet in length, and weighs from forty to sixty pounds. Its teeth, which are long, broad and sharp, project considerably beyond the jaw, and are curved like a carpenter's gouge. In its fore-feet the toes are separated, as if designed to answer the purposes of fingers and hands. Its hind-feet are accommodated with webs, suited to the purpose of swimming. In no animal does the social instinct and habit appear stronger or more general than in the beaver. Wherever a number of these animals are found, they immediately form an association to carry on their common business. Their societies are generally formed in June and July, and frequently number two or three hundred, all united in promoting the interests of the whole community.

The society of beavers seems to be regulated altogether by natural dispositions and laws. It is one of peace and affection, guided by one principle. No contention or disagreement is ever seen among them; but harmony and unity prevail throughout their dominion. The principle of this union is not the superiority of any individual; there seems to be among them nothing of the authority or influence of a leader or chief. Their association has the aspect of a pure democracy, founded on the principle

of perfect equality and the strongest mutual attachment.

When these animals are collected together, they give attention, first, to their public affairs. Being amphibious, they spend part of their time in the water. Their first work is to find a situation convenient for both their land and water purposes. A lake or a running stream of water is chosen for their habitation, selected always of such depth that they may have sufficient room for swimming under the ice. They seem to have an eye to undisturbed possession. Such is their foresight or instinct, that they are said never to form an erroneous judgment. Having selected their site thus carefully, they next construct a dam; and so well chosen are both the place and form of this, their home, that no engineer could give them a better, either for convenience, strength or duration.

The materials used are wood and earth. If there be a tree on the side of the river which would naturally fall across the stream, several beavers go to work with their teeth, with great diligence, to fell it. Trees twenty inches in diameter are thus thrown across a stream as the formation of their dam. Others are cutting down smaller trees, which they divide into convenient lengths. Others serve as porters, conveying the trees to the needed places; and others, still, engage in the masonry of the work. The earth is brought in their mouths, formed into a kind of mortar with their feet and tails, and spread over the interstices between the stakes in such a way as to render the whole impervious to water. The magnitude and extent of these dams is marvelous when we consider the artisans and their instruments. They are from fifty to one hundred feet in length, and from six to twelve feet thick at the base, forming ponds, frequently of 500 or 600 acres.

When the public works are completed, their domestic concerns next engage their attention. The beavers separate to build houses, each division for itself, along the borders of the pond. These houses are of an oval form, resembling a haycock in appearance, and varying from four to ten feet in diameter, according to the number of families they are designed to accommodate. In these huts the families of beavers live, enjoying the fruits of their

labors. But if any injury is done to their public works, the whole society unites to repair it.

Nothing can exceed the peace and regularity which prevail through the whole commonwealth. No discord ever appears in any of their families; every beaver knows his own apartment and storehouse, and there is no pilfering or robbing from one another.

The color of the beaver varies with the climate, being nearly black in the colder regions, and growing brown in the warmer. Its fur is of two sorts, one being long, coarse and of little use; the other consisting of a fine, thick down, about three-quarters of an inch long, which has the commercial value.

The beaver attains its greatest magnitude and its highest perfection of society only where it is undisturbed by man. Hence it makes its home only in uncultivated regions, retreating as man approaches.

Some idea of the trade in beaver, in those primitive times, may be gathered from the facts which follow.

The ship *Nieu Nederlandt* took 1,500 beaver and 500 otter skins from Fort Orange at the close of the first season.

The number of beavers reported from New Netherlands in 1624, as Hazard tells us, were 4,000; also 700 otters—all valued at 27,125 guilders. About 10 years later the returns were 14,891 beavers and 1,413 otters, estimated at 134,000 guilders.

The ship *Arms of Amsterdam* sailed from New Amsterdam September 23, 1626, and arrived in Amsterdam, November 4th, following, with a cargo of 7,246 beaver skins, 853½ otter skins, 48 mink skins, 36 wild cat skins, 33 mink and 34 rats' skins, besides some wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax, and considerable oak and hickory.

In 1632, the Dutch Colonists were reported to have sent over to Holland "15,000 beaver skynnes, besides other commodities."

About 1633, it was estimated that about 16,000 beaver skins were sold in the Hudson river trade, mostly at Fort Orange.

The value of furs exported in 1626 was reckoned at about \$19,000; in 1632 it had been raised to \$50,000.

In 1638, the States General observe that nothing comes from New Netherlands but beaver skins, minks and other furs. About this time the fur trade was made free. Every boor became a fur trader.

The trade in furs at Albany was very flourishing in the years from 1645 to 1660.

In 1645, an arrival of tobacco and beavers is reported in Amsterdam—the latter invoiced as "10 cases containing 2,137 pieces of beavers," which, valued at 7 guilders, amount to 14,959 florins.

The number of furs exported from Fort Orange and vicinity in 1656, amounted to 34,480 beaver and 300 otter skins. In 1658 the number reached 57,640 beaver and 300 otter skins.

In 1657, according to the record of Johannes Dyckman, 40,940 beaver and otter skins were shipped to New Amsterdam from Fort Orange, now Albany.

Here we take note of the commercial value of beaver.

When specie was scarce and paper money had not come into use, beaver skins and wampum, or seawant, were used among the people as currency.

In 1656 a beaver skin was worth 8 to 10 guilders, or \$3.50 to \$4. The former was the usual price, the real value of which would be \$3.20 in our currency. One guilder equals 40 cents.

In 1676 "good merchantable beavers" were valued at 12 shillings a piece or 9 shillings a pound. A negro boy, nine years old, hale and sound, was valued at the sum of twenty-eight merchantable beavers in this same year.

Wheat and other goods were often sold at "beaver price." In 1678 five schepels, equal to about three pecks, of wheat were valued at one beaver.

In April, 1680, the Labadists, Dankers and Sluyter paid each one beaver price, 25 guilders in seawant, for their boat passage from New York to Albany. A guilder seawant was worth about one-third as much as a guilder beaver.

In 1705 thirty beavers were valued at £18.

During these years the boschloopers or bush-runners, who made it their business to meet the Indians on their trails to Albany and go to their villages with the purpose of intercepting their trade, caused much excitement. In 1655, orders forbidding this kind of traffic were made by the Court. These ancient drummers were not allowed to drive trade in this way; nor were the merchants allowed to allure the Indians having peltry to sell, to their own houses. After this the magistrates rescinded the order. Governor Stuyvesant was next called in by the savages themselves to interfere; and in 1660, at a meeting with the Indians, he assured them of his displeasure at the conduct of these in-

terlopers, who interfered with their right to trade with whom they chose, and promised his protection if they used even blows to keep off these officious middlemen or any other mercenary intermeddlers, who shut them into their houses to compel their trade while in Beverwyck.

The fur trade was so profitable at Fort Orange, that fur traders from New Amsterdam, and others who had no residence near this fort, engaged successfully in competition with the Patroon and his officers and merchants, by intercepting the Indian hunters and by advancing the price, much to the detriment of the Beverwyck traders. This led to a great deal of trouble. The fort erected on Bearen Island and the controversy that followed, as stated in another part of this work, were the outgrowth of this foreign intermeddling in what the Patroon, for a time, regarded as his exclusive right.

There can be no question that this trade did much to demoralize the inhabitants of Rensselaerwyck. Agriculture for a long time was neglected, and every other pursuit, except hunting and trading in furs. Every farmer left tilling his land and became a fur trader as soon as the restrictions were taken off and the trade was free to every one. Legitimate methods of securing the wealth that this business promised, were violated. Not only were the Indian trails filled with drummers, and all the arts of flattery and special attention bestowed upon the fur-bearing traveler from the woods as he came to the village of Beverwyck, but he was bribed by trifling gifts and made drunk with fire-water. Strifes arose among the people, and quarrels among the savages. Cheating became common. The Dutchman's hand balancing a pound of beaver in the scale, and his foot two pounds, as stated by the veritable Knickerbocker in his "History of New York," if not strictly true, as it may have been, illustrates one of the methods of cheating the Indian.

The trade in fur began seriously to diminish about 1660. The beavers had either been trapped and skinned, or had retreated to regions north and west, farther away from the white man. The resources of the Indians in the neighborhood of Beverwyck had become nearly exhausted. Scarcity of furs on their tramping ground was felt by them and the traders. They had sold some of their land, and what remained possessed no value to them. They parted with it for trifles to the settlers, who now began to give more attention to cultivating the soil as their best resource for a livelihood. About this time (1661) several important families,

including Commissary Arent Van Curler, the Indians' friend, purchased the "Great Flatts," where now is Schenectady, and began a settlement. This diverted much trade from Beverwyck, which led to rivalry and much bitter feeling between the two neighboring villages.

Dankers and Sluyter, in 1680, made the following entry in their journal, speaking of Fort Orange:

"As this is the principal trading fort with the Indians, and as the privilege of trading is granted to certain merchants, there are houses or lodges erected on both sides of the town, where the Indians who come from the far interior to trade, live during the time they are there. This time of trading with the Indians is at its high in the month of June and July, and also in August, when it falls off, because it is then the best time for them to make their journey there and back."

In 1687, Governor Dongan speaks of the intermeddling of the Governor of Canada with the fur trade. Sixty young men of Albany and some Albany Indians had undertaken a trading expedition to the distant tribes, and on their return were intercepted and taken prisoners, with their goods, by the French and Canada Indians. He complains that the revenue of the province was very much reduced by the course taken by Canada in persuading the Indians to take their furs to Montreal, or by depredations like the above. He adds, "in other years we used to ship off for England 35,000 or 40,000 beavers, besides peltry, and this year only 9,000 and some hundreds peltry in all."

In 1699, the Indians in council at Albany, complained of the diminishing value of the beaver trade, alleging that the earlier traders lived in small huts, but now are grown rich and high, and wear fine clothes and dwell in great houses, and all this from profits on the beavers, which they brought from afar on their backs. And now they paid little for beaver and put a large price on their goods.

In 1700, the vigilant and judicious Governor Bellomont writes to the Lords of the Admiralty: "The beaver trade here and at Boston is sunk to little or nothing, and the market is so low for beaver in England that 'tis scarce worth the transporting. I have been told that in one year, when this province was in possession of the Dutch, there were 66,000 beaver skins exported from this town (New York), and this last year there was but 15,241 beaver skins exported hence, from 24th of June, '99, to 24th of June, 1700. * * * A few years ago beaver skins sold in London at 14 shillings a pound, and then the custom was but 4d. the

skin. Now beaver has fallen to 5 shillings per pound in England and pays 9d. per skin here, 3d. per skin freight, and 12d. when it is unshipped in England." The Governor then urges the bad effects of such a state of things on population and trade, and advises free trade in peltry. He also claims that it is wise to keep the Indians in favor with the King, by a policy that will encourage him in his favorite pursuit of hunting and selling beaver.

On the 19th of July, 1701, the Sachems of the Five Nations deeded all their beaver hunting lands in the Province of New York and vicinity to King William III of England and his successors. The quit claim deed was made at Albany, signed and sealed by Governor John Nanfan and the Sachems of the Senecas, Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagas and Oneidas, and comprehended a territory claimed as extending 800 by 400 miles. John J. Bleecker, Mayor, and the Aldermen and other city officers were present as witnesses. The only consideration seems to have been protection of their persons and possessions against the French. The only reservations made were peaceable homes and free hunting to themselves and their descendants.

It having been found that the French, through their missionaries, were rapidly gaining upon the English in the matter of profitable trade, Governor Bellomont, in January, 1701, proposes to the Lords of Trade some course by which this trade could be diverted from the French and turned from Mississippi, Canada and Nova Scotia to the English colonies. He writes thus from New York: "In order to this design the beaver trade ought to be encouraged by Parliament—all duties wholly taken off, both here and in England, from beaver and other peltry exported from this Province. * * * * The French King, to encourage the beaver trade, has ordered the Parliament of Paris to put forth and requiring all the hatters to mix a certain quantity of beaver's furr in all their hats, under a severe penalty, which is a wise course, and I wish our Parliament would take such a course to help the consumption of beaver, which at present is grown almost out of use in England since Carolina hatts have been so much and fur hatts so little in fashion." The following table gives the value of furs imported from the Province of New York for the years from 1717 to 1723:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1717-18.....	10,704	3	11	1720-21.....	6,659	4	11
1718-19.....	7,138	2	5	1721-22.....	7,045	3	10
1719-20.....	7,487	16	5	1722-23.....	8,333	5	4

In 1721, the Worshipful Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany adopted most

stringent rules, designed to put an end to long-existing abuses in the Indian trade. They forbade, under penalties of £5 and upwards: 1. Receiving or concealing in their houses or elsewhere any packs of furs belonging to any Indian. 2. Lodging and entertaining any Indian or squaw, except Sachems, in their houses or other buildings. 3. Conveying any Indian, his wives or children in any wagon or cart from the westward towards Albany, or any of his goods, without payment. 4. Carrying Indians or their goods, in like manner, for any other person for a price or a gift. 5. Speaking to any Indian outside the stockades and coming from the West, or enticing them to trade. 6. Employment of brokers.

The whole purpose of the ordinance was to leave the matter of trade with the Indians themselves, they going to any person whom they chose without influence or hindrance.

At other times orders were passed restricting the sale of firearms and intoxicating drinks to the savages.

The importance of the trade, the character of the traders, and the evils that existed are made evident by these ordinances.

The struggle between the English in New York and the French in Canada for the control of the beaver trade was very great, especially during the first fifty years of the eighteenth century. This was carried on by regulating the prices paid the Indian hunters, who carried their goods where they could secure the best returns. The prices paid depended, of course, very much upon what the colonial traders could realize in the European market. It appears that the beaver had taken himself from the beaver dams of New York to more secluded places in Canada and the North, because he was more remote from danger. But the hunter found him in his northern resort and took the precious fur beaver in great numbers. Canada had the advantage of a near market; but the English took good advice, and, with Anglo-Saxon good sense, offered the fur merchants free trade and a better price, and made it up by increased manufactures, and sales at advanced rates. The Indians were better paid by the English colonial trader and carried their furs to the better paying market. So it appears from the correspondence of the colonial traders and Governors in the Colonies both of Canada and New York, during the years from about 1720 to 1750. The English thus secured the most of the Five Nations as their friends—a great loss to the French. And yet, by priestly art and smuggling, the Canadians

had, much of the time, a good trade. In the two years 1746 and 1747, the French Company of the Indies realized a profit of 430,785 livres from the beaver trade alone.

Peter Kalm, the intelligent Swedish naturalist, who visited Albany in 1749, throws light upon the fur traffic as it appeared to him at that time. He writes: "Albany carries on considerable commerce with New York, chiefly in furs, etc. * * * There is not a place in all the British Colonies, the Hudson Bay Settlements excepted, where such quantities of furs and skins are bought of the Indians as at Albany. Most of the merchants in this town send a clerk or agent to Oswego, an Indian trading town upon the Lake Ontario, to which the Indians resort with their furs. * * * The merchants from Albany spend the whole summer at Oswego, and trade with many tribes of Indians who come to them with their goods. Many people have assured me that the Indians are frequently cheated in disposing of their goods, especially when they are in liquor, and that sometimes they do not get one-half or even one-tenth of the value of their goods. I have been a witness to several transactions of this kind. The merchants of Albany glory in these tricks, and are highly pleased when they give a poor Indian a greater portion of brandy than he can bear, and when they can, after that, get all his goods for mere trifles. The Indians often find, when they are sober again, that they have been cheated. They grumble somewhat, but are soon satisfied when they reflect that they have, for once, drunk as much as they are able of a liquor which they value beyond anything else in the whole

world, and they are quite insensible to their loss if they again get a draught of this nectar. Besides this trade at Oswego, a number of Indians come to Albany from several parts, especially from Canada; but from this latter place they hardly bring anything but beaver skins. There is a great penalty in Canada for carrying furs to the English, that trade belonging to the French West India Company; notwithstanding which the French merchants in Canada carry on a considerable smuggling trade. They send their furs by means of the Indians to their correspondents in Albany, who purchase it at the price they have fixed upon with the French merchants. The Indians take in return several kinds of cloth and other goods, which may be got here at a lower rate than those which are sent to Canada from France."

Smith, the historian, in 1757, speaks of the fur trade as "very much impaired by French wiles and encroachments."

Coneiogatchie, one of the Chiefs of the Iroquois, in a speech made in council in 1782, said: "Your traders exact more than ever for their goods and our hunting is lessened by the war, so that we have fewer skins to give for them. This ruins us. We are poor."

Elkanah Watson, in 1788, speaks of the trade in furs at Albany as extinct. The British Hudson Bay Company was then carrying on the trade.

The *Albany Gazette*, in 1796, speaks hopefully of a revival of the fur trade in the city, nine wagon loads of furs and peltries having been received by one of the merchants from the Northwest territory. But it was only a temporary matter. The old-time fur trade was no more.

SLAVERY IN ALBANY COUNTY.

SLAVERY was introduced at an early day into the American colonies. The first introduction of African slaves was in 1619, by a Dutch vessel sailing up the James River in Virginia, and selling twenty negroes from Africa to the planters. The trade in negro slaves did not increase very rapidly until after 1700. In 1714 the whole number of slaves in the colonies was 55,850; of this number about 30,000 had been imported. In 1808, the total number imported was not less than 400,000.

The United States Constitutional Convention of 1774 resolved to discontinue the slave trade. In 1789, the Convention to frame the Federal Constitution looked to the abolition of the traffic in 1808.

On March 2, 1807, Congress passed an act against the importation of African slaves into the United States after January 1, 1808.

In violation of these laws, the trade continued to an alarming degree for many years; and as late as 1855, New York city was largely engaged in the nefarious business. An article in De Bow's Review in 1855, quotes Captain Smith, who says: "New York is the chief port in the world for the slave trade, and is head-quarters for fitting out vessels for all the slave ports."

As early as 1628, frequent mention is made of blacks owned as slaves in the colony of New Netherlands. The West India Company in 1629,

granted to "all persons who will plant colonies in New Netherlands, to supply them with as many blacks as they conveniently can, on condition and in such manner that they shall not be bound to act for a longer time than they shall think proper." It appears that parties who leased land from the Company also leased servants or slaves from individuals for a term of years. The Company itself was not above this business, since we learn that in 1644, Nicholas Toorn, of Rensselaerwyck, acknowledges the receipt of a young black girl to be returned at the end of four years, "if yet alive," to the Director-General or his successor. In 1650, the West India Company sold at Albany "a farmhouse, hay-loft, two mares and a horse, and a negro, all now in use by Thomas Hall."

In 1650, the States General of Holland submitted a plan to the deputies of the West India Company that the inhabitants of New Netherlands shall be at liberty to purchase negroes wheresoever they may think necessary, except on the coast of Guinea, and bring them to work on the bouweries on payment of a duty. They also gave permission to import as many negroes as were required for the cultivation of the soil under certain conditions and regulations.

In these early days of slavery the price varied, \$100 to \$200 being the value. Rev. Johannes Polhemus, a colonial minister, paid, in 1664, \$175 for a slave. Rensselaer Nicol gave permission to Jan De Decker, October 8, 1664, to sail from Albany with eight negroes for the French plantations of Martinico and Guadaloupe. Slaves could be emancipated after eighteen or nineteen years of service to the Company. At a court of Mayor and Aldermen for the city of Albany, Myndert Frederickse's negro, Hercules, was found guilty of stealing a chest of wampum from his master, and the court sentenced him "to be whipped throu ye towne att ye cart tale by ye hands of ye hangman forthwith, for an example to oys, and his masters to pay ye costs." He confessed the theft, and said he entered by an open window. This appears in City Records, 1686. In the Records of 1679 it is resolved, "That all Indians within the colony were free, nor could they be forced to be servants or slaves."

The Colonial General Assembly in 1683 enacted laws defining the privileges of slaves; also empowering officers to follow and arrest runaway slaves. They could not give, sell, or trust any commodity whatsoever, under penalty of corporal punishment; neither was any person allowed to buy of a slave or trade with one. The old colonial statutes are

filled with laws relating to negroes and slaves. We quote the substance of some of them. In 1704, liquors were not to be sold to negroes or Indians on the Sabbath, and tavern keepers were forbidden to entertain or harbor them in their houses. In 1705, an act was passed to prevent negro slaves from running away from Albany to the French in Canada. Other acts, passed at sundry times, forbade all trading with those who were in bondage; allowed owners to punish with discretion; no more than three slaves to meet together under penalty of whipping; provided that a slave who struck a man or woman professing Christianity must be imprisoned fourteen days; the testimony of negroes good only in plotting among themselves; forbade slaves to be further away from Albany than Saratoga under penalty of death, except with master or mistress; encouraged the baptizing of negroes, Indians, and mulattoes. The law of 1730 provided that no person shall traffic with a slave; that no one shall sell to a slave rum or other strong drink under a penalty of forty shillings; that each town or manor have a whipper of slaves, to be paid not exceeding three shillings a head; that any one harboring a slave shall forfeit to the master £5 for every twenty-four hours, but not to exceed the value of the slave; that the owners of slaves are liable for thefts; and that no slave shall carry fire-arms. In 1775, a law was enacted that slaves must do military duty in cases of imminent danger, and that one or more slaves above the age of fourteen, in time of invasion, found a mile or more from the habitation of his master, without his consent or a written pass, was adjudged a felon, and it was lawful for the person so finding any slave to shoot him.

The early laws of the State relative to slaves, referred to their services in the American army. The act of 1788 revised many of the existing laws, and, in 1793, a law existed binding all owners of slaves to have them housed at an early hour. In 1798, the corporations of Albany and New York frequently granted warrantee deeds of slaves.

The price of slaves was as changeable as other commodities. In 1710, Melgert Vanderpool sold a negro for £65, and a negress for £35. In 1790, Captain Bloodgood, of the sloop Olive Branch, carried a slave from Albany, the property of Mrs. Staats, to Antigua, and sold him for £51.

In 1761 a law was passed which laid a fine of £10 on every master who allowed a slave to beg.

In 1710, Harmanus Fisher, of Albany, states that his negro, Yorke, had been found guilty of burglary and sentenced to be whipped round the

city, to receive nine lashes on his bare back at every corner. The sentence was not executed, but the sheriff dunned Fisher for £13 7s., the amount allowed by law for the service.

In November, 1793, several attempts were made to fire the city of Albany by slaves. Some were arrested and confessed their guilt. In January, 1794, Pomp, the property of Matthias Visscher, bought of Jacob Roseboom, Jr., in 1788, for £90, a negro slave, was charged with having set fire to the stables of Leonard Gansevoort. He was tried and found guilty. Bett and Deane, two female slaves, were also tried as accomplices and convicted of the same offense. All were sentenced to be hanged. On January 24th the sentence was respited for six weeks. The two girls were hanged on the 14th March, and Pomp on April 11th. The gallows was erected on Tyburne Hill, in the rear of the house of the late Rufus H. King, near the lower part of Fayette street. The concourse of people to witness the executions was immense.

A custom prevailed in slavery days of advertising them when for sale, and the newspapers generally had one or more of these "Negro for Sale" advertisements in them. We give a few samples: In 1784, the executors of Mrs. Schuyler offered for sale at auction, at Lewis' Tavern "A likely negro." In 1796, we find: "*To be sold.*—A healthy, active negro wench in her nineteenth year. Can be recommended for honesty and sobriety, and sold for no fault." "A negro wench about thirty years old, strong and healthy, for sale." "*For sale.*—A healthy negro wench about thirty years old; can be recommended for honesty and good conduct. Also, her two male children, both in good health. One, nearly three years old, until he arrives at the age of twenty-five years. The other, about four weeks, will be sold for life."

The abolition of slavery in the State of New York was agitated at the formation of the first constitution in 1777. When John Jay urged the early abolition of slavery he declared, "Till America comes to this measure, her prayers to heaven will be impious." Other early statesmen and philanthropists advocated this great doctrine of law and liberty, and claimed freedom and protection as the inherent right of all men.

The agitation was continued in this and other States. The first to abolish slavery were Pennsylvania and Massachusetts in 1780; New Jersey, provisionally, in 1784—all children born of a slave woman after 1804 to be free in 1830. In 1784 and 1797, Connecticut provided for gradual extinction. In Rhode Island after 1784, no person

could be born a slave. The ordinance of 1787 forbade slavery in the territory northwest of the Ohio. New York provisionally abolished slavery in 1799; twenty-eight years' ownership being allowed to those born in slavery after this date. This was the commencement of successive legislative acts and amendments for the years including 1801-04-07-09-10. In 1813, laws were enacted relative to vagabond slaves, and to prevent kidnapping, with severe penalties. In 1817, a new law was passed with more severe penalties, and a more important amendment—no less than a final decree of abolition of slavery in the State of New York—was added as follows: "And be it further enacted that every negro, mulatto or mustee within the State, born before July 4, 1799, shall from and after the 4th day of July, 1827, be free." This law was passed by twenty affirmative votes, out of a total of thirty-two in the Senate; and by seventy-five, out of a total of 128, in the Assembly. It was signed by Governor De Witt Clinton.

The enactment of 1819 made it a misdemeanor to send away from the State any slave or servant except such as might have been pardoned by the Executive for some offense; and owners of slaves who resided for a time in other States were forbidden to sell to parties not resident within the State. This was the last enactment, and the institution ceased to exist in the Empire State, July 4, 1827.

For the most part the slaves of the Dutch were employed as domestic servants, and their condition was not as hard as that of those who performed outdoor work. The treatment of the negroes was generally humane. Stories of cruelty among Albany County slaves were seldom heard. Laws, it is true, were passed for their punishment as well as for their protection. Among slave-owners, in many instances, an attachment was formed that lasted through life. The slaves were usually faithful and true to their masters and mistresses, and aside from their being bond slaves and chattels, their lot was comparatively happy. The blacks who were farmers or mechanics were allowed their own domestic animals.

Negro slavery existed in its mildest form in Albany County, not only in the Dutch, but in the English colonial days, and in its latter years, after the Revolution. Individual exceptions to this statement were very rare. It was so among the farmers and mechanics of Rensselaerwyck, as well as among the merchants and gentry in and near the City of Albany. The testimony of the excellent Mrs. Grant, in her "Memoirs of an American

Lady," is appropriate here. She writes: "In the society I am describing, even the dark aspect of slavery was softened into a smile. And I must, in justice to the best possible masters, say that a great deal of that tranquillity and comfort, to call it by no higher name, which distinguished this society from all others, was owing to the relation between master and servant being better understood here than in any other place. Let me not be detested as an advocate for slavery, when I say that I think I have never seen people so happy in servitude as the domestics of the Albanians. One reason was that each family had few of them, and that there were no field negroes. They would remind one of Abraham's servants, who were all born in the house, which was exactly their case. They were baptized too, and shared the same religious instruction with the children of the family, and for the first years there was little or no difference with regard to food or clothing between their children and those of their masters. I have nowhere met with instances of friendship more tender and generous than that which here subsisted between the slaves and their masters and mistresses."

Affectionate and faithful as these home-bred servants were in general, there were some instances, but very few, of those who, through levity of mind, or a love of liquor or finery, betrayed their trust or habitually neglected their duty. In these cases, after every means had been used to reform them, no severe punishments were inflicted at home. But the terrible sentence, which they dreaded worse than death, was passed;—they were sold to Jamaica.

One must have lived among those placid and humane people to be sensible that servitude—hopeless, endless servitude—could exist with so little servility and fear on the one side, and so little harshness or even sternness of authority on the other.

Amidst all this mild and really tender indulgence to their negroes, these colonists had not the smallest scruple of conscience with regard to the right by which they held them in subjection. Had that been the case, their singular humanity would have been incompatible with continued injustice. But the truth is, that of law, the generality of those people knew little; and of philosophy, nothing at all.

They sought their code of morality in the Bible, and there imagined they found this hapless race condemned to perpetual slavery; and

thought nothing remained for them but to lighten the chains of their fellow Christians, after having made them such.

Arguments for the right are of small account as weighed against interest. The irrepressible conflict at last came, and involved the nation in a cruel, bloody and expensive civil war. It decided that the system of human slavery was a national evil, and could not be extended and protected as a national institution. Blood and iron in this great conflict severed the fetters of every black man in the land, and legalized slavery was blotted forever from the constitution and the laws of the United States. The people of Albany County did well their part in this great struggle.

Records and statistics relating to the number of slaves in this county are very incomplete, and not wholly reliable. Those given below are compiled from census returns and other sources. The same may be said of the enumeration of negroes or blacks, as the early record did not often distinguish the slaves. It may be presumed that most persons counted as negroes before 1800 were slaves.

The following lists exhibit all we are able to give at this writing:

1. Negroes in the State census, including slaves, in specified years: 1790, 25,978; 1800, 31,320; 1810, 40,350; 1820, 39,367; 1830, 44,949; 1840, 50,031; 1850, 49,069; 1860, 49,145; 1870, 52,549; 1880, 56,121.

2. Negroes in Albany County, inclusive of slaves, in the years specified: 1698, 23; 1714, 213; 1723, 808; 1731, 1,273; 1737, 1,630; 1749, 1,480; 1756, 2,119; 1771, 3,877; 1795, 4,094; 1800, 2,094; 1810, 1,638; 1820, 1,271; 1830, 1,595; 1840, 1,314; 1850, 1,194; 1860, 939; 1870, 1,095; 1880, 1,367.

3. Colored persons in the towns of Albany County in 1880, were as follows:

Albany, 1,036; Berne, 1; Bethlehem, 91; Coeymans, 59; Cohoes, 17; Guilderland, 2; Knox, 2; New Scotland, 25; Rensselaerville, 0; Watervliet, 131; Westerlo, 3; total 1,367.

4. We gather the following census of slaves in this County by towns:

Albany, 1810, 256; 1820, 109. Berne, 1810, 35; 1820, 30. Bethlehem, 1810, 137; 1820, 73. Coeymans, 1810, 101; 1820, 36. Colonie, 1810, 30. Guilderland, 1810, 66; 1820, 47. Rensselaerville, 1790, 11; 1810, 21; 1820, 14. Watervliet, 1790, 730; 1810, 128; 1820, 96. Westerlo, 1820, 8. Total 1790, 741; 1810, 772; 1820, 413.

HOMICIDES IN THE COUNTY OF ALBANY.

Collected and Arranged by ELISHA MACK.

1687.—JOHN CASPERS, indicted for causing the death of his negro girl. No record of trial.

1767.—Jack, the negro of James Starling, indicted for murder.

Two indictments against Sarah Seecles for child murder.

1780.—Pomp, indicted for the murder of Pete, both negro slaves of George Sharp.

1782.—Joseph Bettys, convicted of treason and murder. Conditionally pardoned by General Washington. Recaptured for murder and hanged.

1806.—Daniel Chambers, Jr., indicted for killing Peter Roff. Tried and convicted of manslaughter. Sentenced to State Prison for thirteen calendar months.

George Van Derwerken and John C. Hemstraat were indicted for killing Peter Roff. Tried and acquitted.

John Pye, innkeeper, whose house was feloniously entered in the night-time, shot and fatally wounded the burglar—a case of justifiable homicide.

1807.—Benjamin Gates, indicted for the murder of an Indian named Joe. Tried and acquitted.

1811.—Isaac Killan, indicted for manslaughter in the first degree. Tried and acquitted.

1813.—Thomas Burns and Joseph Mosher, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of John E. Conklin and sentenced to be hanged. Burns was executed. Mosher was respited by Governor Tompkins until the meeting of the Legislature. He was subsequently pardoned.

1815.—Anson Spooner was sentenced to State Prison for manslaughter for the term of five years.

David Allen, Jr., indicted for murder, was discharged by order of the court.

1816.—James Walsh, convicted of manslaughter.

1818.—James Hamilton, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of Major Benjamin Birdall. He was sentenced to be hanged. Executed November 6, 1818.

1820.—Jack Van Patten, indicted for murder and assault and battery. Tried. Verdict: "Not guilty of murder, but guilty of assault and battery only." Sentence: County Jail for thirty days.

1823.—Robert Anderson—trial for murder—was acquitted.

1824.—Barent Haner, indicted for killing a negro with a club. Tried, convicted and sentenced to State Prison for ten years.

1825.—William Bell and Samuel Bromley, indicted for manslaughter. Tried. Bromley was convicted and sentenced to State Prison for ten years. Bell was acquitted.

1826.—James Wilson, indicted for the murder of John Queen. Tried and acquitted.

Robert Carhart, indicted for murder, was tried and convicted of manslaughter. Sentence: State Prison for twelve years.

1827.—Jesse Strang, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of John Whipple. He was sentenced to death, and executed August 24, 1827.

Elsie D. Whipple, indicted as accessory before the fact, for the murder of her husband, John Whipple. Tried and acquitted.

1829.—George Thomas, indicted for murder. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for seven years.

1831.—John Snyder, indicted for murder. Convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to State Prison for two years.

William Wilson, for killing Thomas Platt, was indicted for manslaughter. Convicted of an assault and battery, and sentenced to the County Jail for three months.

William Lackey, indicted for the murder of Peter Turner. Tried and found guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to State Prison for three years.

1833.—George Sims, convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

1835.—Daniel Riley, tried for murder. Acquitted.

1836.—John Hamilton, indicted for the murder of William Duffy. Tried and acquitted.

Sally Ann Harden, indicted for murder. Tried and acquitted.

1837.—Daniel Murray, convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: Jail for forty days.

1838.—Thomas Rector, indicted for the murder of Robert Shepherd by striking him on the head with a wooden bar, fracturing his skull. He was tried and convicted. A new trial was granted, the venue fixed at Ballston, Saratoga County, where he was convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for seven years.

George Thompson, indicted for the murder of John Johnson by striking him on the head with a cart-stake, fracturing his skull. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed; commuted to State Prison for life.

Jane Dupang, indicted for the murder of her infant by drowning. Tried. The jury did not agree. Prisoner discharged.

1839.—Isaac Hallenbake, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree, causing the death of Seth B. Barman, under twelve years of age, by administering to him spirituous liquors. Acquitted.

1840.—Jacob Leadings, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Harriet, by shooting her with a gun. Tried, convicted and sentenced. Was executed December 29, 1840.

Edward Snooks, indicted for the murder of Mary Jenks. Tried and acquitted.

1841.—Henry P. Van Zandt, indicted for murder. Tried and acquitted.

Aaron Hughes, indicted for murder. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years three months and eleven days.

Bridget Hughes, indicted for murder. Arraigned and discharged.

1842.—Louis Bourgeois, indicted for manslaughter in the third degree by stabbing James Kennedy. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Christian Boork killed his wife by striking her on the head with an ax, crushing her skull. He ended his life by hanging himself.

1845.—Robert Black and Patrick Markey, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree by running their sleigh into another sleigh in which was Miss Lydia Oliver, who was thereby instantly killed. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

Harman B. Campbell, indicted for manslaughter. Tried and acquitted.

George Wilson, held to bail for manslaughter in the fourth degree, whereby Mrs. Anthony, of Co-

hes, was instantly killed by a locomotive running over her. Wilson was not indicted.

1846.—Charles Gouche, Joseph and Charles Malay, indicted for murder by shooting John Barman. On trial, Gouche was convicted of manslaughter in the first degree and sentenced to State Prison for life. The Malays were acquitted.

1847.—Jeremiah and Eugene Sullivan, indicted for the murder of James Smith. On trial, Jeremiah was convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years. Eugene was acquitted.

Michael Teeven struck Michael Walls on the head with a stick of wood, causing death in a few hours. Teeven escaped.

1848.—John McGuire, indicted for murder—killing, by kicks and blows, James Connolly. Tried and acquitted.

Thomas Kelly, a lunatic, killed, by shooting and stabbing, James C. Mull. Kelly died in the State Lunatic Asylum in Oneida County.

James Whalen, for the murder of Peter Turner, by beating and kicking and throwing him in the canal, causing death. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

George Erwin, bailed for manslaughter in the second degree. Can find no record of trial or acquittal.

William Maxted killed Michael McGown by stabbing him with a knife. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

1849.—Barney Leddy, for the murder of his wife by kicks and blows. Convicted of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

Three unknown assassins robbed and murdered Joseph N. Becker. No capture.

John Robinson, indicted for the murder of Christopher Jocelyn by striking him on the head with a heavy club. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

Eseck Carr, indicted for the murder of his wife, Jane, by poison. Tried and acquitted.

1850.—Reuben Dunbar, indicted for the murder of two small boys, Stephen V. and David L. Lester. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Executed January 31, 1851.

John S. Jackson, indicted for the murder of his mother-in-law, Margaret Thompson. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to State Prison for four years.

1851.—In the night-time, one or more assassins killed, by kicks and blows, Harriet Smith. No capture.

John Osborn killed, by beating with a stone, Teunis S. Slingerland. Osborn escaped.

Susan Gaynor, for manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for six months.

John Moore killed his wife, Elizabeth, by shooting her, tearing off the upper part of her skull. He then shot himself, causing instant death.

1852.—Patrick McEnroe killed, by kicking and beating, Thomas Cassidy. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

James Moore, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Elizabeth. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

John Henderson, convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

1853.—John Hendrickson, Jr., indicted for the murder of his wife, Maria, by administering to her poison. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be hanged. Executed May 4, 1854.

Richard Dyness, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree. Tried, convicted, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for four months.

1854.—John H. Phelps, indicted for the murder of his wife, by stabbing her with a dirk. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life.

John H. Hotaling stabbed William Gibson, causing his death. Tried. Convicted and sentenced for manslaughter in the third degree. Sent to State Prison for four years.

Catharine Slingerland, an imbecile, killed her infant. Indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

1855.—John Dunnigan, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Catharine. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be hanged. Commuted to State Prison for life.

William McCrossin, indicted for the murder of Michael Brennan, by shooting him with a pistol, causing instant death. Tried and acquitted.

1856.—Patrick Lane, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree, by kicking and beating, causing the death of James Carlin. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Francis McCann, indicted for the murder of his wife, Agnes, by striking her on the head with an ax. Arraigned. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter

in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

John Cummings, indicted for murder, by shooting with a gun Frederick Stumpf. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life by Governor King. Pardoned by Governor Fenton.

James Carney, indicted for the murder of Patrick Carroll by throwing stones and otherwise beating him, causing his death. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

Assassins, unknown, killed Mrs. Anastatia Bulger.

1857.—Robert Morrison, indicted for manslaughter, by keeping bears on a public thoroughfare, whereby one John Hoey and an Indian named Joseph Harney were killed. Tried and acquitted.

Susan Anthony, indicted for murder—strangling her infant. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

1858.—Robert Morrison, Jr., held to bail for manslaughter in the third degree. No record of trial found.

Michael Naughton, a boy, indicted for murder—killing, by stabbing in the breast with a knife, Joseph O'Callaghan, Jr. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the House of Refuge.

Thomas N. Francis, indicted for the murder of Rachel Hilton, by beating her with a bar of wood. Tried. Verdict: guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

John Wilson, indicted for the murder of Patrick McCarty, by striking him on the head with a hatchet. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life.

1858.—Mary Hartung, indicted for the murder of her husband, Emil Hartung, by administering poison to him. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be executed. Proceedings stayed. Discharged.

William Rheinmann, indicted as accessory for the murder of Emil Hartung. Tried and acquitted.

1859.—Oscelia Mastin, indicted for causing the death of a young woman pregnant with child, by abortion. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Catharine Messer, causing the death of an infant by giving it poison in porridge. Find no record of trial.

Jefferson W. Bennett, indicted for the murder of Robert Morrison. Tried and acquitted.

Michael O'Brien, indicted for the murder of his wife by beating her. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Executed June 3, 1859.

John Osborn, indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

John Irvin, indicted for murder, by beating his wife with a club. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Adam Murray, indicted for murder—killing John Cahill by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

1860.—John McCotter, indicted for the murder of Thomas O'Halloran by stabbing him with a chisel. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to State Prison for two years.

Terence Leavy, indicted for the murder of Michael Burk by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for three years.

1861.—Walter Barrett, indicted for the murder of Terence Boyle by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for three years and eight months.

1862.—Michael Hewson, indicted for the murder of Thomas Costello by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years and eight months.

1863.—William J. Church, indicted for the murder of his wife, Ann, by stabbing her with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for twenty years.

Patrick Flynn, indicted for the murder of John N. Colburn by striking him on the head with a heavy stave. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

Matthew Brumaghim, indicted for the murder of Charles Phillips by shooting him with a pistol. Tried and acquitted.

1864.—Mackey Dunnigan, indicted for the murder of John Connors by shooting him with a pistol. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years and two months.

Bridget and David McCarty, indicted for the murder of Michael Gilmartin by beating him with a stove cover and a stone or brick-bat. No record of trial.

George E. Gordon, indicted for murder in killing Owen Thompson by beating him with a club. Arraigned and tried. Convicted of murder. Sentenced to be executed. Exceptions taken and carried to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Final sentence: State Prison for life.

John P. Cordell, Philip Damp, and Frederick Damp, indicted for manslaughter in the first degree, by causing the death of the wife of Frederick Damp by inflicting upon her blows and otherwise brutal treatment. Acquitted.

David Crawley, indicted for murder. Tried. Verdict: guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

1865.—Some four or five persons were suspected of throwing the missile that struck John McInnerney on the head, fracturing his skull and causing his death a few days after the fatal deed. The criminal was never captured.

1866.—Michael Chestnutt, without felonious intent, struck John Hanna a blow with his fist, causing him to fall, striking his head against some hard substance, fracturing his skull, of which injury he died. Chestnutt was indicted for manslaughter in the first degree. Convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to pay a penalty of fifty dollars.

Judson W. Palmer, indicted for murder. On trial the jury did not agree upon a verdict. Discharged.

1867.—George W. Cole, indicted for the murder of Hon. L. Harris Hiscock by shooting him with a pistol. The jury did not agree. On the second trial the prisoner was acquitted.

1869.—Henry Trainor, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree, for killing John Donnelly. Tried and convicted. Sentence: Penitentiary for one year.

1870.—Lorenzo Murphy, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: Penitentiary for one year.

Robert Pickett, indicted for murder. On trial the jury was withdrawn and the prisoner discharged.

John O'Neil, indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: House of Refuge.

1871.—Lemuel P. Van Hoesen, killed his wife, Harriet A., by beating her head with a stew-pan, fracturing her skull. The prisoner was declared

insane. A few years since he committed suicide at Omaha, Neb.

1872.—William Wilcox, indicted for murder of John Seib by shooting him with a pistol. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Michael Hifford, convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: House of Refuge.

1873.—Emil Lowenstein, indicted for the murder of John D. Weston, by shooting him with a pistol. Tried and convicted. Sentence: death by hanging. Executed April 10, 1874.

Margaret Lyons, indicted for the murder of an infant by administering phosphorus. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to State Prison for one year.

1874.—David Landers was tried for killing Thomas Van Aernam by hitting him on the head with a stone. Verdict: guilty. Sentenced to pay a penalty of one hundred dollars.

1875.—Rachel Bartell, indicted for causing death by abortion. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for eighteen months.

John Barrett, indicted for killing Ira B. Mosely by stabbing him with a carving knife in the breast, penetrating a lung. Find no record of trial or acquittal.

1876.—Lewis Theus, indicted for murder in the first degree by throwing a butcher's knife, striking John Gresser, aged fourteen years, causing death. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for three years.

Mary A. McDonald, indicted for manslaughter in the third degree for shooting her husband, Robert McDonald. Tried and acquitted.

1877.—Edward Scully killed John Davis by stabbing him with a knife. Scully escaped capture.

1878.—Daniel Van Deusen, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing with a knife Philip Hyde. Pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

1879.—John C. Hughes, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing William J. Hadley with a knife, causing death. Tried. Verdict: murder in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

Helaire Latromouille, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing with a knife Catherine Dunsbach. Tried. Verdict: guilty of murder in the first degree. Sentence: death by hanging. Executed August 20, 1879.

Thomas Mallon, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting his wife, Ann, with a gun.

Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

Person unknown murdered Stephen Dugan.

1880.—William McNeal, indicted for murder in the first degree, by stabbing with a knife, his wife Catharine. Tried. Verdict: murder in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

Hiram G. Briggs, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting Erskine Wood. On motion, the indictment was quashed. The prisoner was arraigned on a new indictment similar to the former. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years.

Charles Burt killed, by shooting with a pistol, Catharine Smith. He immediately shot and killed himself.

1883.—William Dyer, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree by carelessly driving a two-horse team attached to a truck wagon, and running over a small boy named Charles Cook, causing his death. Tried, and convicted. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

Person or persons unknown killed Michael Biofore.

1884.—Peter Edwards killed his wife, Cornelia, by beating her with a hammer and stabbing her with a butcher's knife. He inflicted injuries upon himself of which he died.

Catharine Schreiber, wife of Christopher Schreiber, in one night killed four of her children by cutting their throats. She then caused her remaining child, a daughter nine years of age, to accompany her to a place half a mile distant on the New York Central Railroad, known as Black Rock, where the affrighted child, in obedience to the stern command of her crazed mother, sat upon the rail, while the mother prostrated herself across the railroad track. Soon the down train came rapidly, decapitating the mother and so mangling the child that she too was soon numbered with the dead.

Michael Downey, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting with a pistol, Dennis Desmond. Arraigned. Pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree, and was sentenced to State Prison for life.

Ah Kay, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting Wee Kee. Both were Chinese. Arraigned and tried. Convicted for murder in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for twenty years.

Mrs. Margaret Ahern, indicted for murder in the second degree by maliciously pushing Peter Clark off a stoop, causing instant death. Tried.

Verdict: manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: Penitentiary for three years.

Assassin unknown killed James Larrison.

ELISHA MACK, who industriously and conscientiously compiled this paper on "Homicides in Albany Co.," is able to give a more extended history of most of them. He has also written out, very fully, the history of other noted criminals in this city and county, many of whom were brought to justice by his own detective skill, while he was (for nearly twenty years) on the Police force. No man ever held this trust with more integrity, and few with more acceptance. The Police records, kept by those high-minded Police Magistrates—Cole, Kane, Comstock and Loveridge—

testify to his sagacity and skill in making important arrests, and bringing to light cunningly hidden iniquity. Want of space prevents us from inserting some of his marvelous details, told, as he tells them, with remarkable clearness and delicacy. If they could be printed in book form the record would be valuable to the police, the lawyer and the Courts everywhere. Mr. Mack was born in Windsor, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, February 7, 1811. He came to Albany in 1816, and still lives among us, active and highly respected, in his 75th year.

It is worthy of note that the number of murders is very small for a county so old, and with so large a population made up of people of such varied nationality and pursuit. The number convicted, sentenced, and punished with the extreme penalty, is also remarkably small.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION IN ALBANY COUNTY.

THE native Indian, in his journeyings, had marked out his paths by the courses of the streams, by the peaks of the hills, and observations of the sun, moon and stars. We have named them Indian trails, and early European hunters, trappers and settlers found them very useful. When the Indian came to navigable waters he paddled his light canoe, which he took up when he came to dangerous rapids or wished to cross from one water to another, and launched in the desired place in his route.

When the early immigrants from Holland came to this country, they came up the Hudson in the sailing craft of their time. The Dutch knew how to construct and navigate ships. The water-way between New Amsterdam and Fort Orange, afterwards New York and Albany, was much traveled by the early adventurers in the fur trade; by colonial farmers, settlers, and speculators of every name; by curious travelers; and by public functionaries of the Patroons, of the Dutch West India Company, and of the English crown. All came and went in canoes, batteaux, rafts, or some kind of ship. Trade was carried on in the same way; and the trade, of bringing supplies for a people whose chief business was hunting and trading, whose manufactures and farming were of the most simple kind, was large. It took in return, to the New York, West India and European marts, furs, peltries, and, after a time, the surplus products of the forest and farms. In all the years from the discovery of the Hudson to the war for American independence, the carriages and the carrying, both by land and water, were essentially the same. Most of the settlements hereabouts were from the Atlantic waters along up the

Hudson River and the Mohawk. Those few who dwelt a little way off from them or other waters, got to them, when necessity or profit impelled, either on foot, bearing their bearable burdens on their backs, or using the rudest conveyances that ox or horse ever dragged or drew.

Some improvements in carriages were introduced by the English in the later colonial period and especially by those who came from New England. But the best of these, rude as they were compared with those of to-day, were few and owned only by the wealthy. The enormous carts or wagons which the early immigrants from New England used in which to bring their families and their household goods, created amazement and amusement to the natives along the Hudson and the Mohawk. But these moving Saxons from "the Eastern States" brought ideas with them and cute ways of doing things. Heavy wagons were used for transportation in this vicinity during the revolutionary war; but the lighter travel was pursued on horseback or on foot, for long journeys. For some years after the dawning of the present century, there were no light wagons in the new settlements and no roads for them. The dominie made his parish visits on horseback; the doctor visited his distant patients on horseback, carrying his medicines in saddle-bags; and the lawyer, taking his green bag, rode to court on horseback. Social visits were interchanged between friends residing at remote distances in this same way. Church-goers in neighboring towns came on horseback, several miles, to attend service in Albany, taking all day and often spending the night with friends. The same horse carried

the wife, sitting on the pillion behind the husband, and frequently an infant for baptism. When they could not ride, parents and older sons and daughters often walked long distances to do an important errand, to visit friends, or to listen to their pastor's Sabbath instructions. In one or the other of these ways the grist was taken to mill, the fleece to the wool-carder and clothier, and the little surplus produce to the city merchant.

Time makes many changes to meet the requirements and necessities of mankind. New inventions to economize domestic affairs and to lighten the burdens of toil were sought; many rude improvements were the result. New and better conveyances, first used by the more prosperous citizen, were introduced, while the laborer back in the forest long continued to ride in his rudely constructed cart, often drawn by a yoke of oxen.

When the carriage and coach made their appearance for the aristocracy, the farmer was usually content in the comfort he realized from the rude wagon, the workmanship of home skill. All these vehicles were improved to meet the demand of progress. The years that followed the first quarter of this century witnessed rapid strides in better facilities for intercommunication and the conveyances for travel and transportation.

Travel from Albany to distant points began to assume considerable proportions as new fields of enterprise were opened. Increase of population, the multiplied demands of agriculture, manufactures and home industries, brought a corresponding increase in travel, trade, and other branches of business which contribute to prosperity. Among the first considerations of a practical kind was to find a market for surplus agricultural products and manufactures. These found a natural outlet by the river, and commodities were usually shipped upon it by sloops or schooners. Trade was opening beyond Albany westward, along the Mohawk valley to Johnstown and even to Cherry Valley. Roads must be made. At first they naturally followed the Indian trails. Those from the north and west were by five routes centering in Albany. In time they were improved and used as wagon roads by early travelers, and served during the revolution for transporting supplies and for other military purposes.

The earliest traveled route, as has been said, between Albany and New York was by the Hudson River. In 1785, the Legislature granted to Isaac Van Wyck, Talmage Hall and John Kinney, the exclusive right to drive stage wagons on the east side of the river for the term of ten years.

The fare was fixed at four-pence a mile. A year later, communication with Springfield, Mass., was opened, and in 1789 a stage commenced running to Lansingburgh.

Public wagon roads, about 1790, were opened for travel east; also to Whitestown on the west, which soon extended to the Genesee country. Thus was a new idea suddenly brought to the notice of active men, from which they hoped to realize success in new enterprises. Among the first was a line of stages by way of Schenectady to Johnstown, Canajoharie, Fort Plain and Warrensbush. In 1790, the Legislature granted to Ananias Platt the exclusive right to run a stage between Albany and Lansingburgh. In 1791, a stage route was extended by the Legislature to Bennington, Vt. In 1792, a line of stages was established from Albany to Whitestown, performing the journey once in two weeks. In the spring of 1793, Moses Beal carried passengers from Albany to Canajoharie once a week; the fare was three cents a mile. About this time John Hudson established an opposition line to Schenectady; fare, four shillings. A line connecting Albany with the Connecticut River Valley was soon started. In 1794, Mr. Platt ran his stage between Lansingburgh and Albany twice a day. So great was the increase in travel, that in the winter of 1795 the number of daily trips was six; and in the summer of 1796, it was necessary to employ twenty stages daily between Waterford, Lansingburgh, Troy and Albany, averaging more than one hundred and fifty passengers daily. The mails in 1796, were carried between Albany and Philadelphia in three days. This year there were five post routes centering in Albany. The fare to New York was reduced from ten to eight dollars.

After the war of the revolution, there was general activity in the direction of internal improvements. The great object was to connect existing highways with the Mohawk River, extend trade to other places, and bring the products west of Schenectady to Albany, and thence to New York for a market. The Mohawk not affording a continuous route, on account of the Cohoes Falls, to obviate this obstruction, and to secure a more economical and expeditious method, the Northern Inland Lock and Navigation Company was organized as early as 1790, followed in 1792 by the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, to connect the central lakes with the Mohawk. Philip Schuyler was president, and Barent Bleecker was treasurer; Elkanah Watson and Stephen Van Rensselaer were active in the enterprise. In 1796, \$40,000 worth

of furs and peltries were received by one Albany house from Western companies, and trade was increasing rapidly. The heavy lumbering wagons with their four and six horses, loaded with tons of produce and merchandise, formed a line on this road not unlike an Eastern caravan. It is recorded that, in the winter of 1795, one thousand two hundred sleighs passed through this city in three days with emigrants to the Genesee Valley. They were from New England—ancestors of the prosperous citizens of the farms and shops of Western New York. They soon had abundant products to sell and demanded a highway of trade. It was for the interest of Albany and New York that it be made. Following the enterprise of a few public benefactors, improved facilities for transportation on the Mohawk to Schenectady were undertaken. In 1797, was incorporated the Albany and Schenectady Turnpike, then one of the most important roads in the State. It became the leading highway for travel and traffic connected with the wonderful progress then developing in the western part of the State, opening lateral outlets of vast importance. This road continued to be profitably patronized until the opening of the Erie Canal in 1823, when its usefulness and profit were diminished. The Hudson and Mohawk Railroad in 1832 was a great competitor. Turnpikes became an enterprise in which capitalists eagerly invested. They were a great improvement upon the old roads; but few of them proved profitable to the stockholder, and several of them are now abandoned.

The trade that centered in Schenectady was a source of rivalry. To obtain a share of the business and to secure a portion of this coveted treasure, the Troy and Schenectady Turnpike was incorporated in 1806, which, after a few years of successful operation, shared the fate of other similar roads. Travel and freight have been diverted to other methods, and are now conveyed by the agency of steam.

In 1798, the Legislature chartered the Lebanon and Albany Turnpike; in 1799 the first company of the Great Western Turnpike was chartered; in 1804 the Bethlehem Turnpike; and in 1805 the Albany and Delaware Turnpike. A turnpike on the west side of the river to Catskill was chartered about this time. All these roads had in view the concentration of travel to Albany, and for many years Albany was the starting point of a score of stage lines, and mail routes diverged in all directions, extending west as far as Buffalo.

After 1800, until the completion of the canal, travel and transportation to Buffalo and other points

were exclusively performed by heavy wagons drawn by four or six horses.

After the completion of the canal, Albany became a great highway for travel; for many years the packet boats were well patronized, as they offered the passengers many comforts, and facilitated social enjoyment. The first packet boat on the canal, direct from Albany, that visited Buffalo was the Benjamin Wright, which arrived October 29, 1825. The event was duly celebrated in that village.

In 1811, a line of stages was started from Albany to reach Niagara Falls in three days, thence to Buffalo. The fare to Canandaigua was \$16.25.

The old swinging stage coach rumbled over these roads, and its departure or arrival was hailed with interest by the villagers, who gathered at the taverns to gossip, to hear the news and to see the sights.

The stage owners located at Albany were Thorp & Sprague, Rice & Baker, Baker & Waldrige, Halsted, and some others. These parties owned a good number of horses; but upon the completion of the railroads, the glory and usefulness of their business departed, and the iron horse now supercedes the weary men and jaded horses.

The year 1807 marked a new era and introduced a new power in the economy of travel. From that year to the present, steam has wrought wonderful changes, and the Hudson River claims the honor of the first successful steamboat enterprise. Since the establishment of this mode of travel on the Hudson River, steamboats have been improved, from the simple craft of Fulton—which left New York on September 5, 1807, with twenty-seven passengers, and October 7th with one hundred passengers, taking from 24 to 36 hours time to make the trip—to the gorgeous and spacious floating palaces of the present, which make the trip in nine hours or less, and have accommodation for 600 to 800 passengers, and often carry a larger number. The fare on Fulton's boat was seven dollars, now it is from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents.

In 1811 there were two steamboats carrying passengers to New York, the Hope and North River. In 1836 there were twelve steamboats and seven towing boats. The steamboat travel on the river in past years has been immense, but the railroads on either side of the river have become formidable rivals to the once monopolized privileges of the passenger boats, so that the number has somewhat diminished as compared with former years. We have space to give the names only of a few of the principal steamboats that have ploughed the Hudson River.

In 1820, the Chancellor Livingston, 175 x 50 feet. Had beds for 160 passengers and settees for 40. Fare, eight dollars.

In 1823, the Constitution, Constellation, Swiftsure and Saratoga began to run.

In 1828, the North America, "the most beautiful and swift of the floating palaces on the Hudson; or, as I believe, I may add with truth, in the world," says Dr. Charles Stuart.

In 1835, the Champlain followed by the Diamond, Swallow, Reindeer, Henry Clay, Hope and Columbia. After 1850, by the Alida, New World, Francis Skiddy, Empire City, Jonas C. Heart.

After 1860, came the Armenia, Daniel Drew, Isaac Newton, Mary Powell, St. John, Chauncey Vibbard, Vanderbilt, Dean Richmond, and the Albany.

Many of these recent steamboats have made the trip between New York and Albany in seven hours forty-five minutes, and sometimes in six hours forty-two minutes.

In the words of Lossing: "The steamboat itself is a romance of the Hudson. Its birth was on its waters, where the rude conceptions of Evans and Fitch were perfected by Fulton and his successors. How strange is the story of its advent, growth and achievements! Living men remember when the idea of steam navigation was ridiculed. They remember, too, that when the Clermont went from New York to Albany without the use of sails, against wind and tide, in thirty-two hours, ridicule was changed to amazement. The steamboat was an awful revelation to the fishermen, the farmers, and the villagers. It seemed like a weird craft from Pluto's realm,—a transfiguration of Charon's boat into a living fiend from the infernal regions. Its huge black pipe vomiting fire and smoke, the hoarse breathing of its engine, and the great splash of its uncovered paddle-wheels filled the imagination with all the dark pictures of goblins that romancers have invented since the foundation of the world. Some thought it was an unheard of monster of the sea ravaging the fresh waters; others regarded it as a herald of the final conflagration at the day of doom. Some prayed for deliverance; some fled in terror to the shore and hid in the recesses of the rocks; and some crouched in mortal dread of the fiery demon."

"The Clermont was a small thing compared with the great river steamers of the present time. Fulton did not comprehend the majesty and capacity of his invention. He regarded the Richmond (the finest steamboat at the time of his death) as the perfection of that class of architecture. She was a

little more than 100 feet in length, with a low, dingy cabin, partly below the water-line, dimly lighted by tallow candles, in which passengers ate and slept in stifling air, and her highest rate of speed was nine miles an hour. Could Fulton revisit the earth and be placed on one of the great river steamboats of our time, he would imagine himself to be in some magical structure of fairyland, or of forming a part of a strange romance; for it is a magnificent floating hotel, over four hundred feet in length, and capable of carrying a thousand guests by night or by day at the rate of twenty miles an hour. Its gorgeously furnished parlors, lighted with gas, and garnished with rich curtains, mirrors and elegant furniture; its cheerful and well-ventilated dining-room; and its airy bedrooms, high above the water, compose a whole more grand and beautiful than any palace dreamed of by the Arabian story-tellers. It is the perfected growth of the Indian's bark canoe."

For a few years, about 1850, plank roads were chartered, and five were constructed in the county. These for a time were a novel enterprise, and commanded a large share of local travel; but now they are mostly abandoned, except on short lines, the travel having been diverted to lateral railroads.

Since the first railroad—the Mohawk and Hudson—was built, and began to be operated in this county in 1832 with its open coaches, a new system of journeying began at once to be introduced.

The facilities centered at Albany, by railroad and steamboat, for reaching any given point, will compare favorably with any city in the State. Roads center here from all points, and connections are made with other and continuous lines leading to everywhere.

The New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, with its consolidated branches from New York to Buffalo, makes Albany a great thoroughfare. During the year 1883 this road carried on its several branches nearly eleven million passengers. During the month of May, 1885, there were sold at the Union Depot, Albany, 53,228 passenger tickets. In the same month sixty-five passenger trains were dispatched daily. The fare on this road averages about 2.05 cents per mile.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Railroads are of immense utility to this County. This great corporation leases and operates, among other roads, the Albany and Susquehanna, the Rensselaer and Saratoga, and the New York and Canada, which start from Albany. The number of passengers carried on these roads in 1884 was

2,622,174, and for the month of May, 1885, there were sold at the Albany office 56,823 passenger tickets, and seventeen regular passenger trains were sent out daily. The fare on this road is three cents per mile.

The Boston and Albany Railroad has its station in the Union Depot. This road carried in 1883 over eight million passengers; and in the month of May, 1885, sold at the Albany office 37,099 passenger tickets, and despatched seven regular passenger trains daily.

The New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad was opened to Albany in 1883. There were sold from the Albany offices for the month of May, 1885, 9,095 passenger tickets, and eleven trains were sent out daily with passengers. The fare is three cents per mile.

The Troy and Boston Railroad sends six daily trains. It passes through Hoosac tunnel.

The several railroads that center at Albany sent out for the month of May from this city about 105 passenger trains daily, and the same number arrived daily. The total number of passenger tickets sold at the Albany offices for the same month was 156,243.

The whole number of passengers carried on the several steamboats from Albany for the season of 1884 was about 1,500,000.

Stages run daily from the city to New Scotland, New Salem and Berne; also to Clarksville, Westerlo and Rensselaerville, via Bethlehem Centre; to Guilderland Centre every afternoon; to Newtonville, Nassau and East Schodack daily; and to Greenbush every fifteen minutes.

RAILROADS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ALBANY has become a very important railroad center. It was one of the earliest points of railroad interest in the United States. The construction of a railroad parallel with the Hudson River, connecting the City of New York with the City of Albany, affording a communication between the two cities at all seasons, was considered an object of so much importance, that, in 1832, a number of enterprising citizens obtained from the Legislature a charter with a capital of \$3,000,000, and powers to construct the same. But a sufficient amount of the capital stock was not subscribed, and the project was abandoned for about twenty years. The then estimated cost of the road for a single track was \$12,000 per mile, which would amount to nearly \$2,000,000 for the whole line. It was believed that branches of this road might easily be constructed to Hartford and New Haven, and a large amount of business might be expected, not only from the eastern counties of this State, but from Berkshire County, Mass., and Litchfield and Fairfield Counties, Conn. The railroad commissioners of 1833 have this curious speculation concerning the profits of the proposed road: That it would accommodate a large number of the population in the vicinity of the route; that the amount of transportation which would be paid to the road by this population, on produce, minerals, manufactures and merchandise would amount to \$350,000, to which was added a larger amount to be ob-

tained from travelers and light freights between New York and Albany, particularly in the winter; that the annual income of the proposed road would amount to \$852,000. "This railroad," says this report, "will connect at Albany with the grand chain of railroads now in progress, or contemplated, from Albany to Buffalo, viz: the Mohawk and Schenectady, completed; Utica and Schenectady, in progress; Syracuse and Utica, contemplated; Auburn and Syracuse, stock subscribed; Auburn and Rochester, contemplated; Tonawanda, contemplated, from Rochester through Batavia to Attica." Fifty-two years ago there was no railway between Albany and Buffalo, except the short line then known as the Mohawk and Schenectady, and no railway connection between New York and Albany; and the great road now known as the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad was not in existence.

The Albany and Schenectady road had been in operation since September 12, 1831, under the name of the Mohawk and Hudson. The Hudson River Railroad, chartered in 1832, and abandoned for lack of the necessary capital, obtained a new charter May 12, 1846, and on October 3, 1851, the road was opened from New York to East Albany. November 1, 1869, the New York Central Railroad and Hudson River Railroad companies were organized by consolidation. The New York Central Railroad Company was organized April 2,

1853, authorizing the consolidation of the railroads between Albany and Buffalo, as follows:

Albany and Schenectady; Schenectady and Troy; Utica and Schenectady; the Mohawk Valley; the Syracuse and Utica; the Syracuse and Utica direct; Rochester and Syracuse; Buffalo and Rochester; the Rochester, Lockport and Niagara Falls; the Buffalo and Lockport.

Articles of agreement, taking effect May 1, 1853, were filed May 15, 1853. The first Board of Directors was elected July 6, and the whole line delivered to the new company August 1, 1853.

The first railroad ever built in the State was the Albany and Schenectady, chartered in 1826 as the Mohawk and Hudson. It was opened September 12, 1831. In 1847, the name was changed to Albany and Schenectady.

Previous to the consolidation of the Hudson River Railroad with the New York Central, the Troy and Greenbush road, chartered in 1845, was leased to the Hudson River road, June 1, 1851, for seven per cent. on \$275,000 capital stock. The lease runs during the time of the charter, or any extension of the same. It was assumed by the New York Central and Hudson River road on consolidation.

The New York and Harlem, chartered April 25, 1831, is one of the routes from Albany to New York—formerly from Greenbush—the corporate existence of which was extended December 28, 1874, four hundred years. It leased its steam portion, running to Forty-second street, New York City, April 1, 1873, to the Central. This lease expires April 1, 2274, the annual rent being the interest on its funded debt and eight per cent. on its capital stock.

Before the construction of the railroad bridges which span the Hudson at Albany, all passengers and freight arriving at Albany en route for New York or the East were shipped by ferry to Greenbush. The two bridges now crossing the Hudson to East Albany are owned nominally by a separate organization called the Hudson River Bridge Company. The ownership, however, is vested really in the New York Central and Hudson River Company three-fourths, and the Boston and Albany Railroad one-fourth. Except for foot passengers, they are used exclusively for railroad pur-

poses. Each company pays its proportion of maintenance in operating. The cost of the road, consolidated, with all its rolling stock, etc., was \$114,731,917. Two hundred and ninety-five miles of the road between Albany and Buffalo has four tracks; between Albany and New York there are four tracks. It owns, in all, 2,361 miles of track, and controls by lease 324 additional miles; it owns 655 locomotives, 361 first-class passenger cars and 22,973 freight cars. It employs 15,355 persons, paying them during the year 1883, \$8,401,208 for services. During the railroad year ending December 31, 1883, it carried 10,746,925 passengers and 10,892,440 tons of freight; the average rate per mile per passenger was: through, 2.05 cents; way, 2.04 cents. The freight rates per ton per mile are .69 cents on through freight; .67 cents on way. Total earnings, \$33,770,721, from which is deducted, including an 8 per cent. dividend amounting to \$7,148,131, \$33,591,697, leaving a balance in favor of the road of \$179,024.

ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD COMPANY.

This road was incorporated under the General Railroad Law, April 19, 1851. It was open for travel and traffic from Albany to Central Bridge, a distance of thirty-five miles, September 16, 1863, and to other points at various dates, and to its terminus at Binghamton, January 14, 1869. The property of the company was leased February 24, 1870, to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company for the term of its charter, one hundred and fifty years from April 19, 1851, paying a rental as follows: Six per cent. upon the Albany City bonds; seven per cent. upon the first, second and third mortgage bonds and first consolidated mortgage bonds; seven per cent. upon the capital stock; and \$1,000 for maintaining the organization. The interest and dividend are paid by the lessees directly to the stock and bondholders. A payment of \$5,000 semi-annually is also made by the lessees to the trustees of the sinking fund of the City of Albany, and is invested by the latter in certain funds for the ultimate payment of the Albany City bonds.

The following statement shows the condition of its funded debt:

STATEMENT OF FUNDED DEBT.

KIND OF BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS.	IF AND HOW SECURED.	DATE OF ISSUE.	WHEN DUE.	RATE OF INTEREST.	AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZED ISSUE.	AMOUNT ACTUALLY ISSUED.	OUTSTANDING.
First mortgage.....	By mortgage.	July 1, 1863.	July 1, 1888.	.07	\$1,000,000 00	\$1,000,000 00	\$998,000 00
Second mortgage.....	By mortgage.	Oct., 1865.	Oct. 1, 1885.	.07	2,000,000 00	2,000,000 00	1,627,000 00
First consolidated mort.	By mortgage.	April 1, 1876.	April 1, 1906.	.06 and .07	*10,000,000 00	4,556,000 00	4,556,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	Nov. 6, 1865.	Nov. 6, 1895.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	May 1, 1866.	May 1, 1896.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	Nov. 1, 1866.	Nov. 1, 1896.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	May 1, 1867.	May 1, 1897.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Total					\$14,000,000 00	\$8,556,000 00	
Total outstanding							\$8,181,000 00

* Includes \$3,450,000 to be used in exchanging other classes of bonds, as per terms of amended lease.

Albany is largely interested in various ways in the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company. The total cost and equipment of the road was

\$6,701,691.55. The following is the balance sheet for the year 1883, showing the moneyed interest of the City of Albany therein:

Dr.	BALANCE SHEET AT END OF YEAR.		Cr.		
	BY LAST REPORT.	BY THIS REPORT.		BY LAST REPORT.	BY THIS REPORT.
Cost of road and equipment.....	\$6,701,691 55	\$6,701,266 55	Capital Stock..	\$3,500,000 00	\$3,500,000 00
Additions and betterments made by the lessee.....	4,706,255 91	5,689,786 63	Funded Debt..	7,134,000 00	8,881,000 00
Sinking fund in the hands of the trustees of the City of Albany, applicable to retiring the Albany City bonds issued to this company.....	237,466 54	260,237 37	Unfunded Debt	1,072,255 91	1,008,786 63
New York and Albany Railroad Company stock.....	7,000 00	7,000 00			
Cash by last report.....	\$487 88				
Trustees' account by last report	419 58				
		907 47			
Cash by this report.....	\$887 90				
Trustees' account by this report	419 58				
		1,307 48			
Other assets.....	419 14				
Income account.....	52,513 30	30,188 60			
Total	\$11,706,255 91	\$12,689,786 63	Total.....	\$11,706,255 91	\$12,689,786 63

INCOME OR PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Debit balance of income account, Sep. 30, 1882..	\$52,515 30
Deduct items of gain.....	22,326 10
Balance of income account, Sep. 31, 1883.....	\$30,186 60

THE ALBANY AND VERMONT RAILROAD.

This road was chartered October 17, 1857, and was leased in perpetuity to the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company, June 12, 1860, and is operated by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The main line of the road from Albany to Waterford Junction, is twelve miles in this State. Its capital stock, as authorized by charter and paid

in, is \$600,000; number of shares, 6,000; number of stockholders, 47.

The total earnings of the road for the year ending 1883 were \$21,060.00. The charges against these earnings were \$19,200, giving surplus of \$1,860.

BOSTON AND ALBANY RAILROAD.

This important and thoroughly equipped railway, uniting Albany with Boston, was chartered November 2, 1870. It is made up of a combination or consolidation of roads, as follows: Western Railroad Corporation, established by the Common-

wealth of Massachusetts March 15, 1833; Castleton and New Stockbridge Railroad Company, incorporated by New York May 5, 1834. Its name was changed to Albany and West Stockbridge Railroad Company by an act of May 5, 1836.

On November 11, 1841, a permanent contract was made for transportation by the Western Railroad Corporation and the Albany and West Stockbridge Railroad Company for the operation of the latter by the former.

On the 24th of May, 1867, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed an act consolidating the Western Railroad Corporation with the Boston and Worcester Railroad Company, under the name of

the Boston and Albany Railroad Company. This was done under authority of an act of the Legislature of the State of New York, passed May 20, 1869. By an act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed May 23, 1869, the Boston and Albany Railroad Corporation, the Albany and West Stockbridge Company, and the Hudson and Boston Railroad were united, and became the Boston and Albany Railroad Company. This grand scheme of consolidation was consummated November 2, 1870.

It is a direct route from Albany to Pittsfield, Worcester, Springfield and Boston. The Albany station, at this time, is Union Depot.

STOCK AND DEBT.

	BY LAST REPORT.	BY THIS REPORT.
Capital stock as authorized by charter.....	\$27,325,000 00	\$27,325,000 00
Capital stock as since fixed.....	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Capital stock subscribed.....	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Capital stock paid in.....	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Funded debt.....	10,858,000 00	10,858,000 00
Unfunded debt.....	1,012,722 15	906,729 58
Total funded and unfunded debt.....	11,870,722 15	11,764,729 58
Average rate per annum of interest on funded debt..	5, 6 and 7 per cent.	5, 6 and 7 per cent.
Number of shares of ordinary stock.....	200,000	200,000
Number of stockholders.....		6,124

The cost and equipment of this road was \$28,363,-874.78, of which \$1,215,000 is invested in locomotive engines and fixtures; \$408,000 in passenger

and baggage cars; \$1,442,400 in freight and other cars; \$1,182,731.13 in bridges. It has 244 locomotives, 229 passenger cars, 5,437 freight cars.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROAD.

	LENGTH IN THIS STATE. MILES.	LENGTH OUT OF THIS STATE.	TOTAL LENGTH. MILES.
Main line of road from Albany to Boston.....	39.30	162.35	201.65
Main line laid.....	39.30	162.35	201.65
Branches owned (built).....	17.33	81.25	98.58
Lines leased (built) or operated.....	.....	74.03	74.03
Total main line (laid), branches owned, and lines leased or operated.....	56.63	317.63	374.26
Second track on main line.....	39.30	162.35	201.65
Second track on branches owned, or lines leased or operated.....	1.00	8.22	9.22
Total second track.....	40.30	170.57	210.87
Third track on main line.....	.....	8.36	8.36
Fourth track on main line.....	.....	8.35	8.35
Total third and fourth tracks.....	.....	16.71	16.71
Sidings and turnouts on main line.....	24.81	125.05	149.86
Sidings and turnouts on branches owned, and on lines leased or operated.....	6.99	38.72	45.71
Total sidings.....	31.80	163.77	195.57
Aggregate of all tracks on main line, branches owned and lines leased or operated, including all sidings and turnouts.....	128.73	668.68	797.41

Expenses for operating the road for the year 1883, including expenses for specific purposes, \$3,205,358.65. Of this sum \$161,740.06 was paid conductors, baggage and brakemen of passenger trains, and \$345,879.10 to freight conductors, baggagemen and brakemen; \$795,383.49 was expended for fuel; \$61,328.08 for oil and other lubricants and waste; for loss and damages of goods and baggage, \$10,342.89; for damages to property, including damages by fire and cattle killed on road, \$7,116.73; for damages for injury to persons, \$17,259.61; for stationery and printing, \$33,560.05; advertising, \$6,268.44; legal expenses and counsel fees, \$12,685.11; telegraph services, \$17,402.20.

Total earnings of the road, \$8,539,875.88. Charges against these earnings, including dividends dated quarterly and rate eight per cent per annum on all stock, except that owned by the State of Massachusetts, for which was given in exchange, \$3,858,000 five per cent bonds, \$1,407,100; making all charges against earnings \$8,303,904.07, leaving a surplus for the year of \$235,971.81.

Of the 8,079,072 passengers carried over the road during the year 1883, not a person was killed or injured. Of the 3,411,324 tons of freight carried, but a small per cent. of the same was injured.

WEST SHORE RAILROAD.

This railroad is properly the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad. For a long time the project of building a road along the west shore of the Hudson, from Weehawken, through Albany, and thence westward to Buffalo, was considered. But the difficulties of construction, especially along the Hudson, were so great, that the plan was delayed until some time in 1880, when it took

definite and active form, and June 14, 1881, it received its charter. It was prosecuted with such vigor, that on July 9, 1883, it was opened for passengers to Albany, and on January 1, 1884, it was opened to Buffalo. Albany is connected with the main line by a branch from Coeymans, a distance of twelve miles south. It is 407 miles by the road from Weehawken to Buffalo. There are, at this writing, 135 locomotives, about 70 passenger cars, and over 3,234 freight cars. The depot of this road is at the foot of Maiden lane, at the Delaware and Hudson River Canal Company's Depot.

During most of the year of 1884-5, through the sharp competition between railroads, resulting in what was termed a "railroad war," rates for passengers were cut to such an extent, that but one cent per mile was charged on all railroads leading out of Albany. The "war" was closed in the Autumn of 1885, and the West Shore is now said to be under control of Wm. H. Vanderbilt, and running as before at the old rates.

RAILROAD DEPOTS.

With all the railroads passing in and out of Albany, there are really but two depots in the city. The Central and Hudson River and the Boston and Albany Railroads occupy the Union Depot just north of Maiden lane and east of Broadway. The Rensselaer and Saratoga, the West Shore, and the Susquehanna division of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, have their depot at the foot of Maiden lane. The cars of the latter pass the steamboat landings, and during river navigation, passengers desiring to take the boats leave the train. The West Shore trains arrive at and depart from the depot at the foot of Maiden lane.

EXPRESS BUSINESS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

IN the early history of this county we find pack-horses, then lumbering wagons, and then stage-coaches drawn by four, six or eight horses, were the usual vehicles for transportation. The cross-road post and the village or country tavern served as package offices. These, in time, were superseded on certain lines by the steamboat and canal boat. Then the advent of those more formidable rivals, the railroads, wrought a change truly marvelous.

For many years the stage-coach served as a "carry all," the driver of which was employed to perform many errands, and empowered to transact important commissions of trust, including a multitude of messages, bills to collect and money packages to deliver, for which trouble he received a very small perquisite. It may be recorded to their credit, that for honesty and faithfulness, few men have a better record. There are no authentic cases in which they proved recreant or dishonest

in the performance of the trust committed to them.

Before the introduction of railroads, the stage-coach lines that centered in Albany were numerous, and considered among the most useful and even necessary institutions contributing to the business interests of the city. These lines extended in all directions. Every post-road and turnpike was a mail-route. The inhabitants of every village and hamlet anxiously waited for the arrival of friends, of the mail, and of important messages and packages by stage.

The stage-coach and carrier of the post were as indispensable then as the steamboat, railroad and express systems are now. But their rough life and hard experience was a source of excitement. The stage-driver was a jolly, jovial Jehu, with his four-in-hand team, the envy of all the bigger boys. In the important positions they occupied, they were as proud of their "rig," as the modern locomotive engineer is of his seventy-ton engine, or the conductor of his lightning express or palace-car train. Now their swinging throne and exalted occupation are gone.

Providence seems to govern all things for man's welfare. The inspirations that bring forth such marvelous inventions as the whole system of railway and steamboat locomotion, the telegraph and ocean cable, the telephone and electric light, may be regarded as of more than human origin.

To William F. Harnden belongs the credit of recognizing a public want before the public had any definite idea of what that want was; and not merely recognizing it, but going practically to work with energy to supply it.

He was the beginner and earliest practical worker of an institution which, for rapid growth and business importance, is without a parallel.

The package express of modern times was unknown until Harnden started it in 1839; although special expresses for the transmission of important private and public intelligence have been in use, occasionally, for hundreds of years past.

Special expresses for the conveyance of important public news were sometimes employed by enterprising newspaper proprietors, as in the case of the Websters, early journalists of Albany.

The origin of the express, as an institution, was brought about by the introduction of the railway, which made a revolution in former methods. Business men began to require a more rapid and safe delivery of valuable packages and sundry parcels.

The old way demanded large confidence, and sometimes became a burden and an inconvenience

to friends and acquaintances. There are now living those who well remember how anxious men were to send by some friend going to New York or Boston, parcels of bank notes, drafts, bills collectable, or other valuables; and it was expected to be cheerfully performed as a favor. Mutual confidence among men at that time prevailed; misappropriation was almost unknown; embezzlement was punished; and honesty generally regarded as necessary to respectability.

William F. Harnden in the spring of 1834, was conductor on the first train of the Boston and Worcester Railroad. He continued to serve on this road until the close of the year 1838. Weary of working sixteen hours a day, he told his friend "Jim" Hale, one day, that the confined employment of the past years had injured his health, and he was determined to seek some more active business. James W. Hale, the originator of cheap postage between Boston, New York and Philadelphia in 1837, and in a measure the father of the express business in this country, is now "hale" and hearty at 84 years old. Hale advised him to do errands between New York and Boston; that there was an urgent want of a parcel express which would command the patronage of all classes of business men. He at once secured facilities and a contract on the Boston and Providence Railroad.

Little did Harnden, or any other living man, dream what immense results his humble express was leading to.

The earliest public hint of this enterprise is contained in a Boston Newspaper, dated February 23, 1839, in which Harnden advertises: "He will accompany a car himself for the purpose of purchasing goods, collecting drafts, notes and bills, delivering packages, bundles and forwarding merchandise, etc."

The "extra car" was a little play of fancy; an ordinary valise serving to hold all that the original expressman had to carry for months after this time. The identical valise is now in the possession of Benjamin P. Cheney, Boston. For the first few months, Harnden served as his own messenger; but business soon increased so that he was obliged to extend facilities and employ help.

The burning of the Lexington on Long Island Sound, January, 1840, was a bitter experience to this enterprise.

In 1842, Harnden was upon the top wave of popularity, and his lines began to reach in all directions. When Henry Wells had urged upon

him, a year or two before, the importance of extending his line to Albany and Buffalo, and thence Westward, Harnden replied: "Put a people there, and my express shall soon follow."

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

In 1841, or a little earlier, Henry Wells, agent of Harnden at Albany, suggested to George Pomeroy that it would pay to start an express from Albany to Buffalo. Pomeroy made three trips. His express had been relinquished for some time, when Crawford Livingston proposed to Wells that he should join him in resuming the enterprise. Wells consented, and Pomeroy & Co.'s Albany and Buffalo Express was established. Its transportation at that time was by railroad to Auburn; thence by stage, twenty-five miles, to Geneva; thence by Auburn and Rochester Railroad to Rochester; thence to Lockport, sixty miles, by stage; thence to Buffalo, thirty miles, by private conveyance; from Rochester to Batavia, thirty-four miles, by Tonawanda Railroad; and thence to Buffalo, forty miles, by stage. The trip was made once a week, and occupied four nights and three days. It is now accomplished in about nine hours.

About 1843, Pomeroy & Co. commenced running a Hudson River Express. They had for competitors Pullen & Copp. This continued only a few months, when Pullen & Copp gave up the Albany and Western business, acting as messengers on the Troy route for Pomeroy & Co.

In the winter of 1843-44, Harnden & Co. sold their Philadelphia Express to George Hatch & Co., who run it for a short time and then sold it to Johnston and William A. Livingston. In a month or two the latter sold out to the former and went to Albany, where William A. Livingston engaged in the express business.

About 1844, the firm of Livingston, Crawford, Wells & Co. was established. This firm continued until the latter part of 1846, when W. A. Livingston bought the Wells interest in the Western Express, and Livingston & Fargo became a company. W. A. Livingston acted for many years as the agent at Albany for Livingston, Wells & Co.

About this time Henry & Co.'s Express started a short-lived business upon the Albany and Buffalo route.

Crawford Livingston died in 1847, aged thirty-four; Harnden died January 14, 1845, aged thirty-three.

In the autumn of 1849, an opposition express was started over the New York Central Railroad

by Butterfield, Wasson & Co. James D. Wasson was then postmaster of Albany. Both partners had formerly been stage proprietors.

The American Express Company as now existing, is a consolidation of Wells & Co., Livingston & Fargo, and Butterfield, Wasson & Co. These were merged into Wells, Butterfield & Co., and Livingston, Fargo & Co., which comprise the joint stock concern of 1850. It was then valued at \$500,000.

In 1854, the United States Express Company suddenly started into existence as a joint stock company; but after a few months it was merged in the American.

The present United States Express Company was organized in 1854, with a view of doing business on the New York and Erie Railroad. This railroad company for a time transacted its own express business; but in August, 1858, transferred its express to the United States Express Company, which had no operations east of New York. Another, called the United States and Canada, which transacted an express business from Albany to points East and West, in June, 1882, united with the Erie and New England Express from Boston to Binghamton, over the Fitchburg Railroad, via Hoosac Tunnel, and the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. In June, 1883, the United States and Canada Express passed into the hands of the American, while the United States withdrew, June, 1885, in favor of the National Express Company.

The Merchants' Union was consolidated with the American, December 1, 1868, and had an office in Albany, southwest corner of Broadway and Maiden lane during its existence there. Mr. D. T. Hunt was agent.

THE NATIONAL EXPRESS COMPANY.

The original projector of this excellent company was J. A. Pullen. He was an early and efficient aid of Harnden, and served as messenger in 1842, between New York, Albany and Troy, via the Hudson River steamboats.

In the winter of 1843-43, Harnden having sold out his Hudson River Express, Pullen & Copp started a like business from New York to Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. At this time Pomeroy & Co. were doing business between Albany and Buffalo.

In 1844 or 1845, these two companies made a division of their routes, Pullen & Copp taking Troy, north; Pomeroy & Co., Albany, west. Copp retired and Major Pullen took E. L. Stone as a partner. In 1843, Mr. Jacobs had started an express from Albany to Montreal. E. H. Virgil acted as

his messenger and agent for about a year, and then, in company with N. G. Howard, purchased Jacobs' interest. Its route was by packet boats or stage from Albany to Whitehall; thence, north, by other conveyance. It connected at Troy and Albany with Pullen & Co. Early in 1844, H. F. Rice bought Howard's interest, and the firm became Virgil & Rice. Soon after it changed to Pullen, Virgil & Co.'s Express. Office in Exchange Building.

Upon the opening of the Albany Northern Railroad in 1845, Robert L. Johnson and others established a northern express, under the style of Johnson & Co., from Albany to Rutland. This enterprise came in competition with Pullen, Virgil & Co. In the spring of 1855, it became a joint stock express under the style of the National Express Company. E. H. Virgil, of Troy, was superintendent of the routes, and Robert L. Johnson, agent, located in Old Exchange Building. At the present writing, in 1885, the record of this company in the county is as follows: Commenced business in 1849 in the Exchange Building, the ground now occupied by the Government Building; in 1873 removed to the corner of Maiden lane and Dean street, in a large, capacious building owned by the company, in which are their several offices. James W. Hutt, General Superintendent; George W. Slingerland, Assistant Superintendent. The railroads upon which this company does business to or from Albany are the Rensselaer and Saratoga; Albany and Susquehanna; New York, West Shore and Buffalo. There are, in the county, twenty-six offices, one hundred and twenty-eight employees, and twenty-two horses in daily use.

THOMPSON & CO.'S WESTERN EXPRESS

Was commenced in 1841 by William F. Harnden. Its route was from Boston to Albany, and its original agent in Albany was Henry Wells. In 1844, Harnden & Co. sold this Western Express to James M. Thompson, its agent. The new proprietor was shrewd, systematic and persevering. E. Lamb Stone, Thompson's earliest agent in Albany, was succeeded in the autumn of 1844 by Robert L. Johnson, then only seventeen years old. He had been, for a year or two, a clerk for Pomeroy & Co.'s Express. When, in May, 1845, Thompson & Co. occupied the same premises, Exchange Building, in Albany, he acted as their agent. In 1847, R. L. Johnson, the Albany agent, started an express between Albany and Troy, over the Troy and Greenwich Railroad, acting as his own messenger.

He continued in this service until the spring of 1853, when he was taken into the partnership of Thompson & Co. This company connected at Albany with the American Express Company, and Johnson acted as agent.

The Albany, Springfield and Boston route was sold to the American by J. M. Thompson, R. L. Johnson and William N. Melcher in 1861.

HOWARD & CO.'S EXPRESS.

N. G. Howard was agent for Harnden & Co. at Albany in the summer of 1842. In the following year he became associated with E. C. Bailey, under the style of Bailey & Howard. Harnden, desirous of connecting at Albany with some other express than Pomeroy & Co., brought into existence Bailey & Howard, which firm soon dissolved. Shortly after abandoning his Albany and Buffalo enterprise, Howard joined E. H. Virgil in running an express between Albany and Montreal. This proving uphill work, Howard accepted an offer from Harnden to take charge of the Philadelphia office, which he did in the spring of 1844.

In 1866 The Merchants' Union Express Company was organized as a stock company of prominent men, with a large capital. This proved unsuccessful, and the company was consolidated, December 1, 1868, with the American, under the name of The American Merchants' Union Express Company. This name was retained until February 1, 1873, when it was changed to

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

By these consolidations, and the vast growth of its operations in the Far West, the capital of the American was increased to \$18,000,000. Its managing forces were augmented by the accession of Messrs. Theo. M. Pomeroy, General John N. Knapp and William H. Seward, and two other business men of capital, enterprise and approved judgment, thus rendering it without a superior among the mercantile institutions of America.

The American Express Company doing business in Albany County is largely the growth from seed sown by such men as Henry Wells, Crawford Livingston, William A. Livingston, R. L. Johnson and George Pomeroy. More than two-score years ago, in 1841, when Harnden induced Henry Wells to serve him as agent, Wells, then young, sanguine, full of energy and willing to work, fixed his headquarters in Albany. He became associated with George Pomeroy and Crawford Liv-

ingston, in 1842, in the Hudson River Express, and having been an agent and runner for the river steamboats, he was well schooled for this special enterprise and proved a valuable partner. Crawford Livingston at this time was a coal merchant, with only a few hundred dollars at his command. With his associates and unremitting hard work, he commanded respect and was in a measure prosperous. Pomeroy and Wells had, so far, served as the two messengers of the concern, having a desk in the Exchange Building, where the first express business was transacted in this city. Many years afterwards it was a daily scene of hurry and commotion. Dispatch and delivery were executed promptly. Crawford Livingston was on hand here daily, a most indefatigable agent, clerk and manager, his firm representing both Pomeroy & Co. and Harnden & Co. Samuel Carter became assistant agent in this office. Crawford Livingston removed to New York to take charge of the business of the new firm of Livingston, Wells & Co., William A. Livingston taking his brother's place in Albany. Soon after this, in 1844, the Western Express Forwarders became identified with a new force, the late William G. Fargo becoming resident partner and manager at Buffalo, assisted, subsequently, by his brothers, James C. and Charles Fargo. The Western Express firm name was Livingston, Fargo & Co., its style in Albany being originally Livingston, Wells & Co., and after Crawford Livingston's death, in 1847, Wells & Co. "Robbie" L. Johnson at that time was label boy and general helper in the Albany office. He was a bright, rosy-faced, energetic, honest little fellow, and grew into great popularity and prosperity in the express service in Albany. He became a partner and local agent for Pullen, Virgil & Co.'s Troy and Montreal Express, now the National Express Company; also partner of Thompson & Co. Mr. Johnson was a man remarkable for his strict integrity, great financial and executive ability, and superior business qualities. In his social relations he was respected by all, a worthy citizen of whom Albany was proud. He died here a few years ago. The agents who have served the American at Albany since the beginning, in 1842, have been Henry Wells, Agent of Harnden's Boston and New York Express and Pomeroy & Co.'s Hudson River Express, which were merged in Livingston, Wells & Co. in 1843, with Crawford Livingston as Agent; in 1845, William C. Spencer was Agent. In 1850, Butterfield, Wasson & Co.'s Express was consolidated with it, under the corporate name of The American Express Company. Henry Wells was President; John

Butterfield, Vice-President; William C. Fargo, Secretary; and Alexander Holland, Treasurer, who served for thirty-five years.

The Superintendent of the New York State Eastern Division of the American, M. B. White, long resided at Albany. He was, in October, 1867, succeeded by E. H. Sly, who as clerk, messenger, and line superintendent or route agent between Albany and New York, resided here. For a year past C. W. Selleck has served the company in like capacity. It has headquarters on the second floor of the Express Building, corner of Broadway and Steuben streets. John L. Van Valkenburgh, who was first employed by the company in March, 1863, succeeded Mr. Sly as superintendent, February, 1874. He is still the highly esteemed, popular and faithful agent of the popular American, with a force of fifteen clerks, forty messengers and general supervision. The business requires the services of twenty-four horses, twelve drivers, and other helpers as needed.

The business of this company was originally from Albany to New York City by the river, and extended to Buffalo, via several short railroads and stage lines, in 1845. Now, and for thirty-five years past, it is making full use of the Hudson River Railroad and the New York Central, with their connections, and the Boston and Albany Railroad. It has exclusive control of 34,417 miles of railroad, 4,718 offices and 7,053 employees.

Other line superintendents are or have been A. G. Nickerson, J. Schermerhorn, H. M. Dwight, and John B. Prentiss, with headquarters at Syracuse.

The American is fortunate in retaining the best of its employees, and when, after many years faithful service, they decline into the sear and yellow leaf, and, unfitted for the active duties of expressmen, become superannuated, the company accords them pensionary support adequate to their necessities, and respects them for their past fidelity and usefulness. Among this class in Albany, the most worthy of honorable mention are Andrew Weatherwax and B. P. Wheeler, who have served as express messengers thirty-two years each. Alexander Stone, in the American's service twenty-five years, is still on a money wagon, performing daily duty, greatly respected by the company and its many customers in this city.

The writer is specially indebted to A. L. Stimson and John L. Van Valkenburg for kindly giving aid and counsel in making up this express history.

BAGGAGE EXPRESS.

This branch of business was begun in Albany as early as 1868, by Ransom Garrett and Thomas H. Wygant, from and to the railroad and steamboat depots. Wygant & Co. have been represented by T. H. Wygant, T. B. Morrow and George Hendrickson. The firm is now composed of T. H. Wygant and George Hendrickson. Baggage is received, delivered or transferred, at small expense, to the several railroad depots, steamboat landings, hotels or private residences in any part of the city. Agents pass through the principal and express passenger trains when nearing the city, collect checks, and upon arrival deliver the baggage with promptness. They also answer calls by telephone and receive orders by call books in the baggage-rooms of the differ-

ent depots and several designated places in the city. The charges are: Inside of Lark, Arch and Livingston avenues, thirty cents for a single piece of baggage, and twenty-five cents for each additional piece, and special rates for combinations, with charges according to distance, beyond specified rates. Union Depot, Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and West Shore Railroad Depots are the principal offices. The company employs fifteen persons and thirteen horses. Connected with their business is a boarding stable located at 46 Spencer street.

The Albany Five Cent City Express is located at No. 8 James street and does a good business.

The Cohoes, Troy and Lansingburgh Express has an office at 74 State street. It transports merchandise, etc., by wagons.

TELEGRAPH BUSINESS.

THE City of Albany is very intimately connected with the early history of telegraphy. Perhaps, with the exception of S. F. B. Morse, no one performed a more important part in discovering the means of transmitting intelligent sounds through wire by magnetic force than Joseph Henry, a native of Albany, who from 1826 to 1832 was one of the professors in the Albany Academy. It was in an upper room of the academy building that Henry first demonstrated the theory of the telegraph, by the transmission of the tones of a bell through a mile of wire strung around the room. It has been well said: "The click heard from every joint of those mystic wires which now link together every city and village all over this continent, is but the echo of that little bell which first sounded in the upper room of the Albany Academy." Professor Henry had long been a sanguine believer that electricity would ultimately accomplish all it has in the transmission of sound, and as early as 1829, by successful experiments, had discovered many of the fundamental principles of telegraphy. An article on this subject written by him, and published in a scientific journal in 1831, attracted much attention. In fact so many important discoveries on this subject were made by Professor Henry, that some of the scientific men of to-day regard him as the originator of the underlying principles of the Morse system of telegraphy. The relationship between Henry and Morse was close and intimate, as revealed by the friendly corre-

spondence between them on a subject so dear to both, a number of years prior to Morse's well-known triumph in 1844. From Professor Henry, Morse admitted having not only received much encouragement, but much practical assistance. Our venerated townsman, Professor Philip Ten Eyck, once a professor in Albany Academy, well remembers Professor Henry's experiments and the assistance he rendered.

After Morse had demonstrated the success of his experiments, by sending a message over a wire stretched from Baltimore to Washington in 1844, it was not long before men of capital began to take hold of the scheme.

Prominent among the men in this State to become interested in the new telegraph enterprise in 1845, were Theodore S. Faxton, John Butterfield and Hiram Greenman, three men well known in Albany at this time as pioneers of the old stage line through central and eastern New York. They went to Washington, and with the utmost care made themselves familiar with all the details, and formed a favorable judgment of an invention then but little understood, and looked upon with incredulity. Early in June, Mr. Butterfield closed a contract with Mr. Kendall to erect a line of the Morse telegraph between Springfield, Mass., and Buffalo, via Albany, and from Albany to New York.

July 16, 1845, an association was formed in Utica to construct the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Telegraph Line. Trustees were appointed.

These were Theodore S. Faxton, John Butterfield, Hiram Greenman, Henry Wells and Crawford Livingston. The capital was fixed at \$200,000, with power to increase it to \$250,000. The trustees became the contractors to construct the line, which was to consist of two copper wires.

At this time this enterprise was looked upon as foolish and impracticable. Steps were soon taken to prove it could be made of practical utility. In September, 1845, a wire was stretched from Utica to the fair grounds, and the successful working of the system was regarded with wonder and amazement. November 7, 1845, a wire was run from Buffalo to Lockport, being the first line opened in America for regular commercial business. Meanwhile the State was canvassed and a fair subscription secured. No interest was taken, strange to say, by Albany capitalists in this movement.

The first section of the new line was built between Albany and Utica. To this Mr. Faxton devoted his whole time. In this city, where he was well known, he did not receive much encouragement; some of his friends even laughed at what they considered his foolish zeal, and predicted naught but failure.

The line between Albany and Utica was finished and ready for business, January 31, 1845. The Albany office was located in the old Exchange Building, and was under the management of O. S. Wood and S. P. Carter. The opening of this office caused great excitement in the city. The newspapers of that day show how intensely the people were moved. One of the earlier feats of these primitive times was to telegraph from Albany to Utica the New York news brought up by the Albany boats which arrived in Albany in the morning.

The line from Albany to New York was completed July 3, 1846; to Hudson, October 28, 1846; Troy, August 7th; Syracuse, May 1st; Auburn, May 25th; to Geneva, November 9th.

When the office was opened in Rochester, June 1st, the whole city seemed in a general excitement. The papers gave glowing descriptions of the machinery and the influence which the telegraph was to exert on human history.

Connection was made with Buffalo, July 3, 1846; and the whole line from Buffalo to New York completed September 9, 1846.

January 5, 1847, Governor Young's message of 5,000 words was sent from Albany to New York in two and one-half hours by W. C. Buel and John Johnson. This was regarded as a wonderful performance.

During the winter of 1846-7, a severe sleet storm nearly demolished the wires from Albany to Amsterdam, and from Troy to Hudson, suspending operations for six weeks. The comparative strength of iron and copper wire to withstand the force of a severe storm was then demonstrated in favor of iron wire, now in universal use.

May 1, 1847, when the Albany office had been removed to the Delevan House, Mr. Carter, the manager, while receiving a message from Utica, found the paper had become twisted. As he with difficulty attempted to translate, W. C. Buel, the assistant manager, who was sitting near, said: "I think Utica asks 'if the nine o'clock train has arrived.'" Scarcely knowing how the intelligence came to him, Carter was much astonished to find it correct. Mr. Ten Eyck, of the *Evening Journal*, who was present, made the incident the subject of an article, which was extensively copied, even in Europe. Thus Buel is justly claimed to be one of the original sound readers.

The success of the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Company awakened opposition. About two years after the establishment of this line, the House State Printing Telegraph Company constructed a line from New York to Buffalo by way of Albany, and opened an office in this city in the Exchange Building; but subsequently removed to the old Museum Building. The method of receiving messages by this company was somewhat different from the Morse system, which at this time consisted of certain signs punctured on white paper, to be translated by the operator. By the House method the messages as received were printed in Roman characters, the wires being connected with a type machine, with alphabetical keys similar to the present type-writing machines. A short time after the House Company became established, the Merchants' State Telegraph Company was constructed from New York to Buffalo. This company used what was known as the Bain patent. The existence of this line was mainly owing to the exertions of Henry O'Reilly, of Rochester, and by his name the company was generally known. Its office in this city was in the old Museum Building. This line was run as an opposition line to the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Company and the House Company, until 1852, when it was consolidated with the former company.

In 1857, the American and the New York, Albany and Buffalo lines were formed. The latter company at this time purchased the property and rights of the House Printing Company. The office

of the American was located at 450 Broadway, and in 1864, removed to the corner of State and Broadway. It had connections with Boston, Providence, St. Johns, Pittsfield, Springfield, Hartford, Portland, Halifax, and intermediate places, with connecting lines to all other parts of the Eastern States and the British Provinces.

From 1864 to 1866, the United States Telegraph Company had an office in this city in the Exchange Building.

In 1864, the Western Union Company was formed. It was originally a Western line, known as the Mississippi Valley Telegraph Company, its lines running from Mississippi to Buffalo. In the same year it purchased the New York, Albany and Buffalo line, and the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo line, which, from 1845 to this date, had an office in this city. Thus was opened up a direct communication between the West and New York City. The central office in Albany was located in the old Museum Building, under the management of George B. Prescott. Up to the time of the sale of the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo line to the Western Union, its affairs had been managed in this city, besides those already mentioned, by C. S. Cutler, J. R. W. Johnston, S. C. Rice, E. S. Keep, C. S. Jones, M. L. Morgan and Fred H. Lawrence.

In 1866, the Western Union purchased the United States line, and from this time to 1870, when the Atlantic and Pacific line was constructed, had a monopoly of the telegraph business in this section.

The Atlantic and Pacific Company's office was first located at 463 Broadway, and afterwards removed to 444 Broadway, with branch offices in the Lumber District and at the Capitol.

In 1877, this company was consolidated with the Western Union. The Western Union had no other competing line in this city until the American Union line was constructed in 1880, with an office at 444 Broadway. But this company was in existence but a short time, when it was consolidated with the Western Union.

In 1882, two competing lines were constructed, with offices in Albany, the Mutual Union and the American Rapid. The former opened an office at

462 Broadway and the latter at the corner of State and James. Neither existed as a separate company more than a year, the Mutual Union becoming consolidated with the Western Union, and the American Rapid being leased to the Bankers' and Merchants'.

In 1884, the Bankers' and Merchants' and the Baltimore and Ohio opened offices in this city, the former at 444 Broadway and the latter at 462 Broadway. The Bankers' and Merchants', a short time ago, was sold to the United line. Its office in this city is now under the capable management of J. H. Rugg, who for many years has been connected with the telegraph business in Albany. The Baltimore and Ohio in this city is under the management of E. J. Slattery. This company has branch offices in this county at West Troy and Coeymans. The central office of the Western Union in this city is located in the old Museum Building at the corner of State and Broadway, with branch offices at the Capitol, West Albany, Delevan House, Union Depot, Lumber District, People's Line Office, Delaware and Hudson Canal Railroad Office, and at the Kenmore Hotel. Outside of this city, within the county, it has offices at West Troy, Cohoes and Coeymans. Its local management is under F. W. Sabold.

In 1871, the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad and the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company constructed a line of telegraph along their respective roads and opened offices in this city. These lines are still in use, but only for the accommodation of the respective railroad companies, and not for the general public.

The American District Telegraph Company, chartered in 1875, is simply a local telegraph line, with messenger service for the City and County of Albany. It went into operation in 1876, with a central office at 444 Broadway, afterwards removed to 468 Broadway. It is now owned by the Commercial Telephone Company, under the management of A. B. Uline.

The Capital District Telegraph Company, similar to the American District, went into operation in this city in 1881, with a central office at No. 100 State street, and is now under the management of W. H. Hamilton.

THE TELEPHONE AND MESSENGER SERVICE.

THIS comes from one of the most recent and remarkable inventions which contribute to man's innumerable wants. In this county it was the outgrowth of the American District Telegraph Company, located in the City of Albany, and chartered in November, 1875. It began operations in February, 1876, by instituting messenger service, which has been, in part, superseded by the telephone.

The American District Telegraph Company made a contract with the Bell Telephone Company, of Boston, for the use of the latter's instruments, in March, 1878, and in May established a telephone exchange in Albany, with about one hundred subscribers. The Albany District Company controlled the business until July, 1879, when the Commercial Telephone Company began operations in the city.

The owners of the Commercial Company obtained control of the American District in November, 1880, and the two companies were consolidated in January, 1881, under the name of the Commercial Telephone Company.

This company was located at 468 Broadway (Van Heusen & Charles' Marble Building), with branches at 68 Washington avenue and corner of South Pearl and Hamilton streets. The officers were: Henry R. Pierson, President; N. D. Wendell, Treasurer; J. L. Van Valkenburgh, Secretary; A. B. Uline, Manager.

The Hudson River Telephone Company began operations in 1883, and are now the owners of the Commercial Company, with lines and communication extending to the following places in the county: The Abbey, Berne, East Berne, West Berne, Cedar Hill, Coeymans, Clarksville, Cohoes, Green Island, Hurstville, Chesterville, Londonville, Menands, Potter's Hollow, Slingerlands, Sloans, West Albany, West Troy, Watervleit Centre, Newtonville, New Scotland, Delmar, Rensselaerville, Bethlehem, Guilderland, Preston Hollow, with about 2,000 stations or instruments distributed in the city and county. The employees number about one hundred.

The officers of the Hudson River Company are: J. Bigler, President; H. L. Storke, Secretary and Treasurer; A. B. Uline, General Manager. Directors: J. Bigler, H. L. Storke, A. B. Uline, C. S. Beardsley, D. A. Smith, A. O. Morgan, Theo. N. Vail. General office, No. 468 Broadway, Albany. Branch offices: 68 Washington avenue and corner South Pearl and Hamilton streets.

The Messenger Service, beginning here in 1875, under the American District Telegraph Company, has been fully identified with the business interests of the city as one of its very useful, almost necessary modern conveniences. The system adopted is for each subscriber to have a box, and by pulling down a crank, a number peculiar to that box is recorded at the office, which is answered promptly by a uniformed messenger boy. This method is still used to some extent, the telephone in a great measure taking its place. The Commercial Telephone Company became the owners of the American District Telegraph Company, both of which are now owned by the Hudson River Telephone Company. From forty to sixty boys are employed. Boxes are placed at convenient locations free of cost, subscribers paying only for service. The rates are: For 30 minutes or less, 10 cents; 30 to 45 minutes, 15 cents; 45 to 60 minutes, 20 cents; each continuous hour after the first, 15 cents. The boys are called to perform all kinds of errand work. They distribute invitations, wedding cards, circulars, packages, etc., etc. Offices for this service are at the Hudson River Telephone Company's offices. This company now controls all the territory from New York City to Clinton County east to the State line, and west fifty miles along the Hudson River to Jersey City. It is the only company operating from this city or in the county.

In 1880, the Construction Telephone and Supply Company contracted to build lines and exchanges throughout the State. A. R. Uline, President and Manager; W. B. Butler, Secretary and Treasurer. This was finally purchased by the Bell Telephone Company, of Boston, and afterward sold to the Hudson River Telephone Company.

AGRICULTURE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

AGRICULTURE, or the cultivation of the soil, is the first and one of the most important occupations of the human family, having been instituted and blessed by the Creator as soon as the earth was ready for man's habitation. Then was the command given that by the sweat of his brow was man to earn his bread. Agricultural art is a factor in molding human events and in adjusting the interests of communities. Its rational pursuit is not incompatible with the highest intellectual attainments and the best development of the individual citizen and of the public service.

Many of the sciences are useful servants of agriculture, and the most learned often become its most skilled exponents.

The energies of the thrifty husbandman lead to substantial comforts, and no one better deserves and enjoys the luxuries of life.

In the early settlement of this county, its agricultural inducements were not very inviting. For many years, little progress was made in this direction. The land was covered with a heavy growth of trees that required to be felled and removed before the soil could be planted and tilled. Sturdy blows from the pioneer's ax cleared the forest for an opening upon which to erect his log cabin and extend his fields for culture. Here, too, he was met by Indians and wild beasts—enemies cruel, treacherous and savage, which were to be tamed or subdued. In these days the settler and his family experienced the greatest hardships and difficulties. Useful implements and other conveniences were needed, the lack of which made his labor burdensome and of slow progress. Another and, perhaps, greater want was that of domestic animals, then introduced only to a limited extent for food or for assistance in the daily demands of labor. The poor man dwelt in his cabin-home and patiently wrought, with spade and grub-hoe, a scanty subsistence from the soil. The native forest furnished him with wild game and the streams an abundance of fish.

Nine-tenths of the farmers of that day commenced life bare-handed, as tenants or in debt for land, with small means for purchasing stock, implements or necessaries. Yet they possessed rugged constitutions, a determined spirit, and a will to

labor. None knew, from hard experience, better than these farmers and their wives, the necessity of self-denial, unflinching industry and careful economy, in their heroic struggles to secure a home and rear a family; nor the firm reliance and strength-giving trust in God and each other needed to sustain them through the long years of discouraging trials and unceasing toil.

There were conditions and unfavorable surroundings which attended these early adventurers in their choice of occupancy. Many of these early farmers were unused to labor of this kind, having been engaged by the West India Company as traders or servants. But dependence on this was not proving permanently profitable to the Dutch boor. He at first selected lands of easy culture near Fort Orange. Small beginnings were made. In time others followed, extending their possessions farther in the forest, seeking the best lands within easy communication. At the same time he held his trade with the Indians as well as he could for the benefit of the company. Farming was neglected in these early years and by these first colonists.

The West India Company, by their charter, had the right to navigate the rivers of New Netherlands; and in 1623 equipped a vessel of 130 lasts, called the *New Netherland*, whereof Cornelis Jacobs, of Horn, was skipper, with thirty families, mostly Walloons, to plant a colony. They sailed in the beginning of March, and in May entered the River Mauritius. Eight of these families came to Albany. But they came not as farmers.

In 1625 and 1626, "there arrived for New Netherlands, at Mauritius, 103 head of cattle—stallions, mares, steers and cows, hogs and sheep, for breeding and multiplying." Few, if any, were taken to Fort Orange. The Patroon charter of 1629, provided, that within four years, at least fifty persons over fifteen years of age, one-fourth of whom should be located within the first year, should settle in every colony. Early in the spring of the following year, a number of colonists with their families, and provided with farming implements, stock and other necessaries, sailed from Texel and landed in safety at the Manhatta. In a short time afterwards some of them landed at Fort Orange, and were

soon furnished with farms, houses and other dwellings at the expense of the Patroon and his associates. Other colonists followed each succeeding season. Needful supplies of stores were kept by the agents of the Patroon and sold to the colonists. In 1644, Priest Jogues, says of Beverwyck: "There are twenty-five or thirty houses along the river, built of boards and thatched. They cultivate some land for their horses, of which they have a large stock."

Among the products cultivated were Indian corn, wheat, flax, hemp and tobacco. Sugar made from the maple was a substitute for cane-sugar. These articles were bartered with the agents of the company in return for foreign goods for household and domestic use.

There seems to have been very little progress made or interest developed in farming until after English rule in 1664, when a change in government brought some encouragement to the few tillers of the soil. Hardships were many; the winters were severe, with cold and snow; the travel was bad; the means of living scanty; the surroundings cheerless and exposed to dangers. From this time to 1700, the condition of the few colonists upon lands of the Patroon were not much improved, although some progress was apparent in the increased acres under cultivation, the additions to stock and the increased quantity of grain and other farm products. The few bushels of grain, or pounds of flax, hemp and tobacco that could be exchanged, were taken by the agent. In 1665, wheat, corn, or any sort of grain was not allowed to be transported from the city down the Hudson River. Some produce was exported in 1678. In 1680, when Dankers and Sluyter were in this county, wheat and rye were cultivated, and a trade with the West Indies was carried on. The soil of the farming lands was well adapted to the growth of every variety of grain, fruit and vegetables. The low lands along the streams furnished luxuriant pasture and abundant hay. Wheat, in 1692, was sold at four shillings per bushel.

The settlement of lands on the manor was slow. In 1714, there were only 427 white persons and 181 slaves. In 1719, there were very few leases in the hands of the settlers. As late as 1767, from a map made for the Patroon, the number of families on the west side of the river is given as 148. This number does not probably include those on the Coeymans and Slingerland patents of 1673 and 1685.

There were a few families of Bradts who had settled under the shelter of the Helderbergs,

along the Normanskill, and in the northeast part of the county. After the close of the Indian and French disturbances, there was a marked increase of permanent settlers throughout the county, some of whom had been soldiers, and now exchanged the sword and musket for the ax and plow. These men were bred farmers in their native land, and by industry and frugality became worthy citizens. The tenants of the Patroon brought their rent and surplus grain to his store-house at Albany. Shipments down the river were under his control. In 1770, there were several sloops trading at Albany, loaded with grain and other farm produce, evidence of growing prosperity of the farmers.

The period from 1780 to 1800, witnessed the change from war to peace; from foreign power to an independent government. It was a new era in the development of agricultural pursuits, as well as in social and political life.

During the hostile years of revolutionary war, the agricultural interests of this county were not materially affected. There were no serious conflicts between the contending parties nearer than Saratoga, and the farmers, many of whom remained at home, were ready and anxious to furnish needed supplies from their cultivated acres. After hostilities ceased, and peace spread her protecting wings over the valleys and plains of this region, new life and encouragement was assured to the practical farmer. Prominent men engaged in the work, and gave the results of their experience to others.

As early as 1784, an agricultural society was formed, and an annual fair for the sale of cattle was held in Albany. Chancellor Livingston, in 1790, introduced the use of gypsum as a fertilizer. In 1785, grain and other farm products were shipped from Albany; and in 1790, Capt. Bloodgood loaded a vessel with surplus local products, among which was a negro slave, the property of Mrs. Staats, which he sold in Antigua for fifty-one pounds. In 1794, trade in wheat and other grain was quite extensive. The yield was from sixteen to twenty bushels per acre, and it brought seven shillings a bushel. In 1799, it was sold at fourteen shillings a bushel.

Farming lands in the county began to be held, generally, by a class of men who brought experience and knowledge to practical farming. Wheat was the staple product, and the soil gave generous yield; rye, oats, corn, buckwheat, hemp, flax and root crops were cultivated. Sheep were a source of profit, as they could be kept on the new and unimproved lands. Neat-cattle, of native stock, were raised only for home demands. During the

war of 1812, wheat was sold for \$2.00 and \$3.00 per bushel.

This date marks another era of improvement in all branches of agriculture and domestic husbandry. Its interests, as connected with the prosperity of the State, enlisted the attention of public officials and all men of intelligence. Among the men most actively interested near this time, and deserving of special mention, were Matthew Bullock, De Witt Clinton, Solomon Southwick, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jesse Buel, C. N. Bement, Ezra P. Prentice, Erastus Corning, Thomas Hillhouse, Christopher Dunn, and Proctor & Hawes.

Hemp and flax culture has almost or quite disappeared as a paying branch of farming. Cotton has, to a great extent, taken their place in domestic fabrics as being more readily obtained and more economic in the family. The rope-walk, spinning-wheel, and farm-house loom have nearly disappeared, and millions of dollars are now invested in machinery and factories employing thousands of operatives and producing millions of yards of woolen and cotton fabrics in this county.

The cultivation of hops has in a large measure been substituted for hemp and flax. Increased acreage is devoted to small fruits and garden products, now largely cultivated in the county. The near-by city markets consume the supply offered. These and the orchard products are a profitable source of income to the farmer. In 1865 there were produced in the county 46,585 pounds of hops, and in 1885, 250 acres were under culture, with an estimate of 150,000 pounds. The value of orchard products of all kinds, sold or consumed in 1879, was \$138,881; of market products, \$208,420.

Hay is one of the staple products, and for the past thirty years has been the main crop relied upon for prompt sales and largest returns. The hay crop of 1864 was 74,133 tons, and in 1879 it equaled 95,137 tons. Albany County has a territory extensive and varied enough; a soil suited to almost every variety of grain and vegetable, fruit and flower.

The grain crops in this county have been remarkably free from the ravages or destruction caused by the pests which sometimes commit fearful waste. The Hessian fly has never been troublesome. About 1833 the grain-worm and weevil made their appearance, and for several years were very destructive to growing wheat. This compelled farmers to abandon this crop altogether. Other grain was more largely cultivated; more acres were given to grass; more orchards were planted. For

the past twenty years there has been a steady increase in the acreage of wheat, with a fair yield. In 1864, the number of bushels harvested was 1,858, and in 1879, 23,128. All the usual cereals are grown in the county, and furnish a range for the rotation system. Rye produced in 1864, 114,785 bushels; in 1879, 158,600 bushels. Oats in 1864, 259,694 bushels; in 1879, 787,529 bushels. Corn in 1864, 159,200 bushels; in 1879, 296,145 bushels. Barley in 1864, 10,017 bushels, and in 1879, 17,952 bushels. Buckwheat in 1879, 211,225 bushels. Potatoes as a farm crop in 1879 amounted to 495,402 bushels.

Farm implements and machinery of improved invention are extensively in use.

The following items are taken from census returns for 1880: Value of all farms in the county, including fences and buildings, \$19,898,866. In 1865, the same were valued at \$16,966,583. Value of farming implements and machinery in 1865, \$797,486; in 1880, \$1,047,171. Estimated value of farm products sold or consumed in the year 1880, \$2,783,028.

The present condition of agriculture in the county is encouraging, and the average crops that contribute to the prosperity of the people will compare favorably to-day with other counties. Changes have been necessary to meet the demands of successful farming. Productive new methods, experimental systems, scientific investigations, and improved machinery have been introduced to make labor easier, to lessen cost, and to increase returns.

The better construction of farm buildings is an evidence that improvement upon the past has been made. Spacious mansions, beautiful farm-houses, and well arranged cottages, with barns, stables, sheds, and other necessary structures, all planned and finished with architectural skill, attest the owner's wealth and taste. His material prosperity results from an intelligent knowledge of the best methods for producing desired returns, which crown the laborer and reward him for his toil and perseverance. The key to unlock the golden treasure hidden in the earth is "first and last, lots of manure and lots of brains." The manure is the easier to get and the sooner to give out.

The following farm and agricultural statistics for Albany County are taken from the tenth census of the United States, 1880.

Total number of farms, 3,325; number less than 3 acres, 2; number of 1,000 acres, 1; average acres per farm, 92; value of farms and improvements, \$19,898,866; value of machinery and im-

plements, \$1,047,170; value of farm products, \$2,783,028.

Number of farms cultivated by owner, 2,635; number rented for fixed money rental, 381; number rented for share of products, 309.

Number of acres in county, 306,257; number of acres improved, 254,521; number of acres unimproved, 51,737; improved and covered by woods, 43,307.

Barley, acres, 1,077; bushels, 17,952. Buckwheat, acres, 14,774; bushels, 211,225. Corn, acres, 11,845; bushels, 296,145. Oats, acres, 30,169; bushels, 787,529. Rye, acres, 14,710;

bushels, 158,600. Wheat, acres, 1,652; bushels, 23,128. Potatoes, bushels, 495,402. Hay, tons, 95,137.

Whole number of horses, 9,469; whole number of swine, 12,027; whole number of milch cows, 13,042; gallons of milk sold or sent to factory, 1,390,662; pounds of butter made, 1,154,969; pounds of cheese, 6,560; pounds of honey, 64,267; pounds of wool, 115,847.

Value of orchard products, \$138,881; value of grain products, \$208,420. Barn-yard poultry, number, 118,348; dozens of eggs produced, 627,374.

FARM ANIMALS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

AMONG the first to import into this county improved breeds of foreign cattle was Matthew Bullock, an Englishman, who bought a farm in now New Scotland, where he resided until his death. The property remained in the possession of his sons for a few years, and is now owned and occupied by Robert Hurst. Mr. Bullock was a successful farmer, and noted breeder of improved short-horn cattle, which became celebrated throughout the United States. The introduction of this breed of cattle into the county is of so much importance that a special record is given, the facts of which are obtained from authentic sources. Previous to 1815, an Englishman by the name of Cox, who lived in Rensselaer County, imported from one of the established herds of England, a bull, cow and heifer which were pure short-horns, and are said to have been bred by Robert Colling, of Brampton, England, whose herd was sold in 1810, one of his bulls bringing one thousand guineas. Mr. Bullock purchased his stock of him in the year 1815. Upon the death of Cox, his cattle and their produce were purchased by Bullock, who bred them with the bulls Comet and Nelson, imported by Matthew Bullock and John Waive, in June, 1821. The herd, in 1843, passed into the hands of his sons, one of whom, William M., continues to breed them with some degree of purity. The descendants of this stock were remarkable for their robust size and extraordinary milking qualities, and for several years in succession, after 1818, at fairs and cattle shows, Mr. Bullock was awarded premiums for the best cattle exhibited.

About 1815, Jesse Buel, of Albany, purchased of Mr. Cox an imported short-horn bull and two cows, which were crossed with the above-named Comet and Nelson.

In 1823, Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer imported from the herd of Mr. Champion, the bull Washington and the cows Pansy and Conquest. Pansy has many descendants, which were distributed through many of the States.

In the year 1835 or 1836, Ezra P. Prentice, of Albany, began breeding short-horns from the stock of Van Rensselaer; and from 1838 to 1841, he made several importations of this breed from various herds in England. He bred his stock with such skill and success that it was much sought after by purchasers from other States and Canada. In 1842, he added to his stock, by importation, Ayrshire or Scotch cattle; and in 1837, he imported a choice flock of Southdown and Cotswold sheep. The encroachments of the city upon his Mount Hope Farm compelled him to discontinue this branch of farming, in which he took so much interest. He disposed of his stock in 1850, the sheep being purchased by Mr. McIntyre.

About the year 1836, Erastus Corning, Sr., imported the cow Wildair, and a bull and heifer. This cow has progeny mentioned in the American Herd Book.

C. N. Bement, as early as 1835, had on his Three Hills Farm, Durham short-horn registered cattle, and in 1838 a cow and a bull of the Hereford breed. Benjamin Tompkins commenced the breeding of this variety of cattle about 1766, near

Hereford, England. In 1819, his herd of fifty-two head was sold at auction for £4,673. They were originally brown or reddish-brown, with white faces, and came, probably, from Normandy. The first importation to this country was made about 1817, by Henry Clay, of Kentucky. Massachusetts farmers began to import them in 1824.

The first direct importation of these cattle into this county was by Wm. H. Sotham in 1840. The Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany, was interested in this transaction. The Albany *Cultivator* said: "One of the most important importations of cattle and sheep that has ever taken place in this county has been made by the Hon. Erastus Corning, of this city, and Wm. H. Sotham, of Jefferson County. It consists of twelve cows, calves and heifers, and twenty-five sheep. The cattle are the very best animals that could be selected, and the expense of this importation was nearly \$8,000." At this time was imported the celebrated stallion Sampson, a heavy draught horse of fine proportion. The progeny of this horse possessed marked features, which have been transfused with native stock, and is yet counted in the pedigree of his direct offspring.

Messrs. Corning & Sotham continued together in breeding Herefords until July, 1847, when the firm was dissolved, and Mr. Sotham took a portion of the herd and removed to Black Rock. Mr. Corning retained a portion, and his son, Erastus Corning, Jr., maintains the reputation of the herd by occasional importations. In 1853, he imported three fine Herefords, a bull and two cows, selected in England especially for him, from Lord Berwick's prize stock. Stock from this choice herd are in demand, and are sold to all parts of the United States and Canada.

A strain of Durham or short-horn cattle called "Cream Pots," originated with Col. Jacques, by a cross with Cœlebs and Flora, in 1819; and for several years Hon. Wm. H. Slingerland has been a successful breeder of this choice stock, celebrated for their remarkable milking qualities as well as butter makers. Jenny Lind, a cream-pot cow, the property of Mr. Slingerland, in 1859 was awarded the first prize at the State Agricultural Fair as the best butter and milk cow exhibited. Jenny Lind, in her prime, gave thirty-six quarts of milk a day.

The first record of the Devon breed in this county, was a bull and cow, the property of Caleb N. Bement, of the Three Hills Farm, as early as 1839. Since that time the breed has been introduced by several practical farmers, and has pro-

duced satisfactory results. The largest breeder and owner of this fine stock in the county is Captain Joseph Hilton, whose herd contains some of the choicest specimens in the State. Mr. Hilton is a very successful breeder, and is usually awarded first and second prizes for herds or single animals. His bull, Prince of Wales, has been the winner of first prizes at State Fairs for several years. This animal stands at the head of the best herd of prize Devons, and is considered the finest Devon bull in America.

The origin of the Jersey cattle is quite obscure. They probably came first from Normandy and Brittany with the early settlers, and thence to the Channel Islands, where they developed characteristics that are modified to a remarkable degree from those on the mainland.

The Channel Islands are English possessions, and are composed of Guernsey, Alderney, Jersey and Sark. Within the past 30 or 40 years, efforts have been made among breeders of dairy cattle to develop a greater degree of docility of disposition with continuous milking tendency and extreme richness in butter qualities. Cattle from the Channel Islands were selected for this purpose by parties in England. As early as 1817, Mr. Richard Morris, of Philadelphia, describes "a cow of the Alderney breed" imported by Mr. Wurts. Early importations from these islands were usually shipped from a port in Alderney; hence the common name of "Alderney." This breed was imported to some extent into the United States by Mr. John A. Taintor, of Hartford, Conn., about the year 1850, and has been a favorite with special regard to their rich milking qualities, possessing many of the characteristics of the cattle from Jersey.

The Jersey cow is a product of the Island of Jersey. Its genial climate has produced a small, docile, useful and beautiful domestic animal. These fine qualities are said to be greatly due to the constant care and presence of women; for in Jersey the women have charge of the cattle.

The primary object in breeding the Jersey cow is for family use and butter dairies. This animal is simply a machine for first-class milk and butter. She produces the richest of milk, from which butter can be made of superior flavor, finer texture and richer gold color than any other. It also commands higher prices in the market. The importations made about the year 1850, by farmers near Hartford, Conn., were the foundation stock, which was largely distributed in several States. Numerous importations have been made since then. The finest herd of registered Jerseys

in this county is the property of Erastus Corning, collected from his own importations and selected with great judgment. Other parties in the county who have imported animals of this stock, are E. J. Larabee, John McEwen, G. E. Waring and L. S. Hardin.

In 1840, an importation of Guernseys was made by Nicholas Biddle, of fine animals from the Island of Guernsey. Since then several importations have been made, and the cattle have been received with favor and are considered but little inferior to the best Jerseys, which they resemble in some points.

There are in the county some fine animals. Those belonging to the herd of John S. Perry have been selected with great care from direct importations or progeny of imported stock.

The first importations into Massachusetts of the Dutch Holstein-Friesian, were made as early as 1852. In May 1885, the breeders and importers of Dutch cattle adopted the name of "Holstein-Friesian" as their title.

Mr. C. L. G. Blessing is the largest and most extensive breeder and importer of Dutch cattle in the county. In 1881, he was the owner of an imported cow; in 1882, he imported six head of Friesian cattle; and in 1884, he made a successful importation of fifty-one head, selected by himself from the best herds of Holland. Schuyler Brothers, E. Sweet, John Gardner, Martin J. Blessing, and a few others of this county, have individual animals or small herds of choice and blooded stock, which, since their recent introduction, have acquired a high reputation for their many excellent qualities.

The improvement in neat cattle has been quite successful. There is scarcely a distinguished herd of short-horns, Devons, or Herefords in England, Ayrshires in Scotland, or the more recent introduction of Jerseys, Alderneys and Guernseys, or of the Holstein-Friesian from Holland, that has not its representative in this county. The grades and crosses have made a decided impression upon the general utility and produce of this class of animals, which return the farmer great profits in milk, butter and beef. The number of milch cows in the county in the year 1820, was 8,995. In 1865, cows, 10,615; heifers, 9,388; oxen, 792. In 1875, cows, 11,951; heifers, 4,029; oxen, 964. In 1880, cows, 13,042; heifers, 7,314; oxen, 515. Number of pounds of butter made in 1879, 1,154,969; of cheese, 6,560. Number of gallons of milk sold or taken to cheese factories, 1,390,663.

To write up fully the subject of horse-raising and breeds introduced in the county for the past eighty

years, would require more time and space than can be given in these pages. Although a subject of much interest, it has received, until recently, but little consideration compared with other advanced farming industries from which success has resulted.

The earliest historic locations to which we can trace back the modern horse on this continent, are found in New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah. No horses, either wild or domestic, existed on this continent at the time of the Spanish conquest of Mexico in 1556; but those introduced at that time escaped, and multiplied rapidly on the plains of South America and Texas. In time they spread to the Western prairies.

The several breeds that were early found in this county came from thorough-bred stock, and the points of excellence they possessed were adapted to the requirements of that period. Of this class were the stallions Eclipse, Goldfinder, Blucher, Mambrino, Albion, Diomed, Messenger, and others. The Messenger stock, through its descendants, has in a wonderful manner perpetuated the endurance and the quality of speed that was characteristic of its ancestors.

Later, the Morgan, Black Hawk, Hambletonian, and Henry Clay stock, introduced a strain of blood into previously well-bred animals, and this infusion has had a decided and valuable influence in producing a class of horses possessing superior action as coach and roadsters. Many of them have records of great trotting speed.

In 1840, Messrs. Corning & Latham imported into this county, from England, the draught-horse Sampson, which, with the native mares, produced a class of horses possessing qualities desirable in a horse for farm work, and enhanced his market value as a draught-horse.

At the present time the Percheron, Norman and Clydesdale are being introduced and bred with native mares, and the experiment is attended with fair results. The Percheron is a pattern of strength, and impresses this character upon his progeny. As a race they are remarkably hardy, of excellent temper, docile, of great endurance, with a disposition and willingness to work. The horse that the farmer needs is one that can do his work with ease on the farm, be active enough for the road and market, with style and action to command purchasers.

One of the reasons why the breeding of horses as an industry is very much depressed in this county is, that farmers, for several years past, have largely bred from fancy or trotting stock without regard to size, figure, usefulness or local require-

ments. The number of horses in the county in 1820 was 8,893; in 1865, 10,529; in 1875, 8,963; in 1880, 9,469.

Sheep husbandry supplies two of the great necessities of life—warm clothing and nutritious food. When the slopes and hill-sides of our county were first cleared, they furnished natural pasturage which the farmer stocked with sheep, and from which he realized a large return for his capital and labor. They required herding at night as a protection from the ravages of wild beasts, then common in the forests.

For many years, the farmers of this county gave considerable attention to this branch of industry—almost every farm had more or less sheep. But many have latterly abandoned sheep husbandry to devote their lands to greater breadth of grain crops, potatoes and fruit. After hay became a staple commodity for transportation, many a farmer found greater profit in growing hay; the sheep pastures were generally abandoned and converted into meadows.

The destruction of many sheep by the unrestricted control of dogs, was a great detriment to this special interest, and many have abandoned the business from this cause alone. In some of the towns containing hill-side or rough lands, small flocks are yet to be found.

As early as 1838-40, some of the improved English stock were introduced, and a few farmers now have small flocks. The varieties of improved breeds are fairly represented in the county. Yet, it is a fact, that sheep husbandry has steadily decreased for the past thirty or more years, and it is evident that the business of wool-growing has ceased to be a profitable branch of general farming in this county. Number of sheep in the county in 1820, 52,613; in 1865, 33,543; in 1875, 18,120; in 1880, 24,393. The clip of wool for 1880 equaled 115,847 pounds.

Improvement marks swine-raising in this county. The days when the only care that hogs received was a rustic ornament about their necks and a horse-

shoe nail twisted in their nose, have passed away. When not confined in filthy pens, they ranged the highways and trespassed on their neighbors, or were turned in autumn into the woods or weedy pastures to seek their own living.

The long-eared, slab-sided and lank hog with protruding nose, is a relic of the past. As early as 1832, S. Hawes, who came from England and settled about three miles west of Albany, brought Berkshire hogs and New Leicester and Southdown sheep. But the credit for the first introduction of Berkshire hogs belongs to Thomas Hillhouse, who, in 1824, at the Albany County Fair and Cattle Show, exhibited this improved breed. After Hillhouse, Christopher Dunn and C. N. Bement, in 1835, were engaged in breeding Berkshires and improved China hogs from New Jersey stock. There is now a fair exhibit of all the different improved breeds in the county, including fine specimens of Berkshires, Chester Whites, Cheshires, China Reds, Poland, Essex, Suffolks and Yorkshires. The number of swine in the county in 1865 was 11,450; in 1875, 8,814; in 1880, 12,027.

Poultry-raising and the production of eggs is an industry that receives great attention. Almost every farm has its brood of hens, from which a fair profit is realized for a small outlay. With judicious management and proper selection of stock, this branch should be a source of pleasure as well as gain. Since 1850, the improved varieties have largely increased, and the introduction of these, with crosses, have produced many desirable qualities for both market-fowls and eggs. Beside barn-yard fowls, many farmers profitably raise turkeys, geese and ducks. Among the wonders of the age is the invention and machinery for artificial hatching, brooding and raising of poultry, which is rapidly improving and becoming a special industry. Not a few of these incubators are already in operation both in the city and county towns. The census report of 1880 gives 118,348 as the number of barn-yard or domestic poultry, and the production of eggs, 627,374 dozen.

HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL LITERATURE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

SOLOMON SOUTHWICK came from Rhode Island to Albany in 1792; became connected with *The Albany Register*, and in 1808, its proprietor. In 1819, he conducted *The Ploughboy*, the first agricultural paper published in the county, under the *nom de plume* of Henry Homespun.

The Farmers', Mechanics' and Workingmen's Advocate, daily, was started in 1830 by McPherson & McKercher, and the next year it appeared as *The Daily Freeman's Advocate and Farmers', Mechanics' and Workingmen's Champion*, and was published for a year or two.

The American Quarterly Hemp Magazine was commenced in 1833 and continued two years.

The Silk-worm, monthly, was commenced in 1835, published two years, then changed to *The Silk-worm and Sugar Manual*; discontinued in 1838.

The Cultivator, monthly, was established in 1834, by Jesse Buel, who came to Albany from Connecticut in 1813; and soon after established *The Albany Argus*, his interest in which he sold in 1820, and purchased a farm of eighty-five acres on the sand barrens west of Albany. Here he was very successful in experimental and improved husbandry, proving that these sand lands, before considered as worthless, could be made highly productive, and the returns made remunerative. He gave the public the benefit of his labors through the columns of *The Cultivator*. The system he adopted was heavy manuring, under-draining, thorough tillage, clover seeding, root crops, and fallow crops for naked fallow. This was his practical farming. He was also an advocate for improved farm stock, of which he possessed many fine specimens. He also established, in 1838, the first nursery of fruit trees in the county, with James Wilson as partner. In this nursery were grown millions of *Morus multi-caulis* trees. At this time the country was in a fever and excitement over the silk-worm humbug. Mr. Buel was a member of several agricultural societies in different States and foreign countries; was several times the honored President of the State Agricultural Society. In 1839, he was President of the Horticultural Society of the Valley of the Hudson; also of the Albany County Horticultural Society. His writings comprise his many addresses

on agricultural subjects, six volumes of *The Cultivator*; "The Farmers' Instructor;" and "Farmers' Champion." Connected with him in conducting *The Cultivator* were J. P. Beekman and J. D. Wasson.

The Cultivator was subsequently published by Luther Tucker, W. Gaylord, associate editor, in November, 1839. January, 1840, *The Genessee Farmer* was consolidated with *The Cultivator*, and conducted by L. Tucker & Son.

The Country Gentleman was started at Albany, January, 1853, by J. J. Thomas and L. & L. H. Tucker. It was afterward published by L. Tucker & Son, and, in January, 1866, was united with *The Cultivator*. Since the death of Luther Tucker in 1873, *The Country Gentleman* has been conducted by his sons, Luther H. & Gilbert M. Tucker, with distinguished ability and devotion to the interests of progressive agriculture, diffusing practical knowledge as to the best methods. Its circulation is very large.

The American Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Science was commenced in January, 1845, by Dr. E. Emmons and A. T. Prince. In 1846, it was changed to a monthly and published by E. Emmons and A. Osborn. In 1848, it was sold to Caleb N. Bement, and discontinued in December of the same year.

The Horticulturist and Journal of Rural Art and Rural Taste was commenced in July, 1840; published by Luther Tucker, and edited by A. J. Downing. In 1854, it was removed to Rochester; in 1855, was published in Philadelphia by R. P. Smith; and in 1858, brought to New York and published by C. M. Saxton, with J. J. Smith, editor.

The Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society was commenced in 1850, and published annually.

Forest, Forge and Farm started in June, 1883; H. S. Quackenbush, editor, Tweddle Building.

The Poultry Monthly commenced in November, 1879; published by the Ferris Publishing Company, at 481 Broadway.

Mount Hope Farm, since 1834, has been the property of Ezra P. Prentice, succeeded by his son.

The plot was originally owned by Maria, wife of Philip Van Rensselaer, and by her conveyed to her daughter, Harriet, wife of General Solomon Van Rensselaer, in 1805. It was used, in 1827, as a summer resort. After Mr. Prentice got possession, he erected new buildings and otherwise improved the premises and stocked them. He was an eminent stock-breeder as well as practical farmer. His 102 acres of improved land supported fifty head of cattle, six horses, fifteen to twenty swine, and a flock of sheep. Adjoining Mr. Prentice on the south, were Joel & John F. Rathbone's premises, upon which attractive improvements were made in 1835, the grounds laid out and beautified, green-houses erected, and other buildings constructed with cultivated taste. This property is now owned by the Catholics, upon which is the College of the Sacred Heart.

Other men in this county who deserve special mention for their intelligent and practical experiments in advancing the best interests of agricultural pursuits, at this period, are Christopher Proctor, Christopher Dunn, C. N. Bement, Joel B. Nott, the Watervliet Shakers, and some others.

These men were ever ready to communicate their individual experience that others might be benefited, and their influence was a force in community exerted to obtain better results from given methods. The practical effects resulting from the teaching of these men can be measured only by the value that has been realized in the development and formation of better methods with increased production, establishing a system of higher agriculture. They introduced a superior grade of neat cattle and farm stock in general. Experience is a teacher, and they are wise who follow its teachings.

The farmers of this county are intelligent as a class; many of them are foremost in adopting and applying new methods with satisfactory results.

Many farmers have engaged in growing garden vegetables and other staple products included in "truck-farming," denominated horticulture. A few acres are devoted to this branch, from which is realized a fair profit. The small farms near the city are almost wholly cultivated in this way. Among the men who are largely engaged in truck-farming may be mentioned Messrs. C. V. Baker & Son, at Fair View Farm; James Hendrick, of Font Grove; E. Van Allen, and many others. The several islands and river flats of the Hudson are almost exclusively planted with cabbages, of which many thousands are grown.

The earliest nursery established in the county was by Bull & Wilson, 1839. Wilson, Thorburn

& Teller had nurseries about 1848. George A. Legget and Erastus Corning, in Bethlehem; James McElroy and Markle Brothers, of New Scotland; and James Hendrick, of Font Grove, have been prominent nurserymen. At the present time there are no nurseries devoted wholly to fruit trees and small fruits; a few of the florists cultivate a limited stock in connection with their green-houses and shrubbery culture.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER established the first green-house in Albany about 1824, which at that date was the only green-house this side of New York City. Along the river were those of Dr. Hoosick, near that time. James Wilson was gardener for the Patroon. It was in these houses that the century plant—*Agave Americana*, or aloe—bloomed in 1842. The plants and stock of these houses were ultimately disposed of to different parties and the buildings taken down. The grape-house is now doing service on the farm of James Hendrick.

JAMES WILSON established his green-houses with small fruits and trees in 1835, on what was then a waste place in this city, at the corner of South Knox and Morris streets. His grounds were about three acres, on a sloping hill-side; this was carefully cultivated and planted with nursery stock and flowering shrubs. Mr. Wilson was the originator of the famous "Wilson strawberry." He died in 1855. His widow and son continued the business until 1866, when it passed into the hands of John Sprague, then of Fredk. J. Welch, and, about 1870, of Thomas Davidson, the present proprietor. Mr. Davidson has six green-houses and an extensive collection of plants.

At Kenwood, the RATHBONES built green-houses in 1837. After the property changed owners, many of the choicest plants were taken to the city, where they now beautify and ornament the private conservatory of General Rathbone.

LOUIS MENAND located, in 1842, upon the Troy road and established his present green-houses and nursery. He has about ten acres of land, upon which are twelve green-houses containing many rare and valuable plants, with a large stock of flowering and ornamental shrubbery and fruit trees. The whole plot and surroundings are attractive and beautiful for situation. L. Menand & Sons also conduct green-houses near the rural cemetery.

ERASTUS CORNING, on his farm below Kenwood, on the River road, erected a green-house in 1845. Since that date extensive improvements have been made, grading, filling and planting the inclosure

of ten acres with native and foreign trees, many of which are very ornamental, rare and valuable. This private park contains fourteen extensive green-houses connected with gardeners' cottages. The grounds in summer are very delightful. The houses contain many rare and beautiful tropical and other exotic plants. The collection of orchids is the most extensive of any green-houses in this country; probably the finest in the world. Mr. Wm. Gray is superintendent and gardener. *Tawass-a-gun-shee*, is the Indian name given to these green-houses, meaning a place of much water.

JOHN DINGWALL, in 1847, located and erected green-houses upon eight acres of land on the Troy road, opposite the Van Rensselaer mansion grounds, where he has six green-houses well-stocked with a fine collection of valuable plants. Nursery stock is cultivated in the open spaces. This garden occupies the ground made memorable as the spot upon which Daniel Webster delivered his great Albany speech in the Harrison campaign of 1840, heard by 10,000 listeners.

LOUIS GLOECKNER has green-houses and shrubbery at the rural cemetery for cut flowers, plants and other decorative supplies.

P. G. PFORDT'S SONS conduct green-houses in the City of Albany, on North Broadway, for the cultivation and sale of plants and flowers. These were formerly located on the Shaker road, north of West

Albany, and were conducted by Joseph G. Pfordt, as nurseryman, florist and farmer.

A. F. CHATFIELD, florist and proprietor of Exotic Green-houses, is located at 66 Chestnut street, Albany City. Established in 1858.

JAMES HENDRICK, of Font Grove, at Slingerlands, established extensive green-houses in 1869. He, for a time also engaged in the cultivation of fruit trees and nursery stock. He has twenty-one green-houses, 15 x 100 feet, which occupy, with out-door culture, about six acres, for cut flowers and plants to supply his trade. He has an office at 36 North Pearl Street, Albany.

WHITTLE BROTHERS erected extensive green-houses on a plat of five acres on Madison avenue, Albany, in 1884. Here are grown plants and ornamental shrubbery in great variety, for cut flowers, bouquets and the trade. Connected with these green-houses is a store in Tweddle Building.

WASHINGTON PARK, Albany, has extensive green-houses for cultivating plants and shrubbery, under the care of Matthew Fink, superintendent. These were built in 1883, upon a portion of the Alms-house property, on the New Scotland plank road and near the Lexington avenue entrance to the park.

A. J. BINLEY, No. 323 Clinton avenue, first located on First street in 1880, has a green-house and lot for the cultivation and sale of plants and flowers.

THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

WAS organized by a few public-spirited men, assembled in Albany in the year 1832 from different parts of the State. A constitution was adopted and the following officers elected: Le Ray De Chaumont, President; Ambrose Spencer, Jacob Norris, Edward P. Livingston, Robert R. Rose, Vice-Presidents; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Recording Secretary; Jesse Buel, Corresponding Secretary; Charles R. Webster, Treasurer; Henry W. Delavan, Horatio Hickox, John Townsend, Executive Committee. The society held a cattle show and fair the next year; but the want of funds prevented a continuance of fairs. The charter was granted for twenty years. It was renewed in 1842. An act passed by the Legislature for the encouragement of agriculture, appropriating \$8,000 for five

years, to be divided among the societies, gave the friends of agriculture renewed courage. The society was reorganized in 1841, with Joel B. Nott, of Bethlehem, as President. The first fair was held the same year at Syracuse, and in Albany the next year. Since that date the society has held fairs and agricultural exhibitions, as well as floricultural and mechanical displays, at Albany in the following years: 1850, 1859, 1871, 1873, 1876, 1880 and 1885.

The annual fairs, with a change of location each year, have become one of the institutions of the State; and the throngs of people who annually flock to its exhibition grounds from all classes and ranks of society, give very gratifying evidence of high public appreciation.

The society meets annually at its rooms in Albany and has a winter exhibition of agricultural and dairy products. Connected with this State society is the interesting Agricultural Museum, which occupies rooms in the building on State street, corner of Lodge, in which are the offices of the society and special accommodations for its extensive departments. On the 19th of November, 1784, an annual fair for vending cattle was held in Albany. Chancellor Livingston was a farmer of intelligence. He is credited with introducing gypsum as a fertilizer as early as 1789.

In 1790, a Society was instituted for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures. Among its active members were Chancellor Livingston, Simeon De Witt and Ezra L'Hommedieu. The society continued its labors and issued its publications until 1804, when it was merged into the Society for the Promotion of the Useful Arts. It subsequently was merged in the Albany Institute.

The first anniversary address was delivered before the society, January, 1792, by the learned Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell.

ALBANY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

IN 1818, an Albany County Agricultural Society existed, which received \$350 from the State, and held three annual fairs. The first annual exhibition of the Albany and Rensselaer Horticultural Society was held in the Geological Rooms, Albany, September, 1848. Fairs and exhibitions followed in 1849 and 1850. The town of Coeymans organized an Agricultural Society in 1851, with James W. Jolley, President. This was afterward merged into the County Society.

Thursday, May 14, 1853, a meeting was held in the rooms of the State Agricultural Society at Albany for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society for the County of Albany. At this meeting James W. Jolley, of Coeymans, was called to the chair, and Joseph Warren, of Albany, acted as Secretary. After the usual preliminary discussion, the organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, E. E. Platt; Secretary, Joseph Warren; with a Vice-President for each town.

The first annual fair of this society was held at Bethlehem Centre, October 4, 5 and 6, 1853. The receipts were \$900. The fair grounds were located too far from the city, with no conveniences for reaching them.

The second annual fair took place on the Washington Parade Grounds in November, 1854.

1855.—The third annual fair was held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 25, 26 and 27.

January 2, 1856, the society was reorganized, with Levi Shaw, President; Richard Kimmey, Vice-President; Charles R. Wooley, Secretary; L. G. Ten Eyck, Treasurer.

1856.—The fourth annual fair was held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 23, 24 and 25.

1857.—Joseph Hilton, President. Fair was held in Albany in October.

1858.—William Hurst, President. Fair held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 21, 22, 23, 24.

1859 and 1860.—William Hurst, President. Fair held at Albany, September 18, 19, 20, 21.

1861.—Wm. Hurst, President. No fair this year.

1862.—William Tuttle, President.

May 8, 1862, was organized the Town Union Agricultural Association of the County of Albany. The following officers were elected: President, Jurian Winne; Vice-President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, Wm. H. Slingerland; Secretary, Samuel C. Bradt.

June 7, 1862, The Town Union Agricultural Association, at a special meeting, changed its title to Albany County Agricultural Society. Its organization was made to conform to the Act of April 13, 1855. The officers chosen were: President, Jurian Winne; Vice-President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, Wm. H. Slingerland; Secretary, Samuel C. Bradt. No fair held this year.

1863.—Jurian Winne, President. Fair held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 29, 30 and October 1 and 2. Receipts, \$4,000.

1864.—Leonard G. Ten Eyck, President. October 4, 5, 6 and 7. Fair held on Parade Grounds.

1865.—Henry Callahan, President. Albany and Rensselaer Counties jointly held a fair on Island Park, September 19, 20, 21 and 22.

1866.—Jacob Messenger, President. Fair held last week in September.

1867.—The Albany City and County Agricultural and Industrial Societies held a fair and exhibition in Albany in September.

1869.—Joseph Hilton, President. The above societies held their fair and exhibition at Albany the first week in October.

1871.—William Ramsay, President; D. V. S. Raynsford, Treasurer; Thomas Bagley, Superintendent; John H. Farrell, Secretary. August 13th of this year the society was organized as a stock company. A fair was held at Hurstville in October. The weather was rainy and unfavorable, and financially it was a failure, being remote from the city and attended with many inconveniences.

1872.—George Tweddle, President. No fair.

1873.—December 2d, the Albany County Society held a meeting to elect officers.

1873.—In the month of June the Albany Agricultural and Art Association was organized: President, Thomas W. Olcott; Vice-President, Maurice E. Viele; Treasurer, Wm. H. Haskell; Secretary, Volkert P. Douw.

The society purchased about forty-four acres of land four miles north of the city, between

the Watervliet turnpike and horse railway on the east, and the Albany and Saratoga Railroad on the west. This location was adapted to the purposes intended by the society as permanent exhibition grounds, with all the necessary buildings, machinery and other facilities to render them attractive, convenient and comfortable for general and special purposes.

The ground was planned by John Bogart, who superintended the grading, road-making, planting trees and other improvements. The society erected buildings, sheds, machinery departments, offices and other structures, at a cost of \$30,000. The ground was inclosed by a close fence. On the west, platforms were erected for railroad conveniences. The New York State Agricultural Society held their fair on these grounds after completion of buildings in 1873.

1874.—Thomas W. Olcott, President. This society, with the Albany County Society, held a joint fair on these grounds September 22, 23, 24, 25. Volkert P. Douw, Superintendent.

The last officers elected for Albany County Agricultural Society were George Tweddle, President; John H. Farrell, Secretary; D. V. S. Raynsford, Treasurer. The society has held no fairs since 1874.

THE SHAKERS OF ALBANY COUNTY.

THE United Society of Believers, called Shakers, reside in the township of Watervliet, and are located at Shaker Post-office, six miles north of Albany. The post-office was established in 1871.

This settlement was founded as a religious and secular society in the year 1775, by Ann Lee, born in Manchester, England, in 1736. She came to America when she was 38 years old, with a few of her followers.

The society now has four families, called the Church family, the North family, the West family and the South family, all numbering about 300 souls. Mother Ann, as she was called, died September 8, 1784, and is buried in the Shaker cemetery, in a plain plat of inclosed ground, with nothing to mark the spot save a simple slab of white marble inscribed with the name of the dead.

Our article is compiled from verbal statements and from a volume prepared by Calvin Green and Seth Y. Wells. The doctrine and faith

of this society are fully treated in this book as those which Mother Ann taught. They are substantially as follows: The second appearing of Christ in person; that all will become Christ's when fitted by self-denial; that Jesus became the Christ at His baptism; the community of all temporal things and effects; a life of consecrated celibacy; non-resistance and freedom from the strifes of war; and non-interference with political parties, with no distinction of government.

The society owns about 3,000 acres of land in different parts of the town, which is in a good state of cultivation, and upon which productive crops of grass, grain, broom corn, vegetables and fruit are grown. About 100 head of neat cattle furnish the several families with the necessary dairy supplies, and 50 horses are required for labor on the farms, trucking and marketing. The pursuits of the people are varied according to the wants of the society and the demands of trade. Some are

engaged in agriculture, some in horticulture, and some in the mechanical arts. Still others are engaged in canning fruit and vegetables, while the saw-mill, broom factory and several other shops give employment to many busy hands.

The domestic and household affairs are presided over by faithful superintendents, assisted by the necessary help. Order, system, neatness and punctuality prevail in every department.

Their dwellings, offices, factories, shops, store-houses and farm-buildings of every description are all substantial, plain structures, built for use, not ornament, containing all the necessary improvements of modern invention that skill can devise for the convenience of man and the comfort of domestic animals. The mechanical work in its several branches is performed by members of the society, many of whom are skilled workmen. Water and steam power are used for manufacturing purposes. During the season of general admission to their Sabbath worship, great crowds from the surrounding country visit them, mostly to hear their impressive singing and witness their peculiar dancing. Their present church edifice is a large plain building, having a seating capacity for 1,000 persons.

In their moral training they are carefully taught to regard the principles of honesty, punctuality and uprightness in all their conduct; to keep a conscience void of offense towards God and all men; to be neat, cleanly and industrious; to observe the rules of prudence, temperance and chastity; to subdue all feelings of selfishness and hatred; to let the law of kindness, love and charity govern all their feelings towards each other; to shun contention and strife; careful neither to give nor take offense; to conduct themselves with civility, decency and good order before all people; to promote the happiness of each other; and to live in gospel purity, peace, union, and social harmony. These are among those virtuous principles which actuate the people of the United Society in all their temporal concerns, and which tend greatly to promote the health and prosperity of the society, and insure the blessings of divine providence upon all their labors.

A well conducted monthly, called the *Shaker Manifesto*, is published in this community, edited by Rev. G. A. Lomas. All visitors, if courteous themselves, are treated with marked attention and courtesy. The business relations of these people with merchants, and all others who have dealings with them, are those of well-established integrity and trust.

The history of this interesting society in its origin is so peculiar, and so largely identified with

our county, that we give it more in detail. Mother Ann, while in England, was often shamefully abused and a number of times imprisoned upon various charges brought by her enemies; after a time her people were allowed to enjoy their faith in peace, but their public testimony ceased in England about a year before they embarked for America.

Mother Ann was, by a special revelation, directed to repair to America, and this revelation was communicated to the society, which was confirmed by signs, visions and manifestations to many of the members, who were given permission to accompany her. Accordingly, those who became the companions of Mother Ann in her voyage to America, and professedly members of her society, were Abraham Stanley, her husband, William Lee, her brother, James Whittaker, John Hocknell, Richard Hocknell, James Shepherd, Mary Partington and Nancy Lee.

Having settled their affairs, they embarked at Liverpool on board the ship *Mariah*, Captain Smith, of New York, and sailed on the 19th of May, 1774. After enduring the storms and dangers of the sea in an old leaky ship, they arrived safely in New York on the 6th of August following.

After Mother Ann and her little family arrived in this country, they passed through many scenes of difficulty of a temporal nature. Being strangers in the land and without any means of subsistence, they were obliged to seek employment where they could find it, and at the same time arrange plans for their future residence. Accordingly, William Lee and John Hocknell went up the river and contracted for a lot of land in the County of Albany. Mother Ann, her brother William, and the others went to Albany, where they found employment. But she did not reside there permanently. In the beginning of the autumn of 1775 Abraham Stanley was taken sick, and, after his recovery, and before he was fully able to labor, he began to associate with the wicked and lewd, and lost all sense of religion. Unwilling to forsake his wicked ways, the relation between Mother Ann and her husband ceased. John Hocknell, with his family, returned from England December 25, 1775, and met Mother Ann in New York, where they remained until February following, and then went on to Albany by land. Having brought their effects from New York after the opening of the river, their next object was to prepare for a settlement in the wilderness by clearing their land, erecting suitable buildings and making other necessary provisions, which they accomplished in the

course of the summer, and in the month of September, 1776, they took up their residence in the woods of what is now Watervliet, about six miles northwest of Albany City. These lands were in the Van Rensselaer manor and were leased from the Patroon on the usual terms and conditions, and were mostly the light sandy plains of the vicinity. Here, in a wilderness state, they began with zeal and industry, through sufferings, to prepare the way for a permanent settlement. Here they held their meetings for three years and a half, until the way was opened for giving their testimony to the world in the spring of 1780.

During this year the society was encouraged in its work by additions to their numbers; new converts were added, and their meetings were largely attended by persons from a distance, notably from New Lebanon. From various parts of the country many embraced the faith of the society. This new sect and their religion were looked upon by the world as fanatical. The country being at war, these people were accused of being enemies to freedom. The charge of treason was publicly made against them. In consequence of these accusations, Mother Ann and a number of the leading characters were, in the month of July, imprisoned in Albany. This naturally excited great sympathy, and as they appeared an inoffensive people, many from various quarters visited them and were soon convinced not only of their innocence, but of the truth of their testimony.

Their enemies were highly offended when they saw their object defeated, and concluded that by separating Mother Ann from her followers, the society would come to an end. They sent her down the river about the middle of August, with a view to banish her to the British army, then in New York; but not being able to accomplish their object she was landed at Poughkeepsie, and imprisoned in the jail of that town.

About the 20th December following, those who had been confined at Albany for five months were released without trial. They immediately visited Mother Ann at Poughkeepsie, and through their intercession with Governor George Clinton, she was released about the last of December. Thus ended the only imprisonment they suffered in America.

On May 3, 1781, Mother Ann, with some of her followers, set out on a visit to Harvard, in Massachusetts. But here, as usual, she met enemies, and persecution was at once set in motion. Every evil report and every wicked device were called forth to render them odious in the eyes

of the people. The usual charges of being enemies to the country, of living in debauchery and practicing witchcraft were alleged against them.

In consequence of these accusations they suffered much personal abuse, and were shamefully and cruelly treated. These persecutions, however, like the imprisonment at Albany, served only to accelerate the means of extending the testimony, which greatly increased the number of believers. About the beginning of July, 1783, they left Harvard to return westward, and on their journey visited the other societies. Leaving New Lebanon on the 4th September, they returned to Watervliet, having been absent two years and three months.

In July, 1784, the society was called to sustain a severe trial in the death of Elder William Lee. This event was soon followed by another, in the loss of the visible presence and protection of their dearly beloved Mother. Being herself sensible that her time was short, she often reminded the people of it and exhorted them to faithfulness and perseverance in the way of God. Having finished her work on earth, she was called to bid adieu to all worldly things, and was released from her labors, her sorrow and sufferings, and calmly resigned her soul to God, on the morning of September 8, 1784.

The society being now deprived of their faithful friend and guide, Elder James Whittaker succeeded her in the ministry, and was henceforth called Father James. The society labored on in the work before it, and, with increasing prosperity, saw the necessity of being gathered into a more united body, for greater protection and a further increase of their spiritual travail.

In the autumn of 1785, was raised the first house of public worship ever built by the society. From this time the affairs of the society began to assume a more regular form and order. This house still stands, well preserved.

Father James died July 20, 1787, and was succeeded in the ministry by Joseph Meacham and Lucy Wright, who was appointed as the first leading character in the female line. These two were established by the gift of God as spiritual parents in church relation and first ministers of gospel order. Under their ministration the people were gathered into a united body, and were gradually formed into church relation at New Lebanon, uniting their interests in one common stock, both spiritual and temporal, having all things in common.

Mother Ann possessed remarkable powers and faculties of mind by nature, which were greatly

enlarged and strengthened by the gift of God. At times, when under the power and operation of the Holy Ghost, her countenance shone with the glory of God, and the influence of her spirit at such times was great beyond description, and no one

was able to gainsay or resist the authority by which she spoke. Her whole soul appeared to be always engaged in the work of God, and the Spirit of God seemed to breathe through all her words and actions.

TEMPERANCE WORK IN ALBANY COUNTY.

PEOPLE of different countries have many customs, habits, and social relations in common. These are dependent, in a measure, upon education, temperament, and constitutional heredity.

In the settlement of this county, it shared in both the good and the bad elements that were brought by the settlers. Perhaps no two greater evils could, by any possibility, have been introduced and fostered, under sanction of custom and law, than human slavery and intemperance caused by the use of alcoholic beverages. Both evils made rapid growth: the first through the slave trade, and the latter by immigration. Human slavery was abolished by statute in this State and county in 1827, without the loss of life or bloodshed; but the institution, as a national evil, existed in other States until 1863, when, through a war which cost thousands of lives and millions of dollars, slavery was forever abolished in the United States.

The future of this law-protected evil, the manufacture and traffic in alcoholic and malt liquors, is becoming a national danger, and its final overthrow will require heroic measures. How to accomplish this is a momentous question, and has occupied the consideration of worthy and thoughtful men. It is not by any sudden or arbitrary legislation that great social evils and the burdens of human woes are lessened. Let children and youth have light. Let us have more formation and less reformation will be needed. Few are made drunkards after they are forty years old. Few are reformed after they reach that age.

After many years of experience, temperance reformers have learned that victorious parties are born of many elements in citizenship, gathered about one great issue of paramount importance, and parties die when they fail to force that issue upon the conscience and manhood of a free people.

For fifty years, or more, men and women have zealously labored to modify the traffic and suppress the ravages of intemperance in this county,

and whatever of success has attended these efforts for mitigating the evil, opposing forces and special interests, arose dissensions and differences of opinion in regard to methods brought divisions; and numerous societies and organizations followed.

Temperance societies in the county did not assume much importance until about 1830.

One of the earliest societies was organized in 1828, in the school-house near Chesterville. The meeting was called and presided over by Deacon Holmes. Two persons signed what was called the open pledge, which allowed the person to drink all beverages but distilled liquors. Mr. Evans, one of the signers, is dead; the other, Peter P. Harrower, is living in Albany, an honored minister of the Methodist Church. This pledge proved a complete failure. A few years later, the principles of total abstinence were advocated and inserted in the pledges. Men who were at first unwilling to give this subject careful thought, began to investigate the facts that were presented, and many prominent citizens became convinced and identified with the efforts of societies that followed.

The following memoranda of early temperance movements and societies in Albany were furnished by Professor McCoy.

1. In the year 1832 there were fourteen temperance societies in Albany, with an aggregate membership of 4,164.
2. The First Ward Temperance Society, Erastus Corning, President, and Gerrit L. Dox, Secretary, had 1,227 members.
3. The Second Ward Temperance Society, Charles R. Webster, President, and Eli Perry, Secretary, had 410 members.
4. The Third Ward Temperance Society, Uriah Marvin, President, and Israel Williams, Secretary, had a membership of 410.
5. The Fourth Ward Temperance Society, Joseph Alexander, President, and John Davis, Secretary, had 270 members.

6. The Fifth Ward Temperance Society, H. A. Fay, President, and George W. Carpenter, Secretary, had 349 members.

7. There was a Canal Temperance Society, of which Thaddeus Joy was President, and Horace Meech, Secretary.

8. The Albany Apprentices' Society numbered 111 members. E. J. Hosford was President, and William Bleeker, Secretary.

9. The Furriers' Temperance Society had 112 members. Ezra P. Prentice, President, and C. J. Taylor, Secretary.

10. The Hibernian Temperance Society, Rev. Charles Smith, President, and P. M. Morange, Secretary, had 123 members.

11. The African Temperance Society had 192 members, with B. Lattimer, President, and Richard Thompson, Secretary.

12. The Albany Young Men's Temperance Society, Bradford R. Wood, President, and Archibald McClure, Secretary, had 500 members.

13. There was an Albany County Temperance Society, membership not given, of which A. Platt was President, and Benjamin F. Butler, late Attorney-General of the United States, was Vice-President.

14. The Albany Academy Temperance Society, W. P. Pohlman, President, and E. T. Griffith, Secretary, numbered 150 members.

15. In some cases one person probably belonged to two societies. Perhaps the total membership in Albany County included 8,500 persons. The total population of Albany in 1832, was 26,000.

16. 1832 was the year of the cholera. The whole number of deaths by cholera in Albany, of persons over ten years old, was 336. Of these but two were members of temperance societies.

17. The Albany Young Men's Temperance Society probably led to the formation of the Albany Young Men's Association. The members of the former, Amos Dean, Bradford R. Wood and others, were founders of the latter.

The organization of these societies was largely due to the heroic labors, resolute purpose, and powerful influence of Edward C. Delavan, of Albany, a wine merchant, the great and well-known apostle of temperance, who, with a terrible fearlessness and zeal advocated the suppression of the sale of intoxicants and the awful danger of drinking habits. He revolutionized customs which had been long in existence. His zeal in this reform was so great, that his opinions were at times uttered

with great vehemence and enthusiasm. His opponents he treated with fairness; yet he never receded from what he believed to be right and just.

A temperance sentiment began to grow in Albany. It gained the attention of a few clergymen and prominent citizens, who examined and approved the necessity of action in this reform. Public meetings were held, at which free discussion and inquiry were made. These meetings caused the organization of temperance societies as above. Public sentiment was changed. Clergymen did not hesitate to express their opinions. Eminent judges saw the evil. Chancellor Walworth said: "It was his opinion that the time would come when men would as soon be engaged in poisoning their neighbors' wells as dealing out to them intoxicating drinks as a beverage."

As auxiliaries in this great reform, one of the most potent means early employed was the publication of tracts and papers devoted to this subject, which were distributed in the community as educators. For the first twenty-five years of this reform they exerted a powerful influence. Added to public addresses, numerous societies and other practical methods, the newspaper, the lever that moves the world, has contributed its full share of influence. The following have been published in Albany in the interest of temperance reform:

The Temperance Recorder, monthly, was published in 1831 by the State Temperance Society.

American Temperance Intelligencer was commenced in January, 1834. Published monthly.

The Youth's Temperance Enterprise, monthly, was started November, 1842, by J. Stanley Smith, and continued three years.

The Sons of Temperance and Rechabite, an 8vo monthly, was published in 1846, by J. Stanley Smith & Co.

The Telegraph and Temperance Journal was commenced in 1848 by S. Meyers, and continued four years.

The Temperance Courier was commenced February, 1849, by Jasper T. Hazen, and subsequently published by J. T. Hazen & Son.

The Washingtonian and Rechabite was issued in 1849, by J. T. Hazen. In 1855 it was united with the *Courier*.

The New York Reformer was published for ten months; edited by John Abbott.

The Prohibitionist, monthly, was commenced in 1854 as the organ of the New York State Temperance Society. It was edited by A. McCoy, and in 1857 it was united with the *Journal of the American Temperance Union*.

July 4, 1844, J. Hyatt Smith and Isaac Edwards delivered orations at Guilderland Centre. These were printed by Joel Munsell.

In 1854 was published an address delivered in the Assembly Chamber by E. C. Delavan before the New York State Temperance Society.

In 1860, E. C. Delavan published "Temperance in Wine Countries." He also had printed and published for free distribution numerous papers, addresses, tracts and other matter relating to temperance. After the libel suit against him in 1840, he had the proceedings of the trial published in pamphlet form.

February 12, 1835, an article ably written appeared in the *Albany Evening Journal*, charging that John Taylor, the brewer, used for malting purposes filthy and stagnant water, taken from a small pond then in existence at or near the present location of the Trinity Methodist Church. For this an action was soon after laid for libel, with damages. It was not until April 21, 1840, that this case was brought to trial, and the record is as follows:

John Taylor vs. Edward C. Delavan; prosecuted for an alleged libel; tried at Albany circuit, April 21, 1840, Judge Cushing presiding. Counsel for plaintiff: Messrs. Stevens, Reynolds, McKown and Van Buren; for defendant: Beardsley, Taber and Wheaton. Libel published as above, and charged "that Taylor, the plaintiff, caused his malting establishment, on the hill (corner of State and Lark streets) in Albany, to be supplied with filthy, stagnant, putrid water, such as is taken from pools, gutters and ditches, in which were dead animals; that the water was often so foul and polluted as to be green on the surface and nearly as thick as cream with filth; and that such water had been used for malting, etc."

This trial occupied six days. Seventy witnesses were examined pro and con. The jury rendered a verdict for the defendant with costs. Other suits had been instituted with damages of over \$300,000, but were never prosecuted. Delavan was victorious, and the friends of temperance and reform were encouraged to renewed efforts in the work.

Higher ground was taken; more aggressive and stringent methods advocated, and a general interest for the cause manifested by the addition to its ranks of many men of intelligence and character, who earnestly and fearlessly entered upon the work as lecturers or organizers of various societies.

In 1840, the Albany City Temperance Society was organized, with Israel Smith as President.

In 1840, Rev. J. A. Schnellar, Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Albany, organized a temperance society, with a test pledge for one year; and in May, 1841, reorganized with a pledge for life, including this condition: that if a person wished to be released from his or her obligation, he must present his petition to the pastor of this church.

July 4, 1841, the temperance societies of the city joined in a procession to the Second Presbyterian Church, where an oration was delivered by Benjamin Nott.

In 1842, the Washingtonian movement reached Albany. The Washingtonian Total Abstinence Society was organized with a large membership, and efficiently presided over by John C. Ward, who was a pioneer in the work, and has been a zealous and faithful member of various societies.

Meetings were of frequent occurrence, many eminent public speakers and prominent reformers addressing them. Hawkins and Pollard, Washingtonians, were engaged to address large assemblies, at which the pledge was always presented for signatures. The influence of this remarkable agitation infused new life into the old societies, and called into existence the secret orders.

In June, 1842, a day was devoted to a great temperance celebration in the city.

July 4, 1842, in the afternoon, the wives and children of the Washingtonian temperance societies formed a procession, with banners and badges, and marched to the National Garden on Broadway, where they had a celebration.

In 1843, the following citizens, members of the State Temperance Society, addressed a letter to Drs. Warren, Mott and Horner for their opinion in regard to the drawings of Dr. Sewall, representing the pathology of drunkenness, for the use of schools: Azor Taber, Ira Harris, I. N. Wyckoff, B. T. Welch, Erastus Corning, B. R. Wood and Barent P. Staats.

In 1844, was instituted Albany Division, Sons of Temperance, No. 24.

July 4, 1845, temperance societies celebrated the day with enthusiasm. Samuel G. Courtney and John H. Carroll delivered orations, and Jacob C. Cuyler read the Declaration of Independence.

In the year 1846, Tivoli Temple of Honor and Temperance, No. 22, was organized. Albany Social, No. 22, was connected with this temple.

During 1844 and 1846, these several temperance organizations were instituted: I. O. of Rechabites—Forest Tent, No. 75, and Sche-negh-ta-da Tent, No. 304; Order of Social Circle—Albany Circle,

No. 1, Constellation Circle, No. 4; Albany Dorcas Temperance Society; and Albany County Temperance Society.

June, 1849, the Temperance Pavilion, a large tent, was erected in North Pearl street by Mr. Van Wagner, the "Poughkeepsie Blacksmith," in which were held meetings that were crowded to excess.

In 1849, Father Mathew, the Irish orator and apostle of temperance, came to Albany and delivered lectures to great multitudes of people. His intense discourse and fervent appeals touched the hearts of many. His mission was successful, and the good he wrought has borne fruit for all the years since.

October, 1851, a City Temperance Society was organized, with Bradford R. Wood as President.

During Father Mathew's second visit to Albany in 1851, at one of his meetings, September 19th, Mrs. Susannah C. Maguire, wife of Martin J. O'Heaney, signed pledge numbered 6,100,990. This represented the number of pledges given to him at that date.

January 27 and 28, 1852, State temperance society and temperance organizations of the city held meetings which were attended by large numbers. Many persons were turned away for want of room. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Albany Social, No. 22, was organized.

October, 1852, State Temperance Convention.

January 19, 1853, temperance meetings were held in the city churches, with crowded houses.

January 21, 1853, a delegation of the Women's State Temperance Convention was permitted to enter the Assembly Chamber for the purpose of presenting memorials signed by 28,000 persons, petitioning for the abolition of the sale of intoxicating liquors.

April 10, 1855, the Delavan House was splendidly illuminated, on the occasion of the passage of the temperance bill, and a supper was given to the friends of the measure.

January 7, 1861, a lecture was given at Tweddle Hall by Professor Amasa McCoy, on the "Curious and Humorous Phases in the History of Temperance," and a City Temperance Society was organized, with Rev. Dr. I. N. Wyckoff, President; Jasper T. Hazen, Corresponding Secretary; Wm. Headlam, Recording Secretary; Wm. McElroy, Treasurer; and Philip Phelps, Auditor.

July 4, 1869, was celebrated in a fine grove on the farm of Rensselaer Markle, near the village of New Salem, by the several divisions of Sons of Temperance in the county. A large concourse of people assembled in the grove to partake of the

bounties spread before them by the generous hearts and hands of the Sons and Daughters. A spirit of enthusiasm, mingled with enjoyment, prevailed. The speakers were Revs. A. A. Farr, J. G. Noble and others.

In 1869, a series of temperance meetings, conducted by the Christian Temperance Committee, were held in Washington Park and elsewhere on Sunday afternoons. Among the speakers were Dr. Wilson, of Albany, who delivered several addresses.

St. Joseph's Total Abstinence Society, of Albany, owes its origin to the zeal and perseverance of Messrs. James J. Hartwell and James Wilkinson. The organization was perfected January 13, 1870, under the title of St. Joseph's Temperance Society. During the year 1875, the members thought the word Temperance did not clearly indicate the scope of the society, and the name was changed to its present title.

The society holds weekly meetings in St. Joseph's Hall, corner of North Pearl and Colonie streets. It uses the Father Mathew Pledge, as follows: "I solemnly promise, with Divine assistance, to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, and to prevent, by advice and example, intemperance in others." Wine and cider are strictly prohibited.

The present officers are James H. Dulin, President; John J. McMahon, Vice-President; M. F. McGowan, Recording Secretary; Wm. Sennett, Financial Secretary; James J. Hartwell, Treasurer; R. J. Kelly, Clerk; Patrick Costello, Marshal.

Another society, connected with St. Joseph's Church, meets in St. Joseph's Hall, of which Thomas Murphy is President. St. Mary's Guild meets in St. Mary's Church, corner of Pine and Chapel streets; J. J. Franklin, Regent.

Societies throughout the county have been numerous. Some maintained their organizations for many months, and then disbanded, to be again reorganized through the efforts of lecturers, many of whom have addressed large audiences in the rural districts.

In the summer and autumn of 1878, Mrs. T. L. Courtney lectured in several of the townships under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and organized auxiliary societies. At the present time there is in West Troy a Lodge of Good Templars and a Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Green Island has a Lodge of Good Templars, of which John P. Lansing is presiding officer; and Cohoes has a Women's Christian Temperance Union; also a Gospel Temperance Association.

The pledging of men and women against the manufacture, sale and use as a beverage of all that can intoxicate, has been the foundation of all these societies. For this purpose we have Women's Christian Temperance Unions, The Sons of Temperance, The Temples of Honor, The Good Templars, Father Mathew Societies, Blue Ribbon Leagues, and many other organizations with records of two-score years or more of labor in the cause of total abstinence.

In the past fifty years the people of this county have witnessed great changes in the customs, habits and public sentiment wrought through the efforts of these societies. At that time the use of ardent spirits was well nigh universal, and men of all classes and professions indulged freely without losing caste. Then officers and members of churches considered it no impropriety. Ordinations, weddings, christenings, funerals, and in fact every assembly and gathering was considered incomplete without a plentiful supply of spirituous liquors. But these customs of the people have undergone a change, and reform marks a higher standard of sobriety and moral intelligence.

A brewery was erected in Albany, on the Ruten-Kill, as early as 1637, with the exclusive right to supply retail dealers with beer. About the beginning of the present century, Mr. Gill was proud of the fact that he produced 150 barrels of beer yearly in Albany. During the year 1883, there was manufactured in this county 353,133 barrels, or 11,123,689 gallons, of malt and brewed liquors; and for the year 1884, 369,977 barrels, or 11,654,275 gallons. The several malt-houses, during the year, manufacture about 1,200,000 bushels of malt, with a capacity for 1,500,000 bushels.

There are not less than 1,200 places in Albany where distilled and malt liquors are sold; in Cohoes, 160; West Troy, 140; Green Island, 40; and in the several towns about 100, making a total of nearly 1,650 licensed and unlicensed resorts for the sale and traffic in these beverages.

From the Supervisor's Report of Albany Penitentiary for 1884, the following facts and figures are taken: Total number received, 2,270. Of this number, 658 were from Albany County. Of the 2,270, 1,894 admitted themselves to be intemperate.

SECRET TEMPERANCE ORDERS.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

THE organization called Sons of Temperance was brought into existence in the City of New York September 29, 1842, and consisted of sixteen members. Not long after this event, Selick Slawson, a member of the Washingtonian Society of Albany, brought this new organization to the attention of his associates, who became pleased with its methods. A subordinate division was instituted here March 7, 1844, by Grand Deputy John W. Edmonds, under the name of Delavan Division. The name was changed, December 23, 1844, to Albany Division, No. 24, Sons of Temperance.

The installation took place in the building then standing corner of State and South Pearl streets, now occupied by the Globe Hotel. Its charter members were Thomas Mygatt, Smith Quackenbush, John C. Ward, Selick Slawson, Alexander Shepherd, Jacob Wetzell, Daniel Luscom, Joseph Courtright, Allen Adams, and John W. Dean. These, with others, were duly initiated. Its first officers were: Thomas Mygatt, W. P.; John C.

Ward, W. A.; William C. Schuyler, R. S.; Daniel Salisbury, A. R. S.; Smith Quackenbush, T.; John King, Chap.; Jacob Wetzell, A. C.; Selick Slawson, I. S. Most of the members had been members of the Washingtonian Total Abstinence Society. After forty-one years of action and faithful membership in this and other societies, two of the charter members are among the living—John C. Ward and Selick Slawson.

The present officers of this division are James Kelly, W. P.; Charles Sexton, W. A.; A. P. Thayer, Chap. The division meets at 586 Broadway, opposite Delavan House.

For the years intervening between 1865 and 1875, the growth of this order in the county was rapid. Numerous divisions were instituted and the membership increased, including many men of prominence and influence. In 1865 there was one division; in 1868, nine; and in 1872, twenty-four divisions in the county.

After this the decline was as rapid. Interest in the good of the order and attendance upon its regular services were neglected. In some instances

jealousy and dissensions arose, and the disbandment and surrender of charters followed. Of the many once flourishing divisions in the county, only one now exists, No. 24, of Albany City, the first one instituted.

THE TEMPLE OF HONOR.

The first Temple of Honor was organized in December, 1845, by prominent Sons of Temperance. Although in its infancy as compared with other societies embodying benevolent features, it has steadily advanced until temples have been reared in every State, and Albany records five temples and councils in working order.

The Temple of Honor is a secret organization, and has its signs, grips, and other tests to secure friendship and protection, and enable brethren to recognize each other whenever and wherever they chance to meet.

In the council department of the order are conferred the three degrees of Love, Purity and Fidelity, and the sublime, solemn and impressive degrees of Tried, Approved and Select Templars are adorned with appropriate paraphernalia.

Every member of the order in good standing who can pass a medical examination, may become a participant in the endowment fund.

The Junior Templars of Honor is an order where youths are taught the principles of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, obedience to the laws of God, parents, and country. No boy under twelve is admitted, and he must possess a good moral character, and use no profane, improper or indecent language. At the age of fifteen the boy may be initiated into the Degree of Honor; and any Junior Templar on arriving at the age of eighteen years may be received into membership in the Temple of Honor.

The Social Department is where women can join hands in this labor of love. All worthy Templars and all ladies of good moral character are eligible to this department, to which are attached three degrees.

The following are the subordinate temples in the County in working order :

Tivoli Temple of Honor, No. 22, organized at Albany City, 1846; meets at 586 Broadway. Wm. H. Mogridge, W. C. T.; C. H. Meyer, W. V.; O. C. White, W. R.; A. P. Thayer, Chaplain. Among its first members were Daniel L. Weaver, David Rose, Selick Slawson, Elisha Mack, and John Reid.

Excelsior, No. 23, Albany City, organized 1866; meets in Lavantall's Hall. Officers: J. Edward

Stremple, W. C. T.; Wm. S. Pattison, W. V.; A. C. Van Vorst, W. R.

Capitol Council, No. 4, Select, Albany, organized 1866. Officers: A. P. Thayer, C. of C.; O. C. White, R. of C.; John Reid, Chap.

Itruria Council, No. 3, Select, Albany, organized 1868; meets 66 South Pearl Street. Officers: J. Halley Lindsay, C. of C.; Wm. S. Pattison, R. of C.

D. J. Johnson Temple of Honor, No. 33, Cohoes, organized 1873. George Mathews, W. C. T.; Archibald McLean, W. V.; David White, W. R. In 1872, there were three temples, three councils and two social temples.

The Grand Temple of Honor has been represented in its sessions by the following Albany members: Elisha Mack, G. W. Vice-Templar; J. Halley Lindsay, G. W. Usher; A. P. Thayer, G. W. Chaplain.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

In the year 1851, Daniel Cady, of Poughkeepsie, came to Utica and instituted an order known as the Knights of Jericho. There were three lodges of this order in Oneida County. The lodge at Utica had, among other members, L. E. Coon, J. E. N. Backus and Thomas L. James, afterward Postmaster-General. The order had a fantastic initiatory ceremony and did not please some of the members. One evening, L. E. Coon made a motion to change the name to the Good Templars. After some debate the motion was carried, and in two weeks eight lodges were instituted. Thus was organized in New York State the first lodges of this order.

The first Good Templar paper was the *Crystal Fount*, published at Hamilton, N. Y., by T. L. James and others.

On August 11, 1852, a Grand Lodge was formed at Syracuse, with Nathaniel Curtis, G. W. C. T.

The revised ritual was written by Rev. Dr. D. W. Bristol, of Ithaca; accepted by the Grand Lodge, without alteration, in 1853. Regalia was provided and the State divided into districts. Thus was the order fully established and prepared for that wonderful growth which it has enjoyed for so many years. The degrees were written by Dr. Bristol, and this year, in December, at a convention held in Pennsylvania, a seal was adopted, with a device representing the three great principles of this order: Faith, Hope and Charity.

This order takes the broadest ground upon all questions connected with the temperance reform. The following platform was adopted at the annual session in 1859:

1. Total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

2. No license, in any form or under any circumstance, for the sale of such liquors to be used as a beverage.

3. The absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors for such purposes. Prohibition by the will of the people, expressed in due form of law, with the penalties deserved for a crime of such enormity.

4. The creation of a healthy public opinion upon the subject by the active dissemination of truth in all the modes known to an enlightened philanthropy.

5. The election of good, honest men to administer the laws.

6. Persistence in efforts to save individuals and communities from so direful a scourge, against all forms of opposition and difficulty, until our success is complete and universal.

Women are admitted and are entitled to all the honors of the order. In the obligation, initiation and solemn ceremonies of this organization, signs, grips, pass-words and signal raps are used, with pledges of secrecy.

In May, 1867, a resolution in favor of juvenile societies was adopted, and in 1870, the Cold Water Temple was adopted.

The order in the county was tardy. Not until 1867 was a lodge instituted, and that owed its existence and much of its prosperity to Andrew S. Draper, a representative of Albany, who stands as high as any living Good Templar in the regard of the order.

Hon. A. S. Draper was initiated into the order December, 1866, at Westford, Otsego County, and in July, 1867, he assisted in the organization of the first Good Templar Lodge in Albany County, named Harrison Lodge, and became its first W. C. T.

At the Rochester session, in 1869, he was elected a member of the first Board of Managers. In 1873 he was elected G. W. Counselor, and in 1874 and 1875, G. W. Treasurer. In 1876, at the Saratoga session, he was honored with the highest office in the gift of the Grand Lodge. At the thirteenth annual session of the Grand Lodge of New York, held at Elmira, August, 1877, he presided as G. W. C. T. At the Cooperstown session of the Grand Lodge, he was, for the fifth time, elected G. W. C. T. In 1879, at the R. W. G. L., held at Detroit, he was elected R. W. G. Counselor. He resigned the office of G. W. C. T., January 1, 1881, having been elected a Member of Assembly, but in August, 1882, attended the Grand Lodge session at Ithaca as P. G. W. C. T. He has many times been a representative in the R. W. G. L.

About thirty lodges have been instituted in the County, some of which have ceased to exist.

Albany County Lodge was instituted 1869. Holds meetings quarterly and annual meetings in September. The present officers are: C. C. T., John B. Hilton; C. S., Fred. F. Wheeler; C. D., Richard Kennedy; G. D. D., Rev. C. I. Wilcox. At the session of the Grand Lodge of New York, held at Elmira, August, 1877, Albany County reported nine subordinate lodges, and the county was represented by Andrew S. Draper as G. W. C. T.; Alden Chester and George H. Niver, Representatives. At the annual session of the Grand Lodge, held at Ithaca, August, 1882, Albany County reported twenty-one subordinate lodges. At this session Mrs. George H. Niver was elected General Superintendent of Juvenile Temples, and, with A. S. Draper, P. G. W. C. T., were officers of the Grand Lodge. The county was represented by Alden Chester.

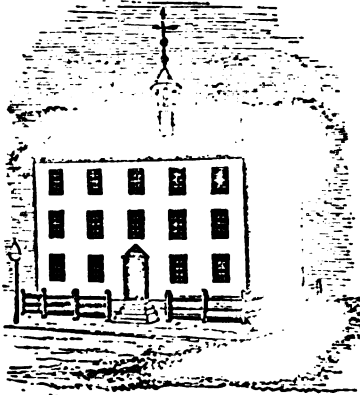
Mrs. George H. Niver, C. S., Albany, reports for the year 1882, nine juvenile temples in the county.

THE OLD STADT HUYS.

THIS venerable building has been used as a City Hall, a County Court Building and Prison, and as a State House. It was also the place where conventions, councils, and other gatherings of a public nature were held in the elder days. From its uses it may properly be counted among the county institutions. It stood on the northeast corner of what is now Broadway and Hudson avenue, just inside the stockades. It is uncertain at what exact period it was erected; but, as near as the time can be ascertained, it was about 1635, while the Colony of New York was under the control of the

Dutch. We are led to the belief that this was the time of its erection from some minutes in the journals of Wouter Van Twiller, the sixth Dutch Governor of the province. It is certain that some punitive building was erected on that spot under the direction of Van Twiller that year. As Albany was then a frontier trading town, a substantial building for Courts of Justice, in which should be a proper prison for the confinement of criminals and desperadoes, was necessary. According to an account given of it in 1646, it was a substantial, and, for that time, large, solid, three-story building,

the lower story being of stone, which was used as a jail. The building was surmounted by a cupola or belfry, from which rose a vane ornamented with a gilt ball. In the belfry was a bell brought from



THE OLD STADT HUYS OR CITY MALL.

Holland, and placed there soon after the completion of the building. For nearly one hundred and sixty years it was rung on all public occasions to sum-

mon legislators, lawyers, judges, and municipal officers to their duties in the rooms below.

After the building was demolished, the bell was placed in the cupola of the new capitol, where it hung for many years, discharging the same duties it had done in the tower of the old Stadt Huys. At last it was taken down. What became of it is somewhat uncertain; it is believed that it now hangs in one of the churches at Ballston, N. Y.

In this building was held the provincial courts under the Dutch and English laws. Here the Common Council held its first meetings after its organization under the Dongan Charter, in July, 1686.

In front of this building, in July, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was read for the first time in Albany, to an immense crowd of people.

This building was, for a time, the Capitol of the State, in which the Legislature under the first constitution held several sessions.

A few years ago a memorial slab was placed in the front walls of the commercial building on Broadway, standing on the spot where this old structure stood, with appropriate addresses and other ceremonies.

ALBANY COUNTY JAILS.

THE lower story, or basement, of the old Stadt Huys in Albany was used as the jail of the county for many years. It was made of stone, and divided into cells of sufficient strength and size for the confinement of prisoners from the large territory which, for many years, was embraced in the County of Albany. Heavy iron bars or grates protected the windows. The massive doors were made double, of heavy three-inch oak plank, fastened with strong iron bolts. A diamond-shape opening, a foot in size, near the top, let in light and air. These doors were secured by ponderous locks, to turn whose keys required the whole strength of a man.

Chains, with rings and clasps attached, for the more secure confinement of desperate characters, were fastened in the solid stone wall. On the whole, it was a grim, but secure place of confinement. It might have more properly been called a dungeon. After the lapse of years, although some repairs had been made, the building began to assume a dilapidated condition, and that part used as a jail became so insecure that the escape of prisoners from it was a matter of such frequent occurrence, that the High Sheriff, Samuel Babbington, appeared at the Bar at the Court of Sessions, in October, 1718, and formally protested against the jail as follows :

"I urge upon your Worships that care may be taken to have y^e same Jail sufficiently repaired to keep such bad prisoners as I may take for debt, &c., safely from escaping, as is now often y^e case."

After hearing the Sheriff's complaint, the Court made the following order:

"It is resolved by this Court, in consideration of y^e insufficiency of y^e said Jail, that a letter be forthwith writ to y^e representative of y^e General Assembly of y^e Province, to desire leave of that honorable body now sitting, that they may bring in a bill to raise y^e same, not exceeding one hundred and forty pounds for repairing y^e Jail, and that y^e repairs be directed to y^e management of y^e Justices of y^e Peace of y^e City and County of Albany, or the major part of them."

There had been several attempts to erect a jail or prison apart from the City Hall. An application of this kind was made to the Common Council in August, 1700. On the 14th of October following, an application having been made to the Supervisors for a new and common jail, the matter came up in February, 1701, and was disposed of as follows :

"Relateing y^e Preparing of y^e Court-house and Common Goall, which y^e Justices of y^e City and County on y^e 26th of Feb'y instant Recommended to be laid before y^e Supervisors, is referred to their Consideration, who of the County Positively Refused to Contribute anything unto y^e same, alledging that it must be Repaired out of y^e 2 per cent.

to Defray y^e necessary charges of y^e City and County."

Accordingly, the General Assembly passed a general bill for the making or repairing of the jails in the Province of New York.

At a Court of Sessions, held in the City Hall October 7, 1719, the following order concerning the jail of the County of Albany was made and entered in the records of the Court.

"Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the Colony of New York, entitled an Act to Authorize y^e Justices of the Peace to Build and Repair Jails and Court-houses in the Several Counties of the Province, whereby y^e Justices in each County are Impowered (upon their own view) on any Insufficiency or Inconveniency of their County Jail or Prison, or y^e Inconveniency of their Court House, to Conclude and agree upon such sum or sums of money, as, upon examination of sufficient and able workmen, shall be thought necessary for building, Finishing and Repairing a Public Jail, etc.

"It is therefore Resolved, that any five or more of His Majesty's Justices shall make a computation with sufficient and able workmen, what a sufficient Jail, etc., for y^e City and County of Albany may cost, and bring a report thereof at the next meeting of this Court and the Justices thereof."

This order caused much discussion in the county, a portion of the people desiring to erect a new court-house and jail, while others were equally desirous that the city hall, and the jail in the basement thereof, should be thoroughly repaired. At length, at the Court of Sessions held in the City Hall, it was decided to repair the State House and Jail, according to the following resolution:

"It is Resolved that the City Hall shall be repaired and an addition be made of fifteen foot in length to the south'd, and in breadth to the Court Hall, and joyned in the roof of the same, made up with boards without as the present old house, with a sufficient stone seller under y^e same, the north end thereof partitioned off with oak boards. To have one window with cross-iron bars therein, one cross window to the south'ard, one to the eastward and one to the westward in the first room."

The resolution continues:

"The door which stands to the South in the Court Hall, to be removed in the fore room, and in the room above to the south'ard. The gable end of the house to the westward be repaired; the room above the new floor on the top of the old floor with one and one-half inch boards. The windows are to have strong cross iron bars, and the glass windows and wall repaired, all good and sufficient work. Also a convenient place for the Jury to sit in, and the bench for the Justices' seats made larger and more convenient.

"The Justices have agreed with John Wemp to make and repair the said building according to the above dimensions, all well finished, for the sum of

£140, which he promises shall all be done by or before the first of January next."

These repairs were made; but those of the jail were so negligently done that the escape of prisoners from it was still of common occurrence. Henry Holland, Esq., then High Sheriff of the City and County, appeared at the Court of Sessions, October 4, 1721, and represented the insecure condition of the jail. Whereupon the following order was made:

"Henry Holland, Esq., High Sheriff of the City and County of Albany, informs this Court that though the City and County of Albany Jail has been lately repaired, it is still very insufficient, and he desires it may be made sufficient. As it is, it cannot secure any prisoner, as several have gained their liberty by breaking Jail. It is therefore ordered that meet and proper repairs at said jail be at once made under the direction of the said Sheriff."

Substantial repairs soon followed. With occasional and slight repairs, the city hall and jail continued as described until the building was demolished somewhere about the year 1803.

That the lower story of the city hall was occupied for a jail, is evidenced by the fact that there is an account of "the prisoners in the old city hall, which was the jail," celebrating the fifth of July, 1790—the fourth being on Sunday. The fifth toast drank on the occasion was: "May the time soon come when no honest man shall be confined for debt."

In 1791, the Legislature passed a law authorizing the city authorities to raise £2,000 towards the completion of the court-house and jail.

It was some time before this appropriation was agreed to by the city and county authorities; and it was not until 1803 or 1804, perhaps as late as 1809, that the new jail was completed. The premises on which this jail stood occupied about 80 feet on State street; 84 on Maiden lane; and 116 on Eagle street. It was sold at auction on August 11, 1832, in behalf of the trustees of the Albany Academy.

On November 1, 1831, the grand jurors visited the jail, and found it so much out of repair that they recommended to the Board of Supervisors the building of a new jail without the compact part of the city, "inasmuch as this building, which had stood twenty-two years was fast decaying, very illy constructed, and too small in order to health, comfort and convenience, and situated in too thickly settled a locality." There were, at that time, fifty-six persons in confinement. If the jail, according to the above statement, had stood twenty-two years,

then, of course, it must have been built in 1809. We are inclined to the belief that there was some mistake about its having "stood twenty-two years," but that it was built somewhere near 1804, and succeeded the old jail in the Stadt Huys, on the corner of Broadway and Hudson avenue. It was sold at auction, August 11, 1882.

The next jail built, stood on the ground at the corner of Eagle and Howard streets, and was completed in the latter part of the year 1834.

Early in April, 1834, the masons at work upon it struck, but the difficulty was adjusted.

This building was occupied as the county jail until the spring of 1854, when the jail on Maiden lane was erected, and the old jail fitted up with great taste and convenience for a hospital, and opened for that purpose August 8, 1854.

In May, 1854, John Hendrickson was executed in the jail on Maiden lane, for the murder of his wife.

ALBANY COUNTY ALMS-HOUSE.

THE County of Albany, unlike most other counties in the State, has not made any material distinction between the poor of the towns and the poor of the county. It has no Board of Superintendents of the Poor.

The poor laws are executed by the Superintendent of the Alms-house, Overseers of the Poor, and other charitable institutions.

The office of Overseer of the Poor is one of the most ancient in the State. It existed long before 1703, and has always been very important in the City and County of Albany. The powers of the office were considerably increased by the act of 1703, which continued through the colonial period, and was retained almost intact by the Legislative Act of March 7, 1788. This act makes provision for establishing an Alms-house in Albany. This was the first of the kind known in the State under the laws of the State. The churches had what were known as church or parish alms-houses. Thus, in the act incorporating the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in the City of Albany, passed August 10, 1720, we find that a certain tenement and lot of ground, commonly called poor-house or alms-house, situated in the First Ward of the City, is described as follows: "Bounded on the south by the High street that leads to the burying-place, to the north of the Rutten Kill, and to the east of Harmon Rutgers', and to the west by the lot of Garrit Bancker, containing in breadth towards the street that leads to the Lutheran Church by the said Rutten Kill, six rods one foot; and the like breadth in the rear; and in length on the east side eight rods and two inches, all Rhineland measure."

The act of 1788 gave the Overseers of the Poor, with the consent of the towns, power to build, purchase or hire houses for the accommodation of the

poor. It also gave the Overseers power to purchase materials for setting the poor at work, and to appoint proper persons for keepers. It provided that if any poor person refused to be kept in such houses, he or she was denied relief from the town or county. This act was made more favorable to Albany than to other towns.

By an act passed April 2, 1819, the act of 1788 was amended. The powers and duties of the Overseers of the Poor were extended to lunatics, habitual drunkards and poor children. It gave Overseers the right to bind out poor children; power over illegitimate children chargeable to the public; to sue for penalties incurred by bets or wagers, and for penalties under the excise laws.

The Supervisors have the power, under certain restrictions, to abolish the distinction between town and county poor, making them all chargeable to the county.

This law provides that, in those counties where the poor are made a charge upon the counties, there shall be a Superintendent of the Poor, with the same powers and rights as the Overseers of the Poor, in respect to compelling relatives to maintain their paupers, and in respect to the seizure of property. But there are no Superintendents of the Poor in Albany.

The charter of April 23, 1883, and the city ordinances under it, passed May 5, 1884, provide that the Overseer of the Poor of the City of Albany shall have the charge of and shall apply and distribute the funds for the temporary relief and support of the poor of the city. It also provides that the father, mother or children, when of sufficient ability, of a poor person of the City of Albany unable to work by disease or decrepitude, are compelled to maintain or relieve such poor person. The

Overseers of the Poor of Albany shall exercise and perform the same powers and duties, relative to compelling such relatives to afford such relief, as are in like cases vested in and exercised by Overseers of the Poor of the respective towns of the County of Albany.

By the Act of the Legislature passed May 24, 1884, it is made the duty of the Overseers of the Poor of the several towns of the County of Albany; of the Village of West Troy; of the City of Cohoes; and of the City of Albany, whenever any idiot, lunatic person of unsound mind, deaf mute or pauper within the jurisdiction of the said officers respectively, whenever any such person shall become chargeable to the county, and shall be lawfully liable to be committed to the alms-house or asylum, or other place for the safe keeping of such person or persons, to take and deliver him or her to the alms-house in said city, under certain conditions and restrictions provided by statute. Superintendents to make quarterly reports to County Treasurer, giving full details of all circumstances and expenses of the asylum. Whenever any child shall be in danger of becoming a charge upon the County of Albany, the Overseers of the Poor having jurisdiction of the place of residence to take the child before some magistrate, who shall examine such child and its parents and other persons, touching its age, condition, and the condition of the poor parents, and all other circumstances connected with the child; and if the circumstances warrant it, may be placed in the alms-house under the restriction of the act.

The present Alms-house is situated on the road south of Washington Park, and west of the Penitentiary. There is a very finely cultivated and productive farm of 116 acres belonging to this institution, known as the Alms-house Farm. The productions of this farm, besides furnishing fine vegetables and some fruit for the poor establishment, are a source of some income.

Connected with the Alms-house are the poor-house, lunatic asylum, hospital, pest-house, etc. This is the poor establishment of the city and county, the former paying sixty and the latter forty per cent. of the cost of maintenance. Under the State charitable laws, paupers who have not been residents of any county for sixty days are called State paupers, and are received here and boarded at the rate of \$2.50 per week, chargeable to the State.

By the statutes, the Superintendents of the Alms-house are required to make annual reports to the

Secretary of State on or before the 10th day of January of each year, covering the year ending November 30th.

The lands granted the city under the Dongan charter of 1686 have all been alienated by the city, excepting the 116 acres known as the Alms-house Farm, and what was known as the Washington Parade Ground on Willett street, and the old burying-ground on State street, both included in Washington Park.

The Alms-house is under the management of an officer called the Superintendent of the Alms-house.

The City Physician has the right to purchase any stores, drugs, medicines, or articles required by the institution, under the direction of the Superintendent of the Alms-house.

The general regulations of this poor establishment are admirable. Perfect care and scrutiny is directed to the health, cleanliness, and comfort of the paupers, who are carefully distributed in different rooms—persons of different sex in different rooms.

When a child attains the age of two years, it is placed in the children's department.

Profane or indecent conversation, quarreling, drunkenness, disorderly conduct at meals, and criminal or immoral conduct of any kind are strictly forbidden in or about the Alms-house. Suitable and wholesome punishment for the above offenses is provided.

All paupers who are able are kept employed without compensation.

Careful medical attendance and nurses are provided for the sick, both adults and children.

Children belonging to the Alms-house of suitable age, attend the school established for their instruction, and are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The girls are taught plain needle-work and knitting, and when they arrive at the proper age are bound out to suitable trades or occupations.

The paupers are suitably clothed and have a change of linen at least twice every week during the year. The linen of the paupers is numbered and is distributed among them.

Careful attention is paid to cleanliness, to ventilation and airing of the rooms, clothes, beds, etc. All the fuel required is distributed throughout the Alms-house. The meals are served at stated hours in a clean and decent manner.

Spirituous liquors are not allowed in the Alms-house except by order of the attending physician.

At nine in the evening the fires and lights throughout the Alms-house are extinguished, except in the hospital and asylum.

The inmates of the Alms-house assemble for religious worship in the chapel every Sabbath at the hours of ten A.M. and two P.M. Some person or persons appointed by the Superintendent reads suitable forms of prayer, approved sermons, and portions of scripture at such meetings.

In the morning some clergyman of the city, of the Protestant faith, and in the afternoon a clergyman of the Catholic faith, conducts religious services in the chapel each Sunday.

Some of the buildings are old and time-worn, but are kept in as comfortable condition as the circumstances will admit. They were first erected in 1826, at a cost of \$14,000. The number of persons occupying it that year were as follows:

White females between the ages of 19 and 80, 44; of these 13 were sick and lame and 3 insane.

Thirty-eight children between four months and eight years of age.

Three black males between the age of 45 and 80; 8 black females between the age of 35 and 80; and 30 white males; in all, 123.

The architect of the Alms-house was Henry W. Snyder.

In the Report of 1857, the Alms house, or Poor Establishment, is described as follows: "It embraces four buildings constructed of brick, two stories in height above the basement; one in size, 40 x 70 feet; and two others, 32 x 90 feet; connected with a farm of 216 acres, yielding an annual revenue estimated at \$6,000. The basements of one building are used for domestic purposes; the others are unoccupied.

"In the Poor-house proper are ten rooms, warmed by furnaces and stoves, but with but little ventilation.

"This building was erected thirty-four years ago. From 6 to 40 paupers were placed in a single room. The whole number of inmates was 319: 120 males, 299 females. Of these three-fourths were foreign born."

In the asylum are fifty insane paupers. All incurables are sent to the asylum at Ovid. A pest-house has been erected on the outer limits of the farm, which will accommodate about fifty persons.

The unclaimed dead of the streets, the river, and penitentiary are buried in these grounds, and the cattle and geese are here impounded.

Visitors are admitted every day except Sunday.

Albany has been for some time burdened with paupers who are not properly charges for the county. The West Shore Railroad, when nearing the completion of its road, discharged a number of its laborers near the city, most of whom were suffering from

malaria or similar disease. The city being the terminus of the canal, draws many known as alien paupers to Albany, where they apply for aid. If sent for any reason to the Penitentiary, after serving for sixty days, they remain in Albany and apply to the Overseer of the Poor for aid. If by physical or mental defect they need care, Albany County cares for them. In tracing their records, some are found to have been paupers in other cities and in other States.

The number of inmates in the Alms-house Department April 30, 1884:

Remaining at the last report.....	254
Admitted during the quarter.....	110
	364
Discharged during quarter.....	103
Absconded.....	19
Died.....	9
Insane transferred to State Asylum.....	2
Sick transferred to City Hospital.....	1
Sick transferred to St. Peter's Hospital... ..	1
Alien transferred to Italian Consul.	1
Alien transferred to Commissioners of Emigration.....	1
Children adopted.....	1
	138

Inmates April 30, 1884..... 226

Of those admitted during the quarter there were males, 72; females, 38.

Total number of weeks' board furnished during the quarter, 3,274; increase over last quarter, 254.

The cash receipts for the quarter, \$165.39; expenditures for the quarter, \$5,381.71; average cost per day for each pauper was twenty-nine cents.

The employees of the Alms-house are: Overseer, monthly salary, \$50; baker, monthly salary, \$25; teamster, monthly salary, \$30; night watchman, monthly salary, \$60; hostler, monthly salary, \$15; cook, monthly salary, \$16; hospital cook, monthly salary, \$5; hospital nurse, monthly salary, \$20; hospital nurse, monthly salary, \$5; two hospital nurses, each, monthly salary, \$3; keeper of asylum, monthly salary, \$50; matron, monthly salary, \$20; cook, monthly salary, \$5; carpenter, monthly salary, \$50; farmer, monthly salary, \$30; matron, monthly salary, \$20; children's nurse, monthly salary, \$5.

The report claims that the amount expended for the support of alien paupers for the last twelve months would have kept the institution in hospital supplies for a year.

Superintendent, John McKenna.

Inmates July 31, 1884, 184; inmates October 31, 1884, 198. Of those admitted 92 were males; 52 females. Average cost of maintenance per day, each, thirty cents.

Cash receipts for the quarter, \$183.30.

The amount paid into the city treasury by the Superintendent of the Alms-house, for the year ending October 1, 1884, was \$19,649.81.

The amount paid towards the maintenance of Alms-house from the treasury, \$30,104.49.

On December 5, 1884, a resolution was passed by the Board of Supervisors to levy a tax, to be applied in several ways, among which was an appropriation of the sum of \$26,000 for the Alms-house for the ensuing year, and also \$2,000 to meet the deficiency of the past year.

ALBANY PENITENTIARY.

A BILL passed the Legislature incorporating the Albany Penitentiary about April 9, 1844, and on December 19th of that year the Supervisors directed a proper site to be purchased for the erection of the buildings. In 1846, it was first opened, the work on the building having been done principally by prisoners, who were taken to and from the jail each day. It is situated in a park of about fifteen acres, located south of Washington Park.

Amos Pilsbury, of Connecticut, was appointed Superintendent in 1844, and continued in office until his death, in 1872. No essential change has been made in the working plans of the institution, as put into practice by him with such wonderful success as to gain a world-wide admiration. It cannot be detailed in our space. The silent or Auburn system was adopted at the beginning. The prisoners are marched in lock-step to and from their work, and are not permitted to converse with each other. They are kept at work. Some are employed in the manufacture of brushes and chairs, but the chief employment is in the shoe shops.

A great source of financial success in this institution comes of receiving prisoners from other counties. Contracts are made with the Supervisors of other counties for the board and care of their criminals. Many have also been received from the United States Courts. For these board has been paid to this Penitentiary. These prisoners have been put at work, and their labor is let to contractors at remunerative wages.

Originally the prison had but 90 cells; now it has 625. The building has been enlarged to nearly six times its original dimensions. New work-shops have been erected, and the whole yard has been inclosed by a high wall.

The greatest number of commitments is caused by intemperance. In 1855, there were 801 commitments. Of these 771 admitted themselves to be intemperate.

The prisoners are confined in separate cells at night, but work in the shops during the day. The discipline seems almost perfect.

In 1872, General Pilsbury died, and was succeeded by his son, Louis D. Pilsbury, who, by continuing to improve in conducting the system begun by his father, brought the institution to its present prosperous condition. He has, since leaving this Penitentiary, been in charge of the institution on Ward's Island, and been Superintendent of all the New York State Prisons. Mr. John McEwen, since 1879, has held the position of Superintendent.

Each year the Penitentiary pays into the treasury a handsome surplus from the earnings of the institution, and thereby lessens taxation throughout the county. Under the present Superintendent the amount paid to the credit of the county in actual money is about \$75,000.

All short-term prisoners are cared for without expense to the county. Without the Penitentiary, it is estimated that the expense to the county would be at least \$50,000 per annum.

The following is a summary of statistics from the Report of the Superintendent, filed with the Clerk of the Board, February 3, 1885:

The number of prisoners received during the year has been 2,270; added to those in confinement October 31, 1883, 837; making a total of 3,107. Discharged by expiration of sentence, 2,012; pardoned by President, 4; discharged by order of Secretary of War, 2; pardoned by Governor, 6; commuted by Governor, 1; discharged by remission of fines, 8; discharged by court or magistrate, 25; discharged by appeal, *certiorari*, etc., 22; discharged by payment of fine to justices, 113; died, 15; total discharged during year, 2,208; leaving in confinement October 31, 1884, 899.

Of these 785 were males, 114 females. Of the above number received during the year there were: Males, 1,962; females, 308; total, 2,270.

Of these there were born in the United States, 1,480; Ireland, 409; Germany, 115; England, 90; Scotland, 25; Canada, 75; France, 10; Italy, Poland, Wales and Norway, 17; Sweden and Switzerland, 20; Denmark, Holland and Newfoundland, 4; Prussia, Australia and New Brunswick, 8; Russia, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island, 17; total, 2,270.

Of these 1,644 could read and write; 216 could read only; 410 could neither read nor write; 1,894 admitted themselves to be intemperate; 376 claimed to be temperate; 822 were or had been married; 1,448 were single; 379 were sent from the City of Albany; 179 from the town of Watervliet; 1 from Bethlehem; 98 from the City of Cohoes.

Of these 1,398 were sentenced for a term less than six months; 578 for six months each; 57 from seven months to one year; 84 for one year; 20 for one year, and fine from \$100 to \$500; 46 for terms over one year, not exceeding two years; 38 for over two and not exceeding three years; 29 for

three and not exceeding four years; 16 for four years, not exceeding five; 13 for terms from six to ten years; 1 for life. 273 were under twenty years of age; 906 were between twenty and thirty years; 527 were between thirty and forty years; 318 were between forty and fifty years; 246 were over fifty years.

Early in the Legislature of 1885, a bill was introduced to relieve the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, and the Mayor and Recorder of the City of Albany, from all responsibility in regard to the maintenance and care of the Penitentiary. On May 11, 1885, the bill became law.

The Penitentiary Commission consists of D. Cady Herrick, District Attorney; John Battersby, County Treasurer; and John Reilly. The Penitentiary has been under their control since May, 1885. The Superintendent receives a salary of \$3,000 per annum. A deputy, two clerks, three matrons and several subordinates are employed. The shops are in immediate charge of faithful overseers.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS FROM ALBANY COUNTY.

SENATORS.

UNDER the first Constitution of the State, the Senate consisted of twenty-four members, apportioned among four great districts. After the first election they were divided by lots into four classes, so that the terms of six should expire each year. An additional Senator was to be added to each district whenever, by a septennial census, it was shown that the number of electors in the district had increased one twenty-fourth. This increase was to be allowed till the number reached one hundred. The census of 1795 made the number forty-three. In 1801, the rule being found unequal in its operation, the Constitution was amended so as to fix the number of Senators permanently at thirty-two, which has ever since been retained. By the Constitution of 1821, the State was divided into eight great Senatorial districts, each of which was entitled to four Senators, one being elected every year. Their term of office was four years. Under the present Constitution the State consists of thirty-two Senatorial districts, in each of which a Senator is

elected each odd year. The Senate district must consist of contiguous territory, and no county can be divided unless entitled to two or more Senators.

Abraham Yates, Jr., 1777-90; Dirck W. Ten Broeck, 1777-78; Anthony Van Schaick, 1777-78; Rinier Mynderse, 1777-78.

The first session of the Legislature of this State was in 1777, assembling at Kingston, September 9th. On October 7th following it was dispersed by the British troops. The second meeting of this session was held at Poughkeepsie, beginning January 15th and ending April 4, 1778.

Rinier Mynderse, 1778-81; Dirck W. Ten Broeck, 1778-83; Philip Schuyler, 1781-84, 1786-88, 1792-97; Henry Oothoudt, 1782-85; Volkert P. Douw, 1786-93; Peter Schuyler, 1787-92; Leonard Gansvoort, 1791-93, 1797-1802; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1791-95; Anthony Ten Eyck, 1797-1801; Anthony Van Schaick, 1797-1800; Abraham Van Vechten, 1798-1805, 1816-19; Francis Nicoll, 1797-98; John Sanders, 1799-1802; Stephen Lush, 1801-2; Simon Veeder, 1804-7; John Veeder, 1806-9; Joseph C. Yates,

1806-8; Charles E. Dudley, 1820-5; John McCarty, 1827-30; Peter Gansvoort, 1833-6; Friend Humphrey, 1840-1; Ira Harris, 1847; Valentine Tredwell, 1848-49; Azor Taber, 1852-53; Clarkson F. Crosby, 1854-55; John W. Harcourt, 1856-57; George Y. Johnson, 1858-59; Andrew J. Colvin, 1860-61; John V. L. Pruyn, 1862-63; Lorenzo D. Collins, 1866-67; A. B. Banks, 1868-69, 1870-71; Charles H. Adams, 1872-73; Jesse C. Dayton, 1874-75; Hamilton Harris, 1876-79; Waters W. Braman, 1880-81; Abraham Lansing, 1882-83; John B. Thacher, 1884-85.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

Gerrit Abeel, 1796; Mathew Adgate, 1780-85; Flores Bancker, 1779-80; Thomas E. Barker, 1798-99; Daniel D. Barnard, 1838; Frederick Bassler, Jr., 1840; George Batterman, 1825; John Bay, 1779-80; Abraham Becker, 1784-85; John Beekman, Jr., 1804; John H. Beekman, 1782-83; John James Beekman, 1780-83; Sidney Berry, 1791-92; James Bill, 1796-1800; Harmanus Bleeker, 1814-15; David Bogardus, 1807, 1812-13; Leonard Bronck, 1786-93; Abraham Brooks, 1823; John Brown, 1808-9; Jonathan Brown, 1791; Jesse Buel, 1823; Daniel Burhans, 1804-6; John H. Burhans, 1808-9, 1816-17; Benjamin F. Butler, 1828; Asa Colvard, 1806-7, 1811-12, 1820; John Colvin, 1810; Phillip Conine, Jr., 1796-97, 1800; Clarkson F. Crosby, 1845; Abraham Cuyler, 1784; Jacob Cuyler, 1777-78; John Cuyler, Jr., 1777-78; John Davis, 1839; Adam Deitz, Jr., 1804-6; Johan Jost Deitz, 1798-1804, 1807-9, 1811-14; Johannes Deitz, 1792-96; David Delong, 1811; Abijah B. Disbrow, 1832; John A. Dix, 1842; David Dorman, 1836; Prince Doty, 1798-1802; James C. Duane, 1796-97; William A. Duer, 1818-19; John Duncan, 1788-89; Peter Flagler, 1840; Jellis A. Fonda, 1792-94; Jacob Ford, 1781-85; Sylvester Ford, 1814-15; Michael Freeligh, 1816; Abel French, 1810; Philip Frisbie, 1781-82; John Frisby, 1803; John Fuller, 1847; John I. Gallup, 1847; Leonard Gansvoort, 1778-79, 1788; Leonard Gansvoort, Jr., 1795; Peter Gansvoort, 1830-31; James D. Gardner, 1829; John Gibbons, 1812-13; Henry Glen, 1786-87; James Gordon, 1777-81, 1784, 1786-90; Theo. V. W. Graham, 1794; Daniel Hale, 1807; Willis Hall, 1843; Isaac Hamilton, 1827; Ira Harris, 1845-46; John Haswell, 1827; And. N. Heermance, 1798-99; John V. Henry, 1800-2; Jacob Hotchstrasser, 1794-97; Gerrit Hogan, 1820-21; Lawrence Hogeboom, 1786; James Holcomb, 1796-97; Aaron Hough-

taling, 1841; W. D. Houghtaling, 1819; Cornelius Humphrey, 1779-80; Thomas Hun, 1794-95; Elishama James, 1812-13; Jonathan Jenkins, 1808-9, 1820; Richard Kimmey, 1837; Francis Lansing, 1841; John Lansing, Jr., 1780-84, 1786-89; Jeremiah Lansingh, 1798-99; Phillip Lennebacker, 1832; Leonard Litchfield, 1845; Aaron Livingston, 1834; Edward Livingston, 1833, 1835, 1837; John Livingston, 1786-87; Peter R. Livingston, 1780-81; Walter Livingston, 1777-79, 1784-85; James S. Lowe, 1830; Samuel S. Lush, 1825-26, 1830; Stephen Lush, 1792-93, 1803-6; David McCarty, 1792; James McKown, 1820-22; William McKown, 1822; Hugh Mitchell, 1779-80; Nich. V. Mynderse, 1804-5; Francis Nicoll, 1792-93; 1796-1800; William North, 1792, 1794-95; Nathaniel Ogden, 1796-98; Henry Outhoudt, 1779-80; Volkert D. Oothout, 1822; John I. Ostrander, 1816-17; Cornelius G. Palmer, 1842; George Palmer, 1781-82; Stephen Platt, 1794-95; William Powers, 1787; John Price, 1814-15, 1820; John Prince, 1796-98; Henry Quackenboss, 1779-80; Edmund Raynsford, 1838; Abraham Rosecrantz, 1823; James Sacket, 1818; J. W. Schermerhorn, 1791; Maus Schermerhorn, 1803-4; John Schoolcraft, 1816; Jacob Schoonhoven, 1786; John C. Schuyler, 1836; Peter Schuyler, 1784; Peter S. Schuyler, 1802-4, 1820; Philip P. Schuyler, 1796-99; Stephen J. Schuyler, 1777-79; David G. Seger, 1835; Jacob Settle, 1833; Paul Settle, 1838; William Seymour, 1832, 1836; Thomas L. Shafer, 1846; Levi Shaw, 1844; Israel Shear, 1833; John P. Shear, 1822; Jonas Shear, 1842; Joseph Shurtleff, 1798-99, 1800-2, 1804-7; Thomas Sickles, 1787-88; Richard Sill, 1789-91; William N. Sill, 1828; John I. Slingerland, 1843; Jesse Smith, 1816; Moses Smith, 1804-5, 1814, 1820-21; Barent P. Staats, 1834; Chandler Starr, 1829; Archibald Stephens, 1824; Samuel Stephens, 1844; John Stillwell, 1824; Henry Stone, 1827; Dirck Swart, 1780-85; Gideon Taber, 1816-18; John Tayler, 1777-81, 1786-87; Jacobus Teller, 1778-79; Dirck Ten Broeck, 1796-1802; John Ten Broeck, 1792-93; Samuel Ten Broeck, 1781-83; Andrew Ten Eyck, 1826; Henry Ten Eyck, 1792; Jacob Ten Eyck, 1800-3; J. De Peyster Ten Eyck, 1788; Israel Thompson, 1781-82, 1784-85; Joel Thompson, 1798; John Thompson, 1788-89; Valentine Treadwell, 1847; Jesse Tyler, 1812, 1814-15; Ab. J. Van Alstyne, 1786; Cornelius Van Dyck, 1788-89; Dirck Van Ingen, 1788; Peter Van Ness, 1782-84; Hezekiah Van Orden, 1788; Andrews Van Patten, 1795; H. K. Van Rensselaer, 1788-90; J. Van Rensselaer, 1788-89;

J. Van Rensselaer, Jr., 1780-81; Killian Van Rensselaer, 1777-79; Robert Van Rensselaer, 1777-81; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1789-90, 1808-10, 1818; Aaron Van Schaick, 1843; J. Van Schoonhoven, 1791; Corn. A. Van Slyck, 1791-93; Abraham Van Vechten, 1800, 1808-13; Corn. Van Vechten, 1789-90; John G. Van Zandt, 1812; Jacob Veeder, 1807-8; Simeon Veeder, 1844; Abraham Verplanck, 1837; David I. D. Verplank, 1828; Mathew Visscher, 1784-85, 1787; Isaac Vrooman, 1779-82; Peter Vrooman, 1777-79, 1786-87; Corn. H. Waldron, 1819; Tobias T. E. Waldron, 1835; Robert D. Watson, 1846-47; Rufus Watson, 1816-17, 1839; Wheeler Watson, 1831; Edmund Wells, 1781-82; John H. Wendell, 1796-98; Peter West, 1798, 1800-2; Henry G. Wheaton, 1835-41; Malachi Whipple, 1826; Phineas Whiteside, 1779-80; William B. Whiting, 1777-80; Stephen Willes, 1820-21, 1825; Erastus Williams, 1830; Prentice Williams, Jr., 1834; Jacob Winne, 1800-1; John D. Winne, 1814-15; John L. Winne, 1814; Peter W. Winne, 1831; Jesse Wood, 1824; Christopher Yates, 1782-85; J. Van Ness Yates, 1819; Peter W. Yates, 1784-85; John Younglove, 1782-85, 1788-90.

Charles H. Adams, 1858; William Aley, 1866; Cornelius W. Armstrong, 1858; Daniel L. Babcock, 1872; Robert Babcock, 1851; Dwight Batcheller, 1858; A. Bleecker Banks, 1862; Hiram Barber, 1849; Lewis Benedict, Jr., 1861; Robert C. Blackall, 1871; Martin J. Blessing, 1855; James Brady, 1856; Waters W. Braman, 1874-75, 1877, 1879; Henry A. Brigham, 1848; Israhiah Chesebro, 1854; John C. Chism, 1868; Clark B. Cochran, 1866; Thomas D. Coleman, 1876; Lorenzo D. Collins, 1859-60; Hugh Conger, 1867, 1869; Almerin J. Cornell, 1862; Edward Coyle, 1871; James F. Crawford, 1866; Henry Creble, 1859; John Cutler, 1852; Edward Curran, 1877-78; Alexander Davidson, 1855; Archibald A. Dunlop, 1854; John Evers, 1857; Morgan L. Filkins, 1859, 1864; Wm. W. Forsyth, 1853; John N. Foster, 1878; Jay Gibbons, 1861; Samuel W. Gibbs, 1860; Hiram Griggs, 1878-80; Robert Harper, 1852; Hamilton Harris, 1851; Jonathan R. Herrick, 1877; Stephen M. Hollenbeck, 1854; Orville M. Hungerford, 1865; Henry Jenkins, 1856; Thomas Kearney, 1853; William J. Maher, 1876-77; William D. Murphy, 1870-71; Michael A. Nolan, 1865; Joel B. Nott, 1850; William L. Oswald, 1863-64; Harris Parr, 1864; Eli Perry, 1851; Henry R. Pierson, 1873; Oscar F. Potter, 1867; Robert H. Pruyn, 1848-50, 1854; Terence J. Quinn, 1874; John Reid, 1853; Alexander Robert-

son, 1865, 1867; Edward D. Ronan, 1870; John Sager, 1877; George M. Sayles, 1852; Fred. Schifferdecker, 1874; Peter Schoonmaker, 1874; Willett Searls, 1862; William S. Shepard, 1850; Adam I. Shultes, 1851; John L. Slingerland, 1860; Peter Slingerland, 1875-76; Adam W. Smith, 1869; Henry Smith, 1867, 1872; William J. Snyder, 1863; Stephen Springsteed, 1872; James T. Story, 1878; Jackson A. Summer, 1868; William D. Sunderlin, 1871; Hugh Swift, 1852; John Tighe, 1869-70; Franklin Townsend, 1857; Lyman Tremain, 1866; Adam Van Allen, 1857; David Van Auken, 1849; Cornelius Vanderzee, 1850; Harmon H. Vanderzee, 1865; John Vanderzee, 1862; James B. Van Etten, 1855; J. W. Van Valkenburgh, 1873; T. Van Vechten, Jr., 1852; Theo. Van Volkenburgh, 1868; Francis W. Vosburgh, 1875; Henry L. Wait, 1863; William J. Wheeler, 1861; Isaac Whitbeck, 1856; Edward S. Willett, 1848; Joel A. Wing, 1849; George Wolford, 1858; Francis H. Woods, 1868; William A. Young, 1859; Alfred LeRoy, 1876; Leopold C. G. Kshinka, 1874-5, George B. Mosher, 1872-73; Charles Knowles, 1879; Thomas H. Greer, 1879; William H. Slingerland, Ignatius Wiley, Joseph Haynes, Thomas Liddle, 1880; Miner Gallup, Andrew S. Draper, Aaron B. Pratt, George Campbell, 1881; Michael J. Gorman, Aaron Fuller, Amasa J. Parker, John McDonough, 1882; Daniel P. Winne, Warren S. Kelley, Edward A. Maher, Joseph Delahanty, 1883; John Zimmerman, Hiram Becker, Edward A. Maher, James Forsyth, Jr., 1884; Lansing Hotaling, 1885.

ALBANY COUNTY COUNTY TREASURER.

This ancient officer was known before the revolution. He is the custodian of the funds of the county, and also disburses them. He is required to give heavy bonds for the faithful performance of his duties. He is required to report to the Board of Supervisors annually. They audit his accounts. His salary is fixed at the annual sum of \$5,000. Among his duties is to direct the sale of property for unpaid taxes—in fact he has large duties connected with the taxes of the county. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors he often borrows money in the credit of the county, cancels taxes, etc. On the whole, it is one of the most important offices in the county. The Treasurer was formerly appointed by the Board of Supervisors; but by the statute provisions of 1846, he is now elected for a term of 3 years by the people, in November. The

following is a list of the County Treasurers under the Constitution of 1846: James Kidd, 1848; Cornelius Ten Broeck, 1851; Richard J. Grant, 1854; Adam Van Allen, 1857; Thomas Kearney,

1860; Stephen V. Frederick, 1866; Alexander Kennedy, 1869; Nathan D. Wendell, 1872; Henry Kelly, 1878; Albert Gallup, 1881; John Battersby, 1884.

JOURNALISTS AND JOURNALISM IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ALBANY has always been conspicuous for the ability of its editors, publishers and printers. Its history is embellished with the career of illustrious journalists. Here the press has wielded an influence that may truly be called national.

The history of the Albany press began in November, 1771, when Alexander and James Robertson issued the first number of the *Albany Gazette*, a journal which had its birth and death within the space of one year. But it was the pioneer undertaking.

Down to 1811 there were but thirty-four newspapers in the State. "The paper," says Mr. Weed, "on which they were printed resembled ordinary wrapping-paper in texture and hue, and the type, in most cases, was worn well down toward the first nick. The *New York Columbian* was printed on a sheet as blue as indigo, while the *Hudson Bee* rejoiced in colors as yellow as Mrs. Skewton's bed-curtains." Considering the material and conveniences of that day, printing was done with wonderful rapidity. In Albany, as early as 1816, Governor Tompkins' last message was printed and republished in Canandaigua within five days. Canandaigua, at that time, was as far from Albany, in length of time, as San Francisco is now.

ALEXANDER & JAMES ROBERTSON, the pioneer printers of Albany, having established the *Gazette* in 1771, Albany was the second city in the State in which a regular newspaper was published. It was printed on a small sheet, about one-fourth the size of the *Evening Journal*.

At the time it was started, and during its existence, New York was a province of Great Britain, though the growing spirit of liberty was fast producing the crisis which resulted in the revolution and American freedom. It was, doubtless, the turbulent state of the times that caused the Robertsons to suspend the *Gazette*. They were loyal to Great Britain, and left, it is said, for Nova Scotia. The editors of the *Gazette*, January 13, 1772, make the following quaint apology:

"The printers of the *Gazette*, from motives of gratitude and duty, are obliged to apologize to the public for the omission of one week's publication; and hope the irregularity of the mail from New York since the first great fall of snow, and the severe cold preceding Christmas, which froze the paper prepared for the press so as to put a stop to its operation, will sufficiently account for it."

The liberal manner in which merchants advertised at that day, is indicated by the advertisement of Thomas Barry, a leading merchant of Albany, whose store stood near the Dutch Church, at the foot of State street. His advertisement occupies a column of the *Gazette*, giving a description of his goods quite as eloquently written as that of the popular merchants of to-day. Among the articles advertised, we find the following: "None-so-pretty of various colors, and black breeches patterns." Another firm, James Gourlay & Co., largely advertise, stating particularly that their "store is to be found in Cheapside street, next door to the King's Arms."

JESSE BUEL.—Among the most prominent names among the great journalists of Albany, is that of Jesse Buel.

He was born in Coventry, Conn., January 4, 1778, the youngest of a family of fourteen children. His father, Elias Buel, was an officer in the army of the revolutionary war. At the age of fourteen, he entered the printing-office of a Mr. Lyon, at Rutland, as apprentice. The first four years of his term were spent in unremitting attention to his calling. Having purchased of Mr. Lyon the unexpired three years of his time, he began the life of a journeyman printer. After a brief stay in the City of New York, he worked a short time with Mr. McDonald of Albany; also at Waterford and Lansingburgh. In connection with Mr. Moffat, of Troy, he began in June, 1797, the publication of the *Troy Budget*. In September, 1804, he left the *Budget*. About that time he married Miss Susan Pierce, of Troy.

In October, 1801, he was in Poughkeepsie, publishing a weekly paper called the *Guardian*. This was discontinued after about one year. He began

the publication of the *Political Banner*, which was also short-lived.

At the close of 1802, he established a paper in Kingston, called the *Plebian*, which he conducted with marked success until the close of the year 1813. Six years after he came to Kingston, he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Ulster County.

While at Kingston, he gained the lasting friendship of that illustrious jurist, Ambrose Spencer. Through Judge Spencer's influence, he removed to the City of Albany and commenced the *Albany Argus*. The next year he was appointed State printer. He occupied the editorial chair of the *Argus* with distinguished ability till 1820, when he decided to abandon the duties of journalist and printer.

Judge Buel, during all his career as a journalist, insisted upon spending a portion of his time in setting type and working at the press.

Disposing of the *Argus*, which he had founded, he purchased a farm near the City of Albany, and assumed the life of a farmer. While residing on his farm, he was a member of the State Assembly during the session of 1823.

His attention to agriculture met with such success, that he became one of the most distinguished agriculturists in the State. In March, 1834, the *Cultivator* was commenced, under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, and Judge Buel became its editor. From a small monthly sheet, issued at the price of twenty-five cents per year, it rapidly increased in size and in subscriptions until, in March, 1838, its subscription list amounted to 23,000. On commencing the fifth volume, it was increased in size, and took its place among leading agricultural journals.

In 1821, he was elected a member of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society; in 1829, of the Horticultural Society of that State; in 1830, of the Monroe Horticultural Society of Rochester; in 1831, of the Charleston Horticultural Society in South Carolina; in 1832, of the Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Society in Massachusetts, and of the Hamilton County Agricultural Society at Cincinnati; in 1833, of the Tennessee Agricultural and Horticultural Societies; in 1834, of the Horticultural Society of the District of Columbia; in 1838, of the Philadelphia Society of Agriculture; and in 1839, of the Albemarle Agricultural Society. In 1838, he was chosen President of the Horticultural Society of the Valley of the Hudson, and was several times chosen President of the State Agricultural Society. Thus is seen the regard in which he was held. Judge Buel's efforts were by no means confined to agricultural pursuits. The motto of his *Cultivator* was "To improve the soil and the mind."

His system of education, like his system of agriculture, was practical. He would guide the effort of muscle by the direction of the mind. While cultivating the land he would enjoy the landscape. The efforts of Judge Buel greatly tended to make honorable, as well as profitable, the pursuits of agriculture. He delivered addresses before agri-

cultural and horticultural societies in various parts of the Union, and always drew large audiences to listen to him.

On September 22, 1839, while at Danbury, Conn., he had a severe attack of bilious colic, followed by bilious fever, which terminated fatally October 4th. His death produced a profound sensation and general sorrow.

Judge Buel was a practical illustration of republican simplicity—always plain in dress and appearance, and unassuming in his manners. He was hospitable without display, pious without pretension, and learned without pedantry. As a writer his style was well adapted to the nature of his communications. With him words meant things, and not simply their shadows. He came to the common mind like an old familiar acquaintance, though he always brought new ideas.

His writings are principally found in the many addresses he delivered; in the six volumes of his *Cultivator*; in the small volume made up from materials taken from the *Cultivator*, published by the Harpers; and in the "Farmer's Companion," the last and most elaborate of his works. It was written expressly for the Massachusetts Board of Education, and was one of the most popular works of the kind.

MOSES I. CANTINE was born at Catskill, New York, December 14, 1774. He received a preparatory classical education and entered the office of Chancellor John Lansing, at Albany, under whose instruction he qualified himself for admission to the Bar. He was made an attorney-at-law at Albany, in October, 1798. Opening an office at Catskill, he was not long in attaining a highly respectable position in his profession. March 5, 1801, he was appointed by Gov. George Clinton, Assistant Attorney-General for the Third District of the State, and was reappointed February 8, 1808, and February 15, 1811. On June 19, 1818, he was appointed first Judge of the Greene County Court of Common Pleas.

Judge Cantine, at an early period of his life exhibited the qualities of an easy, ready and attractive writer. His contributions to the *Catskill Recorder* and *Albany Argus* attracted much admiration.

In December, 1820, he retired from the Bench, and, with I. Q. Leake, purchased the *Albany Argus* and became editor-in-chief. The next year the *Argus* was made the State paper, and rapidly increased in influence. Judge Cantine and Mr. Leake continued to conduct the paper until January, 1823, when a change took place in its management by the sudden and greatly lamented death of Mr. Cantine. Thus the editorial duties of the *Argus* were committed to Mr. Leake, a man of learning and talents, distinguished for his literary and scientific attainments and abilities as a journalist; but, feeble in health, he was soon compelled to relinquish the trust.

WILLIAM CASSIDY.—The history of journalism is best found in the lives of those who have been journalists.

Prominent among those who aided in making the journalistic history of Albany, is William Cassidy. With Webster, Barber, Southwick, Crosswell, Weed, Dawson, Manning, and others, he aided in making that history foremost in the annals of the nation. He was born in Albany, August 12, 1815.

The grandfather of William emigrated from Ireland and settled in Albany in 1790. His father was John Cassidy, who with his uncle, Patrick Cassidy, were esteemed citizens.

At an early age, Cassidy began his classical education at the Albany Academy, and at the age of sixteen was admitted to Union College in the Senior class, graduating in 1833, after remaining in the college one year. He studied law in the offices of Judge McKown and John Van Buren. His articles on political subjects, written at his leisure and published in Democratic journals, found favor with the public. The taste thus cultivated and encouraged, induced him to leave his legal studies and adopt the profession of journalism. At a time of life when other young men are scarcely through with their collegiate education, Mr. Cassidy's brilliant gifts as a writer were winning wide recognition, and he was acknowledged by the leaders of the Democratic party as one of their ablest and most effective political writers. At the age of twenty-five he first entered the field of journalism as a regular, writing for the *Plaindealer* and *Rough Hewer*, then published in Albany.

From 1841 to 1843 he was State Librarian. In the spring of 1843 he became connected with the *Albany Atlas*, a daily paper started in 1841 by Vance & Wendell, and, with Henry H. Van Dyke, edited that journal. The *Atlas* was founded as the organ of the "Barn-burner" section of the Democratic party, and recognized as such during its existence.

The contest between the "Barn-burner" and "Hunker" factions of the Democratic party will long be remembered as more bitter than that which the former party waged against the Whigs. The *Atlas* entered the political arena as the opponent of a majority of the Democratic party led by the *Argus*, a veteran in the politics of the State. At this time Edwin Crosswell, wielding a bold, gigantic pen, was the editor of the *Albany Argus*. The sharp and bitter antagonism between that journal and the *Atlas* was what might have been expected.

Cassidy, as the friend of Silas Wright and the "Free-soilers" and "Barn-burners," vigorously maintained his position against his formidable opponent. The contest continued with unabated ardor until 1856, when the advent of the Republican party, and the great power it developed, with other causes, led the factions in the Democratic party to unite and the *Atlas* and *Argus* became consolidated. This event was a triumph for Mr. Cassidy. He had exhibited such brilliant talents and such lofty character, such admirable management in editing the *Atlas*, that he was selected, with Mr. Crosswell's approval, as the editor of the new paper, which received the new name of the *Atlas and Argus*. Under his editorship the *Atlas and Argus*, rapidly attained a high and commanding

position in the State. In a short time Cassidy became its principal proprietor.

In 1865, the *Argus* Company, a joint stock association, was formed, and Cassidy became its president. He continued to edit the paper for the remainder of his life. In 1866 he made the tour of Europe, enriching the literature of his native county by many charming and elegantly written letters, which first appeared in the *Argus*, and were copied into various journals. Mr. Cassidy always persistently refused official position, though in 1867 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in 1872 was appointed by Governor Hoffman on the State Commission to Revise the Constitution. He accepted both these positions with reluctance, and they were the only ones he ever held.

As Governor Robinson said, in addressing the Commission after Mr. Cassidy's death: "No temptation would lead him from those fundamental principles which he had imbibed from conscientious conviction, deep thought and study. The welfare of the State was his sole concern, and his advice to his associates was summed up in his remark: 'See that your constitution enunciates principles, and those, principles of elevated statesmanship.'"

As has been said, his career was that of the political editor. He helped to make and unmake men. His own life was that of the sanctum, the library and the social circle. His influence was such as is wielded by a matchless pen; his achievements those of a master of thought, the exponent of party, and the leader of political councils. He combined in a superlative degree the qualities which distinguish the wit, the scholar and the politician. These, with his fine taste and culture, made him one of the most brilliant and accomplished men of his time. He had an eminently social nature and loved the social circle. John G. Saxe, the poet, paid a pleasing and delicate compliment to Mr. Cassidy, when he dedicated a volume of his poems to him, as a tribute to his scholarship.

Mr. Cassidy's personal appearance and bearing were striking and noble. His manner was uniformly courtly and dignified in its courtliness; unstudied, yet perfect. His love for his native city was not the least of his characteristics. He believed in Albany, and never failed to enlarge upon its advantages of position and the manifest evidences of its marked progress. He lent every energy towards its improvement, and as a member of the Board of Commissioners of Washington Park, he entered into every project looking to the expansion of that beautiful spot, and urged every wise scheme for kindred purposes.

But his active and useful life terminated suddenly, with brief warning to his friends that he was soon to leave them for ever. He died at his home in Albany, January 23, 1873, after a very short illness.

On the formal announcement of his death, both branches of the Legislature adjourned, after appropriate eulogistic remarks in both bodies by

distinguished Legislators. The Delta Phi Fraternity, the Park Commissioners of Albany, the Board of Trade, the Young Men's Catholic Lyceum, the Trustees of S. Agnes' Cemetery, the Typographical Union, the Employees of the Argus Company, and the Directors of the National Commercial Bank, all passed resolutions of condolence and appreciation. Letters of regard were received by the family from prominent men of the country.

Mr. Cassidy was a life-long member of the Catholic Church, and died in that faith. In 1856 he was married to Miss Lucie Rochefort, who survives him. He left three sons.

EDWIN CROSWELL, whose name ranks high among the illustrious journalists of the past, was born at Catskill in 1797. At the age of fourteen he entered the office of the *Catskill Recorder* as an apprentice. At this time Moses I. Cantine was a distinguished lawyer and writer, with an interest in the *Recorder*. Young Croswell was favorably brought to his notice. Time passed, and Judge Cantine became a resident of Albany, and one of the editors and proprietors of the *Argus*. Young Croswell, in the meantime, had worked his way to assistant editor of the *Recorder*. When, in 1823, Judge Cantine died, Croswell attended his funeral at Albany. The death of Judge Cantine and the poor health of Mr. Leake, left the *Argus* comparatively without an editor. Mr. Croswell, as one of the editors of the *Catskill Recorder*, had exhibited marked abilities as a political writer, and rendered that paper a power in the State. As he was about returning to Catskill, after the funeral, Martin Van Buren, Benjamin F. Butler, and Judge Duer, then leaders of the Democratic party in the State, and deeply interested in the *Albany Argus*, strongly urged him to become assistant editor with Mr. Leake, and soon the name of Edwin Croswell became identified with that paper.

In 1831, Sherman Croswell became associated with Edwin in the editorial management. July 26, 1834, Sherman Croswell became a proprietor and editor, and so continued till January, 1855. Edwin Croswell, having withdrawn from the *Argus* August 18, 1854, was succeeded by Gideon J. Tucker, who was made Secretary of State in 1857. In 1855, Sherman Croswell and Mr. Tucker transferred their interest to James I. Johnson, who associated with him Calvert Comstock as editor.

It was not long after Edwin Croswell had entered on the editorial duties of the *Argus*, before he became a power in the politics of the State and nation. His vigorous mind and ready and powerful pen were devoted to the interests of the Democratic party and the discussions of the great questions which then divided the public mind. As a political writer it is not too much to say that, during the period of his active life, he had no rival as a political journalist, except Thurlow Weed. In the course of the long political warfare conducted by these eminent editors, he never allowed himself to be thrown off his guard by friend or foe. Few American journalists ever exhibited more ability in conducting controversy, or in quieting animosities

among his own friends, than Edwin Croswell. His advantages for obtaining an education were limited; but he understood and practiced the art of self-culture with success. He became familiar with the English classics. The sententious purity of Swift was to him a delight and a model. From Swift he learned how to express his ideas with vividness and force. From the pages of Junius he learned the art of binding ideas together "in close compacted masses." But it was in the printing-office, that practical school of knowledge, that he made his way to the highest rank of a political journalist.

A distinguished contemporary writer of Mr. Croswell's, speaks of him as follows: "As a party political editor he has few, if any, superiors in the United States. Always cool, collected, sagacious and cautious, he seldom, if ever, allowed himself to be guilty of any indiscretions. His style of writing is more highly polished than that of most American journalists; indeed, it is somewhat remarkable that a man educated to practical business pursuits should acquire so nice and cultivated literary taste, and a style of writing so pleasing and perspicuous."

SHERMAN CROSWELL, another eminent journalist of Albany, was born in New Haven, Conn., May 4, 1803. His father, Rev. Harry Croswell, D.D., was rector of Trinity Church in New Haven. Young Croswell was graduated at Yale College in 1822. He studied law and was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1826. In 1831, he came to Albany, where he was associated with his cousin, Edwin Croswell, in the editorial management of the *Albany Argus*, from which he finally retired in 1885.

Mr. Croswell became reporter for the *Argus* in the Assembly in 1833, and for twenty-five successive years, with the exception of the session of 1854, he regularly reported the proceedings for the *Argus*, closing with the session of 1857, two years after its consolidation with the *Atlas*. At the time of his retirement, probably, he had no superior as a reportorial writer in this country.

Mr. Croswell became one of the proprietors and editors of the *Argus*, July 26, 1834, and so remained until January 1, 1855.

A distinguished citizen of Albany who knew him very intimately, paid the following tribute to his memory at the time of his death: "For a man so widely known, he was, indeed, known to few. He did not make many friends, but the few he made were life-long and true. Eminently courteous in his manners to all, he was a man of reserve. His confidence was given slowly, and even reluctantly, but when given was never withdrawn without the strongest cause for withdrawal."

His poetic, imaginative mind rendered the duties of a political editor, at first, uncongenial to him. But by determination he warped his mind to the calling he selected until he loved it.

A service of nearly a quarter of a century, first as an assistant, and subsequently as chief editor of one of the most influential political papers in this country, had not been without its influence upon Mr. Croswell's character.

No one familiar only with the always vigorous and sometimes trenchant style of the *Argus* of that day, would have suspected that many of its most characteristic articles came from the pen of a writer whose temperament was essentially a poetic one, and whose feelings were much more in harmony with whatever is beautiful in nature or art than in the details of politics. He died March 16, 1859.

GEORGE DAWSON.

The name of George Dawson ranks high among American journalists. The influence which the daily press has attained is largely due to his pen and his vigorous mind. As has well been said: "He was a journalist of the old school, wedded to the tradition of days when party organs were the leading newspapers of the country." And yet such was the versatility of his talents, that he was at home in any field where the newspaper existed. He possessed the sound judgment, the large circumspection, which enables men to weigh the relative value of either reason or facts; he was cautious enough, and drew sufficiently from his imagination in forming his hypotheses to render his writings attractive; and he was not deficient in the happy sagacity which pierces through apparent dissimilarity and ranges things seemingly unlike under the same class. In a word, he was an excellent collector of facts and a successful, active and bold reasoner upon them. These qualities rendered him powerful in the political arena and made him among the first politicians of his times.

As a politician he was eminently distinguished for the two great virtues of inflexible steadiness to his principles, and invariable gentleness and urbanity in his manner of asserting them. Yet, if occasion required, he could be rancorous, could dip his pen in gall, or move it responsive to the keenest satire, the liveliest wit, the most polished humor. With his wit he could make any subject repulsive, or render a repulsive subject agreeable.

In his writings, whether literary or political, all his wit was argument, and each of his delightful illustrations a material step in his reasonings.

Elegant and graceful as was his style of writing, it was distinguished more for its practicability and its strong sense than its beauty and elegance. But the former often enabled him to state a strong argument or a nice distinction in a more striking and pleasing way, and actually with greater precision, than could have been attained by the severer forms of reasoning.

Mr. Dawson's pen was not confined to politics alone; he relieved the tedium, the responsibility and the aggressiveness of partisan journalism by the cultivation of a beautiful and enlivening literature.

A lover of rural life, the forests, the stream and the lake, his pen often painted scenes from these in life-like beauty; indeed, we have sometimes thought that there is nothing, even in the *Bucolics* or the *Georgics* of Virgil, or the enlivening pages of Thompson, more redolent with fragrance of the forest and the field; or which brings home more

forcibly the attractions of the stream, touches more exquisitely on pastoral life, and gives the viscidities of the changing year, more truthfully and graphically than the pen of Dawson.

He was born in Falkirk, Scotland, March 14, 1813. His father, after whom he was named—a book-binder by trade, and the son of a gardener, residing near Edinburgh—was for many years in the employ of the famous publishing house of the Constables, at Edinburgh. In 1810, he married Mary Chapman, and soon after removed to Falkirk, the birthplace of George.

From his parents George derived no patent of peerage, but he inherited from them those sterling qualities of Scottish character: industry, integrity and reverence for God. He was a child of the Covenanters. In 1816, the father, for the purpose of bettering his fortunes, crossed the Atlantic and found employment in the City of New York. Thither, in 1818, he brought his wife, with young George and an elder brother, James, born in 1811, and a younger sister, Ellen, born in 1815. The father remained in New York till 1818, when he removed to Toronto, then Little York, Canada, where he followed his occupation six years, after which he lived in Niagara County, and afterwards in Rochester, in both places continuing his occupation. In 1836, he removed to Royal Oak, Michigan.

The advantages of young George for an education were meager; but his intellect was active, and he sought and attained knowledge almost intuitively. He was one of those who obtain an education without teachers—always in school and always learning.

When he was eleven years old, he was entered as an apprentice to the printing business in the office of the *Niagara Gleaner*, where he remained till 1826, when his parents removed to Rochester. At this time Thurlow Weed was the editor of the *Anti-Masonic Inquirer*. In the office of that journal young Dawson found employment, and in this way he was brought in contact with the powerful intellect and rare journalistic qualities of its distinguished editor. The relations thus begun were fortunate for both parties, and continued through life; each evolved and radiated the talent of the other.

During his apprenticeship, young Dawson's leisure hours were devoted to his books; they were his companions, the fountain of his pleasure. He might almost have adopted the language of Horne Tooke, when he said to Erskine: "If you had obtained ten years of life for me in a dungeon, with my books, pen and ink, I should have thanked you." He eagerly read the translations of Greek and Roman history and literature.

He once said to a gentleman in Rochester, now living: "You would, perhaps, be astonished at the progress one can make by devoting to study but one hour of each day. I used to average more than that each day, taking time which was employed by others in amusement. In this way I made myself a proficient in several branches, particularly in belles-lettres, history and political economy."



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The name of George Dawson ranks high among American journalists. The *Argus*, one of the daily press has attributed its success to his pen and his vigorous mind. As he was once said: "He was a Democrat in the old school, wedded to the tradition of 1816 when party organs were the leading newspapers of the country." And yet such was the versatility of his talents, that he was at home in any field where the newspaper existed. He possessed the sound judgment, the large circumspection, which enables men to weigh the relative value of either reason or facts; he was cautious enough, and drew sufficiently from his imagination in forming his hypotheses to render his writings attractive; and he was not deficient in the happy sagacity which pierces through apparent dissimilarity and ranges things seemingly unlike under the same class. In a word, he was an excellent collector of facts and a successful, active and bold reasoner upon them. These qualities rendered him powerful in the political arena and made him among the first politicians of his times.

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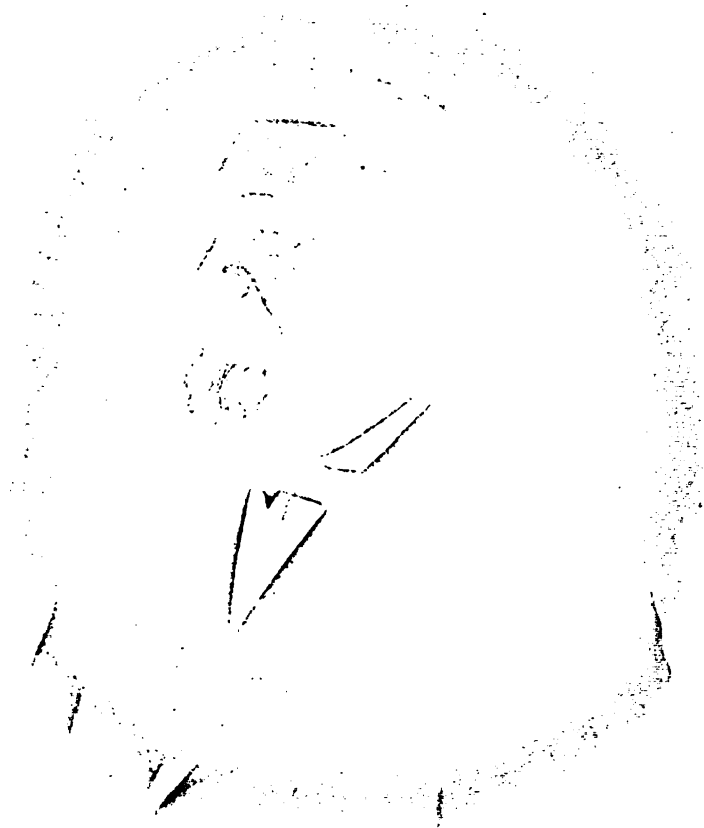
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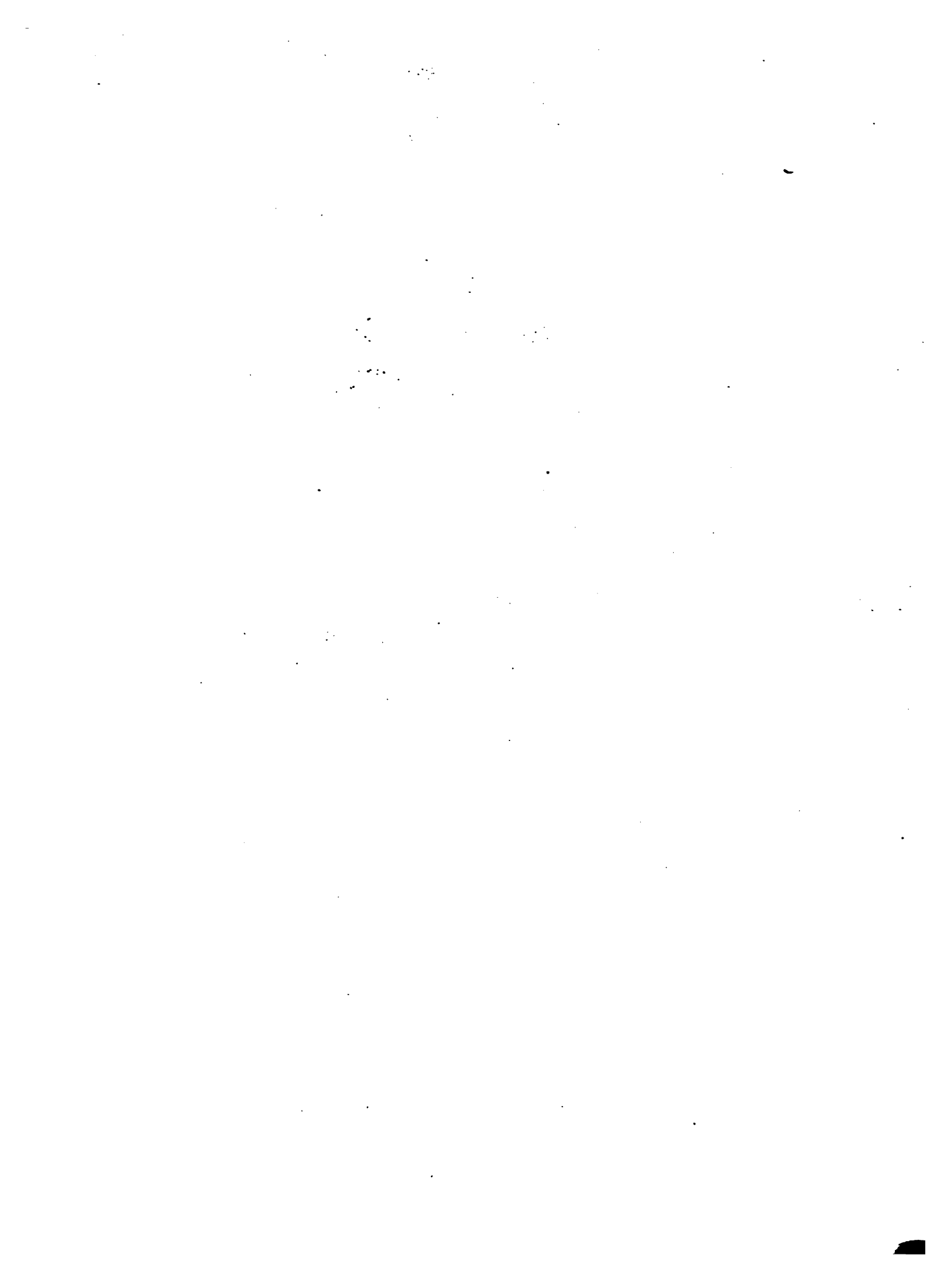
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During his apprenticeship, young Dawson's leisure hours were devoted to his reading. In the bosom of his companions, the fountain of his pen might almost have adopted the language of Homer, *Triske*, when he said to Erskine: "If you had obtained ten years of life for me in a dung-hill, with my books, pen and ink, I should have thanked you." He eagerly read the translations of Greek and Roman history and literature.

He once said to a gentleman in Rochester, now living: "You would, perhaps, be astonished at the progress one can make by devoting to study but one hour of each day. I used to do no more than that each day, taking time which was squandered by others in amusement. In this way I made myself a proficient in several branches, particularly in belles-lettres, history and political economy."



Geo. Dawson



It is impossible to read either his political or literary productions without being convinced that they are the offspring of a cultivated and polished mind. There is a classic excellence about them, showing that, in some way, he certainly attained scholarly profundity and finely balanced powers.

Early in 1830, political anti-masonry attained a strength which enabled it to contend, apparently with success, for the supremacy of the political power of the State, and the project of starting a journal at Albany devoted to political anti-masonry was broached. It was advocated by such men as Francis Granger, Abner Hazleton, Millard Fillmore, William H. Maynard, Albert H. Tracy and others, and with their influence the proposed measure took definite form. The new paper was called the *Albany Evening Journal*, with Thurlow Weed as its editor. Accordingly he removed from Rochester to Albany, and assumed editorial duties which have given his name to history.

George Dawson accompanied him and became foreman in the office of the *Journal*, the first number of which appeared in March, 1830. It is said by those who knew him in the printing-office, that he was an accomplished, practical printer—at the case, a rapid and correct compositor; as a foreman, perfect in order and discipline; courteous and amiable in his intercourse with the employees of the office. It was not long before he began contributing to the columns of the *Journal*, and his contributions bore the impress of a master hand, adding largely to the ability and influence of the paper.

Fifty years after the first edition of the *Journal* appeared, it was said in an anniversary editorial, that the first edition of the paper "did not vary materially in appearance from the present one. The main head-line was in plain, clean-cut capitals bespeaking the well-defined and upright purpose of the projectors."

In the Legislative session of 1831, George Dawson was the reporter for the *Evening Journal*. His reports were hardly equaled for their freshness, vigor and ingenuity, and they brought him favorably before the public. He continued as reporter for the *Journal* until the spring of 1836, when he was called to the editorship of the *Rochester Daily Democrat*, and thus he entered upon his long, successful and brilliant editorial career. In looking over some of his editorials in the *Democrat*, one is struck with their incisive strength, their keen and subtle point.

As the editor of the *Democrat*, he made himself a reputation so extended, that in August, 1839, he was called to take editorial charge of the *Detroit Advertiser*. Before leaving the *Evening Journal* the Anti-Masonic party had passed away—absorbed, as some have said, in the Whig party—and George Dawson was one of the founders of the Whig party, advocating its interests with his pen and occasionally in the rostrum. It was as a Whig that he assumed the editorship of the *Detroit Advertiser*, and it was largely through his instrumentality that the State of Michigan was secured to the Whig party.

Very soon after Mr. Dawson became editor of the *Advertiser*, he was appointed State Printer, which position he held until 1842, when the office of the *Daily Advertiser* was destroyed by fire. About that time he received a flattering invitation to resume the editorial chair of the *Rochester Daily Democrat*, which he accepted. His return to Rochester was attended with many pleasing circumstances. Complimentary notices of his return appeared in all the Rochester papers, and also in very many of the leading journals in and out of the State; while the journals of Detroit and in other parts of Michigan contained sincere and pleasingly-worded regrets at the loss of "a journalist so distinguished; one whose abilities and rare social qualities had made him hosts of friends in the State of Michigan."

Early in the summer of 1846, Mr. Dawson was urgently solicited by Mr. Weed to accept the position of associate editor of the *Albany Evening Journal*. But Mr. Dawson had become attached to Rochester and Western New York by many strong affinities, many pleasing associations. In the society of Rochester he was a favorite. Besides, the beautiful lakes and bright streams of Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania afforded him facilities for enjoying the favorite pastime of an angler. He would often leave the sanctum and seek the waters of lake or stream, and,

"Under an oak, whose antique roots peeped out
Upon the brook that brawls along the wood,"

spend many hours in quiet happiness. He, therefore, reflected long and seriously before surrendering these pleasant associations. But at length, in August, 1846, yielding to repeated solicitations, he returned to Albany, and entered upon his duties as associate editor of the *Evening Journal*.

During the whole of Mr. Weed's administration, the *Journal* was omnipotent with its party. It gave the word of command and the lesser organs made haste to regard its behest. The orders which all obeyed, came from the capital. The *Journal* spoke with authority. It dictated party policies, controlled appointments, and marshaled all the forces of political campaigns. In the management of the *Evening Journal*, Mr. Dawson shared with his senior the enjoyment of the "power behind the throne;" was thoroughly acquainted with his plans, proved an able lieutenant in his political encounters, and fully indorsed his political and journalistic views. In 1862, Mr. Weed retired from the editorship of the *Journal*, and Mr. Dawson became the senior editor and proprietor. He continued to fill this position till 1877, with the exception of a short time in 1871, when the late George W. Demers occupied the editorial chair. In 1877 he sold his interest in the *Journal* to Mr. Charles E. Smith, now editor of the *Philadelphia Press*. After that time Mr. Dawson did only occasional work on the paper until February, 1880, when Mr. Smith retired from the editorship on account of his course in indorsing Governor Cornell's nomination of John F. Smyth as Superintendent of the Insurance Department, which was disapproved by the controlling partners. At the request of the proprie-

tors of the paper, Mr. Dawson temporarily resumed the editorship, and did some of the best work of his life in the remarkably bitter fight waged against Mr. Smyth's confirmation, and subsequently against "machine" dictation, unit rule and the bosses. His pen was also especially pungent and forceful in the senatorial contest which resulted in the retirement of ex-Senator Roscoe Conkling to private life.

Mr. Dawson retired finally from the editorial work on the *Journal*, September 2, 1882, and was succeeded by Mr. Harold Frederick. His valedictory, published in the *Journal*, was an ably written production, exhibiting the elastic vigor of his intellect and the strength of his memory. The pathos with which he refers to old associations, with its brief but touching reminiscences, gained it universal admiration.

In 1861, Mr. Dawson, without solicitation on his part, was appointed postmaster at Albany. He held the office six years, when he resigned, being unwilling to continue under President Johnson's administration, which he opposed. This, we believe, is the only civil office he ever held. Though abundantly able to have filled a prominent place among the distinguished politicians of his day, he had little fondness for official life, and could not consent, for the sake of personal interest or official advancement, to resort to the wearisome correspondence with local great men, and to those platitudes necessary, at the present day, to attain the rewards of party labor. Adroit and keenly sagacious as a party manager, he never turned to his own advantage topics which happened, for the moment, to attract public attention. He never fished "with ever freshly-baited hook in the turbid waters of an ephemeral popularity."

In a word, George Dawson was in no sense a demagogue. In his political career there was no shade of selfishness. Had he been willing to purchase advancement at the price often paid for it, there was never a moment from the time he first made himself felt and known, that he could not have commanded almost anything which his party could bestow. But, as we have said, he desired none of the rewards or honors of party success. Personally, he regarded office as a burden, an obstacle to the enjoyment of his tastes. It was said of Mr. Dawson that "his vigorous intellect—shrewd, far-sighted and restless—impelled by well-balanced instincts of policy and aggressiveness, furnished with all that general knowledge which the newspaper man must necessarily acquire, lacked that breadth of classic information, that catholicity of tastes and sympathies, which are demanded to-day in the average leader writer." We do not believe Mr. Dawson lacked breadth of classic information, or that catholicity of taste required by an editor of the present time. We have already seen how ardently in his youth he devoted himself to solitary study, and how he familiarized himself with the classics. The felicitous classical quotations with which his writings abound, exhibit the result of his studies. His fondness for books through his whole life was a striking characteristic;

the heart of his home was his library. Hither he retreated from the cares and labors of his business to discourse with the great spirits of other times, yielding with unailing delight to the lofty stimulus of great minds, communing with them as with familiar friends. We believe that most of his leaders rank in ability, in argumentative and analytic power with those of any contemporary journal.

We close what we have to say in regard to Mr. Dawson as a political writer, in the language of another. "He was a man of magnificent pluck. He loved thrust, parry and retort of newspaper battle. In every encounter he was cool, confident, wary, sometimes audacious. He spied the weak point in his antagonist's defense and made his lunge instantaneous with the discovery. George Dawson's last great feat in journalism was an assault on Roscoe Conkling; indubitably the most severe, pointed, and serious attack to which Mr. Conkling has ever been exposed."

We have thus far reviewed the life and career of Mr. Dawson as a political journalist and party leader. Politics, though they make the intellect active, sagacious and inventive, within a certain sphere, generally extinguish its thirst for universal truth, paralyze sentiment and imagination, corrupt simplicity of mind, destroy confidence in human virtue, and finally ends in cold and prudent selfishness, if not in that insincerity which amounts to turpitude. Dawson, however, passed through all this with the ardor of moral feeling and the purity and enthusiasm of his youth uncontaminated. May we not say he was exalted by his trial? It now remains to consider briefly another phase of his life.

As a writer, Mr. Dawson devoted his pen considerably to literature. His powers of description, particularly those of stream, lake and forest, have already been referred to, as also his love of angling. His description of the manner in which he indulged this love, portrayed in his admirable work, entitled "The Pleasures of Angling," is intensely interesting—an excellent model of angling literature—the finished work of a mature man and graceful writer, natural and unaffected in style, and brimful of sentiments which are shared by all genuine followers of the craft.

He loved angling for its refining influences and for its associations; he indulged in it as a medicine, as a better preventive than cure; he loved it with unselfish devotion and courtesy. "I have," he says, in one of his essays on angling, "often to assure my critical and incredulous friends that it is by no means all of fishing to fish. The appreciative angler, who has inherited or acquired the true spirit of the art, is not alone happy while plying his vocation, but happy also in the recollection of what has been and the anticipation of what is to be. To him, memory and hope are equally satisfying, the one luminous with the sunshine of the recent past, and the other all aglow with the assured cheer of the near future. Nor is the pleasure derived from a review of the last outing, wholly or chiefly associated with its material results. 'Cast-

ing' and 'striking' and 'killing' belong to the mere mechanism of the art. Its real fascination lies in what one sees and feels in mountain and valley; in river and lake; in sunshine and shadow; in the exhilarating atmosphere and delectable odors of the virgin forests; in the music of singing birds and in the soothing monotone of running waters; in the quiet and repose best found in the solitary places where anglers most do congregate. It strikes me like the sound of a trumpet to remember my fights with three-pound trout, five-pound bass, or thirty-pound salmon, but I find intenser ecstasy when I recall the circumstances and surroundings of these material experiences. The transparent brook, whose ripples were rendered as dazzling as molten silver by sunshine glints which fell upon them through the ever-waving branches of the pine, or birch, or hemlock which over-arched it like a benediction; the pellucid waters of river or lake, whose unruffled surface trembled as the fly and leader touched its bosom; the deep pool, cast into deeper shadow by the giant boulders, near which the lordly salmon rests on his upward journey; and a thousand other things of beauty which fill the eye and ravish the senses while watching and waiting and casting for a 'rise.'

"These are the pictures most distinctly photographed upon the memory of the appreciative angler, and which come up most vividly before him when he looks back on what has been."

What a vivid picture this! Can the pencil's mimic skill, in the hand of the most accomplished artist, throw more exquisite coloring, more natural light and shade blended in a more entrancing scene? Has not the mind that can thus describe nature penetrated those secret recesses of the soul where poetry is born and nourished?

We do not know that Mr. Dawson ever wrote poetry, but he had an imagination which might have made him a poet had he indulged it. He believed that the poetic fictions of great intellects are often the vehicles of the sublimest verities; that even when the letter is false the spirit is the profoundest wisdom; and he enlivened his writings with extracts from poets bearing the seal of genius, inspiration, learning and taste.

In 1876, he published his book already alluded to.

This work was first published in sketches in the *Evening Journal*, at long intervals, during the three years antedating its appearance. They were eagerly read, and added largely to the circulation of the paper. When the work appeared it was immensely popular, not only with the lovers of angling, but by all lovers of true literary merit, and still continues to be a favorite work with the reading public.

Said one of his friends, a delightful writer and critic: "Mr. Dawson wielded a trenchant pen; when he turned from the conflict of parties to the praise of his favorite pastime 'of simple wise men;' his essays, limpid as the crystal stream, are aglow with the soft summer sunlight, and melodious with the song of birds. When angling was the theme, he wrote from a full heart and closest sympathy. The effect of his writings is, therefore, magical, like

that of the mimic players in Xenophon's *Memoabilia*. He who reads, if he be an angler, must go a fishing; and if he be not, straightway then he must become one."

This is the feeling which the reading of his "Pleasures of Angling" inspires. It is descriptive of his fishing adventures in the waters of the Cascapedia, the St. Lawrence, in Canadian streams, and in the home of the finny tribes of our own State and Pennsylvania. He introduces the reader to his delightful friends and associates in these excursions, and, finally, ere he is aware, the reader himself is one of the party engaged in the exciting and pleasurable scenes.

The characteristics of Mr. Dawson which secured respect and affection are not difficult to depict; for, with the qualities which made him eminent, there were blended simplicity and artlessness open to every eye. He possessed excellences which, at first, seemed to repel each other, as his political aggressiveness, though in truth they were of one genial family. In the political contest he was aggressive, triumphant over fear, gathering strength and animation as the conflict deepened, bound closer to duty as its hardships and the difficulties that surrounded it increased; yet, at the same time, he was a child in simplicity, innocence and benignity.

He was singularly alive to the domestic affections. In the bosom of his family he exhibited the deep sympathies and affections of his nature. His home was pervaded by his love as by the sunlight, and very much of his life was centered there. But the peculiar charm, over all, lay in the junction of intellectual power with religious and moral worth; his honor was superior to every temptation by which the world could assail him.

No one who ever met Mr. Dawson in the social circle can easily forget the attraction of his manner and conversation, for he possessed the power of communicating with ease and interest the riches of his mind. He carried into society a cheerfulness and sunshine of soul which, without effort, won the hearts of those in his presence to a singular degree.

Mr. Dawson was one who may well be called a Christian gentleman. As early as 1831, in the early dawn of his manhood, he united with the Baptist Church at Rochester, and his connection with that denomination continued to the day of his death.

On coming to reside permanently at Albany, he attended the North Pearl Street Baptist Church, which then stood on the site of Perry Building. The North Pearl Street Mission had been established at this time, under the auspices of this church, on North Pearl street, above Wilson, and nearly in the rear of Mr. Dawson's residence on Ten Broeck street. He devoted himself to the care of this mission, became its superintendent, and through his efforts it was finally incorporated under the name of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, with the Rev. J. D. Fulton, pastor, on October 29, 1859. After that time Mr. Dawson's efforts to build up and add to the new church were unswerving. The new church thrived and increased in membership to such an extent that a more pretentious edifice

became necessary. A fine site on the corner of Clinton avenue and Ten Broeck street was purchased. It cost \$20,000; and with \$54,000 additional the building was constructed. On February 14, 1877, it was formally dedicated and occupied.

During the work of building, Mr. Dawson spent much of his time in superintending it. How much of his means were contributed will doubtless never be known, as he was as unostentatious as he was liberal in his benefactions. It is known, however, that his contributions were very large.

His zeal in the cause of the Church did not end with the completion of the Tabernacle Baptist Church. There was established, in North Albany, a Mission School, under the auspices of the Tabernacle Church. To the promotion of this enterprise, Mr. Dawson bent his efforts. Every Sunday he was found attending to his duty there, discussing doctrine to the youthful and old alike, and educating them in the knowledge of religion. As a lay preacher he was without a peer. His vigorous and timely discourses will long be remembered by the attendants of this mission.

The various pastors of the Tabernacle Church always found in him a zealous supporter; and the congregation and Sunday-school a disinterested friend.

In June, 1834, Mr. Dawson was united by marriage to Miss Nancy M. Terrell, a native of Tolland, Conn. His married life was fortunate and happy; his home, as before said, the center of happiness, of refinement and comfort. Three sons were born to the marriage: the first died in infancy; the second, George S. Dawson, imbued with a patriotic spirit, entered the service of his country in the darkest days of the rebellion, and gave his life to the cause for which he left his home and all its attractions. For him, in recognition of his valor and patriotism, the well-known George S. Dawson Post of the G. A. R., of Albany, was named. The other son, Burritt S., with Mrs. Dawson, still survives.

After retiring from active life, Mr. Dawson gave more of his time to his favorite pastime of angling, to occasional contributions to the press, to works of charity and benevolence, and to the society of his cherished friends. And thus the afternoon sun of what we may truly call his beautiful life, gradually descended toward the night. But that night drew on much sooner than his robust and apparently healthy condition indicated, closing after an illness of less than a week. He died February 17, 1883, at the age of seventy years.

The death of such a man, as might be expected, produced a profound sensation. Seldom has the death of any one in this State called forth more general expressions of sorrow from the press than the death of Mr. Dawson. The popular favor which he enjoyed in such unmeasured profusion, was indicated in many ways. Every degree of talent, of eloquence, of learning, and of distinction laid upon his fresh made tomb, green and fragrant garlands.

The editorial fraternity of the city met, and a committee of one from each newspaper represent-

ed, was appointed to prepare an expression of the collected sense of the profession on the career and character of Mr. Dawson. This committee was composed of St. Clair McKelway, *Argus*; T. C. Callicot, *Times*; J. C. Cuyler, *Express*; Harold Frederick, *Journal*; H. M. Rooker, *Press and Knickerbocker*; R. M. Griffin, *Post*; Edward Mig-gael, *Free Blaetter*; Wm. Kisselburgh, *Troy Times*; John A. Place, *Oswego Times*; Wm. H. McElroy, *New York Tribune*. At 12.30 on the day of the funeral, the representatives of the Albany press, and those from other parts of the State, met at the City Hall, and from there moved in a body to the Tabernacle Baptist Church, where the funeral took place. During the services many of the prominent places of business were closed and flags were at half-mast.

Among the many tributes of respect paid to the memory of Mr. Dawson, was one—the act of private friendship—so touchingly appropriate and beautiful, that we cannot refrain from describing it; and with this we close our notice.

In the southwest corner of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Albany, there was erected on January 3, 1885, a handsomely proportioned, highly-polished granite tablet, bearing the following inscription:

GEORGE DAWSON.

Born March 14, 1813.

Died February 17, 1883.

His renown as a Journalist, Author and Party Leader;

His eminence as a citizen and statesman;

His life of probity and spiritual elevation,

Commanded the admiration of all who value
goodness and greatness.

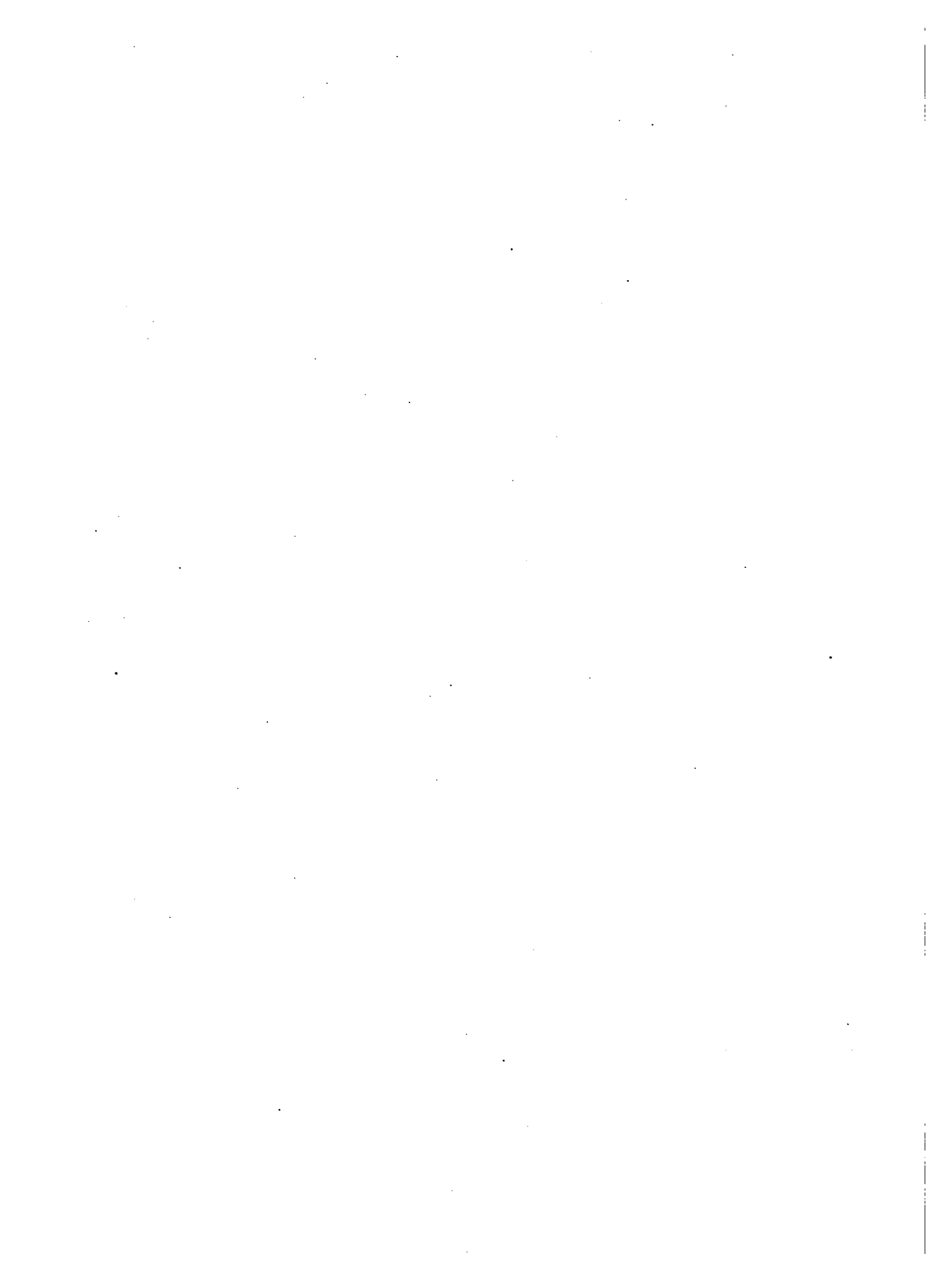
His labor and munificence in its establishment
and maintenance endeared him to this church,
in which he illustrated the nobility of an
exalted Christian manhood.

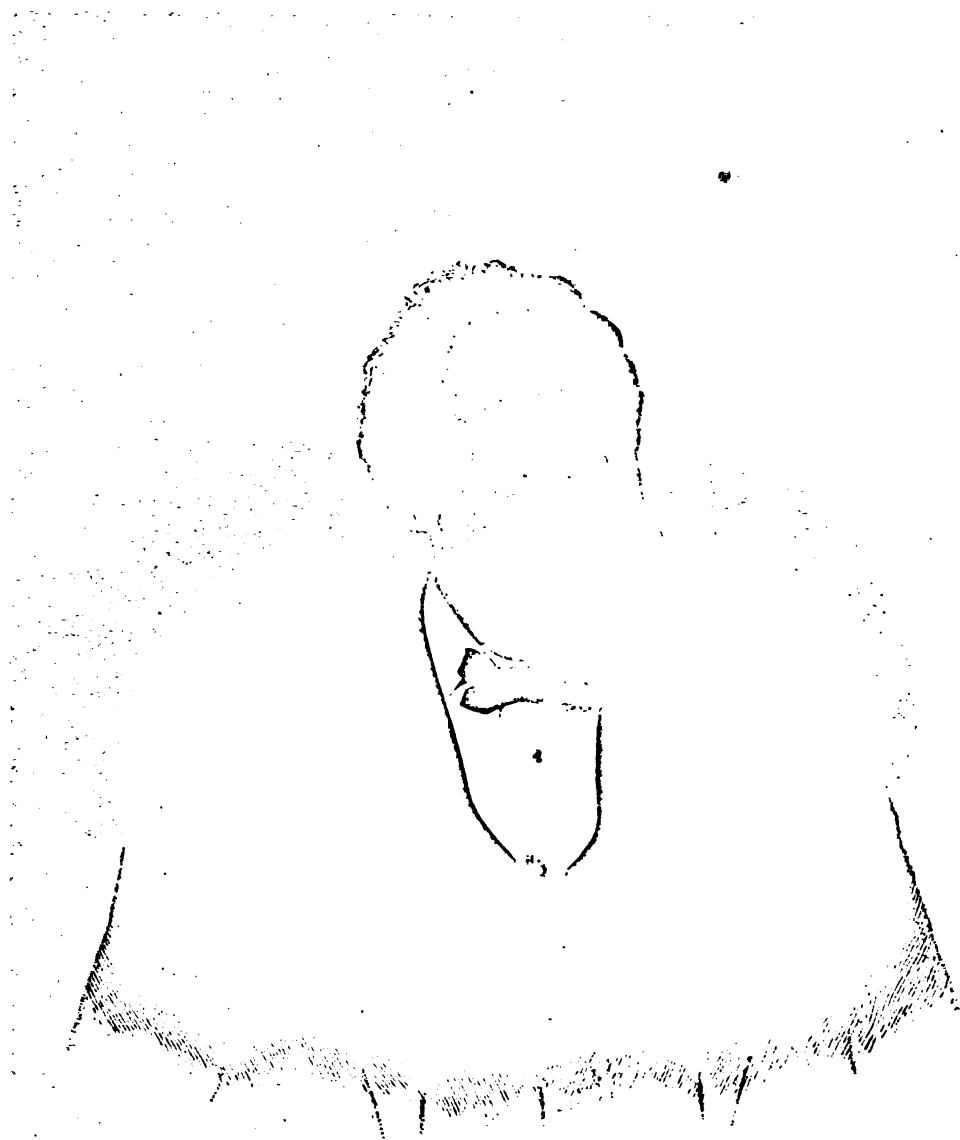
Private affection placed this tablet to commemorate
his virtues and worth.

This chaste, enduring and eloquent memorial of Mr. Dawson was erected by Hon. Hamilton Harris, a long cherished friend.

HUGH J. HASTINGS was born in the North of Ireland, August 20, 1820, and came to this country when eight years of age, accompanied by his mother, brothers and sisters, his father having preceded them. The family settled in Albany. There were eight children, Hugh being next to the eldest. He began work at an early age, and helped support his parents and the younger children. His first labors were as an errand boy in a dry goods store in William street, New York. This kind of work, however, was unsatisfactory to the ambitious boy, who longed for a chance to better his condition. He was a great reader, and managed, by utilizing his spare time, to acquire much general information.

His tastes led to writing for the newspapers, and, being encouraged by the success of his first attempts, he resolved to make newspaper writing his business. He was first a reporter on the *Albany Evening Journal*. In 1840 he assumed the publication of a Whig campaign paper called the *Union*. At the close of the canvass he became a reporter





Portrait of Daniel Manning

Daniel Manning



Daniel Manning

on the *Albany Atlas*, and made quite a hit by the crisp, lively manner in which he wrote up local items. But the measure of his ambition was not to be filled in this way. He longed to have a newspaper of his own, and he resolved to have one. With a capital of only \$7.50, he founded the *Albany Knickerbocker* in 1843, a daily paper, which grew to be very valuable property and an able and influential journal.

Mr. Hastings also took an active part in politics. His natural talents lay in that direction, and he entered into the field of political discussion with a vigor that was the result of a lively inborn interest in the subject. He was for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," before he was able to vote. He admired Clay, and was a great friend of General Taylor, who, when he became President, made Mr. Hastings Collector of the Port of Albany. He resigned this position when President Fillmore assumed office.

In 1867, he determined to embark in metropolitan journalism, and purchased a controlling interest in the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, of which he was editor and proprietor at the time of his death. Mr. Hastings was passionately fond of his newspaper work, but was preparing to leave the active conduct of the paper to his nephew, John Hastings, and the publication entirely to his son-in-law, Mr. Ward. In 1843, he married Miss Mary Keeler, daughter of Mr. Henry Keeler, of Albany. The fruits of this marriage were four children, three daughters and one son. One daughter was married to Dr. Henry, and another to Mr. Ward, the business manager of the *Commercial Advertiser*. Mr. Hastings died in the City of New York, September, 1883, after a life that made a mark

HON. DANIEL MANNING.

HON. DANIEL MANNING was born in Albany, August 16, 1831. He was of sturdy parentage, which, in its ancestral lines, ran into Irish, English, and Dutch sources, combining the main stocks which have settled Albany, and impressed upon its life and growth its staid qualities with its progressive movement. From earliest boyhood he felt the desire and formed the purpose of self-help. While at school, the disposition to be doing was dominant in him. It was his conviction, before he could shape it into statement, that he could unite the getting of an education with the work of supporting himself. He resisted the policy of confining himself to the routine of schooling for a set number of years before he attacked industry itself. So, as soon as he acquired the rudiments of learning, he obtained, at eleven years of age, a situation as boy-of-all-work in the office of the *Albany Atlas*, which was subsequently merged into the *Argus*, with which establishment he has ever since been connected, rising through every stage of service to the presidency of the company and the executive proprietorship. In this adherence to one vocation in one establishment, the qualities of attachment, persistence and application, for which he is rightly noted, are exemplified.

Many are the relations and responsibilities growing out of his connection with the *Argus*, but they all radiate from it; and the journal and his own personality have had a marked reciprocal influence upon one another. The three-fold form of newspaper work is apparent. It comprises printing, literary work, and business management, to each of which Mr. Manning served a long tutelage, and in each of which he mastered the art. From one to the other he graduated in due course. Over all of them he qualified himself to exercise supervision. By thorough knowledge of the details of each branch, he became able to manage them simultaneously in their affiliated bearings, however large or however minute. His life has been spent in the city of his birth. His associates have been those who were the companions of his youth. His political opinions have been in harmony with the journal which he has promoted. The position of that journal in the politics of the State, and the nation, has required him to scrutinize and weigh the large responsibilities which, in time, he has had to wield and temper in its name.

Journalism is becoming the educating force of the people who have to do with it. Most of all, is it an educating force to those who, from boyhood to mature manhood, have had to do with it in all its trinity of activity. Mr. Manning's career, passed at the center of political competition of the Empire State, has partaken of the administration of successive Governors and the course of successive Legislatures. It has brought him into relations of confidence and co-operation with many able minds. It has tested the qualities by which influence is wrought or wrecked. It has been a school of faculty and character, conceivably second to none other in American affairs. It can be advisedly said that Mr. Manning's discharge of every trust in this relation has earned him promotion to one beyond it, until he reached the summit of opportunity and power in the field in which he worked. From the time of his identification with the news and editorial work of the *Argus*, his relation was a most confidential one. He represented the paper in the Legislature, in which it has always been recognized as the monitor and exponent of one of the great contending parties. Its duty was to organize, lead, reflect, and restrain its party *clientele*, and to exemplify the press of its party in the State always; and often in the nation. Prevision, steadiness, sagacity, and honor were demanded. The vigilance and power of great antagonists had to be challenged. The irresponsible freedom of remote journalism was impossible. In this work, Mr. Manning was the assistant of Calvert Comstock, the partner of William Cassidy; and he became the successor of both. He never affected their ornament of method; but his tempering thought, worldly wisdom, ever sedate judgment, imperturbable repose, and far-reaching sight, were helpful to their brilliant powers of statement; and his share in their successes and reputation is no small one.

No public man of either party in State service at Albany for years past, has failed to feel the governing strength of Mr. Manning's mind on the higher

and larger interests of politics. He grew to his influence by long and legitimate preparation. On the death of Mr. Cassidy, in 1873, Mr. Manning took full charge of the *Argus* and became president of the company. Since then, his political life has been one of unsought prominence and influence within the party in the State, and, latterly, throughout the Union. He was a member of the Democratic State Convention which met at Syracuse in 1874, and nominated Governor Tilden, and of every Democratic State Convention during the succeeding ten years. He has been a member of the Democratic State Committee since 1876, and was its Secretary in 1879 and 1880, and its Chairman in 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884. In 1876, he was one of the seventy-two delegates from New York to the National Convention at St. Louis, which nominated Governor Tilden for the presidency. He was a member of the New York delegation to the National Convention at Cincinnati, which nominated General Hancock, in 1880, and was unanimously chosen its chairman. His part in the presidential contest of 1884 has passed into history. Nothing that could be said in these pages would add to its repute. Comment on his ability as an organizer, his knowledge of men and measures, and his skill in reconciling conflicting interests, would be forceless side by side with a statement of the results of their influence upon the political history of the period. Avoiding serious collision with the opponents of Mr. Cleveland at the Democratic State Convention at Saratoga, by his tact and ingenuity, Mr. Manning was instrumental in securing a two-thirds majority of the State delegation for the nomination of his candidate.

At the Chicago Convention, he was unanimously chosen Chairman of the New York Delegation. From the first he was implicitly trusted by his own delegation; and, from early in the deliberations of the Convention, by the Cleveland delegates from all parts of the Union. Exhibiting rare tact in handling questions as they arose, he met emergencies with admirable insight and promptitude, and accomplished the nomination of Mr. Cleveland in a manner which won the approval of the country at large. But with that great task achieved, the work Mr. Manning had in hand, both as Chairman of the State Committee and as Governor Cleveland's chosen friend and adviser, was only begun. There followed a campaign memorable for its conflicting elements, and marred by factional animosities and bitter personalities hitherto unknown. The herculean task was before the managers of the Democratic party of healing, or at least checking, its internal dissensions in New York. Upon Mr. Manning, in great measure, devolved this apparently impossible work. Harmony was measurably secured upon national issues, thus assuring the success of the party in the State and the casting of New York's decisive electoral vote for Cleveland and Hendricks. The same courageous and quiet dignity that marked Mr. Manning's conduct during the campaign, and with which he had met the fierce tactics of the forces arrayed against Mr. Cleveland, characterized his

work during the trying period succeeding the election, when desperate opponents were clamorously charging fraud upon the Democratic management, and claiming the election of Mr. Blaine with a persistent plausibility that for a time deceived more than half the country.

Much of the aggressive work the State Democracy has accomplished within the last twelve years has been shaped by Mr. Manning's influence upon its organization and policy. To the duties before exercised by Dean Richmond, and then by Samuel J. Tilden, in the leadership of leaders, Mr. Manning has succeeded, and has impressed on the position his own methods and qualities. These comprise a confident reliance on principle, and on the public capacity and disposition to respond to it; a making of issues broad, sharp and commanding; a policy of campaigning marked by candor, evidence and aggression; a calculation of the people as the decisive factor. His trust in the honesty and intelligent self-interest of the masses is marked. His perceptions are intellectual, his tactics are ethical; his consciousness that neither political party is as good as it ought to be, leads him to strive to make the one with which he acts better. His relations with the statesmen of his party have long been intimate, and the best of them are his personal friends. Never relishing, and reluctantly accepting, political responsibilities, Mr. Manning would now retire from them altogether, and would have done so long since had he been permitted to act upon his own choice. Never consenting to hold political place, though often urged to do so, his political stewardship has been marked by principle, by high honor, courage and unselfishness. The placing of a great party in a position to deserve and to achieve success, is to him far more important than any personal credit that he may derive from it.

In the affairs of his native city, no man has attained to greater influence than Mr. Manning, yet no one has more sturdily refused to identify himself with official position. He has recognized a sole duty in administering unselfishly and unhamperedly the great public journalistic and unofficial political trusts which have been his. His business gifts have, however, not permitted him to devote them exclusively to the work of publishing. He has long been a Director for the City in the Albany and Susquehanna Railway Company. From 1869 to 1882, when he resigned, he was a Director in the National Savings Bank of Albany. In 1873 he became a Director in the National Commercial Bank of Albany; in 1881 he was chosen its Vice-President; and upon the death of Robert H. Pruyn, in 1882, he succeeded to the presidency. He became a Park Commissioner of the City in 1873, and resigned the charge in 1884; and is one of the trustees of the Fort Orange Club.

Married to Miss Mary Little, a lady of English parentage, he suffered her loss by death in 1882. Two sons and two daughters are the crown of this union. His sons are James Hilton and Frederick Clinton Manning, the former being managing editor of the *Albany Argus*. In November, 1884,

Mr. Manning married Miss Mary Margaretta Fryer, daughter of William J. Fryer, of Albany. His brother, John B. Manning, was elected Mayor of Buffalo as the successor of Grover Cleveland, now President of the United States. A life of beneficent activity, cultured by informing studies, ballasted with many responsibilities, tempered by intercourse and friendship with able and illustrious men, and inspired by a high and practical sense of honor and duty, has been that of Daniel Manning, who, still in the prime of his faculties, has, it is hoped, many years of honor and usefulness before him, in which his past would be a proof of his probity and power. And it is an excellent attestation of the possibilities and product of what is best in American character, by self-help, under American institutions.

Mr. Manning now fills the distinguished position of Secretary of the Treasury in the cabinet of President Grover Cleveland, the duties of which he is believed to be discharging with characteristic independence, industry and energy, and with due fealty to party and country as he regards his obligations to both. He entered upon the duties of this appointment March 4, 1885.

JOEL MUNSELL.

JOEL MUNSELL was born in Northfield, Mass., April 14, 1808. His parents were Hezekiah and Cynthia (Payne) Munsell, who came from Hartford, Ct., to Northfield. Here young Munsell spent the first seventeen years of his life in boyish sports, in the schools of the town, and in working with his father at the trade of a wheelwright. At the age of 17, in 1825, he was a regular apprentice in the printing-office of the *Franklin Post and Christian Freeman*, published in the near village of Greenfield. December, 1826, found him still "at the case," but at another office in the same village. John Denio, his next employer, took him to Albany, the next May, as his clerk in a bookstore. But he was a printer, and preferred this art. After a month on the *National Observer*, published by Solomon Southwick, he was, about the 1st of January, 1828, a journeyman printer, two days in the week, on the *Masonic Record*; helping Mr. Denio in his bookstore at spare moments; and printing, editing, publishing, and distributing from door to door his own paper, the *Albany Minerva*. He issued eight numbers. Much of his time was now spent in reading, studying, and making collections of papers and binding them. His employment for a second time, for a few months, in Mr. Denio's bookstore, and in job work and journeyman work on various newspapers, as he was needed, occupied him quite busily for nearly a year and a half, ending June, 1829. From this date until his return to Albany, January 4, 1830, he was visiting friends in Northfield and seeking a journeyman's work in Hartford and New Haven. Having no steady employment at his trade, he gave his spare hours in New Haven to attending lectures and reading useful works in science and literature. In Albany again, he spent a few more years in irregular em-

ployment as a printer. But like many other printers, whose lives have become eminently useful and successful, his simple habits of economy and constant devotion to gaining valuable knowledge did not forsake him.

In 1834, he was associated with Henry D. Stone, for two or three years, in the successful publication of the *Microscope*. From his savings he purchased material in October, 1836, and set up a job printing-office for himself at 58 State street. Here his skill and industry found appreciation. In these respects he had no superior. "Joel Munsell, the Albany printer," from this time forth made himself more fully known as the master of his art, as the enterprising publisher, the faithful annotator and compiler, and the generous friend of students and writers in genealogy, local history, and antiquities. A list of books and pamphlets of this kind from his press makes a volume. We can name but few here. His volumes are seen and his imprint known wherever books are read by intelligent students of American history and genealogy. The first work compiled and published by him was called "Outlines of the History of Printing," in 1839.

Albany owes him much for work done upon its local history. His "Annals of Albany," in 10 volumes, 12mo, were begun in 1849 and finished in 1859. "Collections on the History of Albany," in 4 volumes, royal 8vo, were issued between 1865 and 1871. They embody a mass of matter relating to the earlier and later history of Albany, which, with the help of indexes, is exceedingly valuable for reference. Their preparation shows fondness for work, patient industry, great courage, and conscientious fidelity. He was much aided in some parts of the work by Professor Jonathan Pearson, of Union College, and others. He must have spent untold hours among old records, old newspapers, and old tombstones, to have amassed such an amount of unassorted material.

Another monument of his industry is found in "The Every Day Book of History and Chronology," compiled by him and published in two volumes, 12mo, in 1843.

"Webster's Annual Almanac," started by Charles R. Webster in 1784, had been prepared and issued by Mr. Munsell since 1843; and is now continued by his youngest son, Frank. Some volumes of the Albany Directory were prepared and published by Mr. Munsell. "Joel Munsell's Sons," Charles and Frank, are still carrying on his work as printer at 82 State street.

In the field of local journalism, Mr. Munsell, besides his own *Albany Minerva*, published in 1840, a daily campaign paper, edited by Hon. Daniel D. Barnard; in 1842, *The Lady's Magazine*, edited by E. G. Squier; also, *The Northern Star and Freeman's Advocate*, in 1844; *The Spectator*, edited by Rev. Dr. W. B. Sprague, in 1845; *The Guard*, an Odd Fellows' paper, edited by C. C. Burr and John Fanner; also, at various times, *The New York State Mechanic*, *The Unionist*, *The State Register*, *The Typographical Miscellany*, *The New York Teacher*, *The Morning Express*, and *The Daily Statesman*. Some of these were partly edited by him, and contribu-

tions from his pen, on matters of local importance, were frequent.

Ten volumes of valuable historical matter were issued by him, in limited editions, with excellent paper, 4to size, and faultless typography. They were called "Munsell's Historical Series," and published, as were his "Historical Collections," and many other volumes, at a pecuniary loss. He scarcely ever refused to put in print a valuable manuscript, because "it wouldn't pay." His unselfish zeal for the preservation of historic truth led him to forget the question, "Is there money in it?"

Mr. Munsell took great interest in that valuable quarterly, now in the forty-first year of its publication, called the *New England Historic-Genealogical Register*, of Boston, which he published for three years.

He was one of the original founders and constant members of the Albany Institute, and published its *Transactions and Proceedings*. For forty years, up to his death, he was its treasurer.

For forty-three years he was a faithful supporter of the Lutheran Church in this city, and one of its trustees for over twenty years. Many historical, genealogical, and antiquarian societies showed their appreciation of his great life work by electing him an honorary member.

He died after a brief illness, January 15, 1880. He had worn himself out. His funeral was largely attended by the members of the press, the Albany Institute, the Lutheran Church, and many citizens, who sincerely mourned the loss of a most useful man. All who knew him esteemed him highly.

He was small in stature. In expression he was usually cheerful; his features, in his later years, told of thoughtful care and hard work. In conversation he was often jocose and facetious. In manner he was quiet and unobtrusive, but always easily approached. His portrait, appropriately inserted in its early pages, illustrates this work.

One of the most distinguished characters in the history of journalism of Albany County, is SOLOMON SOUTHWICK. Not only was he conspicuous as a journalist, but his influence as a politician was, at one time, almost unbounded, approximating that of more modern political leaders.

Mr. Southwick was born in Newport, R. I., December 25, 1773. His father was early identified with the struggle for American independence. He was a printer, and editor of the *Newport Mercury*, a journal heartily committed to the cause of independence. His patriotism drew upon him the hatred of the Tories, and cost him a hard-earned fortune, compelling his son to begin life in a bitter struggle with poverty.

After engaging in several humble employments, young Southwick drifted to New York City, where he apprenticed himself in a printing establishment. The *Albany Register* was then conducted by his brother-in-law, John Barber.

After remaining in New York a little over a year, young Southwick went to Albany as an assistant in

the office of Mr. Barber. His ability and industry very soon made him Mr. Barber's partner.

On the death of Mr. Barber in 1808, Mr. Southwick succeeded to his interest in the paper. His talents, energy and ambition soon placed him at the head of the Democratic party, of which the *Register* was the organ and champion.

He continued in charge of the *Register* for many years, during which time he successively held the position of Clerk of the Assembly, Clerk of the Senate, Sheriff of the County, Manager of the State Literature Lottery, State Printer, Regent of the University, and Postmaster of Albany. After the discontinuance of the *Register*, he established and conducted an agricultural paper called the *Ploughboy*, first, under the anonymous designation of Henry Homespun, Jr., and subsequently in his own name. At about the same period, he became editor of the *Christian Visitant*, a periodical devoted to the interests of religion and morality, and to the refutation of infidel principles. Subsequently he assumed editorial charge of the *National Democrat*, during which time he presented himself to the electors of the State as a candidate for Governor, in opposition to the regularly nominated candidate of the Democratic party, Joseph C. Yates. During the prevalence of the anti-masonic excitement, he established, and for several years conducted, the *National Observer*, a prominent organ of anti-masonry, and was soon after nominated as candidate of that party for the chief magistracy, in opposition to Martin Van Buren and Smith Thompson.

Failing of success, and disgusted with the manifold vexations of political strife, he withdrew from the turbulent arena of public life, and sought in the congenial atmosphere of the domestic and social circle that happiness and peace of mind which he had failed to experience in the restless career of personal and political ambition.

The remainder of his life was devoted to study, to his family fireside, and to the dissemination of religious, moral, and intellectual truth.

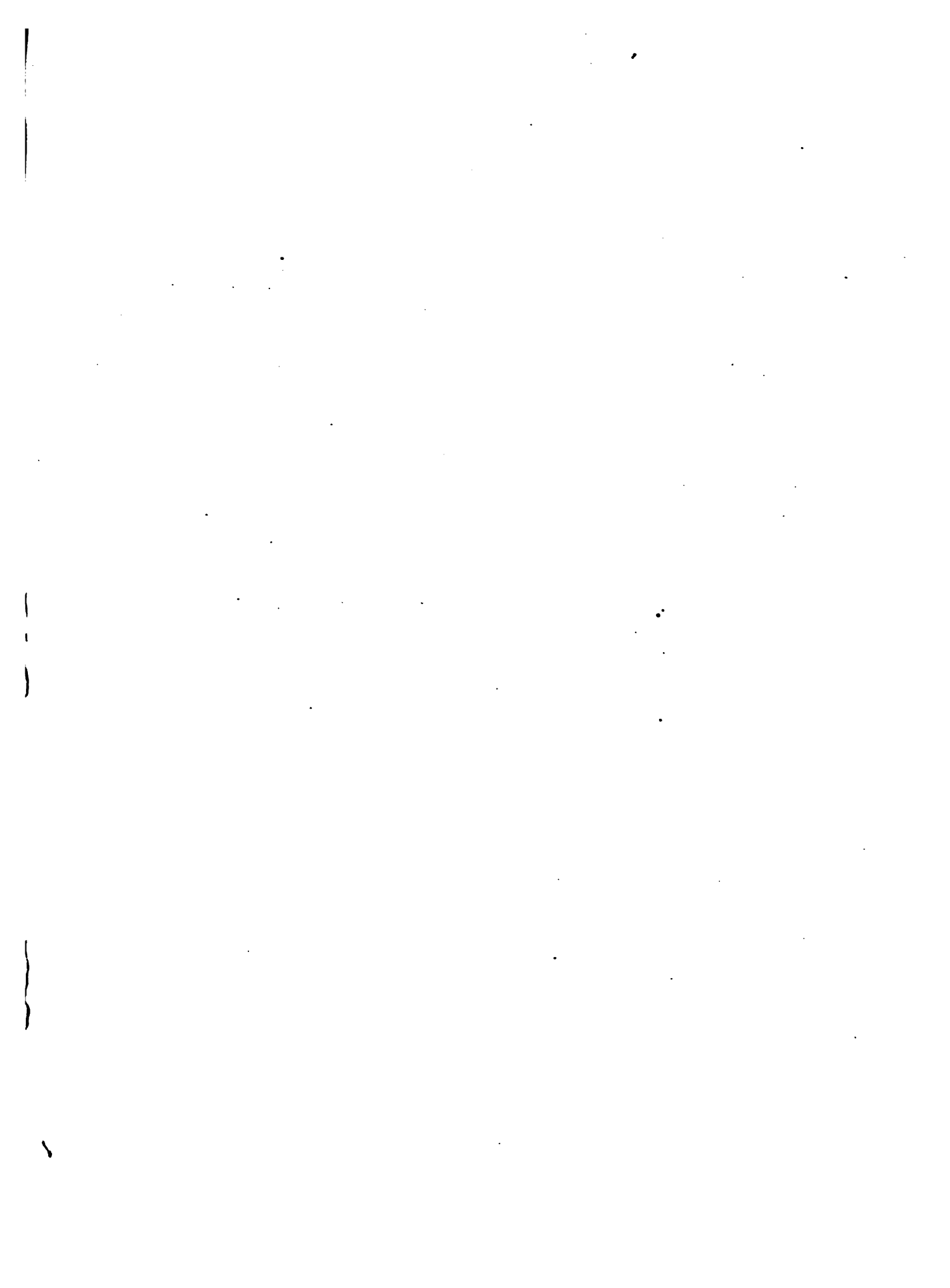
From 1831 to 1837, he delivered a course of lectures on the Bible; another on Temperance; and another on Self-Education, which were much admired. He published the "Letters of a Layman" under the signature of Sherlock.

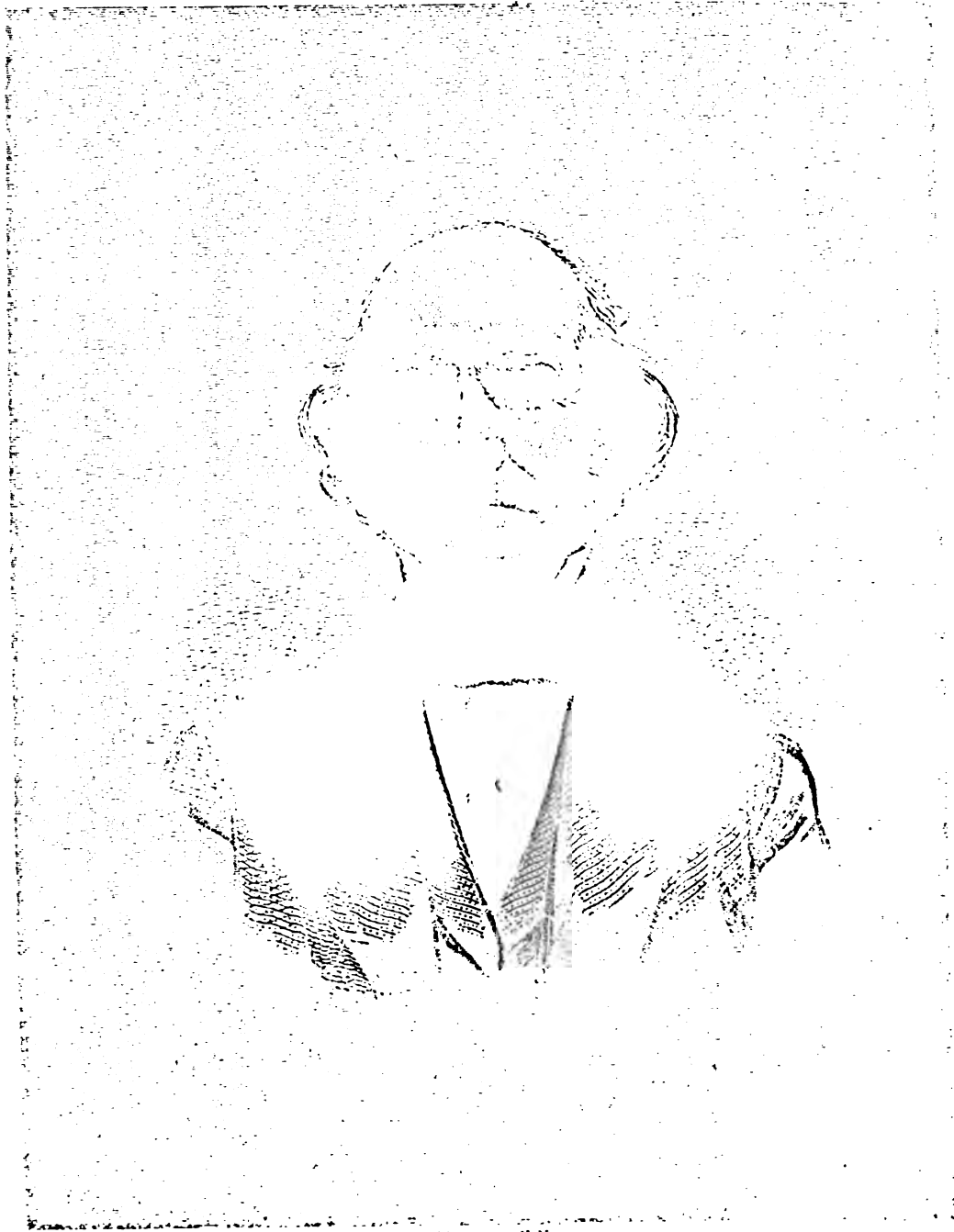
This publication was followed by "Five Letters to Young Men, by An Old Man of Sixty."

For the last two years of his life he conducted the editorial department of the *Family Newspaper*, published by his son, Alfred Southwick.

On the 18th of November, 1839, while returning with Mrs. Southwick from a social visit at the house of a friend, he was attacked by an affection of the heart, which terminated fatally. His age was sixty-six.

Few men ever experienced more vicissitudes of fortune than Mr. Southwick. He was a self-made man, owing all his knowledge and mental culture, his success and distinction in life, to his own exertions. He loved to encourage the laboring classes, the young, the obscure and friendless; to teach them the knowledge of their power and to aid the advancement of their personal and pecuni-





H. W. LAMSON, N. Y.

Luther Tucker.

ary interests. The address at the opening of the Apprentices' Hall in Albany was an earnest, impassioned and successful appeal in behalf of the young mechanic.

A few months previous to his death, he projected the establishment of a literary and scientific institute in this city, to be placed under his personal control and supervision, for the purpose of affording the requisite facilities to young men desirous of pursuing a course of self-education.

In person, Mr. Sawinck was somewhat under the medium size, with a countenance full of benevolence, and expressive of an enthusiastic, ardent and sanguine temperament. An insidious disease, the result of sedentary and studious habits, had undermined his health, and deprived the enjoyment of his life of that fullness and vigor which he otherwise have enjoyed.

LUTHER TUCKER.

LUTHER TUCKER was born in Shelton, Vermont, May 7, 1812. The father was a farmer, which followed almost unintermittently the same family—his father and the older uncles, nearly afterward joining the tide of migration to which Vermont has always furnished so large an army of recruits, while the subject of this notice was adopted in the house where he had been cradled for the two hours of motherless infancy. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Timothy C. Strong, a printer, of Middlebury, encountering, in connection with the instruction he received, the rough fare and hard work that were natural enough at the time, but very different from the customs of the present. Mr. Strong removed to Palmyra, N. Y., in 1817, taking the young apprentice with him; but the connection between them ended two years later, before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship. Mr. Tucker thus entered upon the prosecution of his craft as a journeyman somewhat prematurely, making his way, with intervals of work at various intermediate points, toward his old friends in Vermont, for whom and for his native hills, then, as through all subsequent changes, he entertained the warmest affection. A fair amount of work, on which he soon set out, earned him, in the course of the five succeeding years, various points in the north and east, including Cambridge, Baltimore, Washington, and New York. In the spring of 1825, he entered into partnership at Jamaica, Long Island, with Mr. Henry C. Smith, whose business was chiefly the publication of standard works for New York houses. Some volumes, now in possession of his sons, bearing the imprint of Slight & Tucker, chiefly English reprints of a moral or theological kind, are strikingly characteristic of the condition of American publishing at the time; but, in freedom from typographical errors and excellence of press-work, they set no notion in comparison with the larger and more hurried editions of the present generation.

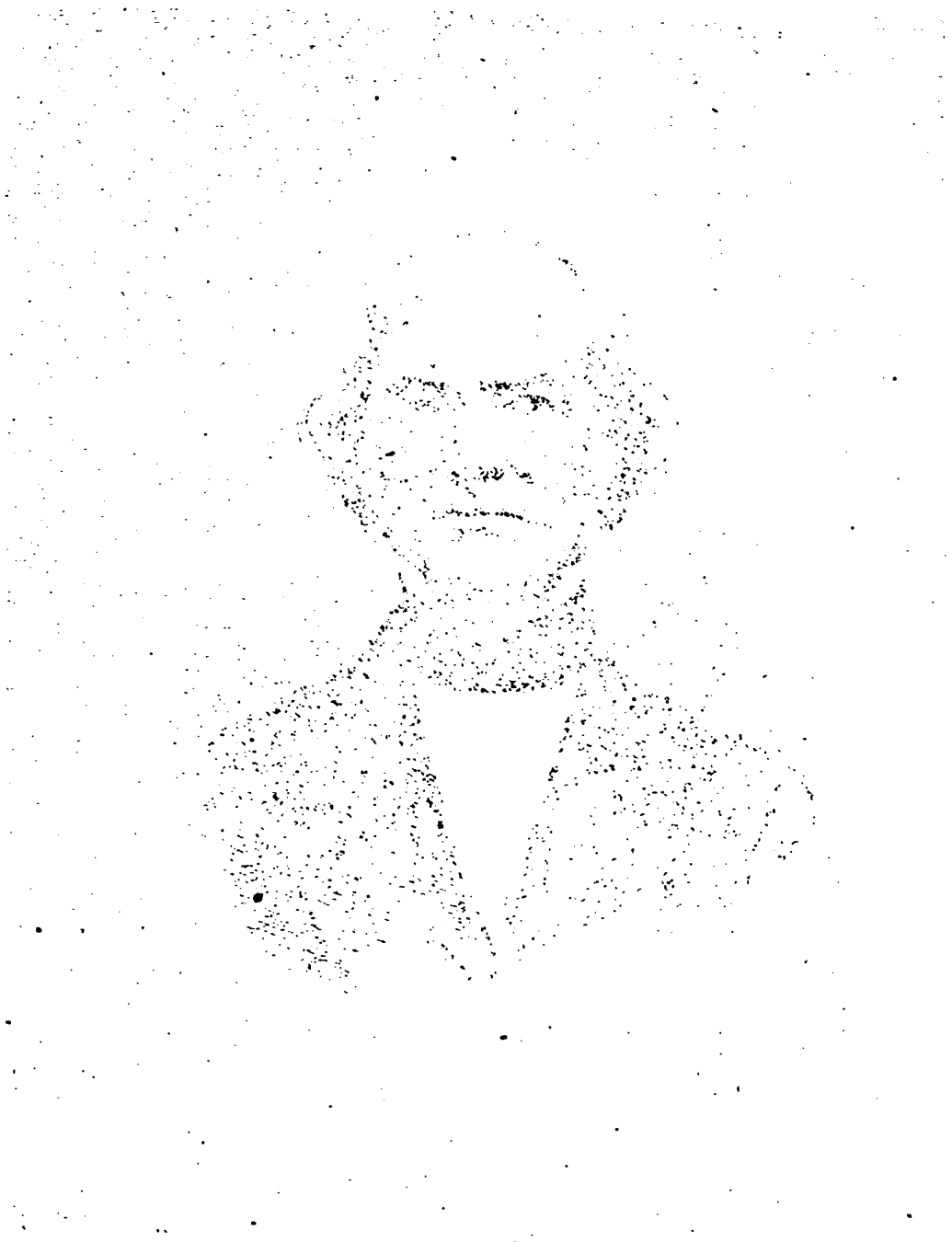
In his travels as a journeyman, Mr. Tucker had passed through Rochester in 1824, and witnessed the first crossing on the aqueduct over the Genesee

river by the Canal and, though the place was not yet more than a village, he was struck with the fine prospects for future growth and prosperity.

When he began to look for a wider field than that afforded at Jamaica, Rochester was the place that occurred to him. Encouraged by his partner, who supplied him with capital as well as with the assistance of twenty-four he turned his eyes toward the entirely unknown among its people, and the publication of the *Rochester Daily Advertiser*, the first daily newspaper to spring from the soil of that city of Albany, in the hope of doing good, by the spread of a free press, and the diffusion of intelligence. The enterprise was not a success, and the paper was discontinued after a few months. Mr. Tucker then returned to Palmyra, and in 1827 published the *Palmyra Advertiser*, which was a success, and the first of a number of similar enterprises, the only one that failed to support its part.

This enterprise, the progress of the various transactions of the business, and the success of a young and still struggling man, were success. But we have been already occupied in tracing the steps by which Mr. Tucker found what became the all-absorbing work of his life, and do not care to dwell on the details of the actual and often heated political discussions of a peculiarly exciting period. Nevertheless he had traveled and had been struck with the backwardness of our agriculture, the lack of intercommunication and interchange, the tendencies of all-prevailing prejudice, the deterioration of the soil; the absence of agricultural reading, and other things, which he regarded as simply the resource from which he was to buy and cultivate land of his own, without indebtedness to others, and with reasonable provision in case of bad seasons and slow returns.

From this ambition, and his very considerable opportunities of observation among farmers in widely scattered localities, arose the establishment of the *Western Farmer*, January 1, 1829, while still published by the *York Advertiser*. Mr. Tucker's aim in publishing this journal, for the benefit of farmers, was to disseminate the means of communication, and to give them their experience and ready advice, by setting their example, so to speak, and by the practical knowledge of his readers, had been accomplished, it was a very important one among the most ignorant and uneducated, for guidance as to what might or should be done, and to stimulate investigation, or the theory of the closet. It may not be too much to claim that the *Western Farmer*, though produced at a date earlier than any other agricultural journal published in Great Britain, was the first to be published in this country. Its circulation rapidly increased,



Leather Tucker

ary interests. His address at the opening of the Apprentices' Library in Albany was an earnest, impassioned and eloquent appeal in behalf of the young mechanic.

A few months previous to his death, he projected the establishment of a literary and scientific institute in this city, to be placed under his personal control and supervision, for the purpose of affording the requisite facilities to young men desirous of pursuing a course of self-education.

In person, Mr. Southwick was somewhat under the medium size, with a countenance full of benignity, and expressive of an enthusiastic, ardent and sanguine temperament. An insidious disease, the result of sedentary and studious habits, had undermined his health and deprived the evening of his life of that full enjoyment which he might otherwise have enjoyed.

LUTHER TUCKER.

LUTHER TUCKER was born in Brandon, Vermont, May 7, 1802. The death of his mother, which followed almost immediately, broke up the family—his father and the older children shortly afterward joining the tide of migration to which Vermont has always furnished so large an army of recruits, while the subject of this notice was adopted in the house where he had been cared for in the hours of motherless infancy. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Timothy C. Strong, a printer, of Middlebury, encountering, in connection with the instruction he received, the rough fare and hard work that were natural enough at the time, but very different from the customs of the present. Mr. Strong removed to Palmyra, N. Y., in 1817, taking the young apprentice with him; but the connection between them ended two years later, before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship. Mr. Tucker thus entered upon the prosecution of his craft as a journeyman somewhat prematurely, making his way, with intervals of work at various intermediate points, toward his old friends in Vermont, for whom and for his native hills, then, as through all subsequent changes, he entertained the warmest affection. A tour of work, on which he soon set out, carried him, in the course of the five succeeding years, to various points in the north and east, and to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and New York. In the spring of 1825, he entered into partnership, at Jamaica, Long Island, with Mr. Henry C. Sleight, whose business was chiefly the publication of standard works for New York houses. Some volumes, now in possession of his sons, bearing the imprint of Sleight & Tucker, chiefly English reprints of a moral or theological kind, are strikingly characteristic of the condition of American publishing at the time; but, in freedom from typographical errors and excellence of press-work, they suffer nothing in comparison with the larger and more hurried editions of the present generation.

In his travels as a journeyman, Mr. Tucker had passed through Rochester in 1823, and witnessed the first crossing on the aqueduct over the Gene-

see, of the Erie Canal; and, though the place was then little more than a village, he was struck with its evident capacities for future growth and prosperity.

And when he began to look for a wider field than that afforded at Jamaica, Rochester was the point that occurred to him. Encouraged by his partner, who aided him with capital as well as with advice, at the age of twenty-four he turned his steps thitherward, and, entirely unknown among its people, began the publication of the *Rochester Daily Advertiser*—the first daily newspaper to spring into existence west of the City of Albany, in the boundless and then undeveloped territory that extends to the Pacific. Its initial number appeared October 27, 1826, and, as we learn from contemporary notices, at once attracted attention as showing the remarkable progress of the place. In referring to its establishment, the *New York Evening Post* of October 31, 1826, said: "Nothing can show, in a more striking point of view, the rapid increase of our population and internal commerce, than the fact that Rochester, which within a few years was a wilderness, is now enabled, by the number of its inhabitants and the activity of its trade, to support a daily paper."

This enterprise, in proportion to the business transactions of the day, and the simpler customs of a young and still struggling Western town, was a success. But we have been already too long in tracing the steps by which Mr. Tucker reached what became the all-absorbing work of his life, to allude even briefly to his associates, or to the part he took in the active and often heated political discussions of a peculiarly exciting period. Wherever he had traveled he had been struck with the backwardness of our agriculture; the lack of intercommunication among our farmers; the tendencies of all-prevailing practice towards the deterioration of the soil; the almost universal absence of agricultural reading. His taste was strongly for farming, and other business he regarded as simply the resource from which he hoped to buy and cultivate land of his own, without indebtedness to others, and with reasonable provision in case of bad seasons and slow returns.

From this ambition, and his very considerable opportunities of observation among farmers in widely scattered localities, arose the establishment of the *Genesee Farmer*, January 1, 1831, while still publishing the *Daily Advertiser*. Mr. Tucker's aim in a paper for the practical benefit of farmers, was to provide them with a means of communication touching the details of their experience and modes of practice, and to bring their example, so to speak, within the personal knowledge of his readers, looking to what had been accomplished, or was actually going on among the most intelligent and enterprising, for guidance as to what might or should be done, rather than to scientific investigation or the theories of the closet. It may not be too much to claim that the *Genesee Farmer*, though preceded in date of issue by a few other agricultural journals here or in Great Britain, was the first to begin from this end. Its circulation rapidly increased,

and this notwithstanding the establishment of the *Cultivator* at Albany by Judge Buel, under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, in 1834, when some falling off might have been expected from the division of the field with a rival so able and influential; and it was somewhat to Mr. Tucker's surprise, on the union of the two journals, some years later, to ascertain that the circulation of his own was much the larger of the two.

Having at last attained what was to have been his great object, the purchase of a farm near Rochester, the daily paper was sold in 1839. It still exists as one of the leading and most popular journals of Western New York, under the name of the *Rochester Union and Advertiser*. Farming and the publication of the *Farmer* were to be the sole objects of the future. But before a single season had passed, Judge Buel's death left the *Cultivator* without a head, and a proposition was made to Mr. Tucker for the combination of the two papers, that seemed in many respects so advantageous, that the farm was sold, and the number for January, 1840, was published from Albany and bore the title of the *Cultivator: a consolidation of Buel's Cultivator and the Genesee Farmer*. A *New Genesee Farmer* subsequently led a brief and flickering existence, and after the second part of the *Cultivator's* title had been dropped as too cumbersome, other *Genesee Farmers* came into fitful being—the last calling itself “the oldest paper,” because of its borrowed title—an attempt at appropriating a history as well as a name of which there have been many other specimens in our periodical literature, but about which Mr. Tucker may, perhaps, have been excusable in feeling somewhat sensitive.

In respect to the details by which Mr. Tucker was led into his life-work, we have spoken more fully, because no notice would be fitting, as it seems, without at least an outline of those preliminary steps by which, and through which, it came about that all the efforts he could put forth were thereafter devoted to the cause of agriculture. Without the genius for manipulation, which seems to be essential in the political managers of the present day, it is possible that with all his energy, judgment and industry, he might not have attained, by continuing in the political field, the leading rank among those who have the credit of making or unmaking aspirants for public positions. With the same qualities, coupled with an admirable appreciation of the real wants of the community, agricultural or educational—but without training in that administrative capacity which consists so largely in the selection and employment of deputies by whom all details can be wrought out under general guidance and supervision—for a long time he retained in his own hands and under his own eye every department, business and editorial, and never felt quite satisfied when anything that could possibly be done by himself was left to another. The untiring work he thus assumed was often far too much for the individual energies of any one, but with heart and soul fully engrossed in its accomplishment, he escaped from serious results until the confinement to labor began to tell, and he felt

more and more, with the enfeebling heat of each successive summer, that some measure of respite was absolutely essential. For a number of years prior to his death, he had been forced from constant application, by absolute inability to continue it, and a large part of his last summer he spent in freedom from care at various resorts. But as soon as he was at home, he was only contented with a certain measure of the office work; and it may be truly said of him, if the saying is anywhere strictly correct, that “he died in the harness.” In the wandering of his mind, after fever had set in, he urged that manuscripts should be sent him for scrutiny before publication, specifying some that he remembered as coming in before he left the office; and, recollecting that the State Agricultural Society was about to hold its annual meeting, he was full of anxiety lest his illness might prevent his son's attendance, and eager to be up and at his desk for work. But his work was over. He died Sunday, January 26, 1873. He had been at the office on the 14th for several hours, although not very well or strong, and on the morning of the 15th found himself too ill to leave his bed. Inflammation of the lungs followed, attended at the last by defective and irregular action of the heart, and when the fever left him his strength gradually failed, until he entered into the rest of the unending Sabbath beyond the grave. With his native predisposition for agricultural pursuits, it had been his task for many long years to weigh the merits of discussion after discussion and question after question, endeavoring to give due prominence to each in turn according to its deserts. Without prejudice or partiality, he admitted to publication what was counter to his own views, that it might stand upon its merits, and provoke thought among his readers. Clear, pointed and accurate in the use of language, what he wrote always came with weight. During his latter years, with manual difficulties of penmanship rendering any prolonged exertion irksome, he wrote but little; but the guidance of his judgment and advice was ever present. Whatever he wrote was in all respects as he intended it to appear, and if he had been content to leave for printers the task of deciphering illegibilities and correcting sentences—in other words, to abridge his own labor at the expense of others—he would probably have written more and at greater length. But to the last he was equal to the work of editing and correcting the manuscript of others, however much it wore upon him; for the great aim of his labor was to give voice to experience that might otherwise be unknown, and he would rather take in hand a few pages from some unlettered correspondent embodying the actual results of his experience, than deal with folios of correctly written and diffuse ramblings from writers whose syntax and etymology were above their actual knowledge of their subjects. For over forty years at the head of the *Country Gentleman*, and constantly in communication with those who acted under his supervision, as with many correspondents at a distance personally unknown, Mr. Tucker seemed to possess an unusual power of attracting friendship and affection,

of which evidences have often come from quite unexpected sources.

The publication of the paper has been continued successfully since Mr. Tucker's death by his sons, Luther H. Tucker and Gilbert M. Tucker, under the firm name of Luther Tucker & Son, and, as in the past, it ranks among the leading agricultural journals of the United States.

In his personal relations, Mr. Tucker was for many years a man of sorrow. Fairly under way at Rochester, with the promise of his new experiment with a daily paper just budding into fruition, the cholera season of 1832 that swept like a pestilence over the country, visited that place with unusual severity. His young wife and a boy of special promise, in his fifth year, after but a few days' struggle, were carried to the unending repose of the cemetery at Mt. Hope; but they lingered for forty years longer in a recollection that, until the last, was never revived without the deepest emotion. The surviving husband and father fell into a decline from which it was long thought that he could scarcely recover. Marrying the sister of his former wife, she succumbed, in 1844, to consumption, the scourge of her native New England climate, preceded by one daughter and soon after followed by another. Smitten by repeated blows, though assuaged by all that could tend, in social and business relations, to mitigate their severity, he became constantly less inclined to mingle in public occasions, and more bound up in the welfare of those who were left to him.

Since his third marriage, over a quarter of a century had elapsed at the time of his death—a period of exemption from afflictions, and gradually closing over the scars of former wounds—but he seldom, if ever, accepted invitations likely to bring him into prominent notice. During the hot months of summer, which were especially trying to his constitution, he was often so greatly enfeebled as to excite the serious apprehensions of his family. Of unvarying sweetness of disposition in the home circle to which he was so much devoted, the charity that speaketh no evil was equally prominent in his judgment of other men and their motives. The memory of an injury was far less permanent in his mind than the recollection of favors received, kindly words when the business horizon was clouded, and warm sympathies at times of trial. That the struggle of life had wearied him there can be no doubt; but his faith and gratitude, and unselfish efforts for the happiness of others, never wavered; and when his task on earth was over, it may be truly said that he fell asleep with a conscience void of offense toward God and toward man, and a heart unspotted from the world.

In May, 1782, CHARLES R. WEBSTER made his appearance in Albany. His long and conspicuous career forms an interesting chapter in the history of the City and County of Albany.

On his arrival he at once began with Solomon Balentine the publication of the *New York Gazetteer or Northern Intelligencer*. The only existing copies of this paper are in the Albany Institute.

In 1783, Mr. Webster withdrew from the *Gazette* and removed to New York. The paper was enlarged, and continued by Mr. Balentine down to May, 1784, when it was discontinued.

The first pocket almanac ever published in Albany was printed by Mr. Balentine. It is a curious and antique specimen of that kind of publication.

In the latter part of May, 1784, Charles R. Webster returned to Albany and began the publication of the *Albany Gazette*. A regular file of this paper, from the sixteenth number down to the time of its discontinuance in 1845, is preserved in the State Library. At that time it was seventy-two years old—the oldest newspaper in the State. It was conducted with marked ability, and is an excellent record of the proceedings of the Legislature of the State, the Courts of Justice, of the Common Council of Albany, and of the general events of the time in which it existed.

On November 17, 1793, the *Gazette* printing-office was consumed by a terrible conflagration, which broke out on Sunday evening in an out-house belonging to Leonard Gansevoort.

Mr. Webster is justly called the "Father of printing" in Albany. He was born at Hartford, Conn., September 30, 1762. His father was Matthew Webster, and his mother's maiden name was Mabel Pratt.

When Charles was seven years of age, his father, by an unfortunate turn in his affairs, was reduced to poverty, and young Webster was apprenticed to Hudson & Goodwin, publishers of the *Connecticut Courant*, to learn the printer's trade.

The opportunities afforded the boy for schooling were limited to two quarters in a select school. His subsequent education was pursued in silent study in hours which most other boys devoted to play.

At the age of nineteen he was one of the company who marched to New Haven to repel the threatened attack of the British upon that town. In 1781 or 1782, when about twenty years of age, he came to Albany and entered into partnership with Solomon Balentine, the only printer in the city at the time. About the first production beside their paper, was a work entitled "Plain Reasons," a dissuasive from the use of Watts' version of the Psalms, executed with neatness and accuracy. Balentine & Webster began the *Gazette* in 1782. In 1783 the latter left partnership with Balentine and went to New York. Immediately after the evacuation of the city by the British, in company with John Lang he commenced the publication of the *New York Gazette*.

In 1784, he returned to Albany, and commenced the *Albany Gazette*. Mr. Balentine had removed, and Webster was the only printer in the city.

In 1787, he was married to Miss Rachel Steele, of Hartford, who died March 31, 1794. Two children survived her, a son and a daughter. The former was the Rev. Charles Webster, long a pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Monmouth County, N. J. The daughter married Mr. Brown, of Albion.

April 2, 1796, Mr. Webster was married to Miss Cynthia Steele, a sister of his first wife.

Though the columns of the *Gazette* were open to both Federalists and Republicans, it was regarded as a Federal organ. This led to the establishment of a rival paper and printing-office. But the rapid settlement of Western New York furnished abundant patronage for both papers, and largely increased the book-selling and printing business. About this time Mr. Webster associated with himself his brother, George, and some time after, his nephews, Elisha W., Hezekiah and Daniel Skinner, became partners. He was active in the establishment of the Mechanics' Academy, and when that school was abandoned, he became interested in the Lancasterian School and the Apprentices' Library.

He never held any public office, except that of Acting Deputy to the County Clerk of Albany County for a brief period.

Amid all the exciting events that attended the war of 1812, he, though a warm Federalist, maintained a dignity in the tone of his paper, a freedom from ribaldry and personal invective, never compromising his character for fidelity and devotion to the cause he served. No indictments for slander, no suits for libel, were brought against him. He abhorred defamation. Morgan Lewis, when a candidate for Governor, thanked him for his generosity in repelling an unjust attack made on him as soon as it met his eye, although he was busily engaged in using all honorable means to defeat Mr. Lewis' election.

On approaching sixty years, he made a settlement of all his affairs. A division of the property was amicably made, and the firm of Websters & Skinners was dissolved by the withdrawal of the three younger partners. The book-selling, printing and binding was carried on at the old stand by C. R. & G. Webster. This firm was dissolved in 1821, by the death of Mr. George Webster. The surviving brother purchased his half in the property at the Elm-tree corner, for \$13,000, and the firm, E. W. Skinner & Co., purchased one-half the stock for \$10,000. The new firm of Webster & Skinners continued till his death, July 18, 1834. His failing health induced him to visit Saratoga Springs. He made his will and left his home, never to return. His last letter was written July 14, 1834, and, in view of the near approach of death, contained these words: "The aim of my life has been to have my heart right with God and my trust in the merits of the Redeemer." He expired almost instantly, without the slightest appearance of pain, July 18, 1834, and was buried from his residence in Albany, on the 20th. He was about six feet in height, well made in person, erect and easy in motion. His manner was dignified, full of courtesy and sweetness. His conversation was interesting, pure, instructive, entertaining and edifying. The great aim of his life seemed to be the elevation of the masses, especially of all classes of mechanics, in mind and morals. Albany County never possessed a nobler class of toiling men than during his day.

THURLOW WEED had no superior as a political journalist in his day. He was born at the small village of Acra, in the town of Cairo, Green County, November 15, 1797. His parents were natives of Connecticut. His father was Joel Weed. His paternal grandfather was Nathan Weed, a soldier of the revolution, who, with a large family, removed from Connecticut at the close of the war, and settled in the place of Thurlow's birth. Mr. Weed's mother was Mary Ellis, a native of New Haven. He was the eldest of three brothers and two sisters, all of whom he survived, except his brother Osborn.

Mr. Weed's father was an honest, amiable man, "doomed," as Mr. Weed says, "to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, in the most literal sense. He was bred a farmer; but in 1799 removed to Catskill to become a carman." He continued poor, "sometimes very poor," through life. It is easy to see that, under these circumstances, Thurlow had no advantages for attaining an education.

His first occupation in life was blowing a blacksmith's bellows, for which he received six cents per day, which he expended towards the support of his father's family. When nine years old he obtained a situation as cabin boy on board a North River sloop. This brought him to the City of New York.

The occupation of cabin boy was very much to his taste, and he indulged in the ambition of becoming a sailor. As he says, "but for an infirmity, which incapacitated him for the most essential part of a sailor's duty, his occupation would have been that of a seaman instead of a printer."

After serving on different vessels on the Hudson, he removed, in 1808, with his father, to the town of Cincinnatus, Cortland County, then almost a wilderness. His father attempted to bring a piece of land, covered with woods, to the condition of a farm; but, like all his other adventures, it proved a failure. The boy did what he could to aid his father in erecting a log-house, and to make a clearing in which to plant corn, potatoes, etc. One of his occupations was aiding in making "Black Salts," by leaching ashes gathered from burned log-heaps.

He relates that at this time his parents were so poor, that in winter he was compelled to tie pieces of rag-carpet around his feet instead of shoes, and thus equipped he chopped wood and, in spring, gathered sap. In this wilderness he evinced a strong desire for information. But there were few books, and the pleasure of reading was denied him. Having heard that a family living several miles distant owned a history of the French Revolution, he set out bare-footed through the snow, and obtained the book after considerable entreaty. Candles in his father's house were unknown, and he read the book evenings, after the day's work was done, by the light of pine-knots. In 1809 his father removed from Cincinnatus to Onondaga Hollow, where Thurlow obtained work in an ashery, and in doing such odd jobs of labor as offered themselves.

After abandoning the idea of becoming a sailor, his ambition turned to the life of a printer, which, at last, became irrepensible. After several attempts

to get a place, he became an apprentice in a printing-office in Onondaga Hollow. The work pleased him, and he soon became very useful in the office. Every leisure moment he employed in reading the office newspapers and such books as the village afforded. Here he remained until the war of 1812 broke out.

The printing-office in Onondaga was closed, and he secured a place in the old town of Scipio, where was published a paper called the *Tocsin*. Soon after, he entered the printing-office of Messrs. Seward & Williams, in Utica. The war was then waging, and Mr. Williams, one of his employers, enlisted in the army, and young Weed went with him. After serving in the lines a part of the campaign of 1813, he obtained his discharge, went to Albany, and obtained employment in the office of Webster & Skinner, publishers of the *Albany Gazette*. After working a while at Albany, he went to Herkimer and obtained employment in the office of the *American*, published by Wm. L. Stone, afterwards distinguished as editor of the *Northern Whig*, in Hudson; the *Mirror*, of Hartford; the *Daily Advertiser*, in Albany; and the *Commercial Advertiser*, in New York. Here he made the acquaintance of Michael Hoffman, and Alvan Stewart, the anti-slavery lawyer. At this early day, Mr. Weed made the acquaintance of very many men who became distinguished actors with him in the political arena.

After working in several places as a journeyman printer, he again, in 1815, became a resident of Albany. During the Sessions of the Legislature he listened to its debates, conducted by such men as Martin Van Buren, Erastus Root, and Nathan Sandford in the Senate, and Elisha Williams, William A. Duer, and Samuel Young in the Assembly. Here he took his first lessons in politics. Early in 1816, he began work in the office of the *Albany Argus*, of which Jesse Buel was editor. In 1817, Israel W. Clark, editor and proprietor of the *Albany Register*, invited Mr. Weed to become foreman of the office. It was while here that he first tried his "prentice hand" on editorials. Of these first efforts, he says: "I first wrote brief paragraphs upon common subjects, taking great liberties with the King's English, for I was ignorant of the first principles of grammar; but Mr. Clark, the editor, would good-naturedly point to these blunders and say encouragingly, 'I would improve with time.'" He did; and he became one of the most trenchant and powerful political writers in the State. In the split which occurred in the Republican party in 1818, one faction was headed by Governor De Witt Clinton, the other by Martin Van Buren, leading to a political and personal warfare of great bitterness, in which the pen of Mr. Weed became a somewhat powerful instrument. In the fall of 1818, Mr. Weed purchased the printing establishment of John F. Hubbard, of Norwich, Chenango County, and established the *Agriculturist*, a paper favorable to Mr. Clinton. After conducting this some fourteen months, he disposed of the establishment, returned to Albany, and became foreman in the office of the *Albany Argus*.

In April, 1818, Mr. Weed was married to Miss Catherine Ostrander, of Cooperstown. In his autobiography, he says: "To this marriage I am indebted for as much happiness as usually falls to the lot of man. She more than divided our labors, cares and responsibilities. But for her industry, frugality and good management, I must have been shipwrecked during the first fifteen years of trial. Economy and a well-regulated system in household affairs were virtues I did not possess, and their presence in her saved us from disaster." Mrs. Weed died, deeply mourned, on the fortieth anniversary of their marriage.

Mr. Weed became foreman in the *Argus* office in 1821. In 1822, after a brief residence in Manlius, he became a resident of Rochester, then a new, straggling village, containing but a few hundred inhabitants. Here he found occupation as a journeyman printer in the office of the *Telegraph*, a Clintonian paper published by Everard Peck. Mr. Weed's residence at Rochester in a measure laid the foundation of his future political life. Here he made the acquaintance of Frederick Whiteley, Derrick Libley and Colonel Nathaniel Rochester. Mr. Whiteley, afterwards a Vice-Chancellor of the State, with Wm. H. Seward, Bates Cook and Thurlow Weed, became the founders of the Anti-Masonic party.

In 1823, the *Rochester Telegraph* placed the name of John Q. Adams for President under its editorial head. This was the first paper nominating Mr. Adams. As Mr. Weed was soon known throughout the State as one of the chief supporters of Mr. Adams, he was fairly launched on the sea of politics.

In the singular campaign of 1824, in which Jackson, John Q. Adams, William H. Crawford, Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun were candidates, Mr. Weed and the *Telegraph* were the energetic and efficient friends of the successful candidate, Adams.

In September of that year, an accident to a stage-coach in Rochester, containing William H. Seward and Judge Miller, of Auburn, his father-in-law, led to Mr. Weed's acquaintance with the former. "This acquaintance grew rapidly," says Mr. Weed, "on subsequent occasions, when Mr. Seward was called to Rochester on professional business. Our views on general politics were not dissimilar, and in regard to anti-masonry he soon became imbued with my opinions."

Political anti-masonry, which had lurked in private dwellings, affecting town politics and creating neighborhood feuds, was at this time gathering strength from pamphlets and newspapers, under the leadership of Messrs. Seward, Weed and John C. Spencer, and soon began to exhibit the strength and influence of a new and powerful party. Though the Anti-Masonic party was short-lived, it developed many distinguished men, who are now ranked among the statesmen of the nation. Space will not permit us to follow all the windings of the partisan conflicts in which Mr. Weed was an acknowledged leader.

His singular abilities for molding and controlling public opinion, was first and most admirably

exhibited in the manner in which he manipulated the excitement growing out of the alleged murder of William Morgan by the Masons—molding it into a powerful party.

Mr. Weed was elected Member of Assembly from Monroe County to the session of 1825, and re-elected to the session of 1830.

After retiring from the Legislature, he left Rochester, and again became a resident of Albany. At this time Edwin Croswell was editor of the *Albany Argus*.

While Mr. Weed was in the Assembly in 1830, a project began to be discussed, which in time was carried into effect, and exerted a powerful influence in shaping the future events of his life. This project had in view the establishment of a new journal in Albany, devoted to the interests of the Anti-Masonic party. The first number appeared March 22, 1830, and was called the *Evening Journal*. Political anti-masonry soon passed away. The Whig party coming into existence; the *Evening Journal* became a leading organ. Years passed, and the Whig party also passed into history.

As it is our purpose to speak of Mr. Weed as a journalist and not as a politician, this sketch will be confined mostly to his journalistic career. It is proper, however, to say that, as a journalist, he was one of the founders and supporters of the Whig party, and, as such, he was equally influential in forming and sustaining the Republican party through all its triumphs, down to the time when he retired from the editorial duties of the *Evening Journal*.

Next to the *New York Tribune*, through all the history of the Whig and Republican parties, the *Evening Journal* has been a leading organ of the former, as it now is of the latter party. A contemporary, writing of Mr. Weed when in the zenith of his influence, says: "Everything written by him affords evidence of a powerful mind. His sarcasms are keen, his wit pungent. He knows how to touch the most sensitive part of his adversary. Every blow he strikes is felt. Few editors in America possess more of party tact than Thurlow Weed. He affords decisive evidence of being by nature a great man. He has risen from an obscure situation in life to eminence, and in all the positions which he has occupied he has discovered new resources of mind fully adequate to those powers requisite to meet the exigency."

In contact with all classes of men, he gained a wonderful knowledge of human nature—the ability to read men, to understand their motives, to scan the true spirit of the times—which gave him superiority and influence as a politician. A strong, vigorous and graceful writer, his pen was a source of strength and a defense to his party, to his friends and to himself. Allegiance and fidelity to his friends was a cardinal principle of Thurlow Weed. He was a politician in every sense of the word, excepting in low devices and platitudes. Magnanimous and generous toward rivals; severe, determined and untiring in his opposition to political enemies; his contests were honorable and high-minded.

In 1840, he was appointed State printer, by the removal of his great rival, Edwin Croswell. Mr. Weed always took commendable pride in his calling as a printer and in his connection with the Typographical Society. In January, 1851, writing to the New York Typographical Society, he said:

"It is now forty years since I was apprenticed to the 'Art preservative of all arts.' * * * According to all accounts I was then a very verdant youth. My master not unfrequently proposed to get ideas into my head with the 'mallet,' and on one occasion I evaded a well-aimed experiment in the same direction with the 'sheep's-foot' only by an 'artful dodge.' * * * But now only one branch of our trade is taught to apprentices. A printer is no longer connected with the 'press-room.' The printer of the present day is a stranger to its healthful toil, its rich humors, its merry laugh, its habitual jests, and, I am constrained to remember, its too frequent revelries. The customs of the press-room, along with its labors, are all obsolete. * * * Upon the years of my life which glided away as a journeyman printer in New York, I look back with exceeding gratification. It was a period of high, healthy, buoyant spirits and fresh enjoyment. I was never for a day out of work, and with a hardy frame and willing hand was enabled from my wages to gratify every rational wish. Few journeymen made a larger figure in the 'bill-book' of a Saturday night than myself."

The last time that Mr. Weed ever set type was on the 8th of November, 1854. On receiving the news that Myron H. Clark was elected for Governor, he rushed into the composing-room, "seized a 'stick,' and, himself, threw into 'brevier' these expressive sentences: 'Let the eagle scream! Myron H. Clark is elected!'" Such was Thurlow Weed as an apprentice, journeyman printer and editor. His career as a politician and Statesman is written conspicuously in the history of the State and nation.

In 1869, Mr. Weed retired from journalism, after forty years of unwearied devotion to his duties as an editor. From that, to the day of his death, his time was spent in the genial companionship of his home friends; in correspondence with absent ones, among whom were ranked the most distinguished names in America and Europe; and in reading and in writing reminiscences of his times. He often wrote for the press. Finally, surrounded by everything conducive to happiness, the sun of his life went down. He died in the City of New York, on Wednesday, November 22, 1882, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. His death was peaceful and painless. "A short time before it occurred, while his mind was wandering, he seemed to be carrying on a conversation with President Lincoln and General Scott in regard to the late war. At the conclusion he ordered a carriage, and then, after a moment's pause, said: 'I want to go home!' These were his last words."

The facts of this notice are largely abridged from Mr. Weed's autobiography.

The past has given to Albany many other editors and periodical writers whose graceful pens have

delighted and instructed the public here and elsewhere. Many of them became eminent in other fields of literature. Some were here but a brief time only; but they are worthy of mention. Among them we record the names of William L. Stone, Harry Crosswell, Nathaniel H. Carter, James R. Boyd, S. De Witt Bloodgood, John B. Van Schaick, Henry James, Horace Greeley, Francis Dwight, Ebenezer Emmons, S. H. Hammond, Daniel D. Barnard, Jabez D. Hammond, A. J. Downing, William B. Sprague, F. G. Squire, E. C. Delavan, Jasper Hazen, John A. Dix, A. George Johnson, Alfred B. Street, S. C. Hutchins, and J. Wesley Smith. Not one survives; but their writings remain.

It might seem invidious to speak of the living, some of whom have recently been called to similar duties in a larger sphere; others of whom have retired with laurels; and still others of whom are diligently toiling among us with prospects of a bright fame. As exponents of public sentiment, as teachers of the people, as dispensers of such knowledge as every one seeks to gain, such men ought to fill no second rank in personal character and in general esteem.

THE ALBANY COUNTY PRESS.

Under this head we attempt to give a list of all periodical publications of any importance issuing from the press of the county since the very first newspaper printed in the city in 1771. Our sources of information have often been contradictory as to dates of the minor papers, and we do not vouch for the accuracy of all. But a list of them is very suggestive and instructive.

1771.—November. *Albany Gazette*, published by James & Alexander Robertson. Discontinued about 1776, the publishers having joined the British and gone to New York City.

1782.—June 3. *New York Gazette, or Northern Intelligencer*, weekly. Balentine & Webster, publishers. The name was changed and Balentine left out.

1784.—May 28. *The Albany Gazette*, weekly. Charles R. Webster, publisher. May 25, 1789, semi weekly. United with the *Albany Advertiser*, March, 1817, and so continued until April 14, 1845.

1788.—January 26. *The Albany Journal, or Montgomery, Washington and Columbia Intelligencer*. Charles R. & George Webster, publishers. Semi-weekly, winter and summer. In connection with the *Gazette*. Discontinued May 25, 1789. February 11. *The Federal Herald*. Removed from Lansingburgh by Claxton & Babcock, and soon after returned. *The Albany Register*, weekly; John & Robert Barber until 1808; Solomon Southwick until 1817. Revived in 1818 by Israel W. Clark.

1796.—November. *The Chronicle*, John McDonald. Joseph Fry, printer, whom Henry C. Southwick succeeded. Discontinued in 1799.

1797.—*The Albany Centinel*. Loring C. Andrews; afterwards Whiting, Backus & Whiting. Discontinued, November 10, 1806.

1806.—November 11. *The Centinel revived in The Republican Crisis*. Backus & Whiting, and then Isaac Mitchell, publishers. 1808, Harry Crosswell & Co.; William Tucker, printer. In 1809, name changed to *The Balance and New York State Journal*. Crosswell & Frary. Removed to Hudson in 1811.

1807.—*The Guardian*. Van Benthuyzen & Wood, Court street, three doors below Hudson street. Continued about two years.

1812.—April 11. *The Albany Republican*. Samuel R. Brown. Succeeded by Mr. Romain. Finally taken to Saratoga.

1813.—January 26. *The Albany Argus*, tri-weekly, semi-weekly and weekly. Founded by Jesse Buel. A daily in 1825. The Crosswells, Comstock, Cassidy and Manning have been among its publishers and editors. Now the Argus Co. publish it.

1813-14.—*The Stranger*, 8vo, published by John Cook.

1815.—June. *The American Magazine*, monthly. Horatio Gates Spofford. Discontinued May, 1816. September 25, *Albany Daily Advertiser*. Theodore Dwight, editor. John W. Walker, printer. In March, 1817, William L. Stone consolidated it with the *Albany Gazette*. Published by the Websters as *Albany Gazette and Advertiser* until April 14, 1845. June 3. *Christian Visitant*, 4to, by Solomon Southwick. Continued two years. *The Friend*, 8vo, monthly, by D. & S. A. Abbey. Continued one year. *The Statesman*, published and edited by Nathaniel H. Carter, a graduate of Dartmouth College. Removed to New York in 1818.

1819.—June 5. *The Ploughboy*. Solomon Southwick, editor; John O. Cole, printer.

1820.—*Albany Microscope*, started by Charles Galpin and continued a few years.

1822.—August 3. *The Oriental Star*, weekly. Religious. Bezaleel Howe.

1823.—*National Democrat*. William McDougal. Published at Albany and New York. Discontinued April 7, 1824. Revived April 20, by Solomon Southwick.

1824.—May. *Religious Monitor*, monthly. Chauncey Webster. Removed to Philadelphia.

1825.—August 8. *The Albany Patriot and Daily Commercial Intelligencer*. George Galpin.

1826.—July 25. *National Observer*, weekly and semi-weekly, by George Galpin. Continued four years. Edited by Solomon Southwick.

1826.—April 22. *Albany Daily Chronicle*. Chas. Galpin & M. M. Cole; also, *Albany Morning Chronicle*, John Denio & Seth Richards. Discontinued in 1827.

1826.—*Escriboire, or Masonic and Miscellaneous Album*, started by E. B. Child. February 3, 1827, changed to *American Masonic Record and Albany Saturday Magazine*, E. B. Child. Changed to *American Masonic Record and Albany Literary Journal*, January 30, 1830. May, the *Albany Christian Register*, by L. G. Hoffman. J. R. Boyd, editor. *Christian Register and Telegraph* united with the *Journal* (of Utica) and published by Hosford & Wait as the *Journal and Telegraph*, November 21, 1831. About this time Lewis G. Hoffman published the *American Masonic Register*, five years.

1827.—May. *The Antidote*, by Solomon Southwick, editor; Webster & Wood, publishers. *The Standard*, weekly, by Matthew Cole. August 4. *The Comet*, by Daniel McGlashan, editor. October 13. *The Albany Signs of the Times and Literary Writer*, Daniel McGlashan, publisher; J. B. Van Schaick and S. D. W. Bloodgood, editors.

1828.—*The Morning Chronicle*, daily, by Beach, Denio & Richards. *Albany Chronicle*, semi-weekly.

1828.—*The Age*, by Galpin & Sturtevant.

1828.—December 27. *Albany Times and Literary Writer*, James McGlashan, publisher; Bloodgood and Van Schaick, editors.

1828.—*Albany Minerva*, by Joel Munsell.

1830.—January 30. *The Albanian*, semi-monthly, Arthur N. Sherman. March 22. *The Albany Evening Journal*, Thurlow Weed, editor; B. D. Packard & Co., publishers. April 3. *Farmers', Mechanics', and Workingmen's Advocate*, McPherson & McKercher. April. *Albany Bee*, J. Duffy, W. S. McCulloch & C. Angus.

1831.—September 7. *Albany Literary Gazette*, John P. Jermain, editor; James D. Nicholson, publisher. November 21. *Journal and Telegraph*, Hosford & Wait. *Temperance Recorder*, monthly.

1832.—January 5. *Daily Craftsman*, Roberts and James, editors. *The Albany Quarterly*, 8vo, by Albany Historical Society; edited by J. R. & S. M. Wilson. One volume issued.

1833.—February. *American Quarterly Hemp Magazine*. Continued two years.

1834.—March. *The Cultivator*, conducted by Jesse Buel, J. P. Beckman, and J. D. Wasson. April 5. *The Daily News*, Hunter & Hoffman. *Albany Whig*, by J. B. Van Schaick & Co.

1834.—January. *American Temperance Intelligencer*, monthly.

1835.—October 12. *The Albany Transcript*, C. F. Powell & Co.; a penny paper.

1835.—*Albany Bouquet and Literary Spectator*, by George Trumbull; monthly.

1835.—May. *The Silk Worm*, monthly; two years; then changed to *The Silk Worm and Sugar Manual*; discontinued in 1858.

1836.—*The Zodiac*, Monthly, by Gen. De Cou-drey Holstein. *The Common School Assistant*, by J. Orville Taylor.

1838.—January 6. *The Family Newspaper*, weekly, by Solomon Southwick. July 4. *Daily Patriot*, an anti-slavery paper, by J. G. Wallace.

1840.—*The Jeffersonian*, a campaign paper, by Horace Greeley. September 19. *The Unionist*, a daily campaign paper, by J. Munsell, C. Lov-ridge, and others. *Tomahawk and Scalping Knife*, short time. *Albany Patriot*, by J. C. Jackson, four years. *The Rough Heaver*, daily, campaign.

1841.—*Albany Atlas*, by Vance & Wendell. William Cassidy and H. H. Van Dyke became editors in 1843.

1842.—*The Irishman*, by H. O'Kane, seven weeks. *The Sunday Tickler*, by C. W. Taylor. *Albany Switch*, by H. J. Hastings; afterwards by E. Leslie. November 13. *Youth's Temperance Enterprise*, J. Stanley Smith; three years.

1843.—September 4. *Daily Knickerbocker*, by Hugh J. Hastings. *Weekly Knickerbocker*, June 8, 1857. *The Subterranean*, by James Duffy.

1844.—*Albany Spectator*.

1845.—April 9. *The Albany Freeholder*, a weekly anti-rent paper, by Thomas A. Devyr. *The Gavel*, by Joel Munsell. *The Scourge*, by Woodward & Packard. *Vesper Bell*, by Abbott & Crosby.

1846.—December 8. *Albany Herald*, by A. B. Van Olinda. *The Balance*. December 17. *Albany Morning Telegraph*.

1847.—*District School Journal*, by Francis Dwight. *The Castigator*, by M. J. Smith. Sep-tember 13. *Albany Morning Express*, a penny paper, by Stone & Henley; discontinued March 22, 1856. *Albany Weekly Express*, issued Febru-ary 1, 1851.

1848.—*Christian Palladium*, by Jasper Hazen; removed to New Jersey in 1855; was called *Chris-tian Herald* from 1849. *The Busy Bee*, by E. Andrews, two years. *The Castigator*, by Mortimer Smith, editor.

1849.—May 15. *The Albany Daily Messenger*, a penny paper, by B. F. Romaine, editor. June 30. *Sunday Dutchman*.

1850.—February 16. *Albany Daily Times*, by Heron, Furman & Thornton. *Half-Dollar Monthly*, B. F. Romaine. *Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society*; published many years. *Albany Evening Atlas*.

1851.—September 1. *Albany Daily Eagle*, a penny paper, by John Sharts; four months. Janu-ary 4. *American Mechanic*, by J. M. Patterson. *Carson League*, removed from Syracuse, by J. T. Hazen & T. L. Carson. *Albany Minor and Lib-erary Cabinet*, by J. H. Carroll & W. M. Colburn. October 11. *The Cithren*, by Warner & Hooker. *Northern Light*; continued about three years; con-ducted by Messrs. Dix, Beck, Dean, Delavan, Hawley, Johnson, Olcott, and Street; a well edited literary paper, as its editors' names indicate.

1852.—*Temperance Recorder*. September 11. *Family Intelligencer*, by Rev. Jasper Hazen; then by J. T. Hazen. *The New York Teacher*, con-ducted by James Cruikshank, T. W. Valentine,

Francis Dwight, and other teachers, as the organ of the New York State Teachers' Association, for several years. *Albany Freie Blaetter*, by August Miggael.

1853.—February 1. *Evening Transcript*, first Albany penny paper, by Cuyler & Henley. *Prohibitionist*, organ of New York State Temperance Society; edited by Prof. A. McCoy; in 1857, united with *Journal of American Temperance Union*.

1854.—*Family Dental Journal*, monthly, by D. C. Estes.

1855.—July 21. *State Police Tribune*, by S. H. Parsons & R. M. Griffin. Removed to New York.

1856.—March 23. *Albany Daily Statesman*. April 21. *Albany Morning Times*, by Stone & Co. September 8. *Albany Evening Union*, a penny paper; James McFarlane. *Albany Volksblatt*, by George Herb.

1857.—*Albany Microscope*, Charles Galpin. May 4. *Albany Morning Express*, J. C. Cuyler, editor; Stone & Henly, publishers. *Albany Evening Herald*, changed to *Albany Evening Union*, June 29, 1857.

1858.—*American Citizen*. *Evening Courier*. August. *The Hour and the Mun*, daily and weekly, by George W. Clarke & John J. Thomas. October. *Mercantile Horn*, weekly, gratis. *Voice of the People*, campaign paper. December. *Evening Standard*, by R. M. Griffin & Co. *Independent Press*; only a few months. *Astronomical Notes*, edited by Prof. Brunow. *American Magazine*, monthly, by J. S. & B. Wood; about one and a half years. *The Gavel*, two years, by John Tanner. *State Military Gazette*, by C. G. Stone; removed to New York.

1863.—January 17. *Standard and Statesman*.

1865.—October. *Albany Evening Post*, a penny paper, by M. & E. Griffin.

1883.—*Outing*, by Outing Publishing and Printing Company, 59 North Pearl street. Removed to Boston.

1881.—*The Inquirer and Criterion*, weekly, by Charles S. Carpenter; February 20, 1882, by Burdick & Taylor. Discontinued January 5, 1884. Republished as *The Inquirer*, April 30, 1884. Now discontinued.

There are, doubtless, a great many others of ephemeral existence, inspired by personal ambition, or by matters of local and temporary interest, such as campaign issues, society organs, school-boy discussions. The *cacoethes scribendi* has had a large development in this city. A collection of all these newspapers in some of our institutions would be interesting and valuable. Many of them are to be found in the State Library and Albany Institute. Some in old chests and garrets. Many more have been consumed by the tooth of time, the flames, or the grinding paper-mill.

NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN ALBANY AT THE PRESENT TIME.

The Albany Argus made its first appearance on Tuesday, January 26, 1813. It was published semi-weekly; Jesse Buel, editor and owner. On August 18, 1825, it issued its first daily paper. *The Daily Argus* and *The Albany Evening Atlas* were united February 18, 1856, under the name of *Atlas and Argus*, with Calvert Comstock and William Cassidy, publishers and editors. On April 6, 1865, they were succeeded by William Cassidy. It became *The Argus* again, Monday, May 15, 1865. On May 6, 1865, The Argus Company was organized. William Cassidy, editor; Daniel Manning and J. Wesley Smith, associates. S. C. Hutchins and St. Clair McKelway have been recent editors. James H. Manning is present editor. Sunday paper issued since May 13, 1877. Argus Building, southwest corner of Broadway and Beaver street.

Albany Evening Journal. B. D. Packard & Co. published the first number of *The Journal*, March 22, 1830. It was a strong Anti-Masonic paper. Thurlow Weed was the editor for over thirty years, and rendered it highly influential over the entire State. George Dawson succeeded him as editor. Weed & Dawson Co., and Dawson & Co. have been publishers. The Albany Journal Company published its first copy under the editorship of John A. Sleicher, March 17, 1884, with W. J. Arkell as President; J. W. Drexel, Secretary; James Arkell, Treasurer. The printing-house and office are at No. 61 State street.

Albany Evening Times, originally the *Albany Morning Times*, was started Monday, April 21, 1856, by Barnes & Godfrey; then published by Alfred Stone, David M. Barnes and Edward H. Boyd; later by Samuel Wilbor. March 1, 1861, the *Times* was consolidated with the *Evening Courier*, and was first issued as an evening paper September 25, 1865. *Albany Weekly Times* first appeared July 16, 1872. It was for a few years published by the Times Company. Since May, 1881, Theophilus C. Callicot has been the editor and proprietor, at No. 401 Broadway.

Albany Morning Express was started September 13, 1847. In 1854 it was published by Munsell & Co. In 1856 its name was changed to the *Daily Statesman*. *The Express* was revived by Stone & Henley, its original proprietors, May 4, 1857, with J. C. Cuyler, editor. In 1860, the publishers were Hunt & Co. *Albany Weekly Express*, issued August 4, 1881; Sunday edition, March 4, 1883. Albany Express Company: Edward Henley, J. C. Cuyler, Addison A. Keyes and Nathan D. Wendell. Printing-house, southwest corner Green and Beaver streets. A recent change has made Prof. Lewis, editor, and W. F. Hurcombe, publisher.

Daily Press and Knickerbocker. First number of *Sunday Press*, May 13, 1870; *Daily Press*, February 26, 1877; *Daily Knickerbocker*, September 4, 1843; *Press and Knickerbocker* united, August 10,

1877. *The Weekly Press and Legislative Journal* was issued for the first time, January 8, 1873. The Press Company is composed of John H. Farrell, Myron H. Rooker and James Macfarlane. Printing-house, 18 Beaver street.

Evening Post. First issued October, 1860, by R. M. & E. Griffin; editor, R. M. Griffin. Present publishers, M. & E. Griffin, No. 7 Hudson avenue.

Albany Evening Union. The Union Printing and Publishing Company first published this paper Monday, May 29, 1882, at their office in Beaver Block, South Pearl street. On Monday, July 16, 1883, John Parr became editor and proprietor, and published the paper from No. 28 Beaver street. Fred. W. White is now president and editor.

Freis Blaetter, started by Henry Bender & August Miggael in 1852; now and for many years conducted by August Miggael at No. 26 Beaver street. German daily paper. *Der Sonntagsgast*, issued since 1882 as a supplement to the Saturday edition. Office, No. 44 Beaver street.

Taglicher Albany Herald. This German daily was first published by Jacob Heinmiller, Tuesday, October 10, 1871; was issued as *Der Albany Herald* on February 11, 1869. The present office is at No. 87 Westerlo street.

The Cultivator and Country Gentleman, a weekly paper since January 4, 1866. As a monthly it was first published as the *Cultivator*, in March, 1834, and conducted by Jesse Buel, J. P. Beekman and J. D. Wasson. It was subsequently published by W. Gaylord & L. Tucker, and by L. Tucker & Son, who united it with *The Country Gentleman*, which was started by Luther Tucker and John T. Thomas, January 6, 1853. It is ably conducted by L. H. & G. M. Tucker, editors and proprietors.

The Catholic Telegraph, first issued in Albany, January, 1880. Telegraph Publishing Company was incorporated June, 1882. M. J. Ludden, editor.

The Guide, I. O. O. F. D. H. Turner, editor. First published, February 15, 1831. Issued every two weeks. D. H. Turner & G. B. Powers, publishers.

Albany Law Journal. Monthly. First number published January 9, 1870. Isaac Grant Thompson, editor; Weed, Parsons & Co., publishers, Nos. 39 and 41 Columbia street. Present editor, Irving Browne.

Our Work at Home. Monthly. Was first published at the rooms of the City Tract and Missionary Society, September, 1875. Charles Reynolds, editor. The present editor is George Sandenon, Jr. Office, No. 9 North Pearl street. It is the organ of the City Mission and Tract Society.

The Voice was first published as a monthly, January, 1879, at 401 Broadway. Edgar S. Werner, editor and proprietor, No. 59 Lancaster street.

Forest, Forge and Farm. Published in Albany since June, 1882. H. S. Quackenbush, editor and publisher, Tweddle Building.

Poultry Monthly. First issued by the Ferris Publishing Company, November, 1879. Office, 481 Broadway.

The Medical Annals was first published in January, 1883, by a Committee of Albany County Medical Society. Burdick & Taylor, 481 Broadway, are the present publishers. Dr. F. C. Curtis and others, editors.

NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN OTHER PLACES IN THE COUNTY.

COEYMANS.

Coeymans Gazette; started in 1863 by Gilbert C. Vincent; sold to Willard Pond in 1864; then to Henry Brook; afterwards to McKee & Springstead. Professor Thomas McKee became sole editor and proprietor in December, 1869, and finally took it to Greenbush as the *Rensselaer Gazette*.

Coeymans Herald, weekly. S. H. & E. J. Sherman, editors and proprietors.

COHOES.

The Cohoes Advertiser; started in February, 1847, by Ayres & Co.

The Cohoes Journal and Advertiser succeeded the above in January, 1848; continued by same firm until January, 1849.

The Cohoes Calaract succeeded the above; published by Silliman & Miller from June, 1849, to September, 1851; then sold to James H. Masten, who published it until January, 1867; then sold it to Anthony S. Baker, its publisher until January, 1870, when it was bought again by J. H. Masten.

Cohoes Daily News. J. H. Masten, proprietor.

Cohoes Regulator. Alexis Wager, publisher; weekly.

La Patrie Nouvelle. J. M. Authier, editor and publisher; weekly.

GREEN ISLAND.

Green Island Review. Henry L. Gilbert, editor and proprietor; weekly.

KNOWERSVILLE.

Knowersville Gazette; a local weekly, recently published.

RENSSELAERVILLE.

The Rural Folio, started in January, 1828, by C. G. & A. Polliner, and continued two years.

WEST TROY.

West Troy Advocate; started October, 1837, by William Hollands; continued by his widow and son, after his decease.

Waterloiet Daily Democrat; started by Allen Carey, January 20, 1859.

Albany County Democrat; started in 1860. Allen Carey, editor; weekly.

Waterloiet Journal. Treanor & Hardin, proprietors; weekly.

SHAKERS (P. O.)

Shaker Manifesto. Edited and published as a 4to monthly, by Rev. G. A. Lomas.

ENGLISH COLONIAL GOVERNORS OF NEW YORK.

NAMES.	SERVICE BEGAN.	TIME OF SERVICE.			RANK.	CHARACTER.	
		Y.	M.	D.			
Nichols, Richard.....	Sept. 8, 1664...	3	11	9	Colonel.....	Mild and prudent.	
Lovelace, Francis.....	Aug. 17, 1668...	4	11	25	Sir, Colonel.....	Arbitrary and oppressive.	
Evertse, Cornelis.....	Aug. 12, 1673...	1	1	7	Council of War.....		
Bencker, Jacob.....							
Calve, Anthony.....	Sept. 19, 1673...	1	1	21	Director-General.....	Prudent and energetic.	
Andros, Edmund.....	Nov. 10, 1674...	3	0	6	Sir, Knight.....	Arbitrary and odious.	
Brockholles, Anthony.....	Nov. 16, 1677...	8	2	1	Military Commander.....		
Andros, Edmund.....	Aug. 7, 1678...	2	5	6	Sir, Knight.....	A hated tyrant.	
Brockholles, Anthony.....	Jan. 13, 1681...	2	7	14	Captain.....		
Dongan, Thomas.....	Aug. 27, 1683...	4	11	14	Colonel.....	Liberal and politic.	
Andros, Edmund.....	Aug. 11, 1688...	0	1	28	Sir, Knight.....	Arrogant and selfish.	
Nicholson, Francis.....	Oct. 9, 1688...	7	7	24	Major.....	Brave, irascible, loose morals.	
Leisler, Jacob.....	June 3, 1689...	1	9	16	Merchant.....	Bold, honest and earnest.	
Slaughter, Henry.....	March 19, 1691...	4	7	7	Colonel.....	Intemperate and licentious.	
Ingoldsby, Richard.....	July 26, 1691...	1	1	4	Major.....	Haughty and insolent.	
Fletcher, Benjamin.....	Aug. 30, 1692...	5	7	13	Military Officer.....	Bigoted, weak, covetous and corrupt.	
Coote, Richard.....	April 13, 1698...	1	1	4	Earl of Bellomont.....	Energetic and discreet.	
Nanfan, John.....	May 17, 1699...	1	2	7			
Coote, Richard.....	July 24, 1700...	7	11		Earl of Bellomont.....	A worthy officer.	
Smith, William.....	March 5, 1701...	2	14		{	Councilor.....	Wise and true; friend's of the people of the Colony.
De Peyster, Abraham.....							
Schuyler, Peter.....							
Nanfan, John.....	May 19, 1701...	11	14		Lieutenant-Governor.....		
Hyde, Edward.....	May 3, 1702...	6	7	15	Lord Cornbury.....	Haughty, vicious, intolerant.	
Lovelace, John.....	Dec. 18, 1708...	4	18		Lord Lovelace.....	Weak and inactive.	
Schuyler, Peter.....	May 6, 1709...		3		Councilor.....	A true patriot.	
Ingoldsby, Richard.....	May 9, 1709...		16		Major.....	Arrogant and exacting.	
Schuyler, Peter.....	May 25, 1709...		6		Colonel.....	Vigilant and trusty.	
Ingoldsby, Richard.....	June 1, 1709...	10	9		Major.....		
Beeckman, Gerardus.....	April 10, 1710...		2	4	Councilor.....		
Hunter, Robert.....	June 14, 1710...	9	0	7	General.....	Liberal and just.	
Schuyler, Peter.....	June 21, 1719...	1	2	26	Councilor.....	Judicious and equitable.	
Burnet, William.....	Sept. 17, 1720...	7	6	28			
Montgomery, John.....	April 15, 1728...	3	2	16		Vain and useless.	
Van Dam, Rip.....	July 1, 1731...	1	1	0	Councilor.....	Upright and trustworthy.	
Cosby, William.....	Aug. 1, 1732...	3	7	9	Colonel.....	Universally detested.	
Clarke, George.....	March 10, 1736...	0	7	20			
Clarke, George.....	Oct. 30, 1736...	6	10	2			
Clinton, George.....	Sept. 2, 1743...	10	1	8	Admiral.....	Unreliable and unpopular.	
Osborne, Danvers.....	Oct. 10, 1753...			2	Sir, Baronet.....	Committed suicide.	
De Lancey, James.....	Oct. 12, 1753...	1	10	21	Lawyer.....	Decided and energetic.	
Hardy, Charles.....	Sept. 3, 1755...	1	9	0	Sir, Knight.....		
De Lancey, James.....	June 3, 1757...	3	2	1	Lawyer.....	Loyal and influential.	
Colden, Cadwallader.....	Aug. 4, 1760...	1	0	4		Scientific, unpopular.	
Colden, Cadwallader.....	Aug. 8, 1761...	2	18			Honest, impolitic.	
Monckton, Robert.....	Oct. 26, 1761...		22		General.....		
Colden, Cadwallader.....	Nov. 18, 1761...		7	22		Loyal, not popular.	
Monckton, Robert.....	June 14, 1762...	1	0	14			
Colden, Cadwallader.....	June 28, 1763...	2	4	15		Learned, not gracious.	
Moore, Henry.....	Nov. 13, 1765...	3	9	29	Sir, Baronet.....	Genial and incompetent.	
Colden, Cadwallader.....	Sept. 12, 1769...	1	1	7		Lacked popular sympathy.	
Murray, John.....	Oct. 19, 1770...		8	20	Earl of Dunmore.....	Unscrupulous and infamous.	
Tryon, William.....	July 9, 1771...	2	8	28		Loyal, but not popular.	
Colden, Cadwallader.....	April 7, 1774...	1	2	21		Learned, esteemed, but hated.	
Tryon, William.....	June 28, 1775...	4	8	25		Respected, but not loved.	
Robertson, James.....	March 23, 1780...	3	0	24	Military Governor.....		
Elliott, Andrew.....	April 17, 1783...	0	7	8	Military Governor.....	Amiable.	

We have, partly in order to save space, given the above tabular history of the Colonial Governors. Dates often conflicting have been written down from sources considered most reliable. So far as Albany County is concerned, there is little more to be said about them. The official residence was in New York City, and they seldom came to Albany except for a recreation trip, or for making a show of their importance, and to receive demonstrative

recognition from the well-to-do and loyal people of the second city in their government. Good policy made it best for them, sometimes, to meet the Indians here in council, to make presents and have a good talk with them. They came with pomp, dressed in blue and gold trimmed coats, with gold-laced hats and showy ruffles. They expected processions and feasting, and every demonstration of joy and respect from the people. Policy granted

as much; but sensible men were glad when it was over and expenses paid.

These men were usually of intemperate and licentious habits; of weak or mediocre talents; given to their appetite; ruled by their mistresses and favorites. Dissolute in morals, they were often broken down in strength. They gave formal attention to the religion of the Church which best pleased the King.

They generally had no interest in the welfare of the people. All were foreign born; most of them incompetent pets or members of the English aristocracy. Penniless, useless and dependent at home, they were sent abroad to get rich by robbing the people, and to serve the King—whose sycophants they were—in any way to please him and aggrandize themselves. They sought to associate with themselves the wealthy and influential, from whom they received adulation and flattery, in order to secure favors in petty offices, sensual pleasures and land grants. They kept aloof as much as possible from the toiling people, and asked of them only taxes to pay exorbitant salaries and carry out selfish schemes.

The powers of these Governors were legislative and executive. Outside their favorites they sought no counsel. They had to do with forts, garrisons and all military matters in peace and war; with keeping the Indians on good terms; with church affairs; with the excise; with regulating trade; with granting lands; with appointing civil and military officers; with weights and measures; and even with licensing teachers and midwives and regulating marriage and divorce. Most were interested specially in making land grants, because most productive of wealth. No industries were encouraged. Rents were fluctuating; lands were at low value; trade was paralyzed; taxes high and oppressive during most of these years.

The official terms of most of these Governors were short, and marked by few incidents of importance as proceeding from them. They were often recalled on account of manifest incompetency or glaring dishonesty and fraud. In vain the public, as they gladly saw the departure of a ruling governor, hoped that the next would be a wiser and better man.

The constant call of the people for something better did not reach the ear of royalty except to irritate the selfish and heartless King or Governor. Despising the clamors of their subjects, they neither attempted to soothe them, nor understood how to do it. These colonial years were years of one long and grievous cry for relief from burdens, for heaven-born rights, for representation of their interests. It is easy to see what Albany thought of these matters by the class of men put forward to direct public affairs at home, or to represent them in the Assemblies when they were allowed. Though generally loyal subjects of the government, at the same time they were friends of popular representation and the advancement of the true interests of the colony. Aside from these remarks, we shall have little to say of individual Governors; of some, nothing.

There is no doubt that the influence of the English, particularly those from New England, many of whom resided in New York City, at that time engaged in commerce, had much to do with overriding the will of Peter Stuyvesant, and forced him to a reluctant and bloodless surrender of the Dutch power in 1664. These people, tired of the stubborn tyranny of the inflexible old Governor, were longing for the liberties allowed in New England. They expected them under Governor Nicolls, but they were disappointed. His administration was a mild one; he did not impair the city liberties of Albany, nor interfere with its trade. After its peaceable surrender, September 24, 1664, things went on as usual. During his time the "Duke's Laws" were framed, but no popular representative was allowed; no new franchises conceded. It was decided that the Dutch patents must be renewed as invalid, bringing wealth to the Governor by his enormous fees for granting new titles. The Mohawks made a fearful raid into Canada in 1666, which the French returned. But the colonists had peace.

The odious Lovelace listened to nothing asked by the people. He told them that their business was to work and pay their taxes. He ordered their remonstrance to be burned by the common hangman. His term came to a sudden end. New York was retaken by a Dutch fleet without firing a gun. Lovelace was away enjoying his ease; while Captain John Manning, in charge of Fort James, probably for a bribe, surrendered August 9, 1673, at the first summons. The disappointed Dutch were willing. No one cared except the King and his loyal adherents.

Anthony Colve, who was made Director-General, took possession. Old titles and officers were restored. Albany surrendered to the new government. Fort Albany was named Fort Nassau, and the village of Beverswyck was called Willemstadt. The Reformed Church was specially protected while other religions were tolerated. Andries Draeyer was made Commandant of the Fort. Gerrit Van Slechtenhorst, Cornelis Van Dyck, David Schuyler and Peter Bogardus were made Schepens of the village, and Martin Gerritsen, Pieter Vounen, and Hendrick Van Ness, Schepens of Rensselaerwyck.

But the restored Dutch dynasty was brief. At this time England and Holland were at war. Peace was settled at Westminster, and Governor Colve formally gave over the New Netherlands and its dependencies to Governor Andros, representing his Britannic Majesty, November 10, 1674, and English rule was restored before the Dutch system had fairly begun again. Duke James took out a new patent to save all controversy in relation to his title in America, and the old names of villages and forts were restored.

Andros held sway over a colony of unsubmitive subjects. He filled his position as Governor about five years and a half in all, and never secured confidence and respect. He visited Albany in 1675 and instituted a court to hold sessions every year, beginning in June, to decide civil causes under

500 guilders. Robert Livingston was clerk of this court. He established the Board of Indian Commissioners. In his time the bloody King Philip's War was raging in Massachusetts, which brought great alarm to Albany and Rensselaerwyck. He also made a new treaty with the Mohawks in August, 1675, to foil the designing intrigues of the French Jesuits with this tribe. At a second visit, in February, 1676, it was found that the Mohawks had just returned from a successful attack on King Philip's Indians, and thus allayed the fears of the people of Albany. They had no trouble with Philip, and rendered no aid to their New England neighbors in this direful war.

This year the old fort was so dilapidated that it was deserted—a new stockaded one, by order of Governor Andros, having been built near the present site of St. Peter's Church, so as to defend and command the whole town of Albany. It had four bastions and room for twenty-four guns. It was occupied in June, in command of Captain Sylvester Salisbury. During his time he was frequently called upon in settling church difficulties at Albany, and settling Indian questions, which he generally adjusted acceptably. Andros was loyal to his King, but oppressive. In 1689, he was arrested in Boston by the people, confined in the fort, and his under officers shipped to England.

Dongan called the first representative Assembly, which met at Fort James, October 17, 1683. The names of the two members from Albany and two from Rensselaerwyck are not known. This Assembly adopted a charter of liberties, and divided the province into counties, as stated in another part of this volume. During his time, the claim of the Patroon over the territory of Albany, neglected by Andros, was adjusted amicably and wisely, and Albany received its city charter July 22, 1686. King Charles II died February 16, 1685, and James II, Duke of York, Albany and Ulster, the King's brother, and proprietor of New York and dependencies, became King of England. His rule was fickle and arbitrary. The wishes of the people were not regarded by him. Dongan, though not in sympathy in religious views with a majority of the people, was a man of moderation and gentle manners, and attended faithfully to the interests of the colony in the matters of the French, who were still endeavoring, by religious influence, to seduce the Mohawks. He visited the new city several times, and advanced its policy by good counsel and good appointments. There was some feeling against him, chiefly on account of his religion, at a time of less liberality than now.

King James was forced to abdicate his throne, and William III was proclaimed King, February 16, 1689. Mary, a Protestant sister of James, was his wife, and Queen. This event led to great excitement throughout the colony, particularly in New York and Albany. The government and people of this city hailed the news of a new King and Queen with great demonstrations of joy. They met on the 1st of July, 1689, at the City Hall, and with "y' greatest solemnity that could be used in so short a time" marched to the Fort, where public

proclamation was made in English and Dutch, guns fired, and loud acclamations of "God save King William and Queen Mary," were made, concluding with the "Ringing of y' Bell, Bonfires, fyreworks, and all o' Demonstrations of joy."

The assumption of authority by Jacob Leisler, a merchant and militia captain of New York City, made much trouble in Albany. He held his position with the approval of the people. The aristocracy were opposed to him as a Commander-in-Chief of the Province. He was acting governor for the time. Lieutenant-Governor Nicholson had gone to England, and the colony had no governor. Leisler may have been ambitious, but he was honest and patriotic. He was brave and popular. It was his purpose to give up the trust committed him by the people as soon as a Governor appointed by William and Mary should reach New York. Meanwhile he proffered aid to protect the frontiers at Albany and Schenectady, now in danger of invasion from the French and Indians, and claimed possession of the fort at Albany and recognition of his right to command. He sent his son-in-law, Jacob Milborne, to persuade the people of Albany to yield to Leisler's government. Some of the people looked favorably upon the matter. But the city government regarded the course of Leisler and Milborne as without authority of William and Mary, and therefore seditious. The Mayor, Peter Schuyler, took charge of the fort, and successfully resisted all attempts of Milborne and his troops, who had been sent up from New York for that purpose, to take possession of it. The citizens were divided in their sympathies. They sent for aid to Connecticut, and aid came; to Massachusetts, and they were advised to yield to Leisler and have peace. This they did, because of their fear, especially after the burning of Schenectady, of invasion and devastation. Leisler at once prepared for defense, and sent forces, made up of friendly Indians, soldiers of Albany County and from Connecticut, against Canada. The latter, to the disgust of Leisler, returned August 20, 1690, having seen no enemy and effected nothing. Leisler imprisoned the commander of the expedition, General Winthrop, of Connecticut, and some other officers; established a local government for the City and County of Albany, to control affairs, and returned to New York City. The city was in great fear and disquiet during the winter of 1690-91.

Governor Sloughter came with a commission from the Crown, March 19, 1691. Leisler readily yielded the authority, claimed as from the people. He was no usurper. But the aristocratic haters of popular rule were not satisfied. They caused the immediate arrest of Leisler and Milborne, and had them cast in prison, tried and convicted on the charge of treason. Sloughter, during a drunken debauch, signed the sentence of execution, and they were hanged May 16, 1691. History writes the actors in this malicious murder as traitors against freedom and humanity.

Governor Fletcher, one of the most arrogant and covetous of the Governors, visited Albany as most of the Governors did, to display his authority, and

to hold a meeting with the Sachems. He planned in 1693, at this city, an unsuccessful expedition against Canada. His dishonest conduct, especially in the matter of giving grants of land to his favorites, caused him to be recalled in disgrace. Boastful of military skill, he was cowardly and imbecile in action. A hater of all religion, he was a professed Episcopalian, and made himself odious by an endeavor to make it the only sect recognized by the State and supported by general tax. The brief terms of the Earl of Bellomont were those of judicious management. They embraced the period of the famous piracy of William Kidd. Lord Cornbury left a record of unscrupulous villainy and licentiousness that puts his name in lasting contempt. Governor Hunter promoted the immigration of the Palatinates, kept peace with the Indians, and encouraged improvements.

Governor Burnet was interested in regulating trade with Canada; in cultivating friendly relations with the Indians; and making forts and other defenses more secure. Cosby was narrow in his prejudices and a petty tyrant. The famous Zenger libel case occurred in his time, in 1734. His triumph has been called "the Morning Star of the Revolution." It was, at least, one of the stars. Governor Clarke's administration covers the disgraceful negro plot of 1741, equal in folly to the Salem witchcraft. Governor Clinton's long term was not successful in pleasing the people. He was afraid to displease King George, and all his attempts in public matters displayed ignorance and timidity. Saratoga was destroyed by the French and Indians in 1747.

Governor James De Lancey was a man of liberal culture, an able lawyer, a French Protestant and

a Loyalist. He understood the people and did not boldly oppose them. He was President of the notable Convention held at Albany in 1754. Cadwallader Colden, who, as President of the Council and Lieutenant-Governor, attended to the affairs of the province several years, and most of the time indeed between 1760 and 1774, was a friend of the interests of the colony, as he regarded them. As surveyor he did much in the settlement of land questions. But his inflexible adherence to the English government, his decided want of sympathy with popular feeling of the time, made him odious and his situation unpleasant. Governor Colden had his Majesty's service sincerely at heart, and looked upon all as rebels who questioned its wisdom. He was confident that all men of property and all pious people who had not been poisoned against the King by the Boston party would be true to him. He was, no doubt, honest in his sentiments. He was often at Albany, and was quite actively interested in his efforts to force the Green Mountain Boys to submit to the government of New York. He insisted upon Connecticut River as the eastern boundary of this colony. Sir Henry Moore spent much of his time socially at Albany. The most marked feature of his brief administration was his regrating of the townships in the New Hampshire Grants, as a part of Vermont was then called, and the exaction of large fees for these unjust transactions. William Tryon served his King well, and inflicted all the injuries he could upon the patriots of the revolutionary period, both before and after the declaration of independence. He was the last of the royal Governors, and went back to England in 1780.

THE COLONIAL MILITARY AFFAIRS AND WARS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

THE storms of rude war were ever beating about Albany during its colonial history. It was a city always under arms. Here were stockaded forts and garrisons. Soldiers were often billeted upon the people; military parade was frequent; the vices of the camp were seen in the street and carried their influence into families. Here was constant fear—fear of foreign foes, of treacherous savages, and of the very soldiers who were sent here to protect life and liberty.

We propose to give enough of the history of these wars to show the relations which the County of Albany sustained to them; the state of the public mind; the condition of the military service; and in general, what was done or borne in Albany by its inhabitants or the soldiers who centered here.

The French in Canada had much reason for unfriendly feelings towards the Mohawks dwelling along the Mohawk River, in fortified castles, approaching Albany. They were jealous of the

Dutch and the English, because these Indians were on terms of amity and commerce with them; and there were suspicions that some of the hostile deeds of these savages were prompted by their rival traders at Albany. Hence, Albany was in great fear of the French and their Adirondack allies. We give the following account of the first experiences which our city had of these French invaders, in the language of the times.

In February, 1666, Monsieur Courcelles, Governor of Canada, made an unsuccessful expedition against the Mohawks, coming unwittingly "within two miles of a small village called Schenectade, lying in the woods beyond Fort Albany in the territories of his Royall Highness. He fell into an ambush and lost some of his men. Seven who were wounded were sent the next day to the village, where they were carefully drest and sent to Albany. The Dutch bores carried to the camp such provisions as they had, and were too well paid for it;

especially peaz and bread, of wch. a good quantity was bought. He inquired what garrison or fort was at Albany. Twas told him a Captain and 60 English Soldyers with 9 pieces of ordnance in a small fort of foure Bastions, and that the captain thereof, Capt. Baker, had sent for 20 men from another garrison of the King's at Sopesa."

During the dire war of King Philip, 1674-76, when New England settlements were kept in continual alarm by the wanton cruelties of the Indians, the settlers had no help from New York except what was rendered by Mohawk raid against Philip. For two years, wherever were white settlements in the valleys of New England, there were confusion, desolation and death. They defended their own homes; they fought their own battles.

Governor Andros officially reports in 1678: "The Militia is about 2,000, of wch. about 140 horse in three troops, the foot formed in Companies, most under 100 men each, all indifferently armed with fire-arnes of all sizes, ordered and exerc.zed according to law, and are good firemen. One standing company of Souldiers with gunners and other officers for the sforts New York and Albany always victualled in October and November for a year." He adds: "Albany is a small, long stockaded fort with foure bastions in it, 12 gunns, sufficient ag' Indians."

Governor Dongan in 1687, reports to the Committee of Trade:

"At Albany there is a Fort made of pine trees, fifteen foot high, and foot over, with Batterys and conveniences made for men to walk about, where are nine guns, small arms for forty men, four Barrils of powder with great and small Shott in proportion. The Timber and Boards being rotten were renewed this year. In my opinion it were better that fort were built up of Stone and Lime which will not be double the charge of this years repair, which yet will not last above 6 or 7 years before it will require the like again, whereas on the contrary, were it built of Lime and Stone it may bee far more easily maintained. And truly its very necessary to have a Fort there, it being a frontier place both to the Indians and French."

On Friday, September 9, 1687, information being received by Governor Dongan and Council, "That y^e french at Canada are providing 1,500 pairs of Snowshews;" it was ordered "that the Mayor and Magistrates of Albany send orders to the five Nations to bring Down their Wives, children and old men least y^e french come upon them in the Winter, and none stay in the Castles but y^e young men." On the next Sunday, September 11th, it is stated that "letters from Albany giving account that the people there are in great consternation thro' apprehension that y^e french will come down upon them this winter." Whereupon it was "resolved, that every tenth man of all y^e Militia troupes and Companys within the Province, Except those that were out y^e last yeare a whaling, be drawn out to go up hither."

In 1689, Chevalier de Callieres, Governor of Montreal and Commander of the Troops and Militia of Canada, planned an expedition of 2,000

men against Orange (Albany) and Manathe (New York). He writes: "The plan is to go straight to Orange, the most advanced town of New York, one hundred leagues from Montreal, which I would undertake to carry, and to proceed thence to seize Manathe, the capital of that colony, situated on the Sea Side." He designed to take his picked soldiers by canoes and flat batteaux, by Richelieu River and Lake Champlain; thence to march along the Hudson direct to Albany, pillaging by the way. Of Albany, he says, "The town is about as large as Montreal, surrounded by picquets, at one end of which is an Earthen Fort defended by palisades & consisting of four small bastions. There is a garrison of 150 men of three companies in the fort, and some small pieces of cannon. Said town of Orange may contain about 150 houses and 300 inhabitants, capable of bearing arms, the majority of whom are Dutch, and some French Refugees with some English.

"After having invested the town and summoned it to surrender with promise not to pillage if it capitulate, I propose, in case of resistance, to cut or burn the palisades in order to afford an opening, and enter then, sword in hand, and seize the fort. These being only 14 feet high can be easily escaladed by means of the conveniences we shall find when masters of the town, or by blowing in the gate with a few petards or two small field pieces, which may be of use to me, and I shall find means of conveying there.

"After I shall have become master of the town and fort of Orange, which I expect to achieve before the English can afford it any succor, my intention is to leave a force of 200 men in the fort with sufficient supplies, which I shall find in the city, and to disarm all the inhabitants."

"I shall seize all the barks, batteaux, and canoes that are at Orange, to embark my force on the river, which is navigable down to Manathe, and I shall embark with the troops the necessary provisions and ammunition, and some pieces of cannon to be taken from Fort Orange to serve in the attack on Manathe."

But his plans failed. He never reached Albany. The wars of the English colonial period were not provoked by any indiscretions of the colonists. They were not originated by them nor in their interest. They were forced upon them by the European government in the supposed interest of the King, for the increase of his wealth and power; or for some petty caprice; or for keeping the soldiers and the people occupied in other matters than in meddling with the prerogatives of kings and governors. The colonists preferred the peaceful pursuits of industry. In war these were endangered. In war their settlements were liable to pillage; their homes to murders and burnings; their every interest to ruin. They were to do the fighting, endure the suffering, and pay the expenses of these wars. This chiefly, and gain nothing. In all these wars the northern American colonies suffered, some of them greatly. Of New England this remark is especially true. Its whole northern frontier without defenses, was exposed to sudden

invasion from the savage. It had no well defended forts, but it had many growing villages and many farm-houses, filled with valuable booty for the plundering Indian. The blood-curdling story of their cruelties has been read in every family. They were encouraged in their deeds of cruelty by the Canadian French, a race with whose trade, politics, and religion the English had no common sympathies and interests. Besides murder and outrage, many women and children were led to a captivity worse than death. All small articles of worth that could sell for what the Indian valued more, were carried away and sold. Silver spoons and plates taken as plunder from New England homes were offered for sale by these savages, not only at Montreal and Quebec, but in Albany and Schenectady. Although the Indians disliked all Europeans, they hated the English colonists of New England most. Their farms spoiled their hunting grounds, and their increase crowded out the Indians. Then the Indian had not forgotten the Pequod, King Philip, and other early destructive wars. The less aggressive and more seductive French pleased them better. The Iroquois were less friendly to the French. Champlain had taken sides with their Algonquin foe; and they had made terms of amity and trade with the early Dutch and later English. They had fallen upon La Chine in Canada, and committed terrible massacre, and done them all the mischief they could, in sundry places and at sundry times. Later, some of the Mohawks were seduced by French Jesuits, settled in Canada, and took sides against their old friends. But most of these people were true to the Dutch and the English during the whole colonial period, and took sides with the Tories during the Revolution, excepting a part of the Oneidas who had been brought under the influence of Rev. Samuel Kirkland, a New England missionary.

During the French and Indian wars in the eighteenth century, New York was the only northern colony which was virtually uninjured. Its territory was not invaded; few of its men went into the service. Farms continued to be taken up; trade prospered about as usual.

Albany County was subject to alarms, but it had no invasions. It had forts and garrisons, and many wise and prudent citizens to see that the city suffered no detriment.

There was contention among themselves as to matters of policy in government; there were social distinctions; there were cliques and parties. The Conservatives, the Loyalists, and the claimants for the rights of the people for popular representative government, were all busy. There were brains and mediocrity; wealth and poverty. But all agreed that wars were a luxury not to be desired.

Albany was the great center of trade to these Iroquois. Here they often met in business and in council. Here they had many friends. They had here bought many valued trinkets, received many politic courtesies and presents, and had many a drunken carousal. They had seen Albany's fort and stockades.

This statement is given to explain why this city, during all the wars, suffered no ravages from the Indians, who long remember favors and never rush into seen dangers.

The story of the burning of Schenectady has been told again and again. It is given in detail in the history of that county. We need not repeat it. It shows the character of the French and Indian mode of warfare at that time.

KING WILLIAM'S WAR.

James II, once Duke of York and Albany, and proprietor of the Colony of New York, was a Roman Catholic. While he was not generous to the territory named after him, he was especially cruel to New England. He became so odious at home that he was driven from his throne, and succeeded by William, Stadtholder of Holland and Prince of Orange, who had married Mary, eldest child and Protestant daughter of James. In November, 1688, William and Mary landed in England and were proclaimed joint sovereigns in February, 1689. This was an era in English liberty. Poor James fled to Louis XIV, Catholic King of France, who espoused his cause. This brought on open hostilities between England and France, which extended to the American colonies, and led to those seven years of dire conflict known as "King William's War," extending from 1689 to the treaty of Ryswick, in Holland, 1697.

There were constant fears in Albany. The Indians were known to be treacherous and revengeful. They were on every side, and often in the city, or very near it, in considerable force. The jealous French were using their influence against the Dutch and English, especially those of Albany, because of their advantage in trade. They feared the Iroquois, and wished, by cunning art, to gain them to their interests; they hated them, and wished to punish them for some remembered cruelties; and the English and French in Europe never loved each other.

To keep the Indians on good terms with the English, and in fighting trim against the French, it seemed necessary for every Governor to meet their Sachems at Albany, have a talk, and make presents. This was especially important when wars were impending.

The importance of Albany to the English crown is strikingly set forth by Governor Sloughter, on the eve of King William's war.

The preservation of Albany was regarded as of great importance as being the only bulwark and safeguard of the King's government on the frontiers of the colony. Says Governor Sloughter: "If the French should assault and gain Albany, all the English colonies on both sides of us would be endangered. For we have nothing but that place that keeps our Indians steady to us, and the loss of that must be the loss of all the King's interest on this continent."

But war had begun; something must be done. A meeting was held at Albany, November 24, 1689, at which were present: "Y^e Commissioners

for y^e City and County of Alb advysing with Sundry officers of y^e Militia There. where upon It is Resolved That y^e following Persones be commissioned, vizt.: Captain Jochim Staets Comdr. of Fort Orange always to keep under command in s^t fort sixty men; Lieut. Jonathan wright; Ens: John Hater. For the city of albany, Pieter minne, Toune Major, Capt. Johannes wendel, Melgert Wynants, Ens: Regnier Barentse, Capt. Pieter van waggden, Leift. Robt Sanders, Ens: Joh: Bleeker, Jun^r Capt. Barnet Liewis, Leift. Marte Klock, Ens. For the County of Albany, Capt. Martin gerritse, Lieut. Evert d'Ridder, Ens: Zymon van ness, Capt. Alexander glen, Leift. Johannes glen, Ens: douwe Aukus, Capt. Johannes Bensing, Leift. Andries Barentse, Ens. Johannes Janse.

"Ordered That y^e aforesaid Commissionated officers now are Established, and shall from this time forth Remaine and be in full Power & y^e Authority, & y^e Authority for y^e Militia of this & County, To act & to doe in all matters and things relating Militarie affaires, according to y^e Rules & discipline of war, until, further order from his Majestie King William of England, Scotland, French & Ireland, &c."

"In 1689," says Broadhead, in his history of the State, "the City of Albany was not much more than a large stockaded village, of which the two chief streets crossed each other at right angles. The one, 'Handelaer's Straat,' or Market street, ran nearly north and south, skirting the river, proverbially apt to overflow its banks in times of great floods.

"The other, running about east and west, a little way up a steep hill, was called 'Yonkheer's Straat,' now known as State street.

"About half way up the hill stood the fort, just outside one of the city gates."

At this time Albany was the center of the great internal traffic of the province with the Indians. Her importance was second only to that of the metropolis, and her city officers always maintained their official dignity and their loyalty to the Government.

In a Report on the State of the Militia in their Majesties Province of New York, made in April, 1693, by Governor Fletcher:

"The Militia of the County of Albany, commanded by Major Peter Schuyler, being five companies of Foot and one Troop of Horse, now formed into Dragoons by the Governor, consisting of 359." The aggregate in the Province was 2,932.

"In the List of the Officers of the Militia in the Province of New York," made in November, 1700, in the time of Governor Bellomont, the officers of the Regiment of Militia in the City and County of Albany, is given as follows: Field Officers—Peter Schuyler, Colonel; — — —, Lieutenant-Colonel; Dyrck Wessels, Major.

Of a Foot Company in the City of Albany: Commissioned Officers—Johannes Bleeker, Captain; Johannes Rosebaum, Lieutenant; Abra. Cuyler, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in the said City: Albert Rykman, Captain; Wessel Ten Brock, Lieutenant; Johannes Thomasse, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in the said County: Martin Cornelisse, Captain; Andries Douw, Lieutenant; Andris Koyman, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in said County: Gerrit Teunisse, Captain; Jonas Douw, Jobhem Lamerse, Lieutenants; Volckhart V. Hoeseem, Abra. Hause, Ensigns.

Of the Troop of Horse in y^e said Regiment: Kilian Van Renslaer, Captain; Johannes Schuyler, Lieutenant; Bennone V. Corlaer, Cornet; Anthony Bries, Quartermaster. This Regiment consists of Three hundred and Seventy-one men.

"The Governo^r hath established a Court Martiall att Albany, whereof Major Rich'd Ingoldsby is President & Robert Livingston, Judge Adv^{ocate}, who, with other commissioned Captains at Albany, have power to exercise Martiall Law, being a frontier Garrison and in actual Warr." M. Clarkson, Secry.

The people of Albany were in great alarm when they learned of the fearful fire and massacre that came upon the near City of Schenectady in 1690. The expedition was sent by Count Frontenac, Governor of Canada, and came so suddenly upon the doomed village on that gloomy winter night in February, and without provocation, that no people felt safe from savage invasion and cruelty.

An expedition was sent from New England and New York against Canada, under command of General Winthrop, of Connecticut, its purpose being punishment for wrongs inflicted on the borders, and for conquest of the troublesome French.

Some troops, from New York and Connecticut, with Indians of the Five Nations, placed under the command of Colonel Peter Schuyler, left Albany early in July, 1690, and pushed toward the St. Lawrence, where they met Frontenac in August, and were repulsed. Milborne, by direction of Leisler, furnished subsistence for this army. Feuds between these motley and undisciplined troops caused the failure of the expedition. A part of the force under Winthrop went no farther than Wood Creek, at the head Lake Champlain. All returned to Albany where they met the amazed and indignant Leisler, who caused the arrest of Winthrop and some of his leading officers and put them in confinement.

In July, 1691, Governor Sloughter, after a visit to Albany, writes: "I returned from Albany on the 27th past, where I left all things in good posture, and with much difficulty have secured the Indians. I found that place in great disorder, our plantations and Schenectady almost ruined and destroyed by the enemys dureing the time of the late confusion there. I have garrisoned Schenectady and the Halfe Moon with some of the hundred fusileers raised by our Assembly; the remainder, with one of the King's Companys, are posted at Albany."

Major Peter Schuyler, then Mayor of the City, marched from Albany June 21, 1691, with a few soldiers and Indians. On the 1st of August he came upon a French Settlement near Montreal, and killed about 200 of the French and Indian inhabitants, with a loss of only 43, of whom 22 were Indians.

After this, Major Ingoldsby commanded at Fort Orange, while the county militia were placed by Governor Fletcher under command of Major Peter Schuyler, in all 359 men.

In June, 1693, the Governor held another Conference with the Five Nations at Albany, to counteract, if possible, the artful efforts of the French to excite them against the colony. By bountiful gifts and flattering words, the conference greatly delighted the Indians and secured their friendship.

The sum of £1,500 had been appropriated for the repair of Fort Orange. In September, 1693, 560 new palisades were collected and "sett up against the old Stockadoes." No effort was omitted that the defenses of the city might be kept in good condition and the soldiers on a war footing.

Bands of Canadian Indians often came near the city in 1696-97, causing great alarm to the inhabitants. Houses and barns were burned and cattle killed on the farms in the county, and many left their homes, so great was the fear of savage murder.

After the peace of Ryswick, ending this war, a census was taken, as given in the article on population, in which it was made to appear that the population of the county, as it then was, had been reduced from 662 men, 340 women, and 1,014 children in 1689, to 382 men, 262 women, and 805 children in 1698. There had left the city and county during the war, 142 men, 68 women, and 209 children; and 84 men had been killed, 38 had died, and 16 had been taken prisoners.

Early in July, 1698, a general peace was concluded at Ryswick. The Earl of Bellomont was then Governor-General of the Province of New York. The following paper was drawn up and presented at a meeting of the Common Council held in the City of Albany, the 2d day of August, 1698. It shows the public feeling at that time.

The Common Council are unanimously of the opinion to address his Excell. the Earl of Bellomont on the following heads:

1. To thank his Lordship for bringing y^e joyfull news of y^e Peace.
2. To acquaint his Lordship y^e great hardships this poor City has labored under for these 9 years dreadful and bloody warr; during which time they have not only been at an Excessive Charge and Expense in quartering y^e officers and souldiers sent hither from time to time, but have been obliged, for their own security, to fortify y^e towne twice with Palesadoes, and build 5 block houses, all at their own charge, which hath so much impoverished y^e Inhabitants y^t most have deserted.
3. That this City doth wholly rely and depend upon y^e Indian Trade, upon which account it was first settled, and have obtained a Charter whereby y^e Sole trade with y^e Indians is confined within y^e walls of s^d City, doth therefore humbly address his L^dp to protect and defend them in these Rights and Priviledges, and doe thank his L^dp for his great trouble and care in treating with y^e 5 nations for y^e Public good and advantage to this City, and doe further return there best thanks for y^e good Instructions his L^dp has been pleased to give them, assuring his L^dp that they will not be wanting in using there utmost endeavors to unite all parties, and restore this City to its Priviledges and Rights; that they will also observe all y^e oy^r articles Mentioned in his L^dp's instructions.

QUEEN ANNE'S WAR.

When James II died, an exile in France, in 1701, his friend, the French King, proclaimed James Francis, his son, King of England. Anne, the second daughter of James, had been crowned the English Queen. She was a Protestant. War was declared against France in 1702, because of this affront to the sovereign of England. It was known as the War of the Spanish Succession in Europe, but as "Queen Anne's War" in America. It lasted until April 11, 1713, when a treaty of peace was concluded at Utrecht.

During this war, blood flowed in nearly every village and valley in New England. The atrocities of the French and Indians were so monstrous in New England, that the conquest of Canada at any cost, seemed to be looked upon as a necessity. And all that blood and treasure could do was offered by the northern colonies to accomplish this purpose. But help from England was an abortion, the causes of which we proceed to show.

During the time of peace that preceded Queen Anne's War, the soldiers who composed the garrison at Fort Orange were much neglected. In 1700, Governor Bellomont writes: "Some of the inhabitants of Albany who are now here [New York City] tell me the Soldiers there in Garrison are in that shameful and miserable condition for the want of Cloaths, that the like was never seen." Even the Indians were disgusted as they observed their situation. The Governor continues: "Persons assure me that some of the old crafty sachems of the Five Nations have asked 'em whether they thought 'em such fooles as to believe our King could protect 'em from the French when he was not able to Keep his Soldiers in a Condition as those in Canada are Kept."

In October of this year the Governor visited Albany to look after the Indians. While there he reviewed the two companies in the garrison under Major Ingoldsby and Captain Weems. Of them he writes: "I never in my life saw so moving a sight as that of the Companies at Albany; half the men were without breeches, shoes and stockings when they mustered. I thought it shameful to the last degree to see English soldiers so abused. They had like to have mutinied." He found the forts "scandalously weak;" and adds: "The inhabitants came all about me at my leaving Albany, and told me in plain terms that if the King would not build a fort there to protect 'em, they would, on the first news of war between England and France desert the place and fly to New York rather than they would stay there to have their throats cut." "There are half a dozen at Albany who have competent estates, but all the rest are miserable poor."

At this time the City and County of Albany furnished 371 militia men, under command of Colonel Pieter Schuyler, with Dirck Wessells as Major. In the colony there were 3,182 enrolled militia.

In 1702, Colonel Schuyler's regiment of the Militia of the County of Albany was pronounced in pretty good condition, owing to his care.

In July, 1702, when Cornbury visited Albany, just on the eve of another war, he found the fort "in a miserable condition, "the stockadoes about all rotten to such a degree that I can with ease push them down." The garrison, still commanded by Major Ingoldsby, composed of 176 soldiers besides officers, was still in sad want of clothing and provisions.

It was heard at Albany that the French and Indians were making great preparations at Montreal, supposed to be against Schenectady and Albany. Something was done to repair the old fort in 1704, by putting up new palisades. The new fort was begun, but, for want of money, left incomplete. It was not finished until 1735.

A large number of soldiers and Indians were brought together at Albany in the summer of 1709, prepared to invade Canada. The command of these provincials was given to Colonel Francis Nicholson. Albany entered warmly into this scheme of conquest. The quota was furnished, and volunteer Companies were organized. Under the influence of Peter Schuyler, the Five Nations took up the hatchet and sent 500 warriors to join the expedition. The outrages upon Deerfield and other New England villages had aroused the northern colonies, and led the British Ministry to fall in with this plan for seizing the French possessions in America. It contemplated an attack upon Quebec by water, while the troops of New York and New England were to make an attempt on Montreal by way of Lake Champlain. New York had, at her own expense, opened a military road for the more easy movement of troops and supplies from Albany to the Lake, beginning at the present village of Schuylerville and running through dense forests by way of Fort Edward and Wood Creek. They had erected on the way, three wood forts, and built bateaux and canoes. All being ready, the army left Albany and encamped at the middle fort, named Fort Ann, waiting to hear from the naval expedition against Quebec. When it was learned that it was sent against Spain instead, the troops were discouraged; many were sick, and died with a malignant disease. They broke camp and returned to Albany.

Colonel Schuyler and other leading men of Albany, who saw that there could be no lasting peace until the French were driven out of Canada, were greatly chagrined at the failure of this expedition. In 1710 he took with him five Indian Sachems and sailed for England, hoping to interest the Crown in this matter.

Through his influence, a fleet with 5,000 troops was sent from England to help the provinces in another attempt to subject Canada. This was in 1711. On the last day of July, a fleet of twelve men-of-war and forty-six smaller vessels left Boston for the St Lawrence, having Montreal as its objective point. Here was to be a junction with a strong force mustered at Albany, under the command of General Nicholson. In the latter part of August, Nicholson, with an army of 2,000 English, 1,000 Germans, and 800 Indians, moved from Albany toward Lake Champlain. They took the

Lake George route. Meanwhile the English fleet had, in a thick fog, struck upon rocks; lost eight transports and 800 men, and returned to England. Hearing of this disaster, General Nicholson ordered an immediate return to Albany, and Canada was safe for many years longer. Colonels Schuyler, Whitney, and Ingoldsby were in this expedition. The peace of Utrecht ended this expensive and foolish war, the French acknowledging the Five Nations as British subjects, and promising to let them alone. These two abortive attempts cost New York alone £30,000 sterling. The Colonists were disgusted and disheartened, and the Five Nations began to show signs of alienation from the English, whose failures they regarded as weak and cowardly.

The following record shows the military condition of Albany just on the eve of the preparation for this last expedition.

May 20, 1711, Robert Hunter, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of New York, called the troops from Albany to the Manor of Livingston, and directed that the Militia of Albany be called to arms to protect that city in the absence of the garrison. Accordingly, the Mayor and Aldermen met May 21, 1711, and sent the following letter to his Excellency.

"Albany, y^e 21st of May, 1711.

"May it please your Ex^{ty}.

"Your Ex^{ty}'s Letter dated yesterday we rec^d ya day, and in Obedience thereof, we have forthwith procured a Sloop for y^e transportation of y^e Troops here, and desired Peter Schuyler, Esqr., Collo of the militia Regiment of y^e City & County, that he will emmediately order y^e militia of this City to Come in Arms to take care of y^e fort and this place during y^e absence of y^e s^d troops; who returned answer that he would comply therewith. So remain in all sincerity,

"May it please your Ex^{ty},

Your Ex^{ty}'s most obedient and humble servants."

This was signed by the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen.

KING GEORGE'S WAR:

For over thirty years there had been peace in the colonies. A quarrel arose between George II, King of England, and the King of France, respecting the claims of Maria Theresa to the throne of Austria. The question at issue did not interest the American colonists. But these Kings were ready for a fight, and as things then were, their caprices involved the English and French colonies in America. War was declared March 15, 1744, by France against England, which is called in Europe the War of the Austrian Succession; in America, King George's War.

The news of another war, when received at Albany in June, three months after its declaration, naturally excited great apprehensions of the repetition of acts of cruelty and blood. Governor Clinton came to the city and held another success-

ful conference with the Sachems of the Six Nations, cautioning them against the treacherous French, and reminding them of the wrongs which their people in the past had suffered from that nation. The Governor sent to Albany six 18-pound cannons, with powder, balls, and other military supplies. He put on foot a scheme to reduce the strong fort at Crown Point. Meanwhile the alarm was increased by the attack of the French and Indians upon old Saratoga, now Schuylerville, burning its fort and about 20 houses, killing some 30 persons, and taking nearly 60 prisoners. Refugees came to Albany to spend the winter; soldiers were quartered there. There was general commotion in the county. Two companies of His Majesty's Fusileers were sent up to Albany, and the Indians were ordered to have their hatchets ready.

In August, 1746, the famous Colonel William Johnson, at the head of a company of Mohawks, all in war paint, came into the city. The Mohawks agreed, after some politic maneuvering, to take sides against the French. The truth is, the French best pleased them, but they secured more protection and other favors from the Dutch and English. Their fidelity was not to be trusted when war came, except by renewed gifts, promises, and appeals.

A militia sergeant had been killed by some Canadian scouts. Colonel Johnson was ordered to send out scouting parties to harass the French of Canada. But, while they brought back some scalps and prisoners, they demanded a good many extra favors to keep them in good temper, even under the skillful tactics of Johnson.

Later in the autumn of 1746, Governor Clinton sent five companies of soldiers to Albany. Massachusetts and New York resumed their preparations against Canada, and began, although winter was near, to collect men and munitions of war at Albany. But, by the wiser counsel of Connecticut, the expedition was given over, and nothing was done. Troops from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other provinces were posted near by, with Albany as a center, in 1747, to guard the frontiers. Colonel Schuyler had command of the New Jersey troops. During this time a mutinous spirit manifested itself among all the troops but those of Colonel Schuyler, on the ground that they were poorly paid. The trading people of the city, who had but little to do (protected as they were) but to make gain out of these soldiers, are said to have incited this mutinous spirit against Governor Clinton, intimating that he withheld their pay for his own uses.

The war was ended by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, made October 18, 1748, in which all losses by either nation were restored. But the ancient hate and the memory of recent damaging contests had not died out. It was only a forced and temporary suspension of hostilities after a foolish war, with nothing gained. Some of the people of Albany County had suffered annoyance, but some, also, had made profit from the military placed here to keep off danger. They had not, however, left their own castles, and were none the worse off for King George's war.

THE OLD FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, 1754 TO 1763.

The last of the four intercolonial wars in which the colonies were involved, and which ended the French rule in America, was declared against France by England, May 17, 1756, and reciprocated by the declaration of war against England by France on the 9th of June succeeding. It was a war made with the earnest determination on the part of England to put an end to the aggressions of the French in this country. It was a war to determine whether America should be New England or New France. The French had been encompassing the English colonies with forts from Lake Champlain to the mouth of the Mississippi, including the Great Lakes, the Ohio River, the streams that run into them, and the land that bordered them. Their aim was to shut in the colonists between the Atlantic and the Appalachian Hills, and then force them into submission.

The colonists were deeply interested in this war; those of the North, including New England and New York, especially. To it they gave their hard-earned possessions and their lives, and England was willing that her hardy, grown-up children here should do the fighting and pay the expenses.

But this war did for both the Old and New England far more than they then knew. It taught the hardy soldier how to use arms and plan battles; it taught the colonies that they were old enough and able to govern themselves. Its close was the morning of the Revolution of 1776.

This war was really a sequel to King George's War. The hate between England and France was not ended by treaty. Vexatious irruptions from Canadian Indians continued.

On the 28th of August, 1754, a party of French Indians invaded the Province of New York, and burned the houses and barns of some of the settlers at Hoosic, and took back with them to Canada the Schaghticoke Indians, about sixty in number.

Lieutenant-Governor DeLancey immediately ordered the fort at Albany to be repaired and put in order. He sent a company of soldiers from New York to Albany, and directed that 200 men from each regiment of militia near Albany, be ready to march to the city when needed.

Although kept in constant alarm, and seeing much of the "pomp and circumstance of war," Albany really suffered nothing from invasion, and but little from loss of money or men during its existence.

We find but little in the city records touching the conduct of this war, only a few doings of the Common Council which make complaint and ask for better defenses.

A meeting of the Common Council was held at the City Hall on the 29th day of May, 1753.

At this time James DeLancey was acting Governor of the Province. Albany was a frontier town. At this meeting, a petition was directed to Governor DeLancey, signed by the Mayor and Aldermen, setting forth:

That the City of Albany is a frontier town, and the defence thereof is of great consequence to the safety of the whole province in case of War with the French; that the city is altogether undefensable, exposed to the incursions of any enemy, and the corporation, by reason of the heavy debt they are under, occasioned by the great expense we were at during the late war, and no wise able to fortify the city unless assisted by a provincial Tax; and whereas, your Excellencies have prepared a petition to be laid before the General Assembly, praying they would be pleased to lay a tax of £6,000 on estates throughout this province to defray the expense of building a wall with bastions or batteries at convenient distances, for the defence of said city and security of the province.

The document closes with a prayer that

His Excellency will recommend to the General Assembly, in the most pressing terms that you think proper, to raise the sum of £6,000 for defraying the expense of said Wall.

This petition was presented to the Legislature by Robert Livingston. At this time there was a wall around part of the city; and stockades, with block-houses at convenient distances, inclosed the city; and there was a fort bristling with cannon. But its exposure to the incursions of the French and Indians was so great, that its municipal government was urging the provincial authorities to afford greater security by building "a stone wall with bastions and batteries," around the city.

This petition for a stone wall and bastions around the city seems to have been disregarded by the General Assembly.

At a meeting of the Common Council held on the 22d of May, 1756, the matter was again taken up in a petition directed to Governor Charles Hardy, the preamble of which sets forth the defenceless condition of the city, praying for the erection of a wall, or at least for new stockades, and more cannon for the fort.

At this time there was encamped on the hill, about where the Old Capitol afterwards stood, a regiment of soldiers. An ordinance was passed by the Common Council forbidding all tavern keepers and all other persons selling any strong liquor to any of his Majesty's troops, or harboring or entertaining any of them after 9 o'clock p. m.

During this war many troops were encamped in and around Albany. Some were at Fort Schuyler, as it is now called. Some were on the flat lands in Albany and Bethlehem, as well as at Watervliet, and on the opposite side of the Hudson. The Hudson itself bore many vessels laden with munitions of war and troops for its service. The music of the drum and fife, and the training of the provincial militia and the English soldiery, were daily events. When General James Abercrombie was here in 1756, it is estimated that about 10,000 troops were encamped on both sides of the river. Lords Loudon and Amherst also tented here, and disciplined their armies for war. The people of the city and vicinity were greatly interested in furnishing supplies and service. Indian warriors, with their squaws and papooses, added to the liveliness of the scene.

The expeditions of 1755 and 1756, from Albany to Oswego, to attack Forts Frontenac and Niagara, under Governor Shirley, included Albany soldiers, of whom we have the name of General (then Captain) Phillip Schuyler, who assisted in forwarding

large supplies to Oswego. The march was perilous and fatiguing. Two forts were built to strengthen the Old Fort Oswego, called New Fort and Fort Ontario; vessels were built and other preparations on a large scale were made against Fort Niagara. But the approach of winter and heavy rains suspended the attack, and, after garrisoning the forts, he returned to Albany and disbanded the rest of his troops. During the winter, further preparations were made at Albany to proceed against Niagara in the spring. Early that season General Winslow was at Albany with 7,000 men, waiting for the arrival of the ever-dilatory Lord Loudon, Commander-in-Chief. His delay until late in the summer proved a fatal one. Montcalm had the English forts at Oswego in his possession, and held them until 1757, when, once more, Fort Ontario again came into possession of the English, and so remained until the Revolution.

Plans were made in 1755 to attack the French fort at Crown Point. The command of the expedition was given to Sir William Johnson. Troops were gathered at Albany and Greenbush from different colonies. Among these was a regiment under Colonel Ephraim Williams, of Massachusetts, whose will, made here at that time, on the 22d July, 1755, laid the foundation of Williams College. On the 8th day of September following, while within four miles of the English army, to join which he was on the march, he was attacked by the bold French commander, Dieskau, valiantly opposing this assault. Colonel Williams was killed. Soon after, Dieskau, fighting against the main army, under Johnson, was fatally wounded and taken prisoner to Albany. He lived to reach England and there died.

General Johnson was greatly delayed in his movement on Crown Point. At this time he complained much of the people of Albany County, saying, among other severe things, that he had "great opposition from those Dutch traders at Albany;" and, again, "these people are so much devoted to their own private profit, that every other public principle has ever been sacrificed to it;" and, again he writes, under date of September 16th: "Our expedition is likely to be extremely distressed and, I fear, fatally retarded for the want of wagons. The people of Albany County and the adjacent counties hide their wagons and drive away their horses. Most of the wagoners taken into the service have deserted; some horses are quite jaded, and some few killed by the enemy, and several run away. Most of our provisions are at Albany."

All these delays discouraged the enterprise, and led Johnson, at the approach of winter, after having built Fort William Henry and left there a garrison of 600 men, to return to Albany and disband his troops. At the close of this fruitless expedition, King George II made him a gift of £500 and granted him a baronetcy, an honor which he had not fairly earned. The best service of the expedition was rendered by New England officers and men.

In 1757, the citizens of Albany were in great alarm at the advance of Montcalm. His attack

upon Fort William Henry in August of this year caused the greatest consternation, especially when the savage slaughter of the garrison by the Indians, as it left the fort, became known. An increasing army centered in the city; a large number quartered here during the fall and winter, and the place became a house of refuge to the frontier settlers.

It was during this winter that the sober people of Albany were scandalized by the social manners of the English officers and soldiery, many of whom gave themselves to theatrical plays and all the blandishments of dress, fashion, social flirtation and debauchery. The Anglomania of this season is graphically described by Mrs. Grant, in "The American Lady."

In the early summer of 1758, General Abercrombie and his several regiments of troops were encamped upon the "Pasture," or great flat lands on the south side of the city. Among his officers was the long-remembered and amiable Lord Howe. Great hopes were rested in this army, which, in July, was most crushingly defeated in its movement upon Ticonderoga, then called Fort Carillon. Albany soldiers accompanied the inefficient Abercrombie. The disheartened army retreated to Fort William Henry, and many of the wounded were conveyed to Albany. The brave Lord Howe was slain in this battle, and his body, in charge of Phillip Schuyler, was entombed in this city, first in Schuyler's family tomb and finally under St. Peter's Church. His death was mourned in America and England, while the presumption and cowardice of Abercrombie made his name contemptible.

As a contribution to the local history of this period, indicative of the character of the people and the army, we give the following extract from the doings of the Common Council.

Whereas, Sundry complaints have been made, and in particular by the Right Honorable Lord Viscount Howe, of the great abuse in selling Rum and other strong Liquors to Soldiers, which, by means of their continual drinking, impairs and weakens their constitutions and renders them unfit for duty; and we being conscious of the justness of the complaint, as well as the mischiefs that may arise from the said abuse, and being willing to remedy it as much as in us lays, Be it therefore ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that no person whatsoever after publication hereof presume to sell any Rum or other strong liquors to any Soldier or Soldiers whatsoever, or to any other person for their use; and in case any person or persons shall be convicted before the Mayor, Recorder, or any of the Aldermen of selling any Rum or other distilled Liquor, as aforesaid, to any Soldier or Soldiers, she or they so offending shall, for the first offence, forfeit the sum of twenty shillings current money of New York, and for every like offence after, the sum of forty shillings, to be levied by dis-

truss and sale of the offender's goods, one-half for the benefit of the informer, and the other half for the use of the City. Dated Albany, this Seventh day of December, 1756.

Among the expeditions in which soldiers of Albany were engaged, was the one against old Fort Frontenac, under Colonel John Bradstreet. This was a French fort and a fur-trading and missionary station, near where Kingston, Canada, now is. The fort was erected in 1673 by Governor Louis Frontenac, and was for many years regarded as one of the strongest and most important in America. After the defeat of Abercrombie at Ticonderoga, in 1758, Colonel Bradstreet, at his own request, went across the wilderness to Oswego, and advanced to the fort in three vessels. The approach was sudden and the fort was weak. It surrendered without a contest. His force consisted of New York and New England troops. Among the officers were Captains Peter Yates and Goosen Van Schaick, of Albany, the latter of whom became a Colonel in the New York revolutionary line. Colonel Bradstreet was Commissary-General in 1756, keeping up supplies between Albany and Oswego, with much annoyance from the French Indians, with whom he had several successful and bloody skirmishes.

On their return from Fort Frontenac, his small army aided in building Fort Stanwix, near where Rome is now situated. This fortunate expedition resulted in the exchange of the Commander of the fort for Colonel Peter Schuyler, then a prisoner in Canada, and turning over 9 armed vessels, 40 pieces of cannon, a great quantity of stores, the fort itself, and 110 men as prisoners of war. The name of Bradstreet is deserving of honor, as a brave soldier and an excellent man. He was an intimate friend of Philip Schuyler, whose counsel and aid he sought, not only at this time, but in subsequent service.

In May and June, 1759, Lord Jeffrey Amherst, an English officer of great merit, encamped about the City of Albany. In July, his army of New York and New England soldiers moved toward Ticonderoga and Crown Point. The French forces withdrew on their approach and both these strongholds came into the hands of the English.

The fall of Quebec, September 12th, and of Montreal soon after, gave Canada to the British and ended the French dominion in America. A definitive treaty was concluded at Paris, February 10, 1763.

Albany County had no more alarms from the French and Indians of Canada. The usual industrial pursuits of peace were resumed.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

THE representative principle must be sought away back in the ages—in the first communities of men. Its growth, traced through all the forms of industrial, ecclesiastical and civil institutions, has never yet been carefully written out. It would be the work of a lifetime. It took deeper root and expanded more rapidly and vigorously in Anglo-Saxon Britain than among any other people. Its democratic element gradually acquired great distinctness and purity, and in this form was first brought over to the stormy coasts of primitive New England in 1620. Here it found congenial soil and skillful culture, and branched forth westward over a large territory, producing a growth of astonishing vigor on the 4th of July, 1776.

What Albany City and County had to do in the struggle that led to its establishment, we propose to set forth as fully as the scattered facts, dug out of the *debris* of one hundred years, and our limited time and space, will admit.

We regret that we have no record of the services rendered on the field of battle by individuals who were always ready "to do or die" for sweet liberty—men who occupied subordinate military offices or worked in the ranks—untitled men of strong convictions and brave hearts, who fought, not for fame, but for home and country, and now fill unlettered graves. Our questions in regard to their names and deeds have found no answer.

Much that transpired in the great struggle with England for American nationality is already lost in the graves of the actors in that drama.

We do not find that much field service was done by Albany County in that war. At first there was much apathy among the citizens generally. They were not men of war; they loved peace and productive industry. King George was far away and had done them no harm that they could see. The wrongs complained of in Boston, New York, and elsewhere, by men of trade and public men, they might have heard of, but they had not seen nor felt them. Who can wonder that such men were slow to leave their farms, and shops, and stores for strife and carnage; that some were not apathetic only, but decidedly opposed to a war that meant revolution? They preferred to endure the ills they knew than to fly to those they knew not of. Hence there were many Tories in Albany County. And, while the most brave and intelligent watched events, and pondered and feared, most put off the evil day, hoping that the unpleasantness with Old Mother England would be settled without blood.

Yes, Albany was slow to respond to the feelings so strongly manifested in the cities of the Atlantic coasts, in Philadelphia, and in Virginia.

But most of the men of mind and property in the city—the Schuylers, the Van Rensselaers, Gansevoort, Van Schaick, Nicolls, Douw, Ten Broeck, and others—were fully alive to the situation, full of the spirit of patriotism, ready for any sacrifice for the rights of the people. They were always on the side of wise counsel, and when the hour of action came, they were prepared.

There was no newspaper in Albany until 1771, and the publisher of that was a Tory. No telegraph then; no stage; no medium of rapid communication. News moved slowly; the common mind moved slowly. But, when the news of bloodshed on the plains of Lexington, April 19, 1775, was heard, all saw that war was inevitable. Patriot blood was stirred, and city and county began to get ready. Military companies were formed, and the bustle and confusion of getting ready for the worst was heard all around.

Albany, as important as it was, was a small village then. But it had long been a town of grim forts and warlike movements. It was used to soldiers and officers; to camps and marches. Its situation and its accidents had made it always a military center to which men came and from which men went with all the pomp and circumstance of dire war.

So it continued to be during the War of the Revolution. Here was Fort Frederick, with its garrisons and guns; here were officers' quarters, barracks, hospitals, and commissaries stores. Soldiers were billeted here. Here were fears and watchings. There were enemies at home and abroad. Here were prisons for bold traitors and gallows to hang them on. Of course there was much to be done to duly provide, keep, and distribute "the sinews of war." Here was much to be done by a strong "home guard," protecting the city and holding it as a place of safety and supply; a place not for the protection alone of citizens and their wives and children, but for the restraint of the rebellious Tory; for the hungry and ragged soldier in tent and field; for the sick and wounded in the hospital.

Such duties as these all important ones, necessarily occupied the patriotic inhabitants of Albany City and County, and made them less frequent in the march and bloody contest. They were not found, so far as we can learn, at Bennington, White Plains, Monmouth, Trenton, nor in any of the battles of the South. Nor was much fighting done by them after the surrender of Burgoyne.

They went, probably, where Schuyler, Gansevoort and Van Schaick, and Ten Broeck and the Van Rensselaers went, or directed to go, to St.

Johns, Chambly, Montreal, and Quebec; to Crown Point and Ticonderoga; to Fort Ann and Fort Stanwix; to Stone Arabia and Saratoga.

Who some of them were who were enrolled ready for any duty, is told in the military rosters as we find them in the archives of the State, in the records of the Committee of Safety, and in certain local histories.

The City Records, and the Records of the Committee of Safety, from which we have made liberal extracts, show better than anything else the state of matters in this County and City.

Albany was always fortified, and fortified and

garrisoned according to the needs of the place and the times. Its government was usually administered by prudent officers, supported by a discreet, peace-loving class of citizens. It kept friendship with the Indians. No battle was ever fought in the present Albany County; no invasion ever reached the city; no besiegers ever attacked its defenses. It had rumors of war, but no war. It always had fears of the savage, but fear was all. Its people were always forewarned and forwarned. The French of Canada, full of jealousy, often planned invasion of Albany, but never carried out their plans.



OLD ENGLISH CHURCH AND FORT FREDERICK.

An important convention of colonial delegates met at Albany June 19, 1754. It has often been referred to as having connection with the opening movements of the American Revolution. If this be so, it was quite remote. It was invited by Lord Holderness, English Secretary of State. Seven of the thirteen colonies were represented by twenty-six members. The New York Delegates were James Delancy, Joseph Murray, William Johnson, John Chambers, William Smith. Most of these were adherents of the English Crown, and remained so all their lives. The delegates were chosen by the colonial assemblies, and had for their leading object the formation of a closer political union for the purpose of better security against the encroachments of the French on the north, and for keeping the friendship of the Indians, the Six Nations especially, who seemed getting too much under the influence of the Jesuits and other French emissaries. The sachems of the Indians were particularly invited to meet this convention, and they were present in full numbers. Speeches were made on both sides, and much diplomacy was used. The sessions were held for twelve days. The meetings were in the old City Hall.

Benjamin Franklin was present from Pennsylvania, having a plan which he introduced for discussion, that looked to a permanent union for mutual counsel and defense in all matters of common interest. "Debate upon this and other plans proposed was taken up, hand in hand with the Indian business, daily." A plan, very much like that of Franklin, proposed a grand council of forty-eight members,

to have, under limitations, the appointment of all civil and military officers, the general management of civil and military matters, and the entire control of Indian affairs. When the plan was submitted, as Franklin himself tells us, "the assemblies did not adopt it, as they all thought there was too much *prerogative* in it; and in Eng^d and it was judged to have too much of the *democratic*." But the convention, no doubt, succeeded in its main purpose—that of keeping the Iroquois on friendly terms—after the usual presents, promises and flattery; and "the plan," which was not the main purpose, led the colonists to a better understanding of each other, and helped prepare them for more united action when the time came. This was largely due to the far-seeing sagacity and vigilant patriotism of Franklin.

Lieutenant-Governor Colden writes to the Earl of Hillsborough, under date of New York, February 21, 1770—"My Lord: It is my duty to inform you that a violent party continue their assiduous endeavors to disturb the Government, by working hard on the passions of the populace, and exciting riots, who in every attempt have hitherto been unsuccessful. * * * The persons who appear on these occasions are of inferior rank, but it is not doubted they are directed by some persons of distinction. They consist chiefly of Dissenters, who are very numerous, especially in the country. * * * The most active among them are Independents from New England, or educated there, and of Republican principles. The friends of the

administration are the Church of England, the Lutherans, and the old Dutch, with several Presbyterians." After this, he speaks of the confinement of Alexander McDougal in jail for writing a seditious political article, expressing the opinion that "he highly deserves punishment." McDougal was one of the "Sons of Liberty," and afterwards Colonel of the 1st New York Regiment in the Revolution and a Major-General in the service. He was a member of the Provincial Congress, and afterwards of the State Senate. He was a brave and trusted soldier and a valuable citizen. We note this to show what kind of men belonged to the early patriot party and the estimation in which they were held.

Albany was the center of supplies for the Northern Army. It would not do to leave the Northern Department uncared for by troops. The savages and the Tories were plenty about the upper Hudson and the Mohawk. They only wanted an opportunity to invade the City of Albany; to burn and plunder its homes; carry away its military stores and murder its inhabitants. Its soldiery was needed at home to protect what remained.

Did the women apply their hands to the distaff, the spinning-wheel and the loom, so that the soldiers might be sure of comfortable clothing in the camp and field? Did the "click of the loom and the hum of the wheel" make music harmonious with that of the drum and fife? Were there spinning matches and quilting bees among the mothers and daughters of Albany County from 1774 to 1781? There were no factories then to clothe the army by contract. We believe that much of it was done by noble women—the wives and daughters of that time.

Were the clergy eloquent in the pulpit against British aggression, and earnest in appeal to the spirit of patriotic doctrine? Did they urge the people, by zealous activity, to resist the wrongs done to the rights of property and personal freedom, and, like Rev. Mr. Allen, of Pittsfield, take the musket and go forth to pray and fight for heaven and our rights? This Rev. Thomas Allen left his home and visited Kinderhook, Canaan, Claverack, and other towns in Eastern New York, speaking to the people and advising the strongest measures against those who favored the King. He writes home to the leading Whigs of his town, "As yet there are plenty of arms to be sold at Albany; but no powder is to be sold there for the present." Again, "The spirit of liberty runs high at Albany, as you have doubtless heard by their own post at our headquarters." "The New York Government begins to be alive in the glorious cause, and to act with great vigor." From these statements we infer that he visited Albany to quicken and stimulate its citizens to some activity. It is also said that the sainted Westerlo, of the Dutch Church, the most influential pastor in the city at that time, was bold and zealous for the patriot cause in the pulpit and among the people.

Tories were arrested and committed to gaol in Albany, until they "humbly confessed their faults,

asked forgiveness and promised reformation." Sometimes, after doing what harm they could to their Whig neighbors—hiding, meeting in secret conclaves, until discovered and threatened punishment—they ran away to Canada, Nova Scotia, or other safe place to await the end; which, to their mind, would be the discomfiture of the rebellious Whigs and the triumph of the loyal friends of King George III. A few of these returned and became good citizens. Others, self-banished, suffered confiscation of their estates. Some were banished; some were hanged. Everywhere the ban of society was upon them; and they were handled roughly when arrested.

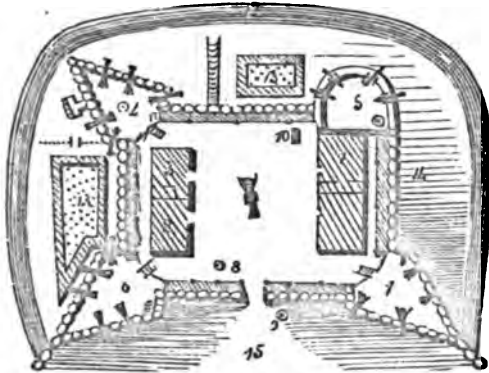
Tories were plenty in New York, not excepting Albany County. North Carolina and New York were, for a long time, regarded by the British ministry as loyal to the interests of the Crown, and distrusted by the patriots of New England and Virginia.

There were many Tories who were so from principle, and refused to take sides against the parent country from honest convictions of the wrongfulness of such a course. They looked upon the Whigs as rebels against their sovereign; condemned the war as unnatural; and regarded the final result as surely disastrous to those who had lifted up the arm of opposition. Their opinions were courteously, but firmly expressed; they took every opportunity to dissuade their friends and neighbors from participating in the rebellion; and by all their words and acts discouraged the insurgent movement. But they shouldered no musket, girded on no sword, piloted no secret expedition against the Republicans. They were passive, noble-minded men; and deserve our respect for their consistency, and our commiseration for their sufferings at the hands of those who made no distinction between the man of honest opinions and the marauder with no opinions.

There was another class of Tories governed by the footpad's axiom that "might makes right." They were Whigs when royal power was weak, and Tories when royal power was strong. Their god was mammon, and they offered up human sacrifices in abundance upon its altars. They became as relentless robbers and murderers of neighbors and friends as the savages of the wilderness.

For some time the Tories in the neighborhood of Albany were employed in capturing prominent citizens and carrying them off to Canada for the purpose of exchange. Such an attempt was made on General Gansevoort, and another on General Schuyler, under direction of the notorious John Waltmeyer, colleague of Joe Bettys. Among the men of this class was the notorious Thomas Lovelace, who, after he had run away to Canada, formed a company with five other persons and returned to abduct, plunder and betray his former neighbors in Saratoga, Schenectady and Albany Counties. His crimes were many. He robbed General Schuyler's house and attempted to carry off Colonel Van Vechten. He was captured, tried and hung by General John Stark, then in command of barracks near Fish Creek.

The story of taking old Fort Ticonderoga, the key to the gateway between the Colonies and the Canadas, May 8, 1775, is familiar to all. It was done under Colonel Ethan Allen, of Vermont, guided by the boy Nathan Beman, and aided by



Ground Plan of Old Fort.

Colonels Warner, of Vermont, Brown and Easton, of Berkshire. We have no evidence that Albany County had any men among the 150 who were engaged in this bold movement. The County had not then fully organized its military forces. Its mayor and many of the citizens were not then decided in their patriotism. The city had been called on for supplies, but not for men at this time. Connecticut had lately sent a delegation of two to Albany "to discover the temper of the people at that place." It was then in doubt.

On the 19th of June, 1775, George Washington received his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Four Major-Generals: Artemas Ward, Charles Lee, Philip Schuyler and Israel Putnam, were chosen; and eight Brigadier-Generals: Seth Pomeroy, Richard Montgomery, David Wooster, William Heath, Joshua Spencer, John Thomas, John Sullivan and Nathaniel Greene. To these was added Horatio Gates as Adjutant-General with rank of Brigadier.

In June, 1775, Philip Schuyler, on recommendation of the patriots of this district, having been appointed as one of the four Major-Generals of the Continental Army, was assigned to the command of the Northern Department.

His first movement was towards Ticonderoga, which he reached July 18th, where he found a garrison of 1,000 Connecticut troops under Colonel Hinman, and a few Berkshire troops under Colonel Easton. These troops were composed chiefly of militia, raw and undisciplined, but full of patriotism, courage and intelligence. The invasion of Canada was under favorable consideration by all officers and men. It was urged that it was necessary to cut off the approaches of British troops by St. Lawrence and the Lakes, and prevent the sudden attacks of savages and Tories on the borders, from Canada. It was understood, also, that many Canadians were favorably disposed toward the cause of the American patriots.

It was further understood that General Carleton, commander of the British forces in Canada, was planning an attempt to get possession of the forts upon the lakes, with the ultimate purpose of invading the valleys of the Mohawk and Hudson, and dividing New England from New York and the States south and west.

Immediate movements were demanded to anticipate Carleton. Major Brown, who had been sent to learn the situation at St. John's, Chambly, Montreal and Quebec, and to try the minds of the people of Canada, leaving July 24th, returned August 10th, feeling sure that "Now is the time to carry Canada."

But serious delays occurred in securing troops and supplies. New York was filled with Tories who needed watching; Boston was besieged; Connecticut was threatened with invasion of its coasts; self-protection must be secured before undertaking expeditions to Canada. But General Schuyler was hopeful of success, and eager to advance. Major Brown was placed in command of the flotilla on Lake Champlain. General Montgomery was at Crown Point as Schuyler's lieutenant. On September 6th, General Schuyler, with his little army, was besieging St. John's. It was a long and tedious siege.

Here General Schuyler began to manifest that irresolution and timidity in meeting the difficulties of the military situation which, in spite of his undoubted personal bravery, so often fatally marred his Northern campaigns, and led many patriots to distrust, not only his capacity, but his fidelity. Deceived into a belief of the strength of the fort and of the dangers around him, General Schuyler fell back to Isle Aux-Noix, and awaited reinforcements. As soon as September 16th, he was compelled by ill health to return to Ticonderoga, and commit the movements of the army to Montgomery. The attempt upon St. John's was retarded, and success was hindered in many ways. Among them were the lack of ammunition and the almost mutinous discontent of the army. But successful movements upon Fort Chambly by Major Brown, to whom it was surrendered October 19th, imparted new vigor, and led to the surrender of St. John's, November 2d. After this Montreal capitulated to Montgomery, November 17th. Montgomery, with the beggarly remnant of his army of St. John's, was at Quebec December 1st. Here he was joined by Arnold with his New England troops, sent on from Cambridge by Washington. Here were Easton and Brown, from Berkshire; Wooster, from Massachusetts; Van Rensselaer, Livingston, and Lamb, from New York.

The disastrous assault on Quebec, made December 31, 1775, which resulted in the lamented death of Richard Montgomery and the end of the Canada invasion, needs no further detail here. Every bright schoolboy has read the sad story. Let Montgomery's name ever be revered. He was a pure patriot, ready to do or suffer anything for country. His courage was impetuous and forgetful of self; while that of Schuyler, just as true, had more of caution in it. In this expedition everything was

unfavorable to Montgomery except his own brave and generous soul.

It is true that Arnold kept up a useless siege during the winter of 1775-76, and that recruits were sent on to reinforce the American army, which still remained in Canada, in the hope of accomplishing the conquest of that territory in the coming spring and summer. But a leader was wanting; discipline was imperfect; and sickness was weakening the strength of men who suffered from lack of clothing, food, and other supplies.

Burgoyne came early in May with succor for Quebec, and succeeded Carleton in the command. The Americans were compelled to entirely evacuate Canada. The remnant arrived at Crown Point in June, "disgraced, defeated, discontented, dispirited, diseased, naked, undisciplined; eaten up with vermin; no clothes, beds, blankets; no medicine; no victuals but salt pork and flour." Thus writes John Adams, under date of July 7, 1776, concerning our Northern Army at Crown Point.

Thus resulted the first movement of the Army of the Northern Department under General Schuyler. His policy as commander had given great dissatisfaction to most of the officers and men in his command.

Horatio Gates, a new and less manly commander, supplanted Philip Schuyler in the Northern command for a brief time in 1776.

During the winter of 1776-77, many of the officers of the Continental Army, including General Gates, Colonel Morgan Lewis, Colonel Benedict Arnold, Colonel John Brown, had their winter quarters in Albany. It was during this winter that Colonel Brown wrote of Arnold: "Money is this man's God; and, to get enough of it, he would sacrifice his country." Three years after, John Brown fell, fighting for his country; while Arnold was a branded traitor and a fugitive in the British army.

The year 1777 was marked by events that demanded unusual exertions and sacrifices from the people of Albany County. The summer was one of intense anxiety. An army of disciplined and veteran British troops was on the march to Albany with hostile intent. To the peace-loving population of the city, their progress spread the wildest terror; to the loyal Tories ecstasies of hope and bold impudence; to the patriotic friends of liberty, anxiety and dread. From mid-spring to late autumn all was excitement, alarm, and activity. The city was threatened with all the horrors of savage butchery and the invasion of an unscrupulous soldiery. John Burgoyne, with loud-mouthed threats to the enemies of Great Britain, and promises of protection and favor to the weak and doubting, was on his way from Canada with his 12,000 men, made up of bloody Indians, mercenary Hessians, and war-trained Scotchmen and Englishmen. He considered his march sure to end in triumph. His aim was to cut off New England with all its supplies of men and means, from the south, and thus make the divided and weakened armies a sure prey to the British Crown.

In Albany he expected to meet Clinton moving up the Hudson from New York, and St. Leger with his victorious forces from Oswego and Fort Stanwix, coming down the Mohawk. With ambitious and able commanders and splendid soldiery and appointments, with well laid plans, the result seemed certain.

Early in July, old Fort Ticonderoga, garrisoned by St. Clair and his scarcely 3,000 men, most of them poorly provided for defense, was found to be untenable. It was found that Burgoyne's skilled engineers had it entirely at their mercy, and it was consequently hastily evacuated.

Although Colonel John Trumbull had, in 1776, with characteristic sagacity, explained to Generals Gates and Schuyler the weak points in the defense of that fort, nothing was done. Schuyler and St. Clair had expressed themselves confident that the post was secure from any attack which Burgoyne could bring to bear upon it. They had accumulated stores, and rested in apparent security. But the commanding battery upon Mount Defiance made retreat the only alternative. Scarcity of ammunition and danger of reinforcement did not chiefly decide the question of retreat. Nor did want of courage. It was forced discretion. One division of the retreating army, under Colonel Long, was overtaken at the head of Lake George, now Whitehall, and after suffering loss of artillery and stores, pushed on to Fort Ann, where, turning upon its pursuers, a gallant stand was made near that fort. The importance of the battle fought here under General Schuyler, with 500 men from Rensselaer Manor, has never been duly estimated in history. Many Albany men were killed and wounded here, and a decided check was put upon the advance of the British army, much to the advancement of the patriot cause.

St. Clair's division, after severe fighting and heavy losses, made its way through woods and swamps, and over streams to Fort Edward, where Schuyler had fixed his headquarters. Here he was met by Colonel Long and his division.

The loss of Ticonderoga, the traditional stronghold to which they and their fathers had looked for protection, naturally filled the patriots of New York and Massachusetts with the most serious apprehension. There was consternation everywhere. The way was considered open to Burgoyne for easy attainment of all his aims. Nothing but desolation and death stared the people in the towns and villages along the Hudson in the face. Unjust charges of cowardice were laid at the door of St. Clair; and treachery, incompetence, or inefficiency in Schuyler were outspoken by many, especially by the New England troops.

The evacuation of Fort Ticonderoga filled General Schuyler with discouragement. On the 16th of July he dismissed half the Militia of New England and of Albany County. A month later he sent away the greater part of the remainder. This he did while the enemy were marching toward Albany, and he never had greater need, not only of keeping the men he had, but of increasing their number. His excuse for this singular course was, first, that

he dismissed a part lest he might lose the whole; and, then, having sent away about one half, he might as well send home the other half. He alleged that his militia, men of Berkshire and Albany Counties, were very impatient to get home to their farms. Bancroft tells us that Schuyler was importuning Washington to send him Southern soldiers, alleging that one of them was worth two from the Eastern States. It is well known that the Militia of Albany and Berkshire held the Commander of the Northern Department at this time in great distrust; and they well knew the slight regard in which they were held by him. The state of feeling between General Schuyler and his troops was very unfortunate at this time. Rude and uncultivated as many of these men were, they had brave and honest hearts, which they proved soon on the fields of Bennington and Saratoga under leaders that knew them.

No battle of the Revolution took a more powerful and permanent hold upon the hearts of the people of that day than that of Bennington on the 16th of August, 1777. Its results were disappointing to Burgoyne. Almost unopposed had been his march upon Albany until that day. His army was one of terror to the friends of liberty. They could see nothing but the union of Clinton, coming up the Hudson, with Burgoyne coming down to Albany, thus making a complete armed barrier, dividing the East from the South and West. The course of the proud army was stayed by the arms of a militia, gathered from the hills of New England for the occasion. Their boasting was changed to doubt and fear by the event. There were no soldiers from New York in this fight. Many were men who had once been led by Ethan Allen, of the Green Mountains. They were led by John Stark, a born soldier, of determined independence and energy, who refused to be trammelled by Schuyler or the Continental Congress.

This should be said in regard to the attitude of the New York and New England Indians during the Revolution:

The Mohawks were always at war with the Mohicans, on the east bank of the Hudson, who bore their yoke with uneasiness and frequent outbreaks. These New England Indians had no friendly feelings toward the Dutch, whom they looked upon as allies of their Iroquois enemies.

Forced, as these Eastern red men were, by the trading Dutch and the jealous Mohawks, back over the western slopes of the Hudson into the valleys of the Housatonic and the Connecticut, they seldom met during the colonial period after the first years. When they did, there was only a renewal of contention and bloodshed, the result of which always asserted the superior power of the Western savages.

All efforts to bring together the Iroquois under the influence of the Christian religion or civilization were only partially successful, except with the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, of whom the Stockbridge Indians came to speak of as brothers. Both had been taught Christianity and freedom by New England Puritan missionaries.

They united in the War of the Revolution in the cause of the colonists against the Crown, and thus again met in battle their ancient foes, the Mohawks, who, under the influence and lead of the Johnsons and Butlers, did deeds of indescribable cruelty in every northern battle where they had opportunity; and, in conjunction with the Tories, carried the firebrand, the tomahawk, and the scalping-knife to many a peaceful home and village along the Mohawk, the Schoharie, and the Susquehanna.

All the efforts of General Schuyler and other delegates from Albany, in conferences with the Six Nations in 1774, when they pledged neutrality, and at Guy Park in May, 1775, were overborne by the money and promises of the British crown and the artful intrigues of Guy and John Johnson, with the alliance of Joseph Brant and the Tory Butlers.

The worst cruelties inflicted by these savage Indians, and worse than savage whites, fell upon the peaceful homes of Old Tryon County. Albany County was so well defended that it was left alone by them. The only exception happened in the town of Berne, of which a good account is given in the history of that place.

PETER GANSEVOORT was born in Albany, July 17, 1749. He was among the troops which accompanied Schuyler, in 1775, in his movement toward Canada, and accompanied Montgomery, with the rank of Major, in his unfortunate assault upon Quebec in December of that year. The next year he was appointed a Colonel in the New York line, and took command of Fort Schuyler, previously called Fort Stanwix, situated where is now the City of Rome, in the spring of 1777. For his gallant defense of this post against St. Leger, in his attempted march from Oswego down the Mohawk, to meet Burgoyne at Albany, he received the thanks of Congress.

In 1781 he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General by the State of New York. He was, for many years after the war, military agent, and held other offices of trust. He was held in high esteem as a soldier for bravery and good judgment, and as a citizen, for intelligence and uprightness. He died at the age of 62 years, July 2, 1812.

When Colonel Gansevoort took command of Fort Schuyler, in early summer of 1777, the fort was unfinished and feebly garrisoned. The patriotic citizens of Mohawk valley were paralyzed with fear. They saw nothing but defeat and ruin should the disciplined army of St. Leger fall upon Fort Schuyler. They knew no way of successful resistance should he attempt to march down the valley to Albany. Many timid and wavering ones became Loyalists, or, at best, weak and passive patriots. But Colonel Gansevoort was vigilant and hopeful, appealing for aid to General Schuyler and the Provincial Congress, and putting forth every possible effort to be ready for the enemy. On the 1st of August, St. Leger, with his Tory rangers and his bloodthirsty Indians under Brant, were ready to invest the fort with a force 1,700 strong. Gansevoort had only 750 men, among whom were the brave and sagacious Colonel Marinus Willett and his regiment.

A few other recruits, and ammunition and provision for a siege of six weeks soon came. The siege began August 4th. The British commander sent a pompous manifesto into the fort, and a dispatch to Burgoyne assuring him that he expected they would soon meet at Albany as victors.

We are not called upon to detail the carnage of Oriskany, August 6th, where the brave Nicholas Herkimer and his 800 Mohawk Valley men fell into an ambuscade of Tories and savages, while on their march to relieve General Gansevoort. Herkimer, badly wounded, did his duty with wonderful endurance and coolness until the battle was over, and then was borne to his home to die with the unskilled surgeon's knife, as many a noble soldier has done before and since; nor need we dwell upon the sortie of Colonel Willett, in which this man of daring courage suddenly and furiously attacked the enemy, put them to rout, made an end to this bloody struggle at Oriskany, and brought his force back to the fort without loss of a man; nor need we repeat the particulars of the reinforcement sent by Schuyler from Stillwater, under Arnold, and the stratagem that frightened St. Leger's Indians, leading him to raise the siege before Fort Schuyler on the 23d of August, and make a hasty flight toward Wood Creek to join Burgoyne.

The courage of Gansevoort held out during this siege of twenty days, although it looked like ultimate surrender because ammunition and food had nearly given out, and many of his men advised surrender. Herkimer, Willett, and Arnold deserve all praise for the part they acted in preventing St. Leger from carrying out the plan of meeting Burgoyne at Albany. We have reason to believe that there were Albany County men with Gansevoort and with Arnold; but we have not found their names.

After the departure of St. Leger, General Gansevoort and his regiment had charge of repairing Fort Plain and erecting the block house near it, where they were stationed for some time to take charge of the large quantity of stores destined for Fort Stanwix; to watch the movements of the Indian and Tories; and to be ready to render services in case of any attacks made by them in the vicinity.

The report of the designs of Burgoyne and St. Leger, seemed at first to paralyze, not arouse, the Whigs of Mohawk Valley. They began to regard the patriot cause as almost hopeless. They hesitated whether to prepare for defense against disciplined British soldiers or to supinely await the course of events. The event awakened new confidence and effort.

The story of Saratoga and the taking of Burgoyne is too familiar to require repetition here. Indeed, our space is too limited to give it in satisfactory detail. It is well known that the patriotic Philip Schuyler was superseded a few days before the battle by Horatio Gates, an experienced, trained military officer of English birth; good at making plans; inferior to Schuyler as a man; selfish, and ambitious; not remarkable for any deeds of patriotism or of daring bravery, either at this time or any other.

Schuyler was cautious, and in such an emergency as that in which he was placed by the advance of Burgoyne and his proud army, and his own ill-appointed and uneasy troops, he might well be so. But Schuyler was not the man for the occasion. He was not a man for his soldiers. He was too dilatory; he did not understand his men, nor did they understand him. His conduct, after he was superseded, was worthy of all praise. No doubt he felt the seeming degradation, but at no point could he be accused of neglecting his duty as a patriotic citizen. His wise counsels and his means were at the command of his country. No doubt some of his movements in falling back before Burgoyne's march seemed then cowardly. It is doubtful if his final stand, taken near the forks of the Mohawk, where he entrenched himself and his small army as well as he could, on Van Schaick and Haver Islands, was well taken. The people of his own county began to fear that he was not equal to the emergency, and the feelings of the New England troops was very bitter against him. It was difficult to enlist men to fight under him. These facts, not forgetting his really worthy character as a man and as a patriot, seemed to justify the course pursued by Congress in superseding him. After this was done, a new spirit seemed to pervade the Northern Department, and all possible efforts were cheerfully made to prevent the advance of Burgoyne.

The magnanimity of Schuyler was shown after the battle, by his treatment of Burgoyne and his suite at his own house in Albany; his gallant treatment of the amiable Madame Riedesel; and his humane aid in behalf of the sick and wounded soldiers. More than a thousand of them were taken to the hospital and even into the houses of Albany, including friends and foes, and there had the best of care.

We feel justified in this connection, in making an extract from Smith's "History of Pittsfield," as giving a fair estimate of the character of General Schuyler in connection with the cause that led to his being superseded by Gates. It also aids much in understanding the state of feeling at that period:

"The calamitous termination of the invasion of Canada brought to its culmination the opposition to Schuyler, which, in King's District, the County of Berkshire, and in the New Hampshire Grants, had been growing ever since his appointment to the Northern command.

"An unblemished patriot, a gallant soldier, and no mean statesman, Schuyler was yet distinguished by qualities, both positive and negative, which rendered him, if qualified for any departmental command, remarkably ill-adapted to that which was assigned him, between a majority of whose people and himself there existed an incompatibility which resulted in an antagonism fatal to the public interest. An aristocrat of aristocrats, he hated the robustious democracy of Massachusetts, and the still ruder independence of the settlers upon the Grants. A New Yorker of New Yorkers, jealous of the rights of his Province, he participated

to the full in the feeling excited by the alleged encroachments of the New Englanders upon her eastern borders, and was prepared to resist, at any cost, the new invasion of her territory, under pretense of patents from New Hampshire. Intimate, socially and personally, with many of the higher class of Loyalists in King's District, he could not be made to believe them guilty of the secret plots against their country and the violation of their solemn pledges, of which they were popularly accused. Annoyed by the evil deeds of the Tories, he was opposed to them; but he was indignant at the harsh treatment with which the Sons of Liberty treated his friends, the Van Schaicks, and others of suspected Toryism, and was not in favor of a certain class of Whigs. This led to ill-blood and bitter opposition to his promotion.

"Coming to his command with a nervous horror of partisan warfare, he attributed that character to the proud-spirited and ambitious militia of the hills, who, used to hardy and independent enterprise, were not easily controlled, but kept him in perpetual terror of some rash adventure, while they failed him in executing his best-laid schemes of falling back for an indefinitely postponed advance. And he refused to renounce his prejudices against them, even when he found that they alone won victories in his department, and, having won them, showed a regard for the amenities of honorable warfare, and observed its laws with a scrupulous nicety which put to shame the regulars whom they encountered. He failed to perceive a courtesy which was not expressed in courtly phrase, or to recognize chivalry except in those of gentle blood—as gentility went in provincial America. As a soldier, his courage was proved; as a general, few in the American armies could better set a squadron in the field, or were more familiar with the rules of their art. As a commander of a department, none labored more arduously, or gave themselves with more untiring zeal and industry to the unthankful task of providing material of war; none did so more unselfishly, as was grandly shown in his ceaseless exertions to supply the northern army when forbidden to hope for any large share in the glory of its anticipated achievements. But he was destitute of that great element in generalship which, given a certain soldiery with which to accomplish a specific end, takes them as it finds them, with all their faults and with all their excellences, wins their confidence, and makes the most of what is in them. Schuyler, on the contrary, fretfully magnified the imperfections of the men committed to him, and was perversely blind to their good qualities as soldiers. Assigned to a position surrounded by innumerable difficulties, he possessed nothing of the spirit which delights to encounter obstacles; the energy which turns them to its own account; and, least of all, that calm strength which endures without complaint what cannot be avoided or changed."

Much of that which was to be regretted in him was the result of the depressing influence of ill-health; and, reviewing his career, we cannot fail to recognize the true patriot and statesman, and the

general, whose abilities would have given him perhaps, brilliant success in almost any other field than that in which he was placed.

The radical Whigs, who controlled the politics of his department, were hardly to be expected so clearly to perceive his merits. Between the revolutionary committees of that region and such a man as we have described, conflict was inevitable. Of political and social sentiments, the very reverse of those which characterized Schuyler, the committees were also extremely unlike him in temperament and habits of thought. Impetuous, sometimes even to rashness, in their zeal, they and their followers were ever ready to rally in sudden emergency, or for the execution of dashing enterprises; but, if the opportunity to meet the enemy was not speedily accorded them, they grew impatient of the necessary restraint of military discipline. In their theory of the art of war, retreat was omitted from the list of contingencies. As a general, Fabius was by no means a model in their esteem. Judging the readiness of all men to make sacrifices for their country by their own, they underrated the impediments which Schuyler found in raising armies and accumulating stores. Intolerant of the lukewarmness of moderate Whigs, as well as of the misdeeds of the Loyalists, they denounced the former in no measured terms, while they advocated and practiced the most rigid discipline of the latter. Many of them, of narrow experience in affairs, and wanting that liberality towards opponents which contact with the great world brings, they could not explain the perhaps over-generous sentiments of Schuyler towards some of those whom they classed indiscriminately as the enemies of American liberty, except upon the hypothesis of his sympathy with their Toryism.

When, therefore, information came to Berkshire and King's district of the sad aspect which affairs wore in Canada and finally, that all which had been gained there at such great cost was wrested from the Americans—smarting under the disappointment of hopes which with them had been more sanguine than elsewhere, the people of those districts were ready to charge the commander who, although not long personally in the field, had from the first been nominally at the head of operations, with the responsibility for their miserable failure. Among its prime causes, they ranked the brief delay before St. John's, to which he had been persuaded by the report of a treacherous informer to the neglect of the truthful representations of John Brown and James Livingston. Other missteps of the expedition were attributed to him, oftenest unjustly, through the malignancy of his enemies, who played upon the popular feeling through unscrupulous emissaries, who found powerful auxiliaries in Schuyler's unfortunate peculiarities.

The disaster to St. Leger, and the unexpected check made by the brave Stark at Bennington, fell like an incubus on Burgoyne's army. Indians deserted and Loyalists were less confident.

We need not tell what was done by Gates. What he did was well done, as events proved. But it has well been said that the blunders of Burgoyne

were quite as helpful to the patriot cause as was the skill of Gates. Around him came Lincoln, Poor, Scammell, Woolcott, Cilley, Putnam, Dearborn, Brooks, Glenn, Nixon, Whipple, Warner, Hull, Fellows, Hale, Bailey, and other brave commanders, with their full brigades from New England, full of the patriotic fire long kept alive among those sons of the Puritans. They were men who "trusted in God and kept their powder dry." Indeed Gates himself says: "My New England troops did the fighting at Saratoga." But we must not fail to do justice to the daring Arnold, who was one of the bravest men, and did some of the most effective fighting in the battle. Nor do we forget the brave Morgan, of Virginia, with his unerring marksmen. The bravest men of Albany County, too, were there under Abraham Ten Broeck. Soldiers from the lower Hudson were there under Henry and James Livingston, members of a family that was always on the side of freedom, learning and public progress. Van Courtland was there too, with his brigade, and Morgan Lewis was also there. It would take a volume to tell all that was done, and give appropriate praise to all who did it.

When all was over, and the army of Burgoyne had left the country, Albany County was safe. Its soldiers were in no more important battles. The war was carried to the south. Albany was kept on the home guard.

After the surrender of Burgoyne, so far as we have learned, the troops from Albany County generally retired to their homes.

The fighting was done in the more southerly departments—in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and States further south. The painful marches and the pestilential encampments were made there mostly. The troops in the service were from New England and the Atlantic States south of New York.

This, well called one of the decisive battles of history, was fought in our territory, almost at the gates of our city, and aided by the services and resources of the brave men that once made their homes in our own county.

Following this there was much fear from the lurking Indians and Tories; there was much watching and guarding, and not a little skirmishing.

The council held at Johnstown on the 9th of March, 1778, to try once more to secure the neutrality, if not the co operation of all the Six Nations, was represented on behalf of Congress by Volkert P. Douw, and, perhaps, General Philip Schuyler. But it resulted in no change of policy. Only the Oneidas and Tuscaroras pledged abiding friendship.

Early in the spring of 1779, upon the urgent entreaty of General Schuyler made to Congress, and under the direction of General James Clinton, an expedition was undertaken against the Onondaga Indians, under command of Colonel Van Schaick, with 558 strong men selected from his own regiment and that of General Gansevoort. Its object was to punish that bloodthirsty tribe,

and deter its warriors from future cruelties. The expedition lasted six days, and returned to Fort Stawnix without the loss of a man. The little army had scattered the tribe, destroyed three of its villages, horses and cattle, a large quantity of provisions, killed twelve Indians and taken thirty-three prisoners. This punishment was deserved, but of doubtful policy. It led to the destruction of Cobleskill, attacks upon Canajoharie, Stone Arabia, and other places soon after; and finally compelled the fearful and effective chastisement under General John Sullivan, of all the savage tribes in Western New York.

In the spring of 1780, Colonel Van Schaick, in command of 800 militia, was sent from Albany by Governor Clinton to pursue Sir John Johnson, who was making destructive inroads upon the small settlements along the Mohawk Valley. Sir John left his pursuers behind and escaped to Canada. Colonel Van Schaick was a valiant officer, and did good service in a military and civil capacity. A portrait and memorial of his life, prepared by Miss Jane Van Schaick, of Albany, appears in this history.

In the latter part of 1784, while our troops had little to do but to watch and wait, certain regiments of General Gansevoort's brigade were stationed between the Battenkill and the Hoosick, waiting further orders. This was near the New Hampshire Grants, in which dwelt some of the boldest men in the States, and particularly ready to resist any aggressions from the State of New York, which claimed jurisdiction over these Grants. Since there were no British troops to fight, the old animosities broke out, and the Green Mountain Boys who had fought at Bennington and Saratoga, were declared in a state of insurrection. This broke out in the regiments of Colonels John and Henry K. Van Rensselaer and Peter Yates. Indeed, the militia in this vicinity seemed generally to take sides with the people of the Grants, with whom they became in sympathy in the alliance of the battle-field and the camp. General Gansevoort, on the 5th of December, ordered Colonels Yates, Van Vechten and Van Rensselaer to march to St. Coych and quell the insurrection. Governor Clinton directed General Robert Van Rensselaer's brigade to assist General Gansevoort with all necessary troops. General Stark, stationed at Saratoga, being solicited, refused to interfere unless ordered by General Heath, his superior officer. The sympathies of the New Englanders were with the brave Vermonters. Gansevoort, with what volunteers he could raise, advanced to St. Coych, where he found a force of 500 men ready to support the insurgent militia. Having only 80 men, General Gansevoort retired five miles, and attempted, by writing to the leaders, to induce them to lay down their arms, but in vain. The so-called rebels were left undisturbed. After this, a conciliatory letter from General Washington to Governor Chittenden, had the effect to put an end to disturbances that were made in defense of what were considered honest rights. Ten years after this Vermont became all its citizens asked—an independent State. The controversy was an old

and bitter one; and, from its vicinity to the New Hampshire Grants, Albany County had much to do with it.

THE VAN SCHAICK FAMILY.

The family of Van Schaick is one of the earliest of the many prominent early families of Albany. Colonel Gozen Van Schaick was born in January, 1737, and died July 4, 1789. His wife was Mary Ten Broeck, of the celebrated New York family of that name. He served with great distinction in the colonial army during the revolutionary struggle, having previously had military experience in the service of the Crown under General Amherst. He was in command of the American forces in Albany, then a military point of great importance, and was the leader of the memorable expedition against the Onondagas in 1779, for the successful conduct of which he received the thanks of Congress. In this connection, Washington, writing to Clinton, expressed himself as follows:

"The enterprise commanded by Colo. Van Schaick merits my approbation and thanks, and does great honor to him and all the Officers & men engaged in it. The issue is very interesting.—I have written him a line upon the occasion."

The following flattering testimonial to Colonel Van Schaick from General Schuyler, sums up the Colonel's soldierly character most completely:

"ALBANY, June 15th, 1782.

"SIR,—I lament the occasion which renders it incumbent on me to afford you a testimonial of the sense I entertain of your conduct. I sincerely wish I could communicate it in words equal to my feelings, and to my experience of the propriety of it during a series of years.

"The early decisive and active part which you took in the favor of your country in the present contest, justly entitles you to the attention of its Friends. We are not less indebted to your exertions as an Officer. Your service, whilst I had the honor of commanding the military in this Department, were such as attracted my notice; your close attention to the discipline of your Regiment afforded a beneficial example to officers less experienced in the duties of their offices. The alacrity with which you executed every order; The propriety of your conduct when left to act Independently, and judge for your self; The prudence which you exhibited on occasions when the line of conduct to be held was delicate and important, evinced a clearness of judgment, and a mind capable of resource, and created a confidence of which I never had occasion to Repent. Upon the whole, Sir, I esteem you a valuable Officer and a faithful servant of the Public, and should have been rejoiced to have learnt your merit rewarded in a promotion to that military Rank which you claim as your due.

"Delicacy would have prevented my saying thus much in a Letter to you, but to have said less, when I intend you should exhibit this to any person or persons whom you conceive may wish to be

advised of the opinion I entertain of you as an Officer and a citizen, would have been injurious to truth.

"Wishing you a speedy and an Honorable extrication from the embarrassments which distress you,

"I am, Sir,

"Very sincerely,

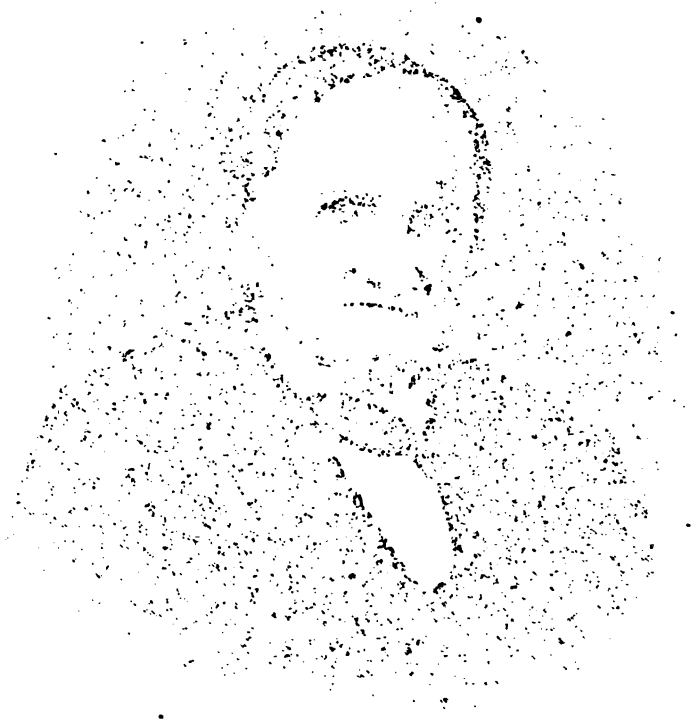
"Your obedient

"Humble servant,

"P. SCHUYLER."

Colonel Van Schaick was afterwards a general in the regular service, and held that rank at the time of his death. He left a quantity of papers and letters, private and official, a large portion of which were lost or destroyed after his death by accident, as is supposed. Those that were fortunately preserved, consisted of letters from the Clintons, a large number of autographs from General Washington, of the most confidential and flattering character, showing that he held him in high estimation as a man of sound judgment as well as a gallant soldier, and others from officers under whom he served when in the provincial service, such as Sir Jeffrey Amherst, which are a beautiful specimen of chirography, and to whom he owed his first commission in the British army. Among them is a characteristic letter from General Montgomery containing the most humane and generous sentiments, and quite a number of commissions with ponderous seals, with the autograph of George III, and communications from Generals Gates, Schuyler, Clinton and others. What remain of this once valuable collection are carefully preserved by his grandson, Henry Van Schaick, and other descendants.

General Van Schaick had five sons and a daughter. Some of the former were well known in business circles in Albany and New York, and until their death, moved in the most distinguished society of the Empire State. One of these, Tobias Van Schaick, was born in Albany, December 9, 1779, and married Jane Staats, daughter of the old Albany merchant, Henry Staats, November 2, 1811. This lady was born May 16, 1783, and died April 23, 1823. She bore Mr. Van Schaick several children, all of whom died in infancy except the Misses Ann and Jane Van Schaick, the former of whom died June 22, 1861. Early in life Mr. Van Schaick was a merchant, and carried on an extensive trade at 447 and 449 Broadway, from which he retired while yet a comparatively young man to assume the care of the Van Schaick estate in Albany, which had been under the management of his mother for some time preceding her death. Following this retirement, he never afterward engaged in active business; but he took a deep interest in the growth and prosperity of Albany, and in the conduct of public affairs. Politically he was a Whig, but his tastes were such that he never permitted himself to become actively involved in politics. He attended and was a most liberal supporter of the North Reformed Dutch Church. He was a quiet, unostentatious man, going little abroad, and enjoying the comforts of his home.



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THE VAN SCHAÏCK FAMILY.

The family of Van Schaïck is one of the earliest of the name, and one of the most illustrious families of Albany. Colonel George Van Schaïck was born in January, 1737, and died on the 14th of 1789. His wife was Mary Ten Broeck, of the celebrated New York family of that name. He served with great distinction in the colonial army during the revolutionary struggle, having previously acquired experience in the service of the Crown in the General Assembly. He was in command of the American forces in Albany, then a military post of great importance, and was the leader of the memorable expedition against the Onondagas in 1779, for the successful conduct of which he received the thanks of Congress. In this connection, Washington, writing to Clinton, expressed himself as follows:

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Disliking all vain-glorious pomp and show, he lived simply for one of his means and position, always finding most pleasure at his own hearthstone and in the society of those he loved, though mingling socially with the most prominent families of Albany, and was always a welcome guest wherever he went.

He was a man who talked little, especially about himself, and because of that reserve much that might interest the readers of this work has been lost, for reminiscences of such a man, could they be procured, would be a valuable contribution to any history of Albany. He died April 21, 1868, aged 88 years 4 months and 11 days.

THE MILITIA OF 1775-76.

Albany County, as it existed at the time of the Revolution, first organized Seventeen Regiments of Militia, under the law of 1775. We give the officers of such as belonged wholly, or in part, to the present Albany County. They were numbered and officered, as found in the Historical Records of the State, as follows:

FIRST REGIMENT, CITY OF ALBANY.

Jacob Lansing, Jr., Colonel; Dirck Ten Broeck, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Wendell, First Major; Abraham Cuyler, Second Major; Volckert A. Douw, Adjutant; Ephraim Van Veghten, Quartermaster.

First Company.—John Barclay, Captain; John Price, First Lieutenant; Abraham I. Yates, Second Lieutenant; John Scott, Ensign.

Second Company.—Thomas Barrett, Captain; Matthew Vischer, First Lieutenant; Abraham Eights, Second Lieutenant; John Hoagkirk, Ensign.

Third Company.—John Williams, Captain; Henry Staats, First Lieutenant; Barent Van Allen, Second Lieutenant; Henry Hogan, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—John M. Beeckman, Captain; Isaac De Freest, First Lieutenant; Abraham Ten Eyck, Second Lieutenant; Teunis T. Van Veghten, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Harmanus Wendell, Captain; William Hun, First Lieutenant; Jacob G. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Cornelius Wendell, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—John N. Bleecker, Captain; John James Beeckman, First Lieutenant; Casparus Pruyn, Second Lieutenant; Nicholas Marselis, Ensign.

THIRD REG'T, FIRST RENSSELAERWYCK BATTALION.

Abraham Ten Broeck, Colonel; Francis Nicoll, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Quackenbush, First Major; Barent Staats, Second Major; John P. Quackenbush, Adjutant; Christopher Lansing, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Henry Quackenbush, Captain; Jacob J. Lansing, First Lieutenant; Levinus Winne, Second Lieutenant; John Van Woert, Ensign.

Second Company.—Abraham D. Fonda, Captain; Henry Oothoudt, Jr., First Lieutenant; Levinus T. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Jacob J. Lansing, Ensign.

Third Company.—Peter Schuyler, Captain; Abraham Witbeck, First Lieutenant; Henry Ostrom, Second Lieutenant; Peter S. Schuyler, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—Barent Staats, Captain; Dirck Becker, First Lieutenant; John Van Wie, Second Lieutenant; George Hogan, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Gerrit G. Van der Bergh, Captain; Peter Van Wie, First Lieutenant; Wouter Becker, Second Lieutenant; Abraham Slingerland, Ensign.

THIRD REGIMENT—NEW ORGANIZATION.

First Company.—(See Third Company, First Organization.)

Second Company.—Abraham D. Fonda, Captain; Henry Oothoudt, Jr., First Lieutenant; Levinus T. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Jacob J. Lansing, Ensign.

Third Company (at first 5th Company, 4th Regiment).—Jacob Ball, Captain; John Warner, First Lieutenant; Peter Dietz, Second Lieutenant; Joshua Shaw, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—Jacob J. Lansing, Captain; Levinus Winne, First Lieutenant; John Van Woert, Second Lieutenant; Peter Dox, Ensign.

Fifth Company (at first organized as 4th Company, 4th Regiment).—Jacob Van Aernam, Captain; John Groot, First Lieutenant; George Wagoner, Second Lieutenant; Frederick Crantz (Crouse?), Ensign.

Sixth Company.—Abraham Veeder, Captain; James Burnside, First Lieutenant; John Voorhuyse (Voorhees?), Second Lieutenant; Andries Ten Eyck, Ensign.

FOURTH REGIMENT.

Second Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Killian Van Rensselaer, Colonel; John H. Beeckman, Lieutenant-Colonel; Cornelius Van Buren, First Major; Jacob C. Schermerhorn, Second Major; Jacobus Van der Poel, Adjutant; John A. Lansing, Quartermaster.

First Company (1st Company, 5th Regiment, New Organization).—Conrad Ten Eyck, Captain; Peter Witbeck, First Lieutenant; Albert H. Van der Zee, Second Lieutenant; John I. Wilbeck, Ensign.

Second Company (2d Company, 5th Regiment, New Organization).—William P. Winne, Captain; John De Voe, First Lieutenant; Philip C. Look (Luke?), Second Lieutenant; Cornelius Van der Zee, Ensign.

Third Company.—Volckert Veeder, Captain; Abraham Veeder, First Lieutenant; Jacob Ia Grange, Second Lieutenant; Andrew Truax, Ensign.

Fourth Company. (See 5th Company, 3d Regiment, New Organization).—Jacob Van Aernam, Captain; John Groot, First Lieutenant; George

Wagoner, Second Lieutenant; Frederick Crantz (Crouse?), Ensign.

Fifth Company.—(See 3d Company, 3d Regiment.)

FOURTH REGIMENT.

(As Newly Organized, February, 1776.)

First Company.—Isaac Miller, Captain; Hendrick Schaus, First Lieutenant; Johannes Lodewick, Second Lieutenant; Johannes Miller, Ensign.

Second Company.—Ichabod Turner, Captain; Joel Pease, First Lieutenant; Jonathan Niles, Second Lieutenant; Joel Curtis, Ensign.

Third Company.—Luke Schermerhorn, Captain; James Magee, First Lieutenant; Reuben Knap, Second Lieutenant; Aaron Hammond, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—James Dennison, Captain; Stephen Niles, First Lieutenant; Obadiah Vaughan, Second Lieutenant; Oliver Bentley, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Nicholas Staats, Captain; Obadiah Lansing, First Lieutenant; Philip Staats, Second Lieutenant; Leonard Wilcox, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—Jacobus Cole (Koole?) Captain; Anthony Bries (Brice?) First Lieutenant; Harpent Witbeck, Second Lieutenant; John Van Hagen, Jr., Ensign.

Seventh Company.—Abraham J. Van Valkenburgh, Captain; Daniel Schermerhorn, First Lieutenant; John J. Van Valkenburgh, Second Lieutenant; Martin Van Buren, Ensign.

FIFTH REGIMENT.

Third Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Stephen Schuyler, Colonel; Gerrit G. Van der Bergh, Lieutenant; Peter P. Schuyler, First Major; Volckert Veeder, Second Major; Maas Van Vranken, Adjutant; Francis Marshall, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Cornelius Van Buren, Captain; Nicholas Staats, First Lieutenant; Obadiah Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Philip Staats, Ensign.

Second Company.—John H. Beeckman, Captain; Jacob C. Schermerhorn, First Lieutenant; Abraham I. Van Valkenburgh, Second Lieutenant; Jacobus Vanderpoel, Ensign.

Third Company.—Valckert Van Veghten, Captain; Gerrit T. Van den Bergh, First Lieutenant; John Amory, Second Lieutenant; Jacob Van Schaick, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—(See 1st Company, 4th Regiment.)

Fifth Company.—Philip De Freest, Captain; Ryneer Van Alstyne, First Lieutenant; Peter Sharp, Second Lieutenant; David De Forest, Ensign.

Sixth Company (1st Company of 6th Regiment, new organization).—John J. Fonda, Captain; John P. Fonda, First Lieutenant; George Berger, Second Lieutenant; George Sharp, Ensign.

SIXTH REGIMENT.

Fourth Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Stephen J. Schuyler, Colonel; Henry K. Van Rensselaer,

Lieutenant-Colonel; Philip De Freest, First Major; John Fonda, Second Major; Volckert Oothoudt, Adjutant; Jacob Van Alstyne, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Henry H. Gardiner, Captain; Jacob Van der Heyden, First Lieutenant; Adam Beam, Second Lieutenant; Henry Tinker, Ensign.

Second Company.—Cornelius Lansing, Captain; Lodewyck Snider, First Lieutenant; Andries Stool, Second Lieutenant; Jacob Weiger, Ensign.

Third Company.—(See 3d Company, 4th Regiment.)

Fourth Company.—(See 2d Company this Regiment and 4th Regiment.)

Fifth Company.—Caleb Bentley, Captain; Samuel Shaw, First Lieutenant; David Hustes, Second Lieutenant; Thomas Crandall, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—(See 4th Company, 4th Regiment.)

SIXTH REGIMENT.—(New organization.)

First Company.—(See 6th Company, 5th Regiment.)

Second Company.—(See 1st Company, 6th Regiment; first organization.)

Third Company.—John Lautman, Captain; Peter Vosburgh, First Lieutenant; John Schurtz, Second Lieutenant; Conradt Best, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—(See 2d Company, first organization, 5th Regiment, and 1st Company in 6th Regiment, first organization.)

Fifth Company.—(See first organization in 6th Regiment.)

Sixth Company.—Jacob De Freest, Captain; Martinus Sharp, First Lieutenant; Andries Miller, Second Lieutenant; John Crannell, Ensign.

Seventh Company.—Florus Banker, Captain; Christopher Tillman, First Lieutenant; Abraham Ten Eyck, Second Lieutenant; Jonathan Sever, Ensign.

Among these officers were men who did valiant service in the War of the Revolution, and acquired promotion. A few left the patriot cause and preferred to remain subjects of Great Britain. We are sorry not to be able to give the names of many who did, no doubt, faithful service in the ranks. Concerning many such even tradition is dumb, though doubtless their services were appreciated and probably rewarded.

The distribution of the regiments as first formed, in 1775 and 1776, was as follows:

First, City of Albany; Second, Schenectady District; Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Rensselaerwyck; Seventh, Schenectady District; Eighth, Kinderhook District; Ninth and Tenth, Claverack; Eleventh, Livingston Manor; Twelfth, Coxsack and Groot Imtrocht; Thirteenth, Half Moon and Ballston District; Fourteenth, Saratoga District; Fifteenth, Hoosic and Schaghticoke; Sixteenth and Seventeenth, Schoharie and Duaneburgh; Eighteenth, Kings District (now Columbia County).

THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL.

At the beginning of the disturbances that led to the separation of the American colonies from Great Britain, the County and City of Albany were far from being in sympathy with the patriotic cause. The Mayor and a majority of the Common Council were loyal friends of the English crown.

The skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, the menaces against Massachusetts—particularly against Boston—and the arrival of British troops for the avowed purpose of crushing out the incipient rebellion, awakened and intensified the spirit of resistance even in colonies comparatively passive before. Most of the leading citizens of Albany soon took a decided stand with the patriots in the Atlantic cities. The course pursued will best be made to appear by extracts from their proceedings. We first give what was said and done by the City Government of Albany.

The position of the Mayor and Common Council in regard to the approaching struggle of the colonies with England, is seen in the following resolution, adopted July 18, 1772.

Resolved by this Board, That his Excellency, William Tryon, Governor General of the Province of New York, be presented with the freedom of this City in a golden box; also

Resolved, That this Board do address his Excellency on his arrival to this City."

Governor Tryon was one of the most aggressive enemies to the rights of the colonists, and had many friends in Albany at this time. It does not appear that his Excellency made the intended visit. Matters in the City of New York, at that time, between the patriotic colonists and his Excellency, were getting too warm to allow him to make this visit.

The election for Members of the Common Council, held in the city in September, 1773, was one of the most exciting that had ever taken place. The difficulties with the mother country entered largely into it, the patriots supporting one set of candidates, and the loyal subjects of Great Britain another.

Thomas Hun and John Ten Broeck, loyal candidates for Aldermen in the Third Ward, were elected; but their election was contested, on the ground that it was gained by illegal votes. After a long and bitter contest before the board, it was decided that they were legally elected, and they took their seats.

The rupture between England and her colonies was, at the opening of 1775, rapidly approaching a crisis. The last charter-election for the choice of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen under colonial laws, took place September 29, 1775. The Aldermen chosen were as follows:

First Ward.—Aldermen: Peter W. Yates, Gerrit Van Sante. Assistants: Jacob Roseboom, Aries La Grange.

Second Ward.—Aldermen: Guysbert G. Marselis, John J. Beeckman. Assistants: Cornelius Van Schelluyn, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer.

Third Ward.—Aldermen: Thomas Hun, John Ten Broeck. Assistants: Abraham Schuyler, Abraham Ten Eyck.

Abraham C. Cuyler was still Mayor.

The last meeting of this board under the provincial government, the Mayor and all the members being present, took place at the City Hall in Albany on March 25, 1776.

After this meeting, the provincial government and the British laws were superseded for a time by the Continental Congress and the various State governments.

There was no meeting of the Common Council in the City of Albany from March 25, 1776, until April 17, 1778.

John Barclay was appointed Mayor by Governor George Clinton, September 27, 1777.

The Aldermen were John Roorbach, John Price, Jacob Lansing, Jr., Abraham Cuyler, John M. Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell. Assistant Aldermen: Abraham I. Yates, Matthew Visscher, Isaac D. Fonda, Jacob Bleeker, Cornelius Swits, Abraham Schuyler.

Matthew Visscher, Esq., was appointed Town Clerk, Clerk of the Mayor's Court of the City, and Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the City and County, and Clerk of the Peace and of the Court of Sessions of the Peace of the said City and County. Thomas Seger was appointed Marshal, and Henry Bleeker, Chamberlain.

The change from the Provincial to the State laws did not take place, however, without much difficulty; and much doubt concerning the Corporation of the City, to remove which, the State Legislature passed several acts.

On the 17th of February, 1778, the Legislature passed an Act to remove doubts concerning the Corporation of the City of Albany, as follows:

Whereas, The inhabitants did not at the proper period, owing to the confusion the times occasioned by the Calamities of War, elect their aldermen in strict conformity with the charter, nor appoint their officers; and on account of the establishment of Independency, and the change of government in this State in consequence thereof, the members of the said corporation could not take the usual oaths, by reason whereof doubts might arise, as well to the prejudice of the estates, rights, etc., of the inhabitants, as concerning the validity of the election and the authority of the magistrates; for the removal whereof, and to the end that all and singular the said estates, etc., may remain as good, valid and unimpeached in the law as the same were, at, and immediately before the 19th day of April, 1775; and that the said magistrates and other members may exercise their several offices and functions without any legal or other let, hindrance or impediment whatsoever; the Charter and all the rights of the Corporation, which they held on the 19th day of April, 1775, were confirmed, notwithstanding non-user or misuser between the 19th of April, 1775, and the first of March, 1778; and all the magistrates and members of the Corporation were declared able to exercise their several offices, and to appoint such officers as ought to have been appointed on the anniversary day prescribed in the Charter, notwithstanding the want of conformity in the elections or appointments.

By the Act of the Legislature of 1778, the Mayor and other officers were required to meet at the City Hall, or some other convenient place in the city, to qualify, by taking the oath of allegiance prescribed by the laws of this State, and their respective oaths

of office prescribed by the City Charter. Accordingly, the Mayor and Aldermen, and other city officers, did meet at the City Hall on the 17th of April, 1778, and took the oaths required, and proceeded to business.

During the two years from March, 1776, to April, 1778, the Committee of Safety appointed by the first Legislature of the State, discharged the duties of Mayor and Common Council.

By the Acts of Legislature, the original Colonial Charter of the City, granted in 1686, with a few amendments made by the Provincial Government, was adopted, except in so far as it conflicted with the new State Government.

In April, 1778, the seat of government of the State was temporarily at Poughkeepsie, no permanent place having yet been assigned. The War of the Revolution was then raging, and Albany was constantly threatened from the incursions of the enemy. The city was filled with continental troops, who were at times riotous and disorderly. The duties of the city government were difficult and responsible; but managed under Mayor Barclay with wisdom and firmness.

On the evening of May 5, 1778, the troops stationed in the city created great terror and confusion among the citizens, compelling them to put candles before their windows. The next day the Mayor and Common Council took the matter in hand, and reported it to General Conway, then in command, who published a military order preventing a recurrence of such disorder.

In this same month the citizens of Albany were greatly excited and alarmed by an order removing a large part of the troops, leaving the city nearly unprotected from rioters and law-breakers. There were ten prisoners under sentence of death in the city, and threatened rescues of them were made; whereupon Mayor Barclay and the Common Council wrote General Stark, to whose command the troops were to be removed, remonstrating against their removal.

This letter shows the situation in which Albany was placed by reason of the war. It says:

The Common Council would beg leave to observe, that the many robberies, murders and other dreadful crimes committed on the inhabitants of this City and County by deserters and prisoners from Burgoyne's Army, and by the disaffected of our own Country, who are drove to desperation, and some of them almost to starvation, renders it indispensably necessary to have a large body of regular troops to keep the villains in subjection, or go in quest of them; for, unless the militia can remain at home this year, and properly manage their summer crops, little or no support of flour and other things can the Continent derive from these parts. Last year, more than one-half of the crops were destroyed by the Army-marauders, and not more than half the usual quantity sold. If the British prisoners could be moved to another place, it would break up the alarming connection kept up between them and the Tories and the negroes.

About this time the British prisoners, the Tories and negroes, formed a plot by which they were to rise, murder the guards, rob and burn the city. It was fortunately discovered in time to prevent it. Seven of the leaders were seized and executed on Gallows Hill.

On May 30, 1778, a regiment of militia and

a body of continental troops stationed at Cobleskill were attacked by the Tories and savages. They were cut to pieces and Cobleskill burned. The enemy threatened to attack and burn Albany; but the British prisoners were removed to Poughkeepsie and reinforcements arrived by which order was maintained.

In the autumn of 1778, the Common Council and the citizens of Albany were greatly agitated by a report that the Commander of the American Forces for the Northern Department had made an order directing that over 2,000 continental troops were to be billeted on the inhabitants for the ensuing winter.

On the 12th of September, the Mayor and Common Council united in a letter to Governor Clinton, praying him to unite with them in a protest against this oppression, in which they set forth the hardships, sufferings and privations, the cruelties and insults which the inhabitants of the city had endured during the war; stating that they had, for nearly three years past, undergone innumerable inconveniences attending the operations of the war. That they were among the first who stepped forth in the cause of their country, and had submitted to every privation possible; that in their contest with the Tories, more bitter than those with the savages, and their other public services to their country, they had so wasted their substance that many of them are now reduced to the most necessitous circumstances. That the fences surrounding their grounds had been used for fuel by the continental troops, throwing their lands into commons, thus exposing their crops to destruction, while the great drought of that summer greatly diminished the necessaries of life among the citizens. That there is also a greater scarcity of fire-wood than was ever known in the city, owing to the consumption there by the troops that were last winter billeted on the inhabitants. To those who supplied them therewith, no recompense has been made. They further say, "that however willing we have been, and still are, to risk our all in supporting the freedom and independence of our blessed country, we feel compelled to ask that in the distribution of the troops for winter quarters, due respect may be had for the former distresses and present sufferings of the inhabitants of Albany and its suburbs; and that, at any rate, no more troops may be allotted to us than the barracks and hospital may contain; that the strictest orders may be issued regarding stealing, pilfering, and insulting the inhabitants; and that the officers be enjoined in punishing the refractory and disobedient."

This letter, signed by the Mayor, John Barclay, the Common Council and other city officers, is of itself a touching history of the sufferings of Albany in the cause of freedom. It was listened to with consideration and respect by the commander of the troops, and had the desired effect.

The troops stationed at Albany, and the war, continued to distress the citizens, increasing the difficulties and responsibilities of the Common Council. In September, 1781, the alarming news reaching the city that the British were about to

march on it and destroy it by fire. The prompt measures adopted by the Common Council to protect the city, exhibit their patriotism, ability, and bravery. But the enemy were not permitted to reach the city.

It was during General John Stark's command of the Northern Department, about 1781, having his headquarters at Albany, that he wrote to Governor Clinton: "I am fully confident that George III, of Great Britain, has many subjects in this city who would willingly lay down half, even the whole, of their estates in his service, and trust in his royal clemency for the repayment of the money so profitably laid out." Again he says, "Albany is a very dangerous place to put men into." And again, "I have no hopes of any assistance from Albany; it is not their inclination to fight away from their own castle."

On June 28, 1782, General Washington visited Albany, and was received by an address of congratulation by the Mayor and Common Council, and with every possible demonstration of respect from the citizens. He was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box, and was invited to dine with the board.

His arrival was announced by the ringing of bells and the roar of artillery. In the evening the city was brilliantly illuminated.

The surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown convinced the English Government of the impossibility of conquering the United States.

November 3, 1782, Articles of peace between the two countries were signed at Paris. On April 19, 1783, a formal proclamation of the cessation of hostilities was made throughout the army. This treaty, acknowledging the independence of the United States, was formally signed on the 30th of September following. Nowhere were these events received with more joy than at Albany. On the 18th of July, 1783, information was received that General Washington and Governor Clinton would visit the city the next day. Every preparation to receive them in an appropriate manner was made by the citizens and Common Council. Their Excellencies were invited to a public dinner. Alderman Yates and Mr. Visscher were appointed to prepare addresses of welcome, and every possible demonstration of respect was made.

Washington closed his reply as follows:

While I contemplate with inexpressible pleasure the future tranquillity and glory of our common country, I cannot but take a particular interest in the anticipation of the increase in prosperity and greatness of this ancient and respectable City of Albany, from whose citizens I have received such distinguished tokens of their approbation and affection.

Governor Clinton's reply was as follows:

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Albany: I receive with the highest satisfaction your congratulations on the return of the blessings of peace, and the final establishment of our independence. It gives me the most sensible pleasure that my general conduct in the station in which my country has been pleased to continue me, meets with your approbation. The generous sentiments which you express in my favor demand my warmest acknowledgments, and it shall be my first wish and endeavor to answer the expectation of my constituents in my future administration.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND CORRESPONDENCE.

First Ward.—Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Henry I. Bogart, Peter Silvester, Henry Wendell, Volkert P. Douw, John Bay, Gysbert Marselis.

Second Ward.—John R. Bleecker, Jacob Lansing, Jr., Jacob Cuyler, Henry Bleecker, Robert Yates, Stephen De Lancy, Abraham Cuyler.

Third Ward.—John H. Ten Eyck, Abraham Ten Broeck, Gerrit Lansing, Jr., Anthony E. Bradt, Samuel Stringer, Abraham Yates, Jr., Cornelis Van Santvoordt.

The records of the Committee are well preserved in the State Library, and we think nothing can better exhibit the state of public feeling than extracts from them. We here see the trials, the needs, the vigilance, the firmness, activity, energy and sacrifices of the patriots of that day, expressed in their own words and acts as no historian, after more than a century has passed, can express them.

The Committee was appointed under the general advice of the Continental Congress of September, 1774, held in Philadelphia. We give names of the first Albany City Committee appointed soon after hearing of the bloodshed at Lexington, April 19, 1775. The whole county was soon divided into districts, and the Committee enlarged by representation from each district. We confine our extracts, on account of limited space, chiefly to transactions of general interest, or relating to Albany County as it now is.

Changes were made in the Committee by new elections, as will appear, and continued by filling vacancies, because some of its members preferred to be neutral, while others went over to the enemy. All these last do not appear. Those who remained, and worked so bravely and constantly, deserve a place beside the signers of the Declaration of Independence. To those who are *intelligently* familiar with the history of those days no further explanations are necessary.

The meetings of this Committee were usually held in the Old Stadt Huys, used as City Hall, County House and Gaol, and afterward as State House and place for all indoor public assemblies of great importance. The city government having been suspended from March 25, 1776, to April 17, 1778, all affairs of the city and county were transacted by this Committee, with the advice and approval of the State Assembly.

1775.—First meeting of the Committee of Correspondence was held at the house of Richard Cartwright, January 24, 1775.

Officers elected were: Abraham Yates, Jr., Chairman; John N. Bleecker, Clerk. Committees were appointed to draft and send circular-letters to the Supervisors of the several districts, urging them to call meetings, appoint committees, and select delegates to co-operate with the central committee.

March 21.—Committee met and adopted the following, among other resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, that Abraham Yates, Jr., Walter Livingston, Esq., Colonel Schuyler, Colonel Ten Broeck and Colonel Peter Livingston, are appointed deputies to represent the City and County of Albany, at the intended Provincial Congress, to be held at the City of New York the 20th day of April next, for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent this colony at the next Congress, to be held at Philadelphia the 10th day of May next.

Resolved. That the donations for the poor at the Town of Boston be delivered into the hands of Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob Lansing and Henry Quackenbush, and that they buy wheat for the money and send the same in proper time.

Meetings of the Committee were held on the 12th, 26th and 29th days of April, at which letters from Massachusetts Committees were answered, and more letters were sent to the different districts of Albany County, earnestly requesting prompt expressions of the sense of the people.

The date of the following appears to be just after the battle of Lexington and before Bunker Hill—and is entered in the book of records of the Committee of Correspondence and Safety.

“A General Association agreed to and subscribed by the Members of the several Committees of the City and County of Albany.

“Persuaded that the salvation of the Rights and liberties of America depends, under God, on the firm Union of its Inhabitants in a Vigorous prosecution of the Measures necessary for its Safety; and convinced of the necessity of preventing the Anarchy and Confusion which attends a Dissolution of the Powers of Government, We, the Freemen, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the City and County of Albany, being greatly alarmed at the avowed Design of the Ministry to raise a Revenue in America, and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in the Massachusetts Bay, Do in the most Solemn Manner resolve never to become Slaves; and do associate under all the Ties of Religion, Honor and Love to our Country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into Execution whatever Measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention for the purpose of preserving our Constitution; and opposing the Execution of the several Arbitrary and oppressive Acts of the British Parliament until a Reconciliation between Great Britain and America on Constitutional Principles (which we most ardently desire) can be obtained: And that we will in all things follow the Advice of Our General Committee respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of Peace and good Order, and the safety of Individuals and private Property.

“John Barclay, Chairman; Walter Livingston, John Bay, James Magee, Tyrans Callans (?), Isaac Van Aernam, Gysbert Marselis, Philip P. Schuyler, George White, John McClung, Gershom Woodworth, Bastyaen T. Vescher, Florus Paricker, John Knickerbacker, Junior, Barent Vanderpoel, Will-

iam Van Bergen, John Abbott, Jacobus Williamson, Samuel Van Veclten, Peter Becker, Ebenezer Allen, Simeon Covel, Asa Flint, James Parrot, Henry Leake (his mark), Andries Watbeck, Matthew Visscher, Samuel Stringer, Gerrit Lansing, Junior, John Ten Broeck, Robert Yates, Henry I. Bogart, John Van Loon, Henry Van Veghten, Joseph Young, Richard Esselstyn, Othniel Gardner, Baret Dyne, Abraham Cuyler, Robert McClullen, Henry Wendell, Cornelius Van Santvoordt, R. Bleecker, Henry Bleecker, John H. Ten Eyck, Jacob Bleecker, Junior, John T. Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell, Matthew Adgate, Abraham Yates, Junior, John Taylor, Rutger Lansingh, Henry Quackenboss, John M. Beeckman, John D. Fonda, John Van Rensselaer, Junior; John Price, Anthony Van Schaick, Dirck Ten Broeck, Reitzert Bronck, Frederick Beringer, Reynard Van Alsteyn, Philip Van Veghten, Joshua Losce, Anthony Van Bergen, Albertus Van Loon, Mynderse Roseboom, Abraham Ten Eyck.”

At a meeting of the Committee, May 1st, it was ordered that Luke Cassidy be paid 3/ for beating the drum, and John Ostrander 3/ for going about and ringing the bell to notify the people.

One of the first acts of this new Committee was the following letter to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston dated May 1, 1775, fitly supplementing the act of association given above.

“GENTLEMEN,—While we lament the mournful event which has caused the Blood of our Brethren in the Massachusetts Bay to flow, we feel that satisfaction which every honest American must experience at the Glorious stand you have made, we have an additional satisfaction from the consequences which we trust will [ensue] in uniting every American in Sentiments and Bonds, which we hope will be indissoluble by our Enemies. This afternoon the Inhabitants of this City convened and unanimously renewed their former agreement, that they would co-operate with our Brethren in New York and in the several Colonies on the Continent in their opposition to the Ministerial Plan now prosecuting against us, and also unanimously appointed a Committee of Safety, Protection and Correspondence, with full power to transact all such matters as they shall conceive may tend to promote the weal of the American Cause. We have the fullest Confidence that every District in this extensive County will follow our Example. On the twenty-second Instant a Provincial Congress will meet, when we have not the least doubt but such effectual aids will be afforded you, as will teach Tyrants and their Minions that as we were born free, we will live and die so, and transmit that inestimable Blessing to Posterity. Be assured, Gentlemen, that nothing on our Parts shall be wanting to evince that we are deeply impressed with a sense of the necessity of Unanimity, and that we mean to Co-operate with you in this arduous struggle for Liberty to the utmost of our Power. * * * We are, Gentlemen, with the warmest wishes and most fervent Prayers for your

Success, safety and the success of the Common Cause, your Most Humble Servts.

“By order of the Committee,

“ABRAHAM YATES, JR., *Chairman.*”

May 2d—Jeremiah Hasely and Captain Stevens from the Boston encampment, appeared before the Committee disclosing secret plans under consideration by the New England forces for capturing Fort Ticonderoga, which, on information was said to be furnished with several pieces of brass cannon and many fine stands of arms, a quantity of gunpowder and other military stores. Aid was requested for our countenance and small assistance with a supply of flour in the execution of the proposed plan.

May 3d—A letter was addressed to the Committee in New York, advising them of the visit and disclosures of these gentlemen, and requesting their sentiments.

The letter makes this statement: “From the many applications that have been and are daily made from the eastward, we are very scant of powder, arms, and warlike stores, and the city is in a very defenseless situation; not a piece of artillery in it.”

A letter from the Committee in New York, dated April 28th, urges the necessity of a Provisional Congress to be held in that city May 22d, to be composed of delegates from each county in the Colony.

A committee was appointed to wait on Colonel Guy Johnson, to know the truth of the report prevailing about the disposition of the Indians being unfriendly to the Colony, relative to the present commotions.

Colonel Johnson informs the Committee that on his honor there is no ground for the reports that he knows of, but says that he has it from good authority that the Canadians were to come down upon the back of the Colonies, and which he believes to be true.

Therefore *Resolved*, “That Abraham Cuyler and Hendrick Wendell be a Committee to apply to Mr. Dirck Ten Broeck for two hundred Stand of Small Arms of the parcel he is possessed of, to be prepared and made fit for immediate service.” “From the present State and turbulence of the County, from the alarm arisen by suspicion of the Negroes, from the information from Col. Johnson respecting the Canadians, we conceive it prudent to have a strict and strong watch, well armed and under proper discipline, and the Corporation declining to undertake the same, Therefore, for the peace, good order, safety, and protection of this City, ordered that copies of the following advertisement be fixed up in the proper places in the different wards.

“Notice is hereby given to the inhabitants of the City of Albany that it is the opinion of their Committee that they assemble and meet together in the different wards of this City at the usual places of election, to-morrow, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to form themselves into Companies from the age of sixteen to sixty, each Company to consist of a Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Ser-

jeants, four Corporals, one Drum and fifty-one privates. Dated 3d May, 1775.—By order of the Committee. “ABRAHAM YATES, *Chairman.*”

Meeting of Committee, May 4, 1775—The following is the return of the officers chosen this day by the people in consequence of our advertisement—to wit:

FOR THE FIRST WARD.

First Company—John Barclay, Captain; John Price, Stephen Van Schaaik, Lieutenants; Abraham Yates, Ensign.

Second Company—John Williams, Captain; Henry Staats, Barent Van Allen, Lieutenants; Henry Hogan, Ensign.

Third Company—Thomas Barret, Captain; Abraham Eights, Matthew Visscher, Lieutenants; John Hoogkerk, Ensign.

For the Third Ward—Captains: John Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell; Lieutenants: Isaac De Freest, Abraham Ten Eyck, William Hunn, Peter Gansevoort, Junior; Ensigns: Cornelius Wendell, Teunis T. Van Veghten.

At Committee meeting of May 5th, a letter from Barrington was read requesting aid, which was declined until advices should be received on the subject from the New York Committee.

Committee Chamber, 10th May, 1775, City Hall of the City of Albany.

Present, Nineteen Members of Committee. District of Grote Imbogh, 2 delegates; Sinkaick and Hosick District, 3 delegates; Bennington District, 8 delegates; Corporation of Cambridge, 8 delegates; Manor of Livingston, 5 delegates; Schagtekoek, 8 delegates; Kings District, 3 delegates; German Camp, 2 delegates; Cambridge District, 3 delegates; District of Cocksackie and Katskill, 5; Scholharry and Duanesborough, 6 delegates; Claverack, 5 delegates; Kinderhook, 4 delegates; Manor of Rensselaerwyck, 22 delegates; Saratoga, 10 delegates; Schenectady, 10 delegates; Half Moon, 7 delegates.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

May 5th—The following delegates were chosen by ballot to meet in General Congress at New York the 22d instant. Abraham Yates, Dirck Swart, Volkert P. Douw, Robert Van Rensselaer, Peter Silvester, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glenn, Jacob Cuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Walter Livingston.

Resolved, That the Committees of the different districts recommend to the people to form themselves into Companies, properly equipped and disciplined, and that they make report to the Chairman of the Committee for the time being.

May 11th — Sixty-six members present. Another request for supplies for the use of the people gone against Ticonderoga, was voted in the negative.

May 12th—“We received a letter signed Ethan Allen by the hands of Mr. Brown, acquainting us of the taking Ticonderoga. Upon which we wrote a letter to the committee of New York by Captain

Barent Ten Eyck, Express, and each of us paid him a Dollar a piece for going."

May 13th—Received letter from New York confirming previous decisions not to furnish aid to Ticonderoga expedition until some action of the Provincial or Continental Congress.

May 16th—Samuel Stringer, Chairman *pro tem*.

Resolved, That any Person in this City County who has arms, ammunition or other articles necessary for our Defense to dispose of, shall not within ten days after the publications of these resolutions inform this Committee of the quantity and quality of the same, shall be held up to the Public as an Enemy to this Country.

Resolved, That any person who shall dispose of any aforesaid articles to any person, knowing or having reason to believe such person to be inimical to the liberties of America, he shall be held up as an enemy to this Country. Ordered, that the same be published in Hand Bills.

Committee Chambers, 22d May—John H. Roseboom delivered a speech from an Indian called Little Abram, a chief of the Mohawks. "They hear that Companies and troops are coming to molest us, that a large body are hourly expected from New England to take away by violence our Superintendent and extinguish our Council Fire, for what reasons we know not. We have no purpose of interfering in the dispute between Old England and Boston; the White People may settle their own quarrels; we shall never meddle in those matters if we are let alone. But should our Superintendent be taken away from us we dread the consequences. We are so desirous of maintaining peace, that we are unwilling the Six Nations should know the bad Reports spread amongst us. Brothers, We desire you will satisfy us as to your knowledge of those reports and what your News are and not deceive us in a matter of so much importance.

"ABRAHAM, Chief.

"Interpreted by Samuel Kirkland, Missionary. May, 1775."

A committee of two was appointed to go with an answer to the Indians.

May 25th—The first communication from the Congress then in session at Philadelphia, received. It was a request that the Albany Committee send provisions and supplies to Ticonderoga, with a sufficient number of men and mechanics to build and manage scows with which to bring cannon and military stores from the conquered fort.

A resolution was at once passed to act accordingly—to raise a company of one hundred men and march as soon as possible to Ticonderoga. Cornelius Van Santvoordt was chosen commissary of stores by ballot, and Henry I. Bogert was appointed to go to Fort George in charge of the stores and building of the scows for lake transportation.

May 26th—The following was passed:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the physicians and others of this city and county who are in the practice of inoculation for small-pox, be requested immediately to desist from

inoculation until the sense of this Committee be signified to the contrary.

May 29th—A letter was received from the Provincial Congress at New York, dated 25th May, 1775, inclosing instructions to Messrs. John N. Bleecker, Henry Bogert, George Palmer, Peter Lansing, and Dirck Sevant, who were by said Congress appointed commissioners or agents to superintend and put in execution the recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress of the 10th May, 1775, relative to Ticonderoga.

Peter W. Yates, John N. Bleecker, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, and John Taylor, the Committee appointed to draw up an instrument to bind those in their duty who shall enlist in the Provincial Service, brought an instrument in the words following, to wit:

"We, the subscribers, being well convinced of the absolute necessity of raising a body of Provincial Troops for the defense of the Constitution and the preservation of our just rights and liberties, when the same are in the most imminent danger of being invaded, have therefore voluntarily enlisted into the Provisional Service, and do hereby promise and agree that we will severally do, execute, and perform all and every such instructions, directions, orders, military discipline, and duties as our officers, or either of them, shall from time to time give or send to us during the time that our service is required in the unhappy contest between Great Britain and the Colonies; and we do severally promise and engage not to go from or quit the said service until we shall be discharged or dismissed from the service by the Continental or Provisional Congress, or by the General Committee of the City of Albany, under the penalty of forfeiting our wages, and being deemed in the eye of the Public as enemies to our Country."

Resolved, That the Captains of this City call out their Companies once every two weeks in the afternoon for the purpose of perfecting themselves in the military discipline, and that Saturday, the third of June next, be appointed for the first time of mustering.

Resolved, That John Ostrander be appointed under the denomination of Town Serjeant, who shall keep a regular Roster of all the officers of the different wards in the City, and that he warn the officer not on duty, every morning preceding the night he is to watch, and that every officer so warned shall order his Serjeant to warn the men who shall attend to the watch house at the appointed hour with proper arms, ammunition and accoutrements, and that every person capable of doing his duty shall attend in person.

8th June—We received a letter from Colonel Phillip Schuyler, dated Philadelphia, 3d June, 1775, in these words, to wit:

"The conduct of the Albany Committee has given great Satisfaction to the Congress. You cannot wonder that I should be pleased with every Transaction that reflects honor on my dear Countrymen. The article of powder is under serious consideration; but, difficult as it is to procure that

essential commodity, I hope we soon shall have a supply. May indulgent Heaven smile propitious on the endeavor of the Americans to remain a free and a happy people; may my Countrymen stand distinguished in the glorious Struggle, and may an All directing Providence guide us safely through the dangers of this unhappy Contest."

June 17th—Received a letter from Colonel Benedict Arnold, dated Crown Point, 12th June, 1775.

"Gentlemen,—Your letter to Captain White with orders for the Companies from Albany County to return to Fort George he has just received, in consequence of which they are now embarking for that place. Their departure leaves us in a very defenseless Situation, as we have only 100 men left here, but could not advise them to go contrary to their orders, tho' the men are much wanted. Had you known our present Situation, I believe you would not have given orders for their removal.

"Your Most Humble Servant.

"BENEDICT ARNOLD."

Received a letter from the Committee of Schenectady, dated 16th June, 1775, requesting that fifty Stand of Arms be sent them by Mr. Wendell's Servant.

Resolved, That John N. Bleecker deliver to Mr. Wendell's Servant fifty guns for the use of Captain Cornelius Van Dyck's Company at Schenectada.

Resolved, That John N. Bleecker, Commissary, Send to Fort George four barrels of New England Rum, to be delivered to Henry I. Bogert or any others of the Commissaries at that Post. To be Charged to the Soldiers at the rate of Six Shillings per gallon.

June 22d—Present, twenty-two members.

On motion, the question being put whether or no it is necessary that some money be raised to pay the troops raised for the use of this colony.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, That five hundred pounds be raised, by bills of credit, as follows :

1,000 of 1/.....	£ 50
750 of 2/.....	75
500 of 5/.....	125
500 of 10/.....	250
	<u>£500</u>

Resolved, That the bills for the above sums be of the following tenor, to wit :

"This Note shall entitle the bearer to the sum of _____ New York Currency, payable by us, the Subscribers, on or before the first day of September next, pursuant to a Vote of Credit of the Sub-Committee of the City and County of Albany.

"By order of said Committee."

Resolved, That Messrs. Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob Lansingh, Jun., and Samuel Stringer, subscribe their respective names to the several notes, to be issued as aforesaid, and number the same; and the respective members of this Committee do hereby engage to save and keep harmless and indemnified the said Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob

Lansingh, Jun., and Samuel Stringer, for all sums of money which they or either of them may be compelled to pay in consequence of their signing the said notes, exclusive of their proportional part as members of this Committee.

Resolved, That Messrs. Robert Yates, John Bay, Abraham Cuyler, Gosen Van Schaick, Cornelius Van Santvoordt, John Ten Broeck, Henry Quack-enbush and Lucas Van Veghten, or any two of them, superintend the printing of said bills.

At the Committee meeting June 23d, a note was sent to Boston, as follows :

"We are at a loss to know what must be done with the Donations collected in this City for the Poor of Boston, and beg to be informed by you, as the Chief Contributions was in Grain, whether we shall dispose of it here and convert it into Cash, or otherwise. Waiting your directions, we are,

"Brethren, your very humble servants."

June 26th—*Resolved*, That there be struck in Bills of Credit, in addition to what has already been ordered, Five Hundred Pounds of the following tenor, to wit : Two hundred and fifty of twenty shillings and one hundred and twenty-five of forty shillings.

Committee Chambers, June 29th—Samuel Stringer, Chairman *pro tem*.

Upon the whole, we are of opinion, *First*.—That as the safety of our Persons, and the Preservation of our Properties depends upon the due administration of Justice, that the course of Justice ought not to be obstructed, but that the Same Continue in the usual Course, and in the King's Name, as our allegiance to him is not denied ; and that we are to Wait the resolution of the Provincial or Continental Congress on this Subject and abide by their determination, otherwise we Conceive the whole Country will be reduced to a State of the Greatest Anarchy and Confusion.

Second.—Appeals are still admitted, at least in this Government, in all cases where they always have been Allowed; in this the law has not been altered, and the Subject in this Province has the Same Liberty of a fair and impartial trial, as usual on Constitutional principles; and we do not object against any Acts of Parliament, except the late Un-constitutional and oppressive ones which have been Noticed by the Continental Congress in their Session last Fall.

Third.—We are neither Rebels or Traitors, nor have we forfeited our Estates, neither are there any acts of Parliament of that nature in force to our knowledge against any persons in this Province; nor do we conceive the application of Traitors and Rebels justly applied to Subjects who refuse to comply with requisitions of unconstitutional Acts of Parliament.

July 3d—Mr. Leonard Gansevoort reports that he had paid Captain George White the sum of £100 14s. New York currency for himself, the officers and privates of his Company, which this board does approve of.

Resolved, That Mr. Leonard Gansevoort, Treasurer, pay unto Captain Hezekiah Baldwin, the sum

of 1771, in behalf of his pay as Captain, and for and on behalf of the rest of his officers and privates of his Company.

July 5th—Received letter from Phillip Schuyler, of which the following is a part:

"I have received advice that some Oneida Indians are now at Albany. Your prudence will suggest that the kindest treatment is necessary to these People, and I beg of you not to let them return without some liberal presents or tokens of our friendship, nor without assurances that they will speedily be called to a Conference at Albany, or some other convenient place, in that or Tryon County. What money you may disburse for presents I shall immediately see repaid."

July 5th—Mr. Henry Glen produced to this board warrants and instructions for the following persons from Albany County:

Captain, Stephen J. Schuyler; First Lieutenant, Barent Roseboom; Second Lieutenant, Dirck Hansen; Captain, Joel Pratt; First Lieutenant, Benjamin Chittenden; Second Lieutenant, Israel Spencer; Captain, Elisha Benedict; First Lieutenant, Samuel Fletcher; Second Lieutenant, Alexander Brink; Captain, Joseph McCracken; First Lieutenant, Moses Masten; Second Lieutenant, John Barns; Captain, John Visscher; First Lieutenant, Benjamin Evans; Second Lieutenant, Joseph Fitch; Captain, Hezekiah Baldwin; First Lieutenant, Nathaniel Rowley; Second Lieutenant, Roswell Beeby; Captain, Peter Yates; First Lieutenant, Henry Van Veghten; Second Lieutenant, Gideon King.

Mr. Henry Glen also informs this Board that the Congress have approved of the following field officers:

Colonel, Myndert Roseboom; Lieutenant-Colonel, Goosen Van Schaick; Major, Lucas Van Veghten; and that they had appointed John M. Wendell, Quartermaster, and Barent J. Ten Eyck, Adjutant.

Received a letter from the Deputies of the Province in Continental Congress, dated 30th June, 1775, in which they announce:

"The Military Arrangement within the Department of New York is entrusted to Major-General Schuyler, to whom we refer you for the money which you request, not doubting but his hands will be strengthened so as to enable him to do everything necessary for the Protection of our Frontiers.

Signed,

"PHILIP LIVINGSTON,

"JAMES DUANE,

"WILLIAM FLOYD."

Resolved, That Robert Yates, Abraham Ten Broeck and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Esqs., be appointed to prepare an address to be presented to General Philip Schuyler on his arrival.

July 6th—New York Provincial Congress.

Resolved, That ten shillings shall be allowed to every soldier that shall enlist in the Continental service in this Colony for the present Campaign,

who shall furnish himself with a good musket, to be approved by the Muster-Master and Armorer of each Regiment.

July 12th—Abraham Yates, Chairman.

Resolved, That Jeremiah Van Rensselaer be furnished with the sum of ———— out of the Paper Emission of this Committee, and that he go up to Lake George, Ticonderoga and Crown Point and make a final settlement with those Companies, and declare to them that they for the future must look for their pay and necessaries to the Officers appointed by the Continental or Provincial Congress for that purpose.

It being intimated to this board by Mr. Peter Vrooman, that some tavern-keepers in this county sell spirituous liquors too freely to the Indians, from which evil consequences often happen, therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended to all Tavern-keepers and others in said County, to sell spirituous liquors to the Indians as sparingly as possible, so as to prevent their getting drunk.

"CANAJOHARY, July 13.

"GENTLEMEN,—We are informed by good authority that Col. [Guy] Johnson was ready with eight or nine hundred Indians to make an invasion of this County; that the same Indians were to be under the Command of Joseph Brandt and Walter Butler, and that they were to fall on the inhabitants below Little Falls, in order to divide the people in two parts, and were to march yesterday or day before. From this and other circumstances we have too much reason to think that all our enemies in this County will appear against us as soon as the Indians are nigh to us.

"Our ammunition is so scant, we cannot furnish 300 men so as to be able to make a stand against so great a number.

"This is the more alarming to us, as we shall within a few days be obliged to begin with our harvest. In these deplorable circumstances we look to you for assistance.

"By order,

"CHRIS" P. YATES."

Resolved, That a letter be prepared for General Schuyler, enclosing a copy of this, and sent by express to Saratoga.

July 15th—Received a letter from General Philip Schuyler, dated Saratoga, Friday evening, three-quarters past eleven, July 14, 1775, in the following words, to wit:

"SIR,—The letter you have enclosed me is of a truly alarming nature, and requires the most vigorous and immediate efforts. I would advise that not only Captain Van Dyck and his company, but also such others as you can possibly get, should immediately march into Tryon County with the Albany and Schenectady Militia, who should also be requested to march to the relief of that County.

"Your obedient servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER."

Resolved, That 150 pounds powder be transmitted to the Committee of Tryon County, they paying for the same at the rate of five shillings per pound, and that 25 pounds be forwarded to Schenectady for the use of Captain Cornelius Van Dyck's Company.

A paper was handed to this Board, supposed to contain reflections on this Board, which is as follows, to wit:

"The Mode of a late very Extraordinary and very Grand Procession.

"I. The Congressional General.

"II. The Deputy Chairman, and who is only Chairman *Pro Tempore*.

"III. Mr. Ten Broeck—through a mistake.

"IV. The Chairman.

"V. The Committee.

"VI. The Troop of Horse, most beautiful and grand; some Horses long tailed, some bob Taild, and some without any tails, and attended with the Melodious Sound of an incomparable fine Trumpet.

"VII. The Association Company.

"A SPECTATOR."

The above caused much indignation and commotion among the Committee and the Citizens, as the occasion alluded to was the public reception of General Schuyler.

A few days later. Peter W. Yates, a member of the Committee of Correspondence, wrote an acknowledgment of being the author, and asked to be forgiven, as he meant no injury to the Board or to the Cause of Liberty, still being a friend to both; also sending in his resignation, which was accepted, together with apology.

Mr. Yates, however, stood well with the people, for he was re-elected to the membership he had vacated, as appears from the following entry of July 26th:

"In pursuance of a resolve of the 22d instant, of the inhabitants of the First Ward of this City, to proceed to an Election of a Member in the room of Peter W. Yates, Esq., the Clerk of this Board files a return of the Poll, by which it appears that the said Peter W. Yates was again elected."

July 27th—Peter W. Yates, Esq., declined serving, on his being elected on the 23d instant. An election was again held on the 26th instant, agreeable to a resolve of this Board, when Doctor Joseph Young was elected.

July 29th—Extract from a letter to General Philip Schuyler, from the Committee:

"We have the Pleasure to inform you that the apprehensions of the inhabitants of Tryon respecting the Indians is entirely removed, and the unhappy dispute between the inhabitants of the upper Part of the County with Sir John Johnson and the Sheriff of that County amicably accommodated upon the two following Points:

"*First*.—The Sheriff is to leave the County and not return to it again.

"*Second*.—Sir John Johnson is not to take any active part against the People in the Disputes at

Present Subsisting between Great Britain and the American Colonies."

Mr. Benjamin Baker laid before this board proposals for making Salt Petre.

Resolved, To forward the said proposal to the Provincial Congress in the following words:

"GENTLEMEN.—You will find enclosed, proposals from Mr. Baker, and think it may be worth your while to give him encouragement. Doctor Young (one of our board) has examined the Nitre he has made as a sample, and considers it as good as the Nitre from Europe."

August 1st—Ensign Daniel Lee petitioned for his pay while serving in Captain Joel Pratt's Company. Granted.

August 5th—Letter from General Philip Schuyler:

"GENTLEMEN,—I have directed the Commissary-General, Mr. Livingston, to pay you £1,000 New York Currency to call in the Bills you have emitted. As you must ultimately account to the public for this money, you will please to take the proper Vouchers from the People, and when the bills are called in you will proceed, jointly with Mr. Livingston, to cancel them."

August 8th—Letter from Provincial Congress dated New York August 2, 1775:

"We have the pleasure to inform you that this Congress have made an allowance to each Officer of One Dollar for every man that may or has already enlisted in the Service, in order to reimburse them for the expense of said enlistment.

August 9th—Received letter from Governor Jonathan Trumbull, dated Lebanon, July 21, 1775, on Onedia Indian affairs.

Robert Yates writes from New York that Congress had just examined a Soldier who deserted from the Army in Boston and fought with the British at Lexington and Charles Town. He says they pay their men weekly, but their pay is only 14 coppers each.

August 16th—*Whereas*, Complaint has been made to this board by an Indian, that he was beat by some person in this City and his Shirt taken away or lost; for the sake of maintaining peace with the Indians,

Resolved, That Mr. John W. Bleecker furnish the said Indian with a new Shirt of the value of ten Shillings.

August 19th—Received the following letter dated German Flats, August 16, 1775:

"SIR,—We beg the favor of you to Supply the 55 Onedia Indians at Albany with provisions till we come, and we will be answerable for the expense. We have about 500 of the Six Nations here, who all seem in good Temper, and we hope will proceed from here to Albany and there await the arrival of the Indians from Canada to hold a General Treaty.

"We are, with Respect,

"VOLKERT P. DOUW,
"TURNUIT FRANCIS."

August 21st—Received a letter from the Committee of Safety for Pennsylvania, dated Philadelphia, August 12, 1775, in these words, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN,—With this you will receive 2,400 pounds of Gun powder sent by us for the use of General Schuyler, to whom we make no doubt you will forward it by first opportunity.

"This Committee has heard that a great and Superfluous quantity of Lead was taken at Ticonderoga. It is an article much wanted here. If that lead should be with you and you can conveniently load this Wagon back with a parcel of it we shall be much obliged and will be accountable for the Same.

"We are, Gentlemen,

"Your Most Ob' Humble Servants.

"Signed, by order of Committee,

"B. FRANKLIN, *Pres.*"

Resolved, That the following order be sent to the Captain of the City Watch for this night, to wit:

"SIR,—On your watch this night you are to take in Charge Alexander White and three other persons in Confinement with him and to order that strict care be taken that said prisoners do not escape."

The Committee, about half an hour after ten, received a note from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, that they are to open the Treaty with the Six Nations about eleven o'clock in Yonkers Street, back of the Dutch Church, and request our attendance and that of the principal gentlemen of the Town. This Committee, though taken by surprise, Resolved immediately to attend, and the Bell man was sent to apprise the inhabitants who might wish to attend.

Long Speeches by an Oneida Chief in behalf of the Six Nations were made, declaring their good feelings and intentions, and their purpose to live up to the old Treaties of Peace.

Arvin Montague Morris was brought before this board, suspected to be inimical to the American Cause; and, upon examination, he could not give a proper account of himself; therefore

Resolved, That he be sent to the Camp and there remain till further orders.

Received a letter from the Committee of Tryon County, expressing Satisfaction that White, Clement and Brown were held as prisoners, as there is much evidence that they are enemies to the Common Cause.

Henry Ten Eyck, Sheriff of the City and County of Albany, being called before this board to tell who was the plaintiff in the suit upon which Alexander White, Esq., is in custody, said that Abraham C. Cuyler was the Plaintiff, and John Hansen the Attorney.

By a return of the Field Officers for the District of Rensselaerwyck, the following persons were recommended for the four Battalions, to wit: Abraham Ten Broeck, Colonel-in-Chief; Francis Nicol, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Quackenbush, Barent Staats, Majors; John Quackenbush, Adjutant; Christopher Lansingh, Quartermaster.

Second Battalion.—Killian Van Rensselaer, Colonel; John H. Beeckman, Lieutenant-Colonel;

Cornelius Van Beuren, Jacob C. Schermerhorn, Majors; Jacob Van Der Poel, Adjutant; John A. Lansingh, Quartermaster.

Third Battalion.—Stephen Schuyler, Colonel; Gerrit Van Der Bergh, Lieutenant-Colonel; Peter C. Schuyler, Volkert Veeder, Majors; Maas Van Vranken, Adjutant; Francis Marshall, Quartermaster.

Fourth Battalion.—Stephen J. Schuyler, Colonel; Henry K. Van Rensselaer, Lieutenant-Colonel; Philip De Freisto, John J. Fonda, Majors; Volkert Oothout, Adjutant; Jacob Van Alstyne, Quartermaster.

The above persons were Approved of by this Board.

The Officers appointed by this Board to the City Regiment are as follows:

Jacob Lansingh, Colonel; Derck Ten Broeck, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Wendell, Abraham H. Cuyler, Majors; Volkert A. Douw, Adjutant; Ephraim Van Veghten, Quartermaster.

The Provincial Congress dissolved October 14, 1775, recommending the Election of Deputies to form a new Congress. The General Committee of the City and County of Albany also resolved that they be dissolved the 21st day of December, 1775.

An Election was accordingly held on Tuesday, November 7, 1775, at which the following persons were Elected as Delegates to the New Provincial Congress: Leonard Gansevoort, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jun., Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nichol, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Sylvester, Peter B. Livingston, John J. Bleecker, Henry Oothout, and Robert Van Rensselaer.

This Committee do hereby declare the said persons to be duly elected, and that they, or any five of them, represent this City and County in the next Provincial Congress.

January 20, 1776—The Committee to enquire for a proper place to confine such persons as are inimical to American Liberty, Report that there are two rooms in the Fort in this City which might be repaired with little expense for said persons; therefore

Resolved, That General Schuyler be requested to fit the upper room in said Fort.

Resolved, That the Committee of this County Condole the Death of the brave General Richard Montgomery, by wearing each a crape around their arms for six weeks from this day successively.

February 7th—Fifty-eight members present. John Barclay, President *pro tem*. George Ramsey having been sent from Schenectady, charged with calling persons in favor of American Liberty, Rebels:

Resolved, That the said Ramsey be disarmed and Stand Committed until he enter into Bond in the Sum of £200, with sufficient sureties, for his future good behavior. Joseph Kingsly was also charged with the same offense, and was dealt with in the same manner.

March 14th—*Resolved*, That no person or persons be permitted to move into or settle in this County, unless he or they bring a Certificate from

the Committee of the County or district from which they claim that they had, prior to this resolve, signed the association recommended by Congress, and had in all things behaved in a manner becoming to Friends of American Freedom.

April 11th—The following is the form of parole in use at this time.

"I do promise, on the word and honor of a Soldier and gentleman, that I will hold no manner of correspondence or conversation on Political Matters with any person or persons that are inimical to measures now pursued by the United Colonies of America; and that I will not depart the bounds of the District of Coxackie without leave of the Committee of the said district.

"JAMES HEWETSON."

May 3d—Messrs. Rutger, Bleecker and Dr. Joseph Young were named a Committee to encourage the culture of Hemp, Flax and Wool; also the making of Sturgeon Oil to supply the place of Whale Oil, in view of the Stoppage of the Whale Fisheries.

May 8th—John Boyd Confessed to selling Bohea Tea for 7 6 per pound, Contrary to Resolution of Continental Congress. That others did it, was his excuse.

Resolved, That the said John Boyd has violated the Resolution, and ought to be considered an Enemy to the American Cause: and it is recommended that all persons break off all intercourse with said Boyd.

Absalam Woodworth was also convicted of same offense, and was punished in the same manner.

A Resolution passed some weeks ago to disarm all disloyal persons. The following is the Warrant for so doing:

"SIR,—You are hereby required and Comanded forthwith to proceed to the houses of Abraham C. Cuyler, John Van Allen, Stephen De Lancey, Gysbert Fonda, John Monier, and William Shepherd, there to receive and take all their Arms and Ammunition, Side arms excepted; for which arms, etc., you are to give a receipt. And bring said arms, etc., to the Chairman of this Committee without delay. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant."

The number of troops furnished by Albany County for General Schuyler, in Canada, was:

East Manor, Rensselaerwyck, 75; West District, Rensselaerwyck, 75; Claverack and King's District, 150; East Camp and Grote Imbogh, New York, 75; Half Moon, Balston and Saratoga, Canada, 75; Albany, Schohary, Coxackee and Kinderkook, 75.

Henry Marselis was made Captain of Company raised in Albany City, Schenectady, Coxackee and Schohary, to reinforce Continental Army in Canada; Benjamin C. Dubois, First Lieutenant; John Van Antwerp, Second Lieutenant.

Resolved, That Henry K. Van Rensselaer be appointed Major of the Company of Militia for the County for Service in New York.

Peter Van Rensselaer was appointed Captain of Company raised in Claverack; Christopher C. Mil-

ler, First Lieutenant; Wilhelmus Philips, Second Lieutenant.

July 1st—Committee appointed Officers of Battalion, raised in Albany, Tryon, Charlotte, Cumberland and Gloucester Counties as follows: Cornelius Van Dyck, Colonel; Barent S. Ten Eyck, Major; John Shepardson, Lieutenant-Colonel.

July 17th—Received a letter from Abraham Yates, Junior, Robert Yates and Matthew Adgate, dated White Plains, 14th instant, enclosing the Declaration of the United States of America; declaring the Said United States free and independent; also the resolutions of the Representatives of the State of New York, in consequence thereof.

Received a letter from John Rogers, one of the Committee of Saratoga, dated 11th instant, complaining that the Small Pox is very prevalent in said district.

July 18th—*Resolved*, That the Declaration of Independence be published and declared in this City to-morrow at Eleven O'Clock at this place, and that Colonel Van Schaick be requested to order the Continental Troops in this City to Appear under Arms at the place aforesaid; and, further, that the Captains of the Several Militia Company in this city be requested to Warn the Persons belonging to their respective Companies, to appear at the place aforesaid, and for the purpose aforesaid.

Much of the time of the Committee during their Sessions was consumed in the apprehension, conviction, and punishment of disaffected and disloyal persons, of whom there was a great number. The "Tory Gaol" in the City Hall was filled with them, and the list was constantly increasing.

Expenses increased rapidly for arms, ammunition, and supplies, and it was found difficult to pay the soldiers with sufficient regularity to prevent great discontent. The labor of the Committee was very perplexing and arduous at this time.

August 3d—Samuel Stephenson is hereby discharged of being Keeper of the Tory Gaol, and Volkert Dawson is appointed in his room.

Resolved, That John A. Bratt and Alexander Baldwin be appointed Captain for the Ranger Companies; and Marte Van Beuren, John B. Marselis, Michael Jackson and John Jost Sidney, Lieutenants for said Company and Stephen Lush, Captain for the Company to guard the stores in Albany, and Gerritt Staats and Jacob J. Lansing, Lieutenants.

August 17th—The Association Company elected Andrew Douw, Captain, and Peter Van Bergen, Ensign.

Rev. Harry Munro, Rector of St. Peter's, Albany, requested a pass to New York and Philadelphia, which was refused by the Committee in the following words:

Resolved, That the Chairman acquaint you, the said Munro, that this Board cannot, consistent with their duty, grant his request, as the very Idea of a pass is to recommend the person having it to the public as a Friend to the Cause and right of America, and that they extremely lament that they

have it not in their power to give him such a recommendation, as they are ignorant that he has ever manifested himself such a friend in any one instance since the Commencement of the present unhappy Contest.

Captain John Williams was appointed Captain of a Company of 75 men to be drafted out of the Militia of this County to reinforce the Fortresses in the Highlands.

September 29th—This board being informed that a Company of Colonel Van Dyck's Regiment had deserted.

Resolved, that a letter be prepared for General Schuyler on the subject, which was done.

Resolved, That there be allowed Eight Shillings for the three first pair of two-threaded Stockings that shall be knitted in one family.

October 22d—Jonathan N. Mallory is hereby appointed Surgeon to Colonel Peter Van Ness, Regiment of Militia.

Resolved, That any Negro Man Slave within the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, who shall be found from his Master's house after Six o'clock in the Evening without a permit from his master or mistress, he shall be immediately apprehended and receive Corporal punishment.

November 26th—*Resolved*, That John Barclay be appointed Chairman of this Committee, Matthew Visscher, Clerk, and Jacob Kidney, Messenger.

Pursuant to a resolvent of the 8th instant, it appears that the following persons are duly Elected for the space of Six months from the first day of December next, unless sooner disbanded by the Convention of this State.

The resolution of the 8th instant was as follows:

Whereas, The time limited by the good people of this County for the present Committee to serve, expires in the County this 4th Tuesday of this month; and

Whereas, The Representatives of this State in Convention have been inevitably prevented from forming a Government for this State, it is necessary that another Committee be elected in this County for the Space of Six months:

Resolved, That the Election in the several districts in this County be held on the 3d Tuesday of November.

There were elected from the First Ward, 9 members; Second Ward, 9 members; Third Ward, 9 members; Manor of Rensselaer, 20 members; Schoharry, 6 members; Grote Imboght, 5 members; Ballston, 5 members; Hosick, 12 members; Coxackie, 6 members; German Camp, 4 members; Schagtikocke, 10 members; Manor of Livingston, 10 members; Half Moon, 7 members; Saratoga, 7 members; Schenectady, 11 members; Cambridge, 9 members; Kings, 8 members; Claverack, 12 members.

Resolved, That the Committee of the County meet every Fortnight in the City Hall, on Tuesday, and that at least one member from each District attend.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, there be allowed one Shilling per day for the first five

days the militia supplied themselves with provisions on the late alarm to the northward, and that for the remainder no more than eight pence half penny be allowed.

November 30th—General Gates laid before this Board a letter from the President of the Convention of this State to the Hon^{ble} Major-General Schuyler, desiring him to take the management of obstructing Hudson River, which the Committee had resolved upon, desiring the opinion of this Board whether same ought to be forwarded by Express to His Honor, which is hereby ordered to be done.

December 10th—*Resolved*, That a permit be granted to Lady John Johnson to go to Fish Kills, in order to apply for a pass to New York.

December 31st—General Schuyler applies to this Board for assistance in procuring blankets for Colonel Van Schaick's and Colonel Gansevoort's Regiments. Committees were appointed to obtain the same from the inhabitants of Albany and Schenectady.

January 21, 1777—*Resolved*, That every person who shall offer anything for Sale for a less sum in Gold or Silver than in Continental or other paper money now passing currently, shall be considered as a Depreciator of the paper Currency, and treated accordingly, and that any Person who shall refuse to take the same shall be treated in like manner.

February 3d—*Resolved*, That the Deputies of this County in Convention, be instructed to use their influence to have General Schuyler appointed one of the Delegates to represent this State in Continental Congress.

February 10th—*Whereas*, The great number of persons keeping taverns or Tipling houses, many of whom are disaffected and there is reason to believe they have influenced many Soldiers to quit the Service: be it

Resolved, That no person or persons shall continue or set up a Tavern in any District in the City or County of Albany without a license or permit for the same, under penalty of £50 fine.

March 4th—*Resolved*, That the Committee of each respective District within this County do appoint and assign fit and suitable places in their said Districts for Inoculating Hospitals, and that the said Committee use all the precautions to prevent the spreading of the Small Pox.

The Committee are informed that Mr. Waters, who has hired the house now occupied by Colonel Philip P. Schuyler, intends to inoculate his family upon his having moved them to said House. The Committee being sensible that by such conduct the infection will spread among the Continental Troops; therefore

Resolved, That the said Waters be strictly forbid to inoculate his family as aforesaid, on pain of forfeiting the sum of £500.

Ordered, That Jacob Kidney is hereby appointed Gaoler in place of Samuel Loadman.

Resolved, That all officers in this County belonging to the Crown of Great Britain, at either full or half-pay, be sent for; and, on their appearance, that they be sent to the Convention of this State, Requesting them to have them exchanged, or ordered to such place that they may do no injury in this country.

March 17th—*Resolved*, That Marten Halenbeck be and is hereby ordered to desist, from the receipt hereof, from Keeping Public House.

Jacobus Houghtaling, who, some time since made his escape from Jaol, being now busy enlisting men for the service of the Enemy, and being a dangerous person to the Liberties of America:

Resolved, That Major Volkert Veeder be requested to order the said Houghtaling to be arrested and put in Close Confinement till the further order of this Committee.

April 11th—*Resolved*, That Jacob Kidney be and he is hereby ordered every Sunday during Divine service to Patrol the Streets of this City and quell all riots and disturbances, and keep the inhabitants of this City and others to behave decent, for which services he shall be allowed 4/ per day.

Ordered, That Colonel Van Schaick be requested to desire Captain Finch to send out a scouting party towards the Salt Springs, in order to discover a plot which it is conceived is making head in that part of the Country.

April 18th—Colonel Schuyler reported that a certain person who had given information against certain disaffected persons, was threatened to such a degree that the Committee of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck had agreed to remove him and his family to a place of safety, and that they also engaged to repay the man any damages he might sustain.

Unanimously approved.

Christian Smith, a person who has been employed in discovering the designs of our internal Enemies, having discharged his duties with faithfulness and success:

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay said Smith Eight Pounds for his Services.

May 4th—The Committee having undoubted evidence that Peter S. Van Alstyne and Isaac Van Der Pool are the Ringleaders of the Conspiracy at Kinderhook, and that the said Van Alstyne and Van Der Pool have lately headed a party who fired upon and wounded, a certain Gose Van Beuren, who had in his custody a prisoner:

Resolved, Thereupon, that a reward of one hundred Dollars shall be paid by this Committee to such person or persons who shall take the said Van Alstyne, or Van Der Pool, dead or alive.

Resolved, That an order issue to the Treasurer to pay unto Edward Davis, or order, one hundred dollars, for his services in discovering a number of Conspirators.

May 19th—Abram Yates having received from the Committee of this State the sum of five thousand pounds:

Resolved, The same be paid to Gerrit Lansing, Jun', the Treasurer to this Committee.

June 3d—The names of the new Committee Elected were announced.

Resolved, That John Barclay be appointed Chairman; Matthew Visscher, Secretary; Gerrit Lansing, Jun', Treasurer; James Kidney, Messenger, and be paid 6/ per day.

Resolved, That the Keepers of the Gaols in this City be immediately ordered to make out lists of the names of the prisoners confined therein, and deliver the Keys of the said Gaols, with the lists aforesaid, to Henry J. Wendell, the Sheriff of this County.

June 19th—*Resolved*, That the public records of this City and County be delivered into the hands of Leonard Gansevoort, Esq.

Abraham C. Van Allen having, since taking the oath of allegiance, declared himself a subject of the King of Great Britain; therefore

Resolved, That the said Abraham C. Van Allen be immediately apprehended and put in Close Confinement.

From a letter of David McCarthy and William Adamson, it appears that Conradt A Ten Eyck, after taking the oath of Allegiance, has drank Damnation to the Congress, and beat and abused the wife of the said Adamson. The said Ten Eyck upon his appearance confessed the same; therefore

Resolved, That he be confined till Monday next.

The foregoing are given as specimens of the work that largely engaged the Committee; from one to a score of such disloyal persons being arrested and brought before them almost every day.

Colonel Hay, Deputy Quarter Master, appeared before this Committee and informed them that the public business is impeded for want of a bellows to carry on the Black Smith's business, and suggested that Harmen Van Der Zee had one he seldom or never used.

Resolved, That if said Van Der Zee does not comply with the request to sell the same, Colonel Hay shall seize the Bellows, and have the same appraised by two indifferent persons, and pay such value to the said Van Der Zee.

Owing to the great want of lead and the scarcity of the same, the Committee resorted to the following as one source of supply:

Resolved, That Mr. Isaac D. Fonda be requested to attend the Quarter Master General, or any of his Deputies, in taking all the lead out of the Cesh Windows in the houses in and about this City, and that he use all the Caution in his power to prevent any Damage being done to the Window Cashes, etc., etc., by the means aforesaid.

July 30th—Daniel Campbell and John Sanders, of Schenectady, were arrested for refusing to take continental money.

August 4th—*Whercus*, The approach of the Enemy to the northward has caused a number of families from this County to move into this City, and a number having Milch Cows and no pastures to put them in, and it being suggested to this Board that

Edward and Ebenezer Jessup (who are gone over to the Enemy) have a large tract of pasture land near the City:

Therefore, The said families are hereby empowered to put their Cows into the said pasturage, under the inspection of Cornelius Van Deusen, who will permit families of eight or more persons to put in two cows; of less than eight, one cow.

August 10th—*Resolved*, That all inhabitants of this State, who have fled to this City for protection, and have no houses to put their families in, are hereby empowered to use such empty houses in this City as they can find.

Messrs. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer and Matthew Visscher, the Committee appointed to examine the accounts of Gerrit Lansing, Jun^r, Treasurer, report, That he has produced Receipts for the Sum of £8,658.18.3 and that said Treasurer ought to be discharged therefrom.

The said report is hereby confirmed, and the said Treasurer may retain in his hands the sum of £85.11.3, as a compensation for his trouble.

Adam Helmer, having, at the risque of his life, come out of Fort Schuyler to give information:

Resolved, That he be paid ten pounds as compensation.

Colonel Myndert Roseboom is hereby appointed to provide and issue provisions to such Persons—Refugees—who are not able to support themselves.

August 14th—By minutes of this date, it appears that Leonard Gansevoort was directed by a resolution of the 1st instant to proceed to Kingston, and there deposit the Records of the City and County of Albany.

Resolved, That two Companies of Rangers be raised and put under command of Captains Robert Woodworth and George White, to quell Robberies and disloyalty in different parts of this County, the officers to receive Continental pay.

August 21st—Patroon's Island and the farm of Courtlandt Schuyler, deceased, were designated as pasture land for cattle of refugees.

August 27th—The house of James Mather, who was ordered to leave the city, and take his family and affects with him, was this day rented to Abraham Bloodgood, a good and loyal citizen.

August 30th—John Abbott was appointed to keep the town clock in repair.

September 2d—*Resolved*, That the following persons, with their families, be sent to the Enemy in case General Gates should approve of the measure. [Mrs. Abraham C. Cuyler, Henry Cuyler, and several others are named.]

Whereas, The Legislative Body of this State are ordered to Convene at Kingston, and a Council of appointment will be chosen by ballot from the Senate to appoint persons to fill the different civil offices in this State; and as the Council may not be fully acquainted with capable persons in the different parts of this County to fill the different offices:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committees of the different Districts to consult with their Constituents, and inform the Council of the names

of such persons as they think most suitable, that if they meet with the approbation of the Council they may be appointed accordingly.

September 22d—A letter from General Gates states that he expects General Burgoyne will speedily endeavor to come to Albany.

September 29th—*Resolved*, That Doctor Malachi Treat be empowered to take into his possession the house of Abraham C. Cuyler for the Wounded and Sick Officers.

October 9th he was authorized to use any untenanted houses for hospital purposes.

Captain McAlpine having gone over to the Enemy, his furniture, farming utensils and Cattle were seized and sold for the public good.

September 22—Mrs. Cuyler, wife of Abraham C. Cuyler, formerly Mayor of this City, applied for a permit to move to New York City.

Resolved, That said permit be granted on condition that she goes at her own expense and delivers an inventory, under oath, of all the effects she was in possession of at the time her and husband went over to the Enemy, and where such effects can be found.

Resolved, That the Rev^d Samuel Swertteger be liberated from confinement upon his entering into Bond in the sum of \$500 for his future good behavior.

November 6th—*Whereas*, This Committee stands indebted to many persons who are in great Distress for want of the money, and as the State Treasury is in a low state:

Resolved, That application be made to the Commissioners for Sequestering the Assets of Persons gone over to the enemy in the Middle District of this County, for the said sum of £2,000.

Resolved, That Philip Van Rensselaer, Esq., be requested to replace the Lead taken from the windows of the different houses in and about this City.

Resolved, That one hundred Dollars be paid unto Major Ezekiel Taylor for apprehending one Jacob Miller.

Resolved, That such persons who require to speak with any of the prisoners Confined in Gaol, be permitted to do so through the hole in the Door, in the presence and hearing of the Gaolers, and that the Gaoler be allowed by the person desiring to Speak aforesaid, $\frac{1}{4}$ as compensation for his trouble.

November 19th—*Resolved*, That a list be made of the well affected persons in this District, and that said list be sent to Peter R. Livingston, with request to deliver to the order of the Chairman of this District a quantity of salt, not exceeding two quarts per Head.

Pay roll of Captain William Winne's Company was laid before this board, amounting to £20.17.6 $\frac{1}{2}$, which is allowed and ordered to be paid for services performed in apprehending a number of disaffected persons.

November 29th—Harmanus Ten Eyck brought in a charge of £3 10s. for freight on an Iron Stove sent to Fish Kill for the use of the Convention of this State. Ordered to be paid.

December 7th—Jeremiah Vincent having some time ago received from this Committee the sum of ten pounds to perform certain secret services, instead of doing which he went over to the Enemy:

Resolved, That one of the two Cows left on the farm of said Vincent be sold and a return made of the said ten pounds, and a return made of the overplus to the wife of the said Vincent, and that this Committee dispose of the other cow.

December 15th—*Resolved*, That William Gilliland be remanded to prison, as proof has this day been made before this Board of his further Inimical Conduct to the United States.

1778—Election of New Committee was held throughout the County of Albany, January 2, 1778.

January 6th—It appearing to this Committee that Daniel David and David Gibson, under the sanction of power given them by the Committee of Sequestration, have taken to their own use, not only the property of Persons gone over to the Enemy, but also such persons as reside amongst us; therefore

Resolved, That the said David Gibson and Daniel David be apprehended and put in Close Confinement, unless they find sufficient surety for their appearance before any Court of Jurisdiction to answer said Complaint.

The following Officers are hereby appointed to serve the New Committee, just elected: John Barclay, Chairman; John M. Beeckman, Deputy Chairman; Matthew Visscher, Secretary; Jacob Kidney, Waiter.

In regard to holding a New Election in the District of Cambridge, The Committee are of opinion that a new Election be held, and will appoint a day for that purpose. In respect to the Discrimination of such as are entitled to vote, this Committee would rather submit it to the inhabitants of that District; at the same time they are of opinion that many persons went over to the Enemy through fear, some through the persuasion of artful and designing persons, others through the allurements of gain and the prospect of seeing their oppressed country in the hands of its base Invaders. However, such conduct, be their motives what they may, it is a conduct that will ever be held in detestation by every man that is fired with the love of Liberty or attachment to his injured Country. Notwithstanding the most vigorous efforts of those wretches, many of whom have plunged Their Daggers in the breasts of many of Their Bosom friends, we would remind our Countrymen that the God of Justice has declared Victory in our favor and put many of our Enemies in our Power. The Brave are ever Humane. Let us now Convince our Enemies that we seek not to spill their blood, and that we fight only for that Liberty which God hath conferred upon us. Let us now exercise Mercy (one of the Attributes of Heaven), as far as is consistent with the good or safety of our Country, and by acts of Clemency forgive our offending Brethren, provided they show Signs of Contrition for their past offenses and promise of amendment in future. Those who have

taken the oath of allegiance and perjured themselves, or such as have seduced others from their allegiance to the State, we are of opinion ought not to interfere in our Elections.

January 7th—*Resolved*, That a subscription be set on foot for the use of the Ruined Settlers of our Frontiers.

January 15th—The Committee appointed in the Second Ward delivered to the Chairman £97. 14. 8, being the Collection made in that Ward for the use of the poor.

February 19th—The military authorities having authority to impress Teams and Sleighs wherever found, when they would not hire voluntarily for that purpose, the farmers of the Surrounding Country feared to come to the City, with Wood and other Supplies; therefore

Resolved, That no sleighs or horses by which fire wood and other necessaries are brought to this City shall be seized or impressed in coming to or going from said City.

March 16th—Moses R. Van Vranken confessed that he had bought Butter for one shilling per pound in Specie, and Sold it for 6. 8. in Continental Currency, for which he was deemed to be dangerous to the State, and put in confinement till further orders.

March 18th—Remembrance Smith Complained to the Board that he had been fined £50 for selling about two gallons of Rum Without License.

March 24th—*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Board that £3 per barrel for tar, delivered at Albany, is reasonable, when the persons making the same are excused from Military Duty.

The last entry in that part of the Journal of the Committee that has been preserved, is under date of June 10, 1778, as follows:

Resolved, That Gerrit Lansing, Jun^r, John J. Bleecker, and Stewart Dean, or any two of them, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine and audit the Accounts of this Board, and that they be allowed each 20/ per day, while in actual service, for their trouble and expense; and it is further

Resolved, That the said Committee enter upon this necessary business with all dispatch, and that, immediately on the Completion thereof, they Report to this Board.

COLONIAL, PROVINCIAL AND CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLIES.

We deem it appropriate to this history to give the names of the officers in these assemblies, of whatever class, that represented Albany County, and some of the local transactions in connection with them.

COLONIAL CONFERENCES.

The first movement in New York State, looking toward the union of the colonies against the aggressions of the Crown, was made by the New York Assembly, October 17, 1764. It adopted resolutions approving the resolutions of the New York City merchants relative to the oppressive legislation of Parliament, and directed that a memorial be

forwarded to the Court of Great Britain, assuming the expense of urging it upon the home government. A committee of six was appointed to take the matter in charge, of which Philip Livingston, of Albany, was Chairman.

In 1690, 1754 and 1765, Colonial Conferences were held. The Conference of 1765 was called to meet in the City of New York on the first Tuesday of October then next, to consult together on the present circumstances of the colonies, and the difficulties to which they are and must be reduced by the operation of the Acts of Parliament for levying duties on the colonies. Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and South Carolina were represented.

The Conference adopted a petition to the King, prepared by Philip Livingston; another to Parliament, by James Otis; and also published a "Declaration of Rights and Grievances," claiming the right of taxation themselves, the right of trial by jury, and the right of petition, by John Cruger.

Albany was represented in this Conference by Philip Livingston.

THE PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

In March, 1775, the several counties in the province of New York elected deputies to a Provincial Convention, to be held in the City of New York on the 20th of April, 1775, for the purpose of choosing delegates to represent the colony in a Continental Congress. This Convention met at the Exchange, in New York City, on the day appointed. Albany was represented in this Convention by Peter R. Livingston, Walter Livingston, Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jr. Philip Livingston, of Albany, was President. This Convention elected delegates to the Continental Congress, to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation of American rights and privileges.

STATE OR PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES.

These bodies were what the Assembly subsequently became, the members being elected in the same manner. There were four of these Congresses. The first began in New York, May 22, 1775, and had three sessions, May, July and October. The last session adjourned November 4th.

The Second Congress began November 14, 1775, and adjourned *sine die*, May 13, 1776.

The Third Congress convened May 14, 1776, and adjourned *sine die*, June 30, 1776.

The Fourth Congress convened July 9, 1776, and adjourned *sine die*, May 13, 1777.

The Delegates to these Congresses from Albany were:

First Congress.—Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Volkert P. Douw, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glen, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

Second Congress.—Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Silvester, Peter R. Livingston, John James Bleecker, Leonard Gansevoort, Henry Oothoudt, Robert Van Rensselaer.

Third Congress.—Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Leonard Gansevoort, John Tayler, Mathew Adgate, John J. Bleecker, Peter R. Livingston, Christopher Yates, John Ten Broeck, Henry Glen, Francis Nicoll.

Fourth Congress.—Abraham Yates, Jr., Robert Yates, Robert Van Rensselaer, Mathew Adgate, John Tayler, John Ten Broeck, Abraham Ten Broeck, John James Bleecker, Jacob Cuyler, Leonard Gansevoort, Peter R. Livingston.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

The Delegates from Albany County were: Session, April 20, 1775, Philip Schuyler; Session, April 13, 1777, Philip Livingston, Philip Schuyler; Session, March 25, 1778, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 16, 1778, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 18, 1779, Philip Schuyler; Session, September 12, 1780, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 26, 1781, Philip Schuyler; Session, February 3, 1784, John Lansing, Jr., Walter Livingston; Session, October 26, 1784, John Lansing, Jr., Walter Livingston; Session, March 29, 1785, Peter W. Yates; Session, February 27, 1786, Peter W. Yates; Session, January 26, 1787, John Lansing, Jr., Peter W. Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr.; Session, February 2, 1788, Abraham Yates, Jr., Leonard Gansevoort; Session, January 30, 1788, Abraham Yates, Jr.

CONVENTION TO FORM THE CONSTITUTION.

The Convention to form a Federal Constitution met May 14, 1787. It was composed of delegates from all the States, with the exception of Rhode Island. Its proceedings were secret, but an account of them was afterwards drawn up from Mr. Madison's notes. George Washington was President. At last a constitution was agreed upon, but only 39 of the 55 delegates signed it. On September 17, 1787, the new constitution was transmitted to Congress, and by it referred to Conventions of the several States for adoption or rejection.

On June 17, 1788, a Constitutional Convention, called for the purpose of deliberating upon the adoption of the Federal Constitution, assembled at Poughkeepsie. It was one of the most important bodies that ever met in this State. George Clinton, Governor of the State, was elected President. The delegates from Albany were John Lansing, Jr., Henry Oothoudt, Dirck Swart, Anthony Ten Eyck, Israel Thompson, Peter Vrooman, Robert Yates. The adoption of the Constitution was violently opposed, and the Convention was a scene of animated and at times angry discussion. But on July 26th, the Convention adopted and ratified the Constitution by a vote of 30 to 27, seven members of the Convention not voting. The following members from Albany voted against it: John Lansing, Jr., Henry Oothoudt, Israel Thompson, Robert Yates. The other members from Albany did not vote.

Governor Clinton, President of the Convention, was also opposed to the Constitution.

The intelligence of the adoption of the Constitution was received with great rejoicing by the people at Albany, and by a vote of the Common Council it was unanimously resolved to celebrate the event in an appropriate manner. The 8th day of August was set apart for the occasion. Every trade and profession united in the jubilee, forming an imposing procession. A description of the procession and the proceedings occupied two pages of the *Albany Gazette* of August 28th. It was in charge of James Farley, Marshal, and moved through Watervliet, Market (now Broadway), to the Federal Bower, a commodious building prepared for the occasion, standing on the Heights west of Fort Frederick, and commanding an extended view of the city. The edifice was 154 feet long, 44 feet wide, and raised on four rows of pillars fifteen feet in height, close wreathed with foliage. Eleven arches were built in front. Above the arches, embowered in festoons of foliage, were white oval medallions, with the names of a ratifying State on each. In this beautiful structure the dinner took place. This over, the procession re-formed and moved down State Street to Pearl, to Columbia, to North Market, to Court Streets, and into a large field south of old Fort Orange, where it was dismissed, by the marching away, at intervals, of the respective divisions.

When the procession reached Green Street, a party of opponents to the Constitution made an attack upon it, and a skirmish ensued. They had procured a loaded cannon and brought it to bear upon the procession. One of the assailants was in the act of discharging it, when Jonathan Kidney sprang from the procession and succeeded in spiking the gun. A company of cavalry in the procession then charged upon the assailants and dispersed them.

There were several outbreaks in the city growing out of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, among which was a general *mêlée* in State Street. Among the combatants were some of the most eminent men of the times; canes, clubs, and cobblestones were used with great freedom, and many persons were more or less injured, but fortunately none fatally.

THE WAR OF 1812.

This war has been called the Second War with Great Britain, the Last War with Great Britain, and the Second War for Independence. It is usually denominated as written at the heading. It was formally declared June 19, 1812, and closed with a treaty of peace, signed at Ghent December 24, 1814. The brilliant battle of New Orleans, fought under Andrew Jackson, January 8, 1815, occurred after the treaty was made. It was not a day of cablegrams, and the news of peace did not reach this county until February 12th.

The English government was not satisfied with the issues of the revolutionary war; and was disposed to make encroachments upon what were

deemed national rights. Among other things it claimed the right to board and search American vessels for deserting British soldiers and sailors. This claim was exercised in a manner so obnoxious, as to call for most decided remonstrance from our Government. Continued abuses of this kind led to open war.

The public feeling in regard to the expediency of this war was far from unanimous. Indeed, those who took opposite sides in the matter were very bitter towards each other. No such bitterness probably has existed in regard to any other political question, unless it be that of slavery, since the days of the Revolution of 1776. The Democrats, as a party, favored the war; the Federalists opposed it, mostly for commercial reasons. They were called the war party and the peace party. Both, no doubt, were influenced by honest love of country.

The Albany press was divided—Solomon Southwick conducting the Democratic paper, called the *Albany Register*, and Charles R. Webster, the Federalist paper, called the *Albany Gazette*. It is stated that, as an exhibition of party feeling, the office of the *Gazette* was threatened with destruction by the more violent and ignorant democracy of that day. The public were notified by the *Gazette* that every man connected with that office was armed against any mob, and ready for resisting attack at any moment. No attack was made. But many a war of bitter words was fought at street corners and in public places, sometimes resulting in blows. The skirmish on State street, April 21, 1807, when the war controversy was raging, between those two eminent citizens, Governor John Tayler, Democrat, and General Solomon Van Rensselaer, Federalist, shows something of the spirit of parties before and during this war. The trial that followed was published in a pamphlet, and is mentioned in Munsell's edition of Worth's "Random Recollections."

We are sorry to be able to give so little explicit information concerning the military transactions in Albany County during this war. Our examination of the newspapers of the time gives little help; and the Adjutant-General's office does not contribute anything in regard to the formation and officering of companies and regiments for service. This explains the fragmentary condition of this article.

It is quite certain that Albany County was deeply interested in this war, and furnished many officers and men. We insert here an alphabetical list, taken from the "Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, as audited and allowed by the Adjutant and Inspector-Generals," pursuant to the State Laws of 1859, Chapter 176, in the hope that it may lead some of their descendants to give us reliable information in regard to their services. This is supposed to contain the names of most of the militia from Albany County who enlisted in this war.

Orrin Abbott, Albany; John Adams, Jr., Bethlehem; Joseph Arkles, Bethlehem; Michael Artcher, Albany; Chester Atherton, Albany; Ammiel Bar-

nard, Albany; Asabel S. Beens, Albany; Orange Beeman, Berne; Michael Belle, Berne; Henry Benn, Rensselaerville; George Benn, Rensselaerville; Daniel J. Beyea, Jerusalem; Harmanus Bleecker, Jr., Albany; Nicholas Bleecker, Jr., Albany; Adam Blessing, Guilderland; Garritt H. Bloomingdale, Albany; Henry Bunzer, Knox; Matthew Boom, by widow, Albany; William Bunzey, Knox; Cornelius Bounds, Albany; Joseph Bradley, Berne; Adrian Bradt, Albany; Henry P. Bradt, New Scotland; John C. Bradt, Albany; Salvo Brintnall, Albany; John Bussy, Albany; Asa Brown, Jerusalem; Richard Brownell, Berne; Stewart Bull, Coeymans; Abraham Balson, Albany; Calvin Butler, Albany; Henry Cacknard, Coeymans; Daniel Carhart, Coeymans; John Carr, Coeymans; Henry Carroll, Berne; Daniel P. Clark, Albany; William Campbell, Watervliet; Henry Chadwick, Watervliet; Elisha Cheesebro, Guilderland; Jeremiah Clute, Albany; David Cole, Watervliet; Peter Colburn, Albany; James Cole, Cohoes; John Cole, South Jerusalem; Peter M. Conger, Watervliet; William Crandall, Rensselaerville; Edward P. Crary, Knox; Frederick J. Crouse, Guilderland; Philip DeForest, Albany; James W. Dubois, West Troy; Martin Easterly, Albany; Ebenezer S. Edgerton, Albany; Peter V. B. Elmendorf, New Scotland; Ethel Enos, Watervliet; C. Ertzberger, Albany; Ralph Farnham, Albany; Richard Filkins, Berne; Thomas Fish, Albany; William Forby, Albany; John Fraligh, Westerlo; Christopher Frederick, Guilderland; Luther Frisbie, Albany; William Fuhr, Albany; John J. Fulton, Albany; Joseph Gallup, Knox; Abiel Gardner, Westerlo; Thomas S. Gillet, Albany; Nathan B. Gleason, West Troy; Jonathan Goldwaite, Albany; Daniel Green, Coeymans; Isaac F. Groesbeck, Albany; Abraham Hagaman, Albany; Oliver Hastings, Watervliet; Aaron Hawley, Bethlehem; George Hawley, Albany; Ezra Haynes, Watervliet; Charles Hazleton, Jerusalem; Jesse Helligus, Berne; Josiah Hinckley, Jr., Westerlo; Isaac Hitchcock, West Troy; William Holdridge, Rensselaerville; Elias Holmes, Coeymans; John D. Houghtaling, Albany; Reuben Hungerford, Berne; Walter Huyck, Westerlo; Elisha Ingraham, Berne; Moses Jay, Albany; James Johnson, Watervliet; John Johnson, Albany; Daniel Joshlin, Berne, Albany County; Daniel Joslin, Berne; Sylvanus Kelley, Albany; John Lamoreux, Albany; Nicholas I. Lampman, Albany; Henry Lasee, Watervliet; William Latta, New Scotland; Daniel D. Lawyer, Albany; Jacob Lewis, Albany; Aaron Livingston, Albany; Jacob Loatwall, Albany; Charles Low, Albany; Jeremiah Luther, Albany; Robert McGill, New Scotland; Daniel McIntosh, Albany; John McMicken, Albany; Abraham Martin, Albany; Derrick Martin, Berne; Jacob Martin, New Scotland; Henry T. Mesick, Albany; Thomas Mitchel, Albany; Moses Mowers, Jerusalem; William Muir, Albany; John Myers, Albany; John Newbury, Westerlo; Benjamin Northrop, Albany; Nicholas Osterhout, Berne; Peter Osterhout, Albany; Henry Ostrander, Jr., Guilderland; Henry Paddock, Albany; Aaron Palmer, Albany; David D.

Palmer, Berne; Stephenson Palmer, Berne; Anthony Pangborn, Bethlehem; John Parker, Bethlehem; Robert Patten, Albany; John Pier, 2d, Berne; Jacob Place, Albany; Jonas D. Platt, Albany; John Pruyn, Albany; Adam Relyea, Guilderland; Simon Relyea, Albany; William Rhinehart, Berne; Jesse E. Roberts, Watervliet; James Robinson, Albany; John I. Schermerhorn, Berne; Henry I. Schoonmaker, Bethlehem; Courtland Schuyler, Albany; Jacob Scott, Albany; John Scovell, Watervliet; William Scrafford, Bethlehem; Abraham Severson, Albany; John N. Severson, Guilderland; William Seymour, Albany; Israel Shadbolt, West Troy; John F. Shafer, Coeymans; Jacob Sharp, Albany; Peter Shafer, Guilderland; John Shouts, Albany; Stephen Simpson, Watervliet; John Skinkle, Albany; James Sloan, Berne; James Sloan, West Troy; William J. Smith, Albany; Peter H. Snyder, Albany; John Spoor, Albany; Lewis Stiman, Bethlehem; John Stenkle, Albany; Cyrus Stone, Westerlo; John Stone, Albany; George W. Swartwout, Westerlo; Peter Ten Eyck, Albany; Francis E. Thompson, Albany; Thomas Tibits, Rensselaerville; William Truax, Berne; John Turk, Coeymans; Conrad Turner, Jerusalem; David Turner, Watervliet; Henry Turner, Albany; Jacob Turner, West Troy; John Uran, West Troy; Cornelius Van Aiken, Rensselaerville; John Van Antwerp, Albany; Garret I. Vanderberg, Albany; Garret Vanderpool, Bethlehem; Cornelius Van Derzee, Guilderland; Peter Van Olinda, Albany; Cornelius W. Vedder, Albany; Ebenezer C. Warren, Albany; Samuel Warner, New Scotland; Joseph Werden, Watervliet; Jacob White, Albany; John Wilda, Berne; Hezekiah Wilks, Bethlehem; Benjamin Williams, Knox; Henry Williams, Knox; Christian Willmon, Berne; George Wilson, West Troy.

The war was largely fought at our own doors. Stephen Van Rensselaer, known as the "Old Patroon," a Federalist, but a firm patriot and of resolute bravery and great wealth, was appointed Major-General of the Volunteer Militia, by Governor Tompkins. He proceeded, in the autumn of 1812, as ordered, to the invasion of Canada on the Niagara frontier. A strong force of British troops was posted, under General Brock, on Queenstown Heights, opposite Lewistown. A great battle was fought here, October, 13, 1812. The first attack was made by Colonel Solomon Van Rensselaer, with 225 men, in the morning of that day. Bravely advancing, Colonel Van Rensselaer was severely wounded at the outset. Captain John E. Wool, afterwards General Wool, of West Troy Arsenal, pressed on as leader, and gained the Heights by a vigorous assault of the battery. The British were repulsed, and the brave General Brock was killed in attempting to retake the battery. All the efforts of General Van Rensselaer to bring reinforcements across the river were resisted by a majority of his troops, who pleaded that this was not a war of invasion. About a thousand, many of them raw and undisciplined, went over, and were badly cut up or taken prisoners. The General, disgusted by such cowardice, and by the inefficiency of the service

everywhere, resigned his command October 24, 1812, and returned to Albany.

Among the discouragements of this first year of the war, was the surrender of General Hull, at Detroit, August 9th. He was tried by court martial at Albany, in 1814, and convicted of cowardice, and sentenced to be hung; but was pardoned on account of former valiant services in the Revolution, and from a conviction that his surrender was more the result of over-estimating the force of the enemy, and a humane desire to save his men from threatened Indian butchery, than of cowardice.

There were many battles fought along the northern frontier through the war, some of them over the Canada borders. It seemed to be a leading purpose of the Government then in power to subject Canada, as well as to defend our northern lakes from the invaders. Much service was done, much blood shed. The full record would tell of much daring bravery and noble patriotism. We have reason to believe that Albany County soldiers were in most of these engagements. Among them, besides that of Queenstown, were the battle of Ogdensburgh, February 22, 1813; the capture of York, now Toronto, April 27th; capture of Fort George, May 27th; battle at Sackett's Harbor, May 29th; battle at Stony Creek, June 6th; naval battle of Lake Erie, under Commodore Perry, September 10th; battle on the Thames, October 5th; battle of St. Regis, October 23d; battle of Chrysler's Farm, November 11th; burning of Newark, December 12th; capture of Fort Niagara, December 26th; retaliating destruction of Fort Niagara, at Lewiston, Black Rock, Youngstown, and other frontier settlements, December 18th to 30th. In 1814, we record the capture of Oswego, May 5th; Fort Erie, July 3d; battle of Chippewa, July 5th; battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25th; battle of Fort Erie, August 15th; sortie at Fort Erie, September 17th; battle of Plattsburgh, September 6th to 11th.

From old newspapers, and other sources, we gather the fragmentary items that follow, relating to the soldiers of 1812.

When General Stephen Van Rensselaer returned, October 31, 1812, to Albany, after the battle of Queenstown, a large concourse of private citizens and dignitaries turned out to escort him to the city. Major John Lovett was his Secretary, and Colonel Solomon Van Rensselaer, one of the bravest men that Albany ever produced, was his Aid. He was long disabled by four bullet wounds received in this battle. One of the balls he carried in his flesh until his death.

November 8, 1812, Commodore Perry was met by a large body of citizens between Albany and Schenectady, and escorted to Douw's Tavern. From this point he was taken to the Capitol, accompanied by a large procession. Here he was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box, and with an elegant sword. Then the procession conducted him through the principal streets. On the way, the Hero of Lake Erie was hailed with loud acclamations. At the close of the march, at the Eagle

Tavern he was received by the Mayor and other public officials and assigned apartments. A brilliant ball was held in the evening; houses were illuminated; and the motto, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours," displayed. On the next day an elegant public entertainment was given. He continued his journey to his family, residing in Newport, R. I. The news of Perry's victory was first received in Albany, September 17th, with great demonstrations of joy.

About this time, Captain R. C. Skinner, of the artillery in the Albany Volunteer Regiment, had a recruiting office at Ladd's Coffee House, corner of Green and Beaver streets, for the purpose of completing five companies of infantry, two of riflemen, and one of artillery, which he reported as filling up in the city and county with wonderful success. He stated that the city had raised a fund of many thousand dollars for the benefit of the soldiers who should enlist.

November 28, 1812, the local papers report the return, after an absence of three months on Staten Island, of Captain Bulkley's company of Albany volunteers and Captain Walker's company of artillery. Their soldier-like appearance is highly commended.

Colonel John Mills, of this city, fell in the battle at Sackett's Harbor, May 29, 1813. He commanded the Republican artillery in that battle, with as many militia as he could enlist. He was given a conspicuous place in the line of battle, and fell gallantly in brave, but vain, endeavors to stop his men, who ingloriously fled after the first fire. So says General Jacob Brown, in his report. Many of the men assigned him were raw troops, unaccustomed to subordination. His remains were removed to the city and interred in Capitol Park, May 29, 1844, and finally, with military honors, put to rest, a few years ago, in the Rural Cemetery.

August 15, 1813, the arrival of two hundred British prisoners at the encampment in Greenbush is reported; also, of British deserters from Canada; and the arrival and departure of General Wilkinson on the same day (Sunday), on his way to the frontier.

The British flag taken by Lieutenant Wm. L. Marcy, afterward Governor Marcy, at St. Regis, October 23, 1812, was presented to the State of New York as a trophy of war, January 5, 1813. The act was accompanied with much ceremony; with processions, bands, and speeches, in which were joined the military of Troy and Albany.

At the battle of Ogdensburgh, fought October 12, 1813, under Colonel Forsyth, mention is made of the distinguished bravery of a single company of Albany artillery.

Among the honored names of men who have had homes in Albany County, and who are mentioned as having done service in this war, are found those of Stephen Van Rensselaer, Solomon Van Rensselaer, John Lovett, John E. Wool, John Mills, Colonel Forsyth, and William L. Marcy, already mentioned; also, William J. Worth, John O. Cole, Thurlow Weed, Lieutenant Gansevoort, Lieutenant Rathbone, and Ambrose Spencer, Jr. We shall be

very grateful to any one who may, hereafter add to this list.

On the reception of the news of peace, the whole city was illuminated.

The surviving soldiers of the campaign of 1812, about one hundred in number, residing in New York City, came to Albany by railroad, February 1, 1853, and marched through the city under Colonel Haight, escorted by the Republican artillery. Here, on the next day, they were joined by thirty-eight of their old companions belonging to Albany, and escorted to the Capitol, where they were addressed by Governor Seymour.

A corps of about fifty veterans of the War of 1812 joined in the celebration of American Independence, July 4, 1854, under General John S. Van Rensselaer. After the procession was dismissed, they met in convention at the Capitol and passed a series of resolutions.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

Texas was a part of the domain of Ancient Mexico. When Mexico became a republic, in 1824, it was made one of its united states. It had been claimed by our Government as a part of the Louisiana purchase in 1803; but this claim was not pressed. Texas began to be settled by Americans as early as 1821. It rebelled against the government of Santa Anna, and declared itself an independent state, March 2, 1836. This independence was not admitted by Mexico. On the 4th of July, 1845, it was, with its own consent, admitted as one of the States of our Union. This act caused an immediate rupture between the United States and Mexico. Added to this, our Government had a series of complaints against Mexico for aggressions upon our vessels in the Gulf of Mexico, confiscations, in its own territory, of the property of American merchants, violations of treaty, and other acts of injustice, extending back for a period of nearly forty years. General Taylor was sent at once, with an army of occupation, to Texas to hold and defend it. On the 24th of April, 1846, the first blood was shed in the War with Mexico. The contest, under Taylor, Scott, Wool, Worth, and others, was short and sharp. The treaty of peace was signed February 2, 1848, which gave to the United States, Upper California, New Mexico and adjacent territory, and conceded Texas. The distance of the field of strife was so great, that Albany County had only a small part in the contest, but that part belongs to our history.

An Act of Congress was passed providing that 50 regiments of volunteers should be raised in the

United States for this war. Under the enactment, seven regiments were allotted to the State of New York, but only two were furnished.

The first regiment was raised by Colonel Stevenson in 1846. In this, one company of about 80 members was recruited in Albany, commanded by Captain John B. Frisbie and Lieutenant Edward Gilbert. This regiment, soon after it was formed, proceeded to Governor's Island and remained there about one month, when it was sent to Mexico, by way of Cape Horn, in sailing vessels.

Arriving at its destination, it joined General Scott's division of the army, and participated in all of his marches and battles till the close of the war.

November, 1846, the second regiment of New York volunteers was raised, commanded by Colonel Ward B. Burnett. In this regiment was a company of Albanians, commanded by Captain Abraham Van O'Linda and Lieutenant Adison Farnsworth.

In December of this year, this regiment went to Fort Hamilton, and there remained until the following January, when it proceeded to Mexico by way of the gulf. Landing at Vera Cruz it was joined to General Scott's command, and participated in all his engagements, from the battles of Vera Cruz to the capture of the City of Mexico.

By an Act of Congress in 1847, ten regiments of regular troops were called for from the State of New York.

Under this call the Tenth Regiment of Infantry was formed of ten companies. This regiment was credited to Albany, and contained many soldiers from this city and county, although the greater number were recruited from outside of the county. It was commanded by Colonel Robert E. Temple and Lieutenant-Colonel James McGown. This regiment was joined to General Taylor's division of the army, and remained with him until the close of the War.

The Third Regiment of Dragoons contained a number of soldiers recruited in this section, but no distinct company of Albany men. Such was the case with a number of regiments which served in the Mexican War.

The soldiers from this county, so far as we are able to learn, did good service. A few of them still remain to tell the story of entering the Halls of the Montezumas. Among them is Mr. William L. Burgess, to whom we are under obligations for most of the facts here presented.

The brave Generals John E. Wool and William J. Worth, who were among the most prominent and successful leaders in the Mexican service, were formerly residents of this country.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

THIS was a war between citizens of the same country, and has, hence, been sometimes called The Great Civil War. But our heading best expresses its character. It came after a long and exciting controversy between the slave-holding and non-slave-holding States, involving the questions of the moral right or wrong of slavery; the political policy of its extension and perpetuation; and of State rights generally. There was also a bitter jealousy between the Southern and Northern States as to the balance of power between those States, shown in a constant struggle to secure the public offices and patronage. The South was not improving by slave labor; the North was rapidly increasing in wealth and power by free labor.

The Southern States began to secede from the Union and form a Southern Confederacy when they found Abraham Lincoln elected President of the United States. South Carolina was the first in the secession, December 20, 1860. Ten other of the slave States followed. Their artful leaders had accumulated in the forts and arsenals on their borders, a large quantity of the public munitions of war—seized those forts, and put them in the hands of fellow-conspirators.

The attack of the rebels upon Fort Sumter took place April 11, 1861. This overt act was the actual beginning of the war.

Its record is a story of fratricidal strife unparalleled in the world's history, whether we consider the malignity of the seceders, or the determined self-sacrificing patriotism and bravery of the friends of the Union of all the States; or whether we attempt to count the suffering and loss of human life, or estimate the devastation made and the treasure expended. But its results showed the superior value of grand free labor, when conducted by heads educated in free schools and hands addicted to habits of productive industry.

The war practically closed with the surrender of the rebels under General Lee to General Grant, April 9, 1865. What follows is only the merest outline of the part borne by Albany County in this war.

The ladies and citizens of all classes, under different voluntary organizations, did a vast amount of labor, and expended great sums of money for the comfort, encouragement, and relief of the soldiers and their families during the whole time of the war.

The Citizens' Military Relief Fund contributed \$20,479.

The Ladies' Army Relief Association was organized in Albany, to co-operate with the U. S. Sanitary Commission, as early as November, 1861, to aid sick and wounded soldiers. Similar societies existed in Coeymans, Rensselaerville, Knox, and other towns in the county. Useful articles were

made or purchased, and forwarded in barrels and boxes continually. At one time 287 were sent; at another about 600. Fruit, vegetables, and cordials, and delicacies of every sort were gathered from farm-houses, grocers, and families, and included in the benefactions. This local association of ladies raised also \$19,212.30 in money during the four years ending January 1, 1866, for disabled soldiers and their families.

The Army Relief Bazaar was erected in the Academy Park, and kept open as a great Sanitary Fair of Albany, Troy, Schenectady, and other places in the State, during the months of February and March, 1864. It was a building remarkable for size and fitness. It was filled with articles of utility and beauty on sale. Everything was conducted with order, zeal, and energy. It was a grand success. The net proceeds, amounting to \$81,908.50 were paid into the treasury of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The Albany Auxiliary to the U. S. Christian Commission, between April 1, 1864, and January 1, 1866, received \$23,740.20 in money, besides a great amount of books, papers, provisions, delicacies, and minor articles of convenience made in sewing circles, which were contributed for the spiritual, social, and physical needs of the soldiers.

A Refreshment Committee fed 16,709 soldiers as they passed through Albany in coming or going. Their expenses were over \$7,600.

Besides these, much time was spent and thousands of dollars in money were given by private citizens. And the deeds of heroic patriotism and Christian charity done by gentlewomen, never can be fully expressed in words.

The War Expenses of the County of Albany are stated as follows:

For County Bounties.....	\$3,100,700.00
For Recruiting and Enlistments.....	225,125.39
Total.....	<u>\$3,325,825.39</u>
Raised by County Taxes.....	\$641,441.47
Raised by County Loans.....	2,889,552.00
Total.....	<u>\$3,930,993.47</u>

We now give a brief record of military service organized in the county. We would be glad if we could give the names and services of every soldier.

On April 16, 1861, the day following President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men to suppress the rebellion, the Legislature of New York State passed an Act to authorize the embodying and equipment of a volunteer militia, and to provide for the public defense. One week later, 155 companies were recruited in this State, and ready for acceptance into service. The number of men furnished by the State under each call was as follows: Call for

militia, April 15, 1861, 13,906; call for volunteers, July 22, 1861, 120,231; July 2, 1862, 59,705; August 4, 1862, 20,980; October 17, 1863, and February 1, 1864, 75,751; March 14, 1864, 44,435; July 18, 1864, 83,843; December 19, 1864, 32,965; militia for 100 days, 5,640; for less than 100 days, 15,987. Whole number militia, 35,533; whole number of volunteers, 437,910. Total, 473,443.

The first regiment in Albany County to respond to the Governor's order, issued on the evening of April 21, 1861, to move on to Washington next morning at nine, was the Twenty-fifth Regiment, N. Y. State Militia. It was officered as follows: Michael K. Bryan, Colonel; James Swift, Lieutenant-Colonel; David Friedlander, Major; John M. Kimball, Adjutant; Cornelius B. O'Leary, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, Jacob Fredendall; B, Timothy McDermott; C, John Gray; D, Frank Marshall; E, J. J. Huber; F, M. H. Kenneally; G, H. Mulholland; H, — Godfrey; K, Hale Kingsley; L, F. Newdorf. With 479 men all told, the regiment proceeded to Washington, arriving on the morning of the 29th, and was quartered near the Capitol. Ordered to Arlington Heights, the regiment built Fort Albany, and after three months' service, returned to Albany, numbering 575 men. May 31, 1862, the regiment was again mustered into the United States service for three months, and ordered to Suffolk, Va. On its return, Colonel Bryan and many of its officers and men enlisted in the volunteer service. Colonel Michael K. Bryan, born in Ireland in 1820, came to Albany in 1827, and was educated in the public schools. He was for many years in the employ of his cousin, Colonel John McCardle, but became proprietor in 1853 of a restaurant and hotel. In 1850 he was Captain of Albany Worth Guards; and was successively Major, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Colonel of the 25th N. Y. S. M., which he led twice in his country's service. He afterwards raised the 175th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, and was made its Colonel, and proceeded to Louisiana early in the winter of 1862. He was mortally wounded in a charge at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863, and died at the head of his command. He was a noble patriot.

Third Regiment Infantry, N. Y. S. V., was organized in Albany, May 7, 1861, and was composed of ten companies, of which five were recruited from Albany, viz: C, Captain E. G. Floyd; E, Captain J. W. Blanchard; F, Captain H. S. Hulbert; G, Captain J. H. Ten Eyck, Jr.; I, Captain E. S. Jenny. May 8th, Frederick Townsend was elected Colonel, S. M. Alford, Lieutenant-Colonel, and George D. Bayard, Major. Alexander H. Hoff was made Surgeon, and Jonathan O. Moore, Adjutant. The regiment left Albany May 18, 1861, with 796 officers and men; was in the engagement at Big Bethel, and afterwards stationed at Fortress Monroe, until its term of enlistment expired. May 8, 1863, it went into service as a veteran command, with 800 men; received 700 conscripts, 200 recruits, and, by consolidation, the 112th N. Y. Volunteers. It did distinguished service at Fort Wag-

ner, Charleston, Bermuda Hundred, Petersburg, Fort Gilmer, Fort Fisher, Wilmington, and in many skirmishes. Colonel Townsend resigning July 2, 1861, the regiment continued in service under Colonel Alford, and was mustered out August, 1865. Colonel Townsend has since been Adjutant-General of the State, and still resides in the city, one of its most esteemed citizens.

The Forty-third Regiment, New York Volunteers, was organized at Albany and mustered into the United States service between August 25 and September 21, 1861, when it reached the field, with the following commissioned officers: Francis L. Vinton, Colonel; Charles H. Pierson, Lieutenant-Colonel; Benjamin F. Baker, Major; James H. Thompson, Surgeon; James H. Bogart, Adjutant. Captains: Company A, John Wilson; Company B, I. R. Van Slyke; Company E, E. Cass Griffin; Company D, Charles H. Clark; Company F, Jacob Wilson; Company G, James C. Rogers; Company G, William H. Mathews; Company H (Yates Rifles), Edwin C. Drake; Company I, George W. Reed; Company K, Harvey S. Chatfield; Captain Charles B. Mitchell, 1862; Captain John L. Newman, 1862; Captain David Burhans, 1862; Captain James D. Visscher, 1862. The regiment left Albany September 16, 1861, with 706 men; received 1,621 recruits, and returned in July, 1865, with 290 men and 13 officers. It was at the front all through the war; was distinguished for dash and courage; and was in the following engagements: Lee's Mills, Warwick Creek, Siege of Yorktown, Golding's Farm, Seven Days' Battles, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mary's Heights, Salem Church, Banks' Ford, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Locust Grove, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, Fort Stephens, Charleston, Opequam, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Petersburg (two engagements), Sailor's Creek.

Among those who fell was Major (afterwards Colonel) James Henry Bogart, who was born March 24, 1839, in Albany; was educated at Albany Academy. Enlisted under Colonel Vinton as Adjutant; was Major in the 162d, and was killed by a shell while advancing with his regiment at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863. Captain (afterwards Colonel) John Wilson, born in Albany December 29, 1838; educated at Albany Academy; was proficient in scholarship; raised Company A of the 43d in a week, and marched to the barracks August 3, 1861. He was commissioned as Major, July 17, 1862; Lieutenant-Colonel, September 24, 1862; Colonel, February 1, 1864. May 6, 1864, his right knee was shattered by a rifle ball; his leg was amputated next day; and he died May 8th, greatly lamented.

Captain (afterwards Major) William Wallace; born in Albany January 8, 1835; educated in public schools; was foreman in Weed, Parson & Co.'s office; active in the Fire Department; raised Company F for the 43d Regiment in September, 1862; was confined in Libby Prison in May and June, 1863, until exchanged. He was commissioned Major, April, 1864. While leading a charge at the Battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, was shot through

the head. In the same engagement Lieutenant Colonel Fryer was mortally wounded. Both sleep among the bravest of the brave.

Captain David Burhans, Company H, was born in Bethlehem June 24, 1840; became mail agent from New York to Troy. In September, 1862, he raised a company for the 43d, and was with his regiment until he fell, fighting at the front, at Po River, May 10, 1864. He was esteemed for exalted virtues.

Captain (afterwards Colonel) James D. Visscher was born in Albany March 26, 1829; was in employ of Weed, Parsons & Co.; was member of the Burgesses Corps and went with them, and 25th Regiment New York State Militia, in April, 1861, to Washington for three months' service. He enlisted and took command of Company G, 43d Regiment, September 4, 1862; was promoted Colonel of the regiment after the battle of the Wilderness, May 12, 1864; and was killed at Fort Stevens, Washington, July 12, 1864. He was beloved for his Christian virtues and soldierly conduct.

Captain Douglass Lodge, son of Mr. Benjamin Lodge, born in Albany September 22, 1842; attended public schools, the Academy, and Annapolis Naval School. He enlisted in Company B, 25th New York State Militia, in April, 1861; re-enlisted in 43d Volunteers; Third Sergeant, Company A. He was promoted, for bravery, to Quartermaster-Sergeant, September, 1861; Second Lieutenant, April, 1862; First Lieutenant and Captain, November 3, 1862. At the charge on Mary's Heights, May 3, 1863, Captain Lodge planted the regiment's colors on the enemy's works. On the following day he received his death wound. This young soldier died, greatly beloved and honored, May 5th.

The Tenth Regiment National Guards was organized at Albany in 1861, early in the rebellion, and performed guard and other duty at the call of Governor Morgan. It tendered for the third time its services for nine months; went into service November 21, 1862, with 864 men, officered as follows: Ira W. Ainsworth, Colonel; Frank Chamberlain, Lieutenant-Colonel; David M. Woodhall, Major; Richard M. Strong, Adjutant; William H. Craig, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, Lionel U. Lenox; Company B, Charles E. Davis; Company C, Stephen Bronk; Company D, James Dodds; Company E, James McFarland; Company F, James R. Harris; Company G, Morgan L. Filkins; Company H, Harmon N. Merriman; Company I, E. H. Tomlinson; Company K, William H. Brandenburg. It was assigned to General Banks, Department of the Gulf, as the 177th New York Volunteers. It served in the campaigns from New Orleans to Port Hudson, and did some of the best fighting at the latter place, suffering severely.

On the fall of Port Hudson, and at the close of its nine months' service, it returned home and resumed its original position in the Ninth Brigade National Guard.

Among those of the 177th who fell in the field were—

Adjutant Richard M. Strong, son of Anthony M. Strong; was born in Albany June 10, 1835, and died at Bonnet Carré, La., May 12, 1863. He had graduated with honor at Albany Academy and Princeton College; was admitted to the Bar in 1856; was Judge Advocate of the Ninth Brigade National Guard, and Adjutant 177th Volunteers, at the time of his death.

Lieutenant John Peter Phillips, Company F; born in Fishkill July 25, 1820; when 16 removed to New York, afterwards to Albany. Went with the Tenth Regiment to Louisiana; contracted fever, and died September 4, 1863, four days after his return home.

Sergeant Charles H. Frederich, born in Albany October 23, 1841; attended public schools. Enlisted in Company B, Tenth National Guard; died of typhoid fever at Bonnet Carré, La., March 10, 1863.

Sergeant Joseph C. Vanderhoop, born July 25, 1843, in Albany; was a marble cutter. Joined Company B, 25th Militia, and went with that regiment to Washington, April, 1861. May 23d, Sergeant Vanderhoop captured two prisoners, supposed to have been the first taken in the War for the Union. He enlisted in the 177th Regiment, and died of typhoid fever in Louisiana.

Sergeant William Crouse, born in Guilderland, September 19, 1830; came to Albany in 1855. Enlisted in the Tenth National Guard; went to Bonnet Carré, La., where he died June 28, 1863.

Forty-Fourth or People's Regiment.—After New York's quota under the first call had been filled, it was deemed advisable to ask each town and ward to be represented by furnishing one man, armed and equipped by voluntary subscription, to form a Zouave regiment to avenge the death of Colonel Ellsworth, and serve during the war. It was organized October 16, 1861, and left October 20th for the seat of war, 850 strong, composed largely of Albany City and County men. Its officers were as follows: Stephen W. Stryker, Colonel; James C. Rice, Lieutenant-Colonel; James McKown, Major; William Frothingham, Surgeon; Edward B. Knox, Adjutant. Captains: Company A, Edward P. Chapin; Company B, L. S. Larabee; Company C, William H. Revere, Jr.; Company D, Freeman Conner; Company E, Michael McN. Walsh; Company F, Campbell Allen; Company G, William L. Vanderlip; Company H, William N. Danks; Company I, A. Webster Shaffer; Company K, William H. Miller. Captain Rodney G. Kimball, 1862; Captain B. Munger, 1862. The regiment was mustered in September 24, 1861, and served at Yorktown, Hanover Court House, Gaines' Mills, Turkey Island, Malvern Hill, Groveton, Antietam, Fredericksburgh, Chancellorsville, Aldie, Gettysburg, Jones' Cross Roads, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna, Bethesda Church, Petersburg, and the Weldon Railroad. The regiment was mustered out September 24, 1864, and returned 170 in number. During its service upwards of 700 recruits joined its ranks.

The following, among others in the regiment, died in service—

Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Brigadier-General) James C. Rice; born in Worthington, Massachusetts, 1828; graduated from Yale College, 1853; studied law; enlisted April, 1861; did brave service and was transferred to the 39th New York Volunteers Garibaldi Guards; commissioned First Lieutenant, then Adjutant; he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Forty-Fourth; went to the front; was promoted Colonel; and finally was made Brigadier-General for gallant conduct at Gettysburg. He was killed at Spottsylvania, Va., May 10, 1864. A devoted patriot, a sincere Christian. His last words were, "Turn me over that I may die with my face to the foe." Sergeant Walter H. Angus, born June 10, 1845; enlisted October 21, 1861, in the Forty-Fourth; was in all engagements with his regiment, escaping unhurt until the fatal shot. Was promoted Second-Lieutenant October 9, 1863; killed at Petersburg June 21, 1864.

Ninety-first Regiment, New York Volunteers, was raised in the autumn of 1861, mostly in Albany, and was called into the United States' service for three years, December 16, 1861, with 847 names on the roll. It left Albany December 20th, and Governor's Island January 8, 1862; arriving at Key West, January 20th. The officers were as follows: Jacob Van Zandt, Colonel; Jonathan Tarbell, Lieutenant-Colonel; Charles G. Clark, Major; Robert F. Keeven, Adjutant; Robert Morris, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, John W. Felthousen; Company B, George W. Stackhouse; Company C, J. G. McDermott; Company D, Henry Crouse; Company E, William Lee; Company F, John Cooke; Company G, Allan H. Jackson; Company H, J. B. Collins; Company I, Charles A. Burt; Company K, Henry S. Hulbert. The Ninety-first was stationed at Pensacola seven months; went to New Orleans under General Banks. Was in three engagements at Port Hudson, Irish Bend, Bayou Vermilion, Gonzales' Plantation, and many skirmishes. It suffered severely. Returned home July 19, 1864. Nearly all re-enlisted. It was stationed six months near Baltimore, and recruited 1,600 strong. In February, 1865, it was assigned to First Brigade, Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, before Petersburg. Was in the battles of White Oak Ridge, Five Forks and many minor engagements.

The following are among those who fell in battle:

Major George W. Stackhouse, enlisted 1861; Second Lieutenant, Company A, 25th New York; promoted Captain and Major 91st New York, March, 1863. Died June 19, 1863, from gunshot wounds. His two brothers, James and William, were with him at Port Hudson.

Captain John A. Fee, born in Albany, January 16, 1837. Enlisted October, 1861; appointed Orderly-Sergeant; promoted Second-Lieutenant 48th New York. Was Commandant at Tybee Island until April, 1863. Promoted Captain, April, 1863; ordered to Army of the Potomac. Was in

battles of Chester Hill, Drury's Bluff, Coal Harbor. He was wounded in the arm June 30, 1863, and died July 15th.

Lieutenant William P. Clark, born in Water-vliet, January 27, 1835; educated in common schools of Albany. Enlisted in April, 1861; served three months with 25th New York State Militia; re-enlisted in September, 1861; served until April 14, 1863, when he was shot through the head at Irish Bend, La.

Lieutenant Sylvester B. Shepard, born in Albany, July 25, 1841. Was in Burgesses Corps, and with 25th New York State Militia, in its three months' service. Recruited Company C, 91st New York Volunteers. Appointed Second-Lieutenant, promoted First-Lieutenant, and appointed Adjutant. He was killed at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863, while in command of his Company.

Eleventh New York Havelock Battery was organized at Albany, October 26, 1861; mustered in January 6, 1862, with 158 men and the following officers: A. A. Von Puttkammer, Captain; R. A. Warrington, First-Lieutenant; James Rodgers, First-Lieutenant; G. A. Knapp, Second Lieutenant; John E. Burton, Second Lieutenant. The battery left Albany January 17, 1862. Was engaged in the following battles: Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna River, Tolopotony Creek, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom. It was engaged about every day, from September, 1864, till Lee's surrender, April 9, 1865.

The following are among those who fell in action:

Lieutenant Henry D. Brower, born in Albany November 12, 1839. Raised first installment of men for Havelock Battery; mustered in as private, October 1, 1861; transferred to 12th Battery as Corporal; promoted Lieutenant, March 30, 1863. Was killed at Reams' Station, August 25, 1864. Sergeant John R. Warmington was killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863. Corporal William H. Van Gaasbeek was killed at Coal Harbor, June 6, 1864. Corporal William H. Broughton was killed at Petersburg, September 28, 1864.

One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, or Seventh Regiment, N. Y. Volunteer Artillery, was organized as the Albany County Regiment in the 13th Senatorial District, under the auspices of the following committee, appointed by Governor Morgan, viz:

Hon. Eli Perry, General J. F. Rathbone, Hon. Lyman Tremain, J. Tracey, T. W. Olcott, George Dawson, Hon. C. B. Cochrane, Hon. J. V. L. Pruyn, Hon. Franklin Townsend, Samuel Anable, W. M. Van Antwerp, Hon. George H. Thacher and Hon. Henry A. Brigham. The first man was enlisted July 24, 1862. Over 1,100 men were mustered in August 18, 1862, with the following field and staff officers:

Colonel, Lewis O. Morris; Major, Edward A. Springstead; Adjutant, Frederick L. Tremain; Quartermaster, E. Willard Smith; Surgeon, James E. Promfret; Assistant Surgeons, J. W. Blaisdell,

George W. Newcomb; Chaplain, Humphrey L. Calder. Captains: Company A, Joseph M. Murphy; Company B, Samuel E. Jones; Company C, John A. Morris; Company D, Charles McCulloch; Company E, Norman H. Moore; Company F, Robert H. Bell; Company G, Francis Pruyn; Company H, John McGuire; Company I, William Shannon; Company K, Samuel L. Anable.

Lieutenants: Company A, A. Sickles, 1st, John B. Read, 2d; Company B, J. Kennedy, 1st, William E. Orr, 2d; Company C, H. N. Rogers, 1st, M. Bell, 2d; Company D, C. Schurr, 1st, H. C. Coulson, 2d; Company E, A. V. B. Lockrow, 1st, J. F. Mount, 2d; Company F, N. Wright, 1st, R. Mullens, 2d; Company G, S. McEwan, 1st, C. W. Hobbs, 2d; Company H, H. C. Ducharme, 1st, F. Pettit, 2d; Company I, J. O. Hair, 1st, J. M. Ball, 2d; Company K, M. H. Barckley, 1st, G. Krank, 2d.

The regiment left Albany August 19, 1862. Was stationed in the defenses of Washington. Changed, December, 1862, from infantry to artillery, and designated as Seventh N. Y. Volunteer Artillery. It was recruited to 152 men in each company. It built, reconstructed and cleared timber before the following works, and garrisoned them: Forts Reno, De Russey, Kearney, Gaines, Bayard, Ripley, Franklin and Alexander; Batteries Smead, Reno, Cameron, Vermont and Martin Scott.

In spring of 1864, two companies were added, with officers as follows—Captains: Company L, James Kennedy; Company M, George H. Treadwell. Lieutenants: Company L, F. W. Mather, 1st, C. C. McClellan, 2d; Company M, G. B. Smallie, 1st, E. S. Moss, 2d.

May 17, 1864, the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac, near Spottsylvania Court House, Virginia. Was engaged in the battles of the Po River, North Anna River, Topotony Creek, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom and Ream's Station. It suffered severely, and was greatly reduced in numbers. February 22, 1865, the remnant was ordered to Baltimore, till mustered out June, 1865.

Colonel Lewis Owen Morris, born in Albany, August 14, 1824; studied at Albany Academy. In 1847 was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the First Artillery, U. S. A., and went out to Mexico. Afterwards he was in constant service in Florida, or on Texan frontier. May, 1861, he was in command of Fort Brown, Texas. Refused to surrender or give up United States property to the Southerners. Was in service at Roanoke and Newbern, and captured Fort Macon. In 1862 he took command of the 113th N. Y. Volunteers, which he retained until killed by a rebel sharpshooter, June 3, 1864.

Major Edward A. Springsteed, born in Albany, January 31, 1840. Commissioned First Lieutenant 43d N. Y. Volunteers, August 17, 1861; Captain, 113th N. Y. Volunteers; promoted Major. Commanded at Forts Kearney and De Russey. Commanded 2d Battalion at Lauren's Hill, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Coal Harbor, Milford Station. Had been promoted Colonel. He was killed, while leading his men, at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864, before his commission reached him.

Captain James Kennedy, born in Albany, February 15, 1833. Was commissioned First Lieutenant, Company B, 113th Volunteers, August 4, 1862; promoted Captain, Battery L, February 12, 1864. Wounded at Coal Harbor, June 3d, at Ream's Station, August 25th, and captured. Died in Libby Prison of typhoid fever, September 10, 1864.

Captain John A. Morris, a native of Albany, born August 31, 1835. Was member of Company B, Washington Continentals; mustered into United States service August 7, 1862, as First Lieutenant, Company C, 113th Volunteers; promoted Captain, August 19th. Was in constant service until May 19, 1864, when a bullet pierced his heart at Spottsylvania Court House.

Captain Nathaniel Wright was a native of Kirtland, O. When seventeen, came to Albany as clerk. Enlisted in the 113th; mustered in, August 11, 1862, as First Lieutenant. Sent to Albany to recruit regiment, 1863; returned to field and was shot dead at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864.

Captain Robert H. Bell, born in Lancashire, England; came to America when nineteen. Was foreman of Company No. 8, Albany Fire Department. Served three months with 25th N. Y. Militia; raised company for the 113th, and was commissioned Captain. Was wounded May 19, 1864, at the Wilderness, and died June 20th.

Lieutenant William Emmet Orr, born in Albany, September 12, 1841; studied at Rochester University. Was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Company B, 113th N. Y. Volunteers, August 7, 1862; promoted First Lieutenant, Company E, January, 1864. A. A. A. G., on Colonel Morris' staff. Died June 2, 1864, from wound received at North Anna River.

Lieutenant James H. Morgan was a native of Albany; studied law. Commissioned First Lieutenant, Company G, 18th N. Y. Volunteers, 1861; re-enlisted in Seventh N. Y. Volunteer Artillery. Taken prisoner at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864. Died at Salisbury, N. C., November 21, 1864.

Lieutenant Michael H. Barckley, born in Knox, November 15, 1840; graduated Union College, 1862. Raised a Company in Knox and was commissioned First Lieutenant Company K, 113th Regiment. He went with his regiment through all its engagements. Was wounded at Coal Harbor, and died July 6, 1864.

Lieutenant Charles S. Evans, born in Rensselaerville, November 10, 1840. Enlisted, August 2, 1862, Company K, 7th Volunteer Artillery; promoted Lieutenant Company I. June 5, 1864, he was killed at Coal Harbor, buried there, and his body never found afterwards.

Lieutenant Charles L. Yeardsley was born in West Troy, May 19, 1843. Enlisted August 13, 1862, Company H 113th New York Volunteers; was promoted Orderly Sergeant and Lieutenant April 15, 1864. He was killed at Petersburg, Va., June 3, 1864, while leading the charge of Company G.

Lieutenant John B. Read, Adjutant 7th New York Volunteer Artillery; was born October

8, 1830, at Stuyvesant, N. Y. Helped raise a Company for 113th Regiment, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant Company A, August 4, 1862. Was wounded at Coal Harbor, and left within the enemy's lines.

Sergeant James S. Gerling was born in England October 7, 1845. Came to America when nine years old. Enlisted July, 1862, in the 113th Regiment; promoted Corporal and Sergeant. Wounded in the Wilderness June 3, 1864, again August 24th, and died October 8, 1864.

Sergeant George Sanders was a native of England; came to Albany when fourteen years old. Enlisted August 1, 1862, Company D 113th Regiment. He was wounded in the head by a shell at Coal Harbor, and died in hospital June 18, 1864. He was promoted Corporal, April 11, 1863, and Sergeant, January 24, 1864.

Sergeant William H. Bell was born in Berne March 28, 1841. Enlisted August 18, 1862, Company K, 113th Regiment. He died in the service, March 15, 1864.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTICES.

Colonel Edward Frisby was born in Trenton, N. Y., August 3, 1809. When seventeen, came to Albany; was a hatter. At eighteen he was Corporal in a Militia Company; promoted Ensign, 89th Infantry, September 2, 1831; Captain, August, 1833; Major, March, 1835; Lieutenant-Colonel, September, 1839; Colonel, August, 1841. He was Colonel of 25th Militia Regiment, and Brigadier-General 11th Brigade, N. Y. S. M. He went to the front with the 25th Militia Regiment, April, 1861; returned and raised the 30th New York Volunteers, and was commissioned Colonel. The Regiment left Albany June 27, 1861. He was killed at Second Bull Run battle, August 28, 1862.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Lyman Tremain, son of Hon. Lyman Tremain, was born in Durham, N. Y., June 13, 1843. He attended Albany Academy, Anthony's Classical Institute, and Hobart College. He enlisted in 113th Regiment, raised a Company and was promoted Adjutant; he was transferred to First Brigade, Third Division of the Cavalry Corps; afterwards to Second Cavalry Division, Second Brigade. He was in all the engagements with his division under General Sheridan in the Wilderness, Todd's Tavern, Childsburg, Meadow's Bridge, Richmond Heights, Haw's Shop, Spottsylvania, St. Mary's Church, Ream's Station, Malvern Hill, Lee's Mills, and others. He was made Lieutenant-Colonel of 10th New York Cavalry, and was wounded at Dabney's Mills February 5, 1865, and died three days later.

Captain Harmon N. Merriman, born in Franklin, Pa., September 19, 1819; was a lawyer. Helped raise the Tenth Regiment; was Captain Company H; was wounded at Port Hudson May 27, 1863, while leading his company, and died on his way home July 15, 1863.

Captain John McGuire was born in Ireland in 1829. Came to Albany in 1845; was Sergeant of

the Albany Worth Guards; enlisted in 25th New York Militia and served with the Regiment in 1861 and 1862. September, 1862, he joined 175th New York Volunteers; was appointed First Lieutenant and promoted Captain. He served with Regiment at Port Hudson, in Shenandoah Valley, and North Carolina, where he was killed by guerrillas April 15, 1865.

Lieutenant James Williamson was born in Scotland October 2, 1829. Was First Lieutenant 10th Regiment, New York State Militia, July 8, 1861. When the Regiment was changed to 177th New York Volunteers, he was appointed First Lieutenant Company H. He was in battles of Ponchatoula and Port Hudson. At the latter he was killed May 27, 1863, while leading a charge.

Orderly-Sergeant Peter M. Shaler was born in Scotland March 11, 1842. Came to America at the age of 10 and to Albany in 1858. He joined 10th Regiment, New York State Militia. Went to war with this Regiment. Was wounded March 24, 1863, at Ponchatoula, La., and died July 18, 1863.

Sergeant Alexander D. Rice was born in Albany April 10, 1837. Enlisted August 6, 1862, in Company C, 7th New York Heavy Artillery, and promoted Sergeant. He was wounded June 3, 1864, at Coal Harbor, and died June 28th.

Sergeant Andrew T. Hotaling, Company A, was born in New Baltimore July 23, 1838. Enlisted in Company A, 7th New York Artillery, November 7, 1862; promoted Corporal, December 1, 1862; Sergeant, May 1, 1863. He was wounded at Petersburg June 22, 1864, and died in hospital July 26, 1864.

Sergeant Paul Quay was born in Knox July 30, 1841. Enlisted in the 7th Regiment August 1, 1862; taken prisoner June 16, 1864; sent to Andersonville, afterwards to Milan, where he died in prison.

Our space admits of no more extended notice of the noble part acted by Albany County in the cruel War of the Rebellion. We are indebted to Dr. Clark's "Heroes of Albany" for most of our facts, which we have been obliged to express here in a very condensed form.

In the history given in this volume of the Lew Benedict Post, George S. Dawson Post, and Lewis O. Morris Post, of the G. A. R., will appear honored names of some other men of patriotic hearts and brave deeds, who came back from that fearful struggle to dwell with us, and carry on still longer the battle of life as useful citizens. Some others will also appear in the history of our local military organizations.

To one who wishes to know more of these men, and to keep their names and deeds in lasting remembrance, we commend the observance of Decoration Day, when soldiers and citizens unite in processions, and proceed to decorate with flowers the soldiers' graves in Rural Cemetery and other last resting places of the dead patriots in this vicinity. May this custom, and the other appropriate ceremonies of the day, long be annually observed!

WEST POINT CADETS.

The following list, obtained from the Adjutant-General in the War Department at Washington, under date of June 18, 1855, contains, so far as can be ascertained from the records of this department, the names of cadets admitted to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, from Albany County, N. Y., since 1815:

*Dudley W. Allanson, 1818; William Bloodgood, 1819; Stephen V. R. Ryan, 1821; Horace Smith, 1821; John R. B. Gardenier, 1823; Abraham Van Buren, 1823; *Isaac P. Van Antwerp, 1823; *Burritt Shepherd, 1824; Chileab S. Howe, 1825; Henry Van Rensselaer, 1827; Daniel P. Whitney, 1828; *Richard Ten Broeck, 1829; *Edward Elliott, 1829; Archibald Campbell, 1831; John Bratt, 1833; John Hillhouse, 1838; Egbert L. Viele, 1842; Albert J. S. Molinard, 1847; *Thomas E. Collins, 1851; *Henry S. Hulbert, 1853; *George T. Peckham, 1854; William H. Harris, 1857; James F. Gregory, 1861; Leonard G. Hun, 1865; Henry P. Walker, 1869; *Theodore P. Bailey, 1875; Daniel E. McCarthy, 1877; Frank De W. Ramsey, 1881; †William G. Thompson, 1885.

The establishment of a U. S. Military Academy at West Point was recommended by George Washington in 1793. It was established by Act of U. S. Congress, March 12, 1802, and organized in 1812.

SPECIAL OFFICERS CONNECTED WITH SOME OF THE INDUSTRIES OF ALBANY COUNTY.

Chapter XL, Laws of 1784, enacts that no pot or pearl-ashes shall be shipped for exportation until inspected by a properly appointed inspector, who shall start the same out of the casks and carefully examine, try and inspect the same, and sort the same in three different sorts if necessary; to be placed in separate casks, well hooped and coopered, and branded with the quality, weight, place of inspection, and name of inspector. His fees were sixpence per hundredweight.

In case of any dispute between inspector and owner, any magistrate within the county may issue a warrant to three indifferent judicious persons of skill and integrity—one to be named by the owner, one by the inspector, and one by the magistrate—to be viewers to view and search the said pot or pearl-ashes and report of the quality thereof as soon as conveniently may be. The fees and costs were to be paid by the party against whom the report was made.

By the Laws of 1788, General Inspectors of Lumber were authorized, and by Chapter LIX of the Laws of 1801, an inspector for the City of Albany was authorized to inspect all timber, boards, plank of every kind, scantling or shingles, before they are exported out of this State, and mark with a marking iron on each board, plank, or piece of timber the initial letters of his Christian name and surname, with the number of feet in each board, plank, or piece of timber; and no board shall be marked as merchantable and good but what is at least six inches wide, clear of sap, and shall be of the actual thickness sold for. Provided, however, that all plank and boards which are less than six inches wide, clear of sap, may be exported as sap-plank and boards, if they be of the thickness of merchantable plank and boards and marked with the letter "S" in addition to the inspector's mark. The inspectors were not to trade in lumber, and received 37½ cents for each thousand feet, superficial measure, inspected; fourteen cents per ton of forty cubic feet for square timber; and twenty cents per bundle for shingles.

Chapter 152, Laws of 1829, authorized the person administering the government of this State to appoint Inspectors and Admeasurers of Wood and Timber for Albany County, for the term of three years, whose fees were 12½ cents for every 100 feet of timber inspected and measured; four cents per cord for parcels of wood containing less than ten cords, and three cents per cord for parcels of ten cords and upwards; besides his traveling fees of six cents per mile. These fees to be paid jointly by the buyer and seller.

BOARD OF CHARITIES.

ONE of the most beneficent of the departments organized by the State and doing service for the whole State, is the State Board of Charities. It is not in our plan to give a detailed history of this Board, nor a statement of the important service it is rendering; only enough in a general way to make known its organization, its object, and the nature of its work; and then to exhibit, in abridged tabular form, what it is doing for Albany County Institutions of Charity.

A State Legislative Act was passed May 23, 1867, providing that "the Governor, with advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint

eight persons, one of whom shall reside in each judicial district of the State, to be designated as the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities." Their term of office was to be eight years; but the first appointed were to be classed so that one should go out each year, the place to be filled by the appointing power as above. In 1870, the Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Attorney-General were made members of the Board, *ex-officio*.

The Commissioners, by this statute, have full power to inquire into the financial condition of the institutions under their care; to examine into the methods of instruction and management of

* Left the Academy before graduation. † Present cadet.

inmates; the conduct of officers; condition of buildings; and all other matters pertaining to their usefulness. Under this aspect of its duties the Board is constituted the "moral eye" of the State, and its adviser in relation to the condition and care of the unfortunate classes under its guardian care. For these services the members of the Board receive no compensation other than reimbursement for actual expenses.

The first Board of Commissioners were duly appointed and confirmed in January, 1858, and were as follows: First District, Nathan Bishop; Second District, Harvey G. Eastman; Third District, John V. L. Pruyn; Fourth District, Edward G. Foster; Fifth District, Theodore W. Dwight; Sixth District, Samuel F. Miller; Seventh District, Martin B. Anderson; Eighth District, F. H. James. Two of these commissioners, Messrs. Foster and Miller, are members of the present Board.

Little was accomplished during the brief term of Henry C. Lake, the first Secretary. Dr. Charles S. Hoyt, who was chiefly instrumental in the legal establishment of this Board, was made Secretary of the Board, June 5, 1868. The wisdom of this choice has been proved by the remarkable fidelity and success with which he has discharged the duties of the office ever since. The work of the Secretary had so much increased, that in 1874 the present Assistant-Secretary, Hon. James O. Fanning, received his appointment. It was a most fitting selection, as a faithful service of eleven years has shown. Much of the out-door work has come upon him; and nearly all of those arduous duties connected with the office, such as correspondence, collecting facts, and preparing and distributing reports and other documents, have been his special charge.

Hon. John V. L. Pruyn, of Albany, a noble man, one of the originators of this Board, and its first President, died November 2, 1877. Rev. Dr. M. B. Anderson succeeded him only a short time, when Hon. William P. Letchworth, the present devoted and judicious President, was elected.

By the statutes of May 21 and June, 1873, the name of the Board was changed to The State Board of Charities. Its membership was increased to eleven, and additional powers were conferred upon it. The right of supervisory visitation was extended to all charitable, reformatory or correctional institutions, except prisons. Even private asylums are included. By this act any person or association is prohibited from establishing any asylum or institution of any sort for the custody or treatment of the insane without obtaining a license therefor from this Board. It provides, also, for the appointment of a State Commissioner of Lunacy, who is, *ex officio*, a member of this Board.

When, in 1873, the act relating to State paupers was passed by the Legislature, Albany was selected as one of the five counties of the State for their reception, support and care. It thus came to have a State Alms-house. The accommodations offered were for two hundred persons, and \$2.50 per week was to be the price of support. At first seventeen males and one female were assigned. Of these, one died, the 1st of January, 1874, two absconded, and nine were removed from the State as not belonging. This policy of determining the legal residence of paupers and relieving the State of the burden of their support by the removal of non-residents, has ever since been carried on.

December 31, 1874, there were in Albany County Alms-house, thirty-five children born in that institution during the year. Only three of these now remain. The dependent children in this county are, as fast as possible, placed in various asylums in Albany. In 1875, the whole number was between three and four hundred. The price paid for their maintenance is \$1.50 per week.

Much might be written concerning the vast amount of saving of expenditure by the judicious oversight and management of this Board in regulating the lavish out-door relief; in the organization of productive labor in the poor-houses; in remanding to their own country large numbers of foreign paupers; in relieving our own citizens from the burden of their support, and transferring them to those persons or places upon whom it in equity should devolve.

It is also justly claimed that, by the watchfulness and care of this Board, there has come to be a greatly improved condition of the poor-houses, a better understanding of the objects and purposes of orphan asylums, hospitals, and like charities; a general improvement in the treatment and care of the insane and idiots; an equitable law carefully carried out relating to the settlement of paupers; in short, more intelligence, more economy, less taxation and less wrong-doing in the management of our unfortunate classes than before this State Board was established.

We close our brief article with a tabulated statement of the names of the institutions in the County of Albany under the supervision of the State Board of Charities, and giving the principal items of general interest, so far as figures can give them, at intervals of five years.

We take occasion here to put on record that the New York State Asylum for Idiots was first located in Albany County. It commenced its useful work in the City of Albany, October, 1851, and was removed to Geddes, near Syracuse, in September, 1855. The number of pupils admitted during that period were, in 1851, 23; in 1852, 26; in 1853, 17; in 1854, 8.

TABLE I.
ALBANY CITY HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

YEAR.	REAL ESTATE.	PERSONAL PROPERTY.	TOTAL RECEIPTS.	TOTAL EXPENDITURES.	TOTAL UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR.	TOTAL DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR.	TOTAL REMAINING AT END OF YEAR.
1870.....							
1875.....	\$10,057 00		\$3,000 00	\$10,428 00	23	17	6
1880.....	21,000 00		5,790 42	5,437 71	82	68	14
1885.....	1,000 00		6,230 72	5,983 04	131	118	13

ALBANY HOSPITAL.

1870.....	\$48,000 00	\$5,000 00	\$22,913 25	\$22,457 26	432	393	39
1875.....							
1880.....	75,000 00	2,500 00	30,701 00	30,373 00	482	439	43
1885.....	100,000 00	12,000 00	30,070 02	27,682 02	808	754	54

CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

1870.....							
1875.....							
1880.....							
1885.....	\$30,500 00		\$92,710 57	\$10,931 45	131	83	48

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL.

1870.....							
1875.....	\$100,000 00		\$18,329 16	\$18,252 26	376	350	26
1880.....	100,000 00		12,437 76	12,432 43	509	449	60
1885.....	55,000 00	\$1,000 00	12,909 77	12,565 56	477	434	43

TABLE II.
ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

YEAR.	REAL ESTATE.	PERSONAL PROPERTY.	TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR.	TOTAL EXPENDITURES.	NUMBER SUPPORTED DURING THE YEAR.	NUMBER DISCHARGED	NUMBER REMAINING AT END OF YEAR.
1870.....	\$35,988 77	\$3,000 00	\$32,625 04	\$32,206 00	34	4	30
1875.....	35,000 00	27,500 00	3,420 02	3,345 80	53	8	45
1880.....	40,000 00	39,150 00	4,086 70	3,289 39	47	6	41
1885.....	35,000 00	46,300 00	9,250 75	5,053 05	57	5	52

ALBANY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

[For Children Between Ages of 3 and 12. Incorporated March 30, 1881.]

1870.....	\$15,000 00		\$12,456 69	\$10,020 24	148	46	102
1875.....	30,000 00	\$76,463 20	30,694 65	29,157 90	193	44	149
1880.....	45,000 00	90,000 00	33,066 41	32,116 49	308	84	224
1885.....	50,000 00	95,000 00	27,448 77	26,824 61	421	113	308

BABIES' NURSERY.

1870.....							
1875.....							
1880.....							
1885.....	\$800 00	\$2,200 00	\$2,474 47	\$2,461 83	29	11	18

CHILDREN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

[First opened December 1, 1856.]

1870.....	\$3,500 00	\$200 00	\$5,527 43	\$3,627 65			
1875.....	4,200 00	3,400 00	2,882 20	2,475 24			
1880.....	4,200 00	14,800 00	3,137 67	3,196 09			
1885.....	16,000 00	15,200 00	17,377 20	16,850 20			

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF ALBANY.

HOME FOR THE AGED OF LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.

1870							
1875							
1880	\$43,700 00		\$3,005 00	\$2,750 00	130	24	106
1885	80,000 00		3,500 00	3,500 00	160	10	150

HOME FOR AGED MEN.

1870							
1875							
1880	\$35,000 00		\$4,233 53	\$3,993 68	15		15
1885	35,000 00	\$12,641 61	4,124 44	4,117 58	24	6	18

HOUSE OF SHELTER.
[Incorporated January 4, 1869.]

1870							
1875							
1880	\$20,000 00	\$3,550 00	\$3,455 64	\$2,623 42	78	50	28
1885	20,000 00	4,050 00	4,904 78	4,178 56	165	128	27

OPEN DOOR MISSION.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885		\$10,600 00	\$2,597 84	\$2,096 04	58	38	20

ORPHANS' HOME OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

1870	\$6,000 00		\$1,839 96	\$1,575 19	18	3	15
1875			1,246 15	1,141 41	29	12	17
1880	10,000 00	\$1,375 00	1,697 05	1,206 24	27	4	23
1885		9,786 56	12,118 77	1,953 10	19	5	14

ST. JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885							

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.
[Opened in 1845.]

1870	\$75,000 00	\$3,000 00	\$8,752 90	\$8,745 90	136	10	126
1875	83,116 00	2,000 00	10,877 84	10,089 42	160	33	127
1880	116,198 40	2,000 00	15,483 65	14,197 86	301	44	257
1885	127,289 00	1,000 00	22,480 49	22,326 63	315	62	253

ST. VINCENT'S MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

1870	\$16,000 00	\$2,400 00	\$13,762 23	\$13,641 60	193	59	134
1875	45,000 00		10,154 18	10,126 31	145	35	110
1880	58,000 00		8,508 22	8,391 58	142	25	117
1885	32,000 00		12,046 24	11,983 03	157	29	128

TABLE III.

ALBANY COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

YEAR.	NO. PERSONS SUPPORTED.			Numbers discharged.	Absconded.	Died.	Insane.	Idiots.	Blind.	Deaf Mutes.	Epileptics.	Children under 16.	Native.	Foreign.	No. acres land.	Value of Poor-house Establishment.	Amount expended for support.	Average weekly expense each person.
	Male.	Female.	Total.															
1870	945	563	1,508	1,033	81	63	172	7	3	3	8	272	554	954	120			\$ 2.86
1875	674	884	1,561	1,160	30	50	71	10	8	3	4	27	509	1,052	116	\$300,000	\$21,700.00	1.90
1880	517	389	906	479	78	55	59	.....	5	1	16	13	291	615	115	250,000	23,068.00	1.45
1885	486	247	733	411	62	64	35	3	3	1	3	.....	280	453	112	145,000	27,897.43	2.50

UNITED STATES OFFICERS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS

AND

OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

Prof. J. TENNEY, Editor.

THE UNITED STATES ARSENAL is in the township of Watervliet, within the boundary of the village of West Troy; having the Hudson River on the east, the Watervliet Turnpike and horse railroad passing through the grounds on a line with the river, and the Erie Canal running through the depot inclosure, between the front and rear buildings, over which are two bridges. The local position is distant northeast from the new Capitol, Albany, six miles; nearly opposite the City of Troy; and in latitude 42 degrees 43 minutes and 9 seconds, and longitude 73 degrees 42 minutes and 7 seconds.

The establishment was located here in 1813, upon about 12 acres of land which was the original purchase, and was commenced in 1814 under the direction of Colonel George Bumford, of the ordnance department; after which it was under the supervision of Major Daliba, an officer of the same department, who matured many of its details, and introduced an excellent system of economy and police regulations. These first officers have been succeeded by the following:

Colonel Talcott, General W. J. Worth, Major Baker, Major Symington, Major Mordecai, Colonel Thornton, Colonel Hagner, Brevet-Captain O. E. Michaelis, Colonel Burlington, Colonel Mordecai, Captains Michaelis, Metcalfe and Young.

The area of territory has been enlarged by several purchases, and cessions from the State. At this time the reservation contains 109 acres, the whole inclosed by a wall eight feet high, except on the east front, where there is an iron fence which allows an open, clear outlook to the river.

The river front is 1,600 feet long, 800 feet of which is finished, at a cost of \$50,000, as a stone wharf, where vessels as large as any navigating the upper Hudson can unload. From the river it extends westward, with a width of 1,700 feet to the Erie Canal, which passes through about 600 feet from the river, and thence in triangular shape to a point about 1,000 feet from the canal, and within 200 feet of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co.'s railroad.

The area within the inclosure now unoccupied is arranged with taste, and skill has been exercised in combining the useful with the agreeable. All the appointments and construction of buildings are nearly perfect. The roadways are substantial and made of gravel interlaid with flag-stone walks, while the spaces, or portions unoccupied, are kept in lawns and garden-plats, which, with the many shade trees, add to the general attractiveness.

The present permanent buildings required to meet the demands of the various branches connected with the Arsenal, as well as offices, residences and quarters, are arranged with admirable skill with reference to their convenience and special purpose of economic adaptability. They are constructed of brick and iron, in plain, solid masonry, without elaborate architectural design, and present a military appearance, increased by the war supplies, and ornamented with many memorial trophies of former victories on land and sea, distributed over the vacant spaces within the inclosure. The buildings, more than thirty in all, are painted and kept in repair.

During the Rebellion this arsenal employed 1,500 men, and in some departments work was continued day and night to fill the requisitions for ordnance supplies for our armies during their continuous engagements. The quantity, variety and quality of the issues made and forwarded day by day, for many months, demonstrates the special advantages of this site for rapidly manufacturing military supplies, and shipping them in all directions and at all seasons. Since that time the erection of a new system of store-rooms and shops, with increased motive power, improved machinery of many kinds, and other facilities of recent introduction and modern invention, have greatly enlarged the capabilities and relative completeness of the establishment, which will now accommodate a larger force of workmen and insure greater promptness.

The more recent improvements are a completed range of two-story shops, inclosing three sides of a square, 465 feet front and 300 deep; this block, built of brick and iron, is of the most approved style for working purposes, and supplied with double steam engines as well as with water power from the canal, the use of which is secured by perpetual grant, for privileges granted to the State. Connected with this valuable system of convenient shops, the permanent quarters, barracks, store-houses, timber and carriage stores, and all other fixed structures are well supplied with every necessary modern convenience, and many improvements which contribute to the health, comfort and well-being of all, have received careful attention.

Independent of the extensive iron manufacturing establishments in the immediate vicinity, there are advantages in the geographical location and facilities for transportation of materials and supplies which command consideration from the general Government, to permanently establish this depot on

a scale of national magnitude and importance, commensurate with the resources and demands of a people who are proud of their ability to maintain public improvements creditable to the military department of this Republic.

This establishment is under the Ordnance Bureau of the War Department at Washington, and in all its arrangements, and in every detail, reference has been thoroughly represented in the construction of permanent improvements as to elegance, durability and order; and the general working force is most admirably selected with regard to their actual value and capacity for substantial results.

This is one of the national arsenals ranking as first-class, and is designed to be the principal depot for military stores, arms and equipments in the Northern States; also for the manufacture, repair and storage of war material and military equipages, and supplies for every branch of the infantry and cavalry service, including fortification munitions.

The cost of the buildings for arsenal purposes, including all necessary structures, machinery, improvements, manufactures, and stores, are estimated at \$1,500,000, and value of raw material used during the year, \$30,000; average number employed, 130, including 4 officers and 30 soldiers. The original cost of all the land is about \$57,000. Under proper regulations the public have access to this establishment, and it is well worthy of a visit.

Upon a map of the arsenal grounds in 1878 there were the following buildings:

Guard-house; office; Quartermaster's office and engine-house; iron store-house; workshops, containing eight departments; turbines, boiler and engine-rooms; arsenals, two; laboratory; officers' quarters, two; commanding officers' quarters; artillery store-house; cottages for enlisted men, four; brick stables, two; hospital; barracks; ice-houses, two; nitre store; timber store-houses, six; carriage sheds; proof-house; tank-house; magazines, two; carriage sheds, 12.

In the year 1813 the United States purchased two lots of land from James Gibbons and wife, upon which were located the first buildings of the arsenal. The deed to these lands is recorded in the County Clerk's office, in Book of Deeds No. 29, pages 23, 24, and 25. The following extracts are given:

"This Indenture, made the 14th day of July, in the year of our Lord, 1813, Between James Gibbons and Esther, his wife, of the first part, and the people of the United States of the second part, Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of two thousand five hundred and eighty-five dollars, current lawful money of the United States, do grant, bargain, sell, demise, release, and confirm unto the said party of the second part, and to their successors and assigns forever, All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the village of Gibbonsville, in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, in the State of New York, and * * * containing one acre and fourteen perches of land. Also all that one other certain lot, piece,

or parcel of land situate, lying, and being in Gibbonsville aforesaid and * * * containing eleven acres three roods and fourteen perches."

The first cession of lands by the State to the United States, is found in 5th edition R. S., page 93, in pursuance to the act passed March 31, 1815, as follows:

"And also all that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, and State aforesaid, at a place called Gibbonsville, on which is also erected an Arsenal and other buildings belonging to the United States, bounded as follows, to wit: * * * The United States are to retain such jurisdiction so long as said tract shall be applied to the use of providing for the defense and safety of the said State and no longer. The jurisdiction so ceded does not prevent the execution on said tracts of any process, civil or criminal, under the authority of this State, nor prevent the laws, not incompatible with the purpose for which such cession was made, from operating within the bounds of said tract."

Included in this Act is the following: "The United States have also jurisdiction over a tract of land in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, such jurisdiction having been ceded for the defense and safety of this State by the Commissioners of the Land Office, pursuant to the act passed March 20, 1807."

Second cession.—Chapter 332 of the Laws of 1830, cedes to the United States of America, "for the purpose of erecting and maintaining thereon arsenals, magazines, dockyards, and other necessary buildings, jurisdiction of the State over all that certain tract, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, and bounded as follows: * * * together with all the land under water lying opposite and westerly of the described premises, which has been heretofore granted by letters patent to James Gibbons by the people of the State of New York, but always excepting and reserving, out of the lands above described, the land occupied by the Erie Canal, one rod on each side thereof, and also the public highway."

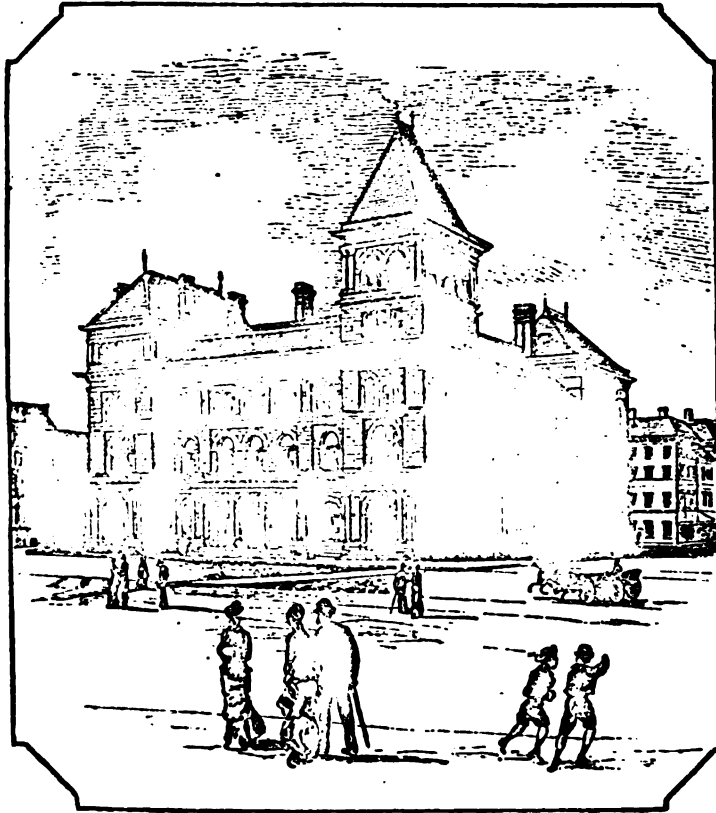
The State retains concurrent jurisdiction for the execution of all civil process therein, and of criminal process for offenses committed without the said tract of land. The United States are to retain jurisdiction only so long as the ceded lands are used for the purposes named in the act.

Third cession.—Chapter 96 of the Laws of 1833, cedes jurisdiction over an additional tract in said town "bounded as follows, to wit: * * * containing thirty-eight and one-tenth of an acre, excepting and reserving out one rod in width along the west side of the Erie Canal, subject to the same conditions as the tracts first conveyed."

Fourth cession.—Chapter 337, Laws of New York, April 14, 1859. "An Act vesting in the United States of America jurisdiction over a certain piece of land in the village of West Troy, in the County of Albany, bounded as follows, to wit:—With the same conditions as previous conveyances.

In 1825, James Gibbons agreed to sell to the State forty acres of land, at three hundred dollars per acre. He failed to give a deed before his death, and April 28, 1828, the property was ob-

tained from Esther Gibbons, his widow and executrix. Some additions have been made by the purchase of several contiguous lots.



GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

The Government Building is a granite structure, located on Broadway, corner of State street.

The marked progress of Albany, with its increased business, largely due to the concentration here of river, canal, and railroads offering almost unparalleled facilities for inland transportation of every variety of merchandise, was brought to the consideration of the general Government. Influence of prominent citizens was successful in securing the erection of a building for the transaction of Government business. The Post-office and other Federal offices had for all past years depended upon rented apartments.

The first definite action was taken by Congress, March 21, 1872, when an act was passed, having for its object the erection of a building at Albany for Government purposes, the cost of which was limited to \$350,000. At this time no appropriation was made, as it was required that the site be given by the City of Albany.

After viewing several locations selection of the Exchange Building and lot was made, and purchased by the city at a cost of \$100,000, and accepted by the Government; but the area of this lot was

considered too small for the purposes. The act of March 3, 1873, appropriated \$150,000 for the purchase of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank property on the north, separated by Exchange street. Again, June 3, 1874, Congress appropriated \$5,000 additional for the site. This made the total cost to the city and Government \$225,000. In December, 1875, the work of razing the Exchange Building was commenced, and continued until March, 1876. Work was then suspended because Congress had failed to set a limit to the cost of the contemplated building. In March, 1877, an act was passed limiting the cost to \$500,000. This necessitated a new plan; and the present, which is Italian Renaissance, was adopted in place of the original design, which was an elaborate Gothic.

In June, 1877, work was resumed, and the corner-stone laid with Masonic ceremonies, May 7, 1879. The appropriation having been used, work was discontinued in November, 1883, leaving some portions incomplete, but with many apartments ready for occupancy.

The revenue officials were the first to take possession of the new building in December, 1883. Then followed the Post-office, January 1, 1884.

Other Government officials took possession of their several apartments during 1884.

The walls of the building are of cut granite, which is fire-proof in construction and material. It measures 113 feet front, on Broadway; 126 feet rear, on Dean street; and 150 feet on State and Exchange streets. It is three stories high, with mansard roof and towers on each corner carried up an additional story. The main tower, on the corner of Broadway and State, is appropriated to the United States Signal Service or Weather Bureau.

The basement, which extends under the whole building, is used for heating purposes, receiving and shipping mail matter, and bonded warehouse.

The roof is constructed of iron, copper and tin. The stairways are of iron and slate, with oak hand-rails. The corridors are spacious, well lighted, with floors covered with tiles. All doors, casements and moldings are solid white oak. The ventilation and heating arrangements are most admirable in every apartment. All the rooms are spacious, elegantly finished, and splendidly lighted. Every office is supplied with all needed accommodations for comfort and convenience; while the furniture, desks and book-cases are of walnut and oak, made substantial and for service.

The different floors are reached by easy stairways or elevators. The approaches to the building are cut granite, and the side-walks smooth patent slabs. The building is a model in all its details.

The total cost thus far is \$627,148. The superintendents of construction have been resident architects. Edward Ogden was the first superintendent, who had charge after removing the old Exchange Building and the building of the foundation. Mr. George H. Sear had charge of putting up the basement. Mr. Walter Dickson was then placed in charge, and under his superintendence the building was completed. Colonel William E. Fitch was clerk, and Mr. John E. Todd, master mechanic.

THE ALBANY POST-OFFICE

Is located in the Government Building, and occupies the first floor and part of the basement.

There is no reliable evidence that any general mail or postal service was instituted or maintained by the colonial government at Albany, nor was it a postal point, and during the Revolution each party was dependent upon its own methods for conveying information or communicating with distant points.

The earliest traveled route from Albany was to New York, by the Hudson River, and at the commencement of hostilities the settlements near Albany were only outposts and centers for the collection of trade and traffic. Modes of communication and conveyance were primitive and conducted by parties directly interested. This condition was somewhat improved or modified during hostilities by opening new roads or avenues for conveying supplies and communicating with the army. These in time became post roads, and were extended to

more distant settlements, reaching many miles from Albany.

The introduction of practical improvements and the rapid development of the country, necessitated some method by which the people could communicate with distant places; and the new Government was prompt in establishing the post-office department for the rapid transmission and safe delivery of mail matter to all available settlements.

The following facts and records connected with the early history of the general post-office are gathered from the acts of the Provincial Congress. At the session held July 26, 1775, it was

"Resolved, That a Postmaster-General be appointed for these United Colonies, to hold office for one year, and to hold his office at Philadelphia, and he shall receive a salary of one thousand dollars a year."

Benjamin Franklin received the first appointment.

"Resolved, That a line of posts be appointed under the direction of the Postmaster-General, from Falmouth, in New England, to Savannah, in Georgia."

July 8, 1776.—"Resolved, That the postmasters, while in office, be excused from military duty;" and August 8, 1776, it was "Resolved, That the post-riders be exempt from military duty."

In 1777 three new routes were established: from Casco Bay to Philadelphia; from Philadelphia to Edenton, N. C.; and from Edenton to Savannah. In 1780, packets, and other vessels in the Continental Service, were to carry letters and deposit them in the nearest office to the post where they shall arrive.

October 18, 1782, ordinance was made for regulating the post-office in the United States of America. All postmasters were to subscribe to a general oath; post-riders were appointed. Postage was established at the following rates in pennyweights and grains of silver, estimating each pennyweight at five-ninetieths of a dollar, or five and five-ninth cents: for any distance not exceeding 60 miles, one pennyweight, eight grains; less than 100 miles, two pennyweights; 100 to 200 miles, two pennyweights, sixteen grains. Sixteen grains for every additional 100 miles—for single sheets. A packet of one ounce was equal to four letters. Post-riders could carry newspapers, if licensed.

September 7, 1785.—"Resolved, That the Postmaster-General be and he is hereby authorized, and instructed, to enter into contract for the conveyance of the mails by the stage-carriages from the City of New York to the City of Albany, according to the accustomed route.

"No paper money to be received for postage."

The history of the Albany Post-office, as a Government institution, dates from 1783, when Abraham Yates was the first postmaster under the Provincial Congress.* The records previous to this time give very little information on the subject. It appears that postal facilities were limited to in-

* It is said that Colonel Henry Van Schaack served as postmaster in Albany previous to 1775.

dividual enterprise, and messages were sent by river conveyance to New York, and post-riders to other points. This method for the distribution of public or private correspondence with neighboring counties was continued for several years, and to some parts of this county as late as 1820.

These riders met at certain points and interchanged letters and papers. The shrill blast of the postman's horn gave notice to the waiting maiden at the farm-gate that he had something for her or the family, after delivering which, he hastened on his journey. When the business was not remunerative, subscriptions were made among the citizens who were interested in their continuance.

Post-riders were, in time, followed by stage-coaches; these by steamboats. The introduction of railroads made a marvellous change in the transmission and rapid conveyance of all postal matter, as well as in an increase in the post-offices. At this date only a few offices in the county receive their mail by the antiquated stage-coach. The several lines of railroads which leave Albany traverse the county in many directions, and pass through nearly all the post villages, distributing mails daily.

In 1785, Albany served for Greenbush, Schenectady, Cherry Valley, Orange and Dutchess Counties, and letters were advertised for Vermont.

In 1776 post-mails were received twice a week from New York. At this time a mail was received once a week from Springfield, Massachusetts. Other routes and extensions were made in 1789 and 1790, reaching west, the post leaving Albany on Monday for Schenectady, Johnstown, Canajoharie, Fort Plain, Fort Hunter, and arrived at Warrensbush on Friday; returning to Albany on the following Monday.

About this time mails were sent to Vermont and other towns as far as Hoosic, and in 1791-92 the Postmaster-General extended the post-routes from Albany to Bennington and Burlington, Vt. In 1794 there were five post routes from Albany. The first on the east side of the river to New York once a week; the second, north, by way of Lansingburgh, Bennington, Manchester, Rutland and Middlebury, to Burlington, Vt.; the third went to New Lebanon, Pittsfield, Northampton and Brookfield, Mass.; the fourth passed, via Kinderhook and Stockbridge, to Springfield, Mass. On these lines the mail was carried once a week. The fifth route extended east to Schenectady, Johnstown, Canajoharie, German Flats, Whitestown, Old Fort Schuyler, Onondaga, Aurora, Scipio, Geneva, and Canandaigua, once in two weeks. In 1796, mails were established between Albany and Philadelphia, a distance of 260 miles, and delivered in three days. In this year the mail facilities were extended to Genesee County, which was then the far west. Post-riders traversed the county in 1797, distributing letters and papers, and in 1805 a post was sent to Duanesburgh. Other offices were established soon after. Mails were delivered and collected by post-riders as late as 1820 in this county; after this date stage-coaches were brought into use, and the gradual development of agriculture and other resources demanded in-

creased postal facilities. There are now fifty-seven post-offices in Albany County, as shown in another part of this volume. The first postman or letter-carrier for the Albany post-office was William (Billy) Winne, celebrated as the captor of the Pye robber, in December, 1806. He served from 1800 until his death in 1848.

The post-office in Albany has been located in different places. The earliest known was in 1784, a few doors above Maiden lane on the east side of Market street, now Broadway; Abram Yates, Postmaster.

May 2, 1861, the building on the southeast corner of State and Broadway was taken down, to give place for the present more substantial structure now occupied by P. V. Fort & Son. During the war of 1812, in this old corner was a drug store, kept by Jacob Mancius, and in the rear of it, in a room seven by nine, was kept the city post-office. The postmaster employed but one clerk, who attended the drug store and assisted in opening and putting up mails, and the delivery of letters and papers. During the season of river navigation, sailing vessels brought the mails to and from New York City. In the winter they were conveyed by land carriage. The post-office was a one-horse concern; but then, as now, everybody was anxious to learn the latest news.

In 1823, the post-office was located on North Market street, a little north of the Government Building, nearly on the present site of George A. Birch's store.

The post-office was taken to the Exchange Building in 1840, and remained there till 1862, when it was temporarily moved to State above Green street, in the building now occupied by Smith, Covert & Co. After repairs were made in the Exchange, it was removed in 1863 to its former location, where it remained until 1873. In this year it became necessary to vacate the building, and the office was again obliged to occupy new quarters. This time it was on the east side of North Pearl, south of Columbia street, in the Little Building, now occupied by A. B. Van Gaasbeeck. Another change followed in 1877, when the post-office was transferred to the Delavan Block on Broadway. Here it remained until January 1, 1884, when it took possession of its assigned location in the new Government Building, as a fixed institution, with all modern improvements, appliances and conveniences.

In 1799, the rates of postage were as follows: for a single sheet, 40 miles, more or less, 8 cents; 40 to 90 miles, 10 cents; 90 to 150 miles, 12½ cents; 150 to 300 miles, 17 cents; 300 to 500 miles, 20 cents; 500 miles or more, 25 cents. These rates were continued until about 1825, when they were changed to 6, 10, 12½, 18½ and 25 cents, and were the established rates up to 1845. Then the 5 and 10-cent rates were adopted by Act of Congress; for every single letter under 300 miles, 5 cents, and for any distance over 300 miles, 10 cents for each half-ounce. Postage stamps were first used in 1847 of the denomination of 5 cents. June 31, 1851, the act took effect reducing postage to 3 cents

on all letters less than half an ounce and not exceeding 3,000 miles in distance, prepaid; and double this rate for over 3,000 miles. This year envelopes were introduced. In 1852, Government stamped envelopes were issued. In 1855, another modification was made; on single letters, 3 cents prepaid for any distance less than 3,000 miles, and 10 cents over 3,000 miles. In 1863, the law was enacted making the rate of postage within the United States 3 cents, and prepayment by stamps. October, 1883, the two-cent stamp became the law for every half-ounce or less; and on the first of July, 1885, the law took effect making the prepayment of two cents by stamp the legal rate of postage on all letters weighing one ounce or less.

Postal cards and money orders were first issued in 1872, and about the same time the registration of letters was introduced.

Since Abraham Yates, who served till 1795, the following have performed the duties of postmaster in the Albany office. The dates of their respective appointments are given from the best available data:

1795, George W. Mancius, Jacob Mancius; 1812, James Mayer; 1815, Peter P. Dox; 1816, Gerrit L. Dox; 1821, Solomon Southwick; 1822-29, Solomon Van Rensselaer; 1839-40, Azariah C. Flagg; 1842-43, Solomon Van Rensselaer; 1843-49, James D. Wasson; 1849-50, Lewis Benedict; 1850-58, James Kidd; 1858-61, Calvert Comstock; 1861-65, George Dawson; 1865-69, Joseph Davis; 1869-71, Morgan L. Filkins; 1871-77, John F. Smyth; 1877-85, William H. Craig; and on June 1, 1885, Dr. D. V. O'Leary entered upon the duties of the office. Nineteen different men have been postmasters in the past one hundred years, represented by twenty appointments.

The salary of the postmaster is \$3,500 per annum. The working force of the Albany office at this time is composed of 65 persons. Their duties are divided as follows: 32 letter carriers, salaries from \$600 to \$1,000 per annum; 8 general delivery clerks; 2 stamp clerks; 4 registry clerks; 2 money order clerks; 8 letter distributors; and 9 baggage clerks; salaries from \$350 to \$1,100. The office is also represented by a deputy or assistant. Albany is one of the important distributing offices. Mails are dispatched to all parts of the United States and British America. The business of this office by the carriers for the month of May, 1885, was: Delivered mail letters, 286,490; local letters, 37,655; registered letters, 973; mail postal cards, 48,671; local postal cards, 33,682; newspapers, 172,202; collected letters, 196,746; postal cards, 50,049; newspapers, 20,804. For the year, total letters 1,335,720; papers, 607,800.

There are 217 mails distributed daily at this office. At the present time there are only five mail stage routes from Albany.

THE UNITED STATES CUSTOM HOUSE.

The collection of customs at Albany was established in the year 1803, in connection with the New York Custom House, and the first Deputy-

Collector was William Seymour. The first license entered is dated July 12, 1833. At this time only two vessels were trading regularly to Boston—the schooner Visscher and sloop George Washington, owned by Davis & Center.

As early as 1770, the sloop Oliver Bronk, Captain Bloodgood, was sent from Albany to the West Indies. In 1771, the number of sloops running between Albany and New York was about 125. In 1785, the sloop Experiment, 80 tons burden, Captain Stewart Dean, fitted out at this place for China, and sailed from New York, December 18th.

After the completion of the Erie and Champlain Canal, followed a few years after by the introduction of railroads, new avenues of trade were opened which necessitated the establishment of an office for the collection of customs at the terminus of the canals and at the head of tide-water at Albany. Since 1833 the following persons have performed the duties of Deputy Collector and Surveyors: William Seymour, Albert Gallup, Dennis B. Gafney, and William Bruce. March 2, 1867, Congress passed an act making Albany a port of entry, with Surveyor of Customs as the chief officer. The following have served under that act: Peter M. Carmichael, 1867; Isaac N. Keeler, 1870; John C. Whitney, 1875; William N. S. Sanders, 1879; John A. Luby, 1882; Addison D. Cole, 1885; Orrin A. Fuller, Special Deputy.

There are also connected with the office two Deputies and four Inspectors. The revenue from this office yields about \$150,000 annually, at an expense of less than \$11,000. The receipts for May, 1885, were \$1,832. The Custom House is located in the Government Building.

THE UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE OFFICE

Is located in the Government Building. It was established in 1862, with a Collector as chief officer, assisted by nine Deputies. The district is known as the fourteenth, and originally comprised the following counties: Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie, Montgomery, Fulton, Hamilton, and Saratoga. It now also includes the counties of Greene, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland, which were added to the district August 1, 1883. The collections in the original district from 1862 to 1879 aggregated about \$21,453,803. The average collections per annum do not vary much from \$600,000. The receipts for May, 1885, were \$133,716. The Internal Revenue Collectors for this district have been Theodore Townsend, John M. Bailey, Ralph P. Lathrop, James W. Bentley, and Isban Hess.

STEAMBOAT INSPECTORS.

The Local Board for the District of Albany, which comprises the Hudson River above Milton, was established in July, 1871. The office is in the Government Building. Charles S. Hervey and Leonard Brainard were the first appointees, and have not been superseded. Captain Frank A. Shepard has filled the position of Clerk to the

Board since September, 1872. The duties of the officers are to inspect hulls, engines, and boilers, and license masters, mates, pilots, and engineers. There are about 200 steam vessels in the district, comprising passenger, towing, freight, and ferry-boats. The boats of the People's Line belong to the New York District.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

This is known as the second circuit, and includes Vermont, Connecticut, and New York. It was organized September 24, 1789. A term is held on the third Tuesday in January annually, in the Government Building.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

This is designated as the Northern District of New York, and Albany is one of the forty-six counties of which it is composed as organized April 9, 1814.

The District Attorneys are appointed for a term of four years, at a salary of \$6,000 per year. The present incumbent is Honorable Martin I. Townsend, of Troy. Alden Chester, of Albany, is Assistant District Attorney.

Masters and Examiners in United States Circuit Court: William Lansing, J. Hampden Wood.

Masters and Examiners in United States District Court: Worthington Frothingham, William Lansing, J. Hampden Wood.

Commissioners: Worthington Frothingham and J. Hampden Wood.

Deputy-Marshal: James H. Kelley.

Board of Pension Examining Surgeons.—The following physicians of Albany have served as examining surgeons: S. D. Willard, S. H. Freeman, George T. Stevens, J. Savage Delavan, William H. Craig. The present Board consists of Drs. Charles H. Porter, William H. Bailey, Herman Bendell.

Alonzo B. Voorhees was appointed Registrar in Bankruptcy in 1867.

SIGNAL SERVICE.

The United States Signal Service was established in Albany in December, 1873, and located in the Dudley Observatory under the direction of Sergeant Myers. March 13, 1880, the office was removed to Gray's Building, Nos. 43 and 44 State street. October 1, 1884, the rooms on the upper floor of the Government Building, which are admirably arranged for this special purpose, were placed in care of Sergeant J. O. Barnes, the officer in charge. There have been stationed at the Albany office since its commencement, Sergeants Myers, Danhauser, Beal, and Barnes.

The whole service is conducted by the War Department under Chief Signal Officer General W. B. Hazen, at Washington. Observations are taken at the Albany office at 7 A. M., 3 and 11 P. M., and the reports are forwarded to Washington by telegraph. Local observations are taken at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M., and a sudden fall in the temperature

is indicated by hoisting a black flag from the roof of the building.

The *Farmer's Bulletin*, containing weather indications, is sent from this office to about three hundred and eighty postmasters in this vicinity, and to several business firms and other persons in the city. Reports are received from about fifty-six stations, which are furnished to newspapers for publication, and posted in many public places about the city.

The office is open during the usual business hours, and any information as to reports and the general work of the service is freely given through the kindness of Sergeant J. O. Barnes.

The temperature of Albany, as observed at this station for the past ten years, has an extreme range from 93° above to 18° below zero, and an average yearly range from 92.5° above to 11.8° below zero. The mean for the seasons is: winter, 25.6°; spring, 45.6°; summer, 70.5°; autumn, 51.2°. Average for the year, 48.2°.

In the winter of 1790, the thermometer marked 24° below zero; February 9, 1807, at sunrise, 20° below zero; February 12, 1809, Sunday morning, 8 o'clock, 17° below zero. July 13, 1853, the thermometer at Albany indicated 94° above zero. These are recorded by Joel Munsell as remarkable for this city.

The average yearly rainfall, as computed from observations at this station for the years from 1874 to 1884, is 36.97 inches, and is distributed throughout the year as follows: winter, 8.07; spring, 8.69; summer, 10.95; and autumn, 9.26 inches. For the year 1853, the rainfall was 45.79 inches, and for 1850, 50.97 inches. The lowest record was in 1851, 31.79 inches. The average rainfall at Albany, as determined at the Boys' Academy, from 1826 to 1852 was 40.64 inches. Compared with the past ten years the rainfall appears to be diminishing.

A code of weather signals has been adopted at the service station for Albany. In accordance with the recommendation of General Hazen, the following signals are used at this station: The red and blue sun, star and crescent, displayed on flags. The blue sun indicates general rain or snow; blue star, local rain or snow; the blue crescent, clear or fair weather; the red sun indicates higher temperature; the red star, stationary temperature; the red crescent, lower temperature.

UNITED STATES OFFICERS.

This list comprises the names of men who are or have been citizens of Albany County and held very prominent offices in the United States Government.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—Martin Van Buren, elected in the fall of 1836. Sworn into office March 4, 1837. He was a native of Kinderhook; but resided and practiced law in Albany many years.

VICE-PRESIDENT.—Daniel D. Tompkins, elected in 1817. Though Mr. Tompkins was not one who might be called a permanent resident of Al-

bany County, he spent many years of his life in the City of Albany, and was at the time of his election as Vice-President, residing in this city as the Governor of the State.

UNITED STATES SENATORS.—The Constitution of the United States provides that the Legislature of each State shall choose two senators, who shall hold their office six years. Vacancies during the recess of the Legislature are filled by the Governor until the sittings of the next Legislature. At the first session they were divided into three classes, that one-third might be chosen every second year. A Senator must be an inhabitant of the State which chooses him, and must have been a citizen of the United States nine years.

Philip Schuyler, chosen July 16, 1789, serving till 1791; Philip Schuyler, chosen January 24, 1797, serving one year. Martin Van Buren, elected February 6, 1821; Martin Van Buren, elected February 6, 1827; Charles F. Dudley, elected January 15, 1829; William L. Marcy, elected February 1, 1831; John A. Dix, elected January 18, 1845; Ira Harris, February 5, 1861.

U. S. CABINET, JUDICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS.

Alexander Hamilton, who studied law and married in Albany, and spent much time in this city, was Washington's Secretary of the Treasury; John C. Spencer also held this office, to which Daniel Manning has recently succeeded. Martin Van Buren and William L. Marcy held the office of Secretary of State; Smith Thompson, Secretary of the Navy; John C. Spencer, John A. Dix, Secretary of War; Benjamin F. Butler, Attorney-General.

John J. Bradley, a native of Berne, and Smith Thompson, once a resident of Albany, have adorned the Bench of the United States Supreme Court.

Martin Van Buren, Daniel D. Barnard, Harmanus Bleecker, Henry G. Wheaton, Bradford R. Wood, John A. Dix, Henry A. Homes, Robert H. Pruyn, Alfred Conkling, Bret Harte, E. G. Squier, S. G. W. Benjamin, J. Meredith Read, John M. Bailey, and probably some others whose names do not now occur to us, have gone from this county to hold various important diplomatic positions abroad.

Besides these, we record Roscoe Conkling and Leiland Stanford, ex-United States Senators, as natives of Albany County. Aaron Burr, who read and practiced law in Albany, where, also, was born his daughter, Theodosia, held the office of United States Senator, and Vice-President under Jefferson.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

The Constitution of the United States provides that the President and Vice-President shall be chosen by Electors appointed in such a manner as the Legislatures of the States shall direct, the number to be equal to their number of Senators and Representatives in Congress. In this State the

electors were originally appointed by the Legislature. Subsequently, by an act passed March 26, 1796, the Legislature convened in Special Session quadrennially, on the first Tuesday in November, at Hudson, in place of the Electoral College. They continued to hold their Special Sessions there till 1812, since which time, by an act passed May 26th of that year, the Electors have met at Albany. By the Act of March 15, 1825, the District System was adopted; but this existed for only one election, when the Legislature, by an act passed April 15, 1829, adopted the present system. In making up the general ticket, one person is selected from each Congressional District, and two to represent the State at large. The Electoral College meets at the State Capitol the first Wednesday of December of the Presidential year, and casts its votes for President and Vice-President; makes a list thereof; and forwards it, under seal, to the President of the United States Senate, who announces the result.

Electors from Albany appointed by the Legislature under the Act of 1792.—1796, November 7, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Van Vechten; 1800, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; 1804, Henry Quackenboss; 1808, Ambrose Spencer, Henry Yates, Jr.; 1812, Simeon De Witt, Archibald McIntyre; 1816, Charles F. Dudley; 1820, Benjamin Knower; 1824, Elisha Dorr.

Electors elected by Districts.—1828, Abraham Van Vechten; 1832, John M. Quackenbush; 1836, Peter Wendell; 1840, Archibald McIntyre; 1844, John Keyes Paige; 1848, Clarkson F. Crosby; 1852, Cornelius Vosburgh; 1856, Henry H. Van Dyck; 1860, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; 1864, John Tweddle; 1868, John Loew (did not attend and Cornelius Armstrong was appointed.). From the adoption of the Constitution down to 1872, an elector was always taken from Albany. 1876, Eli Perry; 1884, Erastus Corning.

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

The House of Representatives is composed of members elected by districts; they hold their office two years; must reside in the State which they are chosen to represent, and have been seven years citizens of the United States, and have attained the age of twenty-five. Each new Congress commences on the 4th of March every odd year. The elections are held during the year preceding.

The Constitution of the United States directs that a census be taken every ten years, which has been fixed at those years ending with a cipher. After each enumeration, Congress apportions the representation among the several States. There are now thirty-three Congressional Districts in the State. The County of Albany comprises the sixteenth district.

The following shows the names of the Representatives that represented Albany County, with the Congresses in which they served.—Jeremiah J. Van Rensselaer, 1st Congress; James Gordon and Peter Silvester, each a part of the second Congress; Henry Glen, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th; Killian Van Rensselaer, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th; Harmanus Bleecker,

12th; John Lovett, 13th, 14th; Rensselaer Westerlo, 15th; Solomon Van Rensselaer, 16th; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th; Ambrose Spencer, 21st; Gerrit V. Lansing, 22d, 23d, 24th; Albert Gallup, 25th; Daniel D. Barnard, 26th, 27th, 28th; Bradford R. Wood, 29th; John I. Slingerland, 30th; John L. Schoolcraft, 31st, 32d; Rufus W. Peckham, 33d; Samuel Dixon, 34th; Erastus Corning, Sr., 35th, 37th,

38th; John H. Reynolds, 36th; Charles Goodyear, 39th; John V. L. Pruyn, 40th; Stephen L. Mayham, 41st; Eli Perry, 42d, 43d; Charles H. Adams, 44th; Terence J. Quinn, 45th; John M. Bailey, 46th; Michael M. Nolan, 47th; Thomas J. Van Alstyne, 48th; John Swinburne, 49th.

In some instances the districts represented included portions of territory adjacent to Albany County.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

ITS BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC OFFICERS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

Prof. J. TENNEY, Editor.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

1801.—THIS Convention was held at Albany from October 13 to 27, 1801, pursuant to an act passed April 6th of that year, to settle a controversy that had arisen regarding the relative powers of the Governor and Council of Appointments respecting nominations for office, and to consider the expediency of altering the Constitution in regard to the number of Senators and Assemblymen, with power to reduce and limit the same. The Convention unanimously decided that the Council of Appointment had equal powers of nomination of officers with the Governor. The number of Senators was fixed at thirty-two, and Assemblymen at one hundred, to be increased after each census, at the rate of two yearly, until they reached the number of one hundred and fifty. Aaron Burr was President. The delegates from Albany were: Johan Jost Dietz, Leonard Gansevoort, Daniel Hale, John V. Henry, Josiah Ogden Hoffman, Abraham Van Ingen, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Peter West.

1821.—The Legislature of 1820 passed an act recommending a Convention of the people of this State. Objections were made to it by the Council of Revision. These objections were referred to a select committee, which submitted its report January 9, 1821, in opposition to the opinion of the Council, which was adopted by the Assembly. But the bill did not receive a two-thirds vote and failed to pass.

A new bill was immediately drafted, received the sanction of the Council of Revision, and passed both Houses March 13, 1821.

The Convention assembled in Albany, August 28, and adjourned November 10, 1821. Daniel D. Tompkins was President. The Delegates from Albany were James Kent, Ambrose Spencer, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Abraham Van Vechten.

These gentlemen all refused to sign the Constitution as revised by this Convention.

1846.—The Constitution of 1821 grew in disfavor owing to a feeling that the power in the hands of the Governor and Senate had become too great. Other strong objections were made to it.

Agreeably to the popular will, expressed at the general election November 4, 1845, an act passed the Legislature, April 22, 1846, calling a Convention at Albany, June 1st following. It met on that day, and adjourned October 9, 1846.

The new Constitution limited the discretion of the Legislature in regard to some of the great concerns of the State, extended the elective franchise, gave the people the selection of most of the local officers which had been appointed by the Legislature, erected an independent Court of Appeals, and made other changes in the Judiciary and Courts of the State. John Tracy, of Chenango, was President. This Constitution was submitted to the people November 3, 1846, with the question for the repeal of the property qualifications for colored citizens separately. The result was: Constitution—Ayes, 221,528; Noes, 92,436. Equal Suffrage to Colored Persons—Ayes, 85,306; Noes, 223,834. The delegates from Albany were: Ira Harris, Peter Shaver, Benjamin Stanton, Horace K. Willard.

1867.—According to the provisions of the Constitution and the will of the people, the Legislature of 1867 "provided for the election of delegates to revise the organic law of the State, which was held April 23d of that year." The election resulted in a majority in favor of the convention. Thirty-two delegates at large were chosen, voters being restricted to sixteen names upon their ballots. Thus were secured equal representations, so far as these delegates were concerned, of the two leading political parties of the day.

The Convention met in Albany June 4, and adjourned November 12, 1867.

William A. Wheeler was President. Delegates from Albany County were Ira Harris, at large, and William Cassidy, Erastus Corning, Amasa J. Parker.

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION.

The Constitution framed by the Convention of 1867 contained several provisions, the essential principles of which were felt to be desirable in the organic law. Among these was the clause forbidding the Legislature to audit claims, and the sections relative to the Public Works and Prisons. Governor Hoffman, in his annual message of 1872, recommended that a commission of thirty-two eminent citizens, taken from the two great political parties, be created for the purpose of effecting a thorough revision of the Constitution. The Legislature acted upon this suggestion, empowering the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to designate thirty-two persons—four from each judicial district—to constitute a commission for the purpose of proposing to the Legislature, at its next session, amendments to the Constitution, provided that no amendment shall be made to the sixth article thereof.

Commissioners from the Third District, including Albany County, were Robert H. Pruyn, Albany; William Cassidy, Albany; George C. Burdett, Troy; Joseph B. Hall, Catskill; Cornelius Tracy, Troy. Robert H. Pruyn was chosen Chairman.

The Commission assembled in Albany December 4, 1872, and adjourned March 15, 1873. Their deliberations were submitted to the Legislature of 1873, by which, after some modifications, the proposed amendments were referred to the Legislature of 1874, pursuant to Article 13, Section 1, of the Constitution. This Legislature submitted to the people at the general election to be held in 1874, the amendments to which it agreed. The fifth article, as proposed by the Commission, provided for the appointment, by the Governor and Senate, of Secretary of State, Attorney-General, State Engineer and Surveyor, Superintendent of Public Works, and Superintendent of Prisons. This article was not approved and was not submitted to the people.

The disagreement in the Legislature upon this article, resulted in the postponement of the important amendments relating to the Superintendent of Public Works and Superintendent of Prisons, and providing for their appointment by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. These amendments were submitted to the people in 1876, and adopted by them.

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

GOVERNORS OF THE STATE.—John Tayler, elected 1816. Mr. Tayler was elected Lieutenant-Governor January 29, 1814, under a special act of the Legislature, passed April 11, 1811, after the death of John Broome, Lieutenant-Governor, who died August, 1810. At that time Daniel D. Tompkins was serving his second term as Governor. In 1816 Daniel D. Tompkins was again elected Governor, and John Tayler, Lieutenant-Governor. The next year Mr. Tompkins was elected Vice-President, and Mr. Tayler became Governor.

Martin Van Buren, elected 1828. Mr. Van Buren was appointed Secretary of State under President Jackson, March 12, 1829, and resigned the office of Governor, and Enos T. Troop became Governor.

John A. Dix, 1872.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS.—Stephen Van Rensselaer, April 28, 1795; Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, April 28, 1801; John Tayler, January 29, 1814; John Tayler, April 27, 1816.

STATE SECRETARIES OF STATE.—Daniel Hale, March 24, 1793; Charles D. Cooper, April 17, 1817; John Van Ness Yates, April, 1818; John Van Ness Yates, February 13, 1823; John A. Dix, February 1, 1833.

STATE TREASURERS.—This is an ancient office. It was first known as Receiver-General when the State, as New Netherlands, was under the Dutch Government; under the English Colonial Government, as Receiver and Collector-General. These last officers were also Collectors of the Port of New York. They were always the keepers of the people's money. They were appointed under the English laws by the Crown. The Provincial Congress continued the office. The first State Constitution directed the appointment to be made by an act of the Legislature, to originate with the Assembly. Under the present Constitution the State Treasurer, elected by popular vote, receives the public funds, and pays drafts upon the warrants of the Comptroller, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Secretary of the State Board of Charities. He is also, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, the State Board of Equalization, of Assessments, of the Board of State Canvassers and a Trustee of the Union University. He is chosen every two years. The salary is \$5,000 per annum. He has a deputy, book-keeper and clerks.

Robert McClallen, March 16, 1798; Abraham G. Lansing, February 8, 1803; Abraham G. Lansing, February 18, 1810; Charles Z. Platt, February 10, 1813; Gerrit L. Dox, February 12, 1817; Benjamin Knower, January 29, 1821; Stephen Clark, November 7, 1855; Nathan D. Wendell, November 4, 1879.

ATTORNEYS-GENERAL.—This is another very ancient office in the State of New York. Under the Dutch, in the Province of New Netherlands, the office was known as "Schout-Fiscal." He was both Attorney-General and Sheriff. He arrested persons and examined and prosecuted them. In very important cases, where there were reasons for strong suspicions, but no direct evidence, of the prisoner's guilt, he subjected him to the most cruel torture. This was done to obtain a confession of guilt. He, with one magistrate, were witnesses of the torture, deciding when to begin and when to suspend. As Sheriff he executed the judgments of the Supreme Courts in Criminal and Civil cases, and was allowed deputies. He had a voice in the enactment of all laws and a seat in the Council, except when officiating as prosecuting officer.

Under the English Colonial Government he was appointed by the Colonial Governors until 1702, after which he was commissioned by the Crown and held the office during its pleasure. As law officer of the State his duties have been about the same. Under the first Constitution he was commissioned by the Council of Appointment and was a Commissioner of the Canal Fund and of the Land Office. Under the second Constitution he was a Commissioner of the same Boards as the Secretary of State. He is now elected every other year by the people, and is, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, a member of the Canal Board, the Board of State Canvassers, the State Board of Health, the State Board of Charities, the State Board of Equalization of Assessments, a Trustee of the University and of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

John Woodworth, February 3, 1804; Abraham Van Vechten, February 2, 1810; Abraham Van Vechten, February 13, 1813; Martin Van Buren, February 17, 1815; Samuel A. Talcott, February 12, 1821; Samuel A. Talcott, February 8, 1823; John Van Buren, February 3, 1845; Lyman Tremain, November 3, 1857; Charles S. Fairchild, November 2, 1875.

COMPTROLLER.—The Comptroller is now the Auditor of Public Accounts, except those payable from the Free School Fund. He manages the funds of the State, loans its moneys, superintends the collection of its taxes and the payment of current expenses of the State. He is also at the head of a Bureau of Canal Affairs. He is, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, a Member of the Canal Board and of the Board of State Canvassers, a Trustee of the Idiot Asylum and of Union University, and of the State Board of Equalization of Assessments. He is elected every other year.

John V. Henry, March 12, 1800; Archibald McIntyre, March 25, 1806; William L. Marcy, February 13, 1826; Azariah C. Flagg, January 11, 1834; Azariah C. Flagg, February 7, 1842; Frederick P. Olcott.

SURVEYOR-GENERAL AND STATE ENGINEERS.—The Surveyor-General and State Engineer is, *ex officio*, Trustee of the Union University, a Commissioner of the Land Office, and a member of the Canal Board and the Board of State Canvassers. He is elected every other year. He has a deputy and necessary clerks. The State Engineer and Surveyor supervises the canal engineering department. He appoints three division engineers and three resident engineers.

Philip Schuyler, March 30, 1781; Simeon DeWitt, May 13, 1784; Simeon DeWitt, February 8, 1823; Orville L. Holly, February 5, 1838.

STATE ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS.—William J. McAlpine, November 4, 1851; Sylvanus H. Sweet, November 4, 1873; Elnathan Sweet, November, 1883.

CANAL COMMISSIONERS.—The Constitutional Commission of 1874 recommended, among other things, the appointment of Superintendent of Public Works.

This was adopted by the Legislature of 1875. The office of Canal Commissioner was abolished on the appointment of the Superintendent of Public Works, which took place February 8, 1878. Stephen Van Rensselaer, April 17, 1816; Asa Whitney, February 22, 1840; Stephen Clark, February 8, 1842; Stephen Clark, November 4, 1844; Charles H. Sherrill, November 5, 1856.

GOVERNORS' MANSIONS.

The Legislature of the State fixed the seat of government at Albany in 1797. Its session that year was held in the Stadt Huys, commencing January 3d, and ending April 3d. The law making Albany the State capital is dated March 10th. John Jay was then Governor. He occupied "Mr. James Caldwell's elegant house in State street," situated where Walsh's hat store is now located. George Clinton, who was the first Governor of the State, from 1777 to 1795, was again elected, and followed Mr. Jay from 1801 to 1804. The same house occupied by Governor Jay was occupied by Governor Clinton and family. We do not find where Morgan Lewis (1804 to 1807) had his mansion. Governor Daniel D. Tompkins (1807 to 1817) resided a portion of his term, if not the whole of it, at 99 Washington avenue, where George B. Steele now resides. De Witt Clinton (1817 to 1823, and 1826 to 1828) had his residence corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets, on the site now occupied by Johnston & Reilly's store. Here he died, February 11, 1828. Martin Van Buren (1828 to 1829) resided at 92 State street, on the site of J. H. Simmons' auction-rooms. Enos T. Throop, who filled out the term of Governor Van Buren (who resigned March 12, 1829, to become Secretary of State under Andrew Jackson), and was afterwards Governor from 1831 to 1833, had his mansion at No. 1 Elk street, where the late Harmon Pumpelly resided.

William L. Marcy (1833 to 1839) occupied No. 2 Elk street, where General Rufus H. King now resides.

The Kane mansion, on the site of the Ash Grove Church, was the mansion of William H. Seward during his gubernatorial career (1839 to 1843).

William C. Bouck (1843 to 1845) lived at 119 Washington avenue, now the residence of General John F. Rathbone.

Silas Wright (1845 to 1847) resided at 133 North Pearl street.

John Young (1847 to 1849), at 111 State street, where now resides Mrs. John Tweedle.

Hamilton Fish (1849 to 1851), at 15 Elk street, the residence of the late Hon. John V. L. Pruyn. Washington Hunt (1851 to 1853), at 1 Elk street; as also did Horatio Seymour (1853-54) during his first term, the same as formerly occupied by Governor Throop. Governor Seymour, during his second term (1863-64), had his executive mansion in "Dudley Row," 65 Hawk street.

Myron H. Clark (1855-56) occupied 132 State street, where now is the Christian Brothers' Academy.

John A. King (1857-58), 881 Broadway, corner of North Ferry, now St. Peter's Hospital.

Edwin D. Morgan (1859 to 1862), and Reuben E. Fenton (1865 to 1868), four years each, made 144 State street, late the residence of Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, their home in this city.

John T. Hoffman (1869 to 1872) made the old Congress Hall, east of the new Capitol, his residence.

John Adams Dix (1873-74), 123 Washington avenue, north of the new Capitol.

Samuel J. Tilden (1875 to 1877), Lucius Robinson (1877 to 1879), Alonzo B. Cornell (1880 to 1882), and Grover Cleveland (1882 to 1885), resided in the Executive Mansion, 138 Eagle street, bought by the State of the late Robert L. Johnson.

This is also the residence of David B. Hill, the present Governor, and is intended as the permanent gubernatorial mansion.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

The Legislature meets annually, on the first Tuesday in January, at the Capitol in Albany. The Senate consists of 32 members, elected biennially; the Assembly of 128 members, elected annually. Salaries, \$1,500. Albany County now constitutes the Seventeenth Senatorial District. It sends four members to the Assembly, elected by Districts. The First District is composed of the First, Second, Third and Fifteenth Wards of Albany, and the towns of Bethlehem, Berne, Coeymans, Rensselaerville and Westerlo; Second District: Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Wards of Albany, and towns of Guelderland, Knox and New Scotland; the Third District: Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Twelfth, Thirteenth and part of the Ninth Wards of Albany; the Fourth District the remainder of the Ninth Ward of Albany, Cohoes and Watervliet.

A list of the Albany County Members appears in the County history.

The first session of the New York Legislature under that Constitution began in September, 1777, holding two subsequent meetings that year at Poughkeepsie. The second session was held continuously at Poughkeepsie; but the third began at Kingston, August 18, 1779, and adjourned October 25th, to meet at Albany, January 27, 1780; adjourned March 14th, to meet at Kingston, April 22d; and adjourned July 2, 1780.

The session of January 27, 1780, was the first legislative session held in Albany after the Revolution. The January term of 1781—the fourth session—began on the seventeenth of that month, and was held at Albany in the old Stadt Huys. After this, the legislative sessions were held at Poughkeepsie, New York and Albany until January 3, 1798, since which time they have been regularly held at Albany. They were mostly held in the old Stadt Huys, until the completion of what is now spoken of as the Old Capitol in 1808.

The sessions close or adjourn *sine die* by concurrent vote of Assembly and Senate. We give

the dates of closing the regular sessions from 1831 to 1885:

April 26, 1831; July 2, 1832; April 30, 1833; May 6, 1834; May 11, 1835; May 26, 1836; May 16, 1837; April 18, 1838; May 7, 1839; May 14, 1840; May 26, 1841; April 12, 1842; April 18, 1843; May 7, 1844; May 14, 1845; May 13, 1846; May 13, 1847; April 12, 1848; April 11, 1849; April 10, 1850; April 17, 1851; April 16, 1852; July 21, 1853; April 17, 1854; April 14, 1855; April 9, 1856; April 18, 1857; April 19, 1858; April 19, 1859; April 17, 1860; April 16, 1861; April 23, 1862; April 25, 1863; April 23, 1864; April 28, 1865; April 20, 1866; April 20, 1867; May 6, 1868; May 10, 1869; April 26, 1870; April 21, 1871; May 14, 1872; May 30, 1873; April 30, 1874; May 22, 1875; May 3, 1876; May 24, 1877; May 15, 1878; May 22, 1879; May 27, 1880; July 23, 1881; May 2, 1882; May 4, 1883; May 16, 1884.

OLD STATE HALL.

On February 14, 1797, a bill to erect a public building in the City of Albany, with a view of rendering it the permanent seat of government for the State, passed both branches of the Legislature and became a law.

A site for this building was selected on the corner of Lodge and State streets. It was the first public building erected by the State of New York in Albany after the Revolution.

Ground was broken for the building early in 1797, and pushed forward with such speed that it was completed in the spring of 1799. It is said that several sessions of the Legislature were held in it before the completion of the State Capitol in 1808.

The building is still standing and in a perfect state of preservation, presenting nearly the same external appearance it did when first built. It is built of brick, four stories high, fronting on State street, with a wing extending back on the west side of Lodge street.

In the eastern wall of the lower hall, there is a white marble tablet, bearing the following inscription:

Erected for State Purposes,

A. D. 1797.

John Jay, *Governor.*

Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Tunis T. Van Vechten, Daniel Hale, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, *Commissioners.*

William Sanders,

Arch.

In this building were the State departments—Secretary of State, Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney-General, State Engineer and Surveyor, and Surveyor-General. And here, for a time, was the Executive Chamber. It continued to be occupied by those officers until 1840, when they were moved to the new State Hall, under the recommendation of Governor Seward. The State Museum, organized in 1836, was placed in this building. This

museum embraces nearly all the natural productions of the State of New York, in the several departments of botany, zoology, geology, and mineralogy. The Old State Hall was thus made the depository of the collections in these departments.

The internal arrangement of the building has been subjected to such changes as were necessary to render it convenient for the purpose to which it was devoted after it ceased to become a hall for legislative and executive purposes.

At a later period the State Agricultural Society was authorized by law to occupy a part of the building. The two organizations—the State Museum and the State Agricultural Society—occupied so much space that the building was inadequate to their accommodation; whereupon the Legislature made appropriation for a new building, to be erected in the rear of the Old Capitol; and the libraries, antiquities and other collections, especially those of a literary and art character, were removed to it in 1858.

In 1865 the Legislature passed resolutions, recognizing the importance of making the State Cabinet of Natural History a museum of scientific and practical geology and comparative zoology. In 1870 the Legislature passed a law organizing the State Museum of Natural History, and providing an annual appropriation for its support.

This old hall, occupied for the purposes we have described, has been known from that time as Geological Hall.

GEOLOGICAL HALL

Has become one of the most interesting and instructive places in the City of Albany.

The following from the "Albany Hand-book for 1884," compiled by H. P. Phelps, gives a very adequate description of the internal arrangement of Agricultural and Geological Hall:

The wing on Lodge street, in the rear of the building, is three stories high. On the ground floor is a large lecture-room, while in the other stories is the Museum, containing the agricultural implements and products in the stories above. On the lower or basement floor, and on the same level as the lecture-room, at the east end of the main building, are two rooms occupied with the work of cutting and preparing thin sections of fossils of minute structure for the purpose of microscopic study in the Museum. The machinery and appliances for this work are of superior character, and the results are of great importance and interest to the Museum and to science. The first floor of the main building is occupied by the offices and libraries of the State Museum and of the State Agricultural Society; and, in the rear of the former, a large working room is furnished with about 300 drawers for the reception of collections in process of preparation and arrangement. The main entrance hall exhibits a collection of dressed blocks of granite, marble, freestone, etc., the products of New York and adjacent States.

The second floor is occupied by the collection illustrating the geology and paleontology of the State. The wall cases, and a single series of table-cases around the room, are occupied by the rock specimens, whether fossiliferous or otherwise, and are arranged in such order that in going from left to right they show the geological superposition of the formations, each right-hand case containing specimens of the rock or formation lying next above the one on the left. This is supplemented by a colored geological section extending around the room above the cases, and so arranged that each formation shown in the section is represented by characteristic specimens in the case below. Besides

this illustration, there are enlarged figures of the characteristic fossils placed in the part of the cases above each formation. The entire arrangement is simple, instructive and easily understood. The collection of fossils (paleontology) occupies the tables, the table cases in the central portion of the floor, and also a large number of drawers beneath the table cases. This collection is arranged in the same simple and systematic order as the geological formations. Under each formation is a natural history arrangement of the genera and species of the fossils. This collection of rock specimens and fossils presents the most complete geological series of the older rocks to the base of the coal measures of any in the world; the older or paleogenic rocks of the State of New York being more complete in their order of succession. Also along the west side of the room are arranged a series of large blocks of magnetic iron ore representing the principal mines of Northern New York and Orange County.



Geological Hall.

The third floor is occupied by collections from geological formations above the coal measures, both American and European, and by the mineralogical collection. The fossil series represents the period from the new red sandstone to the pleistocene. The pleistocene of North America is represented by the *Cohoes mastodon* skeleton, and other remains of mastodon and fossil elephants from different points. The pleistocene of South America by the cast of the gigantic *megatherium* and other forms of that age; and the same of Europe by the skeleton of the *Megaceros Hibernicus*. The wall cases are in part occupied by a collection of the minerals of the State, and in part devoted to a general collection of minerals from all parts of the world.

The fourth story is occupied by the zoological collection. The western part of the room is devoted especially to the New York fauna, which is represented in its mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, crustaceans, and shells. The eastern part of the room is occupied by a case containing a large collection of birds, with some mammals, which were presented to the Museum as a special collection by Mr. de Rham, of New York, and is known as the De Rham collection. The ethnological and historical collections occupy some wall cases on the north side of the room, and the central north side by cases of corals, etc. The center of the room contains the two double ranges of table cases, comprising the Gould collection of 6,000 species of shells, of more than 60,000 specimens. Since 1866 the collections in the Museum have been more than doubled in every department. At present every available space in the Museum is filled. All the collections are arranged for study and comparison, and the museum is strictly an educational institution.

Being a State institution it should be considered as cosmopolitan. Its institutions are to cover the whole field of natural research, and to be a center for the dissemination of a technical and popular knowledge of the products, fauna and flora of the Empire State. With this view, it should be an object of interest for the remote portions of the State as well as the immediate locality.

NEW STATE HALL.

This edifice, located on Eagle street, was completed in 1842, and was occupied by the officers of the various State departments, who removed thither from the Old State Hall.

After the adoption of the Constitution of 1846, which created a Court of Appeals in place of the old Court for the Correction of Errors, a part of this hall was appropriated to the Clerk of that Court. He is the custodian of all the legal documents, records, and books kept in the four Supreme

Court Clerk's offices in the State, and in the offices of the Clerks in Chancery. All of these offices were abolished by this Constitution. He was also the custodian of the vast sums of money, which for nearly a century had been accumulating in those Courts. The rooms devoted to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals are in the southwest corner of the second story of this building. As these State departments have most of them been removed, or will soon be, to the New Capitol, a further description of them will be found in what we have to say in regard to that edifice.



NEW STATE HALL.

This State Hall is still a very substantial and handsome building. Until the beauties of its architecture were eclipsed by the elegant and commodious City Hall, which stands directly south of it, it was regarded as one of the finest buildings in the city. It cost the State \$350,000. It is built of the white stone from the quarries at Sing Sing. The quality of this stone is the perfect manner in which it resists the vicissitudes of weather. It is more beautiful than marble and as enduring as granite. The building is 138 by 88 feet, and is 65 feet in height. A spiral stone stairway, with an artistic iron railing, leads from the floor to the attic. The whole building is surmounted by a low, well-formed dome, which furnishes light to the stairway below. The building is fire-proof. The principal stories have what are called groined arches. It is one of the first fire-proof buildings erected in Albany.

This State Hall, so long the depository of the State Records, and the place where State dignitaries most did congregate, has had its day, so far at least as the purposes for which it was erected are concerned. Few of the State officials, with their subordinates are now seen there. Their offices are mostly in the New Capitol. It is understood that the State cabinets in Geological Hall will soon be placed here.

THE OLD CAPITOL.

The City and County of Albany prides itself on the fact that its generous contributions aided largely in the erection of the Old Capitol.

In 1803, the Common Council of the city adopted a resolution requesting the Legislature to pass an act authorizing the erection of a State House and Court House, and appointed a committee to prepare a petition and map, and to report an estimate of the cost. The committee consisted of John Cuyler, Charles D. Cooper, and John V. N. Yates. This committee submitted their report March 7, 1803, and the Legislature authorized the erection of the building, then known as the New Capitol, by an act passed April 6, 1804.

The Capitol Commissioners appointed on the Old Capitol were John Taylor, Daniel Hale, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Simeon De Witt, Nicholas N. Quackenbush.

This act is a characteristic specimen of the legislative methods of that day. The bill for its erection was entitled: "An Act Making Provisions for the Improvement of Hudson River below Albany, and for Other Purposes."

After providing for some improvement in the Hudson at Troy and Waterford, above Albany, it appoints John Taylor, Daniel Hale, Philip S.

Van Rensselaer, Simeon De Witt, and Nicholas N. Quackenbush, Commissioners for erecting the New Capitol Building. It required the Supervisors of Albany County to raise by tax \$12,000 for such purposes, and it contained the following provisions:

VI. And be it further enacted, that the managers of the Lottery hereinbefore mentioned shall cause to be raised by Lottery the sum of \$12,000, in such manner as they, or a majority of them, shall think proper, which sum the said managers shall pay to the Commissioners aforesaid.

At that day the State lotteries held intimate relations with the finances of this State. These lotteries were authorized by law. Upon their managers devolved the raising of funds for the opening of roads, improving rivers, building bridges, and the advancement of great enterprises generally, now thrown upon the taxpayers.

The lotteries were originally established to aid in the endowment of schools under an act for the "encouragement of literature." The early colleges of the States depended largely upon the lotteries. During the legislative session of 1812, a law was passed giving \$200,000 to Union College, and smaller sums to Hamilton and Columbia Colleges, and other institutions; upon the lottery plan.

At length the lottery system became corrupt and unpopular. The provision abolishing lotteries, in the Constitution of 1821, was supplemented by a provision, now in force in the Constitution of to-day (Article I, Section 10), which reads thus: "Nor shall any lottery hereafter be authorized, nor any sale of lottery tickets allowed, within this State." The original appropriation for the Capitol was but \$24,000, added to the proceeds of the sale of the old Stadt Huys, whatever they might be; but the building cost the sum of \$110,688.42. This included the furnishing of the Council Chamber. Of this sum the City of Albany paid \$34,200, the County of Albany \$3,000, and the State \$73,488.42. This was hardly sufficient to pay for painting and plastering the new building.

The Commissioners chose Pinkster's Hill as the site of the Capitol. On April 23, 1806, the corner-stone was laid with impressive ceremonies. Philip S. Van Rensselaer was then Mayor of Albany, and to him was assigned the duty of placing the stone in position. A large concourse of people were assembled, among whom were John Lansing, Jr., Chancellor of the State; Morgan Lewis, Chief Justice; Ambrose Spencer, Smith Thompson and Brockholst Livingston, Justices of the Supreme Court; the Members of the City Corporation and other dignitaries.

The building was first occupied by the Senate and Assembly at a special session of the Legislature, convened November 1, 1808. It was considered a magnificent edifice, an object of as much curiosity and interest as is the new Capitol to-day. People from all parts of the State and nation visited it. In 1813, Professor Silliman, of Yale College, visited it and wrote an elaborate description of it, in which he said: "It is a large, handsome building, the furniture exhibiting a good degree of taste and splendor."

H. G. Spafford, describing the building, said of the Senate and Assembly Chambers, which were on the same floor: "In the furniture of these rooms there is a display of public munificence. The American eagle assumes almost imperial splendor. It stands at the head of State street, 130 feet above the level of the Hudson. It is a substantial stone building, faced with freestone taken from the brown sandstone quarries on the Hudson, below the Highlands. The walls are 50 feet high, consisting of two stories, and a basement story of 10 feet. The east or main front is adorned with a portico of the Ionic order, tetrastyle, the entablature supporting an angular pediment in the tympanum of which is to be placed the Arms of the State. The ceiling of the wall is supported by a double row of reeded columns; the floors are vaulted and laid with squares of Italian marble; the building is roofed with a double hip of pyramidal form, upon the center of which is a circular cupola, 20 feet in diameter. On its dome is a statue of Themis, facing eastward—a carved figure of wood, 11 feet in height, holding a sword in her right hand and the balance in her left."

The above is a good description of the Old Capitol as it appeared in 1883, when it was taken down, with the exception of some few additions which had been made in its rear. The interior, with some exceptions, was at that time about the same as it was when first occupied. We give below the changes which were made.

To the Executive Chamber there was made, during the Rebellion, an additional room, extending into the main hall. In other respects it was the same in 1883 as in 1808. To the departments occupied by the Adjutant-General, previous to the removal of the building, was added another room during the war. This room was devoted to the Common Council of the City of Albany. Various additions have been made from time to time in the rear of the Assembly Chamber. The Senate Chamber was originally to the left of the Assembly on entering from the main hall. It was, however, removed to the large room on the second floor, and the old Senate Chamber was used by the Department of Public Instruction, and latterly as the Post-office and cloak-room of the Assembly. When the Senate Chamber was removed to the second floor, a floor was constructed and additional rooms were added to the building. In one of these the Supervisors of Albany County held their meetings. On the upper floor the Supreme Court originally occupied the main room. It was afterwards occupied by the Court of Appeals, and one winter by the Senate. The other rooms were occupied by the Court of Chancery, the Court of Common Pleas, the Court of Sessions and the Mayor's Court. The Mayor's office was in the attic, as were also the rooms of the Society of Arts, the State Library and the State Board of Agriculture. The basement was devoted to the offices of the County Clerk, City Marshal and the rooms of the Keeper of the Capitol.

It is singular that there was not a committee room in the entire building. It can hardly be conceived that the building could ever have rendered

accommodations for such a number of public offices; but this arrangement continued till the completion of the City Hall in 1831, when the city and county officers were removed to that building. After that time various changes took place. A new State library was built, under the law of 1851, and large additions were made to the rear of the building; but it was not even then rendered adequate to the needs of the State.

Congress Hall stood almost adjoining the Old Capitol on the north, a famous hotel of the past. For many years it was the resort of senators, assemblymen, lobbyists, judges and lawyers.

Owing to the overcrowded state of the Capitol, a part of this hotel, a private house, and many rooms in the Delavan House, were used for committee rooms.

The Governor's room, to which we have alluded, was on the south side of the Capitol, its windows opening on State street, its entrance being from the south side of the hall of the Capitol. Over its door appeared the well-remembered words: "Executive Chamber." This door led into a room occupied by the Governor's clerks; to the left, folding-doors opened directly into the Governor's room. The addition made during the war was occupied by the Governor's Military Secretary. The room had few decorations; a portrait of Lafayette, by Charles Ingham, was about the only embellishment the room contained. It is a full-length portrait, a fine work of art, and represents very correctly the features of its illustrious original. It now hangs in the Executive Chamber of the new Capitol.

A large table, the office desk of the Governors, stood in the center of the room. A desk for the Private Secretary, book-cases, sofas, and some easy chairs, made up its furniture.

The old Senate Chamber, a very handsome room, exceedingly appropriate for legislative purposes, was embellished with portraits of three distinguished men—Christopher Columbus, George Clinton and Stewart L. Woodford. The first of these was presented to the Senate, in 1784, by Maria Farmer, a descendant of the honest Jacob Leisler, once *de facto* Colonial Governor of New York, murdered by his enemies for high treason while guilty of no crime. The picture of Clinton is painted from life, and is an artistic work. The portrait of Woodford was presented to the Senate by his friends in the Senate of 1868.

The doorways of the Senate Chamber were ornamented with a sculptured cornice familiar to the architecture of seventy years ago. A tall Dutch clock, that for nearly a century noted the official hours of assembling and adjourning, was a main feature of the chamber. The galleries were a fiction of language, being on the same level as the main floor.

JAMES W. EATON.

The subject of this sketch, James Webster Eaton, was born August 22, 1817, at Summerville, N. J. His father, Josiah Eaton, came from Keene, N. H., and was descended from old Puritan stock which had taken root in the Massachusetts Bay Colony

in the early days, whence the descendants had spread out over New England. His mother, Gertrude MacEaton, was of Scotch-German parentage and was born in New Jersey. Both were intelligent, industrious, God-fearing people. In 1828, young Eaton removed with his parents to Albany, where, not long after, he began to learn the trade of his father, that of a stonemason. Born with the heritage of respectable poverty, which has been the spur of ambition to so many, he diligently laid hold of every opportunity for self-improvement, and while he spent the summer working at his trade, in the winter he attended the old Lancaster School and a private school kept by Mr. Fitch, both of which are names familiar to many old Albanians, who gained there that modest, but efficient education which has been so great an element in their subsequent success. In 1840, Mr. Eaton married Eliza M. Benner, who is still living. By this marriage there were three children, two of whom survive: Calvin Ward, who is a member of the firm of Van Santford & Eaton, wholesale lumber dealers, and James Webster, Jr., who is a recent graduate of Yale and the senior partner of the law firm of Eaton & Kirchwey. About the time of his marriage, Mr. Eaton embarked in the building business which he has since followed. His sterling integrity, indomitable purpose and business sagacity, slowly, but surely, won for him the victory over adverse circumstances. The histories of such lives would be interesting commentaries on the influence of character over fortune, if they could be written out; but such a history must usually be read in the tangible achievements of painstaking effort. In his business career, Mr. Eaton has probably done as much as any other one man to beautify the city of his residence. Over five hundred of the most noteworthy of the public and business buildings, and the most elegant of the private residences in Albany, have been erected by him, and his reputation as a builder is unsurpassed. In 1874, he was appointed by Governor Dix, Superintendent of Construction of the New Capitol, an office which he held during four successive administrations until the position itself was abolished in 1883. This magnificent structure, most of which was erected under his supervision, and over the practical details of which he had control, is an enduring monument to his administrative capacity as well as mechanical skill. In these days of political jobs, it is a significant and gratifying fact, that men of all political faiths who are conversant with the management of this great work, unite voluntarily, asserting that no suspicion of unfairness or undue partizanship has ever clung to him. Whatever may be the criticisms made upon the design of the Capitol, or the materials used in it, or the method of administration under the old Commission—for which Mr. Eaton was of course in no way responsible and over which he had no control—it is safe to assert, without fear of contradiction, that the State never had a more honest, fearless, and efficient servant. So far as the appointments made by him, personally, were concerned, his administration was an



James M. Eaton

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The doorways of the Senate Chamber were ornamented with a sculptured cornice familiar to the audience, some twenty years ago. A tall Dutch clock, that for nearly a century marked the official hours of assembly, and always going was a main feature of the chamber. The language of the inscription on the floor, being of the same date as the room floor.

JAMES W. EATON

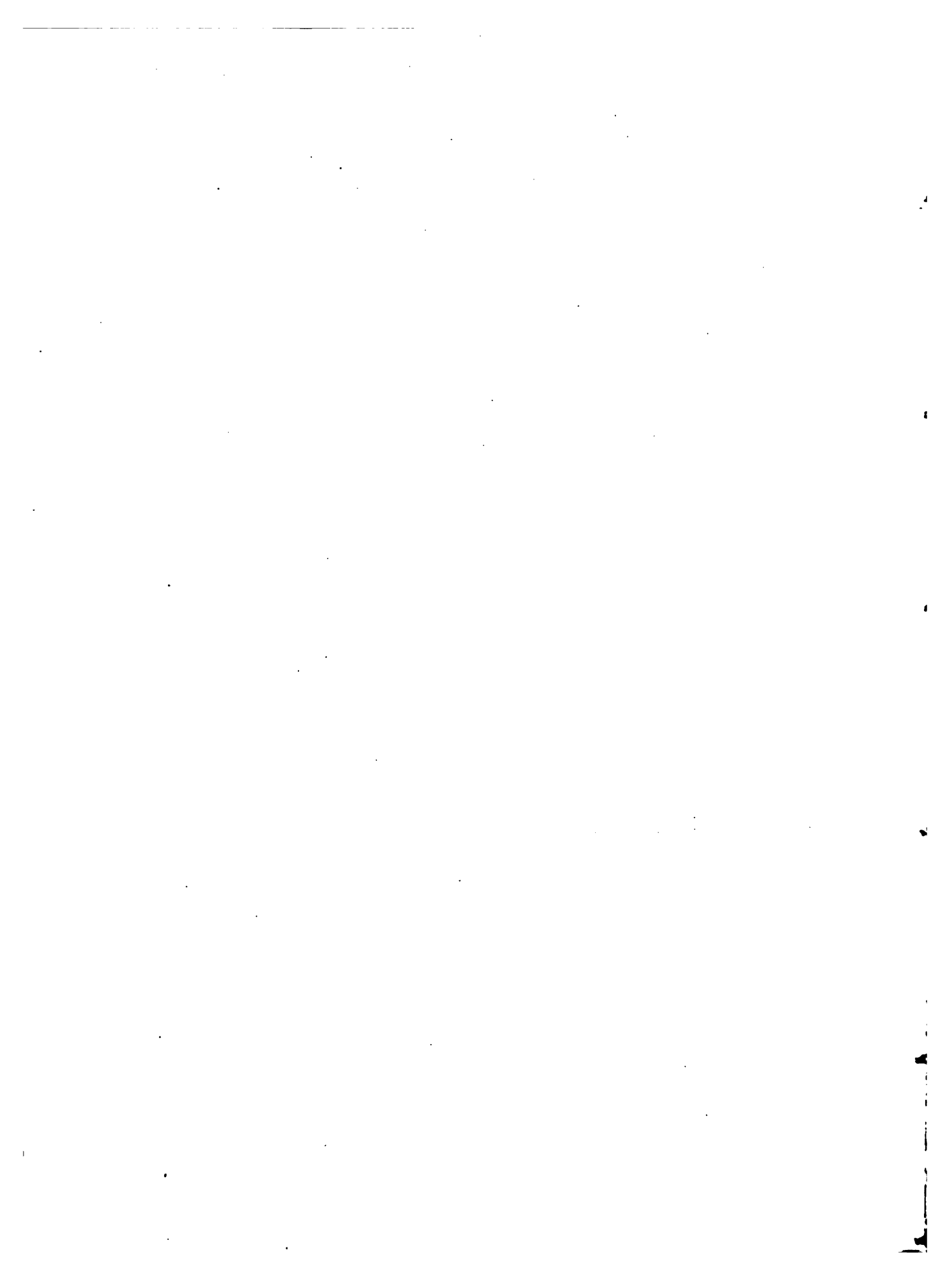
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in the early days, whence the descendants spread to other New England. His mother, the true descendant, was of the old-German family and was born in New York. Both were intelligent. In 1828, when he was 11 years of age, young Eaton came to Albany, where, not long after, he was placed in the hands of his father, the Rev. Mr. Eaton, who was the heritage of a large property, and was one of the spur of the time, he spent the summer months at home, and while he spent the summer months at home, in the winter he attended the old Common School and a private school kept by Mr. Eaton, both of which are names familiar to many old Albanyans who gained there that modest, but efficient education which has been so great an element in their subsequent success. In 1840, Mr. Eaton married Eliza M. Benner, who is still living. By this marriage there were three children, two of whom survive: Calvin Ward, who is a member of the firm of Van Santford & Eaton, wholesale lumber dealers, and James Webster, Jr., who is a recent graduate of Yale and the senior partner of the law firm of Eaton & Kirchwey. About the time of his marriage, Mr. Eaton embarked in the building business which he has since followed. His sterling integrity, indomitable purpose and business sagacity, slowly but surely won for him the victory over adverse circumstances. The histories of such lives would be interesting commentaries on the influence of character over fortune; if they could be written out; but such a history need not only be read in the tangible achievements of a painstaking effort. In his business career Mr. Eaton has probably done as much as any one man to beautify the city of his birth. Over five hundred of the most notable of the public and business buildings, and the most elegant of the private residences of Albany, have been erected by him, and his reputation as a builder is un-disputed. In 1871, he was appointed by Governor Dix, Superintendent of Construction of the New Capitol, an office which he held during four successive administrations until the position itself was abolished in 1883. This magnificent structure, most of which was erected under his supervision, and over the practical details of which he had control, is an enduring monument to his administrative capacity as well as mechanical skill. In these days of political jobs, it is a significant and gratifying fact, that men of all political faiths who are conversant with the management of this great work unite zealously, asserting that no suspicion of unfairness or undue partizanship has ever clung to him. Whatever may be the criticisms made upon the design of the Capitol, or the materials used in it, or the method of domination under the old Commission—for which Mr. Eaton was of course in no way responsible and over which he had no control—it is safe to assert, without fear of contradiction, that the State never had a more honest, fearless, and efficient servant. So far as the appointments made by him, personally, were concerned, his administration was an



Engraving by J. H. Smith

James W. Eaton

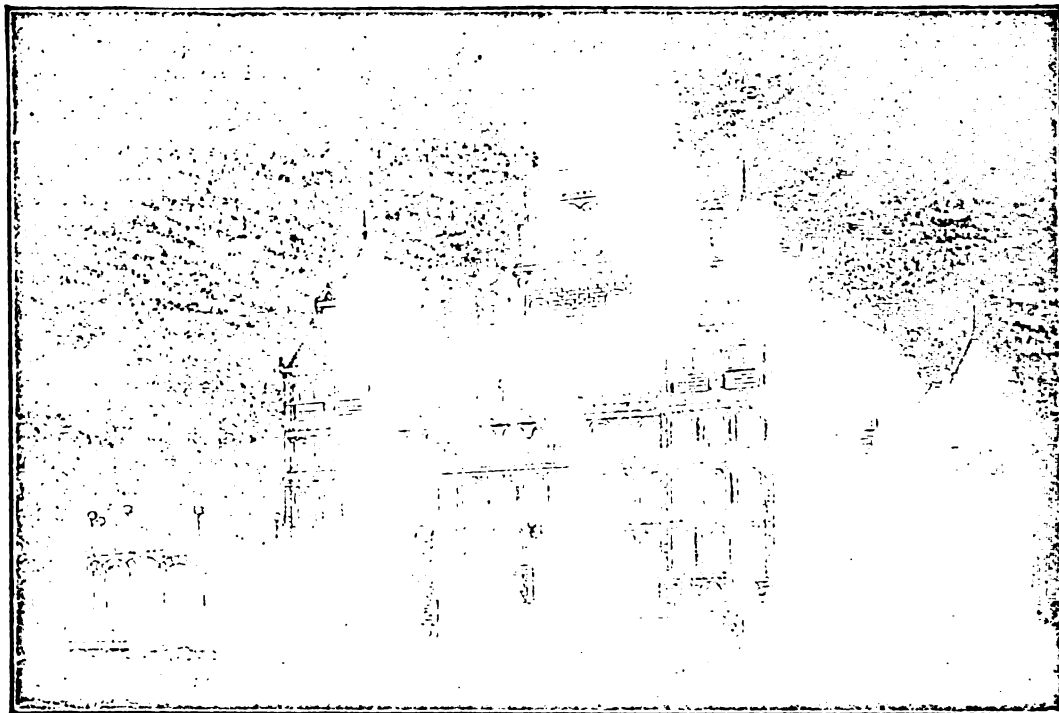


admirable exemplification of practical Civil Service reform.

Since his retirement from the Capitol, Mr. Eaton has devoted himself principally to the management and improvement of his real estate, of which he has a considerable amount in and about the city.

During the greater part of his life, Mr. Eaton has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for many years President of the Board of Trustees of the Hudson Avenue Society, now known as the First M. E. Church. Mr. Eaton has always enjoyed, in very large measure,

the esteem, confidence and respect of his fellow citizens; but only to those who have known him intimately has it been given to fully appreciate the genial kindness, the large-hearted sympathy, and unobtrusive generosity which has endeared him to many. As a loving husband and father, as an upright official, as a useful and successful member of society, and above all, as a good man in the highest sense of the term, it has seemed to us that the history of Albany would be incomplete without this little sketch of his life, especially in connection with the New Capitol.



THE NEW CAPITOL.

From Osgood's "Public Service of the State of New York."

THE NEW CAPITOL.

The seat of government of New York, during the colonial period, was in the City of New York. There the Colonial Legislature generally held its sessions, at first, at the fort. It sometimes convened in Jamaica, L. I. At length it met regularly in the New York City Hall.

New York City was regarded as the capital during the revolution; but when the British Army took possession of it, the Legislature was compelled to meet at places regarded most safe from the attacks of the British—as at White Plains, Albany, Kingston and Poughkeepsie. After the British evacuated New York, the Legislature assembled at these places or in New York. The places designated for each session were fixed by a vote of the Legislature, or by the Governor. Since 1798 the legislative sessions have been held entirely at Albany.

As the growth of the State had rendered the Old Capitol too limited for legislative and other purposes, the subject of erecting a New Capitol at Albany began to be agitated. But it took no definite form until April 24, 1863, when, on motion of Hon. James A. Bell, Senator from Jefferson County, the Senate referred the subject to the Trustees of the Capitol and the Committee on Public Buildings.

In 1865, the Senate appointed a committee of three to receive propositions from various cities of the State, as to what action they would take in regard to the removal of the capital of the State from Albany. The question of its removal at that time was considerably agitated. No satisfactory results were reached by the action of this committee, except in response to the circular issued by it. Albany proposed to convey Congress Hall Block, or any other lands in the city, required for the purpose of

a New Capitol. This proposal was at once accepted, and, on May 1, 1865, an act authorizing the erection of a New Capitol, at Albany, passed the Legislature. The grand structure now known as the New Capitol was, by excavating and laying foundations, begun July 7, 1869.

It was not until early in the summer of 1871 that the superstructure was ready to receive the corner-stone. June 24, 1871, was designated as the day. The exercises attending this work were grand and imposing. An introductory address was delivered by the Hon. Hamilton Harris, followed by reading a list of the documents placed in the corner-stone, by Hon. William A. Rice; an address by Governor John T. Hoffman; and Masonic ceremonies conducted by Most Worshipful John Anton, Grand Master of the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State.

The liberal spirit of the citizens of Albany was exhibited in a marked manner in the erection of the New Capitol. To Hon. Hamilton Harris, President of the Board of Capitol Commissioners, and to his exertions in the Senate, the State and the City of Albany are largely indebted for the successful manner in which the work was from the first pushed forward. By a concurrent resolution adopted May 14, 1878, the Legislature declared the new building to be the Capitol of the State of New York, and it was formally occupied as such January 7, 1879. The same evening the citizens of Albany gave a reception in honor of the event, and commemorative exercises were held under authority of the Legislature on the 12th of February following.

NEW CAPITOL COMMISSIONERS.—Hamilton Harris, May 3, 1866; John V. L. Pruyn, May 3, 1866; Obadiah B. Latham, May 3, 1866; James S. Thayer, May 19, 1868; William A. Rice, May 19, 1868; James Terwilliger, May 19, 1868; John T. Hudson, May 19, 1868; Alonzo B. Cornell, May 19, 1868.

SECOND BOARD.—Hamilton Harris, April 26, 1871; William C. Kingsley, April 26, 1871; William A. Rice, April 26, 1871; Chauncey M. Depew, April 26, 1871; Delos De Wolf, April 26, 1871; Edwin A. Merritt, April 26, 1871.

ARCHITECTS.—Thomas Fuller, August 12, 1868; Eidlitz, Richardson & Co., September 12, 1876.

SUPERINTENDENTS.—John Bridgeford, September 10, 1868; William J. McAlpine, June 11, 1873; James W. Eaton, June 12, 1874.

The Second Board was superseded by Act of the Legislature of 1875, and the Lieutenant-Governor, Attorney-General, and Auditor of the Canal Department were constituted Commissioners of the New Capitol. An Advisory Board of the Commissioners was appointed July 15, 1875, consisting of F. Law Olmsted, Leopold Eidlitz and Henry Richardson. This board was superseded by the appointment of architects in 1876. An Act passed March 30, 1883, authorized the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint an officer to be known as the Commissioner of the New Capitol, who shall have charge of the work of

constructing and finishing the building. He is authorized to employ labor, purchase material and make contracts, which, in all cases, must be awarded to the lowest *bona fide* responsible bidder. He is required to give a bond for \$50,000, conditional for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. His term of office is the same as that of the Governor, from whom he receives his appointment. His salary is \$7,500 per annum. The same Act abolished the office of Superintendent of the Capitol.

A subsequent law of the same year designated the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Speaker of the Assembly, *ex officio*, trustees of the finished parts of the building, and of several other public buildings of the State at Albany, for which they are to appoint a Superintendent at an annual salary of \$3,500.

After the laying of the corner-stone, the work on the building was continued with more or less rapidity, according to the appropriation of funds.

There were times of entire cessation from work for lack of funds. In 1874 no work was done upon it for six months.

It is now occupied by the Senate and Assembly, the Court of Appeal, and nearly all the State Departments.

THE FOUNDATION.—To receive the foundation, the earth was excavated to an average depth of 15-18 feet below the surface. Then concrete to the thickness of four feet was first laid down. The material for this was of a nature that indurates with the lapse of time, so that a stone floor now exists which is every year approaching the hardness and duration of granite. The sub-basement extends down nineteen feet four inches, and contains 935,000 cubic feet of stone. The brick walls are from thirty-two inches to five feet thick, containing between ten and eleven million bricks. The foundation of the main tower is one hundred and ten feet square at the base, tapering to seventy feet square at the basement floor. The sub-basement is divided into one hundred and forty-four different apartments, and is utilized for heating, storing and ventilating purposes.

The immense boilers in the sub-basement used for propelling machinery for heating, lighting and ventilating purposes have long been regarded as dangerously located. They were considered liable to explode. They were also the source of other inconveniences. A proposal to remove them to a building adjacent to the Capitol, to be constructed by the State for this purpose, has been agitated for several sessions of the Legislature. The Legislature of 1885 passed an Act providing for the erection of a building for a boiler-house with chimney-stack, having a conduit running from the boiler-house to the Capitol.

The foundation of the boiler-house is seven feet below the sidewalk at the corner of Lafayette and Hawk streets, the walls three feet wide. From floor levels to the water tables the walls are two feet thick, faced with dressed stone. Water tables blue stone, and the wall above faced with pressed brick, tower included. The roof is supported by iron trusses, peaked and slated. The floor is bricked or flagged. The chimney is 100 feet high, built of hard brick;

at the base it is fourteen feet square and ten and one-half feet in diameter at the top. The conduit comprises cast-iron tubes in lengths of six feet, clearing six feet in the diameter and an inch thick. Two ten-inch steam-pipes must run through it to connect the Capitol with the battery of boilers. The return pipes are four inches in diameter. For 270 feet the Washington avenue drains are lowered three feet, and for 300 feet the Lafayette street drains are lowered eight feet. There are five boilers, each 150-horse power. The plates are made of the best quality of Otis homogeneous steel, with tensile strength of 60,000 pounds to the inch of area.

The responsibility of making this construction and the removal was committed to Hon. Charles B. Andrews, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds in Albany belonging to the State.

The Capitol is now lighted by magnificent electric lights. The Senate, Assembly and Court of Appeals and other larger rooms are illuminated by the incandescent light. The effect of these lights can scarcely be described, but must be seen to be appreciated.

The Capitol is magnificently situated in what will be hereafter known as Capitol square, including the land between Eagle street on the east, Capitol place on the west, with Washington avenue on the north, and State street on the south. The length is 1,034 feet, the width 330, containing in all $7\frac{1}{10}$ acres.

Capitol place is 155 feet above the level of the Hudson, and the land slopes to the east 51 feet. State street leads directly up from Broadway to the Capitol.

One of the first impressions of the traveler as he beholds the building is its immense proportions. It occupies $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land. It is 300 feet from north to south, and 400 feet from east to west. The walls are 108 feet high from the water-table, and are composed of granite, most of it from Hallowell, Maine.

The Central Court is 137 by 92 feet, extending an open space to the sky and admitting much needed light and air. Above the six dormer windows that open on the Court that are above the fourth or gallery story, are sculptured the arms of six families more or less distinguished in the history of the State. The Stuyvesant Arms are on the north side, west; Schuyler arms on the north side, middle; the Livingston arms on the north side, east; the Jay arms are on the south side, west; the Clinton arms are on the south side, middle; the Tompkins arms are on the south side, east.

The carvings descriptive of these arms, with the mottoes, are beautifully wrought, and blend with fine effect in the whole entablature on which they appear.

We take the following description of the Capitol from H. P. Phelps' admirably compiled work, "The Albany Hand-book."

The first or ground story, which is nearly on a level with Washington avenue and State street, is devoted to committee rooms and offices elsewhere specified. Ascent to the other stories may be made by elevators, but visitors will generally prefer to walk up one or the other of the grand staircases.

THE ASSEMBLY STAIRCASE, on the north side, is of Dorchester freestone of soft drab color; its ascent is easy; its design vigorous and scholarly. The views of it so often seen give a better idea of its majestic proportions than words can do.

THE GOLDEN CORRIDOR.—On arriving upon the second floor by the Assembly Staircase will be seen the Golden Corridor, 140 feet long by 20 wide and about twenty-five feet high, extending along the whole court side of the north center. Seven large windows opening upon this court divide the corridor into bays, twenty feet square. Each bay is flanked by piers, between which arches are turned, and these arches sustain a low and ribless groined vault.

Mr. Montgomery Schuyler says:

"The piers are covered with a damask of red upon umber. The angle moldings are solidly gilded. The crimson wall screen on both sides is overlaid with a simple reticulation of gold lines framing ornaments in yellow. The whole vault is gilded, and upon its ground of gold traversing each face of the vault, is a series of bands of minute ornament in brown, scarlet and deep blue. The method—this close mosaic of minute quantities of crude color—is entirely Oriental in treatment and effect. The varying surfaces of the vaulting, each covered with fretted gold, give a vista, lengthened by the dwindling arches, alive with flashing lights and shimmering shadows. Opening out of the corridor to the right is the room originally intended for the Court of Appeals, but declined by the Judge as unsuitable for their purpose. It is sixty feet square and twenty-five feet high, subdivided into parallelograms, one twice the width of the other, by a line of red granite columns carrying with broad, low arches a marble wall. The walls are of sandstone, visible in some places, but covered in most with a decoration in deep red, and with the tall wainscoting of oak, which occupy the wall above the dado of sandstone. The ceiling is a superb construction in carved oak, carried on a system of beams diminishing in size from the great girders supported by great braces, and finally closed by oaken panels, profusely carved. The Senate occupied this room previous to the completion of the Senate Chamber, and it has been used for various purposes. At the time of the scare, in relation to the ceiling of the Assembly Chamber, in 1882-83, it was hastily fitted up for the occupation of the Assembly with gallery, etc. The members sat there one day and returned to their quarters. When the State Library Building was razed, this room and the Golden Corridor were utilized temporarily for library purposes.

THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.—Ascending another flight of the staircase we come to what is, without doubt, the grandest legislative hall in the world—the Assembly Chamber—84x140 feet by including the galleries, although the chamber proper is but 84 by 85 feet. Four great pillars, 4 feet in diameter, of red granite, sustain the largest groined stone arch in the world, the key-stone being 56 feet from the floor. These pillars, and the arch which springs from them, are the most striking features

of the room, but it will bear a world of study. While all admit the grandeur of the work, its vastness is also its defect; for as a debating hall it is far from perfect. With the Assembly in perfect order (a condition rarely observed for ten consecutive minutes) a good speaker cannot be heard without difficulty, but the Statesman with weak lungs, poor voice, uninteresting manner, or threadbare subject, is apt to complain bitterly of the acoustics. It had been found necessary, in order to keep the key-stone in place, to weight it very heavily; this extra weight upon the sandstone caused some of the defective stones to crack. Small pieces fell, and there was much apprehension that the building was settling unevenly, and that the tons upon tons of stone in and about the ceiling would some day come down with a crash. A commission of experts reported that it was best to take the ceiling down. The architects protested and offered to repair it at their own expense; they were allowed to do so, replaced the defective stones, and all anxiety appears to have subsided.

THE ALLEGORICAL PICTURES.—No one feature of the Capitol has caused more comment than the pictures that occupy the upper portions of the north and south walls of this chamber. They were painted by the late William M. Hunt, one of the greatest of American artists, and possess a melancholy interest from the fact that they are the only work of the kind he ever did. He received for his services fifteen thousand dollars. The space covered by each is fifteen by forty feet. That on the northern wall represents the allegory of Armujd and Ahriman, or the flight of Evil before Good; or, as is more frequently interpreted, The Flight of Night. The Queen of Night is driving before the dawn, charioted on clouds drawn by three plunging horses, one black, one white, one red, without other visible restraint than that of a swarthy guide, who floats at the left of the picture, and whose hand is lightly laid upon the head of the outermost horse. At the right of the goddess, and in deep shade, is the recumbent figure of a sleeping mother with a sleeping child upon her breast. The picture on the southern wall represents the Discoverer standing upright in a boat, dark against a sunset sky. Fortune erect stands behind him trimming the sail with her lifted left hand while her right holds the tiller. The boat is rising to a sea, and is attended by Hope at the prow, with one arm resting on it, and one pointing forward; Faith, whose face is buried in her arms, and who is floating with the tide; and Science unrolling a chart at the side.

We are told that since Mr. Hunt's melancholy death on the Isle of Shoals, that the fifty-five days devoted by himself and his assistant to the painting of these pictures, by no means represented all the labor bestowed upon them. The Discoverer was first drawn in charcoal in 1857. The Flight of Night had been put on paper ten years earlier, and had been designed simply for an easel picture. After accepting the commission, Mr. Hunt's preparatory work in his studio in Boston was of nearly

five months' duration. For the Flight of Night, the heads of the horses, their legs and feet were all freshly painted from life. The Queen was painted from a model. Sleep and the child were painted from life; also the dusky guide. For the other picture, the Discoverer, Hope, Science, and Fortune were painted from life models. The heads, hands, and arms of these figures were also drawn and colored as separate studies. In all, thirty or more careful charcoal drawings and more than twelve pastels were made, besides nineteen complete copies in oil—seventeen, twelve by thirty inches, and two, six by eight feet. The work itself had to be done by a specified time, and this involved much anxiety. Each morning the artist and his assistant were up to catch from the rising sun a fresh impression to carry to the work upon the Flight of Night. Every evening they watched the waning daylight, and noted the effect of figures and objects against the setting sun, as a study for the Discoverer. Later on in the work, Mr. Hunt obtained from his assistant a solemn promise that if their effort proved a failure, he would paint out both pictures in a single night.

THE SOUTH SIDE CORRIDOR.—The Executive Chambers, or the Governor's rooms, are in the southeast corner on the second, or entrance floor. On the way to this portion of the Capitol, one is struck by two very important differences in construction between the southern corridors and the corresponding passages on the north side of the building. These differences consist in the use of colored marbles here for wainscoting, and in the admission of light by windows rising from the top of the wainscot above the level of the eye and surrounding the doors leading into the various committee rooms that receive direct light. The effect of the wainscot is of great richness and variety, and it also seems substantial and enduring. The richness and variety of color is truly wonderful, and it contains in low tones more combinations than the most elaborate palettes of a painter could reach in a lifetime. The most prominent tints are shades and hues of red, and these are relieved by numberless colder tones, grays and browns predominating. The marble has been selected upon a harmonious scale of color, and is put together in simple slabs, the joining edges of which are beveled perpendicularly, and are held in place by a slightly convex string molding and a cap of brownstone, which, where they abut upon doors, are daintily carved into terminal bosses, while the whole rests upon a molded base of brownstone. This wainscot is more pleasing than any combination of tiles could be, but its effect would be entirely thrown away were it not for the means adopted for lighting the corridors through the windows above mentioned.

THE GOVERNOR'S ROOM is sixty feet long by forty wide; the walls are wainscoted to a height of fifteen or sixteen feet with mahogany, arranged in square panels surmounted with a band of carving and a carved molding above. The space between this and the ceiling of mahogany is covered with

hangings of Spanish leather, which harmonize, in its soft tones of golden-brown, and red, and olive, with the mahogany. On one side of the room is an enormous fire-place having a shelf and several emblematic panels of elaborate carving about it. The ceiling is composed of beams, which divide the space into panels, having rails perforated in the form of a quatrefoil surrounding the panel. There are convenient arrangements to connect with the offices of the executive attendants and the bill room by small doors in the paneling, and altogether the room is well adapted to the reception of persons having business to transact with the Governor and his assistants.

THE CORRIDOR OF COLUMNS.—Ascending from this floor by the commodious and easy running elevator, we find ourselves in a corridor similar to that previously described, which leads into a broader one, running east and west along the north side of the Senate Chamber. This last-named corridor, which is after plans furnished by Mr. Eidlitz, is entirely lined and vaulted with sandstone, and has a row of columns in the center, above which there is a double-arched vault extending to either wall. Upon this spacious corridor open the main doors leading to the Senate Chamber.

THE SENATE CHAMBER, in the richness and variety of its decoration, is equaled only by the famous St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice. Its treatment was assigned to Mr. Richardson, and of his success there can be no question. The space in which he had to work was sixty feet in breadth, nearly one hundred in length, and about fifty in height. He has reduced the plan of the room to a nearly square form, cutting off from either end of it the lobbies, above which are placed the galleries, opening on the chamber proper. These lobbies, opening from the corridors, are simple in treatment. Yet by a slight similarity in detail they, in a measure, prepare the eye for the Senate Chamber itself. They are wainscoted with a light marble, arranged panelwise in slabs and rails, and are ceiled with quartered oak. From the west lobby opens the Lieutenant-Governor's room, comfortably fitted up with a carved and polished mahogany wainscot and fire-place, and an oak ceiling supported on corbels of marble. By the arrangement of the galleries over the lobbies, the actual floor space of the Senate Chamber proper is reduced to about sixty feet by fifty-five. Entering on this floor by the main doorway from the vaulted corridor above described we first see the south wall, from which the chamber is lighted by three large openings rising from a level with the floor and six lesser openings near the ceiling. Two of the large windows are filled with disks of stained glass, which shade from browns and rubies near the floor through olives and golden hues to the semicircular tops, which are filled with varied iridescent and opalescent tints. The central window is obscured by the reredos behind the president's desk, which rises to the spring of the window arches, but does not cover the semicircular window-head, which, like the others, is filled with many-

hued opalescent glass. The stained glass has been used not only to add brilliancy of color, but to avoid the glare of light that has proved so objectionable in some of the other rooms. These windows are arched, and the stone moldings above and below them are carved with intricate and delicate patterns of interwoven lace-like forms, and a carved band of stone divides the lower part of each window from the semicircular upper light. The capitals of the angle columns are more heavily cut into conventional forms taken from oak leaves and other foliage. The wall space between the windows, as far up as the spring of the arches, is of Knoxville Tenn., marble, a reddish-gray stone not highly polished, though having a smooth finish.

THE MEXICAN ONYX PANELING.—Above the three arches of the lower windows for about twelve feet (perpendicular), the wall is paneled with Mexican onyx. These panels are cut into slabs three feet square and are separated, or rather framed, by slightly convex rails of Sienna (Italy) marble, the mottled reds, yellows, and browns of which contrast with the tints of the onyx. For additional support the slabs are backed up with slabs of ordinary marble. The variety of color displayed in the onyx is very remarkable, the prevailing tints being mottled and semi-translucent whites, cream colors, sea-water, olive and ivory. These tints are broken and waved by lines, striæ and splashes of raw Sienna coloring, rosy brown, and numberless shades of other neutral browns, some inclining toward red and some toward green and even blue, while the surface everywhere varies in play of light and shade of semi-opacity and translucence. The various slabs, no two of which are alike, are arranged with a certain idea of contrast, but never formally nor with regularity of counter-change. They are laid haphazard with a motive. The dividing rails of Sienna marble are of colors that harmonize admirably with those of the onyx, being principally yellows of a soft golden character and reddish-brown mottled, the intensity of which is varied in every piece, and sometimes approaches so nearly the color of an adjacent slab of onyx as to melt into it. Both panels and rails are highly polished. Above this paneling is a string course of simply carved marble, and above this is the upper tier of windows, six in number. The shape and treatment are similar to those of the lower windows. The wall space above these windows is filled in with lead, heavily gilded, constituting a sort of frieze. The ornament of this is a carefully studied design of arabesque or floral pattern, beaten out or embossed by means of hammers, stamps and dies of various sizes and shapes, thus affording a varied play of light and shade on the gilt surface. This field of gold, being absolutely neutral, adapts itself to the color of the surrounding objects, and in the elevation and depression of its beaten and stamped surface supplies the complementary colors necessary to complete the color harmony of the whole chamber. Above the broad frieze of beaten gold, and terminating the wall are the massive carved beams of oak, more than four

feet in depth, which constitute the framework of the ceiling. These great beams are supported on stone corbels sunk into the walls and projecting under the beams. The corbels are carved into bold and vigorous forms derived from foliage and flowers. The main beams divide the ceiling into long, narrow, rectangular spaces running from east to west, and these spaces are divided into lesser rectangular spaces running north and south, which are again divided in half by smaller beams and form squares, which are still further divided by rails into four square panels each. Half way between the east and west walls is the main entrance of the corridor, and on either side of this entrance are two great open fire-places jutting out into the room. The doorway and fire-places are constructed of marble, as is the space between them. The openings of the fire-places are about six feet in height, and something more in breadth. The cheerful effect of these, when filled with blazing logs, the flames of which are reflected on the polished onyx and marble from all sides of the room, may well be imagined. Above the fire openings are to be carved legends or symbolical devices. Above these are the broad faces of the chimney-breasts, which are to be cut in bas-relief, with representations of historical or legendary scenes, emblematical of or illustrating the legislative character of the room. The whole chimney-pieces are about half as high as the room, reaching to the string course below the gold frieze. Above the doorway and wall space of Knoxville marble, we see the wall space up to the frieze covered with the Mexican onyx panel, and like the frieze, in greater extent of surface than elsewhere. Above the onyx and inclosed within the frieze is a long rectangular space, which may be filled in with mural painting of some allegorical subject fitted to the place.

THE COURT OF APPEALS.—Nine spacious rooms are assigned for the Court of Appeals, six in the third or principal story, three in the fourth or gallery story, the two stories being connected by an ornamented iron staircase. The Court-room is in the southeast corner over the executive chamber, and is 35 by 53 feet and 25 feet high. It is finished in quartered red oak, timbered ceiling of the same material, with carved beams and deep recessed panels. The five window openings are finished with Knoxville marble, the arches resting on carved trusses and columns recessed into the angles formed by the jambs and outer belting, terminating in ornamental trusses. A deep carved wood string in line with the trusses, and the carved capitals of the marble columns divide the oak paneling on the walls into two parts. The framework of the upper section is filled in with large plain panels, and the intention is to decorate, by gilding, the rails. The panels are designed to be painted in varied designs to harmonize with the wood-carving. The lower section below the window arches stands upon a molded base and is filled in with double raised panels and sub divided longitudinally by carved string courses, containing between them a section of vertical fluted work, in which are fixed at intervals, in carved frames, the portraits of the judges,

many of which hung in the Court of Appeals' room of the Old Capitol. On the west side of the room is a recessed fire-place of large dimensions, over which is displayed the arms of the State, carved in the oaken panels of the mantel over the recess. The recess of the fire-place is lined with Sienna marble, and has a bench on either side of the fire-place of the same material. The lintel over the fire-place is also of Sienna marble, richly carved and extending across the whole recess. Resting on the lintel is a large panel composed of several choice specimens of Mexican onyx skillfully arranged. The Judge's bench has been carefully designed in style and form to suit the requirements and wishes of that honorable body. The front is divided into panels set in framework; the panels are exquisitely carved in varied designs and separated by ornamental balusters, the whole resting on a molded base. Carved in the center panel are the arms of the State. There is a médallion convex of carved grotesque heads located along the projecting top. Perhaps no room in the building is better adapted to its purpose than this.

THE SOUTHEAST, OR SENATE STAIRCASE occupies a space fifty-two by fifty-two, and one hundred and fourteen feet high from basement to the top of the walls. The stairs start on the ground floor on the south side and extend to the gallery story. The great platforms and steps are of Dorchester sandstone. Each story is divided into two sections by spacious intermediate platforms midway in each story, extending the whole distance between the north and south walls, a distance of fifty feet by twelve feet wide. The stairs are of easy ascent and grand and dignified in appearance. The upper landings of the stairs on each story are on platforms extending the whole length between the walls by fourteen feet wide, resting on the walls at either end, and supported at the cross-joints by massive molded granite girders. The west walls on the ground and entrance stories form a continuous line of niches, divided by piers and columns, embellished with molded brass and carved caps. The west wall in each of the four stories is pierced by large openings, through which light is admitted to the staircase from the court. The eastern wall in the entrance and main stories is provided with balconies, the platforms placed on a level with the tiled floors of the corridors adjoining. These balconies serve both as useful and ornamental features, and are approached through the openings made in the east wall, as heretofore described. The openings are spanned by pointed arches, the two outer arches extending over the steps. The faces of piers and arches are decorated by incised ornaments, the under side of arches by flowing lines of tracery, terminating in grotesque heads and figures. The north and south sides of the wall are each divided into two openings, which are spanned by arches springing from the massive piers at the ground floor, up to and against the piers resting upon the caps of the center columns, from which the upper span of arches spring, to and against the piers of the various landings. These arches are constructed at an angle conforming to

the angles of the steps, and supporting the same. The vertical faces and soffits are decorated in a similar manner as the arches heretofore described, with the exception of the lower section, in which spandrels are formed, filled in with geometrical tracery.

Resting on the arches, continuing up the steps, and forming the coping over the same, is a molded string course, up the face of which is a deeply recessed and richly carved decoration. This coping and decoration extends along a level with all the platforms, and is divided by the piers at the angles. The coping, up the steps and along the platforms, is surmounted by a beautiful balustrade worked in geometrical figures and foliage ornaments, on which rests a heavy molded hand-rail. * * * This great monumental work is believed to be without parallel on the face of the globe.

STONE-WORK.—The following description of the stone-work used on the New Capitol was kindly furnished the editor by Mr. James J. Mitchell, Superintendent of Granite Work. It puts on record facts of abiding interest in the history of this great building that can be found nowhere else. It is the statement of a skillful practical mechanic, who has been on the work from the beginning, given in his own clear language.

I came here October 8, 1870, when the foundation was being built, from Washington, D. C., where I had been employed as a stone-cutter on the United States Capitol and other public buildings. At that time the building was under the management of a commission, of which the Hon. Hamilton Harris was Chairman. The corner-stone was laid June 24, 1871, by the Masonic fraternity. After the laying of the corner-stone, measures were taken to push forward the construction with the greatest rapidity. I worked as a stone-cutter on the building until May 25, 1872, when I was appointed assistant foreman of stone-cutters, which position I held until 1876, when Mr. Reynolds, who had been principal foreman, died. I was appointed his successor. In 1883 I was further promoted to Superintendent of Granite Work by Commissioner Perry.

In my department are employed almost two-thirds of the whole force on the building, the total of which is about eight hundred and fifty men. In my office are two clerks, one messenger and one assistant.

The average number of men employed yearly since 1870, is 1,100. Of the different kinds of stone used in its construction as follows: For foundation, Tribes Hill and Kingston limestone, also Fall River and Saratoga granite, and Potsdam sandstone for bond stone. The basement is flagged with bluestone from Ulster County.

The water table is of Dix Island, Me., granite; the corner-stone, weighing ten tons, is also of this material. It is situated in the northeast corner of the building. It was contemplated at one time to construct the whole building of Dix Island, Me., granite, but it was found to be too expensive.

The next five courses around the entire building are of Yarmouth, Me., granite. It was condemned on account of having been found to contain iron, thereby causing discoloration, which is plainly visible, and is a great eyesore. From the fifth course upward the entire exterior structure is composed of Hallowell white granite, a fine, if not the finest building material in the world.

In the north and south entrances halls, ground floor, the first story of the main tower and corridors, granite from Keene, N. H., is used, not including the arches. In the east and west entrance halls, Hallowell granite, with polished granite columns from Fox Island, Me., is used.

The great columns in the Assembly Chamber are red granite from Stony Creek, Conn., while the bases and capitals are Tuckahoe, Westchester County, marble. The remainder of the Chamber is entirely of Dorchester, Ohio, and Belleville, New Jersey, red sandstone.

In the corridors of the south side we find, in the wainscoting, marble of almost every hue, principally from Lake Champlain. The base-band and cap-courses, also the jambs, are of dark brown-stone from Newark, N. J. On the next two floors above, the same materials are used in the wainscoting. In the room formerly intended for the Court of Appeals are red granite columns and pilasters of great beauty from the Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia.

The bases, capitals and arches in the Chamber supporting the floors of the Assembly Chamber, are of white marble from Tuckahoe, Westchester County. The wainscoting is of Ohio sandstone and Dorchester sandstone. The carving in the oak panels is of rare beauty.

The stone used in the Governor's Room is Knoxville marble, highly polished and carved. The marble lintel in the fire-place is of exquisite finish, consisting of oak leaves and stems of the most intricate design. The wainscoting and ceiling in this room are of red mahogany.

The Senate Chamber is regarded as one of the most beautiful legislative chambers in the world. The principal material used in this chamber is Knoxville, Tennessee, marble. The red granite columns and pilasters are from Jefferson County, New York. They are surmounted by capitals of extraordinary delicacy and workmanship, of Knoxville, Tennessee, marble. The north and south walls, above the string-course, are lined with Mexican onyx and Sienna marble—the onyx forming the panels, the Sienna, the styles and rails. These materials are the most costly in the market. The great arches are also of Sienna, elaborately carved.

The large mantels in the Senate Chamber are very elaborate, consisting of sculptured cherubs, animals, foliage, etc., in deep relief. They are very massive, and, when finished, will be one of the features of the already gorgeous and costly Chamber.

The lobbies and ante-rooms are finished with Knoxville, Tennessee, marble, as also the Lieutenant-Governor's Room, except the wainscoting, which is of mahogany.

The main corridor on this, the principal floor, and the one above the gallery, are very striking to the visitor, who passes through them before entering the Senate Chamber, where he finds a different style of architecture.

The materials in these corridors are Dorchester and Ohio sandstone, the architect of the latter evidently preferring sandstone, as it seems to be always used where his designs are to be found.

The carving in these corridors, especially in the gallery, is of exquisite design and execution, treated by master hands.

The new Court of Appeals, situated in the southeast corner, is a fine room. The windows are trimmed with Knoxville marble; the wainscoting and ceiling is of oak, elaborately carved; the railing in front of the clerk's desk is a feature. The fire-place is very rich; the materials are Mexican onyx and Sienna marble, and quite unique.

A very beautiful, if not the most beautiful, mantel, so far as material is concerned, is in the Clerk's Room, Court of Appeals. It is of variegated green Lissoughter marble. The other two in the same suite of rooms are of exquisite design and finish, and are composed of Little Island and Middleton B marble.

The wainscoting in the east corridor is different from that of the south corridor. The base-board and cap are of Belgian black marble; the panels from East Tennessee, and Groot (French) marble. Lake Champlain marble is also used.

The northeast staircase is entirely composed of Dorchester sandstone. The style is in harmony with the Assembly Chamber, being very rich in detail.

The southeast staircase, now building, will be a magnificent work when completed. The material used is red Scotch Corsehill sandstone; the columns of Peterhead, Scotch, granite. Fox Island and Quincy granite are also used.

In the Parlor of the Assembly, a beautiful mantel of East Tennessee marble is constructing; also, in the Committee Room of Ways and Means.

The following is a list of the different kinds of stone used in the construction of this building:

Granite: Fall River, Mass.; Saratoga, N. Y.; Dix Island, Me.; Yarmouth, Me.; Hallowell, Me.; Fox Island, Me.; Mount Waldo, Me.; Rockcliffe Island, Me.; Keene, N. H.; Red Stony Creek, Conn.; Red Peterhead (Scotch); St. John's, Bay of Fundy (N. S.); Quincy, Mass.

Marble: Lake Champlain; East Tennessee; German; Virginia, variegated; Knoxville, Tenn.; Sienna; Mexican onyx; Black Belgian; Irish, variegated; Flavrco; Tuckahoe, Westchester County; Pennsylvania dove color; White Italian; Groot, French; Vermont, variegated; Glen Falls, black; Middleton black, Little Island; Lissoughter.

Sandstone: Potsdam and Dorchester, Ohio; Red New Jersey; Red Scotch; Corsehill.

Brownstone: Newark, N. J.

Limestone: Tribes Hill; Kingston.

Bluestone: Ulster County.

Previous to the construction of this building, it was doubted by many architects that granite could

be treated by the workmen in such a delicate manner as the elaborate carving on the different parts of the exterior demanded. The carving on the gallery story of the small towers could scarcely be treated with greater delicacy in any material than it is in the Hallowell granite. The tympanum in the dormers on all sides of the building demonstrate beyond a doubt, that in the hands of skillful workmen there is hardly any kind of ornament which cannot be wrought in this granite.

The dormers on the north, south, and west sides of the central court are, perhaps, the strongest evidence that can be adduced of the delicate treatment and beautiful finish that this granite will bear. The coats of arms sculptured on them took months to complete. Heraldic emblems are, in my judgment, the most difficult ornaments to execute out of granite in order to get the proper effect, as the smallest defect in any part would destroy the whole.

The most skillful mechanics have been gathered to this building. It has been my constant desire to encourage and foster mechanical and artistic talent wherever I found it. To do this, while contending against the importunities of politicians, has indeed been a hard task, and under the circumstances, it is little less than a miracle that the great work has so successfully been prosecuted.

The great gable on the west front is elaborately ornamented. The loggia is one of its principal features. The tympanum is enriched with disks, crossed and roseated, forming a diaper or drapery of extraordinary beauty. Over the string-course, and flanking the arches, stand the Winged Lions of Babylon. Below the spandrels are sculptured in bas-relief the figures of Justitia and Puritas. Surmounting the whole is a massive finial, richly carved in deep relief, and stamping the whole as one of the best pieces of work ever executed out of granite in this or any other country.

ISAAC G. PERRY.

To Mr. Isaac G. Perry has been entrusted the work of carrying forward the construction of the finest and most expensive building in this country, and the third most expensive in the world—the New Capitol at Albany. The history of Albany, and of the great structure itself, would be incomplete without a sketch of his career.

Born in Bennington, Vermont, in 1822, Mr. Perry is in his sixty-third year, though his robust frame and strongly-marked features would indicate that he was much younger. Much of his early life was passed at Keeseville, Essex County, New York, where he received his education and acquired a knowledge of the details of that which was to be his life work. After a time he removed to New York City, where he made a success of his occupation, and remained until he was induced to take up his residence in Binghamton, N. Y., where he obtained a wide reputation as a builder and architect.

The most important of his works before the Capitol, was the Binghamton Asylum for the In-

sane, a fine specimen of Elizabethan architecture. Next only in importance was the new Court House at Scranton, Pa., an elegant structure in the mediæval style adapted to modern requirements. Nearly all of the modern built buildings in Binghamton—and they are numerous and beautiful, as well as substantial—are from his designs, as well as many equally attractive ones in other cities.

March 30, 1883, Governor Cleveland appointed Mr. Perry, Commissioner of the Construction of the New Capitol, under the then recently enacted law creating a single Commissioner to have entire charge of the interests which had theretofore been confided to a Board of Commissioners, and his appointment was confirmed on the 5th of April following. The appointment was entirely unsolicited by Mr. Perry, who was chosen as an architect, not as a partisan. He had been a life-long adherent to Democratic principles, but had never thought that his vocation as an architect and a builder had anything to do with his political convictions as a citizen, and he had not made himself known to the country or to the State by any prominence in politics. In an editorial notice of Mr. Perry's appointment, the *Albany Argus* said:

"He has carried to completion many edifices which are attestations of good work, and the history of them shows promptness, harmony and honesty in every stage. He has large numbers of men in his employment, and his record shows that he can command their regard and respect while requiring of them the utmost fidelity and energy. Great enterprises have confided to him enormous tasks, in-

volving the use of large capital, the development of complicated plans, and the necessity of combining thoroughness of work with rapidity of execution. He has in every instance shown marked ability, absolute integrity, exceptional diligence and an intelligent purpose to regard every undertaking as a trust to be discharged with scrupulous observance of economy, impartiality and every other sound business principle."

His appointment was favorably commented upon by the Press of the State, irrespective of party, and his administration of the duties of his office has been such as to more than justify the enthusiastic predictions of his friends. The sterling integrity, good business sense and untiring energy which gained him his previous enviable reputation, have been brought to bear upon the Herculean task which he has undertaken, and in which his mind and his energies are almost wholly asserted; for, as it has been remarked by the *Albany Journal*, "his heart is wrapped up in the Capitol. * * * He appears not to take much interest in politics, and is ready to spend his days and evenings walking about the Capitol, superintending the work, looking over designs and planning improvements."

While the Capitol stands as a monument to the liberality of the people and the enterprise and forethought of the public men of the State of New York, and the artistic and architectural skill of its own designers and builders, the memory of the name of Mr. Perry can never pass away, and he will be known as one of America's greatest architects and builders.

HISTORY

OF THE

CITY OF ALBANY.

EDITED BY PROF. JONATHAN TENNEY, M. A., PH. D.

THAT the boats of Henry Hudson passed up as far as Albany in September, 1609, is conceded; probably a few miles further; enough further, at least, to satisfy the bold navigator that this was not a feasible route to the Pacific Ocean and Eastern Asia. To make settlements and found colonies was not the purpose of Hudson. It is quite likely some of those "very loving people and very old men where we were well used," who "came aboard and brought us ears of Indian Corne, and Pompions and Tabacco," and "Bever Skinnes and Otters Skinnes, which wee bought for Beades, Knives and Hatchets," were primitive Albatians of the Iroquois tribes, who dwelt in castles, pursued their game, and caught their fish along the Hudson.

Traders came later, and carried on, for many years, a lucrative commerce with the native Indians. Still later came settlers and colonists. Of these we have already spoken in the history of Albany County.

We cannot admit the usual claim that Albany was settled by Walloons and Dutch in 1623. There is no settlement without settlers. There are no settlers unless they come to stay. The early traders who came and went with no other purpose than as adventurers or speculators, were not settlers. When colonists came and occupied farms, settlements began. There were none of these before 1630; but very few before about 1638 or 1640. Albany can make no claim to settlement before 1630.

Nor do we admit that Albany has the oldest City Charter of any State in the Union. Truth gives history its real value. Albany was first chartered July 22, 1686. As a city it is nearly two hundred

years old—an age very respectable for this country. But New York was not only settled earlier, as it naturally would be, lying nearly one hundred and fifty miles nearer the ocean; but its city charter is older. Under Stuyvesant, it received a Dutch charter dated February 2, 1657; under Governor Nicolls it received an English charter dated June 12, 1665; and because it had been again a Dutch city in 1673-74, it received another English charter, under Dongan, April 22, 1686. After this, for special reasons, new Royal charters were given New York by Cornbury in 1708, and by Montgomerie in 1730.

The surface of the city as seen by the early settlers, was a narrow alluvial tract along the Hudson, from which the ascent was gradual for nearly a mile, until a plateau about two hundred feet above tide level was reached, extending westwardly in a sandy plain. The slope from the river was divided into four well defined ridges, separated by deep and wide valleys or ravines, which have been so much improved by grading that they add much to the varied beauty of the city, as well as to the facilities for drainage. When the plateau is reached, they now nearly disappear in the densely settled part of the city. Streams formerly coursed through these valleys.

Albany is underlaid by clay, resting on Hudson river shales, and covered by an argillaceous sandy loam, which, on the plains further west, is covered with deep sand. The clay is worked into bricks and pottery, and the sand is used in large quantities for molding and other purposes.

The islands that belong to Albany are two only—the old Kasteel, or Castle Island, which has been called many different names, but is now placed on the maps as Van Rensselaer Island. It is believed to be the place where Corstiaensen landed and where Elkins had charge of a trader's post about 1614; which, on account of freshets, was removed later to a hill further south, near where Kenwood now is.

Jacob Elkins was an aggressive and energetic skipper and trade adventurer. He kept up an active traffic with the wild men of the forest for several years, under the protection of the New Netherlands Company. His scouting parties were

NOTE.—What the writer said in the early pages of this work in relation to the alleged discovery of the Hudson by Verrazano in 1492, is in accord with his firm convictions. Indeed, if it had been the proper place for discussing a matter so little relevant to the History of Albany County, he would have said more. He, as a historian, has given study and thought to the whole matter, and is convinced that the Verrazano letter is not genuine, and that the maps and geographical statements printed to confirm the alleged discovery of this brigand, are absurd in detail, and absolute attempts at historic fraud. To any one who wishes to satisfy a mind unprejudiced, the reading of "The Voyage of Verrazano," by the late Hon. H. C. Murphy, is commended as the work of a high-minded, impartial and learned historian, who studied the whole matter with unusual opportunities for getting at the truth.

Nor have we any more faith in the tradition of an early French fort upon Castle Island, which has hardly the shadow of probability to support it.

constantly engaged in exploring all the neighboring country, and in becoming better acquainted with the savage tribes around them, with all of whom it was the constant policy of the Dutch to cultivate the most friendly relations. His trouble with the traders at Fort Orange, in 1623, put an end to his trade in New Netherlands.

The other island, nearly opposite the Manor Mansion, is called Patroon's Island. The island now occupied by the Boston and Albany Railroad, between this city and Greenbush, belongs to Rensselaer County.

There have been five Kills, or creeks, which have a name in history, whose waters are wholly or in part in the City of Albany. All discharge their waters into the Hudson. Some are now converted into sewers for the city. They were once spoken of numerically, commencing with the most southerly, and called First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Kill. Later they were named Normanskill, Beaverkill, Rutenkill, Foxenkill, and Patroon's or Mill Creek.

The first named is one of the largest creeks in the county. It empties into the Hudson at Kenwood, just below the city, and is represented in the city only by the head waters of the Krumkill, one of its branches. Capital and enterprise would make it much more useful than it is.

Beaverkill, sometimes called Butternilk Creek, was once a mill-stream, affording considerable water-power, which was utilized by mills for sawing logs and grinding grain. A portion of it is now covered for sewerage purposes. It rises in the westerly part of the city and runs near Park Lake, across the Penitentiary grounds and by Martinville, into the Hudson a little below the steamboat landing.

Rutenkill had its source above Lark street, and was a large stream only when it was swollen by great rains or the melting of winter's snows. It had a never-failing supply of fish for many years, and was the only creek flowing inside the old city walls. Leaving the deep ravine in which now lies Hudson avenue, it crossed South Pearl street where Beaver block stands, and entered the Hudson a little below State street. It was bridged in South Pearl and Broadway. Along the sloping banks of the old ravine the bricks which form the walls of the older houses of the city were made. Rats (*ratten*) infested the banks of the stream, and, as some suppose, gave name to it. Along its whole length it now forms the bed of a sewer.

The Rutenkill ravine extended from Lark street to the plain along the Hudson River, and was originally about three hundred feet broad and fifty feet deep, throughout nearly its entire length.

It was a filthy place, almost a dismal waste, from the first settlement of the city. Boys who had nothing else to do, in summer bathed in its dirty pools and caught small fish there. From some of these pools the Albany brewers were said to take the water for their ale and beer. Out of a public charge of this kind came the libel suit of John Taylor vs. Edward C. Delavan, mentioned in our article on Temperance. In this ravine gallows were erected and malefactors were hung. The last

case of this kind was the execution of Strang for the murder of Whipple, in 1827, which was witnessed by thousands from the lofty banks and slopes on its borders. The ravine was filled and hills lowered about 1845 to 1848, by turning the latter into the former. About 600,000 yards of blue clay and an equal amount of other filling was excavated to accomplish this work. The contractor for this great work was Charles Stanford, a native of Watervliet, and brother of Governor Leland Stanford. He pushed it forward with wonderful energy and completed it to public acceptance. From fifty to two hundred and fifty persons were employed. Hudson avenue, with its nicely graded street and pleasant buildings, now lies above the ravine.

Foxenkill, before the city was enlarged, ran out-side the stockades, which, for many years, formed the northern limits of the city proper. It furnished an abundance of excellent fish at that time. Sixty years ago it was crossed by a bridge in North Pearl street, near Canal. This last named street lies above the bed of the old creek.

Patroon's Creek once furnished the power for the Patroons' mills, and discharges into the Hudson near the Old Manor House. It now contributes to the water supply and sewerage of the city.

We speak of the Hudson elsewhere.

The only lakes of the city are Tivoli, which really forms a part of Patroon's Creek and thus makes a reservoir, and Park Lake, an artificial body of water which adds much to the beauty and pleasure of Washington Park.

The history of Albany County involves, to a very large extent, the history of the City of Albany until after the revolution. Indeed there was little done outside of the limits of the present city, in the territory of Albany County. There were no other towns incorporated until Watervliet was made into a township March 7, 1788, including the whole of the West District of Rensselaerwyck, as made by the division of March 5, 1779. All this territory was sparsely settled at that time by farmers working leaseholds under the Patroons. We may except a few millers and other mechanics scattered among the tillers of the soil. Some settlers engaged in small trade, some were artisans in a small way, and some were laborers in the service of the Patroon, near his manorial residence, just north of the city. This latter territory made a little village, and held a separate corporate existence for several years, under the name of Colonie.

Whatever we have given in regard to the early history of Albany County need not be repeated here, as it belongs as well to the city, which, for many years, contained nearly all the population and did nearly all the business of what is now Albany County; and, indeed, was the center of nearly all the important events that transpired on the upper Hudson for all the years up to the close of the revolutionary period. To the pages then, that record this early history under each topic, we refer for everything except what is almost exclusively local in occurrence and influence.

Our plan of arrangement considers our wider field, the County, made up, only when it came to be fully settled, of separate townships of special interests and events. Whatever facts existed in topography, geography, natural history, aboriginal occupation, early settlements, industries, warlike contests, government, religion, education, and such like, we have arranged under these topics. When the events took root before the present century began, and grew out so as to have branches all over the county, we have placed them under county history. When the foundations were laid by the fathers of the county in the early days, and the work of building has been going on ever since, so as to interest all the people who dwell in our present territory of two cities, two incorporated villages, and nine towns—we have placed the topic under county history.

The City of Albany is situated in latitude $42^{\circ} 39' 11''$ north, and longitude $3^{\circ} 18'$ east from Washington; $73^{\circ} 45'$ west from London; and $15''$ west from New York City.

The site was probably selected because of its situation on the Hudson near the head of tide-water, with a convenient place for building a fort and for trade; it was well watered by small creeks and well sheltered from the winds. The Mohawk Indians whom the early traders met, seemed very friendly and ready for business. Their castles were along the Mohawk; and, at a very early date, along the Hudson also.

The names given to this city have been: *Pem-po-tu-wuth-ut* (place of the council-fire), by the Mohegans; *Sche-negh-ta-da* (through the pine woods), by the Iroquois; *Ga-ish-tin-ic*, by the Minci; *Fuyck* (*fouk*), a hoop-net, otherwise *Beverfuyck*, supposed to refer to a bend in the river where fish were caught, probably first Dutch name; *Beverwyck*, a place for beavers, retained from about 1634 to 1664 (sometimes written *Beverwyck*); *Fort Orange*, in honor of William, Prince of Orange and Nassau; *Rensselaerwyck*, in honor of the Patroons, the Van Rensselaers; *Aurania*, another name for Orange; *Williamstadt*, in honor of William, the Stadtholder; *New Orange*, in honor of the Duke of Orange probably (a designation seldom used); *Oranburgh*, city or fortress of Orange (a name spoken of by Mrs. Grant); *Albany*, in honor of James, Duke of York, Albany and Ulster, brother of King Charles II, who made him proprietor of the New Netherlands. He afterward ascended the English throne, which he soon after descended, or abdicated, because of his odious character.

The Dongan Charter boundaries in 1686 were—east, by the Hudson at low-water mark; south, by a line drawn from the southernmost end of the pasture at the north end of Martin Gerritsen's Island, and running back due northwest sixteen miles into the woods, to a certain creek called Sandkill; north, by a line parallel to the former, about a mile distant; and west, by a straight line drawn from the western extremities of the north and south line. This Charter embraced rights to certain fields and public buildings, the ferry, all waste land, the right of fishing in the vicinity

of the Hudson within the limits of the county, and of purchasing from the Indians 500 acres of meadow land at Schaahtecogue on the north, and 1,000 acres at Tiononderoga (Fort Hunter) on the west, in the Mohawk country, on which to plant colonies as barriers against hostile incursions.

After the counties were organized and towns formed from old Watervliet, or west division of Rensselaerwyck, its boundaries may be described as—westerly by Rotterdam and Niskayuna in Schenectady County; easterly by a line running through the center of the Hudson River channel; southerly by Bethlehem and Guilderland; northerly by Colonie and Watervliet.

The first territorial change was made February 25, 1815, by annexing a part of old Colonie, whose line, adjoining Albany, extended from the river westerly along where now are Quackenbush street and Clinton avenue, formerly Patroon street. This formed for many years the old Fifth Ward. The other part of Colonie, embracing the residence of the Patroon, was set off to Watervliet at the same time.

The next and last territorial changes in the City of Albany were made by State laws, passed April 6, 1870, Chapter 139, and April 26, 1871, Chapter 727, and are described as follows:

“All that part of the town of Bethlehem, in the County of Albany, embraced within the following limits, is hereby annexed to and made part of the City of Albany, to wit: Beginning at the northwesterly corner of the east abutment of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Bridge, over the Albany and Bethlehem Turnpike, and running thence northwesterly parallel with the present south bounds of the City of Albany to a point ten chains west of the west line of the Delaware Turnpike; thence northeasterly at right angles with the last named line to a point three-fourths of one mile from the present south bounds of the City of Albany, measured at right angles with the city line; thence northwesterly and parallel with the present south bounds of the city to a point two chains west of the west range of Allen street produced; thence northeasterly three-fourths of one mile to a point in the south bounds in the City of Albany two chains west of the west line of Allen street; thence southeasterly along the present south bounds of the City of Albany to the Rensselaer County line; thence southerly along said line two hundred and sixty-four feet; thence northwesterly to the face of the dock on the south side of the island creek; thence northwesterly along the face of said dock to a point opposite the west range of Green street; thence westerly and southerly along the east low-water line of the island creek to a point in range of the first boundary line produced; southeasterly to the island creek; thence northwesterly along said line to the northwesterly corner of the east abutment of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Bridge, the place of beginning.

“Also all that part of the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, embraced within the following described limits, is hereby annexed to the city of Albany, to wit: Beginning at a point in the present

north boundary line of the City of Albany, three-fourths of one mile west of the west range of Allen street, as laid down in the city map; running thence northeasterly on a line at right angles with the present north line of the City of Albany one chain north of low-water line of the main channel of Patroon's Creek; thence running easterly and parallel with the general course of said creek, and one chain northerly therefrom to a point six thousand seven hundred and twenty feet from the center of the "Russell Road" measured along the center line of the New York Central Railroad; thence northeasterly on a line drawn at right angles with the present north bounds of the city to a point one and one-fourth miles from the said city line; thence southeasterly and on a line parallel with the present north bounds of the city, and at the distance of one and one-fourth miles therefrom, to a point three thousand three hundred and twenty feet westerly of the west line of the Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad; thence northeasterly on a line parallel with said Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad one thousand six hundred feet; thence southeasterly on a line drawn at right angles with the said Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad to the Rensselaer County line; thence southerly along the Rensselaer County line to the northerly line of the present bounds of the City of Albany, and thence along the same westerly to the place of beginning.

"All that part of the City of Albany lying northwest of a line drawn from a point in the south line of the City of Albany, where the northerly line of the Great Western Turnpike crosses the said city line, and running northeasterly at right angles with the said city line, to the north bounds of said city shall be and the same is set off from the City of

Albany and annexed to and made part of the town of Watervliet, in Albany County; and all laws now in force applicable to the said town of Watervliet, are hereby made applicable to that portion of said city hereby annexed to said town."

The town of Watervliet being unwilling to accept this addition to its territory, Chapter 727, Laws of 1871, passed April 26th, provided that the said territory described in the preceding section should be set off from Watervliet and annexed to the town of Guilderland, in Albany County.

To R. H. Bingham, Esq., for many years the City Engineer and Surveyor of Albany, our acknowledgments are due for the statements contained in the paragraphs following:

The exterior lines of our city are somewhat irregular. It is bounded N. by Watervliet; W. by Watervliet and Guilderland; S. by Bethlehem; and E. by the center of Hudson River. Its river front extends 4 miles; and measured through the State Capitol, its extent N. and S. and E. and W. is 4 miles, containing an area of $11\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, or 7,360 acres.

The elevation of the base floor line of the New Capitol is 161.09 feet above the sea, estimated from mean low water at Governor's Island, in New York Harbor, and 158.48 feet above mean low water in the Hudson at Albany. The slope of the Hudson from Albany to New York is 2.61 feet, which makes the mean tide at Albany 2.61 feet above that at Governor's Island. The highest tide at Albany is 3.60 feet, and the mean rise and fall, 2.32 feet. The mid-stream ebb current flows about 2 feet per second, or .75 feet on the whole river. Boats carry 9 feet at mean low water.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY OF THE CITY OF ALBANY.

ALBANY received its charter as a city on the 22d day of July, 1686, from Thomas Dongan, Governor of the Province of New York. The original document is on file in the City Chamberlain's office, as is also a copy of it, printed by Hugh Gaines in 1771. It is introduced as follows:

"Thomas Dongan, Lieutenant and Governor of the Province of New York and dependencies in America, under his most sacred Majesty, James the Second, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, etc., and Supreme Lord and proprietor of the said province of New York and its dependencies, to all persons to whom these presents shall or may come, or in any wise concerned, sendeth greeting:"

Then follows the charter, a voluminous document, drawn with all the care and nice legal diction of the age, with numerous repetitions, protecting the interests not only of the Crown, but of the citizens of Albany with the most scrupulous care.

It begins by saying that "the town of Albany is an ancient town within the said Province, and the inhabitants of the said town have held, used and enjoyed, as well within the same as elsewhere within the said province, divers and sundry rights, liberties, privileges, franchises, free customs, pre-eminences, advantages, jurisdictions, emoluments and immunities, as well by prescription as by grants, confirmations and proclamations, not only by divers governors and commanders-in-chief in the said province under his said Majesty, but also of several Governors, generals and commanders-in-chief of the Nether-Dutch-Nation, whilst the same was or has been under their power and subjection. And whereas divers lands, tenements and hereditaments, jurisdictions, liberties, immunities and privileges have heretofore been given and granted to the inhabitants of the said town, sometimes by the name of commissaries of the town of Beverwyck; sometimes by the name of commissaries of the town of Albany; sometimes by the name of

schepenen of Williamstadt; and sometimes by the name of justices of the peace for the town of Albany; and by divers other names as by their several grants, writings, records and minutes amongst other things may more fully appear. And whereas the inhabitants of the said town have erected, built and appropriated at their own proper cost and charges, several public buildings, accommodations, and conveniencies for the said town, as also certain pieces or parcels of ground for the use of the same—that is to say, the town-hall or stadthouse, with the ground thereunto belonging; the church or meeting place, with the ground about the same; the burial place adjoining to the palisades at the southeast end of the town; the watch-house and ground thereunto belonging.

“Also a certain piece or parcel of land commonly called ‘the Pasture,’ situate, lying and being to the southward of the said town, near the place where the old Fort stood, and extending along Hudson’s River till it comes over against the most northerly point of the Island commonly called Martin Gerritsen’s Island, having to the East the Hudson river; to the South the Manor of Rensselaerwyck; to the West the highway leading to the town; the pasture late in the tenure and occupation of Martin Gerritsen, and the pasture late in the tenure and occupation of Caspar Jacobse; to the North the several pastures late in the tenure of and occupation of Robt Sanders, Myndert Harmense and Evert Wendell, and the several gardens late in the tenures of Dirck Wessels, Killian Van Rensselaer and Abraham Staat, with their and every of their appurtenances.”

This charter in no way interfered with or abridged the citizens of any of their liberties, privileges, franchises, rights, royalties, free customs, jurisdiction and immunities; nor with the rights of their respective messuages, lands, hereditaments and leaseholds, etc. The charter provided that, “the said town should forever thereafter be called by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Albany.” The charter also “grants to the City of Albany, all the waste, vacant, unappropriated land lying and being in the City and the precincts and liberties thereof, extending and reaching to the low-water mark in, by and through all parts of the said City, together with all rivers, rivulets, coves, creeks, ponds, water courses in the said City not heretofore granted.”

One of the most important parts of the Charter is that which gives the Corporation of the City power to purchase and hold land in their corporate name; it is given as follows:

“I do, by these presents, give and grant unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, full power and license at their pleasure, likewise to purchase from the Indians the quantity of one thousand acres of low or meadow land lying at a certain place called or known by the name of *Tionondoroge*, which quantity of 1,000 acres of low or meadow land shall and may be in what part of *Tionondoroge*, or the land adjacent on both sides of the river, as they, the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany

shall think most convenient; which said several parcels of low or meadow land I do hereby, in behalf of his said Majesty, his heirs and successors, give, grant and confirm unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany aforesaid, to be and remain to the use and behoof of them and their successors forever. To have and to hold all and singular, the premises to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany and their successors forever, rendering and paying therefor unto his most sacred Majesty, his heirs, successors and assigns, or to such officer or receiver as shall be appointed to receive the same, yearly, forever hereafter, the annual quit rent or acknowledgement of one beaver skin, in Albany, on the five and twentieth day of March, yearly forever.”

The Charter provides that the limits of the city shall be as follows:

“The City of Albany shall henceforth extend and reach as well in length and in breadth, as in circuit, on the East by Hudson’s river, so far as low water mark; to the South by a line to be drawn from the southernmost end of the pasture, at the North end of the island called Gerritsen’s Island, running back into the woods 16 English miles due northwest, to a certain Kill or Creek, called the Sand Kill on the North, to a line to be drawn from the Post that was set by Governor Stuyvesant near Hudson’s river, running likewise northwest 16 English miles, and on the west by a straight line, to be drawn from the points of the said South and North lines.”

It also provides that

“The Mayor, Aldermen and Recorder shall be Justices and Keepers of the Peace, and Justices to hear and determine matters and causes within the said City and precincts thereof, to hear, determine and punish all petty larcenies and all other petty offences.”

It gives the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, and their successors forever, lands, tenements, rents and other possession, within or without the City, so as the same does not exceed the sum of £1,000 per annum; and also gives them power to grant and sell the same.

The Mayor was, *ex officio*, Coroner and Clerk of the Market, and he with the Aldermen and Recorder of the City were to be Justices of the Peace of the County, and as such “shall and may sit in the Court of Sessions or County Courts and Courts of Oyer and Terminer, that shall from time to time be held in said County; and that the Mayor, Recorder and some one of the Aldermen shall preside at such County Courts and Courts of Sessions. The Town Clerk of the said city shall always be the Clerk of the Peace, and Clerk of the Sessions or Court of the County.”

Governor Dongan in this Charter designates the officers of the said city as follows:

“There shall be forever hereafter, within the said City, a Mayor, Recorder, Town Clerk, and six Aldermen and six Assistants, to be appointed, nominated, elected, chosen and sworn, as hereinafter is particularly and respectively mentioned,

who shall be forever hereafter called the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and that there shall be, forever, one Chamberlain or Treasurer, one Sheriff, one Coroner, one Clerk of the Market, one High Constable, three Sub-Constables, one Marshal or Sergeant-at-Mace, to be appointed, chosen and sworn in manner hereafter mentioned. That the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Albany shall be one body corporate and politic, in deed, fact and name; and that by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, they may have perpetual succession."

The Charter then proceeds to appoint the Mayor, Common Council and other officers of the city under the Charter, which were as follows:

Peter Schuyler, Mayor; Jan Bleecker, Chamberlain; Isaac Swinton, Recorder; Richard Pretty, Sheriff; Robert Livingston, Clerk; James Parker, Marshal.

Aldermen.—Dirk Wessels, Jan Jans Bleecker, David Schuyler, Johannis Wendell, Lavinus Van Schaack, Adrian Gerritse.

Assistant Aldermen.—Joachim Staats, John Lansing, Isaac Verplanck, Lawrence Van Ale, Albert Ruyckman, Melgert Winantse.

Early in July, previous to the granting of this Charter, Peter Schuyler and Robert Livingston were appointed Commissioners by the town of Albany, which appointment was ratified by the Magistrates of the city, to go to New York, and procure the Charter we have described, which they did, and the same was agreed to between the Magistrate, and Colonel Dongan, Governor-General of the Province of New York.

On the 22d of July, 1686, the Commissioners returned with the same, and were publicly received "with all the joy and acclamations imaginable, and received the thanks of the magistrates, burgesses and other dignitaries of the city, for their diligence and care," Peter Schuyler took the oath of Mayor, to act until a further ratification of his appointment by the citizens. In the same manner the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen we have named, took the oath of office and entered upon their duties.

The following is a copy of the minutes of the first meeting of the Justices of the Peace after the return of Pieter Schuyler and Robert Livingston with the charter, and a copy of the oath administered to the Mayor:

"Att a meeting of y^e Justices of y^e peace for y^e County of Albany, y^e 26th day of July, A. D. 1686.

"Pieter Schuyler, gent., and Rob^t Livingston, gent., who were commissioned by y^e towne of Albanie to goe to New Yorke and procure y^e Charter for this city w^h was agreed upon between y^e magistrates and y^e right hon^l. Co^l. Tho. Dongan, Gov. Gen^l, who accordingly have brought the same along with them, and was published with all y^e joy and acclamations imaginable, and y^e said two gent^l received y^e thanks of y^e magistrates and burgesses for their diligence and care in obtaining y^e same; and whereas Pieter Schuyler is nominated and appointed to be Mayor of y^e city of Albany by

y^e said charter, till such time that any^e fitt person be chosen in his room. Was sworn as follows:

"Whereas, you Pieter Schuyler are appointed and commissioned to be mayor and clerk of y^e market and coroner of y^e city of Albany, as also coroner for y^e s^d county, by y^e charter granted to y^e said city by y^e Right Hon^l Coll. Tho. Dongan, Gov. Gen^l of this province, you doe swear by y^e ever living God y^e will truly endeavor, to y^e best of y^e skill, with a good consience and according to y^e laws of this Government dispence justice equally in all cases and to all p^ons whereunto by vertue of y^e office you are impowered, and further officiat and perform y^e duty and office of Mayor, clerk of y^e market and coroner, in every respect to y^e best of y^e knowledge and capacity, so help y^e God."

Previous to this City Charter, the laws of Albany were administered by the Justices of the Peace, who were invested with certain judicial and municipal powers by the Governor-General of the Province of New York. With the municipal jurisdiction given the Mayor and Aldermen by the Charter, were large judicial powers.

The Mayor and the Aldermen, with certain Justices of the Peace, were authorized to hold courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction. This Court became one of great importance, and continued down to the Revolution, and with some changes, applicable to the new form of government, after the adoption of the first State Constitution.

The Mayor's Court, as it was called, possessed the powers and duties of a Court of Probate of Wills, and these now held by Surrogates. They also decided the time and place of holding elections. The first meeting, or Court, of the Mayor and Aldermen, was held at the City Hall in Albany, August 31, 1686. It was both a Court of Justice and a meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen for the transaction of municipal business.

Among the legal cases was one of a negro, Hercules, charged by Myndert Frederickse with stealing wampum out of his house, belonging to the churchwardens of the Lutheran Church.

The negro, having confessed the theft, was sentenced "to be whipped through y^e towne at y^e carte tale by y^e hangman, for an example to others." His master was ordered to pay the costs.

Regulations were also passed for the observance of the Sabbath.

The following order in regard to non-attendance at the meetings of the Common Council was made:

"Whoever of the members of the Common Council shall be absent att y^e second ringing of y^e bell, being in towne, at any common council day, shall forfeit six shillings, *folies quoties*."

Extended regulations were adopted in regard to the Indian trade.

The salary of Robert Livingston, Clerk of the Board, in consideration of his diverse services, was advanced so that he was to have twenty pounds per annum.

Early in 1689, King James was compelled to abdicate the throne, and was succeeded by Will-

iam and Mary. On July 1, 1689, the news of their accession to the throne was received in Albany. A meeting of the Mayor and Common Council was immediately convened, which, by an ordinance or proclamation, announced a meeting of the citizens, to take place the next day in front of the City Hall. This meeting took place. A procession was formed, consisting of the Mayor and Aldermen, with other city officials and citizens, who marched up to the fort, where the Mayor, in a solemn manner, proclaimed in English and in Dutch, William and Mary their lawful sovereigns. At the conclusion of the ceremony the guns at the fort were fired and the bells rang out joyful peals.

It is our purpose to give only such doings of the Common Council of the city as we consider most interesting and instructive, as illustrative of the spirit of the age, as well as its material condition.

At a meeting of the Council held at the City Hall, October 14, 1695 (Evert Bancker, Mayor), the city being £2,000 in arrears of taxes, the following order was made:

"Whereas the arrears of y^e £2,000 and £1,500 tax having been directed to y^e constables of each ward by an warrant from Dirk Wessells, Justice, which constables give in their report, that all who are indebted to y^e said arrears gives them an answer that they have paid it, and setts them aft from time to time."

At the same meeting a committee was appointed to examine the Treasurer's account, and a warrant was directed to be issued to "fetch up all the lycenses." These "lycenses" were granted to persons for the right to sell various kinds of merchandise. The Justices of the County were also directed to appear before the Board on December 9th following, "to correct all affairs between the City and County."

At a meeting of the Mayor and Common Council held December 3, 1695, a case came before the Board, the disposal of which seems to have greatly puzzled the city dignitaries, as appears in the following:

"Cornelia Vanderheyden appears here at y^e barr, and gives in y^e oath of her suster Ariaantje, who is brought to child-bed, that Leift. Symon Young is y^e father thereof, y^e only father, and none but he; and deserets that y^e mayor and aldermen would use some methodd or anyor with y^e s^d Young for the maintenance of the child."

What method their Honors took to compel Lieutenant Symon Young to support his child, does not appear.

Some time after this action of the Common Council, Lieutenant Young was appointed Sheriff of Albany, and proposed to take and support the child; but the mother refused, and there the matter ended.

On December 17th there was an order made for "repairing the City Stockadoes, which were out of repair toward the river side; and that four hundred and fifty new Stockadoes should be provided, to be 13 feet long and a foot over, and that a warrant may be directed to the assessors, to make an

equal assessment thereof upon the inhabitants, and then deliver the same to the Mayor."

At this time the city was surrounded, for its protection, by a stockade, thirteen feet in height. The lines of this stockade were Steuben street on the north, Hudson street on the south, the river on the east, and Lodge street on the west. Afterward the stockade was extended.

In the winter of 1696 there was a great scarcity of grain, especially wheat. The merchants and grain dealers having purchased large quantities of wheat for the purpose of shipping it to New York, where it was nearly double the price paid in Albany—although commanding a high price in that city—caused great suffering, inasmuch as they refused to sell wheat in any quantities.

At a meeting of the Common Council, March 10, 1696, the matter was presented to the Board; and the merchants were summarily dealt with for their exorbitance, as appears from the following order:

"Whereas, Several p. rsons of y^e city and county has given in a complaint to y^e Mayor and justices of y^e city and County, y^e there is severall persons doe goe with money in thare hands to buy wheat, and can not have it, by reason y^e marchants has engrossed in there hands, being resolved to ship it for New York; the Mayor, aldermen, and justices of y^e peace have resolved and agreed upon y^e no merch^t or any other persons whatsoever shall ship any corn aboard any sloop, vessel, boat whatsoever untill such time wee have his Excell. directions in it, as they will answer upon there uttmot perill."

The following quaint order, providing for the necessities of an impecunious citizen, shows that their Worships, the Mayor and Common Council, were not inaccessible to flattery:

July 17, 1697, "Whereas, Mr. Leest. Oliver doth make his addresse to the Court for bedding, since he complains that he is in great necessity for want thereof, y^e gent^o of y^e Court cannot synde that they are obliged to furnish such supplies, but, in consideration of his Civility, doe give as a gift y^e summe of five pieces of eight."

At the time of which we are writing, the gates of the city were opened and closed by an officer called the City Porter, appointed by the Mayor and Common Council.

At a meeting of the Board, held in the City Hall in Albany, November 23, 1697, the following order was adopted:

"Whereas, It is by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty concluded, who have appointed John Ratecliffe as City Porter, instead of Hend. Marselis, Deceased, that he is upon all occasionable times to open and shutt y^e gates of this City, especially in y^e mornings and in y^e evenings at y^e appointed time, as also to attend y^e Church Ringing of y^e bell on all occasions, for which he is to receive yearly eight and twenty Pieces of Eight at six shillings, and to be paid quarterly; moreover, he, y^e s^d John Ratecliffe, is to attend y^e Burger Guards, to keep them clain, and to make every evening a

fyre, wherefore he is to receive Three pence per Diem. Who hath made oath to be true."

At a meeting of the Common Council, held May 9, 1698, a resolution was adopted for building an Indian House on the Hill, for the accommodation of the Indians.

February 1, 1699, the Common Council "*Resolved*, That one other Indian house, besides y^e two heretofore resolved on in January last, shall be build just upon y^e hill going up from y^e Parle street geat northwesterly, in or about y^e middle part of said hill, where y^e whole Common Council forthwith shall appoynt y^e Place, and y^e y^e Building and Charges thereof shall bee in y^e lyke manner as y^e two houses aforesaid."

We have thus given a history of the organization of the Municipal Government of Albany, and some of the most interesting proceedings of the Common Council, from its first meeting July 26, 1686, to the close of 1699, showing how the city government was conducted for the first thirteen years of its existence.

The Municipality of Albany thus organized, continued with great regularity and success down to the termination of the Provincial or Colonial Government, early in 1776.

From 1700 to 1753 the city was governed with great wisdom through successive municipal administrations.

At a meeting of the Common Council July 31, 1753, an order was made directing that the pavement between the houses of Jacob Lansing and David Schuyler, in the Third Ward, be raised, so that the water that came down from the hill between the houses of David Vischer and Jacob Lansing may vent itself through the lane or street, and so down to the river.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held July 10, 1756, the following important resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Clerk draw a deed to the Minister, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church, in the City of Albany, for them and their successors, in trust forever, for a piece of ground for a burying place, lying upon the Hill adjoining the fort, agreeable to a map made by John R. Bleecker, and that the Mayor execute a deed, and cause the City Seal to be thereupon affixed in behalf of the Corporation."

At a meeting of the Common Council, held April 3, 1760, Sybrant G. Van Schack, Mayor, the matter of the great scarcity of water in the city and neighborhood came up, under a proposal to bring water in pipes from the hills, collect it in reservoirs, and erecting pumps. The matter was presented in the form of a petition, asking the Mayor and Corporation for a conveyance of the right so to do to the petitioners, their heirs and assigns, forever, under proper restriction, and to the end that every citizen may be partakers of the ease and advantage of it, provided he pays unto the petitioners eight shillings annually, and conform himself to the articles of the agreement."

After a full hearing, the Board adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, that the petitioners have an instrument drawn, including their petition; that the Mayor will sign the same and cause the Seal of the City to be thereupon affixed, by virtue of this resolution."

This, we believe, is the first action ever taken by the municipal authorities of Albany for bringing water into the city.

The following important historic entry was made in the city records at a meeting of the Common Council held April 3, 1760:

"*Whereas*, A number of gentlemen residing in this City have signified to the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, that they are desirous of establishing a Presbyterian Church in the same, this is to certify that the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, that they are desirous of establishing a Presbyterian Church in the same.

"*This is to certify*, That the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city aforesaid, do very much approve of so laudable an intention, and promise that they will do every thing in their power to encourage and promote the same, and that the Mayor sign this in behalf of the Corporation, and that the Clerk affix the City seal to it."

By the condition of the original Charter of Albany, the title of all the land lying within the Corporation was vested in the Mayor, Recorder and Common Council, and in tracing the proceedings of the Common Council, we find on almost every page resolutions of the Board directing the Clerk to execute deeds to the grantees of lands and to affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.

The first deed of lands executed by the Corporation of the city is dated November 1, 1687. It is a document of so much interest and importance that we insert a copy of it from the early records of the county.

"*To ALL CHRISTIAN PEOPLE* to whom these presents Shall Come, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonality of y^e City of Albany Send Greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know y^e that for and in consideration of y^e sum of three hundred an ninty pounds currant money of this province to them in hand paid, at and before y^e en sealing and delivery hereof, by Doctor Godfredius Dellius, Minister of y^e Reformed Nether Dutch Congregational Dutch Church, Albany, a certain piece or parcel of land commonly called or known by y^e name of Pasture, Situate, lying and being to y^e Southward of y^e said City, near y^e place where y^e Fort Stood, and extending along Hudson River till it comes over against y^e most northerly point of y^e Island, commonly called Marston Gerritsen's Island; having to y^e east Hudson River, to y^e south y^e manor of Renslarewck, to y^e west of highway leading to y^e Towne, y^e pasture lots in y^e occupation of Martin or Marston Geritsen, and

the pasture lot in y^e occupation of Casper Jacobs, to the north of y^e several pasture lots in y^e occupation of Robert Sanders, Myndert Harmons and Evert Wendell, and y^e Several Garden lots in y^e Tenure and Occupation of Killian Van Rensselaer and Abraham Staats. Together with All and Singular y^e profits, commodities and appurtenances whatsoever to y^e said Pasthur Piece or Parcel of land and Premises, or any part or parcel thereof Belonging or in any way appertaining to or with the same, now or at any time heretofore belonging or own'd, occupied, enjoyed as part, parcell or member thereof, and All deeds, Evidences and writings Touching and Concerning the premises Only.

"TO HAVE AND TO HOLD y^e said pasthur pece or parcell of land, and all and Singular of y^e Premises, with their and every of their appurtenances unto the Said Godfredius Dellius, his heirs and assigns, to y^e Sole and only Proper use, Benefit and Behoof of said Godfredius Dellius, his heirs and Assigns, for Ever; and y^e said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality doth by these presents Covenant, Promise and Engage y^e said pasthur piece or parcel of land so as the same is granted to them in the Charter dted y^e 22d of July, 1686, with their and every of their Appurtenances, unto the said Doctor Godfredius Dellius, his Exutr^e and Assigns, in his and their peaceable possession for Ever, from any grant or conveyance whatsoever made, or to be made, by said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality, or their successors. In witness whereof, y^e Mayor of y^e said City hath hereunto Set his hand and Caused y^e Seal of said City to be hereunto affixed, and these presents to be entered on our public record. Dated y^e 1st day of November, 1687, in the 3^d year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lord James y^e Second, by y^e Grace of God, of England Scotland, France and Ireland King, Defender of y^e faith, Supreme and y^e only ruler of y^e Province of New York.

"PETER SCHUYLER, *Mayor.*"

It often occurred that the Common Council sold pieces and parcels of land at public auction; for instance, at a meeting of the Common Council held at Albany on the 11th of December, 1760, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved by this Board, That the Clerk put up Advertisements that a piece of land lying on the Gallows hill containing between 10 and 11 acres, as per Draft to be seen at the time of Sale, to be sold at Public Vendue on Saturday, the 20th day of this current month, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality at two o'clock in the afternoon at the City Hall in the City of Albany."

From the best authority we can find, Gallows Hill was south of the city as it was then laid out.

At a meeting of the Common Council held February 19, 1761, the following resolution was adopted:

"That Mr. John Bleecker make a survey of the land set forth in the petition of the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church of this city, leaving sufficient room for highways, for which this Board is to give a deed to said Minister, Elders

and Deacons, and their successors forever, for and in consideration of £50, current money of New York, and a reserve of £20 per annum forever." The tract of land thus sold contained fifty-three acres, the description of which is found in Bleecker's Survey.

By far the most important proceeding of the Common Council for the year 1762, was the grant made by it, to Abraham E. Wendell, of a tract of valuable land occupying what is now the heart of the city, known as the Wendell Patent, which is briefly described as follows:

"On the northwest side it was 1,207 feet in a straight line; the southwesterly corner of the patent was located in the center of the block west of Eagle street, between Hamilton and Hudson streets; and the northeasterly corner, which was the end of the above mentioned straight line, terminated on the west side of Lodge street about 152 feet north of Howard street. The other lines of said patent are irregular, the southeast corner terminating in the center of Williams street, about fifty feet south of Beaver street. In following the southeast line, a bend and corner is located in the center of the block between Philip, Grand, Hudson and Plain streets, the last remaining corner terminating about ninety-five feet east of Eagle on the north side of Hamilton. The greater portion of the land where the old Normal School building stands, belonged to the Wendell Patent."

The original map of this patent is now in the possession of the descendants of the original patentee, Abraham E. Wendell. It also appears, by distinct lines, on several early maps of the city. This was one of the early transfers of the real estate acquired by the Corporation of Albany to which we have referred.

On October 8, 1765, the Board resolved to procure the ground where Fort Orange formerly stood, to be vested in the Crown, on which to erect store-houses, so long as the services of his Majesty might require.

Among the proceedings of the Common Council, held October 14, 1765, was one of peculiar interest, in regard to protection against fires, by way of keeping chimneys cleaned, etc. By ordinance it was provided that when any chimney should take fire in a dwelling-house the occupant forfeited forty shillings, and that whosoever of the City Guard should discover any accidental fire in dwelling-houses, out-houses or stables, or any other combustible matter, received for the discovery the sum of £3.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held November 15, 1768, articles of agreement were entered into between the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality of the City of Albany, of the one part, and Stephen Van Rensselaer, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the County of Albany, known as the Patroon, of the second part, by which the party of the second part covenanted and agreed, to the said Mayor, Aldermen, etc., their successors and assignees, that he will, within three months of the date of letters-patent to be granted by the Crown, giving him the exclusive

rights of all ferriages on Hudson River, in the County of Albany, between Bears' Island to the Cohoes, grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty the exclusive right to all ferriages and liberty of landing, passing and re-passing, from the mouth of a certain creek, commonly known as DeVysele Kill, on the south of the city limits, to lands of H. Van Schack; with one acre of ground, to be taken by said Corporation in such position as it shall think most convenient to them, joining to and on the north bounds of John Van Rensselaer

One of the offices under the Corporation was that known as the "Town Whipper," a very useful official. We find in the records of the Corporation very frequent instances where he discharged the duties of his office upon criminals in a manner so exemplary and commendable, that he often received due recognition of his efforts—as in one case where Rick Van Toper, in 1762, was voted, by the Common Council, the sum of five shillings and sixpence, in addition to his regular fees, "for the due and wholesome manner in which he laid the lash upon the back of Tiberius Haines, who had been convicted of beating his wife in a most cruel and heartless manner.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held in the City of Albany, on the 30th of January, 1780, the following entry was made:

"The Corporation this day agreed with Benjamin Gable to be the town Whipper at the rate of £20 per annum for that service, and if the sheriff wants him to execute any person, he is to perform that service likewise, the sheriff paying him therefor."

On the 20th March, 1770, the Common Council agreed to let Thomas Lotteridge have the ferry leading from Albany to Green Bush for three years, for thirty pounds per year, and to make a dock about 14 feet broad, for the convenience of persons and carriages going to or from the ferry-boats.

A very important and interesting question arose in the early part of Mayor Cuyler's administration, in 1770. Certain provisions in the charter of the city were construed by the Mayor and Aldermen in a manner that rendered them, *ex officio*, members of the Supreme Court, and members of the Court of Oyer and Terminer. But the right to a seat on the Bench with the Judges of those Courts was considered doubtful, and was not insisted upon until Cuyler was appointed Mayor. He considered himself a Magistrate, and the Board of Aldermen as, *ex officio*, members of these Courts. The term of the Supreme Court and the Court of Oyer and Terminer began its sittings at Albany on Monday, June 5, 1771, at 2 o'clock P. M. In the forenoon of that day, a meeting was held, and a resolution was adopted by the Board, appointing the Mayor and Aldermen Yates and Ten Broeck a committee to wait upon the Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Oyer and Terminer, and inform them that the Mayor, Recorder and six Aldermen intended to sit as Judges in that Court, to be held that day in the City Hall; and that they claimed the right so to sit by virtue of the City Charter. The Judges listened complacently to the message of this com-

mittee, and they withdrew. In a short time the Mayor and Aldermen received a communication from the Judges, denying the right of those gentlemen to sit in a judicial capacity in these Courts, concluding with these words: "We cannot conceive that your City Charter can be so construed as to render this honorable Court a Mob, instead of a Bench of Judges with full consideration of their dignity and responsibility. We have therefore directed the Officers of the Court to prevent your taking your seats upon the Bench, in case you insist upon so doing."

This matter created no little excitement. The Mayor and Common Council still insisted upon their right to sit as judicial officers in the said Courts, but as it was peremptorily denied by the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Common Council decided to submit the matter to the colonial authorities in New York. Whereupon, at a meeting of the Common Council, held on the 14th of October, 1771, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

"Whereas, A point conceived to be of much consequence to the liberties and privileges of the people of the County and City of Albany, respecting the Right of the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Albany, by virtue of the Charter, to sit as judges in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and general goal Delivery of the said County, has been lately agitated and drawn in question, and it is thought to be now a seasonable time to take the necessary measures for determining the matter and to empower a proper person of this Board to manage and solicit the said business; therefore

Resolved, That Alderman Abm. Yates, Esq., be appointed, and he is hereby authorized and appointed accordingly to repair to New York with all convenient speed, and to take with him Charters and all other necessary Papers, to be distributed and laid before the Council already retained by this Corporation on the subject; and he is hereby directed to follow such advise as he shall receive of them, in order to secure the Privilege aforesaid; and he is also further empowered to search the Records, private and publick, at New York, and to take such copies and Abstracts therefrom as may be thought usefull on this occasion, and for all his disbursements and Services he is to be repaid and satisfied, and soon after his return he is to make report to this Board of his actings and doings herein."

We find no report of the result of Mr. Yates' mission to New York on this important matter. We infer, however, that he was unsuccessful, inasmuch as we nowhere find in the records of the Colonial Supreme Court that the Mayor or any municipal officer of the city occupied the Bench of that Court. They were, however, members of the Court of Sessions of the City and County of Albany.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held September 27, 1773, Mr. Peter Yates was made a committee to revise, correct and amend the ordinances of the city, and Ebenezer Jessop received from the Common Council a grant of a piece of

vacant land covered with water, lying on the north side of the upper wharf, subject to a yearly rent charge of forty shillings.

On April 2, 1774, an ordinance was passed by the Common Council "for regulating the ferry between Albany and Greenbush; for grading and paving the streets and for preventing nuisance; for regulating the line of vessels at the Docks and Wharfs of the City; for regulating carts and Cartmen; for regulating the Public Markets; against the profanation of the Lord's Day; for the better securing the City from the danger of Gun Powder; for the better preventing fire; to prevent accidents by fast and immoderate riding; to prevent 'raffling;' for regulating taverns; for regulating the office of Chamberlain or Treasury; for the better regulation of Mid Wives."

We have already referred to a very important matter, that of the title which the municipality of Albany had to large portions of land in and about it, and have seen that the granting and selling these lands to various purchasers for many years formed a large part of the business of the Mayor and Common Council. That, by the charter granted July 22, 1686, among other things, it gave the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city the power to purchase, at their pleasure, 1,000 acres of low or meadow land at Tionderoga, adjacent on both sides of the river, as the Mayor should think most convenient, and did grant and confirm unto the Mayor and Commonalty, and to their successors forever, yielding and paying therefor yearly, forever, the annual quit-rent of a beaver skin on the 20th of March of each year.

Under this provision of the charter, several Indians, in June, 1721, conveyed a tract of said land—eleven morgen—to Mr. Cuyler in fee, whose heirs on the 24th of April, 1769, obtained from the Corporation, for the consideration of £30, a conveyance releasing the same.

On the 7th July, 1730, some Indians conveyed ten or eleven morgen of said lands to Peter Brower, for the term of 999 years; who, on November 29, 1734, conveyed the same to the Corporation; who, on the 27th of April, 1749, leased said land to Peter Brower for the term of 999 years, at the annual rent of one skipple of wheat for each morgen. Some other of the said lands were obtained from the Corporation for the same annual rents, leaving still the largest portion of the 1,000 acres the property of the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of Albany.

In 1779 the Indians had all removed from the said lands, and they were principally occupied by refugees and squatters from Cherry Valley and other parts. Therefore one of the great questions that occupied the attention of the Municipality of Albany, was to ascertain in what manner it could obtain possession of these lands and foreclose the claims of all subsequent incumbrances. The matter was finally referred to Peter W. Yates, Esq., for his opinion in regard to the matter.

Mr. Yates was a very able lawyer, and considered one of the best real estate lawyers of his time. His report, a very able legal document, was considered

conclusive in the matter. He advised the lands to be immediately surveyed; boundaries properly fixed and ascertained; the unpossessed lands should be immediately taken possession of and leased for a short term, with a special clause inserted, for the tenant peaceably to deliver up, at the end of the term, possession to the officers of the municipality, or its successors. This report decides that the charter of incorporation gives the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, and their successors, an undoubted estate, in fee-simple, in these lands, and that, although the Indian deeds referred to cannot *stricto jure* be considered as a part of the title, since those deeds were intended to purchase peace instead of property, yet it is a title paramount to any other claimant. As the lands are possessed by other persons who refuse to become tenants of the corporation, he directs that action of ejectment shall be brought against them, to oust them of their assumed possession.

This report was coincided with by the Common Council, and other parties, and settled the question in regard to said lands.

In February, 1780, an important question came before the Common Council, in the consideration of surrendering part of the privilege granted by the charter to the city, and of applying for additional ones, and, on February 17th, the Board unanimously resolved to surrender certain privileges to the State, and to apply to the Legislature for additional privileges. For the purpose of carrying the resolution into execution, a committee of three was appointed to draw up the surrender and a petition for that purpose.

A very important change in some parts of the city charter was thus proposed, and was, as we shall see hereafter, carried into effect.

The titles to the lands acquired by the city, and granting them to purchasers from time to time, form an important part of the *property* history of Albany. The city held title to some of the lands down to a late period, and a large part of the present owners of real estate in the city trace their titles to the corporation. Lots were often sold to pay city indebtedness, and the land transactions of Yates & McIntyre with the city are matters of such conspicuous record that no description is needed here.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held April 14, 1780, very important measures were adopted by the Board, tending to the improvement of certain parts of the city. The following transcript is taken from the proceedings of the meeting, as a succinct history of the transactions:

"April 14. *Whereas*, this Board, on the third day of May, 1761, by release granted unto the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church, in the City of Albany, a certain tract of 153 acres of land lying northwest of the city, and did thereby reserve liberty and license for the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of this City, or the major part of them, and their successors forever, to lay out Roads and Streets thro' the above mentioned Lands, as they should see most convenient, and whereas, the said Minister, Elders and Deacons applied this day for leave to lay out the said lands in

Lots, and allow Streets and Roads in such manner as they might conceive most proper for the term of 25 years. And, whereas, this Board are well convinced that no inconvenience can in that time arise to this City, and thereupon Resolve to grant the request of the said Minister, Elders and Deacons, and it is hereby granted accordingly for the term aforesaid."

It is a matter of history that the Common Council of the City were the owners in fee of large and valuable tracts of land at Schaghticoke, now in the County of Rensselaer, which lands were occupied by tenants who for some time refused to pay their rent, being incipient anti-renters.

On September 15th, it was resolved that a meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty convene at Schaghticoke, on the 20th of September, at the house of Johannes Knickerbaker, Jr., for the purpose of inquiring into and settling the matter of these rents. The Board met at the time and place referred to, and summoned before them the tenants, to learn their reasons for non-payment of rent due the Board. They made various excuses, most of them pretending that no rent was due. These excuses being regarded as invalid and frivolous, Peter W. Yates and John Lansing, Jr., Counsellors-at-Law, were employed by the Common Council, and instructed to commence actions against all the tenants at Schaghticoke for the recovery of the rent then due, which was accordingly done, and, after the appointment of Mayor Beckman, a meeting was held January 30, 1784, at the City Hall, in the City of Albany. There were present at this meeting the Mayor; Aldermen Peter W. Yates, Thomas Hun, Peter W. Douw and Abraham Schuyler; Assistant Aldermen Richard Lush, Jacob G. Lansing and Mathew Vischer.

It will be remembered that the Common Council met at Schaghticoke for the purpose of taking measures to compel the inhabitants of that town, occupants of the land belonging to the Corporation of Albany, to pay the rent due the city; that Peter W. Yates, Esq., was directed to commence actions against every tenant to recover this rent; that the tenants came forward and settled the matter by agreeing to pay the city the following winter the rent in wheat, each person delivering the quantity of wheat equal to the amount due. Under this agreement the suits were stayed, but a large number of tenants made default in the payment of the wheat.

At this meeting, held January 30th, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That Peter W. Yates, Esq., be directed immediately to write letters, as Attorney for the Corporation, to the tenants of this Board at Schaghticoke, and who were lately prosecuted for non-payment of rent, acquainting them that unless they pay this winter the wheat stipulated in the agreement for the stay of the suits, they must depend upon being prosecuted."

From the organization of the City Government in 1686, the Corporation received wheat and other grain from tenants—of which it had large num-

bers—in payment of rents; consequently, the large storehouses of the Municipality were constantly filled with wheat and other grain. These storehouses and grain were in the custody of the City Chamberlain or Treasurer of the Corporation. This wheat was sold by the Treasurer, under the direction of the Corporation, to the citizens at very reasonable prices, and to the grain merchants, for shipping to New York and other places, at fair profits. During times of scarcity the quantity sold was restricted—particularly during the revolution; thus, in January, 1777, we find an order directing the Treasurer "to sell 100 skepels of the wheat belonging to the Corporation, at four shillings sixpence per skepel, to those persons who had demands on the Board. No person to have more than three skepels at a time."

On September 29, 1786, John Lansing, Jr., was appointed to succeed John J. Beeckman as Mayor of Albany, and entered upon the discharge of his duties in that office, January 6, 1787.

We have already stated that proceedings were taken to procure an act of the Legislature altering the Charter of the City of Albany, after its adoption by the city under State constitution. This matter created much discussion and opposition, and the passage of the act was delayed until March 21, 1787, when an "Act for altering the Charter rights of the City of Albany" passed both branches of the Legislature and became a law. Down to that period the Charter granted by King James, in 1686, continued to exist with a few changes incident to the State Constitution, down to the period of the passage of the act to which we have referred. By that charter the Mayor of the city had authority to grant licenses annually to all tavern keepers, victuallers and all public venders of wine, strong waters, cider, beer and every sort of liquor by retail. And that the Mayor was sole Coroner of the City and County; that he, with the Aldermen and Commonalty, should have the exclusive right to regulate the trade with the Indians. That the Mayor and any three or more of the Aldermen shall be the Common Council of the City. That a Court of Common Pleas shall be held once in every fortnight for the City of Albany, before the Mayor.

This authority was surrendered by the said act. The time for electing the Aldermen, Assistants and Chamberlain was changed to the last Tuesday of September in every year, instead of the time fixed by the Charter. Provisions were made to take effect in case of the death of the Mayor. That instead of the Mayor acting as Coroner, as formerly, that officer was to be a citizen of said city.

These were the principal alterations made in the original Charter of 1686.

On June 21, 1799, during the mayoralty of Philip S. Van Rensselaer, a resolution was adopted by the Common Council, which shows the high regard and veneration in which the Sabbath was then held. The resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, That the Constables in this City be, and they are hereby required, on every Sunday

hereafter, to stop all manner of persons who shall be riding for pleasure, or who may expose any articles for sale on that day contrary to the Act for suppressing immorality; and that they report the names of aggressors, on every Monday morning to the Mayor or Recorder, to be proceeded against according to law."

There was a strong attempt made to enforce this ordinance, greatly to the disgust of pleasure seekers; but many a delightful ride and excursion was interrupted, and perhaps a pair of ardent lovers would be arrested, and the next morning dragged relentlessly before the Recorder to await condign punishment for desecrating the Sabbath. The scenes at the Court House on Monday morning were amusing, and often aggravating. But the strict enforcement of the law gradually wore away, so none but flagrant abuses of the Sabbath were punished.

An entry in the books of the Chamberlain, June 20, 1799, shows that the expense for lighting the city and for a night-watch, for the year ending June 1, 1799, amounted to £625 16s. At this time the city was lighted with whale or sperm oil.

The public revenue that year was £146 14s. 4d., leaving a debt against the city of £479 1s. 8d. For five years the expense for lighting the city and the night-watch had exceeded the revenue to the amount of \$2,110.88.

At this time the yellow fever was raging in the City of New York, and, under the recommendation of the Common Council, a collection was made in the Dutch Reformed Church on Sunday, June 19th, at each of the three services, for the relief of the sufferers of the plague, which amounted to \$247. In the afternoon of the same day a collection was taken at St. Peter's Church and at the Presbyterian Churches for the same purpose. The amount at the former was \$107.87, and the latter \$201. The total contributions amounted to \$555.87.

Early in July, 1799, a law was passed by the Common Council regulating "the assize of bread." The Common Council prepared a schedule for graduating the price of bread, and every baker detected in selling light bread subjected himself to a fine of one dollar for every loaf found to be light of weight. By this schedule, when wheat was 6s. per bushel, a loaf of bread of inspected wheat flour was to weigh 3 lbs. 1 oz. 8 dr., for 6d.; of common flour, 3 lbs. 11 ozs. 8 drs.

At	8d.	2 lbs.	5 ozs.	0 drs.	and 2 lbs.	12 ozs.	8 drs.
10d.	1	13	8		2	3	8
12d.	1	8	8		1	13	8
14d.	1	5	0		1	9	8
15d.	1	3	8		1	7	8
20d.		14	8		1	1	8

and all intermediate prices in proportion.

On the morning of December 23, 1799, intelligence of the death of Washington reached Albany. The Common Council immediately assembled and recommended the closing of all places of business, directing that the bells be tolled from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, and that the members of the Board wear crape badges for the space of six weeks; also recommending that all the churches

be dressed in mourning, and that preparations be made by all the military and civic societies for an imposing funeral.

The 9th of January, 1800, following, was designated by the Common Council as a time for the funeral solemnities. On that day one of the most imposing and solemn public funerals known in the history of Albany took place. Very many who witnessed it were present at the grand reception given to the Father of his Country in Albany at the close of the Revolutionary War.

On May 19, 1803, the yellow fever was still raging in New York, and the Common Council, acting as a board of health, passed an ordinance requiring all vessels from New York City to be quarantined a few hours at a point fixed down the river, before being permitted to come to their moorings in the city. There was one death from yellow fever at Troy, but none in Albany.

As the result of an ordinance passed on July 12, 1804, the intelligence of the death of Hamilton was received in Albany. The Common Council immediately assembled and passed appropriate resolutions, recommending that the citizens take proper public action in regard to the death of the illustrious statesman and soldier.

Among the receipts into the treasury for the year 1804, acknowledged by the Common Council, was the sum of \$1,128.46½ for lands at Schaghticoke belonging to the city, which had been sold during the year.

We find very little of the proceedings of the Board of Common Council between the years 1800 and 1813.

On November 8, 1813, Commodore Perry, the Hero of Lake Erie, arrived in Albany. In no city through which the gallant hero passed was he more brilliantly or joyfully welcomed than in Albany.

At a meeting of the Common Council December 6, 1813, a resolution was adopted offering a reward of \$1,000 to any person discovering a coal mine within the distance of five miles of the navigable waters of the Hudson, of a strata not less than four feet in thickness.

One of the difficult matters that for many years presented itself to the Common Council, was regulating the price of bread in the city, which was constantly fluctuating with the price of flour. In December, 1813, the price of a barrel of flour was \$11, and the Common Council adopted an ordinance requiring the flour merchants to make the assize of bread correspond to nine dollars per barrel, which was 12 lbs. 10 oz. for one shilling. This was considered a great hardship by the bakers, and they called a meeting, which was attended by all the craft in the city, and a resolution was adopted to close their shops. This caused much excitement in the city, which continued some time. The Common Council and the journals of the city, the people and the bakers, all united in the strife. At length a compromise was effected and matters resumed their normal condition. For several years the Common Council occasionally passed ordinances regulating the price and size of loaves

of bread, but on December 29, 1820, a resolution was adopted by the Board deciding that it was inexpedient any longer to continue the regulation concerning the assize of bread.

On September 30, 1817, a hotly contested election took place for Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen of the city. In those days political parties were designated as Federals and Democrats. This election resulted in the choice of twelve Federal and eight Democratic members of the Board of Common Council.

Previous to 1818, the proceedings of the Common Council were conducted with closed doors, and the public excluded; but on November 16, 1818, the Board adopted a resolution that all debates and proceedings of the Board should in future be public, and arrangements were made in the council room for the accommodation of members, spectators, and press representatives.

In 1819 another municipal election took place, resulting in the election of fourteen Federals and eight Republicans.

An entry in the minutes of the Common Council made December 17, 1819, is as follows: The expense of erecting the Capitol was at the joint expense of the State, the City, and the County; the amount paid by each was as follows:

Paid by the State	\$73,485 42
" " City.....	34,200 00
" " County	3,000 00
Total cost.....	\$110,685 42

It will be perceived by the above, that the Corporation paid the sum of \$34,200 towards the erection of the Old Capitol. At this time the Common Council occupied the northeast corner on the first floor, which was divided into several commodious and well furnished apartments for the use of the municipal legislature. All the other rooms on the first floor were occupied by the State; the rooms in the second story were occupied by the Court of Chancery, Supreme Court, Common Pleas, General Sessions and Mayor's Court, except the room immediately above the lobby of the Assembly room, which was used two or three times each year by the Supervisors of the County.

At several of the meetings of the Common Council, at the time of which we are now writing, efforts were made to procure the passage of a resolution to dispose of the interest of the Corporation in the Old Capitol to the State. Proceedings of this nature were also had in the meetings of the Board of Supervisors, to grant the interests of the county in the Old Capitol to the State, and with the joint funds of the county and city to erect a new building for the county and city; but these measures were opposed and delayed down to a late period, when the interests of the city and county were alienated in the Old Capitol property. In the meantime the Common Council and the Board of Supervisors continued to meet in their rooms in the Old Capitol until the erection of the first City Hall. During the years when the Old Capitol was occupied by the Court for the Correction of Errors, the Court of Chancery, the Supreme Court, and the various other tribunals;

by the Legislature of the State, the Executive, and some of the State Departments, it presented a scene of unrivaled interest, and Capitol Hill was the heart and vital part, so to speak, of the Empire State. Congress Hall, adjacent, will always live in history and memory as the place where judges, lawyers, legislators and lobbyists for many years did most congregate.

On January 21, 1820, a spirit of retrenchment and reform took possession of the Board of Aldermen, and they adopted a resolution reducing the salaries of the corporation officers to the amount of over \$2,000.

On June 20, 1820, the meeting of the Common Council held that day was the scene of a singular controversy. After the meeting was called to order, Alderman Visscher arose and stated that several of the Magistrates of the city were willing to perform the duties of Police Justices without salary; and he introduced a resolution to discontinue the payment of salaries to those officers. This brought on a spirited debate, and the resolution was lost by a vote of eleven nays to six ayes.

On September 30, 1822, the Common Council, by an ordinance, directed a tax to be raised of \$3,000, to pay the interest on the city debt; a tax of \$6,000 for the expense of lamps and night-watch; and \$8,000 to defray the expenses of the poor.

A meeting of the Common Council, January 25, 1821, was the scene of great excitement. At this time Teunis Slingerland was one of the Police Magistrates of the city, and Philip Phelps was another. A resolution was offered, preceded by a preamble, stating that the expense of two Police Magistrates in the city was an unnecessary burden; that the duties could all be performed by one official. Then followed the resolution as follows:

"Resolved, That as a matter of economy, Teunis Slingerland be dismissed as a Police Magistrate, and that Philip Phelps be required to discharge the duties of Police Magistrate of the City at the compensation he is now receiving."

This was at that time \$300 per annum. A tremendous war of words followed the introduction of this resolution. Vehement speeches were made for and against it, but it was finally adopted by a decisive majority, and "Esquire Slingerland," as he was known in those days, was no longer a terror to evil-doers as a police magistrate.

On April 19, 1824, at a meeting of the Common Council, the City Chamberlain submitted a semi-annual report, showing that the receipts into the city treasury for the six months previous were \$30,886.74½. The disbursements were \$13,005.72½. An order was entered directing the Chamberlain to purchase 1,000 gallons of oil of T. & J. Russell, at 36 cents per gallon, to be used in lighting the city.

It is seen that Teunis Slingerland was suspended from the office of police magistrate, and Philip Phelps retained to discharge the duties. On October 31, 1824, Mr. Phelps was removed and John Gansevoort was appointed in his place. Peter Wendell, the city physician, was also removed and Peter Van O'Linda succeeded him. These appointments

and removals were made for political consideration, and occasioned much excitement at the time.

On January 1, 1825, the Common Council unanimously re-elected Ambrose Spencer Mayor.

We have heretofore referred to lands owned by the city. This question again came up in the Common Council of March 25, 1825, in the following manner: In 1818, the Common Council was authorized by law to fund the city debt to the amount of \$205,000, which had been incurred in city improvements. In 1820, the Common Council, finding they were unable to pay this debt, a law was passed on the 14th of April of that year, authorizing the Common Council to sell certain lands belonging to the city, not to exceed \$250,000.

"The lots were to be valued, put in parcels and made the prizes. The Commissioners found they could not carry the lottery into effect, because the prizes consisted only of lots of land. The Common Council therefore, in 1825, applied to the Legislature for permission to sell their lands, and be allowed the privilege of raising the balance of the amount in money by selling tickets in the lottery created by the act of 1820, and paying prizes out of the proceeds in the usual way. As this act had been passed, authorizing the lottery, before the constitution was amended, which prohibited lotteries, the Judiciary Committee reported a bill authorizing the change." The newspapers of that day—some of them—were very severe in their comments on this system of lotteries in which the City of Albany was engaged. The *New York Evening Post*, in denouncing the measure, said: "The capital of the State, with the aid of the Legislature, has become an immense gambling establishment."

In January, 1814, a law was passed granting to Union College the sum of \$200,000. This sum was to be raised by lotteries. It was urged that this mode of raising money was immoral; but as Dr. Nott, the distinguished President of the College, favored it, the project met the approval of the Legislature and became a law.

In May, 1825, the Common Council appointed a committee to negotiate with Yates & McIntyre, touching their proposition to purchase the Albany City Lottery for the sum of \$200,000. This negotiation was subsequently carried into effect, and Yates & McIntyre became the purchasers.

In May, 1825, the Common Council adopted a measure to which the city, at the present day, is largely indebted for the beautiful shade trees that embellish the Capitol Park and the grounds about the Academy, now called Academy Park. Previous to that time those grounds, now so pleasant, were an open common, the resort of cattle, sheep, and hogs. By the act of the Common Council, passed May 22d, a resolution was adopted directing the erection of a substantial fence around these grounds and inclosures, and measures adopted for planting trees. The expense of setting out the trees was largely defrayed by a generous subscription of the citizens. Thus the public spirit that pervaded the Common Council and the citizens of Albany sixty years ago, is a source of beauty and comfort at the present day.

The following shows the financial condition of the year 1825:

SINKING FUND.	
City Stock held by Commissioners...	\$6,000 00
Albany Insurance Stock.....	2,500 00
Bonds, notes and interest due for lands sold.....	2,879 67
Cash loaned.....	4,535 00
" on hand.....	3,130 88
350 Shares in Great Western Turnpike	8,975 00
46 Shares in Bethlehem Turnpike..	1,150 00
Total.....	\$29,170 55

Mayor.....	\$400 00
Chamberlain.....	500 00
City Superintendent.....	450 00
Superintendent of Alms-house.....	400 00
Overseers of the Poor.....	200 00
Police Justice.....	450 00
" Constables (2).....	400 00
Deputy Excise Officer.....	200 00
City Physician.....	550 00
Clerk of Common Council.....	150 00
Deputy Clerk of Market.....	100 00
Bellringers.....	40 00
Total.....	\$3,840 00

CITY DEBT.	
Funded.....	\$205,000 00
Due on bonds to individuals.....	40,100 00
Small notes unredeemed.....	10,300 18
Total.....	\$255,400 18

On May 15, 1826, the negotiations which had long been pending between the City Authorities and Yates & McIntyre, concerning the Albany City Lottery, were consummated by a resolution of the Common Council; these gentlemen agreeing to take the management of the lottery and pay the city the sum of \$240,795, to be paid in five years. The whole amount of the valuation of the city lands, which formed the basis of this lottery, was \$254,385. There were however some reservations. The city debt which this lottery was to pay was \$250,000.

The Chamberlain's report of the business of his office for the year ending October, 1826, shows the receipts to have been \$60,060.19; the expenditures for the same time, \$62,004.98.

On the last day of October, 1829, the City Chamberlain submitted his report, showing the amount of money received into the City Treasury during that year was \$320,878.53½. The amount disbursed was \$317,126.15½. The city had been at a large expense during the year; two markets had been built; the City Hall begun; \$9,804.43 was paid for the support of the city poor; and salaries of the city officers to the amount of \$5,952. The report of the City Marshal, presented to the Common Council, July 29, 1830, shows the population of the city was as follows:

White, males.....	11,533
" females.....	11,632
Colored, males.....	421
" females.....	630
Total.....	24,216

Of these, 3,199 were aliens.

The Common Council, from the completion of the Old Capitol down to the completion of the City

Hall, held its meetings in the Capitol. This they continued to do till July 25, 1831, when they held their first meeting in the City Hall.

On October 4th the Mayor's Court was held for the first time in the City Hall, Recorder McKown presiding. John Van Ness Yates tried the first cause.

From 1832 to 1835 we find no record of the proceedings of the Common Council worthy of note, until October 27th of the latter year, when the County Clerk reported to the Board that, according to a recent canvass, the population of the city was as follows:

Males.....	13,712
Females.....	14,373
Total.....	28,085

There were then 4,489 voters in the city. There was a universal dissatisfaction with the returns of this census. At a meeting of the Common Council November 9th, a committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of ordering a new census.

On January 1, 1836, Erastus Corning was inaugurated Mayor of the City. In that year the elections for members of the Board took place for the first time at the annual spring elections. The following are other measures which had been adopted that year:

"The equalization of the wards; the reduction of the rates of ferriage at the Greenbush Ferry from 33 to 50 per cent.; the improvements in the basin; the improvements being made by the Government in the river; the improvement in the city finances, by which the city debt had been reduced \$65,000 in two years, and of nearly \$269,000 due in 1817, but \$95,000 now remained to be liquidated. The Mayor called attention to the importance of supplying the city with pure water; of establishing grades between Eagle and Lark streets; to the near completion of the Utica and Schenectady Railway as a source of increased business to the city; the prospect of an uninterrupted railway to Buffalo, and to the great importance of a railroad to connect with the Boston road at Stock-bridge."

The Common Council, March 28, 1836, voted to close the Lancaster School in Eagle street.

About this time the Common Council adopted a resolution to open a space in the pier between the Columbia and State street bridges; also to allow the Hudson and Mohawk railroad to continue its track from Gansevoort street, north to Ferry street. June 20, 1836, the Common Council decided to widen Church street. The condition of the City finances was reported to the Board on that day to be as follows:

Bonds due Commissioners of the Canal fund:

At five per cent.....	\$75,000 00
Bonds to St. Peter's Church.....	5,000 00
Temporary Loans.....	42,000 00
Award Maiden Lane; balance due Mary Gansevoort and Thomas McElroy.....	16,383 00
	<u>\$138,883 00</u>

Amount due the city.....	\$117,242 37
Stocks held by the city.....	43,120 59
	160,262 96
Balance in favor of city.....	<u>\$21,479 96</u>

The population of the city in 1840, as reported by the canvassers to the Common Council on December 4th of that year, was 33,627. This was an increase of about 36 per cent. in the lapse of ten years.

From 1840 to 1850, we find very few of the reports of the proceedings of the Common Council. But during this time new streets were opened and old ones widened and extended; sewers were constructed, and all the city institutions were in a prosperous condition. The following Chamberlain's Report, for the year ending May 1, 1850, exhibits the condition of the finances of the city.

Says the Chamberlain in his report:

The aggregate amount received from all sources during the past year, including \$41,668.78, the balance on hand, is.....	\$695,366 67
Expenditure during the same time.....	627,635 42
Leaving a balance May 1, 1850, of.....	<u>\$67,731 34</u>

In the year 1844, when the annual report of the Chamberlain was made, the city had available means, applicable to the support of the city government, of.....	\$19,464 67
In the year 1845.....	10,677 81
" " 1846.....	6,797 98
" " 1847.....	793 70
" " 1848.....	662 35
" " 1849.....	41,668 78
" " 1850.....	67,731 34

"The large balance of 1849, and the still larger of 1850, are the results of the operations of the law of 1848. In former years the amount raised by tax for support of the city government was nearly, if not entirely, exhausted on the 1st of May, by its application to the payment of temporary loans. These loans were made in anticipation of the annual taxes, and the means realized therefrom were required for the ordinary expenditures of the city. By a strict adherence to the requirements of the law above referred to, and a due regard to economy in the administration of the affairs of the city, these temporary expedients may be in a great degree, if not entirely, avoided.

"LOANS AND INTEREST.—The amount of temporary and other loans made during the past year is \$190,000.

During the same period, the amount paid and canceled by the city was.....	\$192,008 75
Cash paid to Trustees of Sinking Fund for same purpose.....	178,700 00
	<u>\$370,708 75</u>

Making a diminution in the debt of the city in one year of.....	\$180,708 75
The amount raised by tax during the past year on account of interest on the city debt was..	45,500 00
Amount received from the Albany and Schenectady Railroad Company, and other sources.	9,830 74

Making a total of.....	\$55,330 74
The expenditure for the same time.....	61,991 11
Leaving a deficiency of.....	<u>\$6,660 37</u>

"This deficiency was caused by the accumulation of interest on the bonds held by the State, and which were paid and canceled by carrying into effect the law of 1849, above referred to."

In the Mayor's statement on the financial condition of the city, he gives the following:

"On the first of May, 1848, the debt of the city (exclusive of certain loans so amply secured that they cannot be considered absolute liabilities of the city) amounted to \$752,896.93. Since that date, this debt has been reduced \$211,764.90; and the exact amount of the same at this time is \$541,132.03.

"The population of the city as shown by the last census, which was taken in 1845, was 42,189. The increase during the then previous five years was 8,476. The census of this year will probably show the present population to be over 50,000.

"The value of the taxable property in the city, as shown by the assessment rolls returned to the Board of Supervisors in November, 1849, was \$11,971,203.

"The taxable property in the City of Albany at this time may safely be estimated at \$18,000,000."

There are no printed minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany before October 6, 1858. The minutes of December 6, 1858, are the first which we can find.

At this time Hon. Eli Perry was Mayor; Hon. William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: James Schuyler, one year; Henry Mix, two years, First Ward. Michael Delehanty, one year; Thomas Schuyler, two years, Second Ward. Nehemiah Osborne, one year; Isaac N. Keeler, two years, Third Ward. Philip Wendell, one year; Horace L. Emery, two years, Fourth Ward. Albion Ransom, one year; Charles B. Redfield, two years, Fifth Ward. James A. Wilson, one year; George H. Thacher, two years, Sixth Ward. Thomas Kearney, one year; Thomas Matimore, two years, Seventh Ward. John Evers, one year; Martin White, two years, Eighth Ward. E. L. Judson, one year; Charles Bell, two years, Ninth Ward. Charles W. Bender, one year; William P. Brayton, two years, Tenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Henry A. Clement, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain and Deputy Excise Officer; Louis Wiles, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Henry T. Bradt, Marshal; John B. Sturtevant, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; Jacob C. Koonz, Assistant Surveyor; William H. Craig, Alms-house Physician; George H. Herbert, Overseer of the Poor; William Hurst, Superintendent of Alms-house; William T. Wooley, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Philip Fredenrich, Superintendent of Markets; Hiram Gilbert, Superintendent of Northern District; John Franks, Superintendent Southern District; Edward Bailey, Superintendent of Lamps; James Kinnear, Chief Engineer Fire Department; John Donahoe, Superintendent of Hose Depot; ——— Belknap, President Fire Department; Visscher Ten Eyck, Treasurer Fire Department; Thomas Wilson, Secretary of Fire Department; Archibald Young, Col-

lector; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent Waterworks; Erastus Corning, John Taylor, Visscher Ten Eyck, John L. Schoolcraft, John McKnight, Water Commissioners; J. J. Gallup, one year, William C. McHarg, two years, Henry P. Nugent, three years, Justices of Justices' Court.

The Supervisors for this year appear in the History of the Supervisors.

James Boyle, one year; I. Cunningham, two years; Richard D. Betts, three years, City Assessors. John O. Cole, John Simpson, John Tracy, Henry Russell, William A. Rice, William A. Young, George W. Carpenter, Eli Perry, C. L. Austin, School Commissioners. Amos Adams, Chief of Police. John O. Cole, one year; S. H. H. Parsons, three years, Police Justices. The Mayor, two Police Justices, Visscher Ten Eyck, John McKnight, Police Commissioners. John A. Hyatt, Dock-master.

The report of the City Chamberlain shows the following receipts and disbursements for the year ending November 1, 1858:

Receipts \$505,552 76

Disbursements were the same in amount.

According to a resolution of the Board, passed May 17, 1859, J. B. Sturtevant, City Attorney, submitted his report September 6, 1859, by which it appears there were 61 causes on his calendar in various stages of progress.

By the Chamberlain's report of September 19, 1859, a large number of lots appear to have been sold by the city, subject to quit rents at that time due the Corporation. Another report shows the lands on which the rents have been commuted and released by the city, with the amount received for such commutations, where and by whom paid, commencing May 3, 1843.

At the annual meeting of the Board, May 7, 1860—present: George H. Thacher, Mayor; C. L. Austin, Recorder—the following Aldermen were sworn in: Owen Golden, First Ward; Michael Delehanty, Second Ward; John C. Feltman, Third Ward; Philip Wendell, Fourth Ward; James L. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Alanson A. Sumner, Sixth Ward; Terence J. Quin, Seventh Ward; John Evers, Eighth Ward; Wm. J. Humphrey, Ninth Ward; George W. Luther, Tenth Ward. Henry A. Allen was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Sixth Ward made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Thacher, May 1, 1860.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Clinton Cassidy, City Attorney; Bartholomew Judge, City Marshal; James L. Babcock, Alms-house Physician; Wm. L. Osborn, Overseer of the Poor; John Hart, Clerk City Superintendent; Wm. T. Wooley, Inspector Weights and Measures; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor; James Brown, Assistant City Surveyor.

WARD PHYSICIANS.—Cornelius D. Mosher, First Ward; James Cox, Second Ward; Charles P. Staats, Third Ward; Oscar H. Young, Fourth Ward; Frederick C. Adams, Fifth and Sixth Wards; John J. Myers, Seventh Ward; Addison S. Harlow, Eighth Ward; O. C. Alexander, Tenth Ward.

At a meeting of the Board June 25, 1860, the City Attorney gave his opinion that "there is no authority for the expense of laying crosswalks being made a general tax."

The report of the Chamberlain for the year ending November 1, 1860, shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1859.....	\$24,210 31	
Receipts for current year.....	448,418 58	
		\$472,628 89
Disbursements	\$423,276 93	
On hand Nov. 1, 1860.....	49,351 96	
		\$472,628 89

On May 7, 1861, the Board met for the purpose of organizing.

The following newly elected Aldermen were sworn in, and took their seats, viz.: John Tracey, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rodgers, Second Ward; John W. Harcourt, Third Ward; Wm. Hastings,

Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., Fifth Ward; Samuel Anable, Sixth Ward; Patrick M. McCall, Eighth Ward; John Phillips, Ninth Ward; Joseph L. Rice, Tenth Ward.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Clinton Cassidy, City Attorney; Bartholomew Judge, City Marshal; Thomas Smith, Alms-house Physician; Wm. L. Osborn, Overseer of Poor; Wm. C. Birmingham, Clerk City Superintendent; Wm. T. Wooley, Inspector Weights and Measures; R. H. Bingham, City Surveyor; James Brown, Assistant City Surveyor.

WARD PHYSICIANS.—Geo. Steinert, First Ward; James Cox, Second Ward; Henry Case, Third Ward; Peter E. Sickler, Fourth Ward; F. C. Adams, Fifth and Sixth Wards; Joseph N. Northrup, Eighth Ward; Charles H. Smith, Ninth Ward; L. P. Van Hoesen, Tenth Ward.

The details of the City Bonded Debt, contracted prior to May 1, 1848, are shown in the following table, which does not, however, include the loan on the Western Railroad Corporation.

BONDS. WHEN PAYABLE.	RATE OF INTEREST.			INTEREST, WHEN AND WHERE PAYABLE.	TOTAL.
	5 per cent.	6 per cent.	7 per cent.		
On demand.....		\$4,350	\$1,500	At Chamberlain's Office	\$5,850
In 1862		20,000		In New York, 1st January and July.....	20,000
In 1864	\$50,000			In Boston, 1st May and November	50,000
In 1865		100,000		" " 1st January and July.....	100,000
In 1866		75,000		At Chamberlain's Office.....	75,000
In 1867		20,000		In New York, 1st January and July.....	20,000
In 1868		20,000		" " "	20,000
In 1869		10,000		" " "	10,000
In 1870	21,000			" " 1st June and December.....	21,000
In 1871	20,000			" " "	20,000
In 1872	20,000			" " "	20,000
In 1873	20,000			" " "	20,000
In 1874	19,000			" " "	19,000
	\$150,000	\$249,350	\$1,500		\$400,000

Since 1851 the city has been gradually reducing its debt.

November 1, 1851, the city debt proper	amounted to	\$626,532.03
Paid in year ending Nov. 1, 1852,	\$47,426.03	
" " " " 1853,	26,000.00	
" " " " 1854,	3,000.00	
" " " " 1855,	23,590.00	
" " " " 1856,	39,000.00	
" " " " 1857,	7,300.00	
" " " " 1858,	17,966.00	
" " " " 1859,	20,800.00	
" " " " 1860,	20,600.00	
" " " " 1861,	20,000.00	
		\$225,682.03

Balance, November 1, 1861.....\$400,850.00

The Chamberlain's Office at Albany is a model of industry, order and efficiency. It is believed that there is no other public office in this State where so much is done at so little expense, and by so small a force.

The annual meeting of the Board was held May 6, 1862. Hon. Eli Perry, Mayor; Hon. Charles L. Austin, Recorder.

Aldermen: John Tracey, Bernard Reynolds, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rogers, Thomas McCarty, Second Ward; John W. Harcourt, John Kennedy, Jr., Third Ward; William Hastings, William Orr, Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., James I. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Samuel Anabel, Abraham A. Wemple, Sixth Ward; Edward Mulcahy, Terence J. Quinn, Seventh Ward; Michael A. Sheehan, Thomas J. Cowell, Eighth Ward; John Phillips, George I. Amsdell, Ninth Ward; Joseph T. Rice, Edward Wilson, Tenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain and Deputy Excise Officer; Lewis Wiles, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; A. Cuyler Ten Eyck, Marshal; Clinton Cassidy, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; James Brown, Assistant Surveyor; Owen Golden, Alms-house Physician; Samuel C. Harris, Inspector of Weights and Measures; William Hartnett, Superintendent of Markets; James Allen, Superintendent N. D.; Richard Carr, Jr., Superintendent S. D.; Patrick Powers,

Superintendent of Lamps; John J. Riley, Clerk of City Superintendents; James McQuade, Chief Engineer, Fire Department; Thomas Fayles, Charles Lightfoot, John Daly, Patrick Campion, Assistants; John Donohue, Superintendent Hose Depot; George E. Latham, President Fire Department; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent of Water-works; Erastus Corning, John Taylor, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, James Kidd, Water Commissioners.

John O. Cole, two years, S. H. H. Parsons, four years, Police Justices; J. J. Gallup, one year, William Gillespie, two years, H. P. Nugent, three years, Justices of Justices' Court; John L. Hyatt, Dock-master.

The report of the Chamberlain for the year ending November 1, 1862, shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1861.....	\$40,906.40	
Receipts for current year.....	525,749.14	
		\$566,652.54
Disbursements.....	\$463,528.19	
On hand Nov. 1, 1862.....	103,124.35	
		\$566,652.54

The city reduced its debt this year \$20,000, leaving a balance November 1, 1862, of \$380,850.

An organization of the New Board was made May 5, 1863. Eli Perry, Mayor.

Aldermen: John Tracey, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rogers, Second Ward; James McIntyre, Third Ward; Francis N. Sill, Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., Fifth Ward; John R. McCollum, Sixth Ward; Edward Mulcahy, Seventh Ward; James C. Nolan, Eighth Ward; Richard Barhydt, Ninth Ward; William Gould, Tenth Ward. Martin Delahanty, Clerk; Samuel Hand, Attorney; L. P. Van Hoesen, Alms-house-Physician; Owen Golden, Superintendent of Almshouse; Joseph Whalen, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Patrick Powers, Superintendent of Lamps; Erastus Corning, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, James Kidd, Peter Cagger, Water Commissioners. The other city officers are the same as last year.

In June, 1863, an able paper was laid before the Common Council, requesting their immediate attention to a plan for providing and opening a public park in the City of Albany. The paper is long, but is ably written, urging the necessity of a place of beauty in which the working and the business men of the city might seek rest and pleasure, with their families, within their own city.

On September 12, 1863, Articles of Association were made and entered into, under and pursuant to the provisions of an act entitled "An Act to Authorize the Formation of Railroad Corporations, and to Regulate the Same." The name of the said association or company was to be the Albany Railway.

City finances from November 1, 1862, to November 1, 1863:

Balance on hand, Nov. 1, 1862..	\$103,124 35	
Receipts for current year.....	608,422 88	
		\$711,547 21
Disbursements.....	\$607,946 69	
On hand Nov. 1, 1863.....	103,600 52	
		\$711,547 21

On May 3, 1864, the Board met at their annual meeting. Eli Perry, Mayor. William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: Bernard Reynolds, First Ward; Thomas McCarty, Second Ward; John Kennedy, Jr., Third Ward; Le Grand Bancroft, Fourth Ward; James I. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Lemon Thomson, Sixth Ward; Bartholomew Judge, Seventh Ward; Edward J. Kearney, Eighth Ward; George I. Amsdell, Ninth Ward; William Gould (to fill vacancy), Edmund L. Judson (for full term), Tenth Ward.

Jeptha R. Boulware, Alms-house Physician.

Annual report of the Chamberlain's office for the year ending November 1, 1864:

Balance on hand, Nov. 1, 1863.	\$103,600 22	
Receipts for current year.....	756,936 82	
		\$863,737 04
Disbursements.....	\$706,981 34	
On hand Nov. 1, 1864.....	66,555 70	
		\$863,737 04

CITY BONDED DEBT PAID SINCE 1851.—The city debt proper amounted on November 1, 1841, to \$626,532.03. June 14, 1864, issue of City Bonds, \$100,000, making a total of \$726,532.03. Since November 1, 1851, there has been paid \$295,682.03, leaving a balance November 1, 1864, of \$430,850.

On May 2, 1865, the Board convened for the annual meeting, at which time the new members of the Board were sworn in by Mayor Perry. Wm. S. Paddock, Recorder.

Timothy Sullivan, First Ward; Thomas Mulhall, Second Ward; John C. Ward, Third Ward; H. D. Burlingame, Fourth Ward; John N. Parker, Fifth Ward; William Dalton, Sixth Ward; Andrew Kean, Seventh Ward; Charles T. Shepard, Eighth Ward; Richard Barhydt, Ninth Ward; John B. Sturtevant, Tenth Ward.

James McIntyre, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Charles A. Hills, Assistant; L. M. Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house.

Alderman McCarty offered a resolution in relation to the application made by the Legislature concerning the terms that the City of Albany offered for having the New Capitol located in the city.

The Mayor, on February 23, 1865, by the authority of the Common Council, made a communication to the Legislature of the State offering, on behalf of the State, the property known as "Congress Hall Block, in case the Legislature should pass a law for the erection of a New Capitol, and locate the same upon the site of the present Capitol and the grounds adjacent.

"The Legislature accepted the proposition and passed the law for erecting the New Capitol at Albany; therefore

"Resolved, That the provisions of the Act of the Legislature be and the same are accepted by this Board, and this Board do purchase and cause to be conveyed to the State the property before specified." This property was purchased by the Common Council for the sum of \$125,555, and in September of that year was deeded to the State.

The Chamberlain's report for the year ending November 1, 1865, is as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1864..	\$66,555 70	
Receipts for current year	905,457 60	
		\$972,013 30
Disbursements.....	\$883,210 77	
On hand Nov. 1, 1864.....	88,802 53	
		\$972,013 30

A special meeting was called January 22, 1866, to consider the method of providing for the purchase money of the Congress Hall Block, and to authorize the issuing of City Bonds for the payment of the same. The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That, pursuant to authority conferred upon the Board by Chap. 2, Laws of New York, passed January 12, 1866, the Chamberlain, under the direction of the Finance Committee, be and he is authorized to negotiate, upon such terms as may be deemed best for the interests of the city, a loan of \$190,000, bearing interest from the first day of February next, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and the principal to be reimbursed as follows: \$10,000 at the expiration of nineteen years from the first of February, and the sum of \$20,000 in each succeeding year thereafter till all is paid."

May 1, 1866.—Hon. George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen: Michael Murphy, First Ward; Thomas Farrell, Second Ward; William H. Taylor, Third Ward; William M. Gregory, Fourth Ward; Peter M. Carmichael, Fifth Ward; Lemon Thomson, Sixth Ward; Bartholomew Judge, Seventh Ward; James D. Walsh, Eighth Ward; Borden H. Mills, Ninth Ward; Edmund L. Judson, Tenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—George W. Warren, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Samuel Moffatt, Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlains and Receivers of Taxes; Henry McBride, Marshal; William H. Greene, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; Henry T. Carpenter, Assistant Surveyor; William Craig, Alms-house Physician; James Pettit, Overseer of Poor; Lemuel Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house; Richard Groom, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Albert Goodwin, Superintendent of N. S.; Cyrus L. Woodruff, Superintendent of S. S.; Frank E. Cuyler, Clerk of Superintendents; George Searles, Superintendent of Markets; James McQuade, Chief Engineer of Fire Departments; William Thompson, J. C. Griffin, Patrick Campion, William H. Smith, Assistants; Edward Scannell, Superintendent Hose Depot; James H. Mulligan, President Fire Department; Vischer Ten Eyck, Treasurer; John R. Stewart, Secretary; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent of Water-works; Erastus Corning, James Kidd, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Peter Cagger, Water Commissioners.

William C. Schuyler, Henry P. Nugent, John J. Gallup, Justices of Justices' Court; John O. Cole, S. H. H. Parsons, Police Justices; Marshal Tebut, Superintendent of Lamps; Campbell Allen,

Superintendent of Police; John L. Hyatt, Dockmaster.

Receipts and disbursements at the Chamberlain's office from November 1, 1865, to November 1, 1866:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1865..	\$55,802 53	
Receipts for current year.....	961,026 75	
		\$1,049,829 28
Disbursements.....	\$978,037 71	
On hand Nov. 1, 1866.....	71,791 57	
		\$1,049,829 28

The Common Council met May 7, 1867. George H. Thacher, Mayor; William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: Timothy Sullivan, Thomas Mulhall, Nehemiah Osborn, Adam Cook, John N. Parker, Abraham A. Wemple, Oscar L. Hascy, George E. Latham, Robert Lenox Banks and John B. Sturtevant.

William Morgan was appointed Assistant Overseer of the Poor, and T. J. Grogan, President of the Fire Department.

The annual report of the Chamberlain was as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1866...	\$71,791 57	
Receipts for current year.....	807,657 17	
		\$879,448 74
Disbursements.....	\$800,816 27	
On hand Nov. 1, 1867.....	78,632 47	
		\$879,448 74

Regular meeting of the Board, May 5, 1868—Charles E. Bleecker, Mayor; Simon W. Rosendale, Recorder.

Aldermen: Hugh McCann, Alexander Kennedy, Jonathan E. Herrick, Charles D. Mills, George Evans, James E. Walker, Michael Lyman, Michael S. McGue, Adam W. Smith and Charles G. Craft.

CITY OFFICERS.—Isaac Vanderpoel, Attorney; Charles P. Staats, Alms-house Physician; A. Cuyler Ten Eyck, Marshal; William L. Osborne, Overseer of the Poor; Daniel O'Keefe, Inspector of Weights and Measures; James Brennan, Superintendent S. S.; Richard Barhydt, Superintendent N. S.; William E. Murphy, Clerk of Street Superintendents; J. J. Huber, Superintendent of Lamps.

Fire Commissioners: C. E. Bleecker, Mayor, President; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary; Lansing Pruyn, M. B. V. Winne, George Curler and Edward Wilson. James McQuade, Chief of Fire Department.

The Common Council, in December, 1867, appropriated the sum of \$15,000 for the construction of a fire alarm telegraph for the City of Albany, and in June, 1868, the working of the fire alarm telegraph, which had been constructed, was voted placed under the control and direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

On March 16, 1868, proposals were advertised for the erection of a public building, to be erected on the Market lot. On June 30th, it was ordered that the sum of \$50,000 be appropriated for the erection of a building on the present market site in South Pearl street, to accommodate the Second Police Precinct, Police Commissioners, Fire Commissioners, Chief of Fire Department, Police Court, Justices' Court and Overseer of the Poor.

The Chamberlain's report for the year shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1867 ...	\$78,632 47	
Receipts for current year.....	890,307 19	
		\$968,939 66
Disbursements.....	\$871,155 63	
On hand Nov. 1, 1868.....	97,784 03	
		\$968,939 66

The new Board was organized May 4, 1869—Charles E. Bleecker, Mayor; Simon W. Rosendale, Recorder.

Aldermen: John Burke, Thomas Mulhall, Nehemiah Osborn, Peter Foland, John N. Parker, Ralph W. Thacher, Terence J. Quinn, Wm. B. Scott, Albert C. Judson, Andrew M. Combs.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk of the Common Council; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Thomas A. Stuart, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; A. C. Ten Eyck, Marshal; E. J. Meegan, Attorney; James Browne, Surveyor; Charles P. Staats, Alms-house Physician; William Osborn, Overseer of the Poor; Lemuel M. Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house; Thomas Whalen, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Richard Barhydt, Superintendent of Streets, S. S.; J. J. Huber, Superintendent of Lamps; John Flood, Clerk of Street Superintendent. Fire Commissioners: C. E. Bleecker, Mayor, President; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary; M. N. Nolan.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REPORT.

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1868..	\$97,784 03	
Receipts for current year.....	1,367,647 01	
		\$1,465,431 04
Disbursements.....	\$1,338,109 52	
On hand Nov. 1, 1869.....	127,321 52	
		\$1,465,431 04

At a meeting of the Common Council, held March 19, 1870, His Honor the Mayor said, that on account of the passage of the New Charter by the State Legislature, it became necessary to re-district the wards, appoint Inspectors of Election and designate the places for holding polls for the coming charter election. The meeting was devoted to these purposes.

The Dongan Charter in 1686, with few amendments, came down to the revolution. After the revolution, with such amendments as the State Constitution and Laws required, it continued to be the fundamental law of the city until March 16, 1870, when the Charter was largely amended by an Act of the Legislature, passed on that day.

This Act provided that the Corporation, hitherto known by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, shall continue to be a body politic and corporate in fact and in name, by the name of the City of Albany, and shall have perpetual succession, with all the grants, powers and privileges heretofore had by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and be subject to all the restrictions and conditions and possess all the powers of a municipal corporation, under and by virtue of the General Statutes of the State.

2d. The Corporation of the City of Albany shall continue to own, hold and possess all the property, rights, privileges and franchises now owned, held and possessed by the corporation heretofore

known as the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany.

At the annual meeting, May 3, 1870, George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen-at-large: Philip Fitzsimmons, John Evers, Robert H. Moore, William M. Van Antwerp.

Aldermen: John Burke, First Ward; James H. Simmons, Second Ward; James Quin, Third Ward; John Stuart, Fourth Ward; Matthew Quin, Fifth Ward; Royal Bancroft, Sixth Ward; John N. Parker, Seventh Ward; James Morris, Eighth Ward; Terence J. Quinn, Ninth Ward; John Laughlin, Tenth Ward; William B. Scott, Eleventh Ward; James Allen, Twelfth Ward; Albert C. Judson, Thirteenth Ward; Charles Senrick, Fourteenth Ward; Benjamin V. Z. Wemple, Fifteenth Ward; Cornelius Hill, Sixteenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Thomas J. Lanahan, First Clerk; Thomas Hogan, Second Clerk; Lucius G. Hoyt, Inspector.

Street Department: George H. Thacher, Mayor; Philip Fitzsimmons, President of Common Council; John Stuart, James Allen, Albert C. Judson, Aldermen; A. M. Combs, Street Commissioner; R. H. Bingham, City Engineer and Surveyor; J. C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: George H. Thacher, Mayor; Philip Fitzsimmons, President of Common Council; John Evers, Terence J. Quinn, William M. Van Antwerp, Aldermen; J. C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: John Evers, B. V. Z. Wemple, Aldermen; E. J. Meegan, Corporation Counsel.

Daniel M. Stinson, City Physician; George W. Hoxie, Overseer of the Poor; James Farley, Superintendent City Buildings; Edward Brennan, John Daly, James Rice, Assessors; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent Water-works.

In the Mayor's address he particularly mentions the condition of the various departments of the city. During the two last years \$350,000 was added to the bonded debt. The valuation of property, previously high, had been increased to the extent of \$2,234,000, and the rate of taxation for 1869 was \$3.54 per \$100.

For the first time in the corporate life of the city, then over 183 years, the veto power was conferred upon the Mayor.

About thirty suits were at this time pending against the city. The aggregate claims exceeded \$160,000.

On Monday, February 13, 1870, the annual report of the City Chamberlain showed the following:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1869..	\$127,321 52	
Receipts for current year.....	1,510,538 37	
		\$1,637,859 89
Disbursements.....	\$1,448,487 36	
On hand Nov. 1, 1870.....	187,372 53	
		\$1,637,859 89

The Park Commissioners show progress in the improvements of Washington Park; and in the first annual report show the total receipts to January 20th to have been \$55,970.39.

The annual meeting was held May 7, 1872—George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen: Robert H. Moore, William Casey, Thomas Mulhall, Richard Bortle, David N. Glazier, Henry S. Van Santford, Philip Mattimore, John G. Burch, James A. Fahy, Robert Aspinwall, Thomas Cavanaugh, Townsend Fondey, Royal Bancroft, Joseph McCann, Albert Brumaghim.

CITY OFFICERS.—John G. Burch, President; Hale Kingsley, Clerk; James L. Babcock, City Physician.

The Chamberlain's report for the year ending November 1, 1872, is as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1871..	\$366,989 14	
Receipts for current year.....	1,080,323 18	
		\$1,447,312 32
Disbursements	\$1,266,410 28	
On hand Nov. 1, 1872.....	180,902 04	
		\$1,447,312 32

William N. S. Sanders was appointed Chamberlain of the City, and John F. Batchelder, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes.

In 1874 Mayor Thacher was declared re-elected, but his seat was contested by E. L. Judson. John G. Burch acted as Mayor from January 28 till April, 1874, when E. L. Judson was decided elected for the unexpired term of Thacher and also the full term.

The proceedings of two years of the Common Council are missing from the reports.

1876.—A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; John A. Luby, President of Common Council.

Aldermen: George Krank, First Ward; John G. Schneider, Second Ward; James H. Simmons, Third Ward; Wm. H. Keeler, Fourth Ward; Henry Van Hoesen, Fifth Ward; Robert K. Oliver, Sixth Ward; S. H. H. Parsons, Seventh Ward; Thomas A. Becket, Eighth Ward; Patrick Dillon, Ninth Ward; Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; John A. Luby, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Christian Schurr, Thirteenth Ward; John P. Bradt, Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Hiram Bender, Sixteenth Ward.

Executive Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Francis S. Pruyn, First Clerk; A. Douw Lansing, Second Clerk; James Farley, Inspector.

Street Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; John A. Luby, President of Common Council; Thomas Cavanaugh, James H. Simmons, Christian Schurr, Aldermen; R. H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; Joseph McCann, Street Commissioner.

Law Department: S. S. H. Parsons, Thomas Cavanaugh, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen; Grenville Tremain, Corporation Council.

Finance Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; John W. Harcourt, Deputy Chamberlain; John A. Luby, President of Common Council; S. S. H. Parsons, Henry Van Hoesen, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; Joseph S. Paige, Chamberlain's Clerk; John W. Harcourt, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Receiver of Taxes; William S. Pad-

dock, Recorder; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Henry Fitch, Superintendent of Alms-house; Thomas J. Lanahan, Clerk of Board of Contract and Apportionment.

1877.—The City Officers for the year 1877 are the same as those of 1876, with the exception of the following:

Abraham Lansing, Corporation Council; Joseph McCann, Street Commissioner; Daniel V. O'Leary, City Physician.

1878.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President of Common Council.

Aldermen: John Zimmerman, First Ward; Thomas B. Franklin, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; Isaac Brilleman, Fifth Ward; William Manson, Sixth Ward; James McKinney, Seventh Ward; James H. Harrigan, Eighth Ward; Patrick Dillon, Ninth Ward; Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; David M. Alexander, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Theodore M. Amsdell, Thirteenth Ward; William Deyermant, Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Allston Adams, Sixteenth Ward.

Executive Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Desmond S. Lamb, First Clerk; William D. Dickerman, Second Clerk; John J. Norton, Third Clerk; Charles Senrick, Inspector.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President; James H. Harrigan, David M. Alexander, Conrad Degen, Aldermen; William H. Keeler, Street Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Lucien Tufts, Jr., Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President; Michael Gorman, William Deyermant, Conrad Degen, Aldermen; Lucien Tufts, Jr., Chamberlain; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: James H. Harrigan, John T. Gorman, Allston Adams, Aldermen; Simon W. Rosendale, Corporation Council.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk of Common Council; Joseph Y. Paige, Chamberlain's Clerk; Edward J. Giraty, Deputy Receiver of Taxes; James O'Byrne, City Marshal; Matthias Bissikummer, Deputy; W. S. Paddock, Recorder; James Browne, Deputy Surveyor and Engineer; John A. Luby, Superintendent of Alms-house; James McQuade, Chief Engineer Fire Department; John Maloy, Chief of Police; William J. Weaver, William J. Flynn, Henry T. Bradt, City Assessors; William K. Clute, John C. Nott, Police Justices.

1879.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Thomas Cavanaugh, President of Common Council; John Zimmerman, First Ward; Thomas B. Franklin, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; Isaac Brilleman, Fifth Ward; William Manson, Sixth Ward; James McKinney, Seventh Ward; James H. Harrigan, Eighth Ward; Edwin V. Kirtland, Ninth Ward; Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; David M. Alexander, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Theodore M. Amsdell, Thirteenth Ward; William Deyermant,

Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Alston Adams, Sixteenth Ward.

Department officers are the same as last year.

Washington Park Commissioners: John H. Van Antwerp, President; R. W. Peckham, James D. Wasson, Robert L. Johnson, R. Lenox Banks, Daniel Manning, George Dawson, J. G. Farnsworth, Dudley Olcott.

Water Commissioners: Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Erastus Corning, John M. Kimball. Vacancy.

Police Commissioners: M. N. Nolan, *ex officio*, President; James McIntyre, Michael Schrodt, William M. Bender, Richard B. Rock.

Fire Commissioners: M. N. Nolan, *ex officio*, President; Jacob C. Cuyler, one year; Philip O'Brien, two years; Anthony N. Brady, three years; Henry S. Rosenthal, four years; Thomas Austin, five years.

1880.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Albert Gallup, President of Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Philip J. McCormick, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; Michael A. Murphy, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Michael Horan (died), Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; William McEwan, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce, Jr., Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Theodore D. Smith, Jr., Fourteenth Ward; Joseph McCann, Fifteenth Ward; Albert Gallup, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

The new City Officers this year were: William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Michael E. Higgins, City Marshal; Anthony Gould, Recorder; John J. O'Hara, Deputy City Surveyor and Engineer; John McKenna, Superintendent of Alms-house; James V. Viggers, Mayor's Third Clerk; William J. Burke, Inspector Public Buildings.

The City Hall was destroyed by fire on the morning of February 10, 1880.

Steps were immediately taken to rebuild the City Hall, and the matter was intrusted to a Committee on Public Buildings and three other members who were added to the above committee.

1881.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Albert Gallup, President of Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Philip McCormick, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; Michael A. Murphy, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Thomas A. Becket, Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; William McEwan, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce, Jr., Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Theodore D. Smith, Jr., Fourteenth Ward; Joseph McCann (died), Fifteenth Ward; Albert Gallup, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Rufus W. Peckham, Corporation Council; Lawrence Carey, Inspector.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Albert Gallup, President; James Carlisle, John T. Gorman, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen; William H. Keeler, Street Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor; Charles E. Hills, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Albert Gallup, President; Robert Bryce, Theodore Smith, Jr., William McEwan, Aldermen; Charles E. Hills, Chamberlain; William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: Theodore Smith, Jr., Robert Bryce, William McEwan, Aldermen; Rufus W. Peckham, Corporation Counsel.

1882.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: William H. Murray, President Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Jeremiah Kieley, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; James Lyons, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; George W. Beck, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Michael A. Nolan, Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; Austin S. Kibbee, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce (resigned), Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Charles W. Mead, Fourteenth Ward; James Thornton, Fifteenth Ward; William H. Murray, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Henry R. Haskins, City Physician; Robert Bryce, Street Commissioner.

Executive Department same as last year.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; William H. Murray, President Common Council; John Carey, James Lyons, George H. Beck, Aldermen; Robert Bryce, Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, Surveyor; Charles A. Hills, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; William H. Murray, President Common Council; James Lyon, John Carey, ——— (vacancy), Aldermen; C. A. Hills, Chamberlain; William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: Samuel C. Harris, William H. Murray, Charles W. Mead, Aldermen; R. W. Peckham, Corporation Council.

1883.—John Swinburne, Mayor.

Aldermen: William H. Murray, President Common Council. Members of the Board the same as 1882, with Patrick McCann in the vacancy of the Twelfth Ward.

DEPARTMENTS.—Executive: John Swinburne, Mayor; William H. Haskell, First Clerk; George D. Haskell, Second Clerk.

Board of Contract and Apportionment: John Swinburne, Mayor; William H. Murray, Robert Bryce, Jr., Reuben H. Bingham, Charles A. Hills.

Board of Finance: John Swinburne, William H. Murray, C. A. Hills, M. A. Nolan, Visscher Ten Eyck.

Trustees of Sinking Fund: John Swinburne; C. A. Hills, Visscher Ten Eyck.

Law Department: Samuel Harris, William H. Murray, Charles W. Mead; Henry Smith, Corporation Counsel.

Board of Audit: John Swinburne, William H. Murray, C. A. Hills.

Board of Health: John Swinburne, *ex officio*, President; Dr. A. Vanderveer, Dr. S. B. Ward, Thomas H. Dwyer, Robert Bryce, Jr., John McKenna, R. H. Bingham; Dr. D. V. O'Leary, Health Physician; Edward H. Long, Clerk; James Rooney, Lawrence Carey, William D. Dickerman, Inspectors.

We have given the names of the principal officers of the Corporation of the City of Albany under the Charter as amended by the Charter of 1870.

On April 23, 1883, the Charter of the City of Albany was again amended, of which the following is an outline:

This amendment retains all the sections, three in number, under Title 1 of said act.

Title 2 of said act defines the boundaries of the seventeen wards of the city, one ward having been added since the Act of 1870.

The various departments of the municipal government of Albany are established in Title 2, as follows:

The legislative power of said Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Aldermen, who shall form the Common Council of the City of Albany.

The Board of Aldermen consists of nineteen members, one Alderman to be elected from each of the seventeen wards, and two from the city-at-large. To be eligible for the office of Alderman, a citizen shall have resided in the ward, and in case of each Alderman-at-large, he shall have resided in the city for at least one year immediately prior to his election.

There was chosen by the electors, according to this Charter, on the second Tuesday of April, 1884, one Alderman from each ward, and two from the city-at-large, to hold their office for two years. There is to be a Charter election held in the city on the same day in every second year hereafter for the choice of Aldermen.

The Common Council shall, biennially, elect a President from its own body, and, in his absence, a President for the time being, and biennially appoint its Clerk, who shall receive a salary of twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, payable monthly. He may appoint an Assistant, who shall have a salary of \$600 a year. Every law, ordinance or resolution of the Common Council, before it takes effect, and within five days after its passage, must be sent to the Mayor's office. * * If the Mayor approve of such law, etc., he shall sign it, and it shall take effect immediately. If he does not approve it, he shall return it, with his objections, within ten days after it is delivered at his office.

The Common Council are Commissioners of Highways in and for said city.

The Charter defines the laws and ordinances which the Common Council has power to make, and the penalties for their violation. There are thirty-six of those provisions or ordinances. It is

provided that nothing in this act shall affect the powers, duties, rules, orders, or ordinances or regulations of the Board of Health, as they exist under the laws of the State. The Common Council shall have power to impeach the Mayor by a resolution passed by a resolution of two-thirds of all the members of the said Board.

THE EXECUTIVE POWER OF THE CORPORATION.—The executive power of the Corporation shall be vested in the Mayor. He shall be elected at a Charter election, and hold his office for the term of two years, commencing on the first Tuesday of May next after his election; and the Mayor elected at any election held hereafter shall not be eligible until one term shall intervene, and the acceptance hereafter of any other elective office by the Mayor shall operate to determine and end his term of office as Mayor. His office is in the City Hall, and is open daily for business between the hours of ten o'clock in the morning and four o'clock in the afternoon. His salary is three thousand five hundred dollars per year, to be paid monthly by the Chamberlain.

The duties of the Mayor of Albany are plainly set forth in the Charter, and his powers, though sufficiently guarded, are plenary.

It is his duty, among other things, to communicate to the Common Council, at least once in every year, a general statement of the finances, government and improvement of the city; to recommend to the Common Council all such measures connected with the security, health, cleanliness, and ornamentation of the city, and the protection of its government and finances, as he shall deem expedient; to call out and command the police and firemen, and to call together the citizens and commission special policemen during an emergency, and take all proper measures for the protection of the property and lives of the citizens in case of riot or disturbance.

He shall have power at any time to suspend, for neglect or omission to perform the duties of his office, for inattention to such duties of his office, or incompetency to well and efficiently to execute the same, any officer holding an office to which the Mayor has the power of appointment absolutely, or subject to the confirmation of the Common Council. After such suspension, notice must be given to the Common Council at its next meeting. The President, within five days, notifies the Recorder and the Law Committee of the said city of such fact, and that they are required to meet with him at a time and place designated. At the time and place the President, Common Council, Recorder and Law Committee are to meet. The Recorder presides. Ten days' notice must be given the officer suspended. The President, Recorder and Law Committee form a commission for the trial of the officer suspended or removed upon written charges to be made by the Mayor. The Clerk of the Common Council attends the meetings as Clerk of the Commission. The record of its proceedings is filed with the Clerk of the Common Council. In the event of no dismissal, the city shall pay the cost and expenses of the officer so tried.

CITY OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR.—The following officers are appointed biennially by the Mayor: a Chamberlain, Receiver of Taxes, City Engineer and Surveyor, Street Commissioner, City Marshal, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Overseer of the Poor, Superintendent of the Alms-house, and one City Physician. These appointments (except the Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes, which shall be made on the eve of the Fast-day of St. Michael the Archangel) shall be sent to the Common Council for confirmation at the next regular meeting after their appointment.

He also appoints the Assessors of the city. He also appoints, within three months after his election, a Corporation Counsel, six District Physicians, four city Bell-ringers, and such clerks and subordinates, not exceeding two, as he may require. Such Bell-ringers, clerks and subordinates hold their position at the pleasure of the Mayor.

He shall also appoint a Janitor, who shall have the care of the city buildings on South Pearl street. The Janitor may appoint an assistant.

CORPORATION COUNSEL.—The Corporation Counsel acts as the legal adviser of the Common Council and of the several Officers, Boards, and Commissioners of the City, who shall not employ other counsel. His salary is \$6,000 per year, and he receives no fees. He gives bonds for the faithful performance of all his official duties. He may appoint an assistant, whose salary is to be paid by him. The Corporation Counsel may, with the written consent of the Mayor, employ other counsel in the management of important cases in which the city is interested.

CHAMBERLAIN.—This officer receives all the money due or payable to the Corporation, and collects all assessments, apportionments, and rents. He receives and disburses all moneys raised by tax in the city, including money raised by county tax for the maintenance of the Alms-house therein. His salary is \$3,500 per year, payable monthly. He has authority to appoint a Deputy Chamberlain, with the approval of the Mayor. His salary is \$1,500 per year.

Both these officers must give heavy bonds for the faithful discharge of their duties.

The Mayor, Chamberlain, and President of the Common Council constitute a Board of Audit, and examine, audit, adjust, and settle all accounts, claims, debts and demands payable out of the moneys in the Chamberlain's hands appropriated for the Alms-house. Before these demands are audited, the Board is authorized to issue subpoenas to the claimants, or any other person, to compel their attendance before the Board for examination touching said demands.

These are among the duties of the Chamberlain. They, with his other duties, render his office one of the most important connected with the city government.

RECEIVER OF TAXES.—It is the duty of this officer to receive all taxes provided by law, and to retain in his possession the assessment rolls and warrants which shall from time to time be delivered

to him by the Supervisors; to enter daily, in suitable books kept for that purpose, the sums received for taxes, respectively with the name of the person on whose account the same may be paid, and the ward for which received; and he shall, at the expiration of office hours, exhibit such entries to the City Chamberlain, the amount received by him on such day, and pay over to that officer the amount so received.

It is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment not exceeding six months, and fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, for the Receiver of Taxes, or any person in the employment of the city, or for the County Treasurer, or any person in his employment of the county, to enter in his books any payment of taxes or water rates on a day different from that on which the same is paid; or to accept any less sum for such tax or water rate than the amount by law required to be paid, when such tax or water rate is in fact paid; or to throw off or deduct from the sum due any interest collectable thereon; or to make any false or untrue entry with respect thereto.

Thus we see how carefully the city government guards its interests against fraud and speculation.

The Board of Supervisors of the county causes the corrected assessment roll of each ward in the city to be delivered to the Receiver of Taxes for said city on or before the tenth day of December in every year, with a warrant, under the hands and seals of the members of the Board of Supervisors, or a majority of them, commanding such receiver to collect from the several persons named in the rolls the several sums mentioned in the last column of said roll opposite their respective names, and to pay over the same in manner directed in such warrant.

The County Treasurer examines the account of the arrears of taxes received from the Receiver of Taxes, and shall reject all taxes on land that shall there be imperfectly described, and on all taxes erroneously assessed in form or substance.

The duties of the Receiver of Taxes in case of non-payment thereof are admirably defined, and are more fully considered in the history of the Board of Supervisors.

THE COUNTY TREASURER receives, as compensation for his services, an annual salary to be fixed by the Board of Supervisors. He is not to receive any interest, fees, or compensation for his services, except in proceedings for the sale of land for unpaid taxes. In cases where payments are made after first publication of the notice of sale, or on the sale, he shall receive five per cent. on the amount, to be added to the tax. The County Treasurer transmits to the Comptroller an account of unpaid taxes assessed upon corporations, or upon the lands of non-residents or unknown owners, in the City of Albany, on any collector's affidavit thereto.

BOARD OF FINANCE.—The Common Council, under the Charter, at its first meeting in January, 1884, appointed a citizen of the city, not an office holder, to act with the Mayor and Chamberlain

as a Board of Trustees of the Sinking Fund of the city. Every third year after the first day of January aforesaid, there is to be a new appointment. The members are a body corporate, who, together with the President of the Common Council and one Alderman, to be designated by the Common Council, constitute a Board of Finance for the city.

BANKS DESIGNATED FOR DEPOSIT.—The Board of Finance designates, after notice duly published twice in each week, for two weeks, in the Corporation newspaper, two banks in the city, who are to give security, in which all moneys received by the Chamberlain shall be deposited, and shall fix, by agreement with the banks, the amount of interest to be paid on such deposits. The Board has power, after publication of the like notice, to change the banks.

CITY TAX BUDGET.—Among the duties of the said Board is that of annually preparing a city tax budget, which includes all sums required for every municipal purpose during the year next following the first day of January after such budget was prepared, and shall report the same to the Common Council.

BOARD OF CONTRACT AND APPORTIONMENT.—This is a very important Board, and in its practical working admirably protects the interests of the city. It consists of the Mayor, Chamberlain, Street Commissioner, City Engineer and Surveyor, and President of the Common Council. The Corporation Counsel or his assistant has a right to be present at every meeting. The Board meets on the first and third Monday of each and every month between the hours of 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. Reporters of newspapers may be present at most of the meetings.

This Board has charge, under the direction of the Common Council, of all the altering, regulating, grading, paving, repaving, flagging, curbing, guttering, cleaning, opening, draining, repairing and lighting the streets, roads, places, alleys and avenues; of fencing and filling building lots; repairing and lighting docks, wharves and piers; and of constructing and repairing public streets, drains, alleys and bridges.

It issues all proposals, receives all bids and awards all contracts for doing the foregoing work. All contracts, however, except for lighting the city, can be made for a longer period than two years.

Contracts are let to the lowest responsible bidder, who presents with his bid the bond required by law. All contracts and bonds are approved by the Corporation Counsel as to form and validity. The Board appoints biennially a clerk at a salary of \$2,000 per annum. He keeps all records and accounts of said Board.

It is the duty of this Board to apportion and assess all the expenses for work, labor and services performed and all the materials furnished, with the incidental cost and expenses attending the same. Such apportionment must be duly verified by the Street Commissioner, City Engineer and Surveyor, and ratified and approved by the Board of Contract and Apportionment. The provisions of the Char-

ter in regard to the duties of said Board are numerous, but we have given a synopsis of its most important duties.

The **STREET COMMISSIONER** appoints, with the approval of the Mayor, two Superintendents of Streets and one Superintendent of Lamps, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Commissioner. He is entitled to the services of the Clerk of the Board of Contract and Apportionment, when not engaged in the work of said Board. He may also employ, when necessary, not to exceed six day-laborers, to hold their places during his pleasure. Such Superintendents perform such work as shall be required of them by the Street Commissioner. Day-laborers are paid out of the Street Contingent Fund semi-monthly by the Chamberlain.

The Street Commissioner's salary is \$3,000 per year; that of the two Superintendents \$1,200 per year respectively. The Street Commissioner receives the further sum of \$500 per year for the maintenance of a horse and wagon, to be used by him in the discharge of his duties.

If necessary, he has power to employ not to exceed two teams, to be paid out of the Contingent Fund. He has power, from April 1st to November 15th in each year, to employ not to exceed four additional day-laborers. He has charge of lighting the city and to determine the position of lamps, and to see to all defects in the lighting the city.

All the oil, gas and electric lights of the city are supplied under contracts let by the Board of Contract and Apportionment.

CITY ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.—This officer appoints one deputy engineer and surveyor, with the approval of the Mayor; also one draughtsman and one rodman. These officers hold their office at the pleasure of the City Engineer. This official receives a salary of \$3,000 per year. His assistants receive \$1,000 per year and the rodman \$1,200. The City Engineer and assistants are fence viewers for the city.

The City Engineer makes all surveys, measurements, maps, profiles and diagrams necessary for the taking of any land by right of eminent domain, or for the widening, paving, repaving or otherwise altering or improving any street, avenue, alley, lane, square or lot in the city. He also decides all disputes between owners of land on each side of division fences, touching the method of construction or repairing such fences. The division of the fence between such owners, or the part each is to bear respectively in the expense thereof, shall be decided by the Deputy Engineer and Surveyor.

CITY PHYSICIAN.—It is the duty of this officer to visit the Alms house at least once in each day; to attend and administer medical assistance to the sick in the Alms-house, hospital, pest-house and other permanent or temporary buildings now erected, or hereafter to be erected, on the Alms-house Farm. He appoints one resident physician to assist in the discharge of his duties. He reports on the first day of each month, and oftener if required, to the Mayor, of the condition of the pas-

perism in the Alms-house; the persons admitted to the Pest-house, Lunatic Asylum and Hospital; when sent and by whom. He receives a salary of \$1,200 per annum, payable monthly, out of the Alms-house Fund. His assistants receive \$200 per annum.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ALMS-HOUSE.—This officer has charge and control of the poor and insane committed to the Alms-house, and of the real and personal property used for such purposes, and of the farm and appurtenances belonging to the same. He must give his undivided personal attention to the duties of his office, and cannot engage in any other trade or occupation.

All persons arrested upon charges of insanity shall be sent to the asylum attached to the Albany Alms-house, and it is the duty of the Superintendent of the Alms-house to transfer the said person or persons from the said asylum, when directed so to do by either of the Police Magistrates or the Chief of Police. The Superintendent must reside at the Alms-house in the city. He receives a salary of \$2,500 per year and provides his own table and that of his assistants, who reside at the Alms-house, from the money appropriated to the support of the Alms-house.

The **OVERSEER OF THE POOR** is the chief official connected with the charities of the city. He has the power of appointing one assistant, with the approval of the Mayor. It is one of his duties to make diligent inquiry as to the necessities of the persons applying for relief, and exercise his own judgment in granting or withholding relief. If he knows of any person disabled, sick or enfeebled, so as to be unable to work to maintain himself, with no visible means of support, about to become a public charge, it is the duty of the Overseer to investigate the antecedents of such person, whether he or she has any relatives legally bound to support such person; what his or her last place of residence was; and from what place he or she came into Albany County. If such poor persons have friends legally bound to take care of them, the Overseer institutes proceedings to compel them to take care of them. His salary is \$2,000. He can, with the approval of the Mayor, appoint one assistant at a salary of \$900 per annum, and may employ one additional assistant at a salary of not more than \$50 per month.

The **CITY MARSHAL** assists the Clerk of the Common Council in the execution of that office. He receives a salary of \$1,500 per year.

INSPECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—This officer receives no salary from the city. He is, however, entitled to such fees as the Common Council may ordain.

FEEs AND SALARIES OF OTHER CITY OFFICERS.—Each City District Physician receive a salary of \$400 per year, and shall reside in the district for which he is appointed. The Mayor's Clerks receive respectively \$1,500 and \$900 a year. The Bell-ringers, \$60 each. The two operators of the Lawrence Street Bridge receive, during the season of navigation, such compensation as the Mayor

deems sufficient; not to exceed the sum paid by the State of New York for similar services.

TAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC USE.—No part of the Charter of the City of Albany exhibits more wisdom, none more carefully protects the rights, privileges and immunities of the Municipality and the citizens, than that part contained in Title XVII of the Charter, which provides for taking private property for public use. It gives the Common Council, whenever it shall deem it necessary, the right to take, within the city, any ground or real estate, with the appurtenances, belonging to any person or persons, or corporation, for the purpose of laying out, opening, extending, straightening, widening, or altering any street, road, avenue, park, square, wharf or slip; or for the purpose of laying out, constructing or maintaining any drain, sewer, culvert or aqueduct; or for any other public purpose or use. But at the same time it gives property owners an easy, early and equitable mode of obtaining compensation for their lands taken under this section, and for all damages sustained by such taking.

THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER.—These are contained in Title XVIII of the Charter, which is divided into sixteen sections, eight of which are provisions for the punishment of city officials for receiving any fees, perquisites, compensation or commission, in addition to their salary, for the performance of any official duty; for the giving of ample security for the faithful performance of their respective duties; for accepting bids or awarding contracts to any person or persons in arrears to the Corporation upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corporation; for the punishment of any person who shall, in manner or form, offer any city official any moneys, goods, rights in action or other property, or anything of value, or any pecuniary advantage, present or prospective, with intent to influence his vote, opinion, or judgment or action on any question, matter, cause or proceeding which may be then pending, or may by law be brought before him in his official capacity. The infraction of this law is punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary not exceeding two years, or by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both, at the discretion of the Court. Any member of the Common Council, or other city official, who accepts any such offer for the purpose above mentioned, shall, upon conviction of such an offense, be disqualified from holding office, and imprisoned in a penitentiary not exceeding two years, or by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both, in the discretion of the Court; or for willfully violating or evading any provision of said Charter; or for swearing false to any material matter in any oath or affirmation required by the same.

Eight of said sections are provisions for the protection of the streets against damages to the city through the negligence occasioned by the use of citizens, on permission of the Common Council to make drains or sewers, culverts or basins—to compel all persons or corporations maintaining a cov-

ering, sluice-way or surface drain at any street crossing, or at the terminus of any street, sluice-way or surface drain, etc., etc., to keep the same in good repair, rendering such citizens alone liable for any damage to person or property directly or indirectly caused by the same.

Section 13 of the said Charter requires every railroad operating by horse-power to clean snow or ice from its track.

Section 14 requires every person presenting bills against the city to use their own names or the names of the firms of which they are members.

Section 15 provides for assessing and taxing all manufacturing corporations, actually located in the city, upon their real and personal property in the same manner as individuals. The personal estate of such corporations shall be assessed in the town or ward where the principal office or place for transacting the financial concerns of the company is situated. If there is no such principal office, then in the town or ward where the operations of such corporations are carried on. The holder of stock in any corporation mentioned in this section cannot be taxed as an individual for stock.

ASSESSORS.—The Board of Assessors of the City are provided with a suitable and convenient office in the City of Albany by the Board of Supervisors of the County, together with the requisite books and stationery, lights and fuel. Their office is to be kept open during the usual days and hours. The books, maps, assessment roll and other papers shall be public records, and at all reasonable times open to inspection. They receive an annual salary of \$3,000 each, payable by the Chamberlain in monthly payments. They appoint a clerk, who takes charge of the books, papers, assessment roll and records pertaining to the office. The appointment is in writing, signed by the assessors. The clerk remains in office at their pleasure; his salary is \$1,000 per year, payable by the Chamberlain in monthly payments.

PREVENTION OF FIRES.—No municipal government in the nation has more wholesome and successful regulations for the prevention of fires than the municipality of Albany, found in Title XX of the City Charter. Every citizen should thoroughly understand this section. The duties of the Fire

Commissioners and the police under this title, are full, easily understood and practiced.

ELECTION OF CITY OFFICERS.—The officers of the city, elected by a general ticket at the Charter election, are: The Mayor, Recorder, two Aldermen from the city-at-large, Police Justices, Justices of the Justice Court, Police Commissioners and members of the Board of Public Instruction.

The electors in each ward elect, at each annual Charter election, one Supervisor and one Constable, who shall hold their office for one year. Every second year an Alderman is elected at the Charter election. The annual Charter election is held on the second Tuesday of April in each year, and the municipal year commences on the first Tuesday or May following.

Title XXII repeals all statutes of the State and ordinances of the city inconsistent with the provisions of said Charter.

1884.—A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Norman L. Snow, President of Common Council; Norman L. Snow, Robert H. Moore, Aldermen-at-large.

Aldermen: Augustus Whiteman, First Ward; Jeremiah Kieley, Second Ward; Thomas F. Corcoran, Third Ward; James Lyons, Fourth Ward; Thomas E. Dearstyne, Fifth Ward; Galen R. Hitt, Sixth Ward; John Mullon, Seventh Ward; Thomas J. Judge, Eighth Ward; Patrick Cahill, Ninth Ward; James Rooney, Tenth Ward; George R. Tice, Eleventh Ward; Patrick McCann, Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; David J. Norton, Fourteenth Ward; James Thornton, Fifteenth Ward; Richard Hunter, Sixteenth Ward; John H. Adams, Seventeenth Ward.

Executive Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Henry Bronk, First Clerk; Robert H. Waterman, Second Clerk.

Board of Health: A. B. Banks, *ex officio*, President; Dr. A. Vanderveer, Dr. S. B. Ward, Thomas H. Dwyer, Albert Gallup, R. H. Bingham, John McKenna; Dr. D. V. O'Leary, Health Physician; E. H. Long, Clerk; James Rooney, Lawrence Carey, Edward Brennan, Inspectors.

Board of Audit: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Norman L. Snow, President of Common Council; Charles A. Hills, Chamberlain; Albert Hessberg, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Lewis Balch, City Physician.

NAVIGATION OF THE HUDSON.

THE navigation of the Hudson River to and from Albany, neither in carrying passengers nor in transporting merchandise, amounted to much until after the middle of the preceding century. In 1750, the only vessels used were small sailing crafts or yachts, all of which, says Peter Kalm, belonged to Albany owners. At this time there were no docks or quays for loading the yachts. The vessels came as near the shore as possible, and were reached by

means of canoes tied together, and forming a pontoon bridge by boards or planks laid across them. The first stone docks or quays were built by the city in 1766, the Assembly having granted the Corporation the right to use the stone wall built for defense on the north side of the city. The North Dock was constructed nearly opposite the stone wall at the foot of Steuben street, and was eighty feet long and forty broad. The Middle Dock was built at the

foot of Maiden lane, and was eighty feet long and thirty broad. The South Dock was constructed opposite the old City Hall, and was of the same dimensions as the Middle Dock. The city soon after built a fourth dock, which, with the other three, were sold at public auction March 28, 1767, to Gysbert Marselis and John Allen, at a yearly rent of £70, they being permitted to charge wharfage for the use of them.

The principal obstructions to the navigation near this city were the sand-bars or "overslaugh." The first was situated about three miles below Albany, near Mill's Island, and the other, eight miles below Albany, sometimes called Winne's bar. The lower overslaugh had seldom more than eight feet of water upon it, even in the spring-time. In 1787 the Legislature passed an act to remove obstructions at the overslaugh. At this time Henry I. Bogart, Daniel Hale, and Abraham Ten Broeck were appointed commissioners to superintend the work. In 1790 a similar act was passed. Both of these acts simply provided for removing the accumulations of sand on these two bars, a work which afforded merely temporary relief, as each returning spring found a similar deposit of sand on the bars. In 1790, an act was passed which allowed the proprietors of Mill's and Papskinea Islands to erect a dam to prevent the passage of water between them, and thus throw it into the main channel. Between the years 1797 and 1818, \$148,707.95 was raised by lottery for improving the navigation of the Hudson. In 1828, the most extensive improvements were made at the overslaugh. The channel was excavated 150 feet in length and 160 in width, affording 10 feet of water at the lowest state of the river. Eleven hundred scow-loads, of 24 cubic yards each, were removed and deposited on the west side of the river. Almost every year the Legislature made an appropriation to improve the navigation of the Hudson. In 1864, over \$200,000 was expended for this purpose.

SLOOP AND SCHOONER NAVIGATION.—From 1760 to 1770, there were a number of sloops and schooners engaged in carrying on trade between Albany, New York, Boston and several other cities; but, as yet, none had gone to any foreign port. It was not till November 3, 1770, that the sloop Olive Branch, commanded by Captain Abraham Bloodgood, made the first voyage from this port to the West Indies. The account of the Albany merchandise carried on this vessel shows an assorted cargo, consisting of flour, herrings, horses, one negro man, and a great variety of the products of this county. In exchange for which were brought back eighty-one pounds of cotton—a much rarer commodity than now—some cash, and much rum.

These ventures to the West Indies seem to have been more common from Lansingburgh and Hudson, after the revolution, than from Albany, from the fact that the editor of the *Albany Gazette*, in 1790, marveled that the citizens of Albany should remain inactive spectators while their neighbors on the north and south were "participating in all the blessings of this valuable trade."

The most remarkable of all the early expeditions from this port was the voyage of an Albany sloop to China, in 1785. In the fall of this year the sloop Experiment, eighty tons burden, commanded by Captain Stewart Dean, was fitted out for this cruise, which, at this time, was considered a hazardous voyage for so small a craft. She was loaded with an assorted cargo for a regular trading expedition, and was the second adventure from the United States to China, the first expedition having been made from the port of New York, February 22, 1784, in the sloop Empress of China. The Experiment left New York December 18th, and was absent eighteen months. Her return trip was made in four months and twelve days, with a cargo consisting principally of tea, China-ware and silk. Among some of the descendants of the early citizens of Albany, are still treasured as curiosities articles which were brought from China on this singular trip.

It was a matter of surprise to the Europeans, in those seas traversed by the Experiment, to see so small a vessel from a country so remote and unknown. At some of the ports where the sloop landed she was an object of alarm to the inhabitants, who mistook her for a tender to a fleet of men-of-war. On the arrival of the Experiment at New York, April 22, 1787, she was visited by large crowds of citizens, very few of whom had expected her return. Captain Dean made several trips to China after this first trip, and became well known in European ports. He was at one time a resident upon Arbor Hill. Dean street was named for him. He died at an advanced age.

After the successful trip of Captain Dean, the sloop business grew rapidly. April 12, 1791, it was announced in the *Albany Gazette*, as a congratulatory event, that 40 sloops had arrived in this port in one day. That 18 vessels, of which 16 were of from 40 to 80 tons, lay at the port of Lansingburgh, and that the sloop Nancy had performed the trip to New York and back in seven days. In November, of the same year, it was again announced, as an extraordinary occurrence, that 42 sloops, of from 30 to 100 tons, principally above 70, were at anchor in the Albany port.

Among other feats of sloop navigation at this period, we are told that Captain William Van Ingen, of the sloop Cincinnati, sailed from Albany on the 5th December, 1794, and arrived in New York on the 9th, disposed of his cargo, took in a valuable freight, and returned to this port on the 16th.

The examples of speedy voyages which were boasted of in the last century, read a little oddly now. But yet it must be remembered that the sloops, under a good wind, were an even match for the steamboats for a long time after the latter made their appearance on the river. In 1794, a sloop made a journey from Albany to New York and back in little more than four days, including a day and a half stop. This feat was a matter of wonder at the time, and fully up to the time made by the early steamboats.

Many contests of speed, between Albany and New York, took place between the early steam-

boats and the sloops, in which the latter were frequently victorious.

In 1795, about ninety sloops, of about seventy tons each, were engaged in the Albany trade. Half of them were owned in Albany, and the remainder in New York.

Ten voyages, or twenty trips, were the average number per annum. These vessels were each navigated by a crew of four persons, consisting of a captain, a pilot, a seaman, and a cook. At this time wharfage was sold by the Corporation at \$2.50 per foot, and an annual rent of \$8.12½.

Shortly after the trip of the Experiment to China, it was mentioned that an Albany sloop, of forty tons, had twice visited the Cape of Good Hope without loss, which was considered the most difficult and dangerous part of the route to China.

In 1800, five Albany capitalists formed a company and built the sloop Experiment, to be used as a packet boat between Albany and New York, for carrying passengers. In 1807, they built another sloop to be used for the same purpose. These sloops proved very profitable at first, but were finally driven from the river by the steamboats. They were sold, and abandoned as passenger boats in 1813.

In 1813, there were 206 sloops engaged in the Albany trade. In 1838, this number had been increased to 249 sloops and 129 schooners, of a total tonnage of 20,634. In 1848, 331 sloops were engaged in the trade, and 284 schooners, representing a tonnage of over 40,000.

The following shows the number of vessels, with their tonnage, documented at the Port of Albany for the quarter ending June 30, 1885:

	Tonnage.
53 sailing vessels.....	3,832.66
113 steam ".....	23,692.68
175 canal boats.....	16,767.11
86 barges.....	16,968.63
427	61,261.07

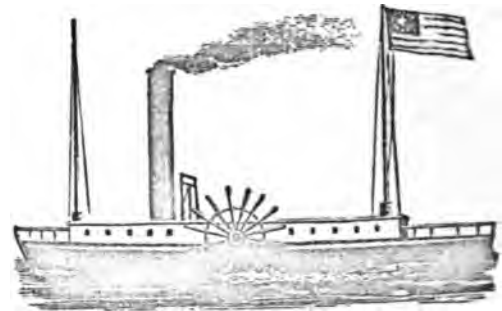
The above report represents the number of vessels engaged in trade belonging to owners within the territory between Newburgh and Rouse's Point, and does not include all the vessels which visit the Port of Albany, many of which are registered at other ports.

STEAMBOATS.

An account of the progress of steam navigation on the Hudson, with which Albany is so intimately identified, and a history of the boats themselves, and the experiments of the energetic men who built and controlled them since the days of Fulton's triumph in 1807, would fill a volume. The Hudson River will always occupy a commanding place in history, not solely for its grand scenery, but as being associated with that successful experiment with steam navigation which resulted so gloriously. Here was launched the pioneer of that host of floating palaces that now enliven every navigable river in the world, and plow the waters of every sea.

The Clermont, the first practical steamboat in the world, was built by Robert Fulton, and first

shown to be a successful sailing craft in August, 1807. As originally constructed, she was 100 feet long, 12 wide, and 7 deep. In 1808 she was lengthened to 150 feet, and widened to 18 feet, and had her name changed to the North River.



The Clermont.

The first advertisement of the steamboat in the *Albany Gazette*, dated September 2, 1807, was as follows:

"The north river steamboat will leave Paulus' Hook Ferry [now Jersey City] on Friday, the 4th of September, at nine in the morning, and arrive at Albany on Saturday, at nine in the afternoon. Provisions, good berths, and accommodation are provided.

"The charge to each passenger is as follows:

" To Newburg,	\$3,	time, 14 hours.
" Poughkeepsie,	4,	" 17 "
" Esopus,	5,	" 20 "
" Hudson,	5½,	" 30 "
" Albany,	7,	" 36 "

In a supplement to the *Gazette* of September 7, 1807, is the following notice of that important event—the arrival of the first steamboat:

"This morning, at six o'clock, Mr. Fulton's steamboat left the ferry stairs at Courtland street dock for Albany. She is to make her passage in 36 hours from the time of her departure, touching at Newburg, Poughkeepsie, Esopus, and Hudson on the way. The steamboat arrived at Albany on Saturday afternoon, and this morning at nine o'clock again departed for New York, with about forty ladies and gentlemen."

Thus insignificantly was announced the commencement of the career of the steamboat, which has revolutionized the water travel of the world.

The Clermont continued her trips with great exactness till October 1st, on which day it was announced in the *New York Evening Post* that the steamboat had arrived from Albany in twenty-eight hours, with sixty passengers! The same paper of October 2, contained the following notice:

"Mr. Fulton's newly-invented steamboat, which is fitted up in a neat style for passengers, and is intended to run from New York to Albany as a packet, left here this morning with ninety passengers, against a strong head wind, notwithstanding which it was judged that she moved through the water at the rate of six miles an hour."

At this time, although the time promised in the advertisement was thirty-six hours, her trips were usually performed in less than thirty.

In the spring of 1808, the Clermont made her appearance, as before stated, entirely remodeled and enlarged. Her accommodations were ample for over one hundred passengers. In her original construction she had a strange appearance. Her paddle-wheels were without houses, and cross-heads connected with the pistons, instead of the walking beams now in use. A countryman who first saw her at Hudson, told his wife he had seen the devil going to Albany in a saw-mill. Shortly after the successful trip of the Clermont was made, a company was formed called the North River Steamboat Company, but generally known as the Fulton Line, to which the Legislature granted the exclusive right to navigate the Hudson River by steam. This company in 1809 built the Car of Neptune, 295 tons. From this date to 1817, the Hope, Perseverance, Paragon, Richmond, Firefly, and Chancellor Livingston were placed upon the river by the Fulton Line. The last of the boats, the Chancellor Livingston, was the largest by over 150 tons of any boat which had been yet used, having a carrying capacity of 495 tons. The Chancellor Livingston in 1821 brought up a band of music for the entertainment of her passengers. This was the first introduction of that peculiar attraction on the North River boats.

In 1824, the Fulton Line put two more steamers on the river—the James Kent and the Saratoga. October 29, 1821, the Chancellor Livingston grounded on the overslaugh and remained there twenty-nine hours. The editor of the *Daily Advertiser* in speaking of this event, called upon the citizens to exert themselves to deepen the channel, lest the canal which was fast approaching the city should be carried down below these obstructions.

In 1821, the fare from Albany to New York had been advanced to \$8. In 1819, the Fulton Line carried 16,000 passengers, the company paying \$1 each to the State for canal purposes.

At this time, and until the pier was built, the steamboat landing was at the foot of Lydius street, now Madison avenue. The pier was used for this purpose until 1878, when the present landing place was established. Until the present improvements were made in the channel of the river at the overslaugh, it often happened that the river was so low that the boats were unable to come within three miles of Albany. In such cases it was the practice to go down to the steamers on the Greenbush side in stages.

For many years preceding 1824, no subject was more generally discussed among Hudson River boatmen than the injustice of the exclusive right granted by the Legislature to the Fulton Line Company to navigate the Hudson by steam. The validity of this right was finally contested in the courts. In March, 1824, the decisions of the Supreme Court made the navigation of the Hudson free, and abrogated the rights of the North River Steamboat Company, and affirmed the rights of others to navigate the river from certain points

with vessels impelled by steam. Soon after the rendering of the decision in 1824, the Union Line was started in opposition to the old line, and the first year of its existence built and began to run the Olive Branch, United States, William Penn, Bristol, and Sandusky.

In 1825, the Hudson River Line was established, and in this year placed the Constitution, Constellation, and Chief-Justice Marshall on the river, and in 1827-29 added to the list of their steamers the Independence, Ohio, and Sun. The latter boat was the first that ever made the trip from Albany to New York from sun to sun, all other boats up to this date requiring from fourteen to fifteen hours to make the trip.

The bursting of the boiler of the Constitution in 1825, when opposite Poughkeepsie, created much distrust in the safety of steamboats, and led to the use of safety barges, and in 1826 the barges Lady Clinton and Lady Van Rensselaer were built. They were towed by the steamboats Commerce and Swiftsure. Both were fitted up exclusively for passengers. For safety and comfort they were unequaled by the steamboats of this period, but lacking speed they soon became unfashionable and went out of general use, although several are still used as excursion boats.

The North River Line was established in 1826 by John and Robert Stevenson. The boats used by this company between 1826 and 1828 were the New Philadelphia—the first boat that ever had boilers on the guards—the Albany, North America, Victory and De Witt Clinton. The De Witt Clinton was the first steamboat entirely built at Albany. She was 380 tons burden, and made her first trip September 29, 1828.

In 1827 a new steamboat, called the Emerald, commenced running between Albany and New York, but to what line she belonged we are unable to say. About this time there appeared the following article in the *Daily Advertiser*: "One who is not an eye-witness of the fact can scarcely imagine the number of persons who daily arrive at and depart from this city in steamboats, and the vast quantity of produce that is shipped from our wharves and conveyed to market by steam and wind. Last Sunday evening [August 26th] within one hour there arrived six steamboats with passengers, three of these having in tow barges, each with freight and passengers. Together they must have landed some 1,600 passengers. There never were more sloops than at present employed on the river, and they all go hence fully freighted."

The South America was also in use at this time. She was one of the largest steamers plying on the Hudson at this date, being 266 feet long, of 640 tons, cost \$83,000, and was furnished with 294 berths and had accommodations for 450 persons.

The Reindeer was also a celebrated craft at this period, and considered a model of beauty, and, in the language of a writer of this date, was a "steamer which might challenge comparison with anything that swims, beginning with a naiad and leaving off with a dolphin."

In 1832 the Troy Line was established with the Champlain and Erie, the former of which was furnished with two engines and four boilers.

At this same period the steamboat Novelty was engaged in carrying passengers. She had a high-pressure boiler, and was the first to use coal for fuel.

About 1833 the North River Line, the Hudson River Line and Troy Line consolidated and formed the Hudson River Association Line. This company ran a day and night line. The steamers Albany, Champlain, Erie and Novelty were used as day boats, and the North America, Clinton and Ohio as night boats.

The People's Line was established in 1834 as a day line and as an opposition to the Hudson River Association. The late Cornelius Vanderbilt was largely interested in this venture. The first boat used was the West Chester, which was followed, in 1835, by the Nimrod and Champion.

In 1835 the People's Line was sold to the Hudson River Association for \$100,000 and \$10,000 yearly for ten years. But in 1836 the People's Line was revived as a night line by Daniel Drew, who purchased the West Chester and Emerald. During this same year the Rochester was built by this company, and in the following year the Utica. In 1844 the Knickerbocker was built, in 1845 the Henry Hudson, in 1846 the Isaac Newton, in 1864 the St. John, in 1866 the Dean Richmond, and in 1867 the Drew.

The present day line of steamers was started by John McBride Davidson in 1864, who bought the Drew and Armenia. In 1866 the Chauncey Vibbard was put upon the river by this line, and in 1881 the Albany. This line at present use the steamers Albany and Daniel Drew, while the night line employ the Drew and Dean Richmond.

At frequent periods of steam navigation the competition between the several lines has been very great. In 1837 this was especially true. One night several boats would leave, crowded to suffocation, at fifty cents a head; the next night a solitary boat would depart at three dollars a head.

The conveyances by water between this city and neighboring ports have been brought to the highest perfection. The steamers that ply between Albany and New York may be properly termed floating palaces, affording all the elegant accommodations of a first-class hotel. In 1800 it was the boast of a sloop captain in Albany that he had received \$1,675 for carrying passengers in one year; now this would hardly be considered a large receipt for one day.

THE PIER.—After the completion of the Erie Canal, the necessity of a basin where canal boats and other smaller crafts could be safely stored, was apparent. To provide such a place in Albany Harbor, the Legislature authorized the construction of a pier. This was begun April 5, 1823, and completed in 1824. It is 4,400 feet long, 80 feet wide and 20 feet high, and cost \$130,000. It incloses a basin of about 32 acres, capable of harboring 1,000 canal boats and 50 vessels of a larger class. July 27, 1824, the Pier was divided into 132 lots and

sold at public auction. In this way \$199,410 was realized, each lot ranging from \$7,200 to \$2,625. The Pier is now covered with valuable warehouses and stores, and is reached by two bridges. The opening in the Pier at the foot of Maiden lane was authorized in 1836. The Pier affords an extensive wharfage, while the docks or quays now extend almost two miles along the Albany shore of the river.

TOWING LINES.—As soon as canal navigation began to assume much proportion, the business of towing boats from Albany with steamboats became very lucrative. For many years it was done by tugs or steamboats owned by private individuals, but in 1848 the Schuyler Steamboat Tow Line was started, and now employs eighteen boats, used exclusively for towing canal-boats. Thomas Schuyler is President of this line, and T. V. Wolcott, Secretary.

The Cornell Steamboat Company was started about the same time as the Schuyler Line. This company has only a branch office at Albany, the principal business being done between Rondout and New York. Between the latter places not only towing is done by this company, but three passenger boats are run, being the City of Kingston, Mary Powell, and the Cook. About seventeen propellers and steamers are used by this line. Thomas Cornell is President of this Company, and S. D. Coyendell, Vice-President.

The Ronan Towing Line was started in 1885, and now employs four propellers.

ALBANY FERRIES.

The exclusive rights of ferriage across the Hudson between the original four wards of the city and the opposite shore of Greenbush, was vested in the Corporation of Albany by the Dongan Charter of 1668. By the present City Charter the power, right, and privilege of the Corporation is expressed in the following language: "The right of ferry granted by the Charter of the said city to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty thereof, should be so construed as to vest in the said City of Albany the sole and exclusive right of establishing, licensing, and regulating all ferries on each side of the Hudson River, leading from Greenbush, opposite the east bounds of the original four wards of the said city, to the said city, and from the four original wards of the said city to Greenbush."

The first ferry across the Hudson at this point was established in 1642. By some authorities it is said to be the oldest in the United States. The landing on the Albany side was at a point a little north of the Bever Kill, which flowed into the river where now is the eastern termination of Arch street. The Greenbush landing was directly opposite this point.

The first ferry-boat was a rude scow, propelled by hand by means of poles. This was used for the transportation of teams and wagons, while a simple boat or a bateau was employed in carrying passengers. The first ferry-master was Hendrick Albertsen, who died in 1648-49. He built the

first ferry-house erected on the Albany side of the river. Albertsen was succeeded by Jacob Janse Stall, who came to Beverwyck in 1630. He remained as ferry-master until 1657, when he removed to Esopus.

The history of this early period fails to show that, at this date, any consideration was demanded by either the Dutch or English proprietors for the right of ferriage. Even many years after the Dongan Charter, no record exists in the Common Council proceedings proving that the ferry rights granted the city were considered of such value to the Corporation as to demand remuneration for their use. But later the city took exclusive charge of the Greenbush ferry; established the rates of ferriage; made regulations governing the means of conducting it; and decided who should have the right to run it.

In 1754 the following rates of ferriage were adopted by the Common Council:

For every person, if single.....	3 coppers
" " " if more than one... ..	2 "
" " " head of cattle.....	9 "
" " " cwt. of beaver or skins.	4 "

The ferry-masters to run their boats from sunrise to eight in the evening.

At this time the ferry was in charge of Barnardus Bradt and Johannes Ten Broeck, who had paid the city £5 for its use. From this date until 1786 the names of Barnardus Bradt, Harme Gansevoort, Philip John Schuyler, Johannis Ten Broeck, John Courtney, John Bromley, Thomas Lotridge, Dirck Hansen, and Baltus Van Benthuyzen appear as ferry-masters at different times. It was the custom of the Common Council to advertise a certain day when the right of ferriage would be sold to the lowest bidder. From 1754 to 1786 the amount paid for this privilege ranged from £5 to £130, the latter amount being paid in 1786. In 1786 the Corporation issued a schedule of ferry rates as follows:

Man or horse, ox or cow.....	gd.
A calf or hog.....	2 coppers.
A sheep or lamb.....	2 "
For every wagon, or two horses with its loading, providing the same remains on the wagon.....	2s.
For every cart or wagon drawn by four horses or oxen, with or without loading.....	3s.
And 6d. for every ox or horse above that number.	
For every chaise or chair or horse....	1s. 6d.
" full chest or trunk.....	4 coppers.
" empty " ".....	2 "
" barrel rum, sugar, molasses, full barrel.....	4 "

During 1786 a new ferry-house, 40 by 50 feet, was built by Baltus Van Benthuyzen, who was to reimburse himself at the rate of £150 per annum, the yearly rent of the ferry. Up to this time no longer lease than three years was granted by the Corporation, and it was the common practice to lease each side of the river to separate individuals.

Until about 1817 the only kind of ferry-boat used at the South Ferry was an ordinary scow, guided by means of a rope stretched across the

river, to which the scow was attached by a rope and pulley, the boat being propelled by hand. About this time what was known as the horse ferry-boat came into use at the South Ferry. This kind of boat was peculiar to America, and of most singular construction. A platform covered a wide, flat boat. Underneath the platform was a large, horizontal, solid wheel, which extended to the side of the boat. Here the platform or deck was cut through and removed, so as to afford sufficient room for two horses to stand on the flat surface of the wheel, one horse on each side, and parallel to the gunwale of the boat. The horses were harnessed in the usual manner for teams, the whiffletree being attached to stout horizontal iron bars, fixed, at a proper height, into posts, which were a part of the fixed portions of the boat. The horses looked in opposite directions, one to the bow, the other to the stern; their feet took hold of channels or grooves cut in the wheel. As they pressed forward, although they did not advance, their feet caused the horizontal wheel to advance in a direction opposite to that of their own apparent motion. The motion of this wheel, by a connection of cogs, moved two vertical wheels on each side of the boat, similar to the paddle-wheels of steamboats, producing the same effect, and propelling the boat forward. The inventor of this kind of boat was Mr. Langdon, of Whitehall.

The number of horses on the first boat used was two only, but this was governed by the size of the boat. As business increased at the ferry, larger boats were required. In 1825 as many as twelve horses were used on the boat at the South Ferry.

In 1827 the subject of procuring a steamboat for the South Ferry began to be agitated. John Townsend, a member of the Common Council, was especially prominent in connection with this scheme, and procured the passage of a resolution to purchase a steamboat. At a meeting held June 6, 1827, a short time subsequent to the passage of this resolution, an attempt was made to have the act reconsidered. Estimates were offered to show the economy of horses over steamboats, but Townsend succeeded in defeating the opponents of steam ferry-boats. In 1828 the Chancellor Lansing was purchased, and began to ply between Albany and Greenbush.

At the time of the advent of the horse-boats, the South Ferry was leased to "One-armed" Bradt, for a term of ten years. He was succeeded, in 1828, by Benjamin Patrick, who remained for two years, succeeded by George Stanwix. Stanwix was succeeded in 1846 by Lansing D. Able. Samuel Schuyler became Ferry-master in 1854, succeeded by McEvoy & Moore in 1864. The last Ferry-master at the South Ferry was George Marks, who leased the ferry in 1874, and remained in that position until the right of ferriage was sold by the city to the Greenbush Bridge Company. This company, in 1876, began the construction of a bridge at this point and completed it in 1882.

At several periods in the history of the South Ferry, the city authorities, instead of leasing it, employed a Ferry-master and kept it entirely within





Joseph Mather.

their control. In 1805 it was conducted in this way. In the papers of this year an announcement was made that the Corporation had licensed James Wynkoop to conduct the ferry, "that he had good scows and boats, and that he would employ only sober and obliging ferry-men." The rates of ferriage were announced to be as follows:

Foot passengers.....	2	cents.
Man and horse.....	6	"
Wagon and two horses.....	12½	"
" loaded with firewood.....	4	"
Chair, sulky or chaise.....	12½	"
Each saddle-horse.....	6	"
Mail stage, two horses.....	25	"
Each additional horse.....	3	"
Horse and cart.....	6	"
Double ferriage from one hour after sunrise to day-break, except for the mail carriages.		

After the revolution, business began to increase rapidly at the South Ferry, and in 1792 it was leased to Mr. Wendell for the sum of \$5,890, whereas only ten years previous it had only yielded a revenue of a trifle over £100. In 1830 the receipts of the ferry amounted to nearly \$9,000.

The last boat used at the South Ferry was the John Adams.

The North Ferry, now in operation between this city and Bath, with a landing in Albany at the foot of North Ferry street, was established many years after the Greenbush Ferry, and, as near as can be ascertained, during the first quarter of the last century. It was originally outside of the city limits, that point being, until 1815, in the town of Colonie. The territory along the river where a landing was made, belonged to the Van Rensselaer grant, which included all ferry privileges. By the early Patroons the right of ferriage was leased for a certain sum, and the heirs of their estate still retain exclusive control of the ferry rights at this point.

For many years batteaux were the only kind of boats used at this ferry. Even a rope-scow was not used until about 1800. A horse-boat was first used about 1831. A steam ferry-boat was first employed in 1841. The business done at the North Ferry was light compared with that at the South Ferry. For many of the early years not much can be learned of those who operated it. Among them were Clark & Van Alstyne and John Vandenberg. About 1840, William P. Van Rensselaer, son of the old Patroon, took charge of it himself, and for two years employed a ferryman. With this exception it has been leased. For a number of years the Dearstynne brothers (James, Samuel and Cornelius) operated this ferry. They were succeeded by Samuel Schuyler, whom Fitchett & Smith succeeded. It is now leased by the firm of Costello & Kiernan.

The Boston and Albany Ferry was established in 1842 by the Boston and Albany Railroad, and runs from a point a little north of Maiden lane to the depot of this company in Bath. Before the railroad bridge was built this was a very important ferry, all the freight for the Boston and Albany Railroad being taken across the river at this point.

Since the South Ferry has been abandoned, a small tug-boat has been employed in carrying passengers from the foot of State street to Greenbush and Bath.

The following are the most serious accidents that ever occurred at these ferries: In 1807, the scow which was used at the South Ferry was swamped and thirty-three persons were drowned. In 1852, the boat of the Boston and Albany Ferry upset. At the time it contained fifteen or twenty persons, all but five of whom were drowned.

JOSEPH MATHER.

Joseph Mather, familiarly known as Captain Mather, came from the old colonial family of that name, being a lineal descendant of the Rev. Richard Mather, who was grandfather of the celebrated Rev. Cotton Mather. This family furnished ministers for three generations to the Old North Church in Boston—the Revs. Increase, Cotton and Samuel, whose united ministries covered a period of one hundred and twenty-five years. The Rev. Increase Mather was one of the earliest Presidents of Harvard College, and the first one in this country upon whom the title of D.D. was conferred.

Joseph Mather was born at Lyme, Conn., May 8, 1800. While he was yet a mere boy, his parents removed from his native place to Otsego County, N. Y. In so doing they sailed up the Hudson River, the beauty of whose scenery so impressed the youth, that he at the time formed and expressed a determination to become actively engaged in the navigation of the Hudson when he should become older. This early resolve was one which he never forgot, as subsequent events proved.

With his father's family he removed from Otsego County to a portion of Ontario County, which has since been set off to form Livingston County, where he passed his youth.

He was yet a very young man when he came to Albany, and connected himself with the river navigation. For many years he commanded a sloop which plied between Albany, New York, and intermediate points. It was during this period that he came to be known by the title "Captain," which clung to him all his life, to his often expressed distaste. Later, as a member of the firm of Greene & Mather, he was engaged in the towing business, the line being known as the Eckford Line, and having its office on Quay street, about where the Dunlop elevator has since stood.

Something over thirty years ago, when the New York Central Railroad Company established a station at West Albany, Captain Mather was selected by Hon. Erastus Corning as agent; and, much against his inclination, was prevailed upon to accept the position, which he foresaw would be one involving great responsibility. A business was to be built up at West Albany, and whether it was more than a measurably successful one would depend largely upon the energy, enterprise and application of the agent in charge. The success which at-

tended Mr. Mather's administration was remarkable. His time of service embraced a period during which West Albany grew from the smallest beginning to its present importance, both commercially and in point of population. His habits and physique gave him robust health, and his life was singularly free from many of the ills which afflict the majority of men. As advancing years came upon him, he delegated some of his most onerous duties to another, but he retained his position and exercised a pleasant supervision over the business of the station. It was his wish that he might "die in the harness." This wish was literally fulfilled. While hastening to board a car at the corner of State and Pearl streets, February 25, 1884, he fell in crossing the street and expired almost instantly. It was the opinion of physicians present that his death was caused by concussion of the brain. He was then past eighty-three, and so lightly did his years rest upon him, that he was as erect and apparently as vigorous as he had been twenty years before. He was one of the most genial and sociable of men; and for years his had been a familiar figure to the residents of Albany, where no man was more widely acquainted or more highly esteemed. His loss was felt deeply, not merely in his own family circle, but by men of all classes who had come to regard him as friend or benefactor. No man ever enjoyed in a higher degree the confidence of his fellow-citizens. It was remarked by a prominent resident of Albany after his death, that he had been one of whom all his acquaintances were proud—a man of unflinching devotion to right, with no compromise with wrong; a man who had handled \$170,000,000 for a great corporation and promptly accounted for every cent of that immense sum.

Mr. Mather was married in Lima, Livingston County, N. Y., to Miss Chianna Brockway, of that town, in 1819. They walked hand in hand adown the pathway of life for sixty-one years, to be temporarily separated by Mrs. Mather's death on the 26th of December, 1880, only a little more than three years before the death of Mr. Mather. They left two surviving children, a son, Frederick W. Mather, now a resident of New York, and Mrs. George W. Gibbons, of West Albany. Baptized into the Episcopal Church at an early age, by the celebrated Father Nash, of Otsego County, he was identified more or less closely with that religious body ever afterward.

Early in manhood, Captain Mather became an adherent to the principles of the great Whig party of the United States. He was one of those who felt the deep importance of the transition which culminated in the organization of the Republican party. He became an earnest and active supporter of the war, throwing his influence in favor of the suppression of the Southern rebellion, and aiding the Northern cause by every means in his power, sending his son into the thickest of the fight. He was not, in the common acceptance of the time, which is often a term of reproach, a politician; but no man watched the course of events more closely than he, and none with more intelligent solicitude

for the public weal. Open-hearted he was; open-handed and helpful in all good causes. He was wisely benevolent, and many a man in Albany is glad to say that he owes his start in life, his advancement, his position, to Captain Mather.

WALTER WINNE.

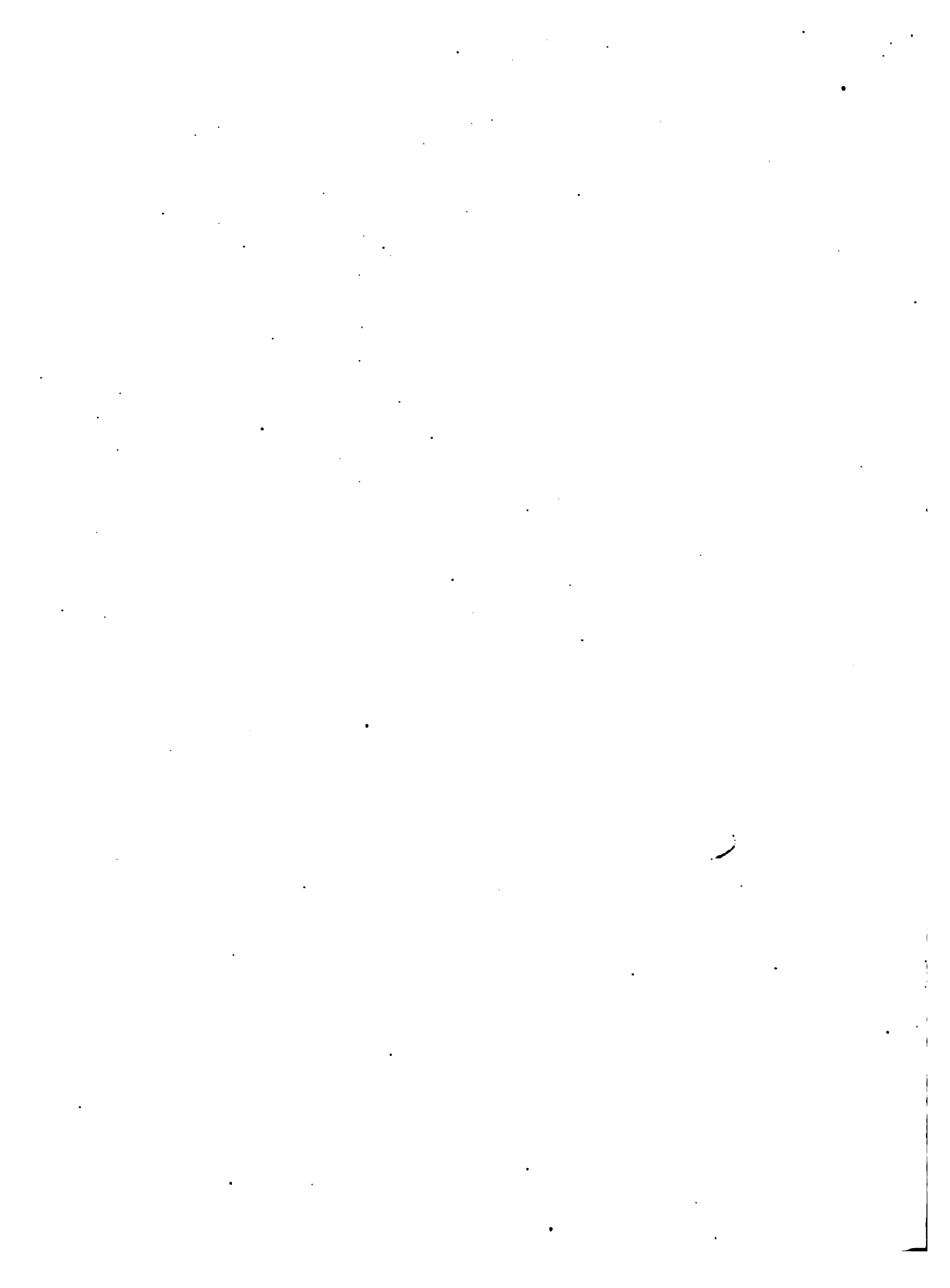
The well known barge and transportation line of Winne & Co. recalls to the citizens of Albany, especially to such of them as are engaged in commerce, the name of Walter Winne, its founder. There are few of the old-time merchants of the city who have not personal recollections of Mr. Winne, who was born in Albany, September 10, 1815, and died September 26, 1871. He was a son of Francis D. and Cornelia (Goesbeck) Winne. The Winnes are a family both numerous and highly esteemed throughout Albany County at the present time; and the Goesbecks were among the early settlers along the Hudson, and, generations back, had numerous representatives in Albany.

Deprived of the protecting care of a father at an early age, young Winne was compelled to shift for himself from a period in life at which most such boys are laying the foundation of an education. He became a cabin boy on board a vessel which navigated the Hudson. His sterling qualities manifested themselves, and he was advanced gradually until he became master of a vessel. But even this, then, responsible and important position did not satisfy him. He saved a little money, and, with a friend, also a very young man, who had saved a little more, became joint owners of a vessel. They immediately engaged earnestly and industriously in the transportation of lumber. This partnership soon terminated, and Mr. Winne became sole owner of the business, in which he continued successfully until his death, and which is now carried on, by members of his family chiefly, under the firm name of Winne & Co. Gradually he established a line of large barges which plied between Albany and the most important Eastern ports. During the War of the Rebellion he was quite largely engaged in the transportation of raw cotton.

Mr. Winne was married January 1, 1838, to Miss Harriet E. Rouse, of Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., who survives him. They became the parents of ten children, of whom seven are living. He was a quiet, unassuming, earnest man, who attended strictly, and to the exclusion of other general interests, to his growing business. His interest in public affairs was intelligent; but he never mixed in politics, though he favored and voted with the Republican party. He was for about thirty years a member of the Methodist Church, and for some time a trustee of the old Hudson avenue Church of that denomination. About two years before his death he became a member of the First Congregational Church of Albany. The same earnestness which characterized him in business was manifested in his relations with his brethren in the Church. He was zealous, active, liberal and thoughtful. He was charitable as well, helpful to the struggling, and more than generous to the deserving poor.



Walter Winne.



ALBANY BRIDGES ACROSS THE HUDSON.

The first bridge over the Hudson in the vicinity of Albany was completed in December, 1804. It spanned the river at Waterford, and was 800 feet in length, 33 feet in its greatest height, and 30 feet in width. At that time it was considered a model of architecture.

In January, 1814 the subject of building a bridge across the Hudson was largely agitated. It was bitterly opposed by Troy, whose citizens insisted that the construction of a bridge at Albany would obstruct the navigation of the river from their city.

The introduction of a bill into the Legislature providing for the construction of the bridge over the Hudson at Albany, led to a bitter fight in the Assembly. March 11, 1814, Mr. Harmanus Bleecker, from the special committee on this bridge, reported adversely to the project. Early in January, 1831, the matter was agitated again, without any particular result.

On February 4, 1835, a meeting was held at the Eagle Tavern to consider the project of a bridge across the Hudson, and a committee of thirty was appointed to draw up a petition. No decisive action was taken. On February 11, 1836, another meeting was held at the City Hall to consider the project of a bridge over the Hudson. Erastus Corning presided. Resolutions and memorials were of no avail in the Legislature. On March 11, 1836, the Assembly Committee reported adversely to the bridge project, causing great indignation among the citizens of Albany.

After this defeat, the question of a bridge did not rest. It was continually agitated in the local papers and otherwise until January 30, 1841, when another meeting of the citizens was held at the Young Men's Association rooms. The Mayor presided, and the meeting was addressed by General Samuel Stevens and Hon. John V. L. Pruyn.

A bill in the Legislature met the usual opposition from Troy and the ferry companies at Albany. On March 26, 1841, the Assembly Committee on the Albany bridge over the Hudson reported adversely. But at last the Hudson is spanned at Albany by three great bridges.

The Hudson River Bridge Company was incorporated April 9, 1856, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a bridge, for the purpose of railroad travel and transportation, across the Hudson River from some proper point on the westerly side or shore of said river, in the City of Albany, to some proper point on the opposite side or shore of the said river, in the County of Rensselaer. The site was to be determined upon by the Commissioners, among whom was Moses H. Grinnell, of New York, Chairman; J. D. Monell, of Hudson; Palmer V. Kellogg, Utica; Jacob Gould, Rochester; James W. Wadsworth, Geneseo; Albert H. Tracy, Buffalo.

On the 2d of February, 1856, a remonstrance against passing an act authorizing the building of the bridge, signed by over four thousand citizens of Albany, was presented to the Legislature, notwithstanding which the above-described bill was passed.

The capital stock was \$500,000. The bridge was to be constructed at an elevation of at least twenty-five feet above common tide water, so as to allow under it the free passage of canal-boats and barges without masts, with a draw of sufficient width to admit the free passage of the largest vessels navigating the river.

An act was passed April 28, 1868, relating to the Hudson River Bridge Company, directing the bridge erected to be demolished and a new one constructed by the same company. It directed that a bridge be constructed across the Hudson, at or near the foot of Exchange street, Albany, to some suitable point on the eastern bank of said river to be selected by the said Bridge Company. The act directs "the new bridge to be constructed, maintained, used, and enjoyed in all respects as provided by the act entitled, 'An Act Authorizing the Construction of a Bridge Across the Hudson at Albany,' passed April 9, 1856, except in so far as they are modified and amended by this act." The act provided, that as soon as the bridge was ready for trains and foot passengers, carriages, etc., to pass, the Bridge Company should demolish and entirely remove the other bridge, and that if the company failed to demolish it entirely, the Common Council of the City of Albany or the City of Troy, should have a right to cause the bridge to be demolished and removed at the expense of the Bridge Company.

It also provided, that before commencing the erection of the new bridge, the Hudson River Bridge Company, the New York Central Railroad Company, the Hudson River Railroad Company, and the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, stockholders in the Hudson River Bridge Company, "shall jointly and severally execute and deliver a bond to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Troy, and the same Board of the City of Albany, in the penalty of at least \$600,000. Conditioned for the removal of the old bridge and the piers thereof, and to completely restore the navigation of the river at that point, within nine months after the crossing of the first train of cars over the new bridge."

By an act passed May 10, 1869, the Hudson River Bridge Company was authorized to build another bridge across the Hudson, at a height not less than that of the previous ones, and upon a line to be selected by the said company, beginning on some point on the west side of the river between State street and Maiden lane, and from thence across the river. Said company was clothed with all the privileges and powers used or enjoyed by it in reference to the construction, maintenance, use, and enjoyed by the bridge described under the act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Hudson at Albany, passed April 9, 1856, so far as they were applicable to the new bridge. The capital stock of the company was increased to \$2,000,000. The Act of 1856 appears to be the foundation law of the bridges now crossing the river at Albany.

On April 18, 1872, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the

Hudson at Albany, and incorporating the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a toll bridge; for travel and transportation across the Hudson River from some point on the westerly side at Albany to some point on the opposite side in Greenbush.

The site was determined by Commissioners Thomas W. Alcott, Charles Van Benthuysen, Volker P. Douw, of Albany, James M. Ring, of Greenbush, Alexander Morris, J. T. Davis and John H. Pratt, of East Greenbush. The bridge was to be constructed at least twenty feet above common tide-water, and with a draw of one hundred feet in width.

On April 23, 1872, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Hudson at the City of Troy, incorporating the Troy and West Troy Bridge Company.

Acts to compel the maintenance of lights on swing-bridges across the river were passed by the Legislature, June 1, 1880.

The time when these three bridges were completed, their equipments, and general description of them, is given in "Phelps' Hand-book of Albany," as follows:

"The first or upper bridge, now used exclusively for freight trains, was opened February 22, 1866, after thirty years of the most steadfast opposition, Troy taking the lead. It is doubtful, however, whether the bridges have really injured that city a dollar; but they certainly have had a depressing effect upon some kind of business in Albany, carting especially. Before the bridges were erected, all trains had to be unloaded in this city, and the work then involved was very great; but now freight goes through, without breaking bulk, from New York to San Francisco. The upper bridge is supported by twenty-one stone piers. The bridge proper is 1,953 feet long, and with the trestle-work 4,253 feet. Its cost, including necessary purchases of real estate, was \$1,100,000.

"The middle bridge, also for railroads, is 1,940 feet long, or, with approaches, 2,665 feet, that is, twenty-five feet over half a mile. The spans number twenty-two. The draw weighs about 400 tons. Work of construction began in May, 1870, and the bridge was first used in 1872. The total cost of the two bridges was \$2,532,357.43, of which the Central Hudson paid \$1,173,133.80; the Boston and Albany, \$351,485; the rest by the companies who have had the earnings of the bridges.

"Over sixty men are employed upon them. The toll on both bridges for foot passengers is three cents; fifty tickets for one dollar.

"A third bridge across the river was begun in 1876, but for several years progressed very slowly, except in litigation, of which there was plenty. It was finally completed, and opened for teams and foot passengers January 24, 1882. It is at South Ferry street, below the steamboat landing. Its length, including approaches, is 1,660 feet, twenty-nine feet above low-water mark. The draw, 400 feet long, weighs 1,500 tons, and is worked by a thirty horse-power engine. It is owned by the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company. Tolls

are charged as follows: Foot passengers, two cents; double teams, fifteen cents; single teams, ten cents. It will eventually be used as a railroad bridge, the top being arranged with that in view."

SQUIRE WHIPPLE, C. E.

Is an Honorary Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; inventor of the Whipple iron bridges; and the first to introduce and successfully practice the construction of iron truss bridges. He was born in Worcester County, Mass., September 16, 1804. His father, James Whipple, followed the occupation of farming for the most of his life; and, starting without inherited capital, by industry and prudent management, aided by a careful and energetic partner of his fortunes, he raised a numerous family in comfort and respectability. But of course it was necessary for the several members of the household to make themselves useful according to their strength and abilities, and Mr. Whipple, to the age of about twenty, spent his years mostly in farm labor on the homestead, with the exception of about five years, from 1812 to 1817, during which the family resided in the adjoining county of Hampshire, Mass., the father having engaged in the erection and running of a small cotton factory in the early days of cotton manufacture in this country.

Here the boy, when not at school or at play, was occupied in labor, suited to his age and strength, about the factory. He was also brought in contact with the operations of the machine shop, which assisted in developing a natural taste for mechanical pursuits, which became conspicuous in his after life. But subsequent years, spent principally in farm labor in Osego County, whither the family removed in 1817—the interest in the factory having been disposed of—afforded only such opportunity for mental improvement as could be derived from the common country school, and that only available for three or four months in the year. Still Mr. Whipple had made such advancement at the age of seventeen or eighteen as to pass the examination required for common school teaching, an occupation which he followed for a few winter terms, as a temporary means of acquiring funds to pay the expense of continuing his studies. From 1822 to 1828, he was enabled to spend a term or two, first at the academy at Hartwick, Osego County, and subsequently at the academy at Fairfield, Herkimer County, as he could manage to raise the necessary means by his own exertions; for he was unwilling to draw from the paternal resources, and in 1830 he graduated from Union College, having spent the senior year there.

At that time the profession of civil engineering in this country was in its early stage. But the Erie Canal had been constructed, and some few other public works of that class, and the country had got pretty well excited upon the subject of railroads. It seemed that the civil engineer was to be an important factor in the development upon this continent. In pursuance of the advice of



Quinn Whipple

Hudson at Albany, and incorporated as Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company for the purpose of erecting and maintaining the bridges for the use and transportation across the river from some point on the western side of Albany to some point on the opposite side of the river.

The site was selected by Thomas W. Abbot, Charles M. De Witt, James M. Smith, James M. Bush, Alexander Moore, J. T. Deane, and J. C. Pratt, of East Troy, N. Y. The bridges were constructed of heavy cast-iron and steel, with water, and with a draw for boats, and a width of 100 feet.

On April 1, 1866, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of the Hudson River bridges, and the Troy and Albany Bridge Company was organized.

Acts were passed by the Legislature in 1866, 1867, 1868, and 1869, providing for the swing-bridge, and the suspension bridge, and the Legislature, in 1870, passed an act providing for the suspension bridge.

The time when these bridges were completed, their dimensions, and general description of them, is given in "The History of Albany," as follows:

"The first copper bridge, now used exclusively for freight trains, was opened February 22, 1866, after thirty years of the most steadfast opposition, Troy taking the lead. It is doubtful, however, whether the bridges have really injured that city a dollar; but they certainly have had a depressing effect upon some kind of business in Albany, carting especially. Before the bridges were built, all trains had to be unloaded in this city, and the work then involved was very great, but now freight goes through, without breaking bulk, from New York to San Francisco. The upper bridge is supported by twenty-one stone piers. The bridge proper is 1,952 feet long, and with the approach 4,253 feet. Its cost, including necessary expenses of real estate, was \$1,200,000.

"The middle bridge, also for freight, is 1,100 feet long, and with approach 2,200 feet long, and is twenty-five feet over high water. It spans number twenty-two. The bridge carries out 400 tons. Work of construction was begun in 1870, and the bridge was first opened in 1882. The total cost of the two bridges was \$3,574,300, of which the Central Hudson paid \$1,731,133.80, the Boston and Albany, \$1,100,000, and the rest by the companies who have had the earnings of the bridges.

"Over six thousand are employed upon them. The toll on both bridges for foot passengers is three cents; fifty tickets for one dollar.

"A third bridge across the river was begun in 1876, but for several years progressed very slowly, except in litigation, of which there was plenty. It was finally completed and opened for teams and foot passengers February 21, 1882. It is at South Ferry Street, below the steamboat landing. Its length, including approaches, is 1,600 feet twenty-nine feet above low water mark. The draw, 400 feet long, carries 1,200 tons, and is worked by a thirty-horse-power engine. It is owned by the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company. Tolls

are 10 cents for teams; 5 cents for foot passengers; 10 cents for teams; 5 cents for foot passengers. It was built by the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company.

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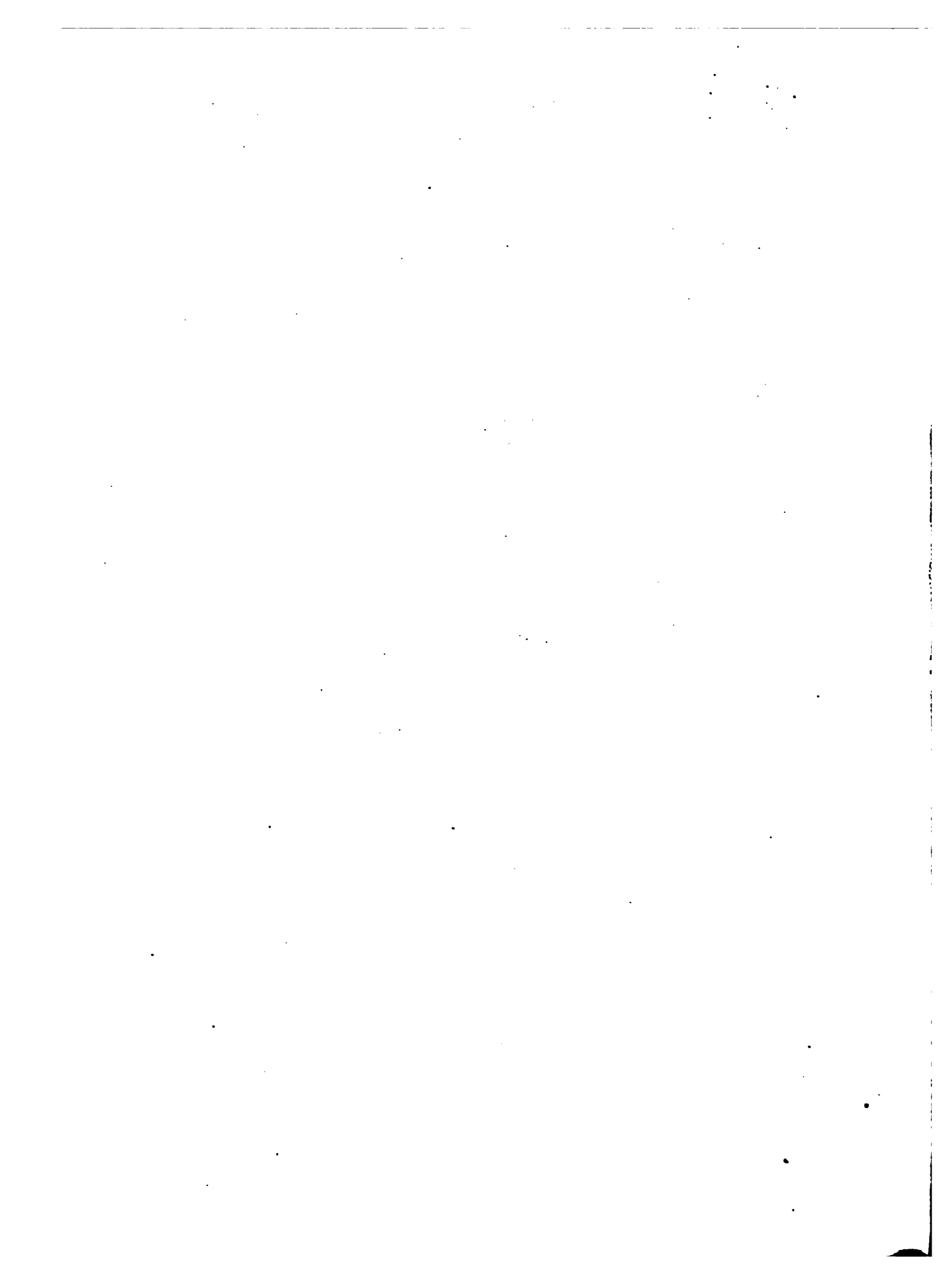
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Squire Whipple



friends, as well as in accordance with his own inclination, Mr. Whipple decided to turn his attention to engineering, as a profession promising success. His first practical experience in the field was as a rod-man, and subsequently as a leveler upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1830 and 1832. In 1833 he came near losing his life by a virulent attack of small-pox. From 1833 to 1836 he was engaged in surveys for fixing the boundaries of lands necessary for the use and maintenance of the Erie Canal, and in surveys and estimates for the Erie Canal enlargement, under the direction of the late Holmes Hutchinson, of Utica, as chief engineer. In 1836-37 he was employed upon the eastern division of the New York and Erie Railroad as resident engineer, under the direction of the late Edwin F. Johnson of Middletown, Conn., who was one of Mr. Whipple's most valued friends. The preceding, with five or six preliminary surveys and estimates (from 1837 to 1850) of railroad and canal routes in different sections of the country, constitutes most of his experience in general field engineering.

Like some other engineers, Mr. Whipple was not always successful in finding a demand for his services upon public works. In such times his taste and talent for mechanics induced him to turn his versatile hand to the manufacture of engineering field instruments. Included in such manufacture were twenty to thirty leveling instruments, and several transits and theodolites, all of which proved correct and satisfactory in use. About 1840 he designed a plan and constructed a model of a scale for weighing boats of three or four hundred tons upon the enlarged Erie Canal; and subsequently built, by contract, the first enlarged weigh-lock scale upon that work. The scale operated satisfactorily, and served as a model, as to general features, for three or four others afterwards built, one of which was by Mr. Whipple. They were probably the largest weighing machines ever constructed. In the same year, 1840, Mr. Whipple designed and constructed his first model iron bridge truss, or girder, for which he obtained letters patent, and subsequently built a large number of his patent iron arch truss bridges, of seventy to one hundred feet span, over the Erie Canal. This was the first decidedly successful attempt at the construction and use of iron truss bridges, and the result fully demonstrated the practical adaptability of iron as the principal material in bridge construction. Still the innovation was looked upon with doubt and suspicion, and no great progress was made in iron bridge building in this country till after the year 1850, when some thirty iron bridges were in use, mostly upon the Erie Canal, and, with few exceptions, constructed by Mr. Whipple.

In the meantime Mr. Whipple had built several short and unimportant iron railroad bridges for the New York and Erie Railroad, which were thoroughly tested and successfully used for several months under railroad traffic; but were subsequently removed, in deference to a panic excited against iron railroad bridges by the breaking of a bridge

of a different construction, and of different proportions, upon the same road. The broken bridge was similar to one that had been examined by Mr. Whipple, and publicly announced to be of inadequate proportions in important parts for a safe and reliable structure. Still its failure was the cause of serious hindrance to progress in the use of iron bridges for railroads.

In 1847 Mr. Whipple prepared and published a small elementary and practical work upon bridge building, in which were pointed out and illustrated the principles governing the construction of bridge trusses or girders, and also rules and formulæ for estimating the exact maximum strain upon each part or member of the truss in the various conditions of a given maximum load; thus enabling each part to be proportioned according to the work required of it, whereby the greatest possible economy of material could be secured; whereas the practice in that respect had theretofore been essentially a matter of mere empiricism. Mr. Whipple's book also explained methods for accurately determining the relative economy of different combinations and arrangements of the parts of the truss; and the plans he then recommended as the best, are those now almost universally adopted by the best builders, although strenuous effort has been made to discover or invent better combinations—sometimes by modifications of the same fundamental principles, and sometimes by the adoption of arrangements which Mr. Whipple had considered and discarded. Of the latter category is the truss known as the Bollman; and of the former, the so-called Warren girder, in which is dropped one set of diagonal members from the Whipple trapezoidal without verticals. This Mr. Whipple had previously done in the construction of skeleton floor beams and short trusses of twenty to thirty feet, and again by restoring the members omitted in the Warren girder, as an improvement on the latter. Mr. Whipple claims no originality in the use of diagonal or oblique members between parallel chords, with or without verticals, which had long been a common practice. But the proportioning of parts according to accurate calculation of the strain upon each, and the adoption of the trapezoidal form of truss, by the use of a triangular panel at each end, are devices first employed by him; and in these consist, principally, the distinction between modern scientific bridge building and the empirical practice of former times.

In 1852-53, Mr. Whipple built a wrought and cast-iron bridge of 150 feet upon the then Albany Northern, now the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad, which was in constant use for thirty years, and is believed to have been the oldest iron railroad bridge of considerable span in this country, if not in the world. Although probably the lightest iron railroad bridge of like span ever built, and containing sixty per cent. of cast-iron in the trusses, it was subjected to as severe a test load, perhaps, as ever has been applied to any iron bridge of like span and weight of truss. This bridge contained 75,000 pounds of iron (three-fifths cast-iron), ex-

clusive of floor beams and track-stringers, which were of wood. Although bridges are now built of spans more than three times as great, the one here referred to was at that time regarded as an achievement of no inconsiderable importance. Still iron bridge building made no marked progress for several years after the erection of the one in question. The last twenty-five years, however, have witnessed a remarkable revolution in this respect, inasmuch that iron is now almost universally and exclusively employed in the construction of important bridges.

In 1872, Mr. Whipple published an enlargement of his work on bridge building, which has reached the third edition, although other valuable works upon the subject have lately been placed before the engineering profession. In 1872, letters patent were granted to Mr. Whipple for a lift draw-bridge, having a counterpoised floor suspended from an elevated stationary truss-bridge, and movable vertically by means of a system of sheaves, cables and shafting, whereby the flooring can be raised to the truss-chords for the passage of boats in the waterway beneath, and lowered to near the water surface for the transit of land traffic. In 1873-74 the inventor built the first patent lift draw-bridge over the Erie Canal at Utica, which has been in satisfactory use during eleven seasons of canal navigation. The movement is effected by a five hundred-pound weight, wound up about fifteen feet by one minute's work of one man, which in descending effects the required movement of the platform, up or down, in ten seconds. This invention is very useful and convenient in many localities which will not admit of the use of swing draw-bridges, and has been adopted in other places upon the Erie Canal, namely, in Rochester and Syracuse, with no profit to the inventor however, as the builders and users of his patent bridges have not had the fairness to voluntarily adjust his rights and claims, and he has forborne to prosecute.

In fine, the relation of Mr. Whipple to iron bridges may be fitly compared with that of Watt to the steam engine, Fulton to the steamboat, Morse to the electric telegraph and Bell to the speaking telephone, with the exception that, whereas most of these have derived great wealth from the results of their ingenuity and labors, Mr. Whipple has only secured a comfortable competence for declining years. Though he has sometimes felt himself treated with illiberality, he does not complain, as he has had no morbid hankering for costly display, and holds the opinion that enough should suffice, and that the fitting wages of labor should be gauged by the time of duration, together with the damage by wear and tear, mental and physical, sustained by the performer, and not by fortuitous conditions and straits, which may render a particular service of vital importance to the beneficiary. But the limits of this sketch will not admit of elaboration upon questions of this character in this connection. As an evidence of the estimation in which Mr. Whipple's labors are held by his fellow-engineers, may be cited the fact of his being hailed among them as the "father of iron bridges," as well as the following extract from the annual address to the

American Society of Civil Engineers, published in the Transactions of the Society in June, 1880. Speaking of the progress in bridge construction, the address says: "While, however, our English brethren, thirty years ago, were building plate girders and tubes, our venerable honorary member, Squire Whipple, was studying the subject and, with characteristic modesty, laying down the principles of a science of bridge construction based upon determining the action of the forces in skeleton structures by rigid mathematical calculation. His book, printed in 1847, contains nearly all that is vitally important connected with the theory of fixed spans, and his bridges stand to-day as monuments to his skill and as reminders to us of the debt we owe to that distinguished engineer."

In 1837 Mr. Whipple was married to Miss Anna Case, of Utica, a lady of refined tastes and excellent womanly qualities. Having resided in Utica, where much of his life labor was performed, from 1833 to 1850, he removed to Albany in the latter year, where he has since resided. The last few years have found him mostly engaged in such mechanical and scientific labors, studies and experiments, in a private way, as are congenial to his tastes. Though not without a keen relish for pleasant social intercourse, he has, through life, found a large share of his enjoyment in the exercise of his own faculties of thought and action; and his cabinet of models, instruments and apparatus for the illustration of different branches of physical and mechanical science, mostly made by himself, and largely of original design, has elicited expressions of admiration from many who have given it inspection. Withal, Mr. Whipple has turned his hand to amateur printing, and has printed many short essays upon various subjects, mostly promulgating original thoughts characteristic of his idiocracy, which is somewhat radical; for, in other directions, as well as in regard to his speciality of bridge building, his bent is to go down to fundamental facts, principles and evidences upon which to base his conclusions and practices.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND BASIN OF ALBANY,

WITH MANY HISTORIC EVENTS AND REMINISCENCES OF
OLDEN TIMES.

By GENERAL S. V. TALCOTT.

[This able paper was kindly prepared for us by General S. V. Talcott, a distinguished citizen, now venerable in years, who has held many posts of duty with advantage to his native city and State, and credit to himself. His knowledge of local history—of many of the events in which he has been an eye-witness—and his skillful use of facts, well established by public documents and the testimony of the men of his childhood days, make his reminiscences and other statements valuable. We are sorry to be compelled to omit some of the legal and other documentary matter for want of space.—J. T.]

Professor Peter Kalm, a Swedish naturalist of distinction, from the University of Upsala, visited Albany in 1749. He says, in his report, that the "Hudson River at Albany is from twelve to twenty feet deep; that there is as yet no quay made for the landing of yachts, because the people feared it

would be swept away in the spring; that the vessels come pretty near the shore and receive their cargoes from two canoes lashed together."

It appears from the records of the Common Council, that as early as 1727 the building of suitable wharves for the accommodation of the vessels navigating the river was contemplated. On October 24th an ordinance was passed "requiring the freeholders of the city who held lands or ground fronting on the east near or to the Hudson River, be directed to produce their titles to the same, in order that the Common Council may be better enabled to consider of finding out the proper ways and means for docking and regulating of streets on the east thereof, along the Hudson River, and that such titles be produced in Common Council at the City Hall on the 10th day of November next."

About one hundred and fourteen years ago, that is, in 1770, a survey of the City of Albany was made by Robert Yates, which gives its frontage on the Hudson River, from a point near the foot of Quackenbush street at the north, to the present steamboat landing at the intersection of Broadway and Quay street at the south. These were the north and south boundaries of the whole inhabited part of the city. Those of the east and west were the river and the fort near Lodge street. On the map projected from this survey, the river has a great bend to the westward from the islands above the city to the steamboat landing; it then turns and runs in a more easterly direction. On the flat lands bordering the deepest part of this bend, the first settlers planted the little colony of Rensselaerwyck. Most of their dwellings were on the street, now Broadway, near the river, with gardens running down to the water. Few resided above Orange or below Beaver streets, where the stockades were. The channel of the river, following its curve, kept close to the shore, and by its good depth of water formed the harbor of the city, where the vessels navigating the Hudson received their cargoes. In 1770 there were four docks used for this purpose: one above Columbia street, near where Foxenkill empties in the basin, called the Arsenal Wharf; one at the foot of Mark lane (Exchange street) in the shape of a T, called the Middle Wharf, which was enlarged and extended in 1774 to 90 feet in length and 32 feet in width; another at the foot of Hudson street, of the same shape, but somewhat smaller, called the City Hall Wharf; and one at Kilby lane (now Hamilton street), near where the steamboat landing now is, called Kilby's Wharf, later known as Hodges' Dock. All four extended to the channel of the river near its western bank. Division street, which came to the river between the last-named wharves, was then called Bone alley. The original shore line, as represented on this map, was as far west as Dean street, then called Dock street. Subsequent filling brought out the water line to its present position on the east side of Quay street. At Quackenbush street the west bank of the river was about 380 feet east of Broadway; at Foxenkill about 200 feet; at Exchange street about 70 feet; at

State street about 80 feet east of Dean; at Hudson street about 160 feet; and at Division street about 175 feet east of Broadway.

It appears from a map projected from a survey of Hudson street made in 1791, that the land on the north side of that street had been extended, by filling into the river, not quite two hundred feet; and that Rutenkill, now known as Beaver street sewer, which emptied into the basin at the north-east corner of Hudson and Quay streets, was deflected from its course, crossed Hudson street at nearly a right angle, and emptied into the river about eighty feet south of that street. The filling having been carried on irregularly, and more rapidly on the north than on the south side of the street, deflected the stream from its original course. The Rutenkill is not laid down on the map of 1770. Only two are there represented: Foxenkill, which empties into the river above Columbia street, and Beaverkill, which now passes through the Arch street sewer.

In 1795, the Duc de Liancourt, who had visited Albany, stated that there were in the Hudson River trade 90 sloops—45 owned in Albany and 45 in New York—of about 70 tons each. They made on an average 20 trips in a season. The freight on grain was 12½ cents per cwt.; passage to New York, \$1.25. He states, also, that sloops were built in Albany for \$27.50 per ton; that the Corporation of the city sells the wharves at \$2.50 per foot frontage, reserving an annual rent of \$8.12½ per lot. Labor was 56½ cents per day, and in harvest time 87½ cents. Butcher's meat, 12½ cents per pound.

The title to the river front, out to the channel, was vested in the Mayor and Commonalty of the city. As early as 1793 they began to lease in perpetuity, chiefly to those persons whose property extended to the river, and was bounded by it, the water lots in front of the same. The annual quit rent required was one shilling per running foot.

Most of these leases have been commuted, and the titles transferred, by quit claim deeds from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty, to the purchasers of the lots from the original lessers. The water lots north of the city, in what was called the Colonie, were held under titles derived from Van Rensselaer, the Patroon, as were also the lands embraced within the bounds of the Colonie, extending from Patroon street (now Clinton avenue) and Quackenbush street on the south, to the Patroon's Creek on the north, and from the river on the east to and including Arbor hill on the west.

A Dock Association, composed of the proprietors of the dock between the center of Maiden lane and the north side of State street, was formed in 1794. This was probably the first regular dock, extending from street to street, that was constructed, and the Association was probably formed on its completion.

At a meeting held February 2, 1796:

"Resolved, That the Trustees are hereby authorized (if they judge conducive to the interests of the Association) to admit the proprietors of the quay south of Bone lane [Division street] and north of Kilby lane [Hamilton street], parties to the agreement."

James Caldwell and Stephen Van Rensselaer were admitted as members, and their wharves taken into the common stock, January 23, 1803.

At a meeting of the proprietors at Moody's Tavern on Thursday evening, February 3, 1814, the Trustees stated to the Proprietors present, that the written agreement executed on the 13th of March, 1794, under which the Association was originally organized, would expire on the 13th of March next. It was

"Resolved, unanimously, that the wharves lying south of Steuben street and north of the watering place [foot of Columbia street] as it is now situated, shall continue under the same regulations and management as has been adopted for the past year."

In 1795, the wharfage the first year was £250 7s. od. The amount of dividend per foot, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

February 10, 1873, the gross wharfage of the last year of the Association was \$82c.26; commission, \$165.05; net, \$655.22; dividends, \$1 per foot; number of feet, 607 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Abraham Bloodgood was the first wharfinger, 1794; succeeded by Abraham Eights, 1795 to 1819; Edward Brown, 1820-41; John L. Hyatt, 1841-70; William Eaton, 1870-71; F. A. Shepard, 1871-73.

The 13th of February, 1873, the Association adjourned *sine die*.

Andrew E. Brown was Secretary from 16th February, 1831, to the 13th of February, 1873—forty-two years.

A ferry from near the foot of Kilby's lane (Hamilton street) was established at an early day. Probably before 1767, as the right to maintain a ferry was granted to Guysbert Marcellis for £70 per annum, on the 14th March of that year; and on March 3, 1781, the Deputy Quartermaster-General, Dirk Haden, was granted the privilege "to land with the ferry-boat at the Old Dock at the store-houses until further ordered." This was probably Kilby's Dock, for on April 24, 1783, the Common Council passed an ordinance directing that "the stones of a part of the dock at the stores be appropriated to complete the City Hall Dock and the next Northern Dock: to wit, the [stones of] south pier of said dock [at the stores] called Kilby's Dock.

September 25, 1783, "the resolution to appropriate the stones of the lower pier of Kilby's Dock, to complete the City Hall Dock and Middle Dock, is reconsidered."

The Court House or City Hall, a plain three-story yellow brick building with a belfry on top, having a door and four windows on the first story, and five windows on each of the other stories, occupied the corner of Court street (Broadway) and Hudson street, fronting on the former. It was the center for all public purposes and occupied by the Legislature until the Capitol on the hill was erected. The courts were held in it; public meetings were addressed from its steps; when a fire occurred the citizens were directed to assemble there, each with a given number of leather fire-buckets, which

they were required to keep hanging in a convenient place in the halls of their dwellings—for there were no fire-engines in those days. When an alarm was given, each sturdy Dutchman in knee-breeches, cocked hat and wide-skirted coat, hastened to the Court House with his buckets, crying, "Brand! brand!!" (Fire! fire!!) as he ran. Or, when the ice began to move in the river, at the sound of the bell at any moment, midday or midnight, the whole population rushed to the Court House for instruction and a leader—arousing the sleepers, if it was night, with their startling shouts of "Ys gang!!" (The ice is going!) It required the energy and assistance of all the available citizens, so rapid was usually the rise of water and flow of the ice when once started, to get the families and the effects of those residing near the river out of danger. After the Old Court House had served its time for State and city, Harry Trowbridge took its upper stories for a museum, and moved his collection of curiosities into it, the main floor being occupied for commercial purposes. The first museum was established on the corner of Green and Beaver streets in 1798. There is no evidence to show that Trowbridge was the proprietor of this; but, from the fact that nothing is heard of it after he opened the New York State Museum in the Old Court House, it is probable that he was. It is known that he had a museum as early as 1809, called the Albany Museum. This was probably the name of the one on the corner of Green and Beaver streets. There were great attractions for the small boys and girls in the museum on the corner of Hudson street and Broadway in those days—the monstrosities excited their wonder; the phantasmagoria and the wax figures their delight. The collection of the latter was a remarkable one indeed. Arrayed in full costume, and in various attitudes, were Charlotte Temple, Daniel Lambert, Punch and Judy, Louis the XIV, Jael driving the nail into the head of Sisera, and many others of equal note. But the crowning wonder of all, announced by the ringing of a small bell, was the raising of the ghost of Samuel, by the Witch of Endor, for the humble and awe-stricken Saul, who stood near in full armor of steel. The spirit slowly rose through the top of the tomb—which was an upright box not unlike the pedestal that supports the bust of Dr. Armsby in the Park—remained with half its body above the opening for a minute, and then as slowly returned to its place.

There was a landing-place for batteaux and small boats in the rear of and not far from the dwelling of the late Judge Jacob J. Lansing, on the corner of Broadway and Quackenbush streets. At this landing, just before the battle of Saratoga, while the British troops were slowly approaching Albany, the alarmed inhabitants of the Colonie had collected a small fleet of batteaux, anticipating the possible defeat of the continental forces, and were prepared at the first intimation of disaster to flee, with their families and such effects as they could hastily gather, to the opposite shore of the river. They were filled with great fear when they heard the battle had begun, and expected each

moment to hear that the "red-coats" were on their way to the city. While engaged in loading their boats as rapidly as possible, a single horseman was seen approaching from the north, gesticulating and furiously whipping his horse as he drew near. Men, women and children rushed out to hear what news he brought from the armies, expecting of course that the enemy was close behind him. He shouted as he came up and passed along: "Bergine is taken! Bergine is taken!!" So astounded and incredulous were the people as they followed him to the City Hall, on the corner of Broadway and Hudson streets, that they cried: "Gy liegen! Gy liegen!!" (You lie! you lie!!) Great was their relief and gladness when the news was confirmed by the dispatch brought by the messenger and read by the Mayor to the assembled crowd. The switch which the messenger had used to urge his horse along, he threw away as he passed the corner of North Lansing street and Broadway. It was picked up by Mrs. Teunis G. Visscher, a daughter of Mr. Christopher Lansing, and planted in front of her father's house, where she resided at that time. The switch grew to be a sturdy elm, long remembered and pointed out as a monument to commemorate the end of the revolution. It passed from youth to manhood and to old age, lost its beauty and strength, and at last yielded up the remnant of its life to the demands of progress, and was removed to make room for the railroad viaduct across Broadway.

Diagonally opposite the residence of Mr. Lansing, on the northwest corner of Broadway and Clinton avenue, there was, until removed to make a place for the drug store of Messrs. Clement & Rice, an antique Dutch residence with its pointed gable fronting on Broadway, built of Holland bricks painted yellow, with a door on Broadway used only to carry the dead through, and a front door on Clinton avenue cut in halves transversely, as were all the doors of those early Dutch houses. The house was erected about A. D. 1700, and stood some four or five hundred feet beyond the northern stockade, which crossed Broadway near Orange street, and had a gate opening on the road leading north through the Colonie. In this house lived one of the old Dutch families somewhere about the time of the French War. The Indians who were prowling about the outskirts of the town were not over-friendly, and the gates of the stockades were always closed about sundown to keep them out. The residents beyond the stockades were careful to get to their homes before dark, lest they might lose their scalps some unlucky evening. Nearly every family kept a good watch-dog. This family in particular had a large mastiff in their house who was kind and gentle with those he was accustomed to see, but a terror to the Indians, for whom he had no love. A middle-aged daughter of the family was in the habit of visiting her friends in the town, enjoying their society and the hospitable cup of tea which formed a prominent feature in all entertainments among the old Dutch families. One evening, staying inside the stockade longer than usual, it was almost dark when she was passed

through the gates. As she crossed the road she observed an Indian following her. She ran in great fear. He followed, and as she reached her home and the handle of the door, he caught her by the hair and brandished his scalping-knife above her head ready to take her scalp. With a scream she threw open the upper half of the door. The faithful mastiff, hearing her cry, sprang over the lower half, seized the Indian by the throat and there held him till he was captured. This dog never after that led a dog's life—in the common acceptation of the term.

A door like the one above mentioned on Broadway, as used only on funeral occasions, was common to most of the old Dutch residences, and was called the "dood door." It was connected with the "dood kamer" (death chamber). On the occasion of a death in the family, the corpse was removed to this room, and invitations to the funeral were given to the relatives and friends of the deceased through the "aanspreker" (sexton), to attend the funeral from the house at a specified time. When assembled, a tankard of hot spiced wine and a tray of "dood koekjes," a flat round cake, about four inches in diameter, made of material similar to those used for New Year's cakes, were handed round. Then the usual ceremonies of prayer, remarks about the life and death of the departed, and an address to the afflicted relatives, followed; after which all were expected to take a last look into the coffin. Then it was removed from the "dood kamer," through the "dood door," to the bier, and was carried to the grave-yard by the bearers. On the return from the burying ground, the guests again assembled at the house of the deceased and partook freely of the hot spiced wine. This very ancient custom was not abandoned till some years after the beginning of the present century.

ALBANY BASIN.—As early as 1822, and perhaps earlier, when there was on an average from eighty to two hundred sloops and schooners daily lying at the docks in front of the city, the project of constructing a basin at the termination of the Erie and Champlain Canal was seriously considered. The matter was referred to the Canal Commissioners, and on February 11, 1823, they made the following report:

"In obedience to the resolution of the Assembly, passed the 14th ult., instructing the Commissioners to report a place for the construction of a basin at the termination of the Erie and Champlain Canal at the City of Albany, reported that Benjamin Wright, one of their engineers, who was instructed to examine the matter, had proposed a plan and made a communication on the subject, together with a map of the contemplated basin. The Commissioners believe that a basin may be constructed on the said plan for about \$100,000, and that such a basin would be extremely beneficial to the trade of Albany. They have declined to make basins along the line of canals, believing that mercantile capital and enterprise would find sufficient inducements and interests to furnish these local accommodations to trade, and that to

expend the public moneys would not be just. They think, however, that it would be proper to construct a sloop lock at the southern termination of the basin, as the connection of boat and sloop navigation at the arsenal lot will cost nearly as much as the said lock; and, in case of the construction of said lock, it would be reasonable for the State to receive tolls on the length of the basin as part of the canal."

Upon this report, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of the Albany basin, April 5, 1823, the principal features of which were as follows:

That from the report of the Canal Commissioners, it appears that a basin at the termination of the canals would be a great benefit to commerce and to trade. The following gentlemen, William James, John R. Bleecker, John Townsend, Elisha Jenkins, Benjamin Knower, Allen Brown, Israel Smith, Teunis Van Vechten, John Trotter, John Spencer, Asa H. Center, William Durant, Peter Boyd, Joseph Alexander, Charles R. Webster, John H. Webb, John Shotwell, Joseph Russell, William Caldwell, Ralph Pratt, Russell Forsythe, William Marvin, William McHarg, Jellis Winne, Jr., Abraham Van Vechten and Gideon Hawley, were appointed Commissioners. They were authorized to raise subscriptions to construct a mole or pier within the bounds of the City of Albany, opposite the docks fronting the harbor, so as to comprise a basin extending from the arsenal dock to a point opposite Hodges' Dock, in the line of Hamilton street, with a sloop lock at the Hamilton street end, to be completed within two years.

The act authorized the building of bridges from the dock to the pier, and the Canal Commissioners to give title of the land under water covered by the pier to the Pier Company.

No toll should be exacted, or wharfage or other charges for boats, other craft or rafts of lumber, entering from the canal and passing through the basin, unless the same shall be re-vested in the people of the State.

It regulated the wharfage to be paid by vessels, boats and other crafts navigating the river, for the season: Vessels of five tons or under to pay \$2.12½ per ton; if above that burden, at the rate of 54 cents per ton. If for less time, for five tons or under, 25 cents per day; twenty tons or under, 4 cents per ton per day; over twenty, under forty, 3 cents per ton per day; over fifty, 2½ cents per ton per day. One-half to go to the proprietors of the pier. The proprietors of the pier to have the right to collect wharfage from outside of pier same as collected from inside docks.

It directed that the pier be divided into lots, which should be sold at public auction.

It directed that the Canal Commissioners should charge toll on all canal boats, craft and lumber which should enter the basin from the canal, or leave the basin for transportation on the canal, computing the entire length of said basin in the same manner as if it were a part of the canal. The money collected, after deducting expenses, to be paid over to the State Treasurer.

It provided for damages by reason of overflow caused by the guard or sloop dock.

It directed that the act should be void unless the Corporation of the city filed their assent to the act in the office of the Secretary of State within sixty days after its passage.

The assent referred to was filed April 8, 1823.

The Albany Pier was completed, under the act above mentioned, May 27, 1825, inclosing a basin capable of harboring 1,000 canal boats and 50 vessels of a larger class. The Commissioners appointed under the act divided it into 123 lots, and sold them at public auction on the 17th July, 1825, excepting lots 1 and 2, which were reserved, and after a time taken for an opening into the river. The 121 lots brought the aggregate sum of \$188,510. Of these William James purchased 48, John T. Norton, 14, and Israel Smith 7; other purchasers were Gideon Hawley, Harmanus Bleecker, Chas. R. Webster, Robt. Boyd, Isaiah Townsend, Samuel Ward, of New York, Chas. D. Cooper, E. Backus, Elisha Jenkins, Isaac H. Bogart, E. C. Delavan, John Tayler, Henry S. Webb, John Meads, Abel French, Francis Bloodgood, James Goold. The lowest price paid for a lot was \$1,200, and the highest, \$3,550. The pier was 4,323 feet long, 85 feet broad, and unbroken from the canal to Hamilton street, containing 8¼ acres of land. The basin contained an area of 32 acres.

Bridges with draws were constructed across the basin, at the foot of Columbia and State streets, by the proprietors of the pier, and a sloop lock was built by the State at Hamilton street.

Sept. 25, 1823, the first water was passed through the lock at the head of the Albany basin. An eel three feet in length came through the gate and was hailed as the first passenger; it was caught, and the skin preserved in the Museum of the Lyceum of Natural History. But the canal was not completed until the fall of 1825.

When the first water from the finished canal came into the basin, the sloop lock-gates were closed, and the citizens gathered in great numbers on the docks to see the basin filled with water, which they did not doubt would rise to the crest of the pier, and possibly overflow the docks. After waiting anxiously for several hours, they began to wonder why the water did not rise and what had become of it. Their patience having been exhausted, as it grew dark the assemblage adjourned, hoping to see the basin full on the morrow. Much to their astonishment they were disappointed, the pier having been built in parts of cribs filled with clay and other soils, together with loose stones where rock bottom was found, and resting in other places on piles, permitted the water to escape into the river under the cribs and between the piles. Why this was not known before a sloop lock was constructed, does not appear.

On the 26th of October, a day that should be remembered throughout all time, the first canal boat from Lake Erie, through the great canal projected by Governor De Witt Clinton, reached the Hudson River at Albany at three minutes before 11 o'clock A. M., and passed through the lock into

the Albany basin. The event was announced by a discharge of cannon, which formed a line within hearing distance from Buffalo to Sandy Hook. The return fire from New York was received at five minutes before 12 o'clock noon.

The basin having been constructed without a free outlet for the current to pass through, became a nuisance in consequence of the great accumulation of silt in it. In June, 1834, the Corporation of the city was indicted by the Grand Jury for not abating it. The Recorder, Hon. James McKown, was instructed to defend the action, on the ground that the bulkhead at the lower end of the basin had been placed there by the Pier Company, under the sanction of an act of the Legislature, and being private property, the Corporation could not be bound to abate the nuisance. The Albany Court of Sessions decided against the Corporation; but the Supreme Court reversed the decision. On the 9th of February following, a public meeting was held at the Capitol for the purpose of making an application to the Legislature to pass an act directing that the bulkhead be removed, and for other purposes. On the 27th of April, 1835, the Legislature passed an act to improve the navigation of the Albany basin, which directed that the bulkhead be removed in part, that the sloop lock be taken away, and a bridge built from the abutment at Hamilton street to the pier. It also authorized the Mayor and Common Council to order and direct the excavation, deepening and clearing of any part of the basin that was found to be necessary, and directed the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to appraise and assess the cost of the same, on all the building lots, wharves, docks, and pier lots benefited by the improvement, specifying in said appraisement the names of the owners, and taking into consideration the benefit to the Pier Company by the annual receipt of one mile toll received by them as part of the Erie and Champlain Canals. Under and by the authority given in this act, the Mayor and Common Council proceeded to carry its provisions into effect.

The act of the Legislature passed April 14, 1836, authorized the Corporation of the City of Albany to make an opening in the pier between the Columbia and State street bridges of sixty feet in width, which had already been decided upon as necessary by an ordinance of the Common Council, dated the 28th of March previous, and to repair any damage to bridges or property on the pier caused by said opening, and assess the costs of the same on the property benefited. In 1837, owing to the great increase of business on the pier, the Pier Company asked the Common Council for authority to widen the pier fifteen feet; their petition was denied. The act passed May 16, 1837, directed the Canal Commissioners to clear the obstructions from the basin, and draw upon the Mayor and Common Council for the cost, and allow the excess above the amount of toll on the one mile of basin, which was considered as part of the canal, to be charged to the State.

The dredging proceeded so slowly, that the Common Council directed the Navigation Committee

to inquire into the cause and report what had been and what remained to be done. On the 17th September, 1838, the Navigation Committee reported that \$96,090.55 had been expended in improving the basin; that there yet remained 105,000 cubic yards of excavation to be made, which would cost \$36,250.

Another act of the Legislature, passed April 20, 1841, directed the Common Council to cause the opening in the pier to be enlarged to a width of not less than 126 feet, the expense of said opening to be assessed upon the property benefited; and by an act passed April 14, 1849, they were empowered to make a further enlargement. These enlargements were rendered necessary by the increasing demands of commerce, and the enlarged size of the vessels used in transportation on the river.

After the works were completed, the Commissioners assessed the cost upon the property benefited, as directed by the several laws passed by the Legislature. This proceeding raised a great commotion among the dock and pier-owners, which resulted in a controversy as to the constitutionality of the law under which the work was done. The Legislature passed an act on the 14th April, 1849, "in relation to certain expenses incurred in excavating the basin, and the tolls received thereon, at the eastern terminus of the Erie and Champlain Canals." This law directs the Canal Commissioners to pay to the City of Albany \$121,462.63, with interest from February 20, 1823, for the expenses incurred by the city for excavating, clearing and cleaning out the basin, and also the sum of \$30,000 to be paid to the owners of the pier in lieu of tolls as heretofore paid to them. This act to be a final settlement of all claims against the State in favor of the City of Albany, or in favor of any citizen thereof, and also of the pier-owners under the several acts passed April 5, 1823, April 27, 1835, April 14, 1836, and May 16, 1837.

At this time, and until the War of the Rebellion, the property on the pier was very valuable. The portion above the Columbia street bridge was covered with lumber and staves, piled very high for want of room, while below the bridge, on both sides of the cut to its southern extremity were large and commodiously built warehouses, occupied by the leading shipping merchants of the city and the proprietors of the large tow-boat lines. The Swiftsure and Albany and Canal lines each had offices below the State street bridge, and their barges occupied berths on both the inside and outside of the pier.

Hart & Hoyt, in order to facilitate the transportation of the merchandise they received, erected on a raft or float in the basin, a large wooden structure, familiarly called the "Ark," which took up much room and was a great annoyance to the other shippers, beside being an eye-sore and great obstruction to the free navigation of the basin. It became so much of a nuisance that the Common Council ordered them to remove it. They declining to do so, the Corporation undertook to make the removal themselves, but were enjoined by the Court from proceeding with its demolition. The

case was carried to the Court of Chancery, and by the Chancellor the injunction was dissolved. Hart & Hoyt appealed to the Court of Errors. It was held by this Court that the appellants had utterly failed to establish a right to erect and continue the floating warehouse in the basin; that it was not lawful for individuals, without grants, to construct or moor a floating warehouse or vessel for receiving and delivering any goods in any river-port or harbor, or in the basins or docks thereof, and is an obstruction to free navigation.

The "Ark" was therefore removed, and the business on the pier and in the basin was thereafter unobstructed. At this time, beside the large barges employed in the carrying trade to New York, all sorts of craft came to Albany for freight, from a clam-boat to a three-masted schooner. Frequently, more than two hundred sailing vessels might be counted at the pier and docks of the city, hailing from Maine to Florida. From the East were brought sperm and whale oil, rum, fish, apples, and Yankee notions; from the South, Georgia pine, cotton, sugar, and fruit; and lumber, staves, potatoes, and the various kinds of grain were taken away. These days and years of an active and profitable trade came to an end on the pier, docks and basin, on the completion of the system of railroad communication from Boston and New York to the Western States, and the opening of the lumber district between the river and canal a short distance above the Bath ferry.

Soon after the completion of the canal, a line of packet-boats was established to transport passengers from Albany to Utica. This was a wonderful improvement over the old stage-coach at certain seasons of the year, when the wheels would sink to the hubs in the mud, and the passengers would often be called upon to help, with a fence-rail, to pry them up. The packets were sharp-bowed, trim-looking boats, drawn by three horses on a trot, and averaged about nine miles an hour, sometimes more. The cabin extended almost the entire length of the boat, with a short deck at the bow and stern; the seats were arranged like those in an omnibus, and so constructed that they could be converted into two tiers of berths. A curtain divided one cabin into two unequal parts, the smaller reserved for the ladies. The baggage was all carried on the deck above the cabin. The choice seat in the daytime was on the forward low deck. It was dangerous to sit on the deck above the cabin, on account of the lowness of the numerous bridges. The helmsman was constantly warning those passengers who sat there by the cry of "bridge ahead," when each one would be obliged to duck, or if the bridge was very low, to lie down flat. These packets left Albany from the little basin just at the head of the lock, between the canal and the Albany basin, with flags flying, bugle music, and shouts of the people collected to see the start. There were soon opposition companies, which made lively times, and packet-boats became the fashionable mode of travel between Albany and Buffalo. These too were abandoned as fast as the railroads were opened to the West.

On February 13, 1861, there occurred one of the most disastrous freshets ever known to the inhabitants of Albany. The ice damming up opposite the Boston ferry, caused the water to flow over the pier, and sent the current down through the basin, carrying large cakes of ice with great velocity against the boats, vessels and bridges in the basin, which were swept down and destroyed in a brief space of time.

April 8, 1861, the three bridges from the mainland to the pier having been carried away by the freshet and destroyed, a controversy arose between the Pier Company and the Common Council as to which should construct the new ones.

The Pier Company claimed that by the Act of April 14, 1836, authorizing the Corporation of Albany to make an opening in the pier between the State street and Columbia street bridges of 60 feet in width, and to repair any damages to bridges or property on the pier by reason of said opening, and assess the expense of the same upon the property benefited; and by the act of the Legislature, passed April 20, 1841, directing the Corporation to enlarge the opening to the width of not less than 126 feet; and by a further act, passed April 11, 1849, the said Corporation was authorized to make a still further enlargement; that the rebuilding of the bridge clearly devolved upon the city, and asked that they be rebuilt without delay.

The bridges were rebuilt without draws, as the opening between Columbia and State streets admitted vessels to the middle basin.

The building of the pier caused great dissatisfaction to the owners of the dock and property on Quay street. It deprived them of their right to the channel of the river, decreased the amount of their dockage and the value of the property on Quay street, by affording wharfage on the outside of the pier, and space for building upon it. The venerable and distinguished jurist, Abraham Van Vechten, whose memory is revered by the few now left who knew him, could not accept the appointment as one of the Commissioners named in the act of 1823, because he believed the act to be not only unjust to the dock-owners, but decidedly unconstitutional. But opposition was of no avail. The same means that are supposed to be successful in carrying bills through later Legislatures, may have been successfully used in 1823, and possibly were so used to pass this act.

In 1873, when the Dock Association adjourned *sine die*, active business on the pier and Quay street had about come to a standstill; buildings which had formerly rented for seven or eight hundred dollars per annum, would scarcely command three or four hundred, and many remained unoccupied. Storage of produce brought down by canal-boats too late in the fall to ship for New York or Eastern or Southern ports by vessels, was a large item of profit which was cut off by the transportation afforded by the completion of the Central and Hudson River and the Boston and Albany Railroads. The merchants who did a heavy business on the pier or Quay street, either retired from business or removed to Broadway, where they escaped the an-

nual freshets in the river, and obtained more comfortable quarters.

The wharfage which had been collected pretty equally from the various docks under the control of the Dock Association, was now earned by but few of them, and a majority of the members were unwilling to continue to divide the receipts with those whose docks contributed little or nothing to the Association. Hence the resolution to adjourn *sine die*.

Since 1873, the basin has been filling up with silt from the river and sewage from the fifteen city sewers that empty their foul contents into it; and it has become one of the greatest nuisances in the county. It is hoped that it will either be dredged out by the State authorities or filled up, as it has passed its days of usefulness.

SEWERAGE.

Prior to 1854, and previous to the appointment of R. H. Bingham as City Engineer and Surveyor, there was no regular system of sewers for the city. In that year the first brick and cement sewer was constructed in Madison avenue, then Lydius street. Laws had been passed for making drains in detached portions. Some had been made in several streets leading to the river, east of Eagle street. Some had been laid as early as 1800. These last were constructed of common building stones about one foot in the clear.

It appears from the records of the Common Council, that attention was given very early to surface draining. Water-courses were dug on the side of the streets, under direction of the City government, by the owners of adjacent houses or lots, which were to be kept open and clear so as "to vent, dry and drain the said streets." In 1721, it was "ordained, published and declared, that all and every person within this City before whose houses and lotts y^e water has no vent, shall forthwith ditch and drain y^e water to give it passage that y^e highways may be dry and useful for y^e Inhabitants of s^d City, and that all y^e Streets and lanes be sufficiently paved, y^e earth be dug out and Carted away" under penalties for neglect. Such was the primitive drainage. Subsequent to this time, ordinances directing the making of drains and keeping them open were often made. Sometimes they were made to empty into creeks or kills. But, after all, the streets of the city were often very full of mire and filth.

Since 1854, in the leading streets to the river, the old drains have been replaced with brick and cement sewers varying in diameter from three and a half to six and a half feet in the clear.

The combined system of sewerage, conveying both house drainage and surface water, required larger sewers than the surface system which conveys only the house drainage.

The combined system became necessary in consequence of the slope and steepness of the streets leading to the river. In the westerly portion of the city the separate system has been adopted, vitrified pipes have been used varying from ten to thirty

inches in diameter, according to the quantity of house drainage to be carried. Most of the thickly settled streets have been sewerred.

The old creek beds of the city leading to the river—four in number—have been covered with stone arches from six to ten feet in diameter, and adopted as outlet sewers for the westerly portion of the city, into which many of the street drains empty.

The creeks thus adopted as outlet sewers, are as follows: Beaver Creek, in the southerly portion of the city; Rутtenkill and Foxenkill in the central portion of the city; and Patroon's Creek in the northerly.

The extent of the water-shed flowing into Beaver Creek is about 1,300 acres; Rутtenkill, about 200 acres; Foxenkill, about 200 acres; Patroon's Creek, about 5,000 acres.

Space will not permit us to give any more than the leading or principal sewers in the city. That in Madison avenue is 4 feet in diameter; Hamilton street, 3 feet 6 inches; Hudson avenue, 5 feet; State street, 6 feet; Quackenbush street, 5 feet; Livingston avenue, 4 feet 6 inches; Maiden lane, 4 feet; Steuben street, 4 feet; Van Woert, 4 feet. Patroon's Creek sewer is 12 x 8 feet in diameter; Foxenkill, 6 feet; Rутtenkill, 6 feet; Beaver Creek, 8 feet. In the other streets in the city the sewers run from 4 feet to 18 inches in diameter.

The expense of the construction of the street sewers in Albany are paid by levying special assessments upon the property benefited by it and lying adjacent to it. Many of these sewers have been constructed at large expense. For instance: Hudson avenue sewer, from the river to Eagle street, cost \$20,150; State street, from river to Eagle street, \$21,289; Patroon street, from the river to North Pearl street, \$48,718.

The cost of these sewers are \$9 per lineal foot for 6 feet; \$6½, for 4½ feet; \$6½, for 4 feet; \$5½, for 3½ feet; \$5½, for 3 feet; and \$4½, for 2½ feet. These are laid about 12½ feet below the surface, to accommodate house drainage.

Vitrified-pipe drains are laid about 9½ feet from the surface. For 20 inches in diameter they cost \$2 per lineal foot; 18 inches, \$1.60 per foot; 15 inches, \$1 per foot; 12 inches, \$1.00 per foot.

The system of collecting assessments for the construction of the sewers, relieves the citizens from a bonded debt for their construction to which many other cities are subjected.

This system of sewers already constructed extends north and south, along the river front, the entire width of the city—about two miles; and westerly, about the same distance.

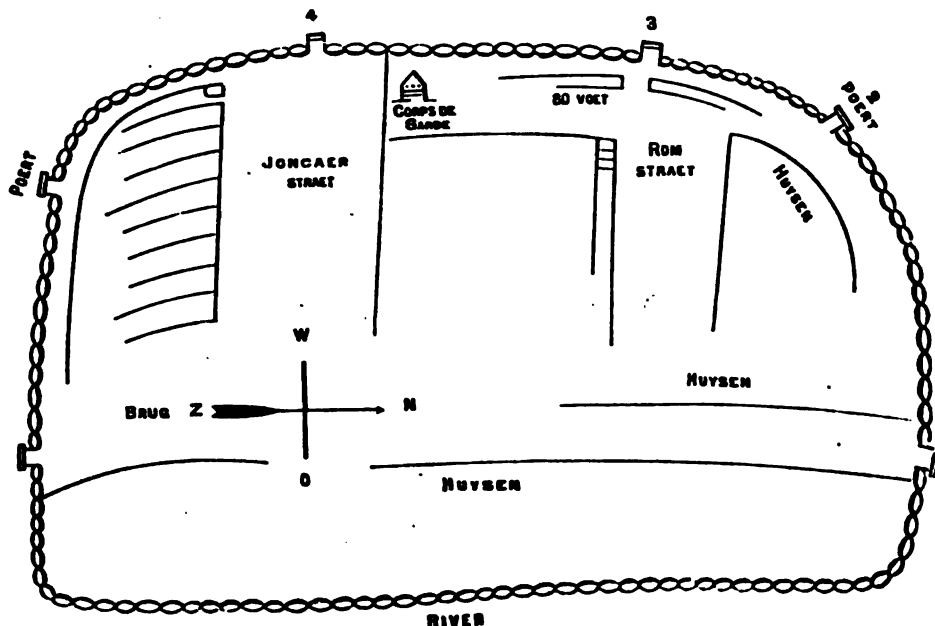
R. H. BINGHAM, the present able City Engineer and Surveyor, has for thirty years uninterruptedly, and with credit and fidelity, held the position, a just tribute to his sterling worth and ability. He is a native of Stillwater, Saratoga County, and was educated at the Academy in that town, and subsequently at the Normal School in Albany, where he graduated in 1845. He was for five years Professor of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in Jonesville Academy; was admitted to the Bar in

Albany County in 1848, and practiced his profession with decided success until 1854. His natural ability in the direction of engineering inclined him to the study of that science in every detail. In 1855, he planned the first brick and cement sewer constructed in Albany, his plan being approved by the municipal authorities. From 1868 to 1872 he was interested in the construction of the Park, being engineer in charge. The granite block pavement was first laid under his direction in 1868. He was appointed Assistant Engineer on the Rochester and Buffalo Division of the Erie Canal in 1840, and for two years was engaged in the work of its enlargement. In 1854 he was called to the position he now so ably fills. A thorough master

of his profession, and a man of ripe experience and expanded views, he has, in his official capacity, contributed his full share to the prosperity of the city, and has honored the position which he has so long filled.

STREETS OF ALBANY.

The first traders at Albany clustered around Fort Orange, near the foot of Lydius street. For two reasons this fort was changed to higher ground farther north along the present Broadway: first, to avoid high water, which in 1656 washed away a great part of Fort Orange, and secondly, to give space around the fort for free range of the guns.



PLAN OF ALBANY, 1676.

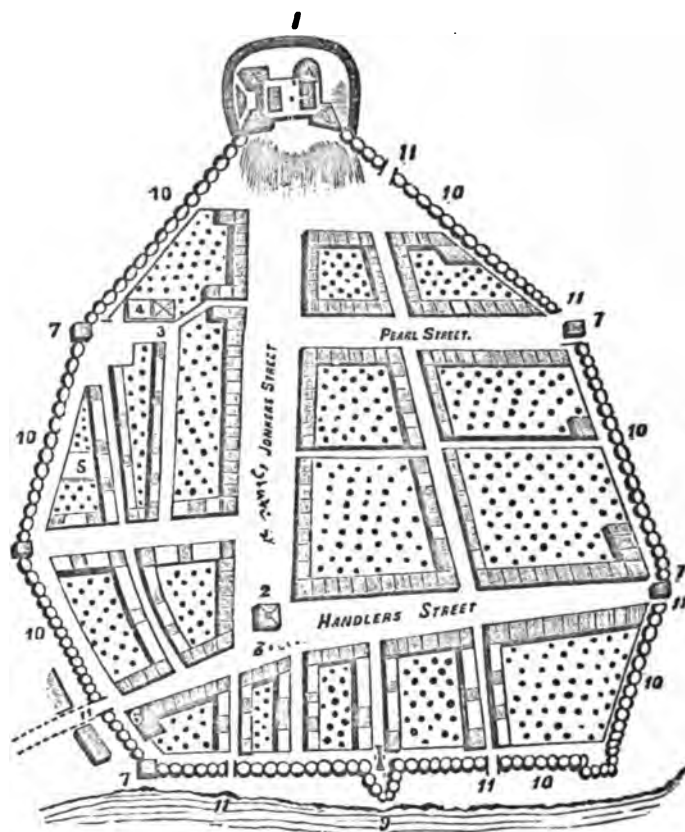
The simple diagram above is a *fac-simile* of the oldest plan of the city known, and gives an idea of Beverwyck in 1676, after the fort had been removed from its original location. It embraces that part of the city now bounded by the river on the east and Steuben street on the north. But two streets are designated on the map, Joncaer street, now State, and Rom street, now Maiden lane. Broadway is represented by parallel lines. The earliest name given to it was Handlaer street, as appears on a map made some years later. The guard-house occupied the old Elm tree corner on North Pearl street. It will be seen that the settlement extended only a short distance beyond North Pearl street on the west, while its northern boundary was Steuben street, and its southern Hudson street.

The following map of Albany was made in 1695 by Rev. John Miller, a chaplain in the British Army, and shows the line of palisades built

soon after the removal from the vicinity of old Fort Orange about 1656. It is undoubtedly a true picture of the form, boundaries and streets of the city as they were about two hundred years ago, reaching from Hudson to Steuben streets on Broadway, and from the river west to Lodge street, in circumference about six furlongs. The fort designated on this map was known as Fort Albany, and was built after the surrender of the province to the English in 1664, at the head of old State street, west of the present Lodge street. Fort Orange, soon after the completion of the new fort, was abandoned, and the land around it divided up into gardens. The dwellings were mostly located, for safety, within the palisades. The church at the junction of State and Broadway was built in 1664, after the one near Fort Orange had been abandoned. This church was used until 1715, when another was erected on the same site. This church in the middle of State street caused the great width

of both State street and Broadway at this point. Broadway, as will be seen by reference to the map, as it approached the north gate and main guard was reduced to a single cart path, and in fact

at the palisades the houses on opposite sides of the street came so close together as to form a *Fuyck*, a name very often applied to the village instead of Beverwyck.



PLAN OF ALBANY, 1695.

1. The Fort.
2. Dutch Calvinist Church.
3. German Lutheran.

4. Its Burying Place.
5. Dutch Calvinist Burying Place.
6. Stadt House.
7. Block Houses.

9. Great Guns to clear a Gully.
10. Stockades.
12. City Gates, six in all.

At the date of this map there were about 200 houses in Beverwyck, built principally on four streets, viz.: Broadway, from Hudson to Steuben; State, from Broadway to Chapel; North Pearl, to Steuben; and Chapel, from State to the palisades. Beaver, Norton, State, from Broadway to the river, called Staat's alley; Exchange and Steuben, which extended only from Broadway to North Pearl, contained but a few dwellings. Hudson, from Broadway to Green, simply the *rondwegh*, and James street, a mere alley, had no dwellings. Lots fronting on any street west of Broadway, the highest being Berg, now Chapel, street, were said to be on the hill. The contracted space within which the village was crowded led to a very minute division of land in the best streets, and lots of only 15 or 20 feet wide and of a corresponding depth were common.

Chevalier De Calliers, Governor of Montreal in 1689, speaks of Albany as being "about as large as Montreal, surrounded by picquets, at one

end of which is an earthen fort defended by palisades, and consisting of four small bastions. There is a garrison of 150 men, of three companies, in the Fort and some pieces of cannon. Said town of Orange [Albany] may contain about 150 houses and 300 inhabitants, the majority of whom are Dutch, and some French refugees, with some English."

By observing the septangular form of the palisades, we can see how the curvatures and diagonal lines presented by many of the streets in the lower portion of our city had their rise. A more extended line of palisades was afterwards constructed, bounded by Hamilton street on the south and crossing Broadway on the north, near Orange and Van Tromp streets. The north gate was placed there, and was the line, as late as the early part of the present century, dividing the City of Albany from Colonie, which was a separate town until 1815. It was a century after Miller's draft of the city was made before it began to increase very rapidly in territory or population. In 1688, it con-

tained but 300 persons, and a century after only about 4,000.

So little had the City of Albany changed from its appearance in 1695, that in 1718 it was described by a tourist as little else than a fortified village, with unpaved, dirty and irregular streets. Most of the residences were situated on the margin of the river, the lower end of State, and on Court, now called Broadway. It was in fact only a small town, with less than 1,000 inhabitants. A few stores and trading places were located in the present Chapel street. In the middle of State street and in Broadway were all the public buildings, viz.: the Town House, two churches, English and Dutch, the Guard-house and Public Market. On the river were three docks: Lower or King's Dock, Middle and Upper. Here vessels were unloaded by the aid of canoes.

Probably the best description of primitive Albany is contained in Mrs. Grant's "Memoirs of an American Lady," published in 1764, in which she says: "The City of Albany stretched along the banks of the Hudson. One very wide and broad street lay parallel to the river, the intermediate space between it and the shore being occupied by gardens. A small but steep hill rose above the center of the town, on which stood a fort, intended (but very ill adapted) for the defense of the place and of the neighboring country. From the foot of this hill another street was built, sloping pretty rapidly down till it joined the one before mentioned, that ran along the river. This street was still wider than the other. It was only paved on each side, the middle being occupied by public edifices. These consisted of a Market-place or Guard-house, a Town Hall, and the English and Dutch Churches. The English Church, belonging to the Episcopal persuasion, and in the diocese of the Bishop of London, stood at the foot of the hill at the upper end of the street. The Dutch Church was situated at the bottom of the descent, where the street terminated. Two irregular streets, not so broad, but equally long, ran parallel to those, and a few even ones opened between them. The town, in proportion to its population, occupied a great space of ground. The city, in short, was a kind of semi-rural establishment. Every house had its garden, well, and a little green behind. Before every door a tree was planted, rendered interesting by being coeval with some beloved member of the family. Many of these trees were of prodigious size and extraordinary beauty, but without regularity, every one planting the kind that best pleased him, or which he thought would afford the most agreeable shade to the open portico at his door, which was surrounded by seats and ascended by a few steps. It was in these that each domestic group was seated in summer evenings to enjoy the balmy twilight or the serenely clear moonlight." Such is a picture of ancient Albany as it appeared seventy-six years after it had become a city; a period when it had all the appearance of a quiet, staid village, with unpaved, grass-grown streets, and all the rural simplicity of many a town now in the interior of the State.

Peter Kalm, speaking of the streets of Albany in 1749, said: "The streets are broad, and some of them are paved. In some parts they are lined with trees; the long streets are almost parallel to the river, and the others intersect them at right angles. The street which goes between the two churches is five times broader than the others, and serves as a market-place. The streets, upon the whole, are very dirty, because the people have their cattle in them during the summer nights." Indeed, so muddy were the streets in rainy seasons, that it was no uncommon sight for foot passengers and wagons to become mired in the mud, requiring assistance to be extricated. In the records of the Common Council, March 12, 1694, it appears that the streets were so muddy that it was almost impossible for foot passengers to use them, and it was ordered that "every householder shall make, or cause to be made, eight foot ground before his own house, fronting on the streets, paved with stone, under a penalty after the first of June, of every week, of six shillings." The reference of Kalm and other tourists before the beginning of the present century to the paved streets, refers to this manner of pavements. The sidewalks merely were paved, not the streets proper.

Numerous references are made in the early Common Council Records to paving the sidewalks. In 1695, £50 was raised for this purpose; and, in 1717, a number of streets were ordered to be paved, and in Rom street, now Maiden lane, and in all the other streets existing at that time, the pavement was ordered to be repaired.

Many laws were passed by the Common Council in the early history of Albany referring to the streets. In 1686, a law was passed that every Saturday morning each inhabitant should clean the street in front of his dwelling, and also that no filth should be thrown in the street. A few years later, the following ordinance was passed:

"Resolved, That an ordinance be issued forth that all the respectable inhabitants within said city do severally clean the streets from the dung, dust, chips and filth before their houses or lots in the said streets; and that all wood and stone, except for present building, or cooper's wood, be removed out of the said streets before the 15th of April next ensuing, on penalty of paying for every default afterwards by them made, the sum of six shillings to the use of the Sheriff or any Constable who shall sue for the same. And that hereafter, if any dung, dust, chips or filth shall be found (on any Saturday after twelve o'clock noon) lying in the said streets against the house or lot of any person within the said city, that such person shall pay, also, for such default and contempt, the like sum of six shillings, to be sued for as aforesaid. And that hogs or swine belonging to any of the said inhabitants be ringed with one ring in the nose before Saturday night next, and remain ringed from that time; and if the hog or swine of any person as aforesaid shall be found not ringed, the owners of such hog or swine shall pay for every such default or neglect the sum of six shillings to the Sheriff or Constable who shall sue for the same."

A law was passed forbidding any person to drive through the streets faster than a walk under a penalty of three shillings. The spirit of this law was often enjoined upon the inhabitants by the early city fathers. Another law which was after enacted required that all hogs which ran at large should be properly ringed; but it seems that this injunction was not very carefully regarded, for more than a century after, Elkanah Watson, who had been elected Constable, as a joke, attended to his duties in earnest, and created a great sensation by attempting to enforce it by driving all hogs not ringed to the public pound.

On the early maps of Beverwyck, the names of but few streets are given; but in early conveyances the following names appear: Broadway was called Cow, *de breede*, or Broad, Lower Handlaers, and Brewers street; Hudson, Spanish street; Green, south of Beaver, Esplanade or Plain street; and north of Beaver, the *Voddemart* or Rag market, and Cheapside; Chapel, Berg street; State, Jonkers street; South Pearl, DeKlyne street.

After the charter was granted, in 1686, the city was divided into three wards; the first embraced all that part of the town south of State and Exchange streets; the second lay north of State and West of James street; and the third contained that portion lying north of State and Exchange and east of James street.

State street and Broadway are the two oldest streets in Albany. State street, when it was first laid out, was made of unusual width for that day, originally to accommodate the old Dutch Church which stood near Broadway in the center; but afterwards a line of public buildings were erected there. They were not all removed until the beginning of the present century. From a map of State street made in 1792, it was represented as being 149 feet wide at Pearl street, and gradually extending in width until it became 158 feet wide at Lodge street. The old English Church, which stood in the center of the street opposite Chapel, was erected in 1715. From the river to Broadway it was a narrow avenue, but beyond Broadway it opened to a liberal width and extended about 1,900 feet to the brow of the hill, the original ascent being about seven feet in one hundred. State street usually impressed the tourists, who visited Albany in its primitive day, most favorably. John Lambert, in 1807, described it as resembling the Haymarket in London. In Spafford's Gazetteer, published in 1813, it was described as a grand avenue into the heart of the city, and that it was regarded as the grand central point of Albany, "where its opulence is to be displayed, where taste shall vie with taste, architect with architect, age with age, in perpetual succession." Until the close of the last century its original grade had not been much reduced, and being still unpaved was usually incumbered with mud, rendering traveling extremely difficult. In 1792, the wagon of Philip Schuyler became buried in the mud in front of Green street, requiring assistance to extricate it. It was paved from Broadway to the Capitol Park in 1796, and in 1828 pavement was extended from this point to

Lark street. In 1831, from Broadway to the Quay, it was widened to seventy feet. The width of this part had been only thirty-five feet at Market street, and forty-three feet at Quay. The buildings on each side, at this period, were mostly of wood, and in a wretched condition. The present width of State street is 133 feet at Broadway and 157 feet at the foot of the Capitol Park.

Broadway, north from State street, was called Market street on the early maps, from the fact that the public market was situated in its center between Maiden lane and State street. The Market house was built in 1791, at an expense of £222. It was removed many years ago, before the street was named Broadway. The market was a great gathering place for the inhabitants of the neighborhood on warm afternoons, when the butchers had departed. They took their chairs there, and smoked and gossiped for hours. South of State street, Broadway was known as Court street; but until near the beginning of the present century it only extended to Lydius street, from which point only a common road extended along the bank of the river to the ferry. West of Court street, beyond Lydius street, the Dutch Reformed Church owned considerable land, used as pasture; and in 1791 the consistory directed that this portion of the church domain be laid out into lots. At this time a gate swung across Lydius street at the end of Court street, and it was considered the southern extremity of the city. Only a common road extended through the pasture land. At this time Court street was extended and a number of streets were laid out in this section, several of these being named after the early Dutch ministers. They have since been filled in to a considerable extent and rendered valuable, although when laid out, and the land converted into building lots, the church realized less than one hundred dollars per lot. There were comparatively few lots built upon south of Lydius street, between South Pearl street and Broadway, as late as 1840, though now it is one of the most densely settled portions of the city. Court street was changed to name of South Market about the beginning of the present century. The name of Broadway for both North and South Market streets was adopted in 1840. At one time Court street was considered the most fashionable part of the city.

At the present time Broadway extends from Gansevoort street to the northern boundary of the city, and thence into the Troy road. No street in the city presents such a varied aspect. At the south end it is lined with manufacturing establishments. Near the steamboat landing it is given up to hotels and restaurants; then follows a line of stores to State street. North of State street it widens into one of the handsomest streets in Albany, having on it hotels and many large commercial buildings; from Columbia street to Clinton avenue it decreases in width and commercial activity; north of Clinton avenue it is a street of substantial residences till the new viaduct is reached, beyond which are several manufacturing buildings. Court street was paved in 1796.

The Broadway Viaduct was built in 1882-83 to obviate the danger of crossing the tracks of the Central Hudson railroad on Broadway and Colonic street. The grades of Broadway and Colonic and North Lansing streets were depressed and the tracks carried over upon iron bridges. The work was done by the railroad company at an expense of \$128,765; but the damage to adjacent property owners had to be met by the city, and has been assessed at \$134,237.

The street next in importance to State street and Broadway, during the earlier history of Albany, was North Pearl street, which ran from State street to Clinton square. North from this point it was previously called Orchard street. South of State street, this street on the early maps was named Washington street, but is now called South Pearl. Pearl street now, as in the past, has always been an important business street. In the early part of the last century it contained many private dwellings and some business houses. Succeeding years and the growth of the city have made it one of the most popular and thriving business streets in the city. Old houses have given place to stores. Especially is this true for a considerable distance on both sides of State street.

North Pearl street has been widened and greatly improved within a few years, and now presents the appearance of a grand avenue. Division street was the extreme southern boundary of South Pearl street as late as 1850, since which it has been extended, and is now thickly populated as far as Gansevoort street. One of the curious features of the olden times affecting this street, was a law passed by the Common Council in 1793, which provided that two chains be stretched across the street, one on each side of the First Presbyterian Church, to prevent the passage of vehicles during church services, effectually barricading that edifice from the passage of all but foot passengers. These chains were not removed until 1832.

Chapel street is another very ancient street of Albany. In early times it was a very important business thoroughfare. It was the most westerly and highest street of the city when laid out, and for that reason was called Berg street (that is, Hill street), which in time came to be written by the English, Barrack street, from the Dutch pronunciation, bar-rg, as though it were two syllables. It was chiefly occupied, for many years, by houses of Indian traders.

Lydius street for many years formed the extreme southern boundary of the city, and extended from Lodge street to Broadway. It was named after Rev. Johannes Lydius, a Dutch Reformed Minister, who came to Albany in 1700. In 1867, the name Lydius street was changed by the Common Council to Madison avenue, which at that time provoked much opposition from the Dutch citizens. Where Lydius street was laid out was once the camping and training ground of the British army when commanded by Abercrombie and Amherst. Madison avenue has been gradually extended westward, now reaching from the river to its junction with Western avenue. It forms one of the longest streets

in Albany; contains many fine dwellings of recent erection; and is considered one of the most fashionable and desirable locations for private residences in the city.

Hudson avenue is another of the early streets of Albany, and in early days of the city only extended as far as Eagle street. It has been called by various names, the earliest, as previously stated, being Spanish street, then Prideaux, Buffalo and Hudson streets, and finally, Hudson avenue. The valley through which it runs was the course-way of the Rutenkill. In 1832 it was filled in, and paved from Eagle street to Hawk street. Hudson avenue on account of its easy grade, being the least precipitous of all the streets leading up the hill, has become one of the principal thoroughfares of Albany, and is lined with some very fine residences. In 1881-82, this avenue, from Broadway to South Pearl street, was widened and straightened, at a cost of \$74,965.

Green street and Maiden lane are on the list of original streets in early Albany. The ancient names of Green street have been given before. Before it received its present name it was known as Van Driessen street. Its present name being in honor of General Greene, of the revolution, ought to be written with a final e. The earliest name given Maiden lane was Rom street. This was one of the first laid out in Beverwyck, appearing on the first map of the city in existence. In the early history of Albany it was an important business street. From Broadway to North Pearl street it is now a thoroughfare of considerable importance. Extending from the river to Eagle street it is very narrow, and the shortest and steepest route from the railroad depots to the Capitol.

Ferry street, now known as South Ferry, was opened to Washington, now South Pearl, in 1789, by arrangement made by the Common Council with the Consistory of the Dutch Church, which owned the land in that vicinity.

This concludes our account of the principal streets of Albany of much importance up to near the close of the last century, at which period, it must be remembered, this city had not been extended much beyond the limits of the old palisades. All business then centered around the river, State street, Pearl street, and Broadway. Even as late as 1796, our city was only a good sized village, with 5,000 inhabitants and not more than one thousand houses. It was not until a number of years after the revolution that Albany showed signs of rapid growth.

Says Gorham A. Worth:

"The City of Albany, in 1800, though the capital of the State, and occupying a commanding position, was, nevertheless, in point of size, commercial importance, and architectural dignity, but a third or fourth-rate town. It was in 1800 an old town, but the face of nature in and around it had been but little disturbed. All was antique, clean, and quiet. There was no putting up nor pulling down; no ill-looking excavations; no leveling of hills; no filling up of valleys. The stunted pines still covered the hills to the very edge of the town, and the ravines and valleys were clothed

with evergreens, intermixed with briars and spangled with the wild rose."

In 1819 the city extended but two miles north and south, and but one mile in the widest part east and west. Until 1793 not a street had been paved, and most of them were in a filthy, neglected condition. Even State street, now a most spacious and beautiful avenue, was then not only without pavements and ungraded, but in many places broken, and some parts even precipitous, while the slightest rain upon its clayey soil rendered traveling most unpleasant and difficult. In those days the staid Dutch settlers were slow to make improvements, and the influx of strangers in this, even then, ancient town, who were in favor of schemes to improve and beautify the city, excited strong hostility in the feelings of those who were opposed to all innovating projects. The most progressive stranger who came to Albany about this time, was Elkanah Watson, who came from Plymouth, Mass., in 1789, and to whom early Albany owes as much for improvements as to any one man. At the time of his arrival, Mr. Watson said in his journal: "No street was paved, no lamps, no library; not a public-house of any decency; and water-spouts, projecting from the eaves of the houses, deluged unwary night travelers sunk in mud and darkness." To the mind of Mr. Watson, familiar with the elegancies and advancement of European cities, the various defective arrangements in the city of his adoption were seen and appreciated; and, soon after becoming a resident, he engaged earnestly, through the press and by personal efforts, in suggesting and urging local improvements connected with these subjects. His efforts received bitter opposition. The following amusing incident, taken from his journal, will exhibit the state of feeling he had excited:

"Just after State street had been paved at a heavy expense, I sauntered into it immediately succeeding a heavy thunderstorm, and whilst regretting the disturbance in the sidewalk, and to observe the cellars filled with water [for in that section, which was near the present locality of the State Bank, the street grading had been elevated some feet], I heard two women, in the act of clearing their invaded premises from the accumulation of mud and water, cry out, 'Here comes that infernal paving Yankee!' They approached me in a menacing attitude, broomsticks erect. Prudence dictated a retreat to avoid being broomsticked by the infuriated Amazons, although I did not run as some of my friends insisted, but walked off at a quick pace." In subsequent years, Mr. Watson received many generous tributes of acknowledgment and thanks from those who, in their progress, had opposed his efforts to improve and embellish the city.

It was not before 1860 that the last vestige of the original wide domain of Hendrick Halenbeck was obliterated in this city. This consisted in the removal of the burial ground on the southwest corner of South Pearl and Hamilton streets, set apart by Halenbeck in the middle of the last century as a private burial ground. It was near the north

line of his farm, which extended from Plain street to Beverkill at Arch street, where it joined the farm of General Schuyler; the south line at Pearl street being designated by a cannon, which remained in the ground until a few years ago. The boundaries of this property east and west are uncertain, but are claimed to have extended from Eagle street to the river. It is also claimed that South Pearl street was laid out by Halenbeck through his property, and given by him for a street. Through this farm the present Grand street was laid out in the fore part of the last century, and called Halenbeck street. In 1829 the City Surveyor presented to the Common Council a profile of this street from Hudson to Hamilton streets. Although it had, nearly a century before, been laid out and named, no vestige of a street had yet been made there. A portion of it south of Lydius street was used only as a lane leading to the farm of Oliver Kane (now the site of Ash grove Church), across which swung a gate. It was laid out sixty feet wide, as though it was expected to make it a more important avenue than South Pearl street, which was then only forty-five feet in width. In 1838 the Common Council was petitioned to have it paved from Hudson to Lydius street. In 1835 but one house was located on this street, at the northeast corner of Hamilton and Grand, which stood alone like an outpost upon the western verge of the city. All was open barren pasture and clay hills beyond, as far as the eye could reach, and so continued until Hamilton street was dug out, leaving a high wall of clay on either hand. In process of time the name of Halenbeck street was changed to Grand, an outrage upon the generous donor of the land through which it originally passed.

PAVEMENTS.—From the best information, we are led to believe that Watervliet street, which began at Columbia, where Montgomery now is, and ran diagonally to where Broadway and Patroon (now Clinton avenue) intersect, was the first street paved in Albany, the work having been begun and nearly completed in 1793. During this and the succeeding year, rapid progress was made in paving streets. The *Albany Register* of September 29, 1794, tells us that the paving system had been prosecuted with so much vigor, that only Pearl and a few cross streets remained to complete the enterprise. Said the *Register*: "The contrast in so short a time from one of the filthiest to one of the cleanest cities in America is truly astonishing, and must be pleasing to every citizen, especially when we take in contemplation that noble extent of pavement, now nearly completed, through the whole extent of Watervliet street to the bridge, the very idea of which a few years ago would have been thought to have been the height of madness." It was also said that property had risen in value in consequence. It was found that a mistake had been made in paving the sidewalks with small stones.

From 1793 to 1804 many miles of pavement were laid. Church street, parts of Lydius, Van Schaick, Westerlo and Sturgeon streets, and parts of Bass and Herring lanes, and all the lots from Court street westward to Dallius street, and from

Ferry street northward to the north bounds of the church pasture, were filled up and leveled, preparatory to paving. In 1804 the Common Council ordered that parts of State, Lion (now Washington avenue) and Washington (now South Pearl), which remained unpaved and greatly out of repair, should be immediately paved by the owners and occupants; the work to be completed within eight days after notice from the City Superintendent, showing the rapidity with which this important improvement in the streets was pushed at this date.

It will be almost impossible, as well as uninteresting, to give in detail the names of the streets (and the dates) paved from the beginning of the present century. It would be a task requiring much research, and would take greater space than we are able to use in this article. A diligent inspection of the Common Council records will show how rapidly the work of paving progressed in the city after it was commenced in 1793. From 1820 to 1833, probably more miles of pavement were completed than during any corresponding years of the city's history. During this same period many streets were extended and many new ones laid out. Space forbids our giving any detailed account of the rapid growth of the city at this period, which the records of the Common Council so plainly indicate.

Until the year 1869, no other kind of pavement had been laid but the round cobblestone still so generally used. During this year, Broadway, from Hudson avenue to Wilson street, was repaved with wooden blocks of Canada pine, called the Nicholson pavement. In 1870, Hudson avenue, from Broadway to Willett street, was paved with this kind of pavement; and also Green street, from State street to Madison avenue. But it was soon proved that this style of pavement was unfit for the heavy trucking done on these streets. After five years of use it was substituted in Broadway by the granite block, which in 1874 was laid from Hudson avenue to Wilson street. The wooden pavement in Hudson avenue and Green street was soon after replaced by the granite block. Since then granite block pavement has been laid in Western avenue, from Livingston to the Boulevard; Ten Broeck, from Clinton avenue to Livingston avenue; First street, from Ten Broeck to Hawk; Third street, from Ten Broeck to Hall place; Hall place, from First to Third; State, from Swan to Lexington avenue; James, from State to Columbia; Steuben, from Broadway to Eagle; Elk, from Eagle to Hawk; Second avenue, from Sloan to Delavan avenue; South Pearl, from Gansevoort to Mount Hope; Willett, from State to Madison avenue; Columbia, from Broadway to Chapel; North Pearl, from State to Clinton avenue; Clinton avenue, from Broadway to North Pearl; Knox, from Madison avenue to Morris; Steuben, from Broadway to North Pearl. Contracts have been let for similarly paving State, from Eagle to Lexington avenue; Eagle, from Spruce to Myrtle avenue; Washington avenue, from Eagle to Lexington avenue; Broadway, from Hudson avenue to South Ferry; and South Pearl, from State to Gan-

sevoort. Broadway, from Wilson to Livingston avenue is paved with the Weehawken bluestone, the only pavement of that kind in the city.

Albany at the present time has more than forty-eight miles of paved streets, of which about forty miles are paved with cobblestone, and, with the work now in progress, eight miles of granite block. In Washington Park, a little more than a mile of Telford, macadam road has been laid.

In 1813, Albany contained about 11,000 persons, having more than doubled in population in about fifteen years, while in public and private building, and extent and condition of its streets, it had made even more remarkable progress. In a description of Albany in 1813, published in Spafford's Gazetteer, appears the following account of its streets at that date:

"The principal streets of Albany are parallel with the river, except State street, a spacious and central one, that extends from the Hudson to the Capitol. Court street extends from the Ferry, at the southern extremity of the compact part, and near the southern bounds of the city, to State street. It has a large share of population and business. Market street opens opposite to this, and extends from State street to the northern bounds of the city, though continuous, except in name. These streets extend across the city nearly parallel with the Hudson, between which are several streets, less extensive, as Dock street, Quay street, etc., principally occupied with store-houses, shops, etc., the seat of immense commercial business * * * The public square, an open space of liberal extent, spreads a handsome area on the east side of the Capitol; and from the west side of this, Lion street, spacious and level, extends westward in a right line on a commanding plain, to the junction of the Great Western Turnpike." The eastern end of this turnpike, Lion street, now Washington avenue, from Lark street, was for a long time known as the Bowery, now Central avenue. It has undergone many changes. Before the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, it was the great thoroughfare to and from Western New York. Some of the large store-houses until lately remaining about Townsend Park, attest the commercial character of the street at that time. A continuous line of vehicles crowded its pathway every day. Emigrants from New England to Central and Western New York usually took this in their route. In the zenith of the prosperity of the street the Erie Canal was built, and the business interests of the street were gone. In 1865 it was paved, much improving its character and condition.

"North Pearl street extends north from State street to the northern extremity of the city, just on the brow of the river hill, and next west of Market street. * * * Of all the principal streets, it is at present the most compact, populous and probably, the most wealthy."

In 1823, the *Daily Advertiser*, to show the progress the city had made in ten years, had the following:

"Ten years ago and the now proud and beautiful Academic square was a barren clay bank, varie-

gated by an occasional saw-pit or a group of reclining cows; then the whole of the upper part of Columbia street was a high hill, unoccupied and impassable as a street, and the greater part of Chapel street was, in rainy weather, a complete mud-hole.

"Ten years ago, of the whole row of handsome dwellings now standing on the south side of the Capitol square, only one was erected. Then Daniel street did not exist, and the whole south part of Eagle street was a most unpromising ravine.

"Ten years ago and juvenile sports used to shoot snipe and other small game where now the Erie Canal pours its water into the Hudson. Of all that city which has since sprung up in that neighborhood, not a house was then standing; while, in the south pasture, over whose vacant fields the various city regiments used to maneuver, we now see orderly platoons of handsome brick houses and battalions of streets 'dressed' with a beautiful regularity unattainable by their animated predecessors. In short, every quarter of the city: north, south, east—and even the despised west—give tokens of sound and healthy growth."

The part of the hill on the south side of the Fort, and West of South Pearl street, was in 1760 called Gallows Hill. July, 1762, the Common Council sold the land where the gallows stood in acre lots. In the Surveyor's office is a map of this part of Albany, entitled, "New lots laid out on Gallows Hill." The north bounds of the city, at this date, was the south line of Patroon street, now Clinton avenue. Proceeding thence, southerly, we next have Wall street, then Howe street, next Queen street, King street, Prince street, Pridcaux street, Quiter street, Wolfe street, Pitt street, at the junction of which with Duke street, now Eagle, was Gallows Hill, where All Saints Cathedral now stands. The above streets ran westerly. The Fort is laid down, with its burying ground immediately north; its walls extended north, nearly to Maiden lane; south, to about the center of State; west, to near Eagle; and east to Lodge street. A cemetery occupied the block between State and Lancaster, and Eagle and Hawk. The streets on the hill running north and south were called Duke, Hawk, Boscawen, Warren and Johnson.

Albany streets have had their names changed frequently, and, it must be admitted, not always for the better. In 1790 the names of several were changed, among them the following: Duke to Eagle, Boscawen to Swan, Warren to Dove, Johnson to Lark, Gage to Swallow, now Knox; Schenectady to Snipe, now Lexington avenue; Schoharie to Duck, now Robin. The next parallel street was called Pigeon, now Perry; the next Turkey, now Quail; the next Sparrow, now Ontario. Wall street was changed to Hare, now Orange; Howe to Fox, now Canal; King to Lion, and afterwards to Washington street, now Washington avenue; Prince, west of Eagle, to Deer, now State; Pridcaux to Tiger, now Lancaster; Quiter, so called to perpetuate the Indian name of Peter Schuyler, was changed to Buffalo, now Hudson avenue; Wolfe, named after the Hero of Quebec,

was changed to Wolf, afterwards to Lydius, now Madison avenue; Pitt to Otter, then to Westerlo, now Elm; Monckton to Mink, then to West Ferry, now Myrtle avenue.

In 1805, the Common Council, in consequence of the extension and improvement made in some of the streets, changed the name of the following:

Kilby, which from a small alley had then become a spacious street, extending from the Hudson River to Washington street, now South Pearl, to the name of Hamilton; Bone lane, which extended from Hudson River to Green, and was to be extended to South Pearl, to the name of Division; Cow lane, extending from the intersection of Grass lane with Hudson to Ludlow's property adjoining Lydius, to the name of Liberty; Nail, extending from Washington to Eagle, to the name of Lutheran, now Howard; Barrack, extending from State to the north boundary of the city, to the name of Chapel. Since 1805 many other changes have been made in the names of streets. Of those not already mentioned, Capitol has been changed to Park; Mark lane to Exchange; Middle lane to James; Frelinghuysen to Franklin; Dock to Dean; Bass lane to Blecker; Store lane to Norton; Sand to Lafayette; Van Driessen to Green; South to Gansevoort; High to Ten Broeck; Macomb to Broad; Embargo alley to Dennison; Whitehall road to Whitehall avenue, now Second avenue; Van Vechten to Third avenue; Delaware Turnpike to Delaware avenue; Elizabeth to Second; John to Third; Van Schaick to Monroe; Lumber to Livingston avenue; part of Perry to Lake avenue. Of the present streets, Dean acquired its designation from Captain Dean; Montgomery was named after the heroic soldier who fell before Quebec; Steuben obtained its title from that bluff and brave soldier of the Revolution, who aided so much in giving discipline to our army. The chivalrous Lafayette lives in our history by like means. The Dutch Admiral Van Tromp, who swept the sea with his broom, has a street named to his memory, humble though it be in its pretensions.

STREET DEPARTMENT.—From the granting of the Dongan Charter to 1826, the sole charge of opening, laying out, repairing and cleaning the streets was vested in the Mayor and Aldermen. At the latter date the office of Street Inspector was created. The duties of this officer were confined to seeing that the ordinances of the Common Council relating to streets were carried out, and were somewhat similar to those now enjoined upon the Street Commissioner. He receives his appointment from the Common Council.

The laws relating to the superintendency and general supervision of the streets were passed in 1870. Under the provisions of the Charter, the Street Department includes four bureaus: Board of Contract and Apportionment; Bureau of Street Commission; Bureau of Engineering and Surveying; and the Bureau of Lamps, Gas and Electric Lights.

The Board of Contract and Apportionment consists of the Mayor, the Chamberlain, the Street Commissioner, the City Engineer and Surveyor, and the

President of the Common Council. This Board, under the direction of the Common Council, has, in the language of the City Charter, charge "of the altering, regulating, grading, paving, repaving, flagging, curbing, guttering, cleaning, opening, draining, repairing and lighting of the streets, roads, places, alleys, and avenues; of fencing and filling lots; of building, repairing and lighting docks, wharves and piers; and of the construction and repaving of public streets, drains, roads, alleys and bridges." This Board issues all proposals, receives all bids, and awards all contracts for the work ordered to be done to the streets by the Common Council. It also apportions and assesses the cost of street and drain improvements. The Board appoints a Clerk, who also acts as Clerk to the Street Commissioner. The present Clerk is Thomas J. Lanahan.

BUREAU OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS has for its chief officers the Street Commissioner, appointed by the Common Council on nominations by the Mayor. The Commissioner appoints two Street Superintendents and one Superintendent of Lamps. The present Commissioner is Owen Golden. Street Superintendents, Lawrence Wetzel and Michael J. Hayden; Superintendent of Lamps, Thomas Powers.

BUREAU OF ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING.—Chief officer, City Engineer and Surveyor, appointed by the Common Council on nominations by the Mayor. The Engineer appoints a deputy and two assistants, with the approval of the Mayor. The present Engineer is Reuben H. Bingham; Deputy, John J. O'Hara.

BUREAU OF LAMPS, GAS AND ELECTRIC.—The chief officer of this bureau is the Street Commissioner, although the Superintendent of Lamps may perform all the duties of the office.

WATER SUPPLY.

One of the most important factors in the health, convenience and comfort of the people of any community, is a sufficiency of pure and wholesome water.

At what precise date the first settlers obtained water from other than the natural sources of the Hudson River, or the springs and small creeks which abounded in this region, we are unable to learn; but that soon after the first year of settlement, public and private wells were built, is evident from reference made to their existence in the very earliest documentary records. These public wells were supplied with water, as early as 1670, from a fountain or pond, formed by constructing a dam across a creek, or near the outlet of a spring on the hill adjacent to the present Capitol. Water was conducted from this fountain to the wells by means of wooden spouts.

In 1686 a fire occurred in the city, and in subduing it the water from the public wells, supplied in the manner described, proved of valuable assistance. In the city records of August 31st of this year, appears the following testimony:

"It has been found by experience that the bringing of water of the fountains from the hill has not only been of great use to the inhabitants for water, but the only means of quenching the late fire, which otherwise, by all probability, would have destroyed the whole town."

The number and exact locations of the public wells built in early Albany is difficult to determine. In 1695, a well was built in Jonker (now State) street. In 1712, one was constructed in the First Ward, about twelve yards from the east side of the Market-house, and, at the same time, another on the north side of Cross street, opposite the residence of Gysbert Marselis. Two years later, three were built, one in each of the three wards, but the precise locations cannot be learned from the city records.

Besides the public wells, nearly every dwelling had its private well. But even this apparently sufficient means of water supply was either inadequate, or of a quality not fit for general use, for evidence is abundant that river water was quite extensively used for culinary and laundry purposes many years prior to the beginning of this century.

The quality of the water obtained from the Albany wells a century ago was a matter much discussed and hard to be determined.

One of the earliest writers upon Albany well water was Peter Kalm, a Swedish naturalist, who came to this country in 1748 on a scientific expedition from the University of Upsala. In giving a detail of his researches, he thus speaks of the water of Albany:

"The water of several wells in this town was very cool about this time, but had a kind of acid taste which was not very agreeable. On a nearer examination I found an abundance of little insects in it, which were probably monoculi. Their length was different; some were a geometrical line and a half; others two, and others four lines long. They were very narrow, and of a very pale color. The head was blacker and thicker than the other parts of the body, and about the size of a pin's head. The tail was divided into two branches, and each branch terminated in a little black globule. When these insects swim, they proceed in crooked or undulated lines, almost like tadpoles. I poured some of this water into a bowl and put near a fourth part of rum in it; the monoculi, instead of being affected with it, swam about as briskly as they had done in the water. This shows that if one makes punch with this water it must be very strong to kill the monoculi. I think this water is not very wholesome for people who are not used to it, though the inhabitants of Albany who drink it every day say they do not feel the least inconvenience from it. I have several times been obliged to drink water here, in which I have plainly seen monoculi swimming; but I generally felt the next day something like a pea in my throat, or as if I had a swelling there, and this continued about a week. I felt such swellings this year, both in Albany and other parts. My servant, Yangstroem, likewise got a great pain in his breast, and a sensation as from a swelling after drinking water with monoculi in it; but whether

these insects occasioned it, or whether it came from some other cause, I cannot ascertain. However, I have always endeavored to do without such water as had monoculi in it. I have found monoculi in very cold water, taken from the deepest wells in different parts of this country. Perhaps many of our diseases arise from water of this kind which we do not sufficiently examine. I have frequently observed abundance of minute insects in water which has been remarkable for its clearness. Almost each house in Albany has its well, and the water of which is applied to common use; but for tea, brewing and washing they commonly take the water of the Hudson, which flows close by the town. This water is generally quite muddy, and very warm in summer; and on that account it is kept in cellars, in order that the slime may subside, and that the water may cool a little."

In Morse's American Geography, published in 1796, appears the following:

"The well water in this city (Albany) is extremely bad, scarcely drinkable by those not accustomed to it. It oozes through a stiff blue clay and it imbibes in its passage the fine particles common to that kind of soil. This discolors it, and when exposed any length of time to the air it acquires a disagreeable taste. Indeed all the water for cooking is brought from the river, and many families use it to drink. The water in the wells is unwholesome, being full of little insects, except in size, like those which are frequently seen in stagnated water."

Numerous criticisms, similar to the preceding, may be found in the writings of many of the tourists who visited Albany during the latter part of the eighteenth century. But John Maude, an Englishman, made a visit to the United States in 1800; he says, in regard to the impurity of the water in Albany:

"As for being obliged to use the dirty water of the river, I will beg leave to observe to Mr. Morse that a very great proportion of the city do not use the river water, which said river water is far from being dirty, rather remarkable for its purity, being a pleasant, wholesome beverage. Great part of the city is supplied with water from a well in the main street, but the water is from a pump to the westward of the Episcopal Church. It is a water that my palate cannot find fault with, nor my eyes perceive in it those animalcules Kalm speaks of; neither could I discover them in the well water."

Certain it is that no record exists tracing to the use of Albany water any unhealthfulness of its inhabitants, or that it was the cause of any specific disease.

In 1832, cholera was especially prevalent in this city, and many attributed it to the peculiarity of the city well water. Accordingly the Board of Health had the water of fourteen wells examined by Drs. T. Romeyn Beck and Philip Ten Eyck, two reliable and expert physicians, the latter of whom still lives in Albany. They pronounced them all free from any impurities which could be injurious to health.

The first action taken by the Corporation of Albany relating to a larger and better water supply, other than public and private wells, occurred in 1794, when an advertisement appeared asking for proposals for supplying the city with water by means of an aqueduct to extend from a spring at the Five-Mile House on the road to Albany. No further reference to this proposed plan is found in the city records.

In 1796 an act was passed by the Legislature to enable the Corporation to supply the city with water by means of conduits, which also failed to be carried out.

The first private individual to undertake the task of supplying the city with water was Benjamin Prescott, who, in 1797, received from Stephen Van Rensselaer a grant of the Maeslandt Kill. Under Mr. Prescott's management a line of wooden logs was laid from the fountain head. But he must have failed to fulfill some part of the contract, for a few years after all his rights in the Maeslandt Kill were transferred by Van Rensselaer to the Water Company.

In 1802 the Albany Water-works Company was incorporated, with a capital of \$40,000. The original Trustees were Stephen Lush, Philip Van Rensselaer and John Tayler. Work was commenced almost immediately, by laying mains of iron and wooden logs through the principal streets. Water was drawn from the Maeslandt Kill, which continued to be the principal source of supply until 1837, when this stream failed to meet the demands made upon it, and another source of supply, the Middle Creek, was procured by the company. In a few years the two streams combined were found to be inadequate. In 1845 a part of the Patroon's Creek was purchased from Mr. Van Rensselaer by the Water Company. In 1811 this company built a receiving reservoir on the spot now occupied by the High School, which was supplied by an iron main from the Maeslandt Kill. This main is still used, and from it consumers in North Albany, and many upon Broadway, north of Clinton avenue, and North Pearl street, from Clinton avenue to Columbia, are supplied. This water is, in quality, what is known as very hard.

In 1844 the capital stock of the Albany Water-works Company was increased to \$80,000. During this same year, a company known as the Albany Hydrant Company was incorporated, with John Townsend, John K. Paige, Bradford R. Wood, James D. Wasson, Barnum Whipple, Rufus W. Peckham and Peter Gansevoort as Trustees. The latter company caused extensive surveys to be made, with the purpose of devising a better system of water supply; but beyond this work, nothing of a practical nature was attempted.

For many years preceding the adoption of the present mode of water supply, there had been a growing sentiment among the citizens of Albany that the city should own and control its own system of water-works. This sentiment culminated in the Corporation submitting a bill to the Legislature, which became a law April 9, 1850, by which the Common Council were empowered to ap-

point five persons to be known as Water Commissioners; such Commissioners to consider all matters relative to supplying the city with water, and to report to the Common Council the most feasible plan for the construction of city water-works, not to exceed in cost the sum of \$600,000, the amount to which the Common Council was limited. The Water Commissioners appointed under this act were James Stevenson, Erastus Corning, John Townsend, John Taylor and Robert E. Temple.

The Water Commissioners, soon after their appointment, caused examinations to be made of the Hudson, the Patroon's Creek, the Normanskill, and the lakes on the Helderbergs. But finally they settled on a plan which met the approval of the Common Council.

The first of these means of city water supply was carried into effect August 23, 1850, by purchasing all the sources of supply owned by the old Water Company for \$150,000. The wooden mains of the old company were in many instances replaced by iron pipes; but the sources and method of obtaining water—by the gravitation plan—was for a number of years continued in use, the Maezlandt Kill branch being still retained, although the method of obtaining water from the Patroon's Creek and Middle Creek adopted by the old company had been abandoned.

A further source of supply was adopted by the Water Commissioners and carried into effect in 1851. This consisted of a dam being built about six miles westward of the city, where three streams met and formed the Patroon's Creek, thus creating a body of water which has since been known as Rensselaer Lake, covering, when full, forty acres of land, and holding about 200,000,000 gallons of water. This work was successfully completed under the supervision of William J. McAlpine as engineer. From this lake water was conducted through a brick conduit, egg-shaped, four feet high and nearly four miles long, to Bleeker Reservoir, west of Ontario street, capable of holding 30,000,000 gallons. During this same year (1851) two other reservoirs were constructed a short distance this side of West Albany, by dams thrown across Patroon's Creek, and called the Upper and Lower Tivoli Lakes, the upper being for storage and subsiding, and the lower for distribution. These were supplied from the water that entered the creek east of Rensselaer Lake. A 24-inch main, about 7,000 feet long, was laid from the lower lake to the intersection of Van Woert and North Pearl streets, at which point the water enters the distributing mains. Rensselaer Lake supplies, through Bleeker Reservoir, all that part of the city west of Pearl; Tivoli Lakes, all east of, and including North Pearl street. This was the system of water supply in use up to 1875, with iron mains running through all of the principal streets east of Bleeker Reservoir.

But meanwhile, as the city grew westward, it was found that a considerable portion of the population lived above Bleeker Reservoir, and was therefore without water supply. In addition to this, in consequence of an increased population east of the Bleeker Reservoir, and the necessities of addi-

tional manufactories, Rensselaer and Tivoli Lakes failed to meet the consumption, and, as a result, several water famines occurred.

To remedy these defects, the Water Commissioners, after careful examinations, aided by chemical analysis, extensive surveys and reports of distinguished engineers, in 1873 fixed upon the Hudson River as the source of additional supply, as the most exhaustive investigation proved to them that the two principal factors—quantity and quality—were found in this source. Their recommendations were adopted by the Common Council and their plans carried into effect in 1875.

By the system then adopted, water is taken from the river outside the pier, opposite Quackenbush street, where the channel current strikes. In the center of the pier is a well-chamber, 6 feet in diameter and 85 feet deep. Into this the water, screened by copper-wire, 100 meshes to the square inch, pours through a culvert below low-water mark. A tunnel, 5 feet in diameter and nearly 900 feet long, extends from this well-chamber, under the basin, to the pumping works, corner of Quackenbush and Montgomery streets. Here are two engines capable of sending up to Bleeker Reservoir, 245 feet above tide, 10,000,000 gallons of water every twenty-four hours. The force-main through which it goes is 30 inches in diameter, 7,723 feet long, and is laid under Quackenbush street and Clinton avenue. The pumps were first used September 14, 1875.

The completion of this means of river supply proved most successful, and gave an abundance of water to the people living east of Bleeker Reservoir, but still the more elevated portions of the city received no benefit. Accordingly, in 1878, another reservoir, with a capacity of about 7,000,000 gallons, was built on Prospect hill, a sand-knoll north of Central avenue and east of Colby street, 55 feet above tide. At Prospect-hill Reservoir, an engine capable of pumping 5,000,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours was put in operation February 6, 1878, and through a 2-foot main, running to a well-chamber like that on the pier, pumps the water from Bleeker to Prospect-hill Reservoir.

Albany is at present divided into three services of water supply: the upper service, which, from Prospect-hill Reservoir, supplies all west of Lark street; the middle service, which, from Bleeker Reservoir, supplies Lark street and all east to Pearl street; and the lower service, which, from Tivoli Lakes, supplies Pearl street and all territory east. With the completion of the system of securing river water, none of the old methods of supply were discarded, so that to-day Albany may be said to have an abundant supply of water as unfailing as the Hudson. Should the Tivoli Reservoir run short, water can be sent down the creek from Rensselaer Lake or direct from the Bleeker Reservoir, into which the pumps at the river can send their 10,000,000 gallons daily. It is designed to hold a reserve always in Rensselaer Lake, in case an accident should occur to both engines at once, and to impound in each year, in the months of

February and March, enough water to supply the city when the river is turbid with the spring freshets. When at other times impurities appear in Rensselaer Lake, the supply from that source can be shut off entirely and only river water be used. Thus it is seen how complete is the system, and how difficult to cause a complete failure of the water supply.

Much discussion has been had in the daily newspapers concerning the wholesomeness and purity of the water drawn from the Hudson, and prejudice against its use exists in the minds of many citizens of Albany. But the Water Commissioners assert, on the authority of repeated analysis, made by expert chemists, together with nine years' daily use of the water without an epidemic, that the water is perfectly free from objectionable or unhealthy matter, and that no city in the United States has a better or purer supply of water than Albany.

Another feature in favor of the water-works has been the remarkable diminution in destructive fires since the adoption of the present system. Previous to 1850 Albany was scourged by several extensive fires, notably in 1848, when \$2,000,000 worth of property was destroyed. The efficiency of the Fire Department, aided by an unailing source of water, has prevented the repetition of such a catastrophe. In 1851 there were but 154 fire-hydrants, while at present there are over 500.

Since 1851, when there were but 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of distributing and supply mains in the city, there are now over 80 miles of pipes. The original cost of the works from 1850 to 1857 was \$850,000. The additional supply, including pumping works, reservoirs and mains, etc., \$700,000; making an aggregate expense of \$1,550,000. Of this sum, after meeting all the expenses of maintenance, the city has paid, up to May, 1884, \$460,000, leaving a debt of \$1,090,000.

Water rents are collected the same as taxes, and are assessed upon all real estate fronting on streets through which the mains are laid.

By act of the Legislature of 1884, the Commissioners were authorized to expend \$400,000. Another pumping engine has been purchased, and work is progressing to increase the water supply, with special reference to the southern part of the city.

The present Water Commissioners are Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Michael Delchanty, Erastus Corning, John M. Kimball; Superintendent, George W. Carpenter.

STREET LIGHTING.

The early Dutch settlers in Albany were not accustomed to much artificial light, nor did their simple habits of living require it. To the average industrious burgher the approach of darkness in summer was the signal for retiring, and at nine o'clock the thoroughfares were usually entirely deserted, with the exception, may be, of a belated traveler, or the few night watchmen. The longer evenings of winter, with little labor during the

day, were spent by the family before the blazing light of the big grate fires of this period; the husband, sons or friends enjoying the soothing pleasure of their pipes, while the industrious wife and daughters were engaged in spinning or knitting. Spending thus their winter evenings, the rooms of their dwellings were rarely illuminated by any light save that from the blazing logs.

Tallow candles, or tallow dips, were probably the only means used by the very earliest settlers, when a light that could be carried about the house was necessary; but even this mode of furnishing light was considered a luxury, and rarely used. Sperm and coal oil began to be used many years after the settlement of Albany. Contrivances for burning it were somewhat similar to those now used in burning kerosene. But the expense of either of these fluids made their use limited except by the very wealthy citizens, and, with the exception of gas, candles remained the principal article for lighting dwellings until the introduction of kerosene oil, about 1860. The cheapness and superior quality of this fluid, compared to others then in use, made it rapidly supersede candles and all other fluids used for producing light. In 1861 it came to be generally used all over the United States.

Coal gas was first practically used in Albany in 1845, and the present system of electric lights in 1881. This embraces all the different means, worthy of mention, used in Albany from the earliest to the present time.

Beyond the feeble light afforded by the lanterns of the night watchmen, the streets of Albany, from the earliest date to 1771, seem to have remained in natural darkness during the night, as at the latter date appears the first account in the city records of an appropriation of money for lighting the streets. In 1771 twenty lamps were used and 150 gallons of oil consumed.

In 1765, it was ordered by the Corporation, in case of any alarm, outcry, attack, riot or fire, that all citizens having houses facing on the street should set three or more lighted candles in the front window, there to remain until daybreak, and refusal to do so subjected the offender to a fine of three shillings. Similar orders were issued at earlier dates, and were intended to better secure the safety of citizens and property, although in many cases it would seem to have been a most injudicious proceeding.

It was not until 1793 that the subject of lighting the streets at night with lamps began to be agitated. Considerable discussion in the newspapers took place during this year.

In 1795, the number of lamps used seems to have been much increased; for, in November of that year, the *Albany Gazette* said:

"The lighting of the city begins to assume a regular and pleasing appearance, and if the Common Council would permit to be lighted at the public expense the lamps which our private citizens shall erect, on their paying into the public treasury money sufficient for the oil, our city in this respect would soon vie with the other principal cities and towns in the United States."

That the number of lamps rapidly increased from the year 1795 is evident, from the fact that during that year 257 gallons of oil were used; while in 1796 it amounted to 344 gallons; in 1797 to 698 gallons; and in 1801 to 1,187 gallons.

In 1800, the lamp district embraced the city limits one-half mile westward of the Hudson River. This territory was gradually increased as the city extended in area. In 1810, the expense of street lamps amounted to about \$3,000, and in 1828 the number of lamps had increased to 586.

The burning of gas made from coal, for the purpose of illumination, was successfully exhibited in Albany in 1817 by Henry Trowbridge, the proprietor of a museum. One hundred and twenty burners were used, and many people visited the place to see the new light. Up to this date gas had been practically introduced in but one city in the world—London, in 1813. It was next introduced in Paris, in 1820, and in New York in 1825.

The idea of illuminating the streets and dwellings of Albany by gas was attempted to be carried out as early as 1825, when a company was incorporated, but through lack of substantial encouragement, and needed capital, nothing was done. In 1833, another company was incorporated, which also failed to accomplish anything of a practical nature.

March 27, 1841, the Albany Gaslight Company was incorporated, composed of Thomas W. Olcott, James Stevenson, Henry L. Webb and Joel Rathbone. The capital stock, limited to \$100,000, was not subscribed until November 13, 1844. During this year the site of the present works, corner of Arch and Grand streets, was purchased and the erection of the necessary buildings commenced. In 1845 the works, costing nearly \$150,000, and capable of producing 50,000 cubic feet of gas daily, were completed, and mains to the extent of about four miles laid through many of the principal streets; gas being supplied to consumers for the first time November 25th, and the streets lighted for the first time November 10th of that year.

So satisfactory to the Corporation was this means of street light, that in 1845 a contract was made by the company with the city to light the streets with gas for ten years. Similar contracts, covering an uninterrupted period of gas supply from 1845 to 1883, were made at different times for lighting the streets. At the latter date the present electric light was substituted. In 1846 this company had 136 consumers and supplied 90 street lamps.

The capital has been increased by Legislative enactment twice, and now amounts to \$250,000, while improvements have been made upon the works to such an extent, that at the present they are valued at the sum of \$1,250,000 and are capable of manufacturing 100,000,000 cubic feet of gas yearly, for which are consumed 10,000 tons of coal. The territory supplied with gas by this company includes that part of the city south of Steuben, Canal and Eagle streets and Central avenue. In this area 48 miles of pipe are laid, supplying over 7,500 gas consumers, and for a number of years previous to 1883, about 1,200 street lamps.

The first President of the Company was Henry L. Webb, and first Superintendent, Joseph Battin. The present officers are H. H. Martin, President; A. Van Allen, Vice-President; S. W. Whitney, Secretary and Treasurer; Isaac Battin, Superintendent.

For a number of years preceding 1872, a spirit of opposition was engendered against the Albany Gaslight Company, which had practically a monopoly of the gas business of the city. This resulted, in 1872, in the formation of a company called the People's Gaslight Company, which was incorporated with a capital of \$1,000,000, although but \$700,000 were ever paid in. Large and expensive works were soon erected on the Troy road, near North Albany. All rivalry between the two companies was in a short time settled by compromise, and the city mutually divided between them; the People's Gaslight Company receiving the territory north of Steuben and Canal streets, above Eagle street and Central avenue. But either mismanagement, or that the share of business which fell to the new company gave inadequate returns on the large capital invested, caused the investment to fail to pay, and in 1879 the property was sold under foreclosure of mortgage, and purchased by George A. Wolverton and George L. Steadman, the mortgagees, subject to a bonded debt of \$350,000. The new purchasers soon reorganized a new company, which was incorporated January 31, 1880, with a capital of \$500,000, under the corporate title of the People's Gaslight Company, assuming the old works, with its bonded indebtedness. This company has 22 miles of pipe, with facilities for producing 200,000 cubic feet of gas per day. The present officers are George A. Wolverton, President; George L. Steadman, Vice-President; H. Q. Hawley, Treasurer and Secretary; William F. Wright, Superintendent.

Electricity, as a means of producing light, has, during late years, reached a remarkable degree of perfection, and has been extensively adopted in all the larger cities of the country. In the Municipality of Albany this is particularly true. In most all cases where this light is used in this city, the electric current is produced by the Albany Electric Illuminating Company, organized in April, 1881. The works of the company are situated at 71 Trinity place. Here five large engines, aggregating 650 horse-power, are used to supply the necessary power to produce the electric current. The streets of Albany are all lighted by electricity, the Corporation having entered into a contract with this company to light the streets for five years from June 21, 1881. Four hundred and seventy-three street lamps are now in use, which are burned on an average ten and a half hours nightly. Besides these, about two hundred lights are used by private parties. These lamps are reached through eight circuits and nearly ninety miles of wire. A system of storage batteries is also in use in connection with the Swan incandescent light. These batteries supply from five to forty lights according to capacity, for four hours each. The officers of this company are

W. F. Hurcomb, President; Walter Dickson, Vice-President; J. Irving Wendell, Treasurer; Edward A. Maher, Secretary and General Manager.

The Edison light system is used by several firms in Albany, which employ their own motive power. The electric light used in the State Capitol is an independent system, and is produced by the necessary machinery in the building.

PUBLIC PARKS.

The beautiful portion of ground in this city known as Washington Park, is of modern origin, though a portion of it has been public property since it was transferred to the city in 1686 by the gift of His Majesty James II, being included in the famous Dongan Charter. In 1802 the ground



- | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Swing. | 4. Rustic Shelter | 7. Fountain Shelter. | 10. Deer Paddock Outlook. | 13. Lake. |
| 2. Croquet Lawn. | 5. Meadow. | 8. Terrace. | 11. Lake House. | 14. Foot Bridge. |
| 3. Armsby Memorial. | 6. Refectory. | 9. Deer Paddock. | 12. Site of proposed King Fountain. | 15. Overlook Hill. |

was set apart for the purposes of a powder-house, and October 6, 1806, the ground between what is now Madison avenue and State street, and Willett and Knox streets, was dedicated as the Middle Public square. Three years later the fancy for changing the names of streets became almost an epidemic in Albany, and extended to this square, which was rechristened Washington Square. It has since been known as Washington Square, Washington Parade Ground, and Washington Park. The ground adjoining this section on the west was made a public burial place in 1800, and was used as such for more than half a century.

The project of a public park, on an extended scale, was not accomplished in Albany without much discussion and opposition. The newspapers for years discussed the theme, while many of the leading progressive men of the city made fruitless attempts with repeated petitions to the Common Council, setting forth the benefits of such a public enterprise. But in 1869, the friends of the scheme secured the passage of the State law under which the present attractive park was established.

This act created a Board of Park Commissioners under whose charge the Park was constructed and is maintained. It was passed May 5, 1869, and

set apart what was then known as the Burial Ground property, before designated, the old Washington Parade Ground, the Penitentiary Grounds, and the Alms-house Farm. By subsequent acts the powers of the Board were extended over the approaches to the Park, making it possible to institute the present system of boulevards.

The first meeting of the Commissioners was held May 8th following, the Board consisting of John Bridgford, Arthur Bott, George Dawson, Dudley Olcott, William Cassidy, John Fair, Rufus W. Peckham, Jr., Samuel H. Ransom, and John H. Van Antwerp. Mr. Van Antwerp was made President, Mr. Olcott, Treasurer, and William D. Morange, Secretary. These trustees were divided into three classes: three to serve three years, three to serve six years, and three to serve nine years. Their successors are appointed by the Mayor, and serve nine years.

The plans adopted by the Board were prepared by Messrs. Bogart & Cuyler. The grounds embraced by these plans were included in that portion of the present Park bounded by Willett street on the east, Madison avenue on the south, State street on the north, Robin street on the west for a distance of about 632 feet, thence running west a

distance of about 132 feet. The development of the plans from 1869 to 1872 were under the supervision of R. H. Bingham as Chief Engineer, and William S. Egerton as assistant. Since 1872, Mr. Egerton has had charge of the designs and superintendence.

In July, 1870, work was begun, and during this year the Washington Parade Ground was nearly completed, having been fenced, graded, drained, and the walks and drive-ways also laid out and graveled.

In 1871, its monuments and tenants having been removed to the Rural and other cemeteries, the old burial ground was laid out and thrown open as a part of this Park. In 1873 the development of the plans was mostly confined to that portion of the lake sections lying between Lexington avenue and Robin street. In 1874, the work of construction was confined to that portion of the Park bounded, in part, by Madison avenue and extending to Lake avenue and Robin street, embracing an area of some fifteen acres.

In 1880, what is known as the Knox street property, north of Madison avenue, comprising nine acres, was purchased, its buildings removed, and improvements made.

In 1882, more land lying on Madison and Lake avenues was added to the Park and improvements begun. The gardener's cottage, propagating-houses and storage-houses were built in 1883 upon a portion of the Alms-house Grounds, near the Lexington avenue entrance to the Park. They continue in charge of the faithful gardener, Michael Fink.

Western avenue, under the control of the Commissioners, extends from near the northwest corner of the Park to the toll-gate. It is 8,200 feet in length, 99 feet wide, and paved to a width of 40 feet with granite block, curbed and sewered. The sidewalks, 29½ feet, are flagged to a width of six feet, bordered with grass, and shaded by trees 40 feet apart. In sleighing-time, this avenue is the favorite resort of owners of horses, and presents a lively appearance. The improvement on this avenue was begun November 16, 1876, and completed in the following year.

The Northern Boulevard extends from Western avenue, east of the toll-gate, to the intersection of Central and Clinton avenues, a distance of 5,525 feet. It ranges from 150 to 66 feet in width. It is paved with a combination of the Telford and Macadam systems, and is greatly admired by pleasure drivers. This road was completed in 1878. It is intended to carry it on by Dudley Observatory, to connect the fine drives beyond Tivoli Hollow on the Rensselaer avenue and Loudonville and Shaker roads.

The area of the Park is nearly eighty-two acres. It contains three miles of the best possible drive-ways and six miles of walks. Park lake is 1,600 feet long; average width, 136 feet; area, 5 acres. It is well supplied with boats for summer, and the ice is kept cleared of snow in winter for the throngs of lively skaters who frequent it on pleasant evenings. Music from our best band musicians, from the lake-house, adds its charms on many an evening

in summer. The drives and walks are frequented by all classes. It is the gymnasium and breathing place of the city.

The special features of the Park, aside from its charming landscape, with hills, dales, lake and lawn tastefully laid out, are its noble elms and other trees, many of which were there many years before the Park was located. Works of art, it is hoped, will ere long adorn the grounds. The late Henry L. King bequeathed \$20,000 for the erection of a fountain, yet to be seen. The statue of Ceres is well enough, but the Armsby memorial bust is bad apology for neglecting one of our noblest citizens, Dr. James H. Armsby.

The Park lies west of the Capitol about one mile, and on an elevation about two hundred feet above the Hudson. It is surrounded more and more every year by handsome residences, owned and occupied by some of Albany's best citizens.

The total cost of Washington Park, including the Northern boulevard, city parks improved and maintained since 1881, and all lands bought by the Commissioners for construction, maintenance, etc., to January 1, 1885, is \$1,366,878.89. The real estate and construction of Washington Park and Western avenue cost \$1,073,020.91.

Academy Park, in front of Albany Academy, is a delightful spot, consisting of about two acres of sloping ground, adorned with majestic shade trees. It was placed in the hands of the Park Commissioners in 1881, and improved at a cost of \$4,306 the following year.

Townsend Park is located at the intersection of Washington and Central avenues. It was first inclosed with a fence in 1833, and was named in honor of Hon. John Townsend, a most worthy man, formerly Mayor of the city. Area, 20,700 square feet.

Bleecker Park is a small triangular inclosure in front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. It was inclosed by an iron fence in 1835, the city appropriating \$1,000, the remainder being raised by subscriptions. It contains the first public fountain erected in Albany, the gift of William Fleming, dedicated in July, 1863. Area 16,275 square feet.

Clinton Park, named in honor of De Witt Clinton, is located on North Pearl, near Clinton avenue. Area, 16,415 square feet. Its cross-walk is more convenient than ornamental.

Delaware square, east of Lark street and adjacent to Penitentiary Grounds, has an area of 64,000 square feet. It has no inclosure or other improvements.

Capitol Park embraced the well-trodden and shaded ground in front of what was the Old Capitol. It is included in the ground in front of the New Capitol and contains 99,000 square feet.

Hudson avenue Park, is a small plot of shaded and path-traversed land on Hudson avenue, near Broadway, with an area of 10,851 square feet.

Beverwyck Park, located between Washington avenue, Ontario and Partridge streets, contains about five acres.

Van Rensselaer Park, west of Ten Broeck, north of Second street, has an area of 42,400 square feet.

St. Joseph's Park, West of Ten Broeck, north of First street, near St. Joseph's Church, has an area of 42,900 square feet.

The total area of the small parks of the city is about fourteen acres. They are all, with the exception of Capitol Park, under the control of the Park Commissioners. The present Park Commissioners are Erastus Corning, R. Lenox Banks, John G. Farnsworth, John H. Van Antwerp, Dudley Olcott, Robert C. Bruyn, Grange Sard, Charles J. Buchanan and John H. Farrell. Dudley Olcott is President, and W. S. Egerton, Secretary, Engineer and Surveyor.

STREET RAILWAYS.

The Albany horse-railway system is operated and controlled by two companies: The Broadway and the Lumber District roads by the Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company, and all the remaining lines by the Albany Railway Company.

The Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company was incorporated April 15, 1862, with a capital of \$240,000. All the rights and privileges at this time possessed by the Watervliet Turnpike Company were purchased by the railroad company.

Work on the proposed route from South Ferry, by way of Broadway to the Lumber District, was commenced soon after the incorporation of the company, and completed in the following year. The first car was run over this route—the first horse-car railway in Albany—June 22, 1863. In 1864 this road was extended to the Albany Cemetery, and in 1865 to Green Island.

This company has at present 7½ miles of double track, extending from South Ferry to Green Island, and one mile of single track, from Broadway to the Lumber District. Twenty-seven cars are used, necessitating the use of one hundred and fifty horses and about seventy-five employees, embracing conductors, drivers and trackmen.

The officers of the road are John Cary, Vice-President; Thomas P. Way, Treasurer and Secretary; Amos Free, Superintendent. The affairs of the road are controlled by a Board of Directors, which at present is composed of the following members: Charles Newman, James B. Jermain, Dudley Olcott, J. W. Tillinghast, Evert Evertson, F. A. Fayles, R. H. King and A. A. Sumner.

The office of this company is at North Albany.

North Albany, the Cemetery, Old Men's Home, Island Park and Watervliet Arsenal are reached by this line of street cars.

ALBANY RAILWAY.—The Albany Railway Company was organized and incorporated September 14, 1863, with a capital of \$100,000. Its first directors and officers, many of whom are now dead, numbered some of the most reliable business men of Albany. These Directors were James Kidd, George Dawson, John K. Porter, Eli Perry, Hugh J. Hastings, C. W. Armstrong, John Tracey, Thomas Kearney, H. Crandall, G. J. Amsdell, M. Delehanty,

Paul Cushman and A. Van Vechten. President, James Kidd; Secretary, John W. McNamara; Engineer, Samuel McElroy; Superintendent, Henry Mix.

In the winter of 1863-64, work upon the new road was commenced on what is known as the State street route—extending from Broadway through State, Washington, and Central avenue to Knox street—and completed in February of this year, the first car running over this route February 22, 1864. In 1865 this line was extended to West Albany. At the same time a road was built through South Pearl to Kenwood.

The next extension was made in 1866, from State to Van Woert on Pearl street. In 1873, what is known as the Clinton avenue line was completed. This route extends from North Pearl street up Clinton avenue, through Lexington avenue to Central avenue. In 1875, what is known as the Hamilton street line was completed to Lexington avenue. In 1877, this route was extended to Quail street, and in 1885, to Partridge street.

The capital of this company has been increased twice—in 1869 and 1873, and now amounts to \$300,000. In the first report made to the Railroad Commissioners in 1865, this company had 1½ miles of double track and 5½ miles single track, 12 cars, and 69 horses. From a like report made in 1884, we find the following: four miles double track, 18 miles single track, 44 cars, and 215 horses.

The present Directors are A. B. Banks, T. J. Cornell, Michael Delehanty, William H. Johnson, Daniel Manning, William P. Prentice, John W. McNamara, Robert C. Pruyn, Joseph T. Rice, S. W. Rosendale, Philip Ten Eyck, A. Van Vechten, Isaac Waldman. President, Treasurer and Superintendent, John W. McNamara; Secretary, James H. Manning.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

There is an old record of the existence of fire officers in Albany as early as October 15, 1694, called "Brant-masters."

"It is ordered, and found very Requisite y^e Aldermen of each respective Ward shall cause to be made two Brantleere [fire ladders], a greate one and a little one, with yron hooks, and y^e in time of one month, and cause to be brought to a ready place in case of any occasion whatsome ever, and then to bring in their accounts."

As early as December 7, 1706, the city had a kind of primitive fire department, consisting of what were called "Fyre-masters." Says the Council record:

"It is resolved that the following Persons be appointed Fyre-masters for y^e ensuing yeare, until y^e 19th of October next: William Hogan, Anthony Coster, William Jacobse, Joh^o Claese, Jan Evertse and Jacobus Schuyler, who are to view y^e chimneys where are fyres within y^e city, and oye^r inconvenient places, one each fourteen night; and where they find chimneys extraordinary soule, to fine y^e owner in ye summe of three shillings, and where fyres kept in inconvenient places, dangerous to take fyre, to cause such fyre to be broak doune."

These "Fyre-masters," with like powers and duties, were appointed for many successive years.

In 1726, the Common Council ordained that if any person appointed fire-master refused or neglected to serve, a fine of thirty shillings was imposed for each offense. That year the following persons were appointed:

Joh's Defreest, Egbert Bratt, Teunis Slingerlandt, Gelyn Verplank, Gerret Lansing, Peter P. Schuyler.

At a meeting of the Common Council, November 24, 1730, it was ordered that "hooks and ladders be made with all speed, and kept within convenient places within the city for avoiding the peril of fire."

December 22, 1731, the Common Council resolved to purchase a fire engine, and on February 22, 1732, the city fathers resolved to purchase the Richard Newsham engine, fifth size, with six feet suction-pipe and forty feet leather hose-pipe.

In due time the engine was received in the city with great rejoicing. It was an object of greater curiosity, and gave a greater sense of security and satisfaction, than the arrival, over a century afterwards, of the first fire-steamer. It protected the city against fire for many years.

In 1743, Robert Lansing, Barnardus Hartsen and Michael Bassett were appointed managers of the engine in case of fire, and were directed to be always ready upon any occasion when it might be wanted. They were each to make a key to open the lock of the shed where the engine stood, and to place the keys in some part of their houses where they might be found when they were absent; and they were each to receive for their services a skepple of wheat each per year.

The shed where the engine was kept, stood on the ground now known as the corner of Beaver and South Pearl streets. This was the first fire engine brought to the City of Albany.

In 1763, an engine was purchased by Harmse Gansevoort in England, at a cost of \$397.50. This, probably, was the second fire engine ordered by the city.

In 1792, another engine was owned by the city; for the times, a very superior machine, one of the only two manufactured by the elder John Mason, in Philadelphia. Its mate was, for a long time, in possession of the Diligent Fire Company of that city. The engine-house in 1792 was at the north-west corner of the old English Church on State street.

In 1793, ranks were formed of people, consisting of two lines opposite each other, one to pass the water to the fire and the other to return the empty buckets. It was not uncommon to see both young and old, male and female, in the ranks. In those days every house was required to have three leather water-buckets hanging in its hall. In case of fire the inmates were required not only to bring them to the scene of the disaster, but were compelled to go into the ranks. A fire engine was a novelty in those days. Albany with 5,000 inhabitants boasted of two—one could scarcely be called an engine. The largest one was about as powerful as our present garden

engines, and the other, which was called a house engine, was so light as to be easily carried by one man. The engines were filled by buckets and the water thrown by a pipe.

In 1839, a bell was directed to be placed in the cupola of the jail to be rung in case of fire.

The expenditures of the Fire Department for six years ending May 1, 1840, were as follows: 1835, \$3,477.16; 1836, \$5,679.69; 1837, \$6,847.94; 1838, \$3,834.60; 1839, \$4,107.98; 1840, \$10,950.30.

March 6, 1843, the Common Council passed a law regulating the duties of Chief Engineer, and fixed his salary at \$600 per annum.

In January, 1846, the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department reported that Albany had eleven engine companies, two hook and ladder companies, one hose company, and one ax company. In 1845 there had been forty-two fires and twenty-one alarms; loss of property \$57,232, on which was insured \$43,252.

The Common Council, October 2, 1848, favored paying firemen \$30 per year, and appointing a Chief Engineer with a salary of \$700, to devote all his time to the duties of the office.

On the 27th of November, a new fire law was passed entirely reorganizing the fire department.

It was ordered also that no wooden building, wholly or partially covered with wood, should thereafter be erected in any part of Albany east of Lark street; and that eaves, cornices and gutters should be made of metal.

The amount expended by the Fire Department for the year ending May 1, 1850, was \$20,476.47. Of this \$2,528.57 were for the Hose Depot, \$1,303.58 for new hose, and \$890 for fire police.

In September, 1852, the first use of a fire annihilator in Albany was satisfactorily made at a fire which destroyed but one building. The amount for the year ending November 1, 1852, for the Fire Department amounted to \$16,178.92.

In the year 1856, the losses by fire in Albany amounted to the sum of \$72,200.

The number of fires from July 1st to December 27, was 27; alarms, 13; false alarms, 8; losses, \$26,285. During the corresponding period of 1856 there were 12 fires; 8 alarms; 3 false alarms. Losses, \$72,200.

June 30, 1858, the Chief Engineer reported 37 fires during the past year; 21 alarms; and 7 false alarms, making sixty-five times the department had been called out. The amount of property destroyed was \$45,064, of which \$34,149 was insured.

September 29th, a firemen's jubilee was held in Albany for three days. About three thousand firemen from six different States came to the city; from Detroit, Providence, and Newark. Exempt firemen to the number of 200, drew old "No. 4." The old men became so enthusiastic as to cause much sport. Becoming inspired with their old ardor and giving the old cry "Hi yi! give way boys! give way!" they dashed up State street, calling out hearty cheers from the young firemen and the spectators.

On August 9, 1859, a resolution was passed authorizing the sale of the old fire apparatus, with the exception of two old engines and two hose-carts.

The report of the Chief Engineer for the year ending January 1, 1860, shows there were 10 fires where companies were in service; 18 where companies were not in service; false alarms, 8; amount of property destroyed, \$11,537; insurance, \$7,362. Fire Department expenses for the year ending November 1, 1861, were \$18,641.55.

April 23, 1861, a resolution was passed by the Common Council granting members of the several engine, hose, and hook and ladder companies who might join any military organization to maintain the integrity of the Union, their full time during their absence.

During the year ending June 30, 1863, the Report of Chief-Engineer James McQuade shows there were 29 fires; 20 alarms; and 3 false alarms; amount of property destroyed \$19,350, all covered by insurance.

On July 13, 1863, the City Council authorized purchasing a steam fire engine to be located on Capitol Hill, at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.

On April 25, 1864, J. C. Cuyler, William Mix, Jr., William J. Shankland, Edward Leslie, James Allen, William G. Weed, Jacob Fredenrich, Theodore J. Cuyler, Oscar L. Hascy, J. Owen Moore, William A. Sumner, Frank W. Vosburgh, John A. Goeway, Robert Harris, William H. Reid, Henry L. Wait, Ed. A. Clapp, Charles F. Clapp, John S. Dickerman, Harris Parr, George E. Latham, Thomas Hastings, Andrew G. White, James D. Wilson, Theodore S. Comstock, Daniel Doncaster, William H. Taylor, James Main, John Mahan, and Henry Lansing were appointed firemen as members of the Beaverwyck Steam Fire Engine Company.

J. C. Cuyler was made fireman of the company; William Mix, Jr., First Assistant; William J. Shankland, Second Assistant; and Edward Leslie, Clerk.

Chief-Engineer James McQuade, in a petition to the Common Council in January, 1865, stated that experience had proved beyond question that steam engines must supersede those worked by hand. All the principal cities and many large villages had introduced steamers, and hand engines had been abandoned. He also suggested that horses should be substituted in doing the drag work, as the force of men required to drag an engine to a fire was beyond the number obtainable.

Albany in 1865 had three steamers: the James McQuade, the Putnam, and the Thomas Kearney.

February 19, 1865, it was resolved to pay each of the engineers of the several steamers the sum of \$75 per month; firemen and drivers to be allowed \$45 per month.

The amount paid by the city on account of the Fire Department for the year ending November 1, 1865, was \$34,016.02.

March 29, 1867, an Act to Reorganize the Fire Department of the City of Albany became a law.—The provisions of this law, with subse-

quent amendments, are easily accessible to every citizen.

On February 19, 1872, the act reorganizing the Department was amended by the Legislature in some particulars

The powers and duties of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department are very large and responsible. These duties are now, and have long been, most ably performed by James McQuade.

In 1870 the number of alarms was 60; number of fires in which the Department was in service, 23.

There were six Steam Fire Companies; two Truck Companies, and 1,800 feet of hose in the Hose Depot.

Gongs were placed in the residence of each Assistant Engineer. The working of this alarm telegraph did not fail in a single instance in transmitting the alarm during the year, giving sure evidence of its great value as a rapid agent for conveying fire alarms and preventing destruction by fire through delays.

In February, 1870, the incorporated Fire Department leased the pleasant and commodious rooms in the City Building, which have been comfortably furnished with every convenience and comfort.

On September 2, 1870, the horses attached to steamer No. 6 became unmanageable while coming down Hudson avenue and ran away. Mr. Andrew McGraw, the driver in charge, used every exertion to check them, without success. They continued at a furious rate to the dock, and dashed into the basin carrying the driver and steamer with them. The horses were drowned, and the steamer so badly damaged as to render it necessary to send it to Amoskeag Works to be rebuilt; it was placed in perfect order and returned to the city in two months. Mr. McGraw was not injured, although the shock was a very severe one to him.

In the year 1875, the Board of Fire Commissioners was as follows:

Hon. Edmund L. Judson, Mayor, President, *ex officio*; Philip O'Brien, George E. Latham, Garret A. Van Allen, Thomas Austin; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary.

ENGINEERS.—James McQuade, Chief Engineer; J. C. Griffin, George E. Mink, John C. Mull, William K. Clute, Assistants.

FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.—William J. Cull, Superintendent; John M. Carroll, Assistant-Superintendent; John H. Nelson, James B. Finn, Operators; John Wilson, Janitor.

The losses by fire during the year aggregated \$335,000. Nearly all the fires were of incendiary origin.

During this year incendiarism was more extensive than at any time since the organization of the Department. The boldness of these crimes exhibited daring and recklessness of most alarming character. The most earnest efforts of Chief McQuade and the police were made to detect and bring to justice the perpetrators of these dastardly deeds. The loss by fire in the building corner of Green street, occupied by Rathbone, Sard & Co.—

which was an act of bold incendiariism as was ever committed in this city—exceeded \$100,000.

The Protective Association, an honor and a source of untold safety in the protection of property, was organized and supported by the insurance interests.

In 1880, we find :

Insured losses on real and personal property ..	\$137,299.09
Uninsured „ „ „ „ ..	15,866.64
Total loss.....	\$153,165.73

Annual cost of maintaining Fire Department, \$74,677.96; total number of men employed by Fire Department, 221; area covered by Fire Department, 14.7 square miles; population of Albany, 100,000. Nine lives were lost by fire during the year.

On November 22, 1880, Steamer Company No. 5 was suspended, by order of Chief McQuade, for neglect in the performance of duty at a fire. Not one of the members, except the foreman, appeared at the fire. On December 13, the company was re-organized, with John J. Mee, the former foreman, reappointed.

The Insurance Patrol is of great value to the Department, and it is noticeable with what promptness Captain Foster has responded to all calls, as is the activity of the officers and members of the company when in service.

The total insurance on the Fire Department property amounts to.....	\$59,350.06
The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1880.....	71,517.60
Total.....	\$130,876.60
Disbursements for the year ending October 31, 1880.....	\$74,677.96
Indebtedness of year ending October 31, 1879.....	10,596.61
Total expenditures.....	\$85,274.57

Steamer companies of Albany are as follows: Steamer Company No. 1, 12 members, 236 Washington avenue; Steamer Company No. 2, 16 members, 157 Livingston avenue; Steamer Company No. 3, 15 members, 895 Broadway; Steamer Company No. 4, 15 members, 69 Hudson avenue; Steamer Company No. 5, 14 members, 289 South Pearl street; Steamer Company No. 6, 15 members, Jefferson, corner Swan street; Steamer Company No. 7, 16 members, Clinton avenue, corner Ontario street; Steamer Company No. 8, 16 members, Broadway, corner North First street, North Albany; Truck Company No. 1, 22 members, 57 Westerlo; Truck Company No. 2, 23 members, 126 Clinton avenue; Insurance Patrol, 9 members, 41 Hudson avenue; Hose Depot, 133 Hamilton street; Repair Shop, 34 Plain street. Fire Alarm Telegraph Central Station, City Building, South Pearl street, corner Howard.

During the year ending October 31, 1882, there were forty-two alarms of fire; the total loss, \$147,970.05.

Fire-alarm Bell in City Hall.—The question for a fire-alarm bell became a very interesting one in

the year 1882, during the erection of the new City Hall.

For some time the bell in the Second Reformed Church on Beaver street was used as a fire-alarm bell. The congregation having moved into their new edifice, the Department lost the use of one of the best alarm bells in the city.

No provision had been made for a bell in the imposing tower of the new City Hall. The Board of Fire Commissioners, by authority of the City Council, purchased of Meneely & Co., of Troy, a bell seventy inches at mouth, fifty and one-half inches in height, five and one-tenth inches thickness, of sound bore. Weight, 7,049 pounds.

This bell exceeds in size, weight and volume of sound, any bell in the city. It was hoisted to its place in the tower October 28, 1882. Within two weeks after, the attachment to the fire-alarm circuit was made.

The fire-alarm telegraph was first put in operation in Albany in 1868.

The Board of Fire Commissioners in 1884.—Hon A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor, President, *ex officio*, Thomas D. Coleman, Andrew B. Uline, John McEwen, James H. Lyman, Dennis A. Ronan; Andrew B. Uline, Secretary; Lewis J. Miller, Clerk.

James McQuade, Chief Engineer; Joseph C. Griffin, John C. Mull, George E. Mink, William K. Clute, Assistants.

From the Annual Report of the Fire Commissioners ending October 31, 1884, we gather the following: the financial standing of the Department is in a very favorable condition; the annual expenses are about \$85,000.

The Companies, having ten steamers, consist each of a foreman whose salary is \$300 per annum; eight members at \$200 each. The three Truck Companies have twelve members each, at \$200 per annum. The permanent employees are an engineer, \$1,080; fireman, \$720; driver, \$720, to each engine; a tileman, \$720; and driver, \$720, to each truck. The whole force, including the telegraph department, numbers 145.

There are ten steamers, of which Nos. 9 and 10 are reserves, and, with the exception of the two latter, were made at the Amoskeag Works, in Manchester, N. H., and with their hose-carts are valued at \$5,150 each. The trucks, valued at \$2,250 each, are drawn by horses worth \$300 each, of which there are thirty. The property of the Fire Department is valued as follows:

Apparatus.....	\$45 000
Fire-alarm telegraph, apparatus fixtures and supplies.....	56 000
Furniture, fixtures, etc.....	26 000
Hose, fixtures, leather, tools, etc.....	28 000
Horses, harness, etc.....	14 000
Real estate.....	135 000
Repair Shop and Supply Department...	6 000
Total.....	\$310 000

The fire record of the year was below the average in total losses. The record of incendiariism has also been less.

The salaries of the officers are as follows:

Chief Engineer, \$3,000 per annum; Secretary, \$1,000; Clerk, \$720; Superintendent Fire-alarm Telegraph, \$1,500; Superintendent Hose and Supply Depot, \$1,200; Relief Engineer, \$1,080; Veterinary Surgeon, \$600.

The amount of insurance on the property of the Department is \$62,850.

The Hose Depot is one of the most attractive adjuncts of the Fire Department. The hose, with extra tenders, wheels, fuel, etc., and extras of all kinds, are stored. The hose is all brought to the depot after a fire and is washed and dried, a constant supply being always on hand in case of need.

The Relief Fund, incorporated in 1883 for the relief of disabled firemen, consists of the Mayor, the Fire Commissioners and the Chief of the Department as the body corporate. The fines paid by firemen are placed in this fund, and are increased by voluntary subscription. It now amounts to about \$2,000.

The fire-alarm telegraph was first operated in Albany in June, 1868. There are now seventy-seven alarm-boxes, seven church bells, the City Hall bell, and the engine and truck houses connected with this office by over seventy miles of wire. The hammers and striking machinery are independent of the tongues and ropes of the several bells. The wires are tested every twenty minutes in the twenty-four hours. There is also an extensive telephone service in connection with all engine-houses.

We may say, without question, that the City of Albany has great confidence in all the officers and men of its Fire Department, trusting fully in their courage, skill, and fidelity.

THE ERIE CANAL AS RELATED TO ALBANY.

In the early development of the canal system of this State, many citizens of Albany took a prominent part. The first company formed to improve the inland navigation of this State was called the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. It was incorporated March 30, 1792. The object, as stated in the act of incorporation, was to open a water communication between the southern, northern and western parts of this State. This was to be accomplished by a system of lock navigation from the Hudson River to Lakes Ontario and Seneca. Another company was formed called the Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company, to open navigation between the Hudson River and Lake Champlain. The Commissioners in Albany to receive subscriptions to the stock of \$250,000, of each company, were Abraham Ten Broeck, John Tayler, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Glen and John Ten Broeck. The first Directors of the Western Company were Philip Schuyler, Leonard Gansevoort, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Elkanah Watson, John Tayler, Jellis A. Fonda, William

North, Goldsbro Banyar, Daniel Hale, John Watts, Walter Livingston, Dominic Lynch and James Watson. The Directors of the Western Company were Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, John Williams, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jacobus Van Schoonhoven, John Van Rensselaer, Abraham G Lansing, Cornelius Glen, Henry Quackenbos, Robert R. Livingston, Philip Livingston, James Duane and Abraham McComb.

The plans as attempted to be carried out by these companies were not very successful, but an account of their efforts does not exclusively belong to a history of Albany County. This brief reference to them is given to show the large percentage of Albany capitalists who were interested in them and who were ever ready to lend their influence and wealth in promoting the commerce of the State.

In 1810, the Legislature resolved that the agricultural and commercial interests of the State required that the inland navigation, from the Hudson River to Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, should be improved and completed on a scale commensurate with the great advantages to be derived from the accomplishment of that important object. Doubting the resources of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company to be adequate to such improvement, the Legislature appointed Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Simeon De Witt, William North, Thomas Eddy and Peter B. Porter, commissioners for exploring the whole route, and to examine the outlet to Oneida Lake, with a view to deepening the channel to prevent inundations. The opening of hostilities between this country and Great Britain two years later, put an end to this contemplated improvement.

No city on the line of the Erie Canal has been more directly benefited by the opening of this great water thoroughfare than the City of Albany; nor was there a place, in the beginning of this great undertaking, which furnished more men of brains, character and wealth, who largely contributed to push forward this great work.

There may be some question as to who first conceived the scheme of connecting the waters of Lake Erie with the Hudson. Joel Barlow, a New England poet, as early as 1787, published a poem called "The Vision of Columbus," from which is quoted lines that seem prophetic of our grand canal system. Certain it is, the poem was published when that magnificent project of the Erie Canal, if it had any other place than in the imagination of a poet, was probably regarded as the visionary chimera of an enthusiast. But the printed scheme of the poet may have awakened the attention of some strong mind to undertake the task of carrying out what we now behold in successful operation, foreshadowed in these words:

"He saw, as widely spread the unchanneled plain,
Where inland realms for ages bloomed in vain,
Canals, long winding, ope a watery flight,
And distant streams, and seas, and lakes unite.

"From fair Albania, tow'rd the falling sun,
Back through the midland, lengthening channels run,
Meet the far lakes, the beauteous towns that have,
And Hudson joined to broad Ohio's wave."

Almost as early as the publication of this poem, Elkanah Watson, born on Plymouth Rock, conceived the practicability of a canal from Albany to Lake Erie. In 1804, writing to Peleg Wadsworth, the revolutionary general and Member of Congress, he says: "The dream of connecting the great lakes with the Hudson has been my leading hobby since 1788. Mr. Adams considered me an enthusiast in this vast object, and that the mania had seized upon me with such force as to endanger a due attention to my own interests, and cautioned me as a friend to moderate my zeal."

A writer in the *Albany Daily Advertiser*, under the signature of Verdicus, ascribes the scheme of uniting the Hudson River to Lake Erie by a navigable canal to Elkanah Watson, offering in proof the private journal of Mr. Watson, during a tour from Schenectady to Geneva in 1791, when he carefully explored the ground, streams and small lakes lying on the route. This journey is said to have been made with a view of recommending to public notice the project of uniting the two waters. The progressive spirit, activity and energy of Mr. Watson, united with the testimony of his contemporaries, force us to regard him as the man whose mind originated the Erie Canal.

In this article we merely endeavor to give a proper historic prominence to Albany, whose leading citizens were so active in the canal project, and who helped to carry it to a successful completion.

Mr. Watson awakened many other citizens of Albany to a belief in the practicability of this canal, and who aided with their influence and wealth to make its completion possible. Among them were the Van Rensselaers and Schuylers, John and Isaiah Townsend.

February 7, 1816, a meeting was called at the Tontine Coffee-House to urge the subject of a canal upon the people and the Legislature, signed by Archibald McIntyre, James Kane, John Woodworth, William James, Charles E. Dudley, Dudley Walsh, Barent Bleeker, John Van Schaick, Rensselaer Westerlo and Harmanus Bleeker. A committee was appointed in each ward to secure signatures to a memorial to the Legislature. This seems to have been the first organized effort on the part of the citizens to promote this scheme. In April following, an act was passed to "provide for the improvement of the internal navigation of this State."

Under this act Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Samuel Young, Joseph Ellicott and Myron Holley were appointed Commissioners "to consider, devise and adopt such measures" as might or should be "requisite to facilitate and effect the communication, by means of canals and locks, between the navigable waters of the Hudson River and Lake Erie, and the said navigable waters and Lake Champlain."

The report of this commission was the subject of much contest in the next Legislature, and the act authorizing the construction of the canal was not passed until the last day of the session, April 15, 1817.

October 8, 1823, the first boat passed through the completed portion of the canal, east of Genesee River, into the Hudson. The appearance of this stranger was greeted by many demonstrations of joy. Although the great work was not completed, the people of Albany determined to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies. The Common Council appointed a committee, consisting of Aldermen Gibbons, Baldwin, Humphrey, Cassidy, Ten Eyck, and the Chamberlain, who had charge of the arrangements. Solomon Van Rensselaer was Marshal of the day. At sunrise a national salute was fired and the bells rung. A large military and civic parade was an important feature of the celebration. Business generally was suspended, and the entire population of the city and thousands of strangers seemed to have joined in the celebration. Speeches were delivered by the Mayor, Charles E. Dudley, Ex-Governor De Witt Clinton and many others.

Cadwallader Colden thus describes the scene presented on this occasion: "The pencil can do no justice to the scene presented on the fine autumnal morning when the Albany lock was first opened. Numerous steamboats and river vessels, splendidly dressed, decorated the beautiful amphitheatre formed by the hills which border the valley of the Hudson at this place; the river winding its bright stream far from the north and losing itself in the distance to the south; the islands it embraced; the woods variegated by the approach of winter, a beauty peculiar to our climate; the wreathed arches and other embellishments which had been erected for the occasion, were all objects of admiration. A line of canal-boats, with colors flying, bands of music, and crowded with people, were seen coming from the north and seemed to glide over the level grounds which hid the waters of the canal for some distance, as if they were moved by enchantment.

"The first boat that entered the lock was the De Witt Clinton, having on board Governor Yates, the Mayor and Corporation of Albany, the Canal Commissioners and Engineers, the committees and other citizens. One, not the least attractive part of the scene, was filled with ladies. The cap-stone of the lock was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the fraternity, who appeared in great numbers and in grand costume.

"The waters of the West and of the ocean were then mingled by Dr. Mitchell, who pronounced an epithalamium upon the union of the river and the lakes, after which the lock-gates were opened, and the De Witt Clinton majestically sunk upon the bosom of the Hudson.

"She was then towed by long lines of barges past the steamboats and other vessels to a wharf at the upper end of the city, where those gentlemen who were embarked on board the canal-boats landed, and joined a military and civic procession, which was conducted by a large stage, fancifully decorated, erected for the occasion in front of the Capitol."

The system of canal navigation, as at this time completed, soon proved the wisdom of its originators. During the summer of 1824 and 1825, with occa-

sional interruptions, arising from repairs and placing of new structures, the City of Albany began to realize the benefits of canal navigation, and the daily announcement of the arrival and departure of canal-boats in the public journals, indicate the importance that was attached to this great channel of commerce.

October 26, 1825, the canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson River was completed. It was decided to commemorate the event by ceremonies the most brilliant and impressive that could be devised, and along the whole length of the canal, each place, in proportion to its means, sought to outrival its neighbor in expressions of joy upon this memorable occasion.

The Common Council of Albany, October 17, 1825, appointed a committee, consisting of Aldermen Denniston, Cassidy, Lush, Esleeck and Costigan, to devise means to celebrate the event. A public meeting of the citizens was held in the Capitol, September 14th, over which Colonel Elisha Jenkins presided. At this gathering twenty-five citizens were selected to act as a committee to adopt measures for celebrating the completion of the great project. A similar meeting of citizens and transporters was held a few days later. By these public gatherings much enthusiasm was aroused.

The passage of the first canal-boat from Buffalo into the Albany basin was announced by the successive discharge of cannon, placed along the canal between Lake Erie and the Hudson, and along the Hudson between Albany and New York. The Buffalo boat entered the basin at three minutes before 11 o'clock, A. M. At five minutes before 12 the sound of "the return fire from New York" reached Albany.

The celebration was general along the entire line of the canal. The water pageant started from Buffalo on the morning of October 26, 1825, the boat Seneca Chief being fitted up for the dignitaries leading in the triumphant passage. On the morning of November 2d it had reached Albany.

The proceedings at Albany we cannot detail at length. They were thus described in the *Albany Daily Advertiser*:

"At 10 o'clock the Seneca Chief, with the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, the Buffalo, Western and New York Committees on board, came down in fine style, and the thunder of cannon proclaimed that the work was done, and the assembled multitude made the welkin ring with shouts of gladness. It was not a monarch which they hailed, but it was the majesty of genius, supported by a free people, that rode in triumph and commanded the admiration of men stout of heart and firm of purpose."

At 11 o'clock the procession was formed and paraded through the principal streets of the city, under the direction of Welcome Esleeck, John Tayler, James Gibbons and Francis I. Bradt, Marshal of the day. After the procession reached the Capitol, impressive services were held. An ode, written for the occasion by John Augustus Stone, of the Albany Theatre, was sung. Addresses were made by Philip Howe, of New York; William James,

Chairman of the Committee of Citizens of Albany; and Lieutenant-Governor Tallmadge. The exercises were followed by a magnificent collation, provided for the guests by the citizens of Albany at the Columbia-street Bridge. In the evening a grand ball was held at Knickerbocker Hall, where, as was said by an eye-witness, was congregated the beauty of the city, and the expression of sparkling eyes evinced that "the last, best gift to man" felt a deep interest in the prosperity and glory of the State.

Everything pertaining to the celebration of this great event was conducted in the best manner and commensurate with the greatness of the project. To Albany in a special degree was the opening of the Erie Canal a great blessing. On its commercial advancement it had a wonderful beneficent influence. A few years after its completion the editor of the *Daily Advertiser* asserted that the wholesale business of the city had quadrupled during the two years since the opening of the canal, and that Albany merchants had opened a direct business with the manufacturers of Europe. The construction of railroads has materially lessened the commerce of the canals, but still it forms an important factor in Albany's commercial activities.

The dates of the annual opening and closing of this canal will be valuable for reference: 1824, opened April 30, closed December 4; 1825, April 12, December 5; 1826, April 20, December 18; 1827, April 22, December 18; 1828, March 27, December 20; 1829, May 2, December 17; 1830, April 20, December 17; 1831, April 16, December 1; 1832, April 25, December 21; 1833, April 19, December 12; 1834, April 17, December 12; 1835, April 15, November 30; 1836, April 25, November 26; 1837, April 20, December 9; 1838, April 12, November 25; 1839, April 20, December 16; 1840, April 20, December 9; 1841, April 24, November 30; 1842, April 20, November 28; 1843, May 1, November 30; 1844, April 18, November 26; 1845, April 15, November 29; 1846, April 16, November 25; 1847, May 1, November 30; 1848, May 1, December 9; 1849, May 1, December 5; 1850, April 22, December 11; 1851, April 15, December 5; 1852, April 20, December 16; 1853, April 20, December 20; 1854, May 1, December 3; 1855, May 1, December 10; 1856, May 5, December 4; 1857, May 6, December 15; 1858, April 28, December 8; 1859, April 15, December 12; 1860, April 25, December 12; 1861, May 1, December 10; 1862, May 1, December 10; 1863, May 1, December 9; 1864, April 30, December 8; 1865, May 1, December 12; 1866, May 1, December 12; 1867, May 6, December 20; 1868, May 4, December 7; 1869, May 6, December 10; 1870, May 10, December 8; 1871, April 24, December 1; 1872, May 13, December 1; 1873, May 15, December 5; 1874, May 5, December 5; 1875, May 18, November 30; 1876, May 4, December 1; 1877, May 8, December 7; 1878, April 15, December 7; 1879, April 8, December 6; 1880, April 16, November 21; 1881, May 12, December 8; 1882, April 11, December 7; 1883, May 7, December 1; 1884, May 6, December 1; 1885, May 11, December 1.

ALBANY INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The Albany Insurance Company was incorporated March 8, 1811, and authorized "to make all kinds of insurance against fire, upon the inland transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, marine insurance, and insurance upon life or lives, by way of tontine or otherwise, and generally to do and perform all matters and things relating to the said objects." The first Directors were Elisha Jenkins, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Isaiah Townsend, Dudley Walsh, Henry Guest, Jr., Charles Z. Platt, Simeon De Witt, Stephen Lush, Charles D. Cooper, Thomas Gould, John Woodworth, Peter Gansevoort, and Christian Miller. The shares were \$100 each and not to exceed 5,000 in number. Its duration was placed at twenty years. In 1828 the charter was extended to 1851, and the capital stock reduced from \$500,000 to \$300,000, and each share from \$100 to \$60.

The first President of this Company was Isaiah Townsend. He was succeeded, in 1844, by Teunis Van Vechten. Garret Y. Lansing, Rufus H. King, and Harmon Pumpelly were, in the order named, Presidents at different periods. J. Howard King, the present President, was elected in 1882.

The first Secretary was Gideon Hawley, who held the office for many years. He was succeeded by John E. Lovett, who held this position for fourteen years. In 1847 Stephen Groesbeck was elected, and was followed by Theodore Townsend, who is now Vice-President of the Company. The present Secretary is John E. McElroy.

This company has always been regarded as one of the best institutions of its kind in the State. Its affairs have been so conducted as to merit and retain public confidence. During an existence of three quarters of a century, it has had as directors and officers many of the best business men of Albany. During the years 1847 and 1848, the period of the greatest fire that ever visited this city, it paid out \$367,000 in insurance in Albany and elsewhere without material injury to the company, a fact showing its financial solidity.

The Merchants' Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated April 7, 1824, with a capital stock of \$250,000, to be divided into shares of \$25 each. The first Directors were Allen Brown, James G. Mather, James B. Douglass, Ralph Pratt, Silvanus P. Jermain, Peter Bain, Jellis Winne, Jr., Thomas Herring, Spencer Stafford, Erastus Corning, John Willard, William Fowler, William McHarg, James Mabbett, John T. Norton, Ephraim Wikler, Jr., Friend Humphrey, Alexander Marvin, Nicholas Devereaux, Ephraim Hart, Eleazer Hills, Richard M. Bayley, Asa H. Center, Willard Warker, William Durant, Joshua Tuffs, David E. Evans, Thaddeus Joy, John Stillwell, Benjamin F. Butler, and Thomas W. Olcott.

The first President of this Company was Charles E. Dudley. He was succeeded by Russel Forsyth. John W. Ford was made Secretary. The exact length of time this company was in existence we were unable to learn, but in 1844 it was still doing business in this city.

The Clinton Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated May 4, 1829, with a capital stock of \$300,000 in \$100 shares. The first Directors were Francis Bloodgood, Isaac W. Staats, James McKoun, Oliver Kane, Peter Gansevoort, S. De Witt Bloodgood, William C. Miller, Samuel Pruyn, John B. Van Schaick, Richard Varick De Witt, Joshua J. King, William Seymour, Charles D. Townsend, Gerrit W. Ryckman, and Elihu Russel. The duration of the charter was twenty-one years. Whether this company ever went into active operation we do not learn.

The Fireman's Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated April 23, 1831. The books for subscription were opened January 1, 1832, when \$112,000 was subscribed in six hours. James Stevenson was its first President and Richard Van Rensselaer, Secretary. The first Directors were George J. Loomis, Enoch McCammen, James Stevenson, Lansing Pruyn, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Harmanus S. Van Ingen, Dyer Lathrop, Lansing G. Taylor, Abraham F. Wilson, George Young, Thomas McElroy, Levi Silliman, Philo Booth, and Aaron V. Fryer. The same, with the exception of James Stevenson, were commissioners to receive subscriptions to the capital stock, which was fixed at \$150,000 in 15,000 shares. Its charter was to run until June 1, 1861. January 18, 1849, the company was authorized, in order to make good the impairment of its capital occasioned by a fire on August 17, 1848, to call upon the stockholders for such sums as would make the capital equal to the sum required in the charter. This it seems the stockholders were unable or unwilling to do, and business was in consequence suspended.

The Mutual Insurance Company of the City and County—office No. 446 Broadway. This company was organized in 1836, under the General Insurance Law of the State of New York, on the mutual plan. The following gentlemen were the original incorporators: Barent P. Staats, Rufus Brown, Christopher Hepinsall, Eli Gould, James L'Amoreaux, Levi Phillips, Daniel Conklin, Jr., Eli Perry, Matthew Brown, John Hermans, Gaylor Sheldon, and John Van Valkenburgh. The company insures for a small cash premium, receiving from its patrons premium notes as additional payment. Its note capital now amounts to about half a million dollars. These notes are liable to assessment to pay fire losses in case all other assets are exhausted. The assets of the company, other than its premium notes, amount at this date to about \$125,000, which is invested in United States Government bonds and real estate, beside cash on hand for immediate use in case of fire. In 1848 the charter of the company was amended by an act of the Legislature, granting the company the right to issue policies for a cash consideration only, and without a premium note. The present Board of Directors of the Company comprise some of the most prominent citizens of Albany, and are:

Henry H. Martin, John F. Rathbone, William McElroy, Daniel Weidman, George Cuyler, Edmund I. Judson, Archibald McClure, Edgar Cotrell, Benjamin F. Baker, Daniel Leonard, George

H. Treadwell, James M. Warner, and David A. Thompson.

The present officers of the company are: President, Henry H. Martin (elected Director in 1846); Vice-President and Treasurer, George Cuyler (elected Treasurer in 1852); Secretary, George N. Cuyler (elected in 1872).

The Commerce Insurance Company was organized 1859, with a capital of \$200,000. Its capital was increased to \$400,000 in 1865, and reduced to \$200,000 in 1871, because of losses in the great Chicago fire of that year.

The following are the officers since organization—Presidents: Silas B. Hamilton, 1859-61; Adam Van Allen, 1861-84; Garret A. Van Allen, elected 1884. Vice-Presidents: Adam Van Allen, 1859-61; Thomas Schuyler, 1861-66; Garret A. Van Allen, 1866-84; Chauncey P. Williams, 1884. Secretaries: Garret A. Van Allen, 1859; Robert M. Hamilton, 1866; Richard V. DeWitt, elected 1872. Present Officers: Garret A. Van Allen, President; Chauncey P. Williams, Vice-President; Richard V. DeWitt, Secretary.

The office of this company is at 57 State street, in the Commerce Insurance Building. It enjoys public confidence and patronage in a large degree. Since its organization it has paid over \$2,500,000 of losses by fire.

The Albany City Insurance Company was organized December 8, 1860, with a cash capital of \$100,000. The office of this company was first located at 446 Broadway, afterward removed to the old Museum Building. The first President was William Tillinghast. In 1869 he was succeeded by John V. L. Pruyn. Colonel Frank Chamberlain succeeded Mr. Pruyn in 1874. The first Secretary was John H. Rice, who was followed by W. A. Young in 1869, the latter remaining as such until 1874, when James F. Cassidy was elected. At the present time this company is not in existence.

The Capitol City Insurance Company was incorporated in 1865 with a capital of \$200,000. Frank Chamberlain was its first and only President. It was continued but a few years.

The Atlantic Mutual Life Insurance Company was incorporated in 1869. Robert H. Pruyn was elected President and Louis B. Smith, Secretary. In 1874 Walter Brown was made Secretary. Soon after 1874 it ceased to do business.

A great many first-class foreign insurance companies do business in Albany. The insurance agents and brokers generally are men of business, energy and integrity. Some of them are known among the leading men of Albany in most matters of public enterprise and interest.

THE ALBANY PROTECTIVES, OR INSURANCE PATROL.

This organization was effected April, 1872, and by act of Legislature incorporated March 20, 1873. First duty performed September 20, 1872.

This organization is supported entirely by the Albany Board of Underwriters, and is no expense to the City of Albany. They are looked upon by the citizens as indispensable, and by the Chief and

Fire Commissioners as a valuable auxiliary to the Fire Department.

They formerly occupied the premises No. 41 Hudson avenue, and for the first thirteen years were cramped for room, as no available location could be secured. In 1884 they leased from the Hon. Erastus Corning, 21 and 23 Howard street, and to-day they have a house second to none in the country. The Superintendent, Mr. J. N. Foster, has been with them since its organization, and Superintendent since 1874; previous to that time Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Thomas Austin being the chief officer up to 1874.

The company consists of eight men, seven men being on duty each night. They carry fire extinguishers, rubber covers, brooms, scrapers, lanterns, axes, ropes, ladders and other necessary articles for the extinguishment of fires. They have been known to have spread at one fire alone 36,000 square feet of canvas, thereby saving a vast amount of property. They removed at one fire \$70,000 worth of property, consisting of leather stock, and it is estimated by those interested that the patrol save many times their cost of running each year.

The present roll consists of the following: J. N. Foster, Superintendent; William Scheffer, E. J. Dayton, W. H. Kingsbury, James R. Melick, F. H. Weatherwax, B. E. Crehan, R. R. Coleman.

Officers of the Albany Board of Underwriters: A. Douw Lansing, President; Stephen L. Foster, Vice-President; A. E. Batchelder, Secretary; Frederick B. Hubbard, Treasurer.

BANKS AND BANKERS.

An account of the rise and progress of banking institutions in Albany forms a very interesting chapter in the history of this city. Here the second bank chartered in the State and the fourth in the Union was established, and here have dwelt and operated many of the foremost bankers in the early history of this country. A history of the banking interests of Albany from 1792 to the present, shows the progressive strides in the city's trade, manufactures, and commerce made in nearly a century's growth.

For some time preceding the year 1792, the need of a banking institution for the northern part of the State was apparent to the capitalists of this section. In Albany the scheme was much discussed. A few had much faith in it, while many violently opposed the enterprise. On the 3d of February, 1792, a meeting was called at Lewis's Tavern to discuss the project. At this meeting were gathered the leading capitalists of Albany at that date. There was but one bank in the State, the Bank of New York, the stock of which was 50 per cent. above par. It was decided that the interests of the northern part of the State required the location of a bank at Albany. Some one writing for the newspapers at this period, confidently asserted that a hundred thousand dollars could be subscribed for the new project in the city alone; but it was liberally resolved that the neighboring places should be permitted to share in the honors and emolu-

ments of the enterprise. At a subsequent meeting the outlines of a plan for the establishment of a bank were presented. It was decided that the name of the institution should be the Albany Bank; the capital \$75,000, to be divided into 500 shares of 150 each, \$15 to be paid on subscribing, and the remainder in three instalments; thirteen Directors to constitute the Board of Directors, nine of whom should be residents of Albany. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Jacob Van Derheyden, and Barret Bleeker were to open the books for subscriptions in the week following, and to close them as soon as 500 shares should be subscribed. February 17th the books were opened, and the stock was over-run in amount in less than three hours. After the books were closed, offers of 10 per cent. advance were made on the stock; and, on the Saturday following, it rose to 100 per cent. cash. Application was immediately made to the Legislature for a charter, and here the project received considerable opposition from the law-makers of that day. As the prospects of a charter being secured became more or less doubtful, the price of the stock rose or fell, creating no little excitement and speculation in this region, where stock transactions were quite a novelty. At one time it is said to have stood at \$100 premium on a share upon which only \$15 had been paid.

Towards the close of the session, by the most strenuous efforts of the friends of the enterprise, the act of incorporation became a law. The first election of Directors was held June 12th, at the City Tavern, and resulted as follows: Abraham Ten Broeck, Cornelius Glen, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, John Maley, Abraham Van Vechten, Henry Cuyler, John Stephenson, James Caldwell, Jacob Van Derheyden, Goldsboro Banyar, Daniel Hale, and Elkanah Watson. The last-named was, as in all public matters, the first in the project and the most active lobbyist.

At a meeting of the Directors, Abraham Ten Broeck was elected President. The bank was opened for deposits on the 16th of July, and began to discount on the 17th. The rate of interest was six per cent. In September, notice was given that notes of 45 days only would be discounted. The act of incorporation limited the capital stock to \$60,000, each share to be 400 Spanish milled dollars, or its equivalent.

In February, 1794, in accordance with the provisions of the charter, the capital of the bank was increased \$540,000, in 135 shares of \$400 each. By subsequent enactments of the Legislature, and by subscriptions on the part of the State, the capital of the bank was increased to \$320,000, and it continued at that amount until 1820, when the sum of \$100 on each share was returned to the stockholders, thus reducing the capital of the bank one-fourth. In 1832, the charter of the bank was extended to January, 1855, when, for the purpose of more widely diffusing the stock, the par value of the stock was reduced to the sum of thirty dollars, and the number of shares proportionately increased.

The Albany Bank was first located in an old-fashioned Dutch edifice in North Pearl street,

third north of State street. In February, 1794, the bank erected a building on the lot now north of the Merchants' Bank, and remained there until 1810. In 1810 the bank was removed to a new building, erected by the bank on the corner of State and Broadway, which was occupied until 1832, when it was torn down for the purpose of widening State street. In 1832 the bank was removed to No. 42 State street, where it was located until the present Merchants' National Bank building was erected. Here the bank remained until its failure in 1861.

The Presidents of this bank from 1792 to 1861 were: Abraham Ten Broeck, 1792-98; Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1798-1806; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, 1806-10; Dudley Walsh, 1810-14; John Van Schaick, 1814-20; Barret Bleeker, 1820-40; Jacob H. Ten Eyck, 1840-61. During this period of seventy years there were only four cashiers, namely: Garrit W. Van Schwaick, 1792-1815; John Van Zandt, 1815-32; Jellis Winne, Jr., 1832-49; E. E. Kendrick, 1849-61.

James Van Ingen and Harmanus P. Schuyler were the first clerks. Elkanah Watson was one of the most efficient advocates of the establishment of this bank, and to his tact, experience, and business habits, it in no small way was indebted for its early success. The affairs of the bank were long managed with prudence and ability, and at one time in proportion to its capital, it possessed more specie than any other bank in the country. For years among Albanians when anything was called "as good as the Bank of Albany," it was considered good enough.

The failure of this bank, May 11, 1861, was a genuine surprise to the people. Just before the failure \$100 shares were sold for \$150, and the utmost confidence prevailed in the institution. Even the President of the Bank, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, was ignorant of the coming disaster, he alone losing \$100,000. It would be hard to attribute its failure to any particular cause. It was a combination of difficulties under which four Albany banks failed this year. A general stagnation of business and the unsettled state of the country caused by the war, made the year 1861 a memorable one in the financial affairs of Albany. Abraham Van Allen was appointed receiver of the bank. At the time of the failure the capital of this bank was \$540,000.

New York State Bank.—This bank owed its origin almost wholly to the exertions of Elkanah Watson. It was incorporated and went into operation with a capital of \$460,000 in 1803. Its original Directors consisted of the State Comptroller, Elisha Jenkins, John Tayler, Thomas Tillotson, Abraham G. Lansing, Peter Gansevoort, Elkanah Watson, John R. Bleeker, Francis Bloodgood, John Robison, Gilbert Stewart, John De Peyster Douw, Richard Lush and Thomas Mather.

At a meeting of the Directors on March 25, 1803, John Tayler was chosen President, and John W. Yates, Cashier. It commenced business Wednesday, September 7th.

In 1804, the lot where the present bank stands was purchased of Isaiah Townsend, and the erection

of the new banking building commenced. This was completed and first occupied May 10, 1804. This building is still standing, presenting in front almost the appearance of its primitive days. Philip Hooker was the architect.

The opposition to the establishment of this bank was very bitter, and when the bill for its incorporation was before the Legislature, the opponents of the project made strenuous efforts to defeat it. It was openly charged at the time that money was used by both friends and opponents to corrupt members of the Legislature. The capitalists interested in the Bank of Albany were especially opposed to the new bank; nor did their opposition cease after it was incorporated and commenced business; the Directors of the Bank of Albany even carrying their spite so far as to refuse to supply the new bank with paper on which to print their first notes.

By the act of incorporation, the State had the right to subscribe 3,000 shares in this bank. It was further provided that the Comptroller should be one of the Directors.

John Tayler continued President until his death in 1829. He was succeeded by Francis Bloodgood, who died in 1840, the last survivor of the original Board of Directors. Rufus H. King was elected President in 1840, and remained as such until his death in 1867. He was succeeded by General Franklin Townsend. J. Howard King was elected President in 1874 and still retains this position. Mr. Yates died in 1828, and was succeeded as Cashier by his son, Richard Yates, whose successor was Aaron D. Patchin. J. B. Plumb succeeded Mr. Patchin, who was succeeded by John H. Van Antwerp. The present Cashier is D. W. Wemple.

In 1850 the charter of the bank expired, when it closed up its business, paying back to its stockholders their capital with a handsome surplus. Under the same name, with new articles of association, and under the general banking laws of the State, it commenced business on January 1, 1851. Nearly all the old stockholders subscribed for equal amounts in the new association. In 1849 the capital of this bank was reduced to \$369,000. The new bank began with a capital of \$350,000, and at present is in a flourishing condition.

The Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, the third bank established in Albany, was incorporated March 4, 1811, and opened for business July 29, 1811. By the act of incorporation, the following were named as Directors: Samuel Southwick, Benjamin Knower, Elisha Dorr, Isaac Denniston, Benjamin Van Benthuyzen, William Fowler, George Merchant, Thomas Livingston, Giles W. Porter, Willard Walker, Walter Weed, Peter Boyd, Isaac Hutton, Spencer Stafford and John Bryan. This bank was chartered ostensibly for the benefit of the mechanics and farmers of Albany County, and its charter provided that none but farmers and mechanics should be elected as bank officers; but some years after, application was made to the Legislature for an amendment to the charter, so as to authorize the election of President and Directors without reference to the pursuits or employments in which they may have been engaged. The banking-house

was first located in what was then known as No. 6 Court street (now Broadway), on the site of the present Post-office building. The building now occupied by this bank, on the northeast corner of State and James streets, was erected a few years ago.

A peculiar feature connected with the early history of this bank, and by the stockholders looked upon with suspicion, was the fact that all the original directors were Democrats in their political sympathies. The first election of Directors occurred June 1, 1812. It was generally understood among the stockholders, for some time preceding this election, that two Federalists would be chosen; but whose seats should be vacated for their admission was not so easily agreed upon. The election opened at 10 o'clock at Columbia Hotel in Court street, and was continued to a late hour in the afternoon. It was a warm and animated contest, and finally resulted in the election of the original Directors with the exception of Spencer Stafford and John Bryan, who were superseded by Peter Boyd and Isaac Hutton, Federalists.

The first President was Solomon Southwick, who filled the office until 1813, when he was succeeded by Isaac Hutton. Isaac Hutton was succeeded by Benjamin Knower in 1817, who remained President until 1834, when financial embarrassments having caused his resignation, he was succeeded by Charles E. Dudley as President *pro tem.*, February 3, 1834. At the election in June of this year, Ezra Ames was elected President and Charles E. Dudley, Vice-President. This seems to have been the first Vice-President ever elected by this bank. Ezra Ames filled the office of President until 1836, when Thomas W. Olcott having resigned the office of Cashier, was elected President, which office he held until his death in 1880. As a Clerk, Cashier and President Mr. Thomas W. Olcott had been connected with the bank for the long period of sixty-nine years, besides two or three years passed in the Columbia Bank of Hudson, N. Y., a period of time almost beyond parallel in this country. At his death, in 1880, he was succeeded by his son Dudley, who is now President. There is no record of the election of a Vice-President from the date of the death of Charles E. Dudley in 1841, until 1844, when Samuel S. Fowler was chosen. He was succeeded by William H. DeWitt, who held this office until January 1, 1853, the date of the expiration of the charter of the old Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. From this period, until June, 1865, the bank had no Vice-President, when Mr. Thomas Olcott, resigning the position of Cashier, was elected Vice-President, which office he held until his death in 1873. From this date until January 1, 1879, there was no election of Vice-President, when Dudley Olcott having resigned as Cashier was elected to that office. He held it until March, 1880, when he was succeeded by John J. Olcott, who now holds the position.

Gorham A. Worth was the first Cashier, which position he held until 1817, when he resigned to accept the office of Cashier of the Branch Bank of the United States, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Thomas W. Olcott was appointed to the vacancy and held the position until June 7, 1836, when he was succeeded by E. E. Kendrick. E. E. Kendrick held the office until February 23, 1849, when he was succeeded by Thomas Olcott, who resigned the position in June, 1865.

Dudley Olcott was his successor in the office, until January 1, 1879, when he was succeeded by George G. Davidson.

At the time of the appointment of Thomas W. Olcott as Cashier, in 1817, the bank's capital had become impaired, owing to the financial troubles growing out of the depression following the close of the last war with Great Britain; but from this date, the financial history of the bank has been one of unvarying prosperity.

The aggregate amount of dividends paid since the organization of the bank is \$3,600,000, which will average about 15 per cent. since 1811, besides a surplus of \$650,000 at date. At the expiration of the charter of the old bank, January 1, 1853, the stockholders received about 115 per cent., besides their stock in the new bank, which was \$350,000. The capital of the old bank at this date was \$442,000, divided in shares of \$17 each.

The first charter of this bank expired in 1833 and was renewed for twenty years. In 1853, upon the expiration of its second charter, it closed up its affairs, dividing, besides the par value of its stock, fifty per cent. surplus, and went into operation again with its same officers.

During the War of the Rebellion it again wound up its affairs and came under the National Bank system, which, however, it abandoned in 1868, and is now doing business under the general banking laws of the State. This bank has been conducted with signal ability and success.

Mr. T. W. Olcott, by general consent, was the great banker of Albany. He was the son of Josiah Olcott, of Stratford, Connecticut. Born at Hudson, N. Y., May 22, 1795; died in Albany, March 23, 1880. He came to Albany as Clerk in the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank at its opening, July 29, 1811, and continued as Cashier from July, 1817; as President from June, 1836. During his long career as a banker—for nearly seventy years—with singular devotion, he attained a reputation as a bank financier second to no one in the country, and left large wealth and a name greatly honored for benevolent deeds, broad public spirit and exalted integrity. In 1863 he declined a flattering offer from President Lincoln, of the position of First Comptroller of the Currency; but he declined all public office except such as related to the promotion of education or other local interests. He leaves one daughter and five sons: Dudley and John J., now President and Vice-President of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, Frederick P., late State Comptroller; and Alexander and Theodore, of Corning, N. Y.

The Commercial Bank of Albany is another of the old and successful financial institutions of the city. The first movement towards its incorporation was made November 19, 1823, when notice was given by Joseph Alexander, George W. Stanton,

Alexander Davidson, and David E. Gregory, that an application would be made to the Legislature for the incorporation of the Commercial Bank of Albany, with a capital of \$500,000.

On the 21st day of January, 1824, a bill for its incorporation, to expire July 1, 1842, was reported from the Committee on Banks and Insurance Companies, and passed the Assembly January 29, 1824, but was defeated in the Senate.

The following year the application was renewed, and this time with success, for the bill, granting a charter to expire July 1, 1845, passed both branches of the Legislature April 4th, and became a law April 12th, 1825.

The capital stock was fixed at three hundred thousand dollars, divided into shares of twenty dollars each.

The following were named as Commissioners in the bill, and constituted the first Board of Directors. William Walker, Joshua Tuffs, George W. Stanton, Lewis Benedict, William Cook, David E. Gregory, Seth Hastings, Ira Jenkins, Joseph Alexander, Robert Gilchrist, Richard Marvin, John Townsend, Asa H. Center.

The early days of the bank were not peaceful. The petition for its incorporation had been signed by hundreds of men of small means, representing the middle classes, who urged the grant of a charter on the ground that the stock of the three existing banks was principally held by men who had retired from business, and a new institution would be of great advantage to the mercantile and manufacturing interests of the city.

The stock books having been opened for a subscription of \$300,000 in May, 1825, they were closed after three days, when the amount subscribed was found to be \$1,500,000. The stock not having been distributed to the satisfaction of all the subscribers, the Commissioners were charged with defeating the public expectation, and indignation was aroused to such an extent, that a public meeting was called at the Capitol, June 10, 1825.

This meeting was largely attended, and was presided over by Colonel John Stilwell. No action seems to have been taken at this meeting to remedy the supposed unequal distribution of the stock, but in view of the large amount of surplus capital sought to be invested in bank stock, it was suggested that it might be expedient to apply for another bank, to which the subscription of any individual should be strictly limited to fifty shares of twenty-five dollars each.

The Directors of the Bank were, for a time, enjoined from opening; but August 29, 1826, the Chancellor decided that the bank might go into operation so far as to issue bills and discount notes, but prohibited any transfer of stock, or making any loan or pledges on stock.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at Knickerbocker Hall on the evening of May 23, 1826, at which all the Directors, with the exception of William Cook, were present. At this meeting the Board was organized and Joseph Alexander elected President. July 13, 1826, Henry Bartow was appointed Cashier.

The bank began business September 5, 1826, with a capital of \$300,000, and continued until the expiration of its charter, on July 1, 1845, and under an extension of its charter until July 1, 1847, when it was reorganized under the General Banking Law of the State. The capital stock was increased to \$500,000, February 1, 1855.

On May 31, 1865, the bank was chartered under the Act of Congress as a National institution, and was reorganized and began business under that act August 1, 1865. It continued under this charter for twenty years, until May 31, 1885, when an extension of the charter was granted to May 31, 1905.

June 10, 1875, the capital was reduced to \$300,000, shares \$100 each, the amount of the reduction being paid to the stockholders. On January 13, 1880, the number of Directors was reduced to nine.

Mr. Alexander was succeeded in the office of President by the following persons, who were elected at the dates given: John Townsend, June 7, 1832; John L. Schoolcraft, August 31, 1854; Ezra P. Prentice, June 13, 1860; Robert H. Pruyn, November 24, 1875; Daniel Manning, March 4, 1882; Robert C. Pruyn, May 23, 1885. Vice-Presidents: Seth Hastings, June 18, 1836; John L. Schoolcraft, October 28, 1839; Andrew White, June 16, 1855. The death of Andrew White, in 1857, made a vacancy in the office until the election of Robert H. Pruyn, November 2, 1872; Robert L. Johnson, November 24, 1875; Daniel Manning, April 9, 1881; Robert C. Pruyn, March 4, 1882; Nathan B. Perry, February 28, 1885.

The following Cashiers have been appointed: Henry Bartow, July 13, 1826; James Taylor, November 2, 1835; Andrew White, March 17, 1854; Powers L. Green, June 16, 1855; Visscher Ten Eyck, July 7, 1858; Eliphalet Wickes, August 11, 1862; James Martin, February 24, 1866; Edward A. Groesbeck, April 30, 1873.

This bank has been the depository of the State funds during the greater part of its existence, and continuously for nearly sixty years, with the exception of two years, when the Know-Nothing party was in power. It has rendered very valuable service to the State in the safe keeping of its moneys, and in providing funds for the maintenance of the various departments of the Government when needed. It has also for some years been the depository of the city funds. The present capital is \$300,000; surplus and profit, \$510,000.

The bank from its organization has occupied its present location at Nos. 38 and 40 State street. The building was erected in 1816, and was used for some years as the Adelphi Hotel, a well-known establishment in those days. The banking-rooms were at first located on the second floor, and continued there until the remodeling of the building in 1851, when the addition now occupied was built. At this time the upper stories of the front building were refitted for the Young Men's Association and the lower floor turned into stores. Previous to this change the building had been occupied by the Commercial Bank, and the Albany City and

Canal Banks. The building was refitted in 1876, and the banking-rooms refurnished and improved.

Canal Bank.—This institution was incorporated in 1829, with a capital of \$300,000. The first Directors were John T. Norton, Jeremiah Clark, Edward C. Delavan, Lyman Root, Israel Smith, John I. Godfrey, Aaron Thorpe, David Wood, Henry L. Webb, James Goold, Alexander Marvin, Edwin Crosswell, James Porter, Richard V. De Witt, Lyman Chapin.

From 1829 to 1835 John T. Norton was President. John Keyes Paige succeeded him, who a short time after was followed by Joseph Russell. The last President was Robert Hunter. Theodore Olcott was the first and only Cashier of this Bank.

The failure of this bank in July, 1848, was memorable as the first failure of a banking institution in Albany. It was closed by order of the Comptroller, and a commission appointed to examine into the affairs of the bank. At the time suspicions of fraud on the part of the bank officers were entertained by the people, but an investigation failed to reveal such a state of affairs.

The Albany City Bank was incorporated April 30, 1834, with a capital of \$500,000.

The Commissioners were: Erastus Corning, Chauncey Humphrey, Martin Van Alstyne, John Knower, Samuel S. Fowler, John L. Schoolcraft, William Seymour, Peter Wendell, Garret W. Ryckman, Anthony Blanchard, William Smith, Thomas M. Burt, Albert Gallup.

The bank commenced business October 1, 1834, with the following officers: Erastus Corning, President; Samuel S. Fowler, Vice-President; Watts Sherman, Cashier.

The City Bank at that time was located on the south side of State street, in the Commercial Bank Building, No. 38. At that time the Commercial Bank was upstairs on the second floor. The stairs and hall divided the building. The City Bank occupied the east side; the Commercial Bank the west side.

Charles L. Garfield, of Troy, was appointed Clerk in October, 1836. In June, 1837, he was appointed Teller, in place of Moses B. Wright, resigned, a position he has held up to the present time.

About 1840 the City Bank bought from Joel Rathbone his store, 47 State street, which was converted into a bank building. It was then the finest bank building in this part of the country.

Watts Sherman continued as Cashier till 1847, when, his health failing, the Directors granted him three months vacation to visit Europe. Henry L. Lansing, late Assistant-Cashier of the Ontario Bank, N. Y., took his place during his absence. October, 1850, John V. L. Pruyn was elected Vice-President.

July, 1851, Watts Sherman resigned as Cashier. Henry H. Martin was elected in his place.

In 1857, during the heavy panic, the Albany City Bank suspended specie payment, but not until all the banks in New York City had suspended.

The Albany City Bank charter expired January 1, 1864, and was immediately reorganized under

the New York State Banking Laws, with the same capital, \$500,000, and the same officers.

Before closing the new State organization, it was resolved by the Board of Directors to pay the stockholders 80 per cent.—in addition to their regular dividends of 4 per cent. semi-annually—amounting to four hundred thousand dollars. Forty per cent. payable April 1, 1864; twenty per cent. payable October 1, 1864; and twenty per cent. payable October 1, 1865.

June 1, 1865, the Albany City Bank organized as a National Bank under the corporate name of the Albany City National Bank, still retaining the same officers and capital. Ninety thousand dollars of the undivided profits of the old Albany City Bank was carried as a surplus fund of the new National Bank. December, 1870, Henry H. Martin resigned as Cashier, and Amos P. Palmer was elected in his place. By the death of Erastus Corning, April, 1872, the bank lost an officer of great and valuable experience, and to whose early care and labor the bank is largely indebted for its success. His son Erastus was elected in his place as President. The death of Ellis Baker, who had been connected with the bank for thirty-five years, occurred March, 1873.

In March, 1873, it was resolved to erect a new banking house on the same ground, 47 State street. E. L. Roberts, an architect from New York, furnished the plans for the present bank building, which is three stories high, with granite front, and one of the finest public edifices in the city. During its building the bank occupied rooms in the Exchange Building, on the north side of the main floor.

June, 1874, the bank moved into the new building. February, 1874, the Board resolved to reduce its capital from \$500,000 to \$300,000.

The death of John V. L. Pruyn, who held the office of Vice-President, and was one of the oldest officers of the bank, occurred in November, 1877. The Hon. Eli Perry was elected in his place.

The present Board of Directors consists of the following, viz.: Erastus Corning, George H. Thacher, A. P. Palmer, Selden E. Marvin, Amasa J. Parker, Robert L. Banks, John V. L. Pruyn, Jr., Amasa J. Parker, Jr., Erastus Corning, Jr.

The Albany Exchange Bank was incorporated in 1838, to continue for 662 years, with a capital of \$311,100, privileged to increase it to \$10,000,000. It was among the earliest associations under the General Banking Act passed in April of that year. Its first Board of Directors was composed of John Q. Wilson, who was elected President, George W. Stanton, Alfred Douglas, Galen Batchelder, Frederick K. Barnard, Lansing G. Taylor, John Thomas, Robert Hunter, Oliver Steele, Henry Greene, John M. Newton, James McNaughton, Giles Sanford, Samuel Stevens, Robert L. Noyes. Soon after organization, and before business was commenced, John Q. Wilson and Robert Hunter resigned as Directors, and Ichabod L. Judson and Gaylor Sheldon were appointed to fill the vacancies. A vacancy thus occurring in the office of President, George W. Stanton was elected Presi-

dent, which office he filled until his death in April, 1849.

The early history of this bank is a record of unfortunate speculations. Notably was the purchase of \$50,000 of the bonds of Arkansas, which proved worthless, thus rendering one-sixth of the actual capital of the bank wholly unavailable and unproductive. Besides this loss much money was lost by other bank failures. So severely had the bank suffered by losses, that at the outbreak of the Civil War its stock was offered at seventy cents on the dollar without finding buyers. But by careful management on the part of its officers, they managed to carry on its business, and when the affairs of the bank were wound up in 1865, preparatory to forming a National Bank, a creditable showing of its financial affairs was made. This was mainly accomplished by the wise efforts of C. P. Williams, the present President.

Samuel Pruyn succeeded Mr. Stanton as Cashier, and remained in this position until a National Bank was formed. The first Cashier of this Bank was Noah Lee, who was succeeded in 1853 by James M. Lovett, who in turn was succeeded by Chauncey P. Williams.

The Exchange Bank closed its business as a State association January 31, 1865, and the National Exchange Bank of Albany, having been organized for that purpose, succeeded to its business, and has done a prosperous and lucrative business ever since. Its capital is \$300,000. Located at 450 Broadway.

The first President of this Bank was William Gould. He was succeeded by Ichabod L. Judson, who in turn was followed by Chauncey P. Williams. Mr. Williams was succeeded by Stephen H. Allen. In 1875, Chauncey P. Williams became President, and has most acceptably filled this position ever since. His entire connection with the banking institutions of Albany has been most creditable.

The first Cashier of this Bank was Chauncey P. Williams. In 1875, Thomas L. Scott was Cashier until his death in 1881, when he was succeeded by Jonas H. Brooks, the present Cashier.

The Merchants' Bank was incorporated January 19, 1853, under the general banking law, with a capital of \$250,000. The first Board of Directors was composed of John Tweddle, Billings P. Learned, Richard Van Rensselaer, Matthew J. Hallenbeck, Gilbert L. Wilson, Maurice E. Viele, Henry P. Pulling, Joseph N. Bullock, John Sill.

It began business at No. 59 State street, April 7, 1853, with John Tweddle, President, and John Sill, Cashier.

It became a National Bank April 22, 1865, and is now known as the Merchants' National Bank. In 1869 it removed its location to its present quarters, 458 Broadway. In 1876, Richard Van Rensselaer became President. He was succeeded by J. Wilbur Tillinghast. Nathan D. Wendell was made Cashier in 1869, and was succeeded by J. Irving Wendell in 1874. Present capital, \$200,000.

Union Bank.—This institution was first organized under the general banking law as the Bank of the

Union, June 8, 1853. It began business January 1, 1854, at No. 35 State street, with a capital of \$250,000. The first Board of Directors was composed of Billings P. Learned, Gilbert C. Davidson, William N. Strong, Chauncey Vibbard, Amos P. Palmer, Charles Coates, George H. Thacher, William L. Learned, John H. Reynolds, Daniel D. T. Charles, Alfred Wild, Le Roy Mowry and Adam Cottrell. Billings P. Learned was the first President of this Bank, holding the position from the date of its organization to the time of his death, April 16, 1884, when he was succeeded by his son, Billings P. Learned.

Mr. Learned was born in Norwich, Connecticut, June 24, 1813; graduated from Yale College in 1834; studied law and practiced his profession for a short time at Lockport, N. Y., but soon after abandoned it on account of poor health. He afterward engaged in business at Troy for a short time, and then removed to Albany and engaged in the manufacture of stoves with George H. Thacher. When the Union Bank was established he was elected its President, and as a banker was known and respected for integrity and upright business habits.

John F. Batchelder was the first Cashier of this Bank, until he resigned in 1857, when he was succeeded by Adam Van Allen, who resigned in 1861, succeeded by Amos P. Palmer.

In the early part of the year 1865, the stockholders of the Union Bank decided to abandon their organization under the State law, and organize under the National Bank Act; and March 8, 1865, it was authorized to continue business, under the title of the Union National Bank of Albany, for twenty years. At the expiration of its charter, March 8, 1885, by agreement with the stockholders, this bank was satisfactorily closed and its affairs liquidated in full. Shortly after its organization as a National Bank, a bank building was erected at No. 446 Broadway, which was occupied until the expiration of its charter. The last Cashier was James C. Cook, who held this position from 1870.

Bank of the Capitol was incorporated in 1853, and went into operation April 1st of this year, with a capital of \$300,000, on the corner of State and James streets. Its first Directors were Thomas Schuyler, M. H. Read, John G. White, Adam Van Allen, A. D. Shepard, James Van Nostrand, Matthew Vassar, Alfred Noxon and Noah Lee.

The first President was Noah Lee, who was succeeded by Thomas Schuyler, who was followed by John G. White. Horatio G. Gilbert was its first Cashier. He was followed by John Templeton. This bank failed May 18, 1861, when Matthew H. Read was appointed receiver.

National Bank.—This bank went into operation in 1856, at No. 53 State street, with a capital of \$600,000. The first Directors were William E. Bleeker, Albion Ransom, James C. Kennedy, Richard J. Grant, Samuel W. Burnett, Charles Adams and Robert C. Martin. William E. Bleeker was chosen President, and Robert C. Martin, Cashier. Both of these officers remained in their positions until the failure of the bank May 23, 1861, being the last of the four Albany banks which

failed during this month. James Edwards was appointed receiver.

The Bank of the Interior was incorporated under the general banking law in 1857, and went into operation at No. 61 State street July 22d of that year. Josiah B. Plumb, its principal founder, was elected President, and John F. Batchelder, Cashier, both of whom were in office when the bank failed, May 1, 1861. Orlando Meads was made receiver.

The First National Bank of Albany was organized January 26, 1864. Commenced business at its present location, Nos. 35 and 37 State street, February 25, 1864. It was the first bank in Albany organized under the laws of the United States, and became the financial agent of the Government for the receiving and disbursing of its funds in this city and vicinity.

Thomas Schuyler was its first President, Adam Van Allen was its first Cashier. Its first Board of Directors were: Thomas Schuyler, Garret A. Van Allen, Matthew H. Read, Charles H. Adams, Frank Chamberlain. Its capital in 1884 was \$200,000; its surplus, \$207,000. Aggregate amount of dividends paid to stockholders since its organization is \$564,150.

Matthew H. Read was President from 1869 to his death, in 1883, when he was succeeded by Adam Van Allen, who, upon his death, in 1884, was succeeded by Garret A. Van Allen. Ledyard Cogswell is Cashier. The Directors are: Garret A. Van Allen, Albert Wing, Jesse C. Potts, J. Townsend Lansing, Joseph W. Russell.

Hope Bank was incorporated under the general banking law of the State, and commenced business at the corner of James and State streets in 1863. Capital, \$100,000. James Hendrick was made President and William Young, Cashier. It was continued under these officers until 1874, when it was discontinued and its stockholders paid in full. It was succeeded in 1874 by the Hope Banking Company, which was controlled by a Board of Directors. James Hendrick was President of the company. It was discontinued in 1877.

Albany County Bank.—This institution was incorporated under the State banking law, and commenced business May 15, 1871, in Tweddle Hall Building. Removed to present building January 16, 1883. Capital, \$200,000. Its first Board of Directors was composed of Jacob Learned, B. W. Wooster, Theodore D. Smith, A. W. Brumaghin, Royal Bancroft, Elvin Taylor, Francis M. Sill, Cornelius Smith, Joseph Mann, Henry A. Fonda and John Templeton. Jacob Learned was President from 1871 to 1878, when he was succeeded by B. W. Wooster, who still remains. John Templeton has been its only Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS.

Albany Savings Bank.—In 1820, William James, Charles R. Webster, Jesse Buel, John Townsend and Joseph Alexander petitioned the Legislature to be made a corporate body, under the name of the Albany Savings Bank, that they might receive on deposit such sums of money as might be offered by

tradesmen, mechanics and others. An act of incorporation was passed March 25, 1820.

The first officers designated by the act of incorporation, consisted of Stephen Van Rensselaer, President; William James, First Vice-President; Joseph Alexander, Second Vice-President; John Townsend, Third Vice-President; Charles R. Webster, Jesse Buel, Thomas Russell, Volkert P. Douw, William Durant, Douw Fonda, Simeon DeWitt, Peter Boyd, John Spencer, John L. Winne, William McHarg, Matthew Gill, Harmanus Bleecker and Sylvanus P. Jermain, Managers, none of whom received directly or indirectly, pay for their services. The first meeting of these officers was held May 16, 1820, at the Chamber of Commerce room, when Sylvanus P. Jermain was appointed Secretary; and a short time after, John W. Yates was made Treasurer.

The first deposit was made June 10, 1820, the money being received at the New York State Bank, with which the Savings Bank had made arrangements for the safe keeping of its funds. The deposits received this day amounted to \$527. The first depositor was Joseph T. Rice, a silversmith. The arrangements made with the New York State Bank continued until 1828, when a contract was made with the Commercial Bank to keep and invest the funds of the Savings Bank. In 1871 the business of the Savings Bank was conducted in the rooms formerly occupied by the First National Bank. Its present elegant building, No. 89 State street, was erected in 1874-75 and first occupied May 11, 1875.

The business of this institution has been conducted in such a manner as to gain unbounded public confidence. The amount of business done has been steadily on the increase. In the second year of its existence \$14,333 were deposited, representing 297 depositors; in 1849, \$707,595 were deposited, mostly in sums under \$100; in 1874, \$3,456,598; and on the 1st of January, 1885, the deposits in the bank amounted to \$8,237,161.03; the assets, \$9,592,005.18.

Mr. Van Rensselaer was succeeded as President, in 1844, by John Townsend; in 1861, by Garrit Y. Lansing; by Harmon Pumpelly, in 1869; by Henry H. Martin, in 1882.

John W. Yates was succeeded as Treasurer, in 1844, by James Taylor; by Visscher Ten Eyck, 1861; James Martin, 1869; Henry H. Martin, 1874; Theodore Townsend in 1882.

The Albany City Savings Institution was incorporated on March 29, 1850, and began business, and still continues it, in the Albany City National Bank Building, 47 State street. The first Trustees were Erastus Corning, Sr., John Taylor, James Maher, Lansing Pruyn, James Kidd, James McNaughton, John V. L. Pruyn, William Humphrey, Watts Sherman, John T. Norton, James Goold, Samuel Pruyn, Henry H. Martin, John Knower, John McKnight, William Boardman, John G. White, Ellis Baker, Christopher W. Bender and Thomas Noonan. The first President was Erastus Corning, Sr., who was succeeded by his son, Erastus Corning. Watts Sherman was the first

Treasurer of this Bank. He was succeeded by Henry H. Martin, who in 1874 was followed by Amos P. Palmer. The present Treasurer is Russell C. Case. The amount deposited in this bank, January 1, 1885, was \$2,153,077.57; assets, \$2,263,542.76.

The Mechanics and Farmers' Savings Bank was incorporated April 12, 1855, and commenced business in the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank Building. Thomas W. Olcott was its first President. He was succeeded by his son, Dudley Olcott. Thomas Olcott and Dudley Olcott have both been Secretaries of this institution. The present Secretary is George G. Davidson. The amount deposited January 1, 1885, was \$1,312,588.05; assets, \$1,536,089.62.

The Albany Exchange Savings Bank was incorporated April, 1856, and commenced business at 450 Broadway. James McNaughton and William G. Thomas have been Presidents of this Bank. Isaac A. Chapman is the present President. Joseph M. Lovett was the first Treasurer. Chauncey P. Williams was elected in 1869, and has remained in this position ever since. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, \$712,612.56; assets, \$820,519.52.

The Hope Savings Bank commenced business in connection with the Hope Bank in 1866, and continued to do business until 1877, when its affairs were settled by paying its depositors in full and suspending business. Officers: John Tracey, President; B. W. Arnold and Hamilton Harris, Vice-Presidents; William A. Young, Treasurer.

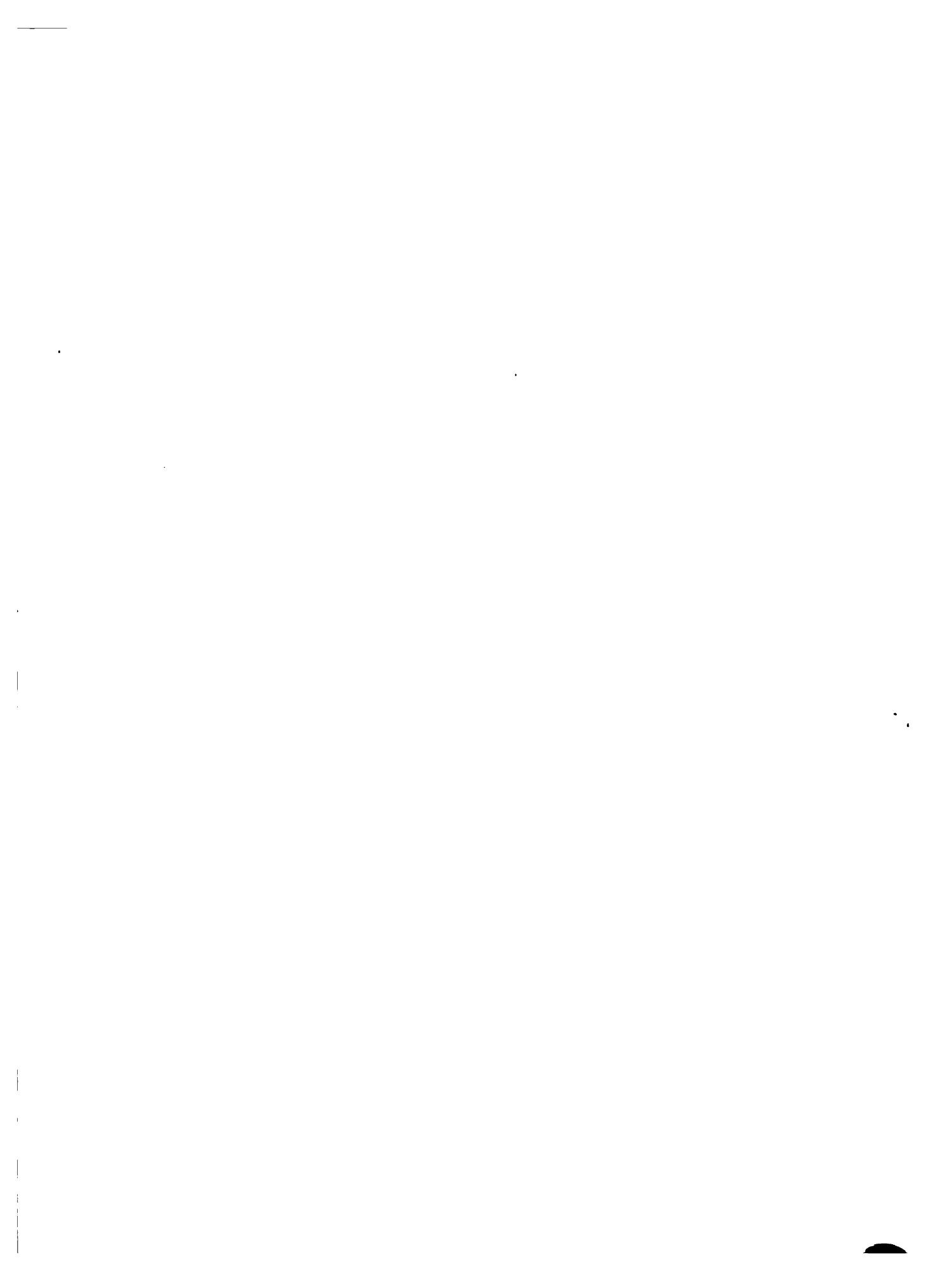
The National Savings Bank was incorporated May 6, 1868, and commenced business at No. 57 State street, June 28, 1869. Its first President was Erastus Corning, Sr., who was succeeded by John H. Van Antwerp in 1872. Albert P. Stevens has been Treasurer and Secretary ever since it began operation. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, \$3,344,369.71; assets, \$4,022,172.87. Present location, 59 State street.

The Home Savings Bank was incorporated May 10, 1871, and commenced business at No. 40 State street. Its first President was William White, who was succeeded by the present officer, John D. Capron. Edmund L. Judson is Treasurer, and William Lacy, Secretary. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, \$506,926.47; assets, \$536,887.80.

Albany County Savings Bank was incorporated April 30, 1874, and commenced business in the Albany County Bank Building, No. 71 State street. James H. Pratt was its first President. He was succeeded by Jasper Van Wormer, its present head officer. Albert V. Benson has been Secretary, and John Templeton, Treasurer of this Bank ever since its organization. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, \$833,994.98; assets, \$916,297.91.

The following Albany Savings Banks have been incorporated at the dates given, but either failed to commence operations or continued business for a short period: Albany Dime Savings Bank, 1854; Sixpenny Savings Bank, 1854; Mercantile Savings Bank, 1855; and the Union Savings Bank, 1855.

Besides the incorporated banking institutions of Albany, a number of individuals at a comparatively



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